

AAUW MAUI BRANCH

Advancing Equity for Women and Girls

Branch News

Dates to Remember

Speaker Meeting

Saturday, September 26, online using Zoom. **Social time at 10:00 a.m., business meeting at 10:30 a.m., followed by a program at 11:00 a.m.** See page 3 of the newsletter.

Book Group

Saturday, September 12, at noon, online using Zoom. See page 4 of the newsletter.

Taste and Talk

Thursday, September 17, at 6:00 p.m. online using Zoom. See page 3 of the newsletter.

Holiday Party

Save the Date! Sunday, **December 13, from 2 to 4 p.m., in Wailuku.** Details to follow in later newsletters.



Thoughts on the 19th Amendment

From the August 3, 2020 *Christian Science Monitor*:

We tend to envision the American woman suffrage movement as a triumphant newsreel of women in white dresses and fabulous hats marching to victory, as enlightened men suddenly and nobly hand the ballot to female citizens – all female citizens. That newsreel is romantic fiction.

The truth is grittier, and more important: It required three generations of fearless activists over a span of more than seven decades working in more than 900 state, local, and national campaigns to finally win the vote for American women. And that active verb – win – is important: Women were not given the vote; they were not granted the vote. As one commentator so aptly describes it: “They took it.”

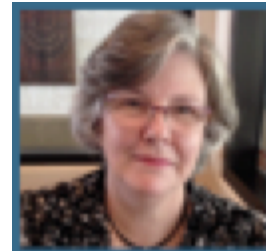
The fight for woman suffrage is one of the defining civil rights struggles in our nation’s history – one that cuts to the heart of what democracy means: Who gets to participate in government? Who has a voice? When we say “We the People” do we really mean everyone? Of course, we are asking those same questions today, as voting rights, citizenship rights, and women’s rights are still burning issues.

<https://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/2020/0803/19th-Amendment-The-six-week-brawl-that-won-women-the-vote>

President's Message

Aloha!

Welcome back to our alternate reality! Hope you are getting caught up on your reading, projects, Zooming, alone time, napping, etc. Remember that social contact is essential for well-being!



Our August Zoom Speaker meeting was well attended with about 20 people, including three guests. Robert Martin, our speaker, is happy to share his PowerPoint presentation if you missed the presentation. Please contact him directly at mauitaxman@gmail.com. Robert is willing to give his presentation to other groups, so if you are interested, please let him know. His website is www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org.

We still have a few members who have not renewed for 2020-2021. Renewing members must be processed before September 30 so they remain on our roster as active members in good standing, according to National. In past years, we could retain members until November 30. Pat Gotschalk has sent out one more email reminder to those who have not renewed. If you prefer to pay by check, please mail your dues to AAUW Maui Branch, PO Box 1352, Pu'unene, HI 96784 . If you want to renew, but are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact Pat or me personally. We have provisions for that in our Policies and Procedures. Just let us know.

Our schedule through the end of the year is still uncertain due to COVID. Tentatively, here is the plan after September:

Sat., Oct. 3 @ 12 noon Book Club - *Stay With Me*, by Ayobami Adebayo

Sat., Oct. 17 @ 9 a.m. Walk to End Alzheimer's – details at website:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR?sid=23932&type=fr_informational&pg=informational&fr_id=13390

Sat., Oct. 24 @ 10 a.m. Speaker Meeting – Lauren Akitake, Estate Planning & Women

Sat., Nov. 7 @ 12 noon Book Club - *Tomorrow*, by Damian Dibben

Sat., Nov. 28 @ 10 a.m. Speaker Meeting – Gentle Thunder Journey

Sat., Dec. 5 @ 12 noon Book Club - *Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1930 Olympics*, by Daniel James Brown

Sun., Dec. 13 @ 2 p.m. Holiday Party (live or by Zoom - details later)

Be strong and safe - hope to see you soon on Zoom!

