



The Anacortes Agent

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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

It's not too late. Mail dues (\$72) to AAUW, Post Office Box 503, Anacortes, 98221 today.

TAKE A BOW!

AAUW gave away \$4000.00 in scholarships this year. The process begins with wide application distribution in January. The AAUW Scholarship goes to women who are entering or completing an undergraduate degree program, a vocational certification program, or taking courses beyond the undergraduate level in preparation for an advanced degree and are an Anacortes High School Graduate or have resided on Fidalgo Island or Guemes Island for the last three years.

Along with transcripts and a resume of awards, work experience and extracurricular activities, the application requires 3 personal references and two essay questions:

1. Aims and Goals: What is your proposed field of study? How will this scholarship help you? Explain any special circumstances, including financial, that have influenced your educational plans.
2. As a citizen, what do you consider to be your responsibilities to your home, your community, and the world?

Seventeen complete applications were received this year. Six came from graduating Anacortes High School seniors and eleven were from returning or continuing undergraduates or graduate students. The Scholarship Committee agonized over narrowing the field to seven. Every applicant is accomplished and needs financial support. The 7 interviewees are asked these questions

1. Tell us about a challenge or problem you have successfully overcome in your life.
2. Who has been an influential role model or mentor, and how have they influenced you?
3. What obstacles do you foresee as you work towards completion of your degree, and what will you do to overcome them?
4. Tell us about your favorite book.
5. Where do you see yourself in 10 years?
6. Is there anything else that you want us to know and remember about you before you leave today?
7. Do you have any questions for us about the remainder of the scholarship process?

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Congratulations to the AAUW Scholarship Winners

Casey Anderson, \$2000.00 University of Utah, Doctorate in Physical Therapy
Faith Vandeway, \$1000.00 University of Washington, Doctor of Pharmacy
Elisa Franssen, \$500.00 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Systems Engineering
Jazmyne Sturgeon, \$500.00 Central Washington University, Public Health

A Note from Scholarship Committee member Meredith Machin

Ladies, it was a pleasure to participate in our interviews and deliberations today. Thank you for the civility, energy and intelligence you brought to the impossible task of choosing among so many qualified applicants. Every time I engage in scholarship selection, I am motivated to find more funds in the future. I look forward to helping AAUW move forward with our fundraising efforts so that we might say "Yes!" to more deserving women.



An annual favorite is our **LAF** barbeque. This year it will be held at the home of Bunny and Lonny Heiner. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, August 9. The proceeds of this event go to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Watch for more details in the July newsletter.

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Resources range from community outreach programs to legal referrals and backing of major cases. LAF addresses barriers by informing people of their rights and using the legal system to seek justice and change.

Did you know?

Since its first meeting in 1881, AAUW has been a catalyst for change. Our nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 1,000 local branches and over 800 college and university partners. Throughout our history, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

Marie Curie, a future Nobel Prize-winning scientist, received contributions from American women toward the purchase of one gram of radium in order to continue her research. Curie's daughter later returned a portion of unused money to AAUW, which used it to create the endowment that funds the Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship.

STEM AWARDS

8th grade STEM awards were presented to four Anacortes Middle School Girls on May 8th at our annual meeting. From left to right: Giulia Wood and Heather Hanson for Science and Emily Talbot and Gabbi Masten for Math



In preparation for our 2014-2015 directory:

Have you checked your listing in the most recent directory? Please look to see if everything is accurate and email any corrections or additions to underwood31@comcast.net.

Thank you!

Please consider joining the board in a co-chair role.

We are currently looking for someone to join Cecilia Weldon as Co-Vice President of Membership.

Being on the board allows you to be part of the decision making process of AAUW. Call Rosette Dawson or Linda Hendrick to get a detailed description of this position.

Tech Trek Needs You! VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Thanks to the fantastic efforts AAUW WA members have done to raise funds for Tech Trek, we are looking to have as many as 90 campers at PLU this July – 20 more than originally planned! Increasing camper numbers means [we need more staff on campus](#) – a nurse/health aide, dorm monitors/moms and student counselors (high school or college students).

The dates are July 19-26, 2014. All on-campus staff receives room and board for the week, their own room, travel (mileage reimbursement) and a small stipend. A dorm monitor and student counselor are paired together to shepherd a group of 10 girls through the week.

If you are interested, please go to the AAUW WA Tech Trek website (<http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>), click on the Volunteer tab at the top of the page, read the job description for Dorm Monitor (or Student Counselor) and complete the online application.



What do AAUW members do to celebrate their birthdays? This year, Gail Cortelyou decided to go skydiving! (In previous years she has done things like ziplining.)

Go to YouTube, search for SkySno and look for Gail Cortelyou

What are these members doing to celebrate this year?

