



of Oregon

COVID-19 Guidelines: AAUW's recommendation is to adhere to the state guidelines as determined by its governor. Link to <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

OREGON NEWS

Winter Edition, November 2021

In this Edition:

Presidents' Message, Welcome New CEO, Annual Meeting Preview, Breaking Barriers Award, Branch Projects & Fundraisers



Celebrate AAUW's 140th Birthday on November 17th

AAUW could not have made it to 140 years without members and supporters like you. As a small token of thanks, National AAUW invites you to a celebratory virtual event on November 17th. We will honor our history and announce the 2021 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Awardee—an outstanding fellowships and grants alumna! Save the date and watch for details. The actual founding date is November 28th, 1881.

State Presidents' Message

Pat Lehman & Sue Klumph, AAUW of Oregon Co-presidents



We have endured eighteen-plus months of a pandemic that has forced every one of us to make radical changes in our lives. Nevertheless, our AAUW of Oregon branches and state have met the challenges with strength, resilience, determination, and creativity.

Our branch presidents and their officers have shown a “can-do” attitude and taken actions that have resulted in a member retention level similar to pre-pandemic years, even recruiting several new members. They have provided many outstanding programs shared beyond the boundaries of their communities. Projects that fulfill our mission have been ongoing and creative. We could not be prouder of the work our branches do.

Our state team has been incredibly productive and innovative as well. The well-attended annual meeting and two fabulous summer skills camps showed that we could provide relevant education and training to our members. We have developed our technology and increased our visibility via new media platforms. Our District Directors have embraced their expanded roles, and state-branch communication has been enhanced. Our Public Policy Committee plays an active role in state legislation. Through these efforts and more, we are working to keep our organization strong, responsive, and influential.

Where do we go from here? We are already working on both an updated state strategic plan and succession strategies, and, of course, we are planning for our annual meeting 2022. Whether it will be a much hoped-for in-person event in Ashland in April or a Zoom gathering like the last two successful meetings, our planners will be ready to provide us all with loads of information, inspiration, and fun! We look forward to seeing you there.

A Commitment to the Future

Claudia Gray, Legacy Circle Team



You are invited to join the AAUW Legacy Circle, a community of like-minded supporters who have made equity a central part of their legacies through planned giving. Planned gifts, also known as legacy gifts, offer some of the most innovative and meaningful ways to give back and ensure a better future for women, girls and their communities.

Benefits of Planned Giving:

- Planned gifts, also known as legacy gifts or bequests, allow you the flexibility to provide for your family and support national AAUW at the same time.
- Planned gifts need not affect your cash flow during your lifetime; some legacy gifts are also designed to give back, providing steady income for you and your loved ones for life.
- Certain planned gifts may reduce or even eliminate estate or capital gains taxes.
- There is no minimum gift amount, and every gift can be tailored to suit your needs.

Become a visionary member of the AAUW Legacy Circle! To learn more, please visit AAUW.ORG/Legacy. Request a brochure or ask questions by contacting Heather Miller, Director of Advancement, at: 202-785-7766 or millerh@aauw.org. or contact Oregon's AAUW Legacy Circle Team Liaison Claudia Gray at claudiaG63@comcast.net.



Welcome Gloria L. Blackwell, New AAUW CEO



After 17 years at AAUW, Gloria L. Blackwell took on a new role: CEO. “I am incredibly honored and grateful to the Board for valuing my commitment to global gender equity, my leadership at AAUW and the contributions of my high-performing teams,” said Blackwell.

Among her many accomplishments is her longtime management of AAUW’s fellowships and grants program, which has awarded more than \$70 million to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and overseas. Blackwell was also the driving force behind AAUW’s signature programs, including its salary negotiation trainings, which have reached nearly 190,000 people.

Before joining AAUW, Gloria worked at the Institute of International Education (IIE) in Washington D.C., leading and managing girls’ education programs in Africa and mid-career fellowships for global professionals. She began her career as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Cameroon and was the Country Desk Officer at the D.C. headquarters for five Sub-Saharan countries.

We feel grateful and privileged that such an exceptional executive has accepted our invitation to lead our organization into the future. Please join us in congratulating and warmly welcoming Gloria Blackwell to her new role as AAUW CEO.



