



Branching Out

May 2023



Zoom in to our Annual Meeting!

On Wednesday, May 10 we will hold our annual meeting, once again over Zoom. We'll hear from the recipients of our non-traditional student scholarships, Kristen Cartier and Nicole Blair. During the business meeting we'll vote on the Leadership Team for next year, with the following slate: Liaison to state and national, Mary Cathcart; Secretary, Susan Landry; Treasurer, Mackenzie Roeder; Membership, Fran Haines; College/University Representative, Susan D'Angelo; Historian, Janet Givens; Website, Fran Haines; Communications, Susan D'Angelo; Diversity, Judi Coburn-Harris; Non-traditional Scholarship Coordinator, Susan Wishkoski; High School Scholarship Coordinator, OPEN; Public Policy, OPEN; Member-at-Large, Cathleen Bauschatz. **Join the Zoom for a 7:00 meeting start; see Susan D'Angelo's May 1 email for the link.**

Dues Are Due!

Our total dues will be \$97 (National \$72; State \$15; and local \$10). This is the final year of the national 3-year dues increases. Life members pay \$25 (\$15 State and \$10 local), and 50-year honorary life members do not owe dues. Grad students owe \$21.81 (\$18.81 national plus \$3 state). If the University is a member of AAUW, students owe no dues.

You will receive three notices from National about dues payment; as always, you may **pay by check or** by following the directions to **pay online via credit card**. If you pay online, National reimburses the State and Branch dues. If members want **to donate additional funds** toward our branch scholarships, etc., paying by check is the method to use.

To pay by check: Please make the \$97 check payable to "AAUW Penobscot Valley" and send it to incoming Treasurer (pending May 10 vote) Mackenzie Roeder, 326 Stillwater Avenue #13, Old Town ME 04468.

Dues are payable by June 30, but National allows a three-month grace period. If you pay later than the final deadline of September 30, National will consider you a *new member!* To maintain your record accurately, please renew by September 30.

Please, if you have any questions, send an email to fahaines1@gmail.com.

Funds Basket Raffle

Janet Givens is collecting contributions to put together our **basket(s) for the state convention raffle**. New and gently used books about women can be left on her screened-in porch (at the back of the house), and she's accepting baskets as well. Please deliver your donations by May 20 or make alternate arrangements directly with Janet (hrgcc@aol.com).

Pizza and Politics Moves Outdoors

Beginning in May, Pizza and Politics will move outdoors and in person at local eateries. It will be great to discuss the issues of our times in person over a beer! We will continue to meet on the **third Wednesday of the month** at 4:00 p.m.; mark your calendar for the following dates: May 17, June 21, July 19, August 16, and September 20. I hope you join us as we enjoy our brief but sweet summer. The location of the May meeting will be announced soon-- look for it in your email.

~ Susan Wishkoski

Bringing UMaine Back on Board

The Branch has written to UMaine President Dr. Ferrini-Mundy to remind her of the **importance of university membership** for university students, and to urge her to renew UMaine's membership. Our branch was established as the University of Maine Branch, founded by prominent University faculty with Dean Caroline Colvin as its first president. Current faculty relationships include Dr. Bonnie Newsom, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, receiving an AAUW fellowship while completing her graduate studies. It's hoped that not only will UMaine renew its membership, but also Dr. Ferrini-Mundy may herself join during 2024 as we celebrate the centennial of our branch.

Social Engagement

I would like to suggest that we use a theme for our **social engagement efforts** this coming year. I believe that it would be easier to organize our efforts if we have this focus. Themes could be women's lives and the environment; saving our democracy; combating homelessness; and others you may suggest. Please let me know what you think about my idea and propose themes that are important to you. You can reach me at wishkoskisusan@gmail.com.

~ Susan Wishkoski

Treasurer's and Fundraising Report

As of 4/29/23--

Total Resources: \$3997.42

Total Expenses: 2710.00

Balance: \$1287.42

Members have contributed \$1,200 toward our **scholarship fund**. Thank you!! Our scholarship recipients express much gratitude for your support. Also please continue taking your returnable bottles and cans to **Burby and Bates** in Orono and have them deposit the refunds into the AAUW Penobscot Valley Branch account.

We need additional **fundraising ideas!!!** Please help! We have an active branch which needs additional income to fulfill our mission.

See the full budget report on page 4.

~ Fran Haines

AAUW of Maine State Convention 2023

Turn to the recently issued Spring 2023 *Dawnbreaker* for complete information about the upcoming state convention!

There will be a welcome reception on Friday evening, June 2 (5:00-6:00), followed by a no-host dinner. On Saturday, the program on **Education and Economics** will feature three speakers from three different phases of education from pre-K through higher ed. Tours of the facility, Educare Central Maine, will be offered as well. The business meeting will precede lunch, and the day will wind up with the basket raffle.

Reserve your place by sending a check by May 19. Details are provided in the *Dawnbreaker*. If you want overnight accommodations you can choose between the Best Western where an AAUW block rate is available until May 19; Fireside Inn; Hampton Inn; Lockwood; Holiday Inn; or a Waterville branch member's home. (The latter requires an email to arterberry47@gmail.com to check availability.)

Directions to the Best Western Plus Waterville Grand Hotel for Friday night and to Educare Central Maine for Saturday are in the *Dawnbreaker*. Also find there the full convention schedule as well as biosketches of the three speakers.

The **desire to have a good turnout** for this first in-person convention since 2019 is the impetus for establishing an exceptionally low registration fee (\$25) as well as offering reimbursement for gas and \$50 toward hotel lodging. See the newsletter for details.

Budget Report 04/29/2023

Carry forward from prior year **\$1,471.72**

Resources

FY '23 dues paid FY '23	592.00
FY '24 dues paid FY '23	25.00
Scholarship Donation (Erhardt) and refund	800.00
Scholarship fundraising	1,020.00
Burby and Bates	2.20
Donations (includes \$82 state dues scholarship)	85.82
Interest	0.68
Total income	2,525.70
Total resources	\$3,997.42

Expenses

Dues FY '23 National (Includes \$67 member scholarship)	536.00
Dues FY '23 State (Includes \$15 member scholarship)	120.00
Dues FY '24 National paid in FY '23	0.00
Dues FY' 24 State paid in FY '23	0.00
Newsletter/directory/letter printing	0.00
Newsletter postage	24.00
Leadership team expenses	10.00
AAUW Funds \$10/member	170.00
Scholarship Marge Erhardt \$500 donation, \$300 PVB +refund	500.00
Non-traditional scholarships (2 @ \$500)	1,000.00
Maine NEW Leadership (\$300)	300.00
Program costs	0.00
Project costs (including raffle basket)	0.00
Special projects	0.00
Maine Women's Lobby (\$50)	50.00
Total expenses	\$2,710.00

Balance **\$1,287.42**

Resources

National, www.aauw.org ; **State**, aauw-me.aauw.net ; **PVB** (updated regularly), <https://penobscotvalley-me.aauw.net/> ; **AAUW CA** (webinars on a variety of AAUW-related topics), <http://www.aauw-ca.org> ; **AAUW Legacy Circle** (and other planned giving opportunities), <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/>