

In Touch

March 2019

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



March 7th
Thursday
1:00 p.m.

March Board Meeting
Camano Library

March 14th
Thursday
12:45 p.m.

Social Quarter Hour
1:00 p.m.
General Meeting
Camano Library

Program: Focus on AAUW

*Leyla Savloff, American Fellowship
Recipient*

*Jackie DeFazio will share about
national AAUW connections.*

*Judy Prince, AAUW-WA President,
will share about state connections.*

Program information contact:
Carol Kayler
VP of Program



Message from the President

Leslie Gitomer

The Paycheck Fairness Act of 2019 will help eliminate the Gender pay gap (currently on the House Floor for passage).

The first time I realized how much less I was being paid for my performance as a Boeing engineer than my male counterparts was in the winter of 2000. We were on strike and the average salary of a Boeing Engineer was broadcast on TV. I got a pit in my stomach when I saw the numbers and realized after 11 years and having major responsibility as a lead engineer for a new structural project I was earning quite a bit below the average wage. I made a vow to myself to do whatever it took to catch up. I was living practically paycheck to paycheck and could not seem to put money aside for my children's college education. It took me 6 more years and much negotiation to finally get what I considered fair compensation. What I finally did was work 3 high profile jobs simultaneously for more than a year so there could be no excuses put forward as to why they couldn't give me the raise I deserved. They were still getting quite a bargain as I was doing the work of at least two people.

The Paycheck Fairness Act is a critical step to closing the gender pay gap. It will address loopholes in the Equal Pay Act of 1963, ensuring that employers pay women and men equally for equal work. Senator Patty Murray of Washington is one of the sponsors.

The equal pay act will prohibit employers from relying on your salary history when setting your wage and protect against retaliation for discussing your pay with colleagues. It aims to equalize discrimination claims based on gender, race and ethnicity and give support to employers and employees to achieve fair pay practices.

The Gender gap continues to exist across all demographics and tends to be larger for women of color and Hispanic origin. The gap exists across all age groups and hurts women in retirement. The average break down for the gap by age is 90% for women 20-24, 88% for women 25-34, 81% for women from 35-44 and 78% for women from 45 -65. According to the Institute for Women's Policy Research "the poverty rate for working single mothers would be cut in half if the pay gap were closed, and 2.5 million children would be lifted out of poverty." You can read more about the gender pay gap and how the bill will help at <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/gender-pay-gap/>.

Besides supporting this bill our AAUW national organization is offering an online course to help women learn how to better negotiate their salaries. I would encourage you to share this course with family members and other women in the community that could benefit. The website is <https://salary.aauw.org>. I have been taking the course to try it out and find it very useful and easy to follow. It is broken into modules: know the facts, know your value, know your salary, and know your strategy. It teaches you how to identify and sell your strengths and how to research equitable salaries in your field. It also provides tips for negotiating your salary. It is another great way to take action into our own hands.

Future Events

April 4th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

April Board Meeting
Camano Library

April 11th

Thursday

12:30 p.m.

Social Half Hour

1:00 p.m.

General Meeting
Camano Library

*Program: Dawn Mettler
Women & Car Care*

April 12-13th

Friday-Saturday

AAUW-WA Annual Meeting
Holiday Inn
Bellingham International Airport

April 27th

Saturday

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Women's Expo 2019
Camano Center
Volunteers Needed



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

www.aauwsc.org

Purses with Purpose Challenge

Lynda Buehring

The Purses with Purpose event provides the funding of our scholarships and youth enrichment opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The Steering Committee will need to finalize purse donations by July 2019, so we may determine the live and silent auction purses for our program. Please ask your families, friends, and associates to bring new (tags on, please) and gently used purses to donate. Secondly, we need to acquire items and other donations such as dinners, spa packages, trips, Airbnb opportunities, wine and anything we can include with our live auction purses. If you have purses, you may bring them to meetings or email Lynda Buehring or Norma Mouton; we will gladly arrange to pick up the purses from you. Thank you again for your support and generous donations.



March 21 Seattle Premium Outlets Purse Shopping Event: A PWP Purse Shopping Trip will be on March 21 at 10:00 a.m. Carpools will leave at 09:30 a.m. from Camano Island Terry's Corner to the Outlet Mall in Marysville. For members living in the Warm Beach/Kayak Point area meet at Georgi Proulx's for carpooling by 9:30 a.m. Please email Georgi if she can expect you. Carpools can also be arranged from the Stanwood Park n Ride. Participants will meet at the Kate Spade store. At 12:00 p.m. we have lunch reservations at The Ram Restaurant. We should be done by 1:30 p.m. Contact Lynda if you plan on joining us for lunch.

