



In Touch

May 2023

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

May 4th

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

May Board Meeting
Community Resource Center

May 11th

Thursday

7:00 p.m.

General Meeting
United Methodist Church
27128 102nd Dr NW, Stanwood

*High School STEM Scholar
Recognition and Introduction of
2023 Tech Trek Campers*

May 17th

Wednesday

JAVA Break

10:00 a.m.

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

President's Message

Nancy Voelckersx

It has been a pleasure this year to see so many members involved in our branch activities. Each month the Board and Leadership Team meet to plan upcoming events and meetings. We typically open each meeting with an "Icebreaker". In April I asked the group to share their favorite quotation. See their responses on page 10.

In addition to our regular meetings we've recently enjoyed our JAVA Break, Book Group and our sunny, but windy, Day Tripper outing to Edison and Bellingham. As our year winds to an end, we look forward to honoring our high school STEM scholars and Tech Trek students on May 11. In June we'll meet our scholarship recipients. This is a chance for you to meet in person the girls/women who have benefited from our fundraising initiatives for the past two years. Please plan to come.

Meanwhile, while our meeting year is winding down, planning for our next PWP has just begun and you can play a vital role. I hope you take time to read the newsletter and think about what part you would like to play in our vibrant branch. Working together we can may great things happen.

May: High School STEM Recognition

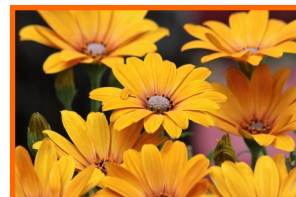
Doris Taylor

One of the highlights at our year's finish is the High School STEM Scholar Recognition to honor the outstanding girls at our local high schools in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Honorees are nominated by their teachers to receive special recognition by our branch for their achievements in STEM fields.

Our speaker, Divya Venkataramu, works in the technology sector. Beginning as a software engineer Divya developed technology products in health care, education and fintech. She then earned an MBA and pivoted to technology product management and marketing. She is presently a Senior Product Marketing Manager at Microsoft.

Please join us on May 11, 7:00 p.m. at Stanwood United Methodist Church for the recognition of our High School STEM scholars and introduction of 2023 Tech Trek campers. We invite members to bring some refreshments to share with the students and their families for this celebration of the achievements of these outstanding young women.

This always proves to be one of our favorite programs as it is evidence of our branch's success in achieving our mission. We hope you can join us.



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Future Events

June 1st
Thursday
1:00 p.m.

June Board Meeting
Community Resource Center

June 14th
Wednesday
JAVA Break

10:00 a.m.
Cookie Mill

For Coffee and Conversation
Bring a Prospective Member

June 25th
Sunday
1:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting and
Scholarship Tea
Camano City Schoolhouse



Visit our branch website:
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/)

Time to Renew Your Membership

Joanne Drewsen

It's that time of year where we contemplate, as members of Stanwood/Camano AAUW, how much we have accomplished to make a difference in the lives of women and girls – scholarships, Tech Trek, working on important legislative issues such as equal pay for women, not to mention ways that we come together, have fun, and support each other and our community - book group, Day Trippers, Candidate Forum, Purses with a Purpose, etc. Thank you to all members who have contributed so much to make this happen in whatever ways you have been able.

It's time to renew our membership in AAUW, and you can start renewing right now! Renewing as soon as possible is preferred, and the final day for renewing is June 30th, 2023. Dues this year will have a slight increase at \$106. National dues are \$72, State dues are \$10 and Branch are \$24. You can renew your membership in one of two ways, online or via mail.

You should have received an email last week from Katrina Breese AAUW. In the email she explains how to renew online. If you have visited the Community Hub before and have already established an account you can log into your Personal Snapshot at www.aauw.org where your Personal snapshot will appear with instructions on how to pay your dues (national, state and branch).

If you have not established an account, enter the email address AAUW used to send you the renew message and click Reset. You will receive a confirming email. Please do not create a new account.

To renew via mail, send a check for \$106 to AAUW Stanwood-Camano, P.O. Box 2652, Stanwood, WA, 98292.

Thank you so much for making our 2022-23 year such a successful one, and we look forward to seeing you again this upcoming year!



