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

# Newsletter

**Volume 49, Number 9**

**May 2024**

***West Linn Robotics Team 7034: 2 Be Determined***  
**Saturday, May 11th**  
**Oswego Heritage House**  
**398 10th Street, Lake Oswego**  
**9:30 am - Social Time, 9:50 am - Program**



In the 2019 November program, seven female members of the West Linn High School Robotics Team **2B Determined** spoke to us about their experiences in creating their project and the following successful efforts in the Girls' Generation competition.

Four years later we see a number of positive changes. Of those who presented, two of the young

women are attending Cal-Poly in Engineering programs and a third is in the Engineering program at OSU.

In their sixth year now, **FRC 7034: 2B Determined** Team has 50 members, with 30% of them female participants, and 70% of the leadership team being female, as well. In addition to creating their robotic project and attending competitions, they sponsor STEM robotics day camps for girls in both elementary and junior high school during the school year, and host a weeklong summer camp for incoming 8th and 9th graders.

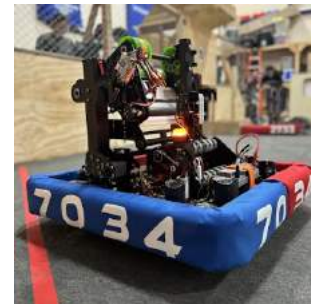
They are members of the nationwide **FIRST Robotics Competition** (FRC), which advocates **For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology**. They aim to spread the principles of **FIRST** across the communities, increasing STEM accessibility for those of all ages and all backgrounds. Team 7034 is supported through West Linn Robotics Organization, a 501 (c)(3).

In the Pacific Northwest District, **FRC Team 7034 2B Determined** finished the season ranked 39th out of the 129 teams. They placed 4th at their first competition at Clackamas Academy of Industrial Sciences. They were also awarded the Judges' Award for their outstanding camp programs about STEM, highlighting Changing the SySTEM, a free all-girl's camp they host. At their second competition at Wilsonville High School, they finished 10th. At the Pacific Northwest District Championship they placed 42nd, wrapping up their season.

The team Outreach Lead, Emma Huberty said that all of the members have learned so much more than just engineering principles. Post-COVID, they are re-learning the social skills needed for personal interactions as well as how to take risks, think creatively, collaborate with one another and develop leadership skills.

Come join us, learn about the team, and meet **KROG, the 2B Determined Robot!!**

Click [HERE](#) for a flier you can share with friends.



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## Prez Sez



Jeanne Lemieux & Diana Ricks

Well, here we are in May – the end of our program year, the installation of our new officers, and recognition of our Name Gift Honoree. First, we extend a big thanks to the branch for a very successful Lake Oswego Reads event in April. We had many visitors and a lively discussion on several timely topics. It would be nice to use the same format next year. Maybe a few of the book groups could use the LO Reads

selection as their March read and we would highlight the groups as part of the discussion!

May is Young Achievers Month or also known as Leaders of Tomorrow Month. True leaders are shaped by the necessity or situation of the moment. To be a leader a person needs to believe in themselves, be open to personal growth, and inspire action. Leaders are great learners, voracious readers, agents of change, confident, quick to inspire and motivate. Besides attending the May branch meeting featuring the West Linn robotics team, how can you help promote youth leadership? Here are a few ideas.

- Read and discuss books with your grandchildren.

- Help your grandchildren make a scrapbook or journal about their future and their role models.
- Volunteer in a classroom.
- Get involved with a community youth activity.

May 12th is Mother’s Day, which begins Women’s Health Week. Here are a few tips to focus on us.

- Eat a healthy, balanced diet – remember fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.
- Get active – two and a half hours a week of physical activity.
- Prioritize mental health – manage stress by taking five and connect with others.
- Take care of your body – get enough sleep and schedule annual health appointments.

It seems that not a day goes by that women’s health is not in the news. Unfortunately, it is usually news of another measure to limit women’s access to healthcare. While here in Oregon we may not be threatened by such measures, millions of our sisters in other states are being affected. The concern is where will these measures stop. If each of us doesn’t stand up for women’s healthcare, who will?