March 25 Purse Cleaning Event: Purse Cleaning Event on March 25 at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Rose Olson. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March 14 meeting or you may email Mary Raymond or Rose Olson. More details and directions will be provided closer to the event.

Scholarship Committee is Busy, Busy

Anne Milton

The AAUW Stanwood-Camano scholarship process is now open for the 2019 season with four \$4,000 Scholarship awards to offer. We are thankful to the community for the successful PWP 2017 revenues, the Stillaguamish and Tulalip tribes and individual donations to our branch that continue to come in. Attached to the emailed newsletter is the 2019 application which highlights the eligibility, criteria, and listing of application requirements. We encourage you to share with friends, colleagues and neighbors as we hope to increase our candidate pool. Due to our 501(c)3 status mandates, direct family members of our SC-Camano AAUW membership are not eligible to apply.



The 2019 application and qualifications will be found at www.aauwsc.org/scholarship. This site will be linked to the state scholarship umbrella at www.washboard.org. The application deadline is Wednesday, May 15, 2019. What differentiates our branch from other organizations is our focus on students entering at least their junior year of college or a master's level program where the greatest need for financial/support assistance peaks.

At the recent members meeting, I asked for additional volunteers for our Scholarship committee and I'm pleased to announce our committee has a full team: Kathy Cunningham and Marianne McGarry-Bloom joined Joanne Drewsen, Elaine Richards, Leslie Gitomer and me for the 2019 Scholarship Committee.

Volunteer School Partners Opportunity Coming Up

Dana Anderson

Elger Bay Elementary School's Family Learning Night will be announcing its day and time soon.

Event planners are trying something different this year--the program will center around STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and teachers will have different activities in their classrooms. Elger Bay Elementary loves volunteers! Please let Dana Anderson know if anyone from AAUW is interested in helping that evening! It would be appreciated.

Your 2018-2019 Board

President

Leslie Gitomer

President-Elect

Mary Chesney

VP of Finance

Nancy Voelckers

VP of Finance-Elect

(open position)

VP-Membership

Martha Huyler

Membership Assistant *

Georgi Proulx

Secretary

Linda Lynn

VP of Program

Carol Kayler

Program Assistant *

Helen Smith

Public Policy

Cathlin Starke

Communications

Georgi Proulx

* Appointed position, shares vote with VP

Activity Leaders

Purses with Purpose 2019

Lynda Buehring

Norma Mouton

High School STEM Scholars

Leslie Moore

Scholarship Chair

Anne Milton

Tech Trek Chair

Terry Benson

Volunteer School Partners

(open position)

AAUW Funds Coordinator

Mary Raymond

Candidate & Issues Forum

Elaine Richards

Historian

Carolyn Spector

Diversity

Linda Lynn

501(c)(3) Compliance

Jackie DeFazio

Stanwood-Camano Give

Mary Raymond

Title IX Liaison

Connie Carr

Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler

Public Policy: State Legislation

Cathlin Starke

Washington State AAUW coordinates with National AAUW to ensure that our local lobbying efforts mirror our AAUW national priorities. The following legislation was the focus of our efforts for Lobby Day 2019.

SB 5090 Employer may not inquire about job applicant's salary history unless the applicant has revealed it. Provides mechanisms for investigation and penalties for violations. **HB1533** Employer may not inquire about applicant's salary history.

SB5258 Employers in certain service occupations must provide a sexual harassment policy, train managers and employees, and provide a panic button in certain locations.

SB5602/HB1612 The Reproductive Health Access for All Act would expand existing law to ensure reproductive health access for all people, specifically including immigrant and transgender communities.

HB1166 Law enforcement must adopt best practices regarding rape kits and investigations. After January 1, 2021, all rape kits must be tested within 45 days. Requires hospitals to help survivors locate rape kits if none are available at the hospital.

SJR 8201 Amends state constitution requirement to pass school bond issues from 60% to 50%.

SB5143 Allows police to remove guns from domestic violence perpetrators and to retain them for five days.

SB5142 Requires a certain portion (10-15%) of women on corporate boards.

1-1000 An initiative to the legislature would require restoring affirmative action to remedy discrimination.

Source: Washington State AAUW



AAUW Washington Annual Meeting

Judy Prince



AAUW Washington Annual Meeting is April 12-13 at Holiday Inn Bellingham International Airport. Call the hotel at 877-386-8490 for a room reservation for Friday. The current tentative agenda and information is available at www.aauw-wa.org.

