

March
2022



AAUW
Empowering
women since
1881

President's Message

Dear Friends,

In 2014 the Baton Rouge branch of AAUW celebrated 100 years of serving the women in the Baton Rouge community. If this wonderful organization is to continue to serve Baton Rouge women we need to grow our membership and increase member participation.

The nominating committee has been calling members over the past few weeks so that a full slate of officers can be presented for a vote at the annual meeting in late April or early May. I am hopeful if you are asked to serve, you will find the time and energy to say yes. Serving as an officer only requires a few hours of time every month and will ensure the existence of our branch for the coming years.

The officers that need to be elected for the coming year include:

Vice-President for a two-year term

Treasurer for a two-year term

Secretary for one year.

Descriptions of officer duties are in the body of the newsletter. I encourage you to call me or anyone on the board if you have questions. If you have concerns, the best way to effect change is to serve actively on the board!

Until next month,

June



Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 16
6:30 p.m.
by Zoom
All members are invited.

- President
June Klimash
- Vice-President
Julie Sukkar
- Secretary
Unfilled Position
- Treasurer
Pam Baldwin
- Nominations
JiJi Jonas,
Eileen Kennedy, and
Mary Francis
- Historian
Position Unfilled
- Newsletter Publisher
Melanie Hanley

To contact any officer or member, send a message to aauwbatonrouge@gmail.com.

Reminder:

To contact any officer or member, send a message to
aaubatonrouge@gmail.com

The message above appears on **page one of the newsletter, lower left corner.** Some time ago, AAUW Louisiana and AAUW Baton Rouge boards decided that we would no longer post email addresses or telephone numbers of members in lists or stories because anyone can view our newsletter online and obtain private contact information.

If you want to RSVP to an interest group, the newsletter will include the name only. If you need to get in touch with a member for whom you do not have email or telephone number information, first check to see if you saved the member roster that was provided to each of us when this change went into effect. If you do not have access to that list in pdf format, write to the address above and **Pam Baldwin** will provide you with what you need.

International Women's Day March 8, 2022

**International Women's Day is celebrated worldwide on March 8 every year.
It calls women's rights to our attention.
The United Nations started celebrating the date in 1977.**

**Women earn 23% less than men globally.
Women occupy only 24% of parliamentary seats worldwide.**

**Today not one country can claim to have achieved gender equality.
Multiple obstacles remain unchanged in law and in culture.
There exists the threat of roll backs of hard-won feminist gains.**

The colors of International Women's Day are purple, green, and white.
Purple signifies justice and dignity.
Green symbolizes hope.
White represents purity.

[AAUW to celebrate International Women's Day virtually with panel discussion - News Radio KMAN \(1350kman.com\)](#)

The Manhattan (Kansas) Branch of American Association of University Women holds a virtual celebration of International Women's Day on Monday, March 8, 2022, with a panel of women with origins outside the U.S., who live in Manhattan, Kansas, sharing unique perspectives and personal experiences intended to increase individual understanding and appreciation of the diversity within the local community.

International Women's Day is a global day recognizing and honoring the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. This year's theme is Choose to Challenge, asking the community to find their voice to challenge stereotypes and take action to accelerate gender equality.

Live at 7pm March 8th 2021, in the Public Forum, those interested in the community can RSVP to manhattanksaauw@gmail.com to receive a program link.

In case you missed this good news last month...

Hip Hip Hooray!



The AAUW Baton Rouge Branch officers/board have determined that there are sufficient funds held for the **Eleanor Earle** Scholarship to double the stipend from \$500 to \$1,000 and to grant an additional scholarship— three instead of two per year if well-qualified women Ph.D. candidates in the Greater Baton Rouge area who are at least halfway to receiving their degrees apply.

How is that for good news that makes us proud ?

Following the loss of his wife, **Mr. John Earle** endowed the Eleanor Earle Scholarship. Subsequently our members have made donations, most years at the Holiday Happening social gathering in January. Many of us have made memorial donations in memory of other members who have died.

This spring, when you receive notice that the application process has opened, please help our branch reach out to deserving women scholars to advise them of this enhanced opportunity.

We invite recipients to share their stories with us at a meeting even if it is by Zoom. They have never disappointed. It is a treat to acknowledge their intelligence, diligence, and enthusiasm.

