

AAUW Oak Ridge Tennessee Branch

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

February 2021

AAUW General Meeting on Zoom

Monday, February 22, 12:30 pm

To enter **Zoom** meeting, click on the link below.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84026923055?pwd=blkremFFdTZMaUJqNmozb29jSEdkZz09

If you log into Zoom first, you should enter the meeting ID, 840 2692 3055, and passcode, 387520.

History of the Scarboro Community Center Presented by Willie Golden



Willie Golden has been a resident of Oak Ridge most all his life. A graduate of Oak Ridge High School and Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, he was also a graduate of the first class of Leadership Oak Ridge. His military commitment in the Army took him to our Gulf Coast for hurricane relief, to Germany as part of our NATO forces, and to Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia.

Willie's work life has centered in Oak Ridge and Anderson County. He got to know Scarboro Community Center well when he was its supervisor. Later, he worked as the city's Recreation Director, and he followed that job by becoming the Director of Programs for the Anderson County Probation Department. Most recently he worked as the Director of Pre-Trial Release for Anderson County. He has served on several civic boards of directors: Scarboro Day Care Center, Ridgeview Psychiatric Hospital, and Housing Development Corporation of Clinch Valley. Most of us know him as a City Councilman for two terms here in Oak Ridge.



Mayme Crowell

President's Message

I hope that you have been able to obtain your COVID shot(s). Many sign-up lists are now available. Let's become almost immune and hopefully return to some semblance of normal. Would it not be wonderful to converse with one another in person at a future General Meeting?

Our program this month is especially relevant to Oak Ridgers. Learning more about the history of the Scarboro Center gives us an appreciation for what residents of our town have accomplished. Some of you may remember as AAUW members tutoring students at this Center. No one could be a better presenter than Willie Golden, who has retired from city employment. Zoom-in with us on February 22 at 12:30 p.m. to hear this informative presentation.

Last month I commended you for your generosity in contributing to our Branch projects. This month I wish to commend you for your generous donations to our National organization. A recent 2020 report indicates that the Oak Ridge Branch sent \$1,990 to National's Greatest Needs and Education and Training Programs. Only Maryville and Murfreesboro Branches-both much larger than ours--sent more funds.

Our State Public Policy Committee has recently sent a list of Tennessee House and Senate bills

that we, as educated women, perhaps should espouse. To be effective, we should concentrate our efforts on a short list which our Public Policy Committee has chosen. These bills are mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter. Of equal importance is the urgency for us to build working relationships with our local representatives. Our personal contacts, phone calls, letters, and meetings reap results.

Congratulations go to one of our members, Fay Martin, who has recently published another book, *From Jamaican Hills: The Memoirs of Fay Martin*. We are proud of you, Fay, and look forward to reading your book.

—Мауте

Treasurer's Report

Please see attachment for most recent report given to the Board.

Since the report, all checks have cleared and \$524.43, the profits from the Gift Shop, have been deposited in the Local Education Projects Savings Account.

Speaking of the Gift Shop, the Ferrell Shop is now carrying copies of *Tennessee Women of* Vision and Courage, edited by Ruth Smiley and Charlotte Crawford, at \$15. We still have 11 White House Ornaments featuring the pensive portrait of President John F. Kennedy which hangs in the White House. These ornaments will be available later in the holiday season at The Ferrell Shop in Jackson Square. They may be purchased in the meantime for \$35 from Virginia or Charles Jones at caviones@bellsouth.net. Also available from Charles and Virginia are paperback pocket copies of The United States Constitution for \$2.50 plus whatever donation you might wish to make.

> Virginia Jones, Treasurer Charles Jones, Assistant Treasurer



Public Policy Report You Are Needed!!

The Board would like to encourage members to participate in our public policy efforts. To quote Thomas Jefferson, "In questions of power, then, let no more be heard in confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." (The Constitution of the United States,.. published by the Center for Constitutional Studies, copyright 2020,ISBN 078-0-88080-144-7). George Washington speaks of the people as the keepers of the Constitution.

Phone numbers for Senators: Marsha Blackburn 202-224-3344; Bill Hagerty 202-224-4944.

Public Policy – Local

There is a local, Oak Ridge matter, which some AAUW members may want to contact the City Council about. That is the proposal for a Motorsports Park adjacent to housing on the far west end of the city on land which the Federal Government deeded to the city for preservation as a natural area. Information about the proposed Motorsport Park will be sent to you in an email.

The email address for the entire Council is citycouncil@oakridgetn.gov. should you want to write to our city representatives.

Public Policy – State

The Legiscan Monitoring Report (that will be sent in an email) lists bills the State AAUW supports and does not support.

Ruth Johnson Smiley, Newsletter Editor smileyrcj@gmail.com

Building legislative relationships is a goal of the State Public Policy Committee: So they are asking members of branches to reach out to legislators and people associated with the business of the legislature. The Oak Ridge Public Policy Committee: Mayme Crowell, Anne Garcia, Virginia Jones (Chair), and Kay Moss would like to hear from you. If you have a friendly association with people in the legislature or if you are inspired to help shape the laws which will be passed, please contact our legislators. Citizen input does affect the outcome in the passage of laws.

Here are the state legislators for the Oak Ridge AAUW Branch Oak Ridge is in two districts: 5 and 12 for the Senate.

Senate:

Lt. Gov. Randy McNally, District 5, http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/districtmaps/
Sen0512.pdf It.gov.mcnally@capitol.tn.gov.
615-741-6806

Sen. Ken Yager, District 12
http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/districtmaps/Sen1212.pdf
615-741-1449

House of Representatives:

Rep. Kent Calfee, District 32 http://www.capitol.tn.gov/House/ members/h32.html 615-741-7658

Rep. John Ragan, District 33 http://www.capitol.tn.gov/House/ members/h33.html 615-741-4400

We care about our members: If you know of illness or death in the family of a mecmber, please contact Carol Hoffner carolhoffner35@comcast.net