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Board of Directors:

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Message from your Board of Directors

The Spring Book and Author event was a great success! We raised more than \$3,000, which will put us over the top on the endowment goal for the Sandy Brown Scholarship Fund. A huge thanks to all those who attended and to all the volunteers who helped to put it together. Thank you for your generosity! [Click here](#) for photos of the luncheon.

We are currently looking for volunteers to fill open Board positions. It's a great way to give back and help us achieve all our goals for supporting young women and keeping our community strong. For more information, ask any Board Member.

You won't want to miss the Annual Meeting this year – "State of the Branch and the Path Forward". Mark your calendars for Thursday June 13, 2024, from 1:00 to 4:00 at the Durango Public Library. There will be a presentation, a discussion, and a CELEBRATION! Watch your email for more details.

Village Aid Project Scholarship

This year, AAUW will be aiding FLC Junior **Bethany Haverly** to participate in the 2024 Village Aid Project which will be in Zambia. She will receive a travel grant of \$500. Bethany has participated in VAP in Nicaragua the past two years. [Click here](#) for a letter in which she introduces herself, and [click here](#) for her thank you letter for the travel grant.





Honoring Past Member Marilyn Sandstrom

On Tuesday, 23 April, many AAUW members gathered in the 1100 block of 2nd Avenue to dedicate a Sharing Library in memory of Marilyn Sandstrom. Marilyn served on the AAUW Board for many years and was a proud supporter of advanced education for women. She was also very active in the La Plata League of Woman Voters and was a longtime election monitor for the County Clerk's office. For more photos of this event, [click here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE: Annual Meeting: Durango Public Library: Thursday, 13 June, at 1:00 p.m.

NCCWSL NEWS

Three Native American students from Fort Lewis College will be attending the National Conference of College Women Students at the University of Maryland, College Park, from 30 May – 1 June. The Durango Branch Scholarship was awarded to Janelle J. Jim, a Diné student majoring in Cellular and Molecular Biology. Megan Bacenti and Amelia E.E. Miller have been awarded scholarships by Colorado AAUW and will also be attending as well. For biographic information on these outstanding students, please [click here](#).

INTEREST GROUPS

Mahjongg Group: The mahjongg group meets every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the foyer of the Durango Public Library. We're always looking for new players. If you would like more information or a tutorial, contact Katherine Burgess at katherineburgess@outlook.com.

Edouard Book Club: Edouard book club meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 2:00 January through November. If the last Wednesday of November is the day before Thanksgiving, then we meet on the first Wednesday of December.

In April we discussed "Dinners with Ruth" by Nina Totenberg. This meeting was held on zoom.

In May we will discuss "Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest" by Suzanne Simard. We will meet at Patty Joy's home.

In June we will meet to choose our books for the coming year. Location TBD.

Birthday Luncheons: Each month we gather at 11:30 a.m. in a different location to celebrate the members whose birthdays fall within the month. The following dates are planned; both dates and locations are subject to change. For more information, contact [Katherine Burgess](mailto:Katherine.Burgess).

- Wednesday, 15 May – Alcé at Dalton Ranch (opens at 12)
- Thursday, 20 June – Nayarit
- Wednesday, 17 July – Brew Pub at Doubletree (by the river)

NOTES: Are you interested in co-creating a writing group? The Durango AAUW already has one, Our Memories Group (OMG). However, this group is now full so we would like to support the founding of another - on whatever topics that group decides. Please contact pegkimple@gmail.com to express your interest.

As part of our DEI effort, AAUW Durango has begun several projects in support of the Grub Hub at Fort Lewis College. The Grub Hub is a food pantry, supplier of professional clothing for interview, and hub for connecting students to counseling and medical services on the Fort Lewis campus.



Ida Street, the first American Fellowship recipient who was awarded \$350.

A PAGE FROM THE PAST

In 1888, the very first AAUW fellowship in the amount of \$350 went to Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian History. It was the beginning of AAUW's history of funding women in education.