



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

October 2020

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

October 1st

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

October Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

October 8th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

General Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

*Program: Panel discussion
presented by Stanwood Alliance
for Equity*

October 14th

Wednesday

6:30 p.m.

Candidates & Issues Forum
Zoom Webinar

Program information contact:

Kathy Cunningham
VP of Program

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Message from the President

Judy Prince

As I began to write this, we were still in the smoke. I had trouble maintaining an optimistic outlook with both COVID-19 and smoke. Things have improved. Following the news, I'm concerned that we will not be able to hold a holiday lunch or resume face-to-face meetings in January. We will see.

I think there are two important things all of us can do this fall. Washington State is taking away all the restraints on voting, therefore, get informed and VOTE! The second important thing is to get a flu shot. I don't know of any pharmacy that won't accommodate, and masks should also help prevent flu.

Elaine Richards is working hard on the Candidate & Issues Forum 2020 scheduled for October 14. See her article on page 2 for more details.

I must also share there is an opening on the board due to the resignation of Lynda Buehring as President-elect. This position is important as it is a training year to become President in 2021-2022 and provides strategic support to our leadership. Please consider stepping up.

Are people having trouble connecting to our meetings since we transitioned to Zoom? Please let someone who can help know of your issues. We don't want technology to be the reason you can't attend meetings. I have been using different virtual meeting programs for the last 10 years, and I find Zoom is by far the easiest for attendees.

Stay safe and healthy.

October is S.A.F.E.

Kathy Cunningham

We welcome you to join us on October 8 as we host a panel discussion led by Stanwood Alliance For Equity (S.A.F.E.). Satin Arnett and Rick Flores of S.A.F.E will take a look at systemic racism and the effects on our local and surrounding communities. They will also discuss microaggressions and how they have shaped the lives of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Joining Satin and Rick will be local youth activists sharing their personal experiences.

Learn what S.A.F.E is doing in our community to fight against racism, to build equity, to promote inclusion and bring more diversity to the Stanwood Camano area. Find out how you can be part of the movement.

Below is a short book list that members may want to peruse in anticipation of October's program content.

[So You Want to Talk about Race](#) by Ijeoma Oluo

[How to Be an AntiRacist](#) by Ibram X Kendi

[The New Jim Crow](#) by Michele Alexander

Members can anticipate an email invitation to our general meeting via Zoom in the days preceding the meeting on October 8. Meeting begins at 1:00 p.m.

Future Events

November 5th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

November Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

November 12th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

General Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

*Program: Diane Martindale
(Board President of San Juan
Islands Museum of Arts and
Chair of Washington State Arts
Commission) presents
Intersection of Art and Women's
Rights.*

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

www.aauwsc.org

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/)**



Candidate Forum 2020

Elaine Richards

Save the date - October 14!

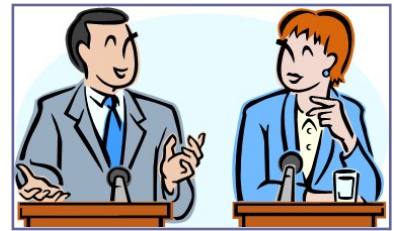
With the assistance of Stanwood Camano School District and partnership of Stanwood Camano News, this year's forum will be a webinar format, a first for our AAUW branch in the many years we have presented this forum. This is a great opportunity for the community to meet and ask questions of our candidates running in the November election. There are no issues on this year's ballot.

Time for the webinar on October 14 is 6:30-9:00 p.m.

As Elaine Richards works on the details of this first time virtual experience she will share with you the details of how to register to participate and receive an email invitation. There will also be information on how to submit questions for the candidates and issues representatives.

Your job now is to pass along this "save the date". Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaaauw for information and share, share, share. There will also be information in the Crab Cracker and on our website www.aauwsc.org.

If you would like to help, please contact Elaine Richards.



Purses with Purpose 2021

Gay Campbell & Jackie DeFazio

Did you know that October 9, 2021, the date for Purses with Purpose 2021, is just 373 days away? While there is much we do not/cannot know about what lies ahead, we know with certainty that now more than ever the young women and girls in our community will need both the academic and financial support made possible by the funds we raise through PWP.

With that in mind, we issue this call to action for all Stanwood-Camano AAUW branch members: *Join the effort to ensure the success of PWP 2021 in whatever form it will take!*

Here are some simple suggestions for getting started:

Purchase/donate at least one new purse for the event. We can use purses in all price ranges. Leave the price tag on. This is an excellent time to find a purse for fall (the season we'll be in during the actual event). Better yet, commit to finding at least one great purse for each season by contacting friends, relatives, neighbors. Stand by for details on where to take donations.

