

# AAUW



## Boise Area (ID) Branch

**AAUW Boise News and Events**

**April 2024**

<https://boise-id.aauw.net/>

[View this email in your browser](#)

### **AAUW Mission**

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

---

### **Welcome New Members**

**JUDY BEESON  
TERRI MUSE**

**who joined our branch in March 2024.**

---

### **Co-Presidents' Message**

**by Ann Lewis and David Scott**

Spring has sprung and we are ready for it! We want to shout out a special thanks to our stalwart members who spent their time this winter going to and/or

---

testifying at the committee meetings at the capitol, writing emails and letters to representatives, and facing adversity while expressing their opinions consistent with our mission of supporting equity for women and girls. It's tough duty but it is so important to let the majority know that we are here and watching.

We hope that you have purchased your tickets for the Spring Gala. It's just around the corner and you really don't want to miss it! We had so much fun last year and this upcoming event promises to provide a very good time. As well as spending time with your old and new friends, we will meet and hear from last year's Inez Robb scholarship recipient as well as from this year's two Service Recognition Award winners. We can see just where our donations go and why we do what we do. The Funds Committee has done an excellent job gathering silent auction items that will give members and guests a chance for wining, dining, and hatchet throwing throughout the summer.

We also want to say thank you for the general support we have gotten this year from many of our members who have raised the level of attendance at our meetings to pre-Covid levels. Our program vice presidents and the board work very hard to provide the best speakers on pertinent topics and your support enables us to continue this important function for our branch. We have such a great group of women and men in this organization and we continue to grow every month.

As mentioned at the March 2024 branch meeting, a national AAUW bylaws change to delete the eligibility requirement of a college degree is being presented to the entire membership of AAUW. Please read Nancy Gray's article below for more information about this important proposal.

Cheers to you all!

---

### **"Open Up AAUW" Membership** by Nancy Gray

Voting to open AAUW membership to anyone who supports our mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy, regardless of education, will begin April 3d. Those with email addresses on file with National AAUW will receive an email with instructions on how to vote. Others will be sent paper ballots in early April. Voting ends at noon on May 15th, and results will be announced later that day.

The AAUW Boise Area Branch Board and AAUW Idaho's State Board have endorsed this resolution to change our bylaws. By opening our membership to

anyone who is committed to our mission, we will be able to attract many talented members who might otherwise have been excluded. We hope you will take the time to vote in favor of eliminating the degree requirement for membership. For more information, please go to [www.openupaauw.org](http://www.openupaauw.org).

---

### **Spring Fling Update** by Karen Hineman

Only 10 more days until our annual Spring Fling Gala! Hope you and your friends have or will sign up for the April 10 event. Deadline for registration is April 4th. There will be plenty of silent auction items, signups for member-donated fun dinners and events, 100 bottles of wine and raffle baskets to take your chances on winning. I can't thank you all and the local community enough for all the generous donations! Let's not forget the delicious appetizer and dessert buffets so bring your appetites as well! See you on April 10th at the Riverside.

---

### **Meet The Scholarship Recipients** by Sheila Robbins and Fran Voulelis

We hope to see all of our AAUW members and their guests at the Gala on April 10! While we will not have a formal agenda, we will have our scholarship recipients speak to our group. They are:

Ohana Wright: Inez Robb Scholarship

Isabella Deckelman: Service Recognition - Renaissance High School

Sierra Robles: Service Recognition - Kuna High School

We are excited to hear from them!

---

### **Check Out The Updated Branch Facebook Page** by Jamie Richmond

If you haven't visited, *followed*, *liked*, *commented*, or *shared* a Boise Branch Facebook (FB) post lately, WHY NOT?

The AAUW Boise Area Branch does incredibly important work for women and girls' equity and having our members react (*comment*, *like*, *share*) to our posts is a fantastic way for us to reach far beyond our members and share the

issues, information, and AAUW's efforts with a wider audience.

Please finish reading this newsletter, and then immediately go to our fresh FB page (complete with new AAUW brand colors) at <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWBoiseAreaBranch/> and FOLLOW our page. Scroll back through last month's posts and *like*, *comment*, and *share* them. Don't forget to check every day for new posts to *share*, *comment*, and *like*! If you don't have a FB account, don't worry, anyone can access our content and you can direct people to our FB page or text or email the FB link and they can access all of our content too!

Our branch's newly formed FB team is working diligently to keep bringing you timely information on topics of interest, events, and classes. You can also help us by reaching out to me with events, articles, ideas, and pictures that you think would be great for our FB page.

Don't forget to frequently *comment*, *share*, and *like* us.

---

### **Lobby Corps Update** by Mary Ruckh

#### **And that's a wrap....or the 2024 Idaho legislative session isn't done**

It has been an incredibly difficult legislative session as we worked on our 2024 priority issues - healthcare for women, libraries, education vouchers/tax credits, and voting rights. We just didn't fare that well this year. As I write this article, the legislature has not gone sine di and the last two weeks of the session were held at breakneck speed, sometimes bills disappeared, and some were resurrected numerous times, heard in strategically chosen committees, and legislative leaders worked in plain sight as well as hidden behind caucus doors and offices. However, AAUW Boise Branch members were busy at their keyboards writing email after email to committees and the House and Senate, and sometimes we showed up to testify in person. We must remain part of the great democratic process that is the Idaho legislature and never cede the legislative arena to anyone. They are we and we are they, whether they or we like it or not.

