



CHANGING THE WORLD ONE WOMAN AND GIRL AT A TIME

November Agent

Volume 39 Issue 5

Anacortes Branch



Thursday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Year after year we raise funds to encourage women and girls in their education. Join us as we hear from some of our past scholarship recipients and learn how they have benefited from our



support in their

educational journey. Help us to raise funds for next year's awards by participating in our upcoming drawing for an **Italian Dinner Basket ~ \$10 per ticket. Send your donations to Patricia Griffith by December 7.**

The board will draw the winning ticket and announce the winner at our December meeting. Basket value: approximately \$50



Judith Rolston 11/7

Bunny Heiner 11/10

Renée Shain 11/29



Question of the month:

What is your favorite holiday food?

Find out who responded to the October question on the last page of this newsletter.



AAUW members enjoyed a wonderful celebration with Jane Crannell on her 100th birthday. Anticipating a rainy day, members came ready with umbrellas and coats, but the rain held off until we finished our walk-by. Many of Jane's family and members of Jane's church joined us as we walked one-by-one up to Jane and shared a birthday greeting. Jane sent a note of thanks to us which said, "The Walk By was an honor and a pleasure. No cars...I liked that. I'm proud to be a part of such a fine organization."

Judi Slajer was recently inducted into the Alaska Women's Hall of Fame.



Judi Slajer is a longtime Alaskan, mother, cancer survivor, dedicated public servant, and local government pioneer who worked for decades to help create the effective governance structures in Alaska. Slajer

was involved in the creation of lasting organizations such as the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks, the Alaska Municipal Bond Bank Authority, and the Alaska Municipal League Investment Pool. In recognition of her significant contributions to local government in Alaska. Slajer was honored with the Outstanding Contribution Award by the Alaska Municipal League (AML).

In 1964, Slajer became the Borough Clerk for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough—its first employee. She was instrumental in the set-up of the new Borough. In August 1977, after 14 years as Borough Clerk, Slajer was appointed as the first-ever woman Borough Manager in Alaska. In 1980 Slajer moved to Fairbanks with her children to earn a BS from UAF. After receiving her degree, Slajer spent four years managing the second largest government budget in Alaska, for Mayor Knowles and Manager, Barbara Steckel. Slajer moved back to Fairbanks in 1986 to join her to-be second husband Tom Rosadiuk. After teaching governance courses for UAA in rural Alaska, she was hired by Mayor Juanita Helms as the CFO for the Borough (FNSB) serving there for 12 years.

Slajer has been a self-starter and charted her own path to become the first female borough manager in the state. Slajer has mentored many women through her direct role in professional organizations and by fostering and encouraging her employees during her decades (32 years) of local government service.

Slajer's home, with her husband Tom, is a remote site in Dora Bay, 25 miles by water from Ketchikan and spends wintertime near La Conner, WA as well as Kona, HI.

Judi became a member of AAUW in 2003. Congratulations, Judi!



Book Talk 2020 – The books that brought us comfort

Many thanks to Linda for hosting another sensational Book Talk. Members joined our zoom meeting and shared their comforting books. Descriptions came, mostly, from Amazon. Other books that were mentioned: Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen, The library book by Susan Orlean, The other Bennet sister by Janice Hadlow, and authors Debbie Macomber and Louise Penny. Due to space only one book per member is described. Thank you all – it was a delightful evening, Linda

Nelle Jacobson: **Small victorie: spotting improbably moments of grace** (2014) 1950by Anne Lamott

This book offers a new message of hope that celebrates the triumph of light over the darkness in our lives. Our victories over hardship and pain may seem small, she writes, but they change us—our perceptions, our perspectives, and our lives. Lamott writes of forgiveness, restoration, and transformation, how we can turn toward love even in the most hopeless situations, how we find the joy in getting lost and our amazement in finally being found. Profound and hilarious, honest and unexpected, the stories in *Small Victories* are proof that the human spirit is irrepressible.

