



CHANGING THE WORLD ONE WOMAN AND GIRL AT A TIME

June
Volume 40 Issue 12



Anacortes Agent

Join us for our last meeting of this fiscal year on June 9, at 7:00 p.m. Celebrate with us as we meet some of the students who are receiving AAUW scholarships. David Forsythe, Assistant Superintendent, NWESD 189 and Title IX Coordinator is our guest speaker for the evening. We wanted to recognize and celebrate 50 years of change due to Title IX legislation and look forward to hearing about his role in that position.



Zoom Link: The site opens up at 6:45 and the meeting will begin at 7:00.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81651813047?pwd=bFQ4V3J6WUtvN2hINzRDd2RpQWRRQT09>

Following our speaker and award ceremony, we will conduct our annual meeting with the election and installation of officers. Please attend as we recognize the achievements of our branch and hear from our committee chairs about the exciting work being done by the AAUW Anacortes branch. Please plan to attend and support our leadership team. Here is the slate of officers:



President: Bonnie Underwood
VP of Membership: Ora Jonasson
Co-Vice Presidents of Programs: Sandy Huggins and Gina Van Hess
Secretary: Judy Higgins
Financial Officer: Patricia Griffith

**This year we are collecting dues through the branch by check.
If you haven't already sent in your dues, please send your
\$100 payment to**

**Patricia Griffith - AAUW Financial Officer
3932 Rockridge Parkway, Anacortes 98221 before July 1.
Thank you for supporting our branch.**



Our primary fundraiser for scholarships was the 'Spring Tea' for many years. The Mermen event has now replaced the Tea and we are in the process of selling teacups, and tablecloths to a lovely tea shop in Burlington, My Cup of Tea. The silver tea service is still available if you know of someone interested. We will consider donations. Contact Bonnie Underwood if you are interested.



Branch member Diane Dempsey-Marr has been appointed to serve on the Anacortes Arts Commission.

The Arts Commission is an advisory board to the City Council pertaining to public arts and culture. The Anacortes Arts Commission supports excellence, vitality, diversity, and accessibility of the arts as essential to the quality of life for all Fidalgo and Guemes Island residents by fostering a community cultural vision through the acquisition, placement and maintenance of public art and by promoting participation, innovation and partnership in all the performing, visual and literary arts.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings. The theme of the show is Interpretation. The exhibit will run **June - November, 2022**



The deadline for submitting photos for the 2023 Mermen calendar is June 6. We have some outstanding candidates this year. We look forward to decorating at least one float for the 4th of July parade. Volunteers should contact Terri Bawden. Members are encouraged to donate to this fundraiser!

TECH TREK CAMP

Camp is designed around STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) to increase interest, excitement and self-confidence in young women who will enter the eighth grade in the fall. It features hands-on learning and focusing on current hot topics for career exploration. Tech Trek introduces girls to local successful female STEM professionals, teaches girls that their intellectual skills will grow over time, and demonstrates that it is possible to break traditional female career stereotypes. Camp is located on a college campus using dorms, laboratories, recreation, and dining facilities. This camp model has operated in Washington for seven years and approximately 1000 campers have attended the camp with 95% sponsorship from local AAUW branches. The program requires \$175,000 annually to operate and we are funded by individuals, companies, corporations, foundations, and service organizations. The Anacortes branch is so grateful to our local sponsors for making this possible for ten students in Skagit County.

In July the students selected for Tech Trek camp will attend Pacific Lutheran University for a week-long program. There will be two weeks of Tech Trek in Washington this summer at Pacific Lutheran University-Camp Dunbar – July 10-16 and Camp McClintock – July 17-23.

We look forward to hearing from them in the fall when they report to us about their camp experience.



The Anacortes School Foundation agreed with our committee's choices for scholarships for 2022-23. Our AAUW Treasurer, Patricia Griffith was an evaluator for ASF so we had an inside view of the process of awarding scholarships for local women. Five of our six top choices will be awarded scholarships. When looking at the amount of money available for scholarships this year and including Patricia's knowledge of the scholarship status of each of the candidates, we are pleased to present the following recipients:




Carly Bates	\$2,500
Cadence Lamphiear	\$2,500
Ava Martin	\$1,500
Emilie Shjarback	\$1,500
Mackenzie Wakefield	\$1,500

Many of you will remember long-time member Letty Hafer who was instrumental in our initial STEM program. We recently learned that Letty passed away on Mother's Day. Letty's stroke of 7 years ago began her journey away from us, but she will always be remembered by AAUW members who knew her for her enthusiasm for our branch, her passion for STEM, her beautiful garden, and her winning smile. Her family has secured the sanctuary at Sacred Heart in La Conner for a mass for Letty at 11 A.M. on Sat., July 16- the day before her birthday.



