



# Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

## In Touch

October 2017

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



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

### October 5th

**Thursday, 1:00 p.m.**

October Board Meeting  
Camano Island Library  
848 N. Sunrise Blvd.  
Camano Island

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### October 6th

**Friday, 4:00 p.m.**

Purses with Purpose Set Up  
Camano Center

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### October 7th

**Saturday, 10:30 a.m.**

Purses with Purpose  
Camano Center

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### October 12th

**Thursday**

**12:30 p.m.**

Social Half Hour

**1:00 p.m.**

General Meeting

Brookdale Senior Living  
7212 265th St NW, Stanwood

*Program: Student Involvement  
& Enrichment & Community:  
Tech Trek, STEM, Student  
Liaison Board*

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### October 18th

**Wednesday**

**6:30 p.m.**

Candidate Forum  
Stanwood Middle School

Program information contact:  
Lynda Buehring

### Message from the President

Mary Raymond

Since retiring and no longer having my year synced around the start of school, Fall always begins for me when I reignite the pilot light on my gas fireplace and turn it on...this happened a few days ago so I am embracing the new season! It was wonderful to have so many members at our first meeting; I really enjoyed having a full half-hour of social time at 12:30 before the meeting to catch up with friends and get acquainted with new members. Thanks to LaVonna Ihde for organizing the refreshments this year! The presentations by Jackie DeFazio and India Nishi brought us in tune with the happenings of AAUW at the national level and also focused us inward to the workings of our branch. I think having time to work in small groups encourages more voices to be heard.

With Purses with Purpose fast approaching, it will be "all hands on deck" for October 6 and 7. I know this major event will be addressed in another article, but I want to mention one very important aspect of PWP, the camaraderie that is built among members. Working on committees, cleaning purses together, setting up for the event, etc. - these are the avenues for building relationships and strengthening our branch. I am constantly amazed at the proficient and committed women in this organization; leadership is easy because everyone steps up when asked and follows through with assignments. On that note, the position of EF/LAF representative is still open. This entails checking the national website for updates on the Education Fund and the Legal Advocacy Fund and informing membership on issues at meetings or in the newsletter when appropriate. Please let me know if you are interested.

The October meeting will showcase one reason for our fundraising efforts, Tech Trek. Students for both Stanwood Middle School and Port Susan Middle School will report back on their week-long STEM experience at PLU. I know this is one of my favorite meetings of the year; these students make the future seem very bright!

This month also brings the Candidate Forum at Stanwood Middle School on October 18. Laura Lewis and Elaine Richards are organizing this and Jackie DeFazio will moderate the session. All members are encouraged to attend; more details will be discussed at the October meeting. By the way, have you signed up for the "Two Minute Activist" as mentioned by Cathlin Starke at the September meeting? I recently did...it's an easy way to stay informed and let your voice be heard on issues that matter to you and AAUW.

Let's enjoy this invigorating season with PWP, Candidate Forum, Day Trippers, Book Group and all that AAUW has to offer!



## Future Events

**November 2nd**

**Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

November Board Meeting  
Camano Island Library

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**November 9th**

**Thursday**

**12:30 p.m.**

Social Half Hour

**1:00 p.m.**

General Meeting

Camano Island Library

*Program: Reflections of a Veteran. Retired Colonel Tracey Meck, USAF will share her experiences from her military career, her journey in Spain, and her passions now as a community volunteer.*

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**December 7th**

**Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

December Board Meeting  
Camano Island Library

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**December 14th**

**Thursday**

**11:30 a.m.**

Holiday Luncheon

Cama Beach Café  
Cama Beach State Park  
Camano Island

*Tickets will go on sale in early November. They go fast; don't hesitate to purchase yours.*

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

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

## Purses with Purpose Final Days & Counting

Anne Milton

The Purses with Purpose Auction, Luncheon and Scholarship Fundraiser is finally here!

