



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.”

March 2020

Events and News

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The AAUW March Branch Program is open to the public. Please invite your friends and associates!
The Branch Program begins at 10:30 am (directly following the brief Annual Branch Business Meeting).

Strategies for Addressing Homelessness: Local Perspectives and

AAUW Tacoma Branch Annual Business Meeting

(Prior to our speakers, we’ll hold the annual business meeting. This will take about 10 minutes. Your attendance is important, so please plan to be there!)

- Saturday, March 28, 2020
- 10:00am – 12:30pm
- Swasey Branch, Tacoma Public Library
- 7001 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA

Free parking available

Join us to hear from local providers of direct services assisting people experience homelessness. We will learn what strategies are working, what efforts are helpful, and what still needs to happen in order to alleviate this human rights crisis and provide enough housing in our area.

Event Schedule:

Tacoma Branch members are requested to arrive no later than 10:10 AM to ensure a quorum for our official meeting. There will be no oral reports – all information will have been provided in written form in advance of the meeting date.

10:00 -10:10 Room setup

10:10 – 10:20 Socializing (light refreshments provided)

10:20 – 10:30 AAUW Tacoma Branch Annual Business Meeting

10:30 – 12:30 Branch Program: The program will commence with short presentations, followed by a facilitated panel discussion and questions from the room.

Strategies for Addressing Homelessness: Local Perspectives



Panelists:

Mary Herman is Program Outreach Coordinator for [Associated Ministries](#) (AM) and will provide an overview of their range of programs. While tracing its roots originally to community organizations in the 1890's, it was in 1969 that Associated Ministries incorporated. At that time AM broadened its constituency to become interdenominational, including over 100 Christian churches. Among other important initiatives, AM was the founder of FISH Foodbanks (now [Nourish](#)). AM has been at the forefront in serving those at risk of homelessness for the last decade. In 2011, with funding from Pierce County, AM launched Access Point for Housing (AP4H) to provide a centralized intake center for homeless individuals and families and those in imminent risk of becoming homeless. In 2013, AM again expanded its constituency, becoming an interfaith organization. In 2014, they began operation of two homes for homeless youth in partnership with the Bethel School District and opened a new office in Lakewood in conjunction with starting their foreclosure counseling program. In 2016, AM teamed up with Catholic Community Services, Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare, and Comprehensive Life Resources to help combat homelessness in Pierce County. 2019 marked their 50th anniversary.



Greg Hollmann is the program manager of [Associated Ministries' Rapid Rehousing](#) program. Pierce County's Rapid Rehousing programs accept individuals and



families who are referred by Coordinated Entry. These programs can assist with some move in costs and very short-term rental assistance. Using the Housing First model they address homelessness and then provide

resources to address the other needs clients have. Mandating clients to participate in services in order to obtain the basic human right to housing has proven to be ineffective; it causes individuals and families more harm than good.

These programs seek to meet clients where they are in life; they focus on what the clients want and need. Clients are in charge of their destinies and know their situation better than the referring agencies do. Families also receive referrals to employment services, mental health services, and resources to gain tools for self-sufficiency. Empowering clients to take control of their lives is the key to our community's Family Permanent Housing Programs.

Pastor Bruce Walmer founded his [Crossing Bridges](#) ministry over 11 years ago. The purpose of his faith-based work is to aid and lift up those experiencing homelessness by supporting them spiritually, providing clothing and shelter to those that desperately need them, and educating civic leaders and the public about the people who are caught in the homeless crisis.



President's Corner



Daffodils trumpet that spring is on the way. Storm clouds keep rolling in, reminding us to keep our heads down when it pours (which is what those smart daffodils do!). The lesson? Be like a daffodil: Share your light with the world, and stay flexible and resilient to weather this world's travails.

We have two fantastic branch programs coming up that epitomize that life lesson.

For March, we have assembled a panel of local providers (more than are listed in the program details!) to tell us about their programs serving those without housing. This will be a hopeful and informative discussion – please invite your friends as well! And on April 4, we will be gathering for our April Spring Tea event, this year joining with Marymount for a truly special Saturday afternoon.



What about our annual branch business meeting? You will be receiving all of the pertinent documents via email mid-March. Please review them when you receive them. After review, if you have any questions or comments, please send them to me at susanhesselgrave@gmail.com for inclusion at the meeting. The March 28 program will be preceded by a very brief branch business meeting for voting on the required items (election of officers and approval of FY2021's budget and mission project proposal).

Yours,

Susan

Save the Dates!

April Branch Program: Spring Tea Party!



Saturday, April 4th, 2020

11:30 am -3:00 pm

Marymount Event Center

325 152nd Street East, Tacoma, WA
98445

Join us at the 3rd Annual [Marymount Tea Party](#)! We'll have lots of fun and good food, enjoy each other's company, have the opportunity to tour the site, and support historic Marymount as well!

Enjoy an afternoon tea featuring signature pastries, tea sandwiches, and fine herbal and loose leaf teas.

Tables will be decorated in themes by volunteer **Table Decorators***, with a friendly competition for awards such as “Most Traditional,” “Best of Show,” and “Most Creative.” Festivities also include themed games and a small silent auction.

