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## Looking Ahead

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Planning Retreat        | June 26  |
| Celebration of Scholars | Fall TBD |

## BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AAUW - ASHLAND, OREGON BRANCH

## It's Membership Renewal Time!

It's that time of year again! Spring has sprung and the Earth is renewing herself, and that means it's time for us to renew our Branch memberships. Please click on the [link](#) that will take you directly to the renewal form, print it out, fill it out, write your check and mail it. Did you know that even though our National dues have increased, your dues will not be raised this year.

In spite of the pandemic, we've gotten a lot of work done this year. We got a bill passed in the House about diversity on boards, and a committee is looking at women's economic insecurity issues in the Rogue Valley. And, we have raised over \$20,000 for scholarships!

The current plan is to start our next year in person with the September Welcome Back meeting—and do we ever look forward to seeing you all face-to-face and not in 2D! We've had some really informative meetings this year on Zoom, and have a great line-up planned for next year. And just think, we will be able to do Friendship Circles and monthly dinner groups, as well as our book clubs and so many other interest groups IN PERSON !!

So, please join us for next year when we will have lots to celebrate—vaccines, friends, family, and all the little things we have missed this year. Looking forward to seeing everyone's beautiful smiles!

## Change is Coming to the VISION!

This is the Summer issue of the Vision, covering our Branch news and happenings for May-August. Since we're all keeping our fingers crossed for kicking off September with in-person meetings, including our long-awaited Celebration of Scholars, the September Vision will be chock full of news. During the summer, your Communications Team will be hard at work bringing our newsletter into the 21st century by converting it to a Mailchimp format, similar to the communications you are now receiving from both AAUW National and AAUW of Oregon. The Vision will have a different look, but we hope it will continue our tradition of informing and entertaining our members in style.

During the summer, please visit our website, <https://ashland-or.aauw.net> to stay up-to-date on Branch news. Also check out our Facebook page under the creative and enthusiastic direction of Alice Mallory for news and topical information related to our mission of equity for women and girls. <https://www.facebook.com/ashland.aauw>

We would welcome new members to our Communications Team! Contact Ellen Fowler if you'd like to join us in keeping our members informed.

See you in September!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My tenure as Co-President is ending. It has been a true growth experience and particularly challenging during the pandemic. I am proud that AAUW Ashland has so many members volunteering

in different ways to support our mission of equity for women and girls. Look how many of us stepped up to virtual meetings! It is so impressive that our interest groups kept sharing their mutual passions while staying safe. Our Branch found ways to stay connected and build fellowship even as the pandemic raged.

The dedication of our Board members is impressive and I thank them for their wisdom. I am so grateful for my two co-presidents, Pam Shay and Catherine Lutes. We followed a joyful path of learning, consensus, and leadership together.

Many of us are reaching vaccine immunity, which bodes well for meeting in person sometime this year. We ask that members continue to follow Jackson County Guidelines. The leadership will try to remain nimble and flexible as Southern Oregon opens back up.

Please stay tuned for more details about the Board retreat and September welcome back meeting. Plans are underway for both the Celebration of Scholars and the Upscale Sale this fall.

Above all, be well, be safe, and thank you for the privilege of serving as your Co-President.

—Paula

## Mark Your Calendars for the June Planning Retreat

Saturday, June 26, 10 am-2 pm

All members are welcome and encouraged to come and help plan the future of our Ashland Branch. We'll meet in person, probably outdoors, if permitted by state and local guidelines; otherwise we'll Zoom. Watch your email in June for updates.

