



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

March 2021

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx


 Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw
www.aauwsc.org

March 4th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

March Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

March 11th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

General Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom

Program: Amy Klosterman, attorney and Title IX consultant to schools and workplaces.

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Message from the President

Judy Prince

As I write this (in mid-February), the snow is disappearing from streets, drives and walkways in my neighborhood. Slowest to melt are the piles of snow left by the plows. Before March ends we will all be seeing flowers.

I want to let those of you who haven't heard a report know that we had a good virtual lobby day. More people attended the virtual state meeting than were able to get to Olympia in January or February. This included members from eastern Washington. Since I don't live in the 10th legislative district, I acted a meeting host when branch members talked with their legislators. It gave me time to observe. Cathlin Starke was able to schedule meetings with all three legislators. We were listened to and, in return, listened to the legislators.

I'm looking forward to the virtual state convention on April 17. There are always good plenary speakers on subjects that matter to AAUW members. It's also a time to "see" friends from around the state.

Did you know that AAUW Washington is planning a special meeting on women's health to be held on June 12? This will be a virtual event and there will be no charge. Look for more information in the state newsletter that will be coming out monthly for the rest of the 2020-21 year.

The state is increasing the frequency of newsletter distribution to decrease the information gap when there are no in-person meetings. I hope members who are not able to attend virtual branch meetings get information about our branch activities through our newsletter.

How about joining the branch board? We are looking for people to run for President elect, Treasurer elect, and Secretary and appointments to Public Policy and Program Assistant positions.

Finally, if in-person meetings can't begin in September, I plan to continue acting as host for virtual branch meetings until we can gather together again. I'm pleased that our attendance at virtual meetings is about the same number as were able to attend the in-person meetings.

March: Amy Klosterman and Title IX

Kathy Cunningham

Amy Klosterman is a civil rights attorney and consultant based out of Seattle providing independent investigations to schools and workplaces as well as Title IX training and consulting on school and workplace legal issues. Amy also serves as an expert witness to both plaintiffs and defendants in litigation for school and workplace issues.

Please join our virtual general meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, to hear from this engaging woman.



Future Events

April 1st
Thursday
1:00 p.m.

April Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

April 8th
Thursday
2:00 p.m.

(Notice time change)

General Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom

Program: Bellingham author,
Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy,
shares her book, "Many Hands
Make Light Work"



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/)

2021 AAUW Scholarship Season Now Open

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

The AAUW Stanwood-Camano scholarship process opens March 1 for the 2021 season offering two \$4,000 scholarship awards. What differentiates our branch from other organizations is our focus on students entering their junior, senior or Master's level at college or university.

Due to our 501(c)3 status mandates, we cannot allow direct family members of our SC-AAUW membership to apply. The 2021 application and qualifications will be posted on March 1 to www.aauwsc.org/scholarship or you can find it on the state scholarship website www.washboard.org. The application deadline is Friday, April 30, 2021.

Eligibility Requirements - All students, female and male, who meet the following requirements are encouraged to apply.

- You must be a current resident of the Arlington, Stanwood, or Camano Island area AND/OR be a graduate of Lakewood, Arlington, Stanwood, or Lincoln Hill High Schools.
- You must have completed at least 2 years of study at an accredited college or university by June 2021 and have verifiable plans to continue upper-division or master's level post-graduate work at an accredited 4-year college or university in the fall of 2021.

We will award our recipients at a virtual Scholarship Tea at 2:00 pm, Sunday June 13, 2021.



Tech Trek Update: Summer 2021

Mary Chesney

As our Tech Trek team begins the recruitment and selection process for this summer's Tech Trek Camp, I have received additional information from AAUW-WA to help us know what is being planned for this summer's virtual Tech Trek camp.

In the email sent to members on February 15 regarding AAUW Washington February newsletter, *The Evergreen Leader*, there is a page devoted to Tech Trek. Go to page 5 and you will discover the core classes will include chemistry, climate change issues, cybersecurity, human physiology, and robotics for the morning classes. Afternoon labs will offer hands-on experiences in areas not specifically covered in core classes. Each camper will make a short video of her work in her core class and on the last afternoon of the camp they will make a presentation to all campers and families able to attend.

