

AAUW Advances Equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

SEATTLE BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER - COME JOIN US

Volume 66, Issue 4

December 1, 2017

www.aauw-seattle.org



Saturday, December 16 – 9:30am

**Holiday Program with The Endolyne
Children's Choir**

**Seattle Yacht Club
1807 East Hamlin Street
Seattle, WA 98112**

Back by popular demand: The Endolyne Children's Choir of West Seattle. Come and listen to a spirited performance of holiday and seasonal music. This non-audition choir, which is made up of talented and joyful children in kindergarten through tenth grade, will have you smiling and filled with holiday cheer. The choir is under the direction of Amy Stagno Bokanav, soprano and former Artistic Administrator of the Seattle Symphony.

We'll have Raffle Baskets to benefit 2018 Tech Trek and some of our 2017 Tech Trek graduates will be there to tell us about their extraordinary experiences at the week-long technology camp for girls between 7th and 8th grade.



Don't forget your donations for Mary's Place, a program that empowers homeless women, children, and families to reclaim their lives. Mary's Place needs include: new underwear and bras (especially large sizes); season-appropriate clothing, coats and shoes, socks, gloves, raincoats, children's clothing (especially teen boys!). Look for further information on page 6.

The Yacht Club is always beautifully decorated for the Holidays, so
COME JOIN US!

Location: Seattle Yacht Club, 1807 East Hamlin Street, Seattle, WA

Cost: \$15 inclusive - *No Charge for Students with ID (Reservations Required)*

Menu: - Washington French toast-French Bread with cream cheese, apples & nutmeg served with maple syrup, bacon, and seasonal fresh fruit.

Parking: Free parking in the Yacht Club parking lot.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

Contact: Pam Forsha at RSVP@aauw-seattle.org or use our web site at <http://www.aauw-seattle.org> to pay in advance via PayPal.

And Next Month...

**Eve Riskin & Sonia Cunningham
"Diversifying the Engineering Workforce"**

Saturday, January 20, 2018

AAUW-Seattle Meeting

9:30-noon

Best Western Plus

Executive Inn

200 Taylor Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

Leadership Corner - Tonna Kutner

I find this ending time of year a great time for reflection. Looking back on my AAUW year, it has really been an astounding year.



I believe it was the last day of 2016 when we filed the final papers that allowed us to expand the use of the income and growth from the Weter bequest to “ensure a continued strong and stable future of the Seattle Branch.” This year a significant number of our members, under the guidance of Sandy Sperry, and with special kudos to Barbara Sando, have conducted a survey of our membership and 89% of you responded. Using the data collected, we have developed eight STPs (Situation Target Proposals) and we are working on each of them to create plans with goals and measures. It’s incredibly ambitious and exciting. So far I think we’re challenged to expand our views and we’re learning to work in new and different ways using the many skills we already possess.

Possibly my favorite part of the AAUW year has been visiting with AAUW friends through our meetings, interest groups Art Smart and the Writing Group, as well as other personal connections. The friendships with interesting women really keep it all going for me. I joined AAUW more than 20 years ago now. Early on I joined a hiking group straddling several branches. Over the years we became good friends and refer to ourselves as the “Hiking Babes.” We’re still meeting together and hiking around.

I went with one of those friends, Susan Moen from the Bellingham branch, to the AAUW National Convention in Washington DC this summer. It’s incredible to see what AAUW does on a national level.

The high point for me was holding hands with Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor!

Tech Trek is another project that is dear to my heart. TechTrek is an exciting week-long, residential, hands-on STEM for girls currently in 7th grade who show promise in math science and/or technology. It’s held at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, where girls live in college dorms for a week during the summer and take classes from an excellent group of female scientists. The camp is designed to create interest, excitement, and confidence in young women. All girls attend on sponsorships so there are no financial barriers to attending camp. Reading the comments from these girls after they attend camp makes it all worthwhile. Here’s my favorite:

I just want to say thank you for the experience that you gave me. This changed my life.

There are many activities we need to complete before these girls can go to camp. One is to raise \$950 to sponsor each girl. You can help out by attending our Holiday Party on December 16th. Meet up with old and new friends and help out Tech Trek at the same time. We’ll be selling raffle tickets for some great baskets and all proceeds will go to sponsoring Tech Trek girls. I’m thrilled that a few of the girls will be at our December meeting to tell us about their experiences so you’ll be able to hear firsthand what camp is like and what it means to them. If you can’t make the meeting, here are some other ways to make your tax deductible donation to Tech Trek (see page 5) .