Please see Eleanor Earle's obituary on the following page to remember the member for whom the scholarship is named.

Obituary of Eleanor Earle

Eleanor Grace Lee Earle, who died Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2010, was the daughter of Robert and Cornelia Olmsted Lee. She was born Sept. 2, 1929, in Pachuca, Mexico. Eleanor was a professional registered parliamentarian, a past president of the Louisiana Association of Parliamentarians and founder of the Baton Rouge unit. She served as a meeting parliamentarian for organizations on the local, state and national levels. During a period of 44 years, she hosted a series of LSU international students as part of the International Student Hospitality Association. *Feminists Who Changed America* (by Barbara J. Love, University of Illinois Press, 2006) contains this report: "A registered nurse with a bachelor's degree in political science, Earle was the president of the League of Women Voters in Wausau, Wis. In 1966, she moved to Baton Rouge and became the League president there as well. During her membership she worked to elect Joe Delpit, who was the first African-American to serve on the city council. She also worked to seat four women on the local school board. Earle joined NOW, the ERA Coalition and AAUW. She served on the LWV and AAUW state boards unit. She served as a meeting parliamentarian for organizations on the local, state and national levels. During a period of 44 years, she hosted a series of LSU international students as part of the International Student Hospitality Association. *Feminists Who Changed America* (by Barbara J. Love, . In addition, she counseled at the Battered Women's Program and served on the board." She is survived by her husband of 54 years, John Sutherland Earle; a daughter and son-in-law, Eleanor Joan and Robert Bloxham, of Columbus, Ohio; a son and daughter-in-law, John Sutherland Earle and Dana Saporu; grandson, Alexander Sutherland Earle; and granddaughter, Elisabeth Caterina Earle, all of Arlington; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert Leonard Earle and Sri Susilowati, of Los Angeles; and a sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Dick Wood, of Seattle. We will keep her in our minds as a wonderful person, a devoted mother and grandmother, an example of courage and determination, of optimism and kindness. A memorial celebration will be held later.

In case you missed this news last month...

Important Announcements:

Name and Meeting Dates Are Changing



There is now a single active book club among AAUW's interest groups. It was previously known as the Evening Book Club. It will now be known simply as the **Book Club**. **It now meets on the second Wednesday of the month. The time remains 6:30 p.m.**

If you are a current participant, you know this. Please make a change to your monthly calendar.

If you would like to join this group, get in touch with either co-leader, **Ann Sperry** or **Catherine Roundtree**. Contact information for these two members is included in the branch roster you were sent within the last month by treasurer **Pam Baldwin**. If you do not have that roster handy, **see page 2 of this newsletter or the notice at the bottom left of page one** to send a query to Pam who will respond and put you in touch.

Likewise, branch officers who attend the monthly **board meeting** have changed that meeting date to the **third Wednesday of the month. Meeting time remains 6:30 p.m.** All members are welcome to attend every board meeting. The group is still meeting by zoom. **Work through Pam Baldwin to request the zoom link any time you would like to attend.**

Looking Forward: Call for a Secretary Now Through June 30, 2023

New officers are elected for two-year terms to begin on July 1. Various officers are elected in alternate years.

Please bear in mind that we do not have a secretary for our organization for the two-year term which began July 1, 2021 and will end June 30, 2023. We need to fill that office asap for the duration of that term.

The current board would appreciate a volunteer who will come forward to meet this need for less than the full two-year term.

Sitting officers are a dedicated group who have kept the AAUW Baton Rouge Branch in compliance with national requirements by in some cases serving two terms in a row, a four-year obligation, then trading places, shifting to different office for two years of service. Some of these members also serve as state officers and have been doing so since AAUW BR stepped up to assist the state organization a few years ago.

We request that you consider helping us by accepting the office of secretary now. Confirm your interest with President **June Klimash**.

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 are archived at LSU's Hill 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).



Looking Forward: Call for Officer Candidates

New officers are elected for two-year terms to begin on July 1. Various officers are elected in alternate years.

We will need to fill the offices of vice-president who will take office on July 1, 2022, for a two-year term. Please respond positively to elected nominating committee members JiJiJonas and Eileen Kennedy and board-appointed member of the nominating committee Mary Francis.