WE will need help from every AAUW member on Friday, October 6, for set up at 4:00 p.m. at the Camano Center. All hands on deck! We will be setting up and showcasing all of the purses in the live, silent, and artist auctions, arranging tables, chairs, decorations, centerpieces, and computer stations. We anticipate a minimum two hour period so mark your calendar from 4:00 till 6:00 pm.

We are very thankful to our AAUW members for their new and practically new purses, and the tireless hours in recruitment, preparation, numerous meetings, and ongoing committee tasks.

Let's make this PWP the most enjoyable and most lucrative than ever before. Kindly contact your table guests a few days prior and let them know:



- \* Doors open for the silent auctions at 10:30 a.m. on October 7.
- \* The raffle tickets for 10 days in Mazatlán in February 2018 will be \$10.00 each!!
- \* Some of the live auction purses have fun events like crab excursions, crab feed dinners, spa amenities such as massages and facials, Seahawks tickets...incredible items.

- \* There will be a "Fund the Scholar" event during dessert to raise your bid card to donate directly to the scholarship fund.
- \* Anticipate that the event will finish after 2:30 p.m.

During the event we ask that all members sitting at a table draw attention to the beautiful, unique centerpieces eligible for bidding. You will find the bid sheet on your table. Guests are not limited to bidding on the centerpiece at their table; if one is desired at another table feel free to bid on it. Bidding on the centerpieces ends when lunch is served. Don't miss out!

## October Program: Recognizing Students in the Community

Lynda Buehring

The Stanwood/Camano AAUW has had a relationship with the community for many years. Each year we sponsor middle school students to attend Tech Trek, a STEM camp, during the summer and we give two scholarships to students who have been in college for three or more years to help them continue their education. This month's meeting will host the many students that have been recognized by AAUW this year and two students that are members of the Stanwood/Camano School Board. Ashely Peterson and Omar Figuero represent Stanwood High School and Lincoln Hills High School respectively. They have been chosen by their leadership teachers as students that represent a commitment to leadership and will represent their respective schools as members of the School Board. These two students have been in leadership roles throughout their high school careers. They will explain their role on the School Board, how they were chosen and their roles in their schools during senior year.

Please come and join our program this month to be part of recognizing students that have made a difference in our community.

Coming up in November, our guest speaker will be Retired Colonel Tracey Meck, USAF. She will share her experiences from her military career, her journey in Spain, and her passions now as a community volunteer.

Come early to the October 12 meeting. Join us at 12:30 p.m. for a social half hour. Enjoy a cup of coffee, a snack and a visit with friends.



## Your 2017-2018 Board

### President

Mary Raymond

### President-Elect

Leslie Gitomer

### VP of Finance

India Nishi

### VP of Finance-Elect

Lilija Tushinski

### VP-Membership

Norma Mouton

### Membership Assistant

Martha Huyler

### Secretary

Lesley Bentley

### VP of Program

Kathy Cunningham

Lynda Buehring

### Program Assistant

Valerie Spagnolo

## Activity Leaders

### Purses with Purpose 2017

Jackie DeFazio, Gay Campbell

### Stanwood-Camano Give

Cheryl Gruger, Cindy Smith

### AAUW Education Funds and

### AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

OPEN POSITION

### Public Policy

Cathlin Starke

### High School STEM Scholars

Helen Smith, Joan Cresup

### Scholarship Chair

Anne Milton

### Tech Trek Co-Chairs

Leslie Gitomer, Elaine Richards

### Volunteer School Partners

Helen Smith

### Candidate Forum

Laura Lewis, Elaine Richards

### Media Coordinator

OPEN POSITION

### Historian

Carolyn Spector

### Diversity

Linda Lynn

### 501(c)(3) Compliance

Jackie DeFazio

### Title IX Liaison

Connie Carr

### Communications

Georgi Proulx

### Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler

## Day Trippers: October & November

Lynda Buehring

**October 19** - join us for a lovely drive along Chuckanut Drive to the beautiful Fairhaven District filled with interesting stops along the way on Bow Hill Road such as the wonderful The Bread Farm, Samish Bay Cheese Organic Farmstead, the Bow Hill Blueberry Farm Store, and the local Bread Farm.



