



OFFICERS' REPORTS

Annual Meeting – April 9, 2022



AAUW of Oregon

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SECTION 1: DISTRICT DIRECTORS' REPORTS (Includes Branch Reports)

NORTHEAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR:

Karen King



Despite another long year of COVID-19 restrictions, NE Oregon District has continued to function, and the branches have held wonderful Zoom meetings as well as fundraisers and a few in-person get-togethers. Everyone is eagerly awaiting spring and the promise of new beginnings--not only in our yards and gardens, but also in our social and emotional lives. We are looking forward to the annual state meeting and to future in-person branch meetings.

BAKER BRANCH—2020-21 Branch President Report

Wanda Raffety (left) & Heather Rudolph, Co-Presidents



Baker Branch is alive and well. Our membership is holding at 28 members. We lost one to death and one moved.

All board meetings have been on Zoom (the summer planning meeting was held outside.) Our regular branch meetings were held on Zoom except for September, January, and March. The branch meets on the 1st Monday, Fall and Spring, and 1st Saturday in the Winter.

Programs for the year:

- *Ruth B. Ginsburg Tribute*-Members created their own robe collar to reflect an interest, cause, hobby, and a favorite Ginsburg quote.
- *Cannabis Joint Forces: THC and CBD*. Presenter: Dr. Anna Schwabe
- *Public Policy Program* - Trish Garner, State Public Policy Chair - Updates and Information
- March 8th International Women's Day/ Baker Women's History in partnership with Baker Heritage Museum. *"From Bloomers to Briefcases, Legacies in Creating Community."* Presenter: Joyce Hunsaker
- *Immigrant Parents*, Presenter: Mileva Stretenocic Hartman

"*In Our Backyard: Human Trafficking*" program will be coming to the Baker High School health classes and the community in April. (The presentation was to happen March 2020.) Co- chairs have been working with 5-J District staff and the newspaper.

Our Branch Public Policy chair has been very active signing up members for the two-minute activist, sending out updates and action items. We hope to have a Primary Candidates Forum.

Fund Raisers: It has been another challenging year for our branch

A successful yard sale in summer 2021 made over \$1,000

New Year's Celebration Auction - Brunch for AAUW Funds

PENDLETON BRANCH

Co-Presidents' Report Susan Doyle & Kathryn Chaney (right)

Pendleton Branch had a successful year despite the restrictions of the continuing pandemic. General membership meetings and board meetings were on Zoom and were well attended. We had excellent speakers for the general membership meetings, some that we would not have been able to have in person, so occasional Zoom meetings may be included in program schedules in the future. However, we were only able to have a few in-person Lunch Bunch gatherings in between COVID surges, and we've had no pre-program meeting dinners for two years.



Once again, Pendleton branch awarded a scholarship to Blue Mountain Community College for a non-traditional female student pursuing her degree- this time a nursing student. We also sponsored girls to attend the Girls in Science program at Eastern Oregon University virtually and sponsored two STEM projects at Sunridge Middle School which will occur later this spring.

Our annual grapefruit sales fundraiser brought in less than past years, partly because we had to raise the prices, yet it was deemed a success. The family of longtime member Sue Waldman who passed away last August is bequeathing substantial funds to the branch for scholarships and STEM projects. The Sue Waldman Memorial Fund will enable Pendleton Branch to sponsor additional scholarships to college students in honor of Sue long into the future. Lastly, our enthusiastic Membership Co-Vice President Sue Petersen brought in 6 new members, reversing the attrition of the past several years and bringing our total membership to 43.

WALLOWA COUNTY BRANCH

Pat Hines (left) & Susan Gilstrap (right)

(Pat Hines reporting for Susan Gilstrap)



Due to lower investment returns, the Maxine Town Scholarship fund was unable to grant a new scholarship in 2021. Past awardees were given at least some on-going funding if they applied and qualified. The branch received lovely thank you notes from two of the past recipients who received additional funds. We truly hope that we will be able to award a scholarship to another deserving student in 2022.



We braved the pandemic to have our first face-to-face meeting in December. It was a happy, social gathering as we became reacquainted. We also included Lynda Swarts, a Bend Branch member who resides in Wallowa County part-time. Hopefully, the easing pandemic will allow more such gatherings in 2022.

NORTHWEST DISTRICT DIRECTOR: Susan Wahlke

ANNUAL REPORT ASTORIA AAUW 2021-22

Prepared by Liz Bartell, President



We maintained a fully functioning board which means that our affairs are in order - our finances and membership records, as examples.

The board has met every month since May 2020, except for August 2021, which was planned.

A virtual WINGS conference was offered in March 2021. Clatsop Community College, Seaside AAUW and our branch collaborated. It was very well organized and presented. Credit for the program goes entirely to the College. Sixteen people enrolled, many fewer than the usual number for the in-person conferences we've done in the past. Only a handful of people attended,

unfortunately.

We had two branch planning meetings in June 2021. The board wanted to determine what members felt was important to pursue. The board also wanted to emphasize membership participation and leadership. Understandably, more social events were something that people wanted. While it seemed possible at that moment in time, the COVID variants that followed made it impossible to add in-person social events.

We have continued to offer programs via Zoom. In June 2021, Women's Wellness: To My Own Health Be True was selected as an overarching program theme for the fiscal year. We've had programs on a range of related topics presented by guests and members. As an example, in November 2021, member Erin J. Engelson, PhD, presented on Immunology. The focus of her talk was how our amazing bodies work to keep us safe.

Astoria branch awarded two \$3,000 college scholarships in spring 2021. We had more applicants than usual, and their credentials were excellent. To fund those scholarships, we did a direct mail fundraiser to members. Members generously responded. We also used funds previously set aside for start-up of a project not likely to re-occur and funds from a gift given to the branch.

In August 2021, The Astor Library and Sparrow Dance Company sponsored an event at The Garden of Surging Waves in downtown Astoria. This was a Summer Reading Program event. Four AAUW members helped pass out goodie bags, stickers, and free books to kids and their parents and watched the fantastic Sparrow Dancers. It was a sunny day! Typically, Astoria AAUW helps the library with these events in exchange for free meeting space.

In August 2021, we celebrated the 100th birthday of Juanita Baker Price, life-member of AAUW, a reporter, veteran, librarian, mother, and respected community leader in Astoria.

The board sorted through the need to have a candidates forum in spring 2022. We determined that we would go forward with the plan to do so. A date was set, and initial inquiries were made regarding event space at the local community college gymnasium. We secured our first choice of a moderator. We also invited our local community radio station to participate and got a thumbs up for the advance notice.

Our holiday event in December was fun and lively. As a part of that event, we took the opportunity to do a scholarship fundraiser. Members offered services. As an example, an individual offered two quarts of

homemade soup - from a choice of four soups, a green salad with homemade dressing, along with free delivery, to the highest bidder's home with a week's advance notice.

We achieved a full enough membership in 2021 to continue as an independent branch of AAUW.

LINCOLN CITY BRANCH – Susan Walke, President



The Lincoln City branch is small, but mighty! We have been meeting virtually this year, but are hoping to meet in person, beginning in April.

Our newsletter editor has continued to keep our members informed, even though she is not yet back in her new home, which replaces the home that was destroyed by the Echo Mountain Complex Fire in September 2020.

As other branches chose to do last year, we conducted our fundraising efforts by a letter campaign to members and former scholarship awardees, so we can award scholarships to local high school graduates. Hopefully, we can find another good fundraising event this coming year. Thanks to one of our members, we are working on a program to raise money for scholarships to our local community college.

We have an anonymous donor who helps us distribute hardback books to all first graders in north Lincoln County. 2022 marks the seventh year of this program.

Our membership has grown to include members from other parts of Lincoln County, and we welcome our members from throughout Lincoln County.

I look forward to another year as President of the AAUW of Oregon Lincoln City branch.

TILLAMOOK BRANCH – Susan Pierce, President

It is time for members of the Tillamook Branch to reflect on where we have been, where we are, and



where we are going. Our voices are stronger together, and we're a positive example of a thriving organization in Tillamook County. For the past two years, we held most business meetings by Zoom. This method was beneficial, as all participants could be seen and heard by everyone. The printed directory was kept up-to-date, and newsletters were sent quarterly to provide continual communication .

Our Program VP organized monthly programs with relevant and interesting local speakers. Our dedicated Secretary submitted complete reports on time. Multiple committees (with mentors available) served for all activities.

We have a strong partnership with Tillamook Bay Community College, and our endowed funds at the college guarantee scholarships will be awarded annually to local students. We are supportive of our local library system and STEM programs for the three school districts.

