



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

November 2021

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

**November 4th
Thursday**

1:00 p.m.

November Board Meeting
Via Zoom

**November 18th
(note third Thursday)**

Thursday

7:00 p.m.

November General Meeting

Hybrid Meeting/Zoom

Presentation by our

2021 Tech Trek Campers

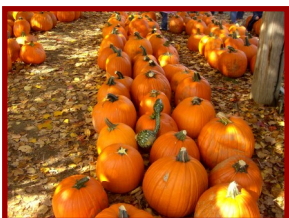
United Methodist Church

27128 102nd Dr. NW, Stanwood

Masks & Vaccinations Required

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Message from the President

India Nishi

Greetings to everyone, on a blustery and rainy day. I was joking to someone the other day that when I left on my trip to Europe it was still Summer and I came back to Winter. What happened to Fall? Hopefully all of you survived the "bomb cyclone"!

October has been a very busy time for the branch. On October 14th, we were so fortunate to be able to meet with the new Stanwood-Camano School District Superintendent (and new AAUW SC member) Dr. Deborah Rumbaugh. Superintendent Rumbaugh talked to us about her priorities as well as what it has been like coming into a new district in the midst of a pandemic and societal changes. I am impressed with not only her excellent qualifications for the position, but also her passion for education. Thanks to Superintendent Rumbaugh, as well as to Kathy Cunningham for organizing this excellent program.

The evening before our general meeting, our branch co-hosted the annual area Candidate and Issues Forum. The forum, which was held virtually, gave members of the community an opportunity to meet the candidates running for office in November, and hear pros/cons presented regarding the various issues on the ballot. The forum was presented in partnership with the Stanwood Camano News. A huge thank you goes to Elaine Richards and to those who helped her plan this event. It was a great success!

The third major activity for the branch in October was the Purses with Purpose planning meeting, led by Gay Campbell and Jackie DeFazio. There is a lot of planning and work to be done between now and next April, so I'd like to urge all of you to consider finding ways to participate. There are many opportunities to help, many from your own home. We are also in need of more purses, so please keep your eye out for them as you do your holiday shopping! Purses with Purpose is a biennial event, and our major fundraiser. It helps so many girls and young women in our community through Tech Trek and university/college scholarships. Please contact Gay or Jackie and they will be happy to let you know how you can help.

The next two months will present great opportunities for learning and social time. At our November meeting, we will hear from the latest group of Tech Trek girls about their experiences, attending camp. I'm very interested to hear about attending the camp virtually. In December, our in person annual holiday luncheon is scheduled to take place. Assuming no major changes to official guidelines, we will have the chance to finally get together in person and enjoy a wonderful lunch. I can't wait!

November - Tech Trek Campers Report Back!

Kathy Cunningham

We are looking forward to an in person (and Zoom) presentation by our Tech Trek girls, on Thursday, November 18, 7:00 p.m. at the Stanwood United Methodist Church. The girls will speak about their experiences in response to questions provided to them in advance. Dessert will be served and after a time for socializing, the regular business meeting will be held. There is ample parking in the lot across from the church entrance next to The Floyd Norgaard Center. The church hall has long been set up and used with safety protocols and spacing in place. Since the students will be present, please be masked and vaccinated.

Future Events

November 30th
Giving Tuesday

Stanwood Camano Give

December 2nd
Thursday
1:00 p.m.

December Board Meeting
Zoom/In person TBA

December 16th
Thursday
Time TBA

Holiday Luncheon at
Cama Beach Café
See page 3 for more
information



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/)

Giving Tuesday is November 30th. From
Midnight to 11:59 p.m., our AAUW branch is
participating in **SC Give**, Stanwood-Camano's local
Giving Tuesday event. Our AAUW project is to
raise \$2200 for "Science and Technology Camp for
Girls", our AAUW Tech Trek program.



You have two opportunities to help:

- #1** Follow our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw
for prize announcements and incentives throughout the day then share
on your news feed to spread the word.
- #2** Get the word out before the event by sharing this publication with
friends and family around the country, even the world. Friends
everywhere can donate online at www.scgive.org.

SCGive offers four opportunities to make your online donation go further
while adding a little spice to your day if you choose.

Early Bird Prize - 12am-8am - The first 20 - \$50 donations will be matched
by RE/MAX ELEVATE.

Philanthropist Hour Prize - 12pm to 1pm - The first 10 - \$100 donations
will be matched by LENZ ENTERPRISES.

Happy Hour Prize - 5pm to 6pm - The first 4 donations of \$250 will be
matched by COASTAL COMMUNITY BANK.

