



KEYNOTES

September 2024



UPCOMING DATES:

Branch Meeting
September 23, 4 p.m.
Gresham Event Center
257 SE Roberts Ave,
Gresham, OR 97080

KEYNOTES DEADLINE IS THE FIRST DAY OF EACH MONTH.

Please send information to Barb Kaufman at danbarbkauf@msn.com

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President's Message

By Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)

As the summer ends and fall begins, your Board of Directors and I have been very busy preparing for the 2024-2025 Program Year. For the first time this year, our Branch is going to participate in **AAUW's Five-Star National Recognition Program**. Every year this national program rewards branches for aligning their work with the AAUW Strategic Plan and initiatives that foster the mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. The current program covers branch activities and programs from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (FY25). The criteria and goals are in five areas: **Advancement, Public Policy and Advocacy, Governance and Sustainability, Programming, and Communications and External Relations**. A copy of this program is found in this newsletter; please review it thoroughly!

In addition, each Board member is putting together her own goals and objectives as part of a Branch Strategic Plan, which will be discussed throughout the year! I have always found that those items that get reviewed on a regular basis get done.

I hope all of you are planning to attend our first Branch Meeting on **Monday, September 23, at the Gresham Event Center**. Sharron Noone has arranged for our **NCCWSL participants** to share their experiences with us, and the Board is providing a special dinner for all attendees! It will be fun for all of us to gather to reconnect after the long summer! Consider bringing a friend, family member, or colleague who is eligible and might be interested in joining our Branch.

Finally, I hope all of you are taking advantage of our wonderful **Enrichment Groups** and joining at least one of them. That is how I originally joined the Branch – my mentor, Marilyn Zook, took me on a Golden Girls Tour of the Grotto and lunch at the Cameo Café. That tour led to attending Branch meetings and State/National Conventions – and eventually to obtaining a Life Membership in AAUW. If you have questions about these groups, please ask the coordinators listed: **Between the Covers** (Peggy Taylor), **International Dining** (Connie Maguire), **Keep Walking, Walking** (Arlene Lemieux), **Crafts/Needlework** (Arlene Lemieux), **Public Policy/Community Service** (Sharron Noone), **Bridge Groups** (Arlene Lemieux), **Trip Takers** (formerly Golden Girls)(Barb Lintner/Bonnie Jepsen). Or, if you are interested in establishing another Enrichment Group, let us know. The more, the better!

Hope to see you all on **September 23!**

Mary





**AAUW GRESHAM
AREA (OR) BRANCH**
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2024-2025

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Mary Mayer

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Barb Lintner

Dues Treasurer:

Katie Goodwin

VP Programs:

Barb Kaufman

VP Membership:

Arlene Lemieux

VP Communications:

Sharron Noone

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Mary Mayer

Director of Funds Development:

Mary Jeanne Oliva

Director of Public Policy:

Sharron Noone

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College/University Chair:

Arlene Lemieux

Sharron Noone

MHCC Scholarship Chair:

Mary Mayer

NCCWSL Chair:

Sharron Noone

DEI:

Sharron Noone

Tech Support:

Connie Maguire

Newsletter Editor:

Barb Kaufman

Historian:

Martha Manske

Reviewer:

Mardy Stevens

Monthly Meetings Resume This Month...Time to re-connect and welcome new members!



Branch meetings are held on the fourth Monday in September, October, March, and April at **the Gresham Event Center (Memorial Chapel), 257 SE Roberts Ave, Gresham, OR 97080.**

