



AAUW News in the Time of COVID
October 2020 Edition
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AAUW Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through
research, education, and advocacy.

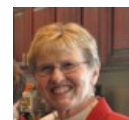
Questions or comments about the newsletter?
Please send them to aauwboise@hotmail.com.

In Memoriam Charlotte Mallet



Charlotte Mallet, an AAUW member since April 17, 1987 and past
state and Boise branch president, passed away on September 28,
2020.

President's Corner
by Norma Lloyd



Hello to everyone out there! Here we are in Fall already, and we had planned to have our first meeting last week. I had hoped we might begin meeting after the first of the year and after a vaccine was developed but now I understand that it will take quite a lot longer to ensure a safe environment again. I may never stand at a meeting and welcome you all, but our President-Elect Mary Mosley will, and I will just enjoy the camaraderie of the social hour and the meeting! Speaking of Mary, [CLICK HERE](#) to read her guest opinion about the impact women voting has had since we received the franchise. I give a shout out to her for her research, knowledge, and craft in writing this piece. I hope you all enjoy it as much as I did.

Because we cannot move around as freely and interact with even our closest loved ones, for the most part, our ZOOM meetings have been something to look forward to, enjoy, and even educate ourselves. Often with input from members, Kathy Scott poses a new question for each of our Wednesday Joyful Visiting (Happy Hour) Zoom times; sometimes, the questions are humorous, sometimes very introspective, and sometimes a combination. The question "What has been your biggest challenge in life?" brought out some interesting and deep thinking, and we gained a greater appreciation of each person who joined the conversation.

I would like to thank Twila Gallaher whose donations of her handmade jewelry have brought delight to some ZOOM meetings and the outdoor zip code groups. The funds from the sale of these charming pieces are split between the Inez Robb Scholarship and What the Vote! Watch for more in the online fundraiser.

Also, welcome to our newest member, Kara Veit! Hope to see you on ZOOM!

Lastly, I would like to thank Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg for all the possibilities she created for women and men through her tireless fight to end discrimination based upon sex. Because of her brilliant mind, we all enjoy more freedom and a better life. *"To make life a little better for people less fortunate than you. That's what I think a meaningful life is. One lives not just for oneself, but for one's community."* RBG

May you all have a meaningful life every day!

Statements From AAUW CEO Kim Churches



On the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg:

America lost one of our most beloved role models, a pioneering jurist and iconic feminist who blazed new trails, not only in her own life, but in the lives of the countless women she championed — and inspired. On behalf of AAUW and its members and supporters who recognized Justice Ginsburg with a 1999 AAUW Achievement Award, we extend our condolences to her family, her colleagues and to every American whose lives and hearts she touched. The nation owes it to her — and to all women — to honor her final wishes and refrain from naming a replacement until after a new president is inaugurated.

On the nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the United States Supreme Court:

When the time is right, it is AAUW's fervent hope that Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg be replaced with a justice who, like her, can be an independent

voice and fierce, fair-minded advocate for American women and their families.

The time is not right. And Judge Amy Coney Barrett is not that person.

With so much at stake, it is more essential than ever that the nominee get a comprehensive and thorough vetting. Given that the election is already underway, with hundreds of thousands of ballots already cast, the timing is insufficient to hold the kind of thoughtful and deliberative hearings that the nominee — and the American people — deserve. AAUW stands staunchly against filling this court vacancy until after the next president is inaugurated in January.

We are also adamantly opposed to the selection of Judge Barrett. While we agree that it's essential to choose a woman for this powerful and distinguished role, women are not interchangeable. We need a justice who is committed to safeguarding our rights and advocating for AAUW's priorities with the track record to prove it. Judge Barrett is not the right person for the lifetime appointment. She is on the wrong side of many of the issues that are central to AAUW's mission of advancing gender equity. Her record of curtailing reproductive freedoms and access to health care, entangling public education and religion, and restricting voting rights does not bode well in ensuring that we have the advocate we need on the highest court in our land.

Programs (Zoom Conversations) by Pam Ahrens and Linda Anderson



By now, hopefully, you have had the opportunity to participate in or listen to one of seven Zoom Conversations our AAUW Boise Branch has conducted over the past few months.

Community leaders have been very generous with their time and willingness to engage in Zoom conversations with AAUW members about current events.

