

## Tour of WWU sculpture draws good turnout

Roughly 20 members of Bellingham Branch AAUW are now privy to many facts and stories about the sculptures that dot the campus of Western



*A visual Ode to Joy:* An exceptional tour on a sparkling Fall morning elicits a spontaneous wave to the camera, as AAUW members “summit” the steps of *Stadium Piece*, a sculpture on Western’s south campus.

Washington University. We were privileged to have Gallery Director Sarah Clark-Langager as our tour leader as we used our monthly meeting time for a field trip. We should now be able to lead our own tour groups when friends or relatives come to visit!

Clark-Langager, Ph.D, City University of New York, has been involved with acquisition and management of Western’s outdoor sculpture collection since its inception. There is no doubt that she is the collection’s strongest  
(cont. page 2)

## Young Writers group is topic for November program

Stephanie Dethleff, executive director of Whatcom Young Writers, will discuss this project at the next Branch meeting.

We will be back at our usual place, Bellingham YWCA, 1026 N. Forest St., Nov. 9, at 10 a.m. Those whose last names begin with P through Z, please bring a food item to go with our coffee and tea.

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## WWU Sculpture Tour *(continued from page 1)*

advocate and protector. One example of this: When University directors came to her with the news that a fountain would have to be moved to make way for a new chemistry building, the end result was a building whose north wall curves around the fountain, which never moved.

If one of our AAUW members had not stopped to read a plaque, we might never have known that several of the sculptures received from Seattle art patrons Virginia and Bagley Wright are donated in honor of Dr. Clark-Langager and former WWU President and AAUW member Karen Morse. Clark-Langager, a former curator at Seattle Art Museum and the San Francisco Museum of Art, and educator at the Yale University Art Gallery,

has directed purchases and accepted gifts with an eye to building a high-quality collection in the context of WWU's focus on the relationship of art, architecture and landscape.

### *Did you know?*

- Repairing vandalism is a major, ongoing cost to the sculpture program at Western.
- Western's Board of Trustees decided in 1957 to include the acquisition of works of art in the budgets for new construction. This predated the Art in Public Places Program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the percent for art programs of Seattle and Washington State.



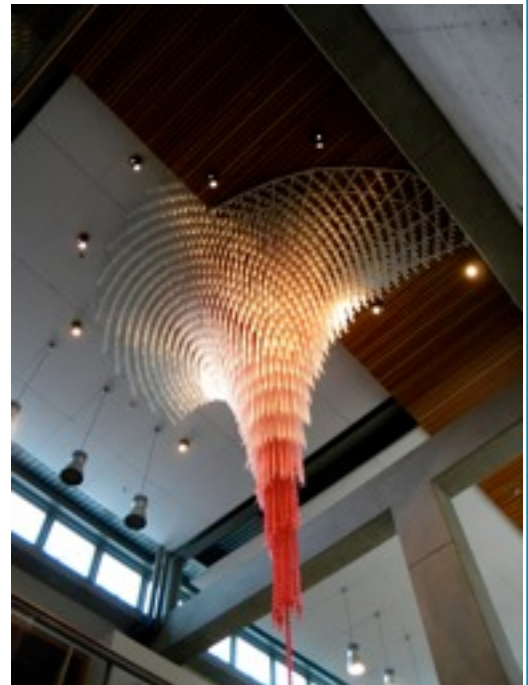
*Sarah Clark-Langager speaks to tour members in front of "Stone Enclosure: Rock Rings," by Nancy Holt, 2008.*

With growth of the University has come a relentless march of new buildings across

campus. This means many carefully-sited pieces no longer have the amount of open space around them that they once had. This has led to a decision to place new acquisitions indoors. One such placement is Do Ho Suh's "Cause & Effect." Americans for the Arts has recognized this acrylic pendant as one of the top 50 public art projects in the United States in 2012.



*Unmoved fountain: "The Islands of the Rose Apple Tree...." Alice Aycock, 1987.*



*"Cause and Effect," by Do Ho Suh, 2012.*



## Membership luncheon follows tour at Western

After the sculpture tour at Western, several members proceeded to the Hearthfire Restaurant to join others who had not done the tour, but were up for a good lunch and conversation. Our October luncheon was a success with 19 members in attendance, including two new members, Karen Gantenbein and Gerry Prody. Gerry is our WWU liaison.



*Carol Simmer and Gerry Prody smile for the camera during the October membership luncheon.*

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## You are Welcome

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

Everyone possessing a four- year bachelor's degree or a two-year associate's degree are welcome to become members.

***We support equity for women and girls***

## *Simplicity Circle rises again*

It hasn't been simple to get the planned Simplicity Circle up and running. Illnesses and schedule changes have upset some proposed meetings.

