

American Association of University Women Whidbey Island Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a successful *Scholars Recognition Event* we enjoyed on April 15th. I want to acknowledge the efforts of Carol Rice and Shirley Bennett in presenting such a well-organized program. Many of our members participated in introducing the STEM and Scholarship Award winners. Angie Homola and Christina Moats did a terrific job with their scholarship committees. We had an exceptional group of young women receiving recognition for their achievements. Thank you to all of the members that brought food and helped Alice O'Grady with the refreshments. Mary Ellen Loy printed the programs and nametags. Our program V.P.s, Pat Lokanis and Marilee Petersen arranged the chairs and tables and set up the PA system. I'm sure I've forgotten to thank some others, but it was truly a group effort.

May starts off with our *Showcase of the Arts*, May 2nd and 3rd. This *All-Island High School Art Show* is professionally judged with

prizes in the categories of wall art, photography, pottery and jewelry. Thank you to Pat Lokanis for chairing this event and Camille Brighten for organizing the volunteer docents. There will be a reception with refreshments from 5-8pm on May 2nd to announce the winning entries.

Our next branch meeting is May 10th at 9:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland. This is our Annual Meeting that includes voting for the 2014/2015 *Slate of Officers*. The program covers Immigration Law with Lourdes Fuentes and a special visit from the Summit Assistance Dogs group from Anacortes. I am hoping that many of our members will attend this important meeting.

If you are getting ready for spring cleaning, don't forget to put aside some of those "terrific treasures" for our sale next October. Call or email Christina Moats for pick up of your donations.

~ Sue Norman

Slate of Officers for 2014-2015

President - nominee Christy Pedersen
 Vice President - Christina Moats
 Program VPs - Pat Lokanis & Marilee Petersen
 Membership VPs - Diane Peters & nominee Betty Nichols
 Finance VP - Mary Ellen Loy
 Secretary - nominee Alice O'Grady
 * *The vote for candidates will be May 10th and the installation of officers will be June 14th.*

MAY PROGRAM

Service Dogs and Immigration Laws

The May program should be very interesting and exciting. We will first meet Joy Thompson and her Golden Retriever Sailor. She will demonstrate how she is training Sailor to be a service dog for Summit Assistance Dogs and tell us about this very important organization.

We will then hear Lourdes Fuentes, immigrant from Cuba and Seattle lawyer who will discuss the complex and every-changing world of immigration with a focus on the impact of the laws on women.

Voting for candidates for our 2014-15 year will also take place. Coffee will be available at 9:30am and the program will begin at 10am. Guests are always welcome.

May 10, 2014, 9:30 a.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
18341 SR 525, Freeland

~ Pat Lokanis
 Program VP

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Please welcome three new members to AAUW Whidbey.

Gina Burrill

Gina Ostman Burrill was born in Southern Oregon, 30 miles south of Crater Lake, and graduated from high school in a class of 13. She worked in the airline industry for twelve years, became a mother of three and returned to school at age 40. She earned Associates degrees in Fine Arts and also Arts & Sciences at Everett Community College in 1999 and then went on to complete a B.A. in Studio Art/Psychology at Western Washington University in 2000. Gina has worked as a photography instructor, a bookseller at an independent bookstore, a behavior interventionist for elementary school, and as a college and career advisor at a large high school. She then became an Ordinary Seaman for Washington State Ferries and is working towards Able Bodied Seaman. Gina moved to Whidbey from Camano Island in August 2012, joined National AAUW in October 2013, and enjoys art and reading.

Betti Jordan

Betti was born in Kentucky and grew up in Hollister, CA. She married career Navy man Jerry Jordan (now deceased) in 1976 and lived in California, Florida, Louisiana, Georgia and Washington State. Along the way she earned several Associate degrees from

Ventura College, Ventura, CA, in Psychiatric Technology; Oxnard College, Oxnard, CA (Accounting); Chapman University, Orange, CA (Liberal Arts); then a B.A. in Social Science from Chapman U. and her Masters in Education (specializing in Adult Ed) at Western Washington U. in Bellingham, WA, in 2002. Betti has worked in the field of Mental Health in 5 states in a variety of settings as a program director, program manager, activity coordinator, case manager and psychiatric technician. She is currently doing on-call work.

