



empowering women since 1881

The Anacortes Agent

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Anacortes Community Theater is a non-profit public corporation dedicated to promoting and producing live theater. ACT is also committed to working with children and youth, providing opportunities for encouraging and developing their artistic talents in drama and stagecraft. Since 1964, ACT has served the community in many and various ways. With their annual season of six Main Stage productions, Class ACT, Fringe, Second Stage and many other theatre-based community events and programs, ACT reaches over 10,000 people annually.

Tim Brown, director of the current production, will address our branch at our February 14 meeting.

Join us at 9:30 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, at the corner of 9th Street and M Avenue, downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Enter through the alley door between the church and the museum. An elevator is available for easy access.

Spring Scholarship Event Update

We have a confirmed speaker for our Scholarship Event on Saturday, April 18. Dr. Stephen Jones, plant breeder and WSU professor, will share about the culmination of his dream – The Bread Lab.

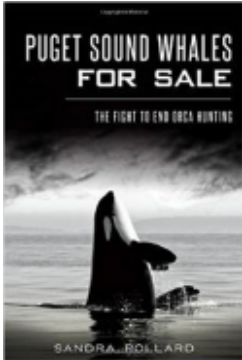
The Bread Lab is a think tank for testing and demonstration laboratory for craft baking. Bakers can use the laboratory to test flours and techniques using local, regional, and nationally available commercial and experimental flours and wheats of all types. The goal is to combine science, art, curiosity, and innovation to explore ways of using local and unique grains in order to move the craft of bread baking forward. We are still seeking someone to oversee the various tasks that will be done by volunteers, but we are excited to have this first big decision out of the way!



- Reanne Hemingway-Douglass (2/11)
- Jessica Koeberle (2/12)
- Barbara Martyn-Godfrey (2/15)
- Sandy Huggins (2/16)
- Barbara Lewis (2/16)
- Linda Hendrick (2/22)
- Gay Woods (2/28)

The Writers' Forum features the following Pacific Northwest authors. Plan to join us at the Anacortes Library meeting room on Saturday, February 28, at 1:00 P.M. Many thanks to chairperson, Linda Hendrick, for arranging this fascinating program on

The Sea...



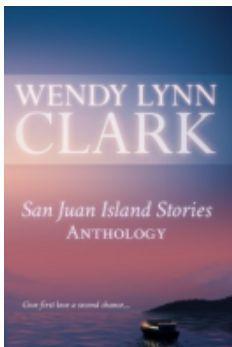
Sandra Pollard was brought up in Cornwall, England, before moving to the United States in 2008. Her writing career started when she was 'runner-up' in a short story competition organized by a national writing magazine, *Horse and Pony*. From there she went on to be short-listed in another short story writing competition with *Writers' News*, and has written articles and short stories for a number of leading UK magazines.

Since moving to Washington State, Sandra has become a certified marine naturalist giving both land, and boat-based talks, about the endangered southern resident killer whales and other marine mammals that frequent the Salish Sea. Her prize-winning essay titled 'Whale Watching' won a place among the finalists in Whidbey Island Writers' Association Spirit of Writing Contest 2010. Sandra has contributed articles about marine life to Washington State University's *Beach Watcher Log*, *The Whidbey Examiner*, *Wildlife Extra News* and South Whidbey Yacht Club. She has always had a love of the stage and has written for, and acted with, the Penn Cove Players.



Puget Sound Whales for Sale: The fight to end Orca hunting

The story of the Washington State capture era, 1964-1976, when approximately 45 Southern Resident killer whales were captured for marine parks, and 11 more killed. Discover the fates of the whales taken, and how the violent capture era came to an end.



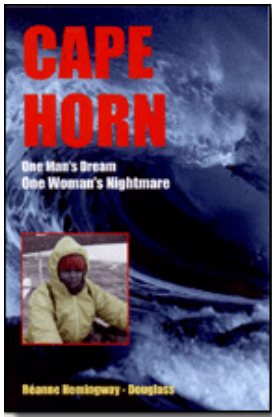
Wendy Lynn Clark is an award-winning author of romance, young adult, and science fiction. A lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest, she graduated magna cum laude from Lewis & Clark College in philosophy and English, volunteered with AmeriCorps, taught English in Japan for three years, and resided in England and Greece. After a master's degree at the University of Brighton, she returned to books and now works in an academic library.

She loves learning about cultures, from different families live in her neighborhood to astronauts on the International Space Station. She is drawn to the needs that unite us all—survival, family, adventure, and love.



San Juan Islands Stories: Anthology At the five-year high school reunion, these determined women give their fragile first loves a second chance...

