

Lake Oswego Branch Officers
2022-2023
Elected Officers

President

Catharine Hojem (541) 240-1291

Program Coordinator

Marge Ransom (503) 530-9810

Membership Vice President

Stephanie Wagner (503) 803-7708

Secretary

Jeanne-Marie Pierrelouis
(202) 445-4976

Finance Vice President

Diana Ricks (503) 858-7481

Immediate Past President

Mary Pat Silveira (615) 804-6253

Appointed Officers

AAUW Fund

Molly Divine (503) 460-7103

Communications/Governance

Jane Taft (503) 709-3185

Diversity Officer

Marty Maharg (503) 908-1984

Education Committee

Diana Ricks (503) 858-7481

Hospitality

Charlene Vojtilla (503) 720-0904

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

Public Policy

Sharron Noone (503) 799-2139

Working 9-to-5 to Reform the State Legislature

Saturday, October 8, 2022

9:30 AM Social Time

10:00 AM Program

Oswego Heritage House
Avenue A & 10th Street



Rachel Prusak

“9 to 5” is a catchy hit song by Dolly Parton, but it also is the rallying cry for an important political initiative launched earlier this year. Our guest speaker is Representative Rachel Prusak, who founded the 9to5 Political Action Committee with Representative Anna Williams soon after they announced they would not be returning to the state legislature; both cited low pay and the high demands of public office.

Prusak, a nurse practitioner who juggled a full-time job and increasing legislative duties, will examine the difficulties that working people, especially women and minorities, face when they seek or hold office. The result is an assembly that is generally older, more affluent, and less diverse than 9to5 proposes. Our speaker will explore efforts to support women in their political endeavors and, more broadly, to reform and modernize our state legislature.

Connections

Catharine Hojem



Our Homecoming program was wonderful. I think all in attendance enjoyed the simple ability to gather as much as they did the during winetasting. Barbara Smith Randall gave an inspiring history of the women in Oregon's wine industry. In appreciation for her past support of our branch, we presented her with a membership. We hope to see more of Barb!

It's my goal this year to improve communication between the Board and our membership. I will use this column to offer monthly updates on our Board meetings, as well as any decisions which will affect Branch members.

This summer many of you participated in a survey regarding our scheduled meeting times at Heritage House. Since it appeared Heritage House would increase its fees, we were concerned that we would have to make some changes. Fortunately, we need only a minimal change: shortening meetings by one-half hour.

Before I identify our Board officers and their responsibilities, I'd like to comment

that I see a lot of "job sharing;" both the elected and appointed board members work together, going beyond their official duties. I find this Board to be professional, solution-oriented and very enjoyable.

Elected Officers:

In addition to Mary Pat Silveira, past president, and myself, current president, the following are elected officers:

Program VP: Marge Ransom. This position requires Marge to acquire and schedule guest speakers who are relevant to AAUW's mission.

Membership VP: Stephanie Wagner: Stephanie oversees the efforts to recruit and sustain a diverse, active membership in the branch. She works closely with the President, Program and Public Information Officers.

Secretary: Jeanne-Marie Pierre-Louis: Jeanne-Marie creates and maintains official records of board meetings and annual meetings of the branch, and also assists with communications to the membership.

Finance VP: Diana Ricks: We previously had these responsibilities put into two positions. This term, Diana will be the only person in this role, and as a woman with experience both in banking and business ownership, she brings a high level of experience to the management of Lake Oswego's finances.

Next month, I will introduce the ten appointed Board positions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

Marty Maharg

November Elections are just around the corner. The Clackamas County Equity Coalition has developed a rubric to help you select candidates using an equity lens. In other words, can they talk the talk **and** walk the walk? Check out the link below when considering candidates, especially those in nonpartisan races.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-gWNpemCe8jvkVf4pVFIIPZO-eKyseEU2p-8jpxVZHI/edit>

Please note the upcoming **Women's BIPOC** [Black, Indigenous, People Of Color] **Speaker Series 2022-20223**. The October 13, 2022 kick-off speaker is Bandana Shrestha, the director of AARP Oregon, and will take place at Mary's Woods. (Please note: parking is limited). This event also will be live-streamed. The following You-Tube link will not be available until 7:00 October 13. <https://youtube.be/UPp-ZOGxuJl>

The speaker series is made available through a partnership with Mary's Woods, Lake Oswego Public Library, African American Women of Lake Oswego, Wes Linn Alliance, LO for Love and Respond to Racism. For more information see West Linn Alliance, <https://westlinnalliance.org/>

“Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind.”

