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Hello AAUW members. Welcome to September and our Branch's 50th Anniversary! We have some great updates and events for our Branch this month. More about all of this following in this newsletter. We're looking forward to celebrating our 50th Anniversary on September 9.

Any questions or concerns? Reply to this email or contact me directly, [JenniferL91@hotmail.com](mailto:JenniferL91@hotmail.com).

Jennifer Long  
AAUW ESK Newsletter Coordinator



**Edmonds SnoKing (WA) Branch**

**Together, we can achieve a vision  
of equal opportunity for all**

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## **Newsletter | September 2023**

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## President's Message

Dear fellow AAUW members,

As we begin the new program year, we also celebrate our Branch's 50th Anniversary!

As I think about what issues our members were advocating for, I see a strong correlation with what we continue to face today - pay equity, passing the era, access to safe reproductive health medicine. A great way to stay involved is to make sure to voice your opinion...your voice matters!

Speaking of things that matter, Washington State is presenting a Fall series titled "Opportunity Matters." Watch for registration info on our website and the State website soon.

Please come to our meeting September 9 to reconnect and celebrate!

Jodi Forsell  
President

*These links take you to sections of our newsletter.*

Calendar  
Membership News  
Programs  
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Fundraising  
Notes from the Board Meeting  
Diversity Book Group  
Public Policy Updates



## **Put These Dates in Your Calendar**

*Saturday, September 9, 10am-noon, AAUW ESK 50 Year Branch Anniversary Celebration.*  
Hazel Miller Hall, Edmonds College. Light brunch will be served.

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*Thursday, September 14, 3:30-4:30pm, Branch Board meeting via Zoom.*

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## Membership Matters

### FUNdrasing Ahead!

There was talk and preliminary planning regarding a new fundraising event to be held before the holidays. Funds raised would allow the possibility to support TechTrek and other programs within AAUW. The discussion and planning were tabled due to the need for more time and research within the FUNdrasing Team. We will continue with a monthly raffle as well as the Holiday Party and Gift Auction as we did last year.

*The Evening of Art Show* will be held in Spring 2024, with Elena Cervantes as chair. Elena has some great ideas and will be looking to build the planning team soon. Please consider being a part of this fun time. **And, to help find local artists, you will receive one raffle ticket for each artist information (business cards or contact information) you give to Elena or me at the monthly meetings!**

Linda Clay  
VP for Membership  
lindarclay@gmail.com



## Programs

### Sharing & Caring

Last year a number of us got together to donate needed items to Pathways. It was a lot of fun for those of us who participated and think we all felt good about what was put together for that worthy organization.

You may also recall that there were issues about what our Branch was allowed to do in terms of donating to another organization. Those questions were addressed and **Sharing & Caring** is a newly sanctioned interest-group for our Branch. We can donate items to other organizations or charities, but not money per se. We can also donate to individuals.

Ann McNulty would like to call together a meeting of those interested in joining **Sharing & Caring**. The agenda will include selecting a group for donations...it could be Pathways again, or perhaps a student support group or...? Bring your preferences and ideas!

If you would like to be involved this year, please call Ann McNulty or send her an email...with some options of a good time to get together, and if you prefer Zoom or in-person. Ann anticipates bringing the group together the end of September.



## Outreach

Outreach is pairing up with Public Policy and planning a Non-Partisan Meet & Greet Event with local candidates sometime before the November election. More details to follow...

Elena Cervantes  
Outreach Team Leader



## Notes From the Board Meeting

Judy Prince has resigned from her position as Treasurer. The search for a new Treasurer is ongoing. The Treasurer manages the Branch and Foundation A3E finances. The Board welcomes interest in this vacant position: both self-nomination by members, as well as recommendations. The Board thanks Judy for her years of service.

Plans are in motion for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on September 9.

Ann McNulty is pursuing setting up “Sharing & Caring,” a new interest-group for our Branch.