There also is a need for volunteer Teacher Assistants to support the virtual structuring of this year's camp. It is suggested that AAUW branches encourage their members to consider applying for this position. There is no travel requirement. Job description and application are due March 15 and available at <https://techtrek-wa.aauw.net>. Also found with this link is more information about the structure of the classes and labs via the "2020/2021 Campers" page. There are additional links for more useful information.

Despite the COVID-19 virus, our girls can still have a marvelous, mind blowing experience that will stimulate the rest of their lives, and you can play a part. Please check it out.



Your 2020-2021 Board

President

Judy Prince

President-Elect

India Nishi

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 2022

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

Put April 30, 2022 On Your Calendar for PWP !

Jackie DeFazio and Gay Campbell



April 30, 2022 will be the new date for the Stanwood-Camano AAUW Purses with Purpose Luncheon/Auction. It is the fifth Saturday in April, therefore, the Steering Committee believes that fewer conflicts will arise with other community events. The date has been reserved at the Camano Center, the auctioneer is available on that date, and, fingers crossed, 14 months from now, we will be able to host an in-person event.

So, for the next few months, things will be quiet on the PWP front, but we ask that during this time you do the following:

- Keep your eye out for the perfect purse to add to our collection. New or very gently used purses of all types are welcome.
- Join a committee to help prepare for what has become our branch's signature event. To do that, email or call either Gay Campbell or Jackie DeFazio.
- Sign up to chair one of the following committees: Live Auction, Publications/Publicity, Tickets. To do that, email or call Gay or Jackie.

Many thanks to those of you who have already donated either a new purse or funds to purchase one. They are being safely stored. Lots of time now for all of us to continue the hunt for more purses and things to put in them! When making purchases, remember to start locally either here in Stanwood or Camano or in La Conner both to support local businesses and to thank them for the support they have provided us in the past.

Membership Spotlight: Mary Pilkington

Norma Mouton

I joined AAUW when we moved to Camano Island in 1987 and participated in the fundraiser at that time - The Art Show. Fred was juried in to exhibit his art and, for a few years, he and I, along with Mary and Bob Will, hung the art show. Some of you may remember Mary Will.



As we moved from the Art Show to PWP, I continued to participate. I am on the Procurement Committee as well as the Committee to select purses for the Live Auction, provide boxes on which to display the purses, always help with the setup, and, of course, enjoy the luncheon.

Along with asking friends for purse donations, I made an announcement about our PWP at general meetings of all organizations to which I belong. Well, the purses just poured in as everyone wanted to help and, one year, this netted 89 purses. I found the La Conner merchants and restaurateurs very generous to my request for donation gift certificates to put in the purses.

Join in and help on a PWP committee. It is a wonderful experience and everyone enjoys the camaraderie of working for a worthwhile cause.

Newcomer's Focus Group - Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Lynda Buehring

The next speaker for our Newcomer's Focus Group will be Marianne McGarry-Bloom. Marianne heads our scholarship team and will be talking about the duties she undertakes in that capacity. Marianne will also be our Spotlight Member for April. If you would like to attend the Focus Group, please notify Norma Mouton to receive the link to the Zoom meeting.



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



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, March 1 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.

March 1

Pilgrimage to Eternity by Timothy Egan

"At a time when Britain, America, and much of Europe have never been so secular--and when his mother's death and his Irish Catholic family's complicated history with the church prompted a reckoning with his own beliefs -- Timothy Egan decided to follow in the footsteps of centuries of seekers. He embarked on a thousand-mile pilgrimage through the theological cradle of Christianity, to explore one of the biggest stories of our time: the collapse of religion in the world that it created. Egan sets out along the Via Francigena, once the major medieval trail leading the devout to Rome, and makes his way overland via the alpine peaks and small mountain towns of France, Switzerland and Italy. The goal: walking to St. Peter's Square, in hopes of meeting the galvanizing pope who is struggling to hold together the church through the worst crisis in half a millennium. Making his way through a landscape laced with some of the most important shrines to the faith, Egan finds a modern Canterbury Tale in the chapel where Queen Bertha introduced Christianity to pagan Britain; parses the supernatural in a French town built on miracles; and journeys to the oldest abbey in the Western world, founded in 515 and home to continuous prayer over the 1,500 years that have followed. He is accompanied by a quirky cast of fellow pilgrims and by some of the towering figures of the faith--Joan of Arc, Henry VIII, Martin Luther."

