

Edmonds SnoKing Branch Newsletter



Contact us at aauw.esk@gmail.com | On the Web at esk-wa.aauw.net |



- **Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m. to noon.** Branch meeting, EdCC Snohomish Hall, Room 338. STEM Scholar Recognition and introduction of our high school scholarship winner. Guest speaker from [Days for Girls International](#).
- **Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m.,** Diversity Book Group, discussing *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. Call Helen Behan for more information.
- **Friday, May 19, 10 a.m.,** Coffee and Conversation, Café Louvre in Edmonds.
- **Monday, May 22, 12:30 p.m.,** Bridge Group at the home of Merrie Emmons.

LOOKING AHEAD:
Saturday, June 10, Branch Meeting, Team Recruitment and Recognition.



From Your Co-Presidents

At the May 13 meeting, the Administration Team, along with other volunteers, will be reviewing your contact information for the directory. May-June is when we renew our membership. See page 5 for more information about a future increase in your national AAUW dues.

Consider attending the AAUW WA-State Summer Training Conference on August 19 in Ellensburg. It's an all-day activity hearing various speakers and breaking into small groups with topics. It's a great time for your voice to be heard. Registration will be around \$45. If you drive there, our branch will pay for your gas. In the past there have been carpools leaving early in the morning, stopping for dinner, and arriving back home around 8 PM. I hope we can fill two cars.

Our annual Branch Retreat will be on Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The retreat will be in the social room at Stella's Landing in Edmonds. (More information in the June newsletter.) There will be a sign-up sheet for potluck contributions.

Nadine McCray



Branch Bylaws Update and Voting

Last fall, AAUW attorneys recommended a complete restatement of AAUW bylaws. This affects all affiliates—branch and state. Since then Jan Holsbo and Mary Ross have been working on the Edmonds SnoKing Branch bylaws, which had not been updated since May, 2012, revising them to:

- Comply with national AAUW bylaws. (Articles I to VII of our branch bylaws are now mandated by national.)
- Eliminate duplication.
- Change the branch name from Edmonds to Edmonds SnoKing.
- Update the team structure and leadership to be consistent with current practice.

The revised Branch bylaws are included with this newsletter and are also on our website in the [Members Only section](#). You will be voting on the bylaws at the June 10 meeting. The revised bylaws have been reviewed and approved by the Branch Board and by the WA State bylaws chair Karen Manelis. A final review was done by Phyllis Keiley Tyler and Helen Behan. If you have any questions or need any clarification before the vote, please contact Mary Ross, 206-799-6875 or mbucherross@ymail.com.

Report on AAUW WA-State Meeting

The AAUW-WA State meeting was held April 22 in a lovely setting at the Cedar River Watershed Education Center. It was a well attended, lively, informative event led by President Judith Prince. Jan Holsbo and I sat with five other women from different branches and we had very enjoyable discussions. There were four presentations.



First presenter was Lynda Buerhing, a member of the Stanwood Camano Branch who retired after 32 years with the Department of Homeland Security assigned to oversee the Human Trafficking Unit in Seattle. She was on the task force that

wrote the legislation making Washington, in 2003, the first state to pass a law criminalizing human trafficking. Homeland Security agent Jennifer Williams and Clint Watanabe, Victims Assistance Specialist, joined Lynda in discussing the different types of human trafficking, including but not limited to smuggling, prostitution, forced labor, and mail order marriages. They investigate cases and direct victims to the resources needed, including intensive case management, physical and mental health treatment, financial aid, immigration and legal services as well as food, housing, and job training.

“Women and Work: Origins of Pay Inequality.” Dr. Karen Anderson is a specialist in women's and U.S. history. Her research and teaching focused on issues related to women's status in all major social institutions; race relations; and effects of public policy on educational and workplace opportunities. Historically, the gender equality gap goes very far back. In the era of the Salem witch hunts it wasn't just religion run amuck, it was also about women inheriting property. When it became known that some property was about to be inherited by a woman, the townsmen found some reason to accuse the woman of witchcraft so they could execute her and seize her property. In colonial times there were few jobs for women and the pay was dismal. Clerical, teaching and government positions were held by men.

