



The Evergreen Leader

AAUW Washington Newsletter

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A Very Special Thank You

We want to express our gratitude to our president, Mary Williams. Mary has seen our state organization through a pandemic, IRS resolution, rotating board members, exciting new webinar offerings, public policy leadership and so much more.

Through it all, Mary has never lost her vision for AAUW, and her sense of humor has sustained us more than she will ever know.

We wish you the VERY best, Mary. As you pass the leadership role on to Emily Hitchens, we want you to know how very much we have appreciated you. Now go forth and enjoy!



President's Message

Mary Williams

President
AAUW Washington
president@aauw-wa.org



May is a time of transitions. Many years, we have already enjoyed a long leisurely transition from the gloomy days of winter to the bright sunny days of late spring. For the past couple of years, the buds popped up way too early, and we held our collective breath hoping that they wouldn't freeze their little fannies off before they blossomed into the beautiful gardens we're so blessed to enjoy. This year, that transition seemed to last about 10 minutes. Mother nature is trying to whiplash us into summer, going from very unspring like 40s one weekend to nearly 90 the next. It seemed as if winter would never end, and now summer is suddenly here. Where did spring go? Did Mother Nature let her take 2023 off?

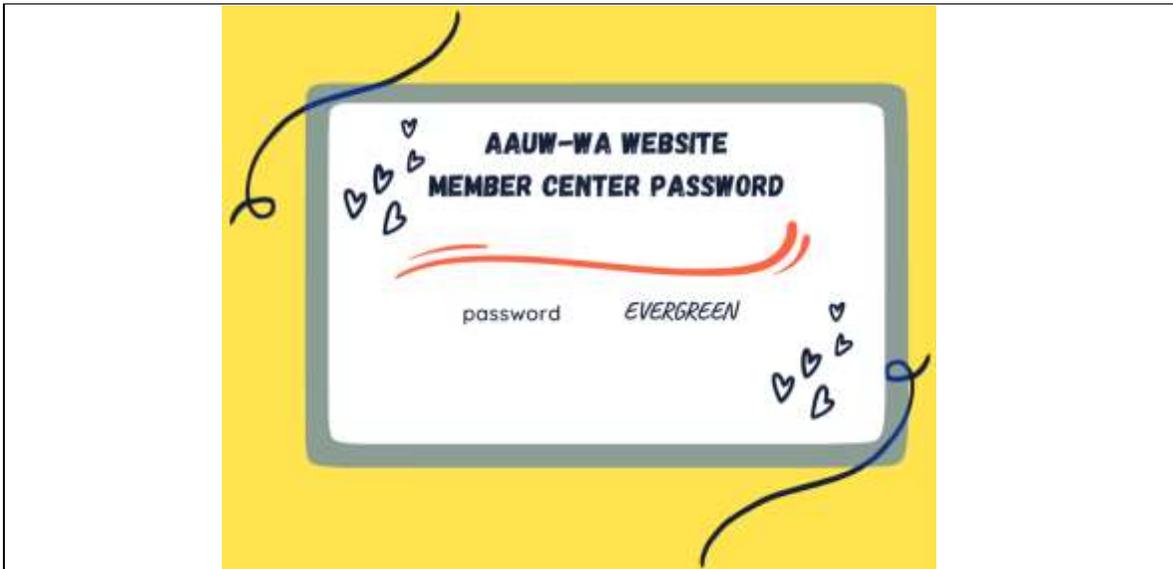
This is also a time of transition for AAUW. Not only are boards changing in branches all across the state, there will be considerable change at the state level. My tenure as your president will be ending in 46 days, and several other key people are also leaving the board. I will say my thank yous next month as Karen Anderson, Cathy Cavness, and Kathy Halson leave their positions as well. We were very fortunate to identify a number of interested and experience women who were willing to step into leadership roles at the state level. We will be adding Mary Ross, Nadine Stecklein, Jeanne Nygard, and Jodi Forsell to the board to replace those of us who are leaving. I know they are looking forward to continuing and improving upon the work we've been doing for the past couple of years. Some of our branches haven't been so fortunate and are having trouble finding members who will step into board positions.

We aren't the only ones facing a season of change. National is quite concerned about the attrition in branch leadership and the number of branches talking about disbanding. They understand that for many it's the social aspect of the organization that they're interested in. Others are more focused on mission-based work. Whether its programs like Tech Trek or advocacy they are interested in, they want to be in the trenches making a difference, rather than taking minutes, chairing a meeting, or keeping track of money. Unfortunately, just like it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a village of active volunteers to keep a branch alive. At a recent national meeting, AAUW leadership encouraged us to see if we can't find new ways of doing things. They would like us to help branches review their Bylaws and see if we can't make things less prescriptive and more permissive. We need to find ways to make sure the necessary work gets done without creating a lot of extra busy work. There was a suggestion that other states adopt our sister branch program, but even take it a step further. Could we share leadership teams, so that if one branch has a member who is really good at or interested in something, they take on that responsibility for several branches? I think over the next year or two there are going to be a lot of "outside the box" suggestions coming our way. Do you have any ideas you'd like to share for easier and more efficient ways to handle our business and/or administrative tasks?