However, Mary LeDonne and Cathie Oberg have decided they would like to continue on with the Simplicity group. Mary will host the November meeting, and subsequent meetings, at her home and provide refreshments.

The next meeting will be on the third Monday of November, the 18th at 7:00 pm. The address is 1760 Waterside Lane, Bellingham 98229. This is off Lake Whatcom Blvd. at the same intersection as Coronado. Mary will have chapter 2 questions prepared for discussion. Please contact her with questions or to RSVP.

Phone 360-733-5691.

**Member profile.....****Staunch AAUW member joins Bellingham Branch**

*by Gwen Parker*

“So, where’s the portrait?” you may ask, since I always take a photo when I write a member profile. Well, there’s a little story behind that.

Karen Gantenbein is currently our newest member. When she and I got together for an interview, we really bonded, to say the least.

Whenever I interview someone, there is apt to be some common ground: hailing from the same state, liking the same books - some little bit of shared background. This time, it was the fact that we each have had a family member with Down Syndrome. In my case, it is my son Aaron, and in Karen’s case, her brother Peter, who passed away less than two years ago.

Before we were done talking, we were both laughing and crying, and in no shape for a photo session. So, I include a photo taken at Barkley Village, since Karen lives in the Barkley residential area.

If you happened to attend the membership luncheon earlier this month, you will remember Karen as a lively person, with a habit of running her hands through her shoulder-length auburn hair when she is deep in conversation.

**Following the family**

Karen and her husband Mike moved to Bellingham about a year ago, drawn to Washington State by the arrival of their first grandchild, a tow-headed charmer named Lucy who lives with their daughter and son-in-law in Seattle. They have another daughter, who is working toward her master’s degree at University of Idaho. They knew Bellingham because a long-time friend lives here.

Karen is the only one in her immediate family who doesn’t have a degree in what are often called the hard sciences. Her degree is in Political Science, earned at Humboldt State University in northern California. Her work life has involved substitute teaching, working for an insurance company, and floral design, which is still a hobby.

A point of pride for Karen is that she started an AAUW branch in Big Bear, CA, which is still active. She and her husband moved there when he had a job transfer, and a friend urged her to (cont. page 5)



## Western Gallery and Bellingham AAUW to honor Marian Boylan

Mark your calendars for a special event: A coffee honoring Bellingham Branch member Marian Boylan for all she has done for the arts and for AAUW.

The event is set for November 22, Friday morning, 10am to noon at the WWU Art Gallery. Parking will be in the gravel lots adjacent to Fairhaven College. There will be a shuttle in the lot to transport those who don't want to walk the campus to the Gallery.

Marian became a life member of the American Association of University Women in 1956. She was Bellingham Branch president from 1975 to 1977 and then co-president with Margo Hammond from 2005 to 2007. She has been a member of the state board, and on the National Board of Directors as Cultural Interest Representative.

As a widow, Marian returned to school and in 1988 received an MA in English. She went to China in 1992 to teach English at universities in Changchun and at the Beijing Economic Institute.

In 2005 Marian Leese Boylan gave her parent's private art collection to the Western Gallery. This collection, primarily American and European prints and drawings, and a few paintings, enlarged individual gifts from Al and Vera Leese and enriched the gallery's present holdings. In furthering her parent's commitment to art, Marian also has made major contributions to the Leese Collection since 2005.



### Member profile....

#### **Pet Partners is new endeavor for Karen Gantenbein**

*(continued from page 4)*

try to start a branch. Putting her case to the community with ads and conversation, she soon had over 75 interested people, and a branch was born! One of the group's projects is a literacy program. She also belonged to a branch in Colorado Springs, CO, for a time.

#### **A pair of volunteers**

Karen is now involved in providing hospice care, and with her big Newfoundland dog, has recently been accepted by Pet Partners. This group trains volunteers and their animals to go into hospitals, nursing homes and other settings to provide animal therapy. Newfoundlands, despite their large size, are known for their gentle dispositions.

Karen was born in Scranton, PA. Her mother was from Pennsylvania, and her father was Danish. They met when both worked in Bangkok, but after they married and started a family, returned to the United States because of political unrest in Asia. He was familiar with San Francisco through his work for IBM, so they settled there. Thus, the Pacific coast feels like home to Karen, whether it is the redwood area of California, or the Douglas firs of Washington.



*Notes from your prez....*

## October is a month of connections

Three different events in mid-October kept the pace going in the week after our sculpture tour and membership luncheon. On Oct. 16, I attended a cocktail party welcoming **Jack Herring** as the **new Dean of Fairhaven College**. He has spent time in Alaska and Prescott, AZ, and I know will fit in well in Whatcom County. Welcome, Dean Herring! Among those present were **Kathleen Kitto**, a long-time friend of AAUW at Western. She did not mention that a week later she would be named Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at Western. Also at the party was **Jeff Wright**, Dean of the College of Sciences and Technology at Western, who says he is planning to retire....He spoke at our High School Scholars event last May.

