**ANNUAL REPORT**

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

**OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE BRANCH**

**1 JUNE 2019 – 30 JUNE 2020**

**Membership**

41 members as of June 11, 2019 to 42 members as of May 31, 2020, including two (2) life members (one of whom is not a local member), seven (7) 50-year members, and two (2) student members, and two (2) new members. Two (2) dedicated members died during his time.

**Branch Meetings**

Five (5) general meetings including a December Holiday Reception with an average attendance of twenty-five (25). The Covid-19 pandemic required cancellation of three (3) general meetings.

Topics included Oak Ridge Heritage/Preservation Activities, Truancy Issues in Anderson County, ORHS Resonance Singers, New Oak Ridge Senior Center, Women/Family Issues at State and National Levels.

Knoxville and Maryville Branches and State officers were invited to the February meeting to hear Dia Cirillo, National Board Member, speak.

Donation of two hundred dollars ($200) to First Presbyterian Oak Ridge Church for providing general meeting space.

**Study/Interest Groups**

Book Group met seven (7) times at Oak Ridge Commonwealth (former Greenfield) Senior Living Facility.

Lunch Bunch met eight (8) times at various local restaurants.

**Communications**

Published Yearbook and nine (9) Newsletters with 85% e-mailed.

Publicized meetings, projects, awards, and public policy issues in Oak Ridger, Oak Ridge Today, and Knoxville News-Sentinel.

Posted meetings on Oak Ridge Today website.

Purchased AAUW signs to use at meeting and community events.

Hosted numerous community visitors interested in programs.

Telephoned members in advance of each General Meeting using a Telephone Committee.

Held open Board Meetings at Roane State Community College (RSCC).

Mailed Newsletters to members without e-mail.

Maintained Branch website, [www.aauw-oakridge.org](http://www.aauw-oakridge.org) courtesy of AAUW’s national website.

Published several letters on relevant issues to the Editors of local newspapers.

**Educational Opportunities Fund**

Gave $500 National Grant named in honor of Charles Jones and Anne Garcia.

Stressed giving to the Educational Opportunities Fund and Local Education Fund donations at the December Holiday Tea.

Gave two (2) $25 donations to Educational Opportunities Fund in memories of current members Barbara Campbell and Barbara Walker.

Gave $25 donation to Oak Ridge Girls, Inc. in memory of long-time, understandably less-active member Marge Congdon.

**Community Service**

President and other members served on Coalition Steering Committee for Women’s Suffrage Centennial Celebration. This planned summer event was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Collected in-kind donations of necessities not covered by USDA food stamps for Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties (ADFAC) Crisis Cupboard.

Provided Women’s History Exhibit in March at the Oak Ridge Public Library.

Members served on various community boards and city committees.

**Projects Supporting Education**

Awarded one (1) Roane State Community College (RSCC) scholarship for the 2020 Spring Term to April Heatherly, majoring in Nursing and living in Campbell County.

Presented plaque to outstanding RSCC education-major student.

Gave collected donations to the RSCC Food for Education Program.

Donated three (3) books about prominent women and the 100th Anniversary of the Women’s Right To Vote to the Oak Ridge High School (ORHS) Media Center.

Donated fifty dollars ($50) to ORHS Choral Program.

Maintained contacts with local Girls, Inc.

Invited RSCC scholarship and education award recipients to attend May Scholarship Luncheon, but later this meeting was cancelled.

Wrote letter endorsing an AAUW Community Action Grant application of the Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont and stating Branch’s willingness to assist in locating underserved girls to attend this educational opportunity. Pandemic canceled this effort.

**Public Policy**

Continued a Public Policy Committee which did research, wrote letters, e-mailed all members, and made relevant contacts. Virginia Jones and her local committee collaborated with both AAUW State and National Public Policy groups.

**Supporting State and National AAUW**

Officers kept in contact with AAUW State and National Leaders.

Member Peggy Emmett serves as one of the AAUW Governance Gurus available to assist branches and states with Bylaws and Policy Sheets.

**Financial Information**

Worked within an annual operating budget of $1,345, which was a $20 reduction from the previous year. Decided not to sell calendars as a fundraiser. Received donations for Scholarships $130.00. Received December Holiday Tea operations donations $121.50. Received designated donations with 2019-20 dues $350.00. Received from sale of White House Christmas ornaments $264.50. Maintained an active local checking account and $3,449.12 in CD savings

**2020-2021 Plans**

Since we have been quarantined since March 2020, our future plans are sketchy. Our members have rejoined. Later this summer we hope to plan our programs for next year and to publish our Yearbook. An August Board Meeting is planned. No doubt the current annual activities will be continued whenever possible.

Mayme Roberson Crowell President [crowellmr@comcast.net](mailto:crowellmr@comcast.net)