

We're Ready for a New Year

Lake Oswego Branch Officers 2020-2021 Elected Officers

President

Mary Pat Silveira (615) 804-6523

Program Vice President

Diana Ricks (503) 858-7481

Membership Vice President

Marty Maharg (503) 908-1984

Secretary

Jeanne-Marie Pierrelouis
(202) 445-4976

Finance Co-Vice Presidents

Susan Hornung (503) 635-4893
Stephanie Wagner (503) 803-7708

Immediate Past President

Pat Squire (503) 730-7072

Appointed Officers

AAUW Fund

Susan Shea (503) 850-4062

Advocacy & Public Policy

Sharron Noone (503) 799-2139

Communications/Governance

Jane Taft (503) 709-3185

Hospitality

Penny Hansen (503) 636-7255

Inter-Branch Council

Mary Pat Silveira (615) 804-6523

Interest Group Coordinator

Marty Maharg (503) 908-1984

Newsletter Co-Editors

Cathy Croghan Alzner (503) 320-6282
Kris Schultz (503) 621-8602

Public Information

Karen Rottink (503) 636-9755

University/College Liaison

Catharine Hojem (541) 240-1291



Please join your friends and fellow members via **ZOOM** on **September 12th at 10:00** for the important first Branch meeting of the 2020-2021 year. You will not want to miss this meeting: **new officers** will be installed, **board members** will be introduced, **named gift honorees** will be recognized, **Marty Maharg** will receive her Legacy pin and the **winner** of the Suffrage Quilt raffle will be announced after which you will have the opportunity to ask questions during Q & A session.

More details for participating in the meeting will be sent by email as the date draws near

On My Mind

Mary Pat Silveira



LO AAUW has two overarching goals at this moment: to continue to carry out our mission and to keep you all as safe as possible. For this reason, the Board has decided that we will resume our monthly meetings on the second Saturday of each month, beginning on 12 September, at 10:00 a.m., as usual.

What will not be usual is that we will hold these meetings virtually, using Zoom. I know that most of you are already using Zoom to participate in our interest groups. This has gone smoothly, and we have had no difficulties with uninvited people trying to crash our meetings. For any of you who have not yet used Zoom or are reluctant to do so, please let us know. More information on this is forthcoming.

The Board has also decided that we will continue to meet on Zoom at least until March. We will reevaluate the situation early in 2021. If and when we do reconvene in person, we intend to reserve a venue with a much larger room so that social distancing will still be possible, should that be needed.

Hard times call for imaginative solutions. We all have our AAUW community and our friendships. I believe that this will be a great year, despite the difficulties.

No people have demonstrated that better in recent weeks than two of our members in particular: Stephanie Wagner and her committee, whose celebration of the centennial of the 19th Amendment and promotion of our quilt have led to record-breaking fundraising for our scholarships; and Pat Squire, who, as program chair of the Oregon State AAUW, put together an exciting and informational Summer Skills Camp. Thank you and all those who have worked with you.

I will leave you with a lyric from Leonard Cohen, whom I have come to appreciate more over the years. In his song, "Anthem", the refrain goes as following:

"Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack, a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in."

We will carry on, however imperfectly, and we watch for the light as it shines through the cracks".

Be strong. Be well.

Women Get The Vote Celebration

Stephanie Wagner

August 26th was the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States becoming law and giving women the right to vote. Our branch celebrated this important centennial with three events.

On August 23rd over forty viewers visited a display of suffragists in the Heritage House rose garden. Participants wore masks and practiced social distancing as they wandered through the garden and learned about the amazing women who worked for nearly eighty years to bring the vote to all women.



On August 26th members were encouraged to Chalk the Vote to honor the suffragists who wrote messages in chalk on sidewalks to spread awareness of suffrage meetings in their communities.



On August 26th we also held a Zoom event. Marge Easley with the Clackamas County League of Women Voters shared "The Long Road to Woman Suffrage," a wonderful program she developed. Following the presentation, the drawing for the winner of the quilt raffle was held. We sold 540 raffle tickets and raised \$2,700 for scholarships.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the celebration. I particularly want to thank the celebration committee members: Nancy Dunis, Jeanne-Marie Pierrelouis, Jeanne Lemieux, Marty Maharg, Pat Squire and Sharron Noone. Lake Oswego High School students Sheila Bhowmix, Tirzah Vest and Carolina Robles helped spread the word about Chalk and Vote on social media. Now we need to encourage everyone to exercise their hard-earned right: **Vote!**



Sharron Noone
Advocacy and Public Policy Chair

With the current publicity about systemic racism and Black Lives Matter, traditional women's-rights groups are coming under negative scrutiny. According to the article posted below, which ran in The Lily, a part of the Washington Post, large national women's organizations (NOW, The Feminist Majority, AAUW) remain focused on the rights of upper-middle-class, college-educated white women who make up the majority of their members rather than rights for all women.