Sign up to be part of the Grants/Sponsorships Committee. New this year, in addition to seeking grants from larger funders, we will be seeking several event sponsors who are willing to provide additional financial support, exact parameters to be determined. Better yet, volunteer to chair the Grants/Sponsorships Committee. Contact Gay Campbell or Jackie DeFazio.

Share your expertise in the logistics of online/virtual events with us. Contact Georgi Proulx, Gay Campbell, or Jackie DeFazio.

Sign up for the Auxiliary-Items Procurement Committee. This committee will be seeking items to put into purses to enhance their appeal/value. Contact either Mary Raymond or Rose Olson.

Participate in one of the many online/virtual events currently being sponsored by other organizations, and share any good ideas you find there with us.

Working together over the coming 373 days, we will make Purses with Purpose 2021 a real success. Join us!



Your 2020-2021 Board

President

Judy Prince

President-Elect

(open position)

VP of Finance

Jackie-Lyn Olson

VP of Finance-Elect

Jeanie Garrioch

VP-Membership

Norma Mouton

Membership Assistant *

Lynda Buehring

Secretary

Georgi Proulx

VP of Program

Kathy Cunningham

Program Assistant *

India Nishi

Public Policy

Cathlin Starke

Communications

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler

* Appointed position, shares vote with VP

Activity Leaders

Purses with Purpose 2021

Gay Campbell

Jackie DeFazio

High School STEM Scholars

Lois Ruskell

Scholarship Chair

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Tech Trek Chair

Mary Chesney

Art Education

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Grant Committee

Lois Ruskell

AAUW Funds Coordinator

Jackie DeFazio

Candidate & Issues Forum

Elaine Richards

Historian

(open position)

Diversity

Linda Lynn

501(c)(3) Compliance

Jackie DeFazio

Stanwood-Camano Give

Lois Ruskell

Title IX Liaison

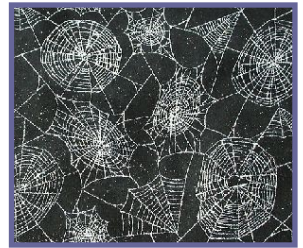
Jackie-Lyn Olson

Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler

Thanks to Carolyn Spector

As mentioned in a recent branch email, our beloved historian, Carolyn Spector, is moving soon to Montana, the place of her beginnings. Carolyn has graced us with an excellent newsletter series, *Branch Beginnings*, highlighting the founders of our branch. She has also spent many hours collecting and organizing our branch photos and historical documents and establishing a committee to assist her. That committee will continue but needs leadership. As individuals, the current committee has other commitments in the branch that prohibit them from taking on the leadership. If this position interests you please let Judy Prince know of your availability.



Public Policy

Cathlin Starke

The AAUW Action Fund recently launched "*Policy Insights*", a series of articles focused on providing unique perspectives and targeted analysis of the presidential candidates' positions on key issues. First in the series is "*Back to School: Set Up for Failure*", which discusses the inequitable ways returning to school has manifested for students. For a deeper dive, be sure to review the "*AAUW Action Fund Fact Sheet: 2020 Presidential Candidates on School Reopenings*."

To learn more about what's at stake this election year, download the "*AAUW Action Fund's 2020 Voter Issue Guide*." This helpful handout provides concise information about key policy issues in the election, including voter access, the gender pay gap, family leave and paid sick days, college affordability, campus sexual violence and reproductive rights.

The "*AAUW Action Fund's Head-to-Head Voter Guides*" offer information on dozens of battleground races across the country! These nonpartisan guides describe the candidates' positions on issues that impact equity like equal pay, voting rights, educational access and reproductive rights.

The "*AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record*" (CVR) provides information about elected federal legislators through the votes they cast on issues critical to the Action Fund's mission. The CVR for the 115th Congress is currently available, along with tools and ideas about how to use it. The CVR for the 116th Congress will be released soon.

To access the articles and guides recommended above please visit: <https://www.aauw.org/act/> to discover how to *Take Action* with AAUW.

Please vote!

Links to Title IX Changes

Jackie-Lyn Olson

Below are links to AAUW, NOW and ACLU websites addressing the severity of the roll backs in terms of protection, investigation and prosecution of discrimination and violence against women on campuses across the US. You can read and take heart knowing that our contributions help support causes like the recovery effort of civil rights for women. Gender equity is inclusive.

