

# Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

## In Touch



February 2017

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



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

### February 1st

2:00 p.m.

February Board Meeting  
Norma Mouton's Home

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### February 6-28th

2017 AAUW Art Contest

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### February 16th

Thursday

10:00 a.m.

Day Tripper Outing  
Camano Island Coffee Roasters

Please bring a friend and join us for fellowship and fun. If you are interested in attending, please contact Lynda Buehring.

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### February 18th

Saturday

10:00 a.m.

General Meeting  
Camano Island Library  
848 N. Sunrise Blvd.  
Camano Island

Program: *Women in the Workplace*

Program information contact:  
Kathy Cunningham  
VP of Program

### Message from the President

Norma Mouton

Our year got off to a good start in January. The panel presented us with many possibilities for service in our community that we had not necessarily considered. In February, we will focus on the community of women and girls. Our speaker, Eileen Baratuci, will present "Women in the Work Place" covering topics like the pay gap, the glass ceiling, family and career, the Equal Rights Amendment and Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, challenges for women in high-tech and women in leadership. These are timely topics that our entire community can benefit. Eileen is a lawyer whose practice has centered on labor and employment law. She has served as an investigator for all City of Seattle Departments as well as an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission mediator and neutral arbitrator for over 25 years. Eileen is an active member of the Port Townsend branch of AAUW and served as Vice-President of Programs. She continues to practice law in Port Townsend conducting training programs, workplace investigations and working on various labor and employment matters. We are more than honored to have her come to our community to address topics that touch the hearts and minds of every woman and every man who upholds the concept of equality in the workplace. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us on Saturday, February 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Camano Island Library Community Meeting Room for Eileen's presentation.

I also need to update you on news from national: there are two opportunities to vote coming up soon. The first is a personal one since I have submitted two paintings to the 2017 AAUW Art Contest. Please go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), click on the banner picture with the artist's brushes and then go to "Visit the art contest gallery." There you can see all the entrants and hopefully vote for one or both of mine. The voting period runs from February 6-28. The second and more important item that requires your vote is the AAUW National Election. Candidates will stand for election to the 2017-19 AAUW Board of Directors. The slate of candidates is already listed on the site, and candidate bios and videos will be available online as of January 30. The election timeline is as follows: early April 2017, voter PINs e-mailed to members and mailed with the Spring AAUW Outlook which will contain the slate, bylaws, public policy proposals and resolutions; April 3, 2017, opening date to request paper ballot; April 14, 2017, voting begins online; May 22, 2017, deadline for mailing paper ballot; June 15, 2017, online voting ends at 9:00 p.m. EDT; June 16, 2017, election results announced online and at convention. Aside from the candidates, there will also be a by-laws amendment to consider. This amendment concerns removing the degree requirement for AAUW membership eligibility. Without your vote your viewpoint can't be heard.

Lastly, February is the month dedicated to love. Let's all focus on the friendships that we've made through AAUW and remember that cultivating deep friendships brings its own rewards. Let's all look to our friends and support one another through the good times and the bad. Sisterhood is a journey undertaken together. It's our foundation.

## Future Events

**March 1st**

**2:00 p.m.**

March Board Meeting  
Norma Mouton's Home

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**March 9th**

**Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

General Meeting  
Camano Island Library  
848 N. Sunrise Blvd.  
Camano Island

Program: *Human Trafficking*

Presenter: *Lynda Buehring*

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**April 14th**

AAUW National Election Begins

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**April 22nd**

AAUW-WA State Meeting

Cedar River Watershed  
Educational Center  
North Bend

**Visit our branch  
website for forms,  
newsletters, and  
upcoming events.**

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



## Purses with Purpose Procurement

*Anne Milton*

The PWP Committee led by Jackie DeFazio and Gay Campbell met on January 17 and you will be so proud of how everything is moving forward beautifully.

Our overall goal is 250 purses. We now have 13 Live Auction Purses; 28 new premium purses and 39 'almost new' purses. 177 purses to go!!!!

