



Stanwood-Camano Branch of AAUW

In Touch

December 2024

Founded in April, 1936 - Celebrating 88 Years

Edited by Martha Huyler and Georgi Proulx



www.aauwsc.org

December 3rd

Tuesday—24 hours

Stanwood Camano Give

Giving Tuesday

December 5th

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

December Board Meeting

SCAF Meeting Room

December 12th

Thursday, 12:00 p.m.

Holiday Luncheon

Il Granaio Authentic Italian Restaurant

100 E. Montgomery, Unit 110

Mount Vernon

December 17th

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

JAVA BREAK

Cookie Mill

For Coffee and Conversation

Bring a Prospective Member

President's Message

Jackie-Lyn Olson

As I write this message, I am reflecting with gratitude on my recent experiences and some of the highlights of being connected with you as members of our branch of AAUW. We started this year with a Leadership meeting in the warm shadow of Nancy Voelcker's' Weeping Willow tree. I was filled with excitement and hope for the coming year, and it has been so much better than I could imagine! From the Kickoff Picnic at the shelter in Camano Hills to the stormy night at the High School PAC, this has been an exciting endeavor!

I attended a state President's meeting last Monday and was asked to relay to our branch members the idea of restarting, at the state level, an experience for college students who might be interested in learning firsthand about the workings of government. The original program, NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders), was designed to provide college students with opportunities to visit Washington, D.C. A revival of the program is under consideration and would focus on providing an experience in our own state capital. I was asked to present the idea to our branch membership. Your input is important!

We have several great activities coming up, be sure to mark your calendars! The Holiday Luncheon is just around the corner.

I hope you are staying warm, dry and healthy!

December 12—Holiday Luncheon—Il Granaio Italian Restaurant

Mary Pilkington, Joyce Leak, Lael Williams

December 12 meeting is our Holiday Luncheon at Il Granaio Authentic Italian Restaurant, 100 E. Montgomery, Mount Vernon. Cost is \$37, and reservations are due by December 8. Please email Mary Pilkington if you are attending and mail your check to AAUW-SC, PO Box 2652, Stanwood 98292 **ASAP**. If you cancel after December 8 there is no refund of your reservation unless you find a replacement for your seat. To pay with your credit card at the luncheon the revised cost is \$38.10 for lunch plus credit fee.



We will be collecting school supplies for the students in the Stanwood-Camano School District. The five most often requested items are: Crayola washable markers(10ct), wide ruled composition notebooks, college ruled composition notebooks, box of 21 Crayola colored pencils, individual pencil sharpeners with built in shaving receptacles. Please keep track of your costs for the items purchased as the school district needs to know the value of donations.

If you are unable to attend the luncheon but would like to participate in the supplies collection, please contact Lael Williams or Joyce Leak to make arrangements to receive your donations. Thank you for your support!

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Future Events

January 2nd

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

January Board Meeting
SCAF Meeting Room

January 9th

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

General Meeting
SCAF Meeting Room
*Helion Energy, Building the
World's First Fusion Power Plant*

January 15th

Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

JAVA BREAK

Cookie Mill
*For Coffee and Conversation
Bring a Prospective Member*



Visit our branch website:
www.aauwsc.org

Public Policy

Go to:

AAUW Washington to keep up with happenings in the current legislative session and to learn about areas for action.

www.aauw-wa.org

AUW Action Network for Congressional items regarding the national issues for action.

<http://capwiz.com/aauw/home/>

Giving Tuesday is December 3 for our local Stanwood-Camano Give. Our AAUW project is to raise \$3000 for "Science and Technology Camp for Girls", our AAUW Tech Trek program.

Follow our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw for prize announcements and incentives throughout the day then share on your news feed to spread the word.



Get the word out before the event with friends and family around the country, even the world. Friends everywhere can donate online at www.scgive.org on December 3.