<https://www.thelily.com/how-many-women-of-color-have-to-cry-top-feminist-organizations-are-plagued-by-racism-20-former-staffers-say/>

In response to the article, Kim Churches, AAUW CEO, says she is aware that the organization has "historically had a predominantly white membership" and "faces challenges when it comes to diversity and inclusion," according to a statement provided to The Lily. "We don't run away from our problems or pretend they don't exist—we try to work on them in real time to improve our workplace." In her Saturday Summer Skills Workshop session, Kim added that not all she talked about was included

in the article, and that AAUW staff is about 50% people of color.

Patricia Garner expanded on these concerns in her interesting and well-researched Summer Skills workshop called "The Work We Have to Do." She challenged us to intentionally expand our perspective in order to ensure equity for all.

Are You Considering Updating your Will or Trust?

Karen Rottink
Legacy Circle Member



The advent of Covid-19 has caused many people to update documents to ensure their wishes will be honored after their death. This could include updating beneficiary designations on a will, estate, or trust document.

National AAUW has created the Legacy Circle as a way to honor those who leave money or assets to AAUW. Recently Marty Maharg, LO Branch Membership Vice President,

joined this group of honored members. Marty learned about Legacy Circle from AAUW brochures and conventions where Legacy Circle pins were awarded to new members of Legacy Circle and decided to join.

The benefits of joining Legacy Circle are many. Most importantly, you will help AAUW facilitate its mission of advancing equity for women and girls. The beautiful brooch and recognition are added benefits and you can be proud that you are leaving a legacy to help others.

Joining the Legacy Circle is easy. On the AAUW website, <https://www.aauw.org/> go to Planned Giving > Legacy Circle and complete the single page enrollment form. There is no minimum donation and no need to disclose how much you are leaving to National AAUW.

According to Claudia Gray, AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison, there are 671 living Legacy Circle members in the U.S. of which seventy are in Oregon. Non-members of AAUW are welcome to join Legacy Circle.

What legacy are you leaving? Marty and I welcome you to join us in the Legacy Circle.

Questions? Contact Claudia Gray at claudiag63@comcast.net.

New Member Profiles

Diane Smith

Catharine Hojem



Diane Smith was born and raised in Portland, graduating from David Douglas High School in 1961. She attended the University of Oregon Dental Hygiene program (now OHSU) and graduated in 1964. She moved to Chicago for a few years before returning to Portland in 1973 where she married and began working as a Dental Hygiene instructor at PCC, a position she held until her retirement in 2000. Diane earned a master's degree from Oregon State University in Adult Learning while she was teaching. She and her husband Fred bought a historic Victorian home in SE Portland belonging to Oregon pioneer Judge William Fenton, along with an additional duplex next door, which provided income for the upkeep of their home on the Historic Registry.

Upon retirement from PCC, Diane worked as a clinician with Multnomah County in a program which addressed the oral health needs of school children. Because of the lack of fluoridation in the region's water, children benefitted from

having their permanent teeth treated to resist cavities.

Diane learned about AAUW from her friends Penny Hansen and Karen Rottink, having attended high school with Penny's husband, Dave, and a local Toastmaster's club with Karen's husband, Bruce.

Diane has no children but as part of financial planning, has made an endowment to PCC's Foundation for a scholarship for Dental Hygiene students. She was fortunate enough to be able to meet her first recipient, and her mother, at a dinner last fall term.

Diane developed an interest in local history, partly as a result of having a home on the Historic Registry and doing research about the previous owners. Judge William D. Fenton had a building at the University of Oregon named in his honor after he donated his law library to the university. She also enjoys making beaded jewelry and caring for her stray cat, Gidget.

Linda Hartling
Jane Taft



New member Linda Hartling is a native Oregonian who migrated to New England for most of her career. She returned home to the state several years ago for family reasons.

Linda is the director of a large global network of scholars called Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies. Most years, she organizes two major conferences, although the upcoming one will be done on Zoom rather than at Columbia University. In addition, Linda is the editor of Dignity Press, where her current project is a book on women and the Nobel Peace Prize. She points out that conditions in the middle of the last century meant that Eleanor Roosevelt, who spearheaded the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, was nominated four times for the Peace Prize but never awarded it.

