



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>

May 2021

AAUW General Meeting Monday, May 24, 12:30 pm Oak Ridge Public Library

Community and Connection: Oak Ridge Public Library Beyond 2020

Presented by

**Julie Forkner
Director of Oak Ridge Public Library**



Julie Forkner

The meeting will take place using COVID precautions in the library; plan to arrive a few minutes early for seating. A library tour will follow the presentation. Those who wish to see the presentation on Zoom should click on this link:

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

Julie Forkner grew up in Atlanta, mostly at Avis G. Williams Public Library. It was there that she found her love for libraries, watching her Summer Reading Program star move across the library's windows with each book she read. Earning her bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and Plant Biology from Warren Wilson College, Julie's second love, native plants and gardening, led her to a life of grime, and she spent the decade after graduating college working in native plant nurseries, organic gardens, and farmer's markets. Pivoting after the birth of her daughter, Julie went back to school and earned a Master's degree in English from the

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Mayme Crowell

President's Message

Our unusual 2020-21 year ends with a May 24th program by the Oak Ridge Public Library Director Julie Forkner. This will be a dual presentation. You may choose to go to Zoom or to visit the Oak Ridge Public Library where a tour will be given after the presentation. We hope you can join us.

It is membership renewal time. You will receive a letter with an enclosed stamped envelope for your renewal. The total amount is \$83. The National membership dues increased by \$3 from \$59 to \$62. State and local dues remain the same, \$12 and \$9 respectively. Please rejoin AAUW, and we shall try to get together as soon as possible. Meanwhile, your Board continues to conduct business in open-to-members Zoom meetings.

No public gatherings this year leaves our organization in a quandary re. new officers. Most officers are willing to continue. However, a new treasurer will be needed for next year. Our thanks go to Virginia and Charles Jones who have done the excellent treasurers' job. Thanks to their hard work, the upcoming treasurer will have adequate templates to begin work. Also needed for next year are 1) a Publicity Chairperson and 2) a Roane State Community College Liaison.

—Mayme

BOOKS DONATED

TO ORHS MEDIA CENTER

In May AAUW Oak Ridge donated the following six books to the Oak Ridge High School Media Center:

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson

The Hill We Climb by Amanda Gorman

If You Ask Me by Eleanor Roosevelt

The Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff

The Overstory by Richard Powers

Why They Marched: Untold Stories of Women Who Fought for the Right to Vote by Susan Ware

Appreciation for the donated books goes to Virginia and Charles Jones, Maggie Slankas, and Mayme Crowell.



Mayme Crowell, right, presents books from AAUW Oak Ridge Branch to Caramila Milloway, Director of the Media Center at Oak Ridge High School.

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

Public Policy

Lee Anne Carmack, State AAUW Public Policy Chair, was speaker at the April General Meeting. A video of her talk will be sent to members by email. Lee Anne continues to stress the importance of getting to know our legislators and letting them know what we think. It is hard for them to make informed decisions if they do not know what their constituents want and do not have enough information about the issues.

The Oak Ridge Branch Public Policy Committee is happy to have Stella Schramm join the committee!

—Anne Garcia, Kay Moss, and Virginia Jones, Chair

Treasurer's Report

It is encouraging that more than a half dozen members have sent in their dues for next year. AAUW does much more than work for Legislation to be passed. For example, its Leadership Fund supports efforts to give women the skills they need to succeed. Locally, we are in a position to offer a scholarship this year and to send a \$500 donation to National in the name of a member who has worked tirelessly this year on behalf of AAUW.

—Virginia Jones, Treasurer

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AAUW Meeting at Oak Ridge Public Library

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and another in Library and Information Science from UT Knoxville. She will forever be indebted to Beth Mercer for her first library job at E. G. Fisher Public Library in Athens, TN. Julie came to Oak Ridge Public Library in 2016 and took over as director in 2018. She lives in West Oak Ridge with her daughter, Hazel, their dog, The Artful Dodger, and Gypsy, the cat.

Ruth Johnson Smiley, Newsletter Editor
smileyrcj@gmail.com

Kay Moss Honored

The Board decided that our annual 2020-21 \$500 donation to National will honor Carolynne (Kay) R. Moss. Kay is the current Program Vice-President, who has provided excellent, informative programs via Zoom this year. She is a retired ORHS English teacher who is now active with the local retired teachers group. Congratulations go to Kay for her tireless, extensive efforts as a committed AAUW member.



Robert and Kay Moss at UT Campus

Contributions to National AAUW

During the first quarter of this year, our Branch and individual members have sent \$260 to National AAUW. These have been given to two National funds, AAUW Greatest Needs and Education and Training.

As many of you know, National AAUW has suffered several setbacks in the last few years. Fewer members—largely resulting from deaths—has led to less revenue and subsequently a reduction in staff. You should be aware and proud that AAUW was established in 1881. The Oak Ridge Branch began in 1954. National AAUW is pleading for more funds. You should be aware that for many years AAUW Oak Ridge has been sending a memorial donation to National for any deceased member. We shall continue this policy.