



American Association of University Women

May 2021



AAUW
Empowering
women since
1881

President's Message

Dear Friends,

It was exciting to have so many members join the annual meeting via Zoom last month. In addition to the 17 AAUW BR members, we were joined by our two Eleanor Earle Scholarship winners, **Brittany Hinyard** and **Kelli Moran**. It was a real treat to hear these two very accomplished young women present their doctoral research.

Also, officers were elected for the coming year at the annual meeting. We are currently without a Secretary and I am asking all of you to consider whether you could take on this role.

The AAUW BR branch **planning meeting** for the coming year will be held by Zoom on Sunday, July 18 from 3-5 p.m. At that meeting we can discuss how much longer we will continue to meet virtually as the mask mandate has been recently amended by the governor. As we prepare for 2021-22 year, it is critical for as many members as possible to influence how our organization will spend our time, talents and resources. Please put the planning meeting date on your calendars now and help shape the direction of AAUW BR for the coming year.

Don't forget to vote in the AAUW National election on the "Open Membership" issue. Voting is available until May 17, 2021.

This newsletter will be the last one for a couple of months. Some of our interest groups do not meet over the coming months so check the newsletter for more information on interest group activities for the summer months.

See you at the planning meeting in July!

June



**There will be
no board meeting
in May 2021.
The next board meeting
will be
Wednesday, June 9, 2021.**

President

June Klimash

Vice-President

Julie Sukkar

Secretary

Rebecca Triche

Treasurer

Pam Baldwin

Nominations

Valerie Jackson-Jones

JiJi Jonas

Eileen Kennedy

Historian

Position Unfilled

Newsletter Publisher

Melanie Hanley

To contact any
officer or member,
send a message to

[aaubatonrouge@
gmail.com.](mailto:aaubatonrouge@gmail.com)

NATIONAL AAUW VOTING CONTINUES THROUGH MAY 17

It is time for you to vote in National AAUW elections. Your newsletter has been bringing you information about this since March. Follow the first link below to revisit that information previously published in the March and April newsletters especially for AAUW Baton Rouge members.

<https://batonrouge-la.aauw.net/newsletter/>

That information comes from the following link.

[**National Election – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881**](#)

Voting began on April 7 and **continues through May 17.**

One issue of enough importance for your local officers to vote to recommend that you vote **yes** is **whether AAUW should begin to admit as members men and women (yes, men may join!) who do not hold at least an associate degree.**

AAUW's mission is to advocate for girls and women. National and local leadership recommends that new members who share commitment to the organization's mission does not require a college degree. Likewise, AAUW has replaced the previous organization name, American Association of University Women, much like YMCA/YWCA represents that brand.

You should have received an email message with instructions about the mechanics of voting on **April 7.** It came from **Shannon Wolfe AAUW.** **Your membership number is included in this message.**

Should you go directly to the AAUW website to vote instead, you will need to know your membership number. Get in touch with Treasurer Pam Baldwin if you do not have correspondence from AAUW which shows your member number.

Reminder on a different subject:

Also, refer to that roster for the address, telephone number, or email address of any other member you wish to contact. If you cannot locate your own roster because perhaps you did not save it when you received it, send an email message to aauwbatonrouge@gmail.com to ask for another member's contact details. You will recall that AAUW Louisiana made a decision that we would not include personal information about members on sources that are publicly available.

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DUES NEWS

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AAUW Baton Rouge held its annual meeting by Zoom Saturday, April 24. Last on the agenda was a drawing for door prizes, three \$10 gift cards to Trader Joe's. Eligible for the drawing were any members who had paid their annual dues to the organization by the time of that annual meeting. Winners need not have been present to have their names entered. Winners were **Delores Dyer, Margaret Moore, and Susan Smolinsky.**

Treasurer **Pam Baldwin** sends this message concerning dues payment.

I have been getting many questions about paying dues. Here's the scoop.

I, as the branch treasurer, generate the invoices BUT they do not come from me. They come from the AAUW National website. The email will show as from AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2022-xxxxxxx followed by your member number (the xxx's). I will generate new invoices each month until everyone has paid. Each person gets a personal email with full instructions for paying. In the email is a link for you to pay by credit/debit card if desired. If you want to pay by check, mailing instructions are also included. Make the check out to AAUW BR and send to me.

***DATES OF RENEWAL** - The dues notices are sent out earlier than the due date, giving you time to pay. Fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year. Your dues are not considered late until July. Whenever you pay, your dues cover all the way to June 30, 2022.*

FYI, **your individual email** should have arrived on **April 5** from **memberinfo@email.aauw.org**. Another one will be sent in early May if not already paid.

Yes, national dues did increase by \$3 this year.

The break down of your \$92 payment follows.

Dues Information:**Dues - National:** \$ 62**Dues - State:** \$ 12**Dues - Branch:** \$ 18**Total Dues:** \$ 92

The message also provides for you to make a **donation to the AAUW national organization** if you would like to do so.

