

CHECK

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW), OSHKOSH BRANCH

Upcoming Branch Meeting

- Our last branch meeting for the 2020-2021 year will be on **May 25 at 7:00 p.m.** MaryBeth Petesch will lead a discussion on the "Suffragettes in Action" booklets. We will also be holding our board election during this meeting.
- Zoom information for the May meeting:

Facebook: Find our branch on Facebook by looking for AAUW-Oshkosh. Like and follow our page to get its posts in your newsfeed. Like and share posts to spread the word about our branch happenings.

Our **branch website** can be found at <http://oshkosh-wi.aauw.net/>.

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- Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3597819887?pwd=cncxOU9yK0ZnVm00RkNoZW1weTFGQT09>
- Meeting ID: 359 781 9887, Passcode: AAUWOsh
- Join by phone: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), Meeting ID: 359 781 9887, Passcode: 0933718
- We are accepting nominations for and will vote on three positions. Email aauwoshkosh@gmail.com if you are interested in any of these positions. Nominees will also be accepted from the "floor" during the meeting.
 - Vice President for Program Development (2 years)
 - One current nominee: Lin Schrottky

- Position description: The program vice president(s) shall chair the committee on program development and perform such duties as the president and board shall direct. She shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president, act in the absence or disability of the president and shall succeed to the office of the president for the unexpired term in the event of the resignation or death of the president.
- Treasurer (2 years)
 - Position description: The financial officer shall be responsible for collecting, distributing, and accounting for the funds of the branch.
- Vice President for Membership (1 year since the position is currently vacant)
 - Position description: The membership vice president shall chair the committee on membership and be responsible for branch membership recruitment and orientation to the purpose and program of AAUW. She shall preside at meetings in the absence of both the president and the program vice president.

Wednesday Evening Book Club

June 9 – *The Darwin Affair* by Tim Mason; reviewed by Sheila Denney

July 14 – *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward; reviewed by Nancy Worland

AAUW Oshkosh, (virtual) Branch meeting

May 4, 2021

Present: Alicia Johnson, Sheila Denney, Karen Reiter, MaryBeth Petesch, Jeanne Tondryk, Lin Schrottky, Margaret Olson, Megan Dirth, Carol Conway-Gerhardt, and Cynthia Huebschen. (Also attended by two dogs and one cat). Meeting was held via Zoom.

Meeting called to order at 5:08 p.m.

\$800 was sent to FVTC for scholarships. UWO scholarships will be available in August.

Carole has a heart procedure scheduled for Friday.

Including lifetime members, we presently have twenty-six branch members. More than half of members have renewed; Alicia will send another reminder. Once the status of “honorary lifetime

member” is obtained by length of service, national dues are no longer required. State and branch dues are optional, but appreciated.

There was some discussion of recently-deceased Helen Mueller. A video made for the branch’s 100th anniversary can be found on YouTube at this address:

https://youtu.be/CS_GwNy_Dm4

MaryBeth shared that at a recent Public Policy talk, it was noted that at present there is the lowest rate of female participation in the U.S. workforce in thirty years. On May 13 the Wisconsin AAUW will present a Webinar, “Fair Maps: We All Count.” All are encouraged to attend.

<http://bit.ly/AAUW-WI-FairMapsWebinar>

Lin led a discussion of future programs. It was agreed that the September meeting to introduce the scholarship winners would be conducted via Zoom, as the method worked well last year. For December, the branch would like to hold a silent auction (method undetermined).

Other program ideas that most present supported: Presentation by the coordinator of Hmong studies and/ or the local Hmong services group; Mayor Lori Palmeri; Maureen Muldoon to speak on concerns about water; Alicia and/ or Angela with a program on Africa; gerrymandering issues. At the program where a film is presented, there was a suggestion that the film be “Picture a Scientist,” a documentary from 2020.

For this month’s program on suffragists, the booklet “Women’s Suffrage” will be distributed to those interested, either at a book club gathering or available to arrange to pick up at MaryBeth’s home. A video presented at the Wisconsin convention, “Women Who Dared” (featuring Jessica Michna) may also be discussed. Also at this month’s program, nominations and appointments for branch offices should be included.

On May 5 the local ESTHER group sponsored the lighting of local bridges in memory of missing and murdered indigenous women.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

