

**Also in this issue.....**

***Tech Trek candidates named  
Virtual fun***

***Membership news***

***Our own Zoom meeting with  
AAUW CEO***

# AAUW

Whatcom Branch

## Branch elections to be held by email

Meeting via Zoom on April 26, Bellingham Branch board members agreed to hold elections via email ballots, due to our continued moratorium on gathering, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Paper ballots will be mailed to those who do not use email.

Date for the elections is pending, since we are still searching for someone to take the treasurer position.

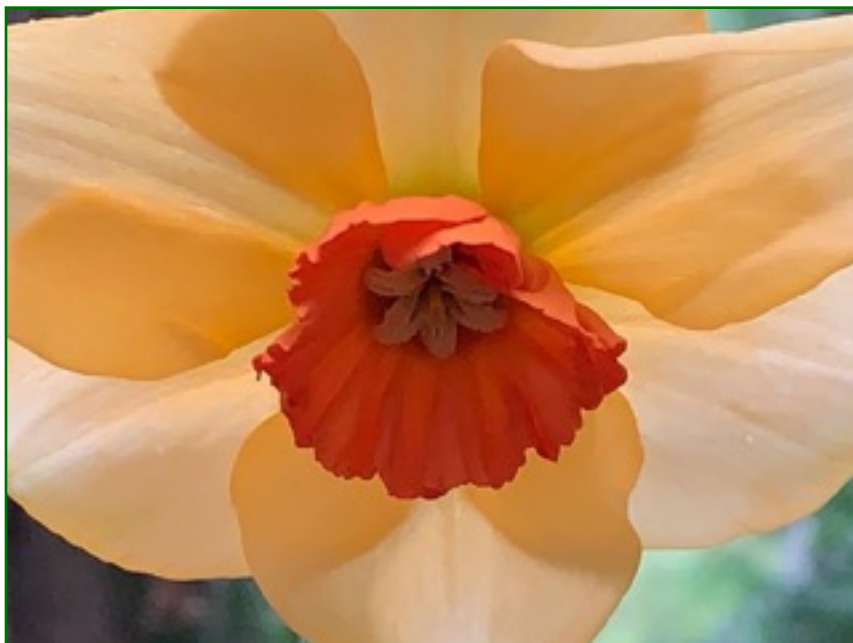
**Jean Cox-Treverton** has agreed to be nominated to continue as secretary.

**Lynda Buehring** is nominated for the membership vice president position.

### Annual budget

Also at the April board meeting, the yearly budget was reviewed and approved. Copies will be sent out with our email or paper ballots.

Questions regarding the budget may be addressed to Co-President India Nishi.



**Something to cheer you!**

*Photo by Judy Fruhbauer*

## Rolling out our new name

*Formerly American Association of University Women, Bellingham Branch. Now, **Whatcom Branch***

There are still a couple formalities to finish up, but with much of our literature now saying “Whatcom Branch,” it is time to use it for our newsletter, also.

This is done with the approval of the Washington State AAUW, and after discussion at Executive Board and general meetings. We are trying to include more Whatcom County schools in our projects, as well as members from outside the Bellingham area, and to that end, our name needs to reflect that.

*The Tech Trek Committee is proud to announce*  
**The 2020 Tech Trek Campers**

The Tech Trek Committee of Whatcom Branch AAUW has selected 10 outstanding young women from Bellingham and Whatcom County middle schools to attend Tech Trek STEM camp. We also have 5 very strong alternates.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Tech Trek Camps will not be held this year. However, the good news is that there will be a camp for the 2020 campers next summer, in addition to the camps for the 2021 campers.

The girls selected are:

