

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

September 2020

Branch Program Together in 2019 Together in 2020

September 8, 2020, 7pm

Welcome back to another year in AAUW! Due to Covid-19, this year looks nothing like last year. It is hard to imagine that it was only last September that we shared a pot luck supper as our welcome back to AAUW. This year we will still kick-off our AAUW year but in an entirely new and different way.



All branch members are invited to join together via Zoom on September 8, 2020 at 7 pm. It will be great to see each other, no shoes required. We plan to socialize, conduct a little business and see and hear a video presentation by AAUW CEO Kim Churches on the state

of AAUW at the close of 2019 and of its future plans. Many of us had the pleasure of meeting Kim in person when she presented in Massachusetts. Kim will take us through the many accomplishments of AAUW on the national level as well as the areas that need improvement. She cements the connection between the national and branch levels of AAUW. She will make you proud to be an AAUW member.

As usual, you are welcome to bring a guest. This meeting will be a great introduction to AAUW. Just forward the Zoom link to your guest and let Lynn Howard know your guest/s will be joining us.

I am hoping for an excellent turn-out as we can attend this meeting in the comfort of our own homes. All that is needed is an Internet or telephone connection, no shared

dish and place setting necessary. Be on the look-out in your email inbox for the Zoom link and phone number as we get closer to the meeting date.

[Hollie Bagley](#)
Host

President's Message



Welcome back to the 2020-2021 year with South Shore Area AAUW. I believe it will be an interesting and challenging year. As I am sure you are all aware we will be doing most of our meetings via Zoom. (I have learned to use and actually enjoy doing “meetings” as well as other

activities on Zoom!) It means we can actually “see” each other or not depending on your choice of options. You do not need to worry about what you might wear (turn off the video), driving at night, and (as I have been doing) using my headphones so my husband does not have to listen to all of our talking or move to another room!

Our Branch will be signed up for Zoom for our first meeting on September 8 at 7:00 PM. Lynn Howard will be setting up our account prior to this meeting and you will be sent a link to connect. A Zoom account is not required if you are strictly joining a Zoom Meeting as a participant. If someone invites you to their meeting, you can join as a participant without creating an account. ... A Zoom account is only required if you need to create your own meetings and send invitations to participants. Although I am not an expert at this, I will try to answer questions you may have. I believe with our paid account you will also be able to connect via phone. Lynn can provide this information with the notice that will be sent out. Feel free to call me if you have questions. I “may” be able to answer them.

President's Message continued

At our Board Meeting on August 11, we discussed setting up our branch meetings through January. Obviously, we are expecting that we will not be able to have anything other than virtual meetings during this period. Here are the meetings and topics that are currently arranged:

Tuesday, September 8, 7 PM, Hollie Bagley will present "The State of AAUW" video. I am hoping to have a brief meeting before hand and some "mingling/socializing" either before or after.

Tuesday, October 13, Voting Past and Present. Appropriate topic for this month. Lynn Howard is working on this.

Tuesday, November 10, is in the planning stages.

December (date to be announced), a virtual holiday party. Wear your holiday attire and bring a snack and drink and share holiday decorations, recipes, songs and hopes that 2021 will be better!!

Tuesday, January 12, our usual Book Discussion minus the pot luck (unless some "miracle" happens by then!!). The book is *The Beantown Girls* by Jane Healey. I have read it and found it enjoyable. I believe Carol Sullivan-Hanley will provide further information.

Beyond January we have not planned!! Hope springs eternal for in person meetings again.

I am hoping to have as many of you as possible join us either visually or at least vocally! Remember, you do not need to drive, ponder what to wear, but do let us at least hear your voice and listen to what we hope will be informative and enjoyable in these difficult times. Look forward to "seeing" you.

[Ginny Giordano](#)
President

Zoom Neophyte?

Is this your first Zoom meeting or do you just want some simple directions on how to use Zoom? Click on this link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>) to show how to connect to a Zoom meeting for the first time either on your computer, tablet or phone.

Membership Matters

The Executive Board has decided to not publish a new Member Directory this year, in part, to save printing expenses. Please hold onto your old Member Directory (2019-2020). If you don't have it, let Gail Saccone (gvsaccone@comcast.net) or Patrice Metro (patriceuk@aol.com) know as we have a few extra copies left. Patrice and Gail will be putting a few updates together (i.e. members whose contact information has changed, new member information, etc.) and that will be distributed as a PDF document via email at the end of September. If your information is inaccurate or has changed, please send me the changes by September 16th so we can include you in the updates.

Our first AAUW meeting on September 8th will be via Zoom. Lynn Howard will be sending out the Zoom link within a few days of the September meeting. If you're unsure of how to use Zoom, please reach out to Lynn and she can help you (cell: 781-901-9120 or lynnphoward82@comcast.net). I'm looking forward to "seeing" you on September 8th.

[Gail Saccone](#)
Membership VP

October Preview
Voting Past and Present



At our October meeting we will be focusing on the history of the fight for women's right to vote and what we can do now to make sure every voice is heard.

In the meantime, there are many events, websites, and books about the centennial of the 19th Amendment that you might want to check out. One book I would suggest is *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote* by Elaine Weiss. Ms. Weiss just recently published an adapted version of the book for young readers and Hillary

Clinton is teaming up with Steven Spielberg's Amblin Television to bring the book to the small screen (television).

Lynn Howard
Host

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Public Policy

Good News!

From the [Massachusetts Secretary of State website](#):

“Voting By Mail

In July, a new law was passed to allow all registered voters in Massachusetts to vote by mail in any 2020 election, with no excuse needed.

