

## **APRIL MEETING & ANNUAL POTLUCK TEA**

**Speaker: Mari Leavitt (member) Title IX Coordinator, Evergreen State College**

**WHEN:** Sunday **April 22** 1:00PM - 3:00PM

**MEMBER ASSIGNMENTS:**

- 1- Bring a sweet or savory to share
- 2- Bring a guest (i.e. potential member?)

**WHERE:** Home of Julie Anderson  
4604 N. 38th St.  
Tacoma, WA 98407-4807

Happy Earth Day,  
April 22



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**April Speaker & Annual Tea  
Potluck**

**President's Note**

**March Annual Business Meeting:  
Recap**

**State April Meeting Registration  
Link**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2018:  
Putting Women of Washington  
First**

**TECH TREK: Finding Humanities in  
STEM and Donation Instructions**

**BRANCH MISSION GRANTS**

**INTEREST GROUPS**

- Family & Genealogy
- Papercrafters
- Daytime Book Group-
- Evening Book Group

**CONVERSATION CAFE**

**TURN A MOMENT INTO A  
MOVEMENT: March for Our Lives**

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Women's History Month draws to a close on the March page of 2018's calendar, but not in the hearts, minds, and lives of women, especially not AAUW members. 2017-2018 will go down in history for so many unjust things affecting women, people of color, wage workers and immigrants.

Just three days ago marked the anniversary of the notorious Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire on March 25, 1911.

The tragic outcome was no accident. In 1909, women workers at the factory organized with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and went on strike to demand higher wages and a shorter workweek. In response, the factory owners, Max Blanck and Isaac Harris, hired strikebreakers and paid off the local police to arrest and sometimes violently attack the women. After that strike, which affected garment workers across the city, several local factories had struck a deal for a 52-hour work week, but Blanck and Harris had refused to meet the union's demands, which is why about 600 people were still working on Saturday afternoon, March 25, 1911, towards their 56th hour.

On the bosses' orders, the doors of the factory were kept locked. When fire broke out, due to a lack of exits, the victims, the majority of whom were immigrant Jewish women, were unable to escape the rising flames. Some died inside. Others jumped. 146 perished.

"120,000 people marched in the funeral procession and another 230,000 people watched the march. In criminal court, the all-male jurors acquitted the company owners of manslaughter because they lacked concrete proof of negligent working conditions; later, the owners settled civil suits and paid \$75 per victim. Since Harris and Blanck had insured the factory against loss, they collected \$400 per victim, but never paid any part of that to the survivors or heirs to those who died." [msmagazine.com/the fire that changed everything](http://msmagazine.com/the-fire-that-changed-everything)

Do you hear the horrible echo, reverberating against current events?

It is important to remember that while the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire was the bonfire that (finally) ignited the public, women workers had been actively working for reforms, through strikes and unionizing, since the 1800's.

“Among the estimated 10,000 people who gathered to watch the fire as it burned at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory was Frances Perkins (1880-1965), who later became Secretary of Labor under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. She was the first woman to hold a Cabinet post. Perkins had already been actively lobbying to lower the workweek for women and children to “only” 54 hours and giving street-corner speeches arguing for women’s suffrage. The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire was a turning point for her personally. It was, she said, ‘seared on my mind as well as my heart—a never-to-be-forgotten reminder of why I had to spend my life fighting conditions that could permit such a tragedy.’” (op.cit)

What’s the message of the Triangle fire? That women, immigrants, minorities, and those paid the very least, be they hospitality workers, factory workers, or farm laborers, deserve safe working conditions.

But again, what’s the message of the Triangle fire? The meta-message is this: that protest for social change is never in vain, but it can seem that way until a tragedy or a revelation fuels those sparks of discontent into a bonfire to burn down the *ancien regime*.

This spring our branch will have the opportunity to hear from a daughter of that organizing legacy: Patty Rose, Secretary Treasurer of the Pierce County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, will be our guest at the **MAY Branch luncheon**. I look forward to seeing you there.

