

## Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 11, 2023  
9:30 am — Social Time  
10:00 am — Program  
10:30 -- Annual Meeting

Oswego Heritage House  
Avenue A & 10th Street



Linda Lybecker

Our guest speaker will be AAUW Oregon president, Linda Lybecker who will share information about state-wide fundraising.

In the Annual Meeting, nominees for Board positions will be introduced, followed by the election. The State of the Branch, Finance and Membership reports will be presented, as will the results of the member survey.

**Please return the member survey to help us in understanding members' interests and the future of the Branch. The survey will help the Board better plan the long term sustainability in terms of finances, recruitment and retention.**

**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

**Courtesy**

Penny Hansen (971) 221-7765

**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**

## Connections

Catharine Hojem



Marwa Azelmat

March 8<sup>th</sup> is International Women’s Day. The United Nations, using the theme **DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality**, is recognizing the women and girls who are advocating for the advancement of transformative technology and digital education. The observance will examine the impact of the digital gender gap on the widening economic and social inequalities, and will also focus on the importance of protecting the rights of women and girls in digital spaces, by addressing online gender-based violence.

Our livelihoods often depend on having digital skills: making job applications, having an ability to work remotely, taking courses and networking, to name a few. Even though women account for nearly half the world’s population, thirty-seven percent of women do not use the internet and 259 million fewer women than men have access to the Internet.

Marwa Azelmat is a digital rights expert and an activist involved globally with women’s rights organizations. She is combatting a central barrier to progress in both domains; physical as well as online violence against women and girls (VAWG). “There’s a tendency,” Marwa explains, “not to take online violence seriously; but this is just an insult”.

Online violence against women is one aspect of gender-based violence that keeps women from exercising their full human rights, both online and off. “What happens in the offline space is really reflected in the online space,” Marwa emphasizes. “And just like we don’t feel safe walking on the streets, we no longer feel safe walking on the digital streets.”

Violent online behavior ranges from online harassment and public shaming to efforts to inflict physical harm including sexual assaults, murders and induced suicides. With the proliferation of the Internet, online violence against women has taken on a global dimension.

Protecting women’s digital rights will require coordinated action from governments and the private sector. Marwa emphasizes, “But there’s a part for all of us to play.” UNESCO has proposed the following guidelines:

Industry players are important digital gatekeepers which include the Internet Service Providers (ISP), mobile phone companies, social networking and online dating and gaming sites, website operators and software developers.

These tech companies need to explicitly recognize cyber VAWG as unlawful behavior, and demonstrate immediate cooperation in providing relief to victims and survivors. This would include, in particular:

- 1) Better systems for cooperating with law enforcement.
- 2) More effective takedown procedures for abusive and harmful content.
- 3) A possibility of account termination for misconduct.
- 4) Production of transparency reports of records specific to cyber VAWG, detailing how and when they have responded.

Marwa suggests that “When you see violence online, don’t let it slide, report it. Call on tech companies to collaborate more fully with civil society organizations and the government, and make use of available forums, such as requests for public comments often made by oversight boards to hold them responsible.”

The following are sites to gather information or to report cyber harassment:

[thecyberhelpline.com](http://thecyberhelpline.com)

[fightcybercrime.org](http://fightcybercrime.org)

[onlineharassmentfieldmanual.pen.org](http://onlineharassmentfieldmanual.pen.org)

## Slate of Officers

The nominating committee has submitted the following slate of officers for election at the annual meeting on Saturday, March 11, 2023:

Co-Presidents 2023-2025

Diana Ricks  
Jeanne Lemieux

Co-Vice Presidents for Programs 2023-2025

Pam Berg  
Catharine Hojem

Secretary 2023-2025

Sue Moore

Treasurer (to complete the term vacated by Diana Ricks, ending 2024)

Anne Redman

If you have any further nominations, you may submit them to one of the following committee members. Please confirm that the member suggested is willing to accept the position.

Pam Berg ([huttyputty170@gmail.com](mailto:huttyputty170@gmail.com))

Cathy Croghan Alzner  
([c.croghan.alzner@att.net](mailto:c.croghan.alzner@att.net))

Kris Schultz ([krisschultz07@gmail.com](mailto:krisschultz07@gmail.com))

Jane Taft ([taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com))



AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting and Conference  
Ashland, April 14 – 16

The AAUW Oregon Meeting and Conference is fast approaching and it looks to be a great event: interesting and informative topics, great speakers – including our dual member Judy Silverforb, fun activities, a great venue and of course the opportunity to gather together with friends.

There still is time to register but your hotel sleeping room needs to be booked with the **Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites by March 10** to ensure you get the great AAUW rate. (It really is a great rate... \$30 a night less than a room in 2022. You can call them: 855-482-8310 (mention AAUW of Oregon).

Your conference registration needs to be **received by March 17** to avoid the \$20 late fee.

For all necessary information, please go to:

<https://aauw-or.aauw.net/2023-annual-meeting-and-conference/>

## Volunteer Opportunity

Catharine Hojem

After the MLK Jr. Day of Service, a number of members expressed interest in doing more volunteer work through our branch.

