



## THE AAUW ISLANDER OCTOBER 2013

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



### **BRANCH MEETING:**

**DATE:** Saturday October 12th

**TIME:** 9:30am Coffee; 10:00am Meeting

**PROGRAM:** Whidbey Island author Dorothy Read and Whidbey resident Ilse Smit are the speakers. Dorothy has written a book, End the Silence, about Ilse's childhood experiences in a Japanese internment camp in the Dutch West Indies during WWII. Dorothy will have copies of her book available for purchase.

**LOCATION:** Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland

Sign-up sheets will be on the tables at the October branch meeting. Those who were unable to attend the September meeting will have an opportunity to sign up for Community Outreach committees, Fundraising Committees, and Interest Groups.

**IMPORTANT:** We do not have anyone signed up as chair or for the committee for Academic Scholarships. This is one of our major activities for young women on Whidbey Island outside of our State and National activities. Please consider signing up for this committee as Chair, Co-Chair, or committee member.

Please also note that the STEM Scholar Recognition has no committee sign-ups. Carol Rice has agreed to chair it; so let's give her a hand and sign up to help. If you are new to AAUW, this is a great way to become involved, meet new friends, and give back to our community. If you are afraid it might be too much work or you are not sure you can do something like this, please call the Committee Chair, President Sue, or myself, and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Thank you so much for helping make AAUW Whidbey Island strong. Linda Riffe, VP



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

We had a fun and well attended meeting on Saturday, Sept. 14th to kick-off our year. Linda McNamara welcomed us into her beautiful home on Scenic Heights Road. The potluck was fantastic with such a variety and quantity of delicious dishes. We all had fun visiting with members, guests and potential new members. After eating, we held a short business meeting. Meg Eisenbraun introduced the new members. Linda Riffe provided our new sign-up sheets for this coming year. The sign-ups include Interest Groups, Community Outreach and Fund Raising. They will be available at the October Branch meeting also.

Christina Moats has agreed to chair a committee exploring new fund-raising ideas. If you have any suggestions, please contact Christina or myself. We are hoping to put in place some events to help fund our scholarships. The Fashion Show is scheduled for next March with Helen Bates and her committee already at work.

Linda Riffe, our current Vice President, has a sale pending on her home in Oak Harbor. If the house sells, she will be moving out of the area. Linda does so many things for AAUW from the sign-up sheets at the beginning of the year to chairing the Art Scholarship Committees. She has always given good advice and counsel throughout the year. If her sale goes through, we will need to find someone to fill out her term.

Mary Ellen Loy has accepted the office of Finance Vice President after our newly elected Finance V.P., Marie Miller, sold her house over the summer. As you can tell, our AAUW Board has been undergoing change. To succeed we need the help and cooperation of all our members. Our next Board Meeting is Oct. 14th at 10am in Coupeville Library.

Our next branch meeting is Saturday, October 12th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland. Pat Lokanis and Marilee Petersen have put together some great programs this year. Please try to attend as many as possible.

Thank you,  
Sue Norman



Top 10 New York Times bestselling mystery writer J.A. Jance appeared at the Village Bookstore in Bellingham in mid September. AAUW was represented in the audience as well as presenter Bonnie Abney from our own Whidbey Island chapter!!

This is Judy Jance's 21st mystery in the P.D. Beaumont series Second Watch. Bonnie assisted Judy in her research for the book as part of Bonnie's early life was a sub-plot in the story. Bonnie was invited to accompany Judy on her book signings. They have been doing the signings mostly in the NW in Sept./ Oct. and then they head to Arizona, Texas, Tennessee and other places east. Bonnie's Bernise Mountain dog, Cracker Jack, attended the OR and WA signings and the audiences loved him!

The exciting news is that Second Watch is #7 on the New York Times Best Seller List and #5 on the E-book list.

We look forward to reading Jance's new book and Bonnie's story. . . Jessica Koeberle