As we wind down 2022-2023, there are only a couple of things left that have to get done. We have been able to reschedule the last of our 2022 Webinars. If you were registered for Senator Claire Wilson's presentation, you'll be getting information just before Memorial Day about how to log in. If circumstances kept you from considering attending in December, you've got a second chance! The Senator has agreed to meet with us at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30th. Remember that bottle of Walla Walla wine you bought for the annual meeting? I hope you have a glass left to enjoy while you learn about the financial devastation that many women are experiencing because they can't find child or elder care and can't return to the workforce. What kind of legislation or policy change can we encourage to mitigate the impact of these factors on the long-range future of our daughters and granddaughters.

And, just as the 2022 Webinar series ends, we will be kicking off the 2023 series. Our theme in 2023 is Opportunity Matters, and our Kickoff Speaker will be Dr. Amber Hoard, a professor at WSU who will be speaking to us on the impact of the gender pay gap in Washington State. Information about registering for the kickoff will be coming out in the next day or two. Finally, we will be working on a seamless transition from the old board to the new one. We are planning a transition meeting on Saturday, June 10th. Watch for the next Evergreen Leader on June 15th. We'll be letting you know what will be happening over the next year, and hopefully getting you excited about joining us and growing our village.

Mary



AAUW-WA YouTube Channel

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

Did you know that ALL videos, webinars and state meetings are available for you and your branch to view? All you need is the link below that will take you to our private YouTube channel. If you have any problems accessing the videos, or questions about the content or how to use them with your branch, please contact Judy Peasley at the email above.

AAUW-WA YouTube Video Playlist

April 2023 AAUW Annual Meeting Videos

- Click [HERE](#) to go directly to the ***Women in Wine Video***
- Click [HERE](#) to go directly to the ***Reaching Out to Younger Women Video***
- Click [HERE](#) to go directly to the ***Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence Video***
- Click [HERE](#) to go directly to the ***Spreading the Word - Social Media Video***

State News

2022-23 WEBINAR SERIES UPDATE

Webinar #4 Rescheduled!

Webinar #4 with Senator Claire Wilson
has been rescheduled for
Tuesday, May 30th at 5 p.m.

If you previously registered for
Webinar #4, Event Support will notify
you of this event and send you the link

If you have not registered, but may be
interested, there is still room.

Stay tuned for more details!



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!

Member Resources from AAUW-WA Annual Meeting

Resources Shared:

- The Washing Machine Story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1NRvq4CI1M>

- [Legislative Session 2023 Wrap Up Webinar](#)
- [Team Up WA](#)
- [WSCADV Policy Action Alert Sign up](#)
- [WSCADV Member Program List](#)
- [Refuse to Abuse 2023](#)
- Team Up Washington contact:

ward@wscadv.org

- Emily Stone:

emily@wscadv.org

- Nadine Stecklein:

npbarragan@gmail.com

,

<https://www.facebook.com/nadine.stecklein>

,

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nadine-stecklein/>

- Elena Cervantes:

elena.cervantes1@gmail.com

Alliance of Women in Washington Wine Resources

- **Vital Winery**
- Fiona Mak of SMAK Wines. Wines for purchase at

www.smakwines.com

There is a link to FIND WINES which will enable locating wines for purchase at other than the tasting room. Seattle location: Kitchen & Market.

- Holly Turner of Three Rivers Winery and Head Turner Wines. Wines for purchase at

www.threeriverswinery.com

and at

www.headturnerwineco.com

- Sadie Drury, who is the manager of Seven Hills Vineyard, one of the largest vineyards in Walla Walla AVA. The grapes grown at Seven Hills Vineyard are sold to 55 wineries!! Look for Seven Hills Vineyard on the label, refer to their website for a full list of wineries at

www.sevenhillsvineyards.com

or check out a L'Ecole 41 estate wines, as they are the only winery that uses 100% Seven Hills fruit in some of their wines. L'Ecole 41 wines are available at tasting rooms in Walla Walla and Woodinville and are available in many stores.

- Mary Derby of DAMA Wines. Wines for purchase at

www.DAMAwines.com

Mary offered a 15% discount for any website purchases for AAUW members from April 15 – April 22nd! (The code was AAUW applied at checkout)

Public Policy Resources

- [Legislative update Sign-up](#)
- [Legislative Updates](#)
- [AAUW Public Policy Priorities – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#)
- AAUW Weighs In: Policy Updates – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881
- 2023 Support Bills post Lobby Day

Sandra Distelhorst:

publicpolicy@aauw.org

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sandra.distelhorst@gmail.com

AAUW-WA Annual Report

AAUW of Washington State
2022-2023 Annual Financial Report
Synopsis

Balance Sheet:

Year End Assets 2021-2022	\$44,429.10
Year to Date Assets 2022-2023	\$50,960.23

Our 501c4 status was reinstated by the IRS.

