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

Newsletter

Volume 50, Number 5

January & February 2025



ATTENTION PLEASE!
Since this is the Covid and flu season,
please consider your health when deciding
whether to attend any gatherings.

**Note: change of date
for February Program
below**

**Lake Oswego Youth Leadership Council
Saturday, January 11th
9:30- Social Time - 10:00- Program
Oswego Heritage House**

Avenue A and 10th Street, Lake Oswego



The City of Lake Oswego offers five core youth programs, each focused on a different aspect of local change-making.

- Youth Leadership Council (YLC) members explore the mechanics of policy-making – by visiting city facilities, the state Capitol, and Washington, DC.
- Youth Action Council members roll up their sleeves, volunteering at least 30 hours and organizing a series of community events.
- The City Council Advisory Boards provide space for delivering input directly to community leaders.
- Library Teen Advisory Board members collaboratively shape the library's programming slate.
- Junior Camp Counselors get pre-employment experience staffing City summer camps. Geared toward students in grades 6-8.

Our January program will feature a panel of students from the [Lake Oswego Youth Leadership Council](#), which is the local government counterpart to the Parks and Recreation Department's Youth Action Council. Joint recruitment of all five groups occurs in the spring, with an emphasis on enlisting as many students as possible to become involved in their community.

Their advisors are Quin Brunner, Lake Oswego management and program analyst, and Elizabeth Huntley, the City's Youth Programs Intern. Brunner shared that this team of students is "highly motivated" to learn about how government functions and isn't hesitant to "get into the weeds" by delving into complex subjects. They recently learned about tax increment financing from Lake Oswego's Redevelopment Manager. A recent YLC working group researched state legislators' positions on a bill for which they intended to advocate.

This past year, the YLC became very involved in working for a statewide ban on the sale of all flavored tobacco products and received the unanimous support of the Lake Oswego City Council and School Board, who signed onto a joint letter to Oregon State Senate President, Rob Wagner.

This is a group of 19 students, with a majority of them female (12). They apply in their sophomore or junior years and are evaluated by graduating members. This year, eight students were accepted from 44 applicants. They represent four high schools (LOHS, Lakeridge, Catlin Gabel, and Oregon Episcopal).

When selecting members, Brunner shared that interviewers are seeking "effective advocates and creative connectors" who are focused on understanding systems, developing strategies, and building relationships with community leaders such as Mayor Buck and Councilor Mboup, who attend their meetings.

Come join us to hear how, in this current charged political atmosphere, these students are choosing to be engaged and solution-oriented, a benefit for us all!

Prez Sez



Jeanne Lemieux & Diana Ricks

Happy New Year! We trust everyone had an enjoyable holiday. A big thank you to all who attended the holiday party, and special thanks to those who contributed all the delicious food. Kudos to Charlene, our unofficial hostess, who put the whole party together and made it look effortless.

Click [HERE](#) to see some pictures from our

Holiday Gala.

Finally, thanks to those who contributed to our scholarship fund. If you haven't yet contributed, please consider contributing by going to the big red button in the Scholarship article below.

With a new year and the upcoming Oregon legislative session, we thought we would devote our article this month to the state Public Policy Committee's "new approach." One of the cornerstones of AAUW's mission is advocacy. With the retirement of the committee's long-time chair, Trish Gardner, the committee wanted to evaluate our entire approach to advocacy. To develop a more grassroots effort, we decided on a three-part approach. The first part is branch outreach. This piece is totally new and different. Instead of telling the members what issues are important, we wanted you to tell us. So, we sent a survey out to all state members (which you received) at the end of October. We asked you to select the two issues that concerned you the most. The broad categories to choose from were education, childcare, economic well-being, health care, and female incarceration. We had 178 members respond, and far and away, education and health care received the most votes.

