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

 service and leadership development.

Co-President’s Message

As the political conventions come to a close, it is ever more evident that we need to work to get out the vote. It is very scary to think that this could be a contested election.

Remember this is the 100th anniversary of our foremothers (of course, only the white ones) finally squeaking through to get the right to vote. Our ancestors were RESILIENT in advocating for equal voting rights. We are having to show resilience now as we are battling to serve our families, students, and community during COVID. So we are not the first to have to fight, and we won't be the last... but perhaps we can find courage or inspiration in those women who have gone before.

Make a plan of how you are going to vote. If you don’t want to go in person, make sure you register to vote absentee by mail. It is time to request the ballot NOW. SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

FROM THE OFFICIAL WEB SITE

Election day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Minnesota allows any voter to request a ballot by mail. You can also vote in person. Minnesota offers early voting.

Vote by Mail

Request your mail-in ballot with a [mail ballot application](https://www.sos.state.mn.us/media/2444/english-regular-absentee-ballot-application.pdf).

Fill out the application completely.

Submit the request to your [local election office](https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/find-county-election-office/). You should request your ballot as far in advance of the election as possible. The deadline to request a ballot by mail is (received by) Monday, November 2, 2020.

When your ballot arrives, read it carefully and follow the instructions to complete it and return it.

Carolyn Bogott and Jen Lawhead

Co-Presidents, Austin Chapter – AAUW

**September Meeting**

We hope all of our members are healthy and doing well during these trying times. The AAUW board has met via Zoom. I think some of you have heard of and maybe used Zoom by now to see people. At this time, we are hoping to conduct fall meetings via Zoom and meet in person beginning in January.  Programs this year will be different due to the COVID-19 situation. We have ideas for programs but some are dependent on how we meet. We will do our best to keep you informed of upcoming programs.

On September 8, 2020 at 6:30 pm we will have Amanda Kiefer, Deputy, Elections and Vital Records from the Mower County Auditor/Treasurer's Office speak on Absentee Ballots and how the election process could look this year. This meeting will be held via Zoom.

If you would like to participate please send an email to Barb Hunter ([hunterbarb41@gmail.com](mailto:hunterbarb41@gmail.com)) and your email will be added to the meeting list. An email will be sent out with a reminder of the link and information needed to attend the meeting. You must have the Zoom application on your device. The meeting information has also been provided below for your reference.  
  
We look forward to seeing many of your faces at our September meeting!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5197973860?pwd=alFMUGhJVU8vd3kyWktsUk56ZWdWQT09>

Meeting ID: 519 797 3860

Passcode: 7FWfF1

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,5197973860#,,,,,,0#,,816619# US (New York)

+13017158592,,5197973860#,,,,,,0#,,816619# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

        +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

        +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

        +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

        +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

        +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

        +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 519 797 3860

Passcode: 816619

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdllVYvQ1H>

Jenni Braaten and Barb Hunter

**Small Groups**

**Evening Book Group**

Evening Book Group will meet socially distanced, outdoors in the shady end of the parking lot of the Austin Congregational UCC (1910 3rd Ave NW) on Monday, September 21th at 6:30 PM. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TIME CHANGE FOR THIS MONTH ONLY. Judy Pesonen will be leading discussion of *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett. Please bring your own chair! If weather is inclement, plans will be revised. Please RSVP to Rae Dawn at [rao\_raedawn@yahoo.com](mailto:rao_raedawn@yahoo.com) so that you can be notified via email as to our confirmed meeting venue. In October, we will be discussing *The Girl With Seven Names* by Hyeonsea Lee.

**Other Small Groups**

At this time, other small groups are on pause until further notice.

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| **AAUW Financial Report** | | |
| **July 1 - August 30, 2020** | | |
|  |  |  |
| **Period: 7/1/20 - 8/30/20** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Opening Balance:** |  | **$13,289.16** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income:** |  |  |
| Dues received | 450.00 |  |
| Scholarship donations | 100.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Income:** | **$ 550.00** | $13,839.16 |
|  |  |  |
| **Disbursements:** |  |  |
| Dues Paid - National | 649.00 |  |
| Dues Paid - State | 117.00 |  |
| Scholarship funding | 3,000.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Disbursements:** | **$3,766.00** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Closing Balance 8/30/20** |  | **$10,073.16** |

*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.

**Southern Highlights Editor:** Rae Dawn Rao [rao\_raedawn@yahoo.com](mailto:rao_raedawn@yahoo.com) **Minnesota State Website:** <http://www.aauwmn.org> **Association Website:**  <http://www.aauw.org> **Association e-mail: info@aauw.org**



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AAUW Southern Highlights

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