April 5

Once Upon a River by Diane Setterfield

"The Swan, an ancient inn on the Thames River in the town of Radcott, stands at the center of this magical tale full of riveting, complex characters and storylines. The drowned body of a very young girl is brought to the Swan late one night, and she is mysteriously revived. Who is she? Why was she found in the river? How did she come back to life? The marvelous cast of characters who frequent the Swan and live near Radcott speculate and become drawn irresistibly into her story." – from the Indie Next List. (Setterfield is the author of *The Thirteenth Tale*, which the book group read several years ago.)

May 3

The Bookish Life of Nina Hill by Abbi Waxman

"Charming and funny and sentimental in the best possible way, this is a delightful read. Nina Hill may live in sprawling Los Angeles, but she's managed to keep her life fairly small and curated. Between her job at the bookstore, weekly book club meetings, and her cutthroat trivia team, she stays busy and content. That is, until she finds out her long-lost father has died and the perennially alone Nina discovers she has an entire family right there in LA. As she begins to meet her new family members—and through them the father she never knew—Nina's world begins to expand in surprising ways." – from the Indie Next List.

For more information, contact Katie Farrey.

Public Policy: She Believed She Could So She Did

Cathlin Starke

Lobby Day, February 1, 2021

Members of our branch completed Lobby Day training on February 1 via Zoom with members of all of our Washington branches. We then met via Zoom on the February 2 and 5 with our two representatives, Greg Gilday(R) and Dave Paul(D) and our Senator, Ron Muzzall(R). We felt confident due to our training and were met with courtesy and active interest as we reviewed bills critical to equity and economic security to Washington women and families. Lobby Day is a wonderful opportunity to work on behalf of our democracy- I encourage more members to participate in 2022.



National Women's History Museum

If you are a fan of AAUW you are going to LOVE this!

This museum, which is currently "virtual" finally received funding! This has been a decades-long effort.

In December 2020, Congress passed funding for this museum and also for the National Museum of the American Latino; both will be part of the Smithsonian Institution. To join the museum go to www.womenshistory.org. The museum has a wonderful quarterly magazine, "A Different Point of View," many great programs and online exhibits and a nice gift shop. Enjoy!

AAUW Founding Mother, Marion Talbot Remembered

Jackie DeFazio

(Author's Note: As I have been sorting through AAUW files from the distant past, I found this transcript of a recorded interview with Louise J. Molkup, made in 1987 by two members of the Chicago Branch, in which Louise recounted her personal memories of Marion Talbot, AAUW founding mother, who Louise first met in 1919 when she was an entering freshman at the University of Chicago, where Talbot served as "Dean of Girls." I knew Louise well as she remained an active member of the Chicago Branch and of Illinois AAUW until her death. Below are excerpts from a transcription of that taped interview as they appear in that transcript. I never met Talbot, but the transcript perfectly reflects my memories of Louise.)

"The last time I saw Dean Marion Talbot was at the AAUW National Convention in Dallas, TX, in 1947. She was exactly as I remembered her from school a long, long time before that. She was a little woman, always dressed in very correct black; usually a high-necked blouse, with a little white ruching at the top which framed her face. She was a grandmother figure, even though she was someone of importance and dignity, someone whom you would honor and respect."

"I met Miss Talbot first in the course of registration. She asked me what subjects I was taking. I told her I would like a major in Latin and a minor in Greek. Then she told me a story, and I have remembered it all my life; it is a good little story. "She grew up in Massachusetts, and she had brothers and she had boyfriends, brothers of her girlfriends, and they were good friends together in preparatory school. But when it came time to go to college, there wasn't a single school in the east that was co-educational. The men closest to her went to Harvard, and she wanted to go to Harvard; Harvard wouldn't even think of it."