**SUSAN**

### **MARCH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING RECAP**

Re-Elected Recording Secretary/ Board Member- Dolora Neumaier

Membership - We did not have volunteer for this Board position. Fortunately Carol Rikerd agreed to continue with Membership operations in a non- Board position. Carol has conducted this essential activity as a Board member, but is term-limited out. Any other member elected to this role would have been on the Board. Yes, we need more women filing for office in government & civic organizations.

The April State Convention will be attended by Connie Dunkleberger and Dorothy McBride. Based on our membership, Tacoma has 3 votes (or cards) on State Level decisions. Our attendees can cast all 3 cards. If you are planning to attend, please let either Connie or Dorothy know, so you can cast the third card.

The budget was passed for 2018-19. Due to an error by the Grant Trustee our Celia Grau grant money decreased. We can only fund 12 girls for Tech Trek Camps in 2018.

### STATE MEETING

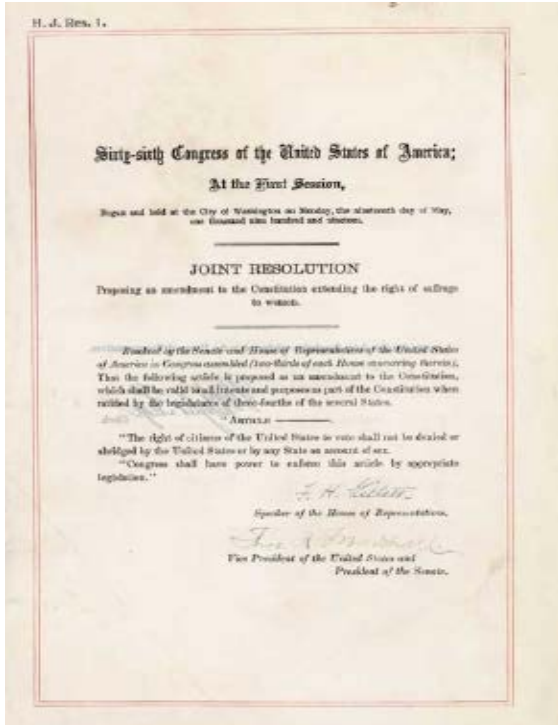
<p>April 27-29, 2018 The Historic Davenport Hotel 10 South Post St. Spokane, WA</p>	<p>Registration information can be found on our state <u><a href="#">website</a></u>.</p>
---	---

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2018: PUTTING WOMEN OF WASHINGTON FIRST

The Bill Package signed by Gov. Jay Inslee 3/21/2018 includes:

**Equal Pay Opportunity Act:** Addresses workplace practices to promote gender pay equity. Institutes penalties for wage discrimination and offering lessor opportunities based on gender. Prohibits employers from retaliating against employees who discuss their rate of pay/ benefits with other employees.

**Reproductive Parity Act:** Requires almost all health plans to cover all types of reproductive health care **without cost sharing**. Requires **ALL** health plans that cover maternity care to cover abortion services.



## Sexual Harassment Prevention

[Senate Bill 5996](#): Encourages disclosure and discussion of sexual harassment and sexual assault in the workplace.

[Senate Bill 6313](#): Preserves employee's right to publicly file a complaint or cause of action.

[Senate Bill 6471](#): Relates to developing model policies to create workplaces that are safe from sexual harassment.

## FINDING THE HUMANITIES IN STEM

A Business Meeting discussion raised the question if our branch efforts on Tech Trek inadequately address the role of humanities in education.

Humanities and STEM are not mutually exclusive. A woman reads, writes and presents to pursue a competitive STEM career. As evidenced by various and sundry crime fiction, plays and movies, a good dose of science comprehension by the "humanities" oriented author results in a more compelling narrative.