Night Owl Prize - 9pm to 10pm - The first \$1000 in donations in the
amounts of \$100 to \$250 will be matched by WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE.

All matches are based on a donation made in the qualifying amount to a
single organization, not to multiple organizations totaling the qualifying
amount.

All matches are limited to one match per donor household per prize
category. Households can qualify for matches in more than one prize
category throughout the day.

If you have any questions contact Georgi Proulx.

Good luck and thank you for your support. Have fun with this; it's for a
great cause.

Jeanie Garrioch Awarded the Jeanie Ovenell Award

Judy Williams, Stanwood Chamber President

*The "Jeanie Ovenell Award for Community Spirit" is awarded
annually by the Stanwood chamber of Commerce and Camano
Chamber of Commerce recognizing a volunteer for dedication
and excellent community spirit. Jeanie Garrioch is our Vice
President of Finance.*



"When we were looking for a qualified recipient for our
Jeanie Ovenell Award I asked a group of people in
Stanwood and what came back to me was
overwhelmingly in favor of just one person. The more I learned of this
person, the more I was in awe of her. She is a person who has a heart of
service. As I had it put to me "Prepare to feel insignificant". And "She does
more in one year, than I've done in 40". Then I listened to all she has been
a part of and they were right. She's pretty amazing. She has volunteered
in many roles ranging from Volunteering at the American Legion and
assisting with Scholarships for Stanwood Students. She is a Master
Gardener, she volunteers at the Stanwood Camano Food Bank, and is
currently involved with our school district in testing our First and Second
graders. When I spoke with her, she was very surprised to hear that she
was nominated. Another great statement about such a giving person. I'd
like to announce Jeanie Garrioch as the 2021 recipient of the Jeanie
Ovenell award. Thank you Jeanie for all you do for our Community."

*Written by Judy Williams, Stanwood Chamber President, as published in
the 10/14/21 issue of the Chamber News, Camano Island Chamber*

Your 2021-2022 Board

President

India Nishi

President-Elect

Nancy Voelckers

VP of Finance

Jeanie Garrioch

VP of Finance-Elect

Open position

Acting VP of Membership

India Nishi

Assistant: Martha Huyler*

Secretary

Georgi Proulx

VP of Program

Kathy Cunningham

Assistant: Judy Prince*

Public Policy

Judy Prince

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

Open position

Scholarship Chair

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Tech Trek Chair

Mary Chesney

Art Education

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

AAUW Funds Coordinator

Jackie DeFazio

Candidate & Issues Forum

Elaine Richards

Historian

Helen Smith

Diversity

Katie Farrey

Stanwood-Camano Give

Mary Raymond

Sunshine

Jackie-Lyn Olson

Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler



Welcome the Holiday Season with Us

Kathy Cunningham

Anticipation! We are planning for an in person, wonderful Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 16. The date was selected so Garden Club members could attend their own event on our regularly scheduled meeting day.

It will be at the Cama Beach Cafe, with new ownership getting rave reviews for their culinary delights. Inclusive price will be in the range of \$28 per person including tax, tip and champagne toast. Final amounts, due dates and menus will be emailed to you in a couple of weeks so bring your checkbook to the November meeting to make your reservation.



Donate a Purse and Be a Winner Too

Mary Raymond, Rose Olson

Our December Holiday Luncheon will be an excellent time to bring in that NEW or very gently carried purse for our April auction. In order to make this event even more fun, we will be holding a fabulous raffle with a ticket given for each purse received. Don't worry if shopping is not your thing; you will also get a ticket for a cash donation so our shoppers can pick out that perfect purse. Our goal is for each member to provide a new purse for the auction and this will be a fun way to make your contribution...and you may be the lucky winner! Raffle prize details will be forthcoming in the December newsletter, so stay tuned!



Newest AAUW Research Focuses on Latinas

Jackie DeFazio

Released in July, AAUW's most recent research examines how Latinas in the U.S. have suffered disproportionate economic repercussions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and calls for targeted policy solutions to address their needs. Resulting from the study, AAUW's Latina Initiative has been launched, featuring the following resources available at www.aauw.org:



The Status of Latinas in the U.S. This fact sheet offers a comprehensive look at the nation's nearly 30 million Latinas with demographic information and the latest statistics on Latinas' education levels, workforce participation rates, political engagement, access to health care, economic status and more.

