
AAUW advances equity 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>

April-May 2020

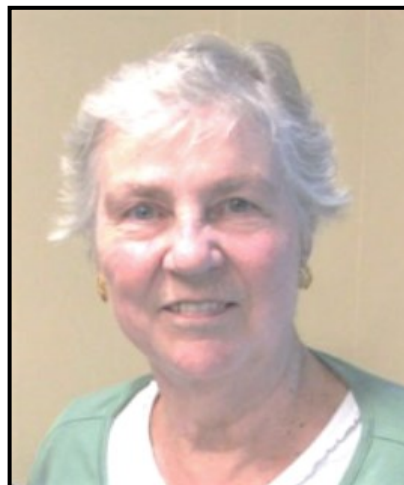
President's Message

Did you ever dream of a global pandemic in our time? We are in a situation that most of us could never even imagine. Some are bored and lonely; some are grieving over the many illnesses and deaths; others are feeling financial pain; while still others are simply grateful for the peace and quiet. I have purged files to fill recycle bins, updated picture albums, caught up on my reading, enjoyed genealogy computer projects, and completed spring cleaning. You, no doubt, also have found activities to fill your stay-at-home days.

Unfortunately, we cannot meet again this fiscal year. Most of us are in the vulnerable COVID-19 category. We certainly do not want anyone to be ill.

Your Nominating Committee has been working diligently to find officers for next year. Some of you have declined an opportunity to serve as an officer. However, I know that all of you will serve our organization in various ways. You are committed to our AAUW mission.

We have provided a local scholarship this year. We will give the ORHS Media Center some books. Our gift to National will honor Anne Garcia and Charles Jones. Public policy information continues. We can look forward to more interesting, inciteful programs beginning in September. I trust that you will continue your AAUW membership. Our treasurer, Virginia Jones, is making this



Mayme Crowell

process easy with the mailing of membership-renewal letters. Perhaps you know others who may wish to join our group. They would be welcomed.

In the meantime, enjoy this lovely spring with its beautiful flowers and songbirds. Plan a summer full of meaningful activities and contact your friends from both near and far. We will survive these hard times. Hopefully, soon we shall see each other and enjoy one another's company once again. I miss each of you.

—Mayme

*In Memory of
Barbara Powers Campbell*



Barbara was a long-time loyal member of AAUW, having attained the status of a 50-year member several years ago. She served as Branch President in 1980-1982. In 1982, the Branch named its grant to the Flora Rawls Endowment Fund in Barbara's honor. This year, the Branch is making a gift to AAUW's Government and Sustainability Fund in memory of Barbara.

**Donate to AAUW National to
Protect Women's Economic Security**

From now through May 30, your gift will be matched up to \$18,000, thanks to the generosity of AAUW's board of directors, national leaders, CEO Kim Churches, and AAUW staff. Please give today to help AAUW advocate for paid sick leave, student-loan forgiveness, and real-time economic solutions for emergencies. You may send your contribution, along with your dues, to Virginia Jones, Treasurer, by May 25.

**Congratulations to Charles Jones
and Anne Garcia**

The Oak Ridge Branch grant of \$500 will go to AAUW's Government and Sustainability Fund. The grant is named in honor of Charles Jones who has contributed to the program committee, assisted the treasurer, and helped with other tasks as needed, and Anne Garcia who has served as Vice President for Programs for the past two years.

AAUW Public Policy

The State AAUW Public Policy Committee had a teleconference on Sunday, April 26, and decided to use the time before the Tennessee State Legislature is scheduled to reconvene on June 1 in contacting Governor Bill Lee to offer to be a resource for the making of decisions about legislation affecting women in the state. The committee chair, Peggy Swann, will also see about setting up a meeting with Senators Alexander and Blackburn. The National AAUW will be consulted before these meetings are arranged. The purpose of these meetings is to inform our state and national leaders about ways we can move forward with helping women and at the same time helping the Tennessee economy.

Three other organizations have expressed interest in working with AAUW on the question of economic security for women. Those organizations are the YWCA, A Greater Balance, and the Greater Fund of Chattanooga.

The Public Policy Committee would like to stress the need for more members on the State Committee in order to carry out our goals. The next State Public Policy meeting is Saturday, May 13, to avoid meeting on Mother's Day.

To participate as a member of the committee, contact Peggyswann@gmail.com.

In the meantime, here is a website for AAUW members who want to track legislation in Tennessee:

<https://wappcapitol.tn.gov/apps/mybills/Login.aspx>

—Virginia Jones, Public Policy Chair



2020-2021 Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your AAUW membership for next year. You have received a payment notice, along with a self-addressed and stamped envelope, from Virginia Jones, Treasurer.

Please send payment to Virginia by May 25.

30th Anniversary Hubble Telescope



Nancy Grace Roman

Nancy Grace Roman (1925-2018) is known as "The Mother of the Hubble." Many members will remember Nancy Grace's visit here the year of the 25th anniversary of the Hubble. AAUW and Friends of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory sponsored her talk which was well attended at the Museum of Science and Energy. She was a long-time active member of AAUW.

Meetings and Activities AAUW Oak Ridge Branch

In the interest of slowing the pace of the coronavirus, **all meetings and group activities of the AAUW Oak Ridge Branch are cancelled until further notice.** Business decisions will be made by the Board through email.

*We Care
About Our
Members*



If you know of illness or death in the family of a member, please contact Carol Hoffner, carolhoffner35@comcast.net

Nominating Committee Report Nominees for Branch Officers 2020-2021

President
Vice President Membership
Vice President Program . . . Kay Moss
Treasurer Virginia Jones
Secretary

The Nominating Committee has been working diligently to fill the slate of offices for next year. If you are willing to serve, please contact Jean Hiser at 316hiser@comcast.net.

Ruth Johnson Smiley, Newsletter Editor
smileyrcj@gmail.com

Next newsletter will be published in August 2020.