October 14, 2021

Dear Gloria,

AAUW of Oregon congratulates you on your selection as CEO of our AAUW National organization. We are delighted to have a leader with your experience and your intimate knowledge of AAUW's mission, goals, personnel, history, and culture.

We are confident that our organization will move forward in a positive direction under your guidance. We hope that, among the many worthy initiatives you champion, membership development and support will be a priority for you, as it is for us.

Please know that you can count on our support and on any assistance we can provide. We look forward to working with you to promote equity for all.

Sincerely,

Pat Lehman
Co-President, AAUW of Oregon

Sue Klumph
Co-President, AAUW of Oregon



Mark your calendar! In just six months, AAUW of Oregon will hold its Annual Meeting in Ashland, in person at the Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites. This unique facility, east of I-5, has a lot of room to spread out. Its lovely spaces will be perfect for our first in-person meeting since our leadership meeting at Western Oregon University during the summer of 2019.

Over the past two years, we have held two annual meetings, two Summer Skills Camps, and one continuing education program, all with multiple sessions, via Zoom. They have been effective beyond our imagination. However, after listening to our members, we know it is time to get together in person again. With the Delta variant of Covid hopefully in retreat, and most of our members fully vaccinated, we are anticipating that it should be more than safe by April 2022. Of course, more current information will be considered as we approach April, and we will adjust accordingly and keep you informed.

Ashland has many things to offer, and the South District has a wealth of inspirational leaders for us to draw from. As our first in-person meeting in two years, this should be an exciting time to get together again.

We can't wait to shake hands, share hugs, and celebrate together!

More details to come!



Breaking Barriers Achievement Award – 2022

Mardi Stevens, Coordinator

Have you identified your nominee yet? The clock is ticking to meet the January 10, 2022, deadline for nominating a person or organization for this award. The Breaking Barriers Achievement Award recognizes and celebrates a woman in Oregon who is not an AAUW member, but who exemplifies our AAUW mission. The award also recognizes and celebrates an organization that demonstrates an impact on women and girls in our state. Don't wait until January 9 to nominate. Get started now! Applications are on the website at <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/aauw-of-oregon-breaking-barriers-award/>

AAUW of Oregon Public Policy Report, November 2021

Trish Garner, State Public Policy Chair

You may have wondered why you haven't been receiving a barrage of state Public Policy Updates. Well, the reason is that the 2021 "Long" Session has ended and the 2022 Session is a "Short" Session, running from February 1 to March 8, 2022. Legislators are allowed to introduce only two bills each, and the hearing schedule runs at a lightning pace. While we would prefer to file our corporate board diversity and age discrimination bills as soon as we can, the AAUW of Oregon Public Policy Committee has agreed that it will be better to wait until January 2023 and move forward from there. In the interim we anticipate working with those who support and those who might oppose the bills to reach as close to consensus as we can.

We are working with other advocates on legislation that will be introduced in the 2022 Session. No decisions there yet, so stay tuned!

We are also fostering collaboration between state and branch public policy activities. Peggy Shippen (Eugene) and Georgia Applegate (Grants Pass), along with some input from me, are working on a Branch Public Policy Chair Handbook. The state Public Policy Committee is also eyeing the possibility for us to identify a central contact person(s) that branches / branch Public Policy Chairs can use in order to let us know just what they are doing in the public policy arena. This includes all projects, including what a public policy committee and/or chair is doing, information on projects organized for the benefit of the community and even what books about public policy are being read. Once we know this information, we can share it with other branches. The more the merrier!!

If you have any suggestions about AAUW of Oregon public policy, please let me know!

AAUW Awards

Claudia Gray & Betsy McDowell, AAUW Funds Co-chairs



AAUW has one of the largest scholarship programs for women in the world, having awarded, since inception, over \$115 million in fellowships and grants to more than 13,000 scholars and organizations in 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and 150 countries.

In the award year 2021-2022, AAUW is providing nearly \$5 million in funding to more than 260 fellows and grantees. These exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.

Community Action Grants provide funding to individuals, AAUW branches and AAUW state organizations for innovative programs that promote education and equity through projects focused on encouraging girls to study the physical sciences or engineering.

