

# AAUW MAUI BRANCH

## Advancing Equity for Women and Girls

### Dates to Remember

#### Speaker Meeting

**Saturday, May 22**, 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 4 of the newsletter.

#### Book Group

**Saturday, May 1, at noon**, online using Zoom. See page 4 of the newsletter.

#### Tastes and Talk

**Thursday, May 20, at 6 p.m.**, at A Saigon Cafe in Wailuku. See page 7 of the newsletter.

#### Board Planning Meeting

**Sunday, June 27 at 1:00 p.m.** via Zoom. See page 3 of the newsletter.



### Harriet Tubman Update

The pioneering American abolitionist and political activist Harriet Tubman is back in the news for two reasons. First, the site of the homestead on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where she spent part of her childhood with her father before escaping slavery to the north and leading others to their freedom, was uncovered by archeologists in April. The site housed a cabin where her father Ben Ross lived, both as a slave and later as a free man. The site is on newly-added property of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. (My wife Pat and I visited this refuge several times when we lived in Maryland in the 1990s.)



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bought the 2,600-acre Peter’s Neck property for \$6 million, and this property contains 10 acres bequeathed to Ross in the 1800s. Ben Ross was freed from slavery and received the land in the early 1840s. “This discovery adds another puzzle piece to the story of Harriet Tubman, the state of Maryland, and our nation,” said Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford at a news conference announcing the discovery.

Second, the U.S. Department of Treasury has revived and accelerated efforts to add Tubman on a newly designed \$20 bill. In addition, while the time frames are uncertain, there are also plans to put suffragists Lucretia Mott, Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Alice Paul on the back of the \$10 bill, and civil rights icons Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Marian Anderson on the back of the \$5 bill.

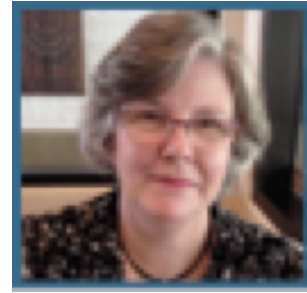
(Submitted by Barry Solomon)

## President's Message

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Aloha!

April was a busy month for our Branch, both on Zoom and live! Our Maui Branch Annual Meeting held on April 24, 2021 was quite productive. We had more than the quorum of members required, so we could vote as per our Maui Branch Policies and Procedures. The membership voted to approve the proposed Budget for 2021-2022, and the membership elected new officers for two-year terms starting on July 1 – many thanks to Jean Keating, Chair of the Nominating Committee, for presenting the nominated slate:



- Pat Gotschalk as our new President,
- Virginia Shaw as our Vice President for Programs,
- Debbie Priest as our Vice President for Membership,
- Johanna (Jan) Moore as our new Finance Officer, and
- Pamela Schulz as our Secretary.

April was a busy month for interest groups as well, even in these socially trying times. Many members have received their vaccinations and are willing to venture out among the public. The Lunch Bunch dined at 62 MarcKet in Wailuku on April 13 for some good food and good conversations! On April 22, we enjoyed Tastes and Talk at Grandma's in Keokea — there was delicious food and gorgeous views of jacarandas and other flowering trees on our drives there. Now we are all dieting and getting ready for May events!

The Book Club met on Zoom on April 3, and we had an interesting and thought-provoking discussion about *The Three-Year Swim Club*. The AAUW Hawaii Annual Meeting was held on Zoom on April 21. Sixty-one of the 360 state members attended, and the meeting was productive. In the absence of in-person programs, Younghee Overly ran a very interesting poll and then followed up with very engaging discussions in break-out rooms about what Hawaii AAUW can do to promote gender equity.

You will be receiving your ballot via email to elect the new AAUW state officers shortly – voting opens May 1. We need at least 10% of the state membership to vote in order to have a valid election, so please click on the ballot and vote when it arrives. You will need to identify the Maui Branch, and then you can vote for the candidates. Only one candidate is running for each office at this time.

(Continued on next page.)

## President's Message, continued

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The AAUW Fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, and our membership renewal process is open now. Watch for an email from national, which will help you renew easily with a credit card – it will have your membership number and all the other information for easy renewal online. If you are not comfortable renewing online, you can mail your check for \$88.00 to AAUW Maui Branch, PO Box 1352, Pu'unene, HI 96784. Please make checks payable to: AAUW Maui Branch.

The next Branch Board meeting, which is open to all members, will be held on Sunday, June 27, at 1 p.m., probably on Zoom. This will be the planning meeting for the 2021-2022 calendar and events. If you have any suggestions, please forward them to Pat Gotschalk, me, or to other Board members.

We are hoping to see you on Zoom at our May Business and Speaker Meetings, as well as at Book Club on Zoom and Tastes and Talk at A Saigon Cafe. We will be installing our new officers at this Business Meeting and bidding fond and grateful farewells to those who are leaving office and/or have contributed greatly to our Branch this past year.

