

American Association of University Women Whidbey Island Newsletter

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Sue Norman & Christy Pedersen

Our November AAUW Branch Meeting in Coupeville featured the *Just in Time Jazz Duo* of Judy and Nick Nicolai. We were treated to musical performances along with a short history of jazz. This was such an enjoyable, informative program. I know all in attendance had a wonderful time. Thank you to our Program V.P.s, Camille Brighten and Milli Stanton for organizing this event.

Member Judy Nicholai and her husband Nick presenting the November program "What Makes Jazz Jazz?"



Photo by Diane Peters

We began distributing our new Member Directories at the November meeting. Thanks again to Sarah Mackaman for her dedication to producing such an attractive and useful directory. The pictures of our events and activities are especially nice this year. Our Membership V.P.s, Ann Zimmerman and Barb Bland worked with Sarah to finalize the membership roster and include two of our newest members at the last minute. Good job, ladies. If you haven't yet picked up your directory, they will be available at our December Holiday Luncheon. After that, please contact Ann Zimmerman or Barb Bland to make arrangements. We do want to try to keep postage costs to a minimum.

Our December Holiday party will be at Useless Bay Golf & Country Club on December 12th. Please let Camille Brighten know by December 4th if you plan attend >>



DECEMBER PROGRAM

Holiday Luncheon

Sat., December 12th
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Useless Bay Golf & CC
5725 S Country Club Drive
Langley WA 98260

***RSVP to Camille Brighten**
by **December 4th** with your
lunch selection: pork, caesar
salad or chicken crepes.
Cash or checks made out to
UBGCC at time of the event.

If you would like to donate
a gift to **Citizens Against
Domestic and Sexual Abuse**
you may bring an
unwrapped gift and drop it
off. Any new household or
personal gifts or monetary
donations accepted.
Consult CADA's website for
more specific requests.

**Camille Brighten
& Milli Stanton,**
Program V.P.s

the luncheon and your meal preference. We will be paying at the door, but the Golf Club needs firm numbers a week in advance.

We will be joining the League of Women Voters in January for their Legislative Brunch. This event also requires reservations in advance. So if this is an event you look forward to, note it on your new 2016 calendar now. See more Pg. 3, col. 2.

We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and look forward to the New Year with our Whidbey Island Branch of AAUW.

We Remember Celia Lamson

by Milli Stanton

"A life well-lived leaves behind a beautiful bouquet of memories."

Some of us will have attended the memorial gathering for longtime member Celia Lamson in November, but I would like all of our members to know about this wonderful woman and friend. Celia became a member of the Whidbey Island branch of AAUW in its early years. She was one of our most faithful attendees of monthly activities and many other groups up until a few years before her death. Celia was a kind and cheerful person who supported the mission of AAUW wholeheartedly. She greatly appreciated the importance of education for women, having received a college scholarship that enabled her to become a physical therapist.

From the start Celia supported our Arts and Appetizers first fundraiser for local scholarships. For many years she was an important member of the food committee and always provided her gourmet appetizers in abundance. She continued to bring appetizers

and desserts to many of our functions. She was one of the original members of our first Gourmet group and our branch cookbook and appetizer cookbook are both highlighted with her excellent recipes.

Celia's biggest contribution to our branch is ongoing. When the state AAUW began to honor high school girls in STEM subjects, I looked for a chairperson who would start this program for our branch. Celia was my choice for her enthusiasm, her thoroughness and her finesse. She organized this program with a committee in a way that has enabled our branch to build and expand the support of girls who excel in science, math and technology. For our first event she had silver tea service and gourmet goodies including homemade ice cream for these winning students. She also solicited funds that were donated so that we could give a stipend to each girl in our very first year. When Celia agreed to handle something all details were taken care of.

Celia and her twin sister, Marilyn Cowger, co-chaired a Women's Health Interest Group which shared vital information with us for many years. She participated faithfully in the International Interest Group and asked discerning questions.

In the early years of our branch, we had members who volunteered to be mentors of Middle School girls. Celia participated as a mentor in the South Whidbey Schools for some years.

We will all miss Celia's smiling friendliness and sweet ways. She exemplified the best of AAUW and remained an advocate of opportunities for girls and a supporter of education and health.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

New Member Welcome*by Barb Bland, VP Membership***Karen Eaton**

Welcome to new member Karen Eaton! A former AAUW member in Fresno, CA, San Rafael/Marin Co., CA, and Pocatello, ID for almost ten years, she joined our chapter at the November 14, 2015 meeting.

Karen graduated in 1968 from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro with a B.S. in Business Education and completed an education certificate at the University of Washington four years later. A Greenbank resident, she arrived on Whidbey Island in October, 2001 when she retired from volunteer activities.

