



THE AAUW ISLANDER FEBRUARY 2012

The Whidbey Island Branch of the American Association of University Women's Monthly News



BRANCH MEETING:

DATE: Saturday, February 11th 2012

TIME: 9:30am social hour; program begins at 10:00am

LOCATION: Coupeville United Methodist Church, 608 N. Main St., Coupeville

PROGRAM: Our first speaker, Sarah Schmidt (aka "Bat Lady") will tell us interesting facts about our fuzzy friends. Next, the AAUW-Washington Membership Co-VP, Judy Rogers, will speak to us about successful methods other branches in our state have employed to bring in new members.

A New Member Coffee will be held on Thursday, March 1st. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. All members are welcome; but remember that the price of admission is a potential new member! The AAUW board will provide refreshments and we hope many of you will join us.

The coffee will be held in the home of Joan Chochon, 1610 NE Parker Rd.

This has been a very successful event for the past few years and a great way to introduce interested new women to AAUW. Please be thinking of a neighbor or friend to invite to this coffee.

Call Sue Norman, Christina Moats or Joan Chochon for directions.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The January Board Meeting covered many items. The appointed members of the Nominating Committee are Vonnie Secketa, Betty Nichols and Bonnie Abney as Chair. They are to provide a slate 6 weeks before our May Annual Meeting. Please consider contacting this committee with your recommendations for the following 2012-2013 offices: President; Vice President or President Elect; Secretary; Membership Vice President; and Program Vice President. Each position is for a two year term (Both Membership and Program have one member rotating off).

It was recommended that we set aside time in the beginning of the meetings to sign up to help in upcoming events and to sign up for Interest Groups.

The Membership VP's are working on the membership coffee to be held in the spring to recruit new members.

In discussion of the Scholars Night it was emphasized that we depend on our membership attending this event. Scholars Night is to honor the recipients and their families in each high school and we can feel the success of our fundraising efforts by attending this event. The Chairs are Shirley Bennett and Carol Rice. Please contact them to help with the event. Also, they need an interviewer toward the end of Feb.

The Showcase of the Arts will be held at the Coupeville Library on May 4th and 5th. Plans are looking great with their new format and a reception is being considered for Friday evening. Pat Lokanis and Dottie Snders are chairs. They will need volunteers to supervise those two days and will have a sign-up at the Feb. meeting.

There have been a number of appeals from Marji's House lately and Pat Lokanis sends you thanks for your donations.

The University Grants Committee is well under way with Sue Norman and April Wilder as chairs. The Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship Committee is in contact with all three high schools. It is hoped that there are applicants this year. Marilee Petersen and Linda Riffe are the chairs.

The State AAUW announced that the roster of Washington college partners has grown to 10 and our state convention will be held at the University of Washington/Tacoma on April 13-15, 2012. The theme for convention this year is Smashing Barriers to Equity in Education. The college list is: Bellevue CC, Eastern Washington University, Highline CC, Lios Graduate College of Saybrook University, Pacific Lutheran University, Skagit Valley CC, Walla Walla CC, Western Washington University, Washington State University and University of Washington/Tacoma. April Wilder works with our partnership with Skagit Valley Community College.

Here are some 2011 statistics on the biggest issues faced by women and girls:

24% unfair wages / unequal pay

22% low self esteem/negative media images (41% for young women)

18% access to quality health care, health care issues/obesity/cancer/STD's

14% sexual harassment / gender discrimination/ stereotyping

13% workplace climate & lack of promotional opportunities

11% work/family or work/life balance

In AAUW you belong to a community that breaks through economic and educational barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

A Toast . . .



Here's to good women
May we know them
May we be them
May we raise them!

BRANCH NEWS:

- **International Affairs:** The February Meeting is Friday, February 17th at 10am in the Coupeville Library. Mary Pattison, chair
- **Book Group I :** Book Group 1 will meet at Cathie Estes' home, Monday, February 6th at 10am, to discuss Sarah's Key, by Tatiana de Rosney.
- **Book Group II:** "Joie des Livres" will also be reading Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosna on February 15th, 1pm at Betty Nichols.
- **Book Group III:** "Cheryl's Readers" will meet on Wednesday February 22nd at 10 am. The book for discussion is City of Tranquil Light by Bo Caldwell. The Coupeville Library meeting room is not available this month, so the meeting will be moved to the home of one of the members - please call or email Edith Bryan for directions--her info. is on our website. New members are always welcome to join us!
- **Rose's Gourmet :** This group will have a lovely theme of "soup samples" for Feb. 23rd at Julia Hodson's home. New members are welcome! Call Julie Williams if you would like to join the Lovely Soupers this month.
- **Baker's Dozen:** This group will meet on Friday, February 3rd, 11:30 am, at the home of MaryAnn Safford. MaryAnn has chosen Cajun or Creole food in honor of Mardi Gras.
- **Lunch Bunch:** This group meets at Noon on the following dates:
February 22nd - Cafe Langley
March 28th - Cafe Bella, Oak Harbor
April 25th- Silverwater, Port Townsend
May 23rd - Ruby's Tea and Treasures, La Conner
June and July - no schedule
August 22nd - Long Horn Cafe, Bow/Edison
September 26th - Ivar's, Mukilteo
October 24th - Oyster Bar, Bow
November 14th - Skagit Gardens, Mt. Vernon
December 12th - Basil Cafe, Bayview

++Please contact Jessica Koeberle, chair, for more information or to make reservations.



- **Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon:**

Tickets for the Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show on March 22nd will be available at the February meeting. Don't forget to invite your friends and fill a table for this annual and usually sold-out event! Our committee is in place and working to make the event a smash hit! Remember that a good portion of our proceeds come from the raffle; so if you know a merchant who might contribute a raffle prize, or if you have a prize to contribute yourself, please contact Clare Christiansen, chair. Her contact information can be found on our website: aauw-whidbeyisland.org All donations are greatly appreciated.

- **Women in History Wants You !!**

This program during Women's History Month in March is extremely popular with the 5th grade teachers and students here on Whidbey Island. Now is the time to volunteer to be an actress for a week. All you need to do is pick a favorite woman to portray, prepare a 10 minute presentation as if you are that woman, and then perform for two or three 5th grade classes. We hold a rehearsal in late February and do our portrayals in groups of three, so there is no need to be nervous. I can provide help and guidance as you prepare. This is a perfect project for new members wanting to get more involved - that's how I started some years ago. It is now a source of satisfaction and fun for me every year.

Please contact Mary Ellen Loy if you are interested in being a Woman in History.

**Member names and email addresses are on our AAUW website.

- **Marji's House:**

Rachelle Dillaman, House Case Manager at the Opportunity Council, has advised Pat Lokanis that a different family from the previous two has requested the following items:

Toaster

Sharp knife set

Can opener

Vacuum cleaner

Towels of all sizes

Bath rug

Twin sheets-2 sets in flannel or jersey knit due to daughter's sensory issues

++Please contact Pat Lokanis if you have any of these items to donate.

- **Request from Erlene Little:** please delete her cell phone number from your directories as she cannot hear her cell phone. She uses it for emergencies only. Thankyou!

- **Dream Kitchen Tour:**

The 2012 Whidbey Island Dream Kitchen tour will be on Saturday August 25th and the Pre Tour for home owners and kitchen coordinators will be on Friday evening August 24th. **Please mark your calendars and contact Bonnie Abney if you would like to volunteer for this event.** Her contact information can be found on our website: aauw-whidbeyisland.org

- **Scholar Recognition Night:**

There are 7 AAUW members who have volunteered this year to meet with the STEM (Science, Technology, Math and Engineering) student scholars and inform them about AAUW and its programs. The STEM scholars have been chosen by each of the 3 Whidbey high schools. The principals and counselors at each of the high school have received their packets with letters, selection forms and time-line information. The selection forms will be returned to the counselors by Feb. 17, 2012. The interview team for each high school will schedule their visits during the last week of February.

The recognition night for the 2012 STEM scholar winners from each of the Whidbey Island High Schools will be Tuesday April 10th. Shirley Bennett, chair of this committee, requests that members put this date on their calendars. In addition, Shirley's *big news* is that the previous scholarship winner, Kira Homola is confirmed to be the speaker for this event. Kira is an undergrad UW Marine Biology student spending some time on a NOAA ship!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS:



Barbara Lindberg	02/01
Sharon Nicholson	02/04
Marti Thomson	02/05
Mary Ann Safford	02/08
Jessica Koeberle	02/12
Sheryl Sato	02/15
Cathleen Sullivan	02/20
Carol Rice	02/21
Vonnie Secketa	02/24
Trudy Sundberg	02/28

**Wishing You Love
and Laughter in 2012**

**Pat Hamilton,
Islander Editor**