As required by the new law, a Vote by Mail application will be mailed to every person who was registered to vote by July 1 and who had not already requested an absentee ballot for the State Primary or for all elections this year. A second mailing will be sent out in September to all voters who have not already applied for a Vote by Mail ballot for the November election. The applications are pre-addressed to your local election official and no postage is necessary.

Vote by Mail applications must be delivered to your local election office no later than 4 business days before the election. For a State Primary ballot, your application must reach your local election office no later than August 26. For a State Election ballot, your application must reach your local election office no later than October 28.

If you wish to vote by mail, you are strongly encouraged to return your application as early as possible, to make sure that you will receive your ballot in time to return it and have it be counted.

Vote by Mail applications are available for [download](#) and may also be requested by [contacting the Elections Division](#).

You can find more information on voting by mail on our [Voting by Mail FAQs](#) page.

Voter Registration

We encourage those who need to register to vote to use our [online voter registration system](#). If you cannot register online, you may still register without leaving your home by sending a [mail-in voter registration form](#) to your [local election office](#). If you need to register to vote in person, contact your [local election official](#) about their ability.

The voter registration deadline for all elections in 2020 will be 10 days before any election.

Early Voting

To assist with limiting crowding at polling places, there will be additional days of early voting this year.

In-person voting for the September 1 State Primary will take place over 8 days, with 7 days of early voting being held August 22-28. All cities and towns will be required to offer early voting on Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23.

In-person voting for the November 3 State Election will take place over 15 days, with 14 days of early voting being held October 17-30. All cities and towns will be required to offer early voting on Saturday, October 17, Sunday, October 18, Saturday, October 24 and Sunday, October 25.

Early voting schedules and locations will be posted at www.MassEarlyVote.com at least one week before early voting begins.

Emergency Ballots

If you have been admitted to a healthcare facility within 7 days of an election, or you have been instructed by a medical professional or public health official to self-quarantine in your home within 7 days of an election, you may use the [absentee ballot application](#) to designate someone to pick up your emergency absentee ballot, deliver it to you, and return it to your local election official.

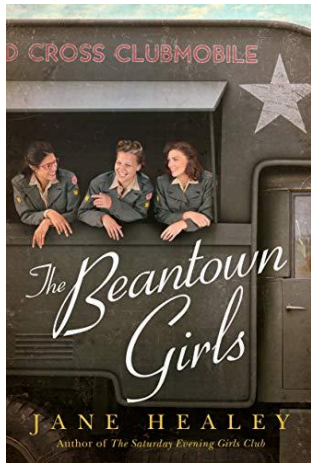
There is no deadline to submit an application for an emergency ballot, but your ballot must be returned to your local election office by the close of polls.”

Patrice Metro
Public Policy Chair

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Branch Read

Breaking News: Jane Healey, the author, will join us



In January we will meet to discuss *The Beantown Girls* by Jane Healey. We are announcing it now so you will have plenty of time to get it read. The Kindle version is currently offered on Amazon for \$3.99. “A novel of love, courage, and danger unfolds as World War II’s brightest heroines—the best of friends—take on the front lines.”

1944: Fiona Denning has her entire future planned out. She’ll work in city hall, marry her fiancé when he returns from the war, and settle down in the Boston suburbs. But when her fiancé is reported missing after being shot down in Germany, Fiona’s long-held plans are shattered.

Determined to learn her fiancé’s fate, Fiona leaves Boston to volunteer overseas as a Red Cross Clubmobile girl, recruiting her two best friends to come along. There’s the outspoken Viviana, who is more than happy to quit her secretarial job for a taste of adventure. Then there’s Dottie, a shy music teacher whose melodious talents are sure to bring heart and hope to the boys on the front lines.

Chosen for their inner strength and outer charm, the trio isn’t prepared for the daunting challenges of war. But through it all come new friendships and romances, unforeseen dangers, and unexpected dreams. As the three friends begin to understand the real reasons they all came to the front, their courage and camaraderie will see them through some of the best and worst times of their lives.”

Amazon.com

2020-2021 Book List

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from September-May on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Below are the book selections. For your



convenience the list will also be included as a separate attachment emailed along with this newsletter and it is posted on the branch web page, direct link <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2020/08/2020-2021-Book-List.pdf>.

Until further notice discussion will be held via Zoom. The meetings are open to all branch members. If you would like to receive an invitation to participate, please let [Lynn Howard](#) (781-901-9120 • Mobile) know.

Sept: *This is How it Always Is* - Laurie Frankel

Oct: *Burning*- Megha Majumdar

Nov: *Pushout* - Monique Morris

Dec: *American Dirt*- Jeanne Cummins

JANUARY: ALL MEMBERS *The Beantown Girls*- Jane Healey

Feb: *Hill Women*- Cassie Chamber

Mar: *The Dutch House* - Ann Patchett

Apr: *The Night Watchman*- Louise Erdrich

May: Two selections: *So You Want to Talk About Race* -- Ijeoma Oluo, *White Fragility* - Robin DiAngelo

Articles for publication in the South Shore Area branch newsletter, *News of Note*, should reach the editor, Hollie Bagley (holliebagley@gmail.com) by the 20th day of the previous month.

Visit our branch web page:

[http://aauw-](http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/)

[ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/](http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/)

Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts/>

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Primary Election	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Branch Meeting, 7pm Zoom	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Book Discussion, 6:30pm Zoom	16	17	18 Deadline for Directory changes	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

2020-2021 Board Meetings (4th Tuesday of the month)

Please add to your calendar:

October 27, 2020

January 26, 2021

March 23, 2021

June 2021 To be decided

Stay Healthy

Stay Safe