

South Shore Area Branch of AAUW

News of Note, February 2025

Branch Meeting AAUW Member Gathering February 5, 4 pm via Zoom

Serendipity. The very day I learned our February speaker had a conflict, the invitation to attend the **AAUW Member Gathering** appeared in my inbox. What a perfect opportunity to invite our branch members to learn more about what is happening with our national organization and branches across the country.

We will hear from dynamic speakers, including AAUW Board of Directors Chair Cheryl Sorokin and CEO Gloria L. Blackwell, as they share key updates and celebrate the incredible contributions of our donors, members, and branches..

At this special event, AAUW will:

- Recognize outstanding supporters and branches
- Share updates on our work in Policy, Fellowships & Grants, and Membership
- Connect us with fellow AAUW members

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our achievements and learn about AAUW's latest initiatives.

[Register here.](#) Or click the Register button in the email you received from AAUW on January 22 announcing this event.

I do hope you will make every effort to attend this very special event on February 5 at 4 pm ET.

Hollie Bagley
Newsletter Editor

Where Do We Go From Here? February 11, 7 pm, via Zoom

As a follow up to the February 5th meeting, all branch members are invited to join the board on our regularly scheduled branch meeting date of February 11th at 7 pm via Zoom to discuss all AAUW matters, big and small. This is a chance to meet with your fellow members and chat about things we never get to discuss during our more formal program meetings. The discussion will be based on what we learn during our February 5th meeting with members of our national organization, but please attend on February 11th even if you were unable to attend the national Member Gathering. The Zoom link for this meeting is on the calendar page.

President's Message

We had an interesting and informative meeting in January with author Kathleen Grissom. She shared with us how she came up with her ideas for her books *The Kitchen House* and *Crow Mary*. Kathleen also shared information about how she spent years doing research. She also told us about the times that she went to the reservation and worked closely with the Crow people to learn more about Mary. Kathleen also shared some ideas she has for her next book. She gave us a few hints about it so now we're all looking forward to reading it when it comes out. If you haven't had a chance to read *Crow Mary* I would encourage you to read it.



We were hoping to have Peter Swanson do a presentation about sustainability at our February meeting, unfortunately due to a scheduling conflict he is unavailable. We will reschedule his presentation

for sometime next year. So instead we would be encouraging all South Shore members to attend the **AAUW Member Gathering on Wednesday, February 5th at 4 p.m.** being presented by National. This is a great opportunity to learn more about what is happening in other branches and what is planned for the future. You do need to register to receive the Zoom link. You should have received an email for National on January 22nd titled “You’re Invited to the Winter Member Gathering with the information about this event and the registration link”. You may also use the link in the branch meeting article to register. As a follow-up, we will be meeting again on February 11th to discuss AAUW matters, especially what we as a branch can do to improve the lives of women and girls.

Finally, while we were dealing with many cold winter days in New England (and even in other parts of the country lately) I would suggest that you take some time to look at the AAUW website if you haven’t in a while to catch up on the issues and the many ways you can take action from home.

<https://www.aauw.org/issues/>

[:LynnHoward](#)

President

Membership Matters

It doesn’t seem possible that we are approaching the half way mark in our 2024-2025 AAUW year. With a new President in the White House, we need to be alert to any changes that would eliminate the accomplishments we have made. We have so much ahead of us: closing the gender pay gap, expanding college education for women and girls, and supporting the economic security of all women are a few priorities we are focusing on this year. We are proud of all that we have accomplished but we know that we have our biggest challenges ahead of us.

Increasing our membership is an ongoing goal as we realize that there is strength in numbers. Do make it a New Year’s resolution to encourage friends and neighbors to join us. Bring them to a

meeting or a book discussion. We always welcome potential new members to join us on Zoom.

Our January program was very interesting with our guest author, Kathleen Grissom, discussing her historical novel, *Crow Mary*, a wonderful story of love and clashing cultures that changed lives. Following her presentation, the members had a very lively discussion.



Our branch has an assortment of interesting programs planned for the next few months. Watching them on Zoom and inviting a friend to join you couldn’t be more convenient.