**Mark your calendar for the first meeting on
Monday, September 23, 2024**

4:00 p.m. Doors Open

4:15-5:00 p.m. Branch Program

5:00-5:30 p.m. Social Time-Board Hosted Baked Potato Bar

5:30 p.m. Business Meeting

2024-2025 Meeting Schedule

- * **September 23, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m. – 2024 NCCWSL Attendees, 2-Minute Activist Demo**
- * **October 28, Branch Meeting , 4 p.m. - Michael Dembrow, State Senator, Future of Education in Oregon**
- * **November 19, Luncheon and Fundraiser, 11:30 a.m., Gresham Olive Garden, Mt. Hood Scholarship Recipient**
- * **December 8, December Tea at Arlene Lemieux home, 1 p.m.**
- * **January 27, Luncheon—Elmer’s Parkrose, 11:30 a.m. - Public Policy 2025**
- * **February 24, Luncheon—Elmer’s Parkrose, 11:30 a.m., - Mt. Hood Community Student Services, Doctor Abby Ayeliya**
- * **March 24, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m. - Future of Local Journalism, Chris Keizur, Gresham Outlook**
- * **April 28, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m., - Successes & Challenges at Rosemary Anderson Alternative High School, Erin Kent, Principal**
- * **May 20, Installation and Awards Banquet: Olive Garden, 5 p.m.**



Join us for the board-hosted Baked Potato Bar at our September branch meeting on Monday, September 23. Refreshments will be available, too!

Time to catch up with old friends and meet new members.

Hope to see you in September as we start our new year of branch meetings and events.

**Board meeting:
September 10, 3 p.m.
ZOOM**

AAUW'S FIVE-STAR NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025 (FY25)

Every year AAUW's Five-Star National Recognition Program rewards branches for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and initiatives that foster the mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. The current program covers branch activities and programs from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (FY25).

CRITERIA	GOALS	POC
ADVANCEMENT	Raise \$30 per member in FY25 towards the Greatest Needs Fund.	
(Only 3 required for a star in this area.)	Increase contributions to the Greatest Needs Fund by 15% from the last fiscal year.	
	Retain at least 80% of your branch membership.	
	Make a branch contribution or support a registrant's attendance at NCCWSL.	
	Recruit at least one Legacy Circle member from your branch in FY25.	
PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY	Appoint a branch public policy chair for FY25.	
(Only 3 required for a star in this area.)	Conduct an in-district meeting with your local member of Congress about a National AAUW policy priority.	
	Participate in a state lobby day.	
	Hold a program on a policy topic related to Education, Economic Security, or Civil Rights (this also counts towards a Programs Star).	
	Conduct a voter registration or voter education event.	
	Encourage sign-ups for Two-Minute Activist at branch events and on social media.	

Remaining criteria continued on next page...

AAUW'S FIVE-STAR NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM
JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025 (FY25)

...Continued from previous page

CRITERIA	GOALS	POC
GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY	Branch board creates or annually reviews a succession plan to ensure future leadership is identified.	
(Only 3 required for a star in this area.)	Branch board develops and implements a plan to participate in the Five-Star National Recognition Program.	
	Appoint a Diversity Officer to lead diversity and inclusion planning with board support.	
	Hold at least one branch program focused on justice, equity, diversity, or inclusion topics.	
	Participate in an affiliate survey.	
PROGRAMMING	Host at least 4 programs that align with AAUW's mission. (NOTE: Public Policy/advocacy and DEI programs can count towards this star, as well as the Public Policy & Advocacy and Governance & Sustainability stars.)	
COMMUNICATIONS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS	Have a designated communications point person and follow AAUW National accounts on Instagram, Facebook, and x (formerly Twitter).	
(Only 3 required for a star in this area.)	Share 3-5 posts aligned with AAUW's mission per quarter on branch social media accounts (can be shared/reposted from AAUW National accounts).	
	Include information from AAUW National in branch newsletters at least quarterly (pulling from Mission & Action and Washington Update mails, etc.).	
	Include information about Equal Pay Days in branch communications, including social media.	
	Ensure all branch leaders subscribe to AAUW emails and share the email re-subscribe link with members quarterly in member communications.	

September Program



Gresham Area Branch of AAUW sent two students to **NCCWSL** this year, **Rene and Monica!** They travelled with other students from Oregon to the University of Maryland for a few days of work-shops, community building, and fun.

They are coming to our September Branch Meeting on September 23, 2024 to talk about their experiences and share what they learned. One of their advisors will be with us as well, so join us in welcoming them to our Branch.



