



American Association of University Women

February 2024



AAUW
Empowering
women since
1881

Administrator
Pam Baldwin

Treasurer/Financial Officer
Rebecca Triche

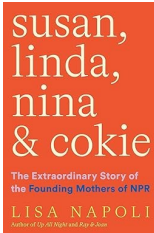
Newsletter Editor
Melanie Hanley

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

Book Group

Tuesday, February 13
via Zoom
7:00 p.m.

Susan, Linda, Nina, & Cokie:
*The Extraordinary Story
of the Mothers of NPR*
by Lisa Napoli



Discussion Leader:
Melanie Hanley
RSVP **Melanie Hanley**

Gourmet



Dinner & watch the Southdowns Mardi Gras Parade

Bring a bag to catch beads &
dress warmly if you want to see
the parade - or stay in just to
visit

Friday, February 9
6:00 p.m.

at the home of
JiJi and Larry Jonas
RSVP **JiJi** about what to bring
for dinner.

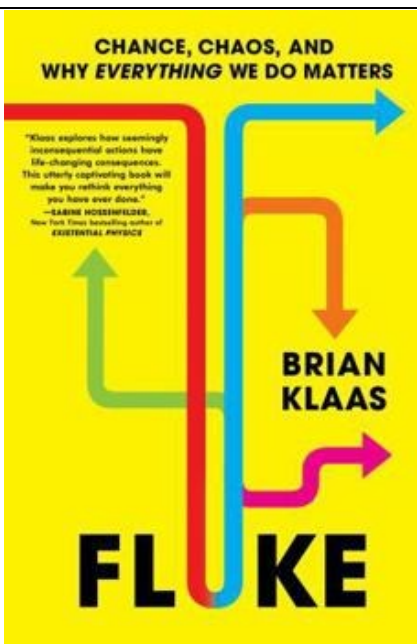
.Great Decisions



Tuesday, February 20
Zoom at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Meeting 2024
No program
RSVP **Melanie Hanley**

Why everything we do matters

Want to know what chaos
theory can teach us about
human events? In the
perspective-altering tradition
of Malcolm Gladwell's *The
Tipping Point* and Nassim
Nicholas Taleb's *The Black
Swan* comes a provocative
challenge to how we think our
world works—and why small,
chance events can divert our
lives and change everything,
by social scientist
and *Atlantic* writer Brian
Klaas.



See pages 3-6 of this
newsletter for items
requesting action.

Your response or lack of
response could make a
difference.

AAUW, through opportunities
to participate passed along to
us through branch
administrator Pam Baldwin,
provides chances to
participate in making change.

Will any/some/all of us do the
easy work of responding ?

Coming...Book Club

March

The Trees
by Percival Everett



Reviewer: **June Klimash**

April

They Called Me a Lioness: a Palestinian Girl's Fight for Freedom
by Ahed Tamimi and Dena



Reviewer: **Julie Sukkar**

May

Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning
by Liz Cheney



Reviewer:
Anne Campbell

Coming...Gourmet

March

Flavors of San Miguel themed dinner at the home of **Carolyn** and **Charles Stutts** co-hosted by **Ann Sperry**

April

Dinner at the home of **Margot Kiehfuss**

May

Dinner at the home of **Lorraine** and **Donal Day**

Note: Participants who attend dinner in a private home will request a recipe from the hostess to prepare and bring to contribute to the meal.

All members are invited but you must RSVP in advance, either to the hostess or the designee who will make the restaurant reservation if the meal is at a restaurant.

Coming...^{PAGE 3}Great Decisions 2024

Mideast Realignment

Climate Technology and Competition

Science across Borders

U.S. and China Trade Rivalry

NATO's Future

Understanding Indonesia

High Seas Treaty / Biodiversity beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty

Pandemic Preparedness



Receipt of a Letter Sent to Each Member

Each of you received a letter dated January 8 from AAUW LA.

It was written to advise each member of the problem across the state of declining membership.

One of the proposed changes to AAUW by-laws is to remove the degree requirement for membership. The branch and state boards are in favor of this change. While we know that many of the members do not want to see this happen, we also know that we must face the reality that our membership restrictions are leading to the declining membership.

This letter was sent to explain the situations we are facing. At this point, we are making changes to attempt to keep a state presence in AAUW open for us in Louisiana. Nothing is certain but it will require changes to remain in operation. There will be more on this as time passes.

Please feel free to voice your opinions.





