

Meet a neighbor —

Local author J.L. Oakley to speak at April meeting

Do you have time to get a copy of The Jossing Affair and read it before next Saturday? It might be a fun addition to your week, since the author, Janet Oakley, will be speaking to us about her historical fiction writing at next Saturday’s meeting, and will focus on The Jossing Affair, which is her latest book. The novel is set in Norway during WW II. Historical Novel Reviews called it a "first-rate WW II thriller."

Where? YWCA, 1026 N. Forest St. When? April 8th, 10 a.m. to noon What else? Members A thru L, please bring a tray of snacks to share.

A 35-year-plus resident of the Pacific Northwest, Janet is an historian, award-winning writer, and gardener. She also has written Tree Soldier, about the Civilian Conservation Corps’ work in the North Cascades, and a prequel to that, Timber Rose.

Her work appears in various magazines, anthologies, and other media including Historylink, the on-line encyclopedia of Washington State history. Among her numerous awards are a 2014 first place category winner Chaucer Award, a silver 2015 WILLA Literary Award, the 2013 Chanticleer Grand Prize and a 2013 Everybody Reads chosen by Pacific NW librarians.



Spring: Our Busiest Time

April/May/June Calendar

- April 8 Monthly meeting. Janet Oakley is guest speaker.
April 22 March for Science
Girls Go Tech day at WCC
April 23 Reel Movie Lovers Group
April 25 Board meeting at Terra Organica
April 27 Adelante! book group at Arlis’s
April 29 100th Anniversary planning group
May 13 High School Scholars Recognition, at Pickford Theater
May 23 Board meeting
May 25 Adelante! meeting
May 28 Reel Movie Lovers
June 10 Year-end celebration and fund-raiser

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**“Mrs. Roosevelt” meets “Mrs. Larrabee”—**

In celebration of Women’s History Month, two historical figures attended the March general meeting. Catherine Chambers, left, portrayed Eleanor Roosevelt and spoke about the WWII internment camps for Japanese Americans. Gwen Parker, as local pioneer Frances Payne Larrabee, recounted stories of early Bellingham.

Mrs. Roosevelt opposed the internment camps, and in a speech after a visit to the Gila River, AZ camp, said, *“We have no common race in this country, but we have an ideal to which all of us are loyal: we cannot progress if we look down upon any group of people amongst us because of race or religion. Every citizen in this country has a right to our basic freedoms, to justice and to equality of opportunity. We retain the right to lead our individual lives as we please, but we can only do so if we grant to others the freedoms that we wish for ourselves.”*

In her fictional speech, Mrs. Larrabee said, “Not many women in my day were involved in the business world, but most were concerned with the betterment of society, and worked through their churches and clubs. I understand that once again, Progressive values are under attack, and that AAUW shares my desire for equal opportunities for women in education and society. I implore you to stay the course. Over time, we can move public policy. There are still many women and children who need our help.”

## Election results

Bellingham Branch officers elected at the March business meeting were:

*President:* Judith Entwife  
*Membership Chair:* Susan Moen  
*Program Co-chairs:* Catherine Chambers, Robin Kagan and Joanne Pullen

Installation of officers will be held in July.

Lynn Bellinger had been nominated as membership co-chair with Susan, but had to withdraw for health reasons.

Officers continuing for another year in their positions are: Helene Berg-Kolin, Treasurer; Jean Cox-Treverton, Secretary, and Gwen Parker, Newsletter and Website Editor.

*Thanks to our new and continuing officers, as well as our committee chairpersons, and our retiring officers:*

Helene Berg-Kolin , Sue McDonald, and Liz Wright, Membership; Esther Golde and Liz Wright, Programs.



*Membership matters...*

Spring means renewal time!

It is time once again to pay annual dues. **To encourage payment at the April 8th meeting, those submitting their dues at the meeting will be entered into a drawing for a flower basket.**

Please bring your check for \$70 to the April 8th meeting — pay now and make life easier for yourself and the Membership Chairs - we very much appreciate it.

Thanks,  
*Helene, Sue and Liz*



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## 16th Year for High School Scholars Recognition Event, May 13th!

The AAUW High School Scholars Recognition will be held at the **Pickford Film Center** on Bay St. on May 13th, 2017, at 10 a.m. Scholars from each of the 12 county high schools are eligible to attend. They are selected by their schools for their excellence in Math, Science, or Technology.

Students' families are invited to attend so there is usually a large crowd! We need all members to come to welcome the scholars, to assist with sign-in and refreshment/beverage tables. **All members are asked to bring a sweet or savory finger food snack - at least two dozen pieces.** Please be available to help between 9:30 a.m. and 12 noon. The set-up and clean-up will be minimum due to our new venue.

This is a fun event! We have two speakers to motivate the scholars, Camille Miller, M.D. and Hilary Schwandt, a social scientist.

Please sign up to help at the April meeting or call Carol Simmer, (360) 961-4519.

**A big Thank You in advance,**

*Carol Simmer and Jean Cox-Treverton, co-chairs*

## Bellingham AAUW plans booth at March for Science

Details are falling into place for the April 22 March for Science. **Judith Entwife** is spearheading AAUW plans for interested members to march as a group, and to have a booth with AAUW information. Jean Cox-Treverton, Cathie Oberg and Kathryn Grant will staff the booth. Those who plan to march are asked to email Judith Entwife, so we can gather before the march. If you believe we need to support our scientific community across the nation, mark your calendar to join us. If you can, wear AAUW colors (luckily, the blue and green are also Seahawks colors!)