# Slate of Board Members 2021-2022

## Elected Members

**Co-Presidents:** Catherine Lutes & TBD

**Treasurer:** TBA

**Asst. Financial Officer:** Susan Schaefer

**Recording Secretary:** Peggy Audibert

**Board Members at Large:** Diane Toth & Lan Roberts

**Parliamentarian:** Sandra Coyner

## Appointed Officer Liaisons with Program Level Chairs

**Membership Chair/Board Liaison:** TBA

**Membership Welcoming Coordinator:** N/A until meeting in person

**Membership Communications Coordinator:** Maureen Wilson-Jarrard

**Contact Secretary:** Linda Moreland

**Communications Chair/Board Liaison:** Ellen Fowler

**Website:** Ellen Fowler

**Newsletter Managing Editors:** Ellen Fowler, Elaine Sweet

**Newsletter Designer:** Chris Licata

**Social Media:** Alice Mallory

**Chamber Liaison:** Donna Wright

**University Partner Chair:** Mimi Pippel

**Program Chairs/Board Liaison:** Marilyn Hawkins

**Scholarships:** Wanda Chin & Kate Wolf-Pizor

**Celebration of Scholars:** TBA

**Interest Groups:** TBA

**Friendship Circles:** Elaine Sweet

**Fundraising Chair/Board Liaison:** Bessie Azari

**AAUW Funds:** Bessie Azari

**AAUW Endowment Funds:** Jean Conger

**Dollars for Scholars:** TBA

**AAUW Oregon Public Policy Committee Member:** Regina Ayers

**Hospitality:** N/A until we meet in person

**Holiday Party:** TBA

**Public Policy Chair/Board Liaison:** Gretchen King/Regina Ayers

**South District Chair:** Pam Shay

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Summer Birthdays

#### MAY

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Helen Halderman | 5/3   |
| Elaine Hamlin   | 5/6   |
| Elaine Sweet    | 5/12  |
| Wenonoa Spivak  | 5/14  |
| Marcia Wallen   | 5/16  |
| Karen Spence    | 5/24  |
| Peggy Moore     | 5/25  |
| Lisa Verner     | 05/28 |
| Kay Johnson     | 5/29  |
| Ginny Dugan     | 5/31  |

#### JUNE

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Francia Thomas     | 6/1   |
| Christine Fernlund | 6/2   |
| Ann Bard           | 6/13  |
| MaryAnn Terrall    | 6/17  |
| Terrie Jensen      | 06/18 |
| Maryann Mason      | 6/18  |
| Karen Grove        | 6/24  |
| Cheryl Goldman     | 6/29  |
| Laurie Carter      | 6/30  |

#### JULY

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Pat Brewer    | 7/1   |
| Kathy Brandon | 7/2   |
| Michaelae Rae | 7/4   |
| Iris Milan    | 7/5   |
| Chris Licata  | 07/09 |
| Wanda Chin    | 7/10  |
| Sally Grady   | 7/11  |
| Olena Black   | 07/13 |

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Suzanne Hering      | 7/13  |
| JoAnn Prujan        | 07/16 |
| Catherine Greenspan | 7/17  |
| Nancy Kramarenko    | 7/18  |
| Linda Moreland      | 07/18 |
| Caroline Morse      | 07/21 |
| Marlyn Barrick      | 7/24  |
| Carryl Breon        | 7/24  |
| Maria Geigel        | 07/25 |
| Channing Penna      | 7/25  |
| Pamela Dehnke       | 7/26  |
| Diane Steffey-Smith | 7/26  |
| Rae Otto            | 7/29  |

#### AUGUST

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Leah Moll           | 8/5   |
| Mimi Pippel         | 8/5   |
| Annette Lewis       | 8/6   |
| Carol Mockridge     | 08/06 |
| Lynda Gutierrez     | 08/07 |
| Sonja Friedman      | 8/8   |
| Catherine Lutes     | 8/10  |
| Diana Quirk         | 8/12  |
| Pat Knoble          | 8/14  |
| Liz Murphy          | 8/17  |
| Vivian Stubblefield | 8/18  |
| Lee Seater          | 8/20  |
| Kerry Kencairn      | 8/21  |
| Toni Dockter        | 8/25  |
| Gretchen King       | 8/26  |
| Judy Lang           | 8/31  |

## Joan Enloe, Long-time Member, Will Be Missed

Our dear friend and devoted AAUW member Joan Enloe died March 31 at the age of 89.

She was a dual member with the Medford Branch and involved in many activities with both branches. Joan was our treasurer/finance officer from about 2003 to 2010 -- she volunteered for two-year obligation and stayed for seven. She was still listed as AAUW Funds Chair in 2014, the last year she was an active member. Her commitment to AAUW is truly admirable.

Joan grew up in Duluth, Minnesota through high school. On a visit to California, she met and married Dick Enloe. She started her family of four children while attending SOU, graduating with a degree in accounting. She kept books professionally for many years including for her husband's business and several organizations. Dick died in 2011.