Upcoming AAUW Voting

AAUW will have another round of voting for by-law changes. One change is to **remove the requirement of a degree to be a member**. Please follow this link for details. Note that the opportunity to make comments passed (Jan 26) before this newsletter was published.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2023-aauw-bylaws-proposed-changes/>

But as part of this, **please review your email address details**. AAUW will send your personal voting details to your email of record so if it is not up to date, or missing, they will send you a paper ballot. The obvious reason to receive an email ballot is money. Mailing paper ballots is very expensive.

To vote, you will need the information in this communication, regardless of whether it comes in email or snail mail. It will contain **your member number** and a **PIN**. You'll need both of these numbers to vote. **Note that neither our administrator Pam Baldwin nor anyone else in this branch has access to your PIN.**

Last time the vote to remove the degree requirement for membership, our state had a great turnout – we were very proud of that and would like to continue it so please remember to vote.

The state and branch boards support this change and ask that you vote YES for it when voting.

Voting begins April 3 and ends May 15.

Pam Baldwin
Administrator, AAUW Baton Rouge



ERA Zoom Event and Follow-up

On January 11, AAUW LA held a Zoom event in conjunction with 10,000 Women LA to send information, promote awareness of the status of the ERA. Many of you joined us but for those who didn't, here are ways to catch up on what went on.

Link for video from ERA coalition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLPLGEZ5cRs>

Note that during the video as shown in the presentation, the complete name and association were not visible. Please watch the short video again to see just who everyone is.

Link for video of presentation itself

<https://youtu.be/u6VZZduk5VE>

Link for petition signature – if you are in doubt whether you already signed, just sign again!

<https://www.sign4era.org/?ERA-Coalition>

Here is the direct link to the ERA Petition Signers map that shows how many have already signed. <https://secure.radlib.com/SIGN4ERA/sign4.png>

It is located in the “**Sign4ERA.org**” website under the tab “ERA Petition Map”. This link points to the results so far on how many have signed the petition.

Call President Biden to publish the ERA as he promised in his campaign for President as did VP Harris.

Sign the petition to President Biden-

<https://www.eracoalition.org/take-action/white-house-direct-the-archivist-to-publish-the-era/>

Talk to your Senators and Representatives and ask them to sign onto the bills to remove the deadline

SJ Res 4 to remove the deadline - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/4?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22sjres4%22%7D&s=2&r=1>

HJ Res 25 to remove the deadline - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-joint-resolution/25?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22hjres25%22%7D&s=3&r=1>

With a Senate bill waiting at the desk (S.J. Res. 4), action for now is on the companion bill H.J. Res. 25 and its Discharge Petition (Affirms ratification of the ERA and removes the time limit) and adding cosponsors to H.J. Res. 82 and its companion S.J. Res. 39

Continued on the next page of this newsletter.

S.J. Res.39 - A joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the article of amendment commonly known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" has been validly ratified and is enforceable as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the Archivist of the United States must certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment without delay. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/39#:~:text=39%20%2D%20A%20joint%20resolution%20expressing,certify%20and%20publish%20the%20Equal>

H.J. Res.82 - Expressing the sense of Congress that the article of amendment commonly known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" has been validly ratified and is enforceable as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution, and the Archivist of the United States must certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment without delay. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-joint-resolution/82?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22hj+res+82%22%7D&s=1&r=1>

Contact Ashley Bradey about their action (info attached) at the White House all during the month of March

Email: thefeministuprising@gmail.com Website: thefeministuprising.com

Pam Baldwin

Administrator, AAUW Baton Rouge

January Gourmet



Top left, **Catherine Roundtree and JiJi Jonas**

To right: **Hostess Judy Nielson, Carolyn Stutts, Greg Baldwin, and Margot Kiefhuss**



Bottom of the page: **Host Chuck Nielson, Charles Stutts, Catherine Roundtree, Ann Sperry, Larry Jonas, Margaret Moore, and Pam Baldwin. JiJi Jonas provided the picture.**



FEBRUARY

Friday, February 9 Gourmet & Southdowns Parade
Tuesday, February 13 Book Group / Mardi Gras Day
Tuesday, February 20 Great Decisions

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Gourmet Happy birthday to Mary Jacob 	10
11	12	13 Book Group Mardi Gras Day	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17
18	19	20 Great Decisions Happy birthday to Ann Sperry 	21	22	23	24 Happy birthday to Sylvia Martinez 
25 Happy birthday to Margot Kiefhuss 	26	27	28	29 LEAP Day		