

# Tacoma Branch News



January 2011 • Website: <http://www.aauw-tacoma.org> • Email: [tacoma@aauw-wa.org](mailto:tacoma@aauw-wa.org)

"By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic and educational barriers so that all women have a fair chance."

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Dorothy McBride*

Happy 2011! (Is it "twenty-eleven" or two-thousand eleven"? I guess either is correct, but I like "twenty-eleven"). Anyway, I'm looking forward to another good year for the Tacoma Branch of AAUW. Of course, how good it is will depend on the participation of all our members in promoting the goals and activities of the branch. From bringing your friends to branch meetings, to volunteering to lead your interest group, to attending Lobby Day, to agreeing to serve in an elected office, there are many ways to contribute. The Nominating Committee members (Mary Trodden, Mary Letterman, and Kay Suiter) will be starting their work soon. They need to find candidates for Program VP (this could be a shared job) and Finance Officer as well as three members for the new Governance/Nominating committee. But, don't wait for them to call you; contact Mary T., Mary L., or Kay to find out more about these offices. Your branch needs YOU.

The January program will bring representatives of Tacoma Catholic Women Religious to tell us about their campaign to stop the demand for human trafficking. Sex trafficking of women and children is a problem both globally and in Pierce County. Trafficking generates an estimated \$9.5 billion yearly; these profits support other criminal activities such as money laundering, drug trafficking and human smuggling. This is not a new problem. Periodically in U.S. history, there has been public attention to trafficking. In the early 1900s Congress enacted the Mann Act that made it a federal crime to transport women across state lines for "immoral purposes". That law has been amended over the years; today it is a crime to transport anyone, male or female, from one state to another for any sexual activity deemed to be crime in the destination state. In 2000, Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection

**BRANCH PROGRAM  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 15,  
10 a.m. to Noon  
Steilacoom Library**

**"Sister Action: What Are  
These Sisters Up To?"**

Just four days after Human Trafficking Awareness Day, Sr. Marilyn Gooley will tell us how three local roman catholic religious communities, the Dominicans, the Franciscans and the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary—U.S. Ontario Province, became active in the "Stop the Demand" campaign. The campaign is the effort of Roman Catholic Women Religious in the Pacific Northwest in collaboration with others to raise awareness about human trafficking through vigils and education.

**Mission:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

**Vision:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

**Diversity:** In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks diversity. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Act to strengthen federal laws to prosecute those bringing women and children into the country from overseas for prostitution. Washington is the only state with a special criminal law to deal with the problem of trafficking. Some organizations provide help for victims: Washington Anti-trafficking Response Network (WARN) is a coalition of organizations in Washington State that provide direct assistance. The focus of the Catholic campaign is different from WARN; it aims to educate, raise public awareness and persuade buyers (90% are men) to stop their demand for women, men and children for sexual exploitation. Come on the 15<sup>th</sup> to learn more about their work.

**Last Call for Archives:** This month the archives committee will begin work on sorting the files and other materials that have been collected from members. Please contact me if you find you have anything you have saved from your AAUW activities.

## **PUBLIC POLICY CORNER**

*By Dorothy McBride*

In the December 2010 newsletter, the Public Policy Corner told the story of the defeat of the Paycheck Fairness Act. Shortly after that, there was a letter to the editor of The News Tribune claiming that there was no such thing as a wage gap between men and women; it was all a big lie. If there is a difference, the letter went on, it was due to women's choices. Well, here's some ammunition on behalf of the Paycheck Fairness Act from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which gathers data on median weekly earnings from employers.

Of the 108 occupations where sufficient data is available, women's weekly earnings are higher than men's in only 4!

Women earn less than men in most common occupations; this means that even those jobs that are "women's jobs" such as secretaries; elementary and middle school teachers; registered nurses; cashiers; and accountants, women earnings are less than equal to men's earnings (from 75% to 95%)

Women earn less than men in the highest paying occupations; for example, the female to male earnings for physicians and surgeons where women are a third of the workforce, are only 64.2%.

Women earn less than men in the lowest paying occupations; for example, women laundry and dry-cleaning workers earn 73% of men's earnings on the average. Even maids earn 83.6% of earnings of male house-keeping cleaners.

Washington State is a winner in the 2010 census. Population growth is enough to warrant an additional seat in the House of Representatives starting in 2012. This will mean another vote in the Electoral College as well. In Washington, redistricting is done by an independent Redistricting Commission, which includes two Democrats, two Republicans and a chairman chosen by those four members. Once more localized numbers are available, the commission will begin the process of redrawing the map. Some expect the new seat will be around Olympia; others predict King County.

