

AAUW Fairbanks (AK) Branch SEPTEMBER 2019

News:

September Meeting: Please join us for our annual fall Membership Meeting. This is a chance to reconnect with fellow members, review the plans for the year and introduce potential new members to the group. As usual, half-price memberships will be available to new members. And look for the "Blind Date with a Book" basket.

ANNUAL WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS BRUNCH

Saturday, September 21 at 10:30 am

Home of Melody and Jerry Springer

3825 Venture Lane

Bring a potluck dish to share

Beverages will be provided

Bring a Guest!!!

From Chena Pump Road turn onto Rosie Creek Rd

Follow to the end and turn right onto Becker Ridge Rd

Turn left onto the second road which is Venture

The Springer house is the first home on the left

Enjoy the fall colors!

For further information contact Ritchie Musick

479-5336 or ritchiemusick@gci.net

Recap of May meeting: We met at Nikki Kinne’s home to share our favorite chocolate dessert, favorite cheese, or favorite wine. Margaret Soden had the “Blind Date with a Book” basket.

House Tour Update: The 47th annual AAUW House Tour was held on Saturday, July 13, 2019. Cloudy skies in the morning cleared in the afternoon so sunny skies and warm weather greeted the public for the house tour. This was one of the first days it wasn’t smoky from the nearby wildfires. One of the hostesses mentioned there were 79 people at the Bergh home between 1 to 3pm. Several people complimented the three homes were a good contrast—downtown historic home full of antiques and flower garden, an upscale condo along the Chena River filled with artwork and handmade quilts and a lovely home with local artwork and handmade quilts.

This is our main fundraising event of the year. We have netted \$2802 after expenses. Expenses are about the same, but income in outlet sales and sales at houses is down. A more detailed financial summary is attached. Save the date for next year, Saturday, July 11, 2020.

Gael has already sent email receipts to those who have paid for ticket sales and/or made a contribution for the scholarship fund. If you did not get this receipt, please let Gael know so that your contribution can be properly acknowledged. If you paid in cash at one of the houses, it may not have your name associated with your contribution, so let her know.

If you still have money for tickets that you sold or would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, you can send a check made out to **AAUW** and mail it to Gael Murakami, PO Box 83406 Fairbanks AK 99708.

Thank You: We have many people to thank for making the House Tour a success: Co-chairs, Rita Osborne and Brenda Birdsall (hostess recruiting and much more); the committee, Ritchie Musick (signs and News-Miner article), Shirley Liss (map), Margaret Soden, Gael Murakami; all the many hostesses at the homes, those of you who sold tickets and made contributions; and the home owners and ticket outlets.

Notes on the August Board Meeting:

At our most recent branch Board meeting, we had an update on the House Tour (see attached Financial Summary) and discussed the budget for the 2019-20 year. (See attached budget and below).

Scholarship Update

At the last Board meeting we decided on our scholarship and AAUW Foundation donations for the year. Don and Carolyn Gray donated \$1000 to our scholarship funds so we have increased the two scholarships in memory of Nancy Johnson and Ann Rhian to \$1800 this year. Terry Tirrell donated

\$1200 for a special scholarship in memory of her daughter, at her request this will be awarded to a single mother. Then, there is the "Pet Sitting Scholarship" (we don't actually call it that when we award it!) from Gael Murakami and Laura Walsh for \$1200. Our annual contributions to National AAUW's Greatest Need Fund will be over \$1200 as well.

Have You Heard (notes on members activities):

If you have items for the "Have you Heard" section of this newsletter, please send them to the newsletter editor at gaelmurakami@gmail.com

Save the dates for Future Programs/Events of Interest:

October, TBA
November, TBA
December, Annual Christmas Potluck
Saturday, July 11, 2020: House Tour

Blind Date with a Book:

We have had quite a few donations to this special project and Margaret Soden has been busy all summer wrapping the fiction contributions in brown paper and writing up enticing "blurbs". We have quite a variety so donate a few dollars and take a chance. There are also some non-fiction selections which won't be wrapped up. At a future meeting there will be some cookbooks as well. Since the project started last September, we have made over \$500 and had lots of fun.

Book Group News from Jodi:

Contact Jodi at birchsongC@gmail.com if you want to be added to her monthly reminder emails.

