

American Association of University Women Whidbey Island Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I, Christy Pedersen, love being the AAUW president. However, this fall, I haven't been able to be a strong presence considering I have been out of town a lot of the time. Sue Norman was gracious enough to fill in a lot, and we found we make a great team! In order to better serve you all, we have decided this partnership would be a great installation for the remainder of the year! Sue and I will be dual presidents from this point on. Thanks so much for all your support.

~ Christy Pedersen

During the November 10th AAUW Board Meeting, a motion was introduced and passed to create an interim position of Co-President to be in effect until June 2015. Due to unforeseen circumstances, our AAUW President, Christy Pedersen, has been out of town and missed several Branch and Board Meetings this past Fall. I have willingly helped out when Christy was unable to attend. Our Vice President, Christina Moats has been unable to commit to filling in for Christy due to her busy Real Estate

business. Our branch had Co-Presidents its very first year, so there is a precedent. This Board decision ensures that there is ongoing leadership should anything unexpected come up. Christy will be back mid January and we will work together as Co-Presidents until June. I want to thank everyone on the Board for their support.

Our November Branch meeting was such a success with an entertaining presentation by Chief Air Traffic Controller Megan Bench. Thanks to Shirley Bennett for reaching out to NAS Whidbey Island and finding such an enthusiastic young woman to spend her Saturday morning with us. Milli Stanton concluded the program with a clear explanation of AAUW Funds and their importance to women, past, present and future.

I hope to see many of you at our December Holiday Luncheon. Wear your favorite Christmas outfit and join us for the party.

~ Sue Norman

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Christmas Luncheon
Sat, Dec. 13, 11:30 am

Whidbey Golf Club
2430 SW Fairway
Oak Harbor

The menu will include a choice of :

Chicken Caesar Salad
with roll and fruit

or

Quiche with side salad.

Dessert and beverage are included with either choice.

Cash bar available

Cost: \$16.00 to be paid on day of event.

****Please call Pat Lokanis for reservations by Saturday, December 6th.**

~ Pat Lokanis
Program VP

THANKSGIVING
AND MORE

As we come to the end of the year we can give thanks for wonderful young women like

Megan Bench, Chief Air Traffic Controller, N.A.S. Whidbey



Photo by Diane Peters

Megan Bench who spoke of her job at Whidbey Naval Air

Station at our November meeting. Her accomplishments, joy and dedication in her important air traffic control position are phenomenal and remind us why we want to promote esteem, equal pay and training for women. Our Public Policy Fund has been instrumental in the passage of the "Lilly Ledbetter" law guaranteeing equal pay scales for men and women. Our Legal Advocacy Fund helps women who bring cases against academic institutions and businesses who do not advance or pay women equally. Our Education Fund sees that worthy women can receive help to get advanced degrees in important fields.

These national funds all deserve our support at the end of year when you may be considering where to give your money. Please consider a donation to one of these national funds. You may send a check directly to national or to our P.O. box made out to AAUW Funds and designate which fund you want your donation to go to.

Our address is AAUW-WI, P.O. Box 1332, Coupeville, WA 98239.

Thank you to those who have already donated. We are investing in the world of our daughters, to be empowered and to be able to lead and contribute to a better future.

~ Milli Stanton

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO AAUW FUNDS

In addition to more specific grants and programs, the National AAUW Funds include the following commonly used categories:

- 2011 AAUW Action Fund (non-tax deductible)
- 9110 AAUW Funds (a general fund that may be used for any of the following, or other needs)
- 3999 Legal Advocacy Fund
- 4336 Educational Opportunities Fund
- 4337 Public Policy Fund
- 4339 Leadership Fund
- 9170 Eleanor Roosevelt Fund

For information about any of these funds, log on to www.aauw.org. There is a wealth of information on this site.

You may donate directly on the www.aauw.org web site, by mail, or by phone. There is a process on line for crediting our branch when you donate directly.

You may also submit checks to our branch V.P. of Finance, Mary Ellen Loy. She will then submit them to national for you. All checks should be made out to "AAUW Funds". You may designate a particular fund in the memo section of your check.

MEMBERSHIP

The 2014- 2015 Membership Directories are now available. Christina Moats will be distributing them at the Christmas brunch. If you cannot attend please make arrangements with Christina or one of our Membership VPs Diane Peters or Barb Bland to collect your directory.

There were several potential new members in attendance at our November 8th meeting and they will be invited to join us at our December holiday luncheon. Meg Eisenbraun, Publicity Chair, has been active in submitting articles to island newspapers and cable

TV community announcements. Bonnie Abney, AAUW Whidbey website manager, was successful in reactivating the link on the website to allow interested persons to contact us by email. Both avenues of communication have presented an effective means of connection with the community. We are beginning to receive multiple inquiries about membership.

