

**Lake Oswego Branch Officers
2021-2022
Elected Officers**

President

Catharine Hojem (541) 240-1291

Program Coordinator

Marge Ransom (503) 530-9810

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

Mary Pat Silveira (615) 804-6253

Appointed Officers

AAUW Fund

Molly Divine (503) 460-7103

Advocacy & Public Policy

Sharron Noone (503) 799-2139

Communications/Governance

Jane Taft (503) 709-3185

Hospitality

Penny Hansen (503) 636-7255

Inter-Branch Council

Marty Maharg (503) 908-1984

Interest Group Coordinator

Charlene Vojtilla (503) 720-0904

Newsletter Co-Editors

Cathy Croghan Alzner (503) 320-6282
Kris Schultz (503) 621-8602
loaauwnewsletter@gmail.

Public Information

Karen Rottink (503) 636-9755

Scholarship/Education Liaison

Diana Ricks (503) 858-7481.

You're
Invited

To a **Holiday Party**

When: Sunday, December 12, 2021

Time: 4:00 – 6:00PM

Where: Zoom from Your Home

It's a most wonderful time of the year with holiday greetings and friends coming to call. So, via Zoom, please gather together with your LO Branch friends at our annual Holiday Party. Jane Taft, Charlene Vojtilla and Penny Hansen will share delicious holiday recipes, traditions and ideas for wintery decorations.

Make yourself a special treat or grab a favorite snack, accompany it with a beverage of your choice and come with your own holiday stories or special decorations.

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



Connections

Catharine Hojem



As I write this for the upcoming newsletter, it's early November with Halloween decorations still on many front porches, soon to shift into holiday wreaths. While walking our yellow lab, Gil, I see the leaves seem more outrageously spectacular than ever, or perhaps I'm just *really* noticing them. Gratitude has become a pretty contagious mindset, and I find myself applying it often throughout the day. I may have to acknowledge the pandemic for this heightened awareness of our surrounding beauty.

My husband's family is largely Norwegian, coming from the small village of Hojem which means "high hill." Not really "practicing" Norwegians, except for some red haired sons and a male preference for stoicism, we have been largely unaware of any Scandinavian cultural values. Until, that is, our daughters-in-law began giving us books about *hygge* (pronounced hyoo-geh).

There is no single equivalent word in English but you might be surprised to find how much you have already been practicing it in this year and a half as you've found creative ways to make being a homebody pleasant. The closest word is "cozy". *Hygge* is about simple comforts. It about one's connection to family, friends, and nature. Simplifying by eliminating non-essentials leaves room for the most important basics, relationships to people and the environment. Norwegians spend a good portion of each day outside regardless of the time of year with "There's no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing" as a motto. They are physically very active but return to simple homes, with warm drinks and pastries, soft clothing, tea lights in the windows, and share the conviviality they cherish with others.

Fika is referred to as "collective restoration" and many businesses mandate breaks where employees gather for not just coffee and pastry, but for slowing down. Studies show that it supports the well-being of both individuals and commerce.

On December 12th, 4:00-6:00, we will have the opportunity to engage in both *hygge* and *fika*. Our annual Holiday Celebration will allow us to gather together socializing and sharing activities. Festive decorations and candles, cocktail hour treats, and comfortable (or decorative) clothing are encouraged. Three of our members, Jane, Penny, and Charlene have graciously agreed to provide demonstrations of a few seasonal basics such as a tasty Appetizer, handy Stocking Stuffer ideas, and easy to make Holiday Decorations.

In addition, we will look forward to you sharing items or memories which are especially meaningful to you. Hope to see you all!



Holiday Gifting

During this season of good will and sharing, if you are looking for local organizations that would welcome your generosity, here are several non-profits that provide resources to residents in Clackamas County:

- Clackamas Women's Services: 256 Warner-Milne, Oregon City. 888-654-2288, 503-655-8600. cwsor.org
- Lake Oswego "Meals on Wheels": 503-635-3758. <https://lakeoswegomealsonwheels.org>
- "I Love Lake Oswego" is run by local high school students. They address the "clothing gap" but currently are only accepting hygiene

items. 2301 Hazel Road, Lake Oswego. 503-882-0880.

