

"By Joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic and educational barriers so that all women have a fair chance."

News and Events

December Meeting: Peacemaker Leader

Carol Ramm-Gramenz gathered a group of McCarver Elementary School students together to learn and practice conflict resolution, finding their voices, expressing their needs and ideas in appropriate ways and being leaders within the McCarver community. This group became the McCarver Peacemakers. Carol, the counselor at McCarver, will share the story of McCarver Peacemakers and the differences they have made in their own lives, their school, and in the Hilltop community at our holiday luncheon on December 14, 2013. Join us at Joesepi's to enjoy lunch and learn of transformations that have happened in our community.

Carol is an expert in community building in a variety of settings. She has worked on the Navajo reservation, in Jamaica in the Peace Corps, as a social worker in Maine, at Pacific Lutheran University as the first head of their Women's Center, as a counselor at Greater Lakes Mental Health, and as a counselor in three school systems in Pierce County.

As our Tacoma Branch has typically used our December luncheon as an opportunity to engage in philanthropy, we asked Carol to give us a list of the needs of McCarver Peacemakers. It is on the next page.

December is a time to celebrate success and Ms. RG (as the students call her) is an incredible woman who will make our celebration joyous. Come meet her!

When: Saturday, December 14th at 11:30 a.m.

Where: Joesepi's, 2207 N Pearl Street, Tacoma



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my list is no longer written but is published only in my head!)

One blessing I have never put on my list before, in quite the same way, is "Possibilities". Before the dawn I rise, take my coffee and consider the possibilities of the day before me. Like when I open a box of chocolates, looking for my favorite candy, or open a new book anticipating the story, begin to write a poem, design a quilt, all possibilities are before me. After considering all these projects, I choose carefully where I will spend my time this day, this year. I have chosen to give AAUW some of my valued time because many of its programs provide "possibilities" to women. "Elect Her", "Tech Trek", "NCWSSL" and "Equal Pay" are some ways AAUW open doors for women. Think of it! Think of the capacity for growth, for unlocking inherent abilities for many women. On a different level AAUW provides all members with "possibilities" to stretch and grow, to serve, to question government policies, discuss issues of the day at "Hot Topics", or join an interest group like Paper Crafters or a Book Group. Happy Thanksgiving to you!

Diane Palmquist

Presidents' Corner

Giving Thanks

Every year when the season changes, when the days become shorter, when the green leaves become gold and red before giving up their grip and hitting the ground, I realize how quickly Thanksgiving Day approaches. As I prepare my garden for the coming winter and prepare my house for the cold, my thoughts turn to giving thanks for all my blessings. I make a list of all I am thankful for this year (although I must admit

Important Information

Here is Carol Ramm-Gramenz' list for Peacemaker donations:

Presents for holiday giving to needy students and their families including
Board games Legos Art supplies Books
Ethnically diverse dolls (no Barbies, please) Socks and underwear

Money to support "Play in Peace" day. (Held third Friday each May by decree of the Governor)

The Two Minute Activist

Linda Isenson, AAUW Tacoma Public Policy Maven

AAUW makes it easy to take a stand, express your concerns and contact your Congressional representatives on our mission issues. Go to www.aauw.org and click on the "Issues" title. It will take you to a page listing various issues. Pick one and a new page will open. You can choose to "Take Action". Then you'll get a page with a prepared statement, but you can either write our own personal messages or just add a note and send it to your Senator or Congressperson. It takes less than 2 minutes. I usually write a different shorter message and leave in the AAUW link sentence as the last comment but you don't have to do that.

Thank you to the members who returned signed petitions for Equal Pay and Paid Sick Days.

SAVE THE DATE: January 27, 2014 is Lobbying Day. Stay tuned for more information.

ECONOMIC GROWTH FROM THE MIDDLE OUT

The shrinking middle class – and what we can do about it in Washington state

Rep. Tami Green

Rep. Jake Fey

Rep. Laurie Jinkins



Monday, Dec. 2 from 6pm to 8pm

Tacoma Community College, Building 11, Student Center Cafeteria

AAUW Tacoma Branch is proud to sponsor “Economic Growth from the Middle Out” with AAUW Tacoma member State Representative Laurie Jinkins, Rep. Tami Green and Rep. Jake Fey on **Monday, December 2nd at Tacoma Community College in the Student Center Cafeteria (building 11) from 6:00-8:00 pm** for an important conversation about income inequality, the shrinking middle class and what we can do about it in Washington state.

Income and wealth inequality between those at the top and the rest of us is at a record high. We got here because of the flawed theory that a high concentration of wealth at the top would trickle down and create greater prosperity and a strong economy for all of us. It hasn't. Instead, it has created a polarized country in which a small group of people are doing exceptionally well and far too many are simply struggling to get by.

It's time for a new approach. We need to

Learning is ForEver Program

Learning Is ForEver is a non-profit organization affiliated with Pacific Lutheran University and Elderhostel International, which aims to provide educational opportunities for active, mature adults, in the “second half of life.” AAUW Tacoma Branch Member Marilee Titus serves on the program committee. PLU Music faculty Pat Wooster will give a 2 hour presentation on the history and use of the Harp for the Life Elder Hostel program. Tickets (\$10) are available at the door or by emailing Laura Stewart at Stewarla@plu.edu. The PLU community is free with PLU I.D. For more info on the L.I.F.E. organization see: <http://www.plu.edu/lifeelderhostel>

When Women Succeed, America Succeeds: An Economic Agenda for Women and Families

Representative Nancy Pelosi, U.S. House Democratic Caucus Leader, and former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives spoke to a group of civic and political leaders this morning,

grow a stronger economy from the middle out, not the top down. We need to invest in a strong middle class that can drive demand for products and services – because what businesses need more than anything else is customers. Come learn about and discuss strategies for building an economy that will work for all Washingtonians.