She enjoys her book group, reading, traveling, dining out, playing games, theater, gardening, arts and crafts, and taking life long learning courses.

Marisa Leandro

Marisa was born in San Francisco and grew up in Novato, CA. She spent 3 years in the Pre-dental program at Western State College in Gunnison, CO; then went on to earn her Dental DDS from the University of Colorado in Denver. She then spent 3 years at the Naval Post-graduate Dental School in Bethesda, MD, where she received her M.S. in Prosthodontics. Marisa retired as a Navy Officer prosthodontist recently and is looking forward to doing a bit of traveling for a year or two.

FUNDRAISER

Terrific Treasures Sale

The Terrific Treasures Sale needs you! The October Sale is our final fundraiser scheduled this year and we need it to be successful!

**Date: October 4th**

(**Set up on Friday Oct. 3rd)

Place: Grace Community Church (near the Blue Fox drive-in just south of Oak Harbor)

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.

~ Christina Moats, Chair

SPECIAL EVENTS

AAUW Scholar Recognition Event

The annual AAUW Scholars Recognition Reception was held at the Coupeville Methodist Church on April 15, 2014 at 7pm. This was an evening to recognize outstanding female high school students and was attended by family, counselors, friends and many AAUW members.

The AAUW STEM Scholars Recognition Program identifies outstanding female high school students in Washington State. Junior students who exhibit excellence in mathematics, science or technology are selected by the schools and then honored throughout Washington State AAUW branches. Students from each of the three Whidbey Island High Schools were honored at this event.

STEM Scholars 2014 are:

Coupeville High School

Amanda Hoesman-Foley - Mathematics
 Marisa Etzell- Science
 Madeline Strasburg - Technology

Oak Harbor High School

Emily Huffer - Mathematics
 Reilly Richards - Science
 Hayley Lundstro - Technology

South Whidbey High School

Meaghan de Wolf - Mathematics
 Isla Dubendorf - Science
 Emma Lungren - Technology

Also recognized were senior female students who were awarded scholarships. The AAUW Academic Scholarships were awarded to a student in each of the high schools.

Oak Harbor High School - Claire Hovde

Coupeville High School - Heni Barnes

South Whidbey High School - Sophia Nilsen

Dale M Fischer Memorial Art Scholarship was awarded to:

South Whidbey High School - Tess Radisch

Many thanks go to all of the AAUW members who attended and helped with the numerous facets of this program. What a wonderful group of women, who honored an amazing group of young women.

~ Carol Rice, Chair



STEM Scholars: (back row) Madeline Strasburg, Marisa Etzell, Amanda Hoesman-Foley, Isla Dubendorf, Hayley Lundstrom, Reilly, Richards.

(front row) Emma Lungren, Meaghan deWolf, Emily Huffer



Senior Scholarships: Heni Barnes, Claire Hovde, Sophia Nilsen, Tess Radisch

Update on Tech Trek Camp

As you know AAUW found in past studies that, compared with their male peers, women continue to major and choose careers in STEM fields at an alarmingly low rate. It seems getting girls thinking at an early age about majoring and working in STEM is a critical step in increasing their ranks as adults.

Tech Trek has fostered 7th grade girls' interest in STEM by learning about its subjects in a fun-filled and hands-on college environment. The site is Pacific Lutheran University and camp week is July 20-26.

Our Committee has been dedicated to find the three top 7th grade applicants from all Whidbey Island Middle Schools through this procedure: nomination by their science/math teachers, an application submitted with a written essay and a face-to-

face interview with our Committee.

