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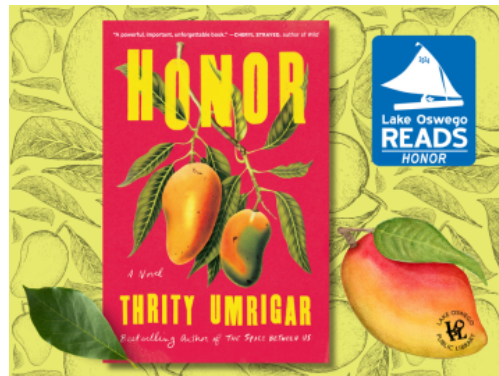
**Communities include:  
Lake Oswego, Oregon City,  
Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin,  
West Linn, Wilsonville,  
and more**

# Newsletter

**Volume 49, Number 8**

**April 2024**

***Honor***  
**Oswego Heritage House**  
**10:00 Program**  
**9:30 Social Time**  
**Saturday, April 13, 2024**  
**“A” Avenue and 10th St., Lake Oswego**



April's meeting features the Lake Oswego Reads book – *Honor* by Thirty Umigar. This is the one event each year where we co-host and engage with another community organization. Alicia Yokahoma from Lake Oswego Library will facilitate the discussion.

Each topic will be introduced by a brief video excerpt from an interview with the author. The discussion will focus on four topics:

- culture differences between small communities and urban areas
- revenge
- role of journalism, and
- the secrets we keep

*Honor* is two stories. The first is Meena's story. A poor, illiterate young woman from rural India, who has the audacity to take a job in a local factory, meets a young man, Abdul, falls in love, and marries him. Abdul is a Muslim, Meena is a Hindu. Meena's brothers and the village will not tolerate the disgrace to the family and arrange an honor killing for revenge. Meena seeks justice for her husband's killing.

The second story is Smita's. She was born in Bombay, India and moved to Ohio at a young age. She is a global journalist, who covers women's issues. A fellow journalist asks Smita to come to India to cover the trial for her. Smita is reluctant to return to India for the first time. Finally she agrees and here the two stories intertwine.

For those members who have read the book, you should enjoy the discussion. For those who haven't read the book, don't let that stop you from attending. The discussion topics are universal, and your comments will make the discussion much richer.



## Prez Sez



Jeanne Lemieux & Diana Ricks

It's April and spring is here. In the Pacific Northwest spring brings the eternal hope of more sunny days than cloudy, rainy days. Sometimes that is true, sometimes not, but it is that anticipation that keeps us going.

This month's celebration recognition is Earth Day on April 22nd. The celebration raises awareness and advocates for change around issues that impact our planet. It was started in 1970 by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson. Following the first Earth Day the Environmental Protection Agency was created. It also led to passage of the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act. In 1990 Earth Day went global.

### [10 Earth Day Activities and Ideas:](#)

1. Support our pollinators!
2. Clean up plastic in your neighborhood or local park.
3. Swap out your kitchen or household products.
4. Plant a tree!
5. Use wildflower and native plants.
6. Reduce, reuse, and recycle in the garden.
7. Stop pesticide and chemical use in the garden.
8. Conserve water.
9. Think about your diet.
10. Pass down a love of nature and plants to kids.

### **Remember:**

*"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief the someone else will save it."*

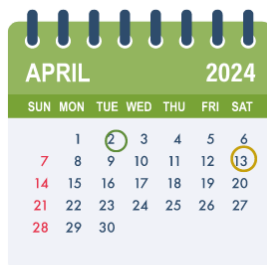
Robert Swan, first person in history to walk both poles.

## Annual Meeting Follow-up

This year we tried something different for the annual meeting. No speaker, we just conducted business and then enjoyed good food, fun trivia, and lively conversation. Jeanne and I thank all the members who attended and hope to have a similar format next year. As for the business part, the members unanimously elected the slate of candidates – Diana Fisher and Patti Watkins, co-Membership VP and Anne Redmon, Finance VP. Congratulations and thanks to Diana, Patti, and Anne.

## Upcoming Vote on National Bylaws Change

Voting on the proposed National bylaws change begins on April 3rd and will end on May 15th at noon ET. If you have email and do not receive your ballot from [AAUWvote@simplyvoting.com](mailto:AAUWvote@simplyvoting.com) on April 3rd please check your spam folder. If you do not have email you will receive a paper ballot through the US Mail. Click [HERE](#) for a better understanding of this major proposed change.



- Board Mtg
- General Mtg

## INTEREST GROUP HAPPENINGS – APRIL 2024

If you are interested in joining any of our Interest Groups, please reach out to the contact listed for each group.

