

# Tacoma Branch News



December 2012 - <http://Tacoma-WA.AAUW.net> - P.O. Box 65303, Tacoma, WA 98464-1303  
"By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic and educational barriers so that all women have a fair chance."

## *December Branch Meeting*



## *HOLIDAY GATHERING*

This year we will be going to a new place to celebrate the holidays. The Adriatic Grill has been rated the Best Mediterranean Restaurant for the last four years by South Sound Magazine and has a local, award winning chef. (Jane says, "My husband and I tried it out for lunch and it was very good"). The parking lot is large and the building is handicapped accessible.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2012 , 11:30 A.M.**

**THE ADRIATIC GRILL (near the Tacoma Mall)  
4201 S. STEELE ST., TACOMA  
<http://www.adriaticgrill.com/> 475-6000**

Our luncheon will include a visit from a member of the Fireside Storytellers League of Tacoma who will share a holiday story with us. And we are suggesting that everyone bring items for the women's section of the Tacoma Avenue Homeless Shelter. These might include toiletries (soaps, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner toothpaste and brushes are always much needed), cosmetics, personal products, socks, twin sized sheets and blankets, bath towels, pillow cases or paperback books in good condition. This shelter is located in downtown Tacoma and is always full, especially during the cold months coming up. Any monetary gift is always welcome.

We will be ordering off the very extensive menu of salads, soups, sandwiches, pasta and seafood dishes. No advance payments are needed; we will all get separate checks but I would like an idea of how many to expect so please RSVP by Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> to Jane Hahn, either phone or e-mail. Please bring a guest if you like.



*Winter!*

# DECEMBER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Excerpts from the December Harper's Index:

- Average salary subjects in a September 2012 study offered a fictional woman applying for a U.S. university laboratory position: \$26,508
- Average salary they offered a fictional man with identical credentials: \$30,328

Enough said.

Happy Holidays and I hope to see you at our holiday luncheon at the Adriatic Grill on Saturday, December 15th at 11:30 am!

## FUND OF THE MONTH: AAUW EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND

Every month we highlight one of the funds supported by AAUW philanthropy. In November we looked at the AAUW Tacoma Branch Fund at the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation that supports our branch scholarship and grants initiatives. Here we take a closer look at one of the national AAUW funds that supports our mission in the State of Washington.

The Educational Opportunities Fund houses the endowments that involve several programs: American Fellowships for women scholars completing doctoral dissertations; International Fellowships for study in the U.S.; Selected Professions Fellowships to open doors for women in science and technology; Community Action Grants for innovative programs to promote equity for women and girls; and Career Development Grants for women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to change careers or re-enter the work force. The Educational Opportunities Fund is an endowed fund. For 2012-2013 the fund provided \$4.3 million for more than 278 fellowships and grants.

The endowment is increased through special campaigns by branches throughout the country, often in recognition of a special event or to honor someone for her achievements. (The Buffalo NY Branch is raising money for a fund to honor Hillary Rodham Clinton). In 2005, our Tacoma branch leaders honored the centennial of the branch by launching the **Tacoma Centennial Fund** with the goal of raising \$100,000 for fellowships. Since met that goal in 2011 there have been two recipients in Washington State who have received fellowships from this endowment.

- In 2011-2012 **Aine Heneghan**, assistant professor of music theory at the University of Washington, received an American Fellowship to study Danish composer Arnold Schoenberg.
- For 2012-2013 **Coleen Carrigan**, a doctoral student in anthropology at the University of Washington, received an American Fellowship to complete her dissertation: "Decoding Technical labor: Gender Segregation in Computer Science."

Although the Tacoma Centennial Fund is complete, there are opportunities for members to make tax-deductible gifts to projects based in Washington State that have still not "gone over the top". Many branches and AAUW WA contributed money that permitted us to reach our goal. It would be great to return the favor. It's easy to do. Just go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and click on GIVE on the right side of the home page. The Washington initiatives are Research and Projects Grants that will support Community Action and Career Development:

**Bonnie J. Dunbar PhD #4352:** a project that honors Astronaut Dunbar

**Mary Lou Hughes #4362:** a memorial for long-time Seattle/Highline branch member

# INTEREST GROUPS AND NEWS

## HOT TOPICS

*No meeting in December. Time to take a deep breath and get ready for the new year!*

JANUARY 16, 2013, 4-6 pm  
YMCA Lakewood **\*\*New Location!!!\*\***  
9715 Lakewood Dr. SW, Lakewood, WA  
253-584-9622  
(There is a Forza on the premises)

Living Life Off the Grid: How does it work and is it worth it?

