

## In Touch

February 2011

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



### Our Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

### February 7th

10:30 a.m.

Board Meeting  
Helen Smith's Home

\*\*\*\*

### Thursday, February 10th

10:00 a.m.

February Meeting  
Merrill Gardens  
7212 265th NW  
Stanwood

*Speaker: Kathy Harrison of  
Women of Purpose Organization  
of North America*

\*\*\*\*

### February 26-27th

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Snow Goose Festival Booth  
*Scholarship Fundraiser*  
Four Springs Preserve  
Camano Island

For more information contact:

Susan Blake  
Co Vice President, Program

LaVonna Ihde  
Co-Vice President, Program

## Message from the President

*Helen Smith*

Hello, Members! What a busy month January has been for our AAUW members. Committees are organizing, Day trippers are off learning, and our legislators are informing us.

Three committees have begun working on the projects and duties of AAUW. Our nominating committee is looking for candidates willing to serve in three officer positions. The officers to consider this year are: president-elect; treasurer-elect and secretary. Committee members: Jo English, Joan Pang and Claire Winget will be calling members to prepare the slate of officers for vote. Please consider their requests. I thank them for finding our new leadership.

The High School Scholars Committee will be working with the three local high schools: Arlington, Lakewood, and Stanwood for their outstanding students in math, science and technology. We need to thank Alanna Stone, May Palmer and Mary Rayburn who will organize our May recognition of these scholars. The Scholarship Committee will be working to advertise and review scholarship applications beginning in February. Hard decisions will be made for two scholarships of \$2,750 each to be granted in June. Members of this committee: Barbara Carroll, Bev Maxwell, and Betty McCadden will have the information on our branch website, [www.aauwsc.org](http://www.aauwsc.org).

Day Trippers enjoyed an incredible evening at Skagit Valley College where author, Greg Mortenson, spoke about his Central Asian Institute which has built over 200 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Thank you Susan Blake for organizing this.

Finally, Joyce Leak, Public Policy Chair, and I traveled to Olympia this past week to hear about issues coming up in our State government that AAUW cares deeply about. Speakers at the morning session spoke to members from across the state about the crises in education this year. Funding is so lean that school districts' money given earlier in the year will be rescinded. Teachers will not receive promised incentive pay for having taken the national certification tests. Many school districts will have to let staff go during this fiscal year. Our legislators, Norma Smith and Barbara Bailey, spent just a few minutes with us due to their committee meetings and time on the floor debating. Despite her upcoming meeting, Senator Mary Margaret Haugen welcomed us and listened at length to our concerns. We thank our state AAUW and lobbyist, Pam Crone, for providing us with information affecting women and girls.

I look forward to sharing more information about this experience at our February 10 meeting at Merrill Gardens, 10:00 a.m.

## Save These Dates

**March 7th**

**10:30 a.m.**

Board Meeting  
Helen Smith's Home

\*\*\*\*

**March 10th**

**10:00 a.m.**

March Meeting

Merrill Gardens  
7212 265th NW  
Stanwood

*Speaker: Theresa Metzger from  
the Stanwood Camano Area  
Foundation*

## Our Branch to Partner with Snow Goose Festival

*Saturday, Sunday, February 26-27, 2011*

Following the debrief meeting of the 2010 Art Show, an informal committee gathered ideas for other revenue producing activities to augment this year's scholarship funds. Whether or not we participate in any of them in the future depends on the members' review and decisions early 2012.

This year the Snow Goose Festival Planning Committee agreed to partner with AAUW allowing us a free table at the 4 Springs Preserve where they will be hosting an art show and ranger for guided trips and family-oriented activities.

Our participation commitment is to provide hosts to greet the public on Saturday; Sunday as well if we have enough volunteers.

Hosts will not be selling art-just circulating through the house at 4 Springs assuring the guests are having a good experience perhaps offering sightseeing information if they are from out-of-town.

Hosts will be given name tags so our volunteer list needs to be to Kathy Cunningham by Monday, February 21. Please call if you can help at any of these times. Two volunteers are needed for each shift.

Saturday, February 26:

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon  
12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 27:

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Organizers advise that Sunday got a lot of traffic last year, but Kathy has told them we may not be present for the second day. It depends on our volunteer availability.

In return for providing event hosts, we can set up a table in the meeting house (totally inside) to lay out membership promotion brochures, applications and the pictures of our scholarship winners similar to what we have done at Art by the Bay. Kathy will be in touch with our membership vice president to gather those materials.

