



KEYNOTES

March 2025

UPCOMING DATES:

Branch Meeting
Monday, March 24
4 p.m.

Gresham Memorial Chapel
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

Inside this issue:

President's Message

2024-2025 Board

AAUW Funds & Membership

In Touch with AAUW

AAUW Of Oregon State Conference

Enrichment Group Contacts

AAUW Mission & Websites

2024-2025 Membership Form

President's Message

By Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)

I was delighted to see so many people at our February Branch Meeting where we celebrated our 54th Birthday as a branch; recognized two charter members, **Elaine Sinclair** and **Liz Morse**; sang "Happy Birthday," and shared some delicious birthday cupcakes. Our dynamic speaker was **Doctor Abio Ayeliya**, the Director of Office of Student Life and Civic Engagement at MHCC. He was an inspiration to all of us in attendance—as we learned that he was born in Ghana and gradually was sponsored to come to the United States. Doctor has filled leadership positions at Eastern Oregon University, Salt Lake Community College, and MHCC. He is also the founder and CEO of *Sabu Help International*. It was particularly edifying to know that scholarships are particularly important to MHCC as most of its students depend on some sort of financial assistance. Doctor was impressed that our Branch had had a scholarship in place since 2009.

As you all know, the mission of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. And speaking about advocacy, I hope that many of you are planning to participate in the **AAUW of Oregon 2025 Lobby Days** event which will be held over the **week of March 17-21** with either in-person or virtual legislative appointments over Zoom. **Claire Berger**, the AAUW of Oregon Public Policy Chair, enthusiastically told us that there is a new process that will be used this year which includes more inclusion of members statewide – essentially member-chosen campaigns where our membership can have more of a direct influence on the process on bills that impact them and their communities.

Last month, our Branch Public Policy Director, **Sharron Noone**, sent you a flyer explaining the four steps that you needed to complete to participate in Oregon Lobby Days 2025. So, assuming you registered by February 24th, there will be a **Lobby Day Orientation Zoom Meeting** on March 13th at 7:00 pm.

Representative Zach Hudson from the East County area has volunteered to meet with the Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc., probably on March 21, a Friday. We can have the meeting in-person that date or by Zoom at another time. The meeting will last for 15 to 30 minutes. We will advocate for the bills that the Oregon Public Policy Committee has chosen.

Our next **Branch Meeting** will be held on **Monday, March 24, 2025**, at the **Gresham Memorial Chapel** at **4:00 pm**. **Happy St. Patrick's Day** and hope to see you on the 24th.

Mary





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

President:

Mary J. Mayer

VP Finance:

Barb Lintner

Dues Treasurer:

Katie Goodwin

VP Programs:

Barb Kaufman

VP Membership:

Arlene Lemieux

VP Communications:

Sharron Noone

Director of Governance:

Mary J. Mayer

Director of Funds Development:

Mary Jeanne Oliva

Director of Public Policy:

Sharron Noone

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Katie Goodwin

Sunshine Chair:

Pat Woolsey

Inter-Branch Council Rep:

Mardy Stevens

College/University Chairs:

Arlene Lemieux

Sharron Noone

MHCC Scholarship Chair:

Mary J. Mayer

NCCWSL Chair:

Sharron Noone

DEIB Chair:

Sharron Noone

Tech Support Chair:

Connie Maguire

Newsletter Editor:

Barb Kaufman

Historian:

Martha Manske

Reviewers:

Mardy Stevens

Alice Linker

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



Mark your calendar for the Luncheon meeting on
Monday, March 24

Gresham Memorial Chapel

2024-2025 Meeting Schedule

- * **March 24, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m. - TBA**
- * **April 28, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m., - Successes & Challenges at Rosemary Anderson Alternative High School, Jeffrey McGee, Director/Principal**
- * **May 19, Installation and Awards Banquet: Gresham Olive Garden, 5 p.m.**

**Nomination for Vice President of Finance**

The office of **Vice President of Finances** is up for election this year. The election will take place at the March Branch meeting.

Barb Lintner has agreed to run for the office again, but nominations are still open. If anyone would like to run for the office or know someone who would be a good vice president, please let me know.

