



# KEYNOTES

## September 2025



### UPCOMING DATES:

Branch Meeting

September 22, 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

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### President's Message

By Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)

Starting with the Board Planning Retreat on June 26<sup>th</sup>, your Branch Board of Directors and I have been very busy preparing for the 2025-2026 Program Year.

As you might remember, last year our Branch participated in **AAUW's Five-Star National Recognition Program** for the first time. Every year this 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. Our goal was to receive a five-star rating, but, as of today, we have not found out from National what our score was. I will surely let you know when I find out!

The FY26 program covers branch activities and programs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The criteria and goals are in the same five areas as last year; 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 accomplished.

I hope all of you are planning to attend our first **Branch Meeting on Monday, September 22**, at the Gresham Memorial Chapel. Arlene Lemieux has arranged for our two 2024 NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) 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 reconnect after the long summer! Consider bringing a friend, family member, or colleague who is eligible and might be interested in joining our Branch.

In reviewing our 2025-2026 budget at the August Branch Board Meeting, it became clear that we needed to raise funds for NCCWSL as the current funds are not sufficient. Our goal is to send two students to the conference; to do that, we need to raise **\$3,230.70** (or \$1,615.35 for each). What is included in this figure? Here is the breakdown: \$1,458.43 for plane fare and insurance; \$1,170 for registration (room and meals); \$400 for spending money; and \$202.27 for an extra night at the hotel.

The fundraising will begin at the September branch meeting where three impressive raffle baskets, put together by **Mary Jeanne Oliva**, our dynamic **Director of Funds Development**, will be available. Basket themes include: "Tea Time," "Cat-Lover," and "Italian Food Favorites." I strongly encourage you all to buy as many raffle tickets as you can afford to help pay for sending two students to the 2025 NCCWSL. More information from Mary Jeanne is available in this *Keynotes*.

Finally, I hope all of you are taking advantage of our wonderful **Enrichment Groups** and joining at least one of them. If you have questions about these groups, please ask the coordinators listed: Between the Covers (Alice Linker and Barb Lintner), Keep Walking, Walking (Arlene Lemieux), Crafts/Needlework (Arlene Lemieux), Public Policy/Community Service (Sharron Noone), Bridge Groups (Arlene Lemieux), and Trip Takers (Barb Lintner). Or, if you are interested in establishing another Enrichment Group, let us know. The more, the merrier!

Hope to see you all at the branch meeting on September 22!

*Mary*





## AAUW GRESHAM AREA (OR) BRANCH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### 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/DEIB:

Sharron Noone

### AAUW Funds Chair:

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:

Arlene Lemieux

Barb Lintner

### Tech Support Chair:

Connie Maguire

### Newsletter Editor:

Barb Kaufman

### Historian:

Martha Manske

### Reviewers:

Alice Linker

## 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 Memorial Chapel & Event Center**, 257 SE Roberts Ave, Gresham, OR 97080.

Mark your calendar for the first meeting on  
**Monday, September 22, 2025**

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

### 2025-2026 Meeting Schedule

- \* **September 22**, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m. – 2024 NCCWSL Attendees, 2-Minute Activist Demo
- \* **October 27**, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m. - Vince Jones-Dixon, Multnomah County Commissioner, Vision for East Multnomah County
- \* **November 17**, Luncheon and Fundraiser, 11:30 a.m., Gresham Olive Garden, Mt. Hood Scholarship Recipient
- \* **December 7**, Yuletide Tea at Arlene Lemieux home, 1 p.m.
- \* **January 26**, Luncheon—Elmer's Parkrose, 11:30 a.m. - Zach Hudson, Public Policy 2026; Demo of 2-Minute Activist
- \* **February 23**, Luncheon—Elmer's Parkrose, 11:30 a.m., - Women's History Month, Branch Birthday
- \* **March 23**, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m. - Online Art in Secondary Education in Oregon, Natalie Lintner
- \* **April 27**, Branch Meeting, 4 p.m., - Oregon Gerontological Association, Navigating Aging in the Current Political Climate,
- \* **May 18**, Installation and Awards Banquet: Gresham Olive Garden, 5 p.m.