Newer members may not have considered service as an officer yet, but AAUW Baton Rouge's branch will need you. 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 chapter.

Duties of the Vice-President

1. Assist the President by serving as Acting President in her absence at board meetings and other events.
2. Assume the office of President if for any reason the President is unable to complete her term of office,
3. Plan at least one event per year to attract new members, such as an open house or meet and greet.
4. Plan at least one new member recognition event per year.
5. Assign a sponsor for each new member for the first year of branch membership.
6. The term of office shall begin on July 1.
7. The Vice-President shall be elected in even years and shall serve for two (2) years.



Looking Forward: Call for Officer Candidates

New officers are elected for two-year terms to begin on July 1. Various officers are elected in alternate years.

We will need to fill the office of treasurer who will take office on July 1, 2022, for a two-year term. Please respond positively to elected nominating committee members JiJiJonas and Eileen Kennedy and board-appointed member of the nominating committee Mary Francis.

Newer members may not have considered service as an officer yet, but AAUW Baton Rouge's branch will need you. 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 chapter.

Duties of the Treasurer

You are the person who handles the money, the ins and outs of all things financial. This is one of two required positions in the branch (minimum requirements), President being the other.

1. Serve as the primary bank contact with full signatory rights.
2. Manage all bank accounts, including CDs held by the branch (money set aside for funding the scholarships). You'll pay any bills for the branch.
3. Provide monthly budget reports to the branch board with updates of financial status, including attending board meetings.
4. Develop an annual budget for discussion then approval by the board.
5. Serve as the primary contact for AAUW's membership services database (MSD). This system creates invoices for each branch member to renew annual dues. Also processes all other membership details like adding new members, processing transfers, dual members, and noting deaths
6. Receive manual payments (checks) from members to renew their dues. You will use the MSD system and a branch debit card to make the payments.
7. Using AAUW's MSD, you will submit the required tax forms to the IRS for the branch. (Note, this takes about 5 minutes per year.)

But mostly, you need attention to detail! After all, you're the money person.



Opinion

Dear AAUW Friends,

Our branch hosts four interest groups. Know that you are welcome to attend one or all of them. You may have found just one that suits you perfectly. You have come to know those who attend that group and may never realize that there are also nice people doing interesting things in the other groups as well.

Do not let preparation or the lack of it keep you from trying another group in this new year. If you would like to know what the book group is like but can't yet commit to reading a specific book on a schedule, try just dropping in to observe. You will not be called upon or asked to make a presentation unless you express an interest.

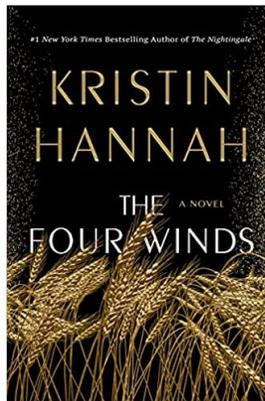
If you would like to know what the Great Decisions group does, start by googling Great Decisions, sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association, to get an idea. You may also drop in on that group without having bought reading materials and done your homework just to see if the group might interest you. Again, you will not be put "on the spot".

Insights (previously known as Campus Study) used to involve eating out to enjoy an interesting speaker. Presently it is by Zoom, but is returning in April in person. Topics change so that you might find one that appeals to you or you might be an equal opportunity attendee who just enjoys learning. There is no preparation in advance. We are there to learn about our community.

Gourmet is a bit different. Gourmet participants are expected to prepare a dish using a recipe provided by that month's hostess. Makes sense that if you are going to eat you would be willing to pitch in. You are in luck in February, though, because the participants are dining out in February. One admonition, though. You cannot wait until the last minute because someone must make a group reservation well in advance. JiJi Jonas, Gourmet chair, will need to know to include you in the count and that is a firm commitment on your part. This is one group that is happy to include your spouse or significant other while also embracing single attendees.

You will not receive the zoom link for a meeting that requires that unless you contact the group leader. See the regular listings on page of this newsletter.

Book Club



The Four Winds

by Kristin Hannah

Wednesday, March 9

6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Reviewer: **Mary Francis**

RSVP **Ann Sperry**

or **Catherine Roundtree**



Summer Steib, head of the Women's office at LSU, spoke about 50 years of Title IX at the Zoom meeting of Insights on February 24. It turns out that Title IX is about much more than sports. It provides equal opportunity for educational opportunities and much more.