Following the tea party, guided tours of the amazing Marymount Chapel and viewing of the **new** Marymount Sculpture Garden featuring Rodin sculptures are available and included with your ticket. You can read about Marymount history [here](#).

We have reserved two tables for our AAUW Tacoma Branch members and guests.

BUY your ticket NOW by clicking [here](#)!

Ticket cost: \$30 per person

(If you are a current branch member and would like to attend but this cost is a barrier, please reach out to Carol Rikerd to request a branch-sponsored ticket. crikerd@nventure.com.)

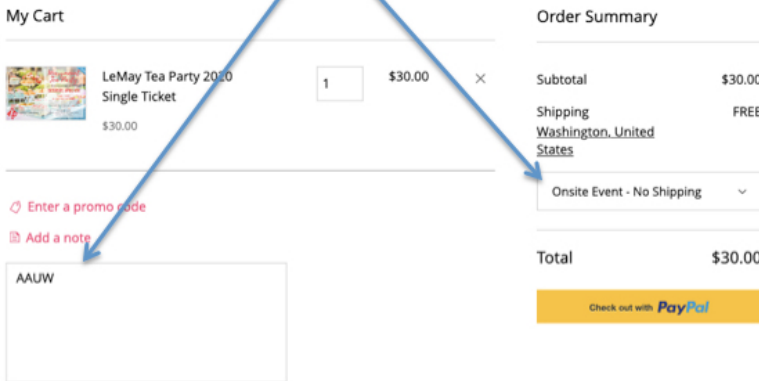
*Call for Table Decorators!

Help our branch promote our mission at this event by creating table decorations (probably two tables) with an “empowering women and girls” theme! (19th Amendment? ERA? Title IX? Suffragists?) **Papercrafters**, bet you have some ideas!

Marymount encourages you to use your creativity to craft a unique and memorable themed tablescape. If you can help with this creative opportunity, please contact Robin Larson, program lead, ***by no later than March 10***, and she will pair our table artists up with their table!

TICKET ORDER FORM INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose “Onsite Event – No Shipping”
2. Click on Add a note: enter “AAUW”



The screenshot shows a shopping cart with one item: 'LeMay Tea Party 20:00 Single Ticket' for \$30.00. The order summary shows a subtotal of \$30.00 and free shipping. The total is \$30.00. A 'PayPal' button is visible at the bottom.

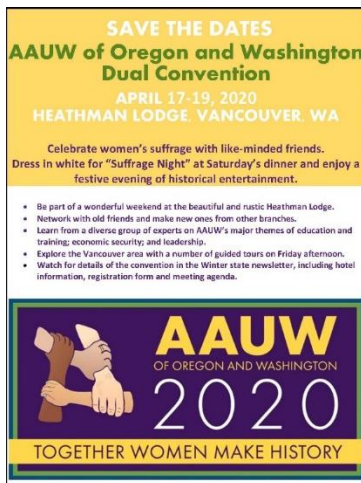
3. After you've ordered your ticket, please **RSVP to Robin Larson** (laro32@gmail.com) so that we can ensure that we have reserved enough tables!

Attire

"Smart Casual," much like you would wear to a spring wedding reception. Hats are certainly encouraged! (And if you want to wear suffragist white, that would be very timely...pay no mind to that "white only after Memorial Day" rule!)

BUY your ticket NOW by clicking [here!](#)

AAUW of Washington and Oregon Dual Convention



Date: April 17-19, 2020

Location: Heathman Lodge, Vancouver, WA

Branch officers Susan Hesselgrave and Robin Larson will be representing AAUW-Tacoma Branch at the upcoming convention this April 17-19 in Vancouver. ***All current members are encouraged to attend.*** Watch for registration details in the Winter edition of the Evergreen Leader.

May Luncheon

Date: May 16, 2020

Time: 11am – 2pm

Location: Asia Pacific Cultural Center



Treasurer

The Branch is solvent, and sent \$5,000 to the state Trek committee to finance a few of our campers!

Tech Trek

It's Tech Trek season again. Tech Trek WA is the exceptional AAUW program designed to address the persistently lower participation of women in STEM education and careers. Based on AAUW research, the program targets middle school girls to offer support and confidence to pursue their interests in STEM fields. The first camp in Washington was in 2013 when Tacoma raised the funds to support 6 campers. Thanks to the generosity of the branch and its members, along with the Dimmer Foundation and other donors, we have been able to see our local girls enjoy this potentially life changing experience ever since.



Now we are preparing for the 8th year of Tech Trek for Tacoma branch. During February and March, your committee has been busy developing the teacher contact list for area

schools and inviting these teachers to nominate talented girls in 7th grade math and science classes to attend 2020 camps.

After the nominations come in in early March, we will send out the application forms. Applications will be due at the end of the month and then it's time to interview the applicants. We expect to select 12 girls to attend one of the two camps at PLU, either Bonnie Dunbar camp July 12-18 or Barbara McClintock Camp July 19-25. As you know, the girls attend at no charge, with the exception of the \$50 registration fee.