Applications for the 2022-23 academic year are now open. For more information go to aauw.applyists.net.

For the year 2020 AAUW-OR had 167 members who donated \$100 or more, and 44 of those were large donors of \$250 or more! For a \$25 donation, members can honor a living person with a Tribute or remember someone deceased with a Memorial. It's a lovely way to honor someone and very easy to do! Contact your branch AAUW Funds chair or the state AAUW Funds chairs to learn more.

Claudia Gray – claudiaG63@comcast.net

Betsy McDowell – betsymcd@comcast.net

AAUW of Oregon Elected Officers

Co-Presidents
Sue Klumph & Pat
Lehman

President-Elect
Linda Lybecker

Communications VP
Ilga Ross

Finance VP
Monica Weyhe

Membership VP
Gini Dideum

Program VP
Pat Squire

Secretary
Marie Mueller

Northeast District
Director
Karen A. King

Northwest District
Director
Susan Wahlke

North-Central District
Director
Mary Pat Silveira

Central District
Director *vacant*

South District
Director
Pam Shay

Membership

Gini Dideum, Membership Vice President

Have you procrastinated and not renewed your membership? Don't wait any longer; your membership is important. Do you know a student who would gain from membership in AAUW? For any student attending a college or university, an undergraduate or graduate, state dues are \$0. Students attending AAUW affiliated colleges and universities do not pay National dues, either. Other students only pay national dues of \$18.81. Membership retention and growth is always a work in progress. Celebrate the members you keep and welcome the new ones.

Nominations Committee Seeks Officer Candidates

The AAUW of Oregon Nominations Committee for 2022 was elected at the annual meeting in April. The committee's charge is to find the best leaders in Oregon for state officer positions. New state officers will be elected at the 2022 Annual Meeting to be held in Ashland, April 7-9. All members of AAUW of Oregon are eligible to be candidates for open positions. District Director candidates must live within the district they represent. Job descriptions for all positions are available on the state website: <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/position-descriptions/>.

Open state positions for two-year terms starting July 1, 2022 are Communications VP, Membership VP, Northeast District Director, Northwest District Director, and Central District Director. Begin thinking now about taking a state leadership role. If you are interested in any of the positions and/or know someone who you believe would be an excellent candidate, contact any member of the Nominations Committee by email.

2021-2022 Nominations Committee members are:

Linda O'Hara, Past State President (Yamhill County) linda6173@comcast.net

Kathy Gervasi, continuing member (Tillamook) mkg4953@gmail.com

Theresa Johnson (Albany) theresa121@comcast.net

Susan Wahlke (Lincoln City) susanwahlke@hotmail.com

Cathy deWolfe (Medford) calicat8@msn.com

Jill Heffner, alternate (Pendleton) jillh1060@gmail.com

Nominations Committee positions are open for election to one-year terms starting July 1, 2022. The committee must have five members and one alternate, where one is a continuing member from the previous year's committee and one is a past state president. A goal is to have a representative from each district on the Nominations Committee.

Technology Tip:

Go to the Member Center at the state website to read branch newsletters from around the state. Find out what everyone is doing. Lots of great ideas!

AAUW of Oregon website password to "Member Center" is *oregonaauw*

Technology Assistance is Available

Georgia Applegate, Technology Committee Chair

The State Technology Committee stands ready to help branches with their technology needs anytime. We currently have eight members with variety of expertise who can answer questions and provide technical support. Our members are Randa Blanding, Ilga Ross, Kelli Mathews, Nancy Brown, Suzanne Wicklin, Betty Diamond, Gail Engblom, and Georgia Applegate, Chair. Please check our state website for our specialty areas:

<https://aauw-or.aauw.net/tech-help/>. We welcome anyone else who would like to join our committee.

