



AAUW Boise News and Events
December 2024
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AAUW Mission

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

Welcome New Members

**SARAH DEL GRANDE
MYFANWY DEVOE
KATHLEEN MICHAUD
AMY NACK
GLENDA TALBUTT**

who joined our branch in November 2024.

**President's Message
by Martha Lund**



Happy holidays! This month's meeting is all about celebrating. We will have [Artisans for Hope](#) back again, as well as [Dunia](#), which sells Fair Trade items. So, bring your credit cards and get your holiday shopping done with us!

As I said in last month's meeting, some of us are grieving and in shock because of events over the last month. Please be kind to everyone, support each other, and remain active. Having a supportive community and remaining involved in civic functions is so important now! If you aren't involved in an AAUW Boise [interest group](#), now is the time to join one and get to know your fellow members better, along with enjoying the group activities. New members, the [interest groups](#) are included in my welcome letter. Just contact the leader listed or just show up to the next function. The names of the leaders are included at the bottom of this newsletter.

The legislative session is almost upon us. Information about the upcoming state meeting, which includes Lobby Corps information, is included in Mary Mosley's article below. This session will be crucial, especially for public education, and even though it seems at times that our input is ignored, it is so important to be a voice of support for our public teachers and educators! Most of us joined to feel like we are making a difference in the world, and Lobby Corps is our way of trying to do that.

I'll see you at the holiday luncheon and I hope you had a happy Thanksgiving!

November Branch Meeting
by Amy Taivalkoski and Fran Voulelis



We are excited for the December Holiday Luncheon! This will be a great opportunity for our members to connect and spend time catching up with friends and colleagues. This year, as in years past, [Artisans for Hope](#) will be on hand to sell their wonderful handcrafted items. And, in addition to [Artisans for Hope](#), we are thrilled to have a "pop-up" market sponsored by [Dunia](#), a fair-

trade marketplace. They will feature ethically handcrafted items sourced from artists around the globe.

Both groups will be set up in the Fireside Foyer so we can spend time perusing all the items they have to offer. Be sure and bring a credit card, cash or check, as this will be a great opportunity to shop for family and friends who are sure to enjoy the unique and varied items these artisans have created. You'll also have an opportunity to purchase Holiday items handmade by our own AAUW Knitters group.

[Artisans for Hope](#) Executive Director Fran Caprai and [Dunia](#) Executive Director JamieLou Develan, will be on hand to tell us about the work their organizations do to help refugees develop the skills needed for independence and success in our community and to support fair trade artisans around the world.

We look forward to seeing you on the 7th!

Boise State Campus Food Pantry
by Kathy Scott



For many of us, the world feels full of uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. One way I combat my uncertainty is to provide help and give where I can, where I know my contributions will make a difference. The [Boise State Campus Food Pantry](#) is one of those places.

The staff at the [Campus Food Pantry](#) is always so appreciative of our branch's donations. I have never visited the Food Pantry when there haven't been students in the store picking up food, so let's dig deep when we bring food items to the December 7th Holiday Luncheon. At this time of year the Campus Food Pantry has a specific need for pasta-related products as listed below:

- Pasta noodles
- Pasta sauces (tomato, Alfredo, pesto)
- Shelf-stable parmesan cheese

If you will be unable to attend the December 7th Holiday Luncheon, but would like to make a donation, you can drop your donation off by December

6, 2024, at my home: 1088 E Fleetwood Ct, Boise. If I'm not home, you can leave it on my porch.

The [Boise State Campus Food Pantry](#) will accept other foods, but let's meet their specific need for the upcoming holiday and bury them in pasta-related foods!

Remember, HUNGRY students don't learn as easily as well-nourished students.

Membership Update
by Sue Bolen and Beth Popish



The AAUW Boise Area Branch website (boise-id.aauw.net) contains a wealth of information regarding our branch's activities, upcoming meetings, current leadership, etc. In addition, the website also includes a MEMBERS ONLY page, where you will find past copies of the branch membership directories, calendars and newsletters. Within the NONPROFIT ARCHIVES section you can access minutes from past board and branch meetings, branch budgets, and membership rosters.

To protect the privacy of our members, the MEMBERS ONLY and NONPROFIT ARCHIVES sections are password-protected and changed at the beginning of each fiscal year. To get the password, send a request to [AAUW Boise](#). The next time you have some time, we hope you will take a few minutes to become familiar with our website to stay current. Don't forget to mention the site when visiting with potential members who would like more information about AAUW.

News from Lobby Corps
by Mary Mosley



SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 11, 2025
STATE BOARD MEETING AND LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW

The Winter Board Meeting and Legislative Preview will be held on January 11, 2025, at First Presbyterian Church, 950 W State Street in Boise from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 pm. The state board meeting will be in the morning from 10:00 - 11:00 am. All AAUW members are welcome to attend.

Lunch is from 11:00 to 12:30 on your own. There are many good restaurants near the church.

The afternoon session will begin at 12:30 p.m. and is open to all AAUW members. Members of AAUW Lobby Corps are particularly urged to attend since we will be planning for the 2025 legislative session. There will be speakers and discussion of how we may be most effective in our lobbying. We have invited speakers from the [Idaho Education Association](#) to talk about how we can best work to keep our tax dollars from going to private schools. We are also hoping to get a nationally known journalist to speak about the political climate via Zoom.