The meeting will start with dinner on Friday and continue through a day of speakers and workshops on Saturday. Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW, will be our dinner speaker. This is your chance to hear how AAUW will continue to be relevant in the 21st Century. Another confirmed speaker for Saturday is Amy Klosterman, Title IX attorney. Amy will speak about her experience in the US Office of Civil Rights.

Fees for our event are \$120.00 early registration and \$145.00 after March 15. Friday only and Saturday only registrations are available.

We will be electing a Secretary and two board members at the meeting. If you are interested in joining the state board, contact Judy Prince, president@aauw-wa.org.

Registration closes April 4 so that we can give accurate meal information to the hotel catering office.

AAUW Funds

Mary Raymond

At the last membership meeting, there were some questions about the new organization and naming of AAUW funds. I thought the easiest way to show this was to reproduce the chart from national AAUW. As you can see below, our historic branch contributions to education and legal advocacy now fall under Education and Training Fund (4450) and Economic Security Fund (4449).

Please review the chart below and come to the meeting with your recommendations of which funds our branch should contribute.

How to Support AAUW's Mission

Thank you for promoting equity for women and girls by supporting AAUW's critical work! When supporting the following funds, you give AAUW the ability to carry out its bold, strategic vision for the future.



AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110)

Allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.



Education and Training Fund (4450)

Addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

STEM
Title IX
Pathways to Jobs

Examples of programs include:
Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives
Fellowships and Grants
Public Policy
Research



Economic Security Fund (4449)

Ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

Pay Equity
Title VII
Retirement Security

Examples of programs include:
Start Smart
Work Smart
Work Smart Online
Legal Advocacy Fund



Leadership Fund (4452)

Supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

Career
Workplace
Training

Examples of programs include:
Campus Action Projects
Empower
NCCWSL

Contributions to AAUW are fully tax-deductible and can be sent to the address below or made online at www.aauw.org/contribute.

P.O. Box 98045
Washington, DC 20090-8045
800.326.2289 | connect@aauw.org
www.aauw.org

Special Branch Activities

Day Trippers

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

Lynda Buehring
Mary Pilkington
Patti Pontikis

Movie Group

Join us for lunch and a movie. Suggestions welcome.

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



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

LIKE our page to
follow us then

SHARE to increase
our visibility in
the community.

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/)

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.



March

WHAT: Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly

WHEN: Monday, March 4, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Georgi Proulx's Home

"Inspired by the life of a real World War II heroine, this novel reveals an incredible story of love, redemption, and terrible secrets that were hidden for decades." - Provided by publisher.

April

WHAT: Educated by Tara Westover

WHEN: Monday, April 2, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Helen Smith's Home

"Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her head-for-the-hills bag. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. As a way out, Tara began to educate herself, learning enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University. Tara has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes, and the will to change it"-- Provided by publisher.

May

WHAT: Beartown by Fredrik Backman

WHEN: Monday, May 6, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Joyce Leak's Home

A "poignant, charming novel about a forgotten town fractured by scandal, and the amateur hockey team that might just change everything. Fredrik Backman knows that we are forever shaped by the places we call home, and explores what can happen when we carry the heavy weight of other people's dreams on our shoulders."-- Provided by publisher.

For more information, contact Katie Farrey.

Day Trippers: April 28, Skagit Valley Chorale

Mary Pilkington

Sunday, April 28, AAUW Day Trippers will car pool from Terry's Corner to Mount Vernon to see the 2:00 p.m. Spring Concert of the Skagit Valley Chorale at McIntyre Hall.

This Chorale has a very high reputation and there are some in our membership who sing in the Chorale. There will be an early dinner in Mount Vernon following the concert.

Tickets are \$14 for seniors and they tell me are going fast. If you are interested in attending this concert, please send your check for \$14 to Mary Pilkington so that she receives it no later than Monday, March 4 and she will purchase the tickets that day for those who want to attend. If you can drive, please let Mary know how many you can take in your car and she will arrange the carpools.



Meet Our Members

Susan Bradford

Born in Chicago, Susan always lived less than half a mile from Lake Michigan, and spent summers on the lake in a tiny Michigan community about two hours from Chicago. Growing up she reports, "I can't really say that I thought that much about it. But starting in 8th grade and all through high school, I went to a private girl's school on the South Side of the City. It was not religious, rather founded on the principle of giving girls a good education and getting them ready to go to college. I was encouraged to think creatively, wasn't afraid to show my intelligence, and developed an independent spirit."