If you would like to make a **donation to the AAUW Baton Rouge branch**, you should send it by check to Treasurer Pam Baldwin and note whether it is earmarked for the Eleanor Earle Scholarship Fund or if it is meant to supplement the \$18 amount of your branch dues which are passed along from the national organization. If you pay dues by check, you can include it then.

AAUW Baton Rouge held its annual meeting by Zoom Saturday, April 24.

The slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee was elected and installed. Their terms will begin July 1.

The presidency will mark a continuation of service by **June Klimash**.

JiJi Jonas will also continue serving as a member of the nomination committee. She will be joined by **Eileen Kennedy** who has served as a board nominee during the last year. This is her first election to the committee.

Julie Sukkar is currently serving as vice-president through June 30, 2022. Likewise, **Pam Baldwin** is currently serving as treasurer for the same term.

The office of secretary will be vacant beginning July 1. All members are asked to consider stepping forward to serve in that capacity.

**Officers
2021-2022**

President

June Klimash

2-year term beginning July 1, 2021

(This begins a second consecutive term of service.)

Vice-President

Julie Sukkar

one year remaining of 2-year term which began July 1, 2020

Secretary

Unfilled/vacancy

2-year term beginning July 1, 2021

Treasurer

Pam Baldwin

One year remaining of 2-year term which began July 1, 2020

COMMITTEES

Co-Nominating Chairs

JiJi Jonas

and

Eileen Kennedy

2-year term beginning July 1, 2021; This begins a second consecutive term for **JiJi Jonas**. **Eileen Kennedy served one year previously as a board appointed member of the committee.**

Looking Forward for Officer Participation

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. Specifically, please consider stepping forward to serve as secretary for the next two years because that position will be unfilled as of the new term which begins July 1, 2021.



Duties of the Secretary

1. Record and keep minutes of all board meetings, the annual membership meeting, the planning meeting, and any special meetings
2. Attend 8-9 board meetings a year, the annual meeting, and the planning meeting
3. Keep official records for AAUW BR. Assure that important records get archived at LSU's Memorial Library for each year (mainly this includes the minutes, meeting agendas, financial reports, monthly newsletters, media articles, bylaws that are mostly produced by others).

AAUW is a national organization. Consider making a two-year commitment to maintain the structure and continuity of the local branch we enjoy.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS SPOKE AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING

The Eleanor Earle Scholarships for 2021 were awarded in April. Both recipients attended our Annual Meeting via Zoom and spoke about their dissertations. They were both personable and inspiring. It was a pleasure to hear from them and they were both appreciative of AAUW Baton Rouge's contribution to their work.

Brittany Hinyard is a doctoral student at Southern University in the Science and Math Education Department. Her research focuses on STEM teaching and retention in middle schools using the latest tools to increase effectiveness.



Kelli Moran is a doctoral student at LSU in the Oceanography and Coastal Science department. Her research focuses on the effects of currents and sea levels over time and how they affect sediment movement. This research will help Louisiana design mitigation efforts as sea levels rise and coastal areas are being rebuilt.



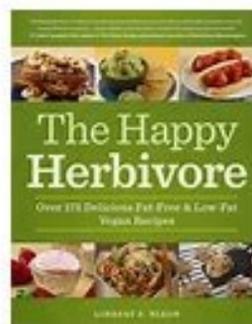
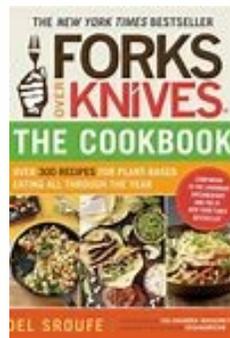
Gourmet

Looking Back to April 2021

JiJi and Larry Jonas hosted the **April 25th AAUW Gourmet Dinner**. The theme was **Good, Tasty and Healthy**. Most of the recipes were fat free or low in fat. Many of the recipes came from **Forks Over Knives** and **The Happy Herbivore** cookbooks. Fourteen members and guests enjoyed the gathering.



Left to right are Gourmet participants Margot Kiehfuss, Lorraine Day, Ann Sperry, hostess JiJi Jonas, Margaret Moore, and Carolyn Stutts.



Evening Book Group

Wednesday, May 5

6:30 p.m. by Zoom

This will be
a **planning meeting**
to select books
to read and review
fall 2021
and spring 2022.

Members will have sent suggestions to Ann Sperry who will lead the selection process.

For information, contact **Ann Sperry** or **Catherine Roundtree**.

Gourmet



Lorraine and Donal Day

invite you to

A South Carolina Wedding

Saturday, May 8

7:00 p.m.

Lorraine distributed recipes at our April Gourmet dinner, but if you were not in attendance and would like to come, please contact **Lorraine**.

