



# Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

## In Touch

February 2023

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



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

**February 2nd  
Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

February Board Meeting  
Community Resource Center

\*\*\*\*\*

**February 9th  
Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

General Meeting  
Social Half Hour at 12:30  
Camano Library

*Mary Kathryn Nagle, Counsel for  
the National Indigenous Women's  
Resource Center*

\*\*\*\*\*

**February 15th  
Wednesday**

**10:00 a.m.**

**JAVA Break**

Cookie Mill, Stanwood  
*For Coffee and Conversation  
Bring a Prospective Member*

### Message from the President

*Nancy Voelckers*

January was a busy month for our Branch with many opportunities for our AAUW family to gather together: Leadership meeting, fabulous general meeting with Washington State Poet Laureate Rena Priest, book group (at my home), viewing of the movie *A Man Called Otto*, our first JAVA Break, ...and to round out the month, AAUW Lobby Day. I hope those that were able to attend these gatherings enjoyed them as much as I did.

Of course all this doesn't happen by itself. The 2022/2023 leadership team has been working hard and because of this our branch is strong, viable and running smoothly. We are over half way through this fiscal year but we have more wonderful programs on the horizon plus some favorites: STEM Recognition, Tech Trek, and College scholarships.

To continue this momentum to the end of the year and into 2024, we need help from each and everyone of you. We currently have a need for a Nominating Committee Chair and two PWP 2024 Co-Chairs. There will also be a few positions open on the 2023/2024 Board.

In the next few months, the nominating committee will be reaching out, either at a meeting or by phone. Please take some time to consider where you can help out. No contribution is too small, and many hands make light work!

### February Program - Mary Kathryn Nagle, Counsel for the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

*Rose Olson*

Join us on Thursday, February 9, at the Camano Library for our general meeting featuring Mary Kathryn Nagle, attorney and playwright. Mary will present virtually on the history and present impact in tribal communities of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) as well as on details regarding the recent focus on missing and murdered native women.

Mary Kathryn Nagle serves as counsel for the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center and represents families of murdered and missing indigenous women and girls. As an attorney she specializes in tribal sovereignty and indigenous people's rights and safety.

Please come at 12:30 p.m. for the Social Half Hour. The program begins at 1:00 p.m. followed by the branch business meeting.

If you would like to join via zoom, please sign up for the link here: <https://AAUW-February-2023.eventbrite.com> or watch your email inbox for a link.

Hope to see you there.



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## Future Events

**March 2nd**

**Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

March Board Meeting  
Community Resource Center

\*\*\*\*\*

**March 9th**

**Thursday**

**1:00 p.m.**

General Meeting  
Social Half Hour at 12:30  
Utsalady Ladies Aid Building

*Debbie Dimitre presents  
Rachel Carson, American marine  
biologist, conservationist, and  
author of Silent Spring*

*An Open to the Public Event*

\*\*\*\*\*

**March 15th**

**Wednesday**

**10:00 a.m.**

Location to be announced

**JAVA Break**

*For Coffee and Conversation  
Bring a Prospective Member*



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/>

## Tech Trek Update for February

*Mary Chesney*

The Tech Trek committee is in the early stages of identifying nominees to apply for Tech Trek camp.



We have spoken with several school counselors and/or had email conversations with all three school districts. Nominations were expected by January 26. Final count of nominees received will be shared at the February 9 general meeting.

Under the rules of the state camp organization, we can only send seven campers unless someone steps forward and volunteers to help at camp as either a dorm mom or teacher. Even if you are not absolutely sure you are available (and I do not yet have the July dates), please reach out to me. There is a \$500 stipend for helping at camp as well as round-trip mileage. When I volunteered as a dorm mom, I had a private room if that is of any help in deciding to volunteer.

## AAUW SC 2023 Scholarship Season is Open

*Marianne McGarry-Bloom*

Our branch university scholarship season opens today, February 1. Applications are due on or before April 29.

The Stanwood Camano AAUW branch is proud to continue its annual presentation of three scholarships to highly qualified candidates who are current residents of Stanwood, Camano, Arlington, La Conner, or Lakewood OR graduates from Stanwood, Arlington, La Conner or Lakewood High Schools. Applicants must be entering their junior or senior year of college OR are enrolled in a Master's Degree program.

Funds for these \$10,000 scholarships is raised by the vibrant and popular AAUW-SC Purses with Purpose benefit purse auction.

Applications can be found on our website [www.aauwsc.org/scholarship](http://www.aauwsc.org/scholarship) or at the Washington State scholarship website, [www.washboard.org](http://www.washboard.org). Please encourage scholars to apply.

