

“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

October Branch Meeting

MEET THE GIRLS: TECH TREKKERS AND NCCWSL'ers

Saturday October 17, 2015, 10 AM to Noon

Clover Park High School

11023 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, Lakewood, WA



The October branch meeting will be a celebration of two branch mission projects: Tech Trek and NCCWSL. We've invited 15 Tech Trekkers (plus their parents and teachers) and 5 NCCWSL'ers and meet you! Come at 10 – there'll be refreshments and time to mix and mingle.

Tech Trek, a project of AAUW Washington, is a week-long residential STEM camp. With support from the Fund for Women and Girls of the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, the Sequoia Foundation, the Dimmer Family

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Foundation, the Milgard Foundation and Tacoma branch members we sent 15 talented girls from the Tacoma, Clover Park, and University Place school districts Tech Trek at PLU, July 12-20, 2015. There they took core classes, a wide variety of mini-labs, enjoyed field trips and met successful role models with careers in science, mathematics, technology and engineering. Survey results show the camp was a great success in encouraging girls to continue their studies in STEM fields. At the branch meeting you'll have a chance to hear about their experiences and meet parents and teachers who have helped them.

NCCWSL (The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders), a project of AAUW, is held annually at the University of Maryland. The Tacoma Branch mission funds helped 5 PLU students to attend conference in 2015. While at the conference the women attended workshops to learn leadership skills, met college women from all over the U.S, and listened to the experiences of women of distinction; plus did a little sightseeing in Washington, D.C. As America's premiere conference for college women, the conference provides a transformative experience for attendees and prepares them to be the next generation of leaders.

Presidents' Corner

I again want to commend you, my fellow members, on your response to our 'prompt renewal' campaign. Rolling into October we're zeroing in on a small number of stragglers, determined to bring them into the fold. For the rest of you, congratulations!

You've made it into our Member Directory, the AAUW Tacoma Branch Who's Who of movers and shakers. Thank you for supporting this effort!

Of course each year we have our perennial members, those we can count on to remain with AAUW come hell or high water. We also have those that drift in and, for various reasons, bow out. I wanted to talk about a comment from one of these 'drifters' upon her departure. She said that she'd expected AAUW to be a group she could spend social time with, doing activities and attending events, but that, unfortunately, it didn't really fit that function.

I know I stated in a previous message that AAUW is not primarily a social club. We are a public-service organization and we have a mission to fulfill. That is, indeed, true, . . . but it doesn't mean that the social element of our group can be dismissed as unimportant or shouldn't be embraced with joy and gusto by every member. Truth be

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told, our interest groups are the glue that holds us together. The fact is YOU determine what kind of organization AAUW Tacoma is. Your interests, concerns, preferences and passions drive our branch, and the social connections derived from our interest groups is what attracts members and binds us together into a powerful coalition. Friends share passions and support each other's endeavors. This is an essential ingredient for the creation of a robust organization.

So, my answer to a person saying that our branch doesn't provide what she's looking for is this: IT'S ON YOU. If you like attending theatre productions, the symphony or museums with friends, ORGANIZE IT! Do you enjoy the outdoors? I know we have at least one member who's climbed Mt. Rainier, and while this is likely a bit ambitious for most of us, a nice hike in the woods, cameras in hand, is certainly within the ability for a good number, and day trips to Northwest Trek, Wolf Haven, the Mima Mounds or any one of a multitudinous array of local parks -- city, county, state and national -- some under an hour's drive away, are available and sound mighty appealing. Put a pin in the map, gather the masses, pack a lunch, and GO! If there's a writer in the bunch, she could dash off a review for the newsletter or give some details about the day's adventure. (Photos are always welcomed by our editors, and I know we have some dabblers in the digital arts among the membership.) Speaking of writing, how about a 'Bad Poetry Brigade'? Are you fond of cinema? I AM!! A movie night, whether out at an establishment or gathered around a TV screen in someone's home sounds like an excellent expenditure of social time to me.