In addition to her AAUW work, Joan owned a Diet Center franchise, was a member of the Bear Creek Greenway Foundation, and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy. She also was a major leader of the Rogue Valley Women's Alliance, a women's networking group which grew out of an Ashland AAUW women's dinner at SOU.

Our members remember her for kindness, sweetness, and her many contributions to Ashland AAUW. Elaine Hamlin remembers her for being a good role model for new members. "I think of Joan as a generous, kind, and smart woman, and a classy lady."

—Jan Waitt



## In Our Thoughts

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Joan Enloe, a long-time member who passed away in March.

A get-well card was sent to Judy Newton, who recently fell and broke her kneecap and is on bedrest until it heals.

A note of encouragement was sent to Claudette Paige, who is experiencing some health issues.



## Looking For a Few Good Women!!!

As you can see, we have a lot of board positions to fill for the upcoming year. Some people have moved, and a few are just plain exhausted. But we can't give up on our Branch because we have no Board!!! Please look at the vacancies in the slate in this Vision and contact Catherine if you see a place where you can be of service to the women and girls of our community.

# Dollars for \$cholars

*.... making a difference  
together*

## **Our 2021 Campaign Totals:**

★ \$21,470 in annual scholarship donations

★ 215% of the \$10k Campaign goal

★ 84 of our Branch members donated

★ 55% of membership participated.



We did it! Because of your generosity, more local women next year will be able to achieve their educational aspirations.

And, our Branch legacy of empowering women stands strong.



# Cultivating: Healing, Resilience and Gardens

By Lucy Way

SOU graduate, Clinical Mental Health Counseling; the Judy Yin Shih – AAUW Ashland Scholarship

As a graduate student in SOU's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program, I am learning skills for supporting clients' healing and resilience, both in coursework and through hands-on clinical experience. Offering counseling via telehealth to help clients cope with the challenges of the pandemic and fires while also healing their own personal traumas, has offered me powerful growth, learning, and sense of purpose in being of service during such challenging times.

The AAUW Ashland Judy Yin Shih Scholarship support allowed me to choose an internship site that aligns best with my values of holistic, person-centered care, and of providing access for low-income people. At the Community Counseling Center of Ashland, I receive exceptional training and guidance from my supervisors, along with the encouragement to cultivate my own therapeutic orientation.

I was grateful to use the skills I am learning as a volunteer at the Jackson County Expo, offering emotional support to evacuees after the Almeda Fires, and helping people access much-needed resources. I have also continued my volunteer work in a rural sustainability collective called Viridaea. In response to the destabilizing pandemic and fires, we built an additional food garden to donate vegetables to people in need.

This past winter I trained in **Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Therapy**, which has been my dream since before applying to my graduate program. EMDR helps clients reprocess and heal from painful past memories while maintaining safety and presence, by engaging the brain's right and left hemispheres. It is amazingly beautiful to see how this process can resolve stuck patterns, heal trauma, and return a sense of empowerment to those I work with. I am continually so deeply moved by seeing clients' post-traumatic growth bloom through their courageous healing work.

After graduating in June, I plan to continue at the Community Counseling Center, and then build a private practice specializing in healing trauma and prioritizing working with low-income clients. I am eager to begin offering services in Spanish as well, integrating my undergraduate major and past focus, once I am fully trained. I also may pursue a doctorate degree in the future, as I aspire to contribute to research that can help support access to trauma-informed care. My long-term dream is to create a wilderness therapy program for trauma survivors, integrating my passion for holistic, embodied therapy, and the peace I know in gardening and nature. I am so grateful for the AAUW's support on my path and I am dedicated to carrying forward such uplifting energy by serving our community as a counselor.



At the Viridaea Collective, Lucy builds beds for vegetables in the newly added garden. The garden offers a place for community members to enjoy, and also provides food and seeds to support local food security.

Lucy stands outside of her internship site, the Community Counseling Center of Ashland. She has been working with individual clients via telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Tending Our Garden of Scholars

Spring has arrived in Ashland despite pandemics and fires. Spring energy remembers and sends up new growth to enrich our lives. So, it is now time for AAUW Ashland to tend and increase our Garden of Scholars. The best gardens are the ones that have variety and stamina, and we cultivate those qualities year after year.

