



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

February 2024

Founded in 1936 ~ Celebrating 87 Years

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

February 1st

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

February Board Meeting

Camano Library

February 10th

SATURDAY, 10:00 a.m.

General Meeting

Open to the Public

Camano Island Library

Reinvent Life Lavender Style

February 17th

Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SCAF's Volunteer Fair

Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center

SCAF presents a Volunteer Fair

Come visit our booth

February 20th

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

JAVA Break

Cookie Mill

President's Message

Helen Smith

I am so excited about our upcoming Purses with Purpose Auction as it nears its April 27 date! Glimpses of purses of all description promise the auction will be another amazing fundraiser for our generous scholarships for university schooling and Tech Trek camping experiences in July. Thank you for your generous donations and chairpersons for their detailed planning and organizational abilities. Georgi Proulx lives and breathes the oxygen of the auction superbly keeping us all on task. Committee members have been thinking of ways to do things in the most efficient ways, perfecting what we hope will be one of our best auctions ever. The book group has been busy adding items to a "banned book" basket which will be a most delightful purchase. Special thanks to Gay Campbell for making a special book - themed quilt to the basket collection. Great imaginations, all! With all the rain we've had, that donated condo stay in Hawaii from Jo English is looking more and more enticing!

More seriously, we have to be busy in the community reminding people to vote in the levy election on February 13. February brings the local school levy election for the Stanwood-Camano School District. Be sure you remember to fill out your ballots which you should have already received, and get them in the mail before February 13. This is a replacement levy so you know that if it fails, then many cuts to basic education services and staff are possible. I know I'm preaching to the choir, as many of you are former educators. Those of us who had public school educations know that our generation had community support while we were in school. Then we had support from our communities while our children were in school. It's up to us to help the next generation. We're all better off with adequately funded education by our state and districts. In the meantime, let's keep track of the activities of the legislature and their support of school programs so students have success.

Happy Leap Year on the 29th!

February: Reinvent Life Lavender Style

Rose Olson

Please join us on Saturday, February 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the Camano Island Library meeting room for our February program and general meeting.

Renee Ellsworth and Leigh Fiedler, partners and owners of Our Legacy Fields Lavender Farm will share their transformational story. Renee, a former Vice President of Human Resources and Organizational Development for a prominent Northwest real estate firm and Leigh, a Detective with the Seattle Police Department, both mothers and hard-working women, wanted to reinvent their lives. They sought to do more of what matters to them, enjoy their family, and be there for others. This new beginning started in 2017, when they purchased Renee's grandparents' farm in Stanwood. Their presentation will take us down their path of enlightenment, dreams, and how that today is manifested in Our Legacy Fields Lavender Farm which opened to the public in 2021.

Note that February 10 is Lunar New Year, a significant holiday celebrated in Asian culture. This year is the Year of the Dragon.

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Future Events

March 7th

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

March Board Meeting
Camano Library

March 14th

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m. Social Half Hour

General Meeting

Open to the Public

Utsalady Ladies Aid Building

*Debbie Dimitre presents Bertha
Knight Landes, first woman
mayor of Seattle*

March 20th

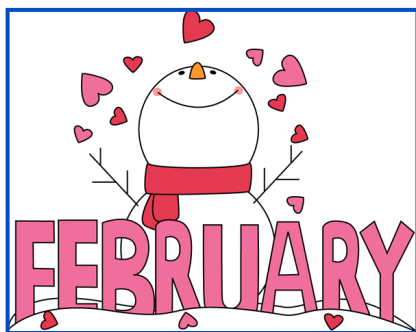
Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

JAVA Break

Cookie Mill

For Coffee and Conversation

Bring a Prospective Member



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/)



Purses with Purpose 2024 - What Is YOUR Plan to Help? Georgi Proulx

Time is drawing near to our big event, and I need help!

Purpose

1. Buy a ticket or table, invite friends that will contribute and buy, buy, buy purses while you're having a marvelous afternoon.