Laura Jane Viverette: **Tarzan of the apes** (1912) by Edgar Rice Burroughs

Orphaned as a babe in the African jungle, tiny John Clayton, the only child of Lord and Lady Greystoke, is rescued by a tribe of great apes. The child, now named "Tarzan," grows to manhood in this savage world among the fierce anthropoids. Aided by his keen knife and innate intelligence, Tarzan ascends to become king of the apes, able to face any peril and conquer all foes. When men come to Tarzan's jungle, they bring danger that is motivated by greed and deceit. All of Tarzan's cunning will be required if he is to defeat this threat and win the love of Jane Porter, the beautiful young woman whose appearance in Tarzan's jungle leaves him forever changed.

Linda Hendrick; **A Town Like Alice** (1950) by Nevil Shute

Jean Paget, a young Englishwoman living in Malaya, is captured by the invading Japanese and forced on a brutal seven-month death march with dozens of other women and children. A few years after the war, Jean is back in England, the nightmare behind her. However, an unexpected inheritance inspires her to return to Malaya to give something back to the villagers who saved her life. But it turns out that they have a gift for her as well: the news that the young Australian soldier, Joe Harmon, who had risked his life to help the women, had miraculously survived. Jean's search for Joe leads her to a desolate Australian outpost called Willstown, where she finds a challenge that will draw on all the resourcefulness and spirit that carried her through her war-time ordeals.

Sandy Norris: **The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World** (2019) by Melinda Gates

"Melinda Gates has spent many years working with women around the world. This book is an urgent manifesto for an equal society where women are valued and recognized in all spheres of life. Most of all, it is a call for unity, inclusion and connection. We need this message more than ever." — Malala Yousafzai

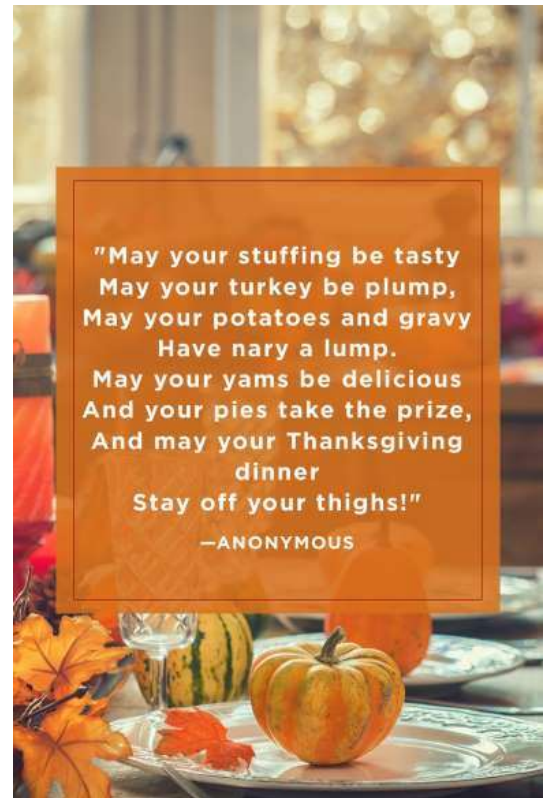
Patricia Griffith: **The Little Paris Bookshop: A Novel** (2015) by Nina George

Monsieur Perdu calls himself a literary apothecary. From his floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine, he prescribes novels for the hardships of life. Using his intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs, Perdu mends broken hearts and souls. The only person he can't seem to heal through literature is himself; he's still haunted by heartbreak after his great love disappeared. She left him with only a letter, which he has never opened. After Perdu is finally tempted to read the letter, he hauls anchor and departs on a mission to the south of France, hoping to make peace with his loss and discover the end of the story. Joined by a bestselling but blocked author and a lovelorn Italian chef, Perdu travels along the country's rivers, dispensing his wisdom and his books, showing that the literary world can take the human soul on a journey to heal itself.

Judy Higgins: **Will Rogers: The Man and His Times** (1973) by Richard M. Ketchum
A biography of the famous comedian. This book was one Judy got from her father

Sandy Huggins: **Bossypants** (2011) by [Tina Fey](#)

Before Liz Lemon, before "Weekend Update", before "Sarah Palin", Tina Fey was just a young girl with a dream: a recurring stress dream that she was being chased through a local airport by her middle-school gym teacher. She also had a dream that one day she would be a comedian on TV. She has seen both of those dreams come true.





"An optimist is a person
who starts a new diet
on Thanksgiving Day."