Tillamook held a successful fundraiser for scholarship awardees by sending an "ask" letter to the members, rather than having an in-person Wine and Chocolate Affaire. Each officer position was filled, and we will hold a non-partisan political forum for the county in April. Our membership recruitment will resume on March 16, when we can offer 15 months of membership for the price of 12

months. Our membership numbers have remained stable through this pandemic. We are thankful for the quality, intelligence, and commitment to our mission of our members.

We are grateful that many members belong to other groups in the county, serving in leadership roles. Our three book clubs are invaluable for members to develop caring friendships and share their love of reading.

Other branch members are welcome to join us for a meeting, so contact the current President when you are in our area or from home by Zoom. We look forward to face-to-face meetings in the future and the continuation of our good works.

SEASIDE BRANCH – Karen Beck and Julia Weinberg, Co-Presidents

The Seaside Branch has been through a very challenging year. By December we had lost our president, secretary, and treasurer, all due to various reasons. So, we had to scramble with transitions. Our members stepped up to complete our year and allow Seaside to continue to be an active and involved branch.

For our November meeting, we invited two women students from our local college to share their experiences while being enrolled in the auto mechanics program. More women are seeking this popular offering. This was our last in-person session after which we decided to offer only meetings via Zoom. Beginning in January 2022, we have now shifted to having hybrid meetings which our members have totally welcomed. March will be a unique meeting and a first for our Seaside Branch. We will be partnering with the Hillsboro-Forest Grove Branch to hear Dr. Marvin Lynn present a lecture on Critical Race Theory. Our April plans are to address sex-trafficking with the use of stickers placed in restrooms, giving victims a contact number to escape their situation. The sticker program is called “In Our Backyard,” and is a national program. We also hope in April to have a march or gathering on an evening in Seaside calling it Shine the Light on Human Trafficking where we will share information with the public.

Our last event will be to have Trish Garner present information about pay equity in May. Our Foundation is busily working away, generating funds for scholarships for women and girls in our area. Finally, we are fortunate to have the return of our fundraising activity after not having it due to the pandemic. Come May, we will once again have the Seaside Wine Walk. We help register the participants and are thus paid to do so. Of course, we can also participate in the event. Such fun!

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT DIRECTOR: Mary Pat Silveira



The North Central District consists of six branches: Gresham Area, Hillsboro-Forest Grove, Lake Oswego, Online, Portland, and Tigard Area. Through the Portland Metro Interbranch Council (IBC), representatives of these branches meet, along with Washington branches Hudson's Bay and Vancouver and representatives of both AAUW Oregon and AAUW Washington, every other month.

In addition, the presidents of the six branches in the North Central District met with the District Director on four occasions – once in person and thrice

via Zoom, including a meeting in November to discuss the draft state strategic plan.

Except for a brief respite in the summer, this has been another year dominated by COVID-related precautions. A central theme throughout for all the branches has been finding ways to stay in touch with their respective members, to maintain a sense of community within each branch, and to attract new membership. Overall, branches have done a terrific job in meeting these challenges.

Branches achieved amazing results in carrying out AAUW's core missions, through fundraising, advocacy, public policy activities, and programming. Everyone is looking forward to spring, and all, excepting the Online branch, are already contemplating the opportunity to meet in-person once again, whether outside or in.

GRESHAM AREA: Co-Presidents' Bonnie Jepsen (left) and Peggy Taylor (right)



As branch Co-Presidents we are proud to say our branch has continued to maintain a positive morale. Membership has been kept involved through phone contacts, e-mails, Zoom meetings, monthly newsletters, and our special holiday gift bags. We facilitated the development of a comprehensive strategic plan for the branch in compliance with the state plan. We continue to promote transparency, teamwork, and decision-making. Through our leadership and teamwork, the branch is aware of

local, state, and national issues. As we persevere, we continue to grow!

The Program Vice-Presidents planned Zoom meetings with two local women's education and training programs. Oregon Tradeswomen and My Father's House are designed to support, train, educate, and prepare women for personal and employment opportunities. Our fall fundraiser, held virtually, was clearly designed to enhance our famous Mt. Hood Community College scholarship. The scholarship, now endowed into perpetuity, provides educational success for a MHCC student. December's virtual tea party was enjoyed by the branch. January 2022 brought branch members together for our first in-person luncheon. The speaker represented the Portland Metro Council. February 2022 also brought the MHCC president for an in-person luncheon.

Our Finance Vice-President is vital to our branch. She has re-organized and refined portions of the branch's budget process. In addition, she coordinated our fund-raising project, "Calling All Angels." In connection with this project, she provided members with detailed tax documents.

Other leadership positions have met the challenges with dedication! Our Membership Vice-President continues the challenging task of recruitment. Public Policy updates have kept our branch politically informed. The Funds position highlighted our virtual scholarship fund raising effort. The Communication Vice-President's technical support provided valuable Zoom information for members.

In closing, the Gresham Area Branch has maintained a strong and dedicated membership. The dedication of the branch during these times is commendable.

HILLSBORO-FOREST GROVE BRANCH: Donna Wellington, President



The Hillsboro/Forest Grove AAUW Branch had a connected and productive year. While this year has not been the year we wanted, it's still been amazing. The branch gained 9 new members, bringing our official membership count to 48. Member engagement is supported through Operation Connection: we tried to contact every member personally, using calls, texts, or email within a week of each event to remind them of programs and special events. Typically, at least half our members attend. Our monthly Saturday Zoom branch meetings have been well attended with 20-24 present. Our fabulous newsletter really helped keep us connected and "in the know."

One reason for such great attendance is the effort put into our programs. Topics have ranged from member support opportunities of "getting to know you again" and DIY Holiday Brunch and Scavenger Hunt to current topics of Redistricting, Homelessness, Personal Finance, and Civics Curriculum Development. Remaining programs for this year include a presentation on Critical Race Theory (CRT), developed by the Public Policy Committee for March and, in May, Imposter Syndrome. These programs have included knowledgeable speakers that we might not have been able to secure without Zoom.

The branch continues fundraising through its Poinsettia sale, spring plant sale, and a garage sale. This allows us to give two \$2,500 Pacific University student awards this year instead of the usual one. Currently we plan to support two online attendees at NCCWSL

Our branch decided to put several of our ongoing projects on hold until it is safer to meet again in person. However, H/FG branch remains hopeful about future in person meetings, so we are planning to have them next year.

LAKE OSWEGO: Catharine Hojem, President



Like other branches, Lake Oswego has continued its evolving response to both the challenges and opportunities presented by this second year of COVID. We had timely and relevant Zoom programs, and we used frequent virtual contacts to foster communication between branches, within our committees, and among members. Although in-person gatherings were generally not held and limited fundraising took place, we were successful in financially supporting AAUW's mission.

Thanks to a very pro-active Program Coordinator and committee, our monthly programs have been exceptional. In September, we welcomed Lisa Palermo, Development Director of Oregon Tradeswomen, who has been instrumental in creating an effort to promote diversity, equity, and safety in the workplace for women. We were proud to offer our 2021 scholarship to Oregon Tradeswomen.

In October, we joined with the Tigard Area branch as we organized and hosted a Legislator's Forum featuring local representatives (Reps Grayber, Neron, and Prusak), who discussed specific issues they focused on during this year's session. In November we learned about the wide range of supportive

services offered to those experiencing breast cancer, through Allison Hancock of “Breast Friends” of Tigard. The following month, Dr. Marvin Lynn, Professor at PSU School of Education, reported findings from his co-authored text, *The Handbook of Critical Race Theory in Education*. In February, our speaker was Marcy Cottrell Houle, a wildlife biologist and successful Portland author. She spoke about individuals she included in her book, *A Generous Nature: Lives Transformed by Oregon*.

We currently have 80 members, down from 86 on June 30, 2021, because of deaths, relocation, and COVID-related attrition, although we were fortunate to acquire 3 new members. We participated at Lake Oswego’s summertime Famer’s Market, promoting information about AAUW and Oregon Tradeswomen. We featured both new and long-time members in our newsletter, and we contacted all members throughout the summer to check in and answer any questions about renewal. Public Information and outreach are conducted primarily through electronic media, including the branch website, our Facebook page and the website, *Next Door*. Our fabulous newsletter keeps members up-to-date and well-informed.

Our Interest Groups have shown remarkable flexibility, especially as the new variant altered not just expectations but also some scheduled plans. Our several book groups as well as Lunch Bunch and Delightful Dining enjoyed meeting outdoors this summer and fall, with a return to Zoom for most by November. Vaccinated and boosted members continued to enjoy in-person dining events. Storytelling provided an online venue to share personal recollections and offered a time to check-in with one another.