2. Second, but just as important, is helping at the event to make it the marvelous day we've bragged about.

The Steering Committee is working diligently to plan our event, but now we need volunteers the day of the event. We need students and adults to keep the event running smoothly. I'm looking for a Volunteer Coordinator, someone to recruit adult volunteers and work with Stanwood High School to recruit students to help while they earn points towards their community service.

- We need five girls to be purse models and work with Anne Milton to show off the live purse being auctioned then delivering said purse to the winner.
- We need six students to serve lunch and dessert and clear the dishes.
- We need eight adult helpers to work the silent auction, record the live auction and Fund A Scholar, and lastly, but so important, live auction spotters to draw our auctioneer's attention. Husbands are welcome to help.

Once the volunteers arrive at the event, they will be given specific tasks and training, but first, we really need to know that we have volunteers ready to go.

Please consider stepping up to help. You are needed. Call me...

PWP: Experiences for Purses

Jackie DeFazio

As we start creating the purse packages for the live auction, we call out to the membership for coupons of experiences to pair with a purse.

Anyone who has a membership in Village Theatre or a similar group please consider donating a couple of tickets to a particular performance or tickets to a pro sporting event (e.g., Seahawks, Kracken, Mariners) or a crab dinner to go with one of the crab totes.

These experiences add to the excitement of chasing your perfect prize.

Branch Donations to National AAUW Funds

Jackie DeFazio

At our January branch meeting, members passed the proposed Scholarship Budget, which funds the post-secondary scholarships we award each year to three students completing their college educations and the camperships given to eight Tech Trek Camp candidates. In addition, the budget includes \$3,000 which will be sent to AAUW Funds at the national level. Those dollars will be donated to two funds, the Economic Security Fund and the American Fellowship Fund.

The Economic Security Fund promotes women's livelihoods through advocacy for fair pay. The gender pay gap exists for every age group and widens over a woman's lifetime. It increases over the course of a woman's work life and is widest for women ages 45-64, after which women face a continuing income gap in retirement. Having earned less and therefore paid less into the Social Security system, they receive less in Social Security benefits. They also lag behind men in pension benefits and retirement savings. Funds are used to research the pay gap, train women to negotiate for the salaries they deserve, advise employers on fostering fair cultures, and promote fair-pay legislation.

The American Fellowship program began in 1888, a time when women were discouraged from pursuing an education. It is AAUW's largest fellowship program and the oldest non-institutional source of graduate funding for women in the United States. AAUW American Fellowships support women scholars who are pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research full time, or preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Candidates are evaluated based on scholarly excellence; quality and originality of project design; and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research.

Donations to these two funds extend the reach of our branch beyond the work we do for local women and girls to supporting women across the country.



Your 2023-2024 Board

President

Helen Smith

Advisory President

Nancy Voelckers

President-Elect

Jackie-Lyn Olson

VP of Finance

Robin Hanks

VP of Finance-Elect

(open position)

VP of Membership

Joanne Drewsen

Assistant: Jackie DeFazio*

Thea Wellington*

Secretary

Linda Lynn

VP of Program

Rose Olson

Assistant: Karla Jacks*

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

AAUW Funds Coordinator

Jackie DeFazio

Candidate & Issues Forum

Elaine Richards, Lael Williams

Historian

Helen Smith

Diversity

Katie Farrey

Stanwood-Camano Give

Mary Raymond, Georgi Proulx

Sunshine

Mary Ann Schradi

Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler



Public Policy: Lobby Day

Anne Milton

The AAUW Washington policy team hosted the annual Lobby Day via Zoom on January 22 to an audience of 65 AAUW members throughout our state. Speakers presented topics ranging from legislative advocacy to the Justice for Girls Coalition, Artificial Intelligence, Voting Rights in 2024 and next steps for policy actions.

Nancy Sapiro, WA Legislative consultant, outlined the steps in contacting your legislator to support your advocacy for new legislation. Accordingly, legislators are now open to 'live' office visits but their time and access is limited. Sending emails, calling the legislative assistant and utilizing the AAUW resources are all positive means to achieve bill support. Nancy stressed how advocacy can be achieved through the "one-minute ask."