Co-hosted by Representatives Laurie Jinkins, Tami Green, and Jake Fey (for Tacoma)
Representatives Ruth Kagi and Cindy Ryu (Shoreline)
The Washington State Budget & Policy Center
League of Women Voters
AFT
AAUW Tacoma
The League of Education Voters
The Washington State Senior Citizens Lobby
PC2 for Developmental Disabilities (Tacoma)
SEIU 775
SEIU 925

November 25, 2013. AAUW was one of 29 sponsors for this exciting event. Tacoma Branch President Diane Palmquist, Connie Dunkelberger, Donna Woolverton and Linda Isenson attended this gathering of 250 people from Seattle and the surrounding areas. New members Rep. Laurie Jinkins and City Council member Lauren Walker attended in their official capacities. Tacoma was well represented by other dignitaries including Mayor Marilyn Strickland, Senator Jeannie Darneille and City Council member Robert Thoms. The Washington Work Coalition in concert with the Economic Opportunity Institute and Moms Rising (momsrising.org) is presenting this forum around the country to highlight and motivate passage of legislation to help women including the Equal Pay Act, Immigration Reform, instituting paid Sick and Family leave and ENDA, a bill to end discrimination against gays, lesbians and LGBTQ people. AAUW has championed these and continues to be a voice in the other Washington and around the country to get this done!



Speaker Pelosi thanking the speakers.



Rep. Adam Smith



Tacoma Mayor Marilyn Strickland



Part of the packed room!



Interest Groups

Diggers and Delvers

Diggers and Delvers will not meet in December.

Paper Crafters

Papercrafters will not meet in December.

Hot Topics

Hot Topics will not meet in December. Our January meeting will be January 15th and we will discuss the State Budget. We encourage

all members to attend "Economic Growth from the Middle Out" forum which AAUW Tacoma is co-sponsoring. Stay tuned for more information.

Technology and Social Networks 101

Everything you've always wanted to know but been afraid to ask! We will meet

December 17th from **10 am to 12 pm** at **Tower Coffee Bar and Grill, 1101 Tacoma Avenue South**. It is across from the Main Library in Downtown Tacoma.

Not So Fast Food Group

The NSFFG will not meet December.

Book Groups

Evening Book Group will not meet in December.

Daytime Book Group will meet **December 11th at 10 am**. Carolyn Patterson will review "Buddha in the Attic" by Julie Otsuka. Donna Woolverton will host at **6510 83rd Avenue West, University Place**. This is a new development so GPS may be incorrect. The best way to get there is take Chambers Creek Road West to 83rd Ave West and turn west. There is a big sign that says "Estates at Chambers Bay" and several houses are still under construction. Donna is just before the cul-de-sac on the right. GPS might try to send you into Augusta or another development. That is incorrect. Donna's phone number is 253.448.2668. She is not in the directory.

Genealogy and Family History Group

Dorothy McBride will demonstrate Using Google Earth for Genealogy and Family History Research.

Dorothy explains, "We'll take a look at some of the lessons offered by Lisa Louise Cooke in her tutorial video series, Google Earth for Genealogy. Then we'll use Google Earth satellite images to see "where on earth" our ancestors were born, lived, farmed, and owned businesses. Bring your genealogy files!"

We will meet Friday, **December 13th** from **1 pm to 3 pm** at the **University Place Library**. Free parking is available in the garage underneath the Civic Building; enter off Drexler, and take elevator to atrium/library.

Optional: Lunch at noon in the atrium. Bring a bag lunch or your favorite take-out. (Harbor Greens? Frog 'n Kiwi?) Enjoy fireplace and holiday lights in atrium! - Mary Hammond, Chair

In Memoriam

Jane Whitney, AAUW member since 1994, passed away November 12, 2013 at her home in Lakewood. A graduate of Beloit College and the University of Aix, Jane moved to Lakewood after she retired from her career as a diplomat with the U.S. State Department. No information regarding a memorial service has been released.

Membership Information/Branch Directory

Despair not! The Branch Directory is coming! Join us at the December luncheon to get your copy. We will also distribute them at all Interest Group meetings as soon as they are available.

Happy Holidays



December 2013/January 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 1	2 6-8 pm Budget Forum	3	4 Last night of Hanukkah	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 10 am Book Group	12	13 1-3 pm Genealogy Group	14 11:30 am Branch Meeting Luncheon at Joeseppi's
15	16	17 10 am Tech 101	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve	January 1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 10 am January Meeting – Human Trafficking

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SPEAKERS BUREAU PRESENTS

Human Trafficking in Washington:

From the Historic Mercer Maids to Sexual Exploitation in Internet Ads



A conversation about historical, cultural and public-policy aspects of human trafficking.

Jeanne Kohl-Welles
Washington State Senator

JOIN US:

Jan. 18, 2014 @ 10 a.m.
Pacific Lutheran University - Regency Room
in the Anderson University Center
Park Ave S. and 122nd St.
Tacoma, WA 98447



HOSTED BY:
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN - TACOMA
BRANCH



Speakers Bureau fosters inquiring minds through engaging conversations about history, culture, geopolitical issues and more.

For more information, visit www.humanities.org



Humanities Washington sparks conversation and critical thinking using story as a catalyst, nurturing thoughtful and engaged communities across our state.

Editors' Note

Please send notices of events and news to Sarah Nainby and Linda Isenson at aawtacomanewsletter@gmail.com. Feel free to send photos as well!

Submissions should be to us by the 16th of the month unless otherwise noted and should not exceed 100 words. **Please notify us if you will be late.** If you have a later event that you would like included, please let us know by the 16th so we can plan accordingly. We reserve the right to edit as we see fit.