

In Touch



May 2021

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

May 6th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

May Board Meeting

Virtual via Zoom

May 13th

Thursday

7:00 p.m.

General Meeting

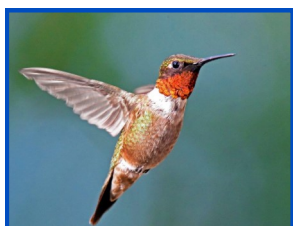
Virtual Via Zoom

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

*Speaker: Michelle Totman, GIS
Specialist for Tulalip Tribe Natural
Resources Department*

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Message from the President

Judy Prince

The state annual meeting went without a hitch. We were able to complete the business portion of the meeting in less than the allotted three hours.

The first afternoon speaker was Kim Churches who spoke about how AAUW staff is doing. The Member Services database will finally be updated this fall. Kim described it being held together with chewing gum and smoke. That may be optimistic. She also spoke for expanding membership to include anyone who believes in the mission. Staff positions have not be eliminated during the COVID era; people are working remotely.

Next to speak was Dr. Michaela Miller from the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Miller gave us excellent information about education during COVID and school reopening. She took time to answer many questions.

Lisa Maatz was our next speaker. Many of you will remember Lisa as a former AAUW Public Policy Director. She is still working in advocacy and was able to share information about what happening at the national level.

Final speakers were Barbara People and Virginia Scharff who are historians who write historical fiction. They talked about the creative writing process and the importance of research and historical accuracy.

You should have received an email from National with instructions to vote in the AAUW national election going on until May 17. If not, contact AAUW at connect@aauw.org. Let them know your situation and corrective action will be taken.

Keep enjoying the Spring!

May: High School STEM Scholar Recognition

Kathy Cunningham & Lois Ruskell

The 2020-21 school year will be one to remember and AAUW Stanwood-Camano is celebrating some talented scholars in Science and Technology fields. Twelve students three local high schools have been selected to receive special recognition by our branch for their achievements in STEM fields.

Students from Stanwood High School include Natalie Alexander, Matlyn Miller and Marissa Ringness. Arlington High School students are Madeline Andrich, Sophie Willis, Emily Mekelburg, Anna Dodd and Hanna Jensen. Lakewood High School scholars are Katelynn Carlson, Natalie Neiffer, Malia Schroeder and Kiana Oos. These students are to be commended for their accomplishments in their selected STEM fields.

A virtual celebration for students, advisors, and parents will be held at our May meeting on May 13, 7:00 p.m., to honor these students' achievements. Tech Trek campers for 2021 will also be announced. Guest speaker, Michelle Totman, graduated from UC Davis in environmental sciences and has a Master's degree in soil science from WSU. She currently works as an engineer for the Tulalip Qwuloolt tribal project developing and monitoring progress in estuary development. Her position involves assessing the effectiveness and progress of the project and whether future projects in the area are leading to salmon recovery.



Future Events

June 3rd
Thursday
1:00 p.m.

June Board Meeting
Virtual via Zoom

June 12th
Saturday

9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

AAUW's Health Care Kickoff
Health Matters: Advocating for
Washington Women

*Virtual Event featuring: Dr.
Alyson McGregor and Dr.
Dorothy Roberts to kickoff a
Fall webinar series*

June 13th
Sunday

2:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom

*Program: Scholarship Tea and
Election of 2021-2022 Officers*



**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/)**

Public Policy: Vote Now!

Cathlin Starke

PLEASE VOTE!!! AAUW members can now vote on proposed changes to the Public Policy Priorities recommended by the AAUW Public Policy Committee. Voting closes on Monday, May 17 at 5:00 p.m. ET. You should receive your member number and PIN from AAUW via email and you can quickly and easily vote by clicking on the "Please speak up today" field embedded in the email.

AAUW's Public Policy Priorities, adopted every two years by every-member vote, establish the federal action issues on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts and guide the work of the national staff. States and branches should also use the Public Policy Priorities to inform their advocacy efforts on state and local issues.

The strength of the AAUW Public Policy Priorities is that they originate and end with the membership. In the fall of even-numbered years the AAUW Public Policy Committee (APPC) solicits feedback from members and staff to develop proposed Public Policy Priorities based on viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive contribution. Once the draft is developed, it is posted online for a comment period and submission of additional proposed revisions. The APPC then finalizes the proposed Public Policy Priorities, and the AAUW Board of Directors reviews, amends as necessary, and approves them before they go to the membership for a vote in the spring of odd-numbered years.

To see full bylaws changes go to:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2021-comment-bylaws>



AAUW Scholarship Success Story

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

At the time this newsletter is published, scholarship application period has ended. The scholarship committee will begin evaluating the applications and support documentation, ranking the candidates, and making their selections.

Marianne received an email in late March from Samantha Hall, one of the 2020 scholarship winners, thanking us once again for her scholarship and to share her success this past year.



Samantha writes, "I am writing to thank you once again for the generous scholarship. I would also like to update you on my future plans that you have helped to make possible. This year at Montana State University I have been working on a research project involving Reversible Solid Oxide Fuel Cells, which have many exciting potential applications for clean energy. This work is very similar to the work I did while interning at NASA last spring.