In one minute or less, (face to face, phone conversation, or email) you would identify the specific bill, its sponsor, what it is, why it's important, who it affects. Then you conclude with a direct question asking for their support/vote. For example, "AAUW supports Senate Bill 5241 The Keep Our Care Act sponsored by Senator Randall. Health entity consolidations in Washington negatively impact the cost and quality of healthcare in our community. They prevent healthcare providers from delivering the care patients deserve. We ask that you please stand with patients, advocates and health care providers to advance the Keep Our Care Act. Can we count on you to support the Keep Our Care Act?"

Speakers Tristan Eddy and Hailey Gray discussed their 'Justice for Girls' (JFG) organization and stressed that the percentage of girls entering the juvenile justice/court system has increased tremendously. By focusing on at risk girls between the ages of 13-22, JFG is expanding prevention and discharge services for girls at risk of becoming involved in WA state systems including child welfare or juvenile justice. The key is education and training. There are presently 3 chapters in Yakima, King and Pierce Counties offering the 10-week training course entitled SHINE. The participants are paid a stipend for participating and learn about emotional resilience, communication and healthy relationship skills, practice in testifying, and legislative advocacy. In fact, JFG participants are presently advocating for HB 1479 -which is to eliminate the use of isolation and restraint in schools. Their website is www.jfgcoalition.org.

Speaker Megan Kissell is the Director of the National AAUW Policy team. She emphasized the importance of this election year and how elections matter at all levels. She briefly discussed what's happening in local school boards, concerns on book banning and invited all to participate in an upcoming National AAUW webinar on February 7, entitled "School Boards: The Battleground for the Education Culture Wars." Washington state just took a small step on January 24 to protect libraries across the state. Senate Bill 5824 passed unanimously and this comes in response to an effort last year to close the only library in rural Columbia County. 5824 will require more signatures to get proposed shutdowns on the ballot and then allowing a larger population of voters to decide a library's fate.

Lastly, the AAUW WA policy team reinforced that their legislative priorities fall into four categories: Education, Artificial Intelligence, Economic Security and Healthcare. (See page 7 of this newsletter for the list of these bills.) I do want to highlight a particular bill sponsored by Representative Clyde Shaver and Sen. Cleveland which supports women's working opportunities and diversity issues. In efforts to recruit more women to the police forces with a 30% female officer presence by 2030, Senate Bill 5424 would allow law enforcement agencies to adopt flexible work policies. These policies would allow officers to work less than full time when feasible, supplement work during peak hours with part time officers and include alternative shift schedules. SB 5424 just passed the Senate unanimously and is in the House. Stay tuned.



Tech Trek Update

Mary Chesney

Nominations for camp from the middle schools are due by February 9. For now...we wait. There will be much to report in March as by then we will have reviewed all the nominees and requested applications. Watch for updates!

Value of Growing Membership and Dues Assistance

Joanne Drewsen

We are 51 members strong and continuing to grow! Keep up the good work inviting friends, neighbors, and new people to our community who are interested in the goals and mission of AAUW. An additional bonus is getting to know great women who have fun and work hard on many issues, particularly providing scholastic opportunities to girls and women locally.

Dues Assistance - Our Stanwood/Camano branch has adopted a new policy that will benefit existing members first who are noticing that our dues continue to increase while their monthly income is not keeping up. We now have a Dues Assistance Fund that may be able to partially fund a member's renewal who requests it or if someone else requests on their behalf. There may be an opportunity for new members also, but we continue to emphasize Shape the Future for a reduction of national membership for new members.

Shape the Future through National AAUW provides a wonderful chance for new members to join our Stanwood/Camano AAUW branch at a significantly lower rate- \$70 versus the usual \$106. However, interested people need to join at a general meeting or event that is public. They should be prepared to bring a check or credit card and join at that meeting.

Our next general open-to-the-public meeting will be on Saturday, February 10. A great opportunity to invite friends who work or have conflicts with our usual meeting time and join at a discount.

