



It Takes a Team!

Summer Skills Camp a Zooming Success!

Ten different sessions, a wonderful array of programs and speakers, and a fun, camp-like atmosphere combined to make AAUW Oregon Summer Skills Camp a truly memorable and worthwhile event. From August 3 to August 16, members learned, laughed, shared, and got to know each other better.

Kicking off on Monday, August 3, Prof. Kimberly Jensen gave an eye-opening talk on the women involved in passing the 19th amendment, what it did and didn't accomplish, and what we need to do today to ensure voting rights for everyone. Prof. Jensen and her colleague, Jan Dilg, received the "Breaking Barriers" Award for their organization, the Oregon Women's History Consortium, a non-profit group commemorating woman suffrage.

A few other highlights included Trish Garner's thought-provoking session on "The Work we Need to Do," a program based on some of the exemplary programs from around the state, and the dynamic duo of Julia Weinberg and her mother Barbara on activism and self-care. All sessions were well done and well attended. The real stand-out of the Skills Camp was Nancy Brown's masterful messaging before each session. Her emails featured information, Zoom tips, fun suggestions and entertaining visuals to put us all in the spirit and engaged in summer camp!

Pat Squire, Program Vice President



CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pat Lehman & Sue Klumph



Our unique Summer Skills Camp was a rousing success, with so much information and inspiration that we'll have to watch the YouTube videos to absorb it all. Your Co-Presidents' conversations with all our new and retiring branch presidents framed the agenda, and Program VP Pat

Squire developed nine sessions that showcased our members and their outstanding work, provided important training, and stimulated lively discussions. Events Coordinator Nancy Brown made us comfortable with Zoom, managed the technical aspects superbly, and gave the event an atmosphere of fun! We are grateful to Nancy, Pat, the presenters, and everyone who attended.

The Executive Committee has added the Technology Committee to the State Board as a voting member. It is also in the process of reviewing our Strategic Plan to establish 2020-21's state priority goals.

We will be meeting soon with our District Directors to discuss their roles and hear their concerns, as well as to learn how we can best support their work.

Congratulations to our newest branch, Yamhill County, for achieving four stars in National's Five-Star Star recognition program, and to Ashland Branch, for earning all five stars! This program helps branches focus on our mission in positive and rewarding ways, and we encourage all our branches to reach for AAUW stars.

SUMMARY REPORT for 2020 AAUW OF OREGON

**Board of Directors Meeting
August 2, 2020, 2:04 – 4:02 p.m.**

Note that the Board of Directors' Meeting and the 2020 Summer Skills Camp were very different from last year, as both were held on the computer application / platform called Zoom® which provided personal view of participants, conversation and discussion with one another, and an opportunity to share documents on-screen during the discussion. All documents referenced in discussion were shared with members prior to the meeting through the AAUW Oregon Google Drive® site or during the meeting via screen shares in Zoom.

In a review of their report in the *2020 Elected and Appointed Officers' Summer Skills Camp Report*, Sue Klumph and Pat Lehman noted their very productive discussions with current and retired presidents. These were fruitful, providing pertinent ideas for the Skills Camp sessions by identifying branch needs, plans, requests, and activities.

Following the July 30, 2020, Executive Committee decision, the Technology Committee is now a standing committee. The decision was important, given the ever-increasing role that technical devices are playing in state and branch activities, including, but not limited to, email, social media, and Zoom. The 2020-21 Technology Committee chair, Georgia Applegate, is now a voting member of the Board of Directors as a result. Georgia discussed activities of the committee during 2019-20 and reviewed the platforms and equipment now available.

Zoom meetings with focused groups are planned following Summer Skills Camp (SSC):

District Directors

Branch Presidents

Membership personnel at branches (not all have a Membership VP)

Others as needed

Because of cancellation of state, National, and local activities due to the novel Corona COVID-19 pandemic, little money was spent since January 2020, leaving the state with an increase in funds.

Assuming that the pandemic ends, convention 2021 may be in Ashland, Coos Bay, or Florence. Nancy Brown and Pat Squire are still evaluating venues and balancing costs. If the pandemic continues, an in-person meeting may not be held. Stay tuned for more.

