



THE AAUW ISLANDER SEPTEMBER 2013

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



BRANCH MEETING:

DATE: Saturday September 14th

TIME: 9:30am Social; 10:00am brunch served

PROGRAM: *Potluck Brunch*-- We begin our 2013-14 year of AAUW meetings at the lovely waterfront home of Linda McNamara. This will be an informal gathering where members can catch up on news, the summer activities of friends and learn about what is planned for the coming AAUW year. We will get to know new members, sign up for chosen special interest groups, projects and various committees. This is a potluck brunch; so bring your favorite dish and enjoy others' good cooking! *** Prospective members are welcome!

LOCATION: 1566 Scenic Heights in Oak Harbor:

Linda's home is south of the barrier (a long ago road collapse); so coming from the north is a bit tricky. Call Linda McNamara or Pat Lokanis for directions (their numbers are in your directories or on the website: aauw-whidbeyisland.org) Coming from the south turn right on Miller (just before Oak Harbor) and left on Scenic Heights.

The sign-up sheets for committees and interest groups will be available at the September Brunch Meeting. Please be sure to consider what you would like to be involved in this coming year and sign up. If you see a blank space by the "chair or co-chair" positions, that means we need someone to fill that position. If you are already involved in an interest group (e.g. book group), you do not need to sign up again. We are only as strong as our women who participate, so please consider what you would like to do this year. Thank you!
Pat Hamilton has graciously agreed to continue with the newsletter until December; however, we need someone to step forward to assume this position. Is that person you? I know how much we all appreciate getting the AAUW Whidbey Island news every month. It's a great way to stay in touch when we don't see each other. Linda Riffe, Vice President



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Welcome back to our 2013/2014 year with AAUW. I know a lot of our members had a busy and productive summer. We were sorry to lose two members, Trudy Sundberg and Julia Hodson. There are brief pieces about their contributions to our local AAUW branch later in the newsletter. Our September Branch meeting promises to be a great "kick-off" to the coming year. Please try to attend, bring a dish to share and sign up for your favorite Interest Group, Fund Raising Event, or Outreach Program.

We had our Leadership Summit in July with outgoing and incoming officers and Committee Chairs. There were suggestions for improving some of our activities and streamlining some processes. As the year progresses, we hope to implement many of these suggestions.

We are hoping to have one of our members step forward to chair the Grant (now Scholarship) Committee. We also need a chair for the Performing Arts Scholarship Committee.

Pat Hamilton has done such a good job in editing this newsletter, but now has some exciting travel plans for the future. We really need someone to take over the Newsletter.

Julie Williams and I are planning on attending the AAUW State Leadership Conference on August 24th. This year the meeting is renamed "All Members Meeting". It welcomes all AAUW members to join in planning for the future direction of our State organization.

We will report what we learn from this meeting to our own AAUW Branch in September.

Looking forward to a great year!

Sue Norman



BRANCH NEWS:

- **Book Group I:** This group will meet at Cathie Estes' home on Monday, Sept 9th (note the date change for Labor Day) at 10am to discuss The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce.
- **Book Group II:** "Joie des Livres" will meet at 1pm for lunch in the home of Babette Thompson. The book to be discussed is Dovekeepers by Alice Hoffman.
- **Book Group III:** "Cheryl's Readers" meets the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10am in the Coupeville Library.
- **Book Group IV:** "Romeos" (Retired Old Men Eating Out): The Men's Book Group meets at 1pm on the 1st Thursday of the month (Sept. 5th) at China City. The book for September is "FIREFIGHT: The Battle to save the Pentagon after 9/11" by Patrick Creed and Rick Newman. On the 3rd Thurs. ROMEO's meet at China City at 1pm for a general discussion.
- **Garden Group:** Pat Howell, chair
- **Gourmet #1 :** "Rose's Gourmet" will meet at the home of Jean Fitzgerald on September 26th and the theme will be Chinese food.
- **Gourmet # 2:** The "Baker's Dozen" will be meeting in the home of Jean Fitzgerald on Friday, September 6th at 11:30am. The theme for this lunch will be "Your Favorite Recipe". This may be hard for some and we might have a meal of only desserts! Please – lunch ladies – think healthy!
- **International Affairs:** This group will meet Friday, Sept. 20th in the Coupeville Library at 10:00AM. The subject is "Threat Assessment" and the discussion leader is Jean Gervais. All members of AAUW are welcome to attend!

- **Lunch Bunch:** This group will gather at the Port Townsend ferry dock and walk on Wednesday August 28th. They will have lunch at the Silverwater Café and then take in a movie. Showing times for these two movies will be in Jessica's upcoming email. Please RSVP right after you receive this email!
- **The Thursday Night Supper Group:** meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. At this time this group is full; but someone else would be welcome to start another Supper Group!

September/October Birthdays



Sally Dillon	09/03
Mona Mathewson	09/15
Carole LaFond	09/19
Sandy Overton	09/28
Julie Williams	10/01
Kay Klein	10/02
Linda Riffe	10/03
Jeannette Fitzgerald	10/18
Fran Spicer	10/18
Babette Thompson	10/18
Rosemary Toft	10/21

"The STEM Scholars Event Committee encourages interested members to sign up to volunteer. If you have been on this committee in the past you know what a satisfying experience it is to meet these outstanding young Island women. Nine Junior women from our three high schools will be selected and feted on April 15, 2014."

Carol Rice and Shirley Bennett



IN MEMORY OF:

Julia Hodson was a Charter Member of Whidbey Island Branch of AAUW, joining at our first public meeting in 1995. Many of us noticed this "woman in the hat" then and at subsequent monthly meetings. From that founding year until her death, Julia was faithful in attendance, contributed food and help at our early fundraiser, Arts and Appetizers, and later regularly baked for our Scholars' night events. She had a strong interest in the advancement of women in education and business toward which she worked on our Grants Committee for several years. In later years, she enjoyed being a part of Rose's Gourmet group. She was particularly helpful in lending credibility and knowledge to our discussions of women in business. For all these reasons and more, she was awarded one of our branch Education Funds Honoree designated for this year. Four members went to Julia's home to present her with this award a few weeks before her death as she had not been able to attend the meeting to receive it. She was surprised and very pleased with the proclamation read to her. Julia will be missed with her keen interests, faithful support and devotion to her AAUW friends.

Trudy Sundberg was one of the charter members of the Whidbey Island Branch of AAUW. She was the keynote speaker at one of the first branch meetings in September 1995. Our members gathered to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the 19th amendment, granting women the right to vote. Members attended the meeting dressed in period costumes. Trudy also served a term as Public Policy Chair. She was active in the community founding the Whidbey Island Democratic Club and serving three terms as President of the League of Women Voters. Trudy was passionate about education and was active with the Oak Harbor High School Debate Team. Her many activities mirror the causes that AAUW stands for. She will be missed by our Branch and the greater Oak Harbor community.

Pat Hamilton, editor