



October 2019 Newsletter  
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Save The Date, New Members, Birthdays, Officers & Committee/Group Leaders

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### **Presidents' Corner** **Kay Reed and Linda Simmons**

Our September 10<sup>th</sup> Welcome Back dinner was largely an introductory session to create awareness of AAUW leaders, interest groups, and special projects. It was enthusiastically received by attendees! If you missed the meeting, you can log onto the AAUW-Boise website for more information.

Linda Anderson and Pam Ahrens have done a fantastic job of lining up interesting speakers and programs for the 2019-2020 year! We're looking forward to hearing about "Women in Idaho Prisons" on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Amanda Gentry, Deputy Chief of Prisons, and Carrie Horsman, former prisoner and parolee, will be the presenters.

If you missed signing up for an interest group or volunteering for a special project, it's never too late! Participating is also a great way to get to know other members and to energize yourself!

We were absolutely amazed at the generosity shown by our members toward the BSU Pantry and the Feminine Hygiene Projects! Thanks so much for coming through for our struggling high school and college students!

If you have any questions about the Boise Branch, please contact us.

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### **Voter Registration Update** **by Chris Stokes**

September is a very busy month for What The Vote! (WTV!) volunteers who visit high school classes to inspire young voters to engage in democracy. All high schools have been scheduled for classroom visits and many visits have been completed. Team leaders have managed to contact busy teachers to schedule and coordinate visits to multiple classrooms over two days in most cases. It is exhausting and rewarding work. One volunteer responded to her team leader after the experience: ***"Although I am tired, it is a good tired because I believe we made a difference."***

All of the volunteers involved in this project can appreciate how much it means to hear from the students, as did one of our teams. The student's message:

***"Hello! I am a senior at .... High School! And you came into my Government class today ... to help us begin the process to register for voting! I wanted to contact you personally and thank you so much for taking time out of your day to come to our school. For many of us the idea of registering to vote can sound daunting, so I wanted to thank you for helping us get the process started! I am looking forward to this next part of my life where I will be able to vote! Again thank you so much for helping my class with this process! Best of luck!"***

The impact of this note is inspiring to those of us working to reach these young voters!

When this article is published, our WTV! AAUW/community partner teams will be completing their presentations in the high schools, finishing their table registrations, submitting their activity reports, and the evaluations from the teachers. The last of the completed registration cards will be turned into the county elections offices. September was a very busy month with teams registering over 1,000 students as of this writing and, for the first time, teams made presentations in classrooms at Boise State University. One student remarked that she remembered the team who visited Boise High School the previous year and that she was motivated to vote and talk to her friends about voting as well. That remark was a wonderful reward to the day!

AAUW members and community partners registered voters at BSU and CWI tables as part of National Voter Registration Day activities on September 24th. In addition, four AAUW members volunteered to work with the Ada County Elections office to register voters at the Borah Post Office. The AAUW GOTV efforts were again shared on Boise Public Radio on National Voter Registration Day by the Ada County Clerk, Phil McGrane. It is difficult to acknowledge all of the volunteers individually for their contributions across the board due to sheer numbers; however, all of the volunteers connected to this project must be applauded and recognized for their work to reach out to young voters and inspire them to engage in our democracy!

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### **What The Vote! Recognized by National AAUW**

**by Julie Custer**

Each week when Congress is in session, AAUW's Public Policy group publishes a newsletter, *AAUW Washington Update*. The September 27, 2019, edition of this newsletter contained the following paragraph:

***Grassroots spotlight: AAUW Boise Area Branch in Idaho registered around 100 new voters on Tuesday for National Voter Registration Day. The event was part of their ongoing "What the Vote!" campaign, which has registered thousands of high school and college students since 2018.***

Congratulations to all WTV! volunteers for this well-deserved acknowledgment of their tireless efforts.

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### **What Is That Red Dot?**

**by Marci Lingo and David Scott**

As of October 1, 2019: 217 members

Looking at the list of members who did not renew for the coming year, one detail is striking: with very few exceptions, they are new members. So—what happened? Did AAUW not meet their expectations? Were they too busy to participate? Perhaps.

We don't have a great deal of control over people's expectations or schedules, but we do have one super power: making new members feel welcome. Often, new members just don't feel like they have made a connection with other members. It isn't hard to walk away from a group they don't feel a part of—in spite of the fact that some aspect of the AAUW mission inspired them to join in the first place.