"For most people, paying utility bills is a tiresome and frustrating task. What if there was a way to get out from under the thumb of public utilities and produce your own sustainable energy? Well, there is. Going "off-grid" is becoming an increasingly popular choice for people looking to reduce their carbon footprint, assert their independence and avoid reliance on fossil fuels." Charles W Bryant

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/living-off-the-grid.htm>

How to do it? Solar ovens? self-contained toilets? wells? cisterns? gardens? moving into a camper? Is living off the grid a solution to global warming? Could it ultimately make life easier?

AAUW member Linda Olson will introduce us to the topic with her story about how living off the grid actually works. Before you come, check out the Internet for personal stories of families who tried it and what it means for lifestyle alterations. What does it take to become truly independent? We'll explore the debate about living off the grid and the feasibility of cutting back on energy consumption.

## GENEALOGY & FAMILY HISTORY INTEREST GROUP

On November 9, several of us spent much of the day in the Northwest Room of the downtown Tacoma Public Library, where we worked independently on our own genealogical searches. Most of the group also met for lunch across the street, to share their finds.

**We will not be meeting during December.** If you'll be spending time with family, or sending holiday letters to them, you might share some of your recent genealogical findings. Also, ask the older generations, cousins, and siblings whether they can provide any clues to some of the missing links in your family stories.

**In January**, the group will visit the **Heritage Quest Research Library** in Sumner, date and time *tba*. If you have already attended one or more meetings of our Genealogy & Family History group, I'll be emailing you soon with possible January dates. If you've not attended yet, but would like to join us, please email me (see below), and I'll add your name to my distribution list.

HQRL is a nonprofit 501c3 organization, operated by volunteers since it was established in 1985. The library includes microfiche, over 9,000 books and periodicals, CDs, and online databases. In addition, there are 4 computers, a scanner and copy machine, and wireless internet access for patrons. HQRL subscribes to *American Ancestors*, *Ancestry.com*, *fold3*, *World Vital Records*, *Civil War Research Database*, and *HistoryGeo* for patron in-library use. They also have an interesting inventory of genealogy related items for sale: books, family tree charts, maps, etc. The Library has a classroom, where staff regularly give seminars and classes on a variety of topics.

Heritage Quest Research Library is a membership organization. Carol and I joined HQRL (\$30/year) after attending their excellent Autumn Quest all-day seminar in October. Nonmembers will need to pay \$5/day to use the library. It is open Mon. - Sat., 10am - 4pm. Sumner is a paradise for antique lovers, and has several good restaurants nearby where we can have lunch. We can make a day of it!

■ Mary Hammond, Chair

## AAUW Daytime Book Group 2012-2013

**Co-Chairs: Marianne Candioglos,  
and Lee Ann Ufford**

**The Daytime Book Group  
meets on the 4th  
Wednesday of the month at  
10:00 a.m. unless otherwise  
noted.**

DECEMBER 12 (not our usual day)  
**Share your favorite poem**  
Hostess: Kay S.

JANUARY 23  
**Half Broke Horses by  
Jeannette Walls**  
Reviewer: Darlene  
Hostess: Helen

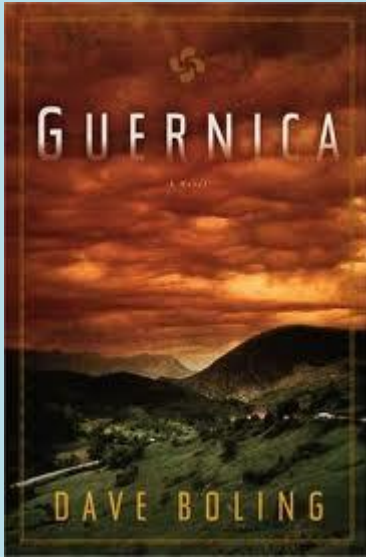
FEBRUARY 27  
**Death Come to Pemberley  
by P.D. James**  
Reviewer: Jane  
Hostess: Darlene

MARCH 27  
**Among the Mad by  
Jacqueline Winspear**  
Reviewer: Helen  
Hostess: Marilee

APRIL 22  
**King Peggy** by Peggien  
Bartels and Eleanor Herman  
Reviewer: Lee Ann  
Hostess: Jane

