



AAUW Boise News and Events

January 2024

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AAUW Mission

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

Welcome New Member

**SYDNIE MCINTYRE
CAROLYN (CARRIE) ZELLER**

who joined our branch in December 2023.

Co-Presidents' Message **by Ann Lewis and David Scott**

Happy New Year! Looking back, it was quite a year for AAUW and for Idaho. We think we will skip the recap and forge ahead for 2024. January is going to be a busy month for us, what with a branch meeting on the 10th, the State board meeting on the 13th, and then an Idaho Women's March on the 20th.

Let's break this down.

We expect the branch meeting to be a big one and important, given that the speakers are two physicians speaking about women's health care issues and how Idaho legislation has impacted their practices and the ability to attract and hire new physicians in the state.

And then, on January 13th, at the AAUW Idaho State Board Meeting and Legislative Preview, we will focus on energizing our Lobby Corps interest group by having three afternoon speakers: State Senator and President Pro Tem, **Chuck Winder**, State Representative **Chris Mathias**, and **May Roberts**, Policy Analyst, Idaho Center for Fiscal Policy. Being held at the First Presbyterian Church at 950 W State Street (with parking available in the WCA parking lot on W Washington Street), this part of the program will start at 1:00 p.m. We hope that our Lobby Corps members plan to attend and get a heads-up on what is coming this year to the legislature. If you would like to attend but haven't registered yet, you can [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

The Idaho Women's March will begin at the Capitol at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 20th. After several speeches, the group will march in solidarity through downtown Boise for liberty, freedom, and justice. One of their mantras: Give us liberty or leave us alone. We are not sure if we will be marching as an AAUW entity or as private citizens. More to come on that.

We think it is important to make our presence known to the community and to the legislature, always supporting our mission of promoting equity for women and girls. We hope that our Lobby Corps "blue shirts" regain their status during this session of the legislature, and that depends on you, our members. By the way, Lobby Corps is an interest group always accepting new members and, if you need to purchase a blue shirt (currently at \$30), you can order one at the state meeting on the 13th or by contacting Kathy Scott. If you are a member of Lobby Corps, you will receive notifications to meet at the Capitol when there is a pertinent hearing where our presence and/or testimonials would be helpful. It's important!

We wish you all good health and good cheer!

January Branch Meeting

by Sheila Robbins and Fran Voulelis

On January 10, 2024, we are very excited to have two guest speakers who will address the medical community's efforts to bring much needed clarification to Idaho's abortion laws. Our speakers will be [Dr. Kathleen \("KC"\) Keating](#) and [Dr. Caitlin Gustafson](#). Dr. Keating is an Obstetrics and Gynecology specialist practicing at the St. Luke's Boise Woman's Clinic and Dr. Gustafson is a Family Physician with Obstetrics who practices at St. Luke's Payette Lakes Medical Clinic in McCall. These speakers can share first-hand the issues facing patients, doctors, and health organizations who are trying to obtain and provide safe, necessary, and vital medical care to pregnant women throughout the state of Idaho.

There will be time for questions and comments after their presentation. We hope you can attend this important meeting!!

Membership Update **by Pam Cardinale and Beth Popish**

As we start a new year, we ask that you be thinking of those individuals in your life who might benefit from our community of advocates for women and girls. New members come from all walks of life - college students, recent graduates, working women and men, parents, and retirees. The common thread is the belief in the empowerment of women and girls through advocacy, education and research. With work on important issues like education, equal pay, work-life balance, leadership and improving laws for women and their families, AAUW is the perfect way to jump-start a purposeful life in this new year. If you do know of someone who would like to join, please encourage them to apply through the [AAUW Boise Area Branch website](#) either digitally or by mail in order to receive the new member discount for their first year. The discount does not automatically apply if they enroll through the national website.

Help Young Women Succeed **by Kathy Scott**

AAUW Boise Area Branch members have always been so generous with the Boise State Food Pantry that we sometimes forget the young women attending

[Frank Church High School](#). These are young women who are working to obtain their high school diplomas while overcoming major personal obstacles. They need the menstrual products that we donate.

For those of you who may not be familiar with [Frank Church High School](#), it's an alternative high school whose mission is to "promote resilience and perseverance" for those students "who have dropped out or are at risk of dropping out of traditional schools in graduating from high school."

