



### ***Calendar of September Events***

*Saturday Sept 2      Book Group*

*Thursday Sept 14    Happy Hour*

*Wednesday Sept 20   Lunch Bunch*

*Saturday Sept 23     Speaker Meeting*

## **September 2023 Newsletter**



### ***Co-President Report***

Aloha Maui Branch!

This is the first Co-President report from Pat Gotschalk and Lauren Akitake. None of us could have predicted that we would lose the historic town of Lahaina in one terrible fire. Our members immediately came to the aid of the community by volunteering at the War Memorial shelter, the Sears drop-off location, the UH Maui Culinary Academy and elsewhere, and by opening their homes and hearts to the community. Some of our members were evacuated or have been struggling with the lack of clean drinking water. Sadly, one member, Barb Potts, lost her Lahaina home. The challenges of this time will not end quickly. We were heartened by numerous emails from AAUW branches across the country asking about our members and also offering to make donations to Maui relief efforts. It reminded us that AAUW is a national organization.

The Maui Branch has a full schedule of events from September to May. The Annual Calendar will be sent to members by email. Please be sure to review it and mark the important dates on your calendar. We are looking forward to seeing our members at Speaker Meetings that will be held at UH Maui College. #MauiStrong

Aloha,

Pat and Lauren

## ***Speaker Meeting, Saturday, September 23***

**We are resuming our Speaker Meetings on Saturday, September 23 at UH Maui College Noi'i Bulding Room 201.** The Noi'i Building is on the mauka side of campus near the main entrance at the corner of West Ka'ahumanu Ave. and South Wakea Ave. Go into the entrance, turn left, and park in the parking lot under the trees. There is a ramp to the second floor so it's easy to access. Thank you Joyce Yamada for sponsoring our use of the campus room.

The traditional schedule has changed because we are no longer including a business meeting. So, we will start at 10:30 a.m. with a social half hour and 11:00 a.m. for the speaker and question/answer period. *Bring a brown bag lunch and talk story afterwards! Water and iced tea will be provided.*

We will provide a Zoom option but we strongly encourage our members to attend and socialize. The Zoom link will be emailed in the week before the meeting.



**Our first speaker of the year is Younghee Overly.** She will talk about the next Hawaii legislative session as it relates to the goals and mission of AAUW, and also give some ideas about how to become a public policy activist.

*Younghee Overly is a dedicated advocate for women's rights and gender equity, bringing fifteen years of passionate volunteering experience to the cause. As the Founder of the North Carolina Chapter and Vice President of Strategic Planning on the United Nations (UN) Women USA national board, she has played a pivotal role in advancing gender equality initiatives. Her commitment to progress is also evident in her role as the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii Public Policy Chair, where she has been contributing since 2018 and serving on the AAUW Honolulu board. Younghee's journey in advocating for women's empowerment led her to the profound understanding that the global women's movement is not merely about saving women, but about empowering them to be catalysts for positive change on a global scale.*

*Relocating with her husband from North Carolina to Hawaii in 2016, Younghee brings her diverse experiences to a new landscape. A proud parent to a 26-year-old son, she balances her professional and advocacy pursuits with her personal interests. An avid traveler, hiker, snorkeler, and yoga enthusiast, Younghee also indulges in her love for Korean dramas.*

*Younghee holds a B.S. in computer science from Duke University (1983) and an M.A. in liberal studies from North Carolina State University (2016). Her multifaceted journey and unwavering dedication make her a true champion of women's empowerment and gender equality.*

## **Supporting our UH Maui College Students**

Our branch received notes of support from several AAUW branches across the country. Many have asked if our branch recommends donating to any particular relief effort.

The Board voted in an emergency session to recommend donations to [the UH Foundation's Help Maui fund](#) in order to support our local college students, and also voted to make a \$1,500 donation to the Help Maui Fund from our branch funds.

UH Maui College reports that 32 students have responded to a survey that they lost their homes and 46 students responded that they lost their jobs. So, these emergency funds will be put to good use.