The branch has an active Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, which liaises between the State Public Policy Committee and branch members. As a part of its advocacy activities, it has been supporting Oregon Tradeswomen by assisting with a research project related to the organization’s anti-bullying/harassment training, “Rise Up.” LOAAUW, as well as some other branches, nominated Oregon Tradeswomen’s Lisa Palermo for AAUW Oregon’s Breaking Barrier’s Achievement Award. The organization is an inspiration to many of us.

Lake Oswego AAUW created a DEI Officer position with a very devoted member promptly volunteering for the role. She will provide information and resources which help the membership toward greater understanding of the actions needed to promote fair treatment, especially in the workplace, for populations that have historically been under-represented or subject to discrimination because of ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, etc.

Lake Oswego’s support of AAUW Funds for the 2021 year was robust, approaching \$4,000. Given that activities for fundraising were restricted this year, which seems remarkable.

Though the Lake Oswego Branch has shown sustained resilience in coping with the challenge of COVID, we are looking forward to the restoration of our normal life, which will never be taken for granted again. We expect to have an in-person Homecoming celebration in May to recognize the simple pleasure of in-person socializing with fellow members.

ONLINE BRANCH: Georgia Applegate

The Oregon Online Branch is open to any person who qualifies for AAUW membership. You do not need to be a resident of Oregon nor a member of any other AAUW branch. It is a great venue for keeping up with State and National issues and programs. If you are interested, we would like to hear from you. <https://oregononline-or.aauw.net/>



Our current membership is 27. Meetings are held on Zoom at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of a month. So far, we have had four meetings. We hosted Julia Brown, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of AAUW, at our September meeting. In November we had Lisa Palermo, an official with Oregon Tradeswomen and the winner of this year's Breaking Barriers Achievement Award, speak to us. January brought our new AAUW CEO, Gloria Blackwell, who gave us an honest and thorough update of the “state of AAUW.” She also addressed many questions with honesty and candor. Her talk can be viewed on the AAUW Oregon YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lQl6PMTVck> In February Jessica Mole Heilman, Director of the Center for Women’s Leadership at Portland State University’s College of Urban and Public Affairs told us about the Center’s New Leadership Oregon program.

We discussed how we would solicit candidates and choose one or more students to send to NCCWSL after checking with our Special Projects Fund account to verify the amount of money we had.

Our plans for future meetings include ways in which our branch will participate in the national Five-Star Program, Equal Pay Day activities, recognition of Title IX’s 50th Anniversary, a branch social hour, and public policy updates.

The Board meets regularly to handle the business of the branch in keeping with the wishes of the branch members according to a survey of members done in August 2021. The Online Branch has two elected officers and four appointed officers. Our current officers are President Georgia Applegate; Finance VP Gini Dideum; Secretary Julie Skinner; Program; Co-VPs Bev Van Citters and Pat Lehman; Membership VP, Mardy Stevens; and Webmaster Randa Blanding.

PORTLAND: Susan Martens (top) and Katie Raetz (next page)

AAUW Portland Branch ended 2021 with a bang—aka a successful fundraiser for AAUW National! With the hard work and support of Program VP Linda Loftin, Holiday Brunch guru Diane Winn, and Funds Chair Judy Holt, we had one of the most successful events—maybe the most—to show our support for AAUW National Funds, with branch members donating \$5,363, including \$1,080 from an auction of eleven items and results of three online raffles.

Sixteen members met the challenge of donating \$140 or more to National in honor of the 140 years of the organization’s existence. All this was by Zoom! The auction items included a Mah Jongg set, hand knitted winter items, hand-dyed tapestry, still life painting, quarterly delivery of home-baked cookies, gift cards, a three-night stay in a North Portland Airbnb, plus wine and more

wine—all by top Oregon female winemakers. We also had a presentation by Molly Pringle from Portland Street Medicine and the presence of two of the branch’s three PCC scholarship recipients. While all this



was well organized and facilitated by Zoom, a few branch members gathered to have brunch together in the spirit of our usual annual December event.



Other programs created by our Program VP included a presentation by Dr Christiana Lancioni, OHSU, who addressed the topic of COVID-19 vaccines (done in February 2021 as we were all facing immunization) and a May address by Jill Kuehler, Freeland Spirits Founder and CEO to share the story of her Portland women-owned-and-run craft distillery. (Late in 2021 another branch contacted us in hopes of putting on such a cocktail-making event for their branch!). In September, Senator Deb Patterson provided an update on legislative progress related to health care, age discrimination, and the corporate board diversity bill (thanks to Trish Garner, Public Policy at State). In December we had a guided tour by Jan Dilg, AAUW member and independent historian, of the “Nevertheless They Persisted” exhibit at the

Oregon Historical Society, focusing on the intersection of Oregon and national suffrage movements.

We also held our Annual Meeting in March with Teri Patapoff, Major Gifts Officer at the PCC Foundation, as arranged by Barbara Spencer, our then Scholarship Chair. Two of that year’s recipients attended (online, of course) to express the value of our scholarships to them.

The Portland Branch STEM project has not been put on hold due to the pandemic but has slowed considerably in activity level. To date, we have held only three classes, about one per month, for the Girls Engage Technology (GET) program that we support. There are new teachers organizing the classes. We continue to work through the Girl Scout organization, and very few troops or individual girls are signing up due to the COVID virus. We hope that in 2022, if the current omicron virus variant subsides once again, more girls will be more interested in participating.

We have 14 Study and Interest groups; seven are in hiatus (Zooming doesn’t work); six book groups continued to function via Zoom; one group walks outside (Wimpy Walkers), so that has been active. We are fortunate to have a fairly high number of such groups. However, the membership in all these groups comes from less than 50% of our branch membership. This is about the same percentage that attends all our programs—during the pandemic but also before it started.

TIGARD AREA: Ally Yoshioka

As it is time to reflect on the year, Tigard Area branch members have been fortunate to endure through the pandemic together. The first meeting of the year in September 2021 featured Ally Yoshioka, who presented her experience from virtually attending the empowering National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). A joint meeting in October together with Lake Oswego branch was well received. Representatives Courtney Neron, Dacia Graber, and Rachel Prusak graced us with a Legislators’ Panel. Members were able to learn more about their backgrounds and the wonderful impact of being an advocate for citizens. Our November meeting, Successful Women Electricians, spotlighted Heather Miller and Bridget Quinn discussing their obstacles and successes in their male-dominated field. In December, our members gathered in person with a scholarship recipient and PCC



representative. Our holiday luncheon was a wonderful opportunity to see each other again and connect. March held an incredible meeting with Dr. Pratima Rao who discussed being a woman in engineering.

Multiple important policy changes were enacted at Tigard Area AAUW branch to reduce some of the burden on office holders. Changes included shortening the term of office to one year, eliminating term limits, eliminating the requirement to stay on in an office after a term ends if no replacement is elected, and allowing officers to hold more than one office. We also chose to make communications an elected office. The number of required branch meetings was reduced from seven to four per year, and the requirement of a minimum of three board meetings per year was eliminated.

Tigard area also has a thriving book club with many vigorous discussions. Our Clean Closets for College drive had an outcome of an astonishing 3,753 pounds, which raised \$825.60 for our branch. Overall, we are optimistic for the next year and look back on our year fondly.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

No District Director, as the position remains unfilled.

SALEM BRANCH REPORT to AAUW of Oregon 2022

Joyce Zook, President



***Salem Branch: Celebrating the Holidays AND Our First In-person meeting in two years!
At the Willamette Heritage Center, Salem***

Joyce Zook, Salem Branch President



Zoom allowed us to meet for most of our programs/events this year.

Program topics:

- CAHOOTS - Mental Illness & Law Enforcement
- Women in Manufacturing
- Affordable & Fair Housing
- Climate Crisis Solutions
- Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equity
- Salem for Refugees
- Women's Health - Brain Agility

Projects:

1. **Speech Trek** for 10th & 11th grade girls: Topic—"Progress in Women's Equity"
2. First in-person event (see photo above) - **Holiday Brunch**, where we introduced historical data to tease interest in our Centennial celebration next Fall. The branch was created Oct. 21, 1922, at Willamette University. Life member, Jo Bateman, celebrated her 100th birthday (born Jan. 1922).
3. **World Beat Booth** (International cultures) is planned to expand diversity and inclusion.
4. **Fundraiser**: Eleanor Roosevelt Birthday Party (for AAUW Funds)
5. **Public Policy** (PP): New PP Chair, Peggy Shippen, has worked with Trish Garner and Georgia Applegate to create a handbook for branch PP chairs. She has 1) collaborated with the League of Women Voters to interviews of candidates for elections; 2) designed detailed information on our branch website to locate representatives/senators and how to write a letter to advocate for a bill; 3) provided PP updates and calls to action in newsletters; 4) provided 2-Minute Activist promotion and training; 5) via a branch survey, identified a local focus project; 6) planned for a Wine, Women, Words event for Equal Pay Day.
6. Other notable accomplishments include **Start Smart** Wage Negotiation Workshops with Willamette University, Chemeketa Community College (CCC), and Western Oregon University students; awarded a scholarship to a CCC student; awarded **scholarships** for NCCWSL applicants; appointed a **Diversity Officer** who submits information in every newsletter and has written a *Diversity and Inclusion Plan* for the branch 2022-2023; applied for the Branch 5-Star Award.
7. Book and Food **Interest Groups** have met (Zoom or in-person).

