

**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

Charlene Vojtilla (503) 720-0904

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

*You're
Invited*

To a Holiday Party

When: Saturday, December 12, 2020

Time: 4:00

Where: Zoom from Your Home

Yes. We are having our annual Holiday Gala this year. It is moving to Zoom. Just think, we won't have to drive on ice or in the snow; we won't have to worry about having a drink or two before getting into our cars; and we won't have to be concerned about parking!

So, please, join us as we celebrate and come ready to share stories of holiday traditions or disruptions, your favorite decoration or scrumptious recipes.

Be festive. Sparkle. Dress for a party. Zoom in front of your tree or another holiday background. Make yourself a special treat and accompany it with a beverage of your choice.

Most importantly, join your friends and share smiles and the warmth of friendship.



On My Mind

Mary Pat Silveira



I have so many things on my mind today. I am thrilled that we have elected not only the first woman vice-president but also the first woman of color. This is not a partisan statement; it is one of power and equality. We women know all too well the value of role models, the presence of other women who can tell us, “Yes, you can too.”

I am also heartened by the announcement that a highly effective vaccine for the coronavirus may be at hand. That should help us survive this winter of hibernation.

However, today I want to talk about the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 72 years ago and which we celebrate on December 10 every year. If you are not familiar with it, I

encourage you to read it. It was the first international agreement on the basic principles of human rights for everyone. Imagine: the world had just emerged from the Second World War and had come to know of the incredible atrocities that had occurred. The first order of business of the brand-new United Nations was to acknowledge, in Article 1 of the UDHR, that “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights,” and in subsequent articles to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race or color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

The UDHR is also the foundation of all other international law on human rights. Among these are conventions that address racial discrimination, torture, war crimes, genocide, refugees and stateless persons, enforced disappearances, slavery and forced labor, human trafficking, disabilities, and the rights of women, children, minorities and indigenous people, among others.

Each year, the United Nations chooses a theme for its celebration of Human Rights Day. This year the theme relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and focuses on the need to ensure that Human Rights are central to recovery efforts. This requires that we apply human rights standards to tackle entrenched, systematic, and intergenerational inequalities, exclusion and discrimination. Please join me in the celebration of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the struggle against systemic racism and other forms of discrimination in the United States and worldwide.

Women Who Shaped the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR)

(source: United Nations)
Mary Pat Silveira

Drafting committees and subcommittees negotiated the language of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR) in countless meetings over a period of two years. Every word mattered. This gives you a glimpse of what was at stake and what we owe these women.

Eleanor Roosevelt served as the first Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights and played an instrumental role in drafting the UDHR. At a time of increasing East-West tensions, she used her enormous prestige and skill with both superpowers to steer the drafting process to a successful completion. She was posthumously awarded the United Nations Human Rights Prize in 1968.

Hansa Mehta of India was a staunch fighter for women's rights in India and abroad. She is widely credited with changing the phrase "All men are born free and equal" to "All human beings are born free and equal" in Article I of the UDHR.

Minerva Bernardino, a diplomat and feminist leader from the Dominican Republic, was instrumental in arguing for inclusion of "the equality of men and women" in the preamble of the UDHR. Together with other Latin American women, she had also played a crucial role in advocating for the inclusion of women's rights and non-discrimination based on sex in the UN Charter.

Begum Shaista Ikramullah of Pakistan advocated for emphasis on freedom, equality and choice in the UDHR. She championed the inclusion of Article 16, on equal rights in marriage, which she saw as a way to combat child marriage and forced marriage.

Bodil Begtrup of Denmark advocated for the UDHR to refer to "all" or "everyone" as the holders of the rights, rather than "all men." She also proposed including the rights of minorities in Article 26 on the right to education. Instead, the Declaration guarantees equal right to education to "everyone."

Marie-Helene Lefauchaux of France successfully advocated for a mention of non-discrimination based on sex to be included in Article 2. The final text states: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status."

Evdokia Uralova of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (now Belarus) strongly argued for equal pay for women. Thanks to her, Article 23 states that "Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work." She also stressed the rights of persons in Non-Self-Governing Territories (Article 2).