A Room of One's Own
Virginia Woolf

Member Profile

Lennon Smith



Lennon Becky Smith spent most of her life in California. She grew up in West Covina, but following high school graduation, she attended Southern Utah State where she began her degree in Theatre Arts. Returning to California, she completed her Bachelor Degree at Long Beach State University, Long Beach in 1976. She also earned teaching credentials. In addition to teaching English and drama in a Southern California secondary school, she directed many plays and programs.

Returning to academia, Lennon earned a Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology at LaVerne University, California. She worked in private and group practices, and for the last fifteen years of her career, was an Employee Assistance Program counselor at Kaiser Permanente in Santa Clara, California. Following her passions, Lennon continued to act in and directed many community theatre productions in the San Francisco Bay Area.

In 2021, Lennon and her husband, George Mauro, moved to Sherwood, Oregon to be near her sister and brother and their families. She is the proud mother of Jacob Courts, who lives with his wife, Katie, in San Diego. They are expecting their first child in January—a boy! Lennon continues to stay active in theatre and recently was involved in the Mask & Mirrors' production of *Laundry&Bourbon/Lone Star* in Tualatin.



New Interest Group??

Although Lake Oswego AAUW has many interest groups, there's always room for more! If you have a passion or pastime you'd like to share with other members (bridge, mah jongg, quilting, water colors, scrabble??), it's easy to start a group and only requires three members to do so.

Just contact Charlene Vojtilla, Interest Group Coordinator (charjoy8@gmail.com) and she'll get the information posted in an upcoming newsletter.

Interest Group Happenings

Lunch Bunch

Third Tuesday at 11:30

Date: October 18

Location: Brix, Tualatin

Housed in the former Hayden's location, the menu features a wide array of sandwiches, burgers, pizza, salads, and other specialties. If weather permits, outdoor seating is available. If not, we'll eat indoors and perhaps a fall dish like Truffle Mac & Cheese or Chicken Pot Pie will warm you!

Look for your invitation in an email early in October. **Please note that RSVPs in response to the invitation are required.** If you are not on the invitation list and would like to join Lunch Bunch, please contact Marge Ransom at wrandmr68@yahoo.com or Charlene Vojtilla at charjoy8@gmail.com

Interpretive Books

3rd Thursday at 9:30am

Date: October 20

Book: *Benediction* by Kent Haruf

This book group is actively seeking new members, if you are interested and would like more information, please contact Connie Irwin irwinconnie44@gmail.com

Murder by the Book
2nd Wednesday at noon

Date: October 12
 Book: *Mountains Wild* by Sarah Stewart Taylor
 Location: Home of Stephanie Carter

Contact Jane Taft taft.jane@gmail.com
 or Stephanie Carter
secarter1@gmail.com

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

Date: October 10
 Book: *Riverman: An American Odyssey*
 by Ben McGrath
 Location: Home of Stephanie Wagner

Contact Mary Pat Silveira
mpsilveira@usa.net

Tuesday Books
4th Tuesday at 11:00am

Date: October 25
 Book: *The Last Slave Ship* by Ben Raines
 Location: Szechuan Kitchen
 15450 SW Boones Ferry Road

Contact Lynda Bigler
libigler@easystreet.net

Thursday Evening Books
4th Thursday at 7:00pm

Date: October 27
 Book: *The Remains of the Day*
 by Kazuo Ishiguro

Contact Suzanne Kaveckis,
smkaveckis@icloud.com

Public Policy
3rd Friday at 11:00am

Date: October 21
 Location: TBD

Contact Sharron Noone
smnrrooe@aol.com

OCTOBER 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	18 Lunch Bunch	19	20 Interpretive Books	21 Public Policy	22
23	24	25 Tuesday Books	26	27 Thursday Evening Books	28	29 Delightful Dining
30	31 					

November 2022

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