Our Newcomers' Group, now in its third year, has been a terrific resource for our newbies. It meets the first Thursday of the month at a member's home. Beyond learning about AAUW, it provides a venue for getting to know other new members, which makes walking into a ballroom full of members less daunting. This year, Stacy Urban and Elise deWit are the co-chairs of this group.

But not every new member ends up attending Newcomers—for a variety of reasons. And that's where the red dot comes in. A red dot on a name tag signifies a member who has been in AAUW for less than a year. And while we should be friendly with everyone who attends meetings, paying attention to those new members who may know just a few members can make the difference between having a member who renews and one who doesn't. So invite someone with a red dot to sit at your table, introduce her (or him) to other members, ask her why she joined AAUW, or share your AAUW story. Making that connection is so important—and we all can help! Look for that red dot!!

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### **BSU Food Pantry**

**by Tracy Bicknell-Holmes**

During the fall of 2018, the #RealCollege survey went out to just over 6,000 Boise State students. 820 answered questions about food and housing insecurity and homelessness:

- 35% experienced food insecurity within 30 days prior to answering the survey.
- 47% experienced housing insecurity within the previous year.
- 18% were homeless in the previous year.

58% of the students who answered the survey experienced at least one of these forms of basic needs insecurity in the past year.

Like many of you, when I was going to college I tried to eat inexpensively, buying off brand foods, shopping with coupons, and eating Ramen noodles, but I never went hungry. The experiences of these students are not the same as what I experienced.

- 40% worried that their food would run out before they had money to buy more.
- 41% couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.
- 28% said the food they bought ran out before they had money to buy more.
- 32% skipped meals because they couldn't afford to buy food.
- 29% ate less than they thought they should because they didn't have money for food.
- 24% said they were hungry but didn't eat because they couldn't afford to buy food.

Research shows that if an individual from the lowest socio-economic status gets a college degree, their chances of moving into the middle class increases from 14% to 40%. In Idaho, a college degree can increase an individual's lifetime income by \$800,000. (Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey)

The challenges of succeeding in college are great enough without the added stress of hunger. The work that AAUW Boise is doing to supply food to the food pantry is critical for these students.

The most needed items for the Pantry are often non-perishable, easy protein items such as:

- Granola bars
- Beef Jerky Sticks
- Canned Tuna / Salmon
- Peanut Butter / Jelly
- Trail mix
- Instant oatmeal
- Nuts

And toiletries are always welcome.

For information on the Boise State Food Pantry, a list of needed items, and information on how to make a financial donation go to <https://www.boisestate.edu/deanofstudents/student-support/food-help/food-pantry/> and scroll down past the picture.

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### **Fall Cleaning and Organizing Opportunity** **by Claudia Hambacker**

The AAUW Fall Fundraiser YARD SALE will be held on October 19th at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 2201 Woodlawn Ave. Boise. Hours for the sale are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., however much help will be needed before and after these times for pricing, set-up and clean-up. A committee headed by Claudia Hambacker is organizing for success.

The collection for items has begun and will continue until shortly before the sale. We have two sites.

Wes and Andy Gibson  
633 N. Quarry View Way,  
Boise  
[Wesgibson50@gmail.com](mailto:Wesgibson50@gmail.com)    [jandygibson@gmail.com](mailto:jandygibson@gmail.com)  
C: 925-202-4491                      C: 208-473-7202

Claudia Hambacker                      [c.a.hambacker@gmail.com](mailto:c.a.hambacker@gmail.com)  
5627 N. Riffle Way                      C: 804-212-9380  
Garden City

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL BEFORE TAKING ITEMS TO EITHER SITE AND ITEMS MAY BE DONATED AT EITHER SITE UNTIL OCTOBER 16th.

A reminder: NO clothes or books  
Socks are okay but must be in good condition.

Pricing days are scheduled to occur a few days before the sale. Wes' Pricing Day is 10/17 and begins at 8:00 a.m. and Claudia's Pricing Day is 10/18 and begins at 8:30 a.m. Carol Stirling is handling the schedule for 10/19 and we still have a few spaces available. Carol's contact information can be found in the AAUW directory. You may sign up for Pricing Days or to work a shift at our next AAUW meeting on October 8th.

A mass email detailing a complete summary for the yard sale is being sent to every member and should help you with questions. However, do not hesitate to call or email Claudia with your individual questions.

Stay tuned for more information and start cleaning out those garages, attics and cupboards!