Eventually women were able to enter some of these fields, but as they did so, the wages became lower. Women who worked to support families usually did so on the employers' terms. Work in the public sector was more equitable than in the private sector. Karen brought out so many historical and current facts about gender inequity, I could write pages.

Ginnie DeForest urged us to join the Legacy Circle and donate to AAUW in your estate or long-term financial planning.

Sue Barley is a member of the national AAUW Board. She gave updates on recent events. There have been several positions cut, and several programs will no longer be staffed at national, including Elect Her and Tech Trek. Research will continue. The latest research report, Deeper in Debt, Women and Student Loans, will be released on May 24. The Washington Update and Two-minute Activist will continue. Sue encouraged everyone to vote in the AAUW election. Paper ballots must be requested by May 4. Online voting ends in June. The candidate statements and bylaws amendments are in the Spring Outlook. There is also a proposal to change membership. One version would open membership to anyone supporting the AAUW mission regardless of degree or lack of it. Dues will go up \$10 in 2018. There has been no dues increase since 2008.

The day ended with a business meeting and election of officers for WA State AAUW. Elected unanimously were Jeanie Glaspell Recording Secretary, and Karen Anderson and Eileen Baratuci, Board of Directors.

Helen Behan and Jan Holsbo

NOTES FROM THE BOARD



Our Branch Summer Retreat will be on Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in the social room at Stella's Landing,

Our priorities are Philanthropy, Scholarships, Program, Membership, and

Public Policy. The discussion of our scholarships will be combined with brainstorming for the Philanthropy Team. We need new ideas on how to obtain donations and extend contributions beyond our membership. We hope that our Shoreline CC representative Kendall Shawhan, whose work is in fundraising for the college, will be able to facilitate this discussion.

There is great interest in structuring our programs so that they connect to the public policy focus of AAUW.

As incoming Branch administrator, Nadine McCray has formed an administrative team consisting of Sunny Strong, Mary Hovander, and Sandra Distelhorst.



"Forty-five years ago, AAUW member Rep. Patsy Mink (D-HI) led the charge in Congress to pass Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972. With the bill's passage on June 23, 1972, the nation moved forward in striving to ensure equal opportunity in education for all students regardless of sex."

Inequities that deter student abilities to succeed were addressed, as well as benefits for boys and men who want equal access to an equitable education. Title IX protects the rights of all students to learn, and benefits the nation as a whole, which stands to gain a well-prepared work force. So what's happening to Title IX after 45 years? Progress has been made but challenges to equity still exist.

- STEM fields of engineering and computing are vastly underrepresented. In 2013 women made up 26% of employees in computing fields and only 12% in engineering.
- Parent and parenting students are often subjected to discriminatory policies that present obstacles to completing their education.
- There is a huge role for Congress/federal agencies to establish and support outreach and retention programs at elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels to engage women and girls in STEM activities, such as Expanding Your Horizons, Tech Trek, and Girls Who Code.
- Efforts must address implicit gender bias and avoid reinforcing stereotypes.

- Stronger enforcement is needed at federal/ state/institutional levels to protect students from discrimination.
- Campus sexual assault is receiving attention thanks to survivor activism. (Our branch screened the documentary film "The Hunting Ground.")
- Title IX requires schools to take immediate action to eliminate a hostile environment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy the effects on the survivor.
- Every school must employ a Title IX coordinator to implement the law. Most harmful violations occur when schools fail to employ a Title IX coordinator, or when the coordinator lacks training or authority to oversee compliance with the law.
- In 2016 further guidance was provided to explain how Title IX protects transgender students. Schools still have an obligation to ensure all students, including transgender students, receive an education free of sex discrimination.
- In 2015 AAUW added to the Data Collection Survey (How many incidents of sexual harassment, students bullied, etc.) and released vital resources and guidance to branches to be delivered to local Title IX coordinators. Our branch participated in this project. The purpose is to obtain a more accurate reporting of what is happening at the local level.

"This generation of women, girls, LGBTQ students, students with disabilities, students of color, and survivors of campus sexual violence will reap the benefit of greater understanding, application, and enforcement of Title IX, which has positively affected academic results and resulted in safer environments for all students."
Lisa Maatz

Phyllis Keiley Tyler

Information for this article comes from AAUW Outlook, Spring 2017, "Title IX at 45" by Amy Becker.