<https://www.ilovelakeoswego.com/contact-us>

- "Hunger Fighters Oregon" was established by Lake Oswego Junior High students. 2301 Hazel Road, Lake Oswego. 503-683-3401. May donate through Amazon Smile, as well. <https://www.hungerfightersoregon.org>
- West Linn Food Pantry- 1683 Willamette Falls Drive. 503-915-9446. <http://www.westlinnfoodpantry.com/#home>
- Bloomin' Boutique (Clothes for houseless teens). 19376 Molalla Ave, Oregon City. 503-320-0789. <https://bloominboutique.org>
- The "Father's Heart" is a ministry for the houseless in Oregon City. 603 12th Street, Oregon City. Check online to see what they currently are accepting. 503.722.9780. <https://tfhstreetministry.com>



2021-22 Membership Directory

Marty Maharg
Membership VP

In reviewing our 2021-22 Membership Directory we found, in addition to omitting Martha Schrader, seven spouses/partners previously listed were omitted. After the holidays, Jeanne-Marie and I will make the necessary corrections or additions and email them to you in January.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

Marty Maharg

On Monday, December 13 at 6:00pm, the Oregon Historical Society will continue their popular "Historians and the News" series with renowned historians Manisha Sinha, Ph.D. and Christopher McKnight Nichols, Ph.D.

Sinha and McKnight Nichols will discuss the relevance of her research in light of Reconstruction today, the nuanced constitutional implications of Texas's new anti-abortion legislation and the movement to remove statues and monuments across the US.

For more information and to register for this free Zoom event, please go to the OHS website
<https://www.ohs.org/events>.



Tuesday Books

4th Tuesday at 11:00am

Date: December 28

Book: *The Art Forger* by B A Shapiro

For more information, contact Lynda Bigler, libigler@easystreet.net

Murder by the Book

2nd Wednesday at 12:00pm

Date: December 9

Book: *The Postscript Murders* by Elly Griffiths

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 16

Book: *The Woman in Black* by
Madeleine St. John

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

Thursday Evening Books

4th Thursday at 7:00pm

Date: December 2

Book: *Kitchen Confidential* by Anthony Bourdain

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

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

Date: December 13
 Book: *Stubborn Twig: Three Generations in the Life of a Japanese American Family* by Laura Kessler

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

Story Telling
3rd Monday at 3:00pm

Date: December 20

For more information, contact Catharine Hojem, hojem2@gmail.com

Public Policy & Advocacy
3rd Friday at 11:00am

Date: December 17

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



Lunch Bunch
3rd Tuesday at 11:30am*

Lunch Bunch will take a break from restaurants and instead will meet at Stephanie Wagner's home for a relaxed, homey Christmas potluck. Please note the date has changed to **Tuesday, *December 14th**. More information will be provided in the invitation to be mailed in early December.

To RSVP or inquire further, contact Marge Ransom at wrandmr68@yahoo.com or Charlene Vojtilla at charjoy8@gmail.com

Delightful Dining

Date: December 17
 Time: 6PM
 Location: Home of Martha Schrader
 Menu: Italian American Feast of the Seven Fishes, a traditional Christmas Eve meal.

To RSVP, please contact Jane Taft at taft.jane@gmail.com



Mahjong anyone??

Molly Divine would be very interested in forming an American Mahjong group if there is enough interest. This was an interest group in her previous branch in Arizona and all really enjoyed the weekly games. She has not played in person since the start of the Covid-19 lockdowns, but is hopeful that we will be able to safely gather indoors by the spring of 2022.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Molly at mollydivine1@gmail.com

December 2021

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

January 2022

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