This year we will once again be working with Allen Hall Public Relations, a student run public relations firm at the University of Oregon. This firm will manage our social medial presence on Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook under the direction of our Committee Chair Georgia Applegate. Please check out our state pages on those social media platforms. You may take away some lessons from Allen Hall's work to apply to your own branch platforms.

https://www.instagram.com/aauw_of_oregon/

<https://www.facebook.com/aauworegon>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/aauw-of-oregon/posts/?feedView=all&viewAsMember=true>

District and Branch News

Central District

ALBANY BRANCH, Virginia Staffelbach and Theresa Johnson, Co-presidents

The Albany Branch gave three \$300 scholarships to Linn-Benton Community College students this last year and we plan to give scholarships again this year. Besides some of the usual criteria such as GPA and need, we were also specifically targeting students who were not eligible for other financial assistance. A committee reviewed the applications and recommended the scholarship recipients to the board.

We raised funds through a direct appeal to our members. This was very successful in providing the funds for the scholarships as well as for raising funds for all of the branch's projects. Many of the projects that we were planning on funding were canceled due to COVID-19. Therefore, we did not spend much on branch projects this last year, and because of this, we are, at least initially, not planning to do any fundraising.

EUGENE-LANE BRANCH, Sheila Ramerman, President

The Eugene-Lane branch has a mix of scholarships and projects that are funded as budget items and through donations:

- The branch funded the AAUW Kappy Eaton Scholarship Fund with the Lane Community College Foundation. The scholarship is a permanent, ongoing endowment for women LCC graduates who are transferring to a four-year university to complete their bachelor's degrees; it is awarded every spring. The branch periodically donates additional funds to the scholarship.
- The branch pays the registration fees for a Kidsports (<https://kidsports.org/>) middle-school girls' basketball team as a budgeted item, and all money from our members' Book Exchange also helps to fund the team.
- The branch supports the Mock Trial team at Willamette High School through our CHiPS program as a budgeted Special Project (<https://oregonspecialprojectsfund.org/donations/>).
- We collect money donations to fund scholarships to the University of Oregon's SPICE Camp (Science Program to Inspire Creativity and Excellence Camp), <https://www.spicescience.org/>, held every summer.

- We collect toiletry donations for the Looking Glass Community Services organization in Eugene (<https://www.lookingglass.us/services>).
- In May 2021, we paid the NCCWSL registration for a student member, from the bequeathal that Kappy Eaton left the branch. We plan on making this an annual scholarship.

SALEM BRANCH, Joyce Zook, President

Salem Branch has a long history of an "Outstanding Graduating Student" award given to a second-year student at Chemeketa Community College majoring in a STEM field. This year the Salem Branch Board voted to award two student scholarships that would cover all expenses to attend NCCWSL. Speech Trek is a project we have planned for the past three years. The cash prizes awarded to the top three contestants each year totals \$1000.

For the above projects/scholarships, funding is from an endowment provided by two Salem Branch members who designated amounts in their will to the Salem Branch. We have not had a "fundraiser" project for several years. With rising costs for venues, our budget, based upon revenues primarily from the membership, has not covered our costs of operation, so in the future we may need to have a fundraiser or raise members' dues.

YAMHILL COUNTY BRANCH, Linda O'Hara, President

Sponsoring a local scholarship is an area we have yet to explore. We discussed it a couple of times as something we can work toward but not anytime soon. I think it is important for branches to know that it's not a necessity.

North Central District—Mary Pat Silveira, Director

Branch presidents in the district, along with the district director, met on October 19 to discuss the results of the AAUW Oregon District Director's meeting on September 30 as well as other district-relevant issues. The district leadership will meet again on November 19 to participate in the development of the new state strategic plan.

GRESHAM AREA BRANCH, Bonnie Jepsen and Peggy Taylor, Co-presidents

The Gresham Branch started its scholarship at Mt. Hood Community College in 2007 for a female second year student who has completed 36 credit hours and is carrying a minimum of twelve credit hours at the time the scholarship is in effect. The student must be seeking her first degree and must be in a planned program of study leading to a preferred degree in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) major.

The branch has made tremendous progress with its scholarship these past few years – initially endowing it for \$25,000 with the unanimous approval of the Gresham Area Branch Board of Directors in 2019 and reaching the branch goal of \$50,000 in 2020. Currently, the endowed scholarship is for \$3,000 annually.

The branch has raised money for the scholarship principally through its "Calling All Angels" fundraiser held annually in November of each year – either virtually or in-person. Additional funds are donated throughout the year by branch members.