Born in Trenton, NJ, she grew up and attended public schools in Haddonfield, NJ, a suburb of Philadelphia. Following college Karen moved to Seattle in July, 1968. She taught high school in Washington and did some substitute teaching on Whidbey. She also worked in three law firms as a legal assistant and office manager. Her late husband's career took them to Fresno and the San Francisco Bay area, Portland, OR and Pocatello, ID, in addition to Seattle.

Karen has proofread for two local authors. She enjoys her dog, art, writing, outdoor activities, including golf, and is a fan of the Mariners and the Seahawks.

We wish her a long and happy involvement with her new chapter!

Looking Ahead to Joint January Meeting with AAUW and League of Women Voters*by Milli Stanton & Camille Brighten*

Our branch is again invited to join the League of Women Voters on Saturday, January 16, 2016. The original date in our directory is Jan. 9th, but it has been changed to Jan. 16th, with reservations due on Jan. 8th.

At this annual meeting and brunch our Legislators will review the Washington State 2016 legislative session and give us a chance to get to know them and their agenda a little better. It will be held at the Whidbey Golf and Country Club from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

To secure a reservation please send your check for \$20.00 to League of Women Voters by January 8, 2016. The address is LWVWI, P.O. Box 1933, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.

Call or email Camille Brighten or Milli Stanton for additional information.

Committees & SIGs Gearing Up

Committees are beginning to organize for the season. If you have not signed up to participate on a committee but would like to be involved, please contact one of our board members or committee chairpersons who will help you get started. Most of the committees are looking for additional members to participate and, of course, the jobs go more quickly and smoothly when the workload per person is lighter. Committees and Special Interest Groups are the best way to get to know other members and learn more about AAUW, what we do and what we stand for.

Whidbey Cooks for All Seasons

Whidbey Island Branch Cookbooks for Sale

These fabulous cookbooks feature favorite recipes from our AAUW branch members. They are nice little gifts and make great stocking stuffers! Pick up one for yourself and a couple for family & friends.

\$15.00

Chairperson Pat Lokanis



South End Supper Club is Newest Whidbey Island Branch SIG

Interested in joining other members for an evening out on the South End? A new SIG is starting for those who enjoy dining in South

Whidbey and Mukilteo restaurants – the South End Supper Club. We are still deciding on a weeknight to call our own; couples and singles welcome. Contact Wanda Grone for more information.

Special Interest Groups

☒ Gourmet # 2

“Baker’s Dozen”

Fri, Dec. 4th, 11:30 a.m. at the home of Pat Lokanis.

Theme: “Christmas would not be the same without.....”

Group Leader: Pat Lokanis

☒ Book Group #1

Book Group #1, the original book group, continues to meet on the first Monday of each month, 10:00 a.m. at Cathie Estes’ home. All visitors are welcome to join.

☒ International Affairs

There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting is Fri, January 15th, 10:00 a.m.

Coupeville Library

We will meet to receive our 2016 “Great Decisions” book.

Chair: Mary Pattison

☒ Two Milers Walking Group

We will be taking December off to celebrate the holidays and year’s end. But we will restart in January to walk off all the December celebrating. So, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to you and

yours. If you are interested in being on the list contact Camille Brighten.

Please refer to our website aauw-whidbeyisland.org for additional Special Interest Groups, advance scheduling and other information.

If you have an inspiration for a new interest group present your idea to the board at anytime!



**Happy Birthday to our Members
with December &
January Birthdays!!**

Peters, Diane	12/02
Halvorson, Linda	12/08
Kramer, Estelle	12/10
Wolfe, Sandy	12/11
Stanton, Milli	12/14
Lavvorn, Faye	12/17
Wigen, Karin	12/18
Merrion, Virginia	12/20
Pretz, Malinda	01/03
Johnson, Connie	01/04
Luce, Dotty	01/10
Howell, Pat	01/14
Chatfield-Weeks, Helen	01/15
Sanders, Dottie	01/19
Gilbert, JoAnn	01/24
McNamara, Linda	01/24

Articles are due to Diane Peters,
Editor, by the 20th of each month.

**Calendar of Meetings & Events
2015-2016 Calendar Year**

December 12th, Sat. 11:00 a.m.

Holiday Brunch at Useless Bay Golf & CC
RSVP to Camille Brighten by December 4th
with your dish selection.

January 11th, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Board Meeting
Coupeville Library

January 16th, 9:30 a.m.

Third Saturday of the month

League of Women Voters Annual Meeting
Brunch with our Legislators

Useful Links:

AAUW National

<http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW National

<http://www.aauw.org/author/aauwnational/>

AAUW of WA State

<http://aauw-wa.aauw.net>

AAUW Whidbey Island

<http://aauw-whidbeyisland.org>

