



The Evergreen Leader

AAUW Washington Newsletter

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In This Issue

President’s Message.....

State News.....

 Membership.....

 Using the Community Hub.....

 2022 Webinar Series.....

 Tech Trek.....

 Public Policy.....

 Communications Support for Branches.....

Branch Events.....

 Seattle Event to Focus on Homelessness.....

General Information.....

 Submitting an article.....

 Publishing Schedule.....

President's Message



Mary Williams
President
AAUW Washington
president@aauw-wa.org

After a really wet spring, the dog days of summer have arrived right on schedule. Cool damp days are few and far between now, and it seems like we can sit on our decks and patios and watch the grass turn brown. Mother nature has a way of reminding us that she's in charge here. Fires are beginning to spring up without warning all over the state, filling our skies with smoke. Last Friday, the signs announcing the beginning of this year's burn ban went up.

I wish I could post a burn ban, but the kind of burn I'm worried about is the burnout I see popping up in many of the AAUW branches around the state. Last year we lost one of our largest branches because when faced with a loss of leadership, the branch voted to disband. Over the past several months, we've heard that several other good-sized branches are in the same position. Most of them have the same problem: for many years the same six or seven people have passed the leadership roles around among themselves, and they're finally not willing to do it anymore. Faced with the absence of other members willing to take on these responsibilities, the only option they see is to disband.

Your state board is trying to come up with ways we can help. Karen Anderson put together a great Summer Leadership Meeting that was held this past Saturday. As of this writing, fewer than 50 people had registered, even though we held the cost to \$10. Karen also put together our second mission-based webinar series, which this year focuses on the post-pandemic impact of our economy on women. Open to members across the state, this series provides mission-based programming that our branches can draw on. (Registration information will be going out this week.)

Membership and Branch Relations committees had to make their primary goal be branch retention, an effort which is being led by Emily Hitchens (branchrelations@aauw-wa.org). She is also forming a new Membership Committee which will be similar to our very successful Public Policy Committee. We hope we will be able to develop strategies that will spread the word about the wonderful work we're doing and attract a new generation of potential leaders. I see them as our only chance for long term survival.

If you are interested in working with us, or have ideas that you think might help, please let any board member know. And, please, take a few days to enjoy the last few weeks of summer.

Mary

State News

Membership

Emily Hitchens
Membership Chair
AAUW Washington
membership@aauw-wa.org

Are you finding that your membership has grown by two unexpected members?

Both Mary Williams and I have received membership in all the branches of Washington State. At first, we thought that this was a mistake and several of you have either written or called me! But here is the answer: the National Office has heard about the need for better communication between the branches and the state and this is the strategy for accomplishing that goal. In the past, I used the national membership system to communicate to various branches and their officers. In the new Community Hub System that capability was limited. Now, I am listed as an affiliate of all the branches in Washington State!

The State Board is in the process of forming a Membership Committee with a goal of working on the Washington State **Strategic Plan Objective 4: Will Develop practices leading to membership development and sustainability**. If you are interested in participating in this effort, contact branchrelations@aauw-wa.org. Thank you.

Managing your AAUW Membership through the Community Hub

Barbara Sando
AAUW-WA Director at large
AAUW Seattle Branch Treasurer
finance@aauw-seattle.org

Do you want to renew your AAUW membership(s) online? Do you need to update your contact information with AAUW? Both can be done easily through the new AAUW Community Hub – once you've set up your new login, which seems to be the most challenging part of the process for many members.

To set up your login, go to the AAUW home page, <https://www.aauw.org/>.

1. Click on **“Log In”** at the top right-hand corner of the page.
2. When the **“Welcome”** page comes up, scroll to the bottom and click on **“Forgot your password?”**
[Note: Do NOT click on **“Don't have an account?”** – a common error which can only be fixed by AAUW.]
3. When the **“Password Reset Required”** page comes up, type in the e-mail address that you use with AAUW and click on the **“Reset Your Password”** bar at the bottom of the page.
4. You should quickly receive an e-mail from AAUW (infosf@aauw.org) that will allow you to reset your password and establish your log in to the correct account. Be sure to check your promo, spam, and junk folders if you don't see the e-mail right away, because it could have gone there.
5. If you receive the e-mail, do what it tells you – and you should be all set.

If you don't receive an e-mail, please contact me before you contact AAUW, as I can do some initial troubleshooting and likely provide you with some information you can give to AAUW to help them remedy your issue.

Once you're successfully logged in, your **“Personal Snapshot”** page will come up. If you scroll to the bottom, there will be a **“RENEW”** button. Click that and follow the prompts to renew / pay your dues. (If you are a member of multiple branches, you may renew them all in one transaction via the Hub.)

If you need to update your contact information, click on **“My Contact Information”** on the left-hand side menu of your snapshot, and follow the prompts to edit – just remember to hit **“SAVE”** at the bottom before you log out.

