



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>

January 2022

AAUW General Meeting on Zoom
Monday, January 24, 12:30 pm

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84026923055?pwd=blkremFFdTZMaUJqNm9zb29jSEdkZz09>

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

**Creating a Landscape that
Supports the Environment—
Why Your Choices Matter**

Speaker: Michelle Campanis

Michelle graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in Agriculture and Natural Resources. She then moved to Boston to work for The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University in the propagation greenhouses. She received a one-year fellowship from The Garden Club of America to study in England where she spent time at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and studied landscape design at the Chelsea Physic Garden. Upon completion of the fellowship she returned to Massachusetts where she taught horticulture to high school students.

She spent 20 years in Nashville working for Belmont University while raising her daughter and twin sons. She returned to East Tennessee in 2017 to be the education coordinator for the UT Arboretum. This is a full circle journey as her parents

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Michelle Campanis



Mayme Crowell

President's Message

It's a New Year full of possibilities. Although we continue to be unable to meet in person, our January and February Zoom programs will bring us excellent information. The good news about meeting via Zoom is that many members of our community join us. However, we look forward to meeting together once again soon because the bad news is that we are not able to be with one another.

Many thanks go to those of you who made donations to AAUW last December. We appreciate your trust in us and your efforts to assist women in their education, jobs, and lifestyles. AAUW has been working since 1881 to assist and promote women's activities. Let's keep up the good work, as we stand on the shoulders of our predecessors.

Appreciation goes to Virginia and Charles Jones for their excellent work in promoting our Christmas Ornaments/Book Sales. Our Local Education Project (LEP) received \$369 from the profits. As you know, the LEP pays for RSCC women student's scholarship. A thank-you letter to owner Barbara Ferrell of The Ferrell Shop in Jackson Square, our sales outlet, has been sent.

Our greatly-reduced 2021-2022 AAUW-Oak Ridge Handbook is being mailed to current

members. This will enable you to know and be able to contact other members who are as dedicated to our AAUW cause as you are.

Stay informed and stay well.

—*Mayme*

AAUW-TN

Did you know that Oak Ridge is one of eight (8) branches in Tennessee? The current total Tennessee membership is 138, according to Ayne Cantrell, AAUW-TN Membership Chairperson. Our Oak Ridge Branch with 33 members has the most. Other Branches are Knoxville, Martin, Maryville, Memphis, McMinnville, Memphis, and Murfreesboro. Many of these Branches have been hurt by COVID. Oak Ridge too has been adversely affected, but not decimated. In fact, with our Zoom meetings we have been able to survive and to bring our programs to others in our community. Using our Christmas sales and generous donations, our Oak Ridge Branch is able to continue providing scholarships and assisting women and girls. Your dedication to female issues is commendable and much appreciated.

AAUW-TN BOARD MEETING

Current AAUW-TN President Michelle Willard called a Zoom meeting for the State Board on January 11. Future co-presidents Vickie Armstrong and Ann Indigaro from the Memphis Branch were elected. They will plan a state-wide Leadership Conference for June, which will probably be via Zoom. A new Treasurer is needed to replace Julia High. Membership Chairperson Ayne Cantrell reported a reduced membership of 138 in the eight branches. Public Policy Chairperson Lee Ann Carmack opined that Tennessee legislative politics for AAUW have plummeted, but she encouraged members to work on local issues. Branches were commended for their excellent programs. Improved communications, including Branches sharing information of their Zoom programs, was encouraged. Efforts for improving AAUW-TN's Newsletter were discussed.

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met in Oak Ridge during WW II working on the Manhattan Project. Michelle is on the state board for the Tennessee Bluebird Society, Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, and Advocates for the Oak Ridge Reservation. She is a facilitator for Project Learning Tree program and completed the Tennessee Naturalist Program in 2017. She is also on the planning board for Oak Ridge's Flatwater Tales Storytelling Festival. Michelle loves all things outdoors and when not at work can be found hiking, cycling, camping, kayaking, or in the woods hugging trees.

Holiday Gifts to AAUW

I remember the wonderful AAUW Holiday Tea of the past. White House Ornaments were sold, donations to scholarships were received, delicious sweets were served, surrounded by wonderful companionship. The tea was enjoyed by all. As you know, the branch has not been able to have the tea due to the pandemic.

In 2021 it was encouraged to send an AAUW donation for NAF, LEP, or Operations in lieu of the Holiday Tea. We received \$100 to LEP, \$40 to NAF, and \$50 to operations for a total of \$195.

Thanks to all who gave to our mission of advancing equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research with their donation. Our mission continues all year, and our donations can also continue all year. Any donation will help

—Missy Bowen, Treasurer

We Care About Our Members—

If you know of illness or death in the family of a member, please contact Carol Hoffner at 865-441-3152
carolhoddnwe35@comcast.net

AAUW-TN BOARD MEETING—continued from page 2

Who is on the AAUW-TN Board? Elected and appointed officers and the presidents of the eight branches. Nineteen board members Zoom-attended the January meeting, which is open to all AAUW members in Tennessee, including those not affiliated with a branch.

Fay Martin's Biography

One of the nicest Christmas gifts we have is a signed copy of Fay Martin's biography. The book is available from Amazon. But you don't have to order it from Amazon. Fay has copies. Just call her at 865-482-2969,

—Virginia Jones

Gift Shop Report

Only a few items were not sold by the Gift Shop! Our profit which is being deposited in the Local Education Fund is \$369.03. The board voted on January 10 to order a miniature set of White House ornaments for possible sale this December.

Thanks to Ruth Johnson Smiley for donating copies of her book, *Tennessee Women of Vision and Courage*. They will continue to be available at the Ferrell Shop. Kay Moss was our contact with Barbara Ferrell, and Charles Jones helped her with collecting money for sales and keeping touch with Barbara.

And, of course, a huge thank you to Barbara Ferrell for giving our gift shop a home, displaying our wares, and selling the items without any charge to us. Please thank Barbara when you go into her shop.

—Virginia Jones, Chair



Excerpt from Public Policy Committee's Values and Procedures:

"We are committed to honesty, facts, and non-partisanship. As an organization we are devoted to the betterment of opportunities for women and girls and the reduction of barriers to those opportunities."

The Public Policy Report for January is being sent in a separate forwarded email. This report gives an overview of this year's legislative session.

—Public Policy Committee: Anne Garcia, Kay Moss, and Virginia Jones, Chair

*Ruth Johnson Smiley
Newsletter Editor
smileycj@gmail.com*