Many thanks to Trish Garner for her dedication to this important job and for the hours she has spent following the legislation and other hot issues in Oregon. This has been an unusually contentious and fractious year, with many diverse issues pulling at Oregon voters. Trish discussed the changes made to *Policy 800* to update, clarify, and bring current to National standards.

AAUW and Portland protests: The material prepared by Trish with support from AAUW members has been filed as an exhibit in the Police Reform activities and the testimony has been included in an upcoming resolution for legislative voting. A new initiative is "Civics" education. Trish commented that review of current textbook language and curricula reveals programs that do not address diversity in our culture nor racial equity. Work needs to be done to bring civics up to modern inclusivity expectations.

Membership is down, changes in forms and payment are coming from National, membership trainings via Zoom are coming, and branches are asked to send newsletters to Pat Lehman, Sue Klumph, Pat Squire, and Gini Dideum to better share ideas and information.

The directory has been updated and a calendar of branch duties was added. *The Oregon News* will be sent by MailChimp to all members, with additional mailings to branch presidents for distribution.

Three key officers' position are open; recommendations for candidates should be sent to Sue Klumph and Pat Lehman.

AAUW Fund Chair

North Central Director (The Executive Committee may appoint this position to finish out the term ending in June 2021. It would be nice to have a person willing to commit to the next term as well.)

Oregon News Editor

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Remind your AAUW branches and contacts that National and AAUW OR both say **no in-person meetings or activities** until the pandemic is resolved, which doesn't seem to be a quick thing.

Board of Directors members were asked to suggest priorities from the *Strategic Plan for 2020-21* by August 20. See the AAUW of Oregon website for a copy of the revised plan.

PUBLIC POLICY REPORT

While COVID-19 has put a serious damper on person-to-person activities, AAUW of OR public policy is still alive and well! We are hoping that each branch will be coming up with some community-specific activities that will promote voting in the upcoming election. I don't have to tell you how important it will be for everyone to vote. As Sherry Schroeder (Medford) suggested to me, we should be checking with elections officials to make sure there are no special guidelines about voting and also identifying where ballot drop boxes are. And then making sure the community is aware of this information.

We also urge each branch to learn about the state and local ballot measures. They at least include Initiative Petition 57 - Sets up an independent Citizens Voting Redistricting Commission; Senate Joint Resolution 18 - authorizes the passage of laws regarding campaign contribution disclosures and political advertisements; Initiative Petition 34 - allows health care providers to administer psilocybin; Initiative Petition 44 - lessens the criminal penalties for certain drug offenses; House Bill 2270 - increases tobacco taxes. It is important to note that our current state budget -- which is already suffering due to the pandemic -- assumes the tobacco tax will pass. Please vote YES!

On the legislative side, we have been active in bolstering laws regarding police accountability. In the Second Short Session on August 10th, and with our support, the legislature passed a law significantly updating our use of force by the police.

We are also looking into following the lead of California and Washington in passing a bill that would require a certain number of women to be on corporate boards. The Ashland Branch is doing some serious research into this issue and intends to prepare a full report. which we can then use in our lobbying efforts. Way to go Ashland Branch!!!

Trish Garner, Public Policy Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Now that branches are meeting via Zoom or a similar platform, it is a great time to connect with members that have not been able to attend meetings because they don't have transportation, need childcare, have mobility concerns or suffer allergies. Almost all AAUW members have access to computers or cellphones that they can use to attend branch meetings. They can log-on or call in without having to leave their home. There is no concern about refreshments or enough room to accommodate attendees. It is also easy to invite a potential new member to attend a meeting and learn about AAUW. And if the potential member decides to join AAUW after attending a meeting, use the Shape the Future program to give them half-price National dues for the first year of membership. Look at meeting on-line as an opportunity to reconnect with members and increase branch membership.

Gini Dideum, Membership VP

AAUW OF OREGON POLICY UPDATE REGARDING CANDIDATES

At the 2020 AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting in April, the AAUW of Oregon Policy #800 was reviewed to clarify candidate endorsement activities at the state and branch level. The board-approved updated version, effective immediately, has been sent to all state officers and all branch presidents.