By May 1, we have selected and recommended the scholars to award at each of our partner schools, Southern Oregon University (SOU) and Rogue Community College (RCC). Cristina Sanz and Stephanie Hanigan from SOU and Anna Manley from RCC are vital in our scholarship process. They provide accountability and equal access among many items—from financial aid qualification, school transcripts, to managing interview meetings (on Zoom again this year). They ensure that we act with confidentiality while ensuring we have all the information needed to deliberate fairly. They provide us with a pool of applicants that meet our specific criteria and then our AAUW Ashland Scholarship Committee examines and reviews the record of each qualifying student. It is always amazing that we get such variety of interests and expertise in our applicants. What a joy to be part of their process and growth!

So stay tuned to see how you can help at the Celebration of Scholars event tentatively scheduled in October 2021 where we will introduce our scholars! Your friendly faces of support, belief, and personal encouragement are what each of our students appreciates along with the scholarship tuition assistance.

Thanks to you, our endowment funds at both SOU and RCC are steadily growing and providing annual yields that make a good harvest to allow us to increase the dollar amounts for scholars year by year. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of women. We know that an education is the single best thing to give a woman that will benefit her and her family for life and future generations. As Rumi said, “The Garden of the World had no limits except in your mind.”

—Kate Wolf-Pizor  
and Wanda Chin,  
Scholarship Co-chairs



The 2021 AAUW Ashland Scholarship Committee includes (L to R, top to bottom rows) Elaine Sweet, Wanda Chin, Kate Wolf-Pizor, Katharine Lang, Mary Renaud, Ann Lovett, Priscilla Arnold, Erin Finklea, Peggy Moore, and Sharon Dean. Our reviewers have a variety of college teaching, administrative and lived life experiences that contribute to the breadth and depth when reviewing scholarship applicants.

## Meet some of the staff members who guide our scholarship process.

**Stephanie Hanigan,**  
VA School Certifying Official and Scholarship Coordinator, SOU

“I have enjoyed my work in financial aid, scholarships specifically, because of the exceptional variety of individuals with whom I have had and continue to have the opportunity to connect. These connections not only include the amazing students and their families, but also the gracious and hard-working donors and committees who make these scholarships possible! One thing I have learned over the years is that there is a perpetual misconception about the daunting task of pursuing financial aid as well as the options available to assist in funding one’s education. I take great pride in ensuring that students understand their financial aid options, both offered and available, to the point that they are comfortable in their knowledge and can confidently explain the information to their loved ones. After all, knowledge is power!”



**Cristina Sanz,**  
Director of Development, SOU Foundation

“It’s an honor to be of service to members of AAUW Ashland and play a role in your good work to promote equity and education for women and girls. I’ve assisted donors with their giving and charitable legacy for 15 years—these past 2 years, I have been fortunate to be part of the SOU Raider family.”



**Anna Manley,**  
Support Specialist; Development & Resource Allocation,  
RCC Foundation

“Facilitating student scholarships is very rewarding, as I get to become acquainted with student stories and help to facilitate them being able to persist in their educational journey. Lives and whole communities are changed as a result. I also enjoy working with donors, who demonstrate the heart and vision for being that someone who makes dreams possible. RCC is a catalyst in this region for growth.”





## Gretchen King, 2021 Florence Schneider Award Recipient



We congratulate **Gretchen King**, this year's Florence Schneider Award recipient.

Gretchen is a long-time Ashland AAUW member who exemplifies the values lived by Florence Schneider in the many ways she has contributed to AAUW's goals of equity and positive societal change.

When Gretchen joined our Branch, she spearheaded the WiN program serving abused women at Dunn House, chairing

the WiN program from 2012 to 2016. She instituted the used book exchange and the January WiN fundraiser to purchase needed major items for Dunn House. In 2013, she received the Advocacy for Women Award for the book sales project. She was named a Branch Gift Honoree in 2015 and was the Community Projects Chair and Board Liaison from 2016 to 2017.

Gretchen has been on the Public Policy Team since 2016 and is its current chair. She has been a leader of our Branch's efforts to positively impact our state's public policy. Ashland was the first Oregon AAUW Branch to take responsibility for organizing and running Lobby Day.

