



P.O. Box 65303

Tacoma, WA
98464

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



TACOMA (WA)
BRANCH

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

November 2018

Events and News

Housing and Homelessness in Pierce County

Featuring: Cynthia Stewart: League of Women Voters President, and Housing and Homelessness Issue Chair for the [League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County](#)

Date: Saturday, November 17, 2018

Time: 11:00 am (*note later start time*)

Place: Steilacoom Library

Join us for coffee, a nibble, and terrific conversation with Cynthia Stewart: League of Women Voters (LWV) President and Housing and Homelessness Issue Chair for the League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County. Did you miss the homelessness workshops and Homeless Co-Labs LWV has been holding in our community? Here's a second chance to hear more about it. Come listen to what the League has been up to and the valuable community lessons learned in their tireless work on this issue for our community.

Contents

- Events and News
 - Tacoma Branch Meeting
 - Seattle/SnoKing Branch Meeting
 - Special Meeting
- President's Corner
- Membership
- TechTrek
- Interest Groups
 - Book Groups
 - Daytime
 - Evening
 - Genealogy
 - Papercrafters
- Stay Connected with AAUW
- Communications Team/Editors' Note
- Calendar



Bio: Cynthia Stewart has worked for decades in the field of public works, including management roles on the King County Council central staff, King County solid waste division and King County airport, where she was designated Airport Manager of the Year by WA State DOT. She also has consulted with small cities on development of capital facilities plans and served as Deputy County Manager in Thurston County, responsible for finance, including funding of the capital facilities plan. After retiring, she became an active League of Women Voters member and has served on the LWV of Washington Lobby Team for transportation and as support for health care and revenue.

humanities
WASHINGTON | h
w



Not Just for Kids: Inspiring Bold Adult Conversations about Children's Books

(AAUW Branches Seattle/SnoKing joint meeting – all are welcome)

Date: Saturday, November 10th

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am (Doors open at 9:30 for no host coffee and social time)

Place: Third Place Commons Theater, 17171 Bothell Way NE, Lake Forest Park

Children's books such as *Curious George* and *Goodnight Moon* are often beloved by children, sparking their imaginations and providing warmth and comfort. But books like these can also inspire adults— helping us to imagine ourselves in a new way and think about society from a new perspective. Humanities Washington Speaker **Dr. Anu Taranath** will discuss the messages children take from books written for them in her presentation, Not Just for Kids: Inspiring Bold Adult Conversations about Children's Books, on Saturday, November 10, 10:00 a.m., Third Place Commons theater. The presentation is free and open to the public.



Dr. Taranath, a senior lecturer in children's literature at the University of Washington, will showcase children's books from around the world as well as diverse communities in the United States, inviting audiences to take a closer look at kids' books, and suggesting ways we adults might also learn some new lessons about how to navigate our complicated world. Within these seemingly simple stories are important messages about how we think about our differences, and

importantly, how we might rethink our similarities.

"There are so many good-intentioned people who want to be more inclusive these days, and books represent one way to do so. I know many teachers, librarians, community center staff, who have realized many of the books they have are not representative of all the people that they serve" Dr. Taranath states, adding, "I wanted to take that very sweet notion and try to take it one step further by creating a program around children's literature that asks, 'Who's been published? Who's not being published? What do you think that means? Can books help us get along better, and if we think so, how? If not, what do we do?'"

The talk is sponsored by Humanities Washington and the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Seattle and SnoKing Branches. There will be opportunities for discussion. For more information, contact AAUW at secretary@aauw-seattle.org or visit <https://seattle-wa.aauw.net/special-program/>.

Humanities Washington sparks conversation and critical thinking using story as a catalyst, nurturing thoughtful and engaged communities across our state. For more about Humanities Washington, visit www.humanities.org.

The Future of the Tacoma Branch:

Member Discussion

Date: Sunday, November 18, 2018

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Place: Phyllis Izant's home

Your opinions and insights are needed.