This is a summation of a few of the main points of the new policy as it relates to branches:

- Branches may endorse candidates for appointive office but not for partisan office.
- Branches may NOT contribute money, mailing lists, or anything of material value to candidates for any elective office, partisan or nonpartisan.
- Before a partisan election, branches may have candidate forums to which all candidates in that election are invited. If three or more political parties have nominees for any office, branches may limit invitations to the two political parties receiving the highest number of votes in the last preceding general election.
- Branches with 501(c)(3) status may invite a public official who is also a candidate in a partisan election to speak on a subject pertaining to the incumbent's duties as a public official, as long as the incumbent does not discuss his or her candidacy for public office and does not use campaign funds to underwrite the appearance.
- All candidates running for the office(s) pertaining to the candidate questionnaire must have the opportunity to participate.
- Any member may endorse, as a private citizen, candidates for partisan elective office, contribute her/his/their own money or anything of value to such candidates, and organize for the purpose of supporting such candidate(s) but such endorsement, contribution or organization cannot utilize the name of AAUW.

Please review the entire policy before planning programs with candidates.

If you have questions, please contact Public Policy Chair Trish Garner garner37@mac.com.

Claudia Gray & Betsy McDowell, Governance Co-Chairs

Leadership Opportunities

Now is your chance to become a member of AAUW of Oregon's dynamic state board!

Three positions are available: AAUW Fund Chair, North Central District Director and *Oregon News* Editor.

Hone your skills or develop new ones; push past your old comfort zone; go where you will be welcomed, supported and appreciated!

If you're interested, please contact Sue and Pat. They will give you the details, connect you with previous officeholders, and help you decide.

The password to get into the site's member center is:

oregonaauw
(pg. 14 web address)

AAUW of Oregon Technology Committee

This committee shall be responsible for all technology activities associated with AAUW of Oregon including its social media platforms. It will support and assist all AAUW of Oregon branches and members with their technology questions and issues.

This committee was recently made a standing committee of the AAUW of Oregon Board of Directors and reports directly to the Board.

The committee stands ready to assist board members and branches with any of their technology questions, issues, needs. Please contact the Chair, Georgia Applegate, at gkapple@gmail.com or send a message through the AAUW of Oregon Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/aauworegon/>

We have recently started a private Facebook Group that is open to all AAUW of Oregon members, a place where members may discuss issues and share information.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AAUWofOregon/>

Members must also be on Facebook to belong to this group.

The Technology Committee members and their specialties are listed below.

	Platform:	Members:	Contact:
Apple Products	Suzanne Wicklin		stwicklin@charter.net
Facebook	Betty Foster		betty@diamondfoster.com
Facebook Group	Georgia Applegate		gkapple@gmail.com
Instagram	Georgia Applegate (chair)		gkapple@gmail.com
Mail Chimp	Ilga Ross		ilgaross@yahoo.com
Pinterest	Georgia Applegate		gkapple@gmail.com
Website	Marguerite Damewood		mdamew@msn.com
YouTube	Nancy Brown		coachnancy@comcast.net
Zoom	Nancy Brown		coachnancy@comcast.net
All + Marketing	Kelli Matthews		kmatthew@uoregon.edu
	Sharron Noone		smnrrooe@aol.com

We welcome additional members who would like to join the committee. Please contact Georgia Applegate if you are interested in any aspect of this work.

Breaking Barriers Achievement Award

Do you know a woman who is not an AAUW member who exemplifies our AAUW mission? Or do you work with a community group that demonstrates an impact on women and girls in our state exemplifying our mission? If so, nominate them for the 2021 Breaking Barriers Achievement Award! Applications, due January 10, 2021, are on the website at <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/aauw-of-oregon-breaking-barriers-award/>

Penney Hoodenpyle

Benefits of Planning in Times of Change

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many AAUW members have been thinking about their legacy and their desire to include AAUW in their plans. Putting a plan in place or ensuring that your plan is current can provide peace of mind during times of change. Whether you are thinking about legacy giving for the first time or want to revisit your current plan, AAUW and the AAUW Legacy Circle Team are here to help.

The top three motivations that AAUW donors cite for making a planned gift are the importance of AAUW's mission; the belief that AAUW makes a significant impact; and the ability to make a larger gift through an estate gift than is normally possible during the donor's lifetime.

There are many creative and flexible giving options to help you achieve your vision. Popular options include a bequest through your will or trust, naming AAUW a beneficiary of your IRA (which may provide tax benefits while benefitting AAUW), and naming AAUW as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or a bank account. There are also planned giving options that provide income to you for life and give you an immediate charitable tax deduction for the present value of the gift in the year the gift is made.

