



CHANGING THE WORLD ONE WOMAN AND GIRL AT A TIME

February
Volume 40 Issue 8

presented by



Anacortes Agent

"Joyful Art"



am fulfilled as an artist."

Local artist Terry MacDonald will be our guest speaker on Thursday, February 10, at 7:00 P.M.

The Zoom link will open at 6:45. Terry volunteers for local arts organizations and service clubs and serves on the local arts commission. Join us as she shares her artistic journey.

Terry's loose expressive style combines with bright, vivid colors to create what many describe as "joyful art." Through multi-layered acrylic and mixed media abstracts she strives to convey upbeat and positive images through exuberant brush work and vibrating color. "If my work makes someone smile or brightens their day I

Programs Committee

Have you heard a great speaker? Do you know of a local author? Do you have contacts within an organization that supports women? Are you familiar with a local group that benefits our community? Are you interested in finding out more about AAUW national policies? Our Program Co-Vice Presidents would like to form a committee of women interested in brainstorming program ideas for the 2022-2023 year. Contact Sandy Huggins (tranquilpt@aol.com) or Gina Van Hess (gvh001@comcast.net) to find out more and share your suggestions.

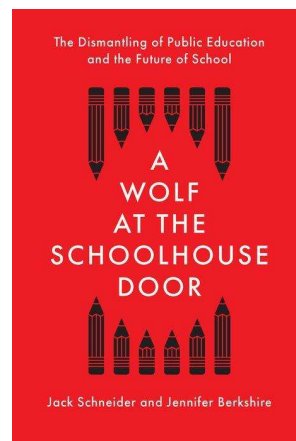
Important Notice

At the February board meeting, a motion was made and passed to increase our branch dues to \$100 for fiscal year 2022-2023. As you know we chose to absorb the increase in national dues this year with the understanding that we would make an adjustment the next year. By raising dues \$10, we will be able to pay the next increase in national dues and maintain our branch obligations. These include speaker fees, Post Office box rental, insurance, hospitality costs, supplies, directory printing and room rentals. According to Section 4 of our branch bylaws, "Members shall be notified of the intent to consider a change in the dues, the proposed amount, and the rationale for the change at least 60 days prior to the vote." Dues are due each year before the end of June.

Membership Dues



Join us in March for a discussion of the book, “A Wolf at the Schoolhouse Door.” We will hear a brief interview with one of the authors, followed by a panel discussion between several members who have read the book. “While support for public education today is stronger than ever, the movement to save our schools remains fragmented, variable, and voluntary. Meanwhile, those set on destroying this beloved institution are unified, patient, and well-resourced.”



“In *A Wolf at the Schoolhouse Door*, Jennifer Berkshire and Jack Schneider, co-hosts of the popular education podcast *Have You Heard*, lay out the increasingly potent network of conservative elected officials, advocacy groups, funders, and think tanks that have aligned behind a radical vision to unmake public education. They describe the dogma underpinning the work of the dismantlers and how it fits into the current political context, giving readers an up-close look at the policies—school vouchers, the war on teachers' unions, tax credit scholarships, virtual schools, and more—driving the movement's agenda. Finally, they look forward, surveying the world the dismantlers threaten to build.”

“As teachers from coast to coast mobilize with renewed vigor, this smart, essential book sounds an alarm, one that should incite a public reckoning on behalf of the millions of families served by the American educational system—and many more who stand to suffer from its unmaking.”

Members are encouraged to invite their friends, neighbors, and any teachers you know to attend this important discussion.



Bills featured on Lobby Day

Keep our Care Act SB5688, sponsored by Senators Randall-D and Rolfes-D. The companion bill HB1809 is sponsored by Representatives Simmons-D and Berry-D. This bill addresses hospital and other health system entities mergers and the impact on access to care, increased community costs and decreased quality of care.

