



Accent is on science education at September meeting

Four of our Tech Trek scholarship recipients, and the founder of an after-school robotics club for girls were guests at the September AAUW branch meeting. The “Trekks,” who are now in eighth grade, expressed how much they enjoyed meeting other girls interested in STEM subjects, and agreed that the classes and field trips
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Mastering robotics: From left, Suzanne Thorp, Lila Brumback and guest Kathy Mann enjoy the electrified objects they made in a hands-on session at the September meeting.

Luncheon to follow talk on de-cluttering our lives and homes

“Clearing Clutter for What Matters” will be Carolyn Koehnline’s topic at the Oct. 10 Bellingham AAUW meeting.

A Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Certified Journal Therapist, and clutter coach, Koehnline will help us learn how to let go of things that just take up space. She will also have copies of her books for sale.



Carolyn Koehnline

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. at the YWCA, 1026 N. Forest St. Guests are welcome.

Members whose last names begin with A through M are asked to bring refreshments. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Lunch at the Hearthfire

After the meeting members may gather at the Hearthfire Grill, 7 Bellwether Way, for a no-host lunch. The private room is reserved for 12:30 p.m. **Please RSVP to Gwen Parker or Liz Wright.** (Email addresses Pg. 5)

STEM programs are focus of meeting

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opened their eyes to new ideas for possible careers. Physics, robotics, chemistry, forensics and marine biology sessions were all raved about.



From left, Amanda Smith, Susannah Bloom, Anishka Duggal and Makenna Fowler, local Tech Trek scholars, talk about their science and math camp experiences.

were inundated when about 60 young ladies showed up. It was a scramble to accommodate the group, which was broken into two sessions. Cole said she hopes to see the program expand into all the Bellingham middle schools, but sees the logistics of getting enough qualified volunteers and enough money for supplies to be a problem that has to be addressed.

Cole, who was aided by her daughter Joy, ended her presentation by giving everyone a chance to use littleBits (TR) snap-together electronic modules to try their hand at making robotic items. A moving garden (“flowers” waving in the “wind”) was a favorite project.



Main speaker for the day was Software Developer Sydney Cole, who is founder of Creators and Innovators Club for Girls, an after-school robotics program which began last year at Kulshan Middle School. She recounted how her team of volunteers expected just a handful of girls to attend, and how they



Sydney Cole

AAUW member Pam Sankey and her granddaughter Gillian, right, join parents of Tech Trek campers, and AAUW members Inge Paulus and Carol Simmer at one of the robotics learning stations at the September meeting.

Interest Group News



First Movie Group outing: From left, Reel Movie Lovers Marjorie Bushnell, Susan Moen, Liz Wright, Gwen Parker, Jean Cox-Treverton and Lori Smiley at the Pickford.

Reel Movie Lovers group met September 27 to see their first movie together:

"Grandma," with Lili Tomlin. It was partly a comedy, and partly a study of some serious women's issues, faced by three generations of women in one family. There was lively discussion afterwards over coffee, with everyone agreeing that they liked the film and its realistic portrayal of life problems.

The group decided that meeting monthly for a matinee was the most convenient, so the next get-together will be on Sunday, October 18. The movie chosen is a documentary, "Wanda the Wonderful". The notes say that "**Wanda was a 1920's era Wild West sharpshooter. She had four husbands - but only shot one of them.**" It will be at the Pickford Cinema, and you can go to the website to see the trailer.

It will be a matinee showing, though the exact time can't be confirmed until the week before, so a notice will be sent out through AAUW as soon as the time is known.

See you at the movies! Liz Wright, lswrights@gmail.com for info.

Adelante! Book Club meets at Arlis's Restaurant, 1525 Cornwall Ave. in Bellingham, at noon on the fourth Thursday. The *October 22nd* book will be *Gilead*, by Marilynne Robinson. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Gwen Parker 360-933-4314.

"The Bookies" meet at 6:45 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Colophon Cafe in Fairhaven. The *October 8th* book will be *TransAtlantic* by Colum McCann. We welcome all comers - please join us. Contact: Barb Craig, 360-927-2526.

