



Fall 2020, November

President's Message

Dear AAUW East Mesa Colleagues,

As I write the November President's message I am struck by so many things that are unresolved in our lives. At this point the election is undecided, the COVID pandemic is still raging, and we are all getting tired of looking at the four walls.

But as a person who likes to feel I live in a world where there are still many Blessings, I am grateful for the things we do have:

- ❖ The ability to vote and our foremothers that helped us obtain that privilege.
- ❖ The ability to see so many of you on various ZOOM gatherings.
- ❖ The ability to live each day making decisions for what I believe in.
- ❖ The ability to help women earn their college degrees.
- ❖ The ability to influence decision makers through AAUW advocacy programs.
- ❖ The honor of working with each of you as we learn from and support each other in our AAUW endeavors.

So, during this time of Thanksgiving let's move beyond the feelings of constraint and realize that in so many ways we are Blest*, and in being Blest we are called to empower, endow, enrich and bestow well-being as we move through this life.

You are each a Blessing to me.

Sandra Lackore
President of the East Mesa Branch of AAUW



*Blest – An expression of well-being.

Information about Special Interest Groups including meeting dates and times is on the website:
<https://eastmesa-az.aauw.net/interest-groups-2/>

CONTACTS FOR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

BOOK REVIEW

Pat Nixon

leepatnixon@cox.net

[\(480\) 985-0839](tel:(480)985-0839)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Sandra Lackore

cdlackore@aol.com

[\(480\) 696-0779](tel:(480)696-0779)

GOURMET DIVAS

Lynn Peters

empetersaz@cox.net

[\(262\) 853-4870](tel:(262)853-4870)

[\(480\) 634-7502](tel:(480)634-7502)

THE GOURMETS

Carla Burman

burmanCL@yahoo.com

[\(480\) 304-0227](tel:(480)304-0227)

[\(480\) 560-7353](tel:(480)560-7353)

Kay Eakin

eakin1@cox.net

[\(480\) 231-1943](tel:(480)231-1943)

[\(480\) 641-8719](tel:(480)641-8719)

GREAT DECISIONS

Mary Hung

maryhung4@gmail.com

[\(507\) 254-6923](tel:(507)254-6923)

[\(480\) 269-0401](tel:(480)269-0401)

LADIES OF LITERATURE

Joanna Larson

kirbydog3@icloud.com

[\(734\) 649-3893](tel:(734)649-3893)

LUNCH BUNCH

Marje Perkins

marje.perkins@gmail.com

[831-229-1209](tel:831-229-1209)

MORNING BOOK GROUP

Bev Byrd

ybbord13@hotmail.com

[\(303\) 618-4310](tel:(303)618-4310)

[\(480\) 664-9187](tel:(480)664-9187)

Judy Ruth

judyrruth449@gmail.com

[\(715\) 558-5794](tel:(715)558-5794)

PUBLIC POLICY

TBD—open

QUILTERS AND CRAFTERS

Judy Shahanian

dmsjas@mac.com

[\(480\) 459-0455](tel:(480)459-0455)

[\(480\) 354-3170](tel:(480)354-3170)

INTEREST GROUP UPDATES NOVEMBER

Book Review Group 📖

Will have a ZOOM meeting on Wednesday, **November 17th** at 9:15. We will be sharing “The Books We Read this Summer.” Please give me a call if you are interested in joining us. 480-985-0839 or 406-876-2155.

Pat Nixon

The Gourmets group will be going for an outdoor lunch on **Monday November 30** at 11:30, Those who have signed up will be notified of final arrangements. For questions, contact Carla Burman, 480-304-0277.

Kay Eakin/Carla Burman

Great Decisions will meet on **Friday, November 13**, at 9:15 a.m., by Zoom. The topic will be Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, with discussion facilitated by Betsy Flaten. The videos for the 2020 topics are now available to view on YouTube prior to the scheduled discussions. The Zoom invite and link to the video will be sent to members. Please contact me, maryhung4@gmail.com, for more information or to be added to the membership.

Mary Hung, Chair

COMING SOON

Diversity & Inclusiveness

November 23 @ 4:00PM BY ZOOM

Please register your desire to participate in this new study group. We will follow up on our insights from the speakers and study group findings of the Fall Forum on this same subject.

Thirteen of our members attended some portion of the forum and had the benefit of hearing great speakers and participating in small group feedback sessions.

