



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

March 2017

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

**March 1st
Wednesday
2:00 p.m.**

March Board Meeting
Norma Mouton's Home

**March 9th
Thursday
2:00 p.m.**

[note time change]

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

Program: *Human Trafficking*
Presenter: *Lynda Buehring*

**March 23rd
Thursday
11:00 a.m.**

Day Tripper
Glass Quest Studio
31308 Lake Ketchum Rd
Stanwood

Program information contact:
Kathy Cunningham
VP of Program



Message from the President

Norma Mouton

Those of you who were able to attend the February general meeting were treated to a very complete discussion on pay and gender equity. Coming up at the Thursday, March 9 meeting the topic is Human Trafficking. The meeting starts at 2:00 p.m. at the Camano Island Library. When most of us think of Human Trafficking, we usually see it as limited to sex trafficking. At our next general meeting we will learn that Human Trafficking encompasses much more than merely sex trafficking. This problem is often seen as something that occurs in distant places to people we don't know. This presentation will bring the problem home. Human Trafficking can occur in our own backyard. I sincerely hope that you all will be able to join us.

As the final days of winter hail the approach of Spring, most of us are ready to see the temperatures move up and the snow, hail and ice subside. This is also a time when we traditionally undertake Spring-cleaning. I would propose to you that Spring-cleaning extends beyond merely removing the dust from the corners of your home that all winter has been hiding in the shadows. I would challenge you to find an area of your life that could be enhanced by undertaking a new activity. This is a way to clean the cobwebs out of your life and get you outside your comfort zone. In January we were inspired to think beyond ourselves and find ways to serve our community. In February the challenge was to think of the roadblocks that women still have to navigate in the work place and in education. March takes us beyond ourselves and brings a heart-wrenching problem into neighborhoods that we may regularly enter (even if you don't see those problems in your own neighborhood). These are only three areas that could challenge you to action. There are many more. Seek out areas where you can make a tangible contribution, where what you do can make a difference in someone else's life.

At a time when new planets around a distant star are being observed and assessed as alternates to our Earth, we need to focus more closely on ourselves, the people around us, our communities and neighborhoods. Very few people are capable of making a difference on such a grand scale. Our objective should be to find ways to improve not only ourselves but also those around us. Let's analyze our own talents, our preferences and our untapped abilities. Let's tap those areas within each one of us that have lain dormant. Let's practice contagious compassion. Let's make a difference wherever we can. You might ask, "What exactly is contagious compassion?" You practice contagious compassion when you put your heart into what you do and when what you do puts others first. Our AAUW branch may be involved with a sleepy community called Stanwood and a sleepier Island called Camano, but that doesn't mean that we can't make a big noise and affect changes beyond our community. Change comes slowly because human nature does not like change. In Spanish there is a saying that goes "Si cada uno pone su granito de arena mucho se puede lograr" (If everyone contributes one grain of sand, much can be accomplished). Let's go out and accomplish all we can together by practicing contagious compassion.

Future Events

April 5th

Wednesday

2:00 p.m.

April Board Meeting
Norma Mouton's Home

April 14th

AAUW National Election Begins

April 22nd

Saturday

10:00 a.m.

General Meeting
Camano Island Library
848 N. Sunrise Blvd.
Camano Island
Presenter: *Mary Lou Sanelli*

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



Purses with Purpose: Personal Shopper

Mary Raymond

The PWP Procurement Committee (Rose Olson, Mary Pilkington, Julie Maxwell, Joanne Drewsen, Doris Taylor, Theresa Metzger, Valerie Spagnolo, and Mary Raymond) met February 23 with PWP chairs Jackie DeFazio and Gay Campbell adding 16 "practically new" bags and a gorgeous new bag to our collection; our total is approximately 120 purses. We're half way to our goal of 235. Please continue to look for that new purse to donate. We have found that personal contact is the most productive way to obtain purses...so tap your resources!



Mary Pilkington

We are contacting local merchants; if you have a personal connection with any business please let us know. If any member can donate an event, activity, or *extra* that could be matched with a purse to create a "package" it would be a terrific addition to our live auction.

Please note the picture of Mary Pilkington above with the new bag she purchased through our "personal shopper" program. Don't like to shop or don't feel you have a great "eye" for the perfect bag? Just contact any of the above committee members and we will have a personal shopper to take care of this for you!

Human Trafficking: March Program

Kathy Cunningham

Please join us March 9, at 2:00 p.m., Camano Island Library, for a distinctive program by Lynda Buehring and an agent and task force officer/detective from Homeland Security and the Seattle Police Department. Their topic is "Forging Community Relationships to Combat Human Trafficking," bringing awareness to this huge and complex topic, from defining human trafficking indicators to demonstrating how local and global agencies intersect to combat these acts.

Lynda retired after 32 years with the federal government and ended her career as a Supervisory Special Agent with the Department of Homeland Security assigned to oversee the Human Trafficking Unit in Seattle. She also served on the first Washington State Human Trafficking Task Force organized to assist in writing legislation on human trafficking. In 2003, Washington became the first state to pass a law criminalizing human trafficking. Lynda is a member of the Stanwood/Camano Island AAUW.