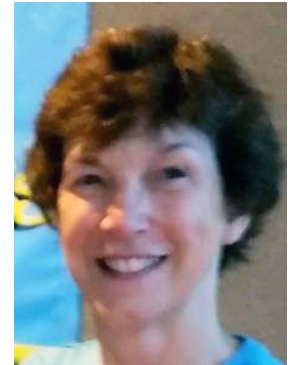
ALBANY BRANCH – 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT
Co-Presidents: Vickie Staffelbach (left) and Theresa Johnson (right)

And so COVID continues...

Our first Board Meeting was on June 9, 2020, as a Zoom meeting. We have continued our programs, business, and board meetings using Zoom and were able to have our first in-person meeting on November 20, 2021.



To stay connected with our members – our branch has been sending informative emails and newsletters letting members know what has been happening and what is coming. We produced four newsletters for the 2021-22 year. We have not done any social events via Zoom this year. Our Great Discussions Group and Book Club have been meeting in members' homes, wearing masks.



We are proud to report that we are in the review process for our annual scholarships. We have 11 applicants and plan to award three \$300-dollar scholarships to students at Linn Benton Community College.

We had fewer program and business meetings this year. This is an election year for us, and our Nominating Committee conducted their business via email.

- September 11, 10:00 a.m., Zoom. Our speaker was new LBCC President Lisa Avery, who shared her vision and plans for the future of Linn-Benton Community College.; business meeting followed.
- November 20, 11:00 a.m., In-person at the Albany Library; speaker was Sarah Whiteside, Director of the Mid-Valley STEM-CTE Hub; business meeting followed.
- March 5, 11:30 am; speaker: Great Discussions members presenting information about Critical Race Theory, the 1619 Project, and the 1776 Project; business meeting followed.
- May 14, noon, Membership Luncheon at Cascade Grill. Speakers will be our scholarship recipients; Business meeting and installation of officers to follow.

BEND BRANCH – 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT
Co-Presidents: Jane McEldowney and Kaitlin O'Donnell

The Bend Branch has met via Zoom again this year. Kaitlin offered a tutorial to those who needed logistic help. The turnout was lower than we had hoped, but those who logged on enjoyed the programs. One-third to one-half of the membership participated. We used a variety of contact methods to encourage participation. The interest groups for book club and lunching out did meet.

We started the year with a speaker from National telling us about the changes there and what we could anticipate. Subsequent speakers informed us about these topics:

- Being prepared for mid-term elections. This was in conjunction with our local League of Women Voters group.
- Public School curriculum and determining learning goals, 2 speakers.
- A holiday party! Who knew you could have fun like that on Zoom?!

- Bend-Preparing for a Changing World. Two speakers from the local hospital about COVID and life-change results
- Diversity in Leadership, the Director of the Bend Airport, a very accomplished Black woman, spoke about her career development challenges, preparation, and her reception in Bend, a very homogenous community.
- We will be having a speaker about Fire Readiness, an absolutely essential topic in the high desert drought country.
- A finale to our year, hopefully in-person.

We are sorely disappointed that ***none*** of our membership is willing to step forward to branch leadership; our future status will be discussed at our next board meeting.

EUGENE-LANE – President: Sheila Ramerman



Eugene-Lane branch once again had a varied program calendar, with most on public policy-related topics and a couple ‘just for fun.’ Speakers/program topics this year included:

- Ashley Espinoza/Member of Oregon’s Commission on Hispanic Affairs and founder of Latino Professionals Connect
 - John Horvick, DHM Research/Oregon Redistricting Process
 - Toni Pimble/Artistic Director, Eugene Ballet
 - Ginevra Ralph/Executive Director of The Shedd Institute, Eugene
 - Amanda Cote, UO Associate Professor/author of “Gaming Sexism”
 - DeLeesa Meashintubby/Executive Director of Volunteers in Medicine
 - Kim Johnson, UO/Author of *This is My America*
- Our June program will feature Vickie Dugan and Becky Sisley/Honoring the 50th anniversary of passage of Title IX legislation.

Most meetings had the option of in-person or virtual attendance via Zoom. We encouraged in-person attendance only if vaccinated and practiced social distancing and masking. Attendance increased by offering both options.

At our October 2021 meeting, we presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Jerale Manning in recognition of the support that his mother, the late Lawanda Manning (State Sen. James Manning’s wife and administrative aide) showed AAUW at past Lobby Days in Salem.

Branch activities included tours of the new home of the Eugene Ballet (November) and of The Shedd Institute and its hearing loop system (December). Small groups of members attended the Eugene Ballet’s holiday production of *The Nutcracker*, as well as its *Celebration of the Uncommon Woman* with more modern ballet pieces. We are planning a branch social in April and are inviting prospective branch members and other women’s advocacy groups in our area to exchange ideas and refreshments.

Our fundraising activities, part of each in-person branch meeting, include collecting toiletries to donate to Catholic Community Services in their homeless outreach programs; collecting cash donations to support the SPICE program at the UO; and a used book sale table with proceeds going to our branch Community Outreach fund. For Meashintubby’s presentation, we also collected gently used clothing to donate to Our Sister’s Closet resale boutique; proceeds benefit Volunteers in Medicine’s mission.

YAMHILL COUNTY BRANCH Linda O'Hara, President

A year like no other, with hope it will not be repeated, at least anytime soon.

The above was my intro line for last year's report...little did I know... We continued to use technology (Zoom) as our meeting place to stay in touch and discuss potential events for when we are allowed in-person public gatherings which, as I write this appears to be before the end of FY22. But the time to plan would be short so I don't expect members to jump in until fall.

What we were able to accomplish was to secure a Linfield University student as an intern (she is earning credits for this, a win-win) to build a presence for us on social media. This is something we hope will assist us in member recruitment, educate the public about our mission, and increase awareness of the challenges women face, to name a few.

Also, in the last week we were invited to co-sponsor an event that involves a panel to discuss the gender pay gap. We are excited to be invited back, as we did this last year. This will take place before the end of March in cooperation with Linfield University's Gender Studies program and the Department of Political Science. I will participate along with branch member Amy Orr, who is a Professor of Sociology at Linfield, and AAUW Oregon Public Policy chair Trish Garner. Details are being worked out but as of this writing, the proposal is for a hybrid model (in-person and use of Zoom).



SOUTH DISTRICT: Pam Shay



*We light a candle and enjoy the flickering light.
The fragrance and warmth it creates.
But without the spark that ignites,
there will be no flame.*

~~J. Birch

These sentiments speak to the work of the women throughout the South District this past year. As you read the branch reports, you will find that the branch members struggled with many highs and lows. One moment, they could meet in person and in the next, they could not. One moment, celebrations and events were planned and then suddenly cancelled. But throughout this year, the members "lit candles" to warm one another with friendship, "sparked" conversation with inspiring programs and created fundraising

events. I can imagine that this time in the history of AAUW will be viewed as generating amazing commitment and honoring deep connections that go beyond pandemic isolation and difficulties. Zoom-weary but committed, each branch moved ahead, keeping the spark of the mission alive and the flame of friendship nourished.

ASHLAND BRANCH -- by Catherine Lutes

Our September branch meeting kicked off with a TED talk by Cecile Richards entitled “The Political Progress Women Have Made and What’s Next,” reminding us that we have made great strides in our march towards equity, but still have a long way to go.

In October we heard how Equal Access to Healthcare is not equal; the financial realities, the racial disparities and how the COVID 19 pandemic adversely affected women. We also held our Celebration of Scholars (first time as a Zoom meeting, but we decided better than not having one at all) where we met the recipients from SOU and RCC and heard their stories. These young women have much on their plates and work hard. Talk about being inspired! We decided to postpone our bi-annual BIG fundraiser, our Upscale Sale, to the end of May because things were still so up in the air regarding the pandemic in October.

