



December 2014

Tacoma Branch News

P.O. Box 65303, Tacoma, WA 98464

www.tacoma-wa.aauw.net

www.facebook.com/AAUW.Tacoma

"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 Branch Meeting

Wanda Johnson, AAUW Tacoma Program Conductor

We will have our annual holiday luncheon at **Joeseppi's Italian Ristorante** on **December 13th at 11:30 am.**

This is an occasion for AAUW Tacoma philanthropy. We usually highlight a special community project that needs our help. Sarah Roemer, Community Organizer for the Tacoma Community House will join us to talk about the wonderful services they have provided to Tacoma for over 100 years. (www.tacomacommunityhouse.org). You will have an opportunity to make donations to Tacoma Community House.

In addition, Carol Rikerd will, once again, have her special handmade soaps available for sale and the proceeds this year benefit the YWCA shelter. She is also donating soap to each of the women at the shelter.

So, bring your checkbooks! They'll be handy for paying for your lunch (no credit cards) and for your Christmas donations.

A buffet lunch will be provided along with beverages for \$20. Lunch will include salad, two pasta dishes, bread and soft drinks and/or coffee. You may pay at the door but you must **RSVP by December 9th**. Please, cash and checks only. RSVP to aauwtacomanewsletter@gmail.com.

Reservations must be received by Tuesday, December 9th! Don't miss out!

Joeseppi's Ristorante
2207 N. Pearl Street
Tacoma, WA



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Presidents' Corner

Happy Holidays!



What beautiful repeating patterns exist in Nature! Patterns create order and provide information. This flower is a poinsettia bloom, not a rosebud. We seek to impose order on our lives with many patterns. (Think "Habits or Schedules") It is difficult to change patterns once they are established! Once a day/time is established for a repeating event for many people, confusion can result if you try to change it.

AAUW-Tacoma Branch usually meets on the third Saturday of each month at 10 AM. It's on the calendar! Activities are planned many months in advance which involves securing speakers and meeting rooms. Still, it is possible to change if a different day or time would better suit our membership. For that reason the Board is going to survey our members regarding meeting day(s) and times. What other days/times might better suit you? Think about it and give us your opinion and thoughts on the subject by way of the survey which will be distributed soon.

CHRISTMAS ALERT! Already Christmas approaches with the New Year fast on its heels. Plan to attend the Christmas Luncheon which will be held on December 13, at 11:30 at Joesepi's on 21st and Pearl. There will be a buffet lunch for \$20.00 per person, payable to AAUW Tacoma branch at the door, checks or cash only. If you plan to attend please RSVP to the newsletter address (aauwtacomaneewsletter@gmail.com) as the restaurant needs to know how many of us there will be so they may plan, too!

Diane Palmquist - Co-President



Time To Step Up

Dorothy McBride, Governance Committee Chair

You joined the Tacoma Branch of AAUW because you care about equality for women and girls. Want to get more involved?

Elections of officers for **2015-2016** will be held at the **Branch Meeting, March 21, 2015**. There are 5 positions up for election. All of them are 2 year terms and each offers an opportunity for you to join the branch leadership. THINK ABOUT IT. The Governance Committee—Dorothy McBride, Connie Dunkelberger, and Marilee Titus—serves as the nominating committee for the branch. If someone asks you to participate, be attentive and helpful! If you are interested in doing more, contact us.

AAUW Tacoma Branch

Board of Directors

2014-2015

Co-Presidents

Dana Holt

Diane Palmquist

Membership Vice President

Carol Rikerd

Program Vice President

Wanda Johnson

Public Policy Maven

Linda Isenson

Tech Trek Chair

Sandy Halvorson

Communications Co-Chairs

Mary Letterman

Leslee Eicher

Recording Secretary

Donna Woolverton

Finance Officer

Phyllis Izant

Governance Committee Chair

Dorothy McBride

PRESIDENT

This office represents the branch to the outside world and has the power to appoint standing committee chairs and special committees and task forces. The President(s) preside at meetings of both the branch and the Board of Directors. Two years ago, two new members of the branch stepped up and volunteered to share the Presidency of the branch and they've done a terrific job. Ask either **Diane or Dana** about how they divided up their duties and their experiences and recommendations.

PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT

This is a job that definitely can be shared by two or more. The Program VP (s) are responsible for planning branch monthly programs from September to May. If several wanted to form a "program team", each member could plan just one or two meetings. The Program VP is a two year term and a member of the board.

TREASURER/FINANCE OFFICER

As a branch, we are fortunate to have financial resources that allow us to conduct our business and promote the AAUW branch mission. The Finance Officer leads the way by maintaining the branch accounts, proposing the annual budget, and disbursing funds as directed by the branch and the board. This job is at the heart of branch operations.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: 2 MEMBERS

The Governance and Development Committee is composed of 3 members elected by the branch. The committee keeps the bylaws and procedures up to date and serves as the nominating committee. The chair of the committee serves on the Board. Connie and Dorothy are rotating off the committee this year leaving opportunities to others to learn about all aspects of branch activities.



Philanthropy is an important part of AAUW's mission

Connie Dunkelberger

December is a month for giving. Non-profit organizations, including AAUW send many solicitations for the end of year funds. This year branch members have two good options to donate to AAUW and the funds will be targeted to our local branch mission projects. Donation to Tech Trek, a STEM camp for 7th grade girls, or NCCWSL, a national conference for college women, will benefit individuals from our community. This has been true for funds given to Tech Trek; however, the local targeting of donations for the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) is new this year. If you read last month's newsletter, the Tacoma Branch and AAUW joined in a partnership and formed the Virginia Cummings NCCWSL fund. This fund will provide scholarship funds for the registration fees, including room and board for the conference held annually at the University of Maryland.

Members who want to donate to this special fund online can now go to the AAUW website, click on DONATE, then LEADERSHIP; on that drop-down menu, click on CLICK HERE TO GIVE to another program or cause. The drop down will list Virginia Cummings NCCWSL fund. Donation checks need to be made out to: AAUW Funds #4349, with Virginia Cummings NCCWSL fund written in the memo section and mailed to: AAUW, 1111 16th Street, Washington, DC 20036. Donations in any amount will be appreciated and will benefit the mission projects of the Tacoma Branch and our community.



Expanding Our Reach Through Mission Grants

Dorothy McBride

Calling all New Members

Intermediate members

Longtime Members

Do you have an idea about ways to break barriers to equality for women and girls in Pierce County? Such as, a special research project, a mentoring program, an arts competition, assistance for victims of sexual assault, a STEM project, a scholarship for a lone mother seeking economic self-sufficiency? Perhaps you would like us to support a research project to find out more about the status of women and girls in our area. Or, do you know about a great program that helps women prepare for college and think the branch could help?

The membership will choose the projects that the branch will fund in 2015-2016 at the annual meeting in March. If you have a great idea for how we can best use our mission budget (around \$5000 each year) to promote our goals, please submit it to co-Presidents Dana Holt and Diane Palmquist by **February 1, 2015**.

Here are the guidelines for your proposal:

*Any member or group of members may propose uses for the funds to the Board for recommendation to the membership. Any proposed project must show how the project advances the branch mission and must designate a committee, task force or individual to implement the project.

**Leaders of each project will report the results to the membership before the end of the fiscal year in which the money was allocated.



WE CAN SEND MORE GIRLS TO TECH TREK!

Dorothy McBride

For 2014-15, the Branch did not allocate branch funds to Tech Trek. Thus, we must rely on support we gain from local foundations, businesses and, especially, individual donations. For 2015, it takes \$900 to support one girl selected by the Tacoma branch Tech Trek committee.

You can help by making a tax deductible donation—any amount is welcome. Here's how to give:

1. Online by credit card or PayPal: go to <http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>
Use the "Donate" button for the AAUW Tech Trek Program Fund (You will need your member number. Look in the member directory or contact Carol Rikerd for your number)
2. Make checks payable to AAUW and put Tech Trek WA and Tacoma branch in the memo line. Mail to:
AAUW, P.O. Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045
3. If you want to donate to the branch directly, you can send your gift to the **Tacoma AAUW Projects Fund** at the **Greater Tacoma Community Foundation**.