Scholarship funds are distributed among three consecutive terms during the academic year, and the student must maintain a 3.0 GPA to remain eligible for the scholarship each term. The scholarship recipient is encouraged to attend at least one to two branch meetings to meet the branch members.

HILLSBORO-FOREST GROVE BRANCH, Donna Wellington, President

Hillsboro Forest Grove (HFG) Branch has several projects and two scholarships we fund each year. These vary from encouraging math skills in our littles (Let's Read Math) to exposing girls to the college experience (Girls Today) and Technology (GET) to providing a financial award at Pacific University (Non-traditional student). Annually we have also sponsored a young woman invited to attend AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Financing these endeavors, the HFG branch takes a grass roots approach. Raising relatively small amounts, often, eventually creates the needed resources. In spring we begin with a plant sale and end the year with a poinsettia sale and silent auction in December. We return bottles and hold garage sales. The branch enjoys a lively book sale at the beginning of summer break. One of our most profitable events is the Wine, Chocolate and Friends fundraiser held each spring. This event typically raises >\$1500. We also have many, many members who provide a variety of donations to branch causes. Regrettably, for the most part distributing funds has been limited due to Covid. We look forward to resuming our projects very soon.

LAKE OSWEGO BRANCH, Catharine Hojem, President

As a relatively new AAUW member, I have relied on the historical perspective of members who have been involved in numerous fundraising projects over the years. Like all branches, Lake Oswego has raised funds through a wide range of very creative means, often tapping into the interests and culture of the times.

Several years ago, Lake Oswego raised funds through garage and estate sales, an annual pancake breakfast with the Methodist Church, silent auctions, book and "trunk sales" featuring jewelry and accessories, and an "Antique Roadshow" appraisal of collectibles.

More recently, we have been the beneficiaries of three beautiful handmade quilts from members which generated income through a series of raffles. The latest one celebrated the Suffrage movement and Voting Rights. "Wine and Roses" was an event which hosted a local winery with donated appetizers, live music, and a tour of the Heritage House Rose Garden. The Spring Tea and Christmas Gala have been reliable fundraisers for us.

For the last two years, Covid has prevented in-person gathering, so this year we are going to have membership donations through Red Envelope (AAUW Funds) and Green Envelope (Scholarship) fundraisers at our (hopefully in-person) Gala and Tea. Scholarship funds are used to support apprenticeship training through Oregon Tradeswomen.

PORTLAND BRANCH, Susan Marthens and Katie Raetz, Co-presidents

The major fundraising project for Portland AAUW is supporting Portland Community College (PCC) students with annual scholarships. After many years of having Scholarship fundraising "events," about five years ago our Funds Chair Judy Holt changed course and began a virtual event by sending a letter to every branch member with an addressed stamped envelope, allowing members to be at home in their jammies or reading by the fire while sending off a check to support our PCC scholarships. This was very successful, and members enjoyed the break from dinners, wine tastings, etc. Judy created clever themes to entice us...by honoring a significant person (teacher, et al) in our past, for example.

Then COVID arrived, and virtual fundraising became a necessity! Students still needed our support so, in 2020 and 2021, we followed the same model—and we will probably duplicate this in 2022. Over the last several years the Portland Branch has raised sufficient funds to provide three \$1,500 scholarships each year for PCC students who were following a STEM curriculum with concrete plans to achieve a four-year degree.

TIGARD AREA BRANCH, Ilga Ross and Ally Yoshioka, Co-presidents

The Tigard Area Branch is proud to be able to sponsor a student at Portland Community College. Applicants write an essay that is read by a panel of members who work together with Portland Community College to select a candidate. In the past, we have been able to support many wonderful applicants.

Besides generous donations from our members, in recent years, Tigard Area Branch has raised funds for our scholarship through a clothing drive. Linda Liebenstein took on the responsibility of collecting clothing and accessories from members, neighbors, and others in the community. After transporting the donations, Value Village paid our branch by the pound for our items. We have been lucky to raise money for our scholarship together.

Northeast District—Karen King, Director

BAKER BRANCH, Wanda Raffety and Heather Rudolph, Co-presidents

Baker Branch has not given local scholarships in the past, but they are in the early stages of discussing: 1) what kind of scholarship to give; 2) which college(s); 3) the application process; and 4) how to raise funds.

