



June 2023

“It was June, and the world smelled of roses. The sunshine was like powdered gold over the grassy hillside.

– Maud Hart Lovelace

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”



Dear Highline Members

It’s that time of the year again to celebrate summer with another Potluck Lunch and Social meeting!

Tentative date will be on a Saturday towards the end of July.

Last year’s event was so successful that we would like to repeat the opportunity to reconnect with friends, hear the latest AAUW news and enjoy a **potluck lunch!** Invite your other friends, too!

Suggestions from last year’s potluck: *What to bring? A-L’s bring a salad, M-Z’s a dessert. Beverages will be provided, but you must bring your favorite toast as we clink our glasses*

Who would like to host this event at their home? We’d love to hear from you!

Please email Anneliese Ellerton at ellerton13@sgmail.com if you would like to host a summer social at your home.



Summer 2021 at Mary Kay Ault’s home.

This was our first social event after COVID.



Summer 2022 at Kathy Linnell’s home. What delicious desserts we shared!

Past Events



I was invited to a meeting with the AAUW Federal Way Branch on May 14th, 2022 and learned so much about the rapidly changing field of immunology. Dr. Blythe Sather gave an informative and timely talk on “*A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN IMMUNOLOGIST*”. Dr. Blythe Sather earned a PhD from the University of Washington, Dept. of Immunology in 2007. Her thesis work focused on understanding the role of homing receptors on the function of regulatory T cells in the laboratory of Dr. Danial Campbell at the Benaroya Research Institute in Seattle. Her postdoctoral work in the laboratory of Dr. David Rawlings focused on developing gene therapies for primary immunodeficiency disorders, as well as other groundbreaking research on gene editing work. She is currently working in Seattle as the senior director of engineering, driving several unique cell products to the clinic for solid tumors. I invited her to speak at a future meeting for our branch.

Update (5/31/23):

After an interesting and lively discussion on *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing and the Future of the Human Race*, by Walter Isaacson, I thought our members might be interested in meeting Dr. Sather and hearing about new developments in her field of immunology and CRISPR. She has graciously accepted my invitation and we are making tentative plans for her to be our guest speaker at a branch meeting in September or October. I have received enthusiastic feedback from our members who attended the book discussion group on May 26th. *Anneliese Ellerton*



Branch Meeting, May 19, 2023 at Renton Technical College

AAUW/Highline Branch & RTC Workforce invited SE King County, and Puyallup branches, RTC ASG President Sarah Simon, RTC Women of Merit, Faye Watanabe, Manager of



Dual Credit programs, Nate Ezell, Case Manager of the RTC Wellbriety Center, Eddie Casado, Student Ambassador of Outreach and Eva Juarez, Outreach Director

Guest speakers were Carolyn DeFord and Jennine Devenuti, members of the Puyallup Tribe to discuss the many factors that lead to MMIWP (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & People) in our surrounding counties and bring awareness to the

systemic issues and how community members, AAUW members and the colleges can

help. Carolyn is the Human Trafficking, MMIWP and DV advocate for the Puyallup Tribe Community Domestic Violence Advocacy Program. She is the daughter of a long term missing person and has extensive experience working with the families who have lost loved ones. She also sits on the WA State Task Force for MMIWP



<https://www.atg.wa.gov/washington-state-missing-and...>

Part two will focus on bringing Indigenous community members to the college to learn about scholarships, financial aid, Workforce grants, Running Start and dual credit opportunities and increasing access to educational opportunities available that our surrounding communities may not be aware of. Through education, and sustainable careers we hope will reduce MMIWP.





AAUW Highline Branch Zoom Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 12, 2023: 11:10 am – 12:10 pm

Present: Anneliese Ellerton, Mary Kay Ault, Emily Hitchens, Wendy Wenger, Kay Crane, and Kathleen Rathbun (guest)

Absent: Jean Munro (work conflict)

Agenda:

Membership:

The board invited Kathleen Rathbun (President of SE King County branch) to the meeting. Since the SE King County branch is disbanding at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2023, Kathleen will be joining the Highline board as a Member at Large. Other members of her branch are considering joining Highline. Linda Hagen, currently a dual member, will become a full Highline member. Emily explained the exact procedure that SE King County branch has to go through to close the branch by July 1, 2023.

Emily has invited Lynn Zachow to sign up as a new member.

Anneliese reported that 17 members have renewed their annual dues as of 5/12/23.

Members just need to mail her a check or renew directly online.