Tech Trek features a healthy dose of applied humanities. Girls keep daily journals. They make oral presentations in class, to visitor groups and when they serve as ambassadors for Tech Trek after camp. They teach their robots to dance in time with the music. An "Art Through Nature" core course has Trekkers making and using paints from fruits. To enhance their understanding of design, they practice observing the visual beauty and symmetry of nature in objects collected outdoors (blossoms, leaves, stems, sticks, bugs, soil).

To Donate to Tech Trek **ELECTRONICALLY:**

Go to the AAUW Tacoma [Website](#). Go about ½ way down the page (right above the Tech Trek logo) and click where it says here (highlighted in yellow)

STEM: Tacoma branch sponsors middle school girls for Tech Trek, a week long camp to teach, inspire, and strengthen girls' knowledge and dedication to science, technology, engineering and math. We want to remove barriers women face to careers on STEM. Tech Trek WA is a life-changing opportunity for girls to excel in math and science. To support this effort and donate, click [here](#).



You then reach National AAUW site which facilitate donations electronically. **Be sure to select Washington State's PLU site since that is where most of our girls go.** Have your Membership Number ready **so our branch gets the credit.** You can either pay with your credit card or PayPal.

### AAUW Tech Trek

Tech Trek Camps – Support Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

Tech Trek is a weeklong science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) summer camp for rising eighth-grade girls. The camp is designed to develop girls' interest, excitement, and self-confidence in STEM fields. [Learn more >](#)

Donation Details


Enter your donation amount  
\$

Fund Name

United States

First Name \*

Last Name \*



**Or, Make Checks Payable to:** AAUW-WA SPF **Memo Line:** Tech Trek- Tacoma

**Mail to:**

AAUW- Tacoma Tech Trek  
PO Box 65303 Tacoma, WA 98464-1303

**AND THANK YOU!**



**New Logo for 2018!**

## BRANCH MISSION

### GRANTS: Prepare for 2019

Branch members wanting to pursue specific humanities-centered or other projects, can apply for funds from the Branch Mission Project \$\$\$\$. Apply to the Board in January 2019 for a Mission Grant of financial support.

#### BRANCH MISSION PROJECTS

- A. *Mission Projects will use branch mission funds to promote equity for women and girls in Pierce County. Projects may include but are not limited to grants to local colleges/universities or scholarships to individuals.*
- B. *Mission projects for the fiscal year (July-June) will be determined annually by the membership at the preceding Annual Meeting.*
- C. *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.*
- D. *Leaders of each project will report the results to the membership before the end of the fiscal year*

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS (Thank You Carol Rikerd for the following & your continued service)

1. For fans of early voting rights for women, from March's 'Out of the Archives', a newsletter from the Washington State Archives.

<https://www.sos.wa.gov/archives/newsletter-archive.aspx>

"In honor of Women's History Month, Archives Imaging Services Manager Patrick Williams highlights the Register of Voters from the City of Tacoma from the mid-1800s. The register shows women all over Puget Sound were active voters during the brief time in the 1800s when women were allowed to vote."

2. AAUW Blog, February 22 <https://www.aauw.org/2018/02/22/the-universal-declaration-of-human-rights-turns-70/>

" AAUW was involved in the crafting of the UDHR and the creation of the United Nations itself from the beginning. Less than two months after the end of World War II in September 1945, 50 nations and 40 organizations, including AAUW under the intrepid leadership of **Virginia Gildersleeve**, Ph.D., came together to establish the United Nations. This new organization would succeed the **League of Nations**, an earlier, ineffective version of the UN that failed to prevent the onset of World War II.

The drafting committee of the declaration, chaired by **Eleanor Roosevelt**, worked with the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and AAUW CSW representatives like Dorothy Kenyon, J.D., to ensure that the rights of women and girls were represented in the document. AAUW is still present at the UN today working to advance the rights of women and girls."

