

## November 9th meeting

*A special program  
at a special spot!*

Bring your friends to the November meeting!

We will gather in the historic Rotunda Room at the Old City Hall Museum, 121 Prospect St.

Before becoming a music therapist, our speaker, Gayle Cloud, began her music career in Paris as a jazz singer, followed by several years as a musician/singer/songwriter in New York City before returning to her hometown of Seattle. She returned to school and earned a degree in music therapy from Seattle Pacific University.

Gayle developed and introduced the University of Washington Medical Center's first music therapy offering. For five years, she worked in individual and group settings with patients in the cardiac, rehabilitation, pain management, transplant, intensive care and neonatal intensive care units.

Gayle also created the first music therapy group program at the Swedish MS Center for out-patients living with neurological disorders such as Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's. She is passionate about how music therapy can transform lives, heal the spirit and provide hope for an abundant life, in spite of physical, emotional, or cognitive challenges.

**"MUSIC AS THERAPY"**

**AAUW**  
WHATCOM BRANCH

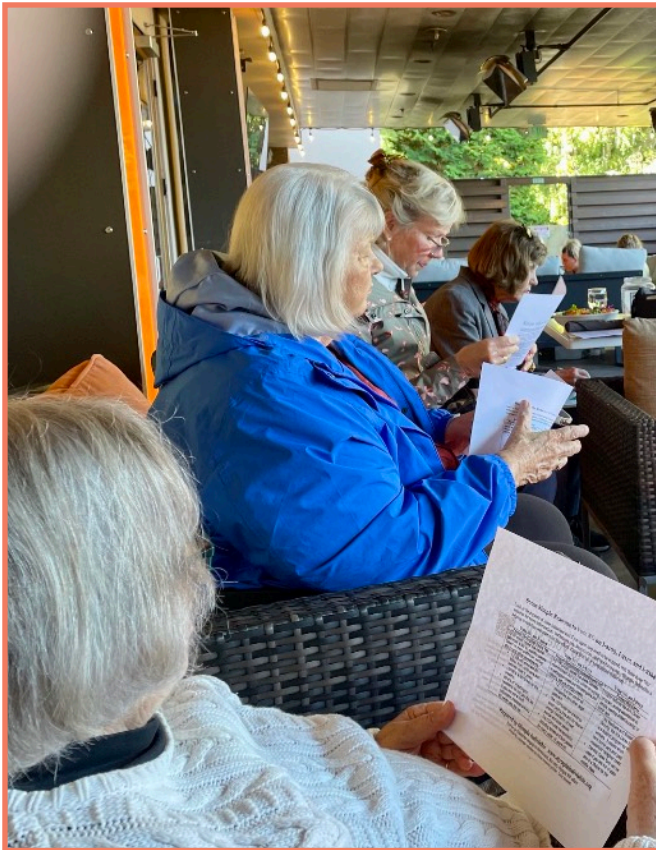
Presents  
**Gayle Cloud, MT-BC**  
Board-certified Music Therapist

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2024**  
**10:00 – 12:00**  
**Rotunda Room**  
**Bellingham Old City Hall**

Several board members have volunteered to bring finger foods and coffee. **Members will be asked to make a contribution toward the room use fee, if they are able.**

**Persons with mobility issues** can use the ramp at the rear of the museum to enter on the ground floor and take the elevator up to the Rotunda Room.





### A sunny start to the day....

Whatcom AAUW members were blessed with a sunny morning for their *al fresco* October meeting, held at B-Town Kitchen restaurant in Bellingham.

Only a portion of the attendees are shown here, as small groups gathered around several tables and a fire pit, for a little Branch business and a lot of conversation. Catherine Chambers, shown second from left, below, gave a short review of the ballot initiatives on the Washington State November ballot.

The consensus was that the venue was an enjoyable change of pace.





**Have you thought about AAUW’s Legacy Circle?** Shown with other AAUW Legacy Circle members from around the state at the October State Meeting are Whatcom Branch members **George and Judi Edwards**, far left, and **Susan Moen**, front right. Legacy bequests are donations made through a will or revocable trust. They will not affect your cash flow in your lifetime but will provide a meaningful gift upon your death.

**November calendar**

**Nov. 9**      **Monthly meeting**, 10 a.m. at Old City Hall.

**Nov. 23**      **AAUW Board meeting**, 9 a.m. via Zoom.

**Dec. 5**      **AAUW Book Club**, 12:30 p.m. at Affinity Apartments Library, 3930 Affinity Lane. Book is *The Counterfeit Countess*. *(Combined Nov/Dec meeting.)*

**More fun next month!**

Our December meeting will once again be held at the home of Co-President Uzma Ahmad and her husband, WWU President Sabah Randahwa.

