

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY **PRIORITY ISSUES**

Strong system of Public Education Equality, Individual Rights and Social Justice for a Diverse Society. Economic Self-sufficiency for Woman

MISSION

To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

VISION

Equity for all.

VALUES

Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

AAUW FUNDS

The Educational Foundation is one of the largest sources of funding for graduate women in the world awarding millions each year in scholarships.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

(LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

Highline AAUW theme for 2020 "Celebrating Five Generations of Women"





June 2021 Newsletter

It's been a long, lonely year and now that we have been vaccinated, it's time to get together in person again for a

LUNCHEON

Wednesday, June 9th, 2021 at 1:00 PM At Mary Kay Ault's home: 7553 S. Sunnycrest Road, Seattle, WA 98178 Just bring your favorite dish!

Please RSVP to Mary Kay at 206-772-4156 or marykayault@msn.com Car Pooling: Please indicate if you need a ride or are willing to drive We are hoping to meet outdoors, weather permitting.

Due to a limit of 20 participants, respond as soon as you can. Directions to Mary Kay's home will be sent out to participants.

Let's hope we won't have to Zoom forever!



There's someone who wants to join us." Elizabeth, are you there?" We can't hear you." Can you hear us?"



HIGHLINE BRANCH OF AAUW ZOOM BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 14, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE

Board Members Mary Kay Ault, Emily Hitchens, Anneliese Ellerton, Wendy Meyer-Wenger, Kathie Walker and Kay Crane Absent: Jean Munro and Linda Leader The Meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Co-President Mary Kay Ault.

AGENDA ITEMS

- <u>Membership</u> Anneliese reported to-date there have been about 20 renewals. Members are encouraged to pay on-line but may also send a check for the \$85 fee. Anneliese will send out another reminder email to members. She will also include a reminder in the June newsletter. By the end of June, we will call remaining members who have not paid.
- 2. <u>Summer Gathering We are planning an in-person gathering for those who</u> have been vaccinated.

What: Pot Luck Get Together

When: Wednesday June 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Where: Mary Kay Ault's home: 7553 S. Sunnycrest Road, Seattle, WA 98178

RSVP: 206-772-4156 or marykayault@msn.com

Car Pooling: Please indicate if you need a ride or are willing to drive Limit of 20 participants

- 3. Emily Hitchens was elected to the State Board as a member at the State Annual Meeting. Congratulations to her. Emily will focus on helping branches that are struggling to get leaders as we did. Emily will be listed as Highline Branch of AAUW Communications liaison.
- 4. Rotary Classes Rotary is offering on-line classes for organizations.
- 5. Archiving our Records Wendy Meyer-Wenger has contacted the Highline Museum and they are interested in our records. If you have any records to donate please drop them off at Highline Tutoring. In about a month, Wendy will be taking the records to the Museum.
- <u>Treasurer's Report</u> The Secretary of State form was renewed for \$10 through June 2022. There is \$5,729.31 in our account.
- 7. Opening membership to non- college graduates. It doesn't look like the measure will pass. A reminder email will be sent to Highline members encouraging them to vote.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled via Zoom on Friday June 11 at 12 noon. The Meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Kathie Walker, Secretary

NEW HIGHLINE BRANCH OFFICERS will assume their duties on July 1, 2021

Co- Presidents – Kay Crane and Jean Munro Vice President for programs – Linda Leader Secretary – Wendy Meyer-Wenger

Highline Branch Leadership Team

Co-Presidents

Mary Kay Ault 206-772-4156 marykayault@msn.com

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Membership Chair

Wendy Meyers-Wenger 206-242-0245 2015AAUW@gmail.com

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<u>Hospitality Chair</u>

Diana Carnell 206-243-8934 <u>rcarnell42@comcast.net</u>

<u>Secretary</u>

Kathie McMahon Walker 253-859-7991 <u>kathiemcmahonwalker@gmail.com</u>





Notes on AAUW – Washington State Monthly Meeting for Branch Presidents By Emily Hitchens

Mary Williams, State Board President has initiated a monthly meeting for all branch presidents. I believe that this has been a helpful communication and the branch presidents have decided to continue. So far, the meetings are on the 4th Monday at 10 AM although she is also offering it in the evening at 7 PM. This month we discussed the national vote to really live up to our vision, *Equity for all* by becoming more inclusive and accepting all women. I am sure we have all known folks who would have liked to be included, but for whatever reason they had not had the opportunity to go to college. It has always irked me that an R.N. got in! R.N. is not even a degree it is a license! Nowadays the Community College offers an ADN, as a nursing degree and at the university level a BSN. I think that using R.N. is a throwback from the time that hospitals educated nurses and they gave a diploma. Those programs do not exist anymore! Anyway, suffice is to say that we needed a 66% approval to change the bylaws, and we got a 63%. However, we in Washington State voted in favor at 75.6%! We discussed having 'friends of the branch', but folks who join at this level still feel 'less than'. This issue is felt in several states and Washington State will advocate for this change along with others. We do not think that the states can vary from the national bylaws. One member said that she used "Getting the Vote" back in 1921 as a discussion point and that this seemed to resonate with her branch members. So, look for continuing discussion on this matter.