2023 Nominating Committee Report

Nancy Roberts

I am pleased to announce the results of the nominating committee tasked with nominating President-elect, VP Finance-elect, and Secretary. Jackie-Lyn Olson, our current President-elect, did not know whether her teaching schedule would allow her enough time to be President in the coming year; she accepted the nomination of President-elect. Meanwhile Helen Smith and Nancy Voelckers have accepted the nominations to share the office of President. Robin Hanks accepted for VP Finance-elect, and Linda Lynn accepted the nomination for Secretary.

Our slate of officers will be published formally in the June newsletter and voting will take place as part of our Scholarship Tea/Annual Meeting on June 25 at the Camano City Schoolhouse. Hope to see you there.



Public Policy: AAUW-WA Priorities in Our State Legislature UPDATE

Anne Milton



Last month I summarized the WA-AAUW priority legislative bills that would hopefully pass through the final committees. I am happy to report that all of these priority bills did pass through committee and are now awaiting our Governor's signature. In fact, Nancy Sapiro AAUW Lobbyist commented: "AAUW did some tremendous work this session and has a lot to feel good about!" The details on these bills are in the attached summary.

State-Sponsored Apprenticeship Program - 2SHB 1013

This bill establishes regional apprenticeship programs for Washington state students. These programs would allow students to participate in a state-run apprenticeship program in high school that would offer students experience in different fields that may not require a college education. **Update:** HB 1013 was signed by the Governor on April 20th.

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1013&Initiative=false&Year=2023>

Working Connection Child Care – 2SHB 1525 (WCCC)

This bill helps eligible families pay for childcare. When a family qualifies for child care subsidy benefits and chooses an eligible provider, the state pays a portion of the cost of childcare. This bill would provide qualifying applicants and consumers of state registered apprenticeship programs eligibility for the Child Care subsidy. **Update:** The bill was delivered to the Governor for signature on April 20th.

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1525&Initiative=false&Year=2023>

Unemployment Insurance Qualification - ESHB 1106

This bill relates to the qualifications for unemployment insurance when an individual voluntarily leaves work. Currently, if a worker is forced to quit their job due to inability or inaccessibility to childcare, the employee is ineligible for unemployment insurance. This bill allows for workers to qualify for unemployment insurance benefits while searching for new jobs. **Update:** The bill was delivered to the Governor on April 18th.

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1106&Initiative=false&Year=2023>

My Health My Data – ESHB 1155

This legislation would block websites and apps from collecting and sharing health data. It would prohibit the sale of health data, the use of geofences (location-based software that identifies when a person is in a certain area) to send unsolicited messages to persons at health facilities. It requires companies that collect personal data to create, maintain and publish a privacy policy for consumer health data. **Update:** The House concurred in the strengthening amendments added by the Senate. The bill was delivered to the Governor on April 19th.

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1155&Initiative=false&Year=2023>

Preventing and Responding to Harassment – SHB 1207

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) must develop model student handbook language that includes information about policies and complaint procedures related to discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying. All schools would be required to designate one person in the school district as the primary contact regarding compliance with state laws prohibiting discrimination in public schools. **Update:** The bill was delivered to the Governor for his signature on April 18th.

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1207&Initiative=false&Year=2023>

Supporting Crime Victims – 2SHB 1028

HB 1028 has several important provisions that support crime victims by promoting a victim-centered, trauma informed response by the legal system. Law enforcement agencies must investigate a reported sexual assault within 90 days. Hospitals and emergency medical facilities located in WA cannot charge for the examination of a victim of sexual assault. **Update:** The bill was delivered to the Governor on April 19th.

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1028&Initiative=false&Year=2023>



Tech Trek Update for May

Mary Chesney

As you may recall, we were very fortunate to have sufficient funding to consider sending all 11 of the Tech Trek applicants to camp this July. All the applicants were interviewed by Judy Prince, India Nishi, and me. We consistently asked each applicant and her parents the same questions. We provided the applicants with time to answer the questions and for us to ask any follow-up questions if needed. Information about the camp was provided to the parent and camper as well as information about AAUW and how the community supports this camp by providing funding through member donations and our biannual fundraiser.

Discussion about each camper took place after all the applicants' interviews were completed. Each camper's ability to be successful at camp was considered based on the applicant's comments and actions during the interview as well as the parent's comments. It was a great relief to the committee to know if we decided an applicant would not be selected it wouldn't be because of a lack of funding.

