



October 2022 (Fall Edition)



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

Advancing Gender Equity
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
2022-23 "Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion"

Mark your calendar for Friday, October 21 at 11:30 am!

AAUW is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972



You are invited to a luncheon meeting at the Puget Sound Skills Center, one of our favorite venues, at 18010 8th Ave South, SeaTac, WA 98148.

A delicious banquet menu will offer a hot gluten-free entrée buffet, including salad and dessert. Vegetarian options can be requested in advance. Our special discounted cost is \$20, which includes the meal and tip. The menu will be sent out to the members who are interested in attending.

The main focus of the meeting will be on Title IX: the role, tasks and challenges facing schools and colleges.

Mary Kay would appreciate an RSVP at marykavault@msn.com or 206-772-4156 to get a final head count for the event by October 10th



Our thoughts are with Jean Munro, whose mom is in the hospital. We extend our wishes for a speedy recovery.



September 10 Branch Meeting with Eva Parks presenting the 2022 Tech Trek Campers

"At Tech Trek, girls are immersed in a world that empowers and encourages them to think about themselves as future scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and computer specialists." From the Tech Trek website

(Above) Eva with Tech Trek Guests, Alina Nguyen, Hudson Hedrick, Eva Nguyen and Angel Mungia, age 22 (first camper in 2013)

(Right) Hudson Hedrick, Alina Nguyen with mother, Cynthia Hoag, Ava Nguyen with father, Tien Nguyen



The meeting, held at Wesley Gardens Clubhouse, was very successful. 16 AAUW members attended, with six guests (including three 2022 campers, their parents and a former camper from 2013). Refreshments were offered and each girl gave an excellent account of her week's activities at the Tech Trek camp. They returned, enriched, enthusiastic and ready to take on the world!

Angel Munguia, first camper in 2013, was a special guest. After her Tech Trek experience, she later earned her college degree and now works as a counselor. She shared some memories and advice with the girls.

Thanks were expressed to Eva for all her dedicated and hard work to make this event so successful.

At the end of the meeting, Eva gave the following sad announcement from Karen Manelis, Program Director, AAUW WA Tech Trek:

“For the last 10 years (since the first Tech Trek camp in 2013), the administration of the camp has been facilitated pretty much by the same group of people. All of us love the program, but it is time for some to move on with their lives.

The following positions must be filled or there will be no 2023 camp(s)

- Curriculum Coordinator for the overall program
- Volunteer Coordinator for the overall program
- Camp Director(s) for the PLU camp(s)
- Program Director (for 2024)

Patricia Gwin was a dorm monitor the first couple of years, taking over the Volunteer Coordinator position in 2014 or 2015. This position solicits, vets and selects the student counselors and dorm monitors that are the backbone of on-campus life.

Kat Hughes has decided to step down from the role as camp director, a role she has held at the PLU camps since 2016, having been a dorm monitor prior to that.

Both Patricia and Kat are willing to coach anyone interested in either position but they are not available to handle the workload in 2023 and beyond.

The Curriculum Coordinator is the educator who oversees the core classes and workshops. She solicits teachers for both as well as outside presenters for workshops. We are lucky to have a teaching staff that has been fairly stable – some have taught each year since the first camp in 2013. We’re hoping that one of our fantastic teaching staff will agree to take this position.

Any of these positions could be divided between two people. Camp directors could be co-directors or a director with an assistant. There is definitely a big time commitment for all these positions but we may be able to determine some other ways to job share or improve our methods.

Participating branches are very familiar with the camper selection process and that will not change. There is a lot of written material and instructions from AAUW that is available for all positions and lots of coaches willing to help. Without some additional help there will be no 2023 Tech Trek camps.”

Karen Manelis, Program Director
AAUW WA Tech Trek

Note: Eva stressed the importance of keeping up the Tech Trek program and asked AAUW members to volunteer to work with her and take over the task in the near future. She has served as a Tech Trek coordinator for many years!



Jena Griswold, Secretary of State for Colorado, By Emily Hitchens

In July I attended a reception for Jena Griswold for Colorado’s Secretary of State.