Rosa Sat, So Ruby Could Walk, So Kamala Could Run

Rosa sat, so Ruby could walk, so Kamala could run.



This year we have been celebrating the centenary of the Nineteenth Amendment and the women who fought the seventy-two-year battle to exercise their Constitutional right to vote. On November third we stood on their shoulders and again honored those Suffragists by submitting our ballots for national, state and local officials.

Regardless of your party affiliation or your own vote, AAUW recognizes that the election of Kamala Harris as Vice-President was another major milestone. She became not only the first female Vice President-elect but also the first Black and Asian woman to reach this pinnacle. During her acceptance speech she saluted the Suffragists, notably the Black women who, although they were denied their legal right to vote, “without fanfare or recognition, they organized, testified, rallied,

marched, and fought – not just for their vote, but for a seat at the table.”

Rosa Parks, working with the NAACP, took a seat in the front of the bus. Parks sat on the shoulders of Mary Ellen “Mammy” Pleasant and Ida B. Wells and broke ground for the modern Civil Rights era.

Sixty years ago, in November, six-year-old Ruby Bridges advanced the cause of civil rights. Walking on the shoulders of the Little Rock Nine, she was the first Black child to integrate an elementary school. Four federal marshals escorted Ruby and her mother as they walked, enduring crowds screaming vicious slurs, to the all-white McDonough Elementary School in New Orleans. The Bridges family suffered for their courage but Ruby paved the way for better education for children of color.

And in 2020 Kamala Harris, a Howard University graduate, ran for the office of President. She stood on the shoulders of Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman in Congress and the first of a major political party to seek the nomination for US presidency. There is no doubt that Kamala has paved the way for girls and young women who in their ambitions will see “someone who looks like me.” This historic event represents civil rights, women’s rights, and equality. Hopefully one day soon the glass ceiling totally will break.

Advocacy Group



The Advocacy Interest Group wanted to do something festive in this challenging time and decided to look into providing for women and children in need.

Catharine Hojem reached out and got these responses:

From Josie Greer-Administrative Coordinator for Clackamas Women's Shelter:

"... we had to reconsider how to celebrate with families during the holiday season. Instead of gathering in-person to select gifts, survivor families will now celebrate the holidays with a virtual community-building event. Families will connect with each other online while decorating cookies, sharing this festive activity together.

To continue providing families with the opportunity to select holiday gifts, we're asking for donations of \$25 gift cards from Fred Meyer, Target, Walmart, and [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), which will be distributed by mail to the families we serve. These retail and online stores are convenient places for survivors to shop for what their families want and need, while gift cards are also convenient for donors to purchase. Furthermore, this contact-free Holiday Gift Card Drive keeps donors, survivors, and CWS staff physically distant for everyone's health."

Darcee Waller Kilsdonk- Clackamas County Head Start Director

"We definitely have working moms who are struggling. I just checked with my family services manager and she said gift cards to Fred Meyer or Safeway are good because they can use them for food if they need it, or gas if that's a need. Also, if they are getting any assistance like food stamps, it doesn't pay for things like diapers and wipes, laundry soap, toilet paper. So those types of gift cards are really helpful. She said that Target and Walmart are good too, but they just don't provide gas options."

Darcee gave Catharine links for Christmas toys for HeadStart kids as well as a 'wish list' for the agency': <https://bit.ly/2020HolidayToyDrive> www.cccchs.org/ccchs-wish-list/ She mentioned that they always can use books!!!

Clackamas Women's Services
Attn: Josie Greer
256 Warner Milne
Oregon City, OR 97045

*Head Start:
Attn: Giving
Clackamas County Children's
Commission
16518 SE River Rd
Milwaukie, OR 97267

*You may indicate how you want the funds spent if you like. A donation receipt will be mailed.
If you choose to drop off toys, please contact Susan Rue, srue@cccchs.org (503) 451-9270

Thank You

Pat Squire

AAUW LO members are making life a little easier for the victims of the fires in southern Oregon this winter. Over twenty members contributed warm coats, sweaters, hats, gloves and other gear to the many families who were left homeless and without clothing in southern Oregon. While it was not a "holiday" effort, no doubt the recipients will be feeling much better after receiving this warm clothing.