Join us for the board-hosted  
**Baked Potato Bar** at our  
September branch meeting on  
**Monday, September 22.**  
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 9, 3 p.m.

ZOOM

## AAUW Funds

Summer is already ending which means Fall and our annual November fundraising luncheon. Besides the other local needs GAB supports, we are part of AAUW – the National organization which is working hard to maintain what we thought were acts, programs, or laws that were “carved in stone” in support of women striving to achieve a higher education and gain a competitive edge in the workplace, particularly in the STEM fields. Unfortunately, severe threats are now afoot at the National level, undermining so much of the work we (AAUW members) have put into helping women to at least be competitive. To combat this challenge, AAUW has established a new fund – **Defend Higher Education #4513**. I am asking you to consider splitting your donation at the National level with part to the **Greatest Needs Fund #9110** and part to **Defend Higher Education #4513**. Thank you if you have already responded to the requests from National. The board looks forward to seeing many of you in November at this fun, energizing event.

**Katie Goodwin AAUW Funds Advocate**

## Membership Matters



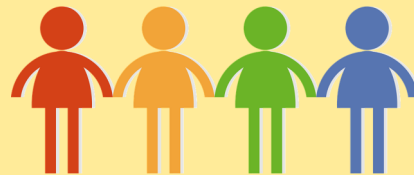
Congratulations GAB, we have 92% of our members who have renewed which helps fulfill one of the categories of the AAUW Five-Star Recognition Program that the branch board is working hard to achieve, with YOUR help this year. It's not on the list, but let's see if we can add a couple of new members this year. Thank you for your support.

**Katie Goodwin, Dues Treasurer**



**Barb Lintner** dropping off hygiene donations collected at our July picnic for **Barney's Pantry** at Mt. Hood Community College.

Thank you, branch members, for your generosity in supporting the students of MHCC.



## AAUW FY26 Five Star Criteria with POCs

### Advancement (Only 3 required for a star in this area)

Raise \$30 per member in FY26 towards the Greatest Needs Fund **Katie**

Increase contributions to the Greatest Needs Fund by 15% from the last fiscal year.

Retain at least 80% of branch membership. **Katie**

Increase the number of individual donors compared to the previous fiscal year. **Katie**

Make a branch contribution to the Defend Higher Education **or** Public Policy Funds. **Katie**

Recruit at least one Legacy Circle member from your branch in FY26. **Arlene**

### Public Policy & Advocacy (Only 3 required for a star in this area) – **Sharron** for entire category

Appoint a branch public policy chair for FY26.

Conduct a meeting with an elected official regarding an AAUW public policy position. This could include local, state, or federal officials.

Participate in a state lobby day.

Hold a program on a policy topic related to public policy principles and priorities (this also counts towards a Programs Star).

Conduct a voter registration or voter education event.

Organize a group action—such as letter-writing, attending a school board meeting, hosting a town hall—aligned with AAUW Action Network calls to action.

### Governance & Sustainability (Only 3 required for a star in this area)

Branch board creates or annually reviews a succession plan to ensure future leadership is identified. **Mary**

Branch board develops and implements a plan to participate in the Five Star Program. **Mary**

Branch board develops or updates their strategic plan to align with the AAUW national strategic plan. **Mary**

Appoint a Diversity Officer to lead branch diversity and inclusion planning or formalize diversity and inclusion programming in another branch position, such as Programs VP. **Sharron**

Hold at least one branch program focused on justice, equity, diversity, or inclusion topics (this also counts towards a Programming star). **Sharron**

Complete an **environmental scan** of your branch, using the DEI toolkit resource. **Sharron**