Latina Initiative Policy Recommendations. As our nation explores ways to recover from the COVID-19 crisis, AAUW advocates for specific policies to ensure economic security and access to educational opportunities for the nation's Latinas. This document outlines AAUW's priorities and calls for swift and immediate action.

Research like this is funded through contributions to AAUW Funds, made by branches and by individual members—something to consider as you think about end-of-year giving opportunities.

Public Policy

Judy Prince



We had another excellent candidate forum. Big "thank you" to Elaine Richards, Jackie DeFazio, and Anne Milton.

Voting Day is fast approaching, little time remains. Ballots must be in the drop box or postmarked by Tuesday, November 2. Drop off location for Camano Island is at 121 N. East Camano Drive; for Stanwood it's the overflow parking of the Stanwood Library.



Get Ready for the Best Auction Ever!

Jackie DeFazio, Gay Campbell

Our April 30, 2022 Purses with Purpose date is coming fast, and the success of the event depends on all of us. We need purses and volunteers!

Plans are still proceeding for a live event. We need everyone's help to provide new and like-new purses and to step up as a volunteer to make this auction the best ever celebrating women and girls in our community and our potential for giving after two years of social restrictions.

PURSES: If you aren't a shopper, please send a check with your tax-deductible* donation to branch PO Box 2652, Stanwood WA 98292, and your money will be spent wisely by the Procurement Committee on new purses.

VOLUNTEER: Being part of a Purses with Purpose committee is a great way to work with other members for a cause we all believe in. PWP is our only major fundraiser and YOU contribute to its success!

Please contact the chair of the committee that sounds most interesting to you, find out more about that committee, and offer to help:

- Procurement of purses and auxiliary items to go with the purses (and getting purses ready for auction): Rose Olson, Mary Raymond, and Mary Pilkington
- Live Auction (Selecting, preparation and display of live auction purses): Anne Milton
- Live/Silent Auction (set up purse displays for bidding, day-of-the-event help to process/pull fully bid purses, live auction and Fund-A-Scholar recorders, general helpers): Georgi Proulx, India Nishi
- Fund-A-Scholar video preparation: Marianne McGarry-Bloom
- Event Staffing (Finding volunteers to work at the event, working with volunteers): Katie Farrey
- Set Up of Event (Set up of tables, table setting, display of purses): Mary Chesney
- Food and Wine: (Determining menu, purchasing wine, related work): Helen Smith
- Sponsorships (Getting businesses to sponsor our event): Cathlin Starke, Jackie-Lyn Olson
- Centerpieces (Obtaining needed items, preparing and placing centerpieces for tables): Thea Wellington
- Fulfillment: (Preparation for and delivery of purchased purses and other items): Lynda Buehring
- Grant Writing: Gay Campbell, Jackie DeFazio

Call or email a committee chair today and say, "I will help." Thanks for stepping up! We appreciate it!

Donate a purse or send a check TODAY!

* *Married couples filing jointly for 2021 can deduct as much as \$600 of charitable donations if they don't itemize, while the limit is \$300 for singles.* The Wall Street Journal, September 20, 2021

How YOU Can Help with Tech Trek 2022

Mary Chesney

We have begun gearing up for next summer's much hoped for in person camp, and I would like to invite YOU to become part of the selection committee and/or join us as a counselor for the weeklong camp.



The selection committee meets for approximately two meetings about an hour in length prior to interviewing the qualifying candidates. You are provided with a list of questions and contribute to which questions will be asked. Each candidate interview lasts approximately 30 minutes, and you are expected to participate in a post interview group discussion of the candidates. Typically, we might receive as few as two candidates from a school up to the maximum of five.

Once the summer resident camp is scheduled, our branch will be expected to send one branch member to serve in some capacity at camp for each eight girls we send. These volunteers are reimbursed for their round-trip mileage and provided a stipend of approximately \$500. Since we hope to send 10 girls, we will need two branch volunteers. If you have questions about being a camp volunteer, please send me a note or contact Judy Prince who has also volunteered to assist at camp. I can verify it is not hard work and was not only a joy to help but educational as well.

Special Branch Activities

Day Trippers

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

Open position

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
Marianne McGarry-Bloom



www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaaauw

LIKE our page to
follow us then

SHARE to increase
our visibility in
the community.



Book Group

Katie Farrey, Marianne McGarry-Bloom

All members are invited to join the Book Group whether you have read the book or just want to join the conversation. Please contact Katie Farrey if you want to be added to the email list. We are currently operating on a month-to-month basis with a Zoom link and possible in person discussion.