## **BRANCH NEWS:**

- **Book Group I:** This group will meet Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am in Cathie Estes' home to discuss Light between the Oceans, by M.L. Stedman. --Nancy Hodges
- **Book Group II:** "Joie des Livres" will meet at 1pm for lunch in the home of Betty Nichols. The book to be discussed is Orchardist by Amanda Coplin. Judi Moore is the discussion leader.
- **Book Group III:** "Cheryl's Readers" is reading The Last Runaway by Tray Chevalier for Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Coupeville Library. This group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.
- **Book Group IV:** "Romeos" (Retired Old Men Eating Out) are reading EMBERS OF WAR: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of America's Vietnam by Fredrick Logevall for October.
- **Gourmet #1 :** "Rose's Gourmet" meets on the 4th Thursday of most months (November and December are scheduled earlier in the month because of Thanksgiving and Christmas). The October meeting will be at Milli Stanton's house and the theme is Egyptian or Moroccan food. Any one wanting to join us is welcome.
- **Gourmet # 2:** The "Baker's Dozen" will meet at the home of Pat Lokanis on October 4th at 11:30 am. The theme this month will be Trick or Treat. All foods must begin with the letter T.
- **International Affairs:** This group will meet Fri., Oct. 18th in the Coupeville Library at 10AM. The subject is Chapter 4: "Myanmar". The discussion leaders are Betty Nichols & Judi Moore. All members of AAUW are welcome to attend! --Chair: Mary Pattison
- **Lunch Bunch:** The Oyster Creek Inn lunch will be on October 23rd.  
With the holidays during our usual meeting time, the final two lunches of the year are:  
November 13th - Patron Mexican Restaurant at Ken's Corner in Clinton  
December 13th - Frida's Gourmet Mexican Restaurant in Anacortes
- **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!

### **Think Beyond the Branch**

**by Connie Dunkelberger, State Nominations Chair**

AAUW members are noted for community involvement and volunteer for a lot of projects. Volunteer leaders make their communities stronger and more vibrant by bringing AAUW's mission to life at the local level, with branch projects and programs. They also work with other organizations and the work doesn't carry the AAUW name, yet fulfills our mission. There is nothing wrong with this, but if we had more of our branch members involved at the state and national levels of our organization we could make a greater impact for equity for women and girls.

The state nominations committee is looking for candidates for officers for the 2014-15 term and invite all members to review the resources available on the AAUW website and consider becoming a candidate for an officer at the state level: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/leader-essentials/> The officers up for reelection in April of 2014 are: President, V.P of Membership and V.P of Finances. You will find the candidate application form at: <http://aauwwa.aauw.net/members/resources/leadership-resources/nominations/>. The nominations committee member for the Northwest District is Sue Moses of the Port Townsend Branch, she is able to answer questions you may have about becoming a candidate.

If you are a new member of AAUW and want to learn and increase your leadership abilities please go to: <http://www.aauw.org/get-involved/>. Here you will find many ways to be involved at all levels of our organization, some of the items take very little time, however they will make a big impact toward the mission.



**\*\*\*Judy Sjerven Nicholai---** Judy is a Californian and calls Ventura her hometown. She earned her B.A. in Music Education at San Diego State in 1963 and spent 30 years in Minnesota. Judy taught public school music for several years, directed church and community choirs, and performed as well. She was a member of the Willmar, MN branch of AAUW for over 10 years, and one special memory was being invited to sing her song “We Are Women” at the International AAUW Convention in Minneapolis at Orchestra Hall in 1977. Her “best job ever” was Director of Education for the San Diego Symphony from 1999 to 2003. In June 2013 Judy moved to Whidbey Island and married jazz pianist Nick Nicholai. She and Nick sing and play at various venues in the region. Please welcome Judy to our Whidbey Island branch.

**\*\*\*Barb Bland---** Barb was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, studied English and History at Lawrence College in Appleton, WI, and went on to earn her B.A. in English in 1959 from Valparaiso U. in Indiana. In 1962-63 Barb studied French at the U. of Strasbourg, France, and earned her M.A. in French in 1968 from the U. of Wisconsin in Milwaukee/Madison. Barb taught secondary school in Milwaukee, White Bay, and Anchorage, retiring and moving with her husband Curt to Whidbey Island in 1980. She loves animals, writing, doing artwork, photography, travel, gardening, cooking and eating, sports, music and water activities. She has traveled extensively in Europe, Russia, China, New Zealand, Australia, USA, and western Canada. She crewed on a 38’ sailboat from Seward, AK, to Victoria, BC, and skippered a chartered sailboat in the British Virgin Islands, and was on the ski patrol in Alaska. She is new to AAUW; but has been involved with the Oak Harbor Yacht Club, Help House, WAIF, Whidbey Writers group and Whidbey Golf Club. Barb has a self-published a book, Running Free, coming out in October 2013, and has had her writing appear in several publications and has exhibited her artwork and photography at juried art shows.

**Sarah Mackaman is preparing our new Member Directory. If any of your information has changed in the past year, please email Sarah with your updated information.**

# October/ November Birthdays



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
Pat Hamilton	11/01
Marilee Petersen	11/11
Cee Shacker	11/18
Barb Bland	11/18
Barb Kerns	11/21
Sue Norman	11/21
Angie Homola	11/23
Jan Heideger	11/27
Linda Russell	11/27

**"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**



*Pat Hamilton, editor*