We maintain Liability, Directors and Officers, and Crime Insurance.

We have invested \$25,000 in no risk Treasuries at over 4% with no brokerage or bank costs.

For last fiscal year and year to date details including an income and expense sheet by budget category, more detailed investment information and a balance sheet; click on the link below.

Click to see the **2023 AAUW-WA Detailed Financial Information Report**

Membership Corner

Emily Hitchens

AAUW-WA Membership Chair
aauwlcmembership@gmail.com

Membership Chair Gathering

Welcome to Membership Corner!

The **VP Membership meeting date is Wednesday, May 31st at 6:30 PM**. The purpose is to relax, have a virtual glass of wine, to meet and to share ideas with each other that support the branches. You will also meet Jeanne Nygard, the incoming Membership Chair.

Zoom Link

Meeting ID: 834 7509 0347

Passcode: 911039

Note: You may have received an invitation to this event previously scheduled for May 17th, but our hosts, Cathy Cavness and Kathy Halsan from Lewis County (**see photo below**) have been busy with the Lewis County Luna Fest Program, so we have chosen to move the date a bit later in the month. *(Besides, May 17th is Norway's Constitution Day, signed on May 17th, 1814, which many Northwesterners celebrate. It is customary to start with a big breakfast and have Children's Parades. Many wear the traditional "bunad" costume.)*

We look forward to chatting with you all to get acquainted and share ideas.

More Membership Corner News

Did you know - I didn't - that if you have been a member of AAUW for 50 years that you can apply for an Honorary membership? There is a form to fill out and send to

connect@aauw.org

It has a section for Membership History, your current branch(es) and dates of membership. In return you will get an acknowledgement letter and a certificate. So, any of you that have been consecutive members from 1973 or before are eligible!

Additionally, the Membership Team suggests that we all take this year to recognize and celebrate our 50+ year members. Get some stories of inspiration and have fun!

Emily Hitchens, Membership Chair



Cathy Cavness and Kathy Halsan, Lewis County Branch

DEI - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Yvonne Berliner

AAUW-WA State Board
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer
diversity@aauw-wa.org

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Cultivating Allyship in Your Branch

Creating allies is one way we can grow stronger, more inclusive communities. AAUW National has created a template so we can learn more about allyship and begin to implement it. Below is a **sample of this template**. [Click HERE](#) to access the **complete template document**.

Program Plan

Part 1: Creating Allyship – 1-1.5 hour depending on discussion

Facilitator Preparation

Prior to the event: To run a successful event we recommend that the facilitator do some pre-work to prepare. The bulk of the pre-work includes preparing to lead the discussion and so we recommend the following steps:

Read the AAUW sections on [Allyship](#) (as a baseline).

Read through the Additional Resources for Allyship. Choose at least one video from each section below to use in the event. Reading through some of the provided readings and/or watching the included videos will help expand the facilitator's personal understanding of each key term and better enable the facilitator to answer questions from participants.

If desired, send out invitation with a link to one video as pre-work. The invitation should also include a prompt for participants to come to the session with their own definition of allyship to use for the group discussion.

Prepare notes for use during the session.

Read the [Getting Started with Difficult Conversations](#) section of the AAUW Toolkit. Learning to manage difficult conversations is a skill every facilitator should have and this resource provides some helpful tips on how to ensure that your event is productive.

Review and bring the most current version of the branch's community agreement to discuss at the end of the event. The facilitator should include ties to allyship in the community agreement discussion.

Contact the AAUW Inclusion and Equity Committee with any questions (diversity@aauw.org)



Last Call for Tech Trek

Karen Manelis
Tech Trek WA
techtrek@aauw-wa.org

There are over 120 campers from all over Washington waiting with baited breath for July 9 (Camp Dunbar) or July 16 (Camp McClintock) and the start of our 2023 Tech Trek WA at Pacific Lutheran University.

We've got their core classes ready to go –Marine Biology, Environmental Forensics, Human Body Systems and Thinkabit Wearable Art for both camp. Labs/Workshops are still being planned, but all girls will rotate through the “Taste of Core” where they attend a 90 minute session of all the core classes they are not assigned to. Field trips to either Harbor WildWatch (Gig Harbor), NW Trek (Eatonville) or Museum of Flight (Seattle) will round out the week.

For the first time, we have a former camper serving as camp director (Krislyn Davis, Camp McClintock) and a number of our dorm monitors are former campers. We're so happy to see these young women return to the program as adults!