Contact Betsy Flaten -

katperson@msn.com.

to be included on the ZOOM call.

Sandra Lackore



INTEREST GROUPS, cont.

Ladies of Literature will meet on the **third Thursday of the month [at 1 p.m.](#)** by Zoom.

Ladies of Literature meetings will be via ZOOM for the 20/21 season.

*The book for [Thursday November 19, 2020](#) will be ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn***, a 1943 semi-autobiographical novel written by Betty Smith. The story focuses on an impoverished but aspirational adolescent girl and her family living in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York City, during the first two decades of the 20th century. Our book facilitator will be Diane Bennett.*

Please text or e-mail the names of books you would like to read and discuss in Ladies of Literature during the 2020/2021 season to Joanna Larson at [734-649-3893](tel:734-649-3893). We will decide which books to read and discuss for this season at the November Zoom meeting.

Our beginning list of suggested books to share this year include:

1. *The Book of Two Ways* by Jodi Picoult
2. *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman
3. *Magic Lessons* by Alice Hoffman
4. *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes
5. *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson

Prospective members wishing to join Ladies of Literature please text or call Joanna Larson so a Zoom invitation can be e-mailed to you.
--Joanna Larson, Chair

The goal of the **Lunch Bunch** interest group is to get to know members in small groups while enjoying lunch at local restaurants. COVID 19 put Lunch Bunch in a precarious situation. I am delaying our meetings until January and will then re-evaluate. If it is still not wise to gather in restaurants, perhaps we could “brown bag” lunches on the Promenade or member's patios and backyards. I would love to have you sign up for the lunch bunch, and we will make it happen in this questionable time. Send me your name and email address to sign up.

Marje Perkins

Marje.perkins@gmail.com

831-229-1209

Morning Book Club

Our first book discussion will be on **Nov. 19th** via ZOOM, which will be set up by Judy Taucher Lewis. Judy Ruth will lead the discussion on *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins.

Future dates and books are:

December 17... *This Tender Land* by William Kent Kreuger; discussion will be led by Betsy Flaten

January 21... *King Peggy* by Peggyline Bartels

February 18 *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck

March 18 *The Long Call* by Ann Cleese

April 15. *Last Boat Out of Shanghai* by Helen Zia

We look forward to being your leaders for this ZOOM season. We need discussion leaders for January, February, March and April. So please contact Judy or Bev if you are interested. As a reminder, Morning Book Club is the **third Thursday of the month** at 9:30 am.

Judy Ruth and Bev Byrd, Co-Chairs



AAUW Presentation for DECEMBER 2, 2020

Speaker: Patti Delaney
An Ambassador for **L**utheran **S**ocial **S**ervices (**LSS**)
Action Team Programs

The LSS has multiple programs such as:

Asylum Seekers
I Help/Homeless Ladies
Family Promise
School Children
Food Banks
Feeding My Starving Children



The Inside Story

1. Nancy and the Sparkling Sun Glasses!
An Asylum story
2. Food Banks. Serving, feeding and donating
to all in the community.
2. Please support LSS with donations via a check,
made out to “LSS” to fill their Christmas needs.
We are supporting them only with checks, not personal items this year.
Checks can be sent to:
LSS-SW
2502 E university Drive, Ste. 125
Phoenix AZ 85034
Attn: Christmas 2020

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Judy Ruth



Women in History: Alice Paul

For this year's Women in History reports, I am choosing women featured in children's books because I suddenly noticed that many of my friends are grandparents and the younger ones have small children. Maybe if you buy these books for them as children, they will grow up better educated about the rich yet often untold history of women and recruit future members into AAUW. The photo is of the children's book I found on Amazon. -- Mary deChesnay