Again there are two ways: Online at <https://www.gtcf.org/donate-now> or make your check out to GTCF with Tacoma AAUW Projects Fund/Tech Trek on the memo line. Mail to The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, 950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 1100, Tacoma, WA 98402.





Sunshine Committee Wanted

AAUW Tacoma Board

The Board would like to extend an invitation for several volunteers to form a **Sunshine Committee**. **Ginny Lindstrom** has volunteered to be Chair. This group would acknowledge members' milestones, achievements, struggles and any other thing it chooses as well as inform the editors of the Newsletter about said events. Handmade cards for the committee to send to members will be provided by Linda Isenson...and anyone else who is crafty and wants to donate. Please contact Dana Holt or Diane Palmquist if you are interested.



Interest Groups

Paper Crafters

Papercrafters will meet at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 8601 - 104th Street SW, Lakewood on **December 3rd** from **10 am - 2 pm**. It is a time you can address holiday greeting envelopes, make "to do" lists or work on any other paper project. There are plenty of tables to spread your work and not have the interruptions you have in your own home. Bring your own brown bag lunch or snack. Contact Connie Dunkelberger at 565.7518 for more information and directions to the church. All are welcome to come to this group.

Genealogy and Family History Group

Our next meeting will be **December 12th** at the **Northwest Room** at **Tacoma Public Library, Main Branch**. Join us at **1 pm** for a brief tour of the resources available followed by individual research in the extensive genealogy resources of Tacoma Public Library. Optional lunch: 11:30 am at the Tower Café across the street from the library.

Diggers and Delvers

Diggers and Delvers will meet on **Dec. 17th** for lunch at the **Secret Garden Tea Room** in Sumner and go on to **Watson's** for shopping. Please try to

car pool. Call Jane Hahn (253.272.3310) for information or to volunteer.

Not So Fast Food Group

The NSFFG will not meet in December. We are planning a late afternoon/early evening tea for January. Contact Linda Isenson for more information.

Hot Topics

No meeting in December. Time to take a deep breath and get ready for the New Year!
The next session is JANUARY 21, 2015.

Check the January newsletter for the hot topic that will counter cold winter weather.
COMING IN JANUARY: The Trans Pacific Partnership (TFF): NAFTA déjà vu?

Book Groups

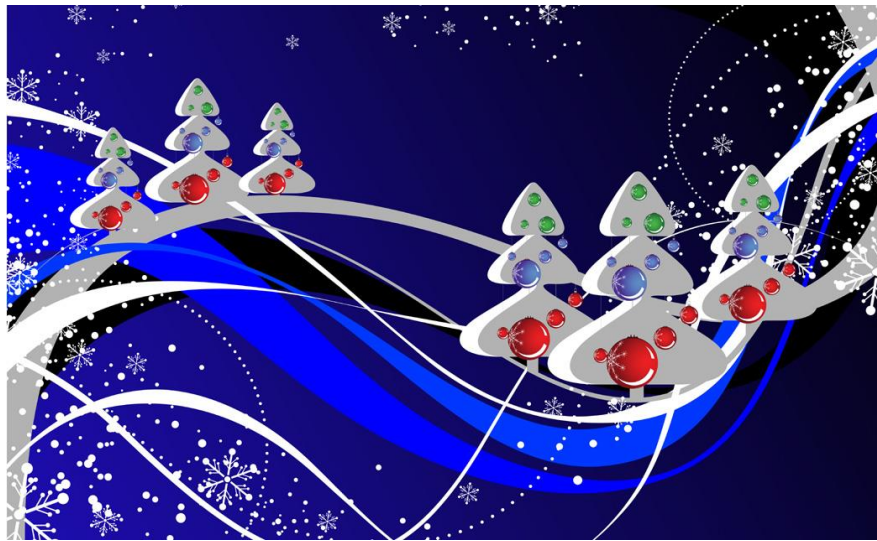
Daytime Book Group will meet for lunch at **Grassi's in University Place, on Dec. 10th**. Please note that the start time is **11 am**. (We usually start at 10, but the restaurant does not open until 11.) Bring a holiday ornament to share.