This newsletter is a publication of the

Seattle Branch of the AAUW

Mission Statement

The Seattle Branch American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

November Board Meeting Summary—Tonna Kutner

We had planned to have our meeting at Penny's, but due to bad weather we met via teleconference. We continue working with 501 Commons for financial reports and check writing is now working smoothly and makes this job much easier. 501 Commons will also do our 990 Tax form. We are looking for a new finance officer or team to start in July. Lynn is working on a Finance Guide for those interested.

Seattle Branch now has 91 members and Judy Waring is always looking for member news to include in the Catalyst. Most of our programs through May have been scheduled. Renée Agatsuma continues to work on the February program and has made contacts for a program on intersectionality and the privileges of white people. She has some excellent resources from the University of Washington. We plan to also have a detailed workshop on this subject in the fall so we can learn more about ourselves and better promote diversity and inclusion.

Our nominating committee now consists of Gay Armsden, Fiona Goodchild and Ann Dennis. They are looking for a fourth member. We will be electing new officers or teams for Membership and Finance in May 2018. Our next meeting will be on December 11th. All AAUW Seattle members are invited to attend. Please contact Fiona at secretary@aauw-seattle.org for location information.

AAUW Volunteers at Dress For Success—Pam Forsha



DRESS FOR SUCCESS®
SEATTLE

Dress for Success is an organization that strives “to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.” Five AAUW Seattle Branch member recently volunteered at Dress for Success located in what used to be the basement of the YWCA building on Seneca and 3rd. We were met by a warm, friendly, and energetic staff that quickly put us to work. The first hour, we hung cold weather attire by category, sweaters, skirts, dresses, pants, etc., and by size. All of the pieces of clothing we hung were of excellent quality, many designer labels, and barely worn (some still had their original sale tags on them). During a short break, Kate, the staff member assigned to us, took us on a brief tour of their space. The indoor swimming pool has been long emptied, but the infrastructure remains in place and Dress for Success uses every inch of it for storing and organizing seasonal attire, shoes, and all the accessories. They strive to have styles and sizes to fit every woman's shape and every possible



Dress For Success
staffer Kate



AAUW Seattle Volunteers

employment opportunity. Back to work, our final tasks were to go thru all the racks checking sizes and tagging the clothes with “tagging guns”. We were preparing special clothes for a December 15-16th sale to benefit the Dress for Success program. We had a lot of fun and the two hours flew by.

Besides their Suiting program, where they help women select professional attire for an upcoming interview, Dress for Success also has a Career Center, a Professional Women's Group, and a Lead-Her-Ship program. Dress for Success Seattle: Going places. Going strong. All of which is offered to their clients as they prepare for the journey ahead. This mission is well aligned with AAUW's and doing this work was a wonderful opportunity to lend our skills to women in our community. More information at: <https://seattle.dressforsuccess.org>.

Power Shift in Olympia, Federal Tax *Minutia*, and Bob Ferguson Up Close- Gay Armsden

WA Legislature Watch. Now that Democrats are in control of State government, supporters of Gov. Inslee's legislative priorities (many of which are AAUW's as well), are hoping that he will now be able to move forward on matters related to, among other things, climate change and voting rights. Regarding the latter, the **WA Voting Rights Act**, which attempts to correct the dearth of ethnic minority representation that can occur in our at-large (as opposed to district-based) voting systems, has failed to pass for 5 straight years. Yakima and Pasco have been challenged in recent years by the ACLU of WA for diluting the Latino vote (they now have district-based elections). Last session, a Republican version of this bill that passed the House would permit cities to change their voting system to a districted election without involving costly federal lawsuits. The Dems' version goes further, allowing a voter complaint process and, if that fails, recourse to a State lawsuit. There is plenty of opposition; arguments include: this isn't the answer to racism; allowing lawsuits would clog the legal system; and there is no underrepresentation. It can be noted, though, that Latinos hold only 4% of elected-office positions in 10 WA counties that, combined, are 33% Latino. When Yakima recently changed to district-based elections, Latinos won city council seats for first time in the city's history. (Yakima also learned that groundwork in leadership training and strategic planning were vital.) Sources: <https://goo.gl/swa5rk> (WA Council of Faculty) and <https://goo.gl/wQ29YT> (*The Stranger*).

