Our Mission: To honor women and girls, empowering them through education,

 service and leadership development.

Co-President’s Message

A lot has happened in the past month. The election was accomplished, but is not over as of this writing, the pandemic grew exponentially, even right here in Minnesota, and we are all having very limited Thanksgiving celebrations. The strong feeling of division in our country seems very prevalent. I think we are all looking for ways to heal this frightening rift.

Maybe our November meeting with other members of the community for a webinar with Debbie Irving, author of *Waking Up White*, was a small effort to work toward healing one of the country’s wounds. Those who took part in the Zoom meeting learned new things and had their minds stretched.

For our December meeting we will have a Zoom social time to share a favorite holiday custom, experience, or recipe. If you choose, you are encouraged to dress for the meeting in your ugly Christmas sweater or any other festive wear. We will have a “host” to help the conversation move along so we don’t talk over each other. Hope you will join us for some enjoyable time together.

These are challenging times for all of us. Stay strong and well!!!

*Resilience or hardiness is the ability to adapt to new circumstances when life presents the unpredictable.*

-Salvatore Maddi

Carolyn Bogott and Jen Lawhead

Co-Presidents, Austin Chapter – AAUW

**December Meeting**

In December we usually look forward to meeting at the Coffee House on Main for holiday cheer. This year we are doing something different.  We will do a holiday event via Zoom! You will be able to sit in the warmth and comfort of your home drinking your choice of beverage. We hope you will join us to check in, share a favorite holiday memory, or share how you will celebrate this year.

You should be able to click on the link below to join us.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908176801?pwd=anplQm95R1d0M1FPM3ovWFl2dVpGdz09>  
  
Meeting ID: 869 0817 6801  
Passcode: AAUW20

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!

Jenni Braaten and Barb Hunter

Program Co-Chairs

**Evening Book Group**

Evening Book Group will meet via Zoom on Monday, December 21st at 7 PM. Angie Ruhter will be leading discussion of *Red Shirts* by John Scalzi. Please use the link below to join the discussion! In January, we will be discussing *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See (please note this is a book change from what was previously published).

Join Zoom Meeting AAUW Evening Book Group – Monday, December 21st at 7 PM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88901560083?pwd=NkwrN1p2SFQvQTNXbko3Wkt4QW1GQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 0156 0083

Passcode: 305554

**AM Book Group**

Morning book group will meet on Zoom at 9 a.m. Thursday, December 17.  Liz Richardson will lead discussion on "The Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson. Contact Theresa Becker-Ersland for the Zoom link if you need it.

*Mission Statement*: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

*Vision Statement:* AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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