You can also find this project on Instagram at [@scgivingtuesday](https://www.instagram.com/scgivingtuesday) and on Facebook at [@stanwoodcamanogivingtuesday](https://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanogivingtuesday)

Plan your giving using the prize structure described below:

Last But Not Least - Midnight to midnight - \$150 prize given to the project that receives the last donation of every hour from midnight to midnight. Sponsored by THE OLSON FOUNDATION.

Early Bird Boost - 12 a.m. to 7 a.m. - The first \$1000 in donations of any amount up to \$500 from different donors given between midnight and 7 a.m. will be matched by GET SIMPLE BOX.

Power Hour—AM - 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. - The project with the greatest number of unique donors between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. will win \$250. Sponsored by GOODNIGHT HOMES—NORTH 48.

Snooze Button Blast - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - The first 20 \$25 donations from different donors given between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. will be matched. Sponsored by CEDARHOME COFFEE CO.

Morning Motivator - 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. - The first 10 \$50 donations from different donors given between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. will be matched. Sponsored by RE/MAX ELEVATE and M/Q GIFTS.

Golden Ticket—AM - 11 a.m. to Noon \$250 prize given to the project that has received the most donations between 11 a.m. and Noon. Sponsored by LESLIE TRIPP, AGENT STATE FARM.

Lunchtime Lift - 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. - The first 10 \$100 donations from different donors given between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. will be matched. Sponsored by COASTAL.

Small Donors, Big Impact— 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. The first \$500 in donations of \$10 to \$20 from different donors given between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. will be matched. Sponsored by GREENWORKS OF WASHINGTON SEPTIC.

Happy Hour Helper - 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. - The first 4 \$250 donations from different donors given between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. will be matched. Sponsored by WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE.

Golden Ticket—PM - 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. \$250 prize given to the project that has received the most donations between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sponsored by LESLIE TRIPP, AGENT STATE FARM.

Power Hour—PM - 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. - The project with the greatest number of unique donors between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. will win \$250. Sponsored by EVERGREEN HOME LOANS.

Happy Homestretch - 10 p.m. to Midnight. The first \$1500 in donations between \$100 and \$250 from different donors given between 10 p.m. and midnight will be matched. Sponsored by LENZ ENTERPRISES.

Most Creative Social Media— \$250 prize given to the two projects that had the most creative social media campaigns. Sponsored by COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY.

Highest Average Donation—\$250 prize given to the two projects that had the highest average of dollars given per unique donor. Sponsored by COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY.

All matches are based on a donation made in the qualifying amount to a single organization, not to multiple organizations totaling the qualifying amount.

All matches are limited to one match per donor household per prize category. Households can qualify for matches in more than one prize category throughout the day.

Only donations made online are eligible toward prizes.

If you have any questions contact Georgi Proulx.

Your 2024-2025 Board

President

Jackie-Lyn Olson

President-Elect

(open position)

VP of Finance

Robin Hanks

VP of Finance-Elect

(open position)

Co-VP of Membership

Joyce Leak, Lael Williams

Secretary

Linda Lynn

VP of Program

Mary Pilkington

Assistants: Linda Demetre,

Mary Raymond*

Public Policy

Judith Prince

Communications

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler

* Appointed position, shares vote with VP

Activity Leaders

High School STEM Scholars

Linda Demetre, Lael Williams

Scholarship Chair

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Gail Merrick

Tech Trek Chair

Mary Chesney

Purses with Purpose 2026

Georgi Proulx, Mary Raymond

AAUW Funds Coordinator

Jackie DeFazio

Candidate & Issues Forum

Kathy Cunningham

Historian

Helen Smith

Diversity

Katie Farrey

Stanwood-Camano Give

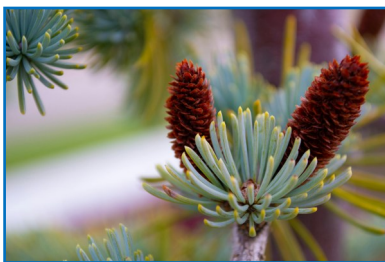
Mary Raymond, Georgi Proulx

Sunshine

Mary Ann Schradi

Newsletter Team

Georgi Proulx, Martha Huyler



Public Policy—Moving Forward

Judy Prince

The 2024 election is history. Now we can move forward.

