



## THE AAUW ISLANDER APRIL 2013

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



### **BRANCH MEETING:**

**DATE:** Tuesday April 9<sup>th</sup>

**TIME:** 7pm

*\*\*\*please note that this is not our regular meeting date and time. Also the date in the directory is incorrect.*

**PROGRAM:** Stem Scholar Recognition Night

**LOCATION:** Coupeville United Methodist Church

### **\*\*\*\*\*STEM SCHOLARS RECOGNITION NIGHT\*\*\*\*\***

Kelsi Franzen will speak on "Ascertain the Uncertain and Embrace the Small Moments: One woman's words on leading a life of passion, purpose and a bit of unpredictability." Junior STEM students will be acknowledged and senior students will be awarded scholarships. Refreshments follow the awards. Don't miss this one as it is one of the best nights of the year!

*\*\*\*We would appreciate more volunteers to bring goodies and donate flowers from your gardens. A day or two before April 9<sup>th</sup> Shirley hopes to come to your garden and cut some flowers for SMALL vases on the 9 tables we will be using. We'd like daffodils and tulips etc. for shorter arrangements. Call Carol Rice or Shirley Bennett ( their contact info can be found on the member website: [aauw-whidbeyisland.org](http://aauw-whidbeyisland.org)).*



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

Our March Branch meeting was held at Whidbey Telecom Conference Center in Freeland. What a great venue for a meeting! We welcomed some new members and were pleased to see some familiar faces return to meetings. Hopefully our "snow birds" are returning. Lori Cavender from Ryan's House spoke about the plight of homeless teens on Whidbey Island. Many of our members were generous with donations. Thank you. We had three great performances from the Women in History group with Betty Bond as Amelia Earhart, Alice O'Grady as Grace O'Malley, the Irish seatrader and pirate and Jean Gervais as Sybil Ludington, the female Paul Revere. Mary Ellen Loy organized a great group of seven members to visit the Fifth grade classrooms on Whidbey Island. Sarah Mackaman updated her Aung San Suu Kyi character. Bonnie Abney presented Sandra Day O'Connor and handed out copies of the constitution. Mary Ellen Loy took us back to colonial times with Abigail Adams and I returned to Alaska as Libby Riddles, the first woman to win the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. Thank you to all who participated.

Our Fashion Show on March 21st was a resounding success! The tickets were sold out, the raffle brought in more revenue than expected and the food was terrific. Thank you, Helen Bates and her committee, for all the hard work and also to our lovely models.

As I mentioned at the Fashion Show, Jessica Koeberle and Julie Williams are going to attend the State AAUW Annual Meeting in Pasco on April 19 & 20th. April 4th is the final deadline for registration if other members are interested in attending. There are details and forms in the Spring Evergreen Leader and on the state website.

Our Board of Directors voted to offer a scholarship to a graduating female student at Skagit Valley College, in addition to our customary High School Scholarships. Bonnie Abney is working with the SVC Administration to choose a suitable candidate. Our next branch meeting on April 9th will honor our STEM recipients along with the other Scholarship awardees. Please make an effort to attend.

In May, we will be welcoming our State co-President, Kelvie Comer at our Branch Meeting on May 11th. She will be updating us on what is happening at the State and National level with AAUW. ----Sue Norman



### **Christy Pedersen**

Welcome to our newest member, Christy Pedersen, who is from Dallas, Texas. Christy studied Creative Writing for two years at Florida State University in Tallahassee, then graduated from the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK, two years later with a B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication with an emphasis in Public Relations. She also attended a summer program in Global PR at the University of Erfurt, Germany, and a summer fashion design program at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY.

Christy has worked as an event planner and blog writer in Dallas and Jacksonville, FL. She married Ryan Pedersen, a Navy P-3 pilot, in 2012 and moved to Whidbey Island. Christy enjoys planning events, fundraising, cooking, coffee, food, traveling and outdoor events and is active in the Navy Officers Wives Club.



