



CHANGING THE WORLD ONE WOMAN AND GIRL AT A TIME

November
Volume 41 Issue 5

presented by



Watch for Book Talk quotes on the slide show before the meeting.

Booktalk!



Join us in the Anacortes Library meeting room or on-line for our meeting on Thursday, November 10, at 6:45 for the slide show and conversation. Book Talk will begin at 7:00. Come prepared to share about the book you have read.

Here's the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84001269179?pwd=dFg3cE5jQW8wSTJ2RCsra28yNnNuZz09>

Book Talk this November is on *Women Who Work* which reminded me of a book once held at the Skagit Valley College Library. While I cannot remember the title or author, I do remember that it was a fascinating look back at the creative work done by women in the ancient world. We have little evidence of their work due to the fragile nature which could not withstand time: woven creations are an example. This prompted a Google search on women's work before the Industrial Revolution. The following links give a look back. The Social Position of Women in Old Persia does discuss women who wove. It is interesting how women's place in society changed with the onset of agriculture and that could be a subject of more than one meeting.

Clio Visualizing History: **Women's Work** This article looks at working women in history. Interesting and informative <https://www.cliohistory.org/click/workplace-family/work>

NPR: **Working Moms Have Been A 'Thing' Since Ancient History (November 2017)**

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2017/11/30/567262912/working-moms-have-been-a-thing-since-ancient-history/>

The World History Encyclopedia of World History: **Women in the Middle Ages** (Joshua J. Mark 18/3/2019)

<https://www.worldhistory.org/article/1345/women-in-the-middle-ages/>

[The Social Position of Women in Old Persia](#) PDF by TS Bahrami · 1998

<file:///C:/Users/hend2/Downloads/681-361-2077-1-10-20081112.pdf>



Welcome to new member, Kathleen Brueger who joined our branch in October. Kathleen has recently moved here from Washington D.C. She is a graduate of Smith College and received her J.D. degree from George Washington law school.

It's not too late to register!

On November 15, Kelly Jones of American University, will speak on her research on the economic consequences for women of restricted access to reproductive services. Professor Jones is an applied microeconomist whose research examines the effects of various economic policies on gender equality and women's economic wellbeing.



On December 13, State Senator Claire Wilson will speak on childcare policies in Washington state. Her expertise on the topic comes from 25 years working as an early childhood education administrator and as a legislator working to develop new policies to improve childcare access. She will be joined by Sarah Brady, the policy and advocacy manager for Child Care Resources of King County.



It wasn't too long ago that AAUW had branches in Mount Vernon, Oak Harbor, and Friday Harbor. Now, they are all gone. What happened? It's important to check the health of our branch so this won't happen to us. It's easy to say we are more successful than ever. Our Mermen campaign has raised scholarship funds to over \$10,000 a year. Tech Trek money is available from local donors, so we no longer have a second fundraising event. We are now partnered with the Anacortes School Foundation so that donations to scholarships are tax deductible, and our scholarship application process has been streamlined. Things are going great! But are they? Most of the work is being done by board members who have been serving for more terms than allowed by our bylaws. They are committed to the mission of AAUW and continue to look for ways to improve things. But how long will that continue? Here's an example of their progressive thinking:

Recently we began to research an app called Mailchimp. This free app would allow us to prepare and mail our newsletter as well as get statistics on who read it and when it was opened. It could be used also as a tool for marketing our Mermen campaign. With some practice, we hope to have it up and running in time for the January newsletter which would arrive opened in your email. No more attachments to fool with and easier to read on your phones and other mobile devices.

I am so thankful for all of you who support AAUW Anacortes with your dues and attendance, but without more volunteers, I am concerned about the future. We are optimistic that our "Friends of AAUW" option will draw more people to our branch, but without your help to spread the word, this may not happen. Just this week I received the following email from Mary Williams, President of the Washington on-line branch. I found it alarming and plan to attend the summit. The question I must ask you is, how important is the AAUW branch to you? *bonnie*

Avoiding Implosion A 2nd Sunday Sustainability Summit

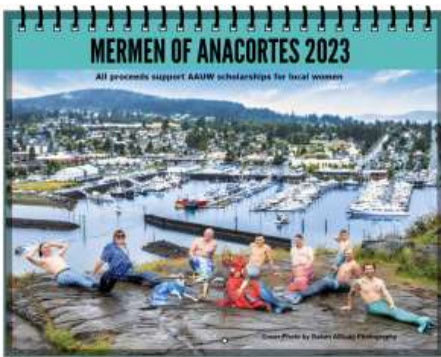
An Urgent Open Meeting to Discuss the Survival of AAUW in Washington State

Hosted by AAUW-WA, Tech Trek and SPF Leadership

We are watching our own potential demise. We are losing branches because of a lack of leadership and resulting burnout. Our most impactful programs are in danger, which threatens our ability to attract and retain new members. We need to find solutions and we need your help.

If you would like the zoom link for this meeting on Sunday, November 13, at 2:00 p.m., please contact me at underwood31@comcast.net.

Calendar and Tote Bag Sales



We have about 70 calendars left and they continue to be sold by Marine Hardware, Johnson Manor, Red Snapper, Alley Cat Vintage and Décor and on-line. We are down to about 75 tote bags. These both make wonderful holiday gifts and will be featured at our booth at the Farmers Market Holiday Market at the Depot Arts Center, on November 19-20, from 10:00-4:00. Volunteer to work at the booth and tell your friends!



At our December meeting, we will gather at the Anacortes Library meeting room to enjoy a cookie exchange. Bring your homemade cookies or small treats to share along with a bag or box to collect goodies to take home. Coffee and tea will be provided as we take some time to socialize and watch a slide show honoring some of the members we have recently lost.

Thanks to our Program Chairs, Gina Van Hess and Sandy Huggins, we will continue to have outstanding speakers in 2023. They will include Captain Phyllis Woodwine, Jimmy Blais (MJB project), Museum Director Bret Lunsford (Founding Mothers of Anacortes), Parto Arini, and Anacortes School Superintendent Dr. Irish.



Are you on Facebook? We are! Thanks to Terri Bawden, we have regular postings. Most recently Terri has been running articles based on the 2023 calendar mermen to encourage calendar sales. There are lots of ways to be involved in AAUW events. Please consider spending some time checking out our branch website as well as AAUW national. We have been advised that people seeking information about AAUW find reading newsletters provide valuable information, so we are moving The Agent to the public side of our webpage. This means we will be leaving out personal information such as phone numbers and email addresses in the newsletter, so keep your directories up to date.

Here's an example of a recent Facebook article with some of the photos that didn't make it into the calendar.

Michael McLaughlin is currently Mr. October in the Mermen of Anacortes 2022 calendar. In next year's calendar he is obviously a Seahawks fan! Born and raised in Anacortes, he has lived his whole life in Skagit Valley. Michael graduated from Anacortes High School in 1982 and worked in the refineries during the 1980's. For the last 20+ years he has been a carpenter. He spent a lot of time as a coach while helping raise his two sons. When asked how he got involved in the merman contest he said is lovely girlfriend, Sara Kelley, encouraged him to join in the fun. He said what he liked best about being a merman was the excitement of the 4th of July parade and being part of such a supportive and thriving local community.