COVID protocols are in place with all campers (and staff) required to be fully vaccinated and boosted (if eligible), testing upon arrival at camp, daily wellness checks and masking as necessary/required by PLU. We are keeping our fingers crossed for good vibes! Please keep yours crossed too!

AAUW-WA Public Policy

Sandra Distelhorst
publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org

For the next few months, the AAUW-WA Public Policy Team will be meeting **every two weeks** instead of every week. All are welcome to join in our conversations, whether you are new to public policy or a long-time advocate. **The next meeting is Tuesday, May 23rd at noon.** Here is the [Zoom link](#)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88266617266>

Please also consider signing up to be on the email reminders list because you will also receive committee handouts and research reports, to be added to the meeting reminder list that includes the agenda, handouts and review documents.. Email publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org

Over the next month, we will continue to review federal and state education policy with a gender equity lens.

- In WA state, K-12 education bills touched on a wide range of equity issues: civil rights/Title IX, student health, wellness and safety including social-emotional learning, graduation pathways and rates, curriculum and program development, democracy in action, funding, and educator compensation, reprimands, and protections.
- See our AAUW-WA 2023 [Education Bill Summary](#). **National AAUW is steadfast in supporting gender equity in Education.** The [May National Policy Update](#) includes a review of AAUW National's position on Title IX proposed rules including the new Athletics Rules. I joined with other state public policy chairs to participate in a webinar panel discussion on the proposed new changes to Title IX. My informal notes are available [here](#).. . .

The Public Policy team will also continue our discussion on local elections as well as anticipated 2024 key elections.

I hope you can join us. All voices and perspectives welcome.

Sandra D and the Public Policy Team.

Branch Events



Puyallup Branch

*Joan Cronk
Puyallup Branch
joan791942@comcast.net*

Puyallup Valley AAUW Annual Meeting and Tea Party

On March 29 AAUW Puyallup Valley Branch members met at the Puyallup Library for their annual meeting and tea party. Members arrived wearing jaunty hats and bringing food to share.

Co-President Virginia King spoke about Women's History Month and that was followed by reports from the bridge group, walking, writing and book groups. The writing group is working on a piece about the founding members of AAUW Puyallup and they meet monthly at a local café. The walking group meets every Tuesday at 11 at a local park and the bridge group meets the first Monday of every month. There was some discussion about forming a gourmet group.

AAUW Puyallup currently has 64 members and soon a new membership flyer will be available. New members were introduced.

Garden Tour Chair Bev Strodz encouraged members to continue their good work on acquiring sponsors for the Garden Tour which will take place on June 24. The Vendor Committee has vendors lined up and the publicity flyer will be mailed to members to share. Tickets will be available

in early May online and physical tickets right before Memorial Day. The goal is to net \$14,000.

Chris Wick gave a report on Tech Trek. There were 13 nominations from teachers, and she stated that normally there are 20-30 nominations. The cost of sending one girl to the camp is \$1400. Proceeds from the annual garden tour fund Tech Trek.

High School scholars will take place on May 16 at the Puyallup Activity Center. Nine senior girls applied for the scholarship and two scholarships will be recognized. Junior scholars are recognized in Science, Math and CTE. There will be three girls from each of eight high schools in our branch area.

On April 25 AAUW Puyallup Branch Program Co-chairs Jo Ingram and Barbara Walker arranged for our group to visit Karshner Museum in Puyallup. Tables of artifacts had been arranged by Lynda Belt, Exhibit Designer and Event Planner for the Museum. What followed was an interesting and challenging event to identify the objects and how they were used.

Teams of two moved from table to table to identify the artifacts, using the information left on the table, along with the artifacts. After being instructed not to touch the artifacts guests answered several questions before moving on to the next table.

This activity led to lots of interesting questions and discussions as we moved from table to table.

A big thank you to our Program co-chairs and to Karshner Museum for welcoming us and allowing us to learn something new about our ancestors.

Calendar and Upcoming Events

AAUW-WA State Calendar

The official calendar for AAUW-WA can be found on our website at:

<https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/activities-information/calendar>

If you wish to have a branch event added to the calendar, please use the process described in this [Branch Sharing Form](#).

General Information

Publishing Schedule

Please send articles and images for the state newsletter to Judy Peasley at

evergreenleader@aauw-wa.org

- Please use MS Word format; Font: Calibri size 12
- Articles with images, limit to 450 words; without images, limit to 550 words

We are hoping that most articles can meet these guidelines. If you have a special article that exceeds this limit, we understand, but ask that you do your best to limit the article length.

**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 June 15, 2023. Articles submitted for publication are due by June 8, 2023. Please send the articles to Judy Peasley at

evergreenleader@aauw-wa.org

The newsletter will be reviewed by Mary Williams before publishing - and as always, available on our website [AAUW-WA State](#)