Tonya Bayley (6/7)

Betsy Cave (6/10)

Norma Seashore (6/26)



Empowering women and girls since 1881 Message from the Presidents:

The Anacortes Branch has had a great year! 64 members (for our 'workforce' and funding for many AAUW programs), monthly meetings with good speakers (for our brains and social interests) and good workers (manning the membership table at Saturday Market, helping LWV at 'Meet the Candidates' events, working hard on the Scholarship Event, setting up for the Writers' Forum, updating Bylaws (yup, we did that this year), keeping track of donations (Funds: #3999 for LAF and #4371 for Tech Trek). A marketing specialist gave us suggestions on how to 'upgrade' our Branch (and we need to incorporate some more of her ideas).

We made \$4000 from the Spring Fundraiser – how great! And over \$500 from the August BBQ for LAF (named in memory of Ann Nord) .And \$6,000 via donations from the Branch and from businesses in the community to the Tech Trek fund in order to send six girls to a week-long STEM camp in July (which research shows is very helpful in keeping middle school girls interested in and continuing on in STEM subjects).

This summer after the Board retreat, we would like to have some very casual social events – coffees for the New Members or others who would like to learn more about AAUW and about our Branch; a field trip or two (the last time I took the ferry was to the San Juan lavender fields with Branch members) AND (new) Internet sessions to explore the AAUW National website and their Programs in a Box, AAUW YouTube videos and projects from other Branches.

The Board retreat will be Thursday, June 12th from 4:00 – 9:00 PM at Letty Hafer's home. At that time the Branch will set the schedule for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Here's where you come in: At the retreat we have an Idea Circle and anything not on the agenda that pops into our heads or that we've been thinking about will be considered or discussed. We've gotten some great ideas in the past and we are hoping for more this year. *What do you think?* What made you join? What makes you stay? Do you want more social activities? (what kind? with or without spouses/SOs?); an extra speaker in April? (the usual 2nd Saturday with the fundraiser being later in the month) And what kind of speakers would you like to hear (local issues, state issues, general knowledge, anything is fine; women's issues; any particular topics – this is the time to give us names and contact information for the future); would you like the speakers to have longer presentations? (now we aim for 30 minutes or so); what else is on your mind?

Why I joined AAUW...

Rosette: I've belonged to AAUW since 1971. (The impetus arose from my experiences working in STEM fields). I was active in a branch in Northwest Houston (Texas) for 5 years and chaired our Environmental Special Interest Group which garnered speakers once a month – these meetings took place in member homes. When my husband was transferred to Illinois, we lived in St Louis and I became a member-at-large (belonging to National only) which meant I had access to the research and data coming from National but didn't 'have to' volunteer for anything in a Branch (you know how we are...). I finally became a Life Member of National in 1976 because I figured I'd live a long time and it would be cheaper. When we retired and moved to Anacortes I sought out a Branch because I needed a few Scrabble players (surely there would be plentiful English majors that liked this). And then... I got hooked on State Conventions and the inspired and inspiring women I met there. I love our own members, speakers, and meetings especially the Writers' Forum and Book Talk; I enjoy working to provide scholarships and awards for local girls. Why do I stay? Because our job is not done... until more than 3% of CEOs (Fortune 500) are women, until 50% of women are engineers and in technology (we are about 18% now), until equal pay (we are still around 77% on average) and advancement for equal work and talent are the norm... well, I'll just have to keep on working.

LINDA: I joined the Anacortes Branch of AAUW in 1976 or 1977. I didn't know AAUW but as the assistant librarian at the Anacortes Public Library I felt it would be good to belong to one of the city's organizations. AAUW was suggested and it seemed a good option. At that time the branch was small, fewer than 20 members, if I remember correctly. Marge Stitt was president and she was wonderful in that position. I remember her saying that 'you don't ask for volunteers, you tell them you have chosen them for a job and that is that' but of course she was Marge Stitt so everyone said yes to her. We met in individuals' homes, our programs were often home grown (members would pick a topic, research it and then present it - my first was on nutrition: its history in the U.S.), and we had an annual pancake breakfast! I stayed in AAUW because of the wonderful people and the programs which were varied - I could depend on learning and broadening my world through them. We moved from meeting in individuals' homes to meeting rooms: the Harbor House, the United Methodist Church and now our current home, Westminster Presbyterian. I started doing a Book Talk in 1978 or 1979 presenting books I had read in the last year. The first time members told about books was on Science Fiction and I passed out books from my personal library. That worked so well we moved on to topics. When I wasn't active the Book Talk remained on the calendar so I kept my membership and am so glad I did. Organizing the Writers' Forum has been challenging and fulfilling - meeting the wonderful authors who presented was special. Members come and members go but the heart of our branch stays the same: a dedication to learning, supporting women & girls and community.

NO BOARD MEETING IN JUNE

BOARD RETREAT scheduled for **Thursday,**
June 12, at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Letty Hafer.
Please bring a salad or salad topping to share.

It is important to RSVP to Letty.

hafers1@comcast.net or **293-5735**