Invitation from the College Relations/Scholarship Committee

AAUW's premiere mission is education! The Bellingham Branch's involvement with the local higher education institutions, WWU, WCC, BTC and NWIC (Northwest Indian College) is one way we fulfill this mission. This CR/S Committee keeps us connected. We select the students awarded annual scholarships where permitted and help plan and participate in other activities on campus. *Elect Her, Campus Women Win!* is an AAUW Initiative on WWU's campus each year and I hope we can begin the *Start Smart* initiative this year. ***Please join me for dessert and coffee on October 24th or 25th*** to plan the fun and important projects for this year. Let me know if you are interested and I will be in touch!

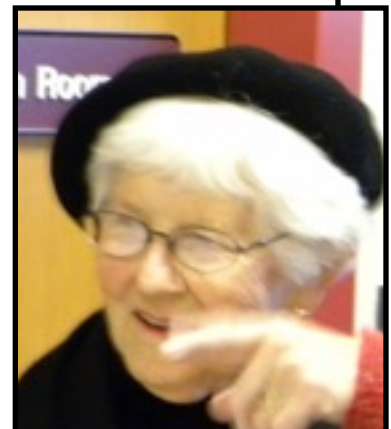
Carol Simmer, chair, CR/S Committee (961-4519) carolsimmer@comcast.net



New at WCC: College Relations Chair Carol Simmer attended the Whatcom Community College President's Reception, which included a tour of the new addition and remodeling of the WCC Health and Recreation Building. WCC students, over a period of 20 years, paid for the project!

Theresa Parakh

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, October 24 at the First Congregational Church in Bellingham for Theresa Parakh. A Bellingham Branch member until recently, Terry was also active in other community groups. She passed away in September, at the age of 84. Our condolences to family and friends.



Holiday greenery sale is underway



by Gwen Parker

It seems impossible that it is time already, but **our major fundraiser of the year is underway**, and sales have to be complete by **November 7**.

Lila Brumback and I have teamed up to lead the charge. She will be collecting orders for three different holiday greenery items: A wreath, a swag, and a centerpiece.

At the September meeting, we distributed order forms and I have also emailed them to everyone who has an email address.

As our president, Susan Moen, points out, if we each sell twice what we sold last year, we will need no other large fundraisers this year. Phone or email your orders to Lila Brumback — her name is on the form, also.

- ITEM 1: 22" Mixed Evergreen Wreath
\$27.00
- ITEM 2: Approx 30"x20" Noble Fir Door Swag \$27.00
- ITEM 3: 12" Diameter Centerpiece
\$21.00

Please take payment when an order is placed. Make checks payable to Bellingham AAUW
Please phone or email orders to Lila Brumback, and bring this order form when you pick up items for delivery.

Orders are due to Lila NO LATER THAN November 7

Lila's Phone: 360-223-7269

Lila's Email: lilabrumback@gmail.com

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Happy Birthday to You!

October

12th Margaret Philbrick.....

16th Louise Bjornson

18th Hope Rollis

20th.... Maggie Moore

Early November:

1st Monica Ackerman

1st Cherilyn Jackson

A thousand thank-yous

The Bellingham Branch Executive Board is proud, and humbled, to announce the receipt of a

One thousand dollar gift from our membership co-chairwoman, **Helene Berg-Kolin, and her brother-in-law, Richard Kolin.**

Whenever we talk with our scholarship recipients, they express how even a \$500 scholarship can mean the difference between being able to stay in college, or having to drop out. Our middle-school winners of scholarships to Tech Trek science camp always come back feeling thrilled to have had eye-opening experiences that may lead to careers in math and technology.

Being agents for change in women's lives, through education, is our AAUW mission, and this excellent gift helps sustain it.

Thank you, Helene and Richard!

Welcome!

Bellingham AAUW offers scholarships and supports numerous programs which help women and girls gain equity in all areas of life.

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

We enjoy a wide variety of programs and events, as well as each other's company.