Aloha,

Cathy

## Aloha Party for Cathy Thompson

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Save the date for an Aloha Pot-luck Pupu Party for President Cathy Thompson, **Saturday, May 8, 4 to 7 pm** at Janet and Bob Walker's home in Maui Meadows, 792 Kumulani Drive.

We are all sad to see Cathy move to the Mainland, but understand that this is the next step in her life's journey. She and her loyal sidekick Barney (woof!) will eventually be moving to South Carolina, but they will have adventures along the way including a stop in Reno to visit Cathy's daughter.

We value everyone's health and safety, so we are hoping that all who attend will mask until being seated and will have been vaccinated. Partners of members are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Janet so we can plan this outside get-together with social distancing, consistent with the COVID rules in effect at the time of the event. Contact Janet at [bjpwalker@comcast.net](mailto:bjpwalker@comcast.net) or 530-391-2436. Bring a dish to share.

## Speaker Meeting May 22

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The May Speaker Meeting will be held on **Saturday, May 22, 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 Kevin Block, the principal attorney and founder of Maui Immigration Law. He is one of the attorneys in Hawaii that has a large number of asylum cases. Mr Block is the Chair of the American Immigration Lawyer Association, Hawaii Chapter and was named by Governor Ige and the ACLU as the "2017 Outstanding Pro Bono Attorney." Mr Block will provide an overview of immigration law and policy changes under the previous federal administration with a special focus on Refugee/Asylum law. The talk will highlight some of the recent policy changes and their implications for those seeking safety from persecution. There will be time for questions and answers.



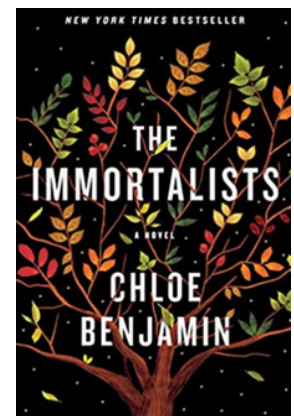
## Book Group May 1

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The next AAUW Book Group meeting will be held on Saturday, May 1, at noon, via Zoom. Please RSVP to Dorothy Tolliver so you can be included in the Zoom Book Group meeting. Email Dorothy at [2425047@gmail.com](mailto:2425047@gmail.com).

The book for May is ***The Immortalists*, by Chloe Benjamin.**

If you knew the date of your death, how would you live your life? It's 1969 in New York City's Lower East Side, and word has spread of the arrival of a mystical woman, a traveling psychic who claims to be able to tell anyone the day they will die. The Gold children sneak out to hear their fortunes. The prophecies inform the next five decades. *The Immortalists* probes the line between destiny and choice, reality and illusion, this world and the next. It is a deeply moving testament to the power of story, the nature of belief, and the unrelenting pull of familial bonds.



The book for ~~May~~ <sup>June</sup> is ***A Spark of Light*, by Jodi Picoult**

The warm fall day starts like any other at the Center, a women's reproductive health services clinic, its staff offering care to anyone who passes through its doors. Then a desperate and distraught gunman bursts in and opens fire, taking all inside hostage. Told in a daring and enthralling narrative structure that counts backward through the hours of the standoff, this is a story that traces its way back to what brought each of these very different individuals to the same place on this fateful day.

## Culture and Diversity

May is a busy month for national celebrations of the achievements and contributions of Pacific Islanders and Asian, Jewish, and Mexican-Americans. But it begins with the most Hawaiian festival of **Lei Day** on the first day of the month. Begun as “May Day is Lei Day” in 1929, it gave residents of the different islands cause to celebrate their special flowers, e.g., Maui’s lovely and fragrant pink Lokelani or Damask Rose. [Lei Day - Wikipedia](#) To experience some fun Lei Day activities virtually and help beat the Guinness record for the longest lei (India’s at 3.1 miles), see the festivities sponsored by Honolulu’s Department of Parks and Recreation: [Lei Day \(honolulu.gov\)](#)



Hawaii Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga co-sponsored the resolution, signed by President Jimmy Carter in 1978, which established the forerunner of the **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**. May was chosen because “on May 7, 1843, the first Japanese immigrant arrived in the United States.... (and) on May 10, 1869, the Golden Spike was driven into the First Transcontinental Railroad, which was completed using Chinese labor.” [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - Wikipedia](#)



May 5 is celebrated by Mexican-Americans and many others as **Cinco de Mayo** “to commemorate the Mexican Army’s victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla, on May 5, 1862...” [Cinco de Mayo - Wikipedia](#)

May 5 is also **Boys’ Day**, which originated in Japan along with Girls’ Day on March 3. Although in Japan the two are combined as Children’s Day, Japanese Americans in Hawaii continue to celebrate them separately. That’s what those colorful carp windsocks streaming in the breeze from island homes represent: honoring the family’s sons and their father.



