

Heartfelt Planning

Without leaps of imagination or dreaming we lose the excitement of possibilities. Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning.

Come join us for our annual business meeting, including our budget discussion and planning for the next year.

March 9 at the Bellingham Public Library 10:00 am

Our speakers will be young women who have received scholarships from our Branch. We will have brainstorming sessions about how to structure our next year to offer our energy, wisdom and vast experience in helping women achieve equity.

Please contact and invite members who have joined us in the past. We are offering friendship and shared life goals.

Doors open at 10 a.m., and those able to help set up tables and chairs, and set out refreshments, will be highly appreciated! The actual business meeting will start at 10:30.

Members whose last names begin with **M through W** are asked to bring a small plate of finger foods to go with our discussion. Coffee will be provided.

If you can donate, please remember items or cash for the **College Pantry!**



March 8 is International Women’s Day!

From AAUW National: Elections 2024

What: Your vote counts! This spring AAUW members will be asked to vote on an amendment to the national bylaws recommended by the AAUW Board of Directors and AAUW Governance Committee that would open membership to any individual who supports AAUW’s important mission of advancing equity for women and girls.

When: Bylaw voting opens April 3. Online voting is encouraged! Voting closes May 15, after which results will be announced online.

Additional Resources: You can review the proposed bylaw changes on the national website. The open membership toolkit can also be reviewed there, along with a statement on civility and inclusivity.

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WWU Scholarship Dinner: Whatcom AAUW members Margo Hammond, Susan Moen and Elsie Heinrick pose with AAUW Scholarship recipient Aubrey Templeton.

AAUW represented at Western Washington University Scholarship Dinner

Margo Hammond, Elsie Heinrick, Susan Moen, Uzma Ahmad and Sabah Randhawa, met and had dinner with the scholarship recipients at the Western Washington University Scholarship Dinner on February 23.. Two of our Whatcom AAUW recipients - Aubrey Templeton and Emily Ingersoll - will come to our March 9th meeting to talk about what it meant for them to receive our endowed scholarships.

Aubrey Templeton is a junior majoring in Biology with hopes to go on to a masters in Zoology. **Emily Ingersoll** is a freshman thinking about a major in Social Services. Our third recipient, **Hanako Mantooth** was not able to attend the dinner.

The energy in the room and the uplifting spirits were so enjoyable to witness. The importance of scholarships was very evident. We were glad to be present.

Submitted by Susan Moen



A nice alternative: With our usual meeting place at Mt. Baker Theatre's Encore Room still without heat, a month after the furnace failed, AAUW Whatcom members opted for a no-host luncheon at Lombardi's Restaurant. Not all attendees are in this photo, but clockwise from lower left: Carolyn Kinne, Judy Paulson, Louise Bjornson, Susan Moen, Margo Hammond, Catherine Chambers, Jean Cox-Treverton, Carol Simmer and Judith Entwife.

AAUW State Convention

The AAUW state convention will be held April 21 via Zoom. Go to <https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/> for the state website. or <https://bellingham-wa.aauw.net/> for the Whatcom web pages.

Connect with our colleges!

Carol Simmer, our College Relations chairperson, needs a few more people to serve as representatives to three of the institutions we support: Bellingham Technical College, Western Washington University and Whatcom Community College. Email her at carollsimmer@gmail.com



Excerpts from a thank-you letter

Dear American Association of University Women, I just wanted to start this off by expressing my utmost gratitude and appreciation for this gift you've bestowed upon me. Through your organization I have been awarded the Admissions Merit Award funded by AAUW - Bellingham Scholarship.

Mark your calendar!

March

March 9 Annual Business Meeting, 10 a.m. at Bellingham Public Library downstairs meeting room.