In 2019, Gretchen was on the steering committee of the Upscale Sale, and in 2020 she served on the Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Committee.

Last, but certainly not least, in addition to these major contributions, she was Co-president for two years, first with Sandy Theis from 2017-2018, and then with Pam Shay in 2018-2019. She has given so much to our Ashland Branch, and she keeps on giving. Gretchen well deserves to be this year's Florence Schneider Awardee.

—Elaine Hamlin

2020 Florence Schneider Awardee

## Named Gift Honorees for 2020

Based on our Greatest Needs donations totaling \$9,432, we achieved 16 Named Gift Honorees. This is an Ashland Branch record. Our awardees were recognized at the Oregon Convention in April and each will receive a certificate. Here, for their service in 2020, are our honored members:

- Our one major donor, having given \$1000, has awarded her Named Gift Honor to Sylvie Whitman for her dedicated effort on the Dollars for Scholars campaign.
- Maureen Wilson-Jarrard was recognized as our Membership Communication Coordinator. Serving in this critical role, she has efficiently sent out our Vision newsletter and all- member messages.
- We recognized our Communication Team for excellence in improving and producing our Vision newsletter, our Branch website, and our Facebook page. They are Ellen Fowler, Pat Brewer, Elaine Sweet, Chris Licata, and Alice Mallory.
- We recognized a committee from our Public Policy Team who initiated the "Women on Boards" proposal, which is now Oregon HB 3110, and requires women and underserved minorities to be represented on publicly traded corporate boards. They are Ann Bard, Regina Ayars, Sonja Friedman, Julie Benezet, and Mary Renaud.

As your Funds chair, I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up-to-date on recent news from National AAUW. Economic security, education, and advocacy are our focus.

- We lead the fight for fair pay and economic opportunity for women and the battle continues. Women still earn 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man and men continue to dominate the top roles and highest-paying professions.
- We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles.
- Our legal advocacy team has supported plaintiffs in more than 125 gender equity legal cases. There is news to share on this: The National AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is fully endowed in perpetuity.
- We have awarded over \$115 million in fellowships and grants, one of the largest scholarship programs for women in the world.

Finally, there is AAUW's body of research. It is AAUW's review of the literature and preparation of reports that inspires me. Recent studies are entitled: "Factory Flaw: the Attrition and Retention of Women in Manufacturing" and "The Power Gap Among Top Earners at America's Elite Universities".

As you renew your membership, please consider a donation to the "Greatest Needs Fund". Any amount is worthy. We are the largest Branch in the state of Oregon. Together we make a difference.

—Bessie Azari, Funds Chair

## BOARD NOTES

### March 22, 2021

**ENDOWMENT AGREEMENT:** Wanda Chin discussed the new SOU Endowment Agreement with the Board, noting that Cristina Sanz (SOU) will send a copy for the co-presidents to sign.

**DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS FUNDRAISING:** Sylvia Whitman was pleased to report that the Dollars for Scholars Campaign has received \$19,470, 195% of the \$10,000 goal.

**ECONOMIC SECURITY MEETING:** Shirley Malcom reported that the Economic Security Committee has requested permission to invite Echo Fields, SOU professor, to speak at the April Board meeting to inform the membership of what economic needs exist in the Rogue Valley and what groups would be in need of help.

**NAMED GIFT HONOREES:** Bessie Azari announced the Named Gift Honorees for 2021:

**CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARS:** Catherine announced that the Celebration of Scholars program, annually held in May each year, has been postponed until possibly the third week in October. All dates are dependent on COVID-19 precautions/regulations.

### Charitable Partners

These two members have pledged to make a donation to either the AAUW/SOU or AAUW/RCC Scholarship Fund every time an AAUW member uses their services or refers someone who uses their services. We thank them for their generosity and dedication to AAUW.