When I think of how embarrassed I was, at that age, to purchase these products, I cannot imagine not being able to attend school because I didn't have access to these products. Or, if at high school age, I was raising a baby and with what those products cost! We need to do everything we can to keep these young women in school and give them the opportunity to graduate.

Branch members attending the January 10, 2024, branch meeting are encouraged to bring a donation of menstrual products. If you are unable to attend the January meeting and would like to make a donation, you can **drop your donation off at my home by January 10, 2024.**

Please donate generously.

Funds Update by Karen Hineman

Hopefully, you all have had a wonderful holiday season of gratitude and sharing and can be equally generous in 2024. We still need a lot more bottles of wine for our April Spring Fling wine grab so please bring your donations to any of the monthly Boise Area Branch meetings or contact [Linda Packer](#) or [me](#) to make other drop off/delivery arrangements. Also, the Fundraising Committee is meeting on Tuesday January 9, 2024 at 12:15 p.m. at the second-floor restaurant/bar in the Albertson's at 1219 S. Broadway Avenue to finalize the Spring Fling program details. Come to drop off your wine or, better yet, stay to help plan or share your ideas on how to make our 2nd Annual Spring Fling event an enjoyable and successful fundraising campaign.

Public Policy Update by Mary Ruckh

Meeting the challenges and demands of the 2024 Idaho legislative session

Please read the co-presidents' message above. And then, plan to attend the AAUW Idaho Legislative Preview on January 13, 2024, to jump-start your engagement with Lobby Corps on a level that suits your strengths and interests ([CLICK HERE](#) to register).

The 2024 legislative session will require our attention to advocate for issues important to our organization.

See you on January 13th!

AAUW Dues Tax Deductibility by Nancy Gray

With the holidays coming to a close, tax season is right around the corner. It's never fun, but we can offer you a bit of good news! Part of your AAUW membership dues for CY2023 are tax deductible. Here's a breakdown of the dues cost and how much you can deduct:

- New Member Dues: \$69.50
 - Tax Deductible: \$60.50 (\$34.50 for National and \$26 for Branch)
- Renewing Member Dues: \$113
 - Tax Deductible: \$95 (\$69 for National and \$26 for Branch)
- Lifetime Member Dues: \$41
 - Tax Deductible: \$26 (for Branch)

National AAUW is working to increase the amount you can deduct for CY25 tax year by \$3. Stay tuned for an announcement and more details from National next Spring.

For questions, please feel free to contact me at nkgray@frontiernet.net or members of the Board.

Book Group (Mystery) by Linda Anderson

The Mystery Book Group will meet Monday, January 8, at 6:00 p.m. at the

home of Fran Voulelis, 1802 N. 18th Street. The book is The Last Bus to Woodstock by Colin Dexter. This is the first book in his Inspector Morse series. Fran will lead the discussion. Please bring whatever you want to drink and an appetizer to share.

To be added to our mailing list, please send your name to s.linda.anderson@gmail.com.

We hope you will join us!

Book Group (Sunday) - In Person by Carolyn Lunstrum

The AAUW Sunday afternoon in-person book group will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 21st at the Pioneer Federal Credit Union building, 2350 S Broadway Avenue, Boise. We will discuss Tom Lake by Ann Patchett.

We will meet on Sunday, February 18th to discuss "Four Treasures of the Sky" by Jenne Ting Hui Zhang.

Book Group (Sunday) - Zoom by Valerie Steffen

The book for January is The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat by Dr. Oliver Sacks. We will meet via Zoom at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 21st. If you would like to join this group, please contact [Kathy Scott](#) or [Valerie Steffen](#) to be added to the list.

Book Group (Thursday) by Linda Simmons

The AAUW Thursday Evening Book Group will meet on January 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the Ada Community Library, 10664 W. Victory Rd. in Boise. Kris Hooker will be the discussion facilitator. The book we are reviewing is CASTE by Isabel Wilkerson.

Bowling News

by Karen Haven and Deborah Newton

The bowling group is finding more ways to have a good time and raise money for STEM at the same time. Last month, two of our members picked up very difficult spares. We were all so excited that we each donated additional money to the STEM jar. In addition, rumor has it that David Scott might clean your bowling ball for an additional donation.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month, 10 a.m. at Westy's on Chinden. Come have fun, get some exercise, and benefit STEM. Hope to see more of you in 2024. Happy New Year.