- On **October 14 at 1:00pm Lisa Maatz**, former AAUW Vice President of Public Policy, will talk about 1) the upcoming election and 2) the current vacancy on the United States Supreme Court.
- On **October 27, Natalie Camacho Mendoza**, Director of Police Oversight, Boise, a fourth generation Idahoan, will share her perspective on Growing Up Hispanic in Idaho.
- On **November 10th at 6:30 p.m., Lynda Buehring**, a retired Federal agent and expert on human trafficking, will be our program speaker.

A day or two prior to each future conversation, you will receive an e-mail from Kathy Scott with a link for joining the Zoom meeting. The audio of previous programs is available on the [Members Only tab](#) of our branch website.

Until we can meet in person, the Zoom meetings have proven to be an excellent way for our AAUW members to stay connected and informed.

Please plan to join AAUW members at our next Zoom gathering!

Membership News by Deborah Newton



We have had fairly strong membership renewals this summer. And we have had some new members join us as well. It is important at this strange time that we reach out to each other, and we especially want to welcome those who have just joined AAUW. If you know someone who is new to AAUW Boise, please take the time to invite them to get-togethers where possible.

For new members: Even during COVID, there are ways for you to begin getting to know our members and to become involved in our activities. If you want information on the special interest groups (many of which are meeting virtually), or want to find out about the zip code meetings, or any other information about AAUW Boise, don't hesitate to contact me or any of the officers listed on our website.

You can reach me at dr060185@centurylink.net.

What The Vote! by Chris Stokes and Nancy Viano



COVID-19 has affected every aspect of our lives, and it has truly impacted the way we can get our message to young voters. School districts, teachers, students, and parents have had to adapt to a new "normal" to cope with what used to be routine – right? Well, What the Vote! has had to adapt as well. We have over 100 volunteers who, for the last two years, had been gearing up for an exciting and important election year; however, our activity has been very limited for volunteers.

Community volunteers Amy Steckel and Sue Fillman are working hard to get our new instructional video (See it here <https://vimeo.com/454857874>) shown in high school government classes. Teachers are inundated with new schedules, new ways to educate students, and tons of email so this has not been an easy task. In spite of the challenges, we have learned that Boise High School, and possibly a few others, have shown the instructional video and conducted voter registration activities at the schools.

Christine Donnell is coordinating the Student Advisory Council which has proven to be a challenge, but we do have five excellent, articulate, and engaged students helping us with messaging in the high schools to motivate seniors to register to vote.

In spite of all the challenges, What The Vote! has had some great opportunities, too:

- Gerti Arnold stepped up to coordinate the voter registration activity on college campuses. BSU conducted an all-day registration event on National Voter Registration Day. Volunteers answered the call to pick up and deliver supplies to the college locations at BSU, CWI and C of I where registration activity was planned later in September.



- Madeline White, a reporter with KIVI Channel 6, interviewed us on National Voter Registration Day. [CLICK HERE](#) to see the segment that aired on September 22d on KIVI.
- We were [interviewed by Gemma Gaudette](#) on Boise Public Radio, "Idaho Matters" on September 14th. We were joined by a new Student Advisory Council member, Natalya Solberg from Capitol High School. She was

wonderfully articulate and did a great job representing this younger generation. We continue to be inspired!

- On August 31st, The Northern Rockies News Service [published an article about the program](#).
- Idaho Public TV has been airing the 60 second Public Service Announcement (PSA), and it is expected that the longer instructional video will also be shown. Additionally, the Education Department for IPTV has offered to show the PSA and the longer instructional video on their Education Facebook page. There is a good chance that the video will be shared to all Secondary teachers statewide if the plan to connect with the State Department of Education is successful.

Community volunteer Colleen Neymeyer continues to manage our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [Instagram](#) account and we're hoping more of our AAUW members can check out those sites and "like" them so we can keep those active and growing. AAUW member Roberta Olson and a couple of other volunteers are contributing to content as well.

While COVID-19 has disrupted and changed all our lives, What The Vote! organizers and volunteers continue to meet the challenges. We may not be able to talk directly to the students this year, as we would prefer, and we may not be able to count the registration cards we submit, but lots of positive things are happening. Many AAUW Boise members and community volunteers have made that possible!

REMINDER - REQUEST YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT ! THE DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020

If you haven't already done so, [click here](#) to request your absentee ballot for the November 3 general election.