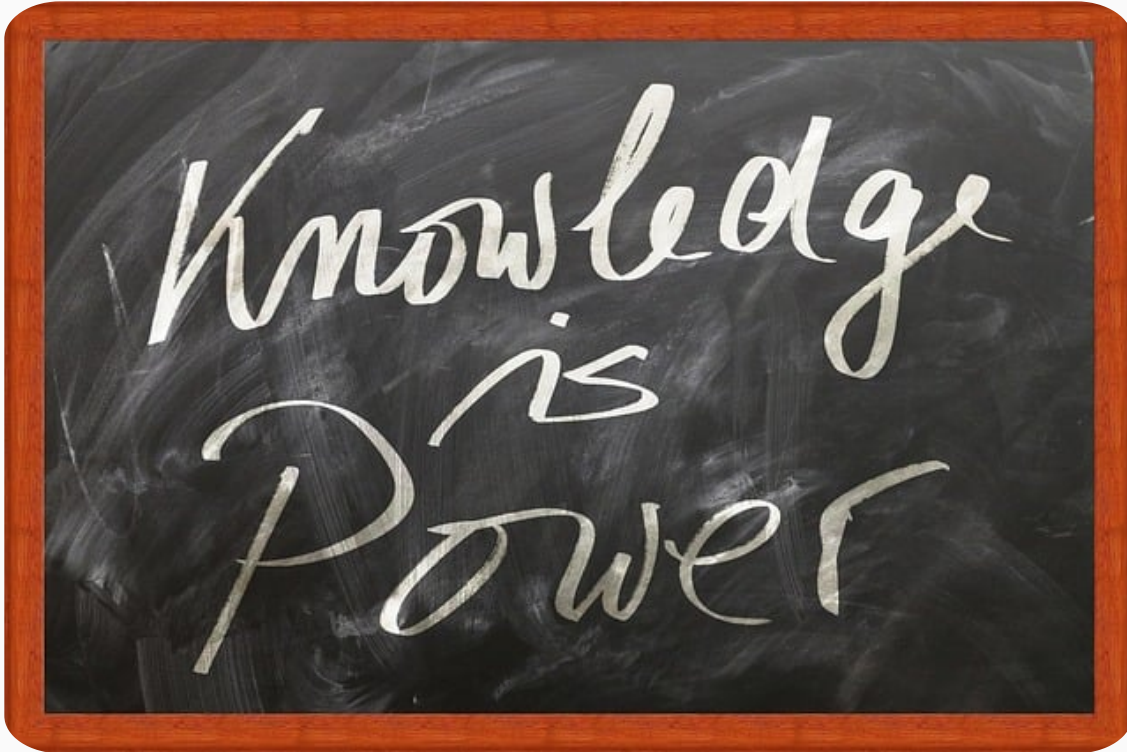
The in-person coffee and conversations will be meeting at different locations this year for a little variety and to increase our visibility.

For scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year, our Branch will offer the same number and value of scholarships as was done this year. Thus, the plan is to keep the budget for scholarships at \$10,000, with \$2,000 for each of 5 scholarships: two college and three high school scholarships. The goals of the scholarship team, and the selection criteria to be used in evaluating applications, will be published on our website and shared with our membership in a forthcoming newsletter.

Sita Bhaskaran  
Secretary



Our next book club meeting will be at the home of Merrie Emmons on Friday, September 8. The book discussed will be **"Horse" by Geraldine Brooks.**



## Public Policy Updates and Actions

The National Public Policy Team continues to send monthly updates to all members who sign up for the action alerts or newsletter. Look for an email on the first Thursday of the month.

Sign up for Two-minute activist [here](#).

Sign up for the Newsletter [here](#).

Our state Evergreen newsletter includes a state update on public policy; it is emailed to all state members on the 15th of the month.

You can find the newsletter on our [website](#).

The September 12 State Webinar will focus on "Opportunities Matter in Public Policy". Our Lobbyist Nancy Sapiro and others will join in the



The Edmonds-SnoKing Public Policy team is working with Community Outreach to host a Candidate Meet & Greet event in October.

Sandra Distelhorst and Susan Teel  
Public Policy Team Leaders  
[aauw.esk.publicpolicy@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.esk.publicpolicy@gmail.com)



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