You might wonder why! One of our new members for Seattle Branch, Melissa Johnsen, has mentored, supported and campaigned for this young woman and four years ago she won the Secretary of State office for Colorado; she is currently running as an incumbent.

Of course, she shared about her campaign and what she has accomplished. For example, she has put voting boxes on all the college campuses and in the Native American Reservations. She was elected to the president role of the Democratic Secretary of State organization; in this role she has actively helped some other Secretaries where the position is at risk. She and her team also discovered voter booth tampering! She stated over and over that this was the year to vote for “democracy is on the ballot”. This statement is based upon her opponent’s point of view on voting rights and standards.

She comes from a humble background, Estes Park, and can remember being ‘poor’ and using public support. She was the 1st of her family to graduate from college (Whitman College in Walla Walla) and went on to earn a J.D. as an attorney.

I also met our current Secretary of State and had a conversation with him about the voting box issues being reported in King County. The whole experience was encouraging!



Message from Kerry Lohr “I copied this email with permission from Melissa Johnsen:”
Hello Everyone!

I am also a member of **AAUW WA Online branch**, along with the Seattle branch. The Online branch has an upcoming **virtual Program** on **OCT 19 at 12p** on the impact of the **Dobbs** Decision.

I thought this might be an interesting opportunity for our **two groups** - West Seattle & all points South / Art Smart Groups.

Please see more information below on the **Dobbs** decision and how to RSVP for the OCT 19 program.

The Supreme Court decision on [*Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*](#) was an earthquake that rocked our country to its core. People’s lives across the nation have been turned upside down. The autonomy to decide if or when to have a child -and if or when to receive life-saving abortion care - has become the purview of state and local governments. The highest court has cast aside scientific evidence, 50 years of legal precedence, and basic human rights.

The **Dobbs** decision has made it more difficult and more dangerous for people to access reproductive healthcare across America. Especially people from lower-income, rural, military, LGBTQ+, Black, and Indigenous communities, who have long been subject to discrimination and cost barriers in the health care system.

Here is the [LINK](#) to the National AAUW organization statement on the **Dobbs** Decision.

Join the **AAUW Washington Online Branch** on **October 19, 2022, at 12pm to 1:30pm** for a virtual panel discussion with leaders in the Pacific Northwest Region Reproductive Rights, Justice, and Health community to explore the impact of **Dobbs**.

- Kia Guarino, Executive Director, Pro-Choice Washington
- Christel Allen, Executive Director, Pro-Choice Oregon
- Leah Rutman, JD, Health Care & Liberty ACLU of Washington

Please register here for the Panel at this [LINK](#). A zoom link will be issued with a meeting notice upon registration. **Questions, contact Melissa Johnsen at johnsen.melissa@gmail.com**

Let me know if you have any questions! I hope to see you there!

Member News & Announcements



After a 3-year hiatus, we had a successful Walk for Women on Sept 17th for our local homeless women's shelter, Hospitality House of Burien. Great to meet the financial goal!!

Kathy Linnell



AAUW Highline August 6 Summer Potluck Party - Great Success!

What a wonderful party we had!

Special thanks go to Kathy Linnell for being such a wonderful host at her beautiful home!

The food was delicious and the drinks superb! The setting and the weather were just perfect!

Twelve AAUW members attended as well as five guests (friends and partners). It was a perfect number for such a fun, informative event.

I hope we can do this again soon!



Facing from left: Lowell, Wendy, Jackie, Eva, Carol, and Mary Kay
Backs from left: Leilani, Barbara, Kerry

Message from Emily Hitchens

Support the ERA: The Public Policy Committee for the state encourages writing letters in support of completing the Equal Rights Amendment. Enough states have approved it, but the approval came after the 'deadline'. However, there's a bill to enact it and support for it in the Senate and House. Go to the Evergreen Leader and scroll down until you see ERA/Equal Rights Amendment. You can send letters to the President and your Representatives!



To our members for their contributions to the newsletter!



Highline Branch of AAUW – Board meeting (Zoom) – 9:00 A.M.

August 5, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.