If you would like to learn more about the benefits of planned giving, please feel free to contact me directly (information below), or contact Heather Miller, AAUW Advancement Director at millerh@aauw.org. You can also find more information on AAUW's website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/>.

Presently there are 70 Legacy Circle members in Oregon. We would be delighted to welcome you to the group and to present you with our Legacy Circle pin. And please share this information with any friend who might be interested!

Above all, in this strange time, stay safe!

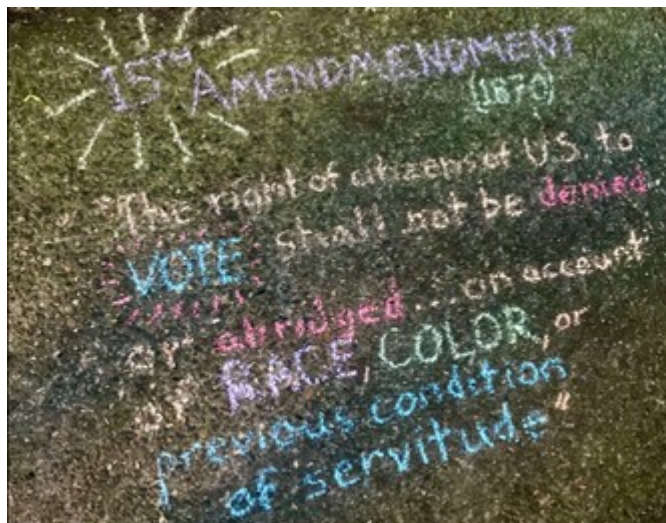
Claudia Gray
Claudiag63@comcast.net

District Reports

Central District Elena Rae, District Director

All of our branches reported in, though as expected, there isn't much news since the last report. The task of proceeding with the disbandment of the Corvallis Branch has been passed to National by Oregon State Membership VP Gini Dideum after I was unable to reach their contact in order to get the paperwork completed. I asked the Albany Branch if they'd like what-are-you-up-to blurbs from me and maybe some of the board members for their outreach program, and followed up with a short paragraph about whatever it is that I've been doing. Or, not doing.

"Chalk the Vote," an Oregon Women's History Consortium program, was mentioned at Summer Skills Camp, and also by our Bend Branch. It involves artistically chalking out the text of the voting rights amendments/act on sidewalks and stairs, and posting the results to social media. Evidently this was one of the communication methods that was open to the people demanding their rights before these amendments and the Voting Rights Act were passed (maybe not the Social Media part).



Albany - The Branch has not had any additional meetings since our last report. To keep in contact with our members, our branch has been sending informative emails, and we did an extra newsletter letting members know what has been happening and what is coming. We have asked our members to send us information about their activities so that we may share in another newsletter via email. Our Great Discussions Group is meeting outside with masks during the summer. (right—Great Discussions Group dealing with the pandemic but still keeping together.)



Bend - Bend Branch was rather in a holding position in 2019-2020, as no one would accept the presidency. Sarah Elmer, expert in all matters AAUW, became the administrative officer. The branch scheduled three meetings for the year; alas, the third one, scheduled for spring, had to be canceled due to COVID-19.

We now have a full slate of officers and have scheduled monthly meetings via Zoom. We are even having training sessions for members unfamiliar with Zoom. Co-President, Kaitlin O'Donnell has arranged for a highly competent friend to teach several of us how to host the Zoom meetings. Kaitlin is already very accomplished with this and other matters digital.

We have planned the programs through winter and are confirming presenters now.

We plan to work with the League of Women Voters on Chalk the Vote during the last week of August.

That's about it for Bend. I (Jane McEldowney) was able to sit in on most of the Summer Skills Camp Sessions and really was impressed!

Eugene-Lane - From holding branch committee meetings in outdoor park shelters, to preparing for small-group Zoom gatherings for our September general meeting (when we intend to hold our postponed 19th Amendment Readers Theatre event), we've been getting creative about keeping in touch with one another. We've also taken the summer to revamp our branch directory from print to online, overhaul our branch policies, gather materials to add to our historical archive (what a year it's been for that!), and generally plan for new leadership in the fall.