Book Discussion Groups:

Since the book discussion groups are so popular with both branches, there was a brief discussion on starting a new book group. Meetings could be hosted at the homes of SE King County and Highline members, who live in the Des Moines, Renton, Kent and Burien area. One suggestion was for the group to be named the “Kent Book Club” that would be held at 1 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. This would not conflict with the dates of the morning and afternoon book clubs.

Friday, May 19, 2023 Luncheon Meeting at Renton Technical College (RTC):

Upcoming meeting plans were updated. Mary Kay will give Jean the latest count of attendees for the meeting: approximately 23 “yays”, and 10 “maybes”. Guests will include Highline members and friends, as well as AAUW members of SE King County and Puyallup Valley. Jean has invited speakers from the Puyallup Tribe, as well as representatives from RTC. Jean will be sending an email to members with the latest details. Anneliese will provide name badges as well as new member packages. Emily will bring “get well” cards to be signed for Gwen Koch and Elise Stratton. Finally, a questionnaire about future meeting ideas will be available.

Old Business:

Wendy requested volunteers to help clear out historic files that are taking up storage space at her office. Kay volunteered to help and will contact Eva for assistance in about three weeks. This involves sorting Highline branch history documents and deciding which should be kept or discarded.

New Business:

The board reviewed ideas for a prospective new membership packet. One example, including a New Member form, bookmark, and promo AAUW materials was shown.

Summer social plans were discussed as an activity. The location could be in Kent (a central point) during the month of July. The June newsletter will include ideas for the summer gathering.

Plans for new branch meetings will be discussed at the next board meeting on Friday, June 9th at 9:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Wendy Wenger, Secretary

Highline Branch Leadership Team

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Jean Munro, Anneliese Ellerton

Open Board Position

AAUW Highline is asking for nominations for the above position of Treasurer starting July 1, 2023. 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 me, it's not rocket science!***

AAUW Highline Treasurer (Finance) – Job Description

The Treasurer oversees the fiscal operations of Highline branch and is responsible for ensuring that all required financial documents and records are maintained, including those required by AAUW, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Secretary of State.

The Treasurer is responsible for overseeing the collection and disbursements of all branch monies and for meeting specific deadlines.

Skills Helpful to the Position:

Some financial management / financial literacy. Accounting or bookkeeping skills are not required.

Effective time management. Busiest time is during annual renewal processing (March-July). For the remainder of the year, additional duties do not require much time.



Congratulations to our branch member, Emily Hitchens, on her new leadership position as President of AAUW-WA State. Her term starts July 1. We wish her all the best in her new role!



Would you be interested in continuing our Cuisine Club meetings?

Prior to COVID, Highline Cuisine Club quarterly meetings were extremely popular and successful. Members have expressed interest in reintroducing the cuisine group. For example, the hostess chooses a country and culture to study.

One or two members share cooking the food representative of the country, as well

as preparing a presentation on the culture of the country. We welcome your feedback, and hope some of you will volunteer to join us in planning and hosting new events this year.

Kathy and I think this would be a great way to learn about the food and culture of other countries.

If you are interested, please email Anneliese Ellerton at ellerton13@gmail.com or Kathy Linnell kelizlinnell@comcast.net



Message from Sandra Distelhorst - AAUW-WA <publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org>



Hi all:

Just want to make sure you are getting the National Policy Updates to share with your members.

There are always lots of good advocacy information and background resources.

I like the “Act, Learn, Engage” breakdown of the sections.

If you signed up for the [Two-Minute Activist](#) or the Newsletter, you should get it. AAUW website has a newsletter sign up link at the bottom of the webpage. If you aren't getting it and want to, let me know.

Thanks for your advocacy on behalf of AAUW. Sandra D.

June 1, 2023

This week, we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act (June 10), a landmark bill for women's economic security.



EQUAL PAY TODAY!
A PROJECT OF EQUAL RIGHTS ADVOCATES
www.equalpaytoday.org

Last month's news that a [global investment firm paid \\$215 million](#) to settle a class-action lawsuit alleging widespread gender bias, along with today's U.S. Senate vote on executive actions to address the impact of student loan debt, demonstrate that AAUW's work is still vital.

While there are definite challenges ahead (we're looking at you, Supreme Court!), there is also progress to be made. Keep reading to learn about the work we're focused on this month. Thank you for your continued advocacy in support of equity for all women and girls.