Present: Emily Hitchens, Anneliese Ellerton, Jean Munro, Mary Kay Ault, and Wendy Wenger

Old Business:

September 10th meeting was discussed. Eva Parks sent an email with questions about food organization. Mary Kay Ault will be recontacting her for two reasons, clarification of food and number attending. It was suggested that a continental type breakfast would be good since the meeting will be starting around 10:30. The speakers will be Tech Trek scholars. It will be held at the Wesley Gardens clubroom, 5th floor. Eva said that she would bring paper products and drinks. She was requesting food assistance. It was decided that the following would make reminder calls before the end of August: Mary Kay (page 3), Emily (page 4), Jean (page 5), Emily (page 6), and Wendy (page). The report of attendees would go to Mary Kay. It was estimated that about 30 might attend. Mary Kay volunteered a desert.

Plans for Summer Social on August 6 at Kathy Linnell's were reviewed. Guests of members would be invited. Anneliese reminded the board that she had emailed the invitation and directions to all members.

New Business:

August 13th – State Leadership meeting

Emily Hitchens reminded us of the state meeting to be held on zoom. She would like to have more members of our group attend. The fee is \$10. More information is in the WA Evergreen Leader. Anneliese volunteered to send out reminders to members with Emily providing information.

October / November meetings update

The board is still considering the Puget Sound Skills Center for a location. The suggested dates are Friday, October 21, or Friday November 4 for lunch. Mary Kay will be our contact person for these events. Emily is working on getting a speaker. She is will contact the Title 9 officer or the Disability Coordinator for Highline School District.

Emily will be submitting an article for the newsletter about a fundraising reception she attended for Jena Griswald, Secretary of State for Colorado. The main focus was on the concerns of voting in Colorado. I

The next scheduled board meeting: September 16 at 9:30 (zoom)

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Wenger, Recording secretary

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Jean Munro, Anneliese Ellerton, Kay Crane, Emily Hitchens and Kerry Lohr

Summary of Highline Branch of AAUW – Board meeting (Zoom) on September 6, 2022

Those attending: Emily Hitchens, Mary Kay Ault, and Anneliese Ellerton. Kay Crane emailed the agenda

Jean Munro and Wendy Wenger were out of town

A short meeting was held and the following items on the agenda were discussed.

- Plans for the September 10 branch meeting were finalized. 23 branch members and guests are expected
- Kay will send a summary on the September 10 Edmonds branch meeting. She thinks that the Edmonds branch may have some interesting ideas for our branch to adopt.
- AAUW state action request on the ERA will be forwarded to the membership and posted in the newsletter
- Emily urged members to attend the AAUW WA State Fall Webinars starting on September 13. Members can sign up with the Evergreen Leader newsletter. Subjects include: *The Economy Matters: Seeking Post Pandemic Financial Stability and Prosperity for Women and Girls Dates: Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 15 and Dec 13*
- Emily suggested that Mary Williams' proposal for little libraries with women's books and AAUW materials could be set up in coffee shops
- Plans for the October 21st luncheon meeting at Puget Sound Skills Center (PSSC) were discussed
- Questions about the Red Dress Projects will be addressed when Jean returns from Alaska
- The branch decided to renew annual fees for Elsie Taniguchi and Georgette Valle, who have both contributed their valuable time for so many years.
- Gwen Koch is eligible for a 50-year honorary life membership

The next board meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 14 at 9:30 am.

Board Position of Treasurer Still Open!

Please contact Jean Munro at jmunro@rtc.edu or Kay Crane at gandkcrane@msn.com if you are interested in applying for this position. ***Current Treasurer, Anneliese Ellerton will work with you to ensure a smooth transition to this position. Believe us, it's not rocket science!***



There is a nip in the air as we start planning for fall activities.

Burien Art Walk, Friday, October 7, 4:00 to 8:00 pm

Boo-In-Burien, Saturday, October 29, 12:00 – 4:00 pm

Creepy Crawlers Pub Crawl, Saturday, October 29, 5:00 to 11:99 pm

Highline Heritage Museum Community Mural, Sat, Oct 15, 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Highline Heritage Museum 7 Stories – Silver Linings Oct 28, 7 to 8:30 pm

Green SeaTac Day at North SeaTac Park – Sat, Oct 15, 10-12 am



Please mark your calendars for the remaining series of webinars; they will take place on the following dates:

- Tuesday, October 11 – 7:00 p.m. Karen Dove, Executive Director of ANEW in Seattle. Women’s access to well-paying jobs in the building trades.
- Tuesday, November 15 – 7:00 p.m. Kelly Jones, American University. The economic consequences for women of restricted access to reproductive services.
- Tuesday, December 13 – 7:00 p.m. State Senator Claire Wilson. Childcare policies in Washington State.