I guess I'm trying to express two things here. One: this is your AAUW. It is what you make it. Yes, we have a mission, but there's nothing stopping us from building friendships and having fun along the way. Two: we need leaders, organizers, coordinators for every venture, large or small. Perhaps, within an interest group like, say 'Night at the Movies' or 'Park Plodders' everyone takes a turn coordinating. This allows each member to take the lead on a project and no one person gets 'stuck' doing all the work. Just a thought, my friends.

While I'm on the subject, one of our most popular (and, in my opinion most compelling) interest groups has been 'Hot Topics'. It's currently in search of a facilitator...someone to suggest and research current events in preparation for discussion and debate. Another group that could use a fresh perspective, and sometimes, somebody willing to call ahead for reservations, is 'Not So Fast Foods'.

Help make the AAUW Tacoma Branch YOUR branch. Join us in our various ventures. Suggest, arrange and collaborate on a few of your own. As Leo Tolstoy once said, "Add your light to the sum of light."

~Dana Holt President, AAUW Tacoma Branch

October 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <i>Not-So - Fast Food?</i>	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 10-2 <i>Paper- crafters</i>	9 <i>5:30 Not- So -Fast Food</i>	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 10-noon <i>Branch Meeting</i>
18	19	20	21	22	23 10am – <i>Diggers & Delvers</i>	24
25	26 6:30pm <i>Evening Book Group</i>	27	28 10am – <i>Daytime Book Group</i>	29	30 1pm – <i>Genealogy Group</i>	31

Interest Groups

Not So Fast Food Group

Oktoberfest, Anyone? The Not So Fast Food Group will meet at Spring Lake Cafe in Fircrest for a German meal in celebration of Oktoberfest. We have reserved a table for 8 at 5:30 on Friday, October 9th, so please respond to Connie (565-7518) ASAP if you would like to attend. There will be music, good food, and lots of fun. We will update our MeetUp site (<http://www.meetup.com/AAUW-Tacoma/events/225095043/>) as details are set. *Guten appetit!*

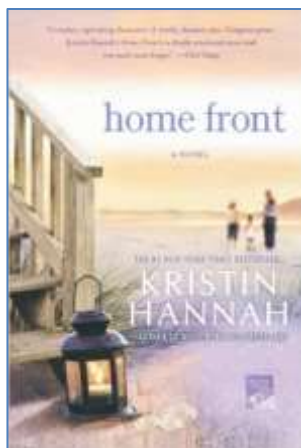


Diggers & Delvers

It is again the time of year for the Lakewold Garden's Table exhibit. The Diggers and Delvers will view this annual event as a group. Meet at the gardens on October 23rd (Friday) at 10:00 a.m. and we tour the tables, then plan to go to lunch and talk about our favorite table or many other things. Please call Connie at 565-7518 if you plan to attend so reservations/arrangements can be made for lunch.

Book Groups

The Daytime Book Group meets 10 am, on Wednesday, October 28th, to discuss *Home Front*, by Kristin Hannah.



Future meetings: November 18 -*Orphan Train*, by Christina Baker Kline; December 2 - No book review, Plans TBA; January 27 -*Mockingbird Next Door* by Marja Mills; February 24 - *The Wright Brothers*, by David McCullough; March 23 - *An Uncommon Woman*, by Hannah Pakula; April 27 - *Gray Mountain*, by John Grisham; May 25- Potluck to decide on next year's books.

The Evening Book Group meets 6:30 pm, on Monday, October 26th, to discuss *Pigs in Heaven*, by Barbara Kingsolver. Contact LesLee for details.



Future meetings: November 23 - *The Residence*, by Kate Andersen Brower; January 25 - *Orphan Train*, by Christina Baker Kline; February 22 - *A Star for Mrs. Blake*, by April Smith; March 28 - *The Girl on the Train*, by Paula Hawkins; April 25 - *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd; May 23, 6pm – Potluck; selection of next year's books.

