



## In Touch

April 2022

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



[www.aauwsc.org](http://www.aauwsc.org)

**April 7th**  
**Thursday**  
**1:00 p.m.**

April Board Meeting  
Zoom/In Person TBD

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**April 14th**  
**Thursday**  
**1:00 p.m.**

ZOOM General Meeting  
*Program: Mary Jennings MLIS,  
Librarian turned Reporter*

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**April 29th**  
**Friday**  
**4:00 p.m.**

Set Up for Purses with Purpose  
Camano Center

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**April 30th**  
**Saturday**  
**11:00 a.m.**

Purses with Purpose 2022  
Camano Center

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**April 30th**

*Scholarship Applications Due*

### Message from the President

*India Nishi*

Greetings everyone. Where did March go? It seems like it flew by. It's so nice that spring is here, and warmer weather is right around the corner. As I write this from my youngest's apartment in Brooklyn, I am reminded of what a wonderful part of the world we live in. The beautiful Sound, the mountains, and all the green. Yes, the big city has its appeal, but I'll take living in the Pacific Northwest any day, especially now that the daffodils are in bloom and days are getting longer.

What a fantastic March general meeting we had! Our special guest, Debbie Dimitre, gave a fascinating performance as Alice Paul, taking us through a look back at Alice's life and the huge impact she had on the suffragist movement and winning the right for women to vote. Alice had courage; she wasn't afraid to take strong measures for a cause she deeply believed in. Thanks go especially to Kathy Cunningham for organizing the event, Gay Campbell for securing the Utsalady Ladies' Aid Building, and inviting her Ladies' Aid friends to attend, Nancy Voelckers for providing her grandmother's tea cups and saucers, and to Georgi Proulx and others for bringing such tempting treats for us to nibble while watching Debbie's performance. It was truly uplifting to see so many women together, socializing and learning about another woman who paved the way for many of us. Several ladies commented that we should make this an annual event going forward, in honor of Women's History Month.

Plans for **Purses with Purpose** are coming together nicely, and the goal is in sight! I remember several months ago, when we wondered whether we could actually have an event this year in person, and now it's just a few weeks away! Ticket sales are going well, we have less than 20 tickets left. So if you are planning to come; don't wait too much longer to buy a ticket! We have also have had great response to both our procurement and sponsorship requests. Thanks to both those committees for their hard work reaching out to the community with requests. It's been said that our mission of helping girls and young women educationally makes it easy for businesses and individuals to say yes. To top this all off, we just learned that the Stillaguamish Tribe has awarded a \$5,000 grant to the branch for our continuing education scholarships. Thanks to Jackie and Gay for taking the grant writing process on and making this happen.

Finally, thanks go to the Nominating Committee, headed by Nancy Roberts. Nancy, together with Joyce Leak and Mary Raymond, have found nominees for all of next year's open elected positions, so we should have a full slate when elections are held in June. This is a huge accomplishment!

### Membership Renewal is Soon Upon Us!

Membership renewal for 2022-2023 will soon be available on the National website. Please watch for information and instructions in the May newsletter on renewing online with a credit card.

If you choose to submit a check to VP Finance, you can do that at any time. Send a check in the amount of \$101 to AAUW-Stanwood Camano, PO Box 2652, Stanwood, WA 98292. Please mark your check "dues" so Jeanie Garrioch knows what it's for.

Dues for 2022-2023 is \$101 (\$67 National, \$10 State and \$24 Branch).

#### What's Inside?

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## Future Events

**May 5th**  
**Thursday**  
**1:00 p.m.**

May Board Meeting  
Zoom/In Person TBD

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**May 12th**  
**Thursday**  
**7:00 p.m.**

High School STEM Scholar  
Recognition Tea  
United Methodist Church



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

[www.aauwsc.org](http://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](http://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/)

## April - Mary Jennings Librarian Turned Reporter

*Kathy Cunningham*

Please join us via Zoom on Thursday, April 14, at 1:00 p.m. to meet Mary A. Jennings, MLIS. Mary grew up in Kirkland and has lived on Camano Island for over 30 years. After getting a master's degree in library and information science, Mary worked in public libraries, including the Camano Island Library. It was there she met Evan Caldwell, editor of the Stanwood Camano News, when he brought his kids to her story time a few years ago.



Mary Jennings

When Mary mentioned she was a freelance writer, Evan asked if she'd be interested in being a reporter. Without hesitating, Mary jumped at the chance to change careers and follow her passion for research and writing.

For the last year, Mary has been working on the Exploring History series for the *Stanwood Camano News*. Each month she provides an in-depth, yet entertaining look at local history—everything from the local pea industry to the old vacation resorts of Camano Island. Later this year, the articles will be compiled and published in book.

## 2022 Scholarship Coasting to the Deadline

*Marianne McGarry-Bloom*

April is here and that means PWP and Scholarship Season for our AAUW-SC. Thousands of volunteer hours have been contributed by our members to make our auction a success, and what is the goal of such dedication?



On May 1st, the 2022 scholarship applications selection will begin. Please assure our committee a wide pool of candidates by downloading and printing a scholarship application to have on hand for any friend or family member (outside your immediate family) who might qualify to apply.