You can find AAUW's public policy priorities here ([AAUW Public Policy Priorities](#)) and our stance on public funding of public education here ([Where We Stand: School Vouchers](#)).

We encourage everyone to attend to learn what is expected in the 2025 legislative session and how to best influence our legislators.

STEM News
by Deborah Newton



The [Discovery Center of Idaho](#) has a great exhibit going on right now: The World's Largest Dinosaurs. This provides an "in-depth look at the enormous sauropods of the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods." The exhibit focuses on the biology and behavior of these huge creatures.

Also currently happening at the [Discovery Center](#) is the [Young Discoverers program](#). This is a weekly program that explores STEAM concepts with children ages 3-5. For older kids, there will be camps this winter. These are two-day camps focusing on ocean depths and space exploration. There is something for everyone at the Discovery Center and it is a great way to keep kids

engaged in learning over the Christmas break.

Book Group (Mystery)
by Linda Anderson



The Mystery Book Club will meet on Monday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m., at the home of Linda Anderson, 323 W Jefferson, # 506. The book is *The Last Child* by John Hart. Laura Simic will lead the discussion. To be added to our list, please email Linda Anderson at s.linda.anderson@gmail.com.

Book Group (Sunday) - In Person
by Carolyn Lunstrum



The Sunday afternoon in-person book group will meet at the Pioneer Federal Credit Union Building, 2350 S. Broadway Avenue, Boise, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, 2024, to discuss *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. The group will meet again on January 15, 2025, to discuss *North Woods* by Daniel Mason.

Book Group (Sunday) - Zoom
by Valerie Steffen



The Sunday Zoom group will not meet in December, taking a break and gearing up for our January 2025 meeting.

We welcome all visitors! We meet virtually: Request a Zoom invitation by sending your name and email address to 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 Thursday Evening AAUW Book Group will meet at 6:30 pm on December 12. Kris Hooker will be facilitating the discussion of *Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. The meeting will be held at the Library! at Hillcrest, 5246 W Overland in Boise.

Bowling Group
by Karen Haven and Deborah Newton



The bowling group is growing – at our last meet, we had 13 bowlers. That is four lanes and lots of fun. And, to top it off, we turned in \$49.00 for STEM.

Everyone is welcome to come and get a little exercise and have a good time. We meet at Westy's in Garden City, 10:00 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. For more information, contact Karen (Karihaven1952@gmail.com) or Deb (Deborahnewton59@gmail.com).





Members of **Day Trippers Group** tour the Idaho Statehouse

Movie Group
by Marcy Embry and Gerrie
Oehlschlager



Please join us December 8th at the Flicks for the first showing* of [Nightbitch](#). (Don't let the name scare you - it's a comedy starring the amazing Amy Adams.)

*Times for this movie will not be listed until December 5th.

Newcomers Group
by Ardele Hanson



The December Newcomers will be held on December 19th at 4:00 p.m. It will be held at Karen Hineman's home: 2430 N Claremont Dr. People attending should bring an appetizer to share and something to drink. Karen will supply plates, glasses, napkins, and cutlery.

There is no program scheduled for this meeting. We are going to do a small gift exchange. Participants should bring a wrapped or bagged gift to exchange (\$10.00-\$20.00 limit). This will be a fun evening of visiting and noshing.

November's meeting was held at Beth Popish's home. We had 15 people attending. Deb Newton gave us some great information about STEM and AAUW. These meetings are great fun and a wonderful way to meet new members and for new members (and old!) to find out more about AAUW.

I hope to see many of you at Karen's on the 19th.



Monthly gathering of **Wine Group #2**

BRANCH BOARD

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

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Boise State Campus Food Pantry

Kathy Scott

Directory (DirectorySpot)

Julie Custer

Facebook

Julie Custer and Jamie Richmond

Goodwill Ambassador

Gerrie Oehlschlager

**Inez Robb Scholarship Committee
Chair**

Nancy Otterness

Finance Officer

Christie Bradley

Finance Officer-Elect

Tracy Bicknell-Holmes

Secretary

Jan Bracken

Membership Administrator

Nancy Gray

Menstrual Products

Ashley Alloway

Newsletter Editor

David Scott

Nominating Committee

Gerti Arnold, Gail Kirkpatrick, and
David Scott

Ready Idaho Coalition

Patty Underwood

Service Recognition Scholarship

Leah Whiteman

Special Events Coordinator

Ann Lewis

STEM Chair

Deb Newton

Web Editor

Gail Kirkpatrick

ZOOM Coordinator

Kathy Scott

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

Julie Custer

Funds Chair

Heidi Bogert

Public Policy Chair

Mary Ruckh

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

Mahjongg

Sandy Merz

Movies

Marcy Embry and

Gerrie Oehlschlager

Needleworkers

Donna Looze

Bridge

David Scott (Interim coordinator)

Daytimers

Marsha Bravo and Roberta Olson

Great Decisions

Mary Ruckh (in person)

Kathy Scott (Zoom)

Happy Hour

Kathy Scott and Amy Taivalkoski

Newcomers

Ardele Hanson

Wine Tasting #1

David Scott

Wine Tasting #2

Mike Camp and Elise deWit

Wine Tasting #3

Gail Kirkpatrick

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

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