Mary Francis and **Pam Baldwin** report that Insights will **not** meet in March.

Regular meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month will resume in April. Details will appear in the April newsletter.

If covid projections permit, **we hope to gather in person at Zorba's Restaurant on Essen Lane.**



Gourmet



Jambo Cookbook Recipes

from an African Restaurant
in Santa Fe

Sunday, March 13

Noon

At the home of

JiJi and Larry Jonas

RSVP JiJi Jonas to receive a
recipe for prepare and share

Insights

Great Decisions



The Renewed Climate

Change Agenda

Tuesday, March 15

6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Discussion Leader:

June Klimash

Reading begins on page 29 of
the 2022 booklet.

RSVP **Melanie Hanley**

Graze with Gourmet this Spring!

Contact JiJi Jonas.



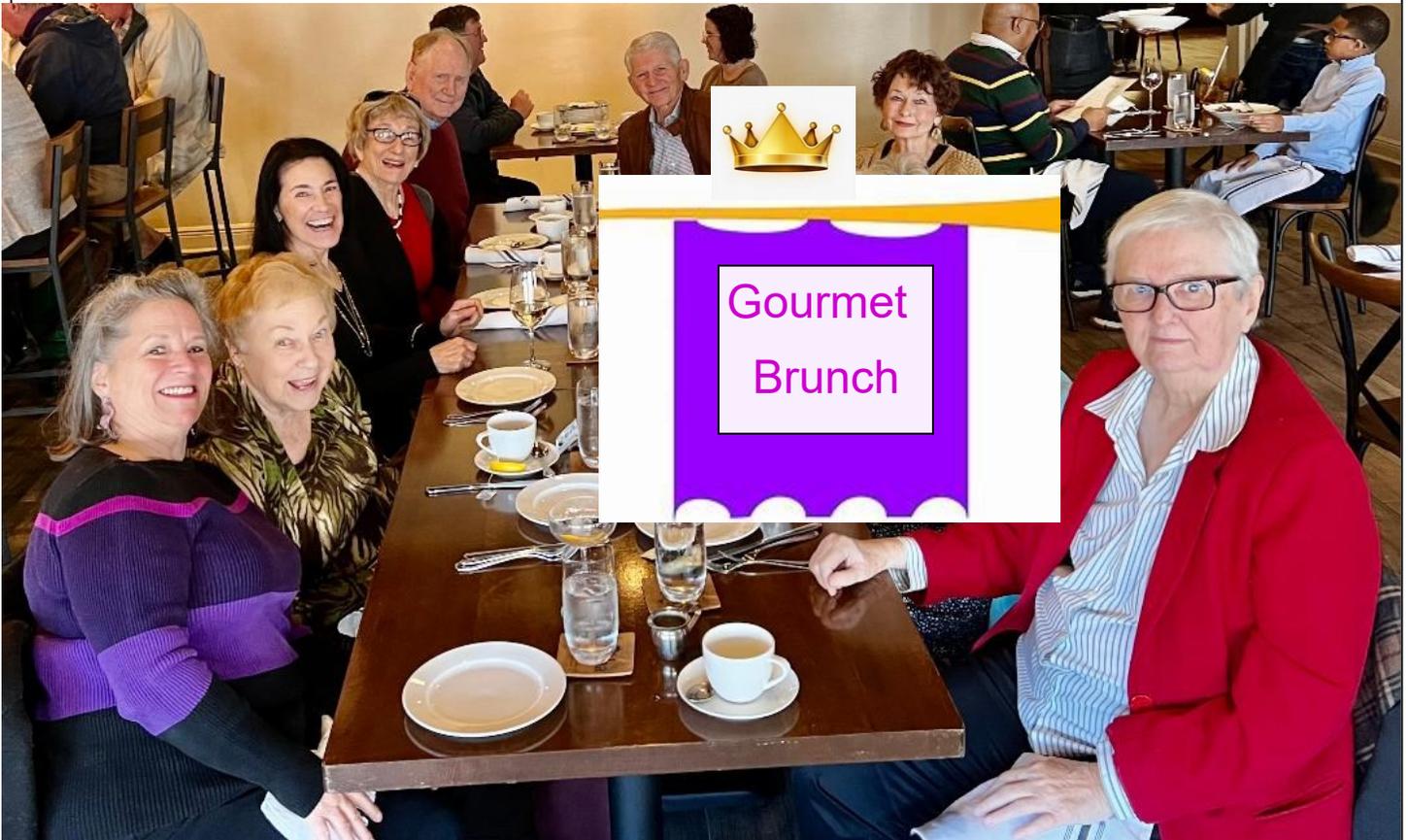
On **Sunday, March 13**, at noon, **JiJi** and **Larry Jonas** will host at their home. Recipes to be provided for preparation will come from the Jambo Cookbook, a publication of an African restaurant in Santa Fe.