SAN JUAN ISLAND STORIES are light, sweet romances perfect for a Pacific Northwest summer day and set around the crisp green San Juan Islands in Northwestern Washington. Refreshing as an iced vanilla latte and local as a salad with Ranch dressing and sesame seeds, these stories capture the essence that every journey — no matter how far — is truly about finding a way back home. They are clean, lunch-sized short stories meant to be enjoyed on a quick break!



Over the past 30 years, her articles on cycling, cruising, and women's issues have appeared in numerous outdoor magazines. In the 1980s, she led the first women's bicycling team across Tierra del Fuego at the tip of South America. **Réanne Hemingway-Douglass**, along with her husband Don Douglass were founders of Fine Edge Productions in 1986. For four decades they have been producing outdoor and nautical guidebooks and maps. Their popular *Exploring* series of six nautical guides cover from the border with Mexico to Prince William Sound in Alaska, including *Exploring the Pacific Coast, San Diego to Seattle*.

With their new imprint, Cave Art Press they have broadened their scope from cruising and mountain biking guides to high-quality titles of general interest. The Cave Art Press name and logo are derived from the Douglasses' enduring interest in the 7,000-year-old cave paintings of the Baja Peninsula, which they first began exploring in the late 1970s.

Réanne holds a B.A. in French from Pomona College and a teaching degree from Claremont Graduate University. Together the Douglasses have logged over 150,000 nautical miles, from 60°N to 63°S latitude.



Cape Horn - One Man's Dream, One Woman's Nightmare

His Dream — a lifelong goal to round Cape Horn and circumnavigate the Southern Hemisphere in their sailboat.

Her Nightmare — coping with her husband, a driven captain, and the frightening seas of the Great Southern Ocean.

Eight hundred miles WNW of Cape Horn they encountered the Ultimate Wave which pitch-poled their sailboat and turned it into a leaking lifeboat. Pulling together, they struggled over 42 days to reach the coast of southern Chile while family and friends all but gave up hope. Cape Horn is the gripping account of one woman's courage, a couple's turbulent relationship, survival, and endurance in the seas off Patagonia.

Your commitment to AAUW makes membership a difference....



We plan to host a booth at Shipwreck Days this summer, so hang on to items that would lend themselves to a garage sale. More information will be coming, but start collecting now! The demand for awards and scholarships is growing and we feel this will be a fun and easy way to increase our funds. Rosette has assigned a box in her storeroom for the Shipwreck Days (July 18th) fundraiser. Where are you stashing your items? We will have a 10x10 space and plan on having small treasures and other items to sell. Please start collecting anything that you think will sell! We will need a lot to last all day! We can gather them from you in July.





Despite leaving at 5 a.m. on Monday, 26 January, a very foggy morning, Andrea Doll and I were surprised to encounter such heavy traffic so early in the day. With a few “adventures” on the way (a couple of wrong turns), we arrived in Olympia in time for the start of the program at 8:30 a.m. This very well-organized event is put on annually by the Olympia branch of AAUW. We met up with co-president Rosette Dawson at the event. She had driven down to Olympia on Sunday in order to be on hand to attend Sunday’s statewide AAUW meeting.



The morning was devoted to excellent speakers. (Pictured right: Lobby Day Panel: moderator at mic, Cheryl Sesnon (Jubilee Women's Center Executive Director); Mia Gregerson (Representative, 33rd Leg. Dist., and Mayor of SeaTac, WA); Kim Mead (Washington Education Assn. President); Liz Berry (Washington Women's Political Caucus, President)



First up was a panel of four women with a moderator, who discussed a wide variety of topics, from homeless shelters to lobbying. Next on the agenda was Randy Dorn, state Superintendent of Public Education, who spoke for an hour about the McCleary decision and the background of the educational levy system in our state. A law passed in 1977 limited a 10% levy cap; several school districts, including Mercer Island and Lake Washington, were “grandfathered” in at a 36% rate. “Levy” creep has brought the present-day average levy rate to 26%. Dorn explained that the original purpose of levies was M&O (maintenance and operations). The State Supreme Court’s McCleary decision found that levies, which have been funding teachers’ salaries, regular transportation (as opposed to transportation for band and sports trips and other field trips) was unconstitutional, as it is “the paramount duty” of the state to provide “ample” and “uniform” education for *all* children. With the wide range of levy amounts collected in various school districts, these constitutional requirements have not been met for years.

McCleary mandates the following funding:

- Full funding for student transportation;
- Full funding of materials, supplies, and operating costs (MSOC);
- Funding for all-day kindergarten (which used to be set at funding for 450 hours); and
- Lowering class size in grades K-3 to 17:1

Full funding under the McCleary decision will cost \$7.1 billion by 2018; the state currently is funding at \$1 billion. Because of the huge dollar amounts of money needed to fund McCleary, Dorn said he did not think the state would be able to fund the mandates to implement Initiative 1351, which passed by a very narrow margin in the November 2014 election.