IRV KUPCINET

Meredith Machin: **Cordelia Underwood, or the Marvelous Beginnings of the Moosepath League** (1998) by Van Reid (1st in the saga series)

Step back in time to Portland, Maine, in 1896. When the young, beautiful, redheaded Cordelia Underwood inherits a parcel of land from her seafaring uncle, it sets in motion a chain of events that leads to the unearthing of a family secret two centuries old. Cordelia soon crosses paths with Mister Tobias Walton and finds herself aided in her quest by the warmhearted gentleman, who has never heard of an adventure he isn't eager to join. Together with his hapless trio of friends, the Moosepath League, they embark on an entertaining and audacious adventure. Teeming with Cupid's arrows flying hither and yon, apparitions, a kidnapping, smuggling, and thievery, and filled with wonderment, romance, and adventure, Cordelia Underwood is a splendid yarn of the old-fashioned variety.

Sally Kilpatrick: **Laying By** (2017 by Vincent Wixon)

Rich, dark loam figures in the poems that open and close this compelling collection, beginning with a plow turning up earth "oily and black as cinders," and ending with the image of soil "black as coal." In between, Vince Wixon's *Laying By* offers fertile ground for

reverie and epiphany: his meditative and elegiac work is rich with both sensory experience and striking insight.
— Paulann Petersen, Oregon Poet Laureate 2010-2014

Rosette Dawson: **Maggie and the Black-Tie Affair (A Carita Cove Mystery Book 1)** (2019) by Barbara Cool Lee

A bored trophy wife. A cynical movie star. One evening to save an innocent girl from prison. None of them will ever be the same after this Black-Tie Affair. Maggie McJasper is starting over in a little California beach town. She has a craft shop, a nice circle of friends, and a handsome movie star who keeps flirting with her. Life would be pretty great if she could just stop stumbling over dead bodies....

The Carita Cove romantic mysteries are fun and heartwarming reads, with no swearing or love scenes, and no gruesome violence to keep you up at night.

Betsy Cave: **Martin Marten: a novel** by Brian Doyle

Dave is fourteen years old, living with his family in a cabin on Oregon's Mount Hood (or as he prefers to call it, like the Multnomah tribal peoples once did, Wy'east). Dave will soon enter high school, with adulthood and a future not far off—a future away from his mother, father, his precocious younger sister, and the wilderness where he's lived all his life. And Dave is not the only one approaching adulthood and its freedoms on Wy'east that summer. Martin, a pine marten (of the mustelid family) is leaving his own mother and siblings and setting off on his own as well. As Dave and Martin set off on their own adventures, their lives, paths, and trails will cross, weave, and blend. Why not come with them as they set forth into the forest and crags of Oregon's soaring mountain wilderness in search of life, family, friends, enemies, wonder, mystery, and good things to eat? (Betsy liked May Oliver's poetry too)

Vivian Kolhoff: **And the people stay home** (a Coronavirus children's book) (2020) by Anne O'Meara

Kitty O'Meara, author of *And the People Stayed Home*, has been called the "poet laureate of the pandemic." This illustrated children's book (ages 4-8) will also appeal to readers of all ages.

O'Meara's thoughtful poem about the pandemic, quarantine, and the future suggests there is meaning to be found in our shared experience of the coronavirus and conveys an optimistic message about the possibility of profound healing for people and the planet. Her words encourage us to look within, listen deeply, and connect with ourselves and the earth in order to heal.

Karen Maughan: **Death in La Fenice (Commissario Brunetti mystery, #1)** (2007) by Donna Leon

During intermission at the famed La Fenice opera house in Venice, Italy, a notoriously difficult and widely disliked German conductor is poisoned—and suspects abound. Guido Brunetti, a native Venetian, sets out to unravel the mystery behind the high-profile murder. To do so, he calls on his knowledge of Venice, its culture, and its dirty politics. Along the way, he finds the crime may have roots going back decades—and that revenge, corruption, and even Italian cuisine may play a role.

