

## American Association of University Women

### The Anacortes Agent

Volume 29 Number 1......September 2012

Join us on September 13 at 7:00 p.m. for an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social

Spend some time catching up with everyone before the meeting and treat yourself to a sundae. The Hospitality Committee is hosting an ice cream buffet with a selection of yummy toppings. Bring your friends and neighbors as we kick-off the new program year. At 7:30, we will begin the year with guest speaker Kathleen Horr, RN, coordinator for Airlift Northwest, a

medical transport service in the Pacific Northwest. She will speak about how they manage everything from advanced cardiac life support to neonatal resuscitation, all while flying patients to the most advanced care possible.

#### IMPORTANT REMINDER

The 2012-2013 Directory is being compiled.

Do we have your current information?

Please contact me if you have changed your email address or phone number.

For members not listed in the last directory, please send me your birthday...month and day only.

<u>Just 'reply' to this newsletter</u> with the information

and contact Bunny Heiner to have your directory photo taken (293-4120).





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- Board meetings will be on the first Monday of the month (except for Tues., Sept. 4 & Mon., April 8)
- A fund raising committee was created to secure outside sponsors; Bunny & Claudia will co-chair
- Membership will organize a no-host coffee each month
- The Writers' Forum will be held on February 23 at 1:00 p.m. at the Anacortes Library
- The Spring Scholarship Tea will be on April 20 at the Senior Center; a Tea Chairperson is needed
- We are considering a new branch website
- An AAUW magnet with a laminated list of meeting times and dates was suggested
- Membership checks from new members received after January 1 will not be processed until June 31 to prevent misunderstandings about when dues are due
- Directories will now show an asterisk to indicate paid members at the time of publication
- Rosette Dawson and Linda Hendrick offered to provide transportation for any member needing a ride



On Monday, August 13, five members took the ferry over to San Juan Island to visit the Pelindaba Lavender Farm. Rosette, Bunny, Jane, Linda, and Maureen enjoyed a fragrant day of sunshine during the harvest season. Members met at Bunny's house and she graciously drove everyone to the ferry terminal. Special thanks go to Rosette for getting to the terminal early with her car and for driving everyone to the farm.

#### STEM News...

As reported in the recent ASD Currents newsletter, our school district and the Nooksack Valley district will share a \$687,968 Washington STEM grant. The goal of this joint program will be to help the districts "adopt and meet the new national standards in math and science and eliminate the achievement gap between low-income and middle-class kids." "Its success will yield a model that school districts around the state and the country can use to improve STEM teaching and student achievement."



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Please join AAUW friends and guests for two No-Host One-Hour Coffees in September and October at The Market Starbucks. We will meet at 2. P.M. on the 4th Thursday of each month:

Sept. 27 and Oct. 25th.

It's a great time to bring new and potential members for lively conversation in a smaller group than at our meetings. Laura Jane and Meredith, your membership co-chairs, look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Call Laura Jane at 293-4867.

#### Branch Website News

Megan Morrison, Junior Website Designer with AAUW National, is in charge of the AAUW Site Resources program that creates and may maintain the websites for branches and states. We can sign up to maintain our own site (free) or have AAUW maintain our site for about \$120 a year. Maintenance means making content updates – uploading a new issue of a newsletter, writing about an upcoming event, etc. No matter which plan you choose, you will receive an aauw.net domain name, hosting, and 300 MB of web space. They will set up the website for free, loading in any content the branch wants to feature (ex: branch history, calendar, membership application, etc.). They will also provide training on how to maintain it. The sites run on a platform called WordPress, which is really easy to navigate. The editing window looks a lot like a Microsoft Word document, so it feels very familiar. You don't need any prior computer skills, just Internet access and a willingness to learn.

The biggest benefit of signing up with Site Resources is that you'll have an IT team supporting you. This can help take the burden off of any one member in your branch, especially if you're the member in charge of the website. If anything goes wrong with the site or you run into problems, you can contact Megan anytime for assistance, free of charge. If the site ever crashes or needs a software update, her team takes care of those items too.

There is no question we could benefit from having a branch website. You can view a branch website at http://casasadobestucson-az,aauw.net/ to see the potential benefits. *Would you be willing to maintain our website? Contact Leslie or attend the September board meeting to be a part of this discussion.* 

#### Candidate Forum planned for September

Candidates' Forum: Wednesday, Sept. 19, Anacortes City Hall. Volunteers should arrive at 5:00 PM to set up. Candidates' Meet & Greet is at 6:00 PM and the Forum starts at 6:30 PM. Leslie has agreed to share the MC duties with Stephanie Hamilton, Executive Director of the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce.

The September Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 4th, at Bunny's – 804 K Avenue.