## **AAUW Maui Facebook Page**

If you have a Facebook account, be sure to like and follow the new [AAUW Maui Branch facebook page](#). If you and other Maui Branch members are participating in an event together, please take a photo and send a brief explanation by email to co-President Lauren Akitake so she can post it on the Facebook page. [Lauren@akitakelaw.com](mailto:Lauren@akitakelaw.com).

## **AAUW Book Club Will Resume Zoom Meetings on Saturday, September 2, at Noon**

**The book for September is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus**

Set in 1960s California, this is the hilarious, idiosyncratic and uplifting story of a female scientist whose career is constantly derailed by the idea that a woman's place is in the home, only to find herself starring as the host of America's most beloved TV cooking show.

To get the zoom link, please email Dorothy Tolliver at [2425047@gmail.com](mailto:2425047@gmail.com)

**The book for the October meeting is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray**

*Belle de Costa Greene worked as J.P. Morgan's personal librarian and curator of his private library housed in a townhouse off of East 36<sup>th</sup> Street before the collection became the Morgan Library and Museum. While she became an influential individual in the art world and one of the country's most prominent librarians, she hid a devastating secret – she was a Black woman “passing” as a white woman.*

## **Branch Happy Hour, Thursday, September 14**

The Board voted to discontinue our Taste and Talk dinner and start a new Happy Hour get-together that will be held on the **second Thursday of every other month** at a branch member's home. It will be very casual – bring a light pupu and adult beverage if desired (water and iced tea will be provided).

**The first Branch Happy Hour will be held at Dorothy Tolliver's home in Wailuku (705 Pio Drive) on Thursday, September 14 from 4 - 6 pm.** No RSVPs required, just drop in. We encourage new members to attend! Also this is a perfect event to bring a prospective member. If they join at the event we can offer a discounted Shape The Future membership for one year.

*The next Happy Hour will be on Thursday, November 9, same time.. Who wants to host? It would be great to rotate the location (e.g., Kihei, Upcountry, Central). Let us know if you are interested by emailing [aauwmauibbranch@gmail.com](mailto:aauwmauibbranch@gmail.com) or call/text Pat at 808-707-2001.*

## **Lunch Bunch, Wednesday, September 20**

We are starting up Lunch Bunch again after our summer hiatus. The first get together will be held **at Yak and Yeti, an Indian, Tibetan and Nepalese restaurant in Kihei on Wednesday September 20 at 12:00 noon.** The restaurant is located in the Kihei Foodland shopping center 1881 South Kihei Road. [The menu can be found here.](#) Please RSVP to Pat Gotschalk at [pagotschalk@gmail.com](mailto:pagotschalk@gmail.com) by Monday September 18 so she can hold a table. New members, please come! We are looking forward to meeting you. Wear your AAUW T Shirts so new members can find us!

## **Public Policy Interest Group**

Many of our members have a strong interest in advocating for AAUW's goals and mission. To facilitate this goal, the Board voted to create a "Public Policy Interest Group." The national AAUW website provides [many ideas for how to take action](#) including the Two Minute Activist. Our September speaker, Younghee Overly will discuss ways that members can advocate at the Hawaii state and local level including meeting with elected officials, writing Op Eds or letters to the editor, speaking to other groups on Maui, and similar activities.

Currently in the planning stage is a *Day of Action on O'ahu on March 7, 2024*, similar to the Lobby Day held in March 2023. All branch members will be invited to attend.

If anyone is interested in spearheading the Public Policy Interest Group, please contact our communications director, Tammy Malloy at [aauwmauibbranch@gmail.com](mailto:aauwmauibbranch@gmail.com) and let her know the name of the contact person for joining this interest group. We can send the information by email to all of our membership to get the ball rolling. The branch Public Policy Interest Group can also coordinate with the AAUW [state level Public Policy Network](#).