**Jewish American Heritage Month** was proclaimed by President George W. Bush in April 2006 and May was chosen “because of the successful 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Jews in America marking the Jewish arrival in New Amsterdam.” [Jewish American Heritage Month - Wikipedia](#)



## Culture and Diversity (continued)

**Ramadan**, which began on April 12, 2021, ends the evening of Wednesday, May 12, 2021. Click this link: [Ramadan 2021: 9 questions about the Muslim holy month you were too embarrassed to ask - Vox](#)



New AAUW member Dr. Charmaine Bissen moderates a series of webinars from the **Waipukua Foundation** and invites members to their presentations. On Monday, May 10, 2021, the topic is “Hawaiian Women’s Fashions: Kapa, Cotton and Silk” with guest Agnes Terao-Guiala. [Waipukua Foundation - Home | Facebook](#). To get on the email list for future events, please contact Charmaine at [kinoike@gmail.com](mailto:kinoike@gmail.com).

## Great Decisions Discussion May 28

The Great Decisions discussion group is not an “official” Maui Branch interest group but we share many members. The monthly discussions, held on the fourth Friday of the month, cover important foreign policy topics of the day. The Great Decisions discussions are taking place on Zoom. Maui Branch members are welcome to join. In-person discussions will resume as soon as it’s safe to do so.



The discussion for May is **The Coldest Cold War: Toward A Return to Great Power Competition in the Arctic?** The Zoom meeting will be on Friday, May 28, at 1:00 p.m. Discussions typically take a bit more than one hour. If you wish to attend, please contact Diane Pure so she can send you the login information. Her email is [dpure@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dpure@hawaii.rr.com).

You are encouraged to do any research you think will be enriching before the meeting. There is also a [briefing book available for purchase here](#). Importantly, this is a nonpartisan group and politics are kept out of the discussion as much as possible.

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.

## Tastes and Talk May 20

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Tastes and Talk will continue with conversation and great food on **Thursday, May 20, starting at 6:00 p.m. at A Saigon Cafe.** The address is 1792 Main Street in Wailuku. It is right below the overpass going into Wailuku Town. Please RSVP to Heather Mueller as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, May 17 at 808-430-0120, or [heathermaymueller@yahoo.com](mailto:heathermaymueller@yahoo.com). The phone number for the restaurant is 808-243-9560



You do not have to order in advance. Here is a link to the menu. <https://asaigoncafe.com/menu>

## AAUW Public Policy Update

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A Virtual Town Hall entitled Open Membership was held on January 26, 2021, and can be viewed on the [AAUW Webinars Resource Page](#). In the webinar, CEO Kim Churches explains the name change to AAUW (no longer American Association of University Women) and the reasons for the Board-supported change to eliminate the education requirement.

### Every Voice Matters

AAUW members play an important role in shaping the future for women and girls by choosing the organization's leaders and policy priorities.

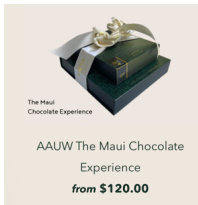
Please remember to vote in the AAUW 2021 National Election so your voices can be heard. Elect the Board of Directors and vote on Bylaws Amendments that would open membership and changes in Public Policy Priorities. Voting closes on May 17 at 5 pm. Click this [link](#) to be directed to the voting page.

(Submitted by Janet Walker)

## Chocolate Laulima Fundraiser Update

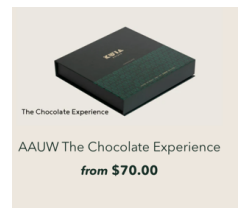
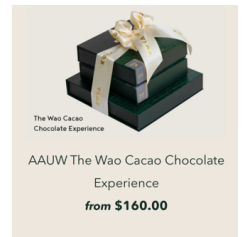
AAUW - Maui is part of the “Chocolate Laulima” program of Maui Ku’ia Estate Chocolate. We will receive **40% of the retail sales cost** for purchases of items under [this link.](#) So this is a fun and easy way to support AAUW-Maui.

Maui Ku’ia recently created a **Virtual Chocolate Tasting** for anyone who hasn't been able to attend a tasting at the Lahaina chocolate factory, has been craving to share the experience with friends and family, or who just wants to have fun tasting chocolate at home.



Each experience offers a variety of chocolate to enjoy alongside a guided video hosted by MKEC Founder and CEO Dr. Gunars Valkirs. Join him along a chocolate journey from the comfort of your home.

Learn about cacao origins, our process for formulating the perfect chocolate bite, how your body is perfectly engineered to enjoy chocolate, Maui Ku’ia’s cultural values, and everything in between. **Remember, you will be helping to support AAUW-Maui if you purchase a Virtual Chocolate Tasting through the Chocolate Laulima program.**



## Et Cetera

### Happy Birthday

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|-------------------|--------|
| Karen Grafe       | May 5  |
| Christine Wooding | May 11 |
| Sara Green        | May 15 |
| Gerry McBroom     | May 17 |
| Carol Hogard      | May 29 |



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