The Samish Bay Cheese Farm is a locally owned 200 acre homestead close to Samish Bay and below Mount Blanchard and the Chuckanut Mountains featuring unique and flavorful cheese, yogurt, and kefir.

The Cheese Farm Tour will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a special tour and tasting for our group. There may be an estimated \$1.00 for us to pay the extra help for our exclusive tour.

The Bow Hill Blueberry Farm is the oldest family-run blueberry farm in Skagit County. The farm store is open year round selling blueberry jams, ice cream, syrups and delightful desserts. The Blueberry Farm Tour will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a tour and tasting as well.

Lunch will be at 1:15 p.m. at Keenan's at the Pier in Fairhaven, a popular restaurant in the Historic Fairhaven District which is a quaint charming community full of boutiques, shops, spas, galleries and restaurants. There will be lots of time to browse the Fairhaven Historic District after lunch before returning to Stanwood/Camano.

Carpools will be arranged from the Park-n-Ride at Terry's Corner on Camano Island promptly at 9:00 a.m. and the Stanwood Park-n-Ride on Marine Drive around 9:10 AM. Ice chests will be provided to keep your purchases cool.

**November 7** - join us in attending Rohelia Marik's play, *Unveiled*, a one woman play on racism, hate crimes, love, Islam culture, language, and life. The play begins at 12:30 p.m. and runs until 2:00 p.m. Tickets are free and seating is limited to 110 attendees.

Also included is a stop at Calico Cupboards for coffee and bakery items or a light meal at 10:30 a.m.

Car pools will be arranged from the Park-n-Ride at Terry's Corner on Camano Island promptly at 9:45 a.m. and the Stanwood Park-n-Ride on Marine Drive around 10:00 a.m.

## Public Policy

Cathlin Starke

AAUW has a member-voted Public Policy program that guides its lobbying and grassroots efforts. As a member, this ensures your voice is heard. Priorities are Civil Rights, Education, Economic Security and Title IX.

Regarding Civil Rights, the focus is on the following: Affirmative Action, Equal Rights Amendment, Federal Judicial Nominations, Hate Crimes Prevention, Human Trafficking, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues, and reproductive rights.

Current "hot topics" are the current administration's decision to rescind federal guidance related to Title IX civil rights protection for transgender students, changes to federal administration of Title IX protections regarding campus sexual violence, and the future of Title IX enforcement. To learn more, go to [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org), and click on "What We Do."

"AAUW looks forward to weighing in as the Department of Education engages in its stated rule-making process. In the meantime we call on schools to continue to uphold students' civil rights. AAUW stands with survivors and will vigorously defend Title IX and the protections it affords all students." [from the AAUW Today post dated 9/22/17, emailed to membership 9/24/17]

Note: October is Domestic Violence Awareness and National Bullying Prevention Month.



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## Meet Our Members: Naomi Wark & Julia Parker



Naomi Wark

Naomi Wark joined our branch mid-summer looking for a chance to network and meet people and learn about the mission of our organization. Her plans for the branch are to attend some of the day tripper outings as her volunteer and writing schedule allows.

Born in Bismarck, North Dakota, Naomi spent her first six weeks in the hospital. Arriving home she was so small she slept in a dresser drawer in the upstairs of a furniture store which her grandfather owned and at three months old moved to Seattle. Growing up in Bellevue, Naomi "was active in Girl Scouts until ninth grade and went to private schools where the opportunities for sports and activities were the same for girls as for boys never feeling left behind because I was a girl."

Naomi attending Shoreline Community College earning Associate in Applied Arts (graphic arts program) continuing at City University, Bellevue earning a Bachelor of Arts in Business

Administration.