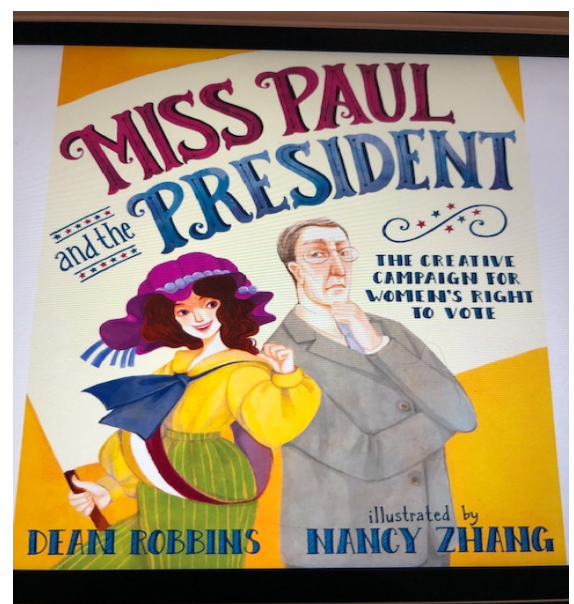
Alice Paul, an early suffragette who authored the Equal Rights Amendment, was born January 11, 1885 in New Jersey into a Quaker family. Her father was a successful bank president and gentleman farmer. Alice's early life was privileged, but her Quaker parents believed in gender equality and respect for work and nature. They did not emphasize material possessions, but rather service to others. Farm hands did the hard work, but Alice and her siblings had chores and learned responsibility early on. As a child, she started attending suffrage meetings with her mother. An excellent student, Alice obtained a biology degree from Swarthmore College, a Quaker school founded by her grandfather, who believed in equal education for men and women. She and friends organized a parade for women's rights in Washington coinciding with President Woodrow Wilson's inauguration, and she obtained an audience with him to advocate for women's right to vote. Unlike her fellow suffragettes, Alice saw no reason to ease the pressure on Wilson as WWI was declared, and her group suffered imprisonment and torture as a result. They were force fed when they went on a hunger strike. Public outcries over the torture led to Wilson's reversal and support of the 19th Amendment in 1919. In 1923, believing that the fight was long from over, Alice authored the Lucretia Mott Amendment. Renamed the Equal Rights Amendment, it was passed by Congress in 1972, but has yet to be ratified by every state, including Arizona. In January of this year, Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the ERA, but there are still hurdles before it can be enacted into law. Paul died July 9, 1977 in NJ near her birthplace.

Source: Alice Paul Institute

Further links about Women in History:

[UNLADYLIKE2020: UNSUNG WOMEN WHO CHANGED AMERICA](https://www.pbs.org/search/?Q=UNLADYLIKE2020)

[HTTPS://WWW.PBS.ORG/SEARCH/?Q=UNLADYLIKE2020](https://www.pbs.org/search/?Q=UNLADYLIKE2020)
[c8uw7u/https://www.pbs.org/video/unladylike2020-c8uw7u/extras/?page=2](https://www.pbs.org/video/unladylike2020-c8uw7u/extras/?page=2)



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE & MENTORS UPDATE OCTOBER 17, 2020

The Scholarship Committee and Mentors hosted the second annual “Scholar - Mentor Coffee” on Saturday, October 17, 2020. This year we met on Zoom because of Covid 19. Scholars shared background information, where they’re attending college and their major. Mentors also shared about their college backgrounds and careers. Last year the scholars did not know each other until we brought them together for the “Coffee”. This year we have two scholars that are new to the program. All of them were so pleased to meet each other and discover that sharing has helped them to explore educational opportunities and even solutions for childcare or housing opportunities. They are all determined to complete their education no matter how many hurdles there are to cross. They are incredible young women!

My time as the Scholarship Committee Chair will end July 1, 2021. Working with the twelve scholarship recipients and their mentors is one of the most rewarding volunteer positions I have ever held. The twelve are an admirable group of young women from many different backgrounds. All of them have a financial need. Without our scholarship assistance, they would have a difficult time attending a two or four-year college and create a better life for themselves and their families. Our mentoring program offers friendship and encouragement to stay in college when the challenge of succeeding and completing the semester might be overwhelming. I feel that between myself, Joy Klein at Arizona Community Foundation and our mentors, we have made a real difference in the lives of our scholars.

Submitted by
Judy Taucher-Lewis
Scholarship Committee Chair



The Scholarship Committee Chair position is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our scholarship recipients. The “Chair” does not need to be a mentor to one of the scholars. If you have an interest in assuming this position in July, 2021, please contact Judy Taucher-Lewis (jtaucherlewis@aol.com or Cell: 216-410-5677) in order for us to work together for the remainder of my term.