**Selene Braymen**, Fairhaven Middle School

**Tylynn Cohen**, Kulshan Middle School

**Emily Nicole Craft-Redd**, Nooksack Valley Middle School, Everson

**Madeline Dear**, Shuksan Middle School

**Cean "Gabbi" Delena**, Horizon Middle School, Ferndale

**Keely Frazier**, Whatcom Middle School

**Desteny Islas-Gonzales**, Shuksan Middle School

**Alysia Javier**, Nooksack Valley Middle School, Everson

**Maria Molina**, Shuksan Middle School

**Jocelyn Washington**, Horizon Middle School, Ferndale

The alternates for 2020 are

**Lila Diersing**, Nooksack Valley Middle School

**Freda McCoy**, Shuksan Middle School

**Tillie Vassar**, Kulshan Middle School

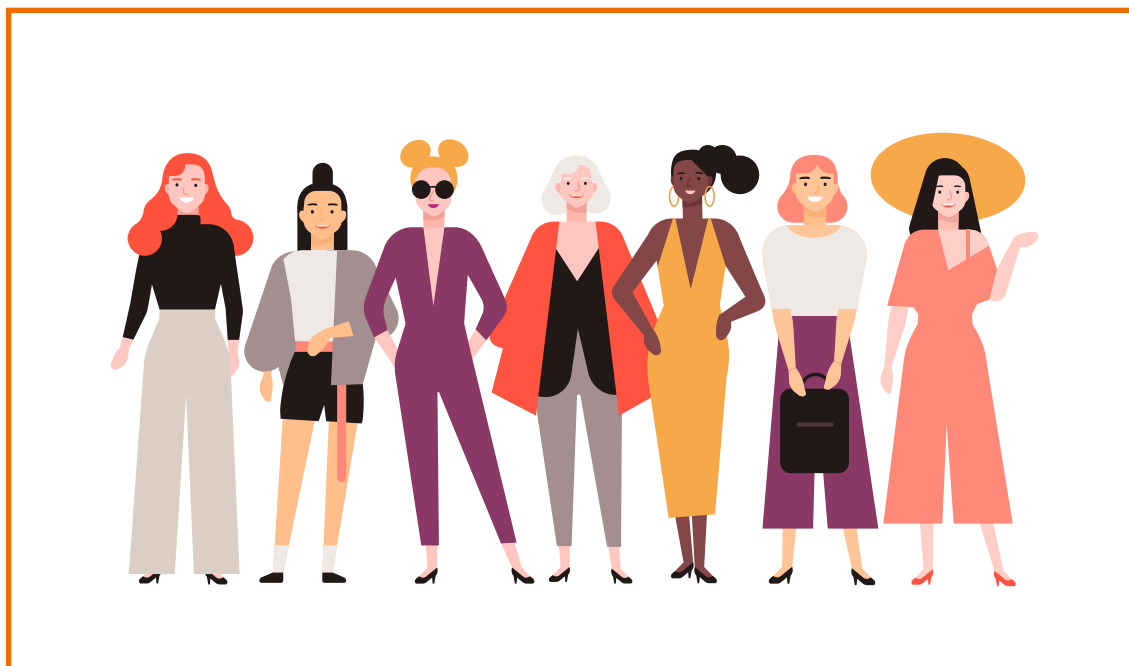
**Zoe Wasserman**, Whatcom Middle School

**Izabella Wilson**, Whatcom Middle School

Thank you to the Tech Trek Selection Committee members for their commitment to this project. We look forward to introducing these young women to the Whatcom Branch when it becomes possible to meet.

*The Tech Trek Decal was designed by Esther Golde and procured on-line by Kathy Jenkis. Each camper and alternate received a decal along with a congratulatory letter, and to the campers, a certificate of recognition for being selected as 2020 Tech Trek Campers.*





## **It's a Perfect Time to JOIN US for our Virtual *Discounted* Membership Event!**

**YES, YOU CAN BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN for WOMEN and GIRLS!!**

Whatcom AAUW is declaring a month-long Virtual Event.

**NOW THRU JUNE 15th!**

**New members can join with the reduced dues price usually reserved for joining at a meeting! Yay!**

We actively support Pay Equity for Women and Girls, nationally and locally and have fun doing it!

We support lobbying for women and offer FREE programs to learn to negotiate for Fair Pay!

We give several annual college scholarships, recognize High School Juniors who excel and send up to 10 middle school girls to science camp each summer for an amazing STEM camp experience.

We offer stimulating programs, the second Saturday of the month at the YWCA, from 10-12. (Hoping to resume ASAP!)

***WE WELCOME YOU to JOIN US... for inspiration and camaraderie.***

**We also gather to enjoy art, books and movies.**

**Membership options range from \$11 to \$50 per year.** Choose the level that fits you:

**Regular membership** is for graduates with a 2- or 4-year degree, women and men. This level comes with full voting rights on local, state and national issues.

