



TACOMA (WA)
BRANCH



P.O. Box 65303, Tacoma, WA 98464

<http://tacoma-wa.aauw.net/>

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

November 2017

Events and News

AAUW Tacoma Branch meeting: Update on Local Politics

When: Saturday, November 4, 10 am

Where: Tacoma Public Library (downtown), Olympic Room.

Join us for a political update with Representative Laurie Jinkins, who represents the 27th Legislative District. Jinkins, who is a



Tacoma branch member, will provide us with an informative legislative update and her reflections on the last legislative session. The 27th Legislative District in Pierce County includes East, Downtown, Hilltop, North, Northeast, West, and part of South Tacoma as well as Ruston and Fife Heights. Representative Jinkins serves as Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, as well as serving as a member of the House Appropriations and Health & Wellness committees.

President's Corner

“A life-changing experience.” I heard these words repeated over and over at our October branch meeting, which was held at Dana Johnson’s lovely apartment building. The topic? How AAUW Tech Trek *literally* shapes lives. Linda Ames and Judith Cichowicz brought together a stirring program featuring eight eighth-grade girls sponsored by our branch at the 2017 camps, both east and west.

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They came with parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles. They came early. They came prepared.



These young women told us what they did during their camp, and what they dreamed of doing. Medical research, engineering, biology, chemistry, IT design. Again and again, we heard that they were “the only one” in their circle at school who cared about science, or math, or nature. How inspiring it was to at last feel part of a group of girls dedicated to a shared passion.

They also identified one of the best parts of their experience: professional women’s night. It is said that if you can see it, you can be it. For many of them, this was their first time hearing directly from a woman in a STEM career. What she did. How she did it. What they would need to prepare and succeed.

We heard from their parents. How one father felt that it was so more impactful for his daughter to have the mentorship and company of women in overcoming her intimidation around subjects. “I tell my daughter that she can be whatever she wants but I cannot show her. I cannot prove it to her. I cannot give her experience. This program does that.” From several families, we that they could not afford to provide this experience to their daughters, and it was only AAUW’s sponsorship that made it possible.



much
STEM
to be,
that
heard

As current AAUW members, we know that we stand on the shoulders of the brave and bold women who have come before us. Some of them were in the room on Saturday, such as Dorothy McBride, who was instrumental in bringing the Tech Trek program to Washington.

But we must never think that we stand in their shadow. Our greatest achievements lie ahead of us. Linda Olsen said, “This October meeting is my favorite branch meeting of the whole year. Because you young women give me hope for the future.” In sponsoring Tech Trek, we do more than celebrate and carry forward the legacy we have inherited. We get to reach into the future and open those doors for our next generation of women, our next generation of AAUW members.

There are opportunities for you to get involved in ways small and large:



Spread the news. Tell a 7th grade science or math teacher about this program. Tell your granddaughter, your neighbor's daughter.

Recruit allies. Do you know a woman who works in a STEM field? Introduce Judy Cichowicz to her.

(Earthographer2@comcast.net) Who knows? Perhaps her company would be willing to provide some sponsorship dollars. Perhaps she would be willing to speak at professional women's night. Perhaps her company would sponsor her

to be a guest instructor at a future Tech Trek camp. Believe me, Judy will ask!

Recruit more allies. Do you know a mom or aunt or grandma who is passionate about leveling the playing field for our young women and would like an "adventure vacation"? In order to run these camps, we need adult women as dorm monitors. As Judy put it at our meeting, "Why go along with the crowd to climb Mt. Everest? At Tech Trek you can get the same adrenaline rush, come back thoroughly exhausted, and change lives in the process!"

Participate. Volunteers from our branch review applications and conduct in-person interviews of hopeful campers. (Talk to Linda Ames, Tech Trek Chair: Ln2am@aol.com.) Volunteers from our branch reach out to potential sponsors and mentors. (Talk to Judy Cichowicz (Earthographer2@comcast.net.) And volunteers step forward as dorm monitors and branch ambassadors.

Give. A little or a lot. Everything helps. It costs \$1,000 to send one girl to Tech Trek. This is an investment in the future that will pay off exponentially. Can't afford to write a big check? How about matching your pledge to public radio? Or do you have a daughter or son or friend that works for a company that provides matching funds, like Microsoft? Ask them to make a donation to be matched by their company.



We've known our whole lives that to become "equal," we must go above and beyond. Will we see the day when that's not necessary? I doubt it. Let's show these girls that we'll keep fighting for them and we know that they will continue that fight long after we're gone.