Let's continue to build a magnificent inventory. Of course, we are welcoming NEW and almost NEW additions. Let's hit those sales on Amazon (Deal of the Day), Macy's (Everett store is closing) and talk with your neighbors, friends, partners and family members. In reviewing the inventory so far, it is evident that purchased purses by members reflected in the \$35-\$55.00 range are exactly what we are looking for.



Take a look at these pictures of auction possibilities. Jackie has again purchased an incredible crab bag (above) which will house crab stuff and an actual CRAB FEED for 4-6 donated by a member. Is that cool or what? We would love to hear your creative ideas and procurement possibilities for those 'special additions' to the LIVE AUCTION PURSE that will yield \$\$\$\$. Unlike the previous two auctions, we will not have a special Chihuly bag for the raffle, therefore,

will be counting on adding 'events' or special highlights to the live auction pieces.

The artists are presently receiving their bags to 'paint' and you can comfortably be assured that \$100.00 minimums will be enacted on these creative, time consuming pieces.

Lastly, the Decoration Committee is searching for unique 'glass purses' that will serve as centerpieces. In your travels, on line searching or conversations, be on the lookout for that glass addition. Some have been found on line averaging \$2-\$3.00. WOW.

Thank you ,thank you for your energy, involvement and contributions. Hopefully, you will find our PURSE ENERGY to be fun, contagious and downright inspiring. See you at the February 18 meeting where the PURSE O METER will grab center stage.



## Women in the Work Place: February Program

*Kathy Cunningham*

Please join us on February 18, the third Saturday, at 10:00 a.m., Camano Island Library, for a special program by Eileen Baratuci. Her topic is "Women in the Work Place" covering topics from gender pay gap, glass ceiling, juggling family and career, and challenges for women in high-tech.

Eileen has had legal practice in labor and employment law; as an Investigator for all City of Seattle Departments and as an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission mediator and neutral arbitrator in three counties for over 25 years. She continues today with her law practice in Port Townsend, while also conducting training programs, workplace investigations and working with local businesses and non-profits on various labor and employment matters. Eileen remains an active member of the Port Townsend AAUW.



## Your 2016-2017 Board

### President

Norma Mouton

### President-Elect

Mary Raymond

### VP of Finance

Martha Huyler

### VP of Finance-Elect

India Nishi

### VP-Membership

Susan Blake

### Membership Assistant

Valerie Spagnolo

### Secretary

Cathlin Starke

### VP of Program

Kathy Cunningham

### Program Assistant

Nancy Roberts



[www.facebook.com/  
stanwoodcamanoaauw](http://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw)

### 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/](http://capwiz.com/aauw/home/)

## The AAUW Connection: *Purses with Purpose* and STEM

Jackie DeFazio

In writing this, I am wearing two hats—that of the person who provides information on AAUW Funds and the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) and that of co-chair of *Purses with Purpose 2017*, the funding source for this branch's Teck Trek Stem Scholars, our local scholarship donations, and our contributions to AAUW Funds and LAF. Helping members of our community understand the purpose of our fundraising efforts is essential to their success. Towards that end, here are some interesting findings on the impact of Tech Trek STEM camps for girls.

Tech Trek actually began in 1998 in California as an experimental summer camp designed to pique the interest of rising eighth-grade girls in science, technology, engineering, and math. In 2013 a survey of California Tech Trek alumnae provided the following information:

- A majority of alumnae surveyed believed that Tech Trek increased their interest in science (94%), technology (77%), mathematics (70%), engineering (52%), and computer programming (44%).
- 91% reported that Tech Trek boosted their self-confidence in their ability to be successful in science classes, and 78% said the same for math classes.
- 82% reported that they chose to take more science classes in high school because of Tech Trek.
- 87% of those surveyed had completed Algebra 2 compared with 78% of female students and 73% of male students nationally.
- 87% said Tech Trek introduced them to new STEM careers.
- 73% said Tech Trek introduced them to STEM college majors of which they were previously unaware.