On **Saturday, April 9**, the group will converge on Zorba's Greek Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. to dine together.

Take the opportunity to enjoy a TASTE of Gourmet going on!

Gourmet in February

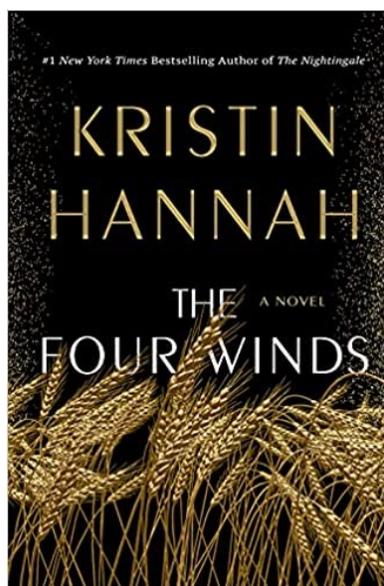


Gourmet is the most faithful interest group for supplying photos of their goings on even throughout the pandemic. We all appreciate how their gatherings cheer us during these days when we spend so much time without the enjoyment of good company. Here, they are shown sharing Sunday brunch at the restaurant Cocha on February 27. A guitarist provided music.

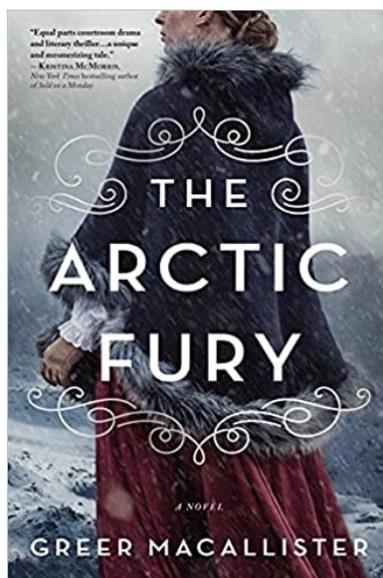
Left to right around the table are **Pam Baldwin, Margot Kiefhuss, Ann Sperry, Carolyn Stutts, Charles Stutts, Larry Jonas, JiJi Jonas, guests Steve and Nancy Murray, and Mary Francis.**

The March meeting will be hosted by JiJi and Larry Jonas at their home. Contact JiJi for a recipe to prepare if you will attend.

**Help yourself to Book Club this Spring!
Contact Ann Sperry or Catherine Roundtree.**



To be reviewed by Mary Francis on March 9



To be reviewed by Susan Smolinsky on April 13

Add an interest group to your participation with AAUW Baton Rouge in 2022!

The Great Decisions Group invites you to join us as we explore global current events informed by readings from the Foreign Policy Association. You are invited to visit with us or to join us monthly.

We are enthusiastic about learning more about our world.

Contact Melanie Hanley.



Wednesday, March 9 Book Club
 Sunday, March 13 Gourmet
 Tuesday, March 15 Great Decisions
 Wednesday, March 16 Board Meeting

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Happy Birthday to you!</p> 		<p>1 Mardi Gras</p>	2	3	4	5
6	7	<p>8 International Women's Day</p>	<p>9 Book Club</p>	10	11	12
<p>13 Gourmet</p>	14	<p>15 Great Decisions</p>	<p>16 Board Meeting</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p>	18	19
20	21	22	<p>23 Valerie Jackson-Jones</p> 	24	25	<p>26 Eileen Kennedy</p> 
27	28	29	30	31		