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The AAUW/OK Biennial State Convention is currently “on hold”

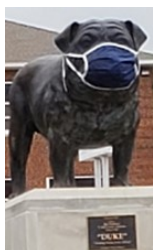
The Corona Virus, known as COVID-19, has caused a worldwide pandemic in 2020. AAUW’s top priority right now is members’ health and safety. For that reason, they are strongly advising states and branches to **cancel any in-person meetings or events** at least through June, in compliance with local and state guidance.

The AAUW Regional Convention in Moline, IL, is delayed until June 2021. In addition, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) was cancelled. The AAUW/OK Board will meet in late May to discuss how to proceed with planning for the Biennial State Convention, which is currently slated for July 10–11, 2020 in Weatherford, OK.

If needed, a virtual Biennial State Convention will be hosted to include (at the very least): State Business meeting; Officer Induction; Review of the AAUW/OK Strategic Plan 2020–2022; and Recognition of the top entries from the Teen Voices Contest. The Board will also look into conducting shorter sessions of the programming originally planned for the State Convention. These potentially could be viewed later by individuals or as a virtual program for your branch meeting. Potential topics include a past / present / future view of the Women’s Suffrage movement; Five Money Questions for Women; “how to do” the AAUW National Five Star Program; International Women’s Health; LGBTQ+ perspectives in Oklahoma; “Happy News” segment; and sharing what Feminism means to you. We may even try to do the basket fundraiser/silent auction remotely. Other ideas for programming are welcome.

We are still hoping to do the conference in-person in compliance with state and local guidance. For example, “Duke” the Southwestern Oklahoma State University mascot is wearing a mask and practicing social distancing. The conference is tentatively set to be held at the Timothy T. Day Business Enterprise Center, shown below.

State Convention, Continued Page 2



SWOSU's mascot, “Duke”, is wearing his mask during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Timothy J. Day Business Enterprise Center at SWOSU

State Convention, Continued from Page 1

The Stafford Air & Space Museum currently undergoing renovations may also be utilized for our conference. Named a Smithsonian Affiliate in 2011, the museum houses over an acre of exhibits under roof and showcases thousands of items featuring the evolution of aviation and spaceflight accomplishments by a native of Weatherford, Oklahoma.

Please expect more conference information in the June newsletter. This will include the opportunity to purchase an AAUW/OK scarf (if you missed it last year) and other items, such as shirts celebrating 100 years of Women's Right to Vote. Please let State Fundraising Chair (and President-Elect) Susie Hull know if your branch has items to sell at the Convention – in person or remotely. Information about the nominees for elected positions on the 2020-2022 AAUW/OK Board also will be featured.



Stafford Air & Space Museum

In the meantime, stay safe and healthy. We look forward to seeing you soon – in person or online!

Lisa Appeddu

State Board Retreat, March 13-14, 2020

Six members of the AAUW/OK Board held an overnight retreat to work on the 2020 to 2022 State Strategic Plan at the Rook Mansion in Watonga, OK. Built in 1935, the Rook Mansion occupies the entire block and is famous for its secret tunnels. The timing of the retreat worked out to be very beneficial; the following week, life as we knew it changed for everyone due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.



AAUW/OK Board members in attendance; their state office and branch are listed below.

Front row, l to r: Carol Erikson, Diversity Chair, Alva; Shelli Wasson, Newsletter Editor, Edmond; Lisa Appeddu, President, Weatherford.

Back row, l to r: Lori Gwyn, Secretary, Weatherford; Faye Henson, Finance Officer, Weatherford; Jeanna Wing, Bylaws Chair & Interim Membership VP, Tahlequah. Susie Hull, President-elect, Alva, planned the event but was unable to attend.

Rook Mansion in Watonga, Oklahoma



SAGE STEAM Camp is Gearing Up for Its Third Year!!



The Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts & Humanities, and Mathematics (SAGE STEAM) Camp is still hoping to host its third year of camp *in person* this summer. Due to COVID-19, camp dates were moved from early June to July 19-25, 2020. The STEAM Team will consider other options if camp is unable to occur this summer (such as a fall weekend camp) – *we don't want these Oklahoma girls to miss this hands-on opportunity!*

For the 2020 camp, 137 seventh grade girls were nominated by their educators; 84 of those nominees applied to be interviewed by phone; and 50 girls were selected. In addition, ten former campers from the 2017 Tech Trek Camp (the last one at SWOSU) applied to return as STEAMotivators. See page 5 for distribution map.

New for 2020: A pilot STEAM Educators Program

This will provide ten nominating teachers with ideas and supplies to take back to their own classrooms. By doing this, even more Oklahoma students will be impacted! The STEAM Team also plans to participate in this summer's Virtual OKC Dodgers' STEM Day, hosted by Devon Energy – we will contribute STEAM learning activities to a box for third and fourth grade Oklahoma students.