Baker Branch is sponsoring the "In Our Backyard" (IOB) program to Baker City High School health students, parents, and the community. IOB is a Central Oregon nonprofit established by Nita Belles. It works locally in cooperation with other nonprofits, government agencies and law enforcement to stop human trafficking. IOB has seven programs which work locally and nationally to prevent and eradicate human trafficking.

Baker Branch planned to bring the IOB program for Baker City High School in March of 2020. Unfortunately, COVID stopped the program. They are now planning a spring 2022 date for the program. Funds to bring the program to Baker City and purchase freedom stickers for students were donated by the disbanded Ontario Branch. The cost to bring the program to an area is in lodging and mileage. Baker Branch will be donating twelve "In Our Backyard" books by Nita Belles to area schools and public libraries.

PENDLETON BRANCH, Susan Doyle and Kathryn Chaney, Co-presidents

For several years, Pendleton Branch has had one major fundraiser--our annual grapefruit sale. We contact customers from October through mid-November, then place our order, and receive the grapefruit the first week of December. We designate a date for customers to pick up their grapefruit, and that day is an all-hands-on-deck affair as we hand out 600-700, 20-lb boxes of grapefruit.

We use the funds from the grapefruit sale to cover costs for the branch as well to support branch projects. We budget for: 1) AAUW Funds; 2) an annual \$1200 scholarship at Blue Mountain Community College for a non-traditional student; and 3) local STEM projects.

During 2020/2021, Pendleton Branch funded three STEM projects. In the fall, we sponsored 15 Sunridge Middle School (SMS) students to attend a virtual Girls-in-Science program through Eastern Oregon University. The second project during the winter helped SMS boys and girls learn about Stephanie Kwolec and her work to develop Kevlar. The third project in the spring again included both boys and girls at SMS and was based on the work of Carrie Everson of Sparta, OR, who invented an oil floatation method for separating gold from mine tailings.

WALLOWA COUNTY BRANCH, Pat Hines and Susan Gilstrap

Wallowa County Branch has not much to report. There were not enough investment proceeds this past year in the Maxine Town Scholarship Fund to support a new recipient. The available funds were distributed to our past recipients who had reapplied.

Northwest District—Susan Wahlke, Director

ASTORIA BRANCH, Liz Bartell, President

When I was first involved in AAUW here in Astoria, which was about six years ago, our branch had a tradition of doing a readers' theater production to raise funds for scholarships. It was a dessert theater, and auction with all proceeds after expenses, going to our scholarship fund. There were two productions, one on Friday and another on Saturday. This was of benefit to scholarship recipients, our members, and our community. Unfortunately, we no longer have a skilled producer/director within our membership.

Last year, we did a direct mailing to our membership for the specific purpose of raising scholarship funds. We raised a significant amount of money. We used these funds along other residual readers' theater start-up funds and funds that had been previously gifted to us, to award two \$3,000 scholarships in 2020-21. We had planned to award only one scholarship but the candidates were so outstanding the chairperson of our scholarship committee implored us to find a way to do one additional scholarship, and we did! We were fortunate to have great applicants. The big challenge was getting out the word, of course. We posted information about the scholarship on our Facebook page and made the application available on our website. We placed posters at places that had some foot traffic, asked banks to put posters in their lunchrooms and handed out the posters to people we knew might be interested. We plan to use the same approach this year. We may choose to extend the request beyond the current membership, to some former members.

LINCOLN CITY BRANCH, Susan Wahlke, President

For many years Lincoln City AAUW held a home tour of homes located at Salishan during the December holidays. People came from many miles to view these beautiful homes. Homemade treats were sold and our cookbooks were also available for purchase. At some point before I joined AAUW the event was moved to September or October instead of December. Due to many obstacles, the tours were discontinued a few years ago. For a couple of years, we had a silent auction, which generated some funds. Last winter we sent letters asking for support to present and former members, scholarship winners, and others who had supported our scholarship program in the past. Enough money was raised to provide scholarships for 2021 and that seems very promising!