The second part is the legislative reporters. Their job is two-fold. First, they will review the proposed legislation in the two categories and select two legislative bills from each. We will focus our efforts on just those four bills. Second, they are responsible for keeping the state membership updated on bill progress. They will advise the membership on uncommitted or opposed legislators who we need to reach out to and encourage support for the specific bills. The intention is that member participation be easy, such as letters to their representatives or attending a town hall meeting. Members who participate will be provided with scripts/questions in both instances. We are also trying to develop a Two-Minute Activist on the state level. Stay tuned for more information on that.

The third part is Lobby Day. It will be held in March and will be done via Zoom. Updates to this event, as well as information on the chosen bills, will follow as the legislative session proceeds.

Our branch has four members on the state committee: Randa Blanding, Sharron Noone, Diana Ricks, and Mary Pat Silveira. Their contact information is available in the branch directory. Please feel free to reach out to them if you have any questions or want to get involved.

We look forward to seeing you at our January and February meetings. Please note the special date of the February meeting. It is our intention, to still have these meetings via Zoom, if there is inclement weather. So, check your email for any changes due to the weather!



INTEREST GROUP HAPPENINGS – JANUARY 2025

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

Date: January 21st, Location: Bamboo Sushi, Lake Oswego
RSVP to the invitation email is required to ensure seating.

Delightful Dining, Contact: Jane Taft, taft.jane@gmail.com

The next Delightful Dining meeting will be on February 22nd.
Please contact Jane Taft if you want to receive an invitation.

Interpretive Books, 3rd Thursday at 10:00 am, Contact: Diana Gough, oldgypsy1169@gmail.com

Date: January 16th, Book: *The Henna Artist* by Akja Josh

Murder by the Book, 2nd Wednesday at noon, Contact: Jane Taft taft.jane@gmail.com

Date: January 8th, Book: *Death at a Scottish Wedding* by Lucy Connolly

Non-Fiction Books, 2nd Monday at 11:00 am, Contacts: Diana Ricks, dmricks472@gmail.com and Cathy Croghan Alzner, c.croghan.alzner@att.net

Date: January 13th, Book: *The Immortal Irishman: The Irish Revolutionary Who Became an American Hero* by Timothy Egan

Thursday Evening Books, 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm, Contact: Suzanne Kaveckis, smkaveckis@icloud.com

Date: January 23rd, Book: *A Walk in the Park* by Kevin Fedarko and *Brave the Wild River* by Melissa L. Seigny. Meeting will be held on Zoom

4th Tuesday Books, 4th Tuesday at 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Contact: Lynda Bigler, libigler@easystreet.net

Date: January 28th, Book: *There There* by Tommy Orange



Changing the Way We See Alzheimer's
Saturday, February 1st
9:30- Social Time - 10:00- Program
Oswego Heritage House
Avenue A and 10th Street, Lake Oswego
Dr. Jeffrey Kaye



Dr. Jeffrey Kaye is the Layton Professor of Neurology and Biomedical Engineering at OHSU. Besides directing the Division of Aging and Alzheimer's Disease, he is heavily involved in other arms of research related to Aging and Technology, studying patient cognition in a wide variety of different environments and conditions.

His initial life path was in art and music but a student advisor at a liberal arts college (and a girlfriend!) pointed him in a different direction leading to his lifelong fascination with the brain.

Dr. Kaye received his medical degree from New York Medical College and then studied at Boston University with an emphasis on Neurology. He then spent three years doing research at the National Institute of Health before moving to Oregon and OHSU in 1989. There is a strong relationship between the two institutions. OHSU was one of the original sites for programs on aging in the US and the study of aging and Alzheimer's has continued to be generously funded.

Despite some recent temporary excitement in drug development for the disease, Dr. Kaye admits a meaningful treatment for Alzheimer's is lacking. "There is nothing to stop the disease in its tracks." Dr. Kaye, and his teams, continue to search for answers with his years of expertise, with their many diverse and expanded programs, and with the latest advanced available technology.



INTEREST GROUP HAPPENINGS – FEBRUARY 2025

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

Date: February 18th, Location: Mann's on the Lake, Lake Oswego
RSVP to the invitation email is required to ensure seating.