Salem - The noteworthy news from Salem Branch is completion of our Oral History Project, which was featured in the Summer Skills Camp online "program ideas" session. Nine of our Life Members shared their personal stories and information about the activities of Salem Branch through history. We video-taped the interviews; they are available on YouTube for anyone to see and hear. We were set to celebrate the Centennial of the Women's Suffrage by collaborating with our local Deepwood Museum and Gardens. An elaborate "tea" was scheduled featuring our resident actress, Gloria Holland and her trainees. They planned to impersonate a few of our Suffragettes. This event has been postponed due to the Pandemic, however we hope to eventually celebrate this memorable event! Dolores Mlynarczyk has been in contact with the Oregon Women's History Consortium, and is nominating our local Reed Opera House to include in the "site" of suffragette activity prior to August 26, the date when the 19th Amendment was added to the U.S. Constitution. Both Susan B. Anthony and Abigail Scott Duniway led activities at this location. The project of the Consortium is called "National Votes for Women Trail," and they are documenting where women's suffrage took place in the U.S. Dolores also arranged for a Proclamation to be issued on August 26, 2020, to commemorate the Centennial.

Mary Ellen Dello Stritto held our recent monthly board meetings via Zoom.

Yamhill County – We held Zoom meetings in May, June, and July. The business at hand during the June session was to discuss having a public presence to educate and remind the public about the importance of voting in November. Where we will most likely meet might be our Farmers' Market since the fall plans of Linfield University (restricted access) and Chemeketa Community College (exclusively distance learning) will make our presence on their respective campuses difficult to impossible. No date has been set for our next meeting, but we are hoping for September.

North Central District Nancy Dunis, District Director

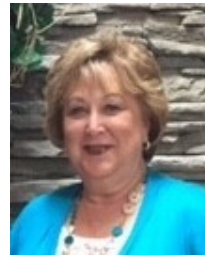
Gresham Area —Peggy Taylor, Bonnie Jepsen, Co-presidents

Although the Gresham branch experienced a major transition in leadership during this difficult time, staying connected to our branch members is still a top priority for us.

To assure a smooth process, a continuation of branch priorities, and membership inclusion, the board has been holding Zoom meetings to reflect and plan for the future. Although we had to cancel our branch July picnic and August ice cream social, each board member has stayed in contact with a selected group of members, checking in with them by phone.

Our “Sunshine” committee chair, Pat Woolsey, does a wonderful job sending birthday wishes, get well, condolences, etc. messages to branch members. The branch also sends out our monthly *KeyNotes* newsletter. This month’s issue continues our recognition and celebration of women’s suffrage and the “Get Out to Vote” campaign which we highlighted in February with our very successful branch and community celebration.

The board is now planning for the time when our branch can once again meet and celebrate our friendships, shared interests, and common mission.



Peggy



Bonnie

Hillsboro-Forest Grove—Claire Berger, President

The Hillsboro-Forest Grove Branch of AAUW has been busy these last few months trying to keep members connected with the Branch and with each other. We have been using three major strategies.

Our wonderful monthly newsletter organized and edited by member Ann Kubota is being circulated to members and branch friends monthly rather than taking the summer off as we have done in past years. We have also expanded the content to include events and opportunities for socially distant activities.

Monthly member meetings have been convened using Zoom and have included the League of Women Voters’ Redistricting Effort”, and a “Women’s History Webinar”. Happy Hour Socials were and are also being held monthly via Zoom focusing on fun topics.

Finally, a calling tree has been instituted to provide assistance and support when necessary so members feel connected to the branch and to each other. This is done on a monthly basis and includes all the members in the Branch.

The board evaluates the effectiveness of each of these strategies on a quarterly basis and crafts the next quarter of activities from lessons learned.

Lake Oswego — Mary Pat Silveira, President

Once it became apparent that we could not meet safely in person, Lake Oswego AAUW purchased a Zoom account and began to set up virtual meetings. This required a bit of a technological reach for many of us, but almost all members are now on board. We have been holding monthly board meetings via Zoom throughout this period in order to keep up to date with health conditions so we can fine-tune our decisions accordingly.