Please note that phone numbers, addresses and other personal information of AAUW members are not published in the newsletter

since the online version is accessible to the public. New members must contact Bonnie Abney to obtain a password for access to the Member Center on the AAUW website. Members are then able to have access to member information. This same information is found in the Membership Directory hard copy.

New Member Coffee

Each spring we have a Coffee at a member's home. It is a casual gathering of members to share with invited guests what AAUW offers the community and its members. Would you consider holding this event at your home this spring?

TECH TREK UPDATE

It was noted in the Board Meeting that we are the only group on the island that is addressing the 12 to 13 year old girls. It was suggested that we increase the number of tuition awards from the three we supported last summer to five in the summer of 2015. It was moved and seconded that five would be supported next summer and the Board voted

unanimously to approve. It is not known at this time whether or not the state organization will support any additional girls.

You can read more about Tech Trek on the State website <http://aauw-wa.aauw.net>.

~ Jessica Koeberle, Chair

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 the second Saturday of most months. Arrive around 9:30 a.m. to socialize before the program begins. Also try to attend the upcoming AAUW events such as the Fashion Show fundraiser in the spring, Showcase of the Arts and Academic Grants and Scholar Recognition evening. The events calendar is displayed in the newsletters

and in the Membership Directory. If you would like to assist a committee do call the Chair person and offer help. Perhaps you would like to take a role as a famous Woman in History and present to the fifth grade classes on the island. Springtime brings multiple AAUW events, then we take a break in the summer months.

Besides the newsletter that comes to your inbox, check out our website www.aauw-whidbeyisland.org and the Membership Directory.

There is a wealth of information in multiple places.

Remember the Special Interest Groups as well. There are more groups than the ones listed below. Perhaps you'd like to start one of your own?

~ Diane Peters,
Membership

Special Interest Groups

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

☒ Gourmet # 2

“Baker’s Dozen”

Fri, December, 5th, 11:30 a.m.
at the home of Helen Bates.

Theme: Favorite holiday dishes.
Group Leader, Pat Lokanis

☒ Garden Group

There will be a planning meeting in March 2015. Watch for further announcements. Persons to contact: Betty Nichols or Pat Howell

☒ International Affairs

The International Affairs group does not meet in December. Meetings will resume on the 3rd Friday in January using the new 2015 Great Decisions book. Chair, Mary Pattison

☒ Lunch Bunch

First Thurs, December 4th
Skagit Gardens in Mt. Vernon
Meet at 11:00 a.m. (half hour earlier than usual) We’re lucky to get in with our group! It will be festive with holiday fare.
This will be the last gathering of the Lunch Bunch.
Group Leader, Jessica Koeberle

Note: If you would like your SIG’s update posted in the newsletter send your updates to the editor.

Make sure to send your SIG’s plans to Bonnie Abney who will update the website.



Happy Birthday!
December & January

Peters, Diane	12/02
Halvorson, Linda	12/08
Wolfe, Sandy	12/11
Stanton, Milli	12/14
Wigen, Karin	12/18
Merrion, Virginia	12/20
Luce, Dottie	01/10
Howell, Pat	01/14
Chatfield-Weeks, Helen	01/15
Sanders, Dottie	01/19
Gilbert, JoAnn	01/24
McNamara, Linda	01/24



Calendar of Meetings & Events

October 4th Terrific Treasures Sale & Fundraiser

Grace Community Church, Oak Harbor

October 11th Sat. 9:30 a.m.

Barb Bland will speak about her book "Running Free". Proceeds from book sale will go to Waif.

November 8th, Sat. 9:30 a.m.

Megan Bench, Chief Air Traffic Controller N.A.S. Whidbey is the featured speaker, Coupeville United Methodist

December 13th, Sat. 11:30 a.m.

Christmas Luncheon
Whidbey Golf Club

January 17th, *Note: 3rd Sat. 9:00 a.m.

League of Women Voters, Whidbey Golf Club
Brunch, No formal meeting for AAUW

February 14th, Sat. 9:30 a.m.

Laura Lopez, Guatemalan weaver
Trinity Lutheran

March 14th, Sat. 9:30 a.m.

Women in History, Coupeville Methodist

April 14th, Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Scholars Recognition Night
Coupeville United Methodist

May 9th, Sat. 9:30 a.m.

Bill McDaniel will speak on Indonesian Tsunami and his book "Faces of the Tsunami"

June 13th, Sat. 9:30 a.m.

Installation of Officers Brunch,
Whidbey Golf Club