Mary reminded us of the upcoming Health Matters on June 12th. This program will also be follow-up in the fall with several more workshops. There may have to be a small fee because it is expensive to use event service and eventually, we will run out of \$\$.

The last issues she reminded us was about the issue of EYH at Highline College. There is a national, antifeminist organization that finds opportunities to assert that all programs that occur within organizations that receive Title IX funds must be open to boys as well as girls. They filed suit with the Office of Civil Rights. The College acquiesced and the program is NOT to be called EYH (Expanding Your Horizons). AAUW has supported this program for 25+ years and we have averaged 400-450 girls per year. Many of us got professional women to be presenters so that girls could hear their stories of challenge and perseverance! More recently Techbridge bought our EYH and has been associated with the program at Highline. Of course, the College would still like both groups help. At this point the branches supporting EYH have not decided as to future involvement. However, Mary is genuinely concerned that any program of AAUW that does not appear to be open to boys as well as girls, may be at risk. When we branches decide what we are going to do, Mary wants to be involved. She has also contacted the national AAUW Office because she sees that there are national ramifications. Therefore, she wants the State to be aware of any situations where this might occur. I think that the State will be working on procedures for other STEM or STEM recognition programs so that we can continue our mission of supporting women and girls.

"I'm grateful for the more than 20 branch presidents who've met with me every month since December to share experiences and expertise. I know it's improved our communication immensely, and I hope we can continue to share our plans and concerns. I'm extraordinarily grateful for the work of the incredible board that has put in so many hours this past year, pulling together our Summer Leadership Meeting, Lobby Day, Annual Meeting and convention. We will miss Jeanie Glaspell and Karen Manelis when they leave the board at the end of June. We welcome Emily Hitchens as she joins our team and brings with her many years of AAUW experience."Mary Williams, President, AAUW-WA (excerpt from "Evergreen Leader")

Highline Branch Member News

We always love to hear from you!

"Carriage Ride through Old Town in Charleston SC. Easy direct flight from Seattle. Visited friends and saw the sights." Eva and Dennis Parks



Seattle Aquarium Beach Naturalists on our Beaches AGAIN this season! By Kathy Linnell

"Bring your friends and family, grandchildren and yourself to one of our many south end beaches this summer at low tide. Beach Naturalists will be there to help by answering questions, commenting on intertidal zones, salmon habitats and what you can do to maintain the habitat, answer questions and just plain 'look at this' moments! Coming an hour before low tide is great for revealing critters! Wear your boots or waterproof shoes, grab your walking stick and head out for a few hours of fun on our beaches! All Naturalists will be wearing masks and practicing distancing. Yes, we've come up with clever devices to maintain our distance but still 'show you' animals. Here is the Schedule or call me for questions:

Low tide weekends are May 26-30th, June 23 -27th' July 10-11th and July 23-25th. South end beaches include:

South Alki, Lincoln, Seahurst, Des Moines, Redondo, Saltwater State Park, Dash Point"



Stroll along almost any local beach during low tide and you'll see that the shore is alive!

Plus, in late spring and summer, not only will you witness Puget Sound's multitude of marine plants and animals, but you'll also see beach naturalists: advocates for these living wonders sharing their knowledge with beachgoers.

Beach naturalists are local residents who care about Puget Sound beaches and want to help protect them. More than 200 have

volunteered to help people learn about and enjoy our shorelines. Beach naturalists know their beaches: they can help you explore gently to keep animals and their homes safe; tell you what sea stars eat; explain why barnacles stand on their heads; describe how moon snails lay their eggs; and so much more. Use the drop-down menu below for our spring and summer schedule at a beach near you.

Please help keep our beaches healthy for everyone by following current COVID-19 guidelines such as wearing a face covering, practicing physical distancing and staying home if you feel unwell. Ask a beach naturalist! Need help identifying something? Email a photo

to <u>beachnaturalist@seattleaquarium.org</u> and a beach naturalist will respond to you as soon as we can.

https://www.seattleaguarium.org/beach-naturalist-program

Visit to the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden - Federal Way, WA







"I have visited these gardens frequently and never get tired of the gorgeous blooms and scents of the rhododendrons, azaleas and blooming trees. So I spent another beautiful

day strolling through the park this last month. April and May are



the best months to see the full blooms.

