



The Evergreen Leader

AAUW Washington Newsletter
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Washington Oregon Combined Convention

Cancelled/Postponed

Judith Prince,
President
AAUW Washington
president@aauw-wa.org

The state boards of Washington and Oregon have agreed that the best course of action is to either postpone our joint convention to a joint convention/leadership meeting in August or separate August events. We don't want to put anyone's health at risk and want to follow the recommendations of the state health department and CDC. All members will be informed of the final decision.

Anyone who has already registered will receive a refund, minus a nominal handling fee.

Information and materials for a mail-in election will be sent to branch presidents and other delegates.

Officers to be Elected by Mail

Judith Prince,
President
AAUW Washington
president@aauw-wa.org

This is a year that President and Finance Officer come up for (re)election. The current incumbents will be leaving the board.

We have a candidate for president – Mary Williams who has been on the board as both Membership and Program Director. Mary is a member of Gig Harbor branch and an asset to any organization she joins.

Kyle McEligot has agreed to run for the position of Finance Officer. She has served ably as Communications Director at the state level and in positions in her branch.

Two Elected Director positions are open this year. As you may know Washington State bylaws call for directors to be elected at large. They volunteer for assignments when the board is organized. Sometimes people come onto the board with an idea about what task they would like to perform. This is not how they are elected.

The people who have agreed to run for these positions are India Nishi and Yvonne Berliner. India is a member of Whatcom Branch (formerly known as Bellingham branch) and a former member of Stanwood-Camano branch. She was active in both branches. This is someone we want on our state board. Yvonne is running for a second term. She has been serving in the vital, but behind the scenes position, of bylaws director. As such, she generally reviews state and branch bylaws changes for compliance with national guidelines.

Here is the slate of officer candidates presented by the 2019-2020 Washington State Board of Directors:

President: Mary Williams

Finance Officer: Kyle McEligot

Elected Director: India Nishi

Elected Director: Yvonne Berliner

President's Message



Judy Prince,
President
AAUW Washington
president@aauw-wa.org

I was talking to someone in Leavenworth just before I started this message and spring has come to eastern Washington. It seems like spring in the Puget Sound lowlands. However, that sometimes changes.

We have opportunities on the AAUW state board for people who are interested. There are appointed director positions open. You can influence how the state organization is run.

On a state and national scale, we have primary elections in August and a general election in November. Please mark your ballot and return it in good time.

I've been busy working camper selection for Tech Trek for one of my branches (I belong to 3). It's so much fun to talk with young people about their interests and plans. Hard to select campers from the number of excellent candidates applying.

This is my last president's message as I will be leaving the board at the end of this AAUW year. Best wishes to everyone. I'll still be around and you may see me at events.

State News

Gretchen Ilgenfritz Memorial Fund



Susie Johnson
AAUW Lake Washington

Long-time AAUW member Gretchen Ilgenfritz passed away on October 9, 2019. Gretchen was very active in AAUW at the branch, state and national levels. Among all her services to the organization, she was Washington State President, Regional Director, Association Secretary, Legal Advocacy Fund President and Lake Washington Branch President in 1976-77 and 1989-90. Gretchen also was one of the early leaders of our Expanding Your Horizons conferences.

Gretchen coordinated the first Education Equity Roundtable, when Washington State hosted AAUW's Executive Director along with numerous state educators, initiating the landmark Education Equity series of studies for AAUW nationally, beginning with "Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America."

Gretchen served on the Mercer Island School Board and a number of state government committees and was honored by the governor for her activities.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to her for her service to AAUW and all her work on behalf of equity for women and girls. We will miss her!

A Memorial Fund is being set up in her honor. We are hoping that branches from across the state will earmark their AAUW Funds donations to her Memorial Fund to honor one of our exceptional "Grandmothers."

Support AAUW-WA SPF by Shopping!

Amazon has a charitable foundation that donates funds to registered 501(c)(3) charities if shoppers make their purchases through smile.amazon.com. AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund (SPF) has been registered since 2011 with smile.amazon.com. AAUW-WA SPF is the fiscal sponsor of AAUW-WA approved projects: National Conference of College Women Leaders, Expanding Your Horizons conferences, and Tech Trek Washington camps. Anyone who shops at Amazon can designate AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund as their Amazon charity whether or not they now have an Amazon account. This is how it works:

To shop at Amazon Smile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Log in with your user name and go to pick your own charitable organization. Type in AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund. If you do not have an Amazon account, sign up for one and then choose the AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund as your charity. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of each eligible item you buy to SPF. Items eligible for donations are plainly marked on the Amazon website. Sales tax, gift wrap, rebates, shipping, etc. are NOT part of the purchase price and are not included in the donation amount.

The next time you shop on Amazon be sure to begin by logging into your account through smile.amazon.com. When you log in each time after you register, AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund will appear as your charity of choice. 0.5% doesn't sound like much but if lots of us regularly shop through smile.amazon.com the donation amount SPF receives will be substantial. Amazon sends donation checks to the registered charities on a quarterly basis. You may ask your family and friends who shop on Amazon to visit smile.amazon.com and register AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund as their charity of choice. The more shoppers that have chosen AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund as their charity, the more money SPF will receive!