Linda earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from the University of Oregon before moving on to Cincinnati, where she completed her education with a doctorate in Clinical and Community Psychology. Her thesis on the Psychology of Humiliation and Human Dignity led her and her husband, Richard Slavin, to the Boston area. Linda became the associate director of the Jean Baker Miller Training Institute at the Stone Center of Wellesley College while Richard was an administrator at Brandeis University.

Ilga Ross

Mary Pat Silveira



AAUW Branches are often looking for leaders. Well, meet Ilga Ross. Ilga joined AAUW as a young teacher in Wyoming. When she moved to Oregon, she joined the Portland Branch, then the Tigard Area Branch and now, Lake Oswego Branch, and she remains a member of all three. She was treasurer, webmaster and then co-president of Portland for four years, and she is current co-president of the Tigard Area Branch. She has also been on the AAUW Oregon State Board as chair of Nominations, of AAUW Fund and of the State Meetings Task Force, and this year she was elected Oregon Communications Vice-President.

Ilga began life near Stuttgart, Germany, born to a German mother and a Latvian father who had escaped Latvia for Germany during WWII. When Ilga was four, the family immigrated to Colorado. It was at college in Colorado that she met her husband, Ron Ross, where both of them were studying math education. After graduation, they moved to Wyoming, where Ilga taught junior high school until her son Ron was born.

During this period, Ilga became a community activist, AAUW officer, and began teaching part time at a community college, which turned out to be her calling. Fortunately for us, Ilga sought a full-time position and was hired to teach math at PCC Sylvania Campus. Among other achievements, Ilga was chair of her department and developed a math curriculum for elementary school teachers that is still widely used throughout Oregon. She taught at PCC for 21 years, retiring in 2005.

Over the years, Ilga has held leadership positions not only within AAUW but also in organizations within her community, her profession and in her unions, both in Wyoming and in Oregon. In addition to her volunteer work, she enjoys working with graphics and technology and doing genealogical research.

Jackie Rose

Marty Maharg



Jackie grew up in Queens, New York. She attended Hunter College, City University of New York and then transferred to Boston University, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BA in psychology. She then attended

Simmons Graduate School of Social Work earning an MA in clinical social work. Following over a decade of social work, she decided to make a career change to library science, earning a master's in library science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In 1992, Jackie decided it was time to relocate and accepted the position of youth services manager at the Lake Oswego library where she worked for twenty-three years. While there, Jackie used her literary talents to write puppet shows for the younger kids. She utilized her dramatic talents to perform book talks in Lake Oswego schools for thousands of students, with the goal of getting youth excited about reading.

For the past fourteen years, Jackie has been involved with the Aurora Chorus, where she is a music section leader. She delights in performing with the chorus three times a year and enjoys entertaining her fellow singers by writing humorous parodies of some of the songs they sing. In addition, she sings in a small, auditioned ensemble that performs around the Portland area. Since her retirement five years ago, she has been an avid volunteer for Lines of Life, a national call center for suicide prevention, drug and alcohol addiction, veterans, senior and youth. Prior to COVID 19, she also enjoyed line dancing and nature outings.

Jackie came to join LO AAUW because, being a retired librarian, she was in search of a book group. Lynda Bigler Tuesday book group chair responded to Jackie's posting on Next Door, inviting her to the next meeting where Jackie felt very welcome and enjoyed the discussion. She also has joined the

non-fiction and storytelling groups as well as Lunch Bunch.

Charlene Vojtilla

Jeanne-Marie Pierrelouis



Originally from California Charlene Vojtilla graduated from the University of California at Irvine with a BS in Social Science. Her first visit to Oregon, in 1999 became a life changer. The convention she traveled north to attend included a wine tasting experience where she discovered that Oregon wines compared quite favorably to those in California's Napa and Sonoma Valleys.

Charlene and her husband returned to Oregon several times in the succeeding years until, in 2004, she and her husband found the perfect home with its own vineyard near Newberg. They consider themselves "vignerons" (a French term meaning winegrowers), so they sell their Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes from their four-acre vineyard to local vintners.

If growing wine grapes wasn't enough, Charlene also worked as an electronic medical software trainer for fifteen years, retiring in 2019. However, she had little time to relax. During the COVID crisis her skills are in demand so she has been busy doing consulting work.