Special thanks to Cathy Croghan Alzner, Pam Berg, Barbara Buckley, Stephanie Carter, Carol Cooper, Cyndie Glazer, Judy Hale, Penny Hansen, Sharon Hawley, Catharine Hojem, Terry Hyland, Ann Keddle, Jeanne Lemieux, Donna Needham, Jackie Rose, Karen Rottink, Mary Pat Silveira, Cheryl Smith, Pat Squire, Jane Taft, Bettirae Willis. Others may have contributed after this deadline. And we heard from many who had just recently made contributions to other organizations. Thank you all for making this time better for so many people in need.

This is what our branch is all about!

Not Enough Change

From AAUW Newsletter

Over half a century after pay discrimination became illegal in the United States, a persistent pay gap between men and women continues to hurt our nation's workers and our national economy.

Women working full time in the U.S. are paid 82 cents to every dollar earned by men — but it doesn't stop there. The consequences of this gap affect women throughout their lives.

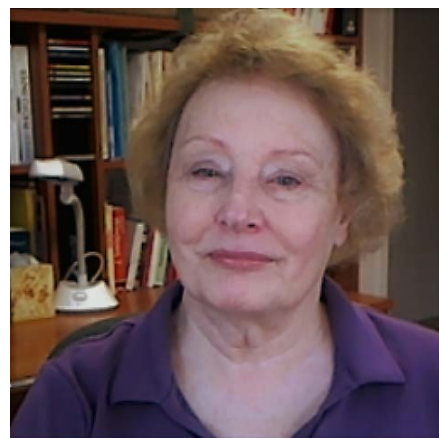
Though women now outpace men in higher education, women also hold [nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt](#) in the United States. And because of the gender pay gap, women have a harder time repaying loans. The pay gap even follows women into retirement: As a result of lower lifetime earnings, they receive [less in Social Security and pensions](#). In terms of overall retirement income, women have only 70% of what men do.

Pay equity will continue to be an AAUW priority until the gap is fully eliminated.

Member Profiles

Linda O'Malia

Catharine Hojem



Linda O'Malia was born in Grass Valley, California, and later, with her family, moved to the Sacramento area. She received her B.A from the University of

Nevada and her Masters in Social Work from University of Southern California. Years later she completed her Ph.D. in Public Administration from Portland State University.

Linda has had a wide range of career experiences in the mental health field. Early on, she worked at Eastern Oregon State Hospital in Pendleton, relocated to the Forensic Unit at the Oregon State Hospital in Salem, and then worked fifteen years as a Medical-Psychiatric Social Worker at Oregon Health and Science University. Linda also has done freelance work for several counties, including civil commitments and grant administration. In her off hours, she maintained a private practice. Linda retired in 2019.

In 1971, Linda was honored as Nevada's Outstanding Young Woman of America, an award a number of organizations collectively determine. AAUW was one of the participants. Linda said her father was so proud of her and since the award, she has had a "soft spot in her heart" for AAUW.

Linda's son lives in Bremerton, Washington where he and his wife are engineers and work in management at the Naval Base. Her grandson also is an engineer and her granddaughter is a primary school teacher. Linda also has three cats she calls her "fur babies."

Linda plays both the mandolin and violin. Unfortunately, COVID disrupted her travel plans to attend a mandolin workshop in Vienna, Austria. She has been a member of a mandolin orchestra and for twenty-five years has participated in a string quartet. In addition, she enjoys opera, the theatre,

sewing and she is on the Executive Board of the League of Women Voters in Clackamas County.