**Liz Murphy, CFP MBA/Financial Advisor**  
Raymond James Financial Services  
**541-779-9907**  
[Liz.Murphy@RaymondJames.com](mailto:Liz.Murphy@RaymondJames.com)  
[raymondjames.com/lizmurphy](http://raymondjames.com/lizmurphy)

**Sara Walker, Broker**  
Patricia Sprague Real Estate  
**541-951-5454**  
[sara@hatsoff2u.com](mailto:sara@hatsoff2u.com) | [hatsoff2u.com](http://hatsoff2u.com)

## PUBLIC POLICY

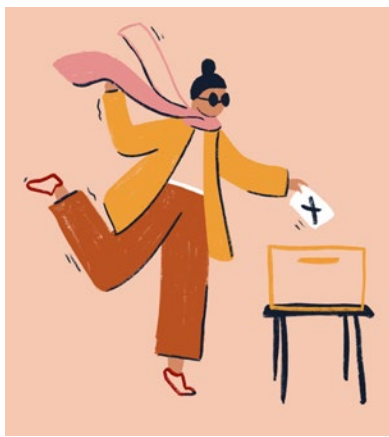
### HB 3110 - Diversity on Corporate Boards

HB 3110, the bill in the Oregon legislature requiring diversity on the boards of public companies headquartered in Oregon, is still being worked on in the House Rules Committee. The Committee has asked for a legislative fiscal report to be prepared. A “fiscal” is prepared whenever a state agency, and therefore the state budget, might be financially impacted by legislation. In this case the Secretary of State’s Office will be enforcing the law and that action may require additional funding.

There have been some amendments to the original bill. They include reducing penalties for failure to comply and changing the numbers for board diversity. The initial draft provided that if there are four to nine board members, then at least two had to be women or people from underrepresented communities. The new draft provides that there must be a minimum of one woman and one person from an underrepresented community on the board. The problem with the initial numerical setup is that it established a quota system which would face a stiff challenge in court, as well as the potential for being struck down as unconstitutional. Yes, men would claim that they were being unconstitutionally discriminated against, and the law in Oregon seems to give that argument some substance.

As of this writing, HB 3110 has been passed by the House! Public Policy is very optimistic that it will become law.

—Regina Ayars



## Vote by May 18

Local elections matter! During a difficult year we have learned the importance of local leadership. When leaders in Washington failed to act, governors, mayors, and school board members had to make decisions affecting the health and survival of our communities. Local officials play a huge role in our lives, from childcare, roads, parks, policing, and school policies, to city and county budgets and taxes. Clearly, local elections can have consequences. Yet, nationwide only 27% of eligible voters participate in typical local elections. Consequently, a small segment of the community determines policy for everyone.

In Jackson County we will have one ballot measure to consider in May. In 2016 we supported a tax levy to support the Rogue Valley Transportation District to increase routes to underserved neighborhoods and provide service on Saturdays and evenings. This levy will be expiring and must be renewed if these services are to continue. This does not raise taxes. In addition, there are a number of school district director positions in competition and an election for the Jackson County Fire Protection Director and RVTD directors.

Ballots were mailed April 30 and the last day to register was April 27. The ballot drop boxes at the libraries opened Monday May 3. The deadline for voting is 8 pm, May 18. While I was out of town this winter and having my mail forwarded, I was removed from the voter roll so I learned it is always a good idea to check your voter registration at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov). After casting your ballot you can track your ballot at [oregonvotes.gov/myvote](http://oregonvotes.gov/myvote).

Democracy works best when everyone’s voice is heard.

—Gretchen King, Public Policy

## AAUW National Election

AAUW National is asking members to vote by May 17 on two items:

1. Bylaws Amendment on Open Membership. This change would eliminate the membership requirement of holding a college degree, associates or higher, and open membership to any “individual who supports the AAUW mission.” The change would also eliminate student memberships.
2. Changes to Public Policy Priorities. AAUW members vote every two years on revisions to our Public Policy Priorities. This year, the proposed changes are:
  - Refinement and added specificity regarding AAUW’s commitment to addressing systemic racism
  - Refinement of our commitment to equitable access to higher education for all
  - Emphasis on the importance of high-quality data collection

For more information about these proposals, [click here](#). Watch your email for details on how to vote. The Ashland AAUW Board is not taking a position on these proposals and encourages members to learn more about them and to vote by May 17.

## Do You Hear the Buzz?



AAUW Ashland Members

Our next Upscale Sale fundraiser at the Bellview Grange has been scheduled for October 9-10, 2021. This event is a winning concept: We raise other people’s money, connect with the Ashland community, and have fun working on the sale. Most of the money supports our scholarship program. In 2019, we raised \$13,000.