## **BRANCH NEWS:**

- **Book Group I:** This group meets the first Monday of the month at Cathie Estes' home.
- **Book Group II:** "Joie des Livres" will meet for lunch at 1pm on April 17<sup>th</sup> at Rita Peterson's home. The book to be discussed is: Accelerated by Browen Hruska.
- **Book Group III:** "Cheryl's Readers" meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 10am in the Coupeville Library.
- **Book Group IV:** "Romeos" (Retired Old Men Eating Out) meets at 1pm on the first and third Thursdays at the Oak Harbor China City.
- **Garden Group:** Tuesday, April 23rd, this group will visit the Bellevue Botanical Garden, Wells Medina Nursery and have lunch in Bellevue. All AAUW members are invited. If you would like to join us, or for more information, contact Vonnie Secketa.
- **Gourmet #1 :** Rose's Gourmet- will meet at noon on Thursday, April 25th at the home of Julie Williams. The theme for April is "Variations on Green"- green in color, locally grown food, and spring. Carol Rice will host. RSVP to Carol.
- **Gourmet # 2:** " Baker's Dozen-- Vonnie Secketa will be this group's hostess on Friday, April 5th. She will be greeting the group at the door with Mimosas as the theme will be "What's for Breakfast?" On the menu is quiche, strata, fruit, coffee cake, scones, meats and Ebelskivers, so far!
- **Gourmet # 3:** "Global Gourmet" meets the 4th Friday of the month. --Marti Thomson, chair
- **International Affairs:**
- **Lunch Bunch:** It was a great lunch in Bow at the Rododendron Cafe for March. We are looking forward to the 4th Wednesday in April when we gather at the Mukilteo Coffee Cafe and Ca' Buni in Langley. Hopes are that the members at the south end will be able to join us.
- **The Thursday Night Supper Group:** meets the 2nd Thursday of each month.

### **WASHINGTON 2013 ANNUAL MEETING**

Four branch members representing the Whidbey Island Branch will be in Pasco April 19-20th. There will be activities, tours, speakers and workshops. Milli, Julie, Marilyn and Jessica will bring back some news and ideas.

"Hearty thanks and congratulations go out to all our AAUW members and friends who helped make our Spring Fashion Show a success. By all signs we surpassed our financial goal thanks to all who supported this fundraiser. Final figures will be out soon. Plan now to attend our next show tentatively scheduled for March 20, 2014!! --- Helen Bates, chair



### THE WHIDBEY BRANCH SHOWCASE OF THE ARTS

The Showcase Committee is hard at work painting the peg boards to display this year's art from the high schools on the island. The dates of the Showcase are Friday, May 3rd, and Saturday, May 4th, at the Coupeville Library.

We hope our membership comes to the Showcase as it is always special to share the art of young students.

\*\*\*We are in need of Docents for the following hours:

Friday - 10:00 to 12:00, 12:00 to 3:00, 3:00 to 5:00

Saturday - 10:00 to 12, 12:00 to 2:00, 2:00 to 4:00

A sign- up will be available at the Scholars Recognition Night April 9th.

Please contact Pat Lokanis or Jessica Koeberle to sign-up if you cannot attend that night meeting.

### THE AAUW LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR MARCH

+Check on gun sales—died due to lack of getting the necessary 50 votes

+Repeal of Family and Medical Leave—lack of funding

+Implementing of Family and Medical Leave—never made it out of Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

+Paid Sick Leave—Senate sends to the House

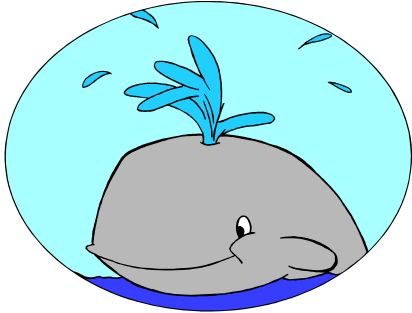
+Childcare Reform—increases access to higher education for undocumented immigrants and extends the State Need program to low income students-moving on to the House

+Surrender of Firearms- restricts firearms from designated people who have been in trouble with the law-passes out of the House



The purpose of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

# APRIL & MAY BIRTHDAYS



Marisa LaRue	04/04
Blair McDaniel	04/06
Julia Hodson	04/09
Rita Peterson	04/09
Marj McNae	04/11
Becky Bolte	04/14
Lou Hartley	04/25
Bonnie Abney	05/14
Kathleen Shaw	05/17
Eileen Clark	05/28



## *Aries/April Birthday Celebration*

*If your birthday falls between March 20th and the end of April we hope you will join us for a birthday luncheon at the Captain Whidbey. Please contact Blair McDaniel for details. Blair's contact info can be found at: [aauw-whidbeyisland.org](http://aauw-whidbeyisland.org)*



Pat Hamilton, editor