

Branching Out

Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Annual Meeting June 27

Seven members participated in the annual meeting on June 27. It was a web conferencing meeting to keep everyone safe. The following officers were elected: Ann Gale, President; Joanne Page, Membership Vice President, Barb Zimany, Treasurer, Leadership Team, Sharon Gee, Jan Pickerell, Faith Sherman.

Barb Zimany reported May 31, 2020 balances of \$3927.63 in working funds and \$305.76 in reserved funds. Income for the past 12 months was \$1,246, and expenses were \$441.04. This amount was reduced from previous years because Tech Trek was not held this year.

Members were reminded that it is time to renew membership. That can be done online, in the AAUW member services database, or by sending a check to Barb Zimany.

AAUW Des Moines Picnic July 10

Join us at Beavertdale Park, 3333 Adams Street, for a light picnic get-together on Friday, July 10, at noon. We plan to socialize and maintain social distance at the shelterhouse picnic tables. We ask that you bring your own beverage. Faith Sherman and Sharon Gee will provide individually wrapped sandwiches from Jimmy Johns. You are welcome to bring a friend. A number count is needed. Just let Faith Sherman know that you are coming, and let her know if a guest will be coming. Contact her at wsherman41@gmail.com or 278-2242. Thanks go to Faith Sherman and Sharon Gee for the planning.

Equal Pay Day for Black Women August 13 Using Zoom

Equal Pay Day for black women is August 13. Plans are underway for a panel presentation at 7:00 p.m. that day, featuring Carletta Knox-Seymour, new president of AAUW Iowa, Dev Kiedaisch, past gender equity director, and a representative from the NAACP. We have also reached out to two members of the Iowa Legislature to be part of a panel discussion about the gender pay gap for black women. Because it is an online event, members of other branches can be invited as well.

Please Renew Your Membership

Please renew your membership. At the national level AAUW has had some financial concerns, and has never needed your dues and donations more. You may choose one of two ways to do this:

1. Fill out the membership renewal form that is included, and send it with a check for your dues to Barb Zimany at 10022 Valdez Dr., Urbandale, IA 50322.
2. Or, you may renew membership and pay dues with a credit card from the AAUW Member Services Database if you prefer. The "Renew My Membership" choice is toward the bottom of your profile on the member services database. See picture.

Dues and Donations to AAUW Are Tax Deductible

AAUW is a 501 c3 charitable organization, and \$56 of your dues are tax deductible. Donations to AAUW are also tax deductible. The AAUW Action Fund, AAUW Iowa and AAUW Des Moines are 501c4 social welfare organizations, so the \$23 of your dues that goes to those organizations is not tax deductible.

Betty Durden Women's Hall of Fame Honoree

Our AAUW branch is pleased that Betty Durden has been chosen as one of the 2020 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame honorees. As an author, mother, mentor, educator and activist, she believed strongly in the importance of education and equity for women and acted on her beliefs. AAUW provided a platform for launching into her many positions of leadership in our community and state. These included YWCA



Adult Program Director and Coordinator of Career Planning Service, Special Assistant to the President for Equal Opportunity Programs and Director of Human Resources at Drake University, the founder of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women, and chair of the second attempt in Iowa to pass the ERA.

Betty died in 2018. We join with her family and many friends and associates in recognizing and celebrating Betty's many accomplishments. In lieu of an in-person ceremony this year, the inductees will be honored digitally in a late August video, the date still to be announced. The in-person ceremony will be postponed



19th Amendment Activities

A lot of the activities that were planned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment have been cancelled. Some may actually be postponed until 2021. Check <https://19th-amendment-centennial.org/> event organizers before making plans to go.

In Memoriam

JoAnne Cook passed away April 23rd. The family is planning a service to be held at a later date.



In Memoriam

Sandy Zimmerman passed away on June 17.



Meeting Plans

The AAUW Des Moines book group will meet using Zoom in the future. The International relations group recently met in Faith Sherman's patio, while maintaining social distance. Contact Joanne Page for more information. If you have more ideas for activities that could be done using either Zoom web conferencing or social distance, please pass those ideas along to a member of the leadership team.

League of Women Voters Book

Watch for more information about a new book from Linda Meloy, an Iowa writer. *And They Persisted: A Century of Impact By Iowa Leagues* can be preordered from the League of Women Voters.