Delightful Dining, Contact: Jane Taft, taft.jane@gmail.com

Date: February 22nd, Theme: Breakfast for Dinner
Please contact Jane Taft if you want to receive an invitation.

Interpretive Books, 3rd Thursday at 10:00 am, Contact: Diana Gough,
oldgypsy1169@gmail.com

Date: February 20th, Book: *The Sun Walks Down* by Fiona McFarlane

Murder by the Book, 2nd Wednesday at noon, Contact: Jane Taft taft.jane@gmail.com

Date: February 12th, Book: *Standing Dead* by Margaret Mizushima

Non-Fiction Books, 2nd Monday at 11:00 am, Contacts: Diana Ricks,
dmricks472@gmail.com and Cathy Croghan Alzner, c.croghan.alzner@att.net

Date: February 10th, Book: *The Worlds I See* by Dr. Fei-Fei Li

Thursday Evening Books, 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm, Contact: Suzanne Kaveckis,
smkaveckis@icloud.com

Date: February 27th, Book: *Sipsworth* by Simon Van Booy. The meeting will be held
on Zoom

4th Tuesday Books, 4th Tuesday at 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Contact: Lynda Bigler,
libigler@easystreet.net

Date: February 25th, Book: *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters

Scholarship

Pam Berg shares insights on the visit to the Portland Community College Early Childhood Education Program visit on November 20, 2024:

This was an enlightening and spiritually uplifting experience for me at what seems to be a very divisive time in many of our lives.

Our guide, Nancy Hartman, a Development Officer from the PCC Foundation, introduced us to the various parts of the PCC Early Education Program and took many photos. What was so evident was the happy and relaxed atmosphere in every room. The smiles on the children's faces, the diversity of both staff and students, and the genuine freedom and willingness to expand each child's horizons in any and every direction possible, were palpable.

The campus is very lucky to have such a complete, well-staffed, and equipped facility to offer to the community.

The PCC Early Childhood Education Scholarship program is a great cause for LO AAUW, and I heartily recommend contributions.

After all, the future lies in these, our little ones.

Please consider making a gift to the Lake Oswego Scholarship Fund.

Donations to the Lake Oswego PCC Scholarship Fund are tax deductible. It's easy to participate in this worthy program. You can make your donation by clicking on this button.

[Donate Here](#)

That takes you to the Special Projects Fund on the AAUW Oregon website

- Select how you would like to make your donation (One Time Online Donation or Recurring Monthly Donation)
- Select credit card or bank account
- Choose **Lake Oswego – PCC Scholarship**.

Donations of all sizes make a huge difference. Your support to this scholarship is welcome and important. Thank you!

If you would rather mail in your donation, write your check to:

AAUW of Oregon Special Projects Fund

and mail it to Lake Oswego AAUW, P. O. Box 2078, Lake Grove, OR 97035

Website

Check out our updated [website](#).

An invitation from the Portland Branch:

RESOURCES FOR HOMELESS WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Saturday, January 18, 2025
Doors open 12:30; Program 1:00-2:30 pm
The Mirabella Portland, 3550 S. Bond Ave.
(at the South Waterfront)

The most obvious and pressing problem in our metro area is homelessness. For this reason, candidates who ran for local office prioritized this issue. No one should have to live in a tent, without running water, proper heat, and sanitation.

The AAUW of Portland Public Policy Group is bringing together a panel of representatives from various organizations that specifically help homeless women with children or homeless youths. A speaker from Portland State University will share research regarding the underlying causes of homelessness and ways to address these causes. You will then hear speakers discuss how their organizations help this population. At the comforting and nonjudgmental Rose Haven women with children suffering from trauma and homelessness can find help and security. At Outside In, homeless youths can come for health care and support that offers them guidance toward education, sobriety, and employment—hope for the future. At New Avenues for Youth, vulnerable youths transitioning out of foster care can find important resources to help them get ahead.

These organizations make a daily effort to ameliorate the problems these people face. Please come and learn about their work. You are invited to ask questions!

Hillary Tiefer, Portland Branch Public Policy Co-chair

2024--2025 Branch Officers



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