

*AAUW advances 015equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.*

National AAUW Web Site  
<http://www.aauw.org>

Tennessee AAUW Web Site  
<http://aauw-tn.aauw.net>

Oak Ridge AAUW Web Site  
<http://oakridge-tn.aauw.net>

**November—December 2019**



Holiday Tea 2018



*You are cordially invited*  
***Annual Holiday Green Tea***  
**Sunday, December 8, 2018**  
**3:00—5:00 pm**  
**Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church**  
**Activities Building, Room 101**



The **Resonance Choral Group** from Oak Ridge High School, directed by Amanda Ragan, will sing several selections, among them *The Holly and the Ivy* and a version of *Ole Christmas Tree* in a very different meter. The group is composed of 28 members, including sophomore, junior, and senior young women.

Tasty treats will be provided by board members, who will pour tea and coffee. As usual, there will be a tree decorated with White House ornaments along with festive decorations for the tables.

AAUW members who attend the tea may donate to Oak Ridge Branch funds, including local scholarships, AAUW funds (formerly Educational Foundation), and Branch operating expenses.



### *President's Message*

It's holiday time when we enjoy many activities with our family and Friends. Our AAUW Holiday Tea, scheduled for Sunday, December 8 from 3-5 at the First Presbyterian Church Activities Building, is always a holiday treat. We shall enjoy the music of the Oak Ridge High School chorus, Resonance, with Amanda Ragan, Director. Best of all, we will be able to enjoy each other's company and conversations. We also can wish each other "Happy Holidays."

There will be no November General Meeting. Happy Thanksgiving to each of you!

2020, the 100th anniversary year of the Women's Right to Vote, is upcoming. We have plans to join with the Knoxville and Maryville Branches to celebrate this historic occasion. Stay tuned . . .

—*Mayme*

### **Report from Public Policy**

The emphasis on public policy this year is informing legislators of the ways in which legislation is still needed to even the playing field for women. The goal for our Branch is to have a group of AAUW members who are comfortable talking with legislators and providing useful information for them in deciding how to cast their votes when bills come up in the legislature. A list of legislators and suggestions for making contacts are included on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter. Please let Anne Garcia, Kay Moss, or Virginia Jones know if you are interested in helping with this very important effort.

### **Report from Treasurer**

All White House Christmas ornaments have been sold by Barbara Walker! A number of people purchased more than one of the 25 ornaments which honored President Dwight Eisenhower. Proceeds from these sales go to the Local Education Projects fund.

AAUW contributions to the Roane State Food Pantry program for Students have been helpful in providing funds for the purchase of items for meals for students who are hard pressed to stay in school and buy groceries at the same time. First Presbyterian Church which manages the funding reports that they are spending about \$865 a month on the purchase of needed food for the program. AAUW has a yellow donation bucket available at meetings.

—*Virginia Jones, Treasurer*

### **Mark Your Calendar**

**December 8:** Holiday Green Tea, 3-5 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Activities Building

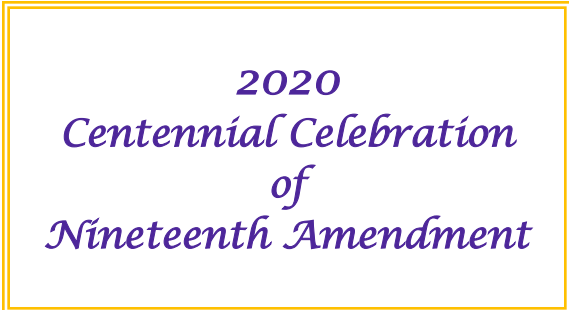
Lunch Bunch and Book Group will not meet in December

**January 13, 2020:** Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am, Raspberry, Jackson Square

**January 13, 2020:** AAUW Board Meeting, 10:00 am, RSCC Goins Building

**January 17, 2020:** Book Group, 3 pm, Commonwealth Parlor, Book is *Presidents Who Screwed Up America* by Brian McClanahan