Our Scholarship Tea to fete our recipients is Sunday, June 25, 1:00 p.m. at Camano City Schoolhouse.

Please contact Marianne McGarry-Bloom, chairperson, if you wish to help with the many tasks involved in this wonderful endeavor.

## Public Policy: Your Voice Does Matter

*Anne Milton*

Approximately 100 AAUW members participated in the Lobby Day workshop and the chosen speakers highlighted the research, data and resources for legislative bill support. The priorities are: sexual harassment/discrimination, healthcare privacy, reproductive rights, economic security and apprenticeship programs. The legislative session started only 3 weeks ago and over 1200 bills have already been introduced. These priorities need attention and focus by your legislators. There are various ways to denote your voice or support: letter writing, email, voicemail, live meeting, virtual meeting, etc. and you needn't be an expert. This link: legislative updates from the AAUW Policy Team AAUW-WA team is a tremendous resource. (I will be forwarding an email with helpful resources like questions for your legislator or aide, specific bill details, talking points, one-minute pitch and 'the ask'!)

One Lobby Day Speaker, Cathy MacCaul from AARP, stressed the need to advocate for the elderly or the older adult in legislative advocacy efforts. Whether it be housing, medical record privacy, or internet savvy, she emphasized: "Ask every time- What about older adults? How does this bill play out for your elderly constituent?"

Lastly, the Lobby Day advocacy team denoted the first step is getting to know your legislators. You can sign up for weekly updates directly from your legislators. I have found the weekly emails from Legislative District 10, namely Representative Clyde Shavers and Senator Ron Muzzall to be very informative.



## Your 2022-2023 Board

### President

Nancy Voelckers

### President-Elect

Jackie-Lyn Olson

### VP of Finance

Judy Trammell

### VP of Finance-Elect

Judy Prince

### VP of Membership

Joanne Drewsen

Assistant: India Nishi\*

### Secretary

Georgi Proulx

### VP of Program

Rose Olson

Assistant: Doris Taylor\*

Mary Raymond\*

### Public Policy

Anne Milton

### Communications

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler

\* Appointed position, shares vote with VP

## Activity Leaders

### Purses with Purpose 2024

[needs co-chairs]

### High School STEM Scholars

Linda Demetre, Lael Williams

### 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

(open position)

### Diversity

Katie Farrey

### Stanwood-Camano Give

Mary Raymond

### Sunshine

India Nishi

### Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler



## DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Spotlight

Katie Farrey

**Definition: BIPOC:** An acronym that refers to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. It recognizes that there are collective experiences of systemic racism. It is up to each individual as to whether or not they wish to use this term as an identifier.

### Upcoming Opportunities:

February 2nd, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Sno-Isle online event: *Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together in the Principal's Office*

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/63bda149ae399e2f00a5dc14>

February 2nd, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner Humanities Washington: Rena Priest, Washington State Poet Laureate

<https://www.monamuseum.org/event-calendar/rena-priest>

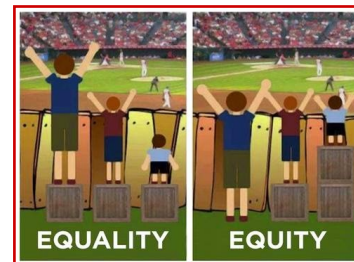
February 4th, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner *Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: Honoring Our Stolen Sisters Live Painting Event*

<https://www.monamuseum.org/event-calendar/mmiwg-live-painting-event>

February 8th, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Sno-Isle online event: *Black Love Matters: Real Talk on Romance, Being Seen, and Happily Ever Afters*

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/63bdfd1aae399e2f00a5ee5b>



## Supporting AAUW's Purpose via Purses with Purpose!

Jackie DeFazio

As we approach the beginning of planning for Purses with Purpose 2024, here is a reminder of what this signature branch event is making possible this year.

At our January 2023 branch meeting members present adopted the branch's scholarship budget for this year. Thanks to the hard work of our members, the Stanwood-Camano Branch will be supporting a minimum of seven Tech Trek campers (\$1,100 each) and three college scholars (\$10,000 each) from right here in the greater Stanwood-Camano community as well as contributing \$3,000 to support the national organization.

All these funds have been raised and will be used in support of AAUW's charter purpose "to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research." **That means that local young women and girls will be receiving \$37,700 during 2023 with the potential for a similar amount being available in 2024**, given the success of PWP 2022 and the generosity of local donors on Giving Tuesday.

The additional \$3,000 contributed to our national organization will be divided equally between AAUW's Education and Training Fund, which is used for fellowships and grants and research projects as well as other programs that "address the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women" and AAUW's Greatest Need Fund where it will be used to "respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls."