This one-on-one advertising is essential to get the word out that we are offering three \$6,000 scholarships to upper level university students in their junior or senior year or Master's Degree program. Applications will be accepted until April 30. Scholarships will be awarded to students who are current residents of Stanwood, Arlington or Camano Island OR are graduates of Arlington, Lakewood, Stanwood, or Lincoln Hill High Schools.

Applications can be found at our website, [www.aauwsc.org/scholarship](http://www.aauwsc.org/scholarship). Applications are also available at the Washington State Scholarship website, [theWashBoard.org](http://theWashBoard.org).

## Public Policy: Olympia Update

*Judy Prince*

This year's legislative session is past the half way mark. There is activity to report on bills that AAUW-WA supported. See below for status on two.

SB5688, Keep Our Care Act, did not pass out of the Senate Law and Justice committee. This bill sought to ensure that communities would not lose service or have a significant increase in costs if the local health care entities merged with a larger health care system. Health care was strongly against.

HB1571 concerning Protection and Services for Indigenous Persons passed out of the house 98 to 0! The bill is now in Senate Law and Justice Committee.

Status on other bills we supported is as follows:

HB1622 to Increase Availability of sexual assault nurse examiners in rural and underserved communities, also passed the house unanimously. This bill established training at WSU Medical School. Now the only place to receive training is Harborview Hospital. It passed the house on March 7 and the Senate March 10; next step the governor's desk.

HB1621 to encourage nurse examiner training by providing stipends to receive training, a companion bill to HB1622 did not come to the house floor before the cutoff date of February 15. It is dead for this session.

## 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



29 Days 'til Go Time...  
Have YOU Gotten Involved?

## PWP 2022 Ready, Set, Go

Jackie DeFazio, Gay Campbell

This is an exciting time! After 2½ years of planning and work, we are nearing the finish line for Purses with Purpose 2022. Beautiful purses (182 of them!) have been donated, sorted, and priced. The menu is set; centerpiece vases, secured. Area businesses have supported us. The auctioneer is ready. Guests are registering. All systems are go!

All we need now is all members onboard to carry this winner to victory. Here are ways you can help:

- **Come to the Camano Center** at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 29, to help set up for the event. We need all kinds of help—setting tables, unloading and displaying purses, arranging centerpieces, and more. It will be fun, and there will be snacks and perhaps, even a little wine!
- **Return to the Center** on Saturday, April 30, to be part of the long-awaited PWP 2022 event itself either as a volunteer worker (arrive at 10 a.m.) or as a guest (doors open at 11 a.m.) At this time 75% of tickets have been sold, so if you or someone you know still wants one, buy it now by going to <https://aauwsc.ejoinme.org/pwp2022>. And whether you volunteer or sit at a table, come prepared to bid on a wonderful purse or to raise your paddle for Fund-a-Scholar—or both!
- **Say thank you to our generous supporters.** Businesses from Stanwood, Camano Island, Arlington, La Conner, Bellingham, and beyond have supported us, 46 as donors of merchandise or gift certificates, 13 as sponsors, and the Stillaguamish Tribe with a grant of \$5,000 for scholarships! Special thanks to past branch president and co-chair of the very first PWP, Jo English, for contributing a 10-day stay at her Kauai, HI, timeshare—and to so many of you, our members, who have donated purses or money for purses or special items like Seahawks tickets, a handmade quilt, a fresh crab dinner, or your valuable time to ensure the success of this special fundraiser.

So, yes, we are excited! We know that a successful PWP 2022 will translate into two more years of continuing education scholarships and Tech Trek camperships for local young women and girls – and beyond that, into expanded horizons for all women and girls!

## Volunteers!

If you want lunch at PWP 2022 or just a bid number please visit:

<https://aauwsc.ejoinme.org/volunteer>

This is a special page that can only be accessed with this address. Lunch is \$21 and payable by registering your credit card. Also on this page you can register for a "bid only". Check it out.

## 🌸🌺🌻 "Gather YE Rosebuds While Ye May

Flowers are needed for the centerpieces. If you are willing to bring flowers and/or greens on Friday, April 29, at 4:00 p.m. to Camano Center or help arrange the centerpieces during this time please contact Thea Wellington.

We are looking for colorful blossoms and greens such as pittosporum (beautiful foliage) in lengths up to 12".

## Flowers

**"Members spring into vintage to remember and celebrate the Suffrage movement that gave us the vote-72 years!" -Kathy Cunningham**

In celebration of Women's History month, our March general meeting theme matched perfectly with a compelling performance by Debbie Dimitre as Alice Stokes Paul, women's rights activist and suffragist who fought for women's rights resulting in the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. Keeping with this theme, the meeting was held in the Utsalady Ladies Aid Building (built in 1923); members and guests were encouraged to dress in vintage attire. In the spirit of the day, tea sandwiches and cookies were served in vintage tea cups supplied by Nancy Voelckers.

