



AAUW Boise News and Events

October 2025

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AAUW Mission

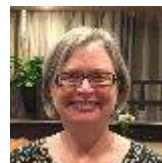
To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Welcome New Member

ELLEN GUSSIE

who joined our branch in September 2025.

Co-Presidents' Message
by Martha Lund and Sheila Robbins



Greetings! It's finally fall and our year is kicking into gear. We have lots going

on so be sure to read the rest of the newsletter!

I do have a few things I want to point out and emphasize. First, Mary Ruckh will have a blurb later in the newsletter, but I want to point out that she and Linda Beebe have agreed to hold a meeting to discuss how our branch can affect public policy in the most effective manner. The meeting will be held at the library at Bown Crossing on October 25th at noon and everyone is welcome to come and participate. Hopefully a productive discussion will be had, and maybe even an outline of a strategy can be produced.

We had a very friendly and relaxing new member meeting at Ardele Hanson's house this month, but only old members were in attendance, unfortunately. I want to encourage new members to attend these events. They are a great way to get to know people in a relaxed, informal environment, as well as a way to learn about the organization. They are always on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 4pm.

I want to give a shout out to Gail Kirkpatrick, who has done a great job updating our website. I encourage everyone to visit it. She and Amy Taivalkoski will be continuing to work on the site to make it more visually appealing and user friendly. If anyone is interested in contributing recent photos, or taking photos at interest groups or meetings for the site, please let Gail know.

Thanks to everyone who reads this newsletter—it's a great way to keep updated. I hope to see as many as possible at the October meeting. It will be an earlier evening meeting, with social hour at 4pm and a heavy hors d'oeuvres buffet. See you there!

October Branch Meeting
by Amy Taivalkoski and Laura Tirrell



The first five years of your life can determine how the next 80 will unfold. What is Idaho's record as far as investment in early childhood care and education and how is that impacting children and families' health across our state? Join us on Tuesday October 14th at 4:00pm to learn more about the importance of early childhood in terms of economic development, personal success, emotional well-being, and as a social determinant of health.

Our speaker will be Lori Fascilla who, as the Executive Director of Giraffe Laugh Early Learning Centers, has experienced the ups and downs for early childhood care and education in Idaho for over 30 years. She is also a fellow AAUW member.

**When Is Your Renewal Date?
It Depends!**
by Nancy Gray



If you are unsure when your annual AAUW membership is due, here's a guideline to help:

- If you joined prior to July 1, 2022, your renewal date is June 30 each year.
- If you joined or rejoined after July 1, 2022, your renewal date is the last day of your anniversary month (rounded up or down).

Both AAUW National and the Boise Branch will remind you when it's time to renew. When you get these reminders, we would appreciate it if you would renew as soon as possible, although there is a grace period if you need more time. Renewal cost is \$115, which includes branch, state, and national AAUW membership.

If you have questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me or the Membership Vice Presidents, Sue Bolen or Ardele Hanson.

**What Comes With Being An
AAUW Member?**
by Sue Bolen and Ardele Hanson



Thank you for your membership in AAUW! Through research, education and advocacy, AAUW empowers women and girls everywhere to achieve their dreams. Being a member of AAUW comes with a unique set of benefits which you can access when you visit www.aauw.org. Benefits include:

- educational funding: opportunities for women pursuing higher education
 - access to a free, on-line salary-negotiations course
 - news and alerts on gender equity that include career advice, need-to-know
-

legislative issues and the actions you can take to drive change.

Membership brings you into contact with not only like-minded women and a few men, but you also have access to a wide range of social activities within your individual branch. Be sure to check the local website for details at [AAUW Boise Area \(ID\) Branch](#).

Inez Robb Scholarship Recipient
by Nancy Otterness



The Boise Area AAUW Inez Robb Scholarship was awarded to Audrey Saba for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Audrey is pursuing a degree in Finance with a minor in Economics and will graduate in May 2026. Over several semesters, she has been on the Dean's list recognizing her for her academic achievements.

She is active in several extra-curricular activities including Alpha Sigma Alpha, Women in Business Club and investment Banking Club. Through Alpha Sigma Alpha she has accrued over 200 service hours while working with the Special Olympics Idaho and Girls on the Run Treasure Valley. And Audrey works part time while attending school.

Book Group (Mystery)
by Linda Anderson



The Mystery Book Club will meet on Monday, October 13, at 6 p.m., at the home of Kay Reed, 3200 Agate Court. The book is Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier. Marci Lingo will be the honorary guest discussion leader.

Book Group (Sunday) - In Person
by Carolyn Lunstrum



The Sunday afternoon in-person book group will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 19, at the Pioneer Federal Credit Union Building, 2350 S. Broadway Avenue, to discuss "Caleb's Crossing" by Geraldine Brooks.