The committee also thanks Karla Jacks for volunteering as a dorm "momitor" so we can send more than seven campers. Please join us at the May 11 High School STEM Recognition (7:00 p.m. at Stanwood United Methodist Church) for the announcement and introduction of the campers selected.



Purses, Purses, Purses...

Gay Campbell, Jackie DeFazio, Robin Hanks, Georgi Proulx

It was exciting to see how many members participated in our April Purse Procurement Kickoff at the April 13 general meeting. Twenty purses were received and three members went home winner, winner, winners.

We are on our way to collecting high end designer purses, gently used purses, unique, and vintage purses. Our most popular purses have been designer handbags, totes, and crossbody; we're always looking for that special handbag or package to add excitement to the Live Auction.

Share our project with your family, friends, and neighbors. It's for a great cause. We would love to be able to support three \$10,000 scholarships again in 2024 and our Tech Trek participant count over ten.

Whatever you can do is appreciated.

We have leadership for most of the committees but could really use leadership for the business sponsorships. In 2021-22 businesses were contacted directly for sponsorships at different levels of giving and nearly \$5000 was raised - a tremendous success due to the personal attention given to the donors. Our community is generous, but they have to be asked. Think about it and let Georgi know if this interests you. If we do not get volunteers then we can't include this in our project and will miss out on donations that are out there....we just need to ask.

Bring purses to the May 11 evening meeting for the High School STEM Scholar Recognition. Every effort counts.



AAUW SC 2023 Scholarship

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Scholarship application season closed April 29, and the committee will be meeting to review and choose three applicants for our \$10,000 scholarships on May 19 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Marianne McGarry-Bloom.

Our Puruses with Purpose 2022 is supporting these generous scholarships for local applicants in their Junior, Senior or Master's Degree program at university. Please join us for a Scholarship Tea to fete our winners. We welcome cookies or tea sandwiches to enjoy during our Tea.

June 25, 2023 1:00 pm

Camano City Schoolhouse

993 Orchid Rd Camano Island, 98282

Meet Our Member

Karla Jacks

I was born in Seattle, but I grew up in Mount Vernon. I enjoyed summers spent at our family beach cabin on Whidbey Island. I used to wave to the A-6 pilots as they flew over our beach and they'd wave back to me. My youngest sister was born with an optic tumor which caused brain damage and blindness. I have been her guardian for over 15 years. As the oldest child in my family of three siblings, I often fell into the role of caretaker for my younger siblings and helping to take care of my family's home. My family depended on my help because of the needs of my younger sister.

I followed in my family footsteps and was a third generation Cougar at Washington State University. I graduated with a BA in Hotel and Restaurant Administration and a minor in German. My career began with Hilton Hotels in front office administration, but I moved into institutional food service management with ARA Dining Services. As the Manager of Dining Services at Oklahoma Baptist University, I attend Oklahoma City University and received my Masters in Business Administration. I was in charge of the university dining room and all university catering. After I completed my degree, I moved back to Washington and went to work at the Boeing Renton plant running all the on site food service locations within the factories.



Once graduated from WSU, I went to work at the San Diego Hilton Beach and Tennis Resort. I got to check in and meet many celebrities from Don Knotts, Brooke Shields, to Chevy Chase. I moved back to Washington and worked as a food service manager for Western Washington University and Camp Casey on Whidbey Island. I transferred to Oklahoma where I worked at two universities and attended graduate school. Turning down a promotion in the south, I moved back to Washington State to a position at Boeing. At this time became a stay at home Mom with three boys, of which the oldest was diagnosed with Autism. I worked at NWESD189 as the state family autism coordinator for the Washington State Autism Project and also as a Family Resource Coordinator for children with disabilities under the age of three. I was lucky to be hired and lead the Camano Center for thirteen years. I currently enjoy working in real estate with the RE/MAX Elevate team and serving our community as an emergency substitute teacher.

I love to read and have down time. My husband and I have a 37 foot Bayliner that we enjoy taking up into the San Juan Islands and into Canada. We are members of the Camano Island Yacht Club. This year we hope to repeat a trip to Desolation Sound with our family. My life stays pretty busy with our family and friends.

