



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>

October 2021

AAUW General Meeting on Zoom **Monday, October 25, 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.

Redistricting 101

An Overview of the Redistricting Process in Tennessee

By

Lee Anne Carmack
State Chair, AAUW Public Policy



As a member of both AAUW and the League of Women Voters, Lee Anne Carmack will share the League's nationwide presentation on redistricting. The presentation includes defining district boundaries, reapportionment of the census numbers across districts, the reallocation of federal funds based on population changes, gerrymander, and the importance of public involvement in the process.

Ms. Carmack had a career in manufacturing with General Motors Saturn Division where she was part of a female-led team who won GM's prestigious Council Award for their work on Saturn University. She represented AAUW-Murfreesboro in the 2021 Athena Awards which recognizes outstanding women leaders in Rutherford County. She serves as the dance interest group leader and board member for the Rutherford Arts Alliance.



Mayme Crowell

President's Message

This may be the best of times or the worst of times, to paraphrase very loosely Charles Dickens's introduction to *The Tale of Two Cities*. The pandemic certainly has made this timeframe the worst of times. We have been unable to congregate with our families and friends. We have experienced economic uncertainty. Our public discourse has become disrespectful and even borderline "krase." However, the positive side is that we value our times of congregating, we appreciate public health along with its dedicated workers, and we have become more self-sufficient and content with ourselves. As far as AAUW OR is concerned, Zoom-ing has enabled our members to be more computer literate and eager to relate to one another. Our Zoom programs have reached more people in the community and made AAUW highly visible. In short, what is is; therefore, we must carry on with our lives and activities as best we can.

How appropriate for us to learn more about redistricting in Tennessee at our 12:30 October 25th Zoom General Meeting. The latest U. S Census data will be used to make redistricting determinations. Those concerned about this issue should contact their representative(s)) with relevant ideas and suggestions.

This Newsletter contains information about our

This Newsletter contains information about our November-December sale of Christmas ornaments. As AAUW members, you can order the ornaments that you select, using our Order Form. The proceeds go to our Local Education Fund. We appreciate the Ferrell Shoppe in assisting us in this project. Beginning in November, last year's Kennedy ornament will be available at a reduced price at the Ferrell Shoppe. In addition, this year's White House Christmas ornaments can be ordered there.

FYI...Our \$500 annual donation to the National AAUW Funds in honor of one of our members may be in jeopardy this year. Currently we have only \$345 in that fund. Perhaps some of you may wish to increase this fund with your December Holiday Tea donations.

Do you know of any women college students that you would like for us to nominate for the National College Women's Student Leadership (NCWCSL) Conference in the D.C. area in June 2022? Nominations must be received by the Tennessee AAUW by Nov. 8. Please send name to me and I shall send an application form.

A revised, smaller Yearbook is being prepared and will be sent to you later this month either electronically or by snail mail. Please remember to check your spam mail just in case it appears there. You can print it, if you wish. I hope each of you are staying safe and healthy. I miss visiting with you. Let's hope that this pandemic is over soon.

—Mayme



*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

Holiday Gift Shop

This year the Gift Shop Committee will take pre-paid orders for Holiday Tree Ornaments. Members can view the ornaments which are available at:

https://www.whitehouseholidays.com/CA-2021_Tree_of_Life_Ornament_i7925.aspx

Anyone wishing to order an ornament may write Virginia Jones at cavjones@bellsouth.net. Those who wish to place an order will be asked to send a check payable to AAUW for the listed price of the ornament, plus a donation of \$5.00, to Virginia M. Jones, 103 Burgess Lane, Oak Ridge, TN. 37830.

The Board thought that members might like a choice in the ornaments they buy this year.

Barbara Ferrell has graciously offered to sell the 2020 White House Tree Ornament with the Portrait of President Kennedy again this year, along with copies of Ruth Johnson Smiley's book about *Tennessee Women of Vision and Courage* (\$15). The Kennedy ornament price has been reduced to \$25 and all of that will go into the AAUW Local Education Projects fund which provides scholarships for non-traditional women students at Roane State, books for the library at the Oak Ridge High School, and magazine subscriptions for Girls, Inc. Donations from the sale of *Tennessee Women* and all ornaments will be placed in the LEP Fund.

This year's Official Christmas Ornament, the Tree of Life Ornament, and also a 100th Anniversary ornament celebrating women's suffrage will be on display at The Ferrell Shop.



The Public Policy Committee expects to review its focus this year and decide how best to proceed--perhaps in some new directions.

We have been exceedingly disappointed in the State Legislature's refusal to have an open and honest discussion of Re-districting which is required this year since the U.S. Census has been completed.

However, we are glad that the Legislature did free up Federal money to help low income families this year.

—Virginia Jones, Chair

AAUW Scholarship for Roane State Student

AAUW's commitment to higher education begins with our annual scholarship to a non-traditional student (woman, age 25 or older) at Roane State. The scholarship is for a 3-hour course for the spring 2022 semester. The scholarship application is posted on the Roane State website. Application deadline is November 8, 2021. If you know of someone who might qualify, please encourage them to apply.

—Maggie Slankas, Scholarship Chair

Ruth Johnson Smiley, Newsletter Editor
smileyrj@gmail.com