In November we heard a terrific talk about the student debt crisis, and how it inordinately affects women students. December was quiet, a time for reflection and spending time with family, but in January our Public Policy team put together a panel of our four women city councilors. The team organized thoughtful, thought-provoking questions for them to answer about women’s roles in the City Council and how they approach it. In February, we heard a powerful talk by the organizers of Unete about farm workers’ rights and the many abuses that befall women workers in the fields.

We’re not finished yet, but we’re still Zooming, and hoping that the Spring will allow us to meet in person. We invite you all to any of our branch meetings, and especially to our Upscale Sale, set for Memorial Day weekend (Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29) at the Bellview Grange in Ashland.

GRANTS PASS BRANCH 2021-22: Co-Presidents’ Report by Nancy Tenove (left) and Kathleen Ramirez (right)



Our branch has struggled through another COVID year’s restrictions but, despite obstacles, we have continued to grow in numbers and activities that keep us connected. Zoom has been a blessing; we conducted monthly branch and board meetings. Attendance has been moderate, with a core group consistently joining. Many members prefer not use Zoom, and we have found that our newsletter has become our lifeline of communication for all members. Our membership consists of 83 paid and 4 lifetime members. We lost members in the last few years but were recently able to welcome 3 new members.

Our Interest Groups continue to be a popular and vital way for members to connect. Six out of 18 Interest Groups meet in person or on Zoom. Thus is another excellent avenue to keep members involved.

Our long-standing (40+ years) Frog O’Faire event has been restored to the Grants Pass community and will be held in June in cooperation of many non-profit organizations. Unfortunately, Girls Rock! was canceled due to COVID, but our annual Garage Sale fundraiser will be held this June. Instead of our regular Kitchen Tour, we composed a letter soliciting funds “In Lieu of Kitchen Tour” which raised over

\$7,000. This year we raised enough money to award five AAUW GP scholarships plus the one-time Frog O'Faire Scholarship.

In 2021-22, our branch developed a community volunteer program to help local organizations such as Josephine Food Bank, Women's Crisis Support Team, Foster Kids, and Foundry Village. Our members donated generously.

Looking back over the last year, our branch has been able to overcome the barriers posed by Covid and we will continue to be strong and remain flexible and strive to promote advocacy and equity for women and girls.

LAKEVIEW BRANCH 2021-22: Branch President Report by Debbie Watts

This year we have ten active members; three of them are life-time members. Because of covid-19 restrictions in our community, we have not yet met in person. We normally hold a Candidates' Forum in April of election years, but due to circumstances, we will not host that event this year. We also normally have a Senior Brunch in May for graduating high school seniors but are also unable to sponsor that event. We also postponed awarding our annual scholarship to a local woman attending college or trade school. We are hoping to meet in person this spring, as our county opens up.

MEDFORD BRANCH 2021-22: Branch President Report by Carol Koszyk

The Medford Branch considers education scholarships for women and girls to be our most important function. For the 2021/2022 school year - through our Medford University Women Charitable Fund - we awarded seven \$2,500 scholarships to women toward their education at either Rogue Community College or Southern Oregon University. We are currently fundraising for the 2022/2023 school year with a "COVID-safe" Phantom Tea Party. Members receive a tea bag in the mail with a card and request to donate while enjoying the cup of tea.



We are planning an exclusive AAUW Funds in-person event on September 28, 2022. It is the play, *Catch Me If You Can*, at the Camelot Theater in Talent. Tickets will be on sale this summer with \$20 of the \$30 ticket cost going to AAUW Funds with the stipulation that we must sell the "house" out.

Due to COVID, we are mostly using Zoom for our general meetings and interest groups. We have had excellent programs featuring local organizations who positively impact people in our valley. It is encouraging to learn about efforts to assist people so they can sustain their own successes. Just recently, a few interest groups have begun to meet in person; however, our branch will continue to buy a Zoom account for the safest way to meet. We use our *Musings* newsletter to stay connected with members and advertise our activities and public policy concerns.

On an upcoming note, our June General Meeting is a no-host dinner at Roxy Ann Winery's outdoor tent. We will install our newly elected officers and look forward to meeting the many members that our Membership Co-Vice Presidents have recruited since Zoom became part of our world.

ROSEBURG BRANCH 2021-22: Branch President Report by Betty Mack

This year only two meetings were in person. The remainder were by Zoom.

The year started in September as we watched *Frontier Family Feud: Abigail Scott Duniway and her brother Harvey Scott* – “A musical for the ages” sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley. In October we heard about the Umpqua Community College (UCC) Scholarship Program from the coordinator of that program and from our two most recent scholarship recipients.

In November, our topic was *Programs for Youth in Douglas County*. Shelley Briggs Loosley spoke. Shelley is president of the YMCA and of the Family Development Center, is on the board of the local Boys and Girls Club and was recently appointed to fill a vacancy on the City Council. She is also part of a new organization working toward establishing housing for homeless youth.



In January, our topic was *Mental Health Programs*. We heard from David Simpson, Education and Employment Coordinator for Chadwick House, a day-use recovery center. In February we joined with the League of Women of the Umpqua Valley in celebrating Black History Month with our speaker, Robert B. Johnson, a local attorney. He has joined us before in 2020 to celebrate Black History Month and again the week before the Archie Creek Fire regarding Black Lives Matter issues.

Yesterday we cancelled our March 1 program which was to have been at 6 p.m. in direct conflict with the State of the Union Address. Our speaker, Jasmine Sitt, a member, has promised to provide a program in the coming year about her homeland Korea in the present and past. Our annual meeting in

April will feature a representative of the U.S. Forest Service addressing possible 2022 fires and what has been learned from previous years experiences. This meeting will be in person.

In May we will visit the studio of a local ceramic artist, Peppi Melick. In June, member Marisa Fink will present pictures of her cycling group's trip along the coast of Portugal and on to Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

COVID permitting we hope to meet in person in the coming year.

SECTION 2

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Co-Presidents : Pat Lehman (right) and Sue Klumph (left)



We can hardly wait until we can meet with all of you in person again! However, there have been advantages to serving as co-presidents in a Zoom world.

Our foremost goal has been to enhance communication among (1) state and branches, (2) districts and state, and (3) branches and districts. Virtual technology has made possible connections beyond any we could have otherwise achieved. We



have held productive meetings with our district directors and with our branch presidents. For example, at the most recent branch presidents' Zoom meeting, we had 24 members engaging in a lively and useful conversation. Agendas for these meetings are primarily determined by participants, ensuring that content can be relevant to their needs and concerns. These meetings have definitely been a beneficial opportunity for branch presidents to hear about the operations of other branches in the state. Several times each month, we choose from an amazing smorgasbord of branch meetings that not only inform and inspire us but also keep us connected with individual branch successes and concerns so that we can offer resources or assistance from our state team. In addition, we have met new members and have renewed relationships with those ongoing, at least in two dimensions. The volume of emails we receive tells us that our members see AAUW of Oregon as an important colleague in our work to promote AAUW's mission.

Our second goal has involved updating documents and procedures. As times and circumstances evolve, we must be able to respond quickly and appropriately. Serendipitously, our Technology Committee was formed just in time to respond to the need for virtual meetings, and responsibilities were clarified with both Technology and Communications. Updated Bylaws are ready to be approved at our annual meeting. Position descriptions are always available for review by the position-holders, and we encourage every officer to consider whether changes should be made. The biggest update has been to our State Strategic Plan. Volunteer members, led by President-elect Linda Lybecker, helped develop a new state plan that is more aligned with National's and is more focused on specific ways we can achieve our mission. We hope that branches will view this as a model if it fits their own priorities.

None of these goals could be realized without the amazing team we have at AAUW of Oregon. We can't say enough about how they have taken initiative, pivoted when needed, created new pathways to success, and responded to any challenge we presented them.

COMMUNICATIONS VICE PRESIDENT: Ilga Ross



AAUW of Oregon Communications have continued to evolve during this second year of the COVID pandemic and of my term. Sincere thanks go to the many people who contributed to the effort: Nancy Brown for logo design; Pam Alegria, Barbara Kaufman, Claudia Gray and Mary Pat Silveira for newsletter production; Heather Morijah for website updating; and the members of the Technology Committee for a myriad of assistance. Thank you also to the branch communication officers who enabled contact with their members in a variety of ways. Their reports are below.

The MailChimp® platform was used to send out emails several times during each month to the approximately 1000 members. In addition to news alerts, the messages most often contained links to pdf files, such as the *Oregon News*, and links to the state or National websites for more information. Because branches were holding their meetings via Zoom®, I sent out program listings pulled from newsletters or websites so members around the state could hear the many outstanding speakers if they wished.

