



AAUW Stanwood-Camano

In Touch

September 2010

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



Our Mission

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

September 9th

10:00 a.m.

September Meeting

Merrill Gardens
7212 265th NW
Stanwood

Opal Cocke, Quilter

*Presenting the history of quilting
and its importance to women*

October 4th

10:30 a.m.

Board Meeting

Helen Smith's Home

October 14th

12:00 noon

October Meeting

Stanwood-Camano Fairgrounds

October 14th-17th

Art Show for Education

Set Up & Artist Check In
Thursday, October 14

Patron's Party
Friday, October 15

Art Show
Saturday, Sunday
October 16-17

Artist Check Out & Take Down
4:15 p.m.
Sunday, October 17

Message from the President

Helen Smith

Greetings, Members!

Summer has been a whirlwind of activities for one and all. Many of us have kept busy with exciting travels, visitors, and special events. I trust that these experiences have enriched your lives and created special memories.

September brings the start of our new year with many activities and our special event, the annual art show, closer to fruition. Special thanks goes to Georgi Proulx for not only chairing our annual art show but designing our new website as well. Kudos to you, Georgi, for getting us out there and noticed! May AAUW's mission continue to be in the forefront where education and equity belong.

Thank you go to those who have been working on art show preparations, and those who will be volunteering in the coming weeks. We saw the results of art show proceeds from 2009 when three generous scholarships were presented at the June meeting. Recipients of the scholarships this year not only set personal best goals for themselves but for their families as well. Two students were the first to go to college in their families, and one student was the first to graduate from high school in her family. I was humbled by their dedication and persistence in trying to achieve their goals. We all need to be a part of this art show enterprise and its good works. Please add your name to the sign up sheets and give your time to make the 2010 show equally successful!

AAUW Stanwood-Camano scholarship funds will also benefit from generous donations in the memory of Bonnie Wagner who was active in the branch as newsletter chair, art show chair, and high school scholar recognition events to name a few. Donations can continue to be made to Stanwood-Camano Area Foundation specified as AAUW, Bonnie Wagner memorial.

I will be celebrating my birthday in Australia this year, probably in my birthplace, Brisbane, while you meet in September. I know I am leaving you in capable hands as our board begins this new year. Thank you Cathlin for chairing in my absence. I'll see you in October!

Membership Minute

As the days begin to cool, we look forward to a busy Fall with our art show and great fellowship with our members. Our two program chairs are busy working on a fantastic set of programs for our 2010-2011 year! Please invite a friend to join AAUW this year! Bring an interested guest to any and all of our meetings! It is a great way for new potential members to see AAUW in action within our community!

Imagine....if each member brought in one new member this year, we would have over 100 exciting women to make things happen for our community!

AAUW has a wonderful bumper sticker, "Women are natural leaders...you are following one!" Keep the thought in mind, and enjoy a chuckle, as you identify friends who you would like to be a part of our fellowship.

Cathlin Starke

Save These Dates

October 20th

6:00 p.m.

Candidate Forum
Stanwood Middle School

November 1st

10:30 a.m.

Board Meeting and
Art Show Evaluation

Helen Smith's Home

November 11th

7:00 p.m.

November Meeting

Presentation by

Snow Goose Bookstore
8616 271st NW
Stanwood



2010 Art Show for Education

October 15-17

Preparations for this October's art show are coming along, but help is still needed in the following areas:

- Security. We're adding security this year. Friday, Saturday, Sunday we need 2-3 assertive individuals to act as security at the entrances.
- Overnight Security. 1-2 individuals are needed Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights to spend the night in case there is a problem. We don't expect interaction just a cell phone call to 911 to notify the police.
- Flowers. Please bring flowers on Thursday to add to the decorations.
- Packing bubbles are needed for wrapping up the purchases. Please bring on Thursday.
- Setting Up and Dismantling the Show. The more people that help the faster it goes. Husbands are essential; bring small tools, ladders and stepladders. Lunch will be served.
- Artist Check In and Check Out. Still need 2-3 people to help checking in/out the artists.
- Setting up the 2D and 3D Art Displays. This committee works Thursday evening and Friday day displaying the art.
- Sales Floor. Moving around the sales floor writing up the sales tickets.
- Sales Table. Sitting at the sales table taking payment.
- Cooking Parties. Preparing the hors d'oeuvres at several "parties" prior to the event. Hostesses needed for the parties as well.
- Patron's Party. Serving hors d'oeuvres and replenishing trays.

We work hard but it's a FUN event and a wonderful time to get to know your fellow members. Husbands are welcome to join in the work.

Watch for our posters towards the end of September. Talk up our event with your friends and neighbors. If you have someone that you think would appreciate an invitation to the Patron's Party please let us know.

Please contact me to sign up to help or for information.

Georgi Proulx
2010 Art Show Chairman

Patrons' Party Silent Auction

October 15

One of last year's art show triumphs was the Patrons' Party Silent Auction. It is our goal to make this year's auction bigger and better. To date we have received several terrific auction items but more are needed to make this year's auction a huge success.