November 1st

The Overstory by Richard Powers

A monumental novel about reimagining our place in the living world, by one of our most "prodigiously talented" novelists (*New York Times Book Review*). *The Overstory* unfolds in concentric rings of interlocking fable that range from antebellum New York to the late twentieth-century Timber Wars of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. This is the story of a handful of people who learn how to see that world and who are drawn up into its unfolding catastrophe. Pulitzer Prize winner.

December 6th

Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder
by Caroline Fraser

A biography of American author Laura Ingalls Wilder, best known for her *Little House on the Prairie* series. Published in 2017, explores the life and times of the beloved author.

January 3rd

Hamnet: A Novel of the Plague by Maggie O'Farrell

A short, piercing, deeply moving novel about the death of Shakespeare's 11 year old son Hamnet--a name interchangeable with Hamlet in 15th century Britain--and the years leading up to the production of his great play. England, 1580. A young Latin tutor--penniless, bullied by a violent father--falls in love with an extraordinary, eccentric young woman--a wild creature who walks her family's estate with a falcon on her shoulder and is known throughout the countryside for her unusual gifts as a healer. A luminous portrait of a marriage, a shattering evocation of a family ravaged by grief and loss, and a hypnotic recreation of the story that inspired one of the greatest masterpieces of all time, *Hamnet* is mesmerizing, seductive, impossible to put down--a magnificent departure from one of our most gifted novelists.

For more information, contact Katie Farrey or Marianne McGarry-Bloom.

Centerpieces with Distinction

Some of the unique items available for bid in our Purses with Purpose luncheon and purse auction are the glass purse centerpieces. In 2019 we raised over \$900 from our two dozen wonderfully exclusive centerpieces.



Although some return to again adorn our tables, more are needed. These hidden treasures can be found in thrift stores, antique stores, online, and even the back of your closet.

If you anticipate having April flowers in your garden and available to fill these glass purses, we welcome them also. Please contact Thea Wellington to donate or for information.

General Meeting Minutes– October 14, 2021

Program via Zoom: New superintendent, Dr. Deborah Rumbaugh, presented an overview of her vision for the district.

Attendance: (16) India Nishi, Georgi Proulx, Judy Prince, Martha Huyler, Gay Campbell, Elaine Richards, Joyce Leak, Jackie DeFazio, Doris Taylor, Vivian Henderson, Carol Panek-Clark, Katie Farrey, Mary Pilkington. Guest of Katie Farrey: Meg Hozack. Guest speakers: Dr. Deborah Rumbaugh, Steve Lidgard.

Call to Order: India Nishi called meeting to order at 1:50 p.m. She introduced new member, Carol Panek-Clark. Member Recognition: Elaine Richards was announced as the honoree this month for excellent management of the Candidate and Issues Forum.

Secretary: Georgi Proulx presented September 9 general minutes as published in the October newsletter. Judy Prince moved to approve minutes, Martha Huyler seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer: In Jeanie Garrioch's absence, Georgi Proulx shared a summary of her report for September financials from the board meeting minutes. Total assets are \$45,502.65. Martha Huyler reported the end of year Financial Review was performed on September 8, 2021 by Martha Huyler (team lead), Cathy Massimino, Jeanie Garrioch, Nancy Voelckers, and Jackie-Lyn Olsen (by phone). Books were found to be in good order.

PWP: Jackie DeFazio reported that we need new and very gently used purses. We are focusing on having an in person event in order to use the momentum and energy of a live event to raise the funds we need. If you're not a shopper send a check to the PO Box and the procurement team will purchase for you.

Stanwood Camano Give: Georgi Proulx reported that our branch is participating in Stanwood Camano Give on Giving Tuesday, November 30. Throughout November, AAUW will have posts on its Facebook page and on the SC Give Facebook page publicizing the November 30 event. We have 22 members that follow our Facebook page and 13 previous members. Big push for SC Give participation on November 30.

Public Policy: Vote and return your ballot before November 2.

Adjourn: Gay Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting; Joyce Leak seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgi Proulx

Secretary



At our October Board Meeting, India asked the members present "what was the best advice you ever received?" Here are a few of their answers:

Judy Prince: "Start a contribution to a 401K and keep it up until retirement."

Jeanie Garrioch: "Never give up but keep on trying and my father's advice to not waste steps!"

India Nishi: "As a leader one should not be afraid to make a decision. The decision may be wrong, but most likely can be corrected. Not making a decision is a decision in and of itself, and is not 'leading'. You don't need to study everything to death."

Georgi Proulx: "Prepare and have a back up plan. Luck happens when preparation meets opportunity."