

AAUW Boise News and Events October 2024

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AAUW Mission

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

Welcome New Members

JAN BOUCH
JULIE HOWARD
JENNY TELLEZ

who joined our branch in September 2024.

President's Message by Martha Lund



Greetings! The evenings are getting cooler, so fall must be here! And you know what that means—election time! AAUW is a nonpartisan organization, but that doesn't mean we can't encourage people to vote! I want to give a big shout out to our member Jamie Richmond, who has been our Facebook guru and has been loudly promoting "get out the vote" on Facebook. It is our responsibility and privilege as citizens to exercise our right to vote and encourage our friends and family to do the same!

Our October meeting should be fascinating! Our member Robyn Achilles will be talking about the <u>Minidoka War Relocation Center</u>, located here in Idaho, where thousands of Japanese Americans were interred during World War II.

The meeting will be somewhat of an experiment. It is a happy hour meeting, meaning it will be earlier than usual, and with finger foods rather than a sit-down dinner. There are two main reasons for trying this. First, for people who would rather have dinner with their families, this allows them to get home in time and attend the meeting only without partaking in the food. Second, the price of the meeting with finger food is slightly cheaper than a sit-down dinner would cost. Please give me or Ann Lewis, who is our liaison with the Riverside venue, your feedback so we can know if this is something we want to try more often.

I want to remind folks that the November meeting is dedicated to raising funds for the <u>AAUW Boise Area Inez Robb Scholarship Fund</u>, which gives a scholarship to a female Boise State University student to cover one semester's tuition. We have had very impressive recipients of this award and this year is no exception. I will go over the history of this scholarship as well as our recipient's accomplishments at the November meeting.

Hope to see all of you in October!

September Branch Meeting by Amy Taivalkoski and Fran Voulelis





In February 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order that moved nearly 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans into 10 isolated war relocation centers in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. One of those relocation centers was in Minidoka, Idaho.

The Minidoka War Relocation Center operated from 1942 to 1945 as one of the ten camps at which Japanese Americans, both citizens and resident "aliens", were interned during World War II. Under provisions of President Franklin Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066, all persons of Japanese ancestry were excluded from the west coast of the United States. At its peak, Minidoka housed 9,397 Japanese Americans, predominantly from Oregon, Washington, and Alaska.

The internment camp site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 10, 1979. A national monument was established in 2001 at the site by President Bill Clinton on January 17.

Today, in conjunction with the <u>Friends of Minidoka</u>, the site preserves the legacy of those interned. <u>Friends of Minidoka</u> is dedicated to education, research and the historic preservation of the WWII incarceration experience. By partnering with the <u>Minidoka National Historic site</u>, <u>Friends of Minidoka</u> strives to pass on the history, legacy and lesson of civil liberties.

At our October meeting, we will hear from Robyn Achilles, Executive Director of <u>Friends of Minidoka</u>, and Shannon Reagan, Project Manager, about this incredible project. We hope that you can join us!

Are You a New Member? by Sue Bolen and Beth Popish





If you've joined the AAUW Boise branch within the last couple years, we encourage you to consider joining Newcomers, one of our branch's many special interest groups. Led by Ardele Hanson, with the help of the membership team, this monthly group allows members to meet others new to the organization to form more personal relationships than the general meeting might allow. Each month there will be a brief overview of one aspect of AAUW so that by year's end you will have a comprehensive understanding of the history, goals, structure and special projects of our unique organization. The group typically meets at members' homes with wine and appetizers contributed by all who attend. If you are interested in attending, but didn't get a chance to sign up at the September meeting, please email Ardele at ardele54@gmail.com.



Many of you may not be familiar with the work done by the <u>STEM Action Center</u> in Boise. Over the next few months, I would like to provide information on all of their efforts to improve STEM opportunities in the Treasure Valley.

The Action Center has programs for students of all ages. They partner with schools and educators throughout Idaho and have worked to increase awareness of the importance of STEM education. They have developed criteria for a STEM diploma program for high school seniors. According to their website, "Giving students the opportunity to earn a STEM Diploma not only affords them a competitive advantage, but also provides industry and higher education with important information regarding a student's qualifications that can impact his/her placement and potential career path." Students can earn a STEM diploma even if their school does not offer the specific STEM diploma. In addition, students who earn a STEM diploma are eligible to apply for one of ten \$3,000 scholarships.

For more information on the STEM diploma and scholarships, visit the STEM Action Center website: https://stem.idaho.gov/stem-id/.

Book Group (Mystery) by Linda Anderson



The Mystery Book Club will meet on Monday, October 14, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Laura Simic, 3968 E. Hardesty Street. The book is *Iron Lake* by William Kent Kreuger, the first in his Cork O'Connor series. Linda Anderson will lead the discussion. Please bring whatever you want to drink and an appetizer to share with the group. We hope to see you there!



The Sunday afternoon in-person book group will meet at the Pioneer Federal Credit Union building, 2350 S. Broadway Avenue in Boise, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 20, to discuss *Fever in the Heartland* by Timothy Egan. The group will meet again on November 17 to discuss "The Women" by Kristen Hannah.