Renee Shain: **God got a dog** (2013) by Cynthia Rylant (author) and Marla Frazee (illustrator)

What if God was living a human existence? What might God do to pass the time? Write a fan letter? Get a desk job? Make spaghetti? Take a bath? Get a dog? A sublime book for all ages, *God Got a Dog* celebrates the simple things in our world while taking a long, close look at what it means to be human. The soft, reflective, and often humorous words and pictures create a glimpse into everyday life through wide and wondering eyes that blends the familiar with the profoundly spiritual. (poetry)

Megan Taylor: **The Bachelor Brothers' Bed & Breakfast** (1997) by Bill Richardson

A pair of endearingly eccentric bachelors--in their fifties, and fraternal twins--own and operate a bed & breakfast establishment where people like them, the "gentle and bookish and ever so slightly confused," can feel at home. Hector and Virgil think of their B&B as a refuge, a retreat, a haven, where folks may bring their own books or peruse the brothers' own substantial library. An antic blend of homespun and intellectual humor

Karen Laws: **101 famous poems** (1958)

A collection of poems that have delighted and inspired generations of readers. It also contains a selection of prose, including the Gettysburg Address, the Ten Commandments, the Declaration of Independence, and the text of Patrick Henry's "give me liberty or give me death" speech.

Bunny Heiner: **Traitor's purse (the Albert Campion mystery series book 8)** (1941) by Margery Allingham

Celebrated amateur detective Albert Campion awakes in hospital accused of attacking a police officer and suffering from acute amnesia. All he can remember is that he was on a mission of vital importance to His Majesty's government before his accident. On the run from the police and unable to recognise even his faithful servant or his beloved fiancée, Campion struggles desperately to put the pieces together while the very fate of England is at stake



Bonnie Underwood: **The Happy Hollisters** (1953-70) by Jerry West (Andrew Svenson)
This series recounts the adventures of a young American middle-class family solving mysteries from their home on Pine Lake, in the city of Shoreham (no state is ever provided). The Hollister family includes five children, their parents, a family of cats, a dog, and a burro. Pete, the oldest of the Hollister children, is 12 years old. Pam, or Pamela, is 10 years old and very adventurous. Ricky is a red-headed, rambunctious 7-year-old, and Holly is a 6-year-old tomboy. The youngest is Sue, age 4. Their father, Mr. John Hollister, owns a general store named The Trading Post, where he sells hardware, sporting goods, and toys. Mrs. Elaine Hollister tries to help her children solve mysteries and is always ready with handy tips for solving cases. Joey Brill and Will Wilson appear as rivals of the Hollister family's in most books. While not actually villains, they appear as obstacles and annoyances to the Hollisters' mystery-solving efforts in most plots. Usually Joey and Will's disruptive actions are shown to be the result of lack of awareness, apathy, or indifference, rather than malicious motives.



AAUW October survey question: What makes me be at peace?

There are many things that I find peaceful but walking on a sandy beach may be the best. There is something about seeing the ocean which is so vast that brings me comfort and joy. It could also be that walking on a beach, particularly in the tropics, means I'm on vacation, away from normal tensions and responsibilities which is peaceful all my itself. Linda Hendrick



It looks like our branch of AAUW will be relying on Zoom for the near future. If you need any assistance or encouragement, your board members would be happy to help. Contact Bonnie Underwood or Linda Hendrick with your questions! If you don't have a camera on your device, you can call in to a meeting and listen to our speakers.

Dear AAUW branch friends,

As some of you have heard, Rick and I are moving to a continuing care retirement community in Gig Harbor Nov. 10. It seems sudden, but such a move has been in our plans for many years. The fast part came when we found the right place and our house here sold in 4 days. Yikes! We are healthy and excited to be diving into this new adventure together.

I once described a gathering of our branch members as a burst of intelligent energy, and I have benefited from that light source in numerous ways over the past 20 years. Now one of our members, Peggie Hunnicutt, tells me she has a dear friend in the AAUW Gig Harbor branch, so I'm already looking forward to making a new connection there.

And, we will be only a few miles from our dear Letty Hafer, so I will be able to see her more often once Covid eases. I would be happy to facilitate contacts with her.

If any of you ever pop down Gig Harbor, let me know and we will reunite for more fun times.

My new address is 4340 Borgen Blvd., 1447, Gig Harbor, WA 98332. New landline 253-649-5939.

My email remains the same, machins@aol.com, as well as my cell, 360-770-4821.

I treasure the relationships I've been privileged to share in AAUW, and wish the best to all of you, Meredith Machin