## **MEMBER NEWS**

### **New Member of the Month: Catherine Forte**

"Hi, my name is Catherine Forte and I joined AAUW in January of 2010 after being invited by Karen Irwin and Phyllis Izant. I live in Lakewood with my husband David and 10 year old son Alex. I work as a Tutoring Center Coordinator at Bates Technical College and also teach Psychology online for both Bates and Tacoma Community College. In addition, I'm currently completing my dissertation for a Ph.D. in Adult Education through Oregon State University . Prior to that, I earned a Master of Arts in Social Sciences from Pacific Lutheran University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and German (double major) through Willamette University in Salem, OR. Since I apparently love going to college and also working in colleges, joining AAUW was probably inevitable! I have enjoyed all the wonderful people I've met so far as well as the interesting meetings. My hobbies include reading non-fiction and watching all types of movies, ranging from the idiotic (e.g., Will Ferrell and Adam Sandler) to the classic and inspirational (e.g., To Sir With Love, Out of Africa, A Beautiful Mind). If I haven't met you yet, I look forward to meeting you through AAUW!"

## **Experienced Member of the Month: Connie Dunkelberger**

My name is Connie Dunkelberger. My life journey with AAUW began in 1964 with an AAUW tea given to honor the new graduates and give them the membership pitch. During the next 23 years of my life while my husband was in the military, AAUW was an off and on again part of my life in seven states. My participation in AAUW varied depending on my available time as I had three children to guide through the military process of adjusting to new homes every two or three years.

Since my husband Jim's retirement I have been active at the branch and state level of AAUW. I've held many offices including Tacoma branch president twice. At the Washington State level, I served as State President for the 2006-2008 term. During my tenure, I visited all but three of the State's 37 branches. In 2008, I served on the National Program Committee to help with the 2009 convention in St. Louis. I was appointed to the first Leadership Corps as a Grass roots Liaison with my term to end at the 2011 Washington, D.C. convention. I plan to apply for another term as we plan to fine-tune this national outreach effort.

My motivation stems from my parents who fostered a "go explore the world" approach to life. I grew up on a farm in North Dakota but my parents gave me a larger view of the world. The gender barrier was noted but not insurmountable in my early memories. Although disappointed by being the only girl with five boys entering the first grade in a two room rural school, my attitude quickly changed. I remember being with my Dad on the top floor of the state capitol building. I commented on how small a statue looked from the Prairie Skyscraper and the absence of women in the legislative photo gallery. He pointed to the pictures of the 1920s suggesting I might recognize someone from this time frame. Representative Minnie D. Craig, speaker of the North Dakota House of Representatives, was a member of the church my family attended. She was probably the first female in the nation to be elected to a similar state position. The Sacagawea statue was my childhood inspiration. If a woman with a baby on her back could lead men to the ocean, I could surely lead my classmates through elementary school.

## **Membership Recruitment Reminder: Shape the Future Campaign 2011**

Combine Shape the Future with half-year (January) national dues when recruiting new members! The best way to recruit new members is to invite them to a meeting or event. Membership in AAUW offers hope that the fellowships we award will enable the recipients to complete vital research, hope that today's girls will have the confidence to pursue educations and careers in science, technology, engineering, and math, hope that our members can convince Congress that pay equity laws are essential for women throughout the country, and hope that we, as an organization, can indeed break through barriers for women and girls. (From the December AAUW Membership Matters Enewsletter)

## **Branch Survey Results**

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=8O0tTCjokouMvcOqs9fq0G\\_2by4DdjgcSZ0jQ12mmqPbk\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=8O0tTCjokouMvcOqs9fq0G_2by4DdjgcSZ0jQ12mmqPbk_3d)

## **Sad News**

Ursella Elizabeth Butt was born in Denver, Colorado to Ronald and Mildred Watts on March 13, 1923 and passed away on December 27, 2010. Ursella was preceded in death by her parents and her husband Walter. She is survived by her daughters Kate Butt and Lynda Hodgkiss, her grandson Matthew Smith, and her sister-in-law Hazel Wallace. Ursella graduated from Stadium High School in 1942 and the University of Puget Sound in 1946 where she received a BA in literature and history. She was a member of many organizations including Golden Girls (Stadium), AAUW, Alpha Delta Gamma Sorority, and the Les Jardinieres Garden club. For many years Ursella worked for Darigold in Tacoma where she retired in 1985. She enjoyed gardening, reading, traveling, and going to the theatre. The family requests remembrances in Ursella's name to Franciscan Hospice House at 2901 Bridgeport Way W., University Place, WA 98466. Their compassion and love helped guide her family through her final journey. Service was held at Mt. View Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 4 at Noon in the Aspen Chapel.