Please come for coffee, pastries, and



discussion with the current board members. Bring your ideas and questions about the future of Tacoma Branch, and learn about the options we have available to us as we consider possible changes in our branch governance.

Please RSVP to Phyllis at pjizant@gmail.com. You can email or call 253-566-8874 if you need driving directions to her home.

President's Corner

Fall greetings! Signs of the season are here: ballots, flu shots, and Christmas decorations. All three are indicators that we humans like to plan ahead, whether in hopeful anticipation or dread.

Your current board is thinking ahead, and we need your participation. In addition to our usual monthly meeting on Saturday, November 17, we are holding a special gathering on Sunday, October 18 to discuss our branch's future, and hear your ideas about how we should proceed.



Why? Here is what you need to know:

1. **We face an impending crisis in branch governance.**
 - a. Our branch membership is aging. While we have a robust number of long-term members, many of our members are no longer in a position to be as active in the branch as they once were.
 - b. We are not attracting and retaining new members who then move into branch leadership.
2. **These elected board positions will be vacant in 2019** if there are not **new candidates** willing to stand for election at our March annual meeting:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-President, Programs
 - c. Vice-President, Membership (this position has been unfilled with no new candidate in 2018; it is currently filled by appointment.)
 - d. Finance Officer
3. **AAUW has very specific requirements regarding branch operations and assets.** We will discuss the implications of those requirements with you at the November 18 gathering.
4. **Changes to branch organization and governance require approval by branch members.** This is not something that the board can enact on behalf of the membership. The membership must be informed before being asked

to vote on a change, and in the opinion of your current board, you must be consulted.

5. **There is a (pretty short) timeline to which we must adhere.**
 - a. Bylaws require that our officers be elected at the March annual meeting.
 - b. That meeting must obtain a quorum of current members.
 - c. Changes to the status of the branch must be agreed to by a majority vote of all active members – this deliberative process would need to reach conclusion prior to the March meeting, for a formal recording of the vote at that meeting.
 - d. Should the membership decide for a change in branch organization, we still need a functioning board and some time in order to achieve the administrative and financial tasks to accomplish that change.
 - e. **If there is no newly elected board to take office as of July 1, it means that the current board must enact all necessary business tasks between March and the end of June, 2019.**
6. **We have more than one option to consider.** And what YOU want out of your branch membership has a huge bearing on what option will serve our members the best. That's why we need to hear from you!

Ah, the glamour of governance! I know this letter is not as creative or inspiring as one might hope, you might even find it depressing...but sometimes we just gotta get stuff done, right? Thank you for plowing through it. I can tell you that a couple of months of board discussion and research have gone into bringing this issue before you. I hope that you will help by joining us as we ponder and put into place the right decisions for our future.

Warmly,

Susan

~ Susan Hesselgrave, President

Membership

We are fading away, one member at a time.

As of today, we have 42 members renewed for 2018-2019, four lifetime members, one member who is renewing this week, and 18 members who will no longer be part of Tacoma Branch AAUW.

Some who are leaving are just too busy with other commitments; some may find the \$92 membership too expensive.

Most of our members do not come to our third Saturday meetings, which is hard for me to understand, because our Program Co-Chairs have arranged some outstanding speakers.

Is social media part of the problem? Is it just too easy to sign into a computer database and pretend that's a conversation?

Words may be exchanged, greetings given, maybe even information gained online. But it isn't social to me. Social is talking face-to-face with other people who are physically, mentally, intellectually, and emotionally present.

AAUW has given me social and community involvement in the real world. The digital world is pale and uninviting compared with our interest groups and Saturday mornings.

Try it sometime soon; you might have a good time being present and interactive.

~ Carol Rikerd

Tech Trek

As you read this you are likely planning for the upcoming holiday season . You may also be considering what organizations will benefit from your year-end charitable donation.

We ask you to include Tacoma Tech Trek in your philanthropic endeavors. Throughout Washington State, individual donors and branches provide 65% of Tech Trek's financial support. Without these dollars, we would have supported 107 fewer girls during the 2018 camp season.