What would surprise us about you? I have a Pac 10 varsity letter in Women's Rowing from Washington State University. Our team rowed in the National Championships in Oakland, CA. I was a freshman in Pullman when Mt. St. Helens blew, and got to skip finals because of the ash.

Reasons for joining AAUW: I have focused so much on my family, that I felt I needed to bond with other similar women in my community. AAUW is very community service driven and will allow me to grow in my interests and friendships.

State AAUW Meeting - The Many Faces of AAUW

Georgi Proulx

I had the pleasure of attending the state AAUW business meeting via Zoom on April 15. Below are my notes:

There were fifty-three members present; nineteen branches had one or more representatives in attendance.

The finance report reflected the largest expense for the state organization is our lobbyist who receives \$1750 per month (usually three months but this year was four months). Other major expenses are insurance, board expenses for in person attendance to statewide meetings, the accountant, and webinar speakers. There is no plan to raise state dues.

Mary Williams, State President, presented the State of the State Address. The biggest item was our position with the IRS which is now in good standing.

May 17 membership VPs are getting together to get to know each other and share ideas for growing membership.

Special Project Fund (SPF) and Tech Trek: The relationship between these two parts of the state operations is now in good standing. The SPF is the fiduciary manager of Tech Trek; their relationship has been defined and settled. The SPF needs a secretary; contact Mary Williams if you are interested at president@aauw-wa.org.

The bylaws were approved as was the new board elected.

It was enlightening to observe the workings of our state board and understand a bit more about our organization. Perhaps you'll join me next time; until then please visit aauw-wa.org.



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

Georgi Proulx

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

Helen Smith

Diversity

Katie Farrey

Stanwood-Camano Give

Mary Raymond

Sunshine

India Nishi

Newsletter Team

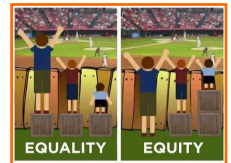
Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler



DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Spotlight

Katie Farrey

Definition: Structural Inequality: Systemic disadvantage(s) of one social group compared to other groups, rooted and perpetuated through discriminatory practices (conscious or unconscious) that are reinforced through institutions, ideologies, representations, policies/laws and practices. When this kind of inequality is related to racial/ethnic discrimination, it is referred to as systemic or structural racism.



Upcoming opportunities:

May 2nd, 2:00-3:30 p.m., Camano Island Library; "Unforgivable Blackness, a Ken Burns Documentary, Part 1"

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/6425efafbc4e5290038adc6>

May 4th, 2:00-3:30 p.m., Camano Island Library

"Unforgivable Blackness", a Ken Burns documentary, Part 2

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/6425efc6d8707f30001cacd7>

May 3rd, 10-11AM, Sno-Isle online

"Raising Antiracist Children" with Britt Hawthorne, Online Author Talk

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/63e1a0dbbf76ba2900ca9f5c>

May 5th Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Day of Action

<https://www.niwrc.org/mmiw-awareness>

May 9th, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Camano Island Library

"Jackie Robinson", a Ken Burns Documentary, Part 1

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/6424bf4b6d9b7d4200ccfedc>

May 10th, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Camano Island Library

"Jackie Robinson", a Ken Burns Documentary, Part 2

<https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/6424bf6e6d9b7d4200ccfed6>

Wednesday, May 10, 4:30 p.m.

"AAUW National Workshop: Diversity and Intersectionality"

Registration link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FYzrX3CIR0KbFMZiY5cxTg

The national Inclusion and Equity Committee invites all AAUW members to participate in a virtual workshop on Wednesday, May 10, from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. ET in preparation for World Day for Cultural Diversity (observed on Sunday, May 21). This workshop provides a hands on learning opportunity for AAUW members to explore aspects of diversity and intersectionality. Please join us on May 10!

May 21st World Day for Cultural Diversity

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/cultural-diversity-day>

AAUW Awards 2023-24 Fellowships & Grants

Jackie DeFazio

On April 17, AAUW notified nearly 285 recipients that they had been awarded fellowships or grants, amounting to \$6.3 million, as part of the 2023-24 AAUW awards cycle. Recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.



Each year this branch contributes to national AAUW funds which make possible these awards. Proceeds from our Purses with Purpose 2022 event were used for this contribution, another way in which what we do right here in the Stanwood-Camano area helps to change the world!