WA Supreme Court Watch. As you no doubt already know, the WA Supreme Court ruled that "close" cannot be considered "constitutional compliance" in the case of *McCleary, et al. v. State of WA* concerning funding K-12 education. While the Court's mandate was satisfied in a number of ways, the order notes that the salary allocation model enacted, although complying with the State's obligation to fully fund basic education salaries, will not be put into place by the September, 2018 deadline. With the shift in power in Olympia, it might be a different ballgame next legislative session. The new Senate Ways & Means Committee Chair, Sen. Christine Rolfes, D-Kitsap County, said in part recently, "...my aim is to make sure schools have the flexibility and funding they need..."

Congress Watch. Know a grad student? Are you an education activist? Under the proposed House tax plan, graduate students with assistantships would be taxed on tuition costs that have been waived, in addition to their stipends. Their tax rates would increase by something like 3 to 5 times, eliminating their entire stipend in some instances. The Senate tax plan does not include this provision. [<https://goo.gl/2hLwJE> (*Forbes*)]. On top of the burden of skyrocketing college debt (worse for women and minorities), this huge tax increase would make it even harder for those with limited means to pursue advanced degrees. If you're contacting your senators about the tax plan, you might want to bring up this nugget.

Upcoming event: AAUW's Lobby Day - January 29th in Olympia. This year, intrepid WA State Attorney General Bob Ferguson will speak (among others, including our great lobbyist Pam Crone). This annual event is interesting, informative and fun. More info at: [<https://goo.gl/wFMncY> (AAUW-WA)].



Raffle Baskets Needed for our December Holiday Party - Tonna Kutner

Seattle Branch will again be selling raffle tickets for gift baskets at our holiday party in December. All proceeds will go to Tech Trek so more girls can attend the STEM camp next summer. This is always fun and exciting. So far we have these theme baskets: Christmas, Wine, Books, Mint Mania, and Winter Knitting. Perhaps get together with a friend or two and put something together. There are lots of possibilities, but here are a few ideas: Garden, Dogs, Cats, Chef, Chocolate, Soups, Gift Card, Tea or some other idea of your own. If you would like to provide a basket, let us know and the basket theme by contacting Penny Tetter at: pt@aauw-seattle.org.

Gearing Up for Tech Trek 2018 - Tonna Kutner



Tech Trek is an AAUW-sponsored week-long STEM summer camp for girls between 7th and 8th grade. Two camps are planned in Western Washington next year, as well as one in Eastern Washington, so more girls can attend. Camps at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma will be July 8-14, and July 15-21, 2018. Tech Trek at Eastern Washington University in Cheney will be July 29-Aug 4, 2018.

Seattle Branch hopes to send 15 girls again for Tech Trek 2018 next summer. Beyond sponsoring each girl, contacting the schools, and interviewing the girls, we must provide two dorm monitors! Dorm monitors must be female, at least 21 years old, organized, interested in STEM and good with 12-13 year old girls. Most of the Dorm Monitors are in their 50's-70's. Dorm monitors can volunteer for any of the three week-long camps. A stipend of \$250-500 is paid to dorm monitors and room and board is also paid for. Tonna has decided to volunteer to be sure that we can send at least eight girls to camp in 2018. Dorm monitors must be identified by January 1, 2018, to complete the necessary paperwork. If you or someone you know is interested, more information is available here: <http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/volunteer/> or contact Tonna Kutner at techtrek@aauw-seattle.org. We need more volunteers to work with the schools to nominate girls and help interview the girls once they are nominated. Please let us know if you would like to help out this year. Also, here are some other ways to make your tax deductible donation to Tech Trek:

1) Online, via credit or PayPal, through the AAUW Website at: <https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/join/donate/>. Select the Tech Trek **Donate** button and follow the prompts; or

2) Via check to AAUW-WA SPF with "Tech Trek Seattle Branch" on the message line sent to: AAUW-WA SPF, PO Box 1665, Bellevue WA 98009-1665.