Help Tacoma continue sponsorship of 15-16 girls for the 2019 camp, which takes place July14-20, 2019 at Pacific Lutheran University.

Write your donation check to:

AAUW-WA Special Projects Fund

Memo Line: Tacoma Tech Trek

Mail it to:

AAUW- Tacoma

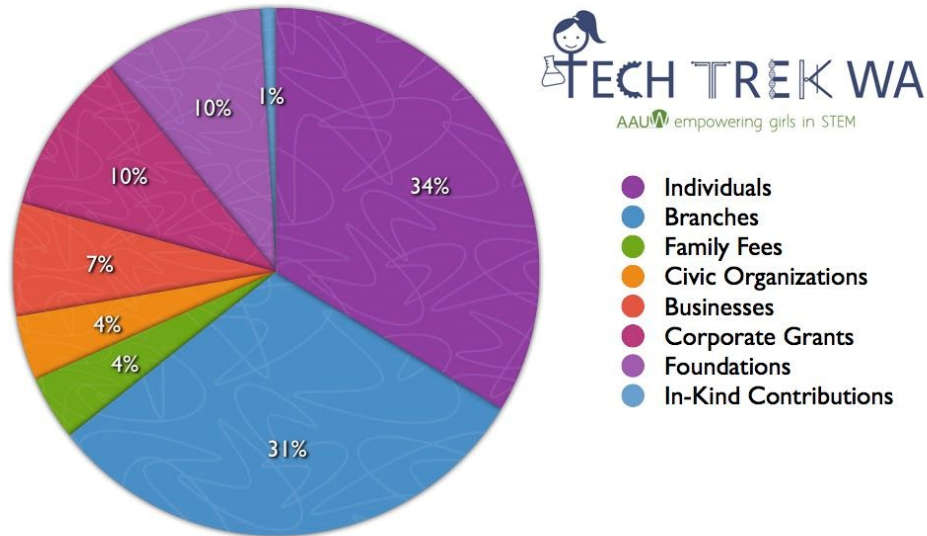
PO Box 65303

Tacoma, WA 98464-1303

The Special Projects Fund is a 501(c) (3) organization.

Federal Tax ID: 27-3330630

2018: WHERE DID THE \$\$ COME FROM?



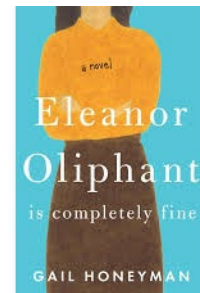
~ Judy Cichowicz

Interest Groups (MeetUps)

Book Groups

Daytime

The Daytime book group will meet on Wednesday, November 28 at 10 am. to talk about *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. Carol will review and Connie will hostess.



Evening

The Evening Book Group will meet at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 26 to discuss *Tribe* by Sebastian Junger. Dorothy will review and LesLee will hostess.



Genealogy and Family History

There will not be a meeting of the Genealogy and Family History group this month. The next meeting will be in January or February.

Papercrafters

Join Papercrafters on November 8th (Thursday) from 10 am to 2 pm at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church. Get a start on making Christmas cards, or whatever project you are working on. The church is one block south of the "T" at the end of Hipkins Road, at 8601 104th Street SW. There is plenty of room to work, each at her own table, yet close enough to visit. Bring your own brown bag lunch or snack. Coffee and tea are provided. For information contact Connie.



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/>. Remember that the password for the Washington State website (for all of us) is “evergreen.”

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 2018



shutterstock.com - 341191424

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Papercrafters 10 am -2 pm	9 Board Meeting 4:30-6:00 pm UP Library UP Meeting Room	10 AAUW Seattle/SnoKing branches joint meeting
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 AAUW Tacoma Branch Meeting 11 am Steilacoom Library
18	19	20	21	22 Happy Thanksgiving! 	23	24
25	26 Evening Book Group 6:30 pm <i>Tribe</i>	27	28 Daytime Book Group 10 am <i>Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine</i>	29	30	