



DOWNTOWN & CORDATA STORES



SATURDAY  
JULY 15

Co-op will donate 2% of their sales that day to enable talented

Whatcom County 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls recommended by their STEM teachers to attend:



a week-long STEM CAMP held on the Pacific Lutheran University campus .

More information about Tech Trek is at [techtrek-wa.aauw.net](http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net)

and about the Bellingham Branch of the American Association of University Women is at: [bellingham-wa.aauw.net](http://bellingham-wa.aauw.net)

**ADDITIONAL DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT THE CHECK-OUT ANY DAY IN JULY!**



Whatcom Branch

### Enjoy your summer!

Whatcom AAUW takes a break during July and August (with a couple exceptions, like Book Club) so we can recharge our engines and come back ready to combine fun and work for our mission: to offer scholarships and support numerous programs to help women and girls gain equity in all areas of life.

No Meetups or general meetings in July or August.

Look for another newsletter in early September.



Calling all AAUW members, friends and families of AAUW, supporters of Tech Trek! The Bellingham Co-op’s Community Shopping Day is donating 2% of their sales to Tech Trek on Saturday, July 15. Please shop for Tech Trek. Let your family and friends know about this opportunity to support our Bellingham and Whatcom County middle school girls in STEM at Tech Trek Camp.

Each year the Co-op Community Shopping Day committee invites applications from which are selected twelve non-profits to receive the donations. The third Saturday of each month is Community Shopping Day. Also during the month shoppers may choose to donate two percent of their tab to the non profit of the month.

Kathy Cole instigated this project last summer. She suggested we apply and worked through the application process. She was very excited that our branch had been selected.

### College and University news

Whatcom AAUW has received two thank-you letters for our annual \$1000 scholarships to Whatcom Community College and Bellingham Technical College.

Valerie Frank, Program Specialist for BTC, wrote: "Thank you very much for your gift to the Bellingham Technical College Foundation! Every dollar makes a difference and our support is truly appreciated!"

And from WCC:

*Dear American Association of University Women,  
We received your gift for WCC students. Because of your kindness and giving, students like myself and others have continued to have an opportunity to fulfill their dreams and further their education. I personally know that this quarter would not have been possible without you. This card symbolizes the gratitude and appreciation of the students at WCC.  
Thank you, Amber Carlson: WCC student + foundation intern.*

### Thanks to our college reps!

Representatives from Bellingham Technical College, Whatcom Community College and Western Washington University were on hand at the High School Scholars Recognition event in May. We did not have room in the June newsletter for their photos, so we saved them for July. Thanks for supporting AAUW and our Whatcom County High School students!



Rachel Steinbarger and Nubia Robles, WCC



Ying Bao, WWU, and her husband, Reid Dorsey-Palmateer.



Lizbeth Gonzalez, BTC

Krista Schafte, WWU





## Kathy Cole

Long-time AAUW member Kathy Cole passed away after surgery, on June 20, 2023. She is survived by her children Jennifer More, Megan Hammer and David Cole; several siblings and grandchildren, as well as her former husband, Craig Cole.

Most recently serving as Whatcom AAUW Treasurer, Kathy was a very active member. Accolades and remembrances of her have been passing among her friends, and to her family. She was called “such a good friend, a hard worker and activist,” and “a lovely lady.”

Kathy was born in Seattle, and settled in Bellingham in 1973. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nutrition from Western Washington University and worked for many years as a nutritionist, and later as a bookkeeper. She was an avid gardener, with a beautiful yard. She also was an early adopter of environmentally friendly solar power in her home, and a proud owner of an electric car, which she could charge at home.

Her last AAUW event was the June 13th picnic at Fairhaven Park.

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## Program Committee gets rolling

Six Whatcom Branch members met June 28th at Susan Moen’s home to get started planning for the 2023/2024 general meetings. Margo Hammond, Cathie Oberg, Uzma Ahmad, Pam Sankey, Gwen Parker and Susan attended. The committee will meet again July 18th at 1:00 pm to further the plans.

The committee members agreed to continue using the Mt. Baker Encore Room, as it does not cost us for the room since we are a non-profit. We agreed to use their coffee and tea service for a \$25 charge per meeting.

We all were eager to have programs which included more small group discussions, variety, and topics of current direction from National. We discussed different arrangements of the tables to be friendlier than the straight lines of several of our last meetings.

All members are welcome to let the committee know contacts for speakers of interest, ideas that we can try for new ways of interacting, and programs ideas which excite you. We will have October, November, January, February, March and April to plan for.