**January 27, 2020:** Branch General Meeting, 11:30 am, First Presbyterian Church, Activities Building



## Elected Officials

**U. S. Senator Lamar Alexander** (202) 224-4944  
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
[www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email](http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email)

800 Market Street #112 (865) 545-4253  
Knoxville, TN 37902

**U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn** (202) 224-3344  
357 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
[www.blackburn.senate.gov/contact\\_marsha](http://www.blackburn.senate.gov/contact_marsha)

800 Market Street #121 (865) 540-3781  
Knoxville, TN 37902 (629) 800-6600 Nashville

**U.S. Representative Chuck Fleischmann** (202) 225-3271  
2410 Rayburn House Off. Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515  
[www.fleischmann.house.gov](http://www.fleischmann.house.gov) (then click on Contact)

200 Administration Road Suite 100 (865) 576-1976  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

**Roane County State Senator Ken Yager** (615) 741-1449  
425 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue N 800-449-8366 ext. 11449  
Cordell Hull Building Suite 704 [sen.ken.yager@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:sen.ken.yager@capitol.tn.gov)  
Nashville, TN 37243

P. O. Box 684  
Kingston, TN 37763

**Anderson Co State Senator  
Lt. Gov. Randy McNally** (615) 741-6806  
425 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue [lt.gov.randyMcNally@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:lt.gov.randyMcNally@capitol.tn.gov)  
Suite 700 Cordell Hull Building  
Nashville, TN 37243

94 Royal Troon Circle (865) 483-5544  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

**State Representative John Ragan** (615) 741-4400  
425 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue [rep.john.ragan@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.john.ragan@capitol.tn.gov)  
Suite 614 Cordell Hull Building  
Nashville, TN 37243

119 Morningside Drive  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

**State Representative Kent Calfee**  
476 Dogwood Valley Road (854) 376-3517  
Kingston, TN 37763

425 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Cordell Hull Office Building Suite 542 [rep.kent.calfee@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.kent.calfee@capitol.tn.gov)  
Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 741-7658

**Anderson Co. Commission**  
[www.andersontn.otg](http://www.andersontn.otg)

**Roane Co. Commission**  
[www.roanecountytn.gov](http://www.roanecountytn.gov)

**Oak Ridge City Council**  
[www.oakridgetn.gov](http://www.oakridgetn.gov)

**What to do, what to do?** If you ask yourself this when thinking of the AAUW mission to advance equity for women and girls, the public policy committee wishes to share an opportunity.

It often feels as though our one voice won't be heard above the din of public "discourse." In reality, politicians know that one voice expressed represents as many as one hundred not expressed. In other words, one personally directed email or letter or phone call to an elected official's office is taken seriously. And ten or twenty, written without a boiler plate, can have a significant impact on an official's decision.

Remember that most people do not act. If you choose to take 20 minutes in each week to call, email, or write a quick note to an official, you may be the deciding factor in their choice or give them the final nudge that encourages them to do the right thing. You may be the person who informs them that they need more information.

To make it easier to contact officials who are responsible for representing us the committee has printed a list of contacts. Virginia Jones sends the membership articles and links to information on issues which coincide with our mission. If you notice issues being raised locally, regionally, or nationally about which you think the membership would be interested, you can pass those along to Virginia to share.

Reminders (which you probably already know) for contacting officials:

1. Identify yourself as a constituent.
2. Be respectful and polite. (Vinegar and honey, right?)
3. Be specific in your ask. "I would like you to vote for/against \_\_\_\_\_" Be prepared to say why this concerns you.
4. Thank the representative or official for their attention.

AAUW Oak Ridge will focus this year on issues of equity in education and economics for women and girls. When girls are encouraged to learn and earn as ambitiously as boys, the entire economy improves.

—*Public Policy Committee*

*Ruth Johnson Smiley  
Newsletter Editor  
smileycj@gmail.com*