Do you have a unique skill that we can auction? Do you bake? If so, offer a homemade pie or cookies monthly for a year. Be creative and see what you can offer. Put your hobby to work by offering your unique skill. Team up with another member and offer something special. Have fun with this and put your imagination to work.

Please contact Linda Parker with your donation for this year's auction.

Linda Parker

Your 2010-2011 Board

President

Helen Smith

President-Elect

Cathlin Starke

VP of Finance

Ann Wilson

VP of Finance-elect

Theresa Benson

VP-Membership

(open position)

Secretary

Jo English

Co-VP-Program

Susan Blake

Co-VP-Program

LaVonna Ihde



Candidate Forum: October 20, 2010

This year's Candidate Forum will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. at Stanwood Middle School.

We ask that members attend and spread the news of the event to family, neighbors and friends. Candidates and their representatives will be in attendance from local and statewide elections making a short presentation of their position and answering your questions.

Laura Lewis, Chair

Joyce Leak, Co-Chair

Math Tutoring: New School Year, New Plan

Last year we organized fifteen volunteer math tutors for four of the five Stanwood/Camano elementary schools. Due to budget cuts, we no longer had a centralized math coach to drive the content for our tutoring. Each school provided the focus and the framework for the tutoring. All but Elger Bay had a more classroom/teacher arrangement. Elger Bay had pre-assigned students and tutors working with the same students each week outside of the classroom. Both approaches were successful and have different advantages and disadvantages. Only the Elger Bay model required subs—thanks to the three subs who helped when needed.

This year all five schools would like to have math tutors assigned. Although this program originated with our AAUW branch, we opened it up to spouses and to "members of the public". Of the eighteen volunteers who participated last year as either a tutor or a substitute tutor, seven members were tutors, three members were subs, two spouses and one former member's spouse were tutors and the remaining five tutors had no affiliation with AAUW.

I am encouraging all of you to consider volunteering to be a math tutor. We are not doing rocket science. At Utsalady, tutors can work with first and second graders—not hard stuff! The students are fun, the schools are appreciative, and we are making a difference in our community.

If you are interested this year please contact me.

Janice Hertz

Public Policy: Two Key Issues

Paycheck Fairness Act

Our Senators Murray and Cantwell were co-sponsors when this act was first introduced in January 2009. AAUW is running a campaign saying "Get It Done." Contact our Senators to urge them to take action now!

Protect Social Security

President Obama created the National Commission on Fiscal and Financial Reform to put America "on the path towards fiscal reform and financial responsibility." AAUW is concerned that the Commission is looking at Social Security as a way to cut the deficit. In the current economic situation, cutting Social Security could be devastating to women and families across our nation. Social Security is a safety net program needed to be protected and not cut.

Alan Simpson and Erskine Bowles are co-chairing the 18 member commission. You can contact the group at commission@fc.eop.gov.

Also, contact your Congress members that you oppose any cuts to Social Security benefits. Social Security for 75 years is one of our country's most successful anti-poverty programs.

Joyce Leak

Leaders for Branch Activities

AAUW Educational Foundation and AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund
Jackie DeFazio

2010 Art Show
Georgi Proulx

High School Scholars
Alanna Stone

Scholarship
Betty McCadden

Tutoring
Janice Hertz

Webmaster
Georgi Proulx

Public Relations
Kathy Cunningham

Public Policy
Joyce Leak

Candidate Forum
Laura Lewis

Newsletter Team
Send Your News or
Suggestions to:

Georgi Proulx

Martha Huyler

Meet Our Members

LaVonna Ihde

Born in Randsberg, CA LaVonna grew up in Bakersfield, CA from age five to eighteen. "I was blessed to remain in the same school district all 13 of my lower schooling years. We moved to a farm in Lawrence, KS the day after I graduated from high school which happened to be my 18th birthday."



Attending Kansas University LaVonna met her husband, Jon, whom she promptly married. She earned her BA in Sociology at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS in three and a half years during the time Jon was stationed nearby at Fort Riley with the US Army. Later she worked on her MS in Counseling at California State University, Long Beach.

LaVonna and Jon joined the corporate life which required many moves throughout the United States. During that time she was employed in various social work positions including a caseworker for neglected and abused children for the Department of Social Services in Kansas City, MO and an adoption counselor for Children's Services in Indianapolis, IN.

As a young girl the only employment positions open and encouraged were store clerk, secretary, teacher and nurse. LaVonna was pleased and surprised to have gone to college and qualified for an honorable profession.

After Jon and she had been married 11 years they had their first child. Within two years and 9 mos. they had three babies. "I was blessed by being able to stay home with them as they grew up. Each has grown into responsible adults with families who live close enough for us to visit easily."

LaVonna reentered the work force an administrative assistant in the medical and dental fields as well as two churches. She went back to school to study physiology and anatomy as it applied to massage and was a licensed massage therapist for two physicians for 13 years.