# MINUTES

## Board of Directors

December 2, 2010

Home of Phyllis Izant

Present: Dorothy McBride, Mary Hammond, Ann Copeland, Mary Trodden, Joye Bucklin, Phyllis Izant, Connie Dunkelberger, Ginny Linstrom, Darlene Parsons.

Meeting called to order by President Dorothy McBride at 6:10 p.m. Minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the newsletter were approved by consent.

### Membership (Joye Bucklin and Ginny Linstrom)

There were 26 responses to the survey. Results were discussed noting age of members and importance of program and mission.

It was agreed a link to the survey will be in the January newsletter (personal information to be deleted) with printed copies available by request.

Next years programs will be brainstormed at the next board meeting.

**Brochure:** Mary Hammond has the file and will print copies as needed. Connie Dunkelberger moved that Mary Hammond be reimbursed for ink cartridges used. Motion seconded and accepted.

**Membership Directory:** Sixty copies were printed by Mary Trodden and more will be printed as needed. Ginny Linstrom may be contacted for copies. The directory is also available as a PDF.

### Website Committee

The committee (Dorothy McBride, Mary Trodden, Mary Letterman, Ann Copeland) will meet December 7 to brainstorm ideas regarding the purpose, set-up and maintenance of the site.

### Nominating Committee

Members are Mary Trodden (acting liaison), Mary Letterman, and Kay Suiter. Positions open for 2011-2012 are President, Program VP, Finance Officer and Governance and Development Committee (3 members).

Names of nominees for elected office are to be published and sent to each member at least 14 days prior to the annual branch meeting on March 5.

### Archive Committee

A plan is to be developed by Dorothy McBride, Connie Dunkelberger and Mary Hammond for presentation at the next board meeting. Material collection continues.

### PLU Elect-Her Campus Women Win Workshop

Paige Griffith received a National AAUW award to organize this workshop at PLU for undergraduate women to help them be more involved in government. A training session will be held February 26, 2011. Dorothy is acting as liaison with any further role of the branch to be determined. She will also contact other women's groups in the community for possible inclusion.

### Updates

**Lobby Day** is January 24 in Olympia. Discussion was held on pertinent issues as established by Washington-AAUW. Dorothy is to contact legislators for appointments.

**Centennial Fund Reaches \$93,000:** Darlene Parsons moved we accept donations to the fund as our Christmas charity at the December branch meeting. Motion seconded and approved. Ann Copeland will give a short explanation and pep talk. Dorothy will talk with the president of Walla Walla AAUW branch concerning a contribution..

**National Convention:** noted early bird registration date. Phyllis has recommended Miriam Barnett for an Eleanor Roosevelt Award.

**Robotics Event:** to be held December 4 at Lincoln High School. We will have some members volunteering to help as well as some STEM Committee members.

### **Scholarships (Connie Dunkelberger)**

An update was received from the Tacoma Greater Community Fund concerning our obligations. Connie will respond.

Dorothy shared information on the NCCWSL event June 2–4 in Washington D.C.: application information and branch-approved criteria. The scholarship committee will review these applications.

### **Programs**

December 18 lunch at Affairs with David Fischer from the Broadway Theater as the speaker. Ann Copeland will discuss the Centennial Fund and Dorothy McBride the 2011 nominations.

January will be Sister Marilyn on Human Trafficking at the Steilacoom Library.

February will be a program on Nettie Asbury at the Black Women's Clubhouse. A donation was requested and will be discussed later.

March is the annual business meeting with talks by the NCCWSL participants possibly at the new University Place library.

Memorial Tea will be April 17 at Karen Irwin's.

### **Treasurer (Ann Copeland)**

Balance to date is \$850.

The next board meeting is February 2, 6-8 p.m. at Phyllis Izant's.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Darlene Parsons, Secretary

### **Branch Meeting**

December 18, 2010

Affairs Café

#### **Meeting Recap**

Introductions were shared. Twenty members were present. Guests were Kjeri Boyle, Sue Schaub, Rachel Letterman and Judy Rodgers, a member of the Issaquah branch and WA State co-vice president for membership.