The Board will provide a baked potato and goodies dinner. We will offer zoom if people request it. If you need a ride, please contact Sharron Noone, 503-799-2139. I hope to see you there!

Judith Scott NCCWSL Fund Raffle

At the September meeting, we'll be hearing from our **NCCWSL Scholarship** recipients. Knowing how much our help means to these nascent student leaders, it seems appropriate to replenish our **Judith Scott NCCWSL Fund** by bidding on two **fabulous raffle baskets** at the September meeting. The theme for raffle baskets this year is "culinary delights" and these two September baskets will be "**Mexican Margarita Time**" and "**Homemade Treats.**" Tickets again will be **\$5 each**, cash or check.



Sharron Noone and Arlene Lemieux dropping off hygiene donations collected at our July picnic for Barney's Pantry at Mt. Hood Community College. The generosity of our branch shines through again!



Gresham Area Branch Public Policy



The AAUW of Oregon Public Policy Committee is working to create a **2-Minute Activist feature at the state level**, like the one available on the National website. In the current political climate, there are many rights for women of all colors that need to be defended and recognized. AAUW National has posted many of the actions they have asked us to help them in supporting; I think you will be surprised how many there are!!!

Sharron Noone
Director of Public Policy

Affirm the Equal Rights Amendment	Raise the Federal Minimum Wage	Pay Equity – Write a Letter to the Editor
Support Title IX – Write a Letter to the Editor	Affirm the Equal Rights Amendment	Pass the Salary Transparency Act
Support the Gender Equity in Education Act	Fight the Attacks on Reproductive Rights	Pass the FAMILY Act
End the Student Debt Crisis	Support the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act	Support the Healthy Families Act
Pass the Counseling Not Criminalization in Schools Act	Pass the Equality Act	Pass the BE HEARD in the Workplace Act
Pass the Safe Schools Improvement Act	Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act	

Portland State University is one of six institutions to receive a new \$7.8 million federal grant to help facilitate transfers from local community colleges. Purpose of the grant is to help more students of color, low-income students, and those who were historically excluded, earn a degree.

AAUW's Fellowship & Grants team selected more than **260** new fellows and grantees for the **2024-25** academic year. They have also launched a mentoring program to further support fellowship and grant alumnae's careers and strengthen connections within our community. Applications for **2025-26** open in September.

Mardy Stevens
Inter-Branch Council Rep



In Touch With AAUW

Many of you are keeping in touch with AAUW as you receive the National office's publications Washington Update and Mission & Action. Good for you! Good for us! Good for women and girls!

The election season is upon us. To keep you informed about issues that AAUW supports and questions to ask candidates about the issues, AAUW annually publishes a **Voter Education Guide**. It is available to you now at: <https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/voter-issue-guide/>

Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO, encourages us to "...support candidates who prioritize equitable access to education, promote opportunities for all women to achieve economic security, and support policies that dismantle barriers to a diverse and inclusive society." We all know we have collective power, so let's ask the candidates where they stand on issues that matter to women! The suggested questions are in the voters' guide.

Mardy Stevens
Liasion for State & National AAUW





Enrichment Groups Contacts

Between the Covers

Peggy Taylor
pataylor48@aol.com

Bridge Groups

Arlene Lemieux 503-252-8467
t.lemieux@comcast.net

Crafts/Needlework

Arlene Lemieux 503-252-8467
t.lemieux@comcast.net

Trip Takers

Barb Lintner 503-847-1960
barblintner@gmail.com

Bonnie Jepsen 503-442-5426
No email

International Dining

Connie Maguire 503-319-3464
camaguire@frontier.com


Keep Walking, Walking

Arlene Lemieux 503-252-8467
t.lemieux@comcast.net

Public Policy/Community Service

Sharron Noone 503-799-2139
smnrrooe@aol.com





Walking, Walking...
The walking group is planning 2 walks this month:
Monday, September 9 to Salmon Creek in Washington. It's a 3-mile walk on paved, level path. We can go in as far as the group wants to walk.
Tuesday, September 24 to Vancouver Water-front. There are many paths we can take and will probably have lunch in one of the restaurants. The group will decide.

