

Remembering the Past Looking to the Future

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Edmonds Branch of AAUW



Remembering the Past



The Beginning Years 1973 to 1983

Getting Started...

- May 16, 1973, 15 women met at the Lynnwood Library to establish a new branch of AAUW in the Lynnwood-Edmonds area.
- June 7, 1973, 30 women met at the Edmonds Library to approve the by-laws and elect interim officers.
- October 9, 1973, the first official branch meeting at Edmonds Methodist Church.

Charter Members who are active Branch members:



- Barbara Bentson
- Susan Vukich
- Alyce Wiggins
- Barbara Wilson

Memories of Charter Members...

 Susan Vukich: "I responded to an advertisement in the Enterprise inviting women interested in AAUW to a meeting."

Memories of Charter Members...

 Alyce Wiggins: "I am proud to be a Charter Member, but also very glad that there are enthusiastic people ready to carry on."

Memories of Charter Members...

 Barbara Bentson: "Study groups were the heart of our **AAUW** branch in the beginning years. They were informative and satisfied a need for intelligent conversation."

Study groups and program topics included:

- Prevention of Sexual Violence
- Career Opportunities for Women
- Cooking with Lentils
- Assertive Communication
- Women as Agents of Change,
- Aging, Aren't We All?

Parade of Past Presidents



Susan Vukich, 1977 to 1979

"We were still small enough to meet in members' homes."

"My original membership in 1948 satisfied my craving for adult conversation and stimulation, a relief from 'diaper talk.' Although I outgrew my original craving, I have not ceased to have a need for growth, and AAUW provided that opportunity."





Joyce Mansfield 1983 to 1985

"...we focused on two big issues: membership and increasing support for the Educational Foundation."

"I personally appreciated the good friendships that followed as a result of our working together. These friendships have lasted a lifetime."



Sheila Coon 1985 to 1987

"The most significant events during my presidency were the beginning of 'Expanding Your Horizons' and a significant increase in AAUW membership."

"Personally, I appreciated the friendships and intellectual stimulation of the membership."

NORMA KRUGER 1987 to 1989

"Expanding Your Horizons"...introduced girls to a wide variety of professional women they would not otherwise have had the opportunity to meet.

"AAUW has always kept me connected to my community."





Vera Keller 1989 to 1991

At "Expanding Your Horizons,"...middle school and high school girls attended our workshops where professional women told of their less traditional careers. We had a vet, an MD, an auto mechanic...

"AAUW introduced me to active, articulate and contributing members of the community."

Mary Jo Bevan 1993 to 1995

"I oversaw our branch's one and only garage sale in a local bank's parking lot. Let's just say that it wasn't all that successful."

"Talking with intelligent people was a real benefit..."





Ellen Williams 1995 to 1997

"I joined AAUW to promote women doing many significant jobs besides teaching and nursing, although these are most important yet today. Women can do all kinds of jobs and we need to support this - like honoring those in the STEM fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math."

Polly Johnson 1997 to 1999

"...working on local high school scholarships was most important – especially the fact that we give these out each year. I continued to work on these while a member because I enjoyed working with the girls and getting to know them and their families."

"...friendships with women in our Branch of different ages and different interests."



Barbara Wilson, 1999 to 2001



"It's the people. As soon as I met an AAUW member, I felt as if I'd known her for years. We were family! The Book Club's discussion of *The Feminine Mystique* changed me and stimulated me for the rest of my life."



Judith Zoellick 2001 to 2003

"In May, 2003, we celebrated our Branch's 30th Anniversary at Café de Paris in Edmonds. "

"I joined as a member-at-large several years before becoming a Branch member in order to support women and girls with their educational goals and gender issues."

Lori Cross, 2003 to 2007



"Instead of awarding two scholarships to high school senior girls, we decided to offer one of the scholarships to a deserving young woman from the college."

Jan Holsbo and Jo Parkening 2007 to 2009

"We pushed the idea of co-officers to share the work of the branch. Jo promoted the idea of establishing teams to get the work of the branch accomplished."

"I feel myself lucky to have had a fulfilling career and found AAUW as a great way to pay it forward." (Jan Holsbo)





Helen Behan, 2010 to 2011



"The President of Edmonds Community College met with us and a partnership started to take shape."

"I am proud of our (AAUW) national leaders and their courage to speak out and take action in such an effective way."



Phyllis Keiley-Tyler 2011 to 2013

"Membership growth was the most significant event during my presidency."

"How to describe AAUW women? The adjectives are many! Most of all they share my values of making this a better world for women and girls."



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Looking to the Future

- Past president and current branch administrator, Phyllis Keiley-Tyler
- 2013 scholarship recipients, Erica Teasely and Samantha Randall