Thanks for receiving and acting on texts late in the session and for showing up in the committee rooms. Often there is no other way to be part of the process.

Here are a few bills that passed and a few that didn't pass consistent with

---

AAUW goals:

### **Bills Passed**

S1234 - Birth Control More Accessible

H399 - Maternal Mortality Review Committee

H633 - Medicaid support for pregnancy and post partum

### **Bills defeated**

H415/S1418 - Guns in Schools

H419 - Repeal of Medicaid Expansion

H447 - Tax credit school vouchers

H667 - Eliminate no excuse absentee voting (maybe)

See you next January unless something important pops up sooner!

---

### **Book Group (Mystery) by Linda Anderson**

The Mystery Book Group will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 8th, in Linda Anderson's condo, 323 W Jefferson St., #506. The book is Bruno, Chief of Police: A Novel of the French Countryside by Martin Walker. Wendy Rancourt 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](mailto: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, April 21st, at the Pioneer Federal Credit Union building, 2350 S. Broadway Avenue, Boise, to discuss "The Maid" by Nita Prose.

The group will meet again on May 19th to discuss "The First Ladies" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

---

---

**Book Group (Sunday) - Zoom**  
by Valerie Steffen

Please join the AAUW Zoomer Book Group via Zoom at 2:00pm-3:30pm, MT, Sunday, April 21, 2024. We'll hold a lively discussion of "Into the Forest A Holocaust Story of Survival, Triumph, and Love" by Rebecca Frankel, facilitated by Patty Underwood.

We welcome all visitors!

We meet virtually: Request a Zoom invitation by sending your name and email address to via email (valerie@electric-logic.com) or text (208-343-0628) at least one week before the scheduled Sunday meeting.

---

**Book Group (Thursday)**  
by Linda Simmons

The AAUW Thursday Evening Book Group will meet on April 11th at 6:30 p.m., at the Ada County Library (corner of Five Mile Road and Victory Road). Kris Hooker will be the discussion facilitator. The book we are reviewing is "The Poisonwood Bible" by Barbara Kingsolver.

---

**Daytimers Group**  
by Marsha Bravo and Roberta Olson

**Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology**

2455 Old Penitentiary Road.

Sunday, April 7th

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Admission \$5.00 + fee= \$7.18 total

**The American West: Tectonic Assembly of the North American Cordillera**

**Dr. Terry S. Maley** will lecture about a succession of accretion events during the last 160 million years that led to the tectonic assembly of the present American West. Photos and charts are included. **1 PM** at Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology, 2455 Old Penitentiary Rd. General-\$5 plus Eventbrite fee

(total \$7.18). IMMIG members and mature youth are free. Pre-registration is required. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

Email Roberta if you plan to attend. [robertaolson22@gmail.com](mailto:robertaolson22@gmail.com)

---

### **Movie Group by Pat Alpine**

We will meet Sunday, April 21 at The Flicks in downtown Boise. We will be seeing and discussing *Housekeeping for Beginners*.

Director Goran Stolevski (*You Won't Be Alone*) explores the universal truths of family, both the ones we're born into and the ones we find for ourselves. Dita (Anamaria Marinca) never wanted to be a mother, but circumstances force her to raise her girlfriend's two daughters, tiny troublemaker Mia and rebellious teen Vanesa. A battle of wills ensues as the three continue to butt heads and become an unlikely family that must fight to stay together. In Macedonian with English Subtitles. (NR)

"A fizzy, huggable portrait of a self-made, roughly blended queer family." Leslie Felperin, *Hollywood Reporter*.

107 Minutes. Time TBD

NOTE: This will be the last movie group meeting I will be able to organize and attend. I am having hip replacement surgery on April 29th. I am not sure that I will be recovered enough in May to attend a movie. If someone else is interested in organizing the movie for May, please let me know.

---

### **Newcomers Group by Ardele Hanson**

There will be no Newcomers meeting in April. I want to encourage all members, new and old, to attend the Gala on April 10th. And invite your spouse, partner, and friends!

---

## **BRANCH BOARD**

### **ELECTED OFFICERS**

#### **Co-Presidents**

Ann Lewis and David Scott

#### **President-Elect**

Martha Lund

#### **Co-Vice Presidents, Membership**

Pam Cardinale and Beth Popish

#### **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

## **APPOINTED POSITIONS**

#### **Boise State Campus Food Pantry**

Kathy Scott

#### **Directory (DirectorySpot)**

Julie Custer

#### **Goodwill Ambassador**

Gerrie Oehlschlager

#### **Inez Robb Scholarship Committee Chair**

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**

Jamie Richmond

#### **Special Events Coordinator**

Amie Bruggeman

#### **STEM Chair**

Deborah Newton

#### **Web Editor**

Gail Kirkpatrick

#### **ZOOM Coordinator**

Kathy Scott

---



Questions or comments about the newsletter?  
Please send them to [aauwboise@hotmail.com](mailto:aauwboise@hotmail.com).

---

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
AAUW Boise Area Branch · P. O. Box 16548 · Boise, ID 83715 · USA