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## **STEM News**

by Deborah Newton

The Big Brothers, Big Sisters organization in Boise is looking for volunteers and mentors to work with girls in our community. One of the current projects for BBBS is called Women in STEM. In this program, female volunteers in STEM-based professions are paired with young girls needing a big sister. The idea is that matching young girls with females who are currently working in STEM-related careers will help those girls see that a similar career is a possibility for their own futures. Hopefully, AAUW Boise can help spread the word and encourage volunteers to get involved with this worthwhile project.

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## **Book Group (Mystery)**

by Linda Anderson

The next meeting will be Monday, October 14, 6:00 p.m., at the home of Karleen Davis, 1318 Ranch Road, Boise. The book is *Roman Blood, A Novel of Ancient Rome* by Steven Saylor.

If you have questions or would like to be added to the mailing list, contact Linda Anderson, [lcander@pacbell.net](mailto:lcander@pacbell.net), 831-521-6075.

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## **Book Group (Sunday)**

by Ann Lewis and Mary Ruckh

October 20th, 2:00 p.m. at "The Cabin," 801 S Capitol Blvd. in Boise. "*The Girl with Seven Names: Escape from North Korea*" by Hyeonseo Lee. Questions - Mary Ruckh, [mruckh@gmail.com](mailto:mruckh@gmail.com), (262) 212-8829; Ann Lewis, [annlewis@cableone.net](mailto:annlewis@cableone.net), (208) 954-1460.

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## **Book Group (Thursday)**

by Ann Kirkpatrick and Linda Simmons

The AAUW Thursday Evening Book Group will be meeting on October 10, at 6:30 pm, in the Catalpa Room of the Collister Library, 4724 W State Street, Boise.

Our discussion book is "The Atomic City Girls" by Janet Beard. Jane Post is the discussion facilitator.

For additional information, please contact Ann Kirkpatrick (208-887-6759) or Linda Simmons (208-859-5299).

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## **Bowling Group**

by Stacy Urban

Bowling Group meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Come join us October 14th and October 28th at Westy's Garden Lanes in Garden City! Contact Stacy Urban, 360-914-8866, [stacyurban@gmail.com](mailto:stacyurban@gmail.com).

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## **Bridge Group**

by Dena Duncan

The October bridge group will meet on Wednesday, October 16th at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Martha Lund, 1064 Parkhill Dr. in Boise. If you plan to play, please contact Martha to RSVP, by phone, 208-871-9233, or by e-mail, [mrthind7@gmail.com](mailto:mrthind7@gmail.com).

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## **Daytimers Group**

by Marsha Bravo and Andy Gibson

Members of the Daytimers organization team met September 24th to plan our special events for 2019-2020. We brainstormed many potential adventures! Suggestions include the following outings: Birds of Prey falcon demonstrations, Tuba Christmas in the Capitol rotunda, tours of the State Museum, and Idaho State Capitol. Other field trips such as Thousand Springs, the Planetarium at the College of Southern Idaho, and an Edwards Greenhouse concert event were also discussed. Sports fans could enjoy the BSU women's basketball and the Idaho Steelheads. A trip to Ontario for the Japan Night Obon Festival at the Four Rivers Cultural

center will celebrate our international spirit. The possibilities seem endless! As you may imagine, all of these potential trips will provide lots of excitement and great opportunities to enjoy and enrich our AAUW friendships. Stay tuned for further announcements about Daytimers events. Guests are always welcome.

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### **Great Decisions**

by **Pat Alpine and Mary Ruckh**

Our 2020 Great Decisions will start **March 2, 2020** and will have its last session on **April 20, 2020**. We will now meet on **Mondays**. We will still meet at the Marian Bingham Room at the downtown Boise Public library from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with this interest group, many members who attended last year stated that this was the best program that they attended. Great Decisions discusses eight (8) foreign policy issues that are contained in materials published by the Foreign Policy Association. The foreign policy issues are presented as academic essays with discussion questions after each essay. The topics for 2020 have not been released but we anticipate that they will be available sometime in October 2019. Last year, the cost for the materials was approximately \$30.00.

If you are interested in joining us starting in March of 2020 and have not added your name to the list, please let us know. We will need a firm commitment from you before we order the materials sometime in late October 2019.