Thanks,
JiJi Jonas

Great Decisions



Tuesday, May 18

6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Persian Gulf

Discussion led by

Julie Sukkar

Reading begins on p. 52.

Video: To be broadcast as part of the meeting as was done in April.

RSVP or for questions contact **Melanie Hanley**

Campus Study

Join us at the...

SAVE  OUR WATER

Campus Study

Find out what makes Baton Rouge's drinking water unique, why it's at risk and what you can do to help!

Thursday, May 13 at 12:00pm
via zoom

with Louisiana Environmental Action Network

*Ever wondered why the Baton Rouge area has the cleanest, best tasting drinking water in the state? Beneath the ground lies an aquifer, or freshwater reserve, that naturally purifies our water for drinking. But, there's a problem. As demand by large, industrial facilities has increased in recent years, draw down has resulted in saltwater entering the aquifer, threatening the longevity of our drinking-water reserve. If things don't change, we may soon be drinking water from the Mississippi River! **Join us, with Together Baton Rouge and the Louisiana Environmental Action Network, on Thursday, May 13th at 12:00pm for an hour of learning, Q & A, and story-telling about Louisiana's freshwater resource - and its mismanagement. Every branch member will be sent the Zoom link.***

From AAUW Louisiana

This year, instead of having a Legislative Brunch to kick off the beginning of the state Legislature's session, **AAUW Louisiana** is hosting a Lunch-and-Learn Series.

The series began on April 7, the day after the legislative session kick-off event. Members receive email invitations to the Zoom series from AAUW Louisiana.

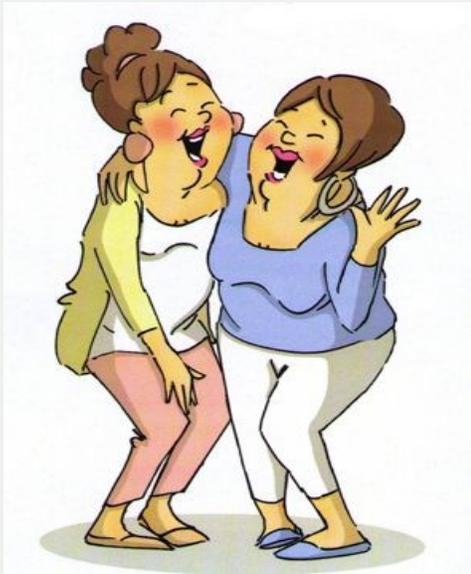
Series topics are selected based on applicability to proposed legislation that affects women and girls throughout this state. Please watch for this flyer to be delivered by email. There are some very interesting speakers and topics planned throughout the legislative session.

The series runs every Wednesday through May 19.



CLASSIFIED AD

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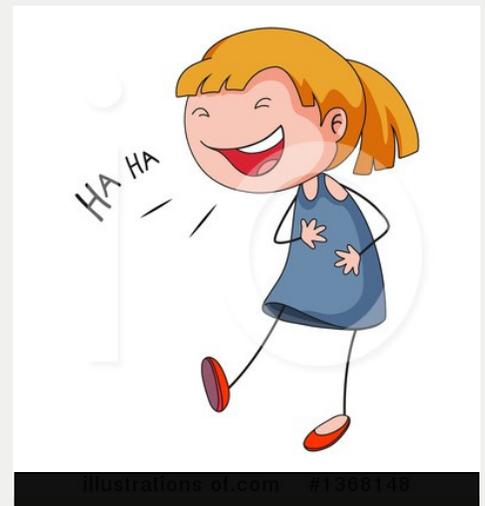
WANTED: Member to serve as branch **secretary** for a single two-year term beginning July 1, 2021.

Remuneration and benefits will not push you into a higher income tax bracket. You need not map career goals. This is a volunteer opportunity.

The only duty is preparing minutes of monthly board meetings, the annual business meeting, and the annual planning meeting. Any member is capable of doing this flawlessly although when it is time to vote to accept the minutes, someone will be happy to remind you if you have omitted a happening, misspelled a word, left out a name, or otherwise prepared a work product that is open to nit picking.

Among numerous unnamed perks will be seeing your name on the officer roster which always appears on **page one** of this publication. It's like the real estate mantra goes, location, location, location!

No application beyond verbal commitment is required. Don't let this chance pass.



May 5 Evening Book Club

May 18 Great Decisions

May 5 Lunch-and-Learn Series

May 19 Lunch-and-Learn final offering

May 8 Gourmet

May 12 Lunch-and-Learn Series

May 13 Campus Study

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
Continue AAUW national open membership voting through May 17						
2	3	4	5 Evening Book Club; Lunch & Learn Series	6	7	8 Gourmet
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9	10	11	12 Lunch & Learn Series	13 Campus Study	14	15
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16	17	18 Great Decisions	19 Lunch & Learn Series	20	21	22
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23	24	25	26	27	28	30
31						