Thank you to newer members who are renewing in the same month they joined with the new system National AAUW has put into place. Everyone who has joined since the Hub started in late 2022 will renew annually in the same month they joined. So, no longer is there a single "renewal season". National AAUW will send out renewal "invoices" to each member with some lead time ahead of their renewal date. As your Membership Chair, I will also try to send out a gentle reminder.

Come see us at the Stanwood-Camano Volunteer Fair on Saturday, February 17. SCAF is sponsoring a volunteer fair at the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center for 30 volunteer groups in our community and we are one. See their flyer above and plan on stopping by to say "hello." There will be activities for kids and snacks and door prizes.

Hope to see you on February 17 and keep up the great work on increasing our membership.

To borrow a slogan from Anne Milton's tenure of president ...let's "Drive to 75!"



Scholarship Season is Open!

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

February is here which means PWP and Scholarship Season for our AAUW-SC has begun. 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 April 30, the 2024 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 anyone who might qualify to apply. This one-on-one advertising is essential to get the word out that we are offering 3 (three) \$10,000 scholarships to upper level university students in their junior or senior year or Master's Degree program.

Applications will be accepted from February 1-April 30, 2024. Scholarships will be awarded to students who are current residents of Stanwood, Camano Island, Arlington, Lakewood, and La Conner areas OR are graduates of Arlington, Lakewood, Stanwood, or La Conner school districts.

Applications can be found at our website, www.aauwsc.org/scholarship. Applications are also available at the Washington State Scholarship website, theWashBoard.org.

DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Spotlight

Katie Farrey

Founded in 1973, PFLAG is the first and largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and their families.

Definition from PFLAG Skagit:

Transgender: Often shortened to trans, from the Latin prefix for “on a different side as”. A term describing a person’s gender identity that does not necessarily match their assigned sex at birth. Transgender people may or may not decide to alter their bodies hormonally and/or surgically to match their gender identity. This word is also used as an umbrella term to describe groups of people who transcend conventional expectations of gender identity or expression - such groups include, but are not limited to people who identify as transsexual, genderqueer, gender variant, gender diverse, and androgynous.

Upcoming Opportunities:

Black History Month

Arts WA <https://www.arts.wa.gov/collection/?request=record;id=114;type=901>

National Museum of African American History and Culture Digital Toolkit

<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/initiatives/black-history-month-2024/digital-toolkit>

February 3 to May 12, MoNA, La Conner

My Roots: Honoring the Cultural Identity of Skagit Valley’s Under-Resourced Children

<https://www.monamuseum.org/current-exhibitions>

February 10 Lunar New Year

<https://earthsky.org/human-world/chinese-new-year-lunar-new-year/>

February 20, 1:00 p.m., Sno-Isle Library Online Author Talk

Identity, Love, and Being Black in America with Jason Mott

<https://sno-islebibliocommons.com/events/655d41391abde5420060d003>

February 21 and 22, 7:30 p.m. Mount Baker Theatre

The Spirit of Harriet Tubman

[https://mountbakertheatre.com/Online/default.asp?](https://mountbakertheatre.com/Online/default.asp?doWork::WScontent::loadArticle=Load&BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::article_id=F309DD4E-CBCE-43D8-9F11-3C994AB6B518)

[doWork::WScontent::loadArticle=Load&BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::article_id=F309DD4E-CBCE-43D8-9F11-3C994AB6B518](https://mountbakertheatre.com/Online/default.asp?doWork::WScontent::loadArticle=Load&BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::article_id=F309DD4E-CBCE-43D8-9F11-3C994AB6B518)

March 2, 7:30 p.m. Lincoln Theatre

Timothy Egan presented by Mount Vernon Library Foundation

<https://lincolntheatre.org/live-event-timothy-egan>



Branch Endorsement of the School Levy

Georgi Proulx

At our January 4 board meeting the upcoming school levy was discussed and general consensus was that as a non-partisan group supporting education, our branch should advocate a “yes” vote for the replacement levy being put before the voters on February 13, 2024. A motion was made and passed by the board to endorse the replacement levy vote. Deborah Rumbaugh, SCSD Superintendent, presented a very informative program at our January 11 general meeting. Please read the excerpt below from the school district website:

“This replacement levy represents about 16% of the district’s annual budget. Without the levy funding, the district would need to cut its budget. And because investments in people and positions are about 90% of the budget, there would likely be layoffs resulting in higher class sizes and elimination of programs, including within athletics. Where and to what degree classes and programs are reduced would be decided later with input from students, staff, and the community as part of a Budget Reduction Plan where everything is on the table.”