Ann Copeland: a professional website designer is available to assist with the branch website at the same cost as what we are using now.

Dorothy McBride: requested volunteers for the open board positions for 2011.

Mary Hammond has AAUW bumper stickers available for sale

Ann Copeland: the Centennial Fund is nearing completion. Contributions were requested as our holiday donation this year. Checks are to be made out to AAUW EF #4275.

Following lunch, a program of Christmas readings was presented by David Fischer and Benjamin Bittle of the Broadway Center.

Darlene Parsons, Secretary

### **SPOTLIGHTS SHINE ON AAUW FELLOWS**

Jane Chen, CEO and co-founder of Embrace, was interviewed on 20/20 for her role in creating inexpensive incubators that help underweight babies keep warm in developing countries. Chen, who received a Selected Professions Fellowship from AAUW, is continuing her work to decrease infant mortality rates. Rosalind Wiseman, another AAUW fellowship and grant recipient and author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes*, appeared on the December 17 episode of *What Would You Do?* This show included a segment about bullying, an area in which Wiseman provided expertise.

AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman contributed a story to [More.com](#) honoring Margaret Mead's birthday. Hallman highlighted some of Mead's many accomplishments as well as her AAUW Achievement Award. "Mead is still an inspiration for women to break through barriers and achieve their goals," Hallman said. "And AAUW supports women in their endeavors to do so, particularly in fields in which we are sorely underrepresented."

## **NATIONAL**

AAUW Director of Research Catherine Hill was quoted extensively in an *Inside Higher Ed* article about recent cases of sexual harassment on college campuses. Pulling from her work on the 2006 research report, *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus*, Hill discussed the development of college sexual harassment policies and the lack of knowledge some individuals have about their rights. Hill said colleges need to make "those tools more easily accessible for students."

AAUW's new happy hour series inspired a blog post on *Fem 2.0. Cocktails and Convos*, a monthly D.C. happy hour devoted to women's issues, was featured in the post, which focused on why young women shy away from becoming members of organizations. Blog entries and other discussions like this are exactly the kinds of conversations AAUW hopes to engender by hosting these events.

A local Pittsburgh newspaper cited an AAUW statistic from the 2010 research report *Why So Few?* In an article on a Carnegie Science Center program that aims to develop girls as math and science leaders. The article notes that only 15 percent of female college freshmen plan to major in STEM fields.

Elect Her—Campus Women Win, AAUW's joint program with Running Start, got the thumbs up after Women's enews highlighted an Associated Press article that appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*. The AP reported on Northern Illinois University's upcoming training to prepare more women to run for elected office because "Jill Dunlap of NIU's Women's Resource Center says the campus has had only two women student association presidents ever. She hopes the program will improve that." A *Daily Chronicle* article also recognized Northern Illinois University's selection to the Elect Her—Campus Women Win program.

Two Society of Women Engineers members touted AAUW's 2010 report, *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, in the organization's monthly magazine, saying the report resonated with their experiences as women engineers and may help other women feel less isolated. The article said the researchers at AAUW "present a convincing case against the idea that low numbers are due to inherent biological differences." *Why So Few* was praised again later in the publication; a media review by the same authors referred to it as a valuable resource for parents, educators, engineers, and employers.

A member of AAUW's delegation to Cuba this fall shared her experiences and lessons learned in an article in the *Cannon Falls Beacon*. The trip to Cuba—which was open to AAUW members—took a look at women's leadership there, a place where Cuba is ahead of the United States according to a White House report last year. The author, Sandy Wollschlager, said the trip provided inspiration for a solution to the uneven balance between work and family in the United States.

## **LAF News**

On December 6, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to decide whether 1.5 million female employees of Wal-Mart can pursue job discrimination claims in one suit or whether they'll have to split up and file against individual stores. The case—the largest employment class-action suit in the nation's history—will be argued in early 2011 and will set an important precedent. For this reason, AAUW is in communication with the case's lead lawyers about opportunities to offer financial support to the plaintiffs and to sign an amicus brief to put our organizational support behind them.

## **Title IX Compliance**

Recently a dozen Title IX complaints were filed against high schools across the country, alleging that the schools aren't providing equal opportunities to girls and are violating Title IX. AAUW is very involved in the effort to help high schools reach the goal of Title IX compliance in athletics through community activism.

LAF's Title IX Compliance: Know the Score program provides members with materials about Title IX, high school athletics, and resources to help members find out if schools in their community are in compliance with the law. Get involved and help improve girls' opportunities to play sports.