Dorn said that the state high school graduation rate is 81%, with 78% of students graduating within the traditional four years. He commented that although these rates are good, that still leaves some 20% of all students leaving school without a high school diploma. (Randy Dorn pictured in photo to the left)

The final speaker was Pam Crone, AAUW-Washington lobbyist and legal voice, who discussed what is and would be happening in the legislature this session, a long session of 105 days. (The

biennial budget is set during the long sessions.) She said that she thinks with all the major issues to be resolved this year, the legislature probably will need to go into special session, especially since additional funding will be needed for several Supreme Court mandates (including McCleary and mental health), which means higher taxes, never a popular subject.

This year the legislature is faced with the “three M’s”: McCleary, marijuana (especially regulation of the medical marijuana market), and mental health. Crone said that behavior health is now being integrated into mental health, both under primary health care.

The two primary AAUW issues are House Bill 1356/Senate Bill 5306, mandating 40 hours of paid sick leave annually, and (yet again) the pay equity issue, House Bill 1355 (Crone did not know the Senate bill number). She said the pay equity issue may be resolved through the initiative process; the goal is a \$12.00 hourly wage statewide, to be implemented over a four year period. This year “pay equity day” is 14 April. White women will reach pay equity in March, Black women in June, and Latina women not until October. The earnings ratio for our Congressional District is 78%, a ranking of seven in the ten state Congressional districts.

Other issues Crone discussed included violence against women (some funding to come from a \$15.00 fee applied to marriage licenses) and reproductive health. If medical insurance covers medications, then reproductive health medications must also be covered, as must all approved medications, and if maternity coverage is covered, then abortion services must also be covered. Other issues in the reproductive health category include parental notification and religious exemptions.

Following an excellent box lunch from noon to 1 p.m., the meeting was concluded and the attendees then went to see their legislative members. We three went to the offices of District 10 Senator Kevin Ranker and Representatives Kris Lytton and Jeff Morris. Unfortunately, all three were in meetings (meeting seemed to be going on everywhere at the capitol), so we left the official AAUW information sheet on pay equity and paid sick leave with each member’s legislative assistant.

Once the fog lifted, about 8 a.m., we enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day. Our drive home was delayed by more than an hour by an accident south of Tacoma, which brought traffic to a virtual stand-still. All-in-all, it was a very good and very productive day. I urge all branch members to consider attending the 2016 Lobby Day.



Lobby Day experience and photos

by Rosette Dawson

Bunny, Andrea and I had an interesting Lobby Day. The weather was absolutely beautiful! We dropped materials off at the offices of Sen Kevin Ranker, Rep Jeff Morris and Rep Kris Lytton regarding Equal Pay and Paid sick leave.

On Sunday, I went to the AAUW-WA board meeting (there are usually a few branch presidents there) and it was well-organized. Senator Maralyn Chase (32nd Legislative District – pictured here to the left with Rosette) spoke about Washington Women's Agenda; her goal is to bring WA State's women's organizations under one umbrella to speak with one voice, to raise awareness of gender equality in political, economic and cultural circles. The UN Women web site is a treasure-trove of documents and plans for the 20th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women worldwide. Check out 'Emma Watson's UN Speech' and the HeForShe campaign. (AAUW-WA State Board group pictured on the right.)





Please our newest member, Laura Spehar and add her contact information to your directory: 420 4th Street, Anacortes, WA 9822, Phone No: 425-445-6075. Laura joined on-line, so we have not had the pleasure of meeting her yet. Watch for her and be sure to introduce yourself at the February meeting.

DIRECTORY CHANGES AND ADDITIONS:

Kluth, H. Virginia (Ginny) - add cell phone - 360-941-4952
Kolhoff, Vivian - new phone no. - 360-755-3564
Maughn, Karen - cell no. - 360-421-3868
Slajer, Judi - correct spelling of her spouse to - Rosadiuk



May 1 - University of Washington - Bothell
AAUW Washington Board Meeting
AAUW Funds Event "An Evening with Gina Barreca,
an American Feminist Humorist"

May 2 - UW-Bothell
AAUW Washington 2015 Annual Meeting

August 21-22 - Ellensburg
AAUW Washington Summer Board meeting
2015 Leaders & Members Meeting



The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 2, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.
Enter the Westminster Church office building on 9th through the main doors.
The meeting will be held in Classroom 3.
Parking is available in the adjacent lot.