I participated in November in an AAUW National Webinar regarding challenges to women's economic equality. These existing, historical issues prevent women from achieving equality in this area. One of the saddest things in this area is that Indigenous Women's Equal Pay Day was November 21. Equal Pay Day is a symbolic date representing the number of days women have to work into the current year just to make the same amount of money men made in the prior one.

I viewed a documentary on Amazon Prime called "Missing from Fire Trail Road". This is mainly concerning a young woman who has been missing from the Tulalip reservation for some years and her family's efforts to find information about her. Other sessions were filmed on the Yakima reservation where women are also missing. The damage caused by the boarding schools is also covered. Some very powerful images. There is a small fee – under \$5.00 – to view this film.

The state public policy team is waiting to learn what bills will be introduced in the 2025 legislative session. We will have some recommendations for support and opposition by the time Lobby Day happens in late January. This will probably be a virtual event as more members are able to attend than when we had in person meetings. We are also more likely to speak to the legislator rather than a staff member when we have virtual meetings. I will schedule meetings with the 10th district legislators and will share the information with all branch members. Please join me as our message has more strength with constituents participate.



Activity Leaders

High School STEM Scholars

Linda Demetre, Lael Williams

Scholarship Chair

Marianne McGarry-Bloom

Gail Merrick

Tech Trek Chair

Mary Chesney

Purses with Purpose 2026

Georgi Proulx, Mary Raymond

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Stanwood-Camano Give

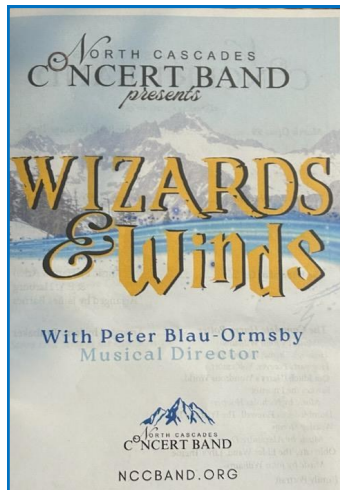
Mary Raymond, Georgi Proulx

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Wizards & Winds—November 24 Day Tripper

On Sunday, November 24, ten branch members and guests shared the performance of Wizards & Winds at McIntyre Hall by the North Cascades Concert Band. In attendance were: Lael Williams and her granddaughter Freya, Mary Pilkington, Linda Demetre, Helen Smith, Sandra Garson, Bev Maxwell, Charlotte Walker, Jenny Al Shafi and Lynda Buehring. They gave the performance rave reviews and thoroughly enjoyed listening to the music of *Harry Potter* (John Williams) and *The Lord of the Rings* (Howard Shore). In addition to the movie themes, they performed *Dance Macabre* by Camile Saint Seans as well as movements from

Joan De-Meij's *Lord of the Rings* Symphony for Symphonic Band.

To begin their day, they bet at the Calico Cupboard in Mount Vernon for pleasing lunch.

Watch for the next Day Tripper outing. Lynda Buehring always does such a great job planning the day...you'll not want to miss her next trip.



DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Spotlight

Katie Farrey

Dyslexia/Dyscalculia: Those with Dyslexia (10-20% of the population) often find reading and writing challenging as letters and symbols tend to shift. They see the world differently and are often creative, excelling at noticing details, patterns, and the big picture.

Those with Dyscalculia (5-7% of the population) find numerical information challenging. They may struggle with counting, budgeting, reading a map, and solving basic math problems. They may excel at geometry, spotting patterns, and solving problems creatively in unique ways.