It was terrific afternoon and a big thanks goes to our VP-Program, Kathy Cunningham, and her crew for finding Debbie Dimitre and providing the atmosphere to make this a memorable and treasured meeting. Below are photos of the day.



Debbie Dimitre as Alice Stokes Paul



Nancy Voelckers and her Teacups



Kathy Cunningham & Guest, Sole Somers



Marianne McGarry-Bloom



Joyce Leak



Judy Prince



Robin Hanks



Mary Ann Schradi



Mary Pilkington



Gay Campbell

## 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



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**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.



#### April 4th

Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict and/or The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson

Lady Clementine: "Lady Clementine is the ferocious story of the brilliant and ambitious woman beside Winston Churchill, the story of a partner who did not flinch through the sweeping darkness of war, and who would not surrender either to expectations or to enemies."

The Splendid and the Vile: "A fresh and compelling portrait of Winston Churchill and London during the Blitz. The Splendid and the Vile takes readers out of today's political dysfunction and back to a time of true leadership, when, in the face of unrelenting horror, Churchill's eloquence, courage, and perseverance bound a country, and a family, together."

#### May 2nd

It All Comes Back to You by Beth Duke

"Veronica "Ronni" Johnson, licensed practical nurse and aspiring writer, meets the captivating Violet in the assisted living facility where Violet requires no assistance, just lots of male attention. When she dies, she leaves Ronni a very generous bequest ... only if Ronni completes a book about her life within one year. As she's drawn into the world of young Violet, Ronni is mesmerized by life in a simpler time. It's an irresistible journey filled with revelations, some of them about men Ronni knew as octogenarians at Fairfield Springs. Struggling, insecure, flailing at the keyboard, Ronni juggles her patients, a new boyfriend, and a Samsonite factory of emotional baggage as she tries to craft a manuscript before her deadline. But when the secrets start to emerge, some of them in person, and they don't stop, everything changes. Alternating chapters between Homecoming Queen Violet in 1947 and can't-quite-find-her-crown Ronni in the present, IT ALL COMES BACK TO YOU is Southern Fiction at its hilarious, warm, sad, outrageous, uplifting, and stunning best."

#### June 6th

How to Fly in 10,000 Easy Lessons by Barbara Kingsolver

In her second poetry collection, Barbara Kingsolver offers reflections on the practical, the spiritual, and the wild. She begins with "how to" poems addressing everyday matters such as being hopeful, married, divorced; shearing a sheep; praying to unreliable gods; doing nothing at all; and of course, flying. Next come rafts of poems about making peace (or not) with the complicated bonds of friendship and family, and making peace (or not) with death, in the many ways it finds us. Some poems reflect on the redemptive powers of art and poetry itself; others consider where everything begins. Closing the book are poems that celebrate natural wonders--birdsong and ghost-flowers, ruthless ants, clever shellfish, coral reefs, deadly deserts, and thousand-year-old beech trees, all speaking to the daring project of belonging to an untamed world beyond ourselves.

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

## General Meeting Minutes - March 10, 2022

*Program: In person: Debbie Dimitre performs Alice Paul at the Utsalady Ladies Aid Building.*

**Attendance:** (24) India Nishi, Nancy Voelckers, Norma Mouton, Kathy Cunningham, Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler, Judy Prince, Gay Campbell, Jackie DeFazio, Mary Dicker, Jeanie Garrioch, Tracy Gilroy, Robin Hanks, Joyce Leak, Marianne McGarry-Bloom, Carol Panek-Clark, Mary Pilkington, Mary Raymond, MaryAnn Schradi, Kaye Sodt, Doris Taylor, Judy Trammell, Thea Wellington, Elaine Wilson. (13) Guests: Sole Somers, Mary Margaret Haugen, Greta Fridlund, Joanne Fridlund, Jeni Bottin, Laurie Ware, Linda Johnson, Betty Noto, Pat Knutson, Candy Bowdan, Jennifer Smith, Catherine Vance, Judith Pieper

**Call to Order:** India Nishi called meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. Guests were introduced prior to the program presentation.

**Secretary:** Georgi Proulx asked for approval of the February 10 minutes as published in the March newsletter. Jackie DeFazio moved to approve, Judy Prince seconded; motion approved.

**Treasurer:** Georgi Proulx read the financial report from the March 3 board meeting. Operating account had \$4274.62. Total assets are \$53,298.22.

**Scholarship:** Marianne McGarry-Bloom requested the membership print a copy of the scholarship application and pass it out to publicize the program. Georgi Proulx will email the membership a copy for printing.

**PWP:** India Nishi reported ticket sales are coming along with 97 of 128 tickets sold and making the request for members to enter their guest information on Greater Giving and let her know who you want to sit with if not at a table. Jackie DeFazio mentioned that the committee was hoping to sell out and not have to make the event open to the public. Purse collection ends today, March 10. The procurement of gift certificates and other donations for inside the purses has surpassed \$4000.

**Adjourn:** Nancy Voelckers moved to adjourn the meeting; Kaye Sodt seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Georgi Proulx

Secretary



*A woman is like a tea bag; you never know how strong it is until it's in hot water.*

*~ Eleanor Roosevelt*