So, as you begin to talk to folks about attending *Purses with Purpose 2017*, be sure to let them know the lasting impact they can have on the lives of young women in our community by doing so.



Leslie Gitomer

Tech Trek 2017 selection process is underway.

We have received 14 teacher nominations from Port Susan Middle School and 7 teacher nominations from Stanwood Middle School. The counselors have distributed the application and essay requests to the students.

We expect to receive applications and essays around the middle of February and then we begin the interview process.

Besides myself, Anne Milton and Joanne Drewsen there are two new members to our committee: Terry Benson and Elaine Richards.





## Leaders for Branch Activities

### Purses with Purpose 2017

Jackie DeFazio

Gay Campbell

### AAUW Education Funds and AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Jackie DeFazio

### Public Policy

(open position)

### High School STEM Scholars

Helen Smith

Judy Trammell

### Scholarship Chair

Anne Milton

### Tech Trek Chair

Leslie Gitomer

### Volunteer School Partners

Cathlin Starke

### Media Coordinator

(open position)

### Communications

Georgi Proulx

### Newsletter Team

Send Your News to:

Georgi Proulx

Martha Huyler

## Meet Our Members

*Debra Wade*

Born in Eugene, Oregon, Debra grew up just north of Grants Pass and considers that her hometown. "I grew up helping my family raise cattle, both beef and dairy."

Growing up "girls were supposed to be nice, pretty, quiet. They didn't play sports, at least it wasn't a mainstream thing to do. We were there to support our boy athletes."

Deb has a BA degree in Elementary Education from Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR. "I taught in public schools, grades K, 1, 3, 4, 7, and 8 for 20 years. I was fortunate to be able to take time off when my kids were young, so didn't get back to teaching until 1995."

"My husband, Jeff and I have two sons, Tyler who is living in Bozeman, MT and Justin who lives in Seattle. We have moved all around the country, starting our married life outside of Annapolis, Maryland. From there we moved to Clovis, New Mexico, near the Texas border. Next was Hanford, California and then Issaquah and Redmond WA for most of the 1990's. All of these moves were with Safeway where Jeff worked in the dairy production management field. After leaving Safeway, we moved to Ft. Collins, Colorado and then back to Oregon, to be nearer our families. We retired to Camano Island after buying a house in August of 2015. Jeff moved here then to start the much needed renovations on our house, and I moved up in June of 2016 after I finished my teaching career."

"I like to hike and camp in our little camping trailer. I enjoy reading and yoga and being outdoors. I also enjoy cooking, baking and gardening. We haven't traveled outside of the country for quite some time and probably won't until we get this house completed or at least presentable."

Deb joined our branch in September "mostly for social connections, but also because I believe in the mission and support the scholarship program". Her branch activity is Book Group "so far".



## Day Trippers Go To Bellingham

*Lynda Buehring*

On Friday, January 13th, a small group went to the Whatcom Museum in Bellingham to see the National Geographic photo exhibit. We left from Terry's Corner at 11:00 a.m. and returned by 4:00 p.m. We had lunch at the museum restaurant and then went on to view the exhibit.

From left to right, those who went are Janie Morgan (guest), Norma Mouton, Kathy Cunningham, LaVonna Ihde and Joyce Leak.



## Special Branch Activities

### Day Trippers

An informal gathering of members with time and interest to participate in a variety of outings.

Lynda Buehring

### Movie Group

Join us for lunch and a movie.

Anne Milton

Georgi Proulx



**February 16**  
**10:00 a.m.**

Special tour of the Camano Island Coffee Roasters Facility by Owner Jeff Ericson. The tour will last an hour and the coffee shop and bakery will reserve an area upstairs for coffee tasting. Specialty coffee drinks and bakery items will also be available for purchase. There will also be additional seating downstairs to accommodate all members.

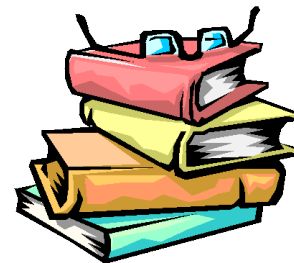
Please bring a friend and join us for fellowship and fun. If you are interested in attending, please contact Lynda Buehring.



