



In Touch

March 2011

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



Our Mission

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

March 7th

10:30 a.m.

Board Meeting

Cathlin Starke's Home

March 10th

10:00 a.m.

March Meeting

Merrill Gardens
7212 265th NW
Stanwood

*Speaker: Theresa Metzger,
Executive Director of the
Stanwood Camano Area
Foundation*

For more information contact:

Susan Blake
Co Vice President, Program

LaVonna Ihde
Co-Vice President, Program

Message from the President

Helen Smith

Hello, members! I've been enjoying the sunshine on Camano Island, the majesty of the snow-covered peaks, and the calm bay out front. Calm is always important when the tide is over 12 feet. I'm sure we all feel blessed when we get that vitamin D, naturally.

Special thank you to the members who have stepped up this past month to keep our projects and commitments going. First, a thank you to the nominating committee, Jo English, Joan Pang, and Claire Winget, who have been actively recruiting officers for 2011-2012. Thank you to those who have accepted the leadership responsibilities. Thank you to the bylaws committee: Martha Huyler, May Palmer and Cathlin Starke, who are clarifying our operational procedures.

Snow Goose Festival has been an enthusiastic event in Stanwood/Camano Island this past month, so we thank Kathy Cunningham and Cathlin Starke for getting the AAUW name out there at the Four Springs location. Thank you's also to those who participated with brownies, cash or donations to add to our scholarship fund for this event.

I hope by now that you have looked through your national publication, *Outlook*, as there are a number of articles of interest, both in women's health issues and the slow food movement. Also, the state newsletter, *The Evergreen Leader*, gives information on the state meeting, April 16th, in Bellingham. Members attending will join other branch members to learn about the STEM programs, AAUW's philanthropy, and "Elect Her: Campus Women Win". The newsletter also features innovative programs hosted by various branches which make interesting reading too. Active branches, statewide, are making a difference for women. Be sure to look for Joyce Leak and me at the Lobby Day briefing on page 2, as well as seeing the High School Scholars' coordinator list that shows how many branches participate in this state recognition of young women who excel in mathematics, science and technology.

I look forward to seeing you at the March 10 meeting, 10:00 a.m. at Merrill Gardens.

One of Twenty-five

Did anyone notice the mention of the High School Scholars events throughout our state in the AAUW-WA newsletter ?

Our branch is one of twenty-five that sponsors an event for high school scholars in mathematics, science and technology.

It is nice to know the idea of reaching out to young women is contagious.

Save These Dates

April 4th

10:30 a.m.

Board Meeting
Helen Smith's Home

April 14th

7:00 p.m.

April Meeting

Merrill Gardens
7212 265th NW
Stanwood

*Speaker: Judy Rogers, Co-VP
Membership AAUW-WA*

April 16th

AAUW-WA

2011 Annual Meeting
Western Washington University
Bellingham

May 12th

6:30 p.m.

High School Scholar
Recognition
Stanwood United Methodist
Church



March Meeting

The speaker for our next meeting on March 10 will be Theresa Metzger, Executive Director of the Stanwood Camano Area Foundation, SCAF.

Since 1960, area residents have been turning to the Stanwood-Camano Area Foundation (SCAF) to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. The Foundation is tax-exempt public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern: improving the quality of life in the Stanwood Camano community.

Individuals, families, businesses and organizations create permanent charitable funds that help our region meet the challenges of changing times. The Foundation invests and administers these funds. SCAF is the administrator of our AAUW branch scholarships.

The Ultimate Day Trip!

On Saturday, April 16, AAUW of Washington will host their 2011 Annual Meeting at Western Washington University in Bellingham.

The day will begin with coffee at 8:30 a.m. followed by a business meeting at 9:00 a.m. From 10:00 until 3:00 p.m. students and faculty are invited to join the meeting to learn about some of the exciting programs that AAUW sponsors, such as the "Elect Her," and "\$mart \$tart" that are available to them as AAUW Partners. Over lunch, an LAF litigant will share the difficulties she continues to face as she struggles for equity. At 3:00 p.m. the College of Science and Technology will host a reception.

I hope each of you will complete and mail the registration form on line or from the [Evergreen Leader](#) you received this week.

We have a unique opportunity to network with other wonderful women who share our goals and visions. It should be a wonderful day of meeting and sharing information with other branches in the state. Since it is only one hour away, we can set up carpools to encourage member participation.

Cathlin Starke

Snow Goose Festival Report

Many thanks to all of you who so willingly signed up for hosting times and baking brownies for our participation in the Snow Goose Festival at Four Spring Preserve this past weekend. We made over \$100 and will enjoy tasting everyone's recipes for all the book clubs and member meetings through May from our surplus of your wonderful brownies.