Oregon News: The *Oregon News* was produced quarterly as usual, plus a special conference/annual meeting edition. They were sent to every individual member as an email link and posted on the website. About 24 members who are without an email address were mailed printed copies. I had the printing done at Office Depot and mailed the issues myself. While a bit labor intensive, this process allowed us to afford to print attractive color booklets.

Website: The AAUW of Oregon website was completely overhauled during the past year. After I learned to edit the standard AAUW theme on WordPress®, I reorganized the website and updated it. The goal was to make it user-friendly and a good site for information and reference. Of course, it needs to be kept current and I'm happy that Heather Morijah has taken on site maintenance.

Media: Under the guidance of Georgia Applegate and Kelli Matthews, Allen Hall PR group at the University of Oregon, led by student Lily Sinkovitz, continued to develop and maintain a branding standard for Instagram®, Pinterest®, and Facebook®. National AAUW introduced a bit of confusion into branding by using a red/blue color scheme in their new website. At this time, any of the approved AAUW colors can be used by branches and state: the older blue/green palette or the new red/blue.

BRANCH COMMUNICATION REPORTS

Albany Branch has continued its programs, business and board meetings using Zoom, and were able to have the first in-person meeting on November 20, 2021. To stay connected with members, we have been sending informative emails and newsletters, four for the 2021-2022 year. We have not done any social events via Zoom this year. Our Great Discussions Group and Book Club have been meeting in members' homes, wearing masks. Vickie Staffelbach and Theresa Johnson, Co-presidents.

Leah Murray, Communications Officer of the **Eugene-Lane Branch** writes, "We have been communicating with our branch through our MailChimp newsletter, our website, a Google email list, and at our branch meetings. Our meetings have been via Zoom and in person for a few months now. We

purchased a projector to help make our hybrid meetings easier. We also use a buddy system that pairs up current members with new members to help them become more acquainted with our programs.”

Grants Pass Branch maintains an electronic list for mass emails to branch members and for monthly newsletter distribution. Next year they plan to implement MailChimp. A Member Directory is maintained on the website. We have a “Sunshine Person” who sends cards to members for their birthday. Georgia Applegate, Communications Officer.

Connie Maguire, **Gresham Area Branch** Communications VP, reports that she continues to keep members informed through the Zoom platform, as well as sending out minutes for board and branch meetings. She sends out emails with clip art to announce upcoming events and recently has begun doing a Zoom for members who are unable to attend the in-person branch meetings. The membership vice president as well as the Sunshine person have been sending personal cards. A co-president has been in touch through phone calls.

Deb Watts, **Lakeview Branch** President, writes, “I have been staying in touch with my members through email and through phone calls. We have not been able to meet in person yet.”

Donna Wellington, **Hillsboro/Forest Grove Branch** President, reports that member engagement is supported through *Operation Connection*: “We try to contact every member personally using calls, texts, or email within a week of each event to remind them of programs and special events. Our monthly Saturday Zoom branch meetings have been well attended, and our fabulous newsletter has really helped keep us connected and in- the-know as well.”

“I have been editor of **Pendleton Branch** newsletter for several years. I send monthly newsletters a week before our membership meetings, which are held early in every month except July and August. I include program details, a co-presidents’ message, membership meeting minutes, and other pertinent information. Newsletters are emailed except for two members who receive mailed copies.” Susan Doyle, Newsletter Editor.

Communication with **Portland Branch** members is achieved through the *Rose City Reporter*, a monthly newsletter, and via emails. Most members receive the electronic version of the newsletter which contains links for the printing of articles. Those members who do not have email receive a printed version of the newsletter. Email is used to alert members of reminders and notifications. In addition, we communicate with our members and the general public via our branch website, our Facebook page, and our branch Instagram account. Nancy Cheverton, Communications Chair, and Joyce Kligman, Newsletter Editor.

Betty Mack, **Roseburg Branch** President, shared that they use email for communication between members and Zoom for meetings.

Randa Blanding, Communications Officer, says that **Tigard Area Branch** sent monthly MailChimp newsletters, held monthly Zoom book group and branch meetings (except the holiday luncheon was in-person), and kept their website current to stay in touch with members.

Linda O’Hara, Chair, is excited to report that **Yamhill County Branch** has a student intern at Linfield University working with them on Facebook and Instagram, and maybe Twitter too. She hopes that it will make a difference for the branch with regards to visibility for getting new members. Zoom was used to stay in touch monthly, but because that reached only half, Linda phoned those they hadn’t seen for a while.

FINANCE VICE PRESIDENT: Monica Weyhe



The state finances are in excellent shape. State leaders are prudent in their spending, and we have sufficient funds in reserves in the event of unanticipated expenses or loss of revenue.

This is my first year in this position and I'm lucky to be following our long-time, knowledgeable Finance VP Sarah Elmer, who is a willing resource, and who kept excellent financial records and reports, as documented in the annual review. As you are aware, we are now two full years into the pandemic, which means that almost all in-person meetings and events were cancelled, postponed, or held virtually (i.e., Zoom). That has meant little to no costs for travel and for annual and summer meetings, and an increase in our cash position of approximately \$10,000 over last year at this time.

Therefore, the board and I will be working on a plan to establish a long-term forecast, create a target operating reserves fund, and develop an investment strategy for additional funds available, always considering best practices for nonprofit organizations.

Meanwhile, pandemic restrictions are loosening and vaccinations increasing, so both the AAUW branches and the state should soon have opportunities to get together again and spend some funds on their mission-related activities for women and girls. I hope to be able to meet some of the state board members and branch finance officers in person for the first time!

MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT: Gini Dideum



It has been my honor to serve as Membership VP for the last two years. As with everyone, the last two years were not what I expected. For the year 2021-22, Oregon attained an 87% membership retention rate and added 89 new memberships. This retention rate is higher than in previous years because branches found ways to connect with members through online meetings and programs. Ten branches increased their membership from the previous year. Sadly, the Corvallis branch disbanded.

PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT: Patricia Squire

Another year, more online programs! But what the heck, they have been very successful!

Our branches have been extremely creative and inspirational in their choices of speakers, most of whom have been on Zoom™. Our Communications VP Ilga Ross implemented a Mail Chimp™ initiative which allows branches to publicize their speakers so that members around the state can participate. I think it's a great addition to the way we operate that allows branches to "copy" programs. I love to see what exciting programs our branches are featuring.



AAUW Oregon: Summer Skills Camp 2.1* featured two weeks in August of four evening programs each week, including:

- *Why we are in AAUW:* Team 2BD: West Linn High School Robotics Team
- *Counterpart Sessions with Experts in their Fields:* State Officers and other experts
- *The Care and Feeding of Volunteers:* Dawn Johnson, AAUW California—photo at right.
- *Website Fundamentals and Maintenance:* Ilga Ross, Kelli Matthews, Suzanne Wicklin
- *Critical Race Theory (CRT), What it is, What it isn't, and Why Now?:* Trish Garner
- *Creating and Completing a Successful Branch Project:* Regina Ayers, Lisa Phipps, Arlene Lemieux
- *Is Mail Chimp for your Branch?* Strengthen Your Email Communications: Randa Blanding
- *Don't Let "Stuff" Stop You: Maybe It's Time to Step into a Smaller Space and Stride into a Bigger Life!:* Linda Liebenstein



Dawn Johnson

*Nancy Brown carefully edited all the above sessions, and they are still available on the AAUW of Oregon YouTube™ channel.

2022 Online Conference & Annual Meeting



This annual meeting, scheduled for Ashland at the Ashland Hills Resort, was in full planning stages, with much assistance from the Southern Oregon branches, when the very contagious Omicron Variant of the Coronavirus hit Oregon. Nancy Brown and I became concerned that attendance wouldn't meet

requirements for the hotel, so the Oregon Co-Presidents asked branch presidents to survey members and found most were concerned about meeting in person.

So, once again, we shifted to Zoom, with a more concentrated meeting, and the pledge to return to Ashland in 2023!