However, if you want to see the bonsais, there are always new displays. This awesome bonsai overwhelmed me!"



Submitted by Anneliese Ellerton



Jane Emerson, biologist and botanist with the greenest thumb!

If you haven't been to Jane's home, you have missed more than the views of the Puget Sound! Here are some pictures of her beautiful flowering deck pots and Mrs. Betty Wormal rhododendron.







Jane says, "They also finally got the driveway cleaned, resanded, and sealed.

Evidently she's feeling better than the last couple of months!"



For contributing your news! Please continue to share any news or information that might be of interest to all our Members



Highline Members Joining the Seattle Branch for On-line Monthly Meetings.

Several of our Highline members have joined some of the Seattle interest groups, such as the West Seattle & Points South on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am. The current theme is "Writing triggers". Seattle invites all Highline members to the monthly Zoom programs, generally on the third Saturday. Next meeting is on Tuesday, June 8th at 10 am. If you are interested in joining this virtual coffee club, email me at <u>ellerton13@gmail.com</u>.

Highline Branch Membership Meetings – Potluck celebration on Wednesday, June 8th at 1pm. (see invitation on front page.)

Highline Board Meeting - -Friday, June 11th at 12 pm via Zoom

AAUW WA's Women's Health Care Kickoff - Saturday, June 12th - 9am - 12:30pm

Morning and Afternoon Book Discussion Groups via Zoom or in person if arranged





Morning at 9:30 am

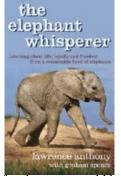
June 25 - Elephant Whisperer, by Lawrence Anthony & George Spence – will be held at the home of Jane Emerson July 23 – The Coddling of the American Mind, by Greg Lukianoff & Jonathan Haidt August 27 – The Woman in White, by Wilkie Collins September 24 – Flowers of the Killer Moon, by David Grann October 22 – The Doctors Blackwell, by Janice P. Nimura December 3 – The House of Unexpected Sisters, by Alexander McCall Smith

Afternoon at 3:00pm

June 7 – *The Other Alcott,* by Elise Hooper – **will be held in person at home of Kay Crane** July 5 – *The Body: A Guide for Occupants,* by Bill Bryson August 2 – *Hell and Other Destinations,* by Madeleine Albright September 6 – *The Manifesto for the Moral Revolution,* by Jacqueline Novogratz

Hello Highline Members:

If you are interested in joining our book discussion groups, please let us know. We would love to see more of you at our afternoon book discussion group at 3pm on the first Monday of the month. We are a bit more informal, and invite you to join us on Zoom or maybe in our homes again, when we are all fully vaccinated. Now that we are so proficient with Zoom, we might even consider a combination of Zoom and in person meetings in the future?



The Elephant Whisperer by <u>Lawrence Anthony</u>, <u>Graham Spence</u>

4.48 Rating details 19,322 ratings 2,558 reviews

When South African conservationist Lawrence Anthony was asked to accept a herd of 'rogue' elephants on his Thula Thula game reserve in South Africa, his commonsense told him to refuse. But he was the herd's last chance of survival - notorious escape artists, they would all be killed if Lawrence wouldn't take them. He agreed, but before arrangements

for the move could be completed the animals broke out again and the matriarch and her baby were shot. The remaining elephants were traumatised, dangerous, and very angry.

As soon as they arrived at Thula Thula they started planning their escape...As Lawrence battled to create a bond with the elephants and save them from execution, he came to realise that they had a lot to teach him about life, loyalty and freedom. Set against the background of life on the reserve, with unforgettable characters and exotic wildlife, this is a delightful book that will appeal to animal lovers everywhere. *Goodreads*



The Other Alcott by <u>Elise Hooper</u> (Goodreads Author) 3.66 · <u>Rating details</u> · <u>3.401 ratings</u> · <u>594 reviews</u>

Elise Hooper's debut novel conjures the fascinating, untold story of May Alcott–Louisa's youngest sister and an artist in her own right.

We all know the story of the March sisters, heroines of Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*. But while everyone cheers on Jo March, based on Louisa herself, Amy March is often the least favorite sister. Now, it's time to learn the truth about the real "Amy", Louisa's sister, May.

Stylish, outgoing, creative, May Alcott grows up longing to experience the wide world beyond Concord, Massachusetts. While her sister Louisa crafts stories, May herself is a talented and dedicated artist, taking lessons in Boston, turning down a marriage proposal from a well-off suitor, and facing scorn for entering what is very much a man's profession.