Arlene Lemieux
VP of Membership

Board meeting:
March 11 , 3 p.m.

ZOOM

AAUW Funds

I don't know how many, but am guessing Gresham Area Branch will be able to honor 3-4 members as named honorees based upon our giving to AAUW Funds. If you would like to suggest an individual to honor, please let me know. Many of our members have received this award at least once so if you know of someone who is deserving and has not been recognized ever or recently, I would be grateful to receive their name as a suggestion. My email is: ron.katie.pdx@juno.com or you can text me at 971-295-4148. This is an AAUW of Oregon program as a part of their effort to recognize branch support for AAUW Funds.

Katie Goodwin, AAUW Funds Advocate

Donation Campaign for PSU's Women's Education Program at Coffee Creek Prison

After hearing Deborah Smith Arthur and Nahlee Suvanvej's presentation about the PSU Women's Education Program at Coffee Creek Prison at our October meeting, it was decided to raise donations for that PSU program and match member donations with up to \$1,000 from branch funds.

This **special one-time fundraising campaign will run from February 24 to April 15, 2025**. Donations may be made by credit card or check made out to "AAUW-GAB" and sent with the donation form to our P.O. Box, the same as with our annual "Calling All Angels" campaign.

The money that we give will go into an account at PSU designated for use in their Women's Education Program at Coffee Creek Prison. The donations they receive will be used as an emergency fund covering program needs and educational items for the women prisoners, including textbooks, supplies and backpacks for women who transition from the prison program to on-campus studies after their release. Nahlee Suvanvej will report to the branch either in writing or orally on the way these donations helped these incarcerated women achieve their education goals.

Thank you to the members who have already generously sent in donations! **See Donation Form on page 4.**

Mary Jeanne Oliva
Director of Funds Development



**AAUW-GAB Funds for Portland State University Coffee Creek
Prison Program for Women's Education
February 24 – April 15, 2025**

AAUW-GAB will match from the Project Reserves Fund, up to \$1000 of your donations. All money given as a donation will go into an account at Portland State University called "Student Services and Resource Centers: PSU in Higher Education in Prison Program" and it will be designated for use in their women's education program.

Use this form to mail your check or credit card donation. Make your check payable to AAUW-GAB. Please print clearly. Your check or credit card information will not be shared or kept on file. Tax letters will be issued in January 2026.

Mail your donation by April 15 to: Mary Jeanne Oliva
Director of Funds Development
Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc.
4233 SE 182nd Ave. #343
Gresham, OR 97030

Name_____

Email_____

Indicate the amount of your tax-deductible contribution: \$_____

Card Number_____

Card Type (Circle One): Visa Master Card AMEX Discover Exp Date:_____

Cardholder Name (as shown on card) _____

Cardholder Zip Code (from credit card billing address) _____ CCV code:_____

I authorize the Gresham Area Branch of AAUW to charge my credit card above for the total tax-deductible contribution amount of \$_____. My credit card will not be shared or kept on file.

Signed:_____ Date:_____



In Touch with AAUW

Since January, AAUW has acted on a range of issues that align with our Public Policy Priorities through engaging our action network, advocating through social media, and signing coalition letters. In the first few weeks of the 119th Congress, we have endorsed letters on protecting Title IX and education equity (opposing Linda McMahon's nomination as U.S. Secretary of Education), civil rights (opposing H.R.28 and EO 14166), economic security (supporting the Job Protection Act), and reproductive rights.

Highlighting our Philanthropy

AAUW is the oldest non-institutional major funder of graduate women's education, providing \$146 million to over 14,000 women in 152 countries since 1888. Currently, 45% of AAUW's awards support individuals and projects focused on STEM. In 2024, together, we awarded \$6.2 million in fellowships and grants to 285 brilliant women and 18 organizations, helping them break through barriers in fields where they are underrepresented. And in addition, these investments have a ripple effect, creating opportunities not only for the recipients, but for entire communities as these women become leaders, innovators, and changemakers. International Fellows are from 43 countries, and the 18 Community Action Grants support U.S. organizations advancing gender equity for girls and women locally. Combined, grantees reported impacting over 5,620 women and girls.