Joan Waldron

Susan Hornung



Joan wants you to know that she is proudly from New Jersey and New York City. She has great stories to tell about growing up there. She joined AAUW more than twenty years ago and currently leads the Friday Book Group where they are all trying to learn Zoom with the help of Charlene Vojtilla.

in her eighties, Joan keeps fit by walking outdoors three times a week with a group of friends including Betty Barber and Marie Ryan. She also tries to visit her gym a couple of times a week while following COVID precautions. To keep mentally fit, she plays bridge and is in a second book group at the library. Joan is also a member of the AAUW group that enjoys the plays at Portland Center Stage and hopes to return to that when they start performing again. Recently

she had to say goodbye to her beloved pug Henry who was fifteen years old.

If you receive the Lake Oswego Review, you might have enjoyed her humor in the column Jottings. For many years she has been a member of this group of writers from the LO Adult Community Center. Joan feels we should all keep moving, have a positive attitude and a good sense of humor—all of which she certainly has.

In Memoriam Shirley Ward

Sue Kingzett



We lost a lovely, wonderful and intelligent lady when 89-year-old Shirley Palmer Ward passed away on Friday, November 6, 2020. She entered Meridian Park Hospital after having a heart attack, followed by receiving a stent and then a pacemaker. She received her wish of wanting to finish out her life in her own home in Lake Oswego and not wanting to move to a facility.

Shirley raised three sons; John, Mark (who predeceased her), and Scott Ward and had two grandchildren. She attended Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, and was a learning disability teacher in North Clackamas School District #12. I first knew Shirley through sailing, which she loved. She raced her own sailboat for many years. She was always ready to join anyone to go out to lunch or dinner, and she started talking as soon as she entered your car!

Shirley joined LOAAUW in 1997. She was co-Vice President of Programs for four years. She and I co-chaired Exploring the Northwest. She participated in Thursday Evening Books, the Movie Group, Eat Ethnic, Delightful Dining and the Theater Group. In 2001 she was a Named Gift Honoree for the Educational Foundation.

AAUW Directory Updates

Pam Berg's new address is
9 Britten Court, Lake Oswego 97035

University correction to:
Oxford Eye Hospital



Because this article was attributed to the wrong author last month, we are reprinting it under the correct by-line of **Donna Zenobia-Saffir**

Zoom meetings have become ubiquitous for many of us and complaining about them is often hilarious, and sometimes unfair, but not often. The screen flattens faces and makes seeing expressions difficult. You can't look anyone in the eye. People talk over one another because they can't see who else wants to speak. The biggest complaint is fatigue and headache during or after a meeting.

To counteract these unfortunate characteristics, I have compiled an extensive list of positive things that Zoom meetings have added to my life.

- I don't have to wear a mask.
- I can wear lipstick which makes a mess of my mask.
- I can eat garlic and onions for lunch and no one will know.
- I can wear perfume if I wish and not offend anyone.
- I can wear the most unsuitable items (a tutu, wet suit, flippers, etc.) from the waist down and no one is the wiser.
- If you turn off your video, you can read while the meeting is in progress. I have

not done this, but my daughter-in-law has and says it has saved her from falling asleep on numerous occasions. The downside is, of course, completely losing the gist of what is being discussed. This tactic is only good for large meetings where no one knows you're there anyway, and you don't care about the topic.

-If you turn your audio off, you can talk to your partner while the meeting is in progress. I have done this.

-It is easier to be on time because you don't have to leave the house.

-Going home after a night meeting means you don't have to drive in the dark.

-When it is pouring (snowing, smoke filled air, etc.) outside, you don't have to go out in it.

-You don't have to clean your house (my favorite) or make sure there are guest towels in the bathroom

-I try to stay positive and sane during this very difficult time.



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: December 22
Book: *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich

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

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

Date: December 9
Book: *Midnight Sun* by Jo Nesbo

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

Interpretive Books **3rd Thursday at 9:30am**

Date: December 17
Book: *The Uncommon Reader* by Alan Bennett

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

Thursday Evening Books **4th Thursday at 7:00pm**

Date: December 17
Book: *A Thousand Days in Tuscany* by Marlena DeBlasi

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

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

Date: December 14
Book: *The Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America* by Gilbert King

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

Friday Books **4th Friday at 10:00am**

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



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

December 2020

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

January 2021

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