Makes you want to say "yes" when that request comes to help with PWP 2024, doesn't it?



## Special Branch Activities

### Day Trippers

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

Lynda Buehring  
Jill Johnstone  
Jodie Brand

### Java Break

Meet for coffee/tea and great conversation getting to know your fellow members. Bring a prospective member too if you would like.

Nancy Voelckers

### Movie Group

Meet for a movie at our local Stanwood Cinema. Watch for an email invitation. Suggestions are encouraged.

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



**LIKE** our page to  
follow us then

**SHARE** to increase  
our visibility in  
the community.



[www.facebook.com/  
stanwoodcamanoaauw](http://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw)

### 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.

### February 6th, 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

Dance Hall of the Dead by Tony Hillerman

*Lt. Joe Leaphorn investigates the disappearance of two Native-American boys, one of them a young Zuñi. The investigation is complicated by an archaeological dig, a steel hypodermic needle, and the unique laws and sacred religious rites of the Zuñi.*

### March 6th, 2:00 p.m. (location to be announced)

Crossings by Alex Landragin

*"Crossings is an unforgettable and explosive genre-bending debut-a novel in three parts, designed to be read in two different directions, spanning a hundred and fifty years and seven lifetimes."*

### April 3rd, 2:00 p.m. (location to be announced)

Daughters of Yalta by Catherine Grace Katz

*The story of the fascinating and fateful daughter diplomacy of Anna Roosevelt, Sarah Churchill, and Kathleen Harriman, three glamorous young women who accompanied their famous fathers to the Yalta Conference with Stalin in the waning days of World War II. Tensions during the Yalta Conference in February 1945 threatened to tear apart the wartime alliance among Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin just as victory was close at hand. -- adapted from jacket*

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

### See You At the Movies!

Georgi Proulx

We had a great turnout for the movie, *A Man Called Otto*, on Friday, January 20. Eleven members and guests shared a great movie and conversation. A tissue or two are suggested.

Mary Raymond shared there is a Swedish version, *A Man Called Ove*, with English subtitles available as a DVD at the Sno-Isle Library and on Amazon Prime.

Anne and I are keeping our eyes out for the next movie and will let you know.

Hope to "see you at the movies."

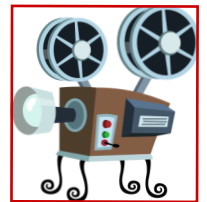
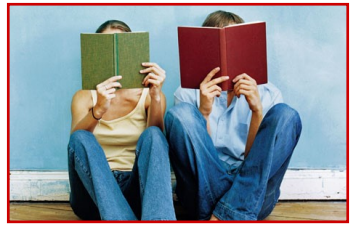
### Coffee Beans Ground and Brewed

Georgi Proulx

Nancy Voelckers was joined by eight branch members at the Camano Island Coffee Roasters on Wednesday, January 18, to kick off our first **JAVA Break**. We had a marvelous visit, played a white elephant game with our favorite recipes, and determined that we want to do it again...hopefully with YOU next time!

Next **JAVA Break** will be on February 15 (3rd Wednesday) at the Cookie Mill in Stanwood at 10:00 a.m.

Let's drip coffee and create cookie crumbs together...



## General Meeting Minutes - January 12, 2023

*Program: Rena Priest, Wa State Poet Laureate, virtual presentation, Community Resource Center and Zoom.*

**Attendance:** (29) Cheryl Allen, Lynda Buehring, Gay Campbell, Mary Chesney (Z), Jackie DeFazio, Katie Farrey, Jeanie Garrioch, Tracy Gilroy, Martha Huyler, Joyce Leak (Z), Marianne McGarry-Bloom, Anne Milton, India Nishi (Z), Jackie Olson, Rose Olson, Mary Pilkington, Patti Pontikis, Judy Prince, Georgi Proulx, Mary Raymond, Mary Ann Schradi, Helen Smith, Janet St. Clair, Doris Taylor (Z), Judy Trammell, Karen Van Lier, Nancy Voelckers, Karla Jacks, Linda Demetre. Guests (9): Beth Bryant, Chaim Bezalu, Yonnh Ben Levy, Joan Kurtz, Erica Picket, Mary Kasper, plus 3 that didn't sign in. Zoom guests totaled 50 including an elementary classroom.

**Call to Order:** Nancy Voelckers called meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

**Secretary:** Georgi Proulx presented November 10, 2022 minutes for approval as printed in the December newsletter. Motion to approve: Jackie DeFazio moved, Judy Prince seconded; motion approved. There was no business meeting on December 15 as it was Holiday Luncheon.

**Treasurer:** Judy Trammell reviewed the financial reports for November and December. Operating account had activity from luncheon checks, accounting fee, and school district room rental; current balance is \$3896.27. Total assets are \$80,613.72.