"But she studied at home, she had their books, and she listened to their talk when they got home during the holidays. Thus, when it came to examination time, she could answer the questions on the examinations as well, if not better, than most of the boys in her group. Well, that made her very cross. If she was good enough to compete with them, why couldn't she sit with them in class? This was the beginning of her feeling that there should be judgment on merit. It didn't matter if she was a girl, it didn't matter if she was somebody's sister, it didn't matter what color she was, nor her religion, nor anything else. If she was able to do the work that was required as well, if not better, than the boys, she thought she should be judged on the merit of her grades."

"Finally, Boston College, she got there with one or two of her girlfriends, and Boston College gave them some sort of degree that recognized the course of their studies parallel to a degree at Harvard."

[There follows a lengthy conversation about Talbot's arrival at the University of Chicago, at the request of William Rainey Harper (first president of that university, now considered the "Harvard of the Midwest), because, in Louise's words, "As long as he was coming out here where women had to be educated, he wanted someone to come along to represent the cultured women of the east." Louise continued her friendship with Talbot via correspondence at first and later as both were members of the Chicago Branch of AAUW. Later in this interview she details this lesson she says she received from Talbot.]

"I was on the Board of the Chicago Branch and Chairman of the Annual Card Party to raise money for our local charities. It was always a very lovely affair. Miss Talbot looked in but she didn't stay. she said privately to me later that it was a disgrace that women of our education could find nothing better than playing cards to raise money. Well, we did find other ways—such as compiling a recipe book, writing a play about our history, hosting a second-hand book sale, etc."

"Marion Talbot gave us the feeling that the desire for perfection in anything that we had any contact with was one of the great goals of life. She was and she is and she always will be a role model for the AAUW on what they [sic] stay for, what they look for in the betterment of our country and our lives."

Branch Beginnings: Mary Katherine Brown Mathews

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.

Mary was born on October 22, 1893 in Tracy, Minnesota. Her mother died when Mary was only two years old. By 1900, she and her younger brother were living with an aunt and uncle in Lyon. Little is known of the intervening years; in 1920 she was married to Joseph Mathews and residing in Worley, Idaho.

By 1930, the U.S. Federal Census shows Mary and Joseph living in Arlington with their three children. Joseph was an attorney in private practice and Mary was not working outside the home. In 1936 Mary was one of the women who founded our branch of AAUW, in Arlington. She remained active in AAUW for many years; in 1945 she was a member of the State Board, as well as Historian, still living in Arlington.

Mary died on February 22, 1975 and is buried at Arlington Municipal Cemetery.



As a follow up to our "Branch Beginnings: Doris Marsh" in February, current member, Trish Coan, shares this:

I do have some first-hand knowledge of the second Doris Marsh. She was Miss Marsh to me, and my second grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary, a brand new primary school in Arlington in 1954. I clearly remember some of the activities in her class. We went on a field trip to the Vienna Bakery, owned by the Duskin family. Then we made bread, as well as ceramic salt and pepper shakers in the shape of bread loaves. I also wrote a long note to Miss Marsh and forged my mom's name on it, inviting my entire class to a sleepover at our cabin on Camano. Mom gave it to me years later. I still have it, along with the salt and pepper shakers.

Her father published the newspaper, the *Arlington Times*, which was sold to future state representative, Sim Wilson in 1964. I wonder if the older Doris was a relative of the Marsh family.

She was not a young teacher, but not old either. She seemed to me to be slightly younger than my mother, who was born in 1913. I'm positive she wasn't born in 1885. The 1923 date would also be too early. I remember she and my mom seemed to know each other when I saw them together. My mother was a member of AAUW and possibly Miss Marsh was also. She may be the founder we're looking for. My mom was M. Ilene Snyder Jones. She grew up in Arlington, but left for college and didn't return until the early 1940's.

Fun to reminisce!

Trish Coan



When is YOUR Birthday?

