



# SEPTEMBER

## ANACORTES AGENT

Volume 37 Issue 1

### AAUW September Program Meeting Thursday, September 12

Join us in the Anacortes Library meeting room at 6:45 for coffee.  
Our program will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Lisa Herb and Nancy Arnold-Hunting from the Alliance for International Women's Rights will be our speakers. Founded in 2005, the Alliance for International Women's Rights supports women leaders and future women leaders in developing countries, with a current focus on Afghanistan. This is done by creating connections between Afghan women and skilled professionals in developed countries through our long-distance empowerment programs. A secondary, but also important aspect of the Alliance is the belief that creating connections between people of different cultures is a remarkably rewarding, life-changing experience that can help improve international understanding and relations, one person at a time.

### President's message

At the recent planning retreat, board members discussed how to improve our branch and build on the success we are currently enjoying. We are seeing growth in our fundraising efforts. Overall, combined efforts have allowed us to sponsor twelve girls to Tech Trek camp, award \$5000 in scholarships, donate over \$850 to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, and another \$3500 to middle and high school girls for their efforts in STEM related fields.

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Lizzie Johnson 9/2  
Terri Bawden 9/8  
Polly Myers 9/13  
Jackie Bornemann 9/17  
Barbara Gaffney 9/23

Although fundraising is going well, it was noted that several of our more recent members did not renew their membership this year. I am excited to share that we are going to institute a mentorship program to help new members become acquainted with our branch and familiarize them with the responsibilities as well as the social aspects. And this leads me to our last conclusion. To fully appreciate being a member of AAUW, one needs to be involved! We recognize that many of our members are active with families, jobs, and other volunteer activities, so we are inviting each of you to find a committee that will work with your schedule. Some committees meet only for a brief time, others for a season. At our September meeting we will have a listing of all the committees, and each of you is encouraged to sign up and help in some way. Members are also invited to attend our business meetings on the first Monday of each month. The board is interested in hearing your suggestions and responding to any concerns you have. We meet at Westminster Church, 1300 9<sup>th</sup> Street, in classroom 3 at 7:00. I am looking forward to a year filled with excellent programs, continued financial growth, and the benefits that will come with more membership participation. Thank you for this opportunity to serve.

*bonnie*



## LAF BBQ ~ \$920 donated!

Wonderful food and delightful company were enjoyed by all at the August barbeque hosted by Bunny and Lonny Heiner in support of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Terri Bawden was voted by the board as our honoree this year. Congratulations, Terri, and thank you for your continued fundraising efforts for local scholarships.

## Farmers Market Membership Booth

Membership Co-Chairs Bunny Heiner and Ginny Kluth will once again host a booth at the Anacortes Farmers Market on Saturday, September 14. Volunteers are needed to help meet and greet the community and share information about AAUW Anacortes. This is a great way to get the word out about our branch. We need volunteers to help with setting up the table, canopy, and posters, work 2-3 hours shifts during the day, and tear down and clean up at closing. Please contact Bunny or Ginny if you are able to help.

**November Book Talk** This year our theme is **True Crime with Linda Hendrick** True crime is a non-fiction literary genre in which the author examines an actual crime and details the actions of real people. *The Stranger Beside Me* by Ann Rule and *Helter Skelter* by Vincent Bugliosi and Curt Gentry are well known classics of this genre. So, set aside fiction and instead, read books that can seem to be fiction. I will send out a list of true crime books later. Linda

**2019-20 Directories now available** Directories will be passed out to members at the September meeting. They include updated member information, program dates and speakers, and 'members only' information. If you can't make it to the meeting, be sure to ask a friend to pick up your directory for you. Thank you for saving us the postage!

**Tote bags tip the scales...** Recently, we collected \$544 in receipts from The Market for tote bags sold. Although Safeway did not follow through with their commitment to sell bags, they donated \$400 to our branch in support of local scholarships. Many thanks to Terri Bawden for spearheading this fundraising campaign.

# September Committee Sign-ups

At our September meeting, there will be sign-up sheets for each of the following committees. Please take a few minutes to read over the descriptions here and know where you want to contribute your time and talent.

**STEM:** (Committee of 3) Coordinate with AMS and AHS leadership to get student recommendations for STEM awards. Arrange for students to speak at our March meeting where awards are presented. Arrange with Financial officer to have cash awards. Secure items for gift bags. Beth Meenaghan will offer leadership and training for this committee. Committee work is primarily early in the year, January.

**Tech Trek:** (Committee of 3-5) Coordinate with AMS and AVID program to get student recommendations for Tech Trek. Read through applications to determine if qualifications have been met and work with families to set interview times and dates for schools throughout the county. Fundraising for camp comes primarily from STEM oriented businesses and committee members will be asked to participate in contacting businesses. Students are required to speak at our October meeting. This committee invites donors to attend. Ideally, someone from the committee attends a camp to take photos. Rosette Dawson will offer leadership and training for this committee. Committee works primarily in the spring.

**Scholarship:** (With leadership from Committee chair - committee of 5) This committee begins meeting in January. Schools are notified and there is an on-line application process. The committee selects finalists who will be interviewed, either in person or through a media format. Selections will be determined based on funds available. Our goal is to provide a \$2000 scholarship and three \$1000 scholarship by the beginning of May. Scholarship funds are handled through the Anacortes School foundation and checks are written by their staff and sent directly to each school or program.

**Nominating:** One additional member needed per our branch by-laws. This committee begins meeting in January to secure board officers on a rotational basis. Deadline for completion is the end of March to announce slate in the April newsletter (names must be published in April and May)

**Tea:** (With leadership from volunteer chair, committee of 5) There is a complete notebook detailing this job. Currently we have someone to create the poster, design and print the tickets. Committee is responsible for selecting a site (Senior Center), making a deposit with the city, and securing a speaker (suffragettes theme suggested for 2020). Tickets are available at March and April meetings, and remaining tickets must be mailed. Beginning in February committee members bring sign-up sheets to meetings for sweets, savories, silver services, paper products, servers, and raffle items. Reservations must be made for the evening before the event for set up as well as the event and clean up. Tablecloths and cups and saucers must be transported to the site and washed and returned following the event.

**Jingle Bell Dash:** A co-chair is needed to work with Beth Meenaghan; most of the race is being done by Orca Running, so this position is needed as a back-up so that someone else knows the timeline for organizing this race. Additional volunteers are needed the day of the race for registration, to bring cookies, to arrange for beverages, to work in directing race traffic and to make presentations.

**Publicity:** (With leadership from Publicity Chair - committee of 5) Put out posters for events and send out announcements to local newspapers and on-line publications.

**Telephone:** (Committee of 3-5) Call members with a reminder for each meeting and special events.

**Membership:** (With leadership from Membership Vice President(s) – Committee of 3-5) Aid in developing a mentor program that includes pairing new members with existing members, working two Farmers' Market booths, and updating the branch membership role through national. This committee also facilitates collecting dues and notifying members who have not paid in a timely fashion.

**Directory:** (With leadership from directory editor – committee of 2) Help with proof-reading directory, securing ads to defray printing costs, and mailing/delivery those directories to any that are not picked up at meetings.

**By-Laws:** (Committee of 2-3) In the event our branch needs to update our by-laws or national requires a change, committee members will make the changes and submit them in a timely manner. An annual review of existing job descriptions should take place.