Strategic Planning Update: Work Team for Publicity and Marketing—CJ Nash

The summer 2017 strategic planning interviews stressed the importance of greatly increasing our publicity and marketing. In order to advance our mission of equity for all women and girls, we need to increase familiarity with the AAUW name and mission across a broad and diverse audience, especially among those who are potential members.

Tonna Kutner, Ellen Duernberger and CJ Nash, the team working on this, have focused first on steps necessary to find and hire an appropriate marketing firm, as called for in Situation-Target-Proposal (STP) #1. STP# 1 is one of eight initiatives born out of interviews conducted with 89% of AAUW Seattle branch members. The others are Diversity & Inclusion; College & University Partnerships; Communications; Branch Leadership; Branch Programs; Collaboration with Organizations, and Interest & Smaller Groups. The marketing firm will develop a two-year marketing plan, most likely executed with the help of a marketing intern.

We need to be clear about the scope of the project and what specific skills we're looking for in this firm in addition to a desire to work with nonprofits. When we have that, we'll ask for your help in suggesting firms or individuals we should talk to. Please let us know now about any names that come to mind! You can email cjnash@aauw-seattle.org to share suggestions with the work team.

We're also looking for ways to increase our marketing and outreach fairly easily and quickly in the short term, and welcome your ideas for that. Our first step towards this was an inexpensive ad in *The Stranger's* September back to school issue. Word of mouth is always effective marketing, so please do talk up AAUW to all of your friends and family as much as you can. If you'd like to join one of these STP initiatives, it's not too late, contact Barbara Sando at president@aauw-seattle.org.



Interest Group Corner

The Seattle Branch has three very active interest groups and hopes to add new ones in the near future, stay tuned. Check this space each month to learn what's happening with each interest group and consider joining one or more. The more members who join in, the merrier. A contact person is listed with each group below.

Art Smart—Ann Dennis

On Tuesday, December 5th, members of the Art Smart interest group will meet in Tacoma at the Washington State History Museum to see the exhibit "Witness to Wartime: The Painted Diary of Takuichi Fuguii." Imprisoned as a Japanese war criminal, first at the fairgrounds in Puyallup and then at the Minidoka internment camp in Idaho, Fuguii painted every day of the three and a half years of his World War II captivity. Over 70 of the more than 250 of his drawings and paintings he did during this time are featured in this exhibit. After viewing the show, the Art Smart will find a good place to have lunch and to share their impressions of the exhibit. Next month on January 23rd the group will meet at the Gates Foundation across from Seattle Center to see the exhibit "Women Hold Up Half the Sky." See the next issue of the Catalyst for more information. All Seattle branch members who enjoy art, lunching, and friendship are encouraged to join the Art Smart interest group. Contact Ann Dennis at: ad@aauw-seattle.org for more information.

Book Group—Bev Fogle

AAUW Book Group met on November 28 to discuss *The Oregon Trail* by Rinker Buck, recounting his modern-day traveling of the old Oregon Train in a covered wagon with mules. We will not meet in December. January 23 will find us back in Lake Forest Park discussing a delightful book of fiction, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. This book inspired something of a cult following (definitely *not* occult), and an unplanned sequel was written due to popular demand. We continue to meet at the Lake Forest Park Town Center, 17171 Bothell Way NE, Seattle, in the Stadler Room, at 2:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of most months. Contact Beverly Fogle at: books@aauw-seattle.org for more information.

Writer's Group—Tonna Kutner

Writer's Group is a small group of women interested in writing. We share writings with each other and get feedback and encouragement. We generally meet at various members homes once a month on Wednesdays around lunch time. Contact Tonna Kutner at: techtrek@aauw-seattle.org for more information.

More on Mary's Place Donations - Judy Waring

Mary's Place began in 1999 as a day center for homeless women, providing two meals a day, hygiene facilities, showers, laundry, medical care, support groups and resources for housing, employment, and benefits. With the surge of homeless women with children who need a safe place to stay at night, Mary's Place has grown to also include seven night shelters available for moms and dads with children. These shelters provide a warm bed, two meals, and a community of support for a total of 680 family members each night. Seattle AAUW has a tradition of collecting items for Mary's Place at our December meeting. For more information on items to donate see <http://www.marysplaceseattle.org/support-us/share-your-stuff/>. Tax receipts will be available.