Numbered: Inside Idaho's Prison for Women by Sylvia Chariton



WHAT: Author Amber Bierle, historic sites administrator for the Idaho State Historical Society, will "Zoom" us about her book that gives voice to nearly a century of female inmates silenced by marginalization. She will discuss the abuse, morality, and self-destructive behavior that drove some Idahoans to deviate from the historical feminine norm. **Numbered** revisits a world dumbfounded by troublesome women. Horrifying at times and elsewhere touchingly funny, the book probes gendered roots of American jurisprudence and the double standard by which penitentiary men and women paid unequal wages for crime. **Numbered** shows how cultural norms and patriarchal systems led to the very different treatment of women in prison. In some ways, the more things change, the more they stay the same. This book is part of the Idaho Women 100 project.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 7th, 4:00 p.m. MDT/3:00 p.m. PDT – Forty-five-minute meeting. Boise Branch virtual Happy Hour to follow. Everyone is welcome!

WHO: Boise Branch members & AAUW Idaho members

On Tuesday morning, October 6th, you will receive an email from Kathy Scott with instructions on how to log on to this Zoom meeting.

Boise State Food Pantry Is Open Again!
by Tracy Bicknell-Holmes



The Boise State Food Pantry has been relocated to a bigger location in the same campus building and has reopened (see [Boise State Food Pantry reopens to students Sept. 8](#)). The Pantry is officially associated with the [Idaho Food Bank](#) so it has a much more reliable source of food than in the past and any donations to the Idaho Food Bank also benefit BSU students.

To manage during a pandemic, there are some changes to procedures, many of which require us to be more intentional about what we are doing:

- The Food Pantry no longer accepts “surprise” donations. **Donations need to be scheduled in advance and arrive at the appointed time** so that staff are available to receive the donation.
- The preference is for **regular deliveries**, such as once a month, every other week, etc. I have suggested that we donate once per month. We still have to figure out how to collect the donations.
- They **prefer working with 1 or 2 people**. I would be happy to remain the AAUW contact and the person who delivers the donation each month.
- The Food Pantry is also trying to make sure that they receive the items most in need and have **asked if we would be willing to focus our donations on specific types of products** such as breakfast items, hygiene items, etc. I have asked a few questions in relation to this. Once I hear back, I will let AAUW Boise leadership know what our options are and make a recommendation.
- Finally, for sanitation purposes, **all donations must be sealed in a container** such as a cardboard box that has been taped shut.

We’re not quite ready to collect and donate food, but we’re getting closer! The Food Pantry staff are very excited that AAUW Boise wants to continue donating and are looking forward to working with us.

If you have questions about the food pantry or other ways you can help our Boise State students, call the Dean of Students Office at 208-426-1527.

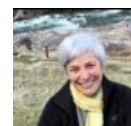
Boise State Food Pantry

<https://www.boisestate.edu/deanofstudents/student-support/food-help/food-pantry/>

Located @ the corner of University Drive & S Brady St; Campus School building, Room 103

Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed on University holidays.

Jewelry Sales Update
by Roberta Olson



Member Twila Gallaher’s lovely jewelry has brought in \$350.00. Funds are being split between What the Vote and the Inez Robb Scholarship Fund. So far \$225.00 to What the Vote and \$135 to Inez Robb (the next round of jewelry sales go to the Inez Robb Scholarship Fund). I would be happy to bring

the jewelry to zip code gatherings (talking circles) or to homes (socially distanced outside) so members may look at it and decide if they want to buy one or more necklaces.

Wish to purchase a necklace for a donation of only \$15 to \$20? Just contact me at 208-473-0117 or robertaolson22@gmail.com.

83714 Zip Code Gathering
by Sylvia Chariton



The 83714 Zip Code Group will be meeting on Thursday, October 22nd at noon at the Bonita Hills Common Area adjacent to Sylvia Chariton's home at 10483 West Shadow Rock Street in Boise. This meeting is open to 83714 members as well as any other folks who wish to attend. **Please** RSVP to sylvia@integratedis.com or text to 208-869-1739.

The bona fide former schoolmarms, Marlys Davenport and Sylvia Chariton, are at it again with a little bit of history and some self-disclosure. Marlys, who went to a country school, would like to discuss her early school days' experience and have you share a bit about yours. Sylvia will plan a strict historical review about Ike and Mamie Eisenhower...and Kay Summersby. Baby, can you drive my car!! Brushing up on some interesting American history will be a good diversion and you might learn a few things you weren't taught in school!

This will be our last 83714 Talking Circle for the year as well as a fond farewell to our snowbird friend, Marlys, who will be flying away on October 23rd for her winter in Arizona. We will all miss her!

STEM News
by Deborah Newton



The [Discovery Center of Idaho](#) has a couple of new programs that are helping promote STEM in Boise. The Young Discoverers program is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Children have a themed story and activity time exploring STEM concepts. This program is for children ages two through five and accompanied by an adult.