Susan attended the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, earning a BA in Art History. She has had numerous interesting occupations from art editor to writer, holistic therapist, dancer and basket weaver. When you see her ask about the other positions she has had and the many places she has lived. She has lived in Greece for several months and Holland for several years plus many of the islands in Washington. She has visited every state in the US except for Alabama, North Dakota and Alaska.

Susan has lived in the Stanwood/Camano area about 18 months and a member of AAUW for about six months joining to maintain an active role in her community.

What advice do you have for AAUW members?

You're doing a great job at being welcoming and friendly. I'm too new to offer any really constructive advice.

What advice do you have for girls today?

Think outside the box. Know that going to college is not for everyone. Find something you really love to do and pursue it. Do that with all your heart and you will be successful though not necessarily wealthy. And please help us save the planet!

Meet Our Members

Jill Johnstone

Jill was born in Washington, D.C but grew up in various places. "I lived in Tokyo, Japan; Bethesda, Maryland; and Frankfurt, Germany, until I graduated from high school. My father was a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State."



Growing up she shares, "I went to Catholic girls school until 8th grade, when we went back overseas. That was the first time I went to school with boys. I was extremely shy at first but then ended up soaking it all in and having lots of fun. In fact, I guess I was having too much fun, because in 9th grade my parents sent me to German Catholic girls school because I was getting 'wild', wearing lipstick and tight jeans. (Thank goodness they didn't know I had kissed a boy!) I don't remember ever feeling inadequate or slighted because I was a girl. I do know I was never given any kind of advice as to what kind of profession I wanted to pursue or anything about higher education, other than my father's advice to go to secretarial school to have 'something to fall back on.' (I did go to secretarial school.)"

Jill graduated from California State University, Chico. "The number four party school in the nation! I graduated with a BA in Child Development and an interdisciplinary major. I wanted to do research on cognitive development, language acquisition, the kind of stuff that drew me to the field in the first place. So I took a few grad classes while I was working ultimately joining the Foreign Service myself, like my dad serving in Nicaragua, France, Bulgaria, South Africa, Thailand, Cameroon, and Washington DC, and I traveled to as many nearby countries as I could."

Jill's favorite thing to do is stare out the window at the birds and bunnies. She has a few volunteer jobs—at the Camano Center, MOPS at Camano Chapel and recently at CASA.

Top of her favorites list are a fishing camp boat trip on a river in Costa Rica, boating down the Zambezi River above Victoria Falls, safaris in Africa and much more. Next time you see her ask her about the hippos.

Jill has been in the area since 2012 joining AAUW last September due to her interest in the Purses event, our scholarship and STEM programs. "I think I'd like to join the book group."

What advice do you have for girls today?

Be yourself. (Like the sign BeYOUtiful). Talk about things, either to a friend or parent or counselor; chances are excellent that what you're going through isn't just you. Enjoy nature and please take care of our earth.

Day Trippers to Gates Foundation Discovery Center, Seattle, January 30, 2019

Lynda Buehring

The January Day Tripper event on January 30 was to the Gates Foundation Discovery Center and a wonderful lunch at the Palomino Club. The Discovery Center and tour was engaging to our members with powerful stories about the impact of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and its partners toward improving the quality of life for billions of people. The interactive exhibits let you explore first-hand bold, innovative solutions to the most challenges facing communities around the globe.

The following members and guests were present: Norma Mouton, Lynda Buehring, Patti Pontikis, Mary Pilkington, Linda Lynn, Connie Carr, Marianne Schradi, Linda Demetre, Karen Van Lier and guest, Marilyn Grosjean, Liliya Tushinski, Judy Trammel and Elaine Chan (guest).



General Meeting Minutes - February 14, 2019

The social half hour began at 12:30 p.m. with member-provided finger foods and coffee.

The topic of the program was Situation Awareness. At 1:03 p.m., Carol Kayler introduced our speaker, Dawn Mettler representing "Damsel in Defense."

President – call to order, nominating chair, for positions President-elect and Treasurer-elect, board meeting invitation: At 1:50 p.m., our President, Leslie Gitomer, thanked Dawn for her informative presentation, and announced a short break. When we reconvened, Leslie called the meeting to order, welcomed all members and guests, and announced that we still need a chair to form a nominating committee with the goal of nominating candidates for the June election. Open positions are President elect and Treasurer elect. Members are welcome to self-nominate for those positions and are also always welcome to attend board meetings.

Secretary – Approve Minutes from January member meeting: Jackie DeFazio moved to approve the minutes and Cathlin Starke seconded; the motion was carried.

Finance – review January budget, AAUW fund allocation: Nancy Voelckers provided a handout with the January 31, 2019 reports: Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss YTD Comparison, and Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual. We have \$57,934.48, and activity for January included income from three new members, interest income, monthly meeting expenses, and the filing of our annual report with the Office of the Secretary of State Corporations and Charities Division.