*Where's the scholarship money to be made from this you ask?* Those attending the January membership meeting agreed through a vote to support a different type of venue for raising scholarship funds. The plan is to offer brownies, bottled water, Nordie bars, and bagged caramel corn at our table at the Snow Goose Festival while requesting donations for our scholarships. We need volunteers to make and saran wrap brownies in 3 x 3 inch squares or provide six packs of bottled water. Volunteers are also needed to man the donation table.

We have three volunteer opportunities for this event: festival hosts, donation table, and preparing brownies or providing bottled water. Please contact Kathy Cunningham regarding how you will participate. Every member can find one or more ways to support this event. Your contribution is appreciated.

*Will this type of effort result in good donations?* We don't know, but it is a zero total unless we give it a try. Kathy is willing to continue spearheading the coordination of our efforts but really need you to step up and call her with whatever you can do to assist. She looks forward to hearing from you.

Let's make it happen with a smile.

Kathy Cunningham



## Your 2010-2011 Board

### President

Helen Smith

### President-Elect

Cathlin Starke

### VP of Finance

Ann Wilson

### VP of Finance-elect

Terry Benson

### VP-Membership

Mary O'Connor

### Secretary

Jo English

### Co-VP-Program

Susan Blake

### Co-VP-Program

LaVonna Ihde

### Public Policy

Go to:

AAUW Washington to keep up with happenings in the current legislative session and to learn about areas for action.

[www.aauw-wa.org](http://www.aauw-wa.org)

AAUW Action Network for Congressional items regarding the national issues for action.

<http://capwiz.com/aauw/home/>

Joyce Leak  
Public Policy Leader

## February Meeting

The program for the February 10 meeting is speaker, Kathy Harrison, from the Women of Purpose Organization of North American Women. Please joins us for a presentation and discussion about this organization's support of women and children in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Susan Blake

## January: Meet Our Members Correction

The editors' apologies are sent to Connie Hevly for missing an important part of her career in last month's *Meet Our Members* article.

Connie was School Food Services Director for the Shoreline School District for 20 years, serving in this capacity until her retirement. Helen Smith remembers meeting her when Helen was a PTA president, and Connie was always delightfully cooperative in arranging their fundraising dinners—usually spaghetti—at various school events.

Thank you Connie for your continued contributions in our branch.

Georgi Proulx

## Moments in Time



Helen Smith and Judy Rogers, Co-VP Membership AAUW-WA, at Lobby Day in Olympia this past January.



Thank you to Joan Pang for a wonderful and personal presentation at our January meeting.

## Leaders for Branch Activities

**AAUW Educational Foundation and AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund**  
Jackie DeFazio

**2011 Art Show Co-Chairs**  
Kathy Cunningham  
Teresa Garrison  
Nancy Roberts

**High School Scholars**  
Alanna Stone

**Scholarship**  
Betty McCadden

**Tutoring**  
Janice Hertz

**Webmaster**  
Georgi Proulx

**Public Relations**  
Kathy Cunningham

**Public Policy**  
Joyce Leak

**Candidate Forum**  
Alanna Stone

**Newsletter Team**  
Send Your News to:

Georgi Proulx  
Martha Huyler

## Meet Our Members

*May Palmer*

Born in Chicago, Illinois, May spent her childhood in Chicago and Wheaton, Illinois moving to Tucson while she was in high school due to the ill-health of her father. "It was a hard move for me to leave friends but the climate helped my Dad." Growing up in the suburbs in a typical nuclear family her mother was at home, and life was simple. Careers girls could look forward to were teaching, nursing or secretary, which would probably be given up when they married.

May attended the University of Arizona earning a Degree in Education, then a Master's Degree in Elementary Education and finally a Master's Degree in Special Education. "I was able to obtain those degrees for \$5 a registration as I trained student teachers and graduate interns."

She taught for 30 years in Tucson. "I taught second grade and fourth grade, was a resource teacher for children with learning disabilities and emotional problems and worked as a diagnostician for several years." May and her husband raised their two children in Tucson living there for forty years.

May is an avid reader and has belonged to a reading group for almost twenty years attending the AAUW group when she does not have a conflict. She has served as trustee for the Stanwood-Camano Area Foundation and was chairman of the scholarship committee still helping each year with that project. She has been active in the Stanwood Camano Friends of the Library and presently serves on the Stanwood Library Board. She plays bridge, knits and sometimes sews, "although my sewing projects lately consist of making doll clothes for a great granddaughter". Of all the organizations May has been involved in she most enjoys the Monday Study Club of which she has been a member for seventeen years. "The research and preparing for my annual talk make me feel like a student again."

After taking early retirement in 1989, May and her husband, John, moved to Camano Island. "Most people move the other way but we were very tired of the heat and Tucson had changed over the years. We fell in love with the Northwest." They have traveled extensively in Europe spending a wonderful year on sabbatical in Paris. May visited Thailand when her son was teaching there and last fall visited Niagara Falls, Toronto, Montreal and Quebec City, which she loved.