Participate in the Annual Branch Survey. **Mary**

### Programming

Hold at least 4 programs that align with AAUW's strategic plan. **Barb K**

### Communications & External Relations (Only 3 required for a star in this area)

Branch has a designated communications point person and follows AAUW National on platforms where it operates social media accounts. **Sharron**

Share 3-5 posts aligned with AAUW's mission per quarter on branch social media accounts (can be shared/reposted from AAUW National accounts). **Barb K**

Include information from AAUW National in branch newsletters at least quarterly (pulling from Mission & Action emails, etc.). **Mardy**

Ensure all branch leaders subscribe to AAUW emails and share the email re-subscribe link with members quarterly in member communications. **Sharron**

## Public Policy

Sharron Noone, Director of Public Policy



The State of Oregon Public Policy Committee is currently planning its activities for the "Short Session" (Even Year) of the Legislature. We will likely have some level of activity or reporting for the activities listed below in the Oregon League of Women Voter's Fall Report. More information later as we define mission and strategies.

### 2025

**Aug. 29 & Sept. 1:** Special Legislative Session to address transportation funding.

**Sept. 29-Oct 1:** Legislative Committee Days

**Nov. 17-19:** Legislative Committee Days

### 2026

**Jan. 13-15:** Legislative Committee Days

**Feb. 2-March 9: 2026** Legislative short session. **Besides new legislation to be considered, the state budget will be rebalanced based on current revenue and federal actions.**

At the September 22, 2025 branch meeting, we'll be hearing from our NCCWSL Scholarship recipients and we'll have the opportunity to replenish our NCCWSL Scholarship Fund by buying tickets for a chance to win **three fabulous raffle baskets, each valued at over \$80!** All items for the baskets have been generously donated. **Please come ready to purchase tickets: \$5 each or 5 for \$20.**

### #1 "Tea Time"

Green Tea Latte Candy  
 Sticky Fingers Cranberry Orange Scone Mix  
 Breitsamer Tea Time Acacia Honey  
 Mackays Lime Curd  
 Mackays Seedless Blackberry Preserve  
 Two issues of "Tea Time" Magazine  
 Nelson Mandela Organic Honeybush and Rooibos Tea  
 Twinings Variety Pack of Black Tea  
 Twinings Chai  
 Pukka Assortment of Organic Tea  
 Strawberries and Cream Biscuits with White Chocolate Chips  
 "Spill the Tea" Paper Napkins  
 Decorative Metal Tea/Biscuit Caddy  
 ...all in a truly lovely fabric-lined Basket



### #2 "Cat-Lover"

Hello Kitty Chocolate Biscuits  
 Hello Kitty Strawberry Wafer Rolls  
 Two Hear-Shaped "Have a Mice Day" Cat Potholders  
 Cavallini & Co. Vintage Cats Mini Puzzle (240 pieces)  
 Book: Really Important Stuff My Cat Has Taught Me  
 The PURRfect Pair of Socks  
 Meow Mad Libs  
 Cat Mug (look inside!)  
 Cat Bag Clips  
 Rheinhessen Riesling in Collectable White Cat Bottle  
 Cat Cabernet  
 ...and an adorable Crocheted Kitty made by Natalie Lintner



### #3 "Italian Food Favorites"

La Dispensa Italiana Asparagus Risotto Mix  
 Orange Glaze with Balsamic Vinegar of Modena  
 Bottle of Fine Red Wine  
 Two wine-themed potholders  
 Amaretti di Saronno Cookies  
 Pagani Ricotta and Spinach Tortellini  
 Barilla Spaghetti  
 Lucini Organic Rustic Tomato Basil Pasta Sauce  
 Basil Pesto alla Genovese  
 Dolcetto Rosemary and Olive Oil Tuscan Crisps  
 Pasta Print Kitchen Towel  
 Torrone Candies  
 ...comes with a reusable Italian Shopping Bag





## Enrichment Groups Contacts

### Between the Covers

Alice Linker 360-601-4222  
Twolinkers1960@gmail.com  
Barb Lintner 503-847-1960  
barblintner@gmail.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

### 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... August - October 2025



**Aug. 29 (Fri)** Glendoveer - Meet in the parking lot at the corner of 148th and Halsey at 10:00.

**Sept. 13 (Sat)** - Historic Cemetery Tour with Gresham Historical Society. 12:00-1:00. Meet in the East Lot of West Gresham Elementary.