Charlene's interests and contributions to her community are wide and varied. She teaches cooking classes at the Chehalem Community Center in Newberg and has volunteered at the Wilsonville Library. She is interested in STEM training for girls and has been a volunteer teaching assistant in a program the AAUW Portland Branch sponsors that teaches robotics and product design to third and fourth grade girls. Several months ago, together with Every Child Oregon, she began to explore the idea of making birthday cakes for foster children. Charlene's energy and many talents will be most welcome as she decides how she wants to become engaged with the LO Branch.

Rachael Prusak
Marty Maharg



Rachel and her two brothers grew up in a small city outside of Boston, Massachusetts. She attended Northeastern University in Boston, earning her BA Nursing in 1998 and her Master of Nursing and Nurse Practitioner in 2007 from Frontier Nursing University in Kentucky.

Rachel has worked as an RN for twenty years, seven of those years as a Nurse Practitioner. She worked in women's health for many years, while living in New York. After 911, Rachel moved to the West Coast, working in rural health in California and Hawaii to help pay off her student loans. About seven years ago, she moved to West Linn where, in addition to working as a Nurse Practitioner for Health Call Providers, Rachel entered the political arena.

Rachel ran for and was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 2018. She strongly believes that all people should have equal access to quality health care and education. Rachel is a strong advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion and is an active supporter of community groups working in this area. She currently is running for reelection to a second term. While living in California Rachel met her husband, Billy Louvierl, at a yoga class. They currently live with their dogs and foster dogs in West Linn. In her spare moments, she enjoys gardening, and in non-Covid 19 days, going out to dinner and to the movies.

Rachel joined Lake Oswego branch as part of AAUW's Reach to the Future Program. She is looking forward to participating to the extent her time permits.

Due to COVID 19, groups are meeting using the web-based conferencing program, Zoom. Check with your interest group chair for more information.

Interest Group Activities



Tuesday Books 4th Tuesday at 11:00am

Date: September 22
Book: *Bittersweet: A Novel* by Colleen McCullough

For more information, contact Lynda Bigler, libigler@icloud.com

Murder by the Book 2nd Wednesday at 12:00pm

Date: September 9
Book: *The Spotted Dog* by Kerry Greenwood

For more information, contact Jane Taft, taft.jane@gmail.com or Stephanie Carter, secarter1@gmail.com

Interpretive Books 3rd Thursday at 10:00am

Date: September 17
Book: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

For more information, contact Connie Irwin, irwinconnie44@gmail.com

Thursday Evening Books 4th Thursday at 7:00pm

Date: September 24
Book: *The Girl from Yamhill: A Memoir* by Beverly Cleary

For more information, contact Suzanne Kaveckis, smkaveckis@icloud.com

Non-Fiction Books 2nd Monday at 11:00am

Date: September 14
Book: *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean

For more information, contact Mary Pat Sliveira, mpsilveira@usa.net

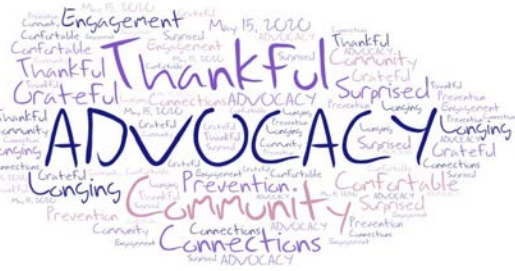
Friday Books 4th Friday at 10:00am

For more information, contact Joan Waldron, spirit.waldron@gmail.com

For more information contact, Terry Hyland,
twh20eagle@comcast.net or Marge Ransom, wrandmr68@yahoo.com.

Venue: Virtual Happy Hour

For more information, contact Jane Taft,
taft.jane@gmail.com



Date: September 11

For more information, contact Sharron Noone, smnrrooe@aol.com



Date: September 21

For more information, contact Mary Pat
Silveira, mpsilveira@usa.net

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Board Meeting	2	3	4	5
6	7  LABOR DAY	8	9 Murder by the Book	10	11 Advocacy	12 Branch Meeting
13	14 Non-Fiction Books	15 Lunch Bunch	16	17 Interpretive Books	18	19 Delightful Dining
20	21 Story Telling	22 Tuesday Books	23	24 Thursday Evening Books	25 Friday Books	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9 Advocacy	10 Branch Meeting
11	12 Non-Fiction Books	13	14 Murder by the Book	15 Interpretive Books	16	17
18	19 Story Telling	20 Lunch Bunch	21	22 Thursday Evening Books	23 Friday Books	24
25	26	27 Tuesday Books	28	29	30	31 