March 23 Executive Board meeting, 9 a.m.– via Zoom

March 28 AAUW Book Club, 12:30 p.m. at Affinity Apartments Library, 3930 Affinity Lane. Use the keypad by the front door to have Kay Davin buzz you in. Book is ***The Hundred Years' War on Palestine***, by Rashid Khalidi. Paperback, 2021. 336pp/NF

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.

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,
goldracket@aol.com
or Sandy Hays, sanhaydaisy@gmail.com

It means the world to me that what I am fighting and working so hard for is noticed and supported. I cannot describe how I feel accepting this gift as anything other than *seen* in this sense of community found in women in STEM. Throughout my high school years, I've made sure to work as hard as I possibly could to ensure my success and path in the future. I participated in a range of sports. These experiences and interactions really taught me the importance of community within a group and how that can get you through the hardest times. It also showed me just how bad it can be alone. As the first and only female on the Central Louisiana wrestling team, I was constantly ostracized, harassed, and put down. It was a traumatizing experience that taught me many valuable lessons in being a woman in a male dominated area and how to fight for me and what I deserve.

I plan to get a Bachelor's in Biology and a Masters in Zoology. My passion for animals has always been there and has never wavered.

This gift allows me to feel more safety and security in my schooling and ability to afford it despite coming from an impoverished family. I am able to afford my books, apartment, school supplies, and tuition. I am so entirely thankful for all your support.

Sincerely, Aubrey Templeton

..... AAUW Out and About

This note from Margo Hammond:

“I will be hiking the Grand Canyon on May 5th as part of Team in Training (TNT) while raising money for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS). I am raising funds to help find cures and ensure access to treatments for blood cancer patients. Please consider donating to my TNT fundraising page located at: <https://pages.lls.org/tnt/wa/CanyonS24/mhammond> and help get us all closer to a world without blood cancers.”



A suggestion from Uzma Ahmad:

“One Western resource, I think our AAUW members might find interesting is **Fairhaven College’s World Issues Forum (WIF).**”

World Issues Forum is Western Washington University’s human rights and global justice speaker series.

Each month, a distinguished guest speaker addresses urgent global justice topics including planetary survival; decolonization and anti-racism; human rights; migrations, and world economy.

The final talk of the winter series is March 6, 12:00 - 1:20, Fairhaven College Auditorium FA 300A&B. Check it out online.

Pacific Northwest film premiere and panel discussion on March 8

Screening of “**Love Letters**” follows the remarkable love story of professor, feminist scholar and Bellingham native Catharine R. Stimpson and musicologist Elizabeth Wood.

Western Washington University in partnership with CASCADIA International Women’s Film Festival will host “‘Love Letters’: A Film Screening and Conversation with Catharine R. Stimpson, Elizabeth Wood, and Greta Schiller,” in celebration of International Women’s Day, on Friday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the WWU Performing Arts Center Main Stage.

The event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited, with advanced registration and tickets required. Ticketing via the WWU PAC Box Office will be open from Monday, January 22, 2024, until the venue reaches capacity.

We have an AAUW link to the Meetup invite at <https://meetu.ps/e/MSzgp/LSKPJ/i>
For more information, here is the WWU link:

<https://news.wwu.edu/pacific-northwest-film-premiere-and-panel-discussion-to-explore-feminism-women-s-and-lgbtq-rights>

AAUW
American University
PRESENTS....

April 5th
5:30-7:30pm
LAKE PADDEN ESTATES
Clubhouse Unit 26A
4949 Samish Way

**"Gin and Sin"
Fundraiser**

BELLINGHISTORY
WITH THE
GOOD TIME GIRLS

Featuring an entertaining presentation by
the historic Bellingham Good Time Girls!

Specialty gin drinks from a
women's distillery in
Portland and non-alcoholic
drinks will be provided.

**Cost is \$60, donations of appetizers
would be appreciated as well.**
Thirty tickets will be sold; get yours early.

To purchase tickets and/or for
questions, please call Susan Moen
206-399-4909 or Catherine
Chambers 360-920-5385.



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

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