We now have an opportunity to do so. With Love, one of the agencies we helped, can use volunteers to sort through donated items on Friday March 10th and Friday March 24th, from 10:00AM to 12:00 noon. To be scheduled as a group, we need eight to twelve volunteers. We would love to have you join us. If interested, please contact Catharine Hojem at [hojem2@gmail.com](mailto:hojem2@gmail.com) or text her at 541.240.1291

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## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging

Marty Maharg

Please note the upcoming Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging events scheduled for March and April:

Thursday March 23 7:00PM

Speaker: Tracey Lam

Mary's Woods Dunn Community Center  
Cascadia Hall (17520 Mesnard St)

You may attend in-person at Mary's Woods or watch the [livestream](#) from home on YouTube. Tracey Lam is an award-winning public relations professional and director of programs and communications at Partners in Diversity.

Monday April 3 6:30-8:30PM  
 Speaker: Rev. Randy Woodyly, Ph.D  
 “Response to Racism Community Meeting”  
 Lake Oswego Library

Rev. Randy Woodyly, Ph.D., member of the Keetoowah Band, Cherokee Nation and Director of Intercultural/Indigenous Studies at George Fox/Portland Seminary, will discuss racism and our relationship with the earth.  
<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/loreads/respond-racism-april-meeting>

Thursday April 27 6:30PM  
 Speaker: Imran Haider  
 Hilton Garden Inn  
 30800 SW Parkway Ave  
 Wilsonville. OR 97070

Imran Haider, Wilsonville’s DEI Committee Chair, will present “Growing Up Muslim in Clackamas County.”  
<https://www.wilsonvillespokesman.com/news/wilsonville-dei-committee-presents-lecture-series/article.html>

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## **Truffle Workshop**

Catharine Hojem

On February 4<sup>th</sup>, Charlene Vojtilla hosted a fundraising class with the proceeds going to the Branch Scholarship Fund.

While the truffles cooled before being coated with chocolate we enjoyed lunch, accompanied by one of Charlene’s own wines, and ended the day with dessert and tea.

Our finished truffles were arranged in handmade boxes which Charlene created for each of us.

A huge thanks to her for such a remarkable experience.



Catharine Hojem , Mary Pat Silveira, Susan Shea and Marty Maharg enjoying lunch during Charlene’s Chocolate Truffle class.

## Interest Group Happenings

### Interpretive Books

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 9:30am**

Date: March 16

Book: *Counterparts-Death* by Sara Suleri and David Sedaris

Contact Connie Irwin

[irwinconnie44@gmail.com](mailto:irwinconnie44@gmail.com)

### Lunch Bunch

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 11:30am**

We will meet on Tuesday, March 21<sup>th</sup>. at McCormick & Schmick's Grill at Bridgeport Village in Tigard. This classic American grill is patterned after the legendary eateries that became the cornerstone for restaurant dining in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Their menu reflects seafood from the Pacific Rim, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Gulf of Mexico. They also source products from local ranches, farms, and wineries to showcase regionally inspired dishes.

RSVPs are required so that we can make the appropriate reservation and be assured of seating for everyone. Please contact Charlene Vojtilla [charjoy8@gmail.com](mailto:charjoy8@gmail.com) or Marge Ransom [wrandmr68@yahoo.com](mailto:wrandmr68@yahoo.com) if you would like to attend.

### Murder by the Book

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at noon**

Date: March 8

Book: *What Angels Fear* by CS Harris  
Location: Home of Stephanie Carter

Contact Jane Taft [taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com)  
or Stephanie Carter  
[secarter1@gmail.com](mailto:secarter1@gmail.com)

### Non-Fiction Books

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 11:00am**

Date: March 13

Book: *Bitch: On the Female of the Species* by Lucy Cooke

Meeting on Zoom

Contact Mary Pat Silveira for more information [mpsilveira@usa.net](mailto:mpsilveira@usa.net)

### Tuesday Books

**4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 11:00am**

Date: March 28

Book: *One Thousand White Women* by Jim Fergus

Location: Szechuan Kitchen  
15450 SW Boones Ferry Road

Contact Lynda Bigler

[libigler@easystreet.net](mailto:libigler@easystreet.net)

### Thursday Evening Books

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7:00pm**

Date: March 23

Book: *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson  
Meeting on Zoom

Contact Suzanne Kaveckis,

[smkaveckis@icloud.com](mailto:smkaveckis@icloud.com)

### Public Policy

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 11:00am**

Meeting to be held on Zoom

Date: March 17

Contact Catharine Hojem

[hojem2@gmail.com](mailto:hojem2@gmail.com)

# March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 <b>Board Meeting</b>	8 <b>Murder by the Book</b>  <b>International Women's Day</b> 	9	10	11 <b>Branch Annual Meeting and Program</b>
12  <b>Spring Ahead</b>	13 <b>Non-Fiction Books</b>	14	15 	16 <b>Interpretive Books</b>	17 <b>Public Policy</b>  	18
19	20 	21 <b>Lunch Bunch</b>	22	23 <b>Thursday Evening Books</b>	24	25
26	27	28 <b>Tuesday Books</b>	29	30		

# April 2023

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 AAUW Oregon State Annual Meeting	15 AAUW Oregon State Annual Meeting
16 AAUW Oregon State Annual Meeting	17	18 Lunch Bunch 	19	20 Interpretive Books	21 Public Policy	22 Delightful Dining 
23	24	25 Tuesday Books	26	27 Thursday Evening Books	28	29
30						