We need help in conducting the interviews. They are the fun part of our committee work when we get to meet the applicants and their parents. We have a common set of questions we ask the girls to explore their interests and fit for the Tech Trek experience. It's not only fun, but very important: while all the girls are worthy, we have limited financial resources and must make some difficult choices. If you are interested in helping in this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Marisa Peloquin or Joye Bucklin.



Items of Interest...

DEREK KILMER
5th District, Washington
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE
INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT,
AND RELATED AGENCIES SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND WATER
DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4706

OFFICE
1010 Louisiana Drive, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5818
950 Pike and C
Suite 1225
Tacoma, WA 98402
(253) 272-3515
345 Elm Street
Suite 500
Bremerton, WA 98537
(360) 373-9725
www.kilmer.house.gov

Dear Ms. Larson,

Thank you for contacting me about a resolution that would ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, which prohibits discrimination based on sex. I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with me. I'm with you! I will always fight for the rights of women, and all people, to be treated equally under the law—no matter the circumstance.

The Equal Rights Amendment was initially introduced in 1923 and was reintroduced in every session of Congress until it passed in March 1972 and was sent to states for ratification. Congress placed a seven-year deadline on ratification. In the first year, almost 2/3rds of the required 38 states ratified the amendment and Washington State did so on March 22, 1973. Forty-five years later, Nevada became the first state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment after the cutoff date. Currently, just twelve state legislatures have yet to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

I support the passage of a constitutional amendment that would guarantee equal right to Americans regardless of sex. To that end, I'm proud to co-sponsor H.J.Res.79, which would eliminate the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Equality shouldn't have an expiration date. Please know that I remain committed to seeing the passage of this amendment to our Constitution. I will keep your views in mind when this legislation comes before the full House of Representatives for a vote.

I encourage you to continue to share your views with me on this topic or any other issue. Thank you for reaching out. It is an honor to serve as your representative.

Sincerely,

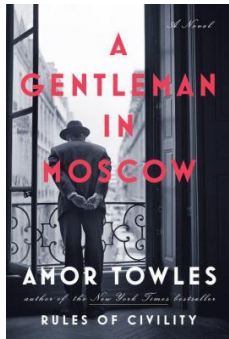


Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



Interest Groups (MeetUps)

Daytime Book Group



The Daytime Book Group will meet at 10:00 am on March 25 at Dolora Neumaier's home to discuss *A Gentleman In Moscow* by Amor Towles. Lisa Dreyer will review.

Evening Book Group

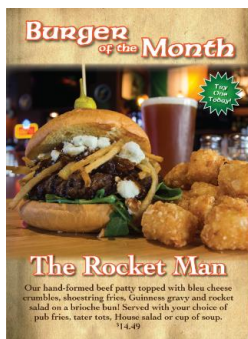
This month, the Evening Book Group will get political by reading a book by one of the female presidential candidates:

- Elizabeth Warren: **A Fighting Chance** (2014) or **This Fight is Our Fight** (2017)
- Kamala Harris: **The Truths We Hold** (2019)
- Amy Klobuchar: **The Senator Next Door** (2015)
- Tulsi Gabbard: **Is Today the Day?** (2019)
- Kirsten Gillibrand: **It's Up to Us** (2019)



The meeting will take place at 6 pm on March 23 at Robin Larson's home. Dorothy McBride will lead the discussion.

Not-So-Fast Food Group



The NSFFG is planning an Irish dinner on March 21st at 6:00 at McNamara's in DuPont. The address is 1595 Wilmington Dr., DuPont, WA 98327.

<https://www.mcnamaraspubandeatery.com/>

Genealogy and Family History

The Genealogy group does not have plans for a get together in March.

In February we visited the Family Research Library (FRL) in Tacoma. We attended a very useful orientation to the facilities and services.



In lieu of a March meeting, we recommend that anyone who wants to find out more about their ancestors, either to solve puzzles or to get started, consider coming to the FRL to do their research at no charge. They have 11 computers, or you can bring your laptop and use their Wi-Fi. They have helpful volunteers to assist in your quest. At FRL you can use a variety of subscription web genealogy sites absolutely free: Ancestry.com; Find My Past; My Heritage; and, of course, Family Search.

The Library is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:00 AM to 8:30PM, and Saturday, 10-3. Closed Fridays and Sundays. The address: 5915 S. 12th Street, Tacoma.

Papercrafters



Papercrafters will meet on March 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 8601 104th Street S.W.

It is fun to visit and still work on a pressing project you never seem to have time to finish. There is a lot of room to spread out and organize your work.

Bring your own brown bag lunch or snack. Coffee and tea are provided. For more information contact Connie at (253) 565-7518.

Stay Connected with AAUW

- 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 Notes

- 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.
- 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

March 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 PaperCrafters 10 am – 12 pm	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Not-So-Fast Food Group McNamara's Pub and Eatery (Dupont) 6 pm
22	23 Evening Book Group 6 pm Book by Female Presidential Candidate of Your Choice	24	25 Daytime Book Group 10 am <i>A Gentleman In Moscow</i>	26	27	28 Branch Program and Annual Business Meeting 10 am-12:30 pm
29	30	31				