The levy rate is estimated to be at \$1.42 per \$1,000 of assessed property value — or, for the owner of a \$500,000 home, about \$59 per month. If voters approve this replacement levy, the school district’s total tax rate including all levies and bonds will be lower than it was in 2022, before the Facilities and Tech levy expired.

“It is not an additional tax. This levy will replace our existing-but-expiring EP&O levy,” Rumbaugh said. “If approved, tax payers would simply continue paying about what they’re currently paying.”

To read the full article please visit: https://www.stanwood.wednet.edu/about/news/what_s_new/replacement_levy and see our endorsement in the current Crab Cracker page 24. Please vote!

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

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/
stanwoodcamanoaaauw](http://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaaauw)

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 5, 2:00 p.m. at the Home of Helen Smith

The Rose Code by Kate Quinn

Joining the elite Bletchley Park codebreaking team during World War II, three women from very different walks of life uncover a spy's dangerous agenda years later against the backdrop of the royal wedding of Elizabeth and Philip. "1940." -adapted from jacket.

March 4, 2:00 p.m. at the Home of Martha Huyler

A Fever in the Heartland by Tim Egan

"A historical thriller by the Pulitzer and National Book Award-winning author that tells the riveting story of the Klan's rise to power in the 1920s, the cunning con man who drove that rise, and the woman who stopped them."

April 1, 2:00 p.m. at the Home of Thea Wellington

Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder

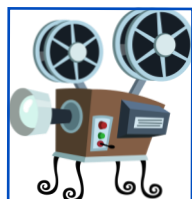
In medical school, Paul Farmer found his life's calling: to cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. This account takes us from Harvard to Haiti, Peru, Cuba, and Russia as Farmer changes minds and practices through his dedication to the philosophy that "the only real nation is humanity." At the heart of this book is the example of a life based on hope and on an understanding of the truth of the Haitian proverb "Beyond mountains there are mountains"--as you solve one problem, another problem presents itself, and so you go on and try to solve that one too. -from publisher's description

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



Next **JAVA Break** will be Tuesday, February 20 at the Cookie Mill 10:00 a.m. Please save the date, bring a friend, and hope the weather holds!

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

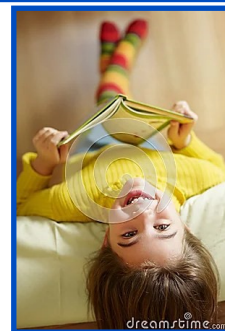


See You At the Movies!

Anne Milton, Georgi Proulx

We thoroughly enjoyed "The Boys in the Boat" and looking forward to our next movie outing.

Watch for email updates. We're keeping an eye out and welcome suggestions.



Below is the list of bills support by our state AAUW referenced in my Public Policy article from page 3.



Of Washington State

AAUW-WA is supporting the following list of bills. We ask for your support to ensure these bills pass in 2024.

Education

SB 5850 (Braun, Wellman) / HB 2146 (Rule, Connors) Supporting students who are chronically absent and at risk for not graduating high school.

SB 5102 (Wellman) Teacher-librarians and information technology

HB 1332 (Lekanoff) Supporting public school instruction in tribal sovereignty and federally recognized Indian tribes (implementing the Since Time Immemorial Curriculum).

Artificial Intelligence

SB 5838 (Nguyen) / HB 1934 (Couture) Establishing an artificial intelligence task force.

Economic Security

SB 5424 (Lovick) / HB 1413 (Shavers) Concerning flexible work for general and limited authority Washington peace officers.

SB 5793 (Saldana) / HB1991 (Fosse) Concerning paid sick leave. Changes definition of family to match PFML.