More details will be emailed to people who express an interest in walking.

Crafts Group:
The craft group will be meeting in September but the details haven't been worked out yet. Be on the lookout for more details in an email.



International Dining

Let's start our new AAUW-GAB year with an International Dining experience. We will meet at **Pompello's** in Troutdale on **Wednesday, September 25, noon**, for fine Italian cuisine. At this luncheon, we will decide while dining and visiting, who will be coordinating the next dining opportunity.

Please **RSVP to Connie Maguire** at camaguire@frontier.com, **by Monday, September 23**, at 4 PM (Our Branch meeting). **Pompello's** is located at 177 E Historic River Highway, Troutdale.

Gresham Area Branch of AAUW Book Club "Between the Covers" 2024-2025



Peggy Taylor
503-661-6996/503-804-9999
pataylor48@aol.com

Second Wednesday @ 2 p.m., Gresham Library

September 11	<i>The House is on Fire</i> , Rachel Beanland	(Liz)
October 9	<i>The Midnight Library</i> , Matt Haig	(Peggy T.)
November 13	<i>The Paris Novel</i> , Ruth Reichl	(Alice)

DECEMBER 11 - POTLUCK: Read and Share

Peggy Taylor hostess, noon

February 12	<i>A Covert Affair</i> , Jennet Conant	(Peggy B.)
March 12	<i>I Have Some Questions for You</i> Rebecca Makkai	(Barb)
April 9	<i>Coming Home</i> , Brittney Griner	(Cynthia)
May 14	<i>The Women</i> , Kristin Hannah	(Martha)

June 11 - Book selections 2025-26 (Peggy T.)
Time/Place TBD

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY WISHES TO OUR
GRESHAM AREA BRANCH OF AAUW MEMBERS

September Birthdays:

Ann Watt September 14





AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision - Equity for all

Values:

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and Intersectionality.

Diversity

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

State of Oregon & National Websites:

AAUW of Oregon: aauw-or.aauw.net (password = oregonaauw) AAUW National: www.aauw.org

Gresham Area Branch Address:

Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc.

4233 SE 182nd Ave., #343

Gresham, OR 97030

Gresham Area Branch Website:

TBA

Gresham Area Branch Facebook Page:

TBA



Gresham Area Branch 2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or CHANGE FORM

Name:	Last	First	Date
Address:	Street	Apt/Unit No.	City Zip+4 Code
Phone:	Primary	Other	Email

The above information is required for new members and will be listed in the AAUW Directory.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Education (highest degree earned): _____
College/University (required for new member)

_____	_____	_____
Location	Degree	Year

Current Profession: _____

Professional Field(s): _____

Birthday (month and day only): _____

ENRICHMENT GROUPS (Please check activities of interest.)

- Between the Covers (book group) Crafts Golden Girls (day trips) International Dining
- Bridge Group (1) Public Policy Keep Walking, Walking

ANNUAL DUES (Please check box that applies.) Dues are for the fiscal year (July 1-June 30) State and branch newsletters are distributed electronically to those members who have email and by mail to all other members. Dues are partially tax-deductible, as indicated below.

- Renewing Member** (\$87 is tax deductible) \$108.00
- New Member** (\$87 is tax deductible) \$108.00
- Life Member** (\$20 is tax deductible) \$36.00
- Dual - GAB Dues are \$20 if your primary branch is not GAB**

 I paid online at AAUW.org. Dues Amount Enclosed: \$

PAYMENT OPTIONS: By check, payable to **AAUW Gresham Area Branch**. Please complete this form and return it with your check to the Gresham Area Branch Vice-President of Membership or mail to:

Membership
Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc.
4233 SE 182nd Avenue, #343
Gresham, OR 97030

Only return this form if you are a new member or have personal information update or changes to Enrichment Groups.