The group will meet again on Sunday, November 16, to discuss "James" by Percival Everett.

Book Group (Sunday) - Zoom
by Valerie Steffen



The AAUW Zoomer Book Group will meet via Zoom 2:00pm – 3:30pm on October 12. We will discuss Born a Crime, (Noah, Trevor). Diane will facilitate our discussion. We welcome all interested participants to join the discussion. Please contact Valerie Steffen (valerie@electric-logic.com) by one week before the meeting to ensure you receive a Zoom link.

Book Group (Thursday)
by Linda Simmons



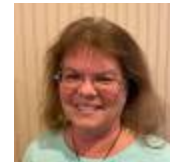
The Thursday AAUW Book Group will meet on October 9 at 4 pm at the Garden City Library. Kris Hooker will facilitate discussion of AMAZING GRACE: THE LIFE OF JOHN NEWTON.

Day Trippers
by Marsha Bravo and Stacy Urban



Day Trippers is a member-led group. Each member is encouraged to propose and organize an outing in the Treasure Valley area. In the past we have visited the Botanical Gardens, Boise Art Museum, Basque Museum, etc. Sometimes we go to lunch after! We are gathering proposals now for the current program year. We'll keep you posted on upcoming events!

Movie Group
by Marcella Embry



Join us October 12 at The Flicks for *Anemone*. (The time schedules are not yet posted, but it will be the first showing of the day.) Daniel Day-Lewis, who stars, and his son Ronan Day-Lewis, who is the director, co-wrote this story. In Northern England, a man heads out on a journey into the woods to reconnect with his estranged hermit brother with whom he shared a complicated past that was altered by life-changing events decades ago. Sean Bean and Samuel Bottomley also star.

Newcomers Group
by Ardele Hanson



The Newcomers Group is a great way to meet other members in a small, casual setting!

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 16th at 4 PM. It will be at Amie Bruggeman's home at 1700 E Silverspot Lane. Mary Ruckh and Amie will be co-hosting and Mary Mosley will be there to give a brief overview of the AAUW state organization and answer any questions. There is plenty of time for visiting and getting to know the other members, enjoying appetizers and drinks!

If you plan on attending, bring a small appetizer to share and something to drink. Amie will have plates, silverware, napkins, and glasses/cups.

Remember: if you plan on attending, please text Ardele Hanson at

208-308-0062. This helps the host prepare for the afternoon.

Public Policy Interest Group
by Linda Beebe



On Saturday, October 25th, at the Bown Crossing Library, from 12:30 to 1:30, we are having a meeting to see if there are members interested in forming a Boise Branch Public Policy Interest Group. We will explore what the focus of such a group might be. Mary Mosley, the leader of AAUW Idaho Lobby Corps, will be there to talk to us about Lobby Corps. A Branch Public Policy Interest Group would be separate from the state AAUW Lobby Corps.

Branch members interested in being active with the AAUW Idaho Lobby Corps during the 2026 legislative session should contact Mary Mosley at mmosley@tranquility.net.

If public policy interests you and you plan to attend the meeting on October 25, please email Linda Beebe velobb.linda@gmail.com by October 23rd.

BRANCH BOARD

APPOINTED POSITIONS

ELECTED OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Martha Lund and Sheila Robbins

President-Elect

Sally Stone

Co-Vice Presidents, Membership

Sue Bolen and Ardele Hanson

Co-Vice Presidents, Programs

Amy Taivalkoski and Laura Tirrell

Boise State Campus Food Pantry

Kathy Scott

Directory (DirectorySpot)

Julie Custer

Facebook

Mary Mosley

Goodwill Ambassador

Gerrie Oehlschlager

**Inez Robb Scholarship Committee
Chair**

Finance Officer

Christie Bradley

Finance Officer-Elect

Debbie Johnson

Secretary

Amie Bruggeman

Nancy Otterness

Membership Administrator

Nancy Gray

Menstrual Products

Ashley Alloway

Newsletter Editor

David Scott

Nominating Committee

Pat Alpine, Gail Kirkpatrick, and
Marci Lingo

Ready Idaho Coalition

Patty Underwood

Service Recognition Scholarship

Leah Whiteman

Special Events Coordinator

Ann Lewis

STEM Co-Chairs

Gayle Carrier and 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

TBD

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

Indian Cooking

Valerie Steffen

Lobby Corps

Mary Mosley

Mahjongg

Sandy Merz

Movies

Marcy Embry

Bridge

David Scott (Interim coordinator)

Day Trippers

Marsha Bravo and Stacy Urban

Great Decisions

Mary Ruckh (in person)

Kathy Scott (Zoom)

Happy Hour

Kathy Scott and Amy Taivalkoski

Needleworkers

Donna Looze

Newcomers

Ardele Hanson

Public Policy

Linda Beebe

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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