



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

April 2021

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

April 1st

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

April Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

April 8th

Thursday

2:00 p.m. Business

2:45 p.m. Program

(Notice time change)

General Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom

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

April 17th

Saturday

2021 AAUW-WA Convention &
Annual Meeting (virtual)

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Message from the President

Judy Prince

How are we, as a group, proceeding with our COVID19 vaccination? I'll be asking that question at our April 2021 branch meeting. We all need to participate in reaching herd immunity. I understand that not everyone is eligible for vaccination yet, it should be soon. I, personally, have had my first shot and are scheduled for my second the middle of April. I had the Moderna vaccine and only experienced a sore arm for 2 days. I can see in-person meeting in the future. That still seems to be as much as a year from now.

Its officially spring. I'm seeing picture of daffodils in the Skagit Valley and read stories about this year's tulip festival. Friends are posting pictures of blossoms in their own gardens. My dogwood had buds. Come May, it will be covered with flowers. I can see this tree from my kitchen windows and it is a welcome sight when I'm working around the sink.

I hope you will consider attending the Washington Convention and Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 17. Lisa Maatz, a dynamic speaker on women's issues and former AAUW public policy staffer, will be the keynote speaker. The theme of the meeting is "Regroup, Reimagine, Recommit." Open the March 2021 AAUW-WA newsletter at: <https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/files/2021/03/AAUW-WA-Evergreen-Leader-March-2021.pdf> and refer to page 3 for more information. Next, watch for an email from "AAUW Washington" with your registration invitation, another meeting you can attend from the comfort of your own home at no cost to you.

The state is planning another no cost meeting, AAUW-WA Women's Health Summit, on Saturday, June 12. Many of the bills we supported as part of Lobby Day are related to women's health. More information will follow.

April: Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy, Bellingham Author

Kathy Cunningham

Our speaker for April is Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy, author of Many Hands Make Light Work: A Memoir, the rollicking true story of growing up in a family of nine children in the '60s and '70s. Inspiring, full of surprises, and laugh-out-loud funny, this utterly unique family champions diversity and inclusion long before such concepts became cultural flashpoints. (from Amazon)

Cheryl and her siblings grew up with a paintbrush in their hands and a song in their hearts. As soon as they were old enough to wrench a nail out of ancient lumber, they were put to work at their family's side business of renovating old houses for rental.

Today she is a freelance journalist for newspapers including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Chicago Tribune*. Locally, she writes for Whatcom County's Business Pulse magazine, as well as the nonprofit Interfaith Coalition. She holds an MBA from City University in London and a bachelor's in journalism from Iowa State. She and her husband moved to Bellingham in 2011 from suburban Chicago. They have three married daughters and one baby grandson.



Future Events

May 6th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

May Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

May 13th

Thursday

Time to be Announced

General Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom

*Program: High School STEM
Scholar Recognition and
announcement of Tech Trek
2021 Campers*



**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/)

Membership Revitalization & Renewal

Norma Mouton

Recruiting new members is a continual process and a bit more difficult this year due to in-person limitations. Please continue to share with your friends the value of AAUW membership and foster any interest in joining our branch.



Although the pandemic has changed the way we participate, we need your help to find and welcome new members. Be sure to introduce them to AAUW National via www.AAUW.org and our branch via www.AAUWSC.org. There they will be introduced to our activities and the many ways we work to help the community, i.e., Tech Trek and Scholarships. Sharing the newsletter is another way to demonstrate the benefits of membership.

Meanwhile send their contact information to the Membership Team, Norma Mouton and Lynda Buehring, who will be in touch to answer any questions they might have. Any new member joining now will have membership from April 2021 through June 2022.

Membership renewal for 2021-2022 is now open. One option is to pay your \$96 2021-2022 dues online via www.AAUW.org. You will need your membership number to pay online. If you need to know your membership number, contact Norma Mouton or Lynda Buehring.

- Click on Membership
- Membership Services Database
- Enter Member Services Database
- Renew My Membership

At this point you can pay via credit/debit card or have an invoice emailed to you. The choice to mail a check to our VP Finance is also an option. Send a check in the amount of \$96 to AAUW-Stanwood Camano, PO Box 2652, Stanwood, WA 98292.

Dues for 2021-2022 is \$96 (\$62 National, \$10 State and \$24 Branch).

2021 AAUW Scholarship Season is Open, Open, Open...

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

The AAUW Stanwood-Camano scholarship process opened March 1 for the 2021 season offering two \$4,000 scholarship awards our focus being on students entering their junior, senior or Master's level at college or university and current residents of Stanwood, Camano Island or Arlington or graduates of these area high schools.



Please visit www.aauwsc.org/scholarship or you can find it on the state scholarship website www.washboard.org. Application deadline is Friday, April 30, 2021.

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

SAVE THE DATE !