AAUW National has various funds to which we contribute \$3,000 annually. This year the categories of the funds have been changed, and the board voted at the 2/7/19 meeting to allocate \$2,000 to the Education and Training fund, and \$1,000 to the Economic Security fund. These funds were chosen because they most closely align with the categories we have contributed to in the past. It is not mandatory to specify the funds for our donations, but if we do not, the money goes into a general fund to be used at the discretion of National; we prefer to direct how our money is used. Following discussion, it was agreed that the four available National funds should be listed in the newsletter so that the membership can see the choices and we can vote at a later date.

PWP – updates: Lynda Buehring reported that the Purses with Purpose event preparation is going well. They have approximately 115 purses for the silent auction with a goal of 255, and 17 purses for the live auction with a goal of 35. Purses will be accepted at all meetings, along with accessories such as wallets, scarves, certificates for dinners, tickets to events, and other items to make the purses more valuable. We should avoid black purses if possible, because we tend to receive an abundance of them. Shoppers have volunteered to help those of us who want help. A Day Tripper outing is being planned to combine lunch and a shopping excursion at the outlet mall at Tulalip. A purse cleaning party will be held at Rose Olsen's house on March 25, which will be a fun social activity complete with snacks. If you want to contact a business about making a donation, please contact Lynda for a script, and check with Mary Raymond, who is maintaining a contact list to assure we do not contact business more than once. Also available are donation receipts for tax deductions. Cathlin told us that tickets will be on sale on May 1, and Save the Date emails will be available April 1. She will need names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of attendees so that she can enter data into a data base for future processing purposes. Lynda is looking for more grants to boost auction income. Lynda held a drawing for us where several of us won boxes of Belgium chocolates.

Programs – 2019 plans and updates, upcoming survey (March): Carol Kayler announced that the March meeting will be about the AAUW organization and will feature Leyla Savloff, an AAUW American Fellowship award recipient and current University of Washington student. Jackie DeFazio and Judith Prince will talk about National and State. The usual social half hour preceding the meeting will be shortened to fifteen minutes because of room scheduling. April's meeting will feature Dawn Mettler talking about car maintenance, and will be open to the public. It will start at 5:30 p.m. The May meeting is our annual STEM meeting and will feature a fellowship scholarship recipient as a guest speaker. Leslie Gitomer and Carol Kayler are working on questions for an online survey which will be anonymous and should be available to the membership in March.

Membership – updates: Georgi Proulx reported that we now have 91 members.

Tech Trek Program – status and requests for help: Terry Benson told us there are candidates from all four participating Stanwood and Arlington schools. The next step is interviewing them. The interviews take about half hour per candidate and are to be held at the middle schools. Leslie said that we expect to send between eight and ten girls, and the expectation is that if we send more than seven, we need to provide a dorm monitor. This person does not have to be an AAUW member. The monitor will stay onsite at Pacific Lutheran University for a week, and be housed and fed. The pay is \$500 in addition to a transportation fee. Leslie did this last year, and said the accommodations and food were good. They also need student counselors (16+), and may need teachers and health aides too. Ask Leslie for more information.

(continued on page 9)

General Meeting Minutes - February 14, 2019 (continued from page 8)

Scholarship – status and request for help: Anne Milton reported that the process is now underway to award four \$4000 scholarships this year to recipients who are college juniors or above. She is writing announcements for the local papers, and the application has been posted on our website, along with the Washington website. She needs more volunteers who can devote approximately ten to twelve hours to help with candidate selection. Selections will be made by May 30. We were reminded that because we are a 501(c) (3) organization, our members and their immediate families are not eligible.

Public policy – brief Lobby Day report out and updates: Leslie Gitomer, Lynda Buehring, and Norma Mouton attended. They had an opportunity to talk to presenters, and Lynda and Norma met with Senator Barbara Bailey. Cathlin Starke said that the bills we are supporting will be listed in our next newsletter.

Any Old and/or New Business:

- Program at the Floyd on March 17 entitled “She Traveled Solo”
- AAUW-WA Annual Meeting in Bellingham on April 12-13.
- STEM art show at the Schack Art Center in Everett opening April 25 and running through June 8.

Adjourn: At 2:57 p.m., Kathy Cunningham moved to adjourn, and Nancy Voelckers seconded. The motion was carried.

Respectively submitted,

Linda Lynn
Secretary



May the saddest day of your
future be no worse than the
happiest day of your past.

Happy St. Paddy's Day