Patricia Alpine Co-Chair  
208-859-0325  
[patriciaalpine@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaalpine@gmail.com)

Mary Ruckh Co-Chair  
262-212-8829  
[mruckh@gmail.com](mailto:mruckh@gmail.com)

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### **Newcomers Group**

by **Elise deWit and Stacy Urban**

The Newcomers Group meets the 1st Thursday of each month, 5-7 pm. Our next get together will be October 3rd at the home of Patty Underwood. Contact us if you'd like to be added to our mailing list and receive meeting notifications. We have a potluck dinner, socialize, and learn more about AAUW Boise. You don't have to be a new member to attend! Our meetings are a way for members to get to know each other better in a smaller, more casual setting than the general meetings. Co-leaders are Stacy Urban and Elise deWit.

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## **WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!**

Welcome to the following members who joined our branch during September 2019:

Maggie Cowan	Nicole Letinsky
SueClaire Hebert	Becky Moore
Diane Helton	Janelle Olberding
Dana Kehr	Rose Otterness

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## **SAVE THESE DATES**

October 3  
**Newcomers Group**  
5:00 p.m.

October 8  
**Branch General Meeting**

October 16  
**Bridge Group**  
12:30 p.m.

October 19  
**Yard Sale**  
9:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

October 10

**Book Group (Thursday)**

6:30 p.m.

October 14

**Bowling Group**

10:00 a.m.

October 14

**Book Group (Mystery)**

6:00 p.m.

October 20

**Book Group (Sunday)**

2:00 p.m.

October 28

**Bowling Group**

10:00 a.m.

October 30

**Happy Hour**

4:00 p.m.

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## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/01 Lauren Wilson

10/03 Deborah Gridley

10/06 Gail Nottingham

10/06 David Scott

10/08 Kris Doucette

10/11 Kathy Haley

10/12 Ashley Alloway

10/12 Judy Figal

10/12 Edna Groves

10/12 Bonnie Pfaff

10/13 Linda Kennedy

10/18 Mary Holden

10/18 Edward Olson

10/20 Sandra Anderson

10/21 Sheila Robbins

10/23 Sue Rourke

10/26 Wes Gibson

10/27 Jaime Moss

10/28 Chuck Slaughter

10/29 Cherie Buckner-Webb

10/29 Carol Stirling

10/31 Marie Matera-Clark

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## OFFICERS

### Co-Presidents

Kay Reed and Linda Simmons

### President-Elect

Norma Lloyd

### Co-Vice Presidents, Membership

Marci Lingo and David Scott

### Co-Vice Presidents, Programs

Pam Ahrens and Linda Anderson

### Finance Officer

Steve Holmes

### Finance Officer-Elect

Roberta Olson

### Secretary

Beth Popish

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

### 501(c)3 Compliance Coordinator

Julie Custer

### Boise State Food Pantry

Tracy Bicknell-Holmes

### Directory (Online)

Julie Custer

### Funds Chair

Vacant

### Goodwill Ambassador

Ann Lewis

### Newsletter Editor

Julie Custer (interim)

### Nominating Committee

Andy Gibson, Gerrie Oehlschlager,  
and Stacy Urban

### Project Recognition

Carol Fowler

### Public Policy

Julie Custer

**Scholarship Committee Chair**  
Nancy Otterness and Noreen Pusey

**Special Events Coordinator(s)**  
Amie Bruggeman and Stacy Urban

**Social Media (Facebook,  
Instagram, Twitter)**  
Julie Custer

**STEM Chair**  
Deborah Newton and Paulette  
Penney

**Web Editor**  
Carrie Noriega

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## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP COORDINATORS

**Books, Mystery**  
Linda Anderson

**Books, Sunday Afternoon**  
Ann Lewis and Mary Ruckh

**Books, Thursday Evening**  
Ann Kirkpatrick and Linda Simmons

**Bowling**  
Stacy Urban

**Bridge**  
Dena Duncan

**Daytimers**  
Marsha Bravo, Andy Gibson and  
Paulette Penney

**Great Decisions**  
Pat Alpine and Mary Ruckh

**Happy Hour**  
Kathy Scott and Gayle Wilde

**Movie**  
Carolyn Moore and Gerrie  
Oehlschlager

**Newcomers**  
Elise deWit and Stacy Urban

**Public Policy**  
Julie Custer

**Voter Registration**  
Chris Stokes

**Wine Tasting #1**  
David Scott

**Wine Tasting #2**  
Mike Camp and Elise deWit

**Writing Group**  
Edna Groves