The Responsibilities of the Scholarship Chair are the following:

- A. Chair Meetings.
 - 1. Scholarship Committee Meetings
 - 2. Mentors’ Meetings
 - 3. “Scholar - Mentor Coffee” in October (“Coffee” to be planned by the Mentors)
- B. Prepare the Agenda for the above Meetings.
- C. Provide leadership to the Scholarship Committee, Mentors and Scholarship Recipients.
- D. Act as a liaison between the Scholarship Committee and the AAUW of East Mesa Branch Officers.
- E. Communicate with Joy Klein, Scholarship Administrator at Arizona Community Foundation.
- F. Communicate with the Scholarship Committee, Mentors and Scholars.
- G. Plan Mentors’ Meetings with the Chair-elect.
 - 1. Early October Meeting for training and sharing of Ideas.
 - 2. Spring Meeting in March to discuss successes and issues encountered during the year.
- H. The Chair, Chair-elect and the Scholarship Committee will recruit from the AAUW of East Mesa Branch members to become Mentors for the Scholarship Program.
- I. The Chair position will be held for two years beginning July 1 (every other year).
- J. At the end of the two-year term, the Chair will serve on the Scholarship Committee as the Past Chair for one year or longer if requested by the new Chair.
- K. The position of Scholarship Committee Chair need NOT be filled by someone that is also a Mentor to one of the Scholarship Recipients. The Chair does not need to take on the responsibility of being a Mentor unless that is her choice.

American Association of University Women of East Mesa (AZ) Branch

General Meeting Minutes November 4, 2020

Call to Order: Called to order at 1:35 p.m. by Sandra Lackore

Quorum established - 32 members in attendance via Zoom.

Introduction of Board Members - Sandra introduced each Board member, and they gave a brief background.

Secretary's Report - Minutes from March, 2020 meeting - Beverly Byrd summarized the meeting minutes. Motion by Mary deChesnay, seconded by Betsy Flaten to approve. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Sandra Williamson highlighted the financial report. Ending balance as of 10/31/2020 - \$19,166.90. She explained that the checking account for the scholarship luncheon has been closed out and moved to the general fund.

Update from Board Meetings - Sandra Lackore updated the membership on the \$500 State Grant. The Board voted to augment the \$500 State grant and give \$15,500 to the Mesa Public School Foundation to be used for the following areas:

\$5,000 for eye exams/glasses

8,500 for technology

2,000 for clothes and shoes

\$15,500

➤ In addition to provide a \$1,000 grant to AAUW National for emerging needs. The \$16,500 to cover these grants was requested and has been received from the Larney Family Trust Reserve. Sandra also discussed the decision to keep \$50,000 in the reserve fund in case of a drop in the financial markets, so scholarships can still be funded.

Update from Scholarship Committee - Judy Taucher-Lewis reported that on October 17, 2020 the Scholarship mentors and recipients had a virtual meeting. She reported 16 people were in attendance, and that the meeting worked very well. Judy discussed the duties of Scholarship Chair, and stated that the end of her term will be July 1, 2021. She stated the Chair position has been very rewarding for her. She

discussed the impact the Larney Trust has had on the number of scholarships given - from 3 or 4 to 12. Many thanks to Judy for all her hard work, and for developing a procedures manual for the position. If anyone is interested in volunteering, contact Judy.

Discussion regarding scholarships at the technical college level. Discussion regarding the Scholarship Luncheon and the importance of publicizing the scholarships to the community.

Women in History - Mary deChesnay gave a presentation on Alice Paul. Mary noted that she will try to highlight women that have a children's book written about them. Alice Paul was an early suffragette who grew up in a Quaker family in a climate of gender equality. She militantly fought for women's rights in the US and in England. The children's book that follows her life is "*Alice and the President.*" Information on her life can be found at the Alice Paul Institute website. Thank you, Mary, for the presentation!

Small Group Sharing - thanks to Betsy Flaten for organizing the small group Zoom meetings. Each small group reported, and the general consensus was that the small group meetings are an excellent way for members to get acquainted. The goal of the groups is to make connections.

Fall Forum - Saturday November 7 10:00 a.m. - 2:45p.m. If you registered and did not get an email from Michelle Higgins, contact Sandra Lackore.