Tech Trek Update

Leslie Gitomer



I was excited to meet our new Tech Trek candidates for 2017. After reading the essays and applications they all sound genuinely interested in the STEM fields and are open to what additional things they can learn at camp. In the essays, some of them talked about inventions and studies that they felt would save lives or help those with disabilities or reduce the waste on our planet.

We will make our final decision by the middle of March so that we can let the campers know before Spring Break, April 3.

Branch Scholarships

Anne Milton

The scholarship application process for our Branch opens March 1, 2017. We are so proud to be awarding two \$4,000 scholarships again this year and truly believe that these scholarship offerings are critical to the AAUW mission to empower women.

The 2017 application and qualifications can be found on www.aauwsc.org/scholarship and the SCAF Scholarship site http://www.s-ccs.org/AAUW_Scholarships.php. These sites will also be linked to the state scholarship avenues through www.washboard.org. Application deadline is May 15, 2017.

Your 2016-2017 Board

President

Norma Mouton

President-Elect

Mary Raymond

VP of Finance

Martha Huyler

VP of Finance-Elect

India Nishi

VP-Membership

Valerie Spagnolo

Membership Assistant

(open)

Secretary

Cathlin Starke

VP of Program

Kathy Cunningham

Program Assistant

Nancy Roberts



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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

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

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

A Sexual Harassment Case

Jackie DeFazio

Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California: A Sexual Harassment Case

This case, adopted by AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund in September 2016, addresses the issue of hostile work environments experienced by some women in STEM fields and seems relevant to the discussion at the February branch meeting. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects employees from sexual harassment and forbids employers from retaliating against their employees for filing a charge of harassment or speaking out against harassment.

Nathalie Gosset, the plaintiff in this case, alleges that she experienced sexual harassment by her employer and was terminated after she reported the behavior. Gosset has worked for 30 years as an engineer, a field where just 12% are women. She is also an AAUW member and active Tech Trek supporter. In 2003, she was hired by the Alfred E. Mann Institute at the University of Southern California as a senior engineering manager. She went on to become the Senior Director of Marketing and Technology Innovation Evaluation, a position directly below the executive director, Jonathan Lasch.

Gosset claims that she was subjected to ongoing sexual harassment by Lasch, who became her supervisor in 2007, and that when she reported the conduct to the Senior Director of Finances and Human Resources, her claims were disregarded, and she faced retaliation for reporting them. After reporting her allegations, she claims that her ability to perform her duties was obstructed, her duties were reassigned, and reprimands were issued. She was terminated in 2015, as was the full four-year scholarship awarded to her daughter by the university through its tuition exchange program.

Gosset is currently in arbitration hearings, claiming a hostile work environment and wrongful termination as well as sexual discrimination, harassment, and retaliation under Title VII and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. Although the *Gosset* case is in the arbitration phase, the LAF adopted this case because sexual harassment is a core issue that AAUW, and specifically LAF, fight to put an end to. Because *Gosset v. Lasch* is in arbitration and not a federal case, AAUW cannot offer financial support. However, AAUW is providing moral support to Gosset, to her case, and to the upholding of Title VII's protections.

AAUW Priorities on Capitol Hill

Gay Campbell

AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations department staff members work on AAUW priorities on Capitol Hill. They engage with the U.S. House and Senate through lobby visits and sending letters, comments and testimony about pending legislation. They have forged relationships with both the Republican and Democratic parties and policy makers at all levels. When they see a bill that impacts our priorities as AAUW members, they reach out to members and like-minded groups asking us to sign onto coalition letters and contact our own representatives.

A recent request by AAUW for their members to pressure Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to commit to supporting Title IX resulted in Department of Education phone lines being so flooded that callers were directed to full voice mailboxes or asked to send their messages via email. Secretary DeVos has raised several red flags including a statement that indicated she was looking at Title IX as an "unnecessary" program.

Another concern is the vote by the U.S. House of Representative to overturn a role that protects funding for Title X, the national family planning program. More than four million Americans rely on Title X for birth control and other reproductive health services.

If you are not working with the AAUW advocacy network and want to make your voice heard, go to <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>.

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

Joanne Drewsen



Born in Detroit, Michigan, Joanne was used to having both sides of her family around. Her father was in the automobile industry and due to a promotion by Ford when she was two the family moved to Columbus, Ohio.

"Our move to Ohio meant that our family was not in the same city as the rest of our relatives. We spent much time going between Cincinnati and Detroit to spend time with our extended family, and it was still sad to be so far away."

"Education was considered essential and important by both my father and mother. In my family, the assumption was that I would go to college like my brother; it was just a matter of which college. My parents had a very equal relationship and my Mom always stuck up for women and whatever they chose to do in their lives. One interesting memory is that when I was quite young I thought I only had the option to be a teacher or a secretary. Of course, in the 60's and probably even before, I came to realize there were many more options for women. However, even in the 60's, there were not as many women in a variety of careers."

Joanne attended Ohio University in Athens, Ohio receiving a BA in History plus a teaching certificate for secondary school. She received her Master's in Education at the University of Washington.