May joined AAUW 21 years ago when it was the Arlington-Stanwood AAUW branch: "Being new in the community I sought the company of like-minded women". May's activities in AAUW have been: vice-president, secretary and treasurer. "I worked on the scholarship committee acting as chairman for two years. I oversaw the kitchen for the Art Show for 4 or 5 years and was rewarded as wine scrip salesperson where I could see everyone while sitting down."

What would surprise us about you?

***John and I married as teen-agers after our first year at University and almost sixty years later are still together.***

What advice do you have for AAUW members?

***I would advise new members to get active if you can and appreciate the hard work of our officers.***

What advice do you have for girls today?

***Explore the many options open to you today. Remember your mothers and grandmothers who fought for your right to choose any career you dream of. Find one you will love (I did), set your goals, and strive to reach them, but don't forget to have fun along the way.***



## Special Branch Activities

### Book Group

Terry Benson

### Day Trippers

Susan Blake

## Branch Information

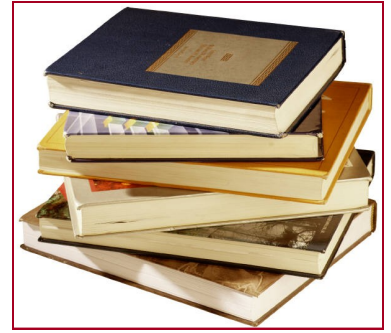
Now you can easily access the following on our branch website-

[www.aauwsc.org](http://www.aauwsc.org)

- Current and past newsletters
- Branch By-laws
- Reimbursement Form
- Program Schedule
- Email webmaster for current membership roster

## Book Group

The Book Group is open to all members. Books are available through Sno-Isle Libraries or can be purchased at the Snow Goose Bookstore at a 10% discount. Join us for lively conversation if you've read the book or if you just want to come join the discussion.



### February

WHAT: Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson

WHEN: Monday, February 7, 2011, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: Claire Winget's Home

### March

WHAT: Sula by Toni Morrison

WHEN: Monday, March 7, 2011, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: TBD

### April

WHAT: Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

WHEN: Monday, April 4, 2011, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: Joyce Leak's Home

For more information, contact Terry Benson

## Be a Day Tripper!

Please contact Susan Blake with your ideas for future group outings.



## Meeting Minutes: January 14, 2011

PRESIDENT Helen Smith called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. following an excellent program provided by member Joan Pang. The reading of the previous minutes was dispensed with.

BUDGET: The budget was presented to the membership. It was not recommended by the board due to the lack of attendance at the January meeting. Martha Huyler explained that there was an additional \$350 received in the name of Bonnie Wagner, bringing total donations to \$3,105.50. Helen asked for discussion regarding scholarships.

The board discussed the following options:

1. Two scholarships in the amount of \$2,750 each.
2. Dividing the allotted money into three scholarships.
3. Using the money donated in the name of Bonnie for a scholarship in her name.
4. Establishing an endowment through SCAF.
5. Give the Scholarship Committee more power to decide the number and amount of each scholarship.

It was moved and seconded that the committee be asked to present recommendations to the board as to the number and amount of scholarships. The motion passed. It was moved and seconded that the budget be adopted as printed and that the board address the Bonnie Wagner donations at the next board meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Helen asked for a volunteer to head the Nominating Committee. Jo English volunteered to work with two others to recommend a President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, and Secretary. The slate of officers will be presented at the May meeting and voted on in June.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS EVENT: A chair is needing for this event which will be held at the May 12 meeting. Alanna Stone has volunteered the assist.

LOBBY DAY: Helen and Joyce Leak will attend this event in Olympia on January 24. Meetings have been set with all of our Legislators. Any members interested in attending should contact Helen.

PROGRAM: Chair Susan Blake has two tickets remaining for the Greg Mortenson lecture on January 27. If you are interested let Susan know. The cost is \$35.

NEWSLETTER CORRECTION: In the last newsletter, information about Connie Hevly was left out. In addition to the experience mentioned in the newsletter, Connie spent 20 years as the Food Service Director with the North Seattle School District.

FUNDRAISING: Teresa Garrison reported on the results of the committee that met to consider options other than the Art Show for fund raising. She told the group of an opportunity to share a table at Four Springs Preserve during the Annual Snow Goose Festival. We can sell brownies or caramel corn if we wish. Discussion followed. It was moved, seconded and passed that we participate this year but make no commitment for next year.

Helen introduced two new members, Gay Campbell and Claudia Petty. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jo English, Secretary