Almost all of our interest groups are continuing to meet, albeit virtually, including five of our six book groups, Lunch Bunch, Delightful Dining and Advocacy, plus we added a new storytelling group. Our centennial celebration of the adoption of the 19th Amendment, planned as a march through downtown Lake Oswego, also became a virtual event, and our monthly membership meetings will resume – on Zoom – in September. For those members who have chosen not to participate in Zoom meetings, we have established a buddy system to ensure that we contact them to see how they are doing. We decided to continue our online meetings at least until March, at which time we will re-evaluate the safety of our environment.

Oregon Online—Elena Rae, President

The Online Branch had a bit of a bubble when the newly elected president had to resign. I volunteered to

fill the spot, and was duly appointed by the board. I reached out to the two newest members, one in North Carolina, and one in California, asking them what had prompted them to join the branch. One of them wanted to talk via voice, as opposed to email, so we had a conversation about what online branches in other states are doing to stay connected during the pandemic. Our next branch meeting, in September, will be via Zoom. Previous meetings having been by conference call. I hope to contact a few more branch members by email and/or phone before then; just to get to know them a little bit.

Portland—Susan Marthens and Katie Raetz, Co-Presidents

Like the rest of the AAUW world, the Portland Branch has adapted to a new way of doing business and staying connected. We plunged into the world of Zoom and had our first Zoomed board meeting in April. Following that meeting, several board members took a portion of our membership roster of 100 and called each to say hello, touch base, and ascertain if they have computer access at home. Those of us who participated were touched by the positive responses to our calls! Many of our members live alone and are restricted in their ventures into the world of the pandemic. It was a reminder that we are a community and we do need to support each other.

We held our annual meeting in May—via Zoom again, thanks to Nancy Cheverton, our Communications Chair. At this time we elected and installed new officers. It was a positive ending for one year and a springboard into 2020-2021.

A variety of meetings and interest groups are also using this new way to communicate. Minor technical hiccups aside, the results are more than satisfactory—we don't have to wear masks to be together! Check out www.aaupdx.org to view our programs.

Tigard—Ilga Ross and Marsha Brockmeyer, Co-presidents

At the July planning meeting, held via Zoom, the Tigard branch decided to hold all monthly programs through at least February 2021 via Zoom. We have eliminated the business portion in order to focus on the speakers. Starting us off in September, Mardy Stevens will share her experiences on the AAUW National board. We recommend that members view the webinar "State of the Association" in advance. The next speakers will be Kathy McAlpine, Tigard Police Chief, and Courtney Neron, Oregon State Representative. A readers' theater presentation on women's suffrage will highlight the December meeting. Social justice and support for recent immigrants start the new year.

Only one of our interest groups, the book group, is currently active. To encourage AAUW Fund giving, we will hold a drawing from donor members; prizes will be mailed directly from local businesses. Our "Clean Closets for College" fundraiser has been modified to be contactless and will be conducted in January. Most members seem to be very comfortable meeting from home via Zoom; branch officers have been amazing in their adaptability, and we expect our programs to be outstanding!

Northwest District Susan Wahlke, Director

Astoria—Liz Bartell, President

Board meetings continue monthly, at first via Google Hangout, and then Zoom. We did not have elections this spring. Board officers agreed to stay in place, at least for another year, except for one program co-vp. Erin Engleson will take on the position, however limited our programs may be for the year. Erin has good computer skills so this is a very good thing!

Sara Meyer recently called and emailed last year's members to encourage them to rejoin. A membership renewal form and reminder were sent out via our newsletter in late spring, but it resulted in few renewals, so it was felt that more assertive means were necessary. It's typical of this branch to renew over a period of time during the summer. We will likely have about half the membership we had last year. The Board is discussing the future of our branch and how, in post-pandemic days, we might function as a smaller organization.

We have had a monthly newsletter, COLUMNS. Newer and longer-term members are featured in it, orchestrated by Sara Meyer. Our newsletter editor has resigned and we will recruit another editor from our membership or find a way to replace the newsletter with something simpler.

I recruited speakers and helped with the initial planning for the Summer Skills Camp Session on Mindfulness. Astoria Branch was also represented at three Summer Skills Camp sessions. We helped to circulate petitions for signature, supporting IP57. We are focusing on developing our Facebook Page. It's working. More attention is being paid to it. On behalf of Astoria AAUW, a letter to the editor was submitted decrying the murder of George Floyd and racism, which was published in *The Astorian*, our local newspaper.