Letting off STEAM is an activity involving hands-on exploration of STEM projects. These activities are geared toward children in grades first through sixth. Currently, these activities are centered around the King Tut and Tinker the T-Rex exhibits.

Book Group (Mystery)
by Linda Anderson



The Mystery Book Club meetings are at 6 p.m. on Zoom the second Monday of each month. Kathy Scott sends out a link for the meeting a few days before. We hope you will join us. If you would like to be added to the list, please email Linda Anderson at lcander@pacbell.net.

Here is the schedule:

Monday, October 12th: *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate

Monday, November 9th: *Everywhere That Mary Went* by Lisa Scottoline

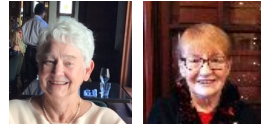
Book Group (Sunday)
by Ann Lewis and Mary Ruckh



The Sunday afternoon Bookclub will next meet via Zoom on October 18th. Our discussion leader will be Penelope Smith and our book is **Astoria** by Peter Stark.

New members are always welcomed and we will soon be voting on the books for 2021. Questions? Call Mary Ruckh 262-212-8839 or Ann Lewis 208-396-1460

Book Group (Thursday)
by Ann Kirkpatrick and Linda Simmons



The AAUW Thursday Evening Book Group has voted to suspend discussions until the coronavirus pandemic is no longer a medical issue for our members.

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

As we monitor the situation, we will submit monthly updates to the AAUW newsletter and we will be in touch with group members by email to keep you apprised of our activities.

Bowling Group
by Stacy Urban



The Bowling Group is in a "Coronabatical" holding pattern!

Bridge Group
by Dena Duncan



The Bridge Group is in a "Coronabatical" holding pattern!

Daytimers Group
by Marsha Bravo



The Daytimers Group is in a "Coronabatical" holding pattern!

Movie Group
by Carolyn Moore and Gerrie
Oehlschlager



The Movie Group is in a "Coronabatical" holding pattern!

Newcomers Group
by Heidi Bogert and Elise deWit



The Newcomers Group is in a "Coronabatical" holding pattern!

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!

Welcome to Kara Veit who joined our branch
in September, 2020.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/01	Lauren Wilson	10/18	Mary Holden
10/03	Deborah Gridley	10/18	Edward Olson
10/06	Gail Nottingham	10/20	Sandra Anderson
10/06	David Scott	10/21	Sheila Robbins
10/08	Kris Doucette	10/22	Marie Macklin
10/11	Kathy Haley	10/23	Sue Rourke
10/12	Ashley Alloway	10/26	Wes Gibson
10/12	Judy Figal	10/27	Jaime Moss
10/12	Edna Groves	10/28	Chuck Slaughter
10/12	Bonnie Pfaff	10/29	Cherie Buckner-Webb
10/13	Linda Kennedy	10/29	Carol Stirling
10/17	Katherine Fleming	10/31	Marie Matera-Clark

OFFICERS

President
Norma Lloyd

President-Elect
Mary Mosley

Vice President, Membership
Deborah Newton

APPOINTED POSITIONS

501(c)3 Compliance Coordinator
Julie Custer

Boise State Food Pantry
Tracy Bicknell-Holmes

Directory (Online)
Julie Custer

Feminine Hygiene Products

Co-Vice Presidents, Programs
Pam Ahrens and Linda Anderson

Finance Officer
Roberta Olson

Finance Officer-Elect
Starr Rausch

Secretary
Beth Popish

Linda Anderson

Funds Chair
Kathy Scott

Goodwill Ambassador
Ann Lewis

Newsletter Editor
David Scott

Nominating Committee
Carolyn Moore, David Scott, and
Stacy Urban

Project Recognition
Carol Fowler

Public Policy
Julie Custer

Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs
Nancy Otterness and Noreen Pusey

Special Events Coordinators
Amie Bruggeman and Stacy Urban

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

STEM Chair
Deborah Newton

Web Editor
Carrie Noriega

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

Great Decisions
Pat Alpine and Mary Ruckh

Happy Hour
Kathy Scott and Gayle Wilde

Movie
Carolyn Moore and Gerrie
Oehlschlager

Newcomers
Heidi Bogert and Elise deWit

Voter Registration
Chris Stokes and Nancy Viano

Wine Tasting #1
David Scott

Wine Tasting #2
Mike Camp and Elise deWit



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