The SAGE STEAM Team invites AAUW/OK members to visit camp virtually – please contact us to become a member of the closed Facebook group. We greatly appreciate the support already received from AAUW Duncan, Edmond, Alva, Weatherford, and Tahlequah branch members. The 2020 camp is currently at 2/3 or 66% of its funding goals, with Devon Energy being the largest supporter.

Email sagesteamcamp@gmail.com or check out the camp website for the latest information and how to become a donor: <https://www.swosu.edu/academics/sage-steam-camp/index.aspx>.



The 2020 SAGE STEAM Team includes AAUW/Weatherford branch members.

Front row, l to r: Adina Foust, Lisa Appeddu, Denise Landrum-Geyer

Middle Row: Gina McGrane, Sally Drinnon, Sherri Brogdon

Back Row: Kathy O'Neal, Brianna Furman (student), and Taylor Orgeron

Not pictured: Lori Gwyn, Kristin Flaming, Jillian Drinnon (student), and Jennifer Abshire (student)

You CAN Become a Part of the 2020 to 2022 AAUW/OK Board and Further Empowerment at the Next Level

You make a difference for women and girls at your local level –

AAUW/OK board members include elected positions of President-Elect, Finance Officer, Secretary, Membership VP, and Programs VP. State Chairs include Communications (Newsletter Editor and Webmaster), AAUW Funds, Bylaws, College/University Relations, Diversity, and International Affairs. State Chairs are appointed by the incoming President -- anyone who is interested is welcome to volunteer, and having Co-Chairs is possible.

To help overcome barriers of distance and time, the AAUW/OK is implementing more opportunities for its members to participate in meetings remotely.

So, what is it like to be part of the AAUW/OK Board? Susie Hull joined in 2018 when she became President-Elect. Her experience is...

"My experience has been amazing and insightful. Being part of AAUW and the board has offered opportunities to grow professionally and develop a more thorough understanding of opportunities available to women to further their career. AAUW creates a platform to easily inform others of programs such as Work Smart Salary Negotiation Workshops, Two-Minute Activist, policy writing and promote education and mentoring opportunities. I look forward to working with women from across the State to further their professional development and advocate for women's rights. I encourage you to submit ideas to further our cause and I look forward to your participation and support". Susie Hull

Please contact Nominations Chair Shelli Wasson or President-Elect Susie Hull for more information on joining the AAUW/OK Board.

Lisa Appeddu and Shelli Wasson working on the laptop.



Lori Gwyn, Jeanna Wing, and Carol Erikson enjoy the camaraderie at the Board Member Retreat.



Faye Henson laughs about all the Strategic Planning information she hung on the walls!

AAUW/OK Draft Strategic Plan 2020-2022

The Draft Strategic Plan came about as a result of the encouragement of AAUW National Board Director, Dia Cirillo. AAUW/OK Board members based the Draft Plan on the main components of AAUW's Five-Star National Recognition Program, include: Governance & Sustainability, Programs, Advancement, Public Policy, and Communication & External Relations. More about the Five-Star Program may be found here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/5-star-program/> The AAUW/OK plans to share more "how-to" information on the Five-Star Program at the State Convention.

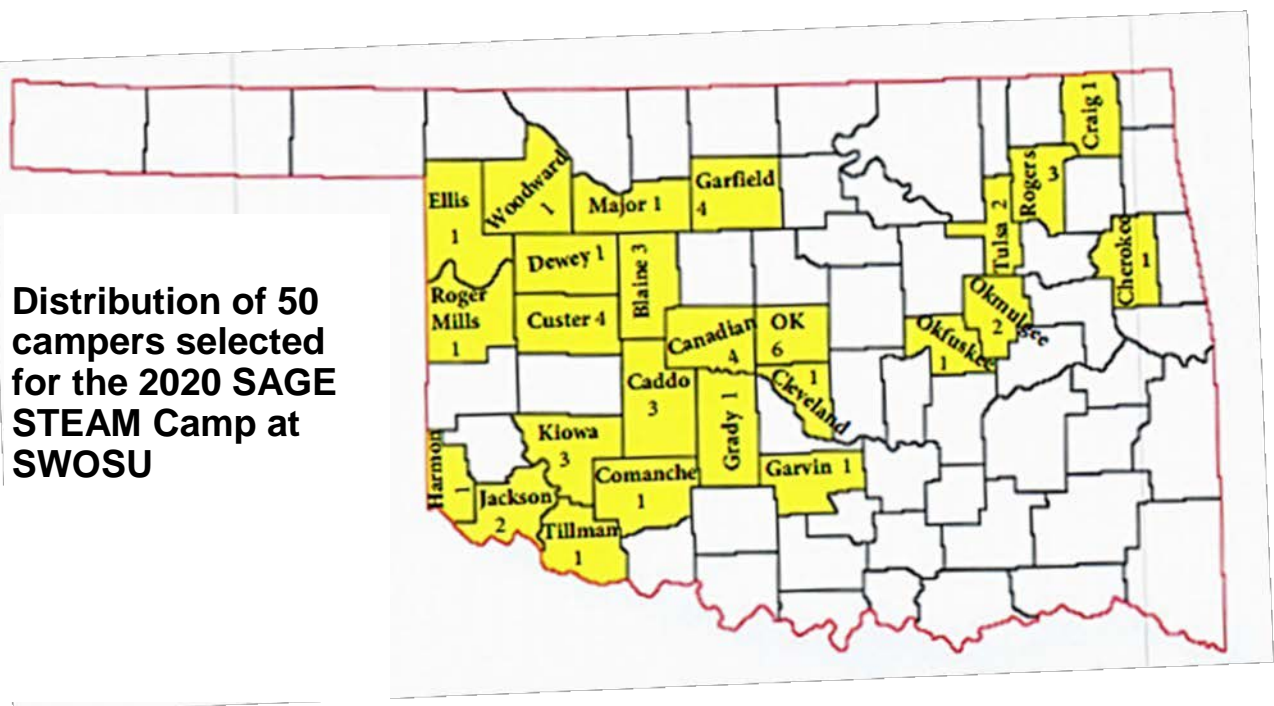
The AAUW/OK Draft Strategic Plan is being sent to you as a separate file from the newsletter. This is a work in progress – Member feedback is welcome, and the Strategic Plan will be revisited during the State Convention in July. Members of the 2020-2022 AAUW/OK Board will then volunteer for specific areas in order to execute the plan.