Meghan Kissell
Senior Director of Policy and Member Advocacy



Welcome to our new member, Lynn Zachow!

“I graduated from Central Washington College (now University) with a Bachelor's Degree in Education, majoring in Math and minoring in Physics. My intent was to teach high school math and physics, but I ended up working at Boeing for thirty years in Parts, Materials, and Processes engineering. As a retiree, I'm very active at my church Normandy Park United Church of Christ and I love being outdoors and gardening (I have a green house and raised vegetable garden), reading, and cooking. I have two children, Jason and Kristel. Kristel is married to Chris, and I have two grandchildren, Skyla age 16 and Penton age 14. They love for me to take me to the Museum of Flight where I've been a member for many years.”



Due to the ongoing COVID variants, future branch meetings will be held on a quarterly basis through 2023

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

Late Summer Potluck Social - July or August 2023 – Depending on members’ choice

September Branch Meeting — Details will be emailed to members in August

September (date & time TBD) - Meeting to plan Cuisine Group events

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, June 13, at 10:00 am**. If you are interested in joining this virtual coffee club, email Barbara Sando at barbarasando@yahoo.com

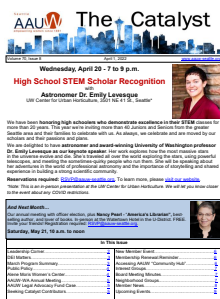
2023-24 Webinar Series Sneak Peek

AAUW-Washington is excited to announce that we have secured our first speaker for the 2023-24 Webinar Series, our 3rd Annual Webinar Series.

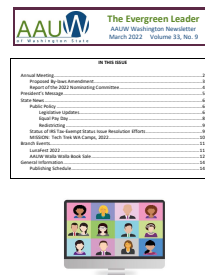
Dr. Season Hoard, Professor at WSU, will speak to our membership Saturday, June 17th from 9 -11 a.m. for our Kickoff to our Third Annual Webinar Series. Her topic will relate to the Gender Pay Gap, particularly as it relates to typically "women's work" but will expand to discuss her work in that area on both a national and international level.

Stay tuned for more details about our upcoming webinar series!

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/>



AAUW Highline Newsletter will be on vacation until September!

Let us know if you have any exciting trips ahead?

In the meantime, enjoy your summer reading.



Morning and Afternoon Book Group Discussion Meetings

4th Friday – Mornings at 9:30 am

June 23– *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard – host Mary Kay Ault, leader Carol Mohler

July 28 – *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles – host Carol Mohler, leader Joanna Bruno

August 25 – *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict – host Nancy Wilson, leader Eva Parks

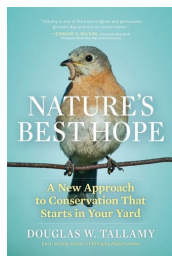
September 22 – *We're Better Than This* by Elijah Cummings – host Eva Parks, leader Kaylene Moon

1st Monday - Afternoons at 2:30 unless otherwise specified *

***June 12 – 2:30** *Nature's Best Hope* by Douglas Tallamy – hosted by Lynn Smith

(Meeting will include new book choices for the coming season)

Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, by Douglas W Tallamy



"Tallamy lays out all you need to know to participate in one of the great conservation projects of our time. Read it and get started!" —Elizabeth Kolbert, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sixth Extinction*

Douglas W. Tallamy's first book, *Bringing Nature Home*, awakened thousands of readers to an urgent situation: wildlife populations are in decline because the native plants they depend on are fast disappearing. His solution? Plant more natives. In this new book, *Nature's Best Hope* shows how homeowners everywhere can turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats.

Because this approach relies on the initiatives of private individuals, it is immune from the whims of government policy. Even more important, it's practical, effective, and easy—you will walk away with specific suggestions you can incorporate into your own yard.

If you're concerned about doing something good for the environment, *Nature's Best Hope* is the blueprint you need. By acting now, you can help preserve our precious wildlife—and the planet—for future generations. (Amazon)



Finding the Mother Tree – by Suzanne Simard

"Finding the Mother Tree reminds us that the world is a web of stories, connecting us to one another. [The book] carries the stories of trees, fungi, soil and bears—and of a human being listening in on the conversation. The interplay of personal narrative, scientific insights and the amazing revelations about the life of the forest make a compelling story."—Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*

Suzanne Simard is a pioneer on the frontier of plant communication and intelligence; her TED talks have been viewed by more than 10 million people worldwide.