**Friends of AAUW** are our local supporters.

**Student memberships come in options for high school or college students.**

Send a message on FB to Membership Co-VP Robin Lynn Kagan and join at the level that's best for you! (<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWBellingham/>)

**Please Note: This Virtual Event to boost membership will be on our FB page...so please, everyone, go to FB, Share it and help us grow!!**



**Physical distancing and social gathering -BYOB:** This shot was taken before masks were strongly suggested, but we still stayed six or more feet apart. This backyard gathering included, from left, Jean Cox-Treverton, Kathy Cole and four-legged friend Annie, Kathy Jenkis, Judy Fruhbauer and not pictured, Gwen Parker.

## Virtual fun for the stay-at-home crowd

*By Gwen Parker, Newsletter Editor*

I really am not the best person to talk about streaming movies, etc., but nonetheless, here are a few ideas of places you can check out for some on-line survival gear for your brain:

**CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival's 2020 Official Selections in an on-line festival May 14-17.**

Passes for the film are on sale now through the CASCADIA website. There will be 30 of the festival's 2020 official selections. All-access passes are only \$19.95.

**Pickford Film Center is streaming new releases.** See their website for directions on how to work various applications.

Join **Whatcom Museum** Curator of Art Amy Chaloupka for a virtual tour of the exhibition *Conversations Between Collections*.

Visit the **Metropolitan Museum of Art online**, for some wonderful viewing from your computer.

**The current AAUW closure list**

*Events cancelled include*

- All 2020 Tech Trek camps nationwide, including those in Washington.
- Monthly general meetings, until further notice.
- College food pantry donations, until we start our AAUW meetings again.
- High School Scholars Event



*Can you spot the faerie in the garden?* Photographer Judy Fruhbauer says she expects she caught him napping after a little too much dancing around the Maypole.

*Membership matters*

**If you have not yet renewed your AAUW membership, please remember to do so.** The easiest way is to go online to the national AAUW website and use your credit card. If that is not possible, send a check for \$80 to P.O. Box 29862 Bellingham, WA 98228

*Please support our chapter. The things we do to support women and girls in our community will be more important than ever as our country recovers from the COVID pandemic.*

**Thank you**

**Questions: Contact Membership Co-Chairs Robin Kagan or Judi Edwards.**



## Branch members are invited to Zoom meeting with AAUW CEO Kim Churches

Nichia P. McFarlane, Engagement Associate, Advancement & Partnerships for AAUW, writes:

Congratulations again on receiving all Five Stars in the Five Star Recognition Program of AAUW. AAUW Bellingham has been steadfast in our mission to continue advancing opportunities for women and girls, and *we would like to personally thank you for the tremendous work you've done to be one of the first branches to cross the Five Star finish line.*

It takes all of us working together – something AAUW has been doing since 17 bold women formed AAUW in the late 1800s -- to affect the change that we want to see in the world. *That's why we'd like to cordially invite all members of the AAUW Bellingham Branch to join Kim for a leadership briefing via Zoom. Please submit any questions you may have for Kim during the briefing to [fivestar@aauw.org](mailto:fivestar@aauw.org) under the subject line 'Questions for Kim.'*

*All AAUW Bellingham Branch members interested in joining this meeting should **complete this poll by Friday, May 15th** to let me know the day and time that works best everyone.*

Kudos on your Five Star success! I look forward to virtually meeting with you all soon.



### Communications Team

#### Newsletter Editor

Gwen Parker 360-933-4314

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

#### Entertainment News Liaison

Heléne Berg-Kolin

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

#### Website Editor, India Nishi

[indiaink1055@gmail.com](mailto:indiaink1055@gmail.com)

## Bellingham Branch AAUW

P.O. Box 29862 Bellingham, WA 98228

[www.aauw-wa.org](http://www.aauw-wa.org)

### Executive Board 2019-2020

#### Co-Presidents

Judith Entwife

360-734-0444

[jentwife@frontier.com](mailto:jentwife@frontier.com)

India Nishi

[indiaink1055@gmail.com](mailto:indiaink1055@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Heléne Berg-Kolin

360-392-8856

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

#### Program Co-Chairs

Lisa Hammond

360-742-6328

[lisahammond.360@gmail.com](mailto:lisahammond.360@gmail.com)

Margo Hammond

360-325-6510

[margo\\_hammond@hotmail.com](mailto:margo_hammond@hotmail.com)

#### Membership Co-Chairs

Judi Edwards

360-303-0487

[jedwards@syscongrp.com](mailto:jedwards@syscongrp.com)

Robin Kagan

360-676-5205

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

#### Secretary

Jean Cox-Treverton

360-392-0043

[jeancoxtreverton@ymail.com](mailto:jeancoxtreverton@ymail.com)