The State Board encourages all branches to develop their own strategic plan. Branches are welcome to use the AAUW/OK Draft Strategic Plan as a starting point. The National AAUW Strategic Plan may be found online: <https://www.aauw.org/about/strategic-plan/>

Developing a Strategic Plan for Your Branch

- This process generates useful discussion as to what activities to keep and what new projects should be added
- Helps to set goals with measurable outcomes
- Identifies volunteers in charge of each goal
- Determines what resources and collaborators are needed
- Creates a timeline in which to achieve those goals

Distribution of 50 campers selected for the 2020 SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU



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Branch News and Highlights**Edmond**

The Edmond Girls' Hall of Honor event was hosted on Sunday, March 8; this was one week before the national shut-down due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Two grandparents still attended the event even though not as many family members came as last year. Five educators came out to support the girls in addition to families and friends. This was the fifth year for the event and twenty-seven girls applied for the honor which was the most for any one year.. That takes us to more than 120 girls applying over the five years of the program. Girls are selected based on demonstrated leadership in their school and community. One, seventh grade girl is selected from each of Edmond's six Middle Schools. Each student makes a poster illustrating her leadership skills and gives a five-minute presentation.

The mayor presented each girl with a personalized proclamation from the City of Edmond. Pat Snodgrass dressed like a Suffragette and told about the women's fight to get the right to vote. Branch President Jo Ann Bullard introduced the program; Shelli Wasson acted as emcee; Erma Stewart thanked educators and families for their support of the girls and this program (which she founded in 2014); and Lynn Wiley helped with the guest book and refreshments.



(l to r): Lynn Wiley, Jo Ann Bullard, Shelli Wasson, Erma Stewart, and Pat Snodgrass (dressed as a Suffragette)



Emmavieve Fasching is congratulated by (l to r) the Vice Principal, Seventh Grade Counselor, and Librarian from Sequoyah Middle School.



Addison Roberts, Cheyenne Middle School, demonstrates her leadership skills by earning two ribbons and a medal. She placed first in District Competition, Family Career Community Leaders of America, and volunteers with the HUGS Project making care packages for the military.

Tulsa

State Representative Melissa Provenzano Speaks with Tulsa Branch Members



Standing (l to r): Jan Graham, Kay Witt, Donna Mathews, Gisele McDaniel, Rose Unterschuetz, Kathryn Fisher (wearing black), Dr. Susie Hull, Pam McDonald, Melissa Provenzano (OK State Representative District 79); Carole Pistole, Linda Brooks, Dr. Lisa Appeddu
Seated (l to r): Doris Piatak; Gwen Hampton, Gabbie Jones, Faye Henson

State Representative Melissa Provenzano (right) was elected in 2019; the Tulsa Branch wanted to get acquainted with her and find out what issues were most important to her. As a former teacher, education and teacher's pay issues are a priority for her. She gave a legislative update to the branch and answered questions. Oklahoma House District 79 is in south Tulsa and Broken Arrow.

Editor's Note: On Representative Provenzano's Facebook page, she posts #PUBLIC SCHOOL PROUD.



AAUW/OK State Board

2018-2020 - continued

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CALENDAR

Coming in June -Newsletter with information concerning
in-person or virtual Biennial State Convention

July 10-11 Biennial State Convention
Weatherford, Oklahoma

**See page 1 for information about
the State Convention**

THE AAUW  PROGRAM

The National AAUW Strategic Plan
may be found online: [https://
www.aauw.org/about/strategic-plan/](https://www.aauw.org/about/strategic-plan/)

National website

www.aauw.org

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