MAY 22  
Reviewers: Book selection for  
next year  
Hostess: TBD

**AAUW Evening Book  
Group, 2012-2013**  
6:30 (except the 6:00 May Potluck)



JANUARY 28

**GUERNICA** by Dave Boling

Reviewer: Dorothy

Hostess: Jane

FEBRUARY 25

**WILD—LOST TO FOUND ON  
THE PACIFIC COAST TRAIL** by

Cheryl Strayed

Reviewer: Susie

Hostess: Jeanne

MARCH 25

**PIERCE COUNTY/TACOMA  
READS SELECTION**

Reviewer: Mary L

Hostess: Kay /Joye

APRIL 22

**THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF  
HENRIETTA LACKS** by

Rebecca Skloot

Reviewer: Jeanne

Hostess: Colleen

## MORE INTEREST GROUPS!

### Papercrafters

Papercrafters will not meet in December. We will be back at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church on January 3rd from 10:30 - 2:00 doing our individual projects. Scrap That, 4040 Orchard in Fircrest (where Papercrafters met in November) is having holiday project workshops every Saturday in December or if you want to work on your own project at other times, the fee to use their equipment and space is \$5.00.

Connie D.

### Not So Fast Food Group

Sorry no meeting this month.

### L.I.F.E./Elderhostel

Christmas Carol Trivia

Date: Friday, December 7th

Time: 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Location: Garfield Book Co. -Community Room

208 S. Garfield St., Tacoma 98444

Class Fee: \$10.00

Presenter: Dr. Paul Schultz

Class Facilitator: Gene Giannobile

(253) 531-9037 / [dgg2504@comcast.net](mailto:dgg2504@comcast.net)

History is unclear when the first carol was written, but the golden age of English carols was from 1350 to 1550. In the 14th century they became popular in religious song form. Those carols might have required you to sing in Latin along with English. By the 15th century elaborate arrangements were made for carols with lyrics written in three or four part harmony. The popularity of carols nearly disappeared in the 16th century, reviving in the 18th century when most of the carols we know today were written.

This class will present information on the origin and evolution of some of our most revered carols to YouTube "sensations" with the sounds of cats meowing, dogs barking, or chipmunks "chipping." A trivia quiz will be given to trigger discussion (no grades will be given). We will examine texts and melodies along with some of the unusual circumstances present when the carol was first performed. Finally, the class will sing the carols, so bring your best singing voice with you. This will be a wonderful way to celebrate the seasonal music that has been part of our culture for many centuries. After his class, you may be "Dreaming of a White Christmas" while flying with "Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

Dr Paul Schultz returns to L.I.F.E. to share from his extensive knowledge of music. Schultz received his PhD in music education from Michigan State University. He founded the well-known Northwest Repertory Singers in 2001. Although now retired after 44 years of teaching at the secondary and university level (U.P.S.), he remains an active guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the U.S.A. Dr. Schultz resides in Gig Harbor with his wife, composer Dr. Donna Gartman-Schultz.

# *Activities Calendar*

December 1	Sat	
December 2	Sun	
December 3	Mon	
December 4	Tue	Board Meeting @ 1:00 pm
December 5	Wed	
December 6	Thu	
December 7	Fri	L.I.F.E/ELDERHOSTEL @ 10:30am-12:30 pm at Garfield Book Company
December 8	Sat	
December 9	Sun	
December 10	Mon	
December 11	Tue	
December 12	Wed	DAYTIME BOOKGROUP @ 10 am
December 13	Thu	
December 14	Fri	
December 15	Sat	DECEMBER BRANCH MEETING @ 11:30 am in the Adriatic Grill
December 16	Sun	
December 17	Mon	
December 18	Tue	
December 19	Wed	
December 20	Thu	
December 21	Fri	
December 22	Sat	
December 23	Sun	
December 24	Mon	
December 25	Tue	
December 26	Wed	
December 27	Thu	
December 28	Fri	
December 29	Sat	
December 30	Sun	
December 31	Mon	

Upcoming: January 3, 2013 Papercrafters



# A Book of Interest

Suggested by Sue Schub

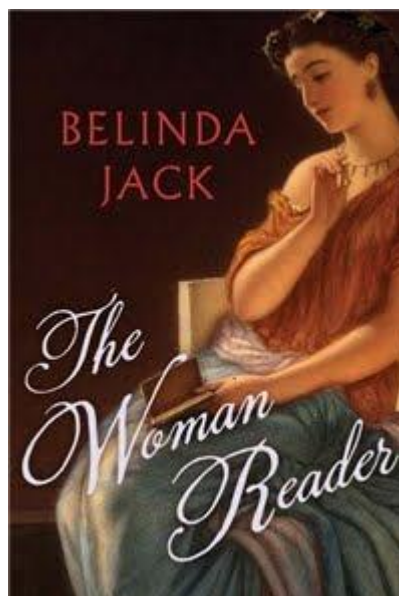
## The Woman Reader

### Book Description:

This lively story has never been told before: the complete history of women's reading and the ceaseless controversies it has inspired. Belinda Jack's groundbreaking volume travels from the Cro-Magnon cave to the digital bookstores of our time, exploring what and how women of widely differing cultures have read through the ages.