After graduating from MSU on May 1 with my degree in Chemical Engineering, I will be pursuing a Master's Degree in Electrochemical Technology at the University of Oregon beginning in September. I am very excited for this opportunity, it is a unique program that aligns very well with my career goals and interest in clean energy. I hope you all are well, thank you again for your support!"

The Scholarship Tea recognizing this year's winners will be a virtual event on Sunday, June 13, 2:00 p.m. Please watch for an email invitation in June.



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

Tech Trek: 2021 Campers Announced!

Mary Chesney

I am delighted to report that we selected seven girls for 2021 Tech Trek camp, meaning all the applicants were chosen. The number increased to seven after a mix up with school out-of-district email rules. Fortunately, we were able to quickly arrange the candidate's interview and glad we didn't miss an excellent choice. The committee is pleased to include a candidate from a new participant school, Saratoga School, the Stanwood-Camano School District home school center.

The committee believes it is fortunate to have high quality candidates that were also good choices for camp. All the applicants and their families have been notified and the information sent on to the state Tech Trek planning committee.

The campers and their schools are:

Port Susan Middle School: Mattea Black, Willa Cross and Grace Ross

Stanwood Middle School: Briana Cutaran, Isla Hollingsworth and Maleah Jones

Saratoga School: Lucy Sansom



AAUW Names 2021-22 Fellows and Grantees

Jackie DeFazio

On April 15, AAUW announced that nearly \$5 million in funding has been awarded to more than 260 fellows and grantees for the 2021-22 award year. Recipients will pursue academic work and/or lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. Names and projects will be released at a later date.



Our branch's contribution to the national AAUW Education and Training fund helps power these awards and are one way in which AAUW champions equal access to education and works to ensure that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

Our contribution, of course, comes from the funds we raise through our **Purses with Purpose** event. *Be sure to add April 30, 2022 to your calendar—the date of PWP 2022* and consider signing up to be part of the Steering Committee for this key event. To do that, contact either Gay Campbell or Jackie DeFazio.

Membership Dues Reminder!

Norma Mouton

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).



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, May 3 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.

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.

July 5

The Prince of Los Cocuyos by Richard Blanco

"A ... memoir from the first Latino and openly gay inaugural poet, which explores his coming-of-age as the child of Cuban immigrants and his attempts to understand his place in America while grappling with his burgeoning artistic and sexual identities"--Amazon.com.

For more information, contact Katie Farrey.

General Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2021

Program via Zoom: Bellingham author, Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy, shared her book, Many Hands Make Light Work: A Memoir.

Attendance: (19) Judy Prince, Jackie Olson, Norma Mouton, Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler, Gay Campbell, Jackie DeFazio, Nancy Voelckers, India Nishi, Lynda Buehring, Mary Dicker, Katie Farrey, Joyce Leak, Mary Pilkington, Mary Raymond, Elaine Richards, Nancy Roberts, Lois Ruskell, Liliya Tushinski. Guest (1): Kara Pinetti

Call to Order: Judy Prince called meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Secretary: Motion to approve minutes from March 11 as posted in April newsletter: Joyce Leak moved, Norma Mouton seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer: Jackie-Lyn Olson reviewed the financial reports for March. Operating account had very few transactions: 1 new member and reimbursement of program expense. Total assets are \$56,285.20. Martha Huyler reported that Women's Expo will return our registration fee of \$100.

Membership: Judy Prince welcomed new member, Mary Dicker. Mary shared a bit about herself.

AAUW National has a number of by-laws changes and public policy strategies for the next few years. Voting began April 7. Watch for voting credentials emailed to each member.

Lynda Buehring announced a link to view Marianne McGarry-Bloom's presentation to the Newcomer's Focus Group. Link will be sent to Georgi Proulx to post on the website or email to the membership, and Judy Prince will get Marianne's approval to post on the website.

Lynda also spoke on moving forward as a branch acting as a model for other branches by engaging the membership in actions we can take to improve.

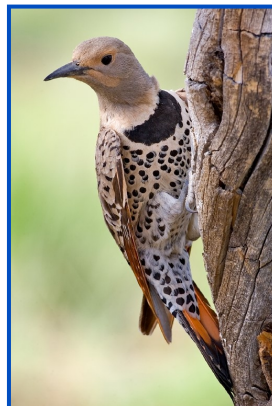
Programs: Judy Prince reported May 13 at 7:00 p.m. is set for the virtual High School STEM Scholar Recognition; 12 high school scholars will be honored. Martha Huyler requested that we invite the Tech Trek campers to the virtual May 13 meeting. June meeting is the Scholarship Tea, annual meeting and election of officers on Sunday, June 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Tech Trek: Judy Prince reported for Mary Chesney we have seven nominees from Stanwood Camano School District. Seven nominees have been interviewed and have been submitted to AAUW-WA as potential attendees for this year's virtual camp.

Announcements: Mary Pilkington announced the Memorial Day event on May 31 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stanwood Historical Society Veterans' Memorial.

Adjourn: Mary Raymond moved to adjourn the meeting; Mary Pilkington seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Georgi Proulx
Secretary



Most people fail in life not
because they aim too high
and miss, but because
they aim too low and hit.

~Les Brown