



AAUW Boise News and Events
November 2025
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AAUW Mission

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

In Memoriam

KATHY HALEY
1954 - 2025
[Obituary](#)

Welcome New Members

ALICE FORSYTHE
EVELYN REDSHAW

who joined our branch in October 2025.

Co-Presidents' Message
by Martha Lund and Sheila Robbins



Well, the snow is flying in the mountains so it must mean holiday season is coming! Don't forget to vote this week! Local elections are more important than ever.

We had almost 100 people attend our October meeting! The early time slot seemed to work well. I did hear people say they wanted something sweet—we thought since it wasn't really dinner, but just hors d'oeuvres, dessert wasn't

necessary. If anyone has any other opinions or suggestions, please let Sheila or me know.

Mary Ruckh and Linda Beebe led a very productive meeting last week to discuss how we as an organization can be more inclusive and effective in approaching public policy. Linda has a summary of the meeting later in this newsletter. Everyone who is interested in trying to affect public policy in this state please get involved in this new Lobby Corp interest group and attend the January state meeting for training and information.



This month's speaker will also be someone you will want to hear if public policy is your thing (and even if it's not). Julie Yamamoto has been involved in Idaho politics for years and should be very informative as to how we might try to affect change.

This month's meeting is also our annual fundraising meeting for the Inez Robb scholarship. Inez Robb initiated the scholarship by establishing the fund that is now in the hands of the Idaho Community Foundation. She was a famous trailblazing international reporter from Boise. The money has grown steadily and, along with a supplementary fund raised every year at the April fundraiser, it funds a one semester tuition scholarship for a female BSU junior or senior every year. Someone will be at the registration desk to accept your checks. Thank you ahead of time for your generosity!

**AAUW Boise Membership
Directory**
by Sue Bolen and Ardele Hanson



Stay in Touch with your fellow AAUW members. It's quick and easy. If you need another member's contact information, or simply want to put a face to a name, we encourage you to check out [Directory Spot!](#)

In order to make contact information for our branch members accessible and up to date, we've maintained an online membership directory since September 2017 on [DirectorySpot](#). If you were a branch member at that time, you received an email with instructions on how to set up your password and download the DirectorySpot app to your smart phone. If you joined the branch after September 2107, you would have received an email from noreply@directoryspot.net within 10 days of joining the branch with instructions on how to access the directory and download the app.

The link in in the email you received from [DirectorySpot](#) has a seven-day expiration date. If you missed the deadline, you can still easily set up your address in these 4 easy steps:

1. Got to [Directoryspot.net](#)
2. Type your email address in the 'username' field
3. Click on 'Reset password'
4. Go to your email inbox, open the email from noreply@directoryspot.net and follow the instructions.

In addition to phone numbers and addresses you will find the information for special interest groups and who to contact if you're interested in joining after the fall enrollment opportunity.

STEM News
by Gayle Carrier and Deborah Newton



As most AAUW members know, we support STEM in a variety of ways: Girl Scout summer camps, Big Brothers Big Sisters STEM programs, etc. Last year, for the first time, we donated to a group called [Women Innovators](#). This is a nonprofit devoted to providing STEM experiences for young girls.

[Women Innovators](#) holds two events annually. [SheTech Explorer Day](#) is a free, full-day career discovery day for high school girls. The girls explore science, technology, engineering and math through hands-on workshops, a real-world challenge and more! This year about 450 girls attended. As a volunteer at the event, I saw the impact this experience had on these high school girls.

[Women Innovators](#) also sponsors [TechGirlz](#) which is for middle school (6th-8th grade) girls. These younger girls get a chance to explore coding, engineering, technology, math, AI, construction (and more!). This event is coming up in February so if you know any middle school girls who might be interested in learning more about STEM, encourage them to participate. I will post more information as it gets closer.

Book Group (Mystery)
by Linda Anderson



The Mystery Book Club will meet on Monday, November 10th, at 6:00 p.m., at the home of Linda Anderson, 323 W Jefferson St., # 506. The book is *Track of the Cat* by Nevada Barr (The first Anna Pigeon novel). Kay Reed will lead the discussion.

Book Group (Sunday) - In Person
by Carolyn Lunstrum



The Sunday afternoon in-person book group will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 16th at the Pioneer Federal Credit Union Building, 2350 S. Broadway Avenue, to discuss *James* by Percival Everett.

The group will meet again on Sunday, December 21st, to discuss *American Ramble* by Neil King.

Book Group (Sunday) - Zoom
by Valerie Steffen



The AAUW Zoomer Book Group will meet via Zoom 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. on

November 9th. We will discuss *Facing the Mountain* by Daniel James Brown. Kathy Scott 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 November 13th at 4:00 p.m. at the Garden City Library. Alice Tryon will facilitate discussion of *Thorns, Lust and Glory* by Estelle Paranque.