Deborah Newton: Deborahnewton59@gmail.com

Karen Haven: Lambeaurocks66@hotmail.com

Daytimers Group

by Marsha Bravo and Roberta Olson

AAUW Daytimers Group

February 7, 2024

3:00-4:30 pm

House of Wine

1008 W Main St, Downtown Boise

Class: Pairing Wine and Food

\$60.00 (deadline to register is January 15th)

Make checks payable to Joan Wallace

Venmo

@Joan-Wallace-26

or mail your check to Joan Wallace

4023 N. Delmonte Dr

Boise, ID 83704

Or bring your check to the January 10th AAUW Boise Branch General Meeting

Thank you, Joan Wallace and Valerie Ward!

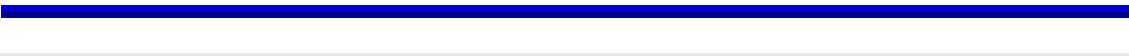
Movie Group
by Pat Alpine

Happy New Year!

Carole Skinner, the owner of The Flicks, has told me that our group can meet either on Saturdays or Sundays. Because of the upcoming AAUW State Board meeting on Saturday January 13, 2024, we will meet Sunday, January 14, 2024. We will see the first showing “American Fiction.” Time TBD..

“American Fiction” is a 2023 American comedy-drama film written and directed by Cord Jefferson, in his feature directorial debut. Based on the 2001 novel Erasure by Percival Everett, the film follows a frustrated novelist-professor who jokingly writes an outlandishly stereotypical “Black” book out of spite, only for the book to be published and receive widespread fame and acclaim. It stars Jeffrey Wright, Tracee Ellis-Ross, Issa Rae, Sterling K. Brown John Ortiz, Erika Alexander, Leslie Uggams, Adam Brody, and Keith David. Everett is also an executive producer on the film alongside Rian Johnson

“American Fiction” premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival on September 8, 2023, where it won the People’s Choice Award. It received a limited theatrical release by Amazon MGM Studios on December 15, 2023, with an expansion on December 22, 2023. It was named one of the top 10 films of 2023 by the American Film Institute and has been nominated for two Golden Globe Awards.



BRANCH BOARD		APPOINTED POSITIONS	
ELECTED OFFICERS		Boise State Campus Food Pantry Kathy Scott	
Co-Presidents Ann Lewis and David Scott		Directory (DirectorySpot) Julie Custer	
President-Elect Martha Lund		Goodwill Ambassador Gerrie Oehlschlager	
Co-Vice Presidents, Membership Pam Cardinale and Beth Popish		Inez Robb Scholarship Committee Chair	

Co-Vice Presidents, Programs

Sheila Robbins and Fran Voulelis

Finance Officer

Sally Stone

Finance Officer-Elect

Nancy Gray

Secretary

Jan Bracken

APPOINTED MEMBERS**501(c)(3) Compliance****Administrator**

Julie Custer

Funds Chair

Karen Hineman

Public Policy Chair

Mary Ruckh

Nancy Otterness

Menstrual Products

Ashley Alloway

Newsletter Editor

David Scott

Nominating Committee

Gerti Arnold, Tracy Bicknell-Holmes,
and Norma Lloyd

Ready Idaho Coalition

Patty Underwood

Service Recognition Scholarship

Norma Lloyd

Social Media

TBD

Special Events Coordinator

Amie Bruggeman

STEM Chair

Deborah Newton

Web Editor

Gail Kirkpatrick

ZOOM Coordinator

Kathy Scott

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP COORDINATORS**Books, Mystery**

Linda Anderson

Books, Sunday Afternoon

Carolyn Lunstrum (in person)
Valerie Steffen (Zoom)

Books, Thursday Evening

Linda Simmons

Bowling

Karen Haven and Deb Newton

Lobby Corps

Mary Mosley and Mary Ruckh

Movies

Pat Alpine

Needleworkers

Donna Looze

Newcomers

Ardele Hanson

Bridge

David Scott (Interim coordinator)

Daytimers

Marsha Bravo and Roberta Olson

Great Decisions

Mary Ruckh (in person)

Kathy Scott (Zoom)

Happy Hour

Kathy Scott

Wine Tasting #1

David Scott

Wine Tasting #2

Mike Camp and Elise deWit

Wine Tasting #3

Gail Kirkpatrick

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Wine Tasting #2

Mike Camp and Elise deWit

Wine Tasting #3

Gail Kirkpatrick

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