If you have any questions, I'm more than happy to try to help you. Just e-mail me at finance@aauw-seattle.org and I'll see what I can do, even if it's to tell you how to approach AAUW for their help. Good luck!



2022 Webinar Series

Karen Anderson
Programs Chair
AAUW-Washington
programs@aauw-wa.org

On Saturday, June 11, AAUW-WA began an important and informative Zoom webinar series on women and the economy. Our kickoff speaker was **Ariane Hegewisch** of the Institute for Women's Policy Research, a national authority on the economic status of women and the policies that could move women forward economically. Hegewisch provided important information on the wage gap, the effects of COVID on women workers, and child care. She cited data that showed that the gender wage gap was caused 33% by occupational segregation (by job title), 17% by sector segregation (by fields like education, services, and so on), and 38% by wage discrimination. The poverty rate for women would decline from 7.9% to 4.7% if women were paid the same as men with similar education, age, and urban/rural status. If you add the motherhood penalty, the wage gap becomes much worse. Finally, the lack of child care is a large barrier to women's economic wellbeing.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

This kickoff talk will be followed by a series of webinars on related topics which will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

On September 13, **Paula England** of NYU will answer the question "Is the Gender Revolution Stalled?" by examining trends in women's status in recent decades. She is an eminent sociologist who has spent a lifetime examining women's issues, especially the wage gap.

On October 11, **Karen Dove**, Executive Director of ANEW in Seattle, will speak on women's access to well-paying jobs in the building trades. ANEW provides quality training, including apprenticeships, and employment services to women and people from underserved communities in Washington.

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. Prof. 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 Sen. Claire Wilson** will speak on child care 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.

So, please save the following dates: **Sept. 13** (Paula England); **Oct. 11** (Karen Dove); **Nov. 15** (Kelly Jones); **Dec. 13** (Sen. Claire Wilson and Sarah Brady).



Karen Manelis
Director
Tech Trek Washington
techtrek@aauw-wa.org

Tech Trek WA 2022: COVID Couldn't Keep Us Down!

Thanks to the phenomenal support of the camp directors, committee members, branch coordinators, and schools, AAUW WA delivered another successful season of Tech Trek camps!. So many challenges and potential obstacles were thrown in our path this year, from COVID-19 to reluctance of schools to nominate candidates, but once again you all rose to the challenge!

Between the two weeks of camp in July at Pacific Lutheran University, we successfully served 91 campers from 17 branches. For the first time since Tech Trek WA started in 2013, almost half of our staff for both weeks were Tech Trek camp alumnae! Special thanks to our two camp directors, Kat Hughes (Dunbar) and Sue Richart (McClintock). It's great to have such outstanding leadership.

To view pictures and videos from this summer's camp, [click here!](#)

Nearly half of the campers wrote thank-you notes to their nominating teacher(s). As a group, they were all so grateful for the nomination and expressed their enthusiasm for all that they learned and experienced during their week at camp.

Our work isn't over now that the campers are back home. Now we get to shift our focus to the committee work of improving camp operations and strengthening the community of Tech Trek advocates which includes branch members and coordinators, donors from our communities, and our Tech Trek alumnae!

Planning for the 2023 Tech Trek WA camps begins now. Interested in more information on how you can help, email techtrek@aauw-wa.org. We need your expertise and enthusiasm for the program moving forward.



Public Policy

Sandra Distelhorst
Public Policy Director
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publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org

AAUW-WA thanks the following retiring Washington State Legislators for their Public Service and for **Scoring 100%** on AAUW WA Legislator Scorecard in both 2021 and 2022.

- Rep. Eileen Cody, D-West Seattle (LD 34)
- Rep. Laurie Dolan, D-Olympia (LD 22)
- Rep. Kirsten Harris-Talley D-Seattle (LD 37)
- Rep. Jesse Johnson, D-Federal Way (LD 30)
- Rep. Steve Kirby, D-South Tacoma (LD 29)
- House Majority Leader Rep. Pat Sullivan, D-Covington (LD 47)
- Rep. Mike Sells, D-Everett (LD 38)
- Rep. Emily Wicks, D-Everett (LD 38)
- Sen. Reuven Carlyle, D-Seattle (LD 36)
- Sen. Mona Das, D-Kent (LD 47)
- Sen. David Frockt, D-Seattle (LD 46)
- *Rep. Noel Frame, D-Seattle (LD 36)* running for LD 36 Senate*
- *Rep. Sharon Shewmake, D-Bellingham (LD 42)* running for LD42 Senate*
- *Rep. Javier Valdez, D-Seattle (LD 46)* running for LD46 Senate*

Many Branches are gearing up for the general election in November and the State Public Policy Team is ready to help.