Most importantly, we decided to try something new and had the weather not been so very cold, snowy and windy, the festival traffic would have been much greater and probably our sales. In any case it was rewarding to expose our organization's name and scholarship winners' information to a new audience.

I recruited two new artists and did follow up with others whose work has previously been in our show. We may have a perspective member to join our group!

So again, thanks to all of you for your commitments to our collective goals. Let's keep thinking of other possibilities for fundraising and opportunities for public relations.

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

2011 30th Anniversary Art Show

Our reservations are in and bookmarks with new 2011 dates ready for wide distribution. This year's Co-Chairs will be Kathy Cunningham and Nancy Roberts with Teresa Garrison designing our floor outline and Georgi Proulx and Claire Winget heading up Artist Data and Check In. Former committee chairs and those who want to step up to fill our many needs please call or email Kathy to volunteer.

A kick off meeting for the committee chairs will be held Thursday, March 24, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the home of Cathlin Starke. We will have a potluck lunch at the end of the meeting.

It is important that as many committee chairs as possible plan to join us as several new ideas have been informally discussed and group process is always an important part of owning our successes.

Thanks in advance for agreeing to participate as a chair this 30th anniversary year.

Kathy Cunningham



AAUW-WA Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Challenge

Michelle Henley, LAF litigant, will speak at the AAUW-WA Annual Meeting April 16 in Bellingham. Michelle sued Feather River Community College for retaliation; she complained of sex discrimination in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1976. Her story is part of the AAUW LAF story of women who have faced challenging circumstances on campuses across the US.

In honor of her visit, AAUW-WA has issued a challenge for each member in every branch in Washington to contribute at least \$5 (or more) to AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund during the next 2 months. To be part of this branch's effort to meet the challenge, make your check payable to: "AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund" and mail to: Jackie DeFazio by March 31, 2011.

As a reminder, AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) initiatives include:

- Case Support for workplace discrimination cases. LAF provides financial and organizational support for a select number of cases in the workplace and in academia that have the potential to provide significant protection for all women.
- Legal Referral Network. LAF has assembled a support network of attorneys who provide initial services on discrimination cases for nominal or pro bono fees.
- Research reports, including *Gender Pay Gap*, *Why so Few?*, *Where the Girls Are*.
- Campus outreach programs, resource library and online advocacy tools, Title IX Program in a Box.

Help ensure that Stanwood-Camano AAUW meets this challenge by making your \$5 contribution today. More importantly, help ensure that women who experience workplace discrimination get the help they deserve. Of course, if you would like to make a larger donation, AAUW-WA would welcome that contribution!

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

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

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

Joyce Leak
Public Policy Leader

Leaders for Branch Activities

AAUW Educational Foundation and AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Jackie DeFazio

2011 Art Show Co-Chairs

Kathy Cunningham

Nancy Roberts

High School Scholars

Alanna Stone

May Palmer

Mary Raymond

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

Gay Campbell

Gay is a new member of our branch joining us to meet women who live in this area with similar interests including a passion for helping girls and women succeed.

Born in Hays, Kansas, Gay lived on a farm near La Crosse, KS. "I went to a one-room country school for grades 1-3. There were 13 students in six grades and every student was encouraged to learn at his or her level. When I went to town school for fourth grade I was ahead of the other students and very bored. I was also indignant to discover that the girls were encouraged to play together and not to play softball and other sports with the boys."

Growing up she was fortunate to have some very strong women in families who served as models. "My grandmother and my great aunt both managed farm businesses. My mother had a college education and was an equal partner in our farm operation. College was always the expectation; it was a given in our family. It was also my father, whose immigrant parents had kept him home from school to work on their farm, pushing the hardest for each of his children—all girls-- to have a college education."

Gay attended Kansas State University earning a BA from Wichita State University and an MA from Oregon University with a degree in curriculum and instruction but a dual masters/masters project in marketing public schools. Her career has taken her from teaching to communications to authoring Win at the Polls. From her varied career evolved her business, C&M Communications. "The communications strategies we use involve extensive community involvement, data collection (including designing surveys), deep analysis of data and designing programs tailored to a specific community, its needs and its desires. I currently do all facets of communications work, everything from crises management and communications audits to finance elections."

Gay and her family have lived in Kansas, Arkansas, Illinois, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. "From the first time we saw the northwest, we agreed this was where we wanted to live. We love this part of the country and especially like living on Camano. We have one daughter, Dawn, who teaches at Lake Stevens High School. . Our grandson Jeff will graduate from WSU this spring and our grandson Dan attends Arlington High school."