Jack traces a history marked by persistent efforts to prevent women from gaining literacy or reading what they wished. She also recounts the counter-efforts of those who have battled for girls' access to books and education. The book introduces frustrated female readers of many eras—Babylonian princesses who called for women's voices to be heard, rebellious nuns who wanted to share their writings with others, *confidantes* who challenged Reformation theologians' writings, nineteenth-century New England mill girls who risked their jobs to smuggle novels into the workplace, and women volunteers who taught literacy to women and children on convict ships bound for Australia.

Today, new distinctions between male and female readers have emerged, and Jack explores such contemporary topics as burgeoning women's reading groups, differences in men and women's reading tastes, censorship of women's on-line reading in countries like Iran, the continuing struggle for girls' literacy in many poorer places, and the impact of women readers in their new status as significant movers in the world of reading.



# MEMBERSHIP CORNER

BY: Mary Hammond, Co-V.P. for Membership

Our Tacoma Branch membership continues to grow.



## WELCOME BACK!

We now have 60 members! This month we welcome our newest member, **Shirley Carstens**, who recently retired after 25 years as the Lead Nurse for the University Place School District. Prior to school nursing, she had been an RN in Public Health for several years. She continues to be very active in Pierce County Medical Reserve Corps, a volunteer organization that responds to public health prevention and emergency response. "I have quit saying that I'm retired," says Shirley. "I just don't get paid for working!" She has a 2 ½ year old female Scottish Terrier, "Cutty." - short for Cutty Sark. "I love to read, spend time with my family, sew & knit, and cuddle with my dog. I belonged to AAUW way back, many years ago, and just thought I should join again."

Last month, my bio on **Sandy Halvorson** was more brief than intended. Here's what you really wanted to know about Sandy as we welcome her back to AAUW, after having taken some time off following her daughter's birth in 2000. Sandy has a B.S. in Business Administration, with a concentration in accounting, from Trinity University in San Antonio. She works as an IT Project Manager Consultant, presently at the Port of Tacoma. She says, "I don't know how I found AAUW-Tacoma in the '90s, but one meeting with a roomful of thinking, opinionated, outspoken women and I was hooked!" She credits **Connie Dunkelberger** with tracking her down this time. Sandy enjoys yoga, golf and cooking.

## EVERY MEMBER GET A MEMBER?

If you know someone - a friend or colleague, or even a relative - who might be interested in joining AAUW, why don't you invite her to attend our Holiday luncheon with you? Remember to make reservations!

If you need AAUW (National and Tacoma Branch) membership flyers, which include new member applications, see **Sue McLean** or **Mary Hammond**, Co-Vice Presidents for Membership. Sue has both types of brochures with her membership display at each meeting. Many of our Board members and Interest Group chairs also carry Tacoma Branch membership brochures in their purses. Always be on the lookout for likely prospects! That's how we grow and become more diverse and interesting!

- Mary Hammond, V.P. Membership

## AAUW Tacoma Branch Meeting November 17, 2012

President Phyllis Izant opened the meeting at the Lakewood Library, greeting guests and new member Shirley Carstens. Business was member announcements:

- Newsletter editors Mary and Rachel Letterman need articles submitted for the December newsletter by December 20.
- Knit scarves and hats were offered for sale to benefit the Branch.
- Mary Hammond reminded members of the Empty Bowl fundraiser for the Emergency Food network, at Charles Wright Academy today.
- Wanda Johnson will be forming the Scholarship Committee in December. Dorothy McBride spoke about an alternative scholarship mission, sponsoring an 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl at Tech Trek, which will be held next summer at PLU. Tech Trek is a weeklong camp introducing girls to math and science. AAUW WA State has been awarded \$10,000 from AAUW National for the camp. Anyone interested in deciding future use of Scholarship money should contact Wanda.
- Members were pleased to hear from Ginny Lindstrom that Darlene Anderson's health is improving, and she may be returning home soon.
- Joye Bucklin announced that a free Thanksgiving dinner is available at University Place Elementary School; contact her for details.
- Phyllis has toured the remodeled YWCA, where redesigned top floors will offer much better office and interview spaces for women and children needing help. Weekend tours are available.