"Most of my working life I spent in various accounting and bookkeeping positions. I owned a franchise travel agency from 1988-1998 which I set up in a newly built strip mall in what is now the city of Coal Creek."

Naomi was married in 1974, had two children then divorced in 1982. She married her current spouse, Dale, in 1985. She has two daughters, Rebecca, age 39, and Erica age 35 and a stepson, Brandon, age 44. Naomi also has two grandchildren, Noah, 9 years old, adopted from Ethiopia, and Brooke, age 8.

Her hobbies and interests are: gardening, writing, travel, and volunteer work. Naomi reports, "Owning a travel agency allowed a fair amount of travel to France, Amsterdam, Germany, Costa Rica, several Mexico and Hawaii destinations, Washington, DC, Cruising to several Caribbean destinations and to Alaska. Retirement has allowed trips to Greece, China and Italy with many more exciting places to come, hopefully."

### **What would surprise us about you?**

I spent 10 years working part-time as a professional clown for birthday parties, grand openings, corporate Christmas parties, corporate picnics, and new airplane rollouts.

### **What advice do you have for girls today?**

Dream big. You are never too old to reach for the stars.

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Julia Parker

Recent member, Julia Parker, was born in Wilmington, DE moving to Freeport, IL during elementary school and then Agoura, CA in her teenage years. It was in middle and high schools where Julia developed her love for music and swimming, picking up the saxophone in middle school because the band had 20 flute players (all girls). "I love jazz and blew the guys away in middle school when I decided to play the baritone sax in jazz band. I was the first girl section leader for the saxophone section in the Agoura High Marching Band."

"I can thank my 9th grade band director for encouraging girls to expand and explore new areas allowing girls to more likely try out and join other music ensembles like jazz band and bugle and drum corps. My children took band in middle school, and I saw a major shift. Boys feeling comfortable learning the flute and girls fitting in with the drum line made me smile inside to see the gender stereo types dissolve."

"I had an excellent college education at James Madison University. I attended at the time of the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution, which frames many of my core beliefs. Going from California to Virginia was a culture shock for a young adult. From my experience, what people said about the 'Gentleman's South' was true. The lifestyle I was used to in California where one did not really think or see a difference in gender or race was the norm. When I relocated to Virginia I experienced a vastly different attitude. As a white female, it was unseemly for me to associate with the black community and vice versa."

Julia earned a B.S. in Political Science and History from James Madison University and worked in the Life Insurance industry as a customer service rep, and for the Navy MWR in Adak, AK as inventory management for the Navy Exchange. Living on Camano Island for many years she worked for the Camano Island Coffee Roasters in the marketing/customer service departments.

She is always volunteering: coach/mentor for elementary age children for Special Olympics, Stanwood/Camano Science Team Coach, and mentor for teens in the "Ready to Work Program" at the Community Resource Center. Julia enjoys reading, the outdoors, board/card games, the study of history and culture and music, especially jazz. She traveled to Scotland as a child and visited Tijuana, Mexico many times.

### **What would surprise us about you?**

I enjoy science fiction and fantasy genres. My husband, John, and I have attended comic con, and we both are into comic books.

### **What advice do you have for AAUW members?**

Like all pursuits worthwhile - get involved, don't be a wall flower

### **What advice do you have for girls today?**

Don't use your sex to "Get ahead" or an excuse that you "Can't get ahead." Be yourself.

## Tech Trek News

Leslie Gitomer

Please read the thank you notes below recently received from this year's Tech Trek campers. These young women will be participating in the October program presenting details about their experiences at camp this past July.



Due to a generous contribution from the Stillaguamish Tribe we will be able to send six girls to camp for the 2018 season. That is an increase from four during 2017. The tuition for the camp has gone up slightly and is now \$1000 for each camper. Our branch will donate \$950; parents and girls will contribute \$50. Contribution by the family assures a firm commitment to attending the resident camp.