MMIW/P HB1571 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women concerning protections and services for indigenous persons who are

missing, murdered, or survivors of human trafficking. Sponsored by Representatives Mosbrucker-R, Dye-R, and 21 other legislators. This is a strong bipartisan bill introduced at the end of the 2021 session. Washington State Patrol released a report in 2019 on missing and murdered native women. The United Indian Health Institute (Seattle) released their own counter report. Governor Inslee appointed a Washington State Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People Task Force headed by the Attorney General.



Public Policy: Let's get engaged on our AAUW-WA bills this session!
What can you as an individual do to advocate?

1. Participate in meeting with your representatives.
2. Message your representatives.
3. Sign in and comment personally on bills.

Save
the
Date

April 9 – Our Annual **AAUW-WA** Meeting

You can attend the state annual meeting without driving anywhere!

The theme of this year's online annual meeting is strengthening public education while making it more equitable – a topic central to AAUW's mission.

The program will include well-known education journalist Jennifer Berkshire as keynote speaker, as well as WA education experts discussing what this state needs for better K-12 education. Berkshire is the co-author of [A Wolf at the Schoolhouse Door: The Dismantling of Public Education](#), about current school politics.

Special Interest Groups

President's Message: As we head into another year of meeting virtually, I know that many of you are ready to get back to in-person meetings. Although the Anacortes Library will soon open their meeting room to the public, there will be a limit of 20 people allowed at one time and social distancing and masks will make presentations difficult. I am pleased with how many members have been joining our monthly meetings recently, as well as community members. Zoom meetings have certainly addressed our concerns for winter and night driving, but don't address our need for community, connecting through conversations, and getting to know new members.

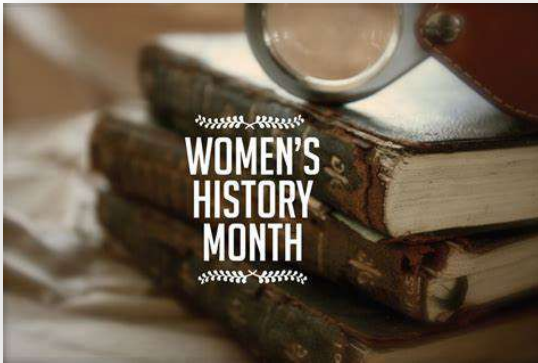
In the past our branch has had a variety of special interest groups and I suggest we begin by meeting in small groups socially this summer. Here are just a few of the groups we might host:

- Page Turners: Rather than everyone reading the same book, bring what you have read this month and would recommend to others.
- Out to Lunch Bunch: Enjoy a meal with a couple of AAUW people you don't know well.
- Take a Hike: Depending on your walking preference, hike around the Anacortes trails.
- Bridge Group: This could be a beginners' group or a group of seasoned players.
- Once a Month Club: Choose someplace to visit with a small group – a museum, tulip fields, a movie, art gallery, a beach walk, a ferry trip...
- International Relations: Using a study guide, form a discussion group.
- Take a Chance with Technology: Mentors could help others become more comfortable with using technology. Maybe we could have someone's grandchild lead this group. 😊

Another way to interact is by joining an AAUW committee. Each month we will feature a different committee with the hope that all members will find a place to volunteer. I look forward to hearing from you with your thoughts and suggestions. *bonnie*



Do you need help using Zoom?
Please contact a board member and we will find a Zoom mentor to work with you.



First Day of Women's History Month Tuesday, Mar 1, 2022

**Why Do We Celebrate
Women's History Month?**

Women's History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to United States history. From Abigail Adams to Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth to Rosa Parks, the timeline of women's history milestones stretches back to the founding of the United States.

The actual celebration of Women's History Month grew out of a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.

A few years later, the idea had caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

The National Women's History Alliance designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. The 2022 theme is "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope." This theme is "both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history."

Zoom link for members attending the February meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86149478392?pwd=UXdzdGJPOW1uZTFnaTRtYStoWFc3UT09>

Encourage friends and neighbors to register by contacting us through aauw.meeting@gmail.com.