Scholarship budget for 2023 was presented for vote of approval as printed in the January newsletter with three changes for 2023: Tech Trek donations anticipated at \$2200 equivalent to the amount of our Stanwood Camano Give project, award amounts for university scholarships increased to three scholarships at \$10,000 each (formerly at \$6000 each), and Tech Trek participant quantity was set to seven at \$7700 total because although we have funds to send more campers we had not received a commitment for a member to attend as chaperone or teacher allowing more than seven. Gay Campbell moved to approve the scholarship budget, Katie Farrey seconded; motion passed.

**Membership:** India Nishi shared Joanne Drewsen is doing a terrific job with the Call Chain and mentioned the new Java Break gathering on January 18 to cultivate new members and connect current members.

**Programs:** Rose Olson and Doris Taylor discussed the February 9 general meeting at the Camano Library featuring Megan James, the Tulalip Tribe prosecuting attorney, talking about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Violence Against Women. Opening the meeting to the public was discussed, and Doris will get input from Megan then follow up with Georgi before January 18 if we need to publicize in the Crab Cracker.

**Public Policy:** Anne Milton related the themes for Lobby Day on January 30 are Legislation and Gender Equity; broadband access is also on topic for the day. Lobby Day is virtual and has a \$15 registration fee. Anne graciously offered her "kitchen table" for viewing as a group that morning.

**Tech Trek:** Mary Chesney reported that all schools in Stanwood, Arlington and Lakewood school districts have received the nomination information and applications that are due back to her on January 26. She explained that the Covid vaccine requirement may be an impediment to the nominated girls accepting the camperships.

**Governance Committee:** Jackie DeFazio explained this committee will review the branch bylaws and the upcoming proposed changes in the national bylaw guidelines that will be available for viewing after January 16. She encourages the membership to take a look at the guidelines on the national website and offer their comments to the committee: Jackie DeFazio, Martha Huyler, and Georgi Proulx.

**STEM Scholars:** Nancy Voelckers announced two new members Lael Williams and Linda Demetre, have volunteered to co-chair the STEM scholar committee, have begun learning the process, and planning the calendar for contacting the high schools.

**DEI:** Katie Farrey reported the branch DEI committee has met and is continuing preparation of our branch DEI document.

### **Interest Groups:**

Book Group: February 6: Dance Hall of the Dead.

It was suggested that in preparation for our March 9 general meeting, Debbie Dimitre's presentation of Rachel Carson, we read her book, Silent Spring.

Day Trippers: Lynda Buehring shared that Jodie Brand joined the Day Tripper team and will be helping her with the next outing in April.

**(continued on page 6)**

**Interest Groups continued:**

Movie Group: Georgi Proulx shared that the next movie will be "A Man Called Otto". More information via email once we know the show schedule.

Java Break: Nancy Voelckers announced our first meeting of the Java Break crowd on Wednesday, January 18, 10:00 a.m. at the Camano Island Coffee Roasters at Terry's Corner. Please come a bit early to purchase your beverage and a bakery snack then meet upstairs. The "game" for the group is a version of White Elephant: bring your favorite recipe on a recipe card and partake in the sharing of the recipes.

**Open Positions**: Nancy Voelckers reported we have the following positions available that need volunteers:

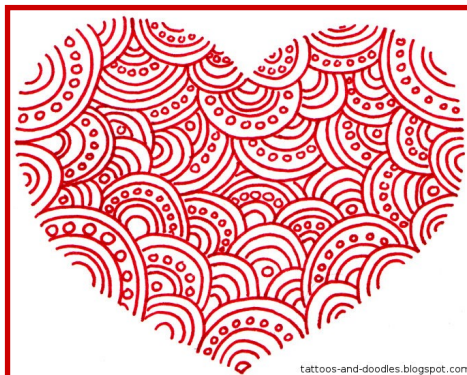
PWP 2024 needs co-chairs. This event is most important as it is the source of our funds for scholarships and all the community things we do.

Nominating Committee: It is that time of year when we begin planning the leadership team for the next year. Please volunteer to chair or be on this committee. Leadership is what keeps our branch alive.

**Refreshments** will be served at the February 9 meeting at the Camano Library. The following members signed up to bring goodies: Lynda Buehring, Linda Demetre, and Patti Pontikis. Thank you ladies.

**Adjourn**: Anne Milton moved to adjourn the meeting; Martha Huyler seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectively submitted,  
Georgi Proulx  
Secretary



**You have enemies?  
Good. That means  
you've stood up for  
something, sometime  
in your life.**

**~Winston Churchill**