

Celebrate the holidays with AAUW!

**December 16th at Old City Hall
121 Prospect St.
Start time: 10 a.m.**

Come see our AAUW

Christmas tree! It is one of about two dozen on display this month at Whatcom Museum's Old City Hall building. Branch volunteers decorated with a theme celebrating our branch's 100th anniversary. Esther Golde, our creative leader on this project, reports that it was drawing attention even before the decoration was complete.

Our December meeting will include

- ***a short business meeting,***
- ***viewing of the tree displays***
- ***a holiday sing-along led by our own Robin Kagan***
- ***our annual Christmas cookie exchange.***

All members are encouraged to bring enough cookies or other holiday treats to both eat and exchange (about three dozen).

There is some parking in the lot at the Old City Hall. Those who have trouble negotiating a lot of stairs are advised to enter from the back side of the building (facing the Bay). There are a few stairs to go down, but you will have close access to the elevator. We will meet in the second floor board room. The front entry also will be open.



Welcome to our newer members!

Bellingham Branch has been blessed with so many new members recently that it is hard to keep track of those we have officially welcomed. Here are our latest additions:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Cara Carbone | Kay Davin |
| Judi Edwards | George Edwards |
| Judy Fruhbauer | Heidi Hawkins |
| Kathy Jenkis | Roni Lenore |
| Sharon Mattioli | India Nishi |
| Linda Tessier | Loreen Wolf |
| Elaine Woods | |

Do you have your handbook?

If you have not picked up your new membership handbook, it will be available at the December meeting. The book is a very handy phone/address list and AAUW fact book.

Also in this issue:

- Recent speakers**
- Fashion show plans**
- Tech Trek donors**
- Farewell to Jane Morgan**
- Interest groups**



Vintage Fashion Show, Saturday, March 10th!

Tickets available at the December meeting

As part of our Centennial Celebration, the Bellingham Branch of AAUW will present a Vintage Fashion Show on Saturday, March 10th from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the new Holiday Inn and Suites, Bellingham Airport. Louise Sager from the Ferndale Heritage Society will provide the clothing from her vast collection, the models and the narration. Lunch will be a choice of either creamy chicken linguini or vegetarian quiche. Catherine Chambers is organizing a Dessert Dash to top off the meal. The ticket price is \$35.00 per person, which includes lunch and the show.

This event, open to the public, will raise community awareness for our branch as well as raise funds for our many worthy projects. The tickets are \$35.00 each and will be available at the December meeting, and until March 1st unless they sell out before then. We encourage all members to take at least 3 tickets to sell - 1 to purchase for themselves and 2 to sell to friends. We are expecting to sell out, so please buy your tickets early to assure a spot.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathie Oberg or Carol Simmer, Co-Chairs.

SAVE THE DATE!



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.



Local author Candace Wellman wows crowd with history lessons

“Any time I saw a noun, I researched it,” Candace Wellman told her Bellingham AAUW audience, to help explain why it took 18 years to write and publish her new book, *Peace Weavers: Uniting the Salish Coast Through Cross-Cultural Marriages*.

Ms. Wellman spoke at the November general meeting. She noted that nearly all the earliest white settlers in Whatcom County took native wives. These were often strategic liaisons aimed at either keeping or gaining land. They also helped ensure more peaceful relationships between the new and old residents of the area, as children were born and families intertwined.

Information on these native women is scarce and hard to find, Wellman said, and research often depended on the willingness of their descendants to share family history.

Four women’s lives are charted in the book: Caroline Davis Kavanaugh, Mary Fitzhugh Lear Phillips, Clara Tennant Selhameten and Nellie Carr Lane. The author has enough data on another four women to fill a second book, and AAUW history buffs eagerly await its release. One of our branch members, Judy Fruhbauer, suggested a title for the second volume — we’ll have to wait and see if it is used.

Belated Birthday Wishes

I must have been focusing on my own December birthday, because I noted the December, instead of November, birthdays in the last newsletter. My apologies!

November

- Monica Ackermann 1
- Cherilyn Jackson 1
- Ingeborg Paulus 16
- Mary Jane Vetter 28
- Arlene Pilcher 30

December

- Carol Lawrence 12
- Gwen Parker 19
- Nora Abelite 27



Check out our Web site!