On a positive note, be sure this month to stop and smell the May flowers, celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a taco, burrito, or a margarita, remember those who paid the ultimate price on Memorial Day, and have a happy Mother’s Day!

## Membership


May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	


### INTEREST GROUP HAPPENINGS – MAY 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: May 21st, Location: Brix Tavern, Tualatin RSVP to the invitation email is required to ensure seating.

 Board Mtg

 General Mtg

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

The next Delightful Dining dinner will be held on June 22. Please contact Jane Taft if you want to receive an invitation.

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

Date: May 16th, Book: *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng

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

Date: May 8th, Book: **An American in Scotland** by Lucy Connelly

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

Date: May 13th, Book: *A Mankiller, A Chief and Her People* by Wilma Mankiller and Michael Wallis

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

Date: May 23rd, Book: *Remarkable Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

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

Date: May 28th, Book: *Red Clocks* by Leni Zumba

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Randa Blanding's phone # is incorrect in the directory. Her correct # is 619-884-3536.

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## The FY25 National Dues Year has Started!

April 1st kicked off the 2025 Fiscal Year (FY25) membership dues collection process for AAUW members.

### FY25 dues remain the same:

National dues	\$72 (all tax-deductible)
Oregon state dues	\$16
Lake Oswego Branch dues	\$17
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$105</b>

As of January 2024, all National dues are **fully** tax deductible. Don't forget to check the date of your membership year so you can renew in a timely way.

If possible, please renew your dues on the national website by clicking on [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), and then click **Log in**. Follow the prompts to **Renew**, click next several times, select **National** to Membership type, answer **yes** to Would you like to add branch or state memberships then select your branch and state and check out using your credit or debit card.

If you have difficulties, you can send a check made out to **Lake Oswego AAUW** and mail it to Lake Oswego AAUW, P. O. Box 2078, Lake Grove, OR 97035.

Some members are dual members with another branch(s), you will want to renew all branches at one time online on the national website using a debit or credit card. This makes it easier for you and the treasurer.

If you have questions, please email me at [aredman075@gmail.com](mailto:aredman075@gmail.com)

**Submitted by Anne Redman, Branch Treasurer**

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## PAM SHAY WINS NATIONAL AAUW ART CONTEST

Did you notice that one of the AAUW art cards chosen by members was drawn by our very own AAUW of Oregon Program VP Pam Shay? She is one of only four artists chosen!



“Just Reading”



## *A Win, Win Opportunity:*

## *A Summer Art Tour Fundraiser*



Win # 1 - Art Tour



### **Addicted to Art**

*I was anxious to flee old castles and antiquated British customs and to encounter different experiences when I secured an orthoptic position in LA. It was 1962 and I was two months past my 20th birthday, ready for any and every excitement. I had no connections with the film/entertainment industry then flourishing in Hollywood. Live theater, of which I was a passionate follower, as I had known it in the UK was non-existent.*

*But Andy Warhol's Soup Can images had exhibited in LA earlier that year and a girl I met at a church group told me about a Monday evening art walk on La Cienega, the very street where Warhol had his gallery. I was set to become an **Art Groupie!** And the opportunity was there to meet artists and become involved in a burgeoning scene. I was briefly married, and we both had an interest in ceramics and that's when that part of my collection began. But the purchase of a plexiglass sculpture was a major reason for our divorce!*

*I met many people through extension classes at UCLA featuring California and local art and artists, the LA gallery scene, and regular Saturday visit to the galleries. I was even featured in the LA times by the local art critic because of my dedication to 'art looking' each weekend.*

*I was clearly on my way to becoming a collector. I had no filters, no prejudices and was completely open to the visual.*

*Fast forward some 60 years and I have amassed some 250 items. I invite you to come share!*

*Pam Berg*

### **Win # 2 - Fundraiser for PCC Early Childhood Education Scholarship**

The following two events will each be limited to 10 guests.  
The cost will be \$40 per person (tax deductible) and reservations will open  
Saturday, May 25th.

