

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
via Betty Rossen, Co-President


HELLO,
MAY

May this month bring you
satisfaction, peace and joy.

May all the desires of your
heart be granted.

May this be the beginning of
new things in your life.

Stay strong, be positive and
fulfill your dreams

Happy new month friends! 

Happy May Day! Why is it that as we get older, time seems to go by faster? How can this year be nearly half over? On a personal note, this is the time of year that I tend to my summer vegetable seedlings that have been sprouting in pots this winter in the downstairs bedrooms' window wells. When any danger of frost (or snow!) has passed, I'll transplant the plants into the raised bed that I have designated for the summer veggie garden. As a Californian, I would ordinarily be getting ready to pick my first Early Girl tomatoes. Here those seedlings are 4 inches tall right now! Gardening here has been a "trial by fire" experience!

On May 19th our AAUW branch will hold its final meeting before our summer break. It will be another Zoom meeting, this one scheduled for 4:00 to be held in the comfort of our

homes. Beryl Jacobson will share her expertise

on the newly opened Sandstone Ranch Open Space which we hope to visit in-person in small groups this fall. I hope you'll tune in on May 19th at 4:00 to learn about the newest Douglas County open space acquisition.

Now would also be a good time to renew your dues. All of you should have received an email outlining details on how to easily take care of this.

With Covid-19 vaccinations increasingly more widespread, it's so nice to be able to return to normal activities again. Have a happy, healthy summer, doing fun activities that are now possible again!

Betty

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

On May 19th at 4:00 p.m., come our Zoom Meeting with Beryl Jacobson!!! Don't miss it! Beryl has been a member of DC AAUW for over 40 years and is very involved in the community. She will be discussing the work being done on the Sandstone Ranch in preparation for our tour in the fall. She is a wealth of information and this will be a fun meeting for all!

Zoom: Sign into zoom.

Meeting ID is 493 901 4154;

Passcode is e9WK4q

Another invitation will be sent out soon.

TREASURER'S REPORT

via Marsha Johnson, DC AAUW Treasurer

Dear Ladies,

Currently, our account balance is \$6,274.30.

Our income this past month (\$275) was totally due to membership renewal for the year July 2021-June 2022. 25 members have renewed already either by check (mailed to ME, NOT National) or by electronic renewal. Thank you to so many for being so prompt!

A reminder . . . I will soon be sending out, through the national database, a second invitation to renew your AAUW membership. The email should arrive around May 1st. You should not be receiving this blast invitation if you have already renewed. Sometimes it takes a couple of weeks for the data to catch up if you have paid by check. If your check has cleared your bank account, that means I have received and you are renewed.

If you are planning on NOT renewing, first we will miss you, and second, please let me know so you will not be receiving any more invitations to renew.

Stay well and safe!

Marsha



PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

via Diane Norten, Public Policy Chair

AAUW has made a commitment to actively support several bills in the Legislature. Actively support means submitting letters or testimony in support of the bill.

An update on the list includes:

HB21-1097 Establish Behavioral Health Administration	Passed, sent to the Governor
HB21-1161 Suspend Statewide Assessments for Select Grades	Signed by the Governor
SB21-073 Civil Action Statute of Limitations Sexual Abuse	Passed, sent to the Governor
SB21-089 Cancer Screening Services Through CDPHE	Postponed Indefinitely

Others awaiting a status report:

- Insurance Coverage Mental Health Wellness Exam
- Reproductive Health Care Program
- Codify ACA Preventive Health Coverage
- Family Planning Services
- Emergency Supplies for Babies
- Behavioral Health Recovery Act
- Health Care Access in Cases of Rape or Incest



You can check on the progress of the bills by signing in to the state website, go to take action and click on AAUW Colorado 2021 Legislative Priorities. There are many others that we support but do not testify for or write letters in support. The Legislature adjourns at the end of the month so be up to date on what they have or have not completed.

Also a big reminder to go to the national website, if you have not already received an email, and vote for the upcoming issues for AAUW.

Diane

*Amanda Gorman,
Poet Laureate*



BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!!! via many of us!

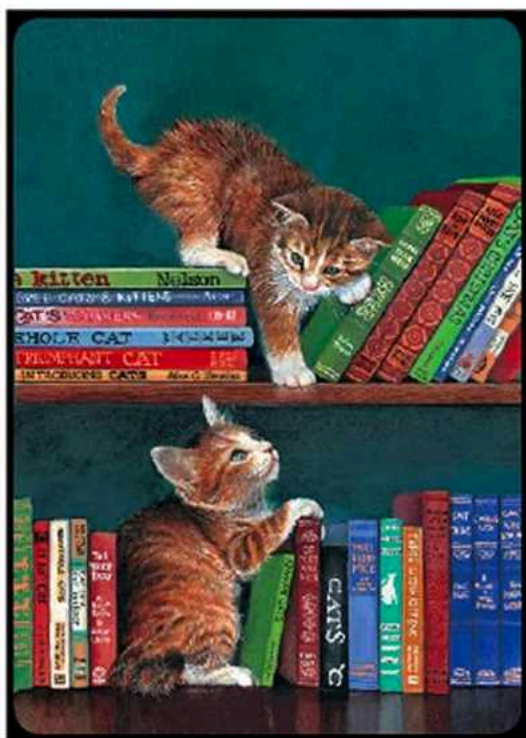
Morning Group: *The Book of Longings by Susan Monk Kidd* *The story of a young woman named Ana. Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, she is rebellious and ambitious, with a brilliant mind and a daring spirit. She engages in furtive scholarly pursuits and writes narratives about neglected and silenced women. Ana is expected to marry an older widower, a prospect that horrifies her. An encounter with eighteen-year-old Jesus changes everything.* **Contact Ruth Lundgren**

(The May meeting will be the last until September for the A.M. Group.)