Thanks to everyone who already list AAUW-WA SPF as their charity of choice with Amazon Smile!

Branch News

AAUW Stanwood Camano Successful Purses with Purpose



Georgi Proulx
AAUW Stanwood-Camano Branch

This past October 5th, the Stanwood-Camano branch of AAUW welcomed 176 guests at its 4th biennial fund raiser, *Purses with Purpose*, at the Camano Center on Camano Island. This benefit luncheon with silent and live auctions of fabulous designer and gently-used purses has developed a positive community vibe that makes every year a highly anticipated community event to support the causes of AAUW.

For 2018-2019, the 2017 event funded seven \$4000 university scholarships, nineteen Tech Trek camperships and \$6000 to AAUW Funds. *Purses with Purpose* endures as a sold-out venue. Our strategy is to invite women who support our mission while improving the event process each time. In 2019, our grant committee was effective in obtaining financial support from our local Stillaguamish and Tulalip tribes. The continued funding from our local tribes is acknowledged and greatly appreciated.

This event inspires not only our members but our community to donate purses, gift certificates, special Seahawk gear/tickets, and crab excursion/dinners off Camano Island creating wonderful packages for the live auction. Members scour the markets for great buys on designer purses while finding gently-used purses in their closets and those of family and friends. It is quite a team effort.

Our PWP crew works hard for two years prior to the big day. Members and guests alike take delight the day of the event as they participate in our efforts achieve success.



*AAUW Walla Walla
Book Sale Press Release*



AAUW members ready for the first day of shoppers.

Kay Raddatz
AAUW Walla Walla Branch

The 56th Annual AAUW Book Sale in Walla Walla was the most successful ever with a gross income of \$62,425. Proceeds fund scholarships for local women returning to college, and local educational projects and events.

Throughout the year members sorted books, picked up books from seven drop boxes and from homes, cut boxes to size, priced collectible books, managed categories, lead sorts, took cardboard to be recycled, put up yard signs, handed out cards, and worked at the sale. With 210 shifts needed to run the sale, many members volunteered for multiple shifts to make it work. Book Sale co-chairs Melanie Plantaric and Kay Raddatz believe that involving members in this project helps keeps them as AAUW members.

The entire sale was set up in two hours in the Marcus Whitman Hotel ballroom. Twenty-five Walla Walla Community College John Deere and Automotive Technology program students and staff volunteers loaded the 1900 boxes (approximately 38,000 books, CDs and DVDs) onto the big truck from the Commercial Driving program. Sixty students from the Walla Walla High School and College Place Latino Clubs, Walla Walla Community College women's basketball team, and

Walla Walla University students helped set up the tables and signs, and carried in the boxes. The students were supervised by eighteen AAUW members.



Walla Walla High School Latino Club students help with set up.

The Book Sale ran Friday and Saturday 9 am – 7 pm and Sunday 9 am – 4 pm. All children 14 and younger received a free book from the picture or chapter book sections.



Shoppers the first morning, which was much busier than previous years.



Member Terri Trick helps kids find books.



Members Jen Stutesman and Donna Murray work on keeping the tables stocked.

In the past 15 years, AAUW Walla Walla has given away over \$107,500 in scholarships to local high school women in various programs and to local women returning to college, and \$99,628 in mini-grants to over 40 local educational programs and events.

Here are some of the many positive comments were made by patrons and by members:

Always enjoy the sale! Wonderful variety. I appreciate all the preparation made for this annual sale.

My top favorite event of the year in Walla Walla. Thank you for dedicating your time to this service for the community. Absolutely love it!!!

Very friendly personnel.

Great source of US and NW history books for genealogy info! Thank you!

What a fabulous event! The Book Sale was a smashing success and I was thrilled by the number of folks who expressed their thanks that we hold it annually. Kudos to you for the heavy lifting (literally) that you do all year!

I can't get over what a well-orchestrated fundraiser you have going.

So proud of AAUW and grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the success!!

I heard so many comments about how nice the sale was and how happy people were to be there. As we checked people out, the happy look on their faces and positive comments made as they realized 'what a great deal' they got on their bag of books--and how easy it was for them to shop and pay, was pure joy to us as well.

Wow! Another successful book sale is almost under your belts. So many wonderful improvements have been made and it just keeps getting bigger and better.

AAUW Walla Walla is very grateful to the community for their generous donations of books, CDs, DVDs and audio books throughout the year so we can continue our mission of helping girls and women.

State Officers

Role	Name	E-mail address
President	Judy Prince	president@aauw-wa.org
Vice-President	Karen Anderson	vp@aauw-wa.org
VP of Finance	Marziah Kiehn	finance@aauw-wa.org
Secretary	Susie Johnson	records@aauw-wa.org
Membership		membership@aauw-wa.org
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Special Projects Fund	Judy Rogers	specproj@aauw-wa.org
Public Policy	Karen Anderson	advocacy@aauw-wa.org
Nominations		nominations@aauw-wa.org
Bylaws	Yvonne Berliner	bylaws@aauw-wa.org
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