### **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders**

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders is proud to announce two 2011 Women of Distinction awardees: Emmy-winner Connie Chung and Ambassador Swanee Hunt.

## **BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS**

### **Daytime Book Group**

At 10 a.m. on January 26, Darlene Anderson reviews *The Double Comfort Safari Club* by Alexander McCall Smith at Jane Hahn's house. New members and guests welcome. For directions and more information, contact Marianne Candioglos or Lee Ann Ufford

### **Diggers & Delvers (Gardening and Antiquing)**

January 7, 2011 is the day, 11 a.m. is the time, Wright Park Conservatory is the place. Lunch plans have yet to be decided. Come along and join us D&Der's. For directions and carpooling, contact Darlene Anderson.

### **Evening Book Group**

Join the discussion of *The Three Weissmans of Westport* by Catherine Schine lead by Darlene Parsons at the home of Catherine Sleavin. New Members and guests are welcome. For directions and more information, call Marilee Titus.

### **Hot Topics**

Wednesday, January 19, 1-3 p.m. (join us at noon for lunch) at The Green Spot Tea & Art Gallery, 3318 Bridgeport Way W., University Place. RSVP to Mary Hammond by January 18. Our topic: Women's and Girls' Body Images: Where do we get our ideas of perfection? To what extremes do women go to "re-do" their one-of-a-kind bodies and faces? What are some cultural (ethnic, religious, national) influences on our concepts of perfection, and how to achieve it? What danger signals do we need to watch for in girls and teens? See our December newsletter for suggested resources; also check these links: "Body Image" at Our Bodies Ourselves (remember that Sixties book?) <http://www.ourbodiesourselves.org>

## JANUARY 2011 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Saturday	1	
Sunday	2	
Monday	3	
Tuesday	4	
Wednesday	5	
Thursday	6	
Friday	7	11 a.m. <b>Diggers &amp; Delvers</b> visit Wright Park Conservatory. For more information, see page 7.
Saturday	8	
Sunday	9	
Monday	10	Happy Birthday Taylor Carter!
Tuesday	11	
Wednesday	12	
Thursday	13	
Friday	14	
Saturday	15	10 a.m., Steilacoom Library. <b>Branch Program: "Sister Action: What Are These Sisters Up To?"</b>
Sunday	16	
Monday	17	
Tuesday	18	
Wednesday	19	Noon, Lunch; 1 p.m., Discussion. <b>Hot Topics</b> meets at The Green Spot Tea & Art Gallery. For more information, see page 7.
Thursday	20	
Friday	21	
Saturday	22	
Sunday	23	
Monday	24	6:30 p.m. <b>Evening Book Group</b> meets at Catherine Sleavin's house. For more information, see page 7.
Tuesday	25	
Wednesday	26	10 a.m. <b>Daytime Book Group</b> meets at Jane Hahn's house, For more information, see page 7.
Thursday	27	
Friday	28	
Saturday	29	
Sunday	30	
Monday	31	
<b>FEBRUARY PREVIEW</b>		
Saturday	2	6 p.m. <b>Board of Directors</b> meet at Phyllis Izant's home.
Saturday	19	10 a.m. <b>Branch Program: Dramatic portrayal of Nettie Asbury</b> at the Black Women's Clubhouse.

# AAUW-WA/BPW LOBBY DAY

January 24, 2011

Women Earned the Vote in 1910 — We Celebrated in 2010.  
In 2011, We Will Let Our Legislators Know Where We Stand.

Call Your Legislators for an Appointment  
Get Your Carpool Together  
Join Us in Olympia  
At the First United Methodist Church  
12223 Legion Way SE

8:00 - Coffee, Check-in  
8:30 - Introductions  
8:45 - Speakers  
12:00 - Lunch

12:45 - Off to the Capitol

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-5 North, take exit 105 B, Port of Olympia (from the south take exit 105). Take the first right and follow the Port of Olympia signs. Go north on Plum Street then turn right on Legion Way. A school is on the right and the church is on the left. Free parking is in front and on the side of the church.

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## REGISTRATION

Please return this registration form and your check for \$20, payable to AAUW-WA by January 18, 2011. **Send to:** Judy Fegley, 19829 147th Ave. SE, Yelm, WA 98597  
Phone: 360-894-7403; **Email:** [jacee44@earthlink.net](mailto:jacee44@earthlink.net)

AAUW Member \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_