## High School Scholars 2024

After a very successful 2023 High School Scholars Awards event, Jean Cox-Treverton and Kathy Jenkis are stepping away from chairmanship of the Awards event. But in stepping away, they have created a proposal to take the 2024 Awards, and subsequent, year events, forward.

High School Scholars has grown into a huge project that needs many hands and considerable creativity to implement and stage. The proposal envisions breaking organization into a series of smaller, discrete jobs, each the responsibility of a single co-chairperson, The co-chairs will then work as a TEAM to plan, organize and implement the High School Scholars project. The separate parts of the whole:

- **County Schools Co-Chair**
  - Contact with County High Schools and collection of scholar nominations
- **Venue Co-Chair**
  - Locating and Renting a Venue in which to hold the event
- **Guest Speaker Co-Chair**
  - Finding a guest speaker with an appropriate journey to share with our High School Junior scholars
- **Gift Bags Co-Chair,**
  - Creating gift bags and soliciting items to be included for our scholars
- **Food/Beverage Co-Chair**
  - Providing refreshments, soliciting food items and beverages for members and guests
- **Documents Co-Chair**
  - Preparation and printing of Certificates of Excellence for the scholars, name tags, and the event program
- **Miscellaneous Co-Chair** who will help other TEAM Co-Chairs where needed, and who will take responsibility for things not previously identified.

High School Scholars Awards has been a hallmark of the Whatcom AAUW calendar year. Proposing a new action plan provides an opportunity for those who have not previously been involved in a Branch project to become involved with this important branch event. The new TEAM will need to be in place by January 2024, since planning begins in February. The High School Scholars program has traditionally been held the 2nd Saturday in May. There will be more information in coming months regarding the various Co-Chairmanships. If one of these essential areas piques your interest, please volunteer by contacting Judi Edwards, Branch Co-President.



## Happy Summer Birthdays!

### July

Helene Berg-Kolin	2nd
Carol Simmer	3rd
Patty Robison	14th
Cathie Oberg	26th
Beth Brownfield	30th

### August

Esther Golde	3rd
Mialee Jose	5th
Elsie Heinrick	15th
Pam Sankey	24th



### Welcome to a new member!

Ying Bao, Ph.D, is a chemistry professor at Western Washington University. Her undergraduate work was at Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, and she received her doctorate at the University of South Dakota. She participated in four years of post-doctoral training in the Norbert Scherer Lab at the University of Chicago.

### Many hands make light work!

**Do you have any good ideas for fund-raising?** Our projects have to be funded, and it is time for Whatcom Branch to replenish our coffers.

**We need a committee** to bring fresh ideas for fund-raisers — please volunteer to be part of this!

Contact Judi Edwards,  
[jedwards@syscongrp.com](mailto:jedwards@syscongrp.com)

### Welcome to AAUW

Whatcom Branch of American Association of University Women invites you to join us.

Membership is open to college graduates and those with associate degrees from accredited schools. We offer speakers and various interest groups.

Our mission is to offer scholarships and support numerous programs to help women and girls gain equity in all areas of life.

Contact Lynda Buehring,  
[goldrocket@aol.com](mailto:goldrocket@aol.com)  
 or Sandy Hays,  
[sanhaydaisy@gmail.com](mailto:sanhaydaisy@gmail.com)

### Spread some sunshine!



Do you know an AAUW member who is ailing or has suffered a loss? If so, please email our Sunshine Lady, Suzanne Thorp, who will mail a card from our branch.  
[sthorp5@comcast.net](mailto:sthorp5@comcast.net)

## Calendar of coming events

- July 15** Food Co-op Community Shopping Day!
- July 18** Program Committee meeting, 1:00 p.m. at Susan Moen's home in Lake Padden Estates.
- July 27** AAUW Book Club, 12:30 p.m. at Affinity Apartments Library. Book is *Exit West*, by Mohsin Hamid, 231 pp/Fiction. A can't-put-it-down story, as its characters react to the uncertainty of a contemporary city experiencing escalating violence.
- August 24** *Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest*, by Suzanne Simard, 368pp/NF
- August 26** Executive Board meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom.
- Sept. 16** General meeting honoring Tech Trek campers.  
(Note: This is not our usual day.)
- Sept. 23** Executive Board meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom.

## Many thanks...

Following the passing of our Branch Treasurer Kathy Cole, our former treasurer, Judith Paulson, has graciously stepped in to temporarily fill the breach.

We are lucky to have her!

### IT Specialist

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## Bellingham Branch AAUW

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## Executive Board 2023-24

### Co-Presidents

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### Program Vice President

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