P.S. If you like reading this newsletter and you love the written word, I'd like to encourage you to step forward to edit our monthly newsletter.

Our seemingly indefatigable newsletter editor, LesLee Eicher, has been promoted into a demanding leadership role with her work and now really needs to step away from the newsletter. Congratulations, LesLee!

(Please contact LesLee at 509-969-8601 or at eicher.leslee@gmail.com if you have questions or would like more information.)

~ Susan Hesselgrave, President

Membership

Membership News November 2017



Welcome to new member Polly Ballantyne!

Happy Birthday wishes to our November babies!

Stella Jones, Jane Hahn, Connie Dunkelberger, Lisa Dreyer, Miriam Barnett and Catherine Forte. If your birthday is November, and your name isn't here, email me with your November birthday information! And happy birthday!



Our AAUW Blog Is Worth Reading

Q: What is a blog?

A: It's "a regularly-updated website or web page, typically one run by an individual or small group, that is written in an informal or conversational style."

You can see the latest AAUW blog articles at <https://www.aauw.org/blog/>. The blogs are interesting and relevant. AAUW issues and advocacy are sent right to your email address about once a week. The articles are short, detailed and well written. Sign up and stay informed.

Here are some teasers from the latest blog:

“California, Delaware, Oregon, and Puerto Rico passed bills to prohibit employers from using a job applicant’s salary history during the hiring process. Dozens of other states introduced (though did not pass) similar legislation, and Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-NY) issued a statewide executive order addressing the issue for state government employees in New York.

Employers asking applicants about past wages can have major repercussions on future pay: Relying on salary history to set future salary assumes that prior pay was fairly established in the first place. But for a worker who was underpaid (and thus lost wages) at her last job, using that salary to determine her next paycheck only sustains that pay gap.”

“Despite some exciting wins, the governors of four states vetoed bills that their legislatures had approved, halting equal pay progress. Gov. Bruce Rauner (R-IL) vetoed an equal pay bill in Illinois, which was sponsored by AAUW member Rep. Anna Moeller (D). AAUW of Illinois and coalition partners are engaging in a campaign to encourage their legislators to override the governor’s veto during the special session in late October.

Governors Paul Le Page (R-ME) and Chris Christie (R-NJ) also vetoed equal pay bills in Maine and New Jersey, respectively. This marks the second year in a row that Christie took a red pen to an equal pay bill that elected officials deemed necessary. And in Nevada, Gov. Brian Sandoval (R) vetoed a popular bill that was the most comprehensive equal pay legislation proposed during the 2017 Nevada session.”

Reminder: Renew your membership

If you haven’t renewed your membership for 2017-2018, you will be dropped from the national, state and branch membership lists as of November 30. Don’t let this happen! You need AAUW, and AAUW needs you. [Renew now!](#)



And finally: DON’T FORGET TO VOTE!

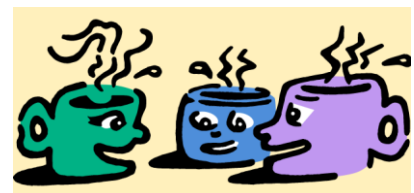


Postal mailed ballots must be postmarked by November 7, or deposited in community dropboxes by 8 pm on November 7.

~ Carol Rikerd, Membership

Conversation Cafés

Are you a news junkie? Do you like to discuss or debate current events with others? Do you have a desire to



contribute to your community through thoughtful discourse and examination of important topics? Then come to the Conversation Café!

There will be two cafés in November on this topic:

What is the state of public education in Washington State? Is financial support of public schools sufficient? Are there changes that should be made in the public education system?

Conversation cafés are sponsored by Tacoma AAUW and our partners, the League of Women Voters, NAACP253, and RAD Team Tacoma.

Monday, November 13,
6:30 pm
Mama Stortini's Milan Room
3207 East Main
Puyallup, WA

Wednesday, November 15, 2:00 pm
Denny's Restaurant, Community Room
5924 6th Avenue
Tacoma, WA

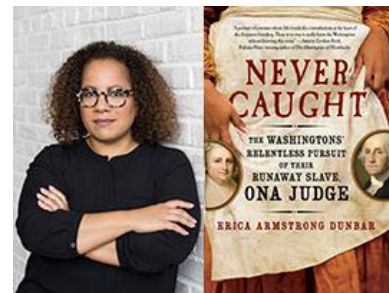
COME TO THE CAFÉ!!