Bowling Group
by Karen Haven and Deborah Newton



The AAUW bowlers (sometimes called the One-Pin Wonders) have a great time together and also help raise money for important causes. As mentioned in previous articles, our bowlers each contribute a dollar each time we meet. Sometimes when a bowler does something really impressive, we may add more to the jar. This money goes to support STEM.

The group has now taken on a new project. We are supporting [Corpus Commons](#) by building a gingerbread bowling alley to contribute to their Great Gingerbread Build fundraising event, which begins on December 11th. I will post a picture of our completed creation. If you are interested in seeing all of the creations, it is open to the public on December 12th and 13th at the Creative Space in Garden City – free of charge.

Deborah Newton: Deborahnewton59@gmail.com

Karen Haven: Karihaven1952@gmail.com

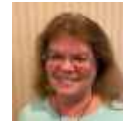
Day Trippers
by Marsha Bravo and Stacy Urban



Day Trippers is a member-led group whose members organize group outings to various venues in the Treasure Valley. In the past we have visited Idaho Historical Museum, Botanical Gardens, the Basque museum, the old train depot and many other fun places. We often have lunch after the tour.

Members are encouraged to organize events for the 2025/2026 program year! Contact Stacy Urban (stacycurban@gmail.com) or Marsha Bravo (marshakbravo@gmail.com) with your plan!

Movie Group
by Marcella Embry



The next Movie Group meet-up is Sunday, Nov. 9th, at The Flicks. Unfortunately, the schedule of movies is only posted through Nov. 6, so we will not be able to choose a movie yet. Watch for an email for details.

Newcomers Group
by Ardele Hanson



Newcomers will meet on November 20th at 4:00 p.m.. We will meet at Mary Ruckh's home: 3396 E Dowling Mill Court. Our guest speaker will be Stacy Urban . She will talk to us about The DayTrippers Group. There will be plenty of time for questions and conversation.

If you are planning on attending, please RSVP to me: Ardele at 208-308-0062. You can call or text me. This helps the hostess plan.

And, if you are coming, please bring a small appetizer to share and something to drink. (Wine is always a good choice!) Mary will provide the plates, glasses, cups, napkins, and any silverware that may be needed.

Public Policy Interest Group
by Linda Beebe



Twelve of us braved the cold rainy weather Saturday, October 25th, and met at The Bown Crossing Library to explore forming a public policy interest group and, if so, how it would function.

It was a good discussion about what such a group could do or look like and how it would work with the AAUW Idaho Lobby Corps.

With the 2026 legislative session coming up soon, it was determined that such a group, at this point in time, should function to help support the AAUW Idaho Lobby Corps. After the legislative session is over, we would reevaluate to see what can be done the rest of the year.

Mary Mosley has been leading AAUW Idaho Lobby Corps. To help Lobby Corps, we felt we needed a Lobby Corps support team. Each issue would have a point person and support people to help them. They would follow bills and committees related to their issue. We will be looking at providing training on how to follow bills and sending out information.

The three key issues are:

1. **Education**
2. **Health Care/ Reproductive Freedom**
3. **Citizens Initiatives/ Voter Rights**

We have point people for healthcare and for citizens initiatives, but we could

use support people. However, we need one or two point people for education and some support people. The more people we have involved the easier it will be to follow what's going on at the legislature and respond more promptly.

Please consider joining one of these support groups. These are challenging times and it's even more important to work together now and increase our chances of making a difference and getting our voices heard.

If you are interested in being a point person for Education or a support person for any of the three issues, please contact:

Mary Mosley: mamosley@tranquility.net

Linda Beebe: velobb.linda@gmail.com

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

Finance Officer

Christie Bradley

Finance Officer-Elect

Debbie Johnson

Secretary

Amie Bruggeman

APPOINTED MEMBERS

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

Julie Custer

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TBD

Boise State Campus Food Pantry

Kathy Scott

Directory (DirectorySpot)

Julie Custer

Facebook

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Goodwill Ambassador

Gerrie Oehlschlager

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Nancy Otterness

Membership Administrator

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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

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)

Lobby Corps

Mary Mosley

Mahjongg

Sandy Merz

Movies

Marcy Embry

Needleworkers

Donna Looze

Newcomers

Ardele Hanson

Day Trippers

Marsha Bravo and Stacy Urban

Great Decisions

Mary Ruckh (in person)

Kathy Scott (Zoom)

Happy Hour

Kathy Scott and Amy Taivalkoski

Indian Cooking

Valerie Steffen

Public Policy

Linda Beebe

Wine Tasting #1

David Scott

Wine Tasting #2

Mike Camp and Elise deWit

Wine Tasting #3

Gail Kirkpatrick

Wine Tasting #4

Coordinator TBD

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

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