**Lunch Bunch**, 3rd Tuesday at 11:30 am, Contact: Charlene Vojtilla, [charjoy8@gmail.com](mailto:charjoy8@gmail.com)

Date: April 16th, Location: Oswego Grill, Wilsonville

RSVP to the invitation email is required to ensure seating.

**Delightful Dining**, Contact: Jane Taft, [taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com)

Date: April 27th Theme: A Taste of Oregon

**Interpretive Books**, 3rd Thursday at 9:30 am, Contact Laura Eyer, [eyerlaura@gmail.com](mailto:eyerlaura@gmail.com)

Date: April 18th, Book: *The Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson

**Murder by the Book**, 2nd Wednesday at noon, Contact Jane Taft [taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com)

Date: April 10th, Book: *EO-N* by Dave Mason

**Non-Fiction Books**, 2nd Monday at 11:00 am, Contact: Mary Pat Silveira [mpsilveira@usa.net](mailto:mpsilveira@usa.net)

Date: April 8th, Book: *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach

**Thursday Evening Books**, 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm, Contact Suzanne Kaveckis, [smkaveckis@icloud.com](mailto:smkaveckis@icloud.com)

Date: April 25th, Book: *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman

**4th Tuesday Books**, 4th Tuesday at 11:15 am, Contact: Dixie Kroupa [dixie.kroupa@comcast.net](mailto:dixie.kroupa@comcast.net)

Date: April 23rd, Book: *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett



# Oregon Annual Meeting



Using Zoom online offers the opportunity for all members in Oregon to participate.

- **Monday, April 29th, 7:00 PM** – Program Panel: Censorship of classroom and library books
- **Tuesday, April 30th, 7:00 PM** – Business meeting: Candidates for state offices, approval of Public Policy Goals
- **Wednesday, May 1st, 7:00 PM** – Breaking Barriers Achievement Award, AAUW Funds Honorees

[Click HERE to Register](#)

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## AAUW of Oregon Public Policy: Final Results of the Legislative "Short" Session



The 2024 Oregon State Legislative Session is over. Many of the bills that passed were advocated for and supported by the State Public Policy Committee. Below is a list of the bills that impact AAUW's Mission and the outcomes of those measures. Some of the bills that passed are still awaiting the Governor's signature.

### Bills that Passed.

**HB 4002** – Addresses Measure 110 reforms through Omnibus bill

**HB4004 A** – Directs funds to Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to increase penalties for companies using child labor.

**HB4024** – Campaign finance reform

**HB4082** – Directs Department of Education to establish and administer Summer Learning Grant Program for K-12 youth care in summer months.

**HB4098B** – CHIPS Childcare Bill: Childcare infrastructure grants to build new childcare facilities; contributions by businesses receiving CHIPS funding.

**HB4134A** – Affordable Housing: Directs infrastructure grants to cities when 30% of new housing is affordable to workforce income households.

**SB1537** – Governor Kotek's Housing Bill: Establishes housing accountability & production office.

**SB1579** – Establishes Children's Advocacy Center Fund. Sets aside one-time fund for more centers around Oregon addressing abused children.

**SB5701A** - Gives \$96M to Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) to alleviate existing backlog, with another \$75M for future use.

## Bills that died.

**HB4037** – Makes gender-affirming care for youth illegal.

**HB4050** – Weakens Fair Pay laws.

**HB4054** – Allows discrimination against trans athletes.

**HB 4099A** – Affordable Housing: Guarantees state payment to cities when system development charges usually paid by housing developers are deferred.

**HB4120** – Directs funding for addiction services to jails.

**HB4158A** – Establishes Home & Small Center Childcare Fund: Provides financial assistance to establish or expand childcare facilities serving a maximum of 75 children.

**SB1583** – Prohibits discrimination in textbooks, materials, libraries, etc., for public schools in the state.

**SB1536** – A 15-week abortion ban/prohibits abortion without determining probable gestation period.

## Diverse selects AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell as a women making a difference in the world of academe in 2024



Gloria L. Blackwell is a gender equity advocate, who oversees an organization counting over 40,000 members and donors, 700 branches, and 500 college and university partners. As CEO of the nonprofit American Association of University Women (AAUW), she serves as a thought leader on issues ranging from the pay gap to equity in STEM to student loan debt. Blackwell continues nearly two decades of leadership activity at AAUW, shepherding fellowships and grants programs. She expanded the organization's outreach to girls

and women of color across programmatic initiatives regarding women's economic security and implemented National Science Foundation grants in higher education and STEM.

## IBC Minutes

Click [HERE](#) to read the minutes for the March 12th meeting.

## 2023-2024 Branch Officers



**Our mailing address is:**

Lake Oswego AAUW  
PO Box 2078  
Lake Grove, OR 97035

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