A number of women in Astoria were asked by the editor of the local newspaper, *The Astorian*, to write essays for publication in the month of August. The topic assigned was personal reflections on Suffrage. I was included among those asked. At the bottom of my essay it will be noted that I'm the current president of Astoria AAUW.

We are planning a membership get-together in September that will primarily be a social event. We are working in conjunction with Clatsop Community College, *The Astorian*, and KMUN, our community radio station, for a Candidates' Forum scheduled for October 6th. A planning meeting is scheduled for early September when we will finalize the format for the Forum, and work out more details.

Lincoln City—Patty Heringer, president

The Lincoln City branch has focused on its commitment to providing scholarships to Taft High School girls' pursuit of higher education. Letters have been sent to members, former members, and former scholarship recipients requesting donations to the scholarship project. As an added incentive, an anonymous AAUW member will match each donation. It appears that at least two scholarships of \$1500 will be provided.

Our branch has also submitted its application for IRS non-profit status, thanks to treasurer, Jan Riedburger. Given that most of our branch members are in a vulnerable age group, we will not be holding in-person meetings until the Covid 19 crisis is over.

Seaside—Jamey R. Hendricks, President, Seaside AAUW

Seaside Branch is staying connected through walking group (of course masked and six feet apart). One of our members donated a professional ZOOM so that the book and movie clubs could stay connected along with safe ways to meet for board meetings and member meetings. We also participated in Chalk the Vote on August 26th, downtown Seaside! There is also the occasional Zoom wine meeting to just check in with each other. especially those more isolated. Thank you!

Tillamook—Susan Pierce, President

AAUW Tillamook Branch is using all methods allowed to us by Oregon State to maintain connections with our members. The telephone, email, Facebook, Zoom and US mail all still work for us. Our book club members miss each other, but are finding ways to maintain social contact that includes our newsletter "Tidelines." We recognize how important the social part is. Members join to share our vision and work for equity. We are so fortunate. Tillamook usually does not have monthly meetings during the summer, but usually starts the fall with a member recruitment activity. Our executive committee will be working on a creative way to do this. We encourage our members to practice the good pandemic guidelines we are lucky to have in Oregon. Stay well.

South District Joan Rycraft, District Director

The South District has been challenged with the restrictions placed on social interactions due to COVID-19, however the branches are responding with use of virtual meetings, frequent telephone contacts, and safe social distancing.

Ashland—Paula Wiiken, President

As one of our members said, "I sure miss all my AAUW friends." In an effort to stay connected, AAUW Ashland is stepping up our online presence, all member emails and virtual meetings. For the first time our member directory will be online only with an option to print.

Our board is meeting regularly on Zoom. At our annual retreat, we conducted business and shared some fun: "show and tell" and a chat activity. (right: Communications Chair and two Co-Presidents sharing a laugh about the September newsletter.)



Our interest groups are using various methods to communicate. Some groups are communicating by email, some are sharing uplifting and funny links and some are using Zoom to meet. Many committees are also meeting virtually and planning future events.

We are organizing now to present webinar programs starting with the September welcome back meeting. It is a new world and we are scrambling to climb the learning curve.

We have scheduled our biannual Upscale Sale fundraiser for May 2021. If the pandemic ends, we hope to proceed.

Grants Pass—Lee Bollschweiler, President

Staying connected during Covid-19 has been a big challenge, although many of our members are being creative. There was initially a lot of energy around this when we thought the social distancing was temporary. But that energy has waned a bit as the social distancing rules have been extended, with no clear end in sight. Here are some of our solutions to counteract the social distancing rules:

1. Our Board members called every Branch member to find out how they were doing, asked if they needed anything, asked for their feedback about meeting via Zoom, encouraged them to renew their membership, and generally held a caring conversation.
2. Normally we don't send out a newsletter over the summer, but this summer the President sent out a monthly update email with ongoing news about AAUW happenings and opportunities for engagement.
3. Our Branch purchased a Zoom account for \$149 for a yearly subscription.
4. Many, but not all, of our Interest Groups meet via Zoom. Interest groups are encouraged to invite members who don't want to use Zoom to someone's house for the Zoom meeting. Some of our smaller interest groups currently meet outside in a park and maintain a social distance.
5. All Board meetings are held via Zoom and will continue so for the foreseeable future.
6. All Branch meetings for the foreseeable future will be held via Zoom, beginning in September. We have scheduled two training meetings to get more members comfortable with Zoom prior to our first virtual Branch meeting.