Joanne has held many interesting occupations over the years:

"Former part-owner of Sunlight Café, a vegetarian restaurant, in Seattle, which was originally a restaurant started by 5 women. It is on Roosevelt near 65th and is serving great food to this day."

"Snohomish Co. Manager of Federal grant, Building Careers and Community - one example of many positions that I held working for non-profits on innovative projects that assisted people with disabilities to be active citizens in their communities by living, actively participating in groups with common interests, volunteering and working in jobs that fit their talents and interests."

"Consultant who contracted with a variety of technical assistance agencies."

"State of Washington Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor "

"My husband, Stuart Torgerson, and I met at work and share a passion for all citizens being valued and respected. I have 2 children through marriage to Stuart - Brianna who is a Physician's Assistant at 31, married to Ryan and living in Edmonds. She got a much appreciated scholarship through AAUW to finish her schooling as a PA. Jesse is 34 and has been an employment specialist for people with disabilities and people who have been homeless."

Joanne's interests and hobbies include tennis, yoga, beaded jewelry, and traveling. She has been to Europe, Mexico, Turkey, Greece, Cyprus, Israel, and then overland to India. Other travels include: "A year living and working in Scotland which continues to be a place that I return to visit and 3 months in Ecuador with a boyfriend who was studying ethnomusicology."

What would surprise us about you?

I worked on Shirley Chisholm's campaign in Cambridge, Massachusetts when she was running for president (just stuffing envelopes, etc.) In addition, I was able to entice her to come out and speak at a conference for which I was co-coordinator about civil rights and justice.

Joanne moved to Stanwood in 2000, joining AAUW about a year ago. She has been volunteering at the Stanwood Library at the same time as the meetings. "I am very committed to helping all women get an education and be encouraged to follow careers of their interest. I particularly think it is important to encourage interested girls to stick with the STEM courses and other careers where women are in a minority."

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



Mark Ellinger's Glass Quest Studio Tour

March 23, 11:00 a.m.

Owner/Artist Mark Ellinger will give AAUW members a private tour of his Glass Quest Studio, 31808 Lake Ketchum Road, Stanwood followed by lunch at 12:45 p.m. at Jimmy's Pizza and Pasta, 9819 State Route 532, Stanwood.

Meet at 10:15 a.m. at the Park n Ride at Terry's Corner, Camano Island for carpooling. Email Lynda if you want to carpool

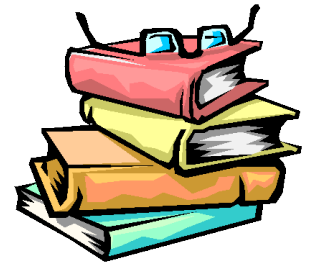
Cost for the studio tour is \$5 for AAUW members and guests.



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.



March

WHAT: The Immortal Irishman by Timothy Egan

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

WHERE: Mary Pilkington's Home

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

May

WHAT: My Life on the Road by Gloria Steinem

WHEN: Monday, May 1, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Joyce Leak's Home

Gloria Steinem had an itinerant childhood. Every fall, her father would pack the family into the car and they would drive across the country, in search of their next adventure. The seeds were planted: Steinem would spend much of her life on the road, as a journalist, organizer, activist, and speaker. In vivid stories that span an entire career, Steinem writes about her time on the campaign trail, from Bobby Kennedy to Hillary Clinton; her early exposure to social activism in India, and the decades spent organizing ground-up movements in America; the taxi drivers who were "vectors of modern myths" and the airline stewardesses who embraced the feminist revolution; and the infinite, surprising contrasts, the "surrealism in everyday life" that Steinem encountered as she traveled back and forth across the country. "-- Provided by publisher.

For more information, contact India Nishi.

General Meeting Minutes- February 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Norma Mouton at the Camano Island library.

Norma introduced our guest speaker, Eileen Baratuci, attorney and Port Townsend AAUW member. Eileen provided a PowerPoint presentation on "Women in the Workplace" providing a historical timeline of events and legislation from the 1940's to today. The business meeting followed.

The January General Meeting Minutes were approved.

Norma said we still need a Media Coordinator.

Leslie Gitomer indicated that Tech Trek interviews will start next week.

Anne Milton said that scholarship applications will also open this week. She also said the recent article in the Stanwood-Camano News incorrectly indicated that SCAF was involved-she will issue a correction.

Gay Campbell gave a PWP update and showed members that we need many more new and gently used purses in order to meet our goals. Jackie DeFazio asked members to keep their receipts for purses they buy-if our 501(c)3 application is approved in time, these will be a tax deduction for members and others who buy new purses for the auction.

NEW BUSINESS: Joyce Leak shared that Kaye Sodt and her husband are both home and recovering, but slowly.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Cathlin Starke
Secretary



Day Tripper Outing February 16
Camano Island Coffee Roasters

From left to right - Janet St. Clair, LaVonne Ihde, Vivian Henderson (guest), Helen Smith, Sarah Berrett, Deb Wade, Norma Mouton, Jeff Ericson (founder) and Lynda Buehring.



Day Tripper Outing February 22
Cama Beach State Park Loop Trails

From left to right — Deb Wade, Sarah Berrett and Lynda Buehring.