Member News:

Fiona Goodchild and her husband went on a road trip around Washington State that took them to several orchards, including the Root Wood Cider Company at Lake Chelan, then down to the Momteillet Fromagerie near Dayton. They stayed in the "Gite" (French for holiday house) on the 32 acre sheep and goat farm where artisanal cheeses are made. They also visited wineries, including Long Shadows around Walla Walla. Fiona reports that the Fall colors were spectacular this year.

Loveday Conquest, Professor Emeritus, University of Washington College of the Environment (Aquatic & Fishery Sciences), attended the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Conference this past September in Denver, where she judged student research talks. AISES gives students from indigenous communities, including Alaska Natives and Pacific Islanders, the opportunity to present research and to interview with various companies in STEM, including Boeing and the University of Washington. It was an uplifting experience to see so many smart students from underrepresented groups exhibit their collective passion for research and careers in STEM.



Upon the conclusion of the conference, she and husband Fred flew on to Lisbon, Portugal, for an International Council Meeting of the English-Speaking Union, a nonpolitical, educational charity whose mission is "creating global understanding through English." Portuguese elections were occurring during their stay with campaigning ceasing at midnight on the Friday, a Day of Reflection on Saturday, and voting on Sunday, an interesting election process. Highlights included an evening reception and tour of the gardens at the home of the British ambassador and a luncheon at the hilltop Castle of Sao Jorge which provided a commanding view of the city. They enjoyed accommodation in a "fun and funky" clean, well-located hostel in the old part of Lisbon—but not its being a 4-story walk-up!

Volunteer for the Nominating Committee and Learn About the Branch - Gay Armsden

Want to be a little more involved with the branch, but can't make a long commitment? The Nominating Committee is looking for a 4th person who is a non-board member who would like to learn more about the branch's "inner workings" and its members. Only 1 or 2 meetings in early 2018 are involved. The committee will be making recommendations for new Vice Presidents of Finance and Membership. Don't worry if you don't know many members, you'll get to know some this way. Contact Gay Armsden at: publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org or consult the Directory for her phone number.

AAUW-Seattle Branch Officers 2017-2018

Elected

President:

Barbara Sando president@aauw-seattle.org

VP Finance:

Lynn Dissinger—finance@aauw-seattle.org

VP Programs:

Pamela Forsha & Sam Montgomery -
programs@aauw-seattle.org

VP Membership:

Judy Waring membership@aauw-seattle.org

Secretary:

Fiona Goodchild - secretary@aauw-seattle.org

Appointed

Web Site: Heather Dohan

website@aauw-seattle.org

Catalyst Newsletter Editor:

Heather Dohan - catalyst@aauw-seattle.org

Public Policy:

Gay Armsden - publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org

AAUW Funds:

Barbara Sando - aauw-funds@aauw-seattle.org

College/University Relations:

Renée Agatsuma - c-u@aauw-seattle.org

Scholar Recognition:

Renée Agatsuma - scholars@aauw-seattle.org

Tech Trek:

Tonna Kutner - TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org

Board Members at Large

Penny Tetter—pt@aauw-seattle.org

CJ Nash—cjnash@aauw-seattle.org

Connect with us!



AAUW - Seattle
Non-Profit Organization

Timeline About Photos Likes More ▾

Seattle Branch AAUW
16921 28th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98166-3207
 Address Service Requested

Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
December 11, 2017	Monday	6:30pm	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for location	Branch Board Meeting
December 16, 2017	Saturday	9:30am	Seattle Yacht Club	Holiday Program with the Endolyne Children's Choir
January 20, 2018	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Branch Meeting—Eve Riskin & Sonia Cunningham— “Diversifying the Engi- neering Workforce”
January 29, 2018	Monday	8:30am	St. John's Episcopal Church, Olympia, WA	AAUW-WA Lobby Day
February 17, 2018	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Branch Meeting—TBD
March 10, 2018	Saturday	6:00 pm	Seattle Sheraton Hotel	UW Women's Center Annual Gala
March 17, 2018	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Branch Meeting—Barbara Spraker— “Where We Are Now and How to Move forward”
April 18, 2018	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Scholar Recognition Reception
April 27-29, 2018			Spokane, WA	AAUW WA State Convention
May 19, 2018	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Annual Meeting/Elections with Mary Lou Sanelli—”Among Friends”