Lakeview—Debbie Watts, President

Lakeview is on summer hiatus and will resume meetings in the Fall.

Medford—Carol Koszyk, President

The Medford Branch dove into the Zoom realm in May, using it for our final Board Meeting of the 2019/2020 year. Since our General Membership meetings had been cancelled due to the pandemic, we did not have our regular Annual Meeting in April. We still needed to vote for a few Bylaws amendments, our elected Officers and our 2020/2021 budget. We accomplished this by using an online survey service - SurveyGizmo. This application was free and allowed for an adequate number of participants. About one half of our members voted. Then we hosted a Zoom General Branch Meeting in June to discuss the voting results, install our 2020/2021 Officers, and connect with our members via the internet.

The Covid-19 restrictions prevented us from honoring our Scholarship Recipients at our Annual Scholarship Luncheon in May. Our Medford Branch awarded seven \$2100 scholarships for the 2020/2021 academic year: five women attending RCC and two attending SOU. Normally, each recipient tells us their "story" after we share lunch together. We plan to invite our scholarship winners to one of our monthly Zoom General Meetings, so we can still hear their story, and get to know them via the internet. Instead of our long standing Saturday morning time slot, we decided to have our General Meetings at 7 pm during the week for greater accessibility.

For many years, we have been connecting with our members via the US Postal Service with a "Get Well" or "Sympathy" card when needed. This coming year, we are adding a "Happy Birthday" card. Of course, phone calls are being encouraged. Sometimes a friendly voice is so uplifting and helpful for ones' spirit. Our goal is to keep reaching out to our members. This is a very different year. I am attempting to view it as an opportunity to learn, and am inviting us all to try.

Roseburg—Betty Mack and Nanci Slattery, Co-Presidents

Roseburg will be meeting in the Fall via Zoom. The April meeting program will be with the South District Director, Joan Rycraft.

Congratulations to the Roseburg Branch for a 100% renewal of members!!!

Northeast Oregon District Karen King, District Director

A number of AAUW members from Northeast Oregon District were able to participate in the Summer Skills camp and found it very interesting. Both "The Votes for Women" and "The Work We Need to Do" were very enlightening. I was very impressed with Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW, and have recommended others check that session out online.

Kathryn Chaney reported she enjoyed "Mindful Activism with Self-Care" because it was both fun and she enjoyed hearing about all the women who have been so involved in AAUW in Oregon. Several of our members enjoyed "Making Meetings Worthwhile, and Fun!", but we realized we have much to learn about Robert's Rules of Order.

Baker City/Ontario

Wanda Rafferty reported on activities of Baker City/Ontario Branch.

Our branch and community members just completed two Readers' Theater performance - "The Suffrage Movement in America," written by Gloria Holland, Salem Branch. The performances were held at The Pavilion, Geiser-Pollman Park on August 15 and 21. We shared the stories of remarkable women told in the voice of the women and their time. We will be at the Oregon Trail Interpretive on the 27th - outside.

We are having Zoom board meetings once a month and about 4 or 5 Zoom meetings with members throughout the year. Program VP is busy planning the Zoom programs. The first one will be the 2nd Monday in September and we are hoping to show "The Votes for Women Movement in Oregon and the Continuing Struggle for Democracy and Human Rights in our State and Nation" by Kimberly Jensen (First Summer Skills Camp presentation).

Pendleton Branch

Pendleton Branch board meetings have been held via Zoom this summer. Our Program VPs are in the process of putting together monthly meetings via Zoom for fall and, who knows, maybe all year! We usually start off in September with a potluck, but we won't be able to do that this year, so we hope to begin with a September meeting on how to do Zoom for members who have not yet participated in a Zoom meeting.

Pendleton Branch is still planning to do our annual grapefruit sale, which is our only major fundraiser. We are currently working out logistics to keep all our members and our customers safe.

Wallowa County Branch

Nothing new from this branch. I suspect they are on a well-deserved vacation!!

American Association of University Women

Oregon Mission

AAUW of Oregon promotes advocacy, takes action to empower women and girls, and connects National AAUW with branch members.

Oregon Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Oregon Vision Statement

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

We're on the web:

<http://aauw-or.aauw.net>

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