AAUW-WA may be expanding the camp on the western Washington side to include either two camp sessions at PLU or one at PLU and one at Western Washington.

Elaine Richards is going to be co-chair for Tech Trek this year as I transition into more responsibilities as President Elect.

*Thank you so much for sending me to this camp! Tech Trek was a wonderful experience and I'm glad I was there to represent my school and Stanwood-Camano. My mind was opened to so many new experiences and careers. I never thought I would like a class like coding or app inventing, but my app inventing mini lab was one of my favorites! My core physics class was so cool too. We spent the week building 9 foot tall hot air balloons! This camp was an amazing experience.*

*Thank you for sponsoring me. Grace Henken.*

*Thank you so much for sending me to this amazing camp. I had so much fun and learned so much. I have realized what I want to do in life. Without your support I would not have had this wonderful experience.*

*Sincerely, Jolene Henrikson*

*Thank you Stanwood-Camano for this amazing experience. I learned a lot about engineering and this opportunity to come really helped me understand how much I have an interest in it. I will take the classes I need to get there and become an engineer. I appreciate it.*

*Thank you, Carolina Tenorio*

*Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to come to Tech Trek this year. Throughout the week I have learned about physics. We got to make and launch hot air balloons, which was an awesome learning experience. I have learned about so many new STEM careers that I didn't know about or think about as a career, but now I do. Again I would like to thank you so much for giving me this incredible opportunity, which I will never forget.*

*~Greta Hendrickson*



Big shout out to four new members joining our branch the month of September:

- \* Mary Chesney
- \* Jana Hill
- \* Sally Kohloff
- \* Virginia Sonett

Welcome ladies!

We look forward to getting to know you.

## 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

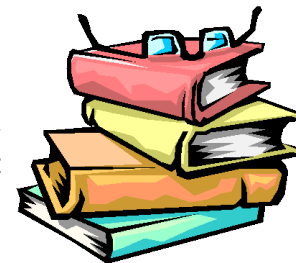
Join us for lunch and a movie.

Anne Milton  
Georgi Proulx

### Book Group

Open to all members. Join us for lively conversation if you've read the book or if you just want to come join the discussion.

Katie Farrey



## Book Group

Katie Farrey

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.

### October

WHAT: Banned Books, read one or more

WHEN: Monday, October 2, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Norma Mouton's Home

*Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley, 1931 (challenged for alleged anti-religion and anti-family themes, sexual content)

*1984* by George Orwell, 1949 (challenged for being both pro-communist and anti-communist, sexual content, political content)

*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, Sherman Alexie, 2007 (challenged for content regarding alcohol, bullying, violence, sexual references, profanity, slurs)

*Nasreen's Secret School: A True Story from Afghanistan*, Jeanette Winter, 2009 (challenged for religious viewpoint (Muslim), violence, unsuited to age group)

### November

WHAT: The Green Road by Anne Enright

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

WHERE: Terry Benson's Home

*Spanning thirty years, The Green Road tells the story of Rosaleen, matriarch of the Madigans, a family on the cusp of either coming together or falling irreparably apart.--Dust jacket flap.*

### December

WHAT: The Bishop's Wife by Mette Ivie Harrison

WHEN: Monday, December 4, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Martha Huyler's Home

*"In the predominantly Mormon city of Draper, Utah, some seemingly perfect families have deadly secrets...Linda Wallheim is the mother of five grown boys and the wife of a Mormon bishop. As bishop, Kurt Wallheim is the ward's designated spiritual father, and that makes Linda the ward's unofficial mother, and her days are filled with comfort visits, community service, and informal counseling. But Linda is increasingly troubled by the church's patriarchal structure and secrecy, especially as a disturbing situation takes shape in the ward."-- Provided by publisher.*

For more information, contact Katie Farrey.