## ***Mo'olelo 'o Lāhainā***



Written by Dr. Charmaine Bissen, AAUW Maui Member

“Lāhainā, i ka malu ‘ulu o Lele.” This ‘ōlelo no‘eau is translated as “Lāhainā in the shade of the breadfruit trees of Lele.” The ancient name for Lāhainā was Lele. Lāhainā was known for its lush lo‘i or taro fields with the groves of kukui nut and hala. There were plentiful sweet potatoes later known for sweet potato beer with the sailors of Lāhainā.

Lāhainā’s history is rich and influenced the generations that followed. Battles were fought in Lāhainā while reconciliations were made on the battlefields when chiefs realized their losses were significant. This article focuses not on the battles fought but on the significant historical landmarks and a very brief description of when they were built.

In 1802, King Kamehameha declared Lāhainā as the capitol of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Lāhainā remained the capitol until August 30, 1850. In 1850, a special meeting of the Privy Council was held and a resolution was passed and approved by Mō‘i Kauikeaoluli and Kuhina Nui Keoni Ana who declared, ”Resolved, that Honolulu is declared to be a city, and the Capital of the Hawaiian islands.” (Foreign Office and Executive Collection, Series 421 volume 1, pages 301-303).

Some other significant dates of Lāhainā were the building of a house of red stone at Apukaiaio in Paunau, for Queen Ka‘ahumanu after the war of Nu‘uanu in 1796. The house was built by Mr. Miller and Mr. Jack and was a most fashionable western style home (Kū‘oko‘a: June 15, 1867).

In May 1823, the Waiola Church was founded by Mō‘īwahine Keōpūolani and became the first Christian church on Maui. Several of our beloved ali‘i are buried in the cemetery of the Waiola Church (Lahaina, Maui, Church Records Book, 1823-1872, Hawaiian Mission Houses Library and Archives).

In 1827, Mō‘īwahine Ka‘ahumanu called the ‘Aha Ali‘i together to order the first printed criminal code in the Hawaiian Islands. The laws included crimes for murder, theft, selling of rum, prostitution, and gambling. These laws were declared throughout the Kingdom and to be taught in all schools.

In 1831, Maui’s Lahainaluna High School opened and became the oldest school west of the Rockies. The land was donated by Chiefess Kalakua Ho‘apiliwahine. Queen Ka‘ahumanu supported the school and encouraged instruction of the Hawaiian students while providing funding.

In February 1832, Queen Ka'ahumanu supported the building of a new fort to protect the town from the unruly whalers. Governor Hoapili of Maui completed the building of the Fort on the waterfront within a month. In 1854, the Fort was demolished, and the blocks were used again to build the Hale Pa'ahao, a new prison at Wainee Street and Prison Road. A courthouse was built on the demolished Fort site. In 1964, a portion of the old Lāhainā Fort was reconstructed. In 1965, the old Lāhainā Courthouse was designated as a significant contributing partner within the Lāhainā Historic District. It was used as the Lāhainā Arts Council in contemporary time.

In 1834, the missionary home of Rev. Dwight Baldwin was completed and he moved into it. It later became the Baldwin Home Museum. In 1840, the Lāhainā Lighthouse was built and commissioned by King Kamehameha III. It was the oldest Pacific lighthouse. Years later in 1853, the old Lāhainā Prison (Hale Pa'ahao, loosely translated as "stuck in irons house" was built. (Lāhainātown.com) It primarily housed the disorderly sailors who refused to return to their ships. In 1860, Pioneer Mill Company was established. It successfully grew commercial sugar cane until 1999.

"In 1873, the non indigenous Banyan Tree was planted. Sheriff William Owen Smith planted the Indian banyan tree to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Protestant mission in Lāhainā. It also became the site for King Kamehameha III's birthday party in 1886 and a ceremony to mark Hawaii becoming a U.S. territory." (Lāhainā Restoration Project).

In summary, Lāhainā is rich with history and has many more mo'olelo to share. As we mourn the loss of Lāhainā's historical sites and damage to the 'āina, and the loss of human life and property, let us continue to be resilient and holomua.

***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.***

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<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092200534050>

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