Date: **SEPTEMBER 9 (Monday), 1:30 pm**
Title/Author: **Where the Crawdads Sing / by Delia Owens [fiction, 2018]**
Location: Home of Laura Walsh, 4427 Condor Ct, Apt 306, 303-709-9895
Geist Rd, So. on Loftus to end, R. on Condor

Date: **OCTOBER 14 (Monday), 1:30 pm**
Title/Author: **Fly Girls : How Five Daring Women Defied all Odds and Made Aviation History**
/ by Keith O'Brien [non-fiction, 2018]
Location: To Be Determined

Date: **NOVEMBER 11 (Monday), 1:30 pm**
Title/Author: **Pachinko / by Min Jin Lee [fiction, 2017]**
Location: To Be Determined

Date: **DECEMBER 9 (Monday), 1:30 pm**
Title/Author: **The Christmas Train / by David Baldacci [fiction, 2014]**
Location: To Be Determined

Games Group News:

Laura reports: "Since I am taking several OLLI classes, as I expect many of you are, too, I am going to schedule a Games Day for WEDNESDAY, September 11th. I completely understand that this may not fit into your schedules, so let me know if you plan to attend. Same time, 1:30 - 4+. Guests are welcome. We have been really enjoying playing Wingspan, a game where you work to add birds to your bird sanctuary. The game is very attractive, as far as art goes, and it has a lot of appeal for both bird-lovers and game-players."

Please contact Laura at lauralynnwalsh@gmail.com if you want to receive notifications of future sessions.

Member Updates:

New address for **Marilyn Russell**: [9061 Nuthatch Place, Unit E, Anchorage AK 99507](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9061+Nuthatch+Place,+Anchorage,+AK+99507)

If you have not renewed your membership and still wish to do so, please contact Gael Murakami, gaelmurakami@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor Needed

If you would like to be the newsletter editor this year, please contact Margaret Soden. If you have updates or information for the newsletter, please still send to Gael Murakami at gaelmurakami@gmail.com

The 2019-20 Board Members:

President: Margaret Soden, margaretdsoden@gmail.com

VP Programs: Ritchie Musick, ritchiemusick@gci.net

VP Membership: Carla Willetto cewilletto@alaska.edu and Brenda

Birdsall bfayebird@gmail.com

Finance: Gael Murakami gaelmurakami@gmail.com

Secretary: Shari George shari@georgeak.net

President-Elect: open

Past President: vacant

UAF Representatives: Carla Willetto

2019-209 Committee Chairs and Special Interest Group Leaders are:

Scholarship Committee: Leslie McCartney, lmccartney@alaska.edu we are looking for someone to take this over next year

House Tour Committee: open

Book Group: Jodi Gouwens, birchsongC@gmail.com

Games Group: Laura Walsh, lauralynnwalsh@gmail.com

Writers Group: Not currently meeting, contact Ritchie Musick, ritchiemusick@gci.net, if you are interested and want to get this going again.

Newsletter Editor: open (Gael Murakami temporary editor, gaelmurakami@gmail.com)

Special Member Benefits: One of the benefits of membership is a national discount program for members at Office Max/Office Depot. It is possible to save up to 80% off on some printing and products. You may have received a discount card in the mail, if not, go <https://www.aauw.org/membership/benefits/> and print your card.

Please join us in the Members Mobilize a Million challenge!!

We need your help to reach AAUW's goal of training 10 million women in salary negotiation by 2022. This is central to our goal of attaining Pay Equity by 2030. We are asking all Fairbanks (AK) Branch members to:

1. **Take the free [AAUW Work Smart Online](#) course...even if you're retired** and don't think you'll ever apply for a job again. *You can be that crucial conduit* through which your granddaughters, relatives, and friends can empower themselves to achieve economic security, better education opportunities, and access to more leadership roles.

2. **Ask 20 friends**, contacts, coworkers, neighbors, daughters, granddaughters and other relatives and anyone else you know to take AAUW Work Smart Online.

3. How do you take the online course?

a) Go to salary.aauw.org

b) Click on "Start your online salary negotiation course now."

c) You will need to register and create a new password.

d) You will immediately get the email, "Welcome to AAUW Worksmart Online", containing tips and guidance.

e) You don't have to complete the course in one sitting. It will save your progress as you go along.

4. Watch this [video](#) of AAUW CEO Kim Church to learn how we all can support AAUW's economic security initiative.

We can do this! Thank you for joining us in our work to achieve pay equity — for all women.