# AAUW MAUI BRANCH

# Advancing Equity for Women and Girls

# Maui Branch News

# **Dates to Remember**

# PBS Special "The Vote" on July 6 and 7

#### **Speaker Meeting**

The Speaker Meeting will be held via Zoom on **Saturday**, **July 25, starting at 10:00 a.m. for social time, the business meeting at 10:30 a.m. and the speaker at 11:00 a.m**. See page 4 of the newsletter for more details.

# **Board Meeting**

The next Board Meeting will be held **Sunday, July 12, at 1:00 p.m.** See page 3 of the newsletter for more details.

# **Book Group**

The next Book Group will be held on **Saturday**, **July 11**, **at 12:00 noon.** See page 5 of the newsletter for more details.



The *American Experience* show on PBS will be airing a two-part special about women's suffrage called "The Vote" at **9:00 p.m. on Monday, July 6 and Tuesday, July 7.** 



The documentary tells the emotional story of the long, often dangerous campaign fought by American women for the right to vote. It resulted in the largest expansion of voting rights in US history. You can view a trailer of this show at <u>https://</u>www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/vote-trailer/.

With another perspective, the essay "AAUW's Long Road to Women's Suffrage," <u>https://suffragistmemorial.org/aauw-and-</u><u>suffrage/</u>, takes a look at the competing considerations with which AAUW leadership struggled during the early days of the suffrage movement. A suffrage resolution was finally passed in 1915 after AAUW membership was comfortable that officially supporting suffrage would not detract from the core mission of AAUW.

# **President's Report**

#### Aloha,

Our AAUW National slogan is "Empowering Women Since 1881." What a legacy, and what a mantra as we go forward. Our mission is equity for all particularly relevant during these trying times. Our issues are gender equality in education, economic security, and leadership — again, particularly relevant now.



So, what can we do, as both AAUW members and individuals? As much or as little as you want. For example:

**Educate ourselves about the issues** – What is happening with Title IX? What is happening with sexual harassment legislation in Hawai'i? How does economic security compare across different groups of people?

**Make our voices heard** – Be a Two-Minute Advocate; submit testimony to our national, state, and local legislators; encourage people to register to vote, and to vote; speak out about issues; send Letters to the Editor about voting by mail; and comment on social media.

**Vote** – Check your voter registration online through the Hawai'i Online Voter Registration System, <u>https://olvr.hawaii.gov/</u>. Remember that registered voters in Hawaii will vote by mail-in ballot this year, and only one Voter Service Center will be open on Maui. Make sure your mailing address is up to date! Primary and General Election ballots will be mailed out in time for you to receive a ballot 18 days prior to election day. If you do not receive your ballot at the appropriate time, contact the County Clerk's office to obtain one.

#### Crucial Voting Deadlines (mark them on your calendar)!

The Primary Election ballot should be received by you by July 21, and returned so that it is **received by August 8**, Primary Election Day. Not postmarked by August 8, but **received by August 8**. Otherwise it will not be counted.

The General Election ballot should be received by you by October 16, and returned so that it is **received by November 3**, General Election Day. Again, it must be **received by November 3**, or it will not be counted.

You will return your ballot by US Mail (USPS) in a postage prepaid envelope. Be sure to post early enough for the ballot to be received by Election Day. At least three business days before the election is suggested, so check the collection days and times where you mail your ballot. For more information, see <u>https://elections.hawaii.gov/hawaii-votes-by-mail/</u>.

President's Report continued on the next page.

AAUW Maui Branch

#### President's Report, continued...

As noted earlier, only one Voter Service Center will be available on Maui for the Primary Election where you can vote in person, at the Velma McWayne Santos Community Center, 395 Waena St. in Wailuku.

Hours on Election Day: August 8, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Hours for early voting before Election Day: July 27 to August 7 (excluding Sunday), 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The hours for the General Election are not yet available.

Be sure to share this important voter information with friends and family on Maui. We registered 48 voters at UH Maui College in January, but it does not look like we will be able to do that in the fall as planned. Any suggestions on how to register more people and get out the vote?

On a different topic, our Maui Branch Board Meeting, which is a planning meeting for 2020-2021, will be held via Zoom on **Sunday, July 12, at 1 p.m.** The invitation is open to all members, and it will be sent out the week before the meeting via email – mark your calendars and then check both your email and your spam folders for the invitation. (If you need help with Zoom, contact me.)