Her hobbies include: reading, gardening, needlework (especially needlepoint), writing, and examining data that reveals how people behave and why. "I volunteer my time and professional expertise to my local school district and library because I believe our community should have adequately funded schools and libraries. One of my current passions is getting a permanent library on Camano Island. We travel a great deal. Our most recent trip was from New Zealand to Tahiti in a group accompanied by a Nobel Laureate who lectured on climate change and an archeologist who is exploring Maori ceremonial sites and took us to one of his sites. In recent years we have been to China, cities along the Danube, South America and several other places."

What would surprise us about you?

Among other things I supervised when I worked for a large social service agency was a battered women shelter, complete with child care. I learned to be more assertive than I ever thought possible when dealing with abusive people—usually men-- to whom I was refusing access and information about those we were sheltering.

What advice do you have for AAUW members?

Pat yourselves on the back for your relentless pursuit of fair and equitable programs and policies for girls and for pursuing activities to provide opportunities for girls to succeed.

What advice do you have for girls today?

Believe in yourself and never let anyone—including yourself—place limitations on what you can and will do. Support other women; when one succeeds, we all succeed.



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

- Current and past newsletters
- Branch Bylaws
- 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.



March

WHAT: The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mahsin Hamid

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

WHERE: Martha Huyler's Home

April

WHAT: Sula by Toni Morrison

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

WHERE: Joyce Leak's Home

May

WHAT: Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

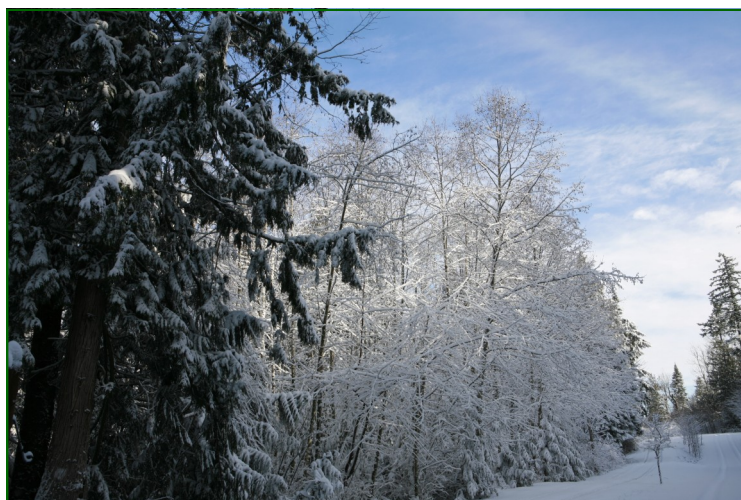
WHEN: Monday, May 2, 2011, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: Kathy Cunningham'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: February 10, 2011

PRESIDENT Helen Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. The minutes were approved as published in the newsletter. She then turned the meeting over to Susan Blake who introduced our program presenters from "Women of Purpose", a Christian ministry which is part of World Concern.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ann Wilson reported that we have \$4,344.31 in the checking account. We welcomed two new members, Sarah Haynes and Maggie Shaw.

REVENUE PRODUCING COMMITTEE: Kathy Cunningham reported that the committee has arranged to share a table at Four Springs during the Snow Goose Festival Saturday and Sunday February 26 and 27. We will be sharing information about AAUW as well as selling brownies, bottled water, and caramel corn. She passed a list out asking for help in making or buying these items. Kathy announced that she and Nancy Roberts will co-chair the 2011 ART SHOW. There will be a meeting on March 24 at Cathlin Starke's home for all people interested in chairing a committee.

BYLAWS: Martha Huyler and Cathlin Starke will serve on a committee to update the bylaws as necessary. Helen asked for a third member and May Palmer volunteered.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS: May Palmer and Mary Rayburn are chairing the event which will be Thursday May 12 at the Methodist Church. Cathlin suggested videotaping the ceremony and sending it to the schools. Georgi Proulx volunteered to do the taping.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Jo English, Claire Winget and Joan Pang will serve on the committee and will be asked to fill the positions of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer-elect.

SCHOLARSHIPS: The committee has provided information to the Stanwood/Camano paper as well as the Skagit paper.

NEW BUSINESS: The April meeting will focus on new members. The Vice-President of Membership for AAUW Washington, Judy Rogers, will be our guest. Helen asked the group if they preferred a daytime meeting or an evening tea. The consensus was that an evening event was preferred. Cathlin reported on other clubs fund raisers and other activities. She has concluded that our newsletter is the premier one in the state. We also raised more money than any other organization in the state except the Whidbey Island chapter. There are currently 1800 AAUW members in the state. Cathlin will report all of her findings to the board next month.

"BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS": This statewide meeting will be held April 16 at Western Washington University in Bellingham in lieu of a state convention. If any members are interested in attending please let Helen know. As there was no more business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jo English, Secretary

May your blessings outnumber
The shamrocks that grow,
And may trouble avoid you
Wherever you go.

Happy St. Paddy's Day !