AAUW & NOW

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/title-ix-challenges/>

<https://now.org/media-center/press-release/on-title-ixs-anniversary-we-redouble-our-commitment-to-ending-discrimination-against-women/>

ACLU - PODCAST

<https://www.aclu.org/cases/know-your-ix-project-advocates-youth-council-parent-attorneys-and-advocates-inc-girls-gender>

Google recap of changes and impact - the short version

<https://www.google.com/search?q=what+changes+occured+in+title+ix&oq=What+changes+occure+in+title&aqs=chrome.69i57j33.10439j1j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=what+changes+occured+in+title+ix&oq=What+changes+occure+in+title&aqs=chrome.69i57j33.10439j1j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

AAUW Funds: WSU to Host AAUW Career Development Grant Awardee

Jackie DeFazio

This past April, AAUW announced the awarding of more than 200 awards and \$3.5 million in funding for fellows and grantees for the 2020–21 academic year. Washington State University (WSU) in Pullman will host one of these awardees—Debbie Padilla. Ms. Padilla has received a Career Development Grant and will be pursuing a P.S.M., Professional Science Master's in Molecular Biosciences.

Career Development Grants provide funding to women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance, change careers, or re-enter the workforce in education, health and medical sciences, or social sciences. Primary consideration is given to women of color and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional fields. These funds are not available for doctorate-level work.

During the 2018-19 award cycle, Carolyn Moore, the fire captain in the St. Louis Fire Department, received a career development grant to pursue her master's in management and leadership at Western Governors University in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is the only African-American woman commissioned officer serving in the St. Louis Fire Department.



Branch Beginnings: Lena Harthill Ball

Carolyn Spector

Our branch of AAUW was formed in Arlington in 1936 by a group of 16 women. This is one of a series of articles profiling the women who founded our branch.

Lena Jane Harthill was born in May 1890 in the small town of Pine City, Whitman County, Washington, south and a little east of Spokane. In 1906, her father, William P. Harthill, was assistant pastor at the New-Church Temple, endeavoring to cope with his duties and the serious illness of a daughter, E. Grace Harthill. He was elected that year to the office of Vice President of the church organization, and Lena acted a Secretary Pro Tem (she was 16 at the time).

Lena obtained her elementary school teacher's certificate in December 1908. She passed the required examinations and received her second grade teaching certificate in December 1909. By 1912, she was attending Cheney Normal School, where among other activities she participated in a presentation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." She was a recipient of summer school diplomas in July 1914. Lena graduated in 1918, having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

Lena married Doric Tristan Jemison Ball in New York City on July 13, 1918. He had graduated in 1917, with a degree in chemical engineering. The 1920 US Federal Census shows the couple living in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where she was teaching in the public school system, and he was working as a lumberman in a saw mill. They returned to Washington the following year; Lena was again teaching, earning an annual salary of \$1,440.

By 1928, Lena had moved to Cle Elum. She was honored by the members of the Eastern Star and given a past matron's jewel. This information was found in a newspaper article archived in the Western Washington University digital collections, suggesting that the couple had lived in eastern Washington prior to 1928. The 1930 US Federal census shows the couple living on Fourth Street in Arlington, where Doric Ball owned a dry cleaning business, and Lena worked as a presser. The couple had a son, who was 7 at the time. By 1940, Lena was running the dry cleaning business, while Doric was the educational director of a CCC camp. The couple were living on South Fork Road in the Jim Creek area of Arlington.

Lena died on April 12, 1973 in Arlington.

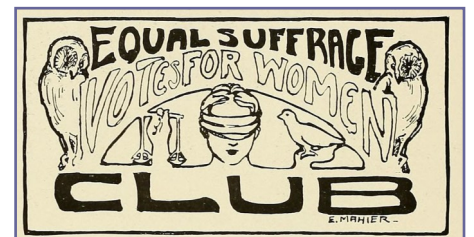


November 12: Out of the Drawing Room...

Kathy Cunningham

...Into the Intersection of Art and Women's Rights presented by Diane Martindale.

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage, join us at our November 12 general meeting via Zoom for an entertaining talk about art, media, the suffrage movement and women's issues by Diane Martindale, president of the board of the San Juan Islands Museum of Art and chair of the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA).



Special Branch Activities

Day Trippers

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

Tammie Goodwin
Michele Simms

Movie Group

Movie Group is suspended during the social distancing period, but we hope you will join us for lunch and a movie when we once again can "see you at the movies."