Visit <https://bellingham-wa.aauw.net>

A tribute to Jane Morgan

Firm in her faith and unfailingly kind, Jane Morgan will be long remembered by her AAUW friends. A longtime Bellingham resident, Jane passed away October 19th after a valiant battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Philip; brother Theodore; children Arthur, Melba Joy, Frank and Floyd, and two grandchildren.



Jane was born Niagara Falls, NY, and attended Wooster College in Ohio and Buffalo State in New York. She completed her graduate work at UC Berkeley, CA, and held a bachelor's degree in History, a master's degree in Library Science and a master's degree in Education.

Jane taught school, worked for the Whatcom County Library System, and was active in several local organizations, including the YWCA.

She was president of Bellingham Branch AAUW, for the 1989 - 1991 term, and was an AAUW Education Foundation Honoree in 1992.

She was a dedicated member of the AAUW Adelante! book group. Fellow book club member Mary Jane Vetter writes this: "Jane Morgan was a truly loyal member of AAUW. She was always willing to help on projects and was especially involved in, and worked so very diligently on, the many book sales that AAUW promoted throughout the years. Jane was always a most upbeat and positive person, and she will be missed."



Out and about in Bellingham....

Holiday party at WWU

Bellingham Branch President **Judith Entwife** and Academic Committee Chair **Carol Simmer** attended the annual Western Washington University holiday party. It was held this year at the Viking Union, followed by a performance of the play *1776* at the Performing Arts Center.

More holiday fun coming at Creekside Open Mic!

Bellingham Branch member **Nora Abelite** will be appearing as **Mrs. Kris Kringle** on December 20, at the South Branch of the Whatcom County Library located in Sudden Valley. Please arrive no later than 6:30. There will be a number of performers: expect music and poetry. This event is free and open to the public.

Holiday Festival of the Arts

This Allied Arts event is open every day until Christmas Eve at 4145 Meridian Street Bellingham. As well as an art sale, there are musical performances and children's art workshops. Branch member **Jean Cox-Treverton** has a booth at the show.

INTEREST GROUP NEWS

YA GOTTA HAVE ART!

A newly formed interest group is taking advantage of local art shows, museums in the area, special art projects and the incredible sculptures of our city and campus. Please contact Susan Moen if you are interested in joining other members to view the shows and possibly have lunch to complete the outing: susanmoen@comcast.net, or 206-399-4909 cell. Susan is the one who organized our first outing to the *People of the Sea and Cedar* exhibit at Bellingham's Lightcatcher Museum. Unable to curb our enthusiasm about that exhibit, our AAUW group went on to tour the amazing Haub Exhibit of Western art, a look at the "wild West" through the eyes of Russell, O'Keefe and other artists.

Any member can propose a date and meeting place. This will be a flexible format.

ADELANTE! BOOK CLUB

Local author CJ Prince read from her chap book entitled, *Mother May I*, at the Nov. 30 Adelante! Book Club meeting. The book chronicles her growing up years and her relationship with her parents. She also read a selection from a new chap book, *Fox*.



Nora Abelite, left, and CJ Prince

Nora Abelite led the discussion of poetry by two local poets, Ms. Prince and Carol McMillan, whose chap book is titled *Red Walls, White Water* and is about her raft trip down the Colorado River when she was 70 years old.



Adelante! meets (usually) monthly at Arlis's Restaurant, 1525 Cornwall Ave. in Bellingham, at noon. Newcomers are welcome.

The next meeting will be January 25, 2018.

The book to be reviewed is The Bees: A Novel, by Laline Paull.

Contact: Gwen Parker, 360-933-4314.



List of Tech Trek donors is growing

Since the Bellingham Branch began sponsoring middle school girls to attend the Tech Trek summer camps for STEM enrichment, the value of the program has become more widely understood throughout the community. This has resulted in more, and larger, contributions to the program.

Here is a list of the contributors to Tech Trek from the past 5 years until now with more recent donations listed first. These are gifts at or above \$250.

1. Bellingham Rotary Club
2. Wilson Engineering (2 yrs.)
3. Faithlife (2 yrs.)
4. Bellingham Central Lions Club
5. Judith Edwards
6. Steve and Beth Bloom (parents of a Tech Trek camper)
7. Dr. Sarah Mostad (parent of a Tech Trek camper)
8. Anonymous Bellingham Branch member
9. Helene Berg-Kolin

Thanks to these donors and the many others who have made smaller gifts.



“Happy Trails” to Cherilyn Jackson, who has left Whatcom County to live in Arizona. She remains an AAUW member at the national level.

Bellingham Branch AAUW

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