Our success depends on many donations of gently used or new items from you, our many members. Please start setting aside items now.

—Paula and Bessie, Co-chairs

  
**Upscale Sale**

AAUW Ashland Branch Fundraiser  
Bellview Grange  
October 9-10, 2021



## AAUW Medford Branch

To receive an invitation to a Medford meeting, email [Bonnie Goldfein](#).

## May Branch Meeting on Zoom

*Saturday, May 1, at 10 am*

## Annual Meeting

## June Branch Meeting on Zoom

*Thursday, June 3, at 7 pm*

**Program:** Dr. Linda Schott, President of SOU, will report on how the staff, students, and programs of SOU are doing after more than a year of pandemic.

## AAUW Grants Pass Branch

## May Branch Meeting on Zoom

*Saturday, May 15, at 10 am*

**Program:** Celebration Brunch and Annual Meeting, along with guest speaker Trish Garner, AAUW of Oregon's Public Policy Chair

## June Branch Meeting on Zoom

*Thursday, June 17, at 7 pm*

**Program:** Scholarship Celebration Ceremony with Rogue Community College scholarship recipients for 2021–2022

## AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting and State Convention Report

AAUW of Oregon held its state convention by Zoom on April 18. Our Branch was well represented by delegates Catherine Lutes, Bessie Azari, Gretchen King, Peggy Audibert, Kathleen Mackris, and Gail Engblom. For the first time, ALL Oregon counties were represented at the convention!

They keynote speaker was Jessica Vega Pederson, a member of the Multnomah County Commission, former state legislator, and author of the groundbreaking report, "Pre-School for All." She spearheaded a two-year-long process that gathered community leaders from across many sectors, including education, business, housing, healthcare, and parents, to craft a ballot measure which would levy an income tax on the county's highest earners to pay for pre-school. In November 2020, Multnomah County voters approved the ballot measure, Pre-School for All," with 64 percent support.

During the awards portion of the program, our Ashland Branch was singled out for being the number 3 branch for AAUW Funds donations, and Paula Wiiken and Sylvie Whitman were named 2020 Major Gift Donors Named Honorees! So well-deserved! In addition, Pam Shay was unanimously elected as South District Chair.

The delegates also adopted a detailed proposal for action and communication for 2021-2023, setting forth overall goals and legislative priorities.

The AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting and Convention was set for April 8-10, 2022 in ASHLAND! Details to follow.

# INTEREST GROUPS

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many groups have chosen to suspend meeting for the foreseeable future or are meeting by Zoom or in small groups. Some groups are currently full due to size limitations and are not accepting additional members. For more information, to join, or to check on the current status of the group, contact the individual interest group coordinator by clicking on their name below.*

## Arts and Language

**MOVIE MUSICALS** usually meets the 3rd Monday at 4:30 pm. They are currently not meeting. New members welcome.  
Coordinator: [Diane Novak](#)

**OPERA** usually meets the 1st Tuesday at 4 pm. They are currently not meeting but are staying in touch via email. New members welcome. Coordinator: [Nancy Kramarenko](#)

**PLAY READING** usually meets the 4th Friday at 4 pm. They are meeting via Zoom. New members welcome.  
Coordinator: [Annette Lewis](#)

## Games, Genealogy, Knitting & Dining

**BOARD GAMES** usually meets the 4th Wednesday at 7 pm. They are currently not meeting. Full, not accepting additional members. Coordinator: [Sylvie Whitman](#)

**GENEALOGY GROUP** We will meet on May 27, at 1 pm on Zoom. New members of all experience levels welcome.  
Coordinator: [Linda Lipkind](#)

**KNITTERS AND STITCHERS** usually meets the 2nd Thursday at 1pm. They are currently meeting in-person. New members welcome.  
Coordinator: [Peggy Audibert](#)

**POTLUCK DINNERS** usually meet 4 to 6 times per year, day and time TBD. They are currently not meeting. New members welcome. Coordinator: [Elaine Sweet](#)



## Book Groups

**BRAIN BOOKS** usually meets the 4th Tuesday 3-5 pm. They are currently meeting via Zoom. New members welcome.  
Coordinator: [Sandra Coyner](#).