Evening Book Group - No meeting in December.



2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Papercrafters	4	5	6
7	8	9 RSVP by today for Branch Lunch	10 Morning Book Group	11	12 Genealogy	13 Branch Lunch
14	15	16 Hanukkah starts at sundown	17 Diggers & Delvers	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve/ Hanukkah ends	25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa starts (ends Jan 1 st)	27
28	29	30	31			



Save the Date AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION

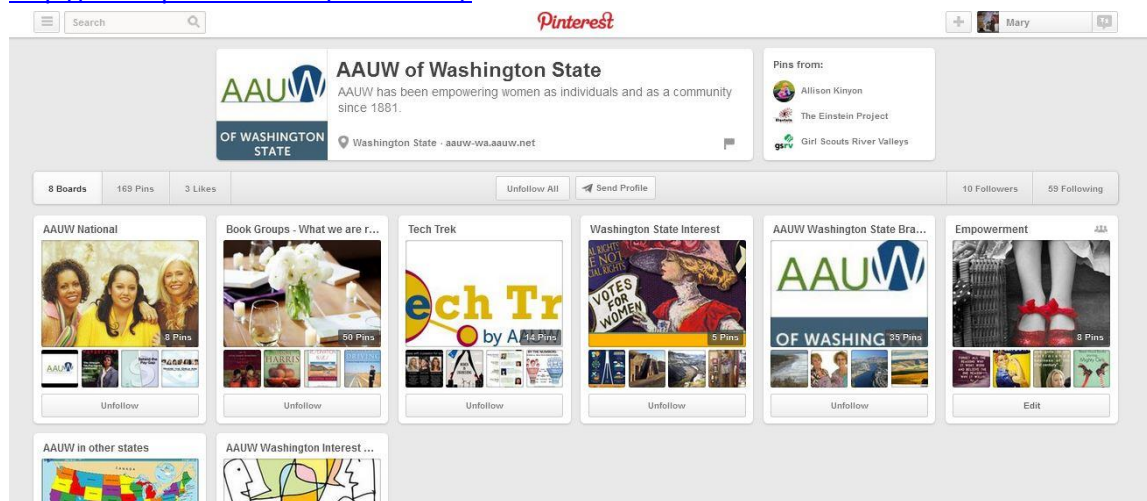
June 18–21, 2015 in San Diego

Check out convention.aauw.org for more information

AAUW Pinterest

Mary Letterman, AAUW WA Communications Maven

Have you ever wondered what other Washington Branches are reading in their bookgroups or what other types of interest groups are out there? Check out AAUW Washington State's Brand New Pinterest Page <http://www.pinterest.com/AAUWWA/>



Be Connected with AAUW!

AAUW Tacoma Website is the place to go to learn about our branch. There is an officers list with contact information, a summary of the interest groups (including the reading lists for both book groups), our mission statement, community involvement and branch goals and a member's center with a newsletter archive, branch bylaws, forms, and membership benefits. <http://tacoma-wa.aauw.net/>

AAUW Tacoma Facebook has daily updates of AAUW and other community events, as well as other items of interest. Feel free to add items of interest, as well as comments and 'like'. Truly, AAUW Tacoma has one of the best Facebook Pages in the country! Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.Tacoma>

AAUW Tacoma Meetup. The goal of Meetup is to help "people find others who share their *interest* or *cause*, and form *lasting, influential, local community groups* that regularly meet *face-to-face*." AAUW Tacoma uses this tool for community outreach and many of our newer members have found us this way. We are so glad that they did! It is also a wonderful way to see all of our upcoming meetings in one place and to receive reminders. <http://www.meetup.com/AAUW-Tacoma/>

Other sites worth checking out:

AAUW Washington State Website <http://aauw-wa.aauw.net/>

AAUW Washington State Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/aauw.washington>

AAUW Washington State Tech Trek <http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>

AAUW National Website <http://www.aauw.org/>

AAUW National Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National>

AAUW Tech Trek Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWTechTrek>

Editors' Note

Please send notices of events and news to Sarah Nainby and Linda Isenson at aauwtacomanevletter@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.