Genealogy Group

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/deadhorse/80744667>

Date: October 30

Time: 1-3 PM

Location: UP library

Topic: Presentation for genealogy enthusiasts and planning

If you'd like a reminder email + update on the presentation topic, email either Joye: bucklj@comcast.net or Sue: ds98332@gmail.com

Papercrafters

Papercrafters will meet on October 8th 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 8601 104th Street, Lakewood. If you haven't been attending and/or you do not have a project to work on this month you will have an opportunity to help sort Tacoma Branch's old pictures and historical documents. (See Connie's article for details) Bring your own brown bag lunch. Coffee and tea are available, but bring your own brown bag lunch or snack.

Hot Topics

This popular interest group is currently inactive, until a member offers to take up the reins. Any volunteers?

About once a month, the group met to discuss important topics of the day, such as: campaigns for minimum wage; the state of mental health treatment; ballot initiatives such as the legalization of marijuana and funding of charter schools; polygamy; and sex trafficking. The topics and time and place for the meeting are chosen by the group and those who attend investigate the topic before the meeting.

Leadership involves: sending meeting notices to the group; putting a notice in the newsletter for that month's meeting; reserving a location. In starting up the group again, the leader(s) should select a time and place and send out an announcement inviting people to come. Then, the group can plan from there.

Communications Team Note

The chapter welcomes your ideas for interest groups, activities, priorities, recruitment, and . . . you name it. We are considering new ways and venues to attract new members including expanding our social media presence ([Facebook](#) and our [Website](#)). We'd like to use our [Meetup Tool](#) to reach out to other Tacoma area community groups.

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>

~Mary Letterman, AAUW WA Communications Maven

Directory

Thank you members for renewing this summer. Your 2015-2016 Directory should be ready at our first meeting in September. Interest group leaders should contact Carol R at crikerd@nventure.com to arrange for directories at their meetings.

If you've put off renewing –remember the newsletter only goes to current members.

If you have not yet renewed, please see below for instructions.

Renewal

Online Renewal Directions

1. Enter aauw.org in your search engine – you will be taken to the home page
2. Look at the gray bar across the top of the page. The tab 'AAUW' will be highlighted in white. Move your cursor to the 7th tab 'Login' and click. A new page will open.
3. The login page has 2 white boxes. The top one is for your member number (your number is by your entry in the handbook). If you have not set up a password, do it now.
 - Go down to the line 'First time logging in? You will need to register.' Click on 'need to register. You'll be taken to a new page. The instructions are simple and you will be able to get a password registered in minutes.
 - Once you get your password – start over at step 1. You might want to write your password in your handbook.
 - Type in your password. You will be taken back to the home page, but the gray bar at the top now has your name instead of 'Login' in the 7th tab.
4. On the right of the gray bar is a search box. Type in 'msd' (leave out the quotes), click on the search icon. On the new page, the first selection under the search box is 'Member Services Database'. Click on it.
5. The next page has a green box 'enter the msd'. Click on it. You will get a white page titled 'Access Member Services Database.' Click on the gray bar 'Enter Member Services Database'. It will turn blue, and then take you to your personal information in the database.
6. Click on 'renew my membership' toward the bottom of the list on the left hand side of the page. Fill out the form. Submit it.
7. You're done. 10 minutes. Now wasn't that easy?

~Carol R, Membership

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. *LAF Express* informs state and branch members about the latest news, deadlines, and programming resources related to our work in the courtroom. The most recent issue covered recent Supreme Court decisions, Good News for LAF-Supported Plaintiff in Discrimination Case and Title VII Turns 50. The LAF newsletter comes out monthly and is well worth subscribing. Check it out!

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/laf-express/>. Washington State LAF information might also be found in the latest copy of the AAUW-WA Evergreen Leader on the state [website](#).

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/>

Editors' Note

Please send notices of events and news to the editors at aauwtacomaneewsletter@gmail.com. Feel free to send photos as well! Submissions should be out by the **16th of the month** unless otherwise noted and should not exceed 100 words. **Please notify the editors 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.

~Sarah N., LesLee E., Mary L., Sue S.