Scheduled for the Annual Meeting and Conference on Zoom:

- Friday, April 1, 5:30 p.m. – *Tasting and Learning* with Wine Expert Scott Burns
- Thursday, April 7, 7:00 p.m. – *Can We Get Along?* with Chisao Hata, Oregon Humanities Conversation Leader
- Friday, April 8, 3:00 p.m. – *Aging Gracefully* with Dr. Neesha Patel
- Friday, April 8, 6:30 p.m. – Social half hour
- Friday, April 8, 7:00 p.m. – *Bridging the Gap* with Rep. Pam Marsh
- Saturday, April 9, 10:45 a.m. – *Opening Remarks* with AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell
- Saturday, April 9, 11:00 a.m. – *AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting* with Co-Presidents Sue Klumph and Pat Lehman
- Saturday, April 9, 1:00 p.m. – *AAUW of Oregon Awards* with Guest Speaker AAUW Fellow Safia Farole, and Breaking Barriers Achievement Award Recipient Lisa Palermo; hosted by Claudia Gray

SECRETARY: Marie Mueller



During these years of the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the Zoom® platform for online meetings has been our AAUW of Oregon venue. With guidance from Nancy Brown, Zoom-meister and YouTube professional, our state has done well, with excellent meeting participation (more than some in-person sessions in the past) and ever-increasing competence in use of Zoom. I took notes, used Zoom recordings as needed for reference, and turned the content into documents, edited as directed by those who chose to comment, sent to proofreaders as needed, and sent final copies as appropriate. Once approved, minutes and reports were posted to the Google Drive for easy access as needed. It's an efficient procedure. Notes

and reports were prepared for:

- Annual Meetings (2021, with 2022 in progress)
- Summer Skills Camp 2.0 Reports
- Officers' Reports (2021, with 2022 in progress)
- Executive Committee meetings, as needed
- Full AAUW of Oregon Board of Directors' meetings, as needed.
- Ad hoc meetings, as needed.

SECTION 3

APPOINTED OFFICERS' REPORTS

AAUW FUNDS

Claudia Gray, Chair, Hillsboro-Forest Grove & Betsy McDowell, Co-Chair, Salem

AAUW FUNDS REPORT FOR 2021-22: Claudia Gray, Chair



Although the Covid restrictions made it necessary for most branches to meet virtually on Zoom, a few managed to have one or two meetings in person. Despite these limitations, members were very generous with their donations to the AAUW Funds and the total for the year 2021 was an amazing increase of more than \$15,000 over the year before!

The emphasis on donating to the Greatest Needs Fund led to an increase in members choosing to donate to #9110 – Greatest Needs. Approximately 95% of the Oregon donations are to that fund, which helps keep AAUW operating at the national level.

To celebrate the 140th anniversary of AAUW, members were challenged to contribute \$140 and 61 members did!

Branch Funds chairs found innovative ways to encourage donations, with virtual teas, articles in their branch newsletters and direct solicitations. Somehow the Medford Branch Funds Chair, Mary Wright Gillespie, managed to collect at least one donation every month of the year! She said she uses gentle reminders about the importance of the Funds – and lots of Contribution Report Forms.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chair Betsy McDowell, Salem & Claudia Gray, Co-Chair, Hillsboro-Forest Grove

GOVERNANCE REPORT FOR 2021-22: Betsy McDowell, Chair

The Governance Committee Co-chairs met as needed during the year and responded to state and branch questions as requested. At least one co-chair attended each state leadership team meeting.

We edited and approved bylaws updates for Medford, Tigard Area, and Salem.

The state leadership team approved proposed amendments to *Bylaws Article X. Officers, Article XI. Duties of Officers, and Article XV. Committees*. Those proposed amendments will be presented for a vote by delegates at the April 2022 Annual Meeting.

State Policies 110 Officers, 142 Standing Committees, and 700 Publications were updated with a state leadership team vote on January 9, 2022.



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Alice Bartelt, PRP

No report.



PUBLIC POLICY: Trish Garner

STATE PUBLIC POLICY REPORT FOR 2022

2022 was a busy year for AAUW of OR Public Policy!



1. LOBBY EVENINGS: Because of COVID, our traditional in-person Lobby "Day" became virtual Lobby "Evenings." On one evening we heard from three women legislators: House Representatives WLnsvay Campos, Courtney Neron and Lisa Reynolds. They told us why they decided to run for public office and how they navigate the intersection of politics, policy making and partisanship. While partisanship, in particular, is not easy to navigate, they each found ways to advance important priorities. We also heard from veteran news reporter and commentator Dick Hughes, who talked about how legislators must balance conscience, caucus, and constituents in making the trade-offs that result in good public policy.
2. INCREASED BRANCH-STATE PUBLIC POLICY COLLABORATION: One of the priorities that the State Public Policy Committee undertook this year was encouraging inter-branch and branch-state collaboration in the area of public policy. Mary Pat Silveira (Lake Oswego) reached out to the branches and collected information about branch public policy activities. We hope that sharing this information will inspire other branches to launch their own public policy activities.
3. PUBLICATION OF BRANCH PUBLIC POLICY HANDBOOK: In line with our efforts to support branch public policy activities and at the direction of the State Public Policy Committee, Georgia Applegate (Grants Pass), Trish Garner (State Public Policy Chair, Portland), and Peggy Shippen (Eugene) worked hard in preparing a handbook that is designed to help Branch Public Policy Chairs learn about the possibilities for branch policy making and public policy fun. The handbook boasts a wealth of useful tips, how-to's and examples of past successes.
4. AAUW of OR MEMBERS WROTE LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION: These 25 members took time to write letters supporting House Bill 4002 which mandated paid overtime for farm workers. These letters weren't just copycat, form letters and each expressed a personal reason for taking this action. You can read them at: [AAUW of OR Letters of Support](#). The bill passed at the last minute. Yay! MANY THANKS TO ALL 25 MEMBERS WHO MADE AAUW OF OR PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES A REALITY!!
5. PRESENTATIONS ON RACISM AND CRITICAL RACE THEORY: State Public Policy Chair Trish Garner gave virtual presentations to the AAUW of OR membership about these controversial topics. Many branches followed up with their own programming.

6. AAUW of OR'S SUCCESSES IN THE 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: Other than the farmworker overtime bill mentioned above, here are outcomes for the bills that AAUW of OR officially supported during the 2022 Session. For a Short Session it was a most productive, and generous, one, and AAUW of OR was there in force.
- **HB 4092 PASSED**: Provides financial and administrative support for state-wide Broadband governance. IMPORTANT NOTE: In addition to official AAUW of OR testimony, NINE MEMBERS OF THE ASHLAND BRANCH sent in letters of support (See: [Ashland Branch Testimony](#)). That number constituted about a third of all letters filed with the House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity. **JOB WELL DONE TO ASHLAND MEMBERS!!**
 - **HB 4013 PASSED**: Department of Education is to establish a pilot program in which certain school districts will make one-time distributions to families of students to assist with unpaid rent, past-due utilities, or move-in expenses.
 - **HB 4110 NOT PASSED**: Establishes procedures by which certain crime, abuse, or sexual assault victims may request and receive copies of law enforcement agency records concerning cases.
 - **HB 4146 NOT PASSED**: Department of Corrections is to designate a corrections gender-responsive coordinator.
 - **SB 1521 PASSED**: Authorizes district school boards to terminate superintendents without cause only if certain conditions are met.
 - **SB 1522 PASSED**: Expands educational opportunities for youth that have been placed in corrections or juvenile detention programs, provides additional resources to Oregon Promise students, and authorizes the development of a plan to bring online equipment, connectivity, and infrastructure to adults in custody at the Coffee Creek and Snake River Correctional Institutions.
 - **SB 1556 PASSED**: Department of Human Services is to establish a certification process for home care and personal services workers.
 - **SB 1572 NOT PASSED**: Higher education institutions must provide services to survivors of sexual assault regardless of whether they wish to make a formal report. It also clarifies definition of "consent" and provides for campus-wide surveys about campus sexual assaults.
7. HEALTH CARE AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT: AAUW of OR signed onto a coalition letter backing voter referral of an amendment to the Oregon Constitution -- the HOPE Amendment -- which establishes a state obligation to ensure every Oregon resident has access to cost-effective, clinically appropriate, and affordable health care. Stay tuned for your chance to vote on this Amendment in November's election.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF AAUW OF OR PUBLIC POLICY!!

Trish Garner, AAUW of OR State Public Policy Chair: garner37@mac.com

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Position not filled in 2020-2022: No report.

OREGON NEWS EDITOR: Ilga Ross

See Communications VP Report, page 22

WEBMASTER: Ilga Ross

Website Updates: Heather Morijah

See Communications VP Report, page 22

WORK SMART / START SMART: Nancy Thomas



Start Smart and Work Smart are AAUW's salary negotiation programs launched over ten years ago. Over 188,000 women have participated in these programs nationwide, which is fabulous! These programs help women increase their economic security by building skills to negotiate for better salaries and benefits that increase their lifetime earnings. This is important because nationally, women earn about 83 cents for every dollar men earn, and in Oregon it's about the same.