**DAYTIME FICTION** usually meets the 3rd Wednesday at 1 pm. They are currently meeting via Zoom. Full, not accepting additional members.  
Coordinator: [Colleen Patrick-Riley](#).

**DAY NONFICTION** usually meets the 1st Wednesday at 1 pm. They are currently meeting via Zoom. Full, not accepting additional members.  
Coordinator: [Linda Lipkind](#)

**NARRATIVE NONFICTION** usually meets the 3rd Wednesday at 7 pm. They are currently meeting via Zoom. Full, not accepting additional members.  
Coordinator: [Ellen Fowler](#)

**FICTION FANS** usually meets the 2nd Monday at 7 pm, currently via Zoom. Full, not accepting additional members.  
Coordinator: [Shannon Stuver](#)

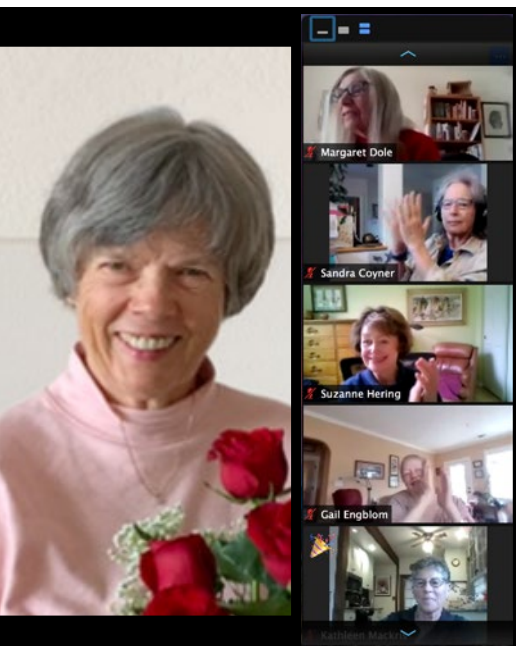
**MYSTERY MAVENS** usually meets the 2nd Thursday at 7 pm. They are currently meeting via Zoom. New members welcome.  
Coordinator: [Esther Stone](#)





# April 24 Branch Meeting on Zoom

We wrapped up the year's Branch meetings with our annual Presidents' Meeting, led by our amazing Co-Presidents, Paula Wiiken and Catherine Lutes. Thirty-eight intrepid members joined by Zoom. We did some business and had some fun. We elected a slate of officers for terms beginning on June 30, announced our dedicated Named Gift Honorees, and surprised Gretchen King with the richly deserved Florence Schneider Award. For fun, we watched a short and inspiring video by actress Emma Watson, took a quiz on women's history, and declared what we're most looking forward to doing when life returns to normal. Hoping for a non-Zoom meeting in September!



## Ashland Vision

is a monthly newsletter of the  
Ashland, Oregon, Branch of AAUW

**Vol. 35, No. 8**  
**Summer 2021**

**Co-Presidents:** Paula Wiiken  
& Catherine Lutes

**Financial Officer:** Sonja Friedman

**Recording Secretary:** Peggy Audibert

**Membership Chair:** Claudette Paige

**Public Policy Chair:** Rotating

**Contact Secretary:** Linda Moreland

### Newsletter Team

**Editors:** Ellen Fowler & Elaine Sweet

**Designer:** Chris Licata

**Photographers:** Members at large.

(Photos taken by members at  
branch meetings, interest group or  
other activities are welcome.  
Please submit photos for consideration  
to one of the newsletter editors.)

**Readers:** Alice Mallory, Rae Otto,  
Sylvie Whitman, & Catherine  
Greenspan

Newsletter deadline is the  
15th of the month.

**AAUW Ashland Website:**  
<http://ashland-or.aauw.net>

**AAUW Ashland Facebook Page:**  
[www.facebook.com/ashland.aauw/](http://www.facebook.com/ashland.aauw/)

In principle and in practice, AAUW  
values and seeks a diverse membership.

There shall be no barriers to full  
participation in this organization on  
the basis of gender, race, creed, age,  
sexual orientation, national origin,  
disability or class.