Tell Your Friends & Family

APRIL 30, 2022

PURSES with PURPOSE

Contact Rose Olson or Mary Raymond to donate a very gently used purse or, better yet, a NEW one!

Tech Trek Update: We Have Nominees!

Mary Chesney

I am a skeptic. I doubted we would receive any applications for camp because of the virtual format. We received no applications from Arlington, a first for them. But...we did receive applications from the Stanwood-Camano school district, spread across three schools. The schools are Port Susan and the Stanwood Middle School and one of our new contacts, Saratoga School. Saratoga is the home-schooling program for the Stanwood-Camano School District. All schools combined notified us that 12 girls were nominated and provided the information to apply; only six nominees chose to submit their application. I believe that we got the nominations from the Stanwood-Camano district because of our long and successful relationship with them.



Each application was reviewed to determine if the nominee would be asked to interview. It was important to focus on the potential success for the campers. To avoid unintentional bias, our written comments about the nominees were shared with each other without committee member's names. We determined that all six of the nominated girls would move to the interview.

In preparation for the interview process, a poll was developed to determine when of each of the committee members would be available for interviews. A poll was also developed for the families to choose a day and time for the interview that both the nominee and the parent/guardian would be present. Meanwhile, the committee reviewed the existing interview questions. We wanted to avoid yes/no questions, remove questions that do not apply to a virtual camp, and add questions that pertain to this year's camp. The committee members also identified which questions they would ask campers.

All the nominee's families received an appropriate email regarding the interview process. Following the interviews, the nominee's responses will be discussed. Those who will be invited to attend camp will receive an email with the news while any who we believe would not be good candidates for camp will receive a thank you for applying but will be informed they were not selected. The interview process will begin the week of March 29th.

2021 AAUW National Election - Please VOTE!

Cathlin Starke

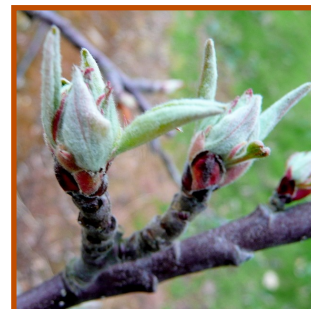
It's your AAUW, and your voice matters!

This spring, AAUW members will vote on a long-standing membership requirement, which creates a barrier to women who do not hold a college degree. By eliminating this requirement, AAUW can become a more diverse and inclusive organization, better aligned with the needs of women today. In addition, members will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed Public Policy Priorities for 2022-23.

All voting will take place online in April and May 2021 (unless a member sends a specific request to AAUW for a paper ballot). All members without an email address on file with AAUW national will receive notification of the vote by mail.

The AAUW bylaws require that the affirmative (yes) vote of two-thirds of the votes cast is required to amend the bylaws. Changes to the bylaws would be effective immediately. AAUW's national staff will be prepared to change membership language, the join function, and other related items as necessary immediately after the vote.

The Public Policy Priorities can be amended with an affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast. Changes to the Public Policy Priorities are effective for the 2022-2023 fiscal years (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023).



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

AAUW International Fellow Named Director General of WTO!

Jackie DeFazio

In case you have wondered about the impact of those AAUW Fellowships we help fund!

On March 1, 2021, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala became the first African and the first woman to lead the World Trade Organization. Born in Nigeria in 1954, she graduated magna cum laude from Harvard in 1976 with an AB in Economics and earned a PhD from MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) in 1981, with support from the AAUW International Fellowship she received in 1977-78.

Okonjo-Iweala's career spans 25 years at the World Bank as a development economist, rising to the position of managing director of operations. She also served two terms as finance minister of Nigeria (2003-06, 2011-15), the first woman to serve in that office. In 2005, Euromoney named her global finance minister of the year. Currently she sits on the boards of Twitter, Standard Chartered Bank, and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI).

Additionally, Okonjo-Iweala is the founder of the Center for the Study of Economies of Africa, a development research think tank based in Abuja, Nigeria, and NOI-Polls, the first ever indigenous opinion-research organization in Nigeria. She is married to Ikemba Iweala, a neurologist, with whom she has four children, one of whom is author Uzodinma Iweala. The family resides in the United States. Okonjo-Iweala became a US citizen in 2019.

Membership Spotlight: Marianne McGarry-Bloom

The Value of Education by Marianne McGarry-Bloom

It is said that no education is ever wasted. As a member of an organization which has learning as its core value, I feel privileged to help college and university students attain their goals. Chairing the AAUW-SC scholarship committee for the past two years has given me the opportunity to strengthen a new generation of students who will become our future leaders. I believe there is nothing more important than helping our young women and men in their educational pursuits.



Our branch's mission statement says it most succinctly. "Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research." Applicants for our yearly scholarships are asked to write an essay describing their relationship to this mission statement. What makes our scholarship unique, is its focus on college or university students in their junior, senior, or master's degree years of study. This is a time when many students' other scholarships have come to an end, and their financial needs continue.