The next Friday morning found eleven Bellingham Branch members at the **Whatcom Community College Foundation** breakfast at Bellingham Golf and Country Club. Our own **Brenda Karasik** is on the Foundation board. Other members attending were **Catherine Chambers, Pat Draper, Esther Golde, Elsie Heinrich, Sue McDonald, Susan Moen, Hope Rollis, Carol Simmer, Mary Jane Vetter, and me.**

Several scholarship recipients told their stories. Many are the first in their family to attend college, some were single parents, one was an emigrant from Poland. All shared a determination to succeed and the message that scholarship funds are a major ingredient keeping them in school. These students are awesome!



*WCC Foundation Breakfast: From left, Elsie Heinrich chats with Esther Golde (partially hidden) while Brenda Karasik, Catherine Chambers and Susan Moen form another small group.*



*Anne-Marie Steenge (CFUW), Jean Cox-Trevertton, Mary Jane Vetter, Carol Simmer, Susan Wingate (CFUW) and Gwen Parker at lunch in Surrey.*

On Sunday afternoon, **Carol Simmer** chauffeured **Jean Cox-Trevertton, Mary Jane Vetter and me** up to Morgan Creek Country Club in Surrey, for the White Rock/ Surrey **CFUW bursary luncheon**. Their two scholarship recipients wowed us with their abilities and their plans for the future - one in graphic design, the other in medical research. It was great to reconnect with our Canadian friends.

*.....Gwen Parker*

## Interest Groups

### Adelante! Book Club

Meets at Arlis's Restaurant, 1525 Cornwall Ave. in Bellingham. Next meeting will be Dec. 5. Book is *The Faith Club*, by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Gwen Parker 360-933-4314.

### Dames Who Dine

Contact: Lori Smiley 360-739-1379 for time and place.

### Simplicity Circle

The group did not meet in October. Mary LeDonne will host the November meeting at her home the third Monday of November, the 18th at 7:00 pm. The address is 1760 Waterside Lane Bellingham 98229 (near Lake Whatcom Blvd.) Chapter 2 questions will be prepared for discussion. (See story, pg. 5)

### PM Book Club

The Evening Book Group meets at 6:45 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month downstairs in the Colophon Cafe in Fairhaven. November book is *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher* by Timothy Egan. We welcome all comers - please join us. Contact: Barb Craig, 360-927-2526



Members of Adelante Book Group meet at Arlis's Restaurant: From left, Jo Pullen, Maggie Moore, Pat Banasky, Ruth Norman, Roy Giordano and Suzanne Thorp. Above, Rosemary Hostetler.



**November 11 is  
the  
deadline for  
wreath  
orders**

The cost per wreath is \$25. They make great gifts!

Please send your orders directly to Dianne Davis, [diannedavis46@gmail.com](mailto:diannedavis46@gmail.com). She will send an email confirming the order and the amount owed at pick up, to each person who has submitted an order. (Ph. 206-719-8212)

Thank you all for your efforts on behalf of our scholarship funds for women!

## Happy November Birthdays!

### Scorpio

- 1 Monica Ackerman
- 1 Cherilyn Jackson
- 15 Joanne MacKay
- 16 Ingeborg Paulus
- 17



### Sagittarius

- 28 Mary Jane Vetter
- 30 Arlene Pilcher



P.O. Box 29862  
Bellingham, WA 98228  
[www.aauw-wa.org](http://www.aauw-wa.org)

## Executive Board 2013-2014

### President/Newsletter editor

**Gwen Parker**

**360-933-4314**

[parker.gwen@comcast.net](mailto:parker.gwen@comcast.net)

### Co-Program Chairs

**Susan Moen & Pam Sankey**

**360-778-2510/360-201-6005**

[susanmoen@comcast.net](mailto:susanmoen@comcast.net)

[psnkey@comcast.net](mailto:psnkey@comcast.net)

### Co- Membership Chairs

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**360-671-5518/360-392-8856**

[lswright@gmail.com](mailto:lswright@gmail.com)

[hbergkolin@gmail.com](mailto:hbergkolin@gmail.com)

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**Sue McDonald**

**360-325-2848**

[sue@openaccess.org](mailto:sue@openaccess.org)

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[lilabrumback@gmail.com](mailto:lilabrumback@gmail.com)

### **Roberta Bouverat**

According to her friend Sally Hansberry, AAUW life member Roberta Bouverat passed away October 24th. No services are planned. Our condolences to family and friends.