Program Chair LeeAnn Ufford introduced Elizabeth Revard, Executive Director of the Prison Pet Partnership Program at Purdy Correctional Center in Gig Harbor. Beth has been with the Program for 15 years. She was assisted by Elvis, a 3-year-old black Labrador Retriever.

Many of the women at Purdy have come from abusive relationships, seeing themselves as "throw-aways" and of no value. Many of the dogs selected for the Program are also "throw-aways," from shelters or advertised on Craig's List. Dogs are also coming from local military bases as service men and women are deployed to war zones. The majority of dogs selected are Labrador and Golden Retrievers, due to their innate temperaments and willingness to work with humans.

The Pet Program was developed to help inmates make a transition to a new life on the outside with marketable job skills. It was started in 1982 by a nun who was a former juvenile offender. She was in and out of custody as a teenager. After her last release, she acquired and trained a dog, which gave her a purpose in life. She approached Department of Corrections about using dogs as therapy for inmates, but was not successful. She kept trying, and found acceptance at Purdy, which led to a partnership with their TCC re-education Program. As the Program evolved, inmates trained dogs for the Tacoma Pierce County Humane Society, and then began training service dogs. In 1995, inmates started boarding dogs and offering grooming services for both dogs and cats.

The women form relationships with dogs during the training process, learning relationship skills that translate into social and parenting skills. A dog in training lives with his handler 24/7. As the dogs complete each level of training, they are sent on to another inmate who has learned advanced dog training skills. The Program has fluidity in training both dogs and trainers. Each trainer will have a dog for 3-6 months. As trainers are educated, they are required to give training classes to others, further developing professional skills.

The program has 2 parts. The vocational training program helps inmates develop skills that lead to employment as dog groomers, trainers, or kennel attendants. Inmates must have been in custody for 1 year, with a good behavior record, and have 2 years remaining in their sentence to participate. It takes that long to complete the training program.

Those selected cannot have been convicted of any crimes against animals or the disabled. They must have, or obtain, a GED. Grooming and kennel care training involve course work in animal anatomy, animal care and office skills. Inmates must pass exams in core classes. The inmate then has probationary employment in the program. Only after completing the probation successfully is the inmate allowed to work in the program.

The second part of the program trains dogs as service companions for the disabled. Service dog training starts with basic obedience and temperament testing. There are about 11 levels of continuous training, including teaching dogs practical skills like turning light switches on and off. Some of the trained dogs are therapy dogs at nursing and rehabilitation centers. Service dogs are matched individually with a disabled person. Inmates teach the dog and new owner how to work together. Purdy is an accredited member of Service Dog International. Dogs go to homes in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Elvis was selected for service dog training, but could not overcome his infatuation with chasing cats. He was scheduled for "parole" (adoption) when Beth chose him as a demonstration dog. Dogs that are family ready as pets, but who do not meet the higher standard of calm needed for service dogs are available for adoption by anyone.

A new certification program gives professional grooming credentials to Program graduates. Certification requires 600 hours of classes and grooming work, plus passing practical and written exams. The graduates are certified to groom show dogs – a well-paid profession, in high demand.

The women who complete the Pet Partnership Program are finding living wage employment as groomers and kennel workers. The women who run the Pet Partnership offices also find employment with the office skills they have learned. Graduates have a 36 month recidivism rate of only 5%, compared to the usual 19%. The overall mission of the Program, inmates employable upon released, is highly successful.

Purdy receives little or no Department of Corrections money. About 50% of their funding comes from grooming and boarding fees, and adoption payments, which are lower than those in the community. United Way gives about 6%. Fundraising functions and donations account for another 30% of financing. In April, the Art Walk in downtown Tacoma is an "ArF" Walk, with a percentage of proceeds going to Purdy.

The Program needs volunteers to socialize the dogs, taking them out into the community. The Program also has a standard wish list for: cat litter, cat food, gallon containers of bleach, fabrics for scarves (for dogs in grooming), gift cards at pet or office supply stores, Kong chewable toys, dog treats, and Post-it-Notes. More information on this amazing program is available at: [prisonpetpartnership.org](http://prisonpetpartnership.org)

Meeting adjourned at 11:45. Submitted by Carol Rikerd, Secretary