As a public education teacher of 30 years, my Bachelor and Masters degrees in Education were an invaluable golden ticket to a lifetime of joy in my vocation. A scholarship in 1971 to Seattle University started me on a path that has given meaning and purpose to my life. My focus was to advocate for students whose learning styles were sometimes atypical of the usual "readin', ritin' and 'rithmetic" centered curricula. My Masters Degree was in this form of teaching through the creative arts. Two thirds of our students fit into this other category of learners. What a treasure to get to see them flourish through igniting their own style of learning. Howard Gardner of Harvard's Education Department championed this concept in teaching to the 7 Intelligences: verbal linguistic, logical mathematical, kinesthetic, visual spatial, interpersonal, intrapersonal, and musical rhythmic. If a lesson is taught through all 7 intelligences, every student in a classroom will have the opportunity to learn. This method changed my teaching and eventually the love of learning for my students. You can see the diverse learning styles in our scholarship applicants. It is the AAUW's mission to support these diverse learners, and it has been such an honor to be involved in this worthy endeavor. The commitment is quite small, but the dividends to our applicants and our collective future is quite grand.

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, April 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.

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?"

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.

June 7

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson

"Cussy Mary Carter is the last of her kind, her skin the color of a blue damselfly in these dusty hills But that doesn't mean she's got nothing to offer. As a member of the Pack Horse Library Project, Cussy delivers books to the hill folk of Troublesome, hoping to spread learning in these desperate times. But not everyone is so keen on Cussy's family or the Library Project, and the hardscrabble Kentuckians are quick to blame a Blue for any trouble in their small town."-- Provided by publisher.

The Giver of Stars by JoJo Moyes

"Set in Depression-era America, a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond, from the author of *Me Before You* and *The Peacock Emporium* Alice Wright marries handsome American Bennett Van Cleve hoping to escape her stifling life in England. But small-town Kentucky quickly proves equally claustrophobic, especially living alongside her overbearing father-in-law."-- Provided by publisher.

For more information, contact Katie Farrey.

General Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2021

Program via Zoom: Amy Klosterman, Seattle attorney and Title IX consultant to schools and workplaces. Amy is also a member of AAUW-Seattle.

Attendance: (11) Judy Prince, India Nishi, Norma Mouton, Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler, Cathlin Starke, Mary Pilkington, Nancy Voelckers, Joyce Leak, Katie Farrey, Doris Taylor. Presenter: (1) Amy Klosterman

Pre Program Announcement: Judy Prince commented on the virtual Chinese Farmer Art program and art sale presented by the Edmonds branch on March 13. Register for the meeting to receive the invite and be able to bid on the art work.

Call to Order: Judy Prince called general business meeting to order at 2:16 p.m.

Secretary: Motion to approve minutes as printed in March newsletter. Martha Huyler moved to approve, Cathlin Starke seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer: Judy Prince presented the February 2021 financial reports for Jeanie Garrioch. Operating account had very few transactions. Total assets are \$56,293.23.

Nominating Committee: Judy Prince shared the positions looking for nominations: President-elect, VP Finance-elect, Secretary, and appointments for Public Policy and Program Assistant positions.

Programs: India Nishi reported April 8 program is Bellingham author, Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy, sharing her book, Many Hands Make Light Work. Program will begin at 2:45 p.m. to accommodate the presenter; business meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. May is set for the HS STEM Scholar Recognition. June program is the virtual scholarship tea.

National By-Law Proposal: Judy Prince discussed the upcoming vote on the proposal to remove the graduation requirement from AAUW membership. Reason for change is to demonstrate the equity of women and girls with or without the degree if they believe in our goals. Additional consideration is the difficulty of grant eligibility if our organization is exclusionary.

Membership: Norma Mouton described the current shortage of membership in our branch, suggested a recruiting campaign, and sharing information with her for follow up. Cathlin Starke shared Marianne McGarry-Bloom's husband is having severe health issues and she may need help with the scholarship search.

Tech Trek: Judy Prince reported for Mary Chesney that Tech Trek nominations from the middle schools are minimal and no applications have been submitted. In addition to lack of interest in a virtual camp, Doris Taylor shared the timing for asking for nominations is bad since the schools have just returned to in person learning and teachers are overwhelmed.

SC School District Retirements: Superintendent Jean Shumate and Assistant Superintendent Lloy Schaaf are retiring. The district is asking for community participation in their superintendent search survey. Link has been emailed to the membership.

Adjourn: Norma Mouton moved to adjourn the meeting; India Nishi seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgi Proulx

Secretary



*Love thy neighbor - and if
he happens to be tall,
debonair and
devastating, it will be
that much easier.*

~Mae West