



June 2020



AAUW
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women since
1881

President's Message

President
June Klimash

Vice-President,
Membership
Julie Sukkar

Secretary
Rebecca Triche

Treasurer
Pam Baldwin

COMMITTEES
Nominating
Co-Chairs
JiJi Jonas

And

Valerie
JacksonJones

Historian
This office is open.

Newsletter Publisher
Melanie Hanley

To contact any
of the above
send email to
aaubatonrouge@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

June is bustin' out all over while most of us continue to stay safe at home. While the state is completing phase 1 of reopening, it remains to be seen whether the coronavirus cases will spike again in the coming months. That being said, AAUW Baton Rouge will continue holding events via Zoom or outdoors with safe distancing practices during this month.

The 2020 AAUW Baton Rouge branch planning meeting will be held on Sunday, June 7th at 2:00 p.m. as a Zoom meeting. A draft agenda will be sent out this week as well as the details for joining the Zoom planning meeting. I encourage you to participate and help guide the activities for the Baton Rouge branch in the coming year. Look in the newsletter for one idea the officers have discussed in relation to making sure we can all vote safely in the elections this year. You will hear more about this idea for "Get Out The Vote By Mail" during the planning meeting.

Over the coming months the newsletter will feature one of the branch officer positions, sharing with our membership the duties of that office. Your branch officers encourage you to review each officer position and consider thoughtfully whether you could volunteer to serve as an officer or share an office with another willing member.

All Baton Rouge branch interest group in-person activities in June are to be canceled or postponed or held outdoors using CDC recommendations for face masks and social distancing. Interest group chairs are encouraged to hold Zoom meetings if interest group participants are willing as that is one way to keep us moving forward and staying in touch. Please review the newsletter for details on interest group activities during the month of June. If you have any questions please contact the interest group chairs listed in this newsletter.

Until next month,

June Klimash



Annual Branch Planning Meeting
Sunday, June 7
2:00 p.m.
Delivered by Zoom
All members are welcome.
President June Klimash will send
a general email message with
Zoom details.

OFFICER RECRUITMENT INVITATION

Since a key part of the recent annual meeting by Zoom was installation of officers whose terms will begin July 1, attendees initiated a discussion about informing willing members about the duties of officers in advance of recruiting a new president and secretary at this time next year.

Look here in coming months for notices about the duties of all officers, one office per newsletter. **This month we begin with the duties of the President below on this page.**

There will also be an invitation for members to shadow a current officeholder to gain an appreciation for how more of us may be involved in the leadership of the group we all enjoy.

Newer members may not have considered service as an officer yet, but AAUW Baton Rouge's branch will need you soon. Likewise, long time members who have served previously may be willing to share the experience they garnered as officers in the past or to accept a new and different challenge.

Thank you for considering what you can do to sustain our branch before the nominating committee meets next year.

AAUW Baton Rouge Branch Duties of the President

1. Serve as the official spokesperson and representative for the branch
2. Responsible for submitting any reports and forms as required by Louisiana State AAUW or National AAUW for the Baton Rouge branch
3. Plan the annual meeting of the branch to be held between April and June each year
4. Organize officer training and exchange of materials each year once new officers are elected and installed
5. Schedule and lead at least 7 branch board of directors meetings to carry out the business of the branch. Call special meetings of the board of directors when business must be completed between scheduled board meetings
6. Establish and oversee committees and interest groups as needed by the Baton Rouge branch
7. Term of office shall begin on July 1.
8. The president shall be elected in odd years and shall serve for 2 years.

How to Register to Vote by Mail

Thanks to our treasurer **Pam Baldwin** for the following message.

Existing law allows senior citizens, 65 and older, to request to vote by mail (paper absentee ballot). The following link is for a tutorial on how to navigate the Secretary of State's website to accomplish this.

<https://batonrouge-la.aauw.net/files/2020/05/A-Picture-Tutorial-on-How-to-Sign-up-for-Permanent-Vote-by-mail96.pdf>

Please do this (if you haven't already), and invite your friends to do the same. There is no way to anticipate what voting will be like in the future and seniors are the most at risk age group. You may still vote in person if you choose to do this at the time of any election.

