

American Association of University Women Whidbey Island Newsletter



NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Please welcome our newest member, **Nancy Bolin-Romanski**. In September, Nancy and her husband John moved to Whidbey Island from Annapolis, Maryland.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, she attended St. Joseph Academy and the College of St. Mary of the Springs. She received her Masters degrees from the University of Michigan (Library Science) and the University of Wisconsin (Gerontology). She also obtained her teaching certification in Maryland.

Her work life has been rich and diverse: Cleveland Public and Cuyahoga County Public Libraries (OH); St. Francis Indian School (SD); Cambridge

Mental Health and Development Center (OH); the Maryland State Department of Education (MD) as specialist in federal grants, institutions and aging services. The latter led to a 21-year joint partnership in Transform, Inc., which offered training, consulting, and surveying services to information-providing agencies throughout the U.S.

Most recently Nancy worked for Watermark, Inc. as a costumed interpreter of Annapolis and Maryland history for groups of all ages. In addition to volunteering with hospital pastoral care and the Anne Arundell County Dept. on Aging/Stanford University Wellness program, she has been involved with community activities and book groups.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our *February Branch* meeting in Freeland featured Sharon Erickson sharing her experiences building housing and medical clinics in Uganda. She was such an inspirational speaker. We thank her for filling in for a cancelled program. (See Message on Pg 2)



MARCH PROGRAM

The March meeting for AAUW will be in honor of Women's History Month. Several actor's from our group who visit the 5th graders during the month will have their dress rehearsal at our meeting. But from experience we know that they will be giving polished performances!

The League of Women Voters have expressed interest in attending our meeting. We hope that they will enjoy this special program.

We gather at 9:30 am for coffee, the program begins at 10. This will be followed by a short business meeting.

March 8th, 9:30 a.m.
**Coupeville United
Methodist Church**
608 N Main Street
Coupeville

~ Pat Lokanis,
Program VP

Message (con't from Pg 1)

Our next meeting will have our own AAUW members with the *Women in History* presentation. Which women will be visiting AAUW this year? You won't want to miss their performances.

Helen Bates reports that the Fashion Show tickets are selling out quickly. The *Fashion Show* is scheduled for March 20th at the Whidbey Golf Club at 11:30 a.m. Please support this fundraiser by attending, donating a raffle item, or bidding on the silent auction items. This event supports our Scholarship Fund.

Our nominating committee of Marti Thomson, Clare Christiansen and Betty Nichols is busy trying to fill upcoming positions in *Leadership for 2014-2015*. The roster of officers will be presented in the April newsletter and voting will take place at the May Branch meeting.

Our *New Member Coffee* is scheduled for March 6th at 10:00 a.m. at Joan Chochon's home. Members are encouraged to bring a potential new member to be introduced to our group. Please think of a friend, neighbor or fellow church member that might be interested.

Christina Moats is collecting items for the *Terrific Treasures* sale scheduled for next Fall. She will pick up donations at any time. Since we skipped a sale last October, we are hoping for a great selection of "treasures" this year.

Our next *Board of Directors meeting* is scheduled for March 10th at 10:00 a.m. in the Coupeville Library.

~ Sue Norman

Of Interest From Olympia

The "Real Hope Act" has passed both houses. It would allow financial aid to college bound students who are sons and daughters of undocumented immigrants. It will now advance to the Governor's desk in a few weeks.

House Bill 2672 took public testimony which would raise the minimum wage to \$12 per hour over the next 3 years.

The Senate Committee on Law and Justice approved SB 5156 requiring women under the age of 18 to notify their parents prior to abortion care. The Bill could soon be voted upon by the full Senate perhaps a reminder that there are strong forces to undermine women's rights to reproductive care.

Listen for news on schedules in Olympia on the radio at 91.7 FM.

~ Jessica Koeberle

Terrific Treasures Sale

The Terrific Treasures Sale needs you! After the Fashion Show, **the October Sale is our only other fundraiser** scheduled this year so, let's make it a good one!

Christina Moats is happy to pick up your donations anytime, just call her. She has a little room in her storage



locker but we could use more space as well - even a corner of someone's garage would be helpful.

Best selling items are: small appliances, lamps, small furnishings like side tables or night stands, jewelry, dishes, home decor, smaller sized rugs, collectibles, antiques,

housewares, seasonal decorations, kitchenware, vintage linens, artwork, estate jewelry.

We appreciate any and all contributions to the success of the Sale.

COMMITTEE PROJECTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

New Member Coffee March 6th

AAUW-WI members are encouraged to bring a guest or potential new member to our annual *New Member Coffee*.



Date: **Thursday, March 6th**

Time: **10:00 am**

Place: **Joan Chochon's home**

Joan has hosted this event at her lovely home for the past several years and has offered again for 2014. Do invite a friend, neighbor or acquaintance who may be interested in a new endeavor and help to strengthen our membership.

Please give this some priority and make this year's Coffee a success!

We realize that there is a lot going on in March, but strengthening our membership helps us all! Board members will provide refreshments. **RSVP** to Joan.

~ Meg Eisenbraun & Diane Peters,
VP's Membership

Spring Fashion Show FLASH!!!

It promises to be another Fashion Show sellout! If you have not purchased or reserved your ticket, please do ASAP by calling or emailing Helen. Right now there are a few tickets left to be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Don't get left out!!!!