- We created a [2022 AAUW-WA Issues Candidate Comparison template](#) you can use to review your candidates' positions on key AAUW-WA policy issues.
- It includes suggested questions you can ask at candidate forums or interviews with candidates. Check the [League of Women Voters](#) or local events news for a list of candidate forums.
- We created **Quick Facts on AAUW-WA Candidate Comparison Issues** to provide helpful background on our key AAUW-WA issues: Economic Security (Equal Pay, Paid Family and Medical Leave) Education (School Vouchers/School Choice, Student Debt, Affordable Higher Education), Reproductive Rights, and Voting Rights. [add links]
- Check out our [AAUW Publications](#) webpage to find links to related AAUW studies and reports.

This election is IMPORTANT. We have seen an alarming trend in the past five years of legislators voting in opposition to women's rights bills in Washington State. For example, in 2018, the Gender Equal Pay bill passed with bipartisan SUPPORT. In 2020, the salary history ban bill passed with only partisan support. In 2022, the salary transparency bill passed but had bipartisan OPPOSITION. We can't afford to elect any more legislators who oppose women's issues. Not at a Federal level. Not at a State level. Not at a Local level. **See Dr. Karen Anderson's article: [What is a Woman's Issue.](#)**

Please vote. Please review ALL candidates for their positions on women's rights. At the Leadership Conference on August 13th, the Public Policy Session will focus on state and local advocacy. If you miss the session and want an update, send me an email: publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org.

Election Day is November 8th. Ballots will be mailed 18 days before, starting October 21st.

In Solidarity,

Sandra D.

Communications Support Forum for AAUW Branches

Judy Peasley
Communications Director
AAUW-Washington
communications@aauw-wa.org

You are invited to join us in an upcoming forum focused on strategies and ideas for improving communication within, and among AAUW members and/or branches. **If you are interested, please send your name to Judy Peasley at communications@aauw-wa.org.** If you left us your name in the chat during the Summer Leadership Meeting, you are already on our list.

AAUW-WA Communications Team

Judy Peasley	Communications Director
Leslie Roubal	Webmaster
Mary Letterman	Facebook
Katherine Cleland	Other Social Media
Kay McMurry	Evergreen Newsletter Editor



More details

Possible Day/Time:

- *September 8, 6:30-8 pm*
 - *If this day/time does not work for the majority of the group, we will survey everyone for a more favorable time*

Possible Topics

- Any question/problem submitted by attendees plus...
 - How can our state communications group help branches?
 - Newsletter / mailing list technology changes - what are the trends and challenges
 - Facebook/Instagram/websites - how to maximize the use of social media
 - Pros/cons of using free aauw.org webspace/alternatives? How to do your own website?
 - In-person and zoom meetings - how to manage or have both?

BRANCH NEWS

Seattle Branch - Event to Focus on Homelessness

Pamela G. Bradburn
Branch Secretary
secretary@aauw-seattle.org

Meet! Learn! Feast!

Meet! The Seattle branch is pleased to invite all AAUW members, friends, and the public to its in-person September 17, 2022 program about women and homelessness.

Learn!

- from women who've lived unsheltered about how they ended up homeless, their experiences selling the "Real Change" street newspaper, and what it took to climb into housing security.
- what the new King County Regional Homelessness Authority is accomplishing.
- about February 2023 ballot Initiative I-135, which would create publicly-owned social housing for people earning from 0% to 120% of AMI (Area Median Income).

Feast! Enjoy a Cuban latte while meeting and learning, then feast on Cuban sandwiches while catching up with friends. **Choose your lunch selection when you RSVP** at RSVP@aauw-seattle.org. Note: all the listed sandwiches come with french fries.

- o Slow-roasted pork sandwich with mixed white rice and black beans and seared sweet plantains.
- o Breaded chicken breast with saffron rice and seared sweet plantains.
- o Cuban sandwich with sliced pork, ham, Swiss cheese, mustard, pickles, and french fries.
- o Tofu marinated in chimichurri sauce with white rice, black beans, avocado, and pickled onion salsa.

Meeting **10 a.m. to Noon at Café con Leche, 2901 1st Ave S (and S Forest St.)**, in Seattle's very safe SODO neighborhood, served one block away by the 21 bus, with ample free 2-hour parking, especially on S Forest St. Disabled parking spaces nearby.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Publishing Schedule

Please send articles for the state newsletter to Kay McMurry in Word format.

***Remember that written permission for publishing is required from any person shown in a photo that is published. The branch or officer submitting the photo is responsible for getting and keeping the signatures of the people granting permission to publish.*

The next issue will be published on Thursday, September 15, 2022. Articles submitted for publication are due by Thursday, September 8, 2022. Please send the articles to Mary Williams at president@aauw-wa.org, Kay McMurry at evergreenleader@aauw-wa.org and/or Judy Peasley at communications@aauw-wa.org.

AAUW Washington State