Cathy

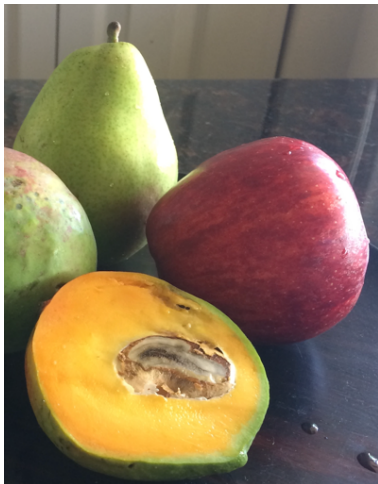
Speaker Meeting September 26

The August Speaker Meeting will be held on **Saturday, September 26, via Zoom. There will be a social half-hour starting at 10 a.m., then the business meeting at 10:30 a.m. followed by our speaker.** The Zoom log-in information will be emailed to members by Communications Director Sandi Boll prior to the meeting.

Our speaker will be **Barry Solomon**, professor emeritus of geography and environmental policy at Michigan Technological University. He will be presenting on the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 763. This bill, introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on January 24, 2019, would be a boon to renewable energy production and use, already important in Hawaii and on Maui. Dr. Solomon will explain how this bill provides for an annual dividend refund to most American households. He will also give an update on the status of a similar bill that passed one house of the Hawaii State legislature earlier this year, and the work of the Citizens Climate Lobby and its Maui Chapter, a non-partisan group that is fighting for these bills as a way to most effectively address climate change.



Tastes and Talk September 17



Join Heather Mueller via Zoom for the first “virtual” Tastes and Talk get-together on **Thursday, September 17, starting at 6:00 p.m.** Enjoy your own repast and refreshments at home while visiting with friends online. If you wish, come prepared to tell the others about the “Most Memorable” meal you have ever enjoyed. Pat Gotschalk will collect the RSVPs and send the Zoom information to those who can attend. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 16 to pagotschalk@gmail.com. In order to keep the conversations somewhat organized, we are limiting the RSVPs to 15 members. Mahalo!

Book Group September 12

The AAUW Book Group meeting will be held on **Saturday, September 12, at noon, via Zoom.**

BE SURE TO RSVP TO DOROTHY TOLLIVER SO YOU CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE ZOOM BOOK CLUB MEETING (email: 2425047@gmail.com)

The book for September will be ***The Goldfinch: A Novel*, by Donna Tartt.**

Theo Decker, a 13 year-old New Yorker, miraculously survives an accident that kills his mother. Abandoned by his father, Theo is taken in by the family of a wealthy friend. Bewildered by his strange new home on Park Avenue, disturbed by schoolmates who don't know how to talk to him, and tormented above all by a longing for his mother, he clings to the one thing that reminds him of her: a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws Theo into a wealthy and insular art community. As an adult, Theo moves between the drawing rooms of the rich and the dusty labyrinth of an antiques store where he works. He is at the center of a narrowing, ever more dangerous circle.



The book for October is *Stay With Me*, by Ayobami Adebayo

Yejide and Akin have been married since they met and fell in love at university. Though many expected Akin to take several wives, he and Yejide have always agreed: polygamy is not for them. But four years into their marriage—after consulting fertility doctors and healers, trying strange teas and unlikely cures—Yejide is still not pregnant. She assumes she still has time—until her family arrives on her doorstep with a young woman they introduce as Akin's second wife. Furious, shocked, and livid with jealousy, Yejide knows the only way to save her marriage is to get pregnant. Which, finally, she does—but at a cost far greater than she could have dared to imagine. An electrifying novel of enormous emotional power, *Stay With Me* asks how much we can sacrifice for the sake of family.

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.

UH Maui College Donor News



In a recent email to our branch, Jocelyn Romero Demirbag, UH Foundation Director of Development shared how Chancellor Hokana has gradually opened the campus, including the details of the establishment and practice of strict COVID-related protocols for students, staff and visitors. COVID testing is administered at the college Health Clinic for the members of the college community.

She outlined some new programs happening on campus, including COVID testing within the unsheltered homeless population, ocean water quality testing pre- and post-pandemic, the growing and distribution of food on campus addressing food insecurity, planning for a sustainable Maui and responding to Maui's need for a re-trained workforce. Coming soon will be registration information for attending virtual talks about these programs. You may remember Jocelyn was a speaker at one of our branch meetings.

She wrote, "We are looking forward to connecting. With your help we had over \$330,000 available for student scholarships this year. Seventy percent of our students are typically employed while they go to school. As most of our students' jobs have been affected by COVID, the difference you make now is more powerful than ever. Mahalo for making that difference in our community."