And now a note from your newsletter editor...

The legislature and secretary of state with the blessing of the governor agreed upon reasons that **those who are younger than senior citizens** may also apply for absentee ballots. **This is only a possibility for the two elections this summer.** Here are acceptable reasons.

At higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to serious underlying medical conditions as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (including chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, hypertension or other serious heart conditions, diabetes, undergoing chemotherapy, severe obesity (BMI of 40 or higher), chronic kidney disease and undergoing dialysis, liver disease, pregnancy, or immunocompromised due to cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications);

Subject to a medically necessary quarantine or isolation order as a result of COVID-19;

Advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to COVID-19 concerns;

Experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and (please print the name of the individual) seeking a medical diagnosis;

Caring for a named individual who is subject to a medically necessary quarantine or isolation order as a result of COVID-19 or who has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to COVID-19 concerns.

Following is a link to a calendar of dates for elections and deadlines for requesting absentee ballots.

<https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ElectionsCalendar2020.pdf>



Scholarship Recipients



Rochelle L. Darville, doctoral candidate in Science and Mathematics Education at Southern University. She is also a current Science teacher in the St John the Baptist school system. She has received multiple teaching awards. Her focus is to determine the best method for reaching each student to help them understand STEM topics and to achieve success in these fields then take back this knowledge to the classroom.



Gillian Foss, doctoral candidate in Higher Education Administration at LSU. She has worked with the Baton Rouge Youth Coalition as a writing coach and with other youth organizations in previous locations. Her focus is to understand conflicting messages sent (probably unknowingly) within higher education for enrollment and access to different curricula traditionally reserved for men like educational administration, law, and finance.

Scholarship recipients were announced in last month's newsletter. This month we are pleased to share their photos ! Thank you, ladies ! We hope to meet you soon.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL *Annual Dues*

Reminder:

The national AAUW organization sent every member who has an email address a renewal announcement on April 8.

You may have overlooked it because it did not come from our branch treasurer, Pam Baldwin. If you search for it by date, it will appear as coming from **membershipinfo@ aauw.org**. That message is personalized just for you individually. It allows you to pay dues securely using a credit card. If you have not yet paid, you will be getting another invoice.

Branch: LA5002-Baton Rouge
Membership Type: Branch Member
Exp Date: 6/30/2020
Dues - National: \$ 59
Dues - State: \$ 12
Dues - Branch: \$ 18
Total Dues: \$ 89

If you prefer to pay by check, please send the check for **\$89** payable to AAUW to :

Pam Baldwin
 Treasurer, AAUW Baton Rouge
 780 Rue Crozat
 Baton Rouge, LA 70810-4543

If you need to communicate with Pam, send email to aauwbatonrouge@gmail.com

Morning Book Club

Send your reading selections for 2020-2021 Morning Book Group to June Klimash and Suzanne Vincent by the end of June so we can compile a reading list for the summer. Both fiction and non-fiction are welcome.

For information:
Suzanne Vincent

Campus Study

Campus Study is suspended for the summer.

Evening Book Club

Members have the opportunity to meet outdoors adjoining the BREC Garden Center at Independence Park to select books to be reviewed beginning in the fall at 6:00 p.m. **Wednesday, June 3.** Bring your own lawn chair. Physical distancing will be observed. Whether you plan to attend or not, **please send your suggestions of two books and their authors in advance to Catherine Roundtree** whose contact information appears below,

For Information:
Catherine Roundtree

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Gourmet

No meeting in June or July.

For information:
JiJi Jonas

Great Decisions

This interest group will hold a meeting by **Zoom Tuesday, June 23 at 6:30 p.m.** Regular attendees have been notified. If you wish to join, write or call to inquire.

For information:
Melanie Hanley

To contact any of the above send email to aaubatonrouge@gmail.com

June 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2 Happy Birthday to Vivian Guillory	3 Evening Book Club	4	5	6
7 Annual Planning	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Happy Birthday to June Klimash	23 Great Decisions	24 Happy Birthday to Nancy Hubiak	25	26	27
28	29	30				