In this, her first book, now available in paperback, Simard brings us into her world, the intimate world of the trees, in which she brilliantly illuminates the fascinating and vital truths—that trees are not simply the source of timber or pulp, but are a complicated, interdependent circle of life; that forests are social, cooperative creatures connected through underground networks by which trees communicate their vitality and vulnerabilities with communal lives not that different from our own.

Simard writes—in inspiring, illuminating, and accessible ways—how trees, living side by side for hundreds of years, have evolved, how they learn and adapt their behaviors, recognize neighbors, compete and cooperate with one another with sophistication, characteristics ascribed to human intelligence, traits that are the essence of civil societies—and at the center of it all, the Mother Trees: the mysterious, powerful forces that connect and sustain the others that surround them.

And Simard writes of her own life, born and raised into a logging world in the rainforests of British Columbia, of her days as a child spent cataloging the trees from the forest and how she came to love and respect them. And as she writes of her scientific quest, she writes of her own journey, making us understand how deeply human scientific inquiry exists beyond data and technology, that it is about understanding who we are and our place in the world.

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <i>Global Day of Parents</i>	2 <i>National Donut Day</i>	3 <i>World Bicycle Day</i>
4 <i>National Cheese Day</i>	5 <i>World Environment Day</i>	6 <i>D-Day Anniversary</i>	7 <i>World Food Safety Day</i>	8 <i>World Oceans Day</i>	9 <i>Highline Board Meeting 9:00 am</i> <i>Happy Birthday Judy Storey</i> 	10 <i>Equal Pay Act Day</i>
11 <i>Tony Awards</i>	12 <i>PM Book Group Potluck 2:30 pm</i>	13 <i>W. Seattle Coffee Club 10:00 am</i>	14 <i>Happy Birthday Elise Stratton</i> 	15 <i>World Elder Abuse Awareness Day</i>	16	17 <i>National Mascot Day</i>
18 <i>Father's Day</i> <i>International Picnic Day</i>	19 <i>Juneteenth</i> <i>National Martini Day</i>	20 <i>World Refugee Day</i>	21 <i>Start of Summer Solstice</i>	22	23 <i>AM Book Group 9:30 am</i>	24  <i>Happy Birthday Kathy Linnell</i>
25 <i>BET Awards</i>	26 <i>Day against Drug Abuse/Illicit Trafficking</i>	27 <i>National Ice Cream Cake Day</i>	28	29 <i>Happy Birthday Eva Parks</i> 	30 <i>International Asteroid Day</i>	<i>Happy July 4 Birthday</i>  <i>Mary Kay Ault</i>

Reminder...Just in case you haven't renewed yet



“Diversity, Equity and Inclusion”

Annual Membership Renewal
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Updated Directory Information (*please fill in*) Today’s Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

College(s)/University (s) attended: _____ Degree(s): _____

Birthdate: (M/D) _____ (so we can send you a card)

Check your membership category:

- _____ Renewal of regular membership (National \$72+State \$10+ Branch \$13) **\$95**
- _____ Life Member (for paid Life Members (State \$10 + Branch \$13) \$23
- _____ Honorary Life Member for members 50+ years (State \$5 + Branch \$13) \$18
- _____ Dual Member (if Seattle/other is primary - AAUW Branch is \$13) \$13
- _____ Friend of the Branch only \$13
- _____ Donation (voluntary) \$ _____

(Due to increased AAUW National fee, we have kept Highline Branch at reduced \$13)

I am enclosing my annual dues check, payable to Highline AAUW, for a total of \$ _____

Mail completed form and check to:	Highline AAUW c/o Anneliese Ellerton 2121 SW 152nd St, #203 Burien, WA 98166
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Please detach and return upper portion only-----✂



Keep this Receipt

- _____ Renewal of regular membership (National \$67+State \$10+ Branch \$13) **\$95**
- _____ Life Member (for existing Life Members (State \$10 + Branch \$13) \$23
- _____ Honorary Life Member, for members 50+ years (State \$5 +Branch \$13) \$18
- _____ Dual Member (if Seattle/other is primary AAUW Branch) \$13
- _____ Friend of the Branch only \$13
- _____ Donation (voluntary) \$ _____

Total remitted-----\$ _____

Check # _____ **or money order** _____

AAUW Highline Branch Newsletter
2121SW 152nd Street, #203
Burien, WA 98166

The fight for equality is waged 365 days a year!

Join AAUW and take a hammer to your glass ceiling.



[JOIN NOW](#)