When she has any time available LaVonna enjoys gardening. She has been a singer and an aspiring photographer. Most of her pictures are "moving" pictures because "I seem to shake! I have dabbled in watercolors and have attempted to fish."

Family, which includes 7 grandsons and one granddaughter, is her most cherished hobby. Jon and LaVonna are dedicated to God, church and mission.

They have traveled many places but their missions have taken them to Alaska, Russia, twice to Brazil, Palestine, twice to Bay St. Louis, MI for Katrina recovery. "We volunteer for the Red Cross and have been client services personnel for the Stanwood floods two years ago as well as the most recent huge apartment fire in Lynnwood."

LaVonna and Jon have been living in their modest retirement house on Camano Island for eight years and love the relaxed style.

She has been active in our AAUW chapter for one year and has been asked to assist with program arrangement. "I joined because I like being around bright women who are motivated to better the world around us."

"I felt I was pushed and pulled into a productive life. What I want girls today to know is that they can take control of their lives personally and professionally. They have far more choices open to them and it is okay and encouraged to be assertive. In fact, it is their responsibility as a fellow human being."

Special Interest Group Leaders

Book Group

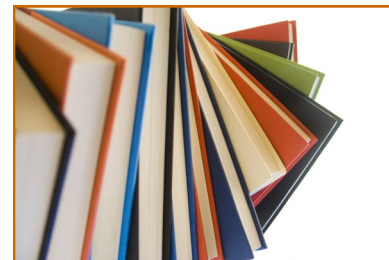
Terry Benson

Day Trippers

Susan Blake

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.



September

WHAT: Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford

WHEN: Monday, September 13, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: LaVonna Ihde's Home

October

WHAT: Escape by Carolyn Jessop and Laura Palmer

WHEN: Monday, October 4, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: TBD

November

WHAT: Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay

WHEN: Monday, November 1, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: Thea Wellington's Home

December

WHAT: The People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks

WHEN: Monday, December 6, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: Martha Huyler's Home

For more information, contact Terry Benson

Be a Day Tripper!

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Explore Chinatown and the international community of Seattle. We will tour the Panama Hotel, the setting for the book, Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet (September book club), then lunch, shopping and a visit to the Asian Museum.

We leave the Camano Commons Park & Ride at 9:00 a.m. to carpool. Cost for the tour is \$11.00. At least 9 people are needed to confirm the tour.

Please contact Susan Blake R.S.V.P. before September 25.

Branch Information

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

www.aauwsc.org

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

Congratulations to our 2010 Education Fund Honorees:

- Jackie DeFazio
- Kathy Cunningham
- Georgi Proulx
- Helen Smith
- Janice Hertz

Honored for their excellent service to the Stanwood-Camano Branch.

Suffrage Centennial Tea

November 7, 2010

The Washington's Official Suffrage Centennial Celebration will culminate with a "Day of Jubilation" at our capitol city exactly 100 years after our historic election day. The timeline for suffrage states: November 8, 1910 – Suffrage referendum fails in Oregon, passes in Washington. Make plans to celebrate the event that broke the deadlock for women gaining the right to vote all over the nation ten years later.

AAUW-WA is sponsoring the Suffrage Centennial Tea at the Lord Mansion, home of the Capitol Museum on November 7. The hours of the tea will be 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with historical figures and suffrage workers from Washington will be arriving throughout the day to "visit" with the guests. Also attending will be women representing the groups of women who were not included in this victory for white women.

If you plan to stay in a hotel in Olympia it is suggested you make reservations now. Many activities are being planned for this weekend and downtown Olympia businesses will have special events and hours of operation including Sunday evening.

To volunteer to help at the AAUW-WA tea or further information contact Connie Dunkelberger, State Historian at: historian@aauw-wa.org

One Member, One Vote

Adopted at the 2009 AAUW National Convention, the concept of One Member, One Vote moved AAUW national elections beyond a delegate-only process to an every-member opportunity.

Under One Member, One Vote, members can now propose and discuss bylaw changes, resolutions, and Public Policy Program amendments online and "meet" the candidates through biographies, video, and candidate links.

An all-member notification was sent by e-mail on Thursday, August 5, but many members do not have or use e-mail, or limit their use, so member leaders are urged to provide this information to all branch and state members through each of your various information channels.

In addition to frequent website and other online updates, key information will be available to all members in the Fall, Winter, and Spring/Summer issues of *AAUW Outlook* as well.

Please log in, explore the One Member, One Vote online system, and familiarize yourself with the process. A Frequently Asked Questions document (FAQ) is available to assist you. To access the online system from the AAUW home page, click on Member Center (in the top right corner), log in with your member ID, and then select One Member, One Vote.

As a reminder, members can find their member ID on the *AAUW Outlook* mailing label or by using the Member ID Lookup link, which is also available from the log-in page of the Member Center.

For an overview of the One Member, One Vote process, please visit the Current Topics Briefing Series online.

Please contact Helen Smith or Cathlin Starke for additional information.