Submitted by Janet Walker

WordPress Assistance Requested (Second Call)

AAUW-Maui Branch's webmaster, Marty-Jean Bender, is looking for assistance with WordPress in connection with the branch website. If you have WordPress experience and can consult with Marty-Jean, please contact her at mjb@unforgettable.com.



A Few Ways to Spend (Waste?) Time



As we hunker down in our homes, we don't have to always be productive. It's fun to do a few mindless things to relax and recharge. Staring at a fish tank on YouTube is one option! <https://youtu.be/ikCCWLDgjis>. Enjoy these other ideas:

There is a free website called "A Soft Murmur." <https://asoftmurmur.com/>. You can mix and play ambient sounds to elevate your mood, avoid distractions or just chill out for a few minutes. The rain, cricket and thunder combo is very relaxing.

There are also numerous "procrastination" websites such as Bored Panda, which is "dedicated to spreading viral content that makes people happy." You can look at 50 breeds of cats, learn to make monsters from photos, and more. https://www.boredpanda.com/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=organic.

If you have some favorite websites or online games, share them with your newsletter editors at pagotschalk@gmail.com, and we will mention them in the newsletter.

Janet Go's 90th Birthday Celebrations!

We asked Janet Go for a few words on her milestone birthday:

My 90th birthday week, beginning July 23, was one to remember. First, Janet and Bob Walker and Janet's mother, Bernice, treated me to dinner at 5 Palms. The waitress brought us a dessert with a birthday candle. Then, the next Friday, Karen and Joe Grafe took me on a sunset sailing cruise, and all the passengers sang happy birthday to me. I insisted we wear our masks for the picture as a reminder of the crazy year 2020.



I'll never forget this birthday! Thanks to everyone for their well wishes.

September Diversity and Inclusion Column

The non-Hawaiian Pacific Islander community has the highest rate of COVID 19 infection among all ethnic groups in the state – many times its four percent of Hawaii’s population. These articles help to inform and educate us on some of the reasons for this startling disparity. They also provide a follow-up to AAUW’s 5/26/18 speaker’s meeting with immigration attorney Kevin Block on Hawaii’s Micronesian population. “Yokwe” is how you say “hello”, “love” or “goodbye” in Marshallese. Directly translated, however, “Yokwe” means “you are a rainbow.”

America’s Real Migrant Crisis Is the One You’ve Never Heard Of. An obscure 30-year-old-treaty has landed thousands of Micronesians in poverty and homelessness in Hawaii [12/29/16]

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2016/12/hawaii-micronesia-migration-homeless-climate-change/>

COVID-19 Special Column: COVID-19 Hits Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Communities the Hardest. [5/1/20]

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7226312/>

Hawaii among nation’s worst for COVID racial disparity. [7/8/20]

<https://www.khon2.com/coronavirus/hawaii-among-nations-worst-for-covid-racial-disparity/>

Hawaii Wanted to Save Insurance Money. People Died. [8/2/20]

<https://www.newsbreak.com/hawaii/honolulu/living/1610425317316/hawaii-wanted-to-save-insurance-money-people-died>

Surge in Hawaii coronavirus cases highlights disparities for Pacific Islanders. [8/6/20]

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2020/08/06/hawaii-news/surge-in-virus-cases-highlights-disparities-for-pacific-islanders/>

Hawaii’s weak contact tracing effort is hindering the control of coronavirus’ spread. [8/10/20]

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2020/08/10/hawaii-news/the-states-weak-contact-tracing-effort-is-hindering-the-control-of-the-virus-spread/>

Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii Covid-19 Response Recovery Resilience Team. [5/27/20 launch]

<http://www.papaolalokahi.org/nhpi-hawaii-covid19-3r.html>

Compiled by Estelle Chun.



Et Cetera



September Birthdays

- Martha Martin* *September 8*
- Martha Dean* *September 10*
- Roberta North* *September 17*
- Karin Camilli* *September 23*
- Rita Forsythe* *September 23*
- Maureen Van Denburgh* *September 28*

Philatelist Robert Martin provided an informative and lively Zoom talk on the history of distinguished women on US stamps at the August, 2020 Speaker Meeting.



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