Life for the Alcott family has never been easy, so when Louisa's *Little Women* is published, its success eases the financial burdens they'd faced for so many years. Everyone agrees the novel is charming, but May is struck to the core by the portrayal of selfish, spoiled "Amy March." Is this what her beloved sister really thinks of her?

So May embarks on a quest to discover her own true identity, as an artist and a woman. From Boston to Rome, London, and Paris, this brave, talented, and determined woman forges an amazing life of her own, making her so much more than merely *The Other Alcott*.





Health Matters: Advocating for Washington Women

Registration is now open! AAUW - WA's Women's Health Care Kickoff is coming soon! Here's your link to register:

Registration Link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-wa-womens-health-kickoff-tickets-154453016129

Event: AAUW's Health Care Kickoff

Date: June 12, 2021

Time: 9:00-12:30

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Alyson McGregor; Dr. Dorothy Roberts

Dr. Alyson McGregor, Brown University

Read Her Book: Sex Matters: How Male-Centric Medicine Endangers Women's Health and What We Can Do About It (2020)

Dr. Dorothy Roberts, University of Pennsylvania

Topic: The problem with race-based medicine

Read Her Books: Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, And Big Business Re-Create Race In The Twenty-First Century (The New Press, 2011); Killing The Black Body: Race,

Reproduction And The Meaning Of Liberty (Vintage 20th Anniversary Ed., 2017)

10 Minute Topics – An introduction to other aspects of Health Care Access for the Women of Washington, and a preview of our fall webinar series.

- Nancy Sapiro, AAUW Lobbyist
- Becky Reitzes, Health Educator
- Leslie Waters, MD
- Mary Selecky, former Washington State Secretary of Health
- Leah Griffin, Activist

AAUW empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. nonpartisan, nonprofit organization with more than 3,000 members and supporters as well as 35 local branches across Washington State. Since AAUW's founding in 1881, our members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Learn more and join us at https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/.

"Resilience reigns! Let's make a world where everyone can pursue their dreams and desires." AAUW-WA

Never heard of Victoria Woodhull? Now you have.



HISTORY HUSTLE

Victoria Woodhull was born into poverty in an abusive household, and was married to an alcoholic womanizer at 15. After she divorced him, Woodhull went on to own a newspaper, become the first woman to own a Wall Street stock brokerage and then in 1872, she became the first woman to run for President of the United States, choosing Frederick Douglass as her running mate.



June 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7	1 World Reef Awareness Day 8	2 9	3 National	4 National ug Your at Day l	5 World Environment Day 12	6 D-Day 13
PM Book Group -3pm (in person)	West Seattle Coffee Club 10am (Zoom)	Highline Potluck 1:00pm Happy Birthday Judy Storey	anonal Rose Mon	Highline Board Meeting – 12pm (Zoom)	AAUW-WA Women's Health Summit 9:00- 12:30	National Children's Day
14 Happy Birthday Elise Stratton	15 Nature Photography Day	16 National Fudge Day	17 Watergate Scandal	18 International Sushi Day	19 Juneteenth	20 Father's Day World Refugee Day
21 Summer Solstice	22 World Rainforest Day	23 International Women in Engineering Day	24 Happy Birthday Kathy Linnell	25 AM Book Group – 9:30am (in person)	26	27 Helen Keller Day
28	29 Happy Birthday Eva Parks	30 International Asteroid Day				

AUW Highline Branch Newsletter 2121SW 152** Street, #203 Burien, WA 98166



AAUW's National Election Results 2021

Many thanks to everyone who voted in AAUW's 2021 National Election. It took a mere three days to reach the required quorum—a testament to our members' passion and engagement.

I'm honored and humbled to have been re-elected to serve as your board chair for three more years. I'm also pleased to report that Malinda Gaul was re-elected as board vice chair, and Elizabeth Haynes and Joseph Bertolino will retain their board seats.

AAUW's public policy priorities were approved by 92% of voters. The board-recommended ballot initiative to remove the college-degree membership requirement did not receive the two-thirds, or 66.6%, vote required to enact a bylaws change.

However, the board is heartened that a remarkable 63% of you voted in favor of making this change, indicating a momentum shift toward a more inclusive membership. This was a significantly higher number than we saw in previous votes, which hovered just below 50%, to make the change.

While we have many voices, I know we all share the same commitment to AAUW's mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy, and our vision of achieving equity for all. More than ever, we must embrace our values and continue to strive towards diversity, equity and inclusion; it's a journey that will never end.

No matter how you voted in this election, you are a valued part of our community. In fact, you—our members—are our core community, and the final decisions about board leaders and bylaws will always be yours to make. Now it's time to move forward together. Thanks again for making your voice heard.

With appreciation, Julia T. Brown, Esq. Board Chair