Join our birthday recognitions by sharing your birthday month with Norma Mouton for publication during your birthday month.

Please email Norma to participate, and we can celebrate with you.

General Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2021

Program via Zoom: Local Women Entrepreneurs Share their Stories: Brandy Timmer of Purple Sunset Boutique and Traci Smith of The Picnic Pantry.

Attendance: (23) Judy Prince, India Nishi, Jackie-Lyn Olson, Jeanie Garrioch, Kathy Cunningham, Helen Smith, Norma Mouton, Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler, Cathlin Starke, Gay Campbell, Jackie DeFazio, Marianne McGarry-Bloom, Mary Pilkington, Nancy Voelckers, Lynda Buehring, Joyce Leak, Katie Farrey, Elaine Richards, Joanne Drewsen, Carol Kayler, Doris Taylor, Mary Chesney

Call to Order: Judy Prince called meeting to order at 1: p.m.

Guests: Carol Panek-Clark. Presenters: Brandy Timmer, Traci Smith.

Call to Order: Judy Prince called meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Secretary: Motion to approve minutes for January 14: Cathlin Starke moved to approve, Jackie DeFazio seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer: Jackie-Lyn Olson reviewed the financial reports. Operating account had very little transactions: deposit for scholarship \$200 Tech Trek in Leslie Gitomer's memory plus \$100 for purses. Annual filing with the Secretary of State was completed. February 7th six month CD was rolled over for 12 months. Total assets are \$56,161.15.

Nominating Committee: Judy Prince reported the board is putting together a nominating committee for the following positions: President-elect, VP Finance-elect, Secretary, and appointments for Public Policy and Program Assistant positions.

Programs: Kathy Cunningham stated the program for March 11 program is Title IX. April 8 program is Bellingham author Cheryl McCarthy. Meeting will be delayed to accommodate the speaker and begin at 2:00 p.m.

Membership: Norma Mouton shared the introduction of Membership Spotlight in the February newsletter. Honoring a current member highlighting their contributions to the branch. This will be a recurring article to demonstrate to membership the various positions of leadership.

In celebration of Galentine's Day, February 13th, Lynda Buehring of the membership team had a drawing for two Galentine's Day gifts. Winners: Mary Pilkington and Kathy Cunningham.

Public Policy: Cathlin Starke reported the success of our participation in Lobby Day with interviews with Ron Muzzall, Dave Paul, and Greg Gilday. There were six representatives from AAUW Stanwood Camano sharing 15 minutes with each legislator. Lobby topics were family leave bill and pregnancy care bill. Responses were received from each of the three legislators to our follow up communications. Cathlin invited new members and visitors to check out the national and state websites for our organization.

Tech Trek: Mary Chesney reported girls in 7th grade this year will only be offered the virtual experience in 2021; there is no option for them to attend in-person in 2022. Recruitment process has begun for 2021 camp. Tammie Goodwin, Doris Taylor and Diane Cohn have volunteered for the selection committee. Notification to state is May 1. Discussed opening up the nominees to Lincoln Academy and Arlington alternative middle school this year. Consensus was that all public middle schools in Stanwood and Arlington would be approached to nominate girls for Tech Trek.

Scholarships: Marianne McGarry-Bloom shared our virtual scholarship tea will be Sunday, June 13 at 2:00 p.m. Two-three \$4000 scholarships will be awarded to Juniors, Seniors and Master's candidates. March 1 is the beginning of the scholarship application period ending April 30. Application and information have been added to our scholarship listing on WashBoard.org. Our branch website will post the application on March 1.

PWP: Jackie DeFazio announced the next event will be a live in-person event on April 30, 2022. Donations of purses, new and gently used, are being encouraged. Purses can be delivered to Rose Olson.

High School STEM Scholars: Judy Prince reported Lois Ruskell is working on the candidates for this honor.

Adjourn: Cathlin Starke moved to adjourn the meeting; Joyce Leak seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Georgi Proulx
Secretary



Challenge and adversity are meant to help you know who you are. Storms hit your weakness but unlock your true strength.

Roy T. Bennett