AAUW Salem Branch members organized a virtual session for a group of MBA students at Willamette University for the second year in a row. The students all completed Work Smart Online and then came together via Zoom to practice salary negotiations in small groups with branch members who agreed to provide coaching and advice. One participant noted that she learned the dollar value of employee benefits and that being prepared is what makes you feel confident when you go to negotiate your salary.

Start Smart and Work Smart are also benefitting from the relationship AAUW Oregon has with Allen Hall PR, a student-run public relations firm at the University of Oregon. Students provide assistance to nonprofit groups while gaining experience through PR and communication work. One project is to identify various campus organizations that may be interested in Start Smart and provide them with information. We're grateful for their work to help expand the reach of Start Smart.

EVENTS COORDINATOR: Nancy Brown



It pays to be flexible when coordinating events for AAUW. We had the Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites booked for our first in-person Conference & Annual Meeting in a few years. However, when it came time to finalize the contract, we polled our branches and found that most would not be attending in person. Yikes!! That would have cost AAUW of Oregon quite a bit in unmet sleeping room and food and beverage minimums. So, we pivoted, moving our Ashland Hills reservation to 2023 and the 2022 meetings to Zoom.

Luckily, we have all become very familiar with holding meetings on Zoom. And, because folks are getting a bit tired of Zoom meetings, we limited our offerings this year. I decided to, hopefully, lessen the craziness of members needing a different Zoom link for each session, so I created just one for all three days. Unfortunately, Zoom wouldn't let me specify the times for each day's meetings, so it might be still confusing. Folks just need to look at the schedule and use their Zoom link to join at the scheduled time.

As usual, I will edit the recordings of each session and upload them to our AAUW of Oregon YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJOb-EcZjf55EiP_r8upeYQ (Note: if we can get more folks to subscribe to the channel, we can eventually get a link that says “AAUW of Oregon.” **Hint, hint!**) And if you can’t find or remember the YouTube link, just Google “YouTube AAUW of Oregon.” That’s how I find it.

Thank you, everyone, for your patience and participation in our online events. I remain available to help branches who have challenges with their online meetings and am excited that many are now returning to seeing each other face-to-face. Hurray!

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE: Georgia Applegate

This year the Technology Committee became more well defined in its mission and codified in the Governance documents of AAUW of Oregon under the able direction of Governance Co-Chair Betsy McDowell. Its responsibilities and duties are now more well-articulated in both AAUW of Oregon *Policies and Bylaws*.



Several members of the committee were engaged in presenting during the Summer Skills Camp 2.0 in 2021:

Website: Ilga Ross, Kelli Matthews, and Suzanne Wicklin;

Mail Chimp: Randa Blanding.

Technology: Nancy Brown, our vice-chair, ran the whole thing.

We had been asked to investigate how we might assist branches in running hybrid meetings so that members might attend branch meetings in person and virtually. On its most basic level, hybrid meetings are meetings or events that feature at least one group of in-person/face-to-face attendees connecting virtually/online with other meeting attendees. Hybrid meetings combine the benefits of live and virtual interaction between presenters, in-person attendees, and virtual attendees.



Hybrid Meetings

These conditions must be met before successful hybrid meetings can occur:

1. Strong and stable internet connection to do streaming.
2. Hardware: camera(s), mic(s), speakers, and screens (screens only if the speaker is offsite)
3. Trained people to operate them during the meeting.

4. Configuration of the meeting itself.
5. Investment of funds in hardware to make the streaming of their meetings successful.
Planning is key.

Successfully communicating to a hybrid audience takes a hybrid approach. It is still not business as usual.

The committee continues its work with Allen Hall Public Relations firm for another year. This year's PR team is led by Lily Sinkovitz, a senior at the University of Oregon. She is our Account Supervisor. This team runs the public relations for our social media on three platforms:

- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/aauworegon>;
- Instagram https://www.instagram.com/aauw_of_oregon/; and
- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aauw-of-oregon/>.

Ms. Sinkovitz and the committee chair, Georgia Applegate, meet once a week to review work in progress and to map out new work projects. This team also works on assisting branch technology chairs and branch presidents with their social media needs and questions. A separate folder exists on the state Google Drive named "Social Media Templates" that is available to all branch presidents and designees. Ms. Sinkovitz uploads all images developed by her team to that folder for others to use.

The Technology Committee has started a new series of zoom programs called "Tech Office Hours." The first one with Lily Sinkovitz on the topic of social media was well received. We plan to have more once we gather information from branches on the assistance they would like to have in these "Office Hours."

At least 11 branches have Technology contacts or committees.

Action: It would be good if every branch had a Technology contact/chair. **Please send** the names and contact details to Georgia Applegate at gkapple@gmail.com.

All online state meetings and trainings, including Summer Skills Camp 2020 and 2021 videos are up on our YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJOb-EcZjf55EiP_r8upeYQ/videos. This channel also holds our recent 2022 Lobby Evening videos and AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell's talk at the AAUW Oregon Online Branch meeting. Nancy Brown, vice-chair of the committee, is our video editor and manages the YouTube channel.

Ilga Ross, Communications VP and a member of the committee, has done a wonderful job revising and updating the AAUW of Oregon website. <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/>

All our state documents and records are stored on Google Drive, a cloud-based storage system that allows us to save files online and access them from anywhere from any smartphone, tablet, or computer. Only the current AAUW of Oregon Board of Directors have access to these files. We no longer store things in boxes and binders. The Technology Committee has provided education and training to board members in how to access all the folders and files on our Google Drive. This Drive is periodically backed up to an external hard drive.

The Technology Committee stands ready to assist any branch and/or member with any technology need. We will collaborate with you to help you understand and solve problems. Contact me, Georgia Applegate, at gkapple@gmail.com.

STEM

Position Open: No report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

Position Open: No report.

DUES TREASURER & DATABASE: Gini Dideum

See also next page (horizontal)



I have served as the Dues Treasurer/Database Manager for almost five years. My responsibilities have included keeping the membership of all Oregon branch members up-to-date and working with Finance and Membership VPs to ensure the accuracy of the database. In February, AAUW National introduced the Community Hub which replaces the Management Services Database. The Community Hub is a work in progress.

AAUW National and Oregon State Dues Rates/Codes and Descriptions		NATIONAL	OREGON	TAX DEDUCTIBLE
CODE		FY 22-23	FY 22-23	FY 22-23
MOB	NEW OR RENEWING MEMBER OF BRANCH ---RENEWING, NEW TO AAUW OR LAPSED FOR 2 OR MORE YEARS	\$67	\$16	\$64
NEW (MBL)	MEMBER OF BRANCH PAID LIFE - NEW/RENEWAL MEMBER UPGRADING TO PAID LIFE MEMBER; ONE TIME PAYMENT OF \$1,340.00	\$0	\$16	\$1,340 (one time)
MBHL	MEMBER OF BRANCH HONORARY LIFE - has been a member of AAUW for 50 years or more.	\$0	\$0	\$0
SAF	Student affiliate: undergraduate or doing graduate work at a college/university that is NOT a current member partner of AAUW	\$18.81	\$0	\$15.81
e-SAF	E-Student Affiliate: undergraduate or doing graduate work at a college/university member that is a current partner of AAUW	\$0	\$0	\$0
DUAL	DUAL MEMBER- MEMBER OF MULTIPLE BRANCHES in the same state . NAT'L DUES MUST BE PAID THRU PRIMARY BRANCH	\$0	\$0	\$0
DUAL	DUAL MEMBER- MEMBER OF MULTIPLE BRANCHES in different states . NAT'L DUES MUST BE PAID THRU PRIMARY BRANCH	\$0	\$16	\$0
STF	SHAPE THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN - 50% National dues for new members joining @ public event	\$33.50	\$16	\$30.50
C/U REP	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE- NAT'L DUES WAIVED THRU COLLEGE/UNIV PARTNER MEMBERSHIP	\$0	\$16	\$0
REN - MOB	RENEWING MEMBER OR LAPSED 1 YR - RENEWING MEMBER OR MEMBER LAPSED FOR 1 YR ONLY - Member Of Branch	\$67	\$16	\$64
T	TRANSFER MEMBER - TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER BRANCH/STATE*	\$0	\$0	\$0
T	TRANSFER MEMBER – TRANSFER FROM NATIONAL MEMBER STATUS	\$0	\$16	\$0
C/U PARTNER	C/U AFFILIATE INSTITUTION – Per year, includes 2 free National memberships	\$175.00	N/A	\$0

*National Bylaw Section 5a(1)c states: " Reciprocity. A current paid member of a branch or comparable AAUW-affiliated entity (state) may transfer membership to another branch or comparable AAUW-affiliated entity (state) without payment of additional dues."