Oooo...that’s Friday the 13th! Bring your good luck charm!

**Perhaps some afternoon in January?**

National AAUW is offering showings of a documentary, *Arise Firebird*, available until early February.

Susan Moen suggested this after she saw it at the State meeting in October. She said, “It is directed and produced by a woman who is part of the documentary. This covers three women of color trying to break the glass ceilings of corporate business in England: well qualified, trying very hard but not promoted. It has an uplifting ending - so it is worth watching. We followed it (at the state meeting) with a discussion with the director by Zoom from her home in England.”

This could be a good excuse for small groups of members and friends to gather for afternoon coffee and a movie.



**Happy November Birthday!**

Monica Ackerman	1st
Lynda Buehring	16th
Mary Jane Vetter	28th

**AAUW Book Club**

The combined November/December meeting will be held Dec. 5, 12:30 p.m. at Affinity Apartments Library, 3930 Affinity Lane. Guests are always welcome!

The book for discussion is *The Counterfeit Countess*, by Elizabeth White and Joanna Sliwa.

It is available in paperback and also Kindle and audio.

The true story of Dr. Josephine Janina Mehlberg—a Jewish mathematician who saved thousands of lives in Nazi-occupied Poland by masquerading as a Polish aristocrat—drawing on Mehlberg’s own unpublished memoir.

Mehlberg operated in Lublin, Poland, headquarters of Aktion Reinhard, the SS operation that murdered 1.7 million Jews in occupied Poland. Using the identity papers of a Polish aristocrat, she worked as a welfare official while also serving in the Polish resistance. With guile, cajolery, and steely persistence, the “Countess” persuaded SS officials to release thousands of Poles from the Majdanek concentration camp. She won permission to deliver food and medicine for thousands more of the camp’s prisoners. At the same time, she personally smuggled supplies and messages to resistance fighters imprisoned in Majdanek. Incredibly, she eluded detection, and ultimately survived the war and emigrated to the US.

Drawing on the manuscript of Mehlberg’s own unpublished memoir supplemented with prodigious research, professional historians and Holocaust experts have uncovered the full story of this remarkable woman.

Questions? Call Gwen Parker, 360-933-4314

## Welcome to AAUW

### How to join or renew

AAUW Whatcom Membership Renewal or joining as a new member is easily done online at <https://www.aauw.org/membership> or mail a check to:

AAUW Whatcom Treasurer  
PO Box 29862  
Bellingham, WA. 98228

Regular Membership: \$93.00  
Other Membership:  
Event Special: \$57.00  
Friend of AAUW: \$10.00  
College Students: \$18.81

Contact Lynda Buehring,  
[goldracket@aol.com](mailto:goldracket@aol.com)  
or  
Carol Simmer  
[carollsimmer@gmail.com](mailto:carollsimmer@gmail.com)

## Bellingham Branch AAUW

P.O. Box 29862 Bellingham, WA 98228  
<https://bellingham-wa.aauw.net/>

### Executive Board 2024-25

#### Co-Presidents

**Judi Edwards**  
**360-303-0487**

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

**Uzma Ahmad**  
[ustar@comcast.net](mailto:ustar@comcast.net)

#### Treasurer

**Judith Paulson**  
[paulsonfinancial2@gmail.com](mailto:paulsonfinancial2@gmail.com)

#### Program Chair

**Susan Moen**  
[susanmoen@comcast.net](mailto:susanmoen@comcast.net)  
**206-399-4909**

#### Membership Co-Chairs

**Lynda Buehring**  
**206-550-4409**  
[goldracket@aol.com](mailto:goldracket@aol.com)  
**Carol Simmer**  
**360-961-4519**  
[carollsimmer@gmail.com](mailto:carollsimmer@gmail.com)

#### Secretary

**George Edwards**  
[aauwwhatcom@gmail.com](mailto:aauwwhatcom@gmail.com)

#### Public Policy

**Catherine Chambers**  
**360-920-5385**  
[chamberscatherine318@gmail.com](mailto:chamberscatherine318@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)

#### IT Specialist

**Judi Edwards**  
**360-303-0487**

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

#### Newsletter & Communications

**Gwen Parker**  
**360-933-4314**  
[parker.gwen@comcast.net](mailto:parker.gwen@comcast.net)