Afternoon Group: *The Dressmaker's Gift by Fiona Valpy* *Paris, 1940. With the city occupied by the Nazis, three young seamstresses go about their normal lives as best they can. But all three are hiding secrets. Two generations later, Claire's English granddaughter Harriet arrives in Paris, rootless and adrift, desperate to find a connection with her past. Living and working in the same building on the Rue Cardinale, she learns the truth about her grandmother – and herself – and unravels a family history that is darker and more painful than she ever imagined.*

Contact Linda Washburn

Editor's Choice: *The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware* *In this tightly wound, enthralling story reminiscent of Agatha Christie's works, Lo Blacklock, a journalist who writes for a travel magazine, has just been given the assignment of a lifetime: a week on a luxury cruise with only a handful of cabins. At first, Lo's stay is nothing but pleasant... Lo witnesses what she can only describe as a dark and terrifying nightmare: a woman being thrown overboard. The problem? All passengers remain accounted for—and so, the ship sails on as if nothing has happened, despite Lo's desperate attempts to convey that something (or someone) has gone terribly, terribly wrong...*



May this day be so happy that smile never fades away from your face.

Our last Zoom Meeting was on Joy, presented by Janet Kester. Here are some screen shots from the meeting.

10 Aesthetics of Joy

-from *Joyful* by Ingrid Fetell Lee

- Energy: vibrant color and light
- Abundance: lushness, multiplicity, and variety
- Freedom: nature, wildness, and open space
- Harmony: balance, symmetry and flow
- Play: circles, spheres, and bubbly forms
- Surprise: contrast and whimsy
- Transcendence: elevation and lightness
- Magic: invisible forces and illusions
- Celebration: synchrony, sparkle, and bursting shapes
- Renewal: blossoming, expansion, and curves

"A smile is the light on your face that lets someone know you're home."

(Pssst! Sometimes we have to be intentional about building joy and noticing joy.)

(Not all are pictured. Janet is top left.)



We were featured in the April AAUW of Colorado Connects! In case you didn't see it, here it is:

AAUW of Colorado Highlights Douglas County Branch

Each month one branch is recognized for their great work in supporting the AAUW Mission and Strategic Plan and strong support of their local community.

Douglas County branch members are so happy that it's 2021 and especially now for the arrival of Spring. As the tulips and crocuses start to appear again, so does our AAUW group. In March, we started meeting again with a fun Zoom social and "BYODtyC" (**B**ring **Y**our **O**wn **D**rink to **y**our **C**omputer, hoping it catches on). In April, we'll be Zooming with a guest speaker on the subject of "JOY". Seems an appropriate topic for this time of year and we are all looking forward to it. As you know nothing is quite like routinely meeting in person which we hope will start for us again soon.

Even though we haven't been able to get together during the past year we've kept in touch through our newsletter regarding Public Policy, Treasurer's Reports, Women's History Month, books to read, and even what to watch on Netflix. We also continued with our King Sooper's and Safeway/Albertson's fundraising... even when quarantining, we still had to eat. Also, we love free money!

On a sad note, we lost a lifetime member, Winnie Peterson. Many of you knew Winnie as she was in AAUW for over 60 years. She was such a positive member and steadfast worker who will truly be missed. No one could get things done like Winnie!

(Connects article cont'd)

Our next focus is awarding 3 women continuing their education with scholarships of \$1500 each. The application process has already begun.

Our Board is brainstorming ways to increase membership, projects to participate in, and topics for meetings. I know many other groups have the same needs so let's be sure to share ideas!!!

Submitted by Marcia Miller, Douglas County Newsletter Editor



FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

via Marcia Miller, millermarcia@me.com

Both our Safeway and King Soopers fundraisers continue. Please participate. Safeway uses a special card so contact Marcia to get a card. King Soopers is connected to your Loyalty Card and can be registered online. Contact Marcia if you get stuck. If you are already registered, your donation should show at the end of your receipt with King Soopers. Feel free to ask questions about either of these great (and easy money) fundraisers. They don't cost you a thing!



*Our last check was \$221 from King Soopers.
Thank you for eating!!!*



May Day, in medieval and modern Europe, holiday (**May 1**) for the celebration of the return of spring. The observance probably originated in ancient agricultural rituals, and the Greeks and Romans held such festivals.



Next Newsletter will be in September. Be good and have a great summer.

Toodles, marcia
DC AAUW Newsletter