3. A reminder that we can comment on the proposed bylaws changes until April 22. Voting on the bylaws starts April 25.

Happy birthday to our April born members: Peg Dempsey, LesLee Eicher, Mary Garrett, Correne B Hall (in Arizona), Susan Hesselgrave, and Wanda Johnson. And happy birthday to anyone else born in April who hasn't shared their birth month.

## INTEREST GROUPS

### GENEALOGY & FAMILY HISTORY

Date: Thursday, April 5

<p>Lunch: 11:30 AM CI Shenanigans 3017 Ruston Way Parking available Reservation in the name of AAUW</p>	<p>Meeting: 1PM Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum Event: Great Moments in Medical History 407 South G St Limited parking in lot available, on-street parking available.</p>
---	--

**PAPER CRAFTERS:** *No April Meeting*

We will meet again on May 10th and June 14th at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church. For information call Connie D.

**DAYTIME BOOK GROUP** *Wednesday April 25*

*The Six (Laura Thompson)*

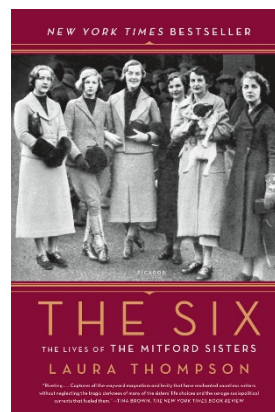
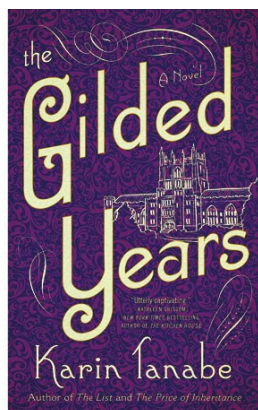
Hostess: Jane H.

Reviewer: Catherine S.

**EVENING BOOK GROUP** *Monday April 23 6:30PM*

*The Gilded Years (Karin Tanabe)*

Hostess: Jane H. Reviewer: Mary H.





## 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>





FROM THIS TO THIS



**FACING PIERCE COUNTY HOMELESSNESS:**  
*Creating HomeFULLness*

**Saturday, April 28, 2018**

**10:00am - 4:00pm**

**Tacoma Convention Center**

*1500 Commerce, Tacoma*

**FREE Public Forum**

- Understand more about causes of homelessness
- Learn about alternatives to homelessness
- Learn how YOU can be part of the solution

For more information visit:

[www.tacomapiercelwv.org/Homelessness\\_Forum/](http://www.tacomapiercelwv.org/Homelessness_Forum/)

Register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/facing-pierce-county-homelessness-creating-homefullness-tickets-44228531729>



**TURN A MOMENT INTO A MOVEMENT: MARCH FOR OUR LIVES**



*Wondering about what it would be like to talk about controversial topics in a safe place – with people who have different views from yours?*

*Satisfy your hunger to talk about the issues of the day with a wide range of people with a variety of views. Just a conversation, nothing more.*

**Announcing April 2018 Conversation Cafe**

**What are the things we value in the community we live in?  
How can those features be preserved in the face of significant growth change?**

**2:00 pm, April 11  
Tacoma Area Group  
Lakewood Family YMCA  
9715 Lakewood Drive SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499**

**6:30 pm, April 16  
United Methodist Church  
Fireside Room  
1919 W. Pioneer Ave.  
Puyallup, WA 98371**

***Free; Open to the public; No membership required; No sales pitches!***

**Co-sponsored by these non-partisan community organizations:**



When does a moment become a **MOVEMENT**? Organized by young people, in Tacoma, an estimated 1,000 marched to voice their demands to end gun violence, not only in schools, but also when directed at communities of color.

Concurrently at the Capitol in Olympia, the 4800+ attendees heard articulate, passionate student speakers (four young women, one young man) including one who huddled at North Thurston HS waiting for the next minutes of her life as a gun was shot off in the school courtyard in 2015.

That shooter was tackled by a Teacher who was the only "adult" speaker. Voter registration was an additional activity on the 24th.