Plus, I would like to encourage you to attend our Zoom Book Club on **Saturday, July 10**, and our Zoom Speaker Meeting on **Saturday, July 25** – again, mark your calendars now and then check your emails for the invitations. Phil Peacock led a singalong on June 27, and I think we all had a great time. Seventeen members attended as well as seven guests – even two from Tasmania!

Take care and stay tuned – we want to stay connected during this period of physical isolation no matter where you are located!

Cathy

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

# Speaker Meeting July 25

The next Speaker Meeting will be on Zoom, on **Saturday, July 25, starting at 10:00 a.m.** for members to sign on and chat, then a short business meeting at 10:30 a.m., followed by the presentation.

Building upon the success of our musical June meeting, another local musician will entertain us at the July meeting via Zoom. **Mike Finkiewicz** regularly performed at Beach Bums and Fleetwood's before the pandemic shutdown. Originally from Chicago, he has been playing since 1967 and was influenced by Motown, the Beatles, rock and blues. He enjoys playing music that people can sing along with. Mike's wife Debbie is the former owner of Maui Closet Company and still works there.



An email will be sent to members later in July with information on how to sign on to the Zoom meeting.



At the June speaker meeting, Phil Peacock taught the Maui Branch attendees this suffragist song from 1913.



# **Book Club July 11**

The AAUW Book Club will be meeting **Saturday, July 10th at** 12:00 noon. The meeting will be held via Zoom. For information please contact Dorothy Tolliver at <u>2425047@gmail.com</u> or 808-242-5047.

#### Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover

This is an unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became

violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided



to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University.

#### **AAUW Attends Equal Pay Day Proclamation**



On March 31, Governor Ige signed the 2020 Equal Pay Day Proclamation. In attendance were AAUW's Hawai'i Public Policy Chair, Younghee Overly, and others working with the AAUW Public Policy committee, including State House Rep. Cynthia Thielen, and Khara Jabola Carolus, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Commission on the Status of Women. Also attending was Joanna Amberger, National AAUW Board of Directors.

#### **New Member Profile**

Maureen Van Denburgh was born and raised in Upstate New York. She received her B.A. in International Studies from New York University and worked for Bankers Trust in New York, London and Tokyo. She and her husband, Darren, moved from Tokyo to Maui in 1999. After receiving her M.S.W. from the University of Hawai'i in 2005, Maureen worked as a case manager for the Hawai'i State Department of Child Welfare. Her hobbies include genealogy, working in her fruit and vegetable garden, creating recipes with her weekly harvest, and her annual goal of reading 52 books per year.



#### **Don't Forget To Renew Your Membership**

We appreciate all the members who have renewed their membership. The new fiscal year started on July 1. Although our face to face meetings are on hold, we are still able to get together during our Zoom speaker meetings, Board meetings and now the Book Club is active again.

Membership renewal includes the following dues: \$59 national, \$0 for the state, and \$16 for the branch-- for a total of \$75.

National has requested that members wishing to renew online use the link in the invoice and do not renew by going to the AAUW website. Renewing via the link in the invoice is secure and does not require a password; simply click the link and enter your means of payment, and you're done.

Members may also pay by check in the amount of \$75 mailed to AAUW-Maui Branch, PO Box 1352, Pu'unene HI 96784.

If you have any questions, or if you need the emailed invoice to be resent, please contact Finance Officer Pat Gotschalk, at <u>pagotschalk@gmail.com</u> or 808-707-2001. One member has reported a problem with the link sent by National; please call Pat if you run into any problems. Mahalo!

#### **Et Cetera**



# July BirtbdaysJanet RymsbaJuly 10Nancy OldbamJuly 11Rebecca ChenowetbJuly 15Jane LittJuly 15Catby WeberJuly 16Pamela SchulzJuly 19Janet GoJuly 23Jill UebaraJuly 29

# Members and guests enjoy Phil Peacock's music at the June Speaker Meeting



AAUW Maui Branch PO Box 1352 Pu'unene HI 96784

Your newsletter editors are Pat Gotschalk and Barry Solomon. Questions, comments or suggestions for content may be sent to <u>pagotschalk@gmail.com</u> or call 808-868-0418.