Let’s “Each one, Reach one”. Recruit a new member in 2025.

We send our deepest condolences to Ruthanne Kennedy on the passing of her sister, Kathleen. May she rest in peace.

[Anne Foley](#)
Membership VP

Public Policy

As President Biden Leaves Office, He Declares “The Equal Rights Amendment is Now the Law of the Land”



Joe Biden made a bold move in affirming the Equal Rights Amendment saying it is law– and it’s an historic move, too,

<https://x.com/POTUS/status/1880271367569895830>

BUT....could he do it? What does it mean? Here are some points of view:

1. [What Biden’s Move on the Equal Rights Amendment Could Actually Do - The New York Times](#)
2. <https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/17/politics/joe-biden-equal-right-amendment/index.html>
3. [Biden says the Equal Rights Amendment is law. What happens next is unclear](#)

4. Comments by Laurence Tribe and co: [The Equal Rights Amendment at Long Last.docx](#)

“AAUW applauds President Joe Biden’s historic affirmation of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. While there will be challenges ahead, AAUW remains steadfast in our fight to ensure full recognition of equality that cannot be undermined on account of sex.”--aauw.org

Become an AAUW Two-Minute Activist:
<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

[Patrice Metro](#)
Public Policy Chair

Book Discussion

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from usually on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm via Zoom. The monthly selections for 2024-2025 are posted on the branch web page under Activities. The meetings are open to all branch members. If you would like to receive a Zoom link to any of the discussions, please contact [Lynn Howard](#) (781-9019120, mobile). This month’s selection is *An Unfinished Love Story* by Doris Kearns Goodwin .



AAUW Tidbits

As an AAUW member, your voice counts. If you need help having conversations surrounding the dues increase with your members, consider AAUW National’s value to affiliates such as:

- monthly salary negotiation and financial literacy [trainings](#);
- administrative support for branches related to dues processing, Community Hub, 990Ns, branding materials, and the other [various toolkits and resources](#); • advancing AAUW’s member-supported policy agenda

- [speakers for branch meetings](#) and state conventions to provide subject matter expertise and updates;
- [weekly office hours](#) and support from the Connect Team; • and many other [benefits](#).

Branch Calendar

You will find our monthly branch calendar on the last page of this newsletter. It is on a separate page so that you can print it or transfer the dates to your personal calendar. All events on the calendar are open to all members.



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-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/>



Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:

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

Happy Valentine's Day

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

February 2025 Black History Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					National Wear Red Day	1 National Freedom Day
2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5 Branch Program 4 pm	6	7	10
9 Super Bowl	10 International Day of Women and Girls in Science tomorrow	11 Branch Program 7pm	12		14 Valentine's Day 	15 Susan B. Anthony Day 
16 Random Acts of Kindness Day tomorrow	17 Presidents' Day	18 Book Discussion 6:30pm	19	20 Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day	21	22
23	24	25	26 Letter to an Elder Day	27	28	1 1st day of Women's History Month

February 5, Branch Prigram: AAUW Member Gathering, 4 pm via Zoom, [Register Here](#)

February 18, Book Discussion: *An Unfinished Love Story* by Doris Kearns Goodwin

February 11, Branch Meeting, *Where Do We Go From Here?* 7 pm via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85481368801?pwd=BZ8F6QAG7KkQURLS-N7KcHd9KCnsMv2.1>
 Meeting ID: 854 8136 8801
 Passcode: 903165
 One tap mobile
 +19292056099,,85481368801#,,,,*903165# US (New York)
 +13017158592,,85481368801#,,,,*903165# US (Washington DC)
 Dial by your location
 • +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82268120991?pwd=fO5RFzfMLjFUZdZaZ4RwkOUkxRYYdn.1>
 Meeting ID: 822 6812 0991, Passcode: 926910
 One tap mobile
 +13126266799,,82268120991#,,,,*926910# US (Chicago)
 +16469313860,,82268120991#,,,,*926910# US
 Dial by your location
 • +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
 • +1 646 931 3860 US
 • +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)