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



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stanwoodcamanoaauw](https://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw)

LIKE our page to
follow us then

SHARE to increase
our visibility in
the community.



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.



Online book group will meet Monday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m. using Zoom. If you have not done so already, be sure to let Katie know if you want to join in. It works by invitation only, so we have to add your email address to the list beforehand. You will receive an email with a link to join the discussion. A little before 2:00 p.m., click the link and wait for us to acknowledge you. Be patient.

October 5

Reading with Patrick by Michelle Kuo

Michelle Kuo arrived in the rural town of Helena, Arkansas, as a Teach for America volunteer in 2004, bursting with optimism and drive. But she soon encountered the jarring realities of life in one of the poorest counties in America. Reading with Patrick is an inspirational story of friendship, a coming-of-age story for both a young teacher and student, a resonant meditation on race and justice, and a love letter to literature and its power to bind us together.

November 2

Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton

The Age of Innocence, one of Edith Wharton's most renowned novels and the first by a woman to win the Pulitzer Prize, exquisitely details the struggle between love and responsibility through the experiences of men and women in Gilded Age New York. A wry, incisive look at the ways in which love and emotion must negotiate the complex rules of high society, The Age of Innocence is one of Wharton's finest, most illuminative works.

December 7

Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver

Willa Knox and her husband followed all the rules as responsible parents and professionals, and have nothing to show for it but debts and an inherited brick house that is falling apart. When the family's one success story, an Ivy-educated son, is uprooted by tragedy he seems likely to join them, with dark complications of his own. Unsheltered is the compulsively readable story of two families, in two centuries, who live at the corner of Sixth and Plum in Vineland, New Jersey, navigating what seems to be the end of the world as they know it. With history as their tantalizing canvas, these characters paint a startlingly relevant portrait of life in precarious times when the foundations of the past have failed to prepare us for the future.-- Publisher's description.

For more information, contact Katie Farrey.

Meet Our Members

India Nishi

Born in Seattle, India grew up in Normandy Park, "a pretty typical suburban neighborhood."

She shares, "I think I had a little different experience growing up than a lot of young girls in the 60's, especially in the suburbs. Both my mom and my grandmother worked, so I did not experience a "Leave it to Beaver" typical upbringing. I always assumed I would grow up to have a career. On the other hand, girls wore dresses/skirts to school exclusively until I was probably in junior high school. I was encouraged to study typing and shorthand as opposed to science or math, so that I would always have a job. Shorthand wasn't much help when looking for jobs after college, but I am grateful that I learned to type, as it helped me become a fast *texter*."

As for college, India "graduated from Western with a BA in Business. After working for a couple of years, I went on to get my MBA at the University of Puget Sound. The degree I am most proud of though was a BS in Psychology that I earned after I retired in 2014. I went back to school to study what I really wanted to the first time, and thoroughly enjoyed it."

"I spent my entire career at Boeing, working primarily in Finance, as well as spending short rotations in Program Planning, and Contracts. I retired as a Finance Director in 2014. It was sad to see that when I retired, only ¼ of the Finance directors were women, even though the discipline as a whole was at least ½ women and had been for some time. Since retiring and completing my Psychology degree, I have been working part time for the last 1½ years for Washington State University in their Whatcom County Extension Office."

Regarding her family, India reveals, "My husband Rick and I have been married for 37 years. We have two daughters that we raised in the Issaquah area, near Seattle. Our oldest daughter, Alex, has a doctorate in Occupational Therapy. My youngest daughter, Andrea, just graduated in May from law school in New York City and is currently studying and waiting to take the bar exam."

India reports, "I love to travel and am looking forward to resuming this post-pandemic. The first trip will be a reschedule of one that was cancelled the week we were to leave due to Covid-19. This will be to Fiji, Australia and New Zealand next May. After that, we are planning a trip to Ireland and Scotland in the fall of 2021. I also love to read, cook, and take Jazzercise classes. My newest hobby is vegetable gardening, which I took up during the pandemic and am really enjoying. I am a true clueless gardener but am learning fast! In addition to hobbies, I enjoy non-profit volunteer work. Currently in addition to AAUW work, I am a board member of the Whatcom Literacy Council, which helps adults learn to read, and also provides ELL tutoring. While on Camano, I was a board member of The Camano Center, CASA, and my homeowner's association."