Book Group (Sunday) - Zoom by Valerie Steffen



Please join the AAUW Zoomer Book Group via Zoom at 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m, MT, Sunday, October 20, 2024. We'll hold a lively discussion of *The Last Honest Man* by James Risen, facilitated by Ruthann Sutton.

We welcome all visitors!

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

Book Group (Thursday) by Linda Simmons



The Thursday Evening AAUW Book Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on October 10th. Hazel Reed will be hosting and facilitating the discussion of *The Keeper of Hidden Books* by Madeline Martin. Hazel's address is 11608 W Musket Court, Boise.

Bowling Group by Karen Haven and Deb Newton





The bowling group is still meeting on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month. We meet at 10 a.m. at Westy's. The bowling group has added a few new members and we hope to continue growing as the year progresses. Whether you are a great bowler (and we do have a few of those) or not so great (and we do have a few of those), we promise you will have a good time if you join us.

If you have any questions, please contact Deb or Karen at the addresses below:

Deborah Newton: Deborahnewton59@gmail.com

Karen Haven: Karihaven1952@gmail.com

Day Trippers Group by Marsha Bravo and Roberta Olson





October 25 we will be visiting the Minidoka War Relocation Center for a special tour of the Center. Thank you, M.J. Durant, for this suggestion and David Scott for introducing us to Robyn Achilles.

Robyn has set up the special tour for our group. We will carpool to the Center. **Volunteers to drive?** It is approximately a two-hour drive to the Center from Boise.

We're looking for volunteers to carpool to the Center. Contact Roberta (text 208-473-0117) or Marsha (text: 208-859-6284) if you are willing to drive a carload of fun AAUW Day Trippers!

Movie Group by Marcy Embry and Gerrie Oehlschlager





The Boise Film Festival will be having its inaugural year at The Flicks October

11th - 13th. We are still working out details about that weekend. When we find out more, we will send an email to the group. Click here to learn more about the festival.

Newcomers Group by Ardele Hanson



Newcomers will meet on October 17th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Patty Underwood's home located at 5167 N Northwall Avenue in Boise.

If you are planning on attending please give me a call, a text, or an email. Ardele Hanson: 208-308-0062 or ardele54@gmail.com. There is no need to do anything if you are not coming - please!

If you do come, remember this is a potluck Happy Hour. Bring a simple nosh to share, and something to drink. Patty, our hostess, will supply the plates, napkins, cutlery, and glasses.

We will have two presenters at this meeting so you get a two-fer!

Mary Ruckh will present on Lobby Corps. This is a great Special Interest Group of AAUW where the members go to the legislative sessions and many will testify. Others are there for support. but everyone wears the same blue shirt and all sit together. It's quite an impressive group from what I have heard.

Ann Lewis will also be present and talk to us about the scholarship programs that AAUW supports. There was a question about this last month and Martha was very helpful as she answered.

These will be both great programs and there will be a lot of good information.

And, I'd like to emphasize that Newcomers is open to all members. Newcomers are especially invited and encouraged to attend as many of these meetings as will fit their schedules. It's a great way to make connections that can impact lives.

Our September meeting was very enjoyable. Martha Lund has a lovely back yard where we gathered and talked. Marsha Bravo gave us an overview of the

newly rebranded Day Trippers Group! There are many wonderful new members to whom we were introduced and we were able to share a bit about ourselves. Plus, the spread of food and drinks that people brought was outstanding! If you missed the meeting, you missed a good one!

So, put October 17th on your calendars, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., 5167 N Northwall Avenue. See you then. Only RSVP if you can make it!

BRANCH BOARD

APPOINTED POSITIONS

ELECTED OFFICERS

President Martha Lund

President-Elect Sheila Robbins

Co-Vice Presidents, Membership Sue Bolen and Beth Popish

Co-Vice Presidents, Programs Amy Taivalkoski and Fran Voulelis

Finance Officer Christie Bradley

Finance Officer-Elect Tracy Bicknell-Holmes

SecretaryJan Bracken

APPOINTED MEMBERS

501(c)(3) Compliance Administrator Julie Custer

Funds Chair Heidi Bogert

Boise State Campus Food Pantry

Kathy Scott

Directory (DirectorySpot)

Julie Custer

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Julie Custer and Jamie Richmond

Goodwill Ambassador Gerrie Oehlschlager

Inez Robb Scholarship Committee Chair

Nancy Otterness

Membership Administrator

Nancy Gray

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

Leah Whiteman

Public Policy Chair

Mary Ruckh

Special Events Coordinator

Ann Lewis

STEM Chair

Deb 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

Bridge

David Scott (Interim coordinator)

Daytimers

Marsha Bravo and Roberta Olson

Great Decisions

Mary Ruckh (in person) Kathy Scott (Zoom)

Happy Hour

Kathy Scott

Lobby Corps

Mary Mosley and Mary Ruckh

Mahjongg

Sandy Merz

Movies

Marcy Embry and Gerrie Oehlschlager

Needleworkers

Donna Looze

Newcomers

Ardele Hanson

Wine Tasting #1

David Scott

Wine Tasting #2

Mike Camp and Elise deWit

Wine Tasting #3

Gail Kirkpatrick

Please send them to aauwboise@hotmail.com.

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