Interest Groups (MeetUps)

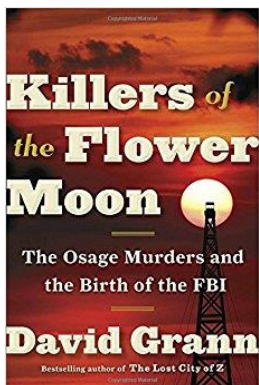
Book Groups

Daytime

The Daytime Book Group will meet at 10 am on Wednesday, November 15 at Catherine Sleavin's home to discuss *Never Caught* by Erica Dunbar. The reviewer will be announced.



Evening



The Evening Book Group will meet on Monday, November 27 at 6:30pm to discuss *The Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann. Our hostess will be LesLee Eicher, and Bea Geller will review.

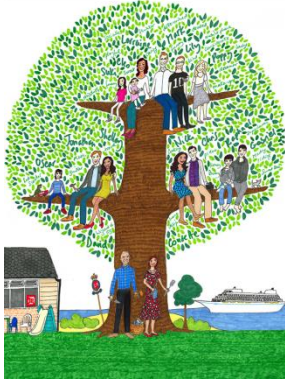
Diggers and Delvers

The Diggers and Delvers will meet on November 3 for the Lakewood Gardens Beautiful Tables Showcase. Let Jane know you wish to attend.



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Genealogy and Family History Group



What's on YOUR family tree? For the November meeting we'll share stories about people and events gleaned from our own research. It may be heartwarming, mysterious, scandalous, or just "interesting." Bring your story or just come and listen to others. We'll have a table set aside at the back of the Antique Sandwich Co. Order your lunch on your way in. For more information contact Dorothy McBride.

Saturday November 11, 2017
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Antique Sandwich Company
5102 N. Pearl St.
253-752-4069

Papercrafters



Papercrafters will meet on Thursday, November 9th at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church (8601 104th Street SW, Lakewood). We will meet from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Bring your own project; maybe it is time to work on holiday cards! If you have extra stickers or paper you want to trade or give away, we will have a trading table this month. Bring your brown bag lunch or snack. Coffee and tea are available. For information and directions contact Connie Dunkelberger 253-565-7518.

Do you love to write and edit? Then put those skills to work!



AAUW Tacoma Branch members, we're seeking a newsletter editor! Please consider taking over the important position of branch Newsletter Editor.

What's in it for you? You can expand your creative horizons by doing simple desktop publishing In Word. You'll know before anyone else does what is going on in the branch. You'll enjoy communicating by email, phone, and in person with a wide variety of branch members while soliciting content for the newsletter (no, you do NOT have write it yourself!). And you'll know that you're giving back to an organization that does good for women and girls right here at home in our own community.

To ask questions or for more information, please contact LesLee Eicher directly at eicher.leslee@gmail.com or at 509-969-8601.

Stay Connected with AAUW!

Check your email for the latest copy of the AAUW-WA *Evergreen Leader*, or get it here: <http://aauw-wa.aauw.net/>.

The 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 members' 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 comment and 'like'. 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. 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/>

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

Useful links

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>

Communications Team Note

We welcome your ideas for interest groups, activities, priorities, recruitment, and anything else! Our goal is to attract new members by expanding our social media presence ([Facebook](#) and [Website](#)). We'd like to use our [MeetUp Tool](#) to reach out to other Tacoma-area groups.

Editors' Note

Please send notices of events and news to the newsletter team at aauwtacomaneewsletter@gmail.com. You can send photos as well. Please send by the **16th of the month** unless otherwise noted. We reserve the right to edit as we see fit.

~Mary Letterman and LesLee Eicher, AAUW WA Communications Co-Chairs



November 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Diggers and Delvers - Lakewold Gardens Beautiful Tables Showcase	4 AAUW Tacoma Branch Meeting – 10 a.m. – Update on Local Politics
5	6 AAUW Board Meeting – 4 p.m.	7	8	9 PaperCrafters 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	10.	11 Genealogy and Family History Group – 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m
12	13 Conversation Café – 6:30 p.m. – Mama Stortini’s Café, Puyallup	14	15 Daytime Book Group – 10 a.m. <i>Never Caught</i> by Erica Dunbar ----- Conversation Café – 2:00 p.m. – Denny’s 6 th Ave., Tacoma	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Evening Book Group – <i>The Killers of the Flower Moon</i> by David Grann	28	29	30		