Mardy Stevens
Liaison to National AAUW



Oregon Lobby Days 2025 – Advocate for Bills to Advance AAUW Values

Get ready to advance legislation that makes a difference! The Oregon Lobby Days 2025 will be held over the week of **March 17-21** with in-person and virtual meetings over Zoom. We encourage all AAUW Oregon members to participate in this opportunity for support of AAUW of Oregon's priority bills.

Sharron Noone
Director of Public Policy

Woman of Achievement Award

April 18, 2025 Deadline

The Woman of Achievement Award was established in 1987 to recognize a woman branch member who, within the last five years, has given of herself to the extent that she has achieved goals worthy of recognition by her branch and community. This recognition is not meant to be an annual award, but it is given any year that a woman is nominated by a fellow branch member, meets the eligibility criteria, and is chosen by the Selection Committee. If there is a recipient, the Woman of Achievement Award is presented at the May Banquet.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Significant contributions to the branch and community within the past five years
2. Service as an elected or appointed officer of the Gresham Area Branch for at least one full year
3. Current membership in the Gresham Area Branch and a member for at least three years
4. Noteworthy contributions in service to AAUW at the branch level and significant involvement in other areas (such as schools, church, associations, and community), which could be related to the woman's profession, will be considered, as well as exceptional personal achievement

Selection Process

Nominations and Deadline

Any current member of the Gresham Area Branch may call **Arlene Lemieux (503-252-8467)** to get a nomination form no later than **April 18, 2025**. Please complete and return to by **May 1, 2025**.

Selection Committee

The three-member Selection Committee representing the branch membership is appointed by the branch president and includes (1) a committee chair and (2) at least two past Woman of Achievement recipients. The Selection Committee reviews all submitted nominations and selects the award recipient.

Confidentiality

Before the May Banquet, the Selection Committee Chair will notify the branch if a Woman of Achievement will be recognized. The recipient's name, however, will remain confidential to both the recipient and the branch members until the award is presented at the banquet.



AAUW of Oregon

2025 Conference
&
100th Annual Meeting
April 25-26, 2025

Let's all meet in Lebanon, Oregon on **April 25th and 26th for the AAUW of Oregon Conference and 100th Annual Meeting**. We'll view the award-winning documentary film *Space, Hope, and Charity*. You won't want to miss meeting NASA astrophysicist, Charity Woodrum and filmmaker, Sandy Cummings. <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/files/2025/02/Join-us-in-Lebanon-1.pdf>

We're staying at the Best Western Premier [Boulder Falls Inn](#), 505 Mullins Drive, Lebanon, OR 97355. Rooms are \$149.99 with 13.8% lodging taxes. To reserve your room, call the hotel directly: 541-451-1000, and reference AAUW 2025 Annual Meeting. To get our **special room rate**, your reservation must be made **before Monday, March 24, 2025**.

*****EMAIL UPDATE FOR PEGGY TAYLOR—Please use the following email for Peggy—this is the only one she is using. Disregard any other previous email addresses.**

pataylor48@aol.com

Thank you.



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

Keep Walking, Walking ... Schedule for walks January to May 2025

All of these walks have ease and distance in mind. For any of them, we can tailor them to our needs. More details about these walks will be communicated.

- * **Tuesday, March 18 - Historic Gresham.** This is a trail that is in the "Walk There!" book. The Gresham Historic Society should have an exhibit about Old Gresham. We will stop by with our own experts - Mardy and Peggy - who can tell us the history. Meet at Ross' at 10 a.m.
- * **Tuesday, April 22 - Irvington Classic Homes.** Again, this walk is from the "Walk There!" book. Meet at Arlene's at 10 a.m. to carpool.
- * **Friday, May 30 - Fort Vancouver** and lunch at **Grant House.**

Arlene Lemieux
Keep Walking, Walking...





Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc. 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

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 Time/Place TBD		(Peggy T.)

MARCH BIRTHDAY WISHES TO OUR
GRESHAM BRANCH OF AAUW, INC. MEMBERS

Cynthia Rauscher March 2

Kay Struckman March 7

Katie Goodwin March 28





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:

AAUW Gresham OR



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

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.