To learn more about some of the amazing women we have supported, go to www.aauw.org and click on "Fellowships & Grants" and then on "Funding Women's History."

Then contribute a purse for PWP 2024! Prove that those purses we collect and auction do indeed have purpose!

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.

May 1st, 2:00 p.m. at the Home of Mary Pilkington

French Braid by Anne Tyler

"French Braid is classic Anne Tyler: a stirring, uncannily insightful novel of tremendous warmth and humor that illuminates the kindnesses and cruelties of our daily lives, the impossibility of breaking free from those who love us, and how close--yet how unknowable--every family is to itself."

June 5th, 2:00 p.m. at the Home of Joyce Leak

Every Day is a Gift by Tammy Duckworth

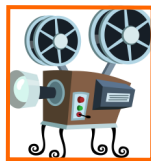
"The Iraq War veteran traces her impoverished childhood, her decision to join the Army, the months spent recovering from the RPG attack that shot down her helicopter and nearly took her life, and her subsequent mission of serving in elected office. This is her story as one of America's most dedicated public servants."

July 10, 2:00 p.m. Location to be Determined

The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi

"Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950s pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist - and confidante - to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own. As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled one day when she is confronted by her husband, who has tracked her down these many years later with a high-spirited young girl in tow - a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. Still she perseveres, applying her talents and lifting up those that surround her as she does."

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



See You At the Movies!

Georgi Proulx

Movie choices at Stanwood Cinemas has been pretty slim but we're hoping to see "The Book Club" after it releases in mid-May. Watch for the announcement.

Anne and I are always on the lookout for new movies and welcome suggestions.

Hope to "see you at the movies."



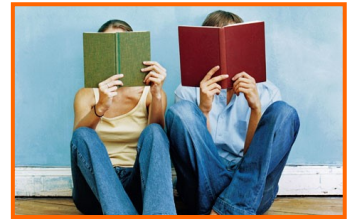
JAVA Break

Georgi Proulx

Four long-time members attended our April 26 JAVA Break catching up with their current activities and sharing ideas for the branch: Anne Milton, Martha Huyler, Nancy Voelckers and Georgi Proulx. The lemon doodles were very popular all 'round!

Next **JAVA Break** will be on May 17, back to the third Wednesday. We hope to see you at the Cookie Mill in Stanwood at 10:00 a.m.

Let's share a mug and create muffin crumbs together...join us!



Day Trippers: Bellingham by Way of Edison

Lynda Buehring, Jill Johnstone

Our April 19 Day Tripper to Bellingham was wonderful. Members of the Whatcom branch joined our group on a great day outdoors from Bow to Samish to Bellingham.

First stop was Bow Hill Blueberries in Bow where the tour showed how the blueberries are picked, cleaned and prepared for sale. Jill Johnstone reported a fabulous blueberry yogurt the next day for breakfast. Next stop was the Samish Bay Cheese Farm down the road from the blueberries for sampling and more purchases. Lunch was at Keenan's at the Pier in Bellingham followed by shopping at the Fairhaven District including Village Books. Twenty-one members and guests enjoyed a full day of touring, eating, and fellowship. What a full, fun day it was.

Below are some photos of the day courtesy of Martha Huyler and Mary Ann Schradi



Bow Hill Blueberries



Blueberry Picker



Samish Cheese Showcase



Susan, Joyce, Marianne,
MaryAnn, Susan, Mary



Catherine, Mary, Robin



Lunchtime View



Jenny, Jill, Charlotte



George, Judi, Martha



Linda, Lois, Lynda,
Georgi, Nancy

General Meeting Minutes - April 13, 2023

Program: Tracy Gilroy, member and attorney discussed "estate planning" at the Camano Library.

Attendance: (24) Nancy Voelckers, Judy Trammell (Z), Judy Prince (Z), Joanne Drewsen, Rose Olson, Georgi Proulx (Z), Anne Milton, Martha Huyler, Mary Chesney, Jackie DeFazio, Lael Williams, Tracy Gilroy, Thea Wellington, Lynda Buehring, Mary Pilkington, Joyce Leak, May Palmer, Mary O'Connor, Cheryl Allen, Susan Knipe, Elaine Richards (Z), Nancy Roberts (Z), Doris Taylor (Z), Robin Hanks (Z)

Call to Order: Nancy Voelckers called meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Reminded of the state meeting Saturday, April 15; two separate links for the morning and afternoon sessions.