## Book Group

India Nishi

The Book Group is open to all members. Books are available through Sno-Isle Libraries. Join us for lively conversation if you've read the book or if you just want to come join the discussion.



### February

WHAT: The Summer Before the War by Helen Simonson

WHEN: Monday, February 6, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Sarah Berrett's Home

### March

WHAT: The Immortal Irishman by Timothy Egan

WHEN: Monday, March 6, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Mary Pilkington's Home

*A dashing young orator during the Great Famine of the 1840s, in which a million of his Irish countrymen died, Thomas Francis Meagher led a failed uprising against British rule, for which he was banished to a Tasmanian prison colony. He escaped and six months later was heralded in the streets of New York--the revolutionary hero, back from the dead, at the dawn of the great Irish immigration to America. Meagher's rebirth in America included his leading the newly formed Irish Brigade from New York in many of the fiercest battles of the Civil War--Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg. Twice shot from his horse while leading charges, left for dead in the Virginia mud, Meagher's dream was that Irish-American troops, seasoned by war, would return to Ireland and liberate their homeland from British rule.-- Provided by publisher.*

### April

WHAT: March/Little Women by Geraldine Brooks/Louisa May Alcott

WHEN: Monday, April 3, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Thea Wellington's Home

*March - "From Louisa May Alcott's classic Little Women, Geraldine Brooks has taken the character of the absent father, Mr. March, who has gone off to war leaving his wife and daughters to make do in mean times. In Brooks' telling, Mr. March emerges as an idealistic chaplain in the little known backwaters of a war that will test his faith in himself and in the Union cause as he learns that his side, too, is capable of acts of barbarism and racism. As he recovers from a near mortal illness, he must reassemble his shattered mind and body and find a way to reconnect with a wife and daughters who have no idea of the ordeals he has been through."- Provided by Blackwell North America*

*Little Women - "The classic story of beloved matriarch Marmee March and her four daughters, domestic Meg, headstrong Jo, sensitive Beth, and artistic Amy, who grow to adulthood while their father is serving as a chaplain in the Union Army during the Civil War" - Provided by King County Library*

For more information, contact India Nishi.

## General Meeting Minutes- January 14, 2017

The meeting, which was open to the public, was held at the Camano Island Library, and called to order at 10:08 a.m. by President Norma Mouton.

Norma introduced Kathy Cunningham, Program Co-Vice President, who introduced our three guest speakers: Karla Jacks, Director, Camano Center; Lynn Ayers from the Stanwood-Camano Foodbank and Christie Connors from the Stanwood-Camano Community Resource Center. The three women gave in-depth overviews of the services each organization provides to our community, as well as the ongoing collaboration between the three.

The general business meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by President Norma Mouton.

Anne Milton provided an update on scholarships. We need two more committee members to bring the total to five members. Elaine Richards and Terry Benson volunteered. The drop dead date for applications is May 30; application submissions will open mid to late February.

Leslie Gitomer reported she is getting teacher nominations for Tech Trek now to be followed by student applications and essays. Interviews will begin mid to late February.

Jackie DeFazio updated the group on PWP. We need at least 60 new purses-please leave the tags on them; procurement of all purses needs to be complete by June 1. A "Save the Date" email will be sent in April; ticket sales will open in May. We want to sell as many whole tables of six or eight as possible.

The scholarship budget was reviewed and approved.

Kathy Cunningham and Nancy Roberts asked for two volunteers to assist them with programs to cover their positions when they are traveling.

India Nishi introduced the strategic planning process and passed out the first of four questionnaires we will complete over the following three months. The group broke out into small groups to provide feedback.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Cathlin Starke  
Secretary



Christie Connors, Karla Jacks, Lynn Ayers

*All you need is love  
but a little chocolate  
now and then  
doesn't hurt.*

*Happy Valentine's Day*