
The Breeze

The Newsletter of the Wooster, Ohio, Branch

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August 15, 2020



Susie Slack, Co-President

GREETINGS FROM NEW CO-PRESIDENT KRIS EVANS

I am very honored to be serving as Co-President with Susie Slack this two-year term and pleased to have her teaching me the ins and outs of this job.

Most of you know something of my background. I grew up in Lorain, graduated from Denison and moved to St. Louis. Most of my adult life was spent there with the exception of five years in Anniston, Alabama. I moved to Wooster seven years ago to be closer to one of my daughters and her family, and last year my other daughter moved here from Durham, North Carolina. Now I'm fortunate to have two grandchildren and their families nearby.

I have held a wide variety of jobs, everything from seventh grade teacher in rural Alabama to development director of a non-profit to project manager with a call center to my favorite, owner of a gift shop in St. Louis. That is what a liberal arts education can do for you!

This year will present a variety of challenges we personally and as an organization have not encountered before – and we will have to accept each roadblock as an opportunity to learn and grow. Literary and Board meetings already are being held via ZOOM and we may need to have some or all of our programs that way as well. We had to cancel our 2020 Spring Luncheon when we were planning to have as our speaker Dr. Ivonne Garcia, the first Chief Diversity Officer for The College of Wooster; we hope to be able to have a luncheon next April and again invite her to be our speaker.

We are looking forward to an interesting program year and hope we will all be able to get together in person one day soon. In the meantime, **we will follow the CDC guidelines to wear masks, maintain social distancing of at least six feet, wash our hands often, and have gatherings of no more than ten people.** Please stay healthy, everyone!



Kris Evans, Co-President

FORGOTTEN WHO OUR ELECTED OFFICERS ARE FOR 2020-2022?

Co-Presidents: Susie Slack and Kris Evans.

Co-Chairs of the Program Committee: Judy Taylor and Lee Peart

Treasurer: Sarah Miles

Secretary: Helen Atchison

Membership Vice President: Anita Greene

WOOSTER AAUW PROGRAM UPDATES

In anticipation that some of this year's programs may be on ZOOM, any member who would like help setting up a ZOOM account, please let Lee Peart or Judy Taylor (Program Committee Co-Chairs) know and they will find a way to help you. Once you have ZOOM set up on your computer or phone, it is really easy to use. You do not need to have a camera on your phone or computer.

Candidates Night

Tuesday, October 13 (or 20) 2020, 7:00 p.m.

In past years Wooster AAUW and NAACP co-sponsored Candidates' Night with The League of Women Voters (LWV). At the end of this month LWV will decide if they will hold Candidates' Night and, if so, will it be in person or on-line. Because of the current situation LWV sees no need for co-sponsors this year but thanks us for our past efforts.

Self-Care in Times of a Pandemic

Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Mackey Hall, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Pine Street (or ZOOM Class)

Addressing the emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being during an ongoing quarantine can be overwhelming. **Rev. Brooke Winkler**, owner of Engaging the Spirit Holistic Center, a mental health therapist for 20 years, hypnotherapist, and yoga instructor, will share her experience of taking care of the mind, body, and spirit in a fun, energetic, and creative presentation. Judy Taylor will coordinate the program with help from Hostess Maggie Spriggs.

Holiday Luncheon

Thursday, December 3, 2020, 12 noon

Mackey Hall, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Pine Street

Members will gather for the Branch's usual Holiday Luncheon. Coordinator is Bev McCoy with help from Hostesses Mary Ann Merchant, Julie Runnels-Smith, and Judy Mallonn.

This year donation items (cash and useful winter items such as warm socks or gloves) will be going to the Living Room Project for the homeless at Wooster's Salvation Army.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Membership Vice President Anita Greene and Treasurer Sarah Miles report that Wooster Branch currently has 66 memberships, including our six life members. For those of you not renewing, – for whatever reason – we thank you for your past participation and hope you will consider rejoining again in the future if possible.

Please welcome our new member:

Donna Connolly
1107 Wildwood Drive
Wooster, OH 44691

Donna is an AAUW transfer from Lakewood Colorado's Branch. She moved to Wooster in mid-July to be near her daughter, Karin Wiest. She has previously served as Membership VP and Co-President. Donna is interested in Literary, Cinema, and Out-and-About.

LITERARY READING FOR SUMMER/FALL 2020

Co-Facilitators Carol McKiernan and Stefani Koorhan are planning as best they can for 2020–2021 in view of COVID-19. Given the success of the May meeting, ZOOM monthly book reviews were held in June and July 2020 and will probably continue on ZOOM throughout the year. An updated schedule has been sent by email to all Literary members and a complete listing of books will also be carried in AAUW's Program Booklet to be printed in September.

August 18 - **Where the Crawdads Sing** by *Della Owens* will be reviewed by Don Ackerman.

September 15 - **Girl, Woman, Other** by *Bernardine Evaristo* will be reviewed by Kris Evans.

October 20 - **What My Mother and I don't Talk About: Fifteen Writers Break the Silence** (edited by Michele Filgate). Book will be reviewed by Susan Roberts.

November 17 - **The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek** by *Michele Richardson* will be reviewed by Letty Nault.

AAUW USED BOOK SALE

Preparations for the possibility of holding the AAUW/Kiwanis book sale are under way. Using very strict CDC guidelines, volunteers are working again at the warehouse preparing books for the sale. The first drop-off held on July 11 had 41 drop-offs (one person had 20 boxes of books!) and on July 18 there were 27 drop-offs. Volunteers have begun cleaning, pricing and sorting on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings in small groups. Drop-offs are on Saturday mornings, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, as in the past.

With continual monitoring of the pandemic situation the Executive Committee of AAUW, upon discussion with Kiwanis, has voted in favor of postponing the book sale until we feel it is safe to hold the sale. Kiwanis is considering the option and will be meeting soon to make their decision. Members will be notified as soon as a decision is made.



Hidden behind their masks, AAUW members Jan Steinbrenner (left) and Don Ackerman (right) immerse themselves in cleaning and sorting books.



OUT-AND-ABOUT TRIPS

Facilitator Mary Ann Merchant will keep members informed of any possible Out-and-About trips. Still doesn't seem to be the time for any "big group" events.

Monday, August 17	AAUW Social Bridge; 1 p.m., home of Mary Ann Merchant
Tuesday, August 18	Literary ZOOM review by Don Ackerman
Thursday, August 27	ZOOM AAUW Wooster Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, September 15	Literary ZOOM review by Kris Evans
Tuesday, September 21	AAUW Social Bridge: hostess, time, and place TBD
Tuesday, Oct. 13 or 20	Candidates' Night. (Note: The League of Women Voters will determine if and where the event will be held.)
Monday, October 19	AAUW Social Bridge: hostess, time, and place TBD
Tuesday, October 20	Literary ZOOM review by Susan Roberts
Thursday, October 22	ZOOM Wooster Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 27	AAUW General membership program on Self-Care in Times of a Pandemic , 7 p.m., Mackey Hall, Westminster Presbyterian Church
Monday, November 16	AAUW Social Bridge: hostess, time, and place TBD
Tuesday, November 17	Literary ZOOM review with Letty Nault
Thursday, December 3	AAUW Wooster Branch's annual Holiday Luncheon, Mackey Hall, 12 noon



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination. AAUW, in principle and in practice, values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership time, and board of directors.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

***Mary Ann Merchant
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