SEASIDE BRANCH, Jamey Hendricks, President

Seaside AAUW met to share ideas to help women and girls. Jamey Hendricks led the discussion and Cat Penfield contributed suggestions for the year. ...all while masking up.

(posted by Carol Brenneman to Seaside AAUW Facebook)



TILLAMOOK BRANCH, Susan Pierce, President

Tillamook was without a community college for many years. Young women who wanted an education needed to move away, and many did not return. In the past, AAUW members were mainly teachers or newcomers to the community. With AAUW's help and leadership through the years, Tillamook now has a beautiful, successful community college and campus. The board chair is Kathy Gervasi, an AAUW Tillamook member. Several college presidents have been AAUW members also. We have active scholarship selection committees. Tillamook has one of the largest endowment funds used for the Tillamook Bay Community College students.

Some fundraisers included rummage sales, nursery plant sales, Saturday market restaurant, catering private dinners, planting trees and offering naming rights, silent auctions, donations from members, and—our most successful—Wine and Chocolate with attendance at \$35 per ticket. The pandemic slowed us down, but we now have a fundraising committee that will meet soon. Tillamook Branch also honors local high school girls whose teachers nominate them for STEM honors. This is such a rewarding activity. With AAUW, TBCC was the only community college in the nation to receive Tech Trek help from AAUW.

South District—Pam Shay, Director

ASHLAND BRANCH, Catherine Lutes, President

On behalf of the Ashland Branch, I have asked Fundraising Chair Bessie Azari to report on local branch scholarships and how funds are raised to support them.

“For 30 years, Ashland AAUW scholarship funds have grown due to the dedication of our members. Together we empower women students at Rogue Community College (RCC) and Southern Oregon University (SOU) with tuition support. Three years ago, we approved recipients to use a portion of their award for childcare while in school. We favor larger awards to fewer students for impact and to increase the likelihood they will stay in school.

The scholarships are funded through our annual branch appeal, our AAUW endowment funds at SOU and RCC, and special projects. Our Upscale Sale adds a few thousand dollars in alternate years. We hold our Upscale Sale at the Ashland Grange Hall and sell members’ upscale and reusable items. Within the sale, we conduct a raffle for cases of donated wine and host a café and bake sale for shoppers. We made \$12,000 in 2019.”

GRANTS PASS, Kathleen Ramirez and Nancy Tenove, Co-Presidents

We believe our members are the best and the most generous in the state! In 2005, we started our Kitchen Tours and have made over \$65,000 to give in local scholarships to Rogue Community College (RCC). Last year, because of COVID -19, we didn’t hold the Kitchen Tour and were very worried about where we were going to get donations to continue our giving. In lieu of the Kitchen Tour, a bigger and better Garage Sale was held during the few weeks when COVID had it’s down-turn and another call for donations to the Branch Charitable Fund was made to our members. With the money we raised, we were able to donate eight scholarships to deserving students attending Rogue Community College. This amounted to three scholarships more than we usually give each year. We are hopeful for next year’s funding of scholarships and grateful for the generous spirit of our members during this unusual time.

MEDFORD BRANCH, Carol Koszyk, President

For the 2021-22 year, the Medford Branch is continuing with the Phantom Tea Party to raise funds for our scholarships for women attending Rogue Community College or Southern Oregon University. Every member of our branch receives a Phantom Tea Party invitation by mail with the instructions to relax and enjoy a cup of tea. (A tea bag is enclosed.) The invitation encourages the member to also write out a check to contribute toward scholarships for local women to attend these schools while they are enjoying their cup of tea.

In the past, we have also hosted a Garden Tour to raise funds. Covid prevented our 2020 and 2021 plans from materializing. Our group is still evaluating whether it is safe enough to plan the Garden Tour for June of 2022. Since we had already accomplished some of the planning for the cancelled 2020 Garden Tour, it is possible for us to wait until January of 2022 for a final decision.

ROSEBURG BRANCH, Betty Mack, President

The Roseburg Branch gives two \$500 scholarships to students at Umpqua Community College (UCC) each year. The October Branch program featured the UCC Scholarship and Donor Relations Coordinator and the two recipients from last year. We do not have any special projects devoted to raising scholarship funds. The funds for scholarships come from member contributions.