**Sept. 16 (Tues)**- Cemetery Tree walk with Historical Society - 12:00-1:30. Meet in the East Lot of West Gresham Elementary.

**Sept. 20 (Sat)**- Historical Downtown Gresham with Historical Society. Meet at the Gresham Historical Society - 10:00-11:30

**Sept. 25 (Thur)**- Powell Butte - meet in the Powell Butte parking lot at 10:00

(In case of cloudy weather we will go to Main City Park)

**Oct. 2 (Thur)**- Wildwood Recreational Park - Meet at Ross' parking lot at 10:00. We might go out to lunch.

**Oct. 16 (Thur)**- Lacamas Lake in Camas, WA - Meet at Arlene's at 10:00.

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY WISHES TO OUR GRESHAM AREA BRANCH OF AAUW MEMBERS

#### September Birthdays:

**Ann Watt September 14**



## September Program



Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc. sent two students to **NCCWSL** this year, **Jazmin Ceballos Sandoval and Audrey Velasco**. They travelled with other students from Oregon to the University of Maryland for a few days of workshops, community building, and fun.

**They will be coming to our September Branch Meeting on September 22, 2025 and will provide a presentation about their experiences and share what they learned.**

The Board will provide a baked potato and goodies dinner. We will offer zoom if people request it. Contact a board member if you need a ride.



## In Touch with AAUW

**What does AAUW do? What are we a part of?** Take a look.....from Joi C. Ridley, AAUW Senior Director, Communications and Marketing

### Funding Higher Education

- Providing fellowships and grants to women from underserved communities and under represented fields like STEM.
- Supporting women scholars and researchers, especially in higher education.

### Removing Barriers to Success

- Defending Title IX and civil rights laws that guarantee inclusive, safe, and accessible educational environments for all students — from K-12 to higher education.

### Strengthening AAUW's Reach

- Evaluating and improving our engagement strategies to grow organizational sustainability and member-driven action.

**Mardy Stevens**

**Liaison to National AAUW**



**Gresham Area Branch of AAUW, Inc. Book Club**  
**"Between the Covers" 2025-26**

**Alice Linker and Barb Lintner**

September 17 ***The Music of Bees*** by Eileen Garvin

Facilitator: Peggy Taylor Location: Gresham Library

October ***Remarkably Bright Creatures*** by Shelby Van Pelt

Facilitator: Arlene Lemieux

November ***James*** by Percival Everett

Facilitator: Alice Linker

December Free read and potluck

January ***The Island of Missing Trees*** by Elif Shafak

Facilitator: Liz Morse

February ***A Different Kind of Power*** by Jacinda Ardern

Facilitator: Peggy Bromley

March ***Harlem Rhapsody*** by Victoria Christopher Murray

Facilitator: Martha Manske

April ***Fast Girls*** by Elise Hooper

Facilitator: Cynthia Rauscher

May ***Nexus: A Brief History of Information from the Stone age to AI***  
by Yuval Noah

Facilitator: Barb Lintner



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](https://aauw-or.aauw.net) (password = oregonaauw) AAUW National: [www.aauw.org](https://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:**

<https://greshamarea-or.aauw.net/>

**Gresham Area Branch Facebook Page:**

AAUW Gresham OR



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

**Gresham Area Branch 2025-2026 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)  
☐ 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** ..... (\$89 is tax deductible) .... \$110.00  
☐ **New Member** ..... (\$89 is tax deductible) .... \$110.00  
☐ **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 182<sup>nd</sup> 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.**