Neither dyslexia nor dyscalculia have any effect on intelligence.

Upcoming Opportunities:

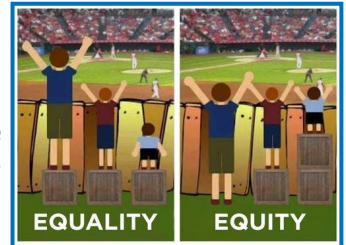
December 1st Rosa Parks Day

December 3rd International Day of People with Disabilities

December 10th Human Rights Day

December 10th Table Talk: Tips for Creative Communications
(Watch for an email from AAUW National with a link and info)

December 21st National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day



Projected Program Schedule for 2025

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| February 13 | Joan Pang, Japanese Internment Camp Experience
SCAF Meeting Room |
| March 13 | Debbie Dimitre presents Harriet Tubman and Harriet Beecher Stowe
Utsalady Ladies Aid |
| April 10 | Learn about Neurodiversity
SCAF Meeting Room |
| May 8 | High School STEM Scholar Recognition & Introduction of Tech Trek
Campers 2025 |
| June | Scholarship Tea |

Special Branch Activities

Day Trippers

An informal gathering of members with time and interest to participate in a variety of outings.

Lynda Buehring

JAVA Break

Meet for coffee/tea and great conversation getting to know your fellow members. Bring a prospective member too if you would like.

Nancy Voelckers

Movie Group

Meet for a movie at our local Stanwood Cinema. Watch for an email invitation. Suggestions are encouraged.

Anne Milton
Georgi Proulx

Book Group

Open to all members. Join us for lively conversation if you've read the book or if you just want to come join the discussion.

Katie Farrey
Marianne McGarry-Bloom



LIKE our page to
follow us then

SHARE to increase
our visibility in



[www.facebook.com/
stanwoodcamanoaauw](http://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanoaauw)

Book Group

Katie Farrey, Marianne McGarry-Bloom

All members are invited to join the Book Group whether you have read the book or just want to join the conversation. Please contact Katie Farrey if you want to be added to the email list.

December 2, 2:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Pilkington

The Maid by Nita Prose

"A charmingly eccentric hotel maid discovers a guest murdered in his bed, turning her once orderly world upside down--and inspiring a motley crew of unexpected allies to band together to solve the mystery--in this utterly original debut. She finds herself in a web of subtext and nuance she has no idea how to untangle. "

January 6, 2:00 p.m. at the home of Judy Trammell

Flower Net: A Red Princess Mystery by Lisa See

"In the depths of a Beijing winter, during the waning days of Deng Xiaoping's reign, the U.S. ambassador's son is found dead--his body entombed in a frozen lake. Around the same time, aboard a ship adrift off the coast of Southern California, Assistant U.S. Attorney David Stark makes a startling discovery: the corpse of a Red Prince, a scion of China's political elite. The Chinese and American governments suspect that the deaths are connected and, in an unprecedented move, they join forces to see justice done."

February 3, 2:00 p.m. at the Home of Martha Huyler

A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win WWII by Sonia Pernel

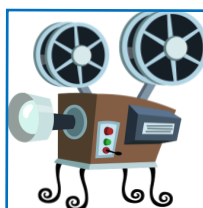
"The never-before-told story of one woman's heroism that changed the course of the Second World War. In 1942, the Gestapo sent out an urgent transmission: 'She is the most dangerous of all Allied spies. We must find and destroy her.' This spy was Virginia Hall, a young American woman--rejected from the foreign service because of her gender and her prosthetic leg--who talked her way into the spy organization dubbed Churchill's "ministry of ungentlemanly warfare," and, before the United States had even entered the war, became the first woman to deploy to occupied France. Virginia Hall was one of the greatest spies in American history, yet her story remains untold. A Woman of No Importance is the breathtaking story of how one woman's fierce persistence helped win the war."