Secretary: Georgi Proulx presented March 9, 2023 minutes as published in the April newsletter. Anne Milton moved to approve, Joyce Leak seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer: Nancy Voelckers shared the March financial report for Judy Trammell. Operating account had \$3479.25. Total assets are \$72,527.69. Activity was program fee, Utsalady Ladies Aids Building use, monies sent for 10 Tech Trek campers, two anonymous donations for Tech Trek camperships, a \$500 non-designated donation, and money market interest.

Membership: Joanne Drewsen reported we have 54 members. Renewal process has begun by mail; hold online renewal. Dues is now \$106. Team is searching for a real estate agent to receive and distribute promotional material about our AAUW branch. Concern was voiced that using a single agent may show unwanted favoritism; will continue to discuss and plan.

Programs: Rose Olson shared our next meeting May 11 at the Stanwood United Methodist Church for High School STEM Scholar Recognition; 7:00 p.m.

June 25 is Annual Meeting/Scholarship Tea 1:00 p.m. Camano City Schoolhouse.

Program Team is looking for volunteers to bring refreshments to both meetings.

Public Policy: Anne Milton reported the state legislative session is over April 23. Her latest article in the April newsletter is the most current update of the six areas of attention. Big win was passage of ESHB 1106 relating to the qualifications for unemployment insurance when an individual voluntarily leaves work. Currently, if a worker is forced to quit their job due to an inability or inaccessibility to childcare, the employee is ineligible for unemployment insurance. This bill allows for workers to qualify for unemployment insurance benefits while searching for new jobs.

Tech Trek: Mary Chesney stated the committee will begin interviewing eleven candidates; if all pass the interview one candidate will be an alternate. Joyce Leak offered to cover half of the campership for the eleventh girl; another half was offered anonymously resulting in eleven funded camperships.

Scholarships: Robin Hanks updated us on scholarships; committee will meet in May; scholarship season ends April 29.

STEM Scholars: Lael Williams reported she and Linda Demetre have identified the STEM recipients and are planning the evening. Lael gave kudos to the school counselors for their help.

DEI: Nancy Voelckers shared for Katie Farrey reported the DEI plan and Land Acknowledgement were accepted by the board and will be available soon. Nancy explained the Land Acknowledgement; more information on this later.

PWP 2024: Georgi Proulx reported the Purse Procurement Kick Off collected 20 purses. The first meeting of the steering committee is May 25 at the Camano Library 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Jackie DeFazio shared this was a great start; 180 to go. If you don't want to shop the Procurement Committee will shop for you; write a check to the branch and indicate it's for purse purchases.

Candidate Forum: Elaine Richards presented ins and outs of the Candidate Forum and need for leadership since Elaine is not available in October. Candidate Forum is tremendous service we provide to the community and a chair for the event is imperative. Discussed approaching the communications department of the Stanwood Camano School District for assistance if we can't get technical assistance from another source.

Continued on page 10

Activity Groups:

Book Group: Keep your eye on the newsletter for upcoming.

Movie Group: Georgi Proulx reported the search for movies is ongoing.

Day Trippers: Lynda Buehring shared the next outing is April 19 to Bellingham. Next outing is in the planning stage.

Java Break: Next gathering is Wednesday, April 26, Cookie Mill 10:00 a.m. Moved to fourth Wednesday so we could participate in the Day Trippers.

Drawing for Purse Donations: Three prizes were offered: 1) Bottle: Cheryl Allen, 2) Banana Cake: Joanne Drewsen, 3) Almond Cake: Susan Knipe

Adjourn: Nancy Voelckers adjourned the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgi Proulx

Secretary



Your Leadership Team shares their favorite quotes:

Well behaved women rarely make history.

Challenges are gifts that force us to search for a new center of gravity. Don't fight them just find a new way to stand.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.
~Ecclesiastes 3.1-11.

People will forget what you said; People will forget what you did
But people will never forget how you made them feel. ~Maya Angelou

Be a little bit brave for a little bit of time.

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Vision without execution is merely hallucination. ~Henry Ford

Think about it....do you have a favorite quote?