A reminder will be sent out on May 23rd with information on how to reserve your spot.

**Art and Brunch - Saturday, August 3rd, 11 am - 12:30 pm**

**Art, Wine and Appetizers - Sunday, August 4th, 3 pm - 4:30 pm**

**Location - Pam Berg's Home in Lake Oswego**

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## Branch Scholarship

Thank you to everyone for the strong support of the PCC Early Childhood Education scholarships for two students this past year. We have received some exciting updates regarding the Early Childhood Education program. Four PCC students in the program have had the opportunity to participate in internships in Washington County, through a partnership with Worksystems. The program is also expanding its outreach efforts to school districts, the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization and Child Care Resource and Referrals.

Again, your support enables students to make a profound difference in our broader community. Thank you for your continued support.

**Submitted by Sharon Brabenac, Branch Scholarship Chair**

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## DEI

### Transgender Day of Visibility:

Sunday, March 31st, was Transgender Day of Visibility. This day recognizes the lives of transgender people, and the fact that due to discrimination, trans people may not feel safe, or choose to be visible. As you may know, the YWCA of Greater Portland is actively promoting gender and sexual orientation and inclusivity. They state that Oregon is the leader of equality rights and protections for 2SLGBTQIA+ people. (2SLGBTQIA+ stands for Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning and additional sexual orientations and gender identities).

Oregon law:

- Requires health insurance coverage for gender-affirming care.
- Protects health care providers that provide this care.
- Requires school curriculums to be gender inclusive.
- Protects 2SLGBTQIA+ staff and students from bullying on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation.
- Does not allow discrimination of 2SLGBTIA+ students at school on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation.

However, there is much more work ahead.

For starters, the YWCA is encouraging us to use correct pronouns as a way to demonstrate that you support our transgender community members.

<b>Harmful</b>	<b>vs.</b>	<b>Respectful Language</b>
A Transgender or Transgendered	Change to	Transgender person/people
Transsexual	Change to	Transgender
MTF (male to female)	Change to	Trans woman
FTM (female to male)	Change to	Trans man

The YWCA will be holding a workshop Understanding Gender on May 8th. For more information, contact the YWCA of Greater Portland at <https://www.ywcapdx.org>.

### Lake Oswego Reads April Program:

Hopefully, many of you have taken the opportunity to read Honor, by Thrity Umrigar, and attended our April meeting discussion. This novel is based on New York Times news articles describing the oppression and bigotry of women in rural India. It presents a picture of the cultural divide in India between the technological world in the modern cities and the old world cultural and religious beliefs in the rural area, where Hindu men treat women's transgressions, in a barbaric manner which they justify on moral grounds. I found Honor to be a provocative, "eye-opening" read with many topics for discussion. I encourage you to read it on your own or as a book group selection.

**Submitted by Marty Maharg, Diversity Chair**

This Fundraiser is on behalf of our  
November speaker and  
**Gather:Make:Shelter**



## Gather:Make:Shelter Summer Fundraiser

Wednesday, June 12, 2024  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Castaway Portland  
1900 Northwest 18th Avenue, Portland,  
OR, 97209, United States ([map](#))

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 12th! You're invited to an unforgettable evening dedicated to celebrating and sustaining the impact of Gather:Make:Shelter's innovative programming. Witness the transformative power of the arts as a platform for community, skill-building and mutual empowerment, as Gather:Make:Shelter works towards community-led solutions for people experiencing houselessness and poverty. Throughout the evening we'll celebrate the stories and milestones of the last year, and look ahead to future growth.

Together, we can create a brighter future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive through the transformative power of the arts. We look forward to sharing delicious food, fun, and fellowship with you in support of Gather:Make:Shelter.

[Click HERE to buy tickets](#)

**[2023-2024 Branch Officers](#)**





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**Our mailing address is:**

Lake Oswego AAUW  
PO Box 2078  
Lake Grove, OR 97035

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