Our Branch has donated \$2000 and WA State AAUW gave an additional \$1000 for our three selected campers. This is the 2nd year for Washington to offer Tech Trek and California's 15th.

Some comments from past CA campers are interesting. "I remember being nervous that going to Tech Trek would mean associating with a bunch of 'strange' people for a week. Like any self-conscious 7th grader, I wasn't extremely comfortable letting the world know I enjoyed academics. It was nice to see that being interested in science and math wasn't weird, but very normal, and that plenty of women whom I admired and loved talking to were involved in the field."

"Tech Trek was a wonderful experience that I have never

forgotten. I loved spending a week on a college campus and getting to think about the possibilities of attending college one day. Now I am in college, I can't help but to think about how experiences like Tech Trek helped put me on the path that I needed."

"I left Tech Trek with a spirit and attitude of self-confidence. It taught me to try! Attempt, endeavor, conquer, seize, make the most of, make an effort, take a crack at, have a go, TRY!"

Congratulations to selected recipients Amara Fulton of South Whidbey Middle School, Hannah Weirich-Benway of HomeConnection and Emily Stringer of Oak Harbor Whidbey Middle School. We are so proud of you!

~ Jessica Koeberle,
Committee Chair

Special Interest Groups

Please refer to the AAUW website www.aauw-whidbeyisland.org for additional interest group information.

Garden Club

May 17th, *Heronswood Gardens in Kinston*, Fee \$10
8:45 ferry from Coupeville
10-10:30 Tour the Garden
Lunch at General Store in Port Gamble
Contact Peggy Tyson for info & reservations.

Gourmet # 2:

"Baker's Dozen"
May 9th, 11:30 am at the home of Mary Ellen Loy.
Theme: "*Mother's Day*"
All dishes should be from favorite childhood memories.
*Please note, due to the AAUW Student Art Show, the date has been moved from the first Friday to the second.
Group Leader, Pat Lokanis

International Affairs:

May 16th, 10:00 a.m.
Coupeville Library
Food and Climate
Group Leaders: Bonnie Abney & Pat Lokanis
Chair: Mary Pattison

Lunch Bunch:

Thurs. May 1st at 11:30 at *Mukilteo Coffee Tasting Room in Langley*. Take a break for June & July. Next Meeting will then be August 7th at Cafe Langley.
Group Leader, Jessica Koeberle



Birthdays Announcements May and June

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Abney, Bonnie | 05/14 |
| Shaw, Kathleen | 05/17 |
| Clark, Eileen | 05/28 |
| | |
| Pattison, Mary | 06/02 |
| Dufek, Sue | 06/04 |
| Teker, Virginia | 06/04 |
| Miller, Marie | 06/06 |
| Lamson, Celia | 06/07 |
| Cave, Betsy | 06/10 |
| Gervais, Jean | 06/17 |
| Moore, Judi | 06/18 |
| Sayers, Karen | 06/20 |
| Nichols, Betty | 06/23 |
| Estes, Cathie | 06/30 |

Happy Birthday Ladies!



Calendar of Meetings & Events

May 2-3 Friday and Saturday All Day

Showcase of the Arts, Coupeville Library
Need members to volunteer for 2 hour time slots.
Call Pat Lokanis.

May 10, 2014 Sat. 9:30 am

Immigration laws and Service Dogs, Trinity Lutheran Church
Vote for AAUW Officers.

June 14, 2014 Sat. 9:30 am

Installation of Officers Brunch, Whidbey Golf & Country Club
Bring two checks, one for the brunch and another for annual dues.

October 4th Terrific Treasures Sale & Fundraiser

Grace Community Church, Oak Harbor
Need donations now! Call Christina Moats.
Need help to set up Oct 3rd, to tear down after the event and for shifts during the sale.

Useful Links:

AAUW Whidbey Island
<http://aauw-whidbeyisland.org>

AAUW WA State
<http://aauw-wa.aauw.net>

Whidbey Life Magazine
<http://www.whidbeylifemagazine.org>