Keynote speakers will be **Dr. Melissa Rice** and **Capt. Wendy Lawrence**, names familiar to most of our members. Several members of our branch have met both women when they spoke at Girls Go Tech in past years.

Dr. Rice is an Assistant Professor of Planetary Science at Western Washington University, where she has held a joint appointment in the Geology Department and the Physics & Astronomy Department since 2014. She is a collaborator on the active Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity missions. Captain Lawrence is a retired naval aviator and NASA astronaut.

Current plans are for a march format similar to the Women's March in January, with tables set up between Bellingham Library and City Hall.

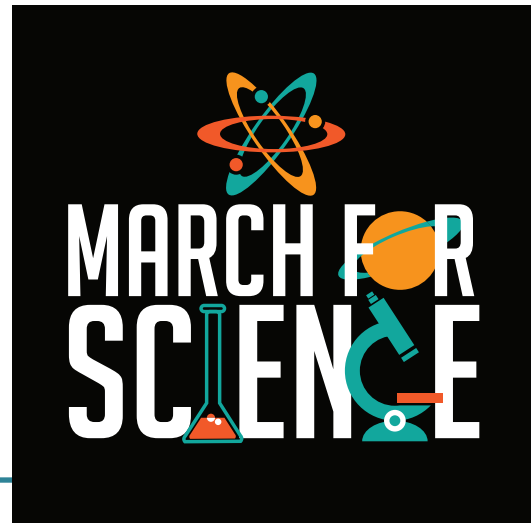
According to information on the internet, here is the day's schedule:

12:00pm: Gathering at City Hall, Bellingham

12:30pm – 1:00pm: Speakers

1:00pm – 2:00pm: The March – the route will be announced shortly before the event. It will be an accessible, mostly flat route, approximately one mile in length.

2:00pm – 4:00pm: Science Fair – There will be a variety of organizations, academic groups, local businesses, and other science-related endeavors to provide an interactive fair on the Bellingham Library lawn. There will also be food trucks



## AAUW supports Girls Go Tech 2017

Bellingham Branch is once again giving financial support to Whatcom Community College's popular Girls Go Tech program. We began our association with the program several years ago, before STEM became a household word.

Open to middle school girls, the workshop allows students to get a personal experience with college science classes. This year, they will use a bicycle as a power generator to experience how much energy is required for incandescent versus LED light bulbs; use Scratch to program their own interactive stories, games and animations, and learn about small, but powerful, Raspberry Pi computers.

One or two of our members usually serve as campus guides for the girls and their parents. This year, Esther Golde has volunteered, and there is probably still room for another guide. Contact Liz Wright.



## INTEREST GROUP NEWS

### GREAT DECISIONS

The nascent Great Decisions group has joined forces with an existing group, of which our own Ruth Norman is a member. They meet once a month at The First Congregational Church. Contact Jean Cox-Treverton, 360-392-0043, for more information.

### REEL MOVIE LOVERS

Since our usual third Sunday matinee date coincides with Easter this year, our movie date will be April 23. Liz Wright will be back to organize our outings. Let her know if you have any movie you would really like to see, and she will send out suggestions to everyone. After movie times come out on the previous Tuesday, an email will be sent with the What, Where and When.

Thanks to Susan Gelhar for filling in for Liz. Your humble news editor missed her email last month, and didn't get out a notice. So sorry! All my fault :-)

**ADELANTE! BOOK CLUB** meets monthly at Arlis's Restaurant, 1525 Cornwall Ave. in Bellingham, at noon. The next meeting will be April 27th, and the book will be *My Life on the Road*, by Gloria Steinem. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Gwen Parker, 360-933-4314.

### IDEAS?

Do you have an idea for an interest group? Let one of our board members know, and they will try to help facilitate it.

Anyone possessing a four-year bachelor's degree or a two-year associate's degree is welcome to become an AAUW member.

## Bellingham Branch, AAUW

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**SAVE THE DATE! WE HAVE THE PLACE!**



*Cheers to 99 Years!*

*Saturday, June 10, 2017  
 11 am - 2 pm  
 Northern Meadows Estates  
 Clubhouse  
 3993 Gentlebrook Lane  
 Bellingham*

**Our year-end celebration and fund-raiser will be a champagne brunch** to note our 99th year as an AAUW Branch. (See time and place above right.)

The Executive Board plans a “Downsizing Auction,” for which we will be soliciting donations of high quality artwork, crystalware, textiles and jewelry.

There will also be an “Experience Raffle,” of tickets for such things as housecleaning, movie outings, restaurant meals, etc. Proceeds will go to our scholarship fund.

There will be live music to enjoy while we sample a delicious brunch and browse through the auction items. Bring your friends and family, and have fun!

**April Showers bring Birthday Flowers!**

Cindy Paffumi	2nd
Rosemary Hostetler	6th
Suzanne Spaetgens Thorp	21st
Sue McDonald	24th
Julia Claire Earnest	25th
Liz Wright	27th
Robin Kagan	30th
Lori Smiley	30th