December Program - next meeting will be December 2, 2020. Speaker will be Patti Delaney, an Ambassador for Lutheran Social Services in Mesa. She will discuss current programs and needs.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Dill, Secretary

Following are two letters outlining bequests our branch has made from state and Larney Trust funds:

November 9, 2020

Janita Pickett Gordon
Mesa Public Schools Foundation
63 East Main Street
Mesa, AZ 85201

Dear Ms. Gordon:

I am pleased to enclose a check for \$15,500.00. The funds are designated as follows:

Eye Exams/glasses	\$5,000.00
Technology	8,500.00
Clothes & Shoes	<u>2,000.00</u>
	\$15,500.00

This gift was stimulated by a decision by the Arizona State Board of AAUW. They made a \$500.00 grant available to each Branch and our Branch took up the challenge to be supportive of our public schools. We used funds available (as a result of a bequest) from the Estate of Violet Larney. Violet was an educator, and her bequest supports scholarships annually in the Valley.

We are pleased to make these funds available and look forward to hearing from you on how they made a difference in the lives of children in the Mesa Public School system.

We are together in support of Public Education.

Sandra K. Lackore
President of the East Mesa Branch of AAUW
P. O. Box 6792
Mesa, AZ 85216-6792

C: Dr. Andi Fouris
Superintendent Mesa Public Schools

November 9, 2020

Kim Churches, AAUW CEO
AAUW National Headquarters
1310 L Street NW #1000
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Churches:

The East Mesa Branch of AAUW has voted to send a check for \$1,000.00 to National marked for the “greatest needs fund.”

This contribution is a demonstration of our Branch’s support and dedication to the “Values” of AAUW.

However, I would be re-miss in not reporting to you our disappointment in the decision to increase members’ dues. We have heard it reported that “dues” are not a substantial part of your annual budget. I would hope that as you go forward with this decision, that you re-visit any related drops in membership numbers.

Thank you for all AAUW accomplishes on our behalf.

Sandra Lackore
President East Mesa Branch AAUW
P.O. Box 6792
Mesa, AZ 85216-6792

AAUW EAST MESA BRANCH

FINANCIAL REPORT

BRANCH ACCOUNT					SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT
Number of 2020-21 Branch members		66			
Cash Balance at 9/30/2020		\$ 11,511.75			\$ 7,654.85
INCOME		FY to date	Spending Plan	Remaining Budget	
Transferred from Schlrshp Acct	Larney Reserve Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	Fundraiser	\$ 7,654.85	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,654.85) CLOSE ACCT
	Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	transfer funds
	Interest	\$ 0.30	\$ 8.00	\$ -	to Branch acct
	Member Dues Deposit	\$ -	\$ 920.00	\$ -	
Total Income		\$ 19,166.90	\$ 928.00	\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSES					
	PO Box rental (3/2021)	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	
	Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	Room Rent/Programs	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	
	Hospitality-meetings	\$ -	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	
	Directory printing	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	
	Newsletter-postage/printing	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	
	BOD end-of-year luncheon	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	
	State Conventions	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	
	Regional Conventions	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	
	AAUW Funds-Nat'l & State	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	Total Branch Expenses	\$ -	\$ 2,085.00	\$ 2,085.00	
BOARD MEMBERS					
	President	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
	Program VP	\$ -	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00	
	Membership VP	\$ -	\$ 133.00	\$ 133.00	
	Secretary	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	
	Treasurer	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	
	Communications	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	
	Total Board Expenses	\$ -	\$ 423.00	\$ 423.00	
2019-20 LARNEY RESERVE GRANTS remaining funds		\$ -	\$ 5,509.00		
East Mesa Branch - Dedicated Donation Funds		\$ -	\$ 7,654.85		
Mesa Public Schools Foundation \$5,000 eye exams/glasses; \$8,500 technology; \$2,000 clothes & shoes		\$ -		\$ 15,500.00	
AAUW National-Emerging Needs		\$ -		\$ 1,000.00	
EMB Programs		\$ -		\$ 1,000.00	
Scholarship Lunch Expenses		\$ -		\$ 4,500.00	
Dir/Officers Liability Insur-due 6/2021		\$ -		\$ 500.00	
Month's Total Grant Expenses		\$ -	\$ 13,163.85	\$ 22,500.00	
CASH BALANCE 10/31/2020		\$ 19,166.90	\$ 18,672.85		\$ -
LARNEY TRUST RESERVE & CONTINGENCY FUND					
Remaining LT Grant Monies & EMB Dedicated Funds		\$ (18,672.85)			
* Contingency		\$ (1,500.00)	\$ 1,500.00		
Funds requested from the LT Reserve Account at ACF		\$ 16,500.00			
FUNDS AVAILABLE for use at 10/31		\$ 15,494.05			