STEM SCHOLARSHIP for AHS seniors

Three STEM scholarships will be awarded this year. Attend the meeting on June 9 to learn the names of the young women who were selected. This year we were able to increase our STEM awards to one \$5,000 and two \$2,000 scholarships. Learn more about these outstanding students at the meeting and read their biographies in the July issue of the Agent.



WEBINAR SERIES KICK-OFF

THE ECONOMY MATTERS:
*What We Need to Do to Provide
 Financial Stability and Prosperity for
 Women and Girls in the Post-Pandemic Era*

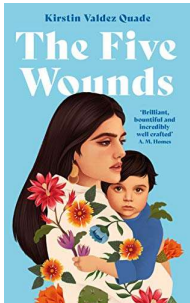
JUNE 11TH | 9:00AM - 12:00PM | ZOOM | FREE

<https://wa-online.aauw.net> for more information

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

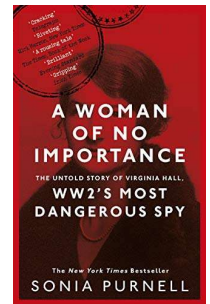
Selections from the Library of Bunny Heiner

Instead of “binge watching” a television program (I don’t watch TV and don’t own a set), I have been “binge reading” the Sue Grafton “Alphabet” series about private investigator Kinsey Millhone, all the way from “A Is for Alibi” to the final book, “Y Is for Yesterday.” (Grafton died of cancer before she could write the “Z” book.) I got hooked on the Grafton books after receiving two of them as a Christmas gift. As for all the others: thank you, Penguin Books.



Another book I enjoyed reading recently is “The Five Wounds” by Kirstin Valdez Quade, one of my book club’s selections this year. The book is told from different people’s points of view and is set in a small town in northern New Mexico. This extremely well-written novel covers a good deal of Hispanic culture, and I learned a lot from it. Paperback, 416 pages. Thank you, Watermark Books.

For a number of years, I have been reading books about World War II. Right now I’m reading the New York Times bestseller “A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II” by the historian Sonia Purnell. The book is about a Baltimore socialite named Virginia Hall, who was the first Allied woman deployed behind enemy lines. She worked behind the scenes in France and managed to survive despite desperate situations, and was responsible for saving a lot of lives. As always when I read a non-fiction book, the first thing I read is the biography, which is excellent, as are the notes. Hardback, 316 pages. Thank you, friend Joanie of Coupeville.



AAUW General Meeting Minutes 5/12/2022

PRESIDING: Bonnie Underwood

PRESENT: Terri Bawden, Carolyn Colley, Rosette Dawson, Patricia Griffith, Karan Hannah, Linda Hendrick, Judy Higgins, Sandy Huggins, Jessica Koeberle, Vivian Kolhoff, Sandy Norris, Megan Taylor, Gina Hess, Guest Speaker: Melissa Rice, and many other guests.

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Welcome: Bonnie Underwood welcomed everyone to the May meeting of AAUW and particularly welcomed our guest speaker, Melissa Rice. A slide show was shown for 15 minutes before the meeting started consisting of AAUW activities and interesting facts about some inventive women in history.

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Sandra Huggins

Sandra introduced Melissa Rice who is Associate Professor of Planetary Science at Western Washington University.

Ms. Rice gave an hour-long presentation of the NASA project to send a LandRover to Mars with the ultimate mission of collecting samples of Martian rocks to be analyzed for signs of life forms which may have been part of Martian history. Using some very detailed pictures of the successful trip to Mars and the landscape that was

revealed, she gave a very interesting description of what the mission expected to accomplish and how they would do it. Ms. Rice answered questions after her presentation. For further information she suggested using the internet site of: <https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020>.

AAUW Members Meeting

Call to order: 7:57

Presidents Report: Bonnie Underwood

- A Membership Survey is being distributed to all members to determine how members want to participate in AAUW activities and their activity level.
- The Annual Meeting will be in June this year so our Scholarship recipients will be announced and be able to participate in that meeting.
- Installation of Board members will also take place.

Fundraising report: Terri Bawden

- Lots of enthusiasm is being generated. We have 7 Mermen signed up and 12 Sponsors. Facebook posts have helped to publicize this event.

Financial report: Patricia Griffith

- Our Financial picture is very good at this point due to some excellent fundraising activities over the past two years. Annual dues have been raised this year to \$100. Payment should be sent directly to Patricia before the end of May.

Scholarship report: Terri Bawden for Barbara Benson

- We are in the process of selecting six scholarship recipients at this moment. They will be announced in June.

Tech Trek report: Rosette Dawson

- There will be ten girls from Skagit County who will attend Tech Trek this summer. They are being supported entirely by local businesses which have contributed to this program for many years.

Program report: Sandra Huggins

- Program for the June meeting is still being arranged, however most of the meeting will be devoted to the Scholarship Recipients being introduced and installation of Board members.

Bonnie expressed her appreciation for everyone who attended the meeting.

Adjourned: 8:17

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Higgins, Secretary