Healthcare

SB 5241 (Randall) / HB 1263 (Simmons) Keep Our Care Act.

SIR 8202 (Keiser) / HB 4201 (Gregerson) Amend the WA state Constitution to protect reproductive freedom.

AAUW-WA uses BillTrack50 to follow bills and track legislators' voting records.

If you would like to view our AAUW-WA 2024 Scorecard please sign up at www.billtrack40.com. This is a free site that gives you visibility on state and federal legislative activity. The direct link to the AAUW-WA 2024 Scorecard, after you sign up, is below:

<https://www.billtrack50.com/public/scorecard/summary/XfD5OjebyUWveldZrllmpA>

For more information contact AAUW-WA Public Policy Director, Sandra Distelhorst at publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org

General Meeting Minutes - January 11, 2024

Program: SCSD Superintendent, Deborah Rumbaugh, presented about the upcoming levy. Dr. Colin Ryan gave an update on the Teaching and Learning Department at the Camano Library.

Welcome: Helen Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 1:02 p.m. and welcomed members and guests. Katie Farrey read the land acknowledgement honoring our native peoples and land.

Following the presentation and a break, the general meeting began at 2:25 p.m., and Helen again welcomed us all.

Sunshine Report: Ex-member Carolyn Spector's husband is suffering from dementia, May Palmer is recuperating at Josephine's with a badly broken femur. Mary Ann Schrader will send cards.

Prior Minutes from November General Meeting as Printed in the December newsletter: A general vote approved the November minutes.

Finance Report: Robin Hanks reported. Expenses were: the tax accountant, liability insurance, and the PO Box. Income included a \$1,000 donation, two \$500 sponsorships, and \$4,300 from SC Give. The raffle from the Christmas luncheon and the raffle from the January general meeting raised \$228 for the dues assistance fund. Every year the membership votes on accepting the financial framework. Jackie DeFazio motioned to accept it, and Martha Huyler seconded; the motion was carried.

Our PWP money is proposed to be spent as follows: STEM: \$300 for gifts to recipients, TECH TREK: \$13,600 to send 8 students at \$1700 each, SCHOLARSHIPS: (3) \$10,000 college scholarships, and \$3,000 to National. The National funds chosen for equal disbursement were "American Fellowships - Current" and the "Economic Security Fund". Nancy Voelckers asked for a vote to accept those numbers and the National Fund, and the vote passed it.

PWP: Georgi Proulx informed us that we are nearing the end of the purse collection phase. There will be a steering committee meeting at the Camano Library next Thursday, January 18. She has prepared "save the date" business cards, and tickets will be available the end of January. We expect there will be eight attendees at each table, but this number is flexible and can range from six to ten if needed. The menu will be determined on January 18, which will in turn determine the cost of the lunch and the cost of the tickets. Jackie DeFazio reported that we have close to 200 purses, and she would like a few more live auction purses. There is still some money in the budget for purse purchase if necessary. Kathy Cunningham announced that she will be traveling and will need someone to step up and replace her in her job as leading the volunteers. If interested, please contact Kathy and Georgi.

Programs: Mary Raymond is working on the February program, which will be held on Saturday, February 10. She is trying to arrange a panel of women politicians.

Public Policy: Anne Milton reported the state legislature began their 60 day session on January 8. Lobby Day is January 22 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon with an intro session at 8:30 a.m. Attendance is via Zoom and the fee is \$10; all are welcome. Topics this year are education, ERA, and book bans. There is a link in the newsletter.

Tech Trek: Lael Williams reported. School counselors are being contacted, and they will contact STEM teachers and ask them to nominate attendees.

Activity Groups:

Movie Group: They viewed "The Boys in the Boat" on January 12.

Java Break: Wednesday, January 17, 10:00 a.m. at the Cookie Mill.

Book Group: The next book is The Rose Code at Helen's house on February 5.

Day Trippers: Lynda Buehring reported that plans are being formed for outings in March and April.

Adjourn: Helen Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Lynn
Secretary



To be prepared against surprise is to be trained.
To be prepared for surprise is to be educated.

~James P. Carse