India has been in AAUW just over five years. "If I had known about AAUW before that, I would have joined much sooner! I started with the Stanwood Camano branch in 2015, then was part of the Whatcom County AAUW branch for 2 ½ years. I really missed the Stanwood Camano branch though, so decided to return. This branch has an extraordinary group of women who work together to achieve the mission of AAUW and help women and girls achieve great things. Plus, they know how to have fun." India led the Stanwood-Camano book group for about a year, then was Treasurer until she moved to Bellingham. "In the Bellingham branch, I led a committee interfacing with college students at WWU twice, and was Co-President last year. Since coming back to Stanwood-Camano, I have been helping Kathy Cunningham with Programs. In addition to branch activities, I am a Washington State at-large board member, helping where needed. Right now, I am leading a team to do a financial review of the State finances for the last four years, acting as the Five-Star state focal, and helping with a website redesign. Finally, thanks to recommendations from Jackie DeFazio and Gay Campbell, I am in my second year of membership on the National Finance Committee."

What would surprise us about you?

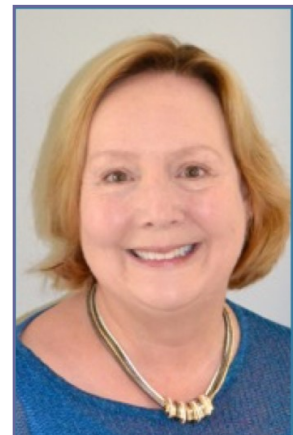
Hmmm, that's a tough one. I think what you see is what you get. I had a boss that once told me to never play poker. One thing that may be surprising...even though I spent over 30 years as a finance professional, I can't remember numbers!

What advice do you have for AAUW members?

Look for ways you can get involved. There are so many opportunities available for members to use their skills and abilities. Also, get to know the other women in the branch. This is a truly amazing and inspiring group of women!

What advice do you have for girls today?

You can truly do almost anything you set your mind to in life. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something just because you are a girl! Find your passion and follow it!



General Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2020

Call to Order: President, Judy Prince, called the business meeting to order via Zoom at 2:02 p.m.

24 attendees: Judy Prince, Jackie DeFazio, Jackie Olson, Jeanie Garrioch, Judy Trammell, Helen Smith, Norma Mouton, Nancy Roberts, Anne Milton, Cathlin Starke, Joyce Leak, Doris Taylor, Gay Campbell, India Nishi, Kathy Cunningham, Katie Farrey, Lois Ruskell, Lynda Buehring, Martha Huyler, Mary Pilkington, Nancy Voelckers, Michele Simms, Marianne McGarry-Bloom, Georgi Proulx

Judy asked for memories of Annabelle Birkestol. New members, Lois Ruskell and Michele Simms, were introduced.

Minutes: Jackie DeFazio motioned to approve the June 14, 2020 minutes as printed in the September newsletter; Cathlin Starke seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer – Jackie-Lyn Olson reviewed the financial reports emailed to the board. Our current balance of both accounts is \$55,625.64 as of August 31, 2020. Activity for August: dues renewals and new member, interest income, non-designated funds, accountant fee and pay out of scholarships.

Candidate Forum: Help is needed to run the Candidate Forum on October 14 at 7:00 p.m. Audience will have to register to receive a Zoom Webinar invitation. Technical, presentation and production team volunteers are needed. The SCSD is sharing their Zoom license for us to offer this event without a fee. Elaine Richards, Cathlin Starke and Jackie DeFazio are coordinating the planning; Georgi Proulx will assist the registration team.

Book Group: Katie Farrey reported that the Book Group has been zooming successfully for the past 2 to 3 months and will continue. Next meeting is September 14.

Day Trippers: Day Tripper leaders are investigating virtual tours.

PWP: Jackie DeFazio announced PWP is still on. Zoom committee meeting is planned for late September, early October. Purse collection will begin in October. Both virtual and in person events are being considered.

Lobby Day: is scheduled for January 25, 2021. Virtual event is planned.

Membership: Cathlin Starke remarked that we have 22 members attending this meeting which represents the typical in-person participation. For board consideration: Is it possible to record the Zoom meeting and post for those that could not attend? Jackie DeFazio announced that she and Gay Campbell will be exploring the purchase of a Zoom account for the branch through the PWP budget.

Discussion of how to nurture the renewals of members that are not current. Gay Campbell suggested we survey each as to why they're not renewing. Norma will work with Cathlin to create a mailing for anonymous return. A few calls will be made too.

Adjourn: Cathlin Starke moved to adjourn the meeting; Joyce Leak seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Georgi Proulx
Secretary