For more information, contact Katie Farrey or Marianne McGarry-Bloom.



Next **JAVA Break** will be Tuesday, December 17, at the Cookie Mill 10:00 a.m. Please save the date, bring a friend! Our gatherings are a special time with friends to share memories and thoughts we usually don't have time for during general meetings.

Let's share a mug and great conversation...you never know where it's going to take us...!



See You At the Movies!

Georgi checks in with Stanwood Cinema weekly hoping for a good movie. Planning an in house viewing of "Lee" on Prime during December--watch for more information. Email Georgi with your movie interest, and we will schedule a time for the group to meet.



General Meeting Minutes - November 14, 2024

Program: Presentation by Dr. Deborah Rumbaugh, SCSD Superintendent at the SCAF Meeting Room

Call to Order: Following the program where Dr. Rumbaugh was the speaker, Jackie Olson called meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Jackie made several announcements:

- Anyone who wants to attend the December luncheon should pay Robin Hanks today.
- On October 19, she attended a "Telling Our Stories" meeting that featured a movie called "Arise Firebrand", which discusses how women can make their way in a male dominated field. She recommends it; it is available on YouTube.
- Information is being shared by State for hybrid meetings which would allow more participation.
- She thanked Lael Williams for the success of the new members gathering.
- We have openings and need members to volunteer for President Elect and Treasurer Elect.

Secretary: Linda Lynn presented October minutes for approval as printed in the November newsletter. Anne Milton motioned to approve, Mary Raymond seconded; the motion was approved.

Treasurer: Robin Hanks reported income for October was dues and money for the wine glasses. No bill has been received for the Candidate Forum rental of the SHS Performing Arts Center. The two AAUW funds donations were mailed certified and reported received but not cashed. The balance of the Operating Account is \$4717.46. Total assets are \$58,920.14.

Membership: Joyce Leak mentioned reinstating "buddies" for new members in order to provide the help they might need in navigating our branch. It was suggested that those members who had invited new members could serve as their buddies.

Programs: Mary Pilkington reported that the December general meeting will be the annual Holiday Luncheon that will be held at Il Granaio in Mount Vernon.

Public Policy: Judy Prince reported that she attended an online state recap of the election. Lobby Day will occur soon.

Scholarships: Marianne McGarry-Bloom announced that Gail Merrick will be her co-chair. They are working on the rubric for 2025. February 1 is the start date of the application process. The scholarship budget is being created and will appear in the January newsletter to be reviewed at the January meeting. Three \$7,000 scholarships will be awarded in 2025, pending approval of the budget in January.

PWP: Georgi Proulx announced that Mary Raymond will co-chair with Georgi next year for the 2026 event. They will conduct interviews with venues including the Camano Center. Volunteers are needed for committee chairs. Karen Walden, Jackie DeFazio, and Mary Pilkington will work on Procurement.

Tech Trek: One of the Tech Trek assignments will be in honor of Doris Taylor. We plan to send six girls to camp in 2025 pending approval of the budget in January.

STEM Scholars: Lael Williams reported that the High School STEM Scholar Recognition process begins in January. \$300 has been allocated for gifts for the girls.

DEI: Katie Farrey attended a national meeting on Inclusion and Equity. On December 10, a "Tips for Creative Communication" meeting will be held. Katie also mentioned that problems have arisen with the local school board. For more information on either of these topics, please contact her.

Interest Groups:

Java Break: November 20, 10:00 at the Cookie Mill.

Movie Group: "Lee" is available on Amazon Prime, and can be viewed at someone's home, possibly at Georgi's house, tbd.

SC Give: Mary Raymond: The date is December 3. The goal is to raise enough money to send two girls to Tech Trek.

Candidate Forum: Feedback resulting from the Candidates Forum rated it as excellent. For the future, we could consider putting it online.

New Business: Sadly, May Palmer's husband passed away.

Adjourn: Jackie Olson adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Linda Lynn
Secretary