Highline Board Meeting – Friday, October 14, at 9:00 am via Zoom

2022 AAUW-WA Webinar Series – September to December (see details in Evergreen Leader)

October Branch Meeting – Luncheon meeting at Puget Sound Skills Center on Friday, October 21st at 11:30 am

West Seattle & Points South online interest group

Several of our Highline members have joined the above group, which meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am. The current theme is “Writing triggers”. Next meeting is on **Tuesday, October 11 at 10:00 am**. If you are interested in joining this virtual coffee club, email Barbara Sando at barbarasando@yahoo.com

Seattle Branch – Join us - Afghan Immigrants Overcoming Barriers through Meaningful Mentorship, with Tressa Lacy – Saturday, October 15 at 10 am
Register for free Zoom meeting in the Seattle Catalyst

If you would like to keep up with AAUW Washington news, we suggest that you add the Seattle Catalyst and the Evergreen Reader to your list of resources:

<https://aauw-seattle.org>

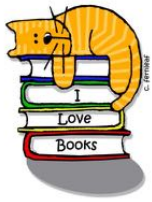
<https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/>



Happy September and October Birthdays to:

Pat Hodges 9/21
Kerry Lohr 9/23
Kaylene Moon 9/23
Lynette Smith 9/23

Elsie Taniguchi 10/3
Molly Cone 10/17
Georgette Valle 10/31



Morning and Afternoon Book Group Discussion Meetings

4th Friday – Mornings at 9:30 am

October 28 – *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers...* by Ben Goldfarb – host Joanna Brunso, leader Kathy Linnell

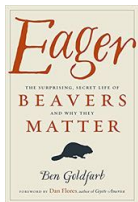
December 2 – *the Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig – host and leader Eva Parks

1st Monday - Afternoons at 3:00 pm unless otherwise specified *

* October 10 – *To Marry An English Lord*, by Gail MacColl, Carol Wallace – host Kay Crane

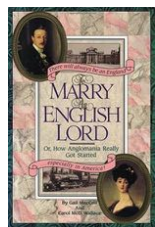
November 7 – *The Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig – host Chris Kopet

December 5 – *Winter Solstice*, by Rosamunde Pilcher – host Lynn Smith



Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter by Ben Goldfarb

In *Eager*, environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb reveals that our modern idea of what a healthy landscape looks like and how it functions is wrong, distorted by the fur trade that once trapped out millions of beavers from North America's lakes and rivers. The consequences of losing beavers were profound: streams eroded, wetlands dried up, and species from salmon to swans lost vital habitat. Today, a growing coalition of "Beaver Believers"—including scientists, ranchers, and passionate citizens—recognizes that ecosystems with beavers are far healthier, for humans and non-humans alike, than those without them. From the Nevada deserts to the Scottish highlands, Believers are now hard at work restoring these industrious rodents to their former haunts. *Eager* is a powerful story about one of the world's most influential species, how North America was colonized, how our landscapes have changed over the centuries, and how beavers can help us fight drought, flooding, wildfire, extinction, and the ravages of climate change. Ultimately, it's about how we can learn to coexist, harmoniously and even beneficially, with our fellow travelers on this planet. (Goodreads)



To Marry an English Lord: or How Anglomania Really Got Started By Gail MacColl, Carol Wallace

From the Gilded Age until 1914, more than 100 American heiresses invaded Britannia and swapped dollars for titles--just like Cora Crawley, Countess of Grantham, the first of the *Downton Abbey* characters Julian Fellowes was inspired to create after reading *To Marry An English Lord*. Filled with vivid personalities, gossipy anecdotes, grand houses, and a wealth of period details--plus photographs, illustrations, quotes, and the finer points of Victorian and Edwardian etiquette--*To Marry An English Lord* is social history at its liveliest and most accessible. (Goodreads)