## Event Calendar for 2018

January 11	1 pm	Dementia: Education, Resources & Experiences Camano Library
February 15	1 pm	Galentine Gala, Camano Country Club
March 8	1 pm	Women in Leadership, Camano Library
April 12	1 pm	Violence Against Women, Camano Library
April 21	6 pm	Wine & Food Social for Members & Guests Norma Mouton's Home
May 10	7 pm	HS STEM Scholar Recognition United Methodist Church
June 24	2 pm	Scholarship Awards Tea, Norma Mouton's Home
August 9	4 pm	BBQ Picnic Members & Guests, Camano Hills Pavilion

### Outlook Going Digital

Spring 2017 issue of the Outlook Magazine was the last paper copy that will be sent to all members. It is possible to continue to receive a print Outlook by Opting In at this link

<http://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/outlookmag/>.





## General Meeting Minutes- September 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Stanwood-Camano AAUW President, Mary Raymond, at 1:05 p.m. on September 14 at Brookdale Senior Living.

Jo English brought a new guest, Sally Kohloff, and she was introduced to the members. She also joined.

Mary Raymond then introduced all the elected and appointed positions of new board members and committee chairs.

We also introduced all the recent new members.

**Membership** chairs Martha Huyler and Norma Mouton would like to add some members to their committee. Lynda Buehring would also like some help with Day Trippers.

**Tax Status:** Based on Jackie DeFazio and Gay Campbell's efforts we now have 501(c)(3) tax status.

**Stanwood-Camano Give:** We are on a list to participate in Stanwood-Camano Give which will take place on Tuesday, November 28.

**Stillaguamish Gift:** We received a grant from the Stillaguamish Tribe in the amount of \$1800 to support our Tech Trek scholarships; we will be able to send more girls this year. We are hoping to send six this year increased from four in 2017.

**June Minutes:** Laura Lewis moved to approve the June minutes, Anne Milton seconded. Motion passed.

**Candidate Forum:** Laura Lewis reminded us that Candidate Forum will take place on Wednesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m. at Stanwood Middle School. Volunteers should be there at 6:00 p.m. This event is co-sponsored by the Stanwood-Camano News.

**Treasurer's Report:** India Nishi, Treasurer, reviewed our finances and budget which are all in good order. We are looking forward to our fund raising events, Purses with Purpose and Stanwood-Camano Give, to continue to fund Scholarships and Tech Trek.

**Purses with Purpose** is ready to go. Volunteers should be at Camano Center Friday, October 6, at 4:00 p.m. for set up and Saturday 9:30 a.m. for the event. Cathlin Starke is coordinating volunteers. Georgi Proulx needs to confirm names of guests at the tables. If volunteers want lunch they need to let Georgi know by October 2. Let Joyce Leak or Elaine Richards know if there are any cancellations to allow a possibly of filling the spots.

**Public Policy:** Cathlin Starke recommended people sign up for the *Two Minute Activist*, an AAUW-sponsored program, that will make it easy to let your congressmen know where you stand on issues.

**Volunteer School Partners:** Helen Smith is coordinating volunteers at Utsalady Elementary School. Let her know if you are interested.

The membership meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. with a motion by Nancy Roberts and a second by Kaye Sodt.

Following the membership meeting segment there were presentations by Jackie DeFazio on the AAUW Mission, nationwide membership, history, and areas of advocacy.

India Nishi presented the results from the Strategic Planning activities.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Gitomer  
For Lesley Bentley  
Secretary





## Day Trippers Photo Gallery

Lynda Buehring



Jetty Island  
August 2017



September 2017

Terracotta Warriors Exhibit and IMAX, and Pike Market.  
In the picture we are on the rooftop of a secret garden and skyline view of Seattle.

Left to right: Val Nelson, Lynda Buehring, Norma Mouton, Kimmy (guest)

Left to right back row: LaVonna Ihde, Janet St. Clair, Katie Farrey, Helen Smith

Not pictured: Julia Parker, Elizabeth Rutherford and Joan Cresap