Place: **Whidbey Golf Club**

Date: **Thursday, March 20**

Time: **11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

Price: **\$30 Per Person**



Raffle Prizes and Silent Auction:

Remember to bring all raffle and silent auction donations to the March 8 meeting!!!! If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact Helen at numbers listed in the directory. Thanks for your continued cooperation. *Together we can do it!*

~ Helen Bates, Fashion Show Chair

Scholar Recognition Evening Scheduled

Place: **Coupeville United Methodist Church**

Date: **Tues. April 15th**

Time: **7 p.m. (Set up begins at 6:00 p.m.)**

This is what we're about! This event is where we announce the recipients of the scholarships and grants. A good turnout for this event is desired.

We sincerely appreciate flowers from your gardens to decorate the tables, tasty finger foods for guests and members to enjoy, plus your time and assistance in set up and clean up.

Please email Carol and myself (by mid-March) noting specifics about how you will be able to contribute to this event. Thank you in advance. *Your participation guarantees us success.*

Committee members are scheduling meetings with the 9 STEM recipients and their counselors. Our speaker will be announced in the April AAUW Newsletter.

~ Shirley Bennett & Carol Rice, STEM co-chairs

BRANCH PROJECTS AND MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

Tech Trek Camp Planning Underway

Jessica Koeberle and Diane Peters went to a tri-county conference in Stanwood for information and inspiration to ensure that Tech Trek gets off to a good start on Whidbey Island. The duo began meeting with principals and counselors of the middle schools on Whidbey to present information about this STEM focused summer camp planned for July 20-26. Soon the larger Tech Trek committee will be reviewing applications and essays and setting up interviews with the students. For more information about Tech Trek please visit the WA State AAUW website at <http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net>.

**New Members Trying to Figure it Out**

Slow approach or jump right in? To get a better *feel* for our branch and our focus try to attend the Branch Meetings. Arrive around 9:30 a.m. to socialize before the program begins. Also try to attend the upcoming AAUW local events such as the Fashion Show fundraiser, Women in History, Showcase of the Arts, and Academic Grants and Scholar Recognition evening. Springtime brings multiple AAUW events then we take a break in the summer months. Do read more in your AAUW directory and on the website where there's a wealth of information.

Special Interest Groups

Please refer to the AAUW directory as well as our website www.aauw-whidbeyisland.org for Interest Group information.

☒ Book Group I:
March 3, 10:00 a.m.
The Orchardist
by Amanda Coplin

April 7, Whidbey Reads choice
Little Century by Anna Keeseey
Group Leader, Cathie Estes

☒ Book Group II:
"Joie des Livres"
March 19
Me Before You by Moyes
Facilitator JoAnn Gilbert
Group Leader, Marti Thomson

☒ Book Group III:
"Cheryl's Readers"
The Bartender's Tale
by Ivan Doing
Group Leader, Edith Bryan

☒ Book Group IV:
"Romeos" (Retired Old Men Eating Out) meets the 1st Thurs. at 1:00 pm at China City in Oak Harbor.
Group Leader, Ron Teker.

☒ Cultural Events:
Contact Carole LaFond or Betsy Cave.

☒ Gourmet #1:
"Rose's Gourmet"
March 27th, at the home of Carol Rice. Theme TBA. Contact new Group Leader, Christina Moats.

☒ Gourmet # 2:
"Baker's Dozen"
March 7th, 11:30 am at the home of Peggy Tyson.
Theme: "*Spring: Color and Zest!*" Perhaps there will be color in the gardens by then?
Group Leader, Pat Lokanis.

☒ Gourmet #3:
"Global Gourmet"
Contact Marti Thomson.

☒ Garden Group:
4th Tues. Mar. thru Sept.
Contact Pat Howell or Peggy Tyson.

☒ International Affairs:
March 21st, 10:00 a.m.
US Trade Policy
Discussion Leaders are Shirley Bennett & Alice O'Grady
Contact Mary Pattison.

☒ Second Thursday Supper Group: Meets the 2nd Thurs at different restaurants on and off island.
Group Leader, Virginia Teker.

☒ Lunch Bunch:
Thurs. March 6th at 12:00 Noon at Gordon's at Bayview
Group Leader, Jessica Koeberle.



Birthday Announcements March and April

Prater, Joan	03/03
Lokanis, Pat	03/04
Loy, Mary Ellen	03/05
Ries, Lynn	03/07
Bennett, Shirley	03/11
Yeakel, Judy	03/14
Asher, Jean	03/21
Tyson, Peggy	03/26
Bryan, Edith	03/31
LaRue, Marisa	04/04
McDaniel, Blair	04/06
Peterson, Rita	04/09
McNae, Marj	04/11
Bolte, Becky	04/14
Hartley, Lou	04/25



General Meeting Calendar

March 8, 2014 Sat, 9:30 am

Women in History, Coupeville Methodist Church

April 15, 2014 Tues. 7:00 pm Evening Meeting

Scholars Recognition Night, Coupeville Methodist Church

May 10, 2014 Sat. 9:30 am

Immigration laws and Service Dogs, Trinity Lutheran Church

June 14, 2014 Sat. 9:30 am

Installation of Officers Brunch, Whidbey Golf & Country Club

Branch Projects & Member Opps. Calendar

March 6 10:00 a.m.

New Member Coffee, Home of Joan Chochon

March 20 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Spring Fashion Show, Whidbey Golf & Country Club

April 15 7:00 p.m.

Scholars Recognition Evening

May 2-3

Showcase of the Arts, Coupeville Library

October Date, Time & Place TBA

Terrific Treasures Sale Fundraiser

See the directory and the website for more information.