



# The Voice

“Leading the way to equity for women and girls in Washington state.”



September 2017

Vancouver, Washington Branch  
AAUW

vancouver-wa.aauw.net

**September 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. AAUW General Meeting**

**Community Room, Pacific Continental Bank, 101 Sixth Street , Vancouver 98660**

## Prof. Steven Sylvester: DNA & Genetics



Prof. Steven Sylvester

Our first general meeting for the new membership year will be held on Saturday, September 9, at 10 a.m. in the Community Room at Pacific Continental Bank , 101 Sixth Street, Vancouver. WSU Vancouver Professor Steven Sylvester will speak to our group about DNA and Genetics.

in the intertidal zone of various locations along the Oregon Coast and from nearby Lacamas Lake, a small eutrophic reservoir. Related projects that could involve REU students include measuring the occurrence of caffeine along the length of the streams that feed the reservoir and correlating this with the spatial occurrence of septic tank leach fields. Dr. Sylvester works in his lab with many undergraduate and graduate students.

Professor Sylvester is an Associate Professor of Arts & Sciences in Molecular Biosciences at WSU. He teaches courses in : Introductory Biochemistry, Human Health and the Environment, Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology, and DNA Today.

In Dr. Sylvester’s laboratory at WSU Vancouver, students are attempting to understand nature at the molecular level and often with a bent toward reproductive biology. He uses techniques of organic chemistry, analytical chemistry, protein biochemistry, immunochemistry and molecular biology to address projects, such as: 1) isolating pheromone genes in oysters and snail predators; 2) determining polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in households near oil and coal trains; 3) determining the omega-3 fatty acids available to bull trout in disturbed environments; and 4) detecting caffeine

Professor Sylvester says, “In my laboratory, we view the world at the molecular level with a bent toward reproductive processes. We try to identify molecules in the environment that may alter reproductive processes in plants and animals.”

### Inside this issue:

Branch Archives	2
Tech Trek Campers	2
FYI	3
VP Programs	3
Dues & Dues Increase	4
2017-18 Budget	4
Member Memos	5
Bridge News	5
Membership Directory	5
Great Decisions	5
Event Calendar	5
STEM Reception	6
President’s Pearls	7
Lunch Posse	8
Branch Leaders	8
Donor Logos	9
Interest Groups	10
Calendar	11



**WE’RE TRYING SOMETHING NEW....**

Come to general meetings at 10 and have a half-hour of coffee (or tea) and conversation with your AAUW friends in the lobby before the speaker begins at 10:30.



## AAUW Vancouver Gives Archives to WSU-Vancouver Library

The final step in the process to turn over 85-years worth of AAUW Vancouver’s documentation and archives to the library at Washington State University Vancouver occurred on Saturday, May 10, 2017. A group of branch members went to the university’s library after the Spring Installation Brunch to witness the small ceremony. The material will be preserved, and some of it digitized, by the library and will be available for researchers to use including ourselves.

Kara Lynn Rankin, AAUW Historian, chaired the committee that completed this important project. Others on the committee were Sue Hennum, Nancy Stepsis, and Pat Stephens, with Marion and Karin Kanthak giving additional advice and Kathy Walker serving ex officio. The committee met the last Tuesday of the month during the last year and are responsible for arriving at the perfect solution for storing our materials as well as working to package and label them accurately.



WSU-V Librarian Karen Diller and AAUW president Kathy Walker sign documents for AAUW Vancouver archives to be preserved at WSU Vancouver



Carol Brain, Linda Stassel, Kathy Walker, Pat Stephens, Robert Schimelpfenig, Karen Diller & Kara Lynn Rankin at WSU-V Library May 10, 2017.

## 2017 Tech Trek Campers Will Speak at October’s Meeting



L-R: Karen Manelis, AAUW WA Tech Trek Director; Immy Hinchliff; Lilly Rollins and Megan Miller. Not pictured: Zoe Loggins

AAUW Vancouver sent three eighth-grade girls to Tech Trek camp this summer and help facilitate AAUW Hudson’s Bay sending another. The \$900 per camper tuition was paid using contributions from both AAUW branches and individual donations collected at general meetings.

Tech Trek, a STEM immersion camp, is run by AAUW Washington State under the auspices of Director Karen Manelis, a member of our branch.

Potential campers are selected by a committee headed by Georgie Buckler, Tech Trek Chair.

Three of the girls (pictured at left) attended Tech Trek at Pacific Lutheran University in July. The fourth camper, Zoe Loggins, went to Tech Trek camp at Eastern WA University in August.

**Don’t miss their presentation on October 14th!**





September 2017

by Beverly Olson,  
Public Policy Chair

**FYI:** Washington voters may have a huge ballot the next time we go to the polls. For 2017, there are currently 34 Initiatives that have been reviewed and named by the WA Secretary of State. Five others are in the review process. For example, Initiative 1543 is entitled "We Don't Want An Income Tax"; Initiative 1552 "Safety and Privacy in Public Places"; Initiative 1565 "Verification of U.S. Citizenship for Voter Registration or Candidacy"; Initiative 1557 "Verification of U.S. lawful Presence in Employment." Many of these initiatives address basic issues facing our country. Tim Eyman, Washington's major initiative author, has presented fourteen 2017 initiatives. Additional information is available at <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/initiatives/initiatives.aspx>

**FYI:** Microsoft is encouraging girls to STAY IN STEM. Google STAY IN STEM for information. OR visit <https://blogs.microsoft.com/on-the-issues/2015/09/02/microsoft-makes-additional-investment-in-washington-state-stem-students/> for more information.

**FYI:** Are you interested in the activism of women during the Civil War era? If yes, I highly recommend you read *Capital Dames* by Cokie Roberts. Female activism occurred in two ways: (1) Women utilized the powers and positions of their husbands, fathers, brothers, and uncles to influence legislation and military decisions during the Civil War, and (2) Women such as Clara Barton made a difference on their own. A major issue during this time was equal pay for women who were doing the same work that men were doing or had done. Unfortunately this is an issue that is still with us after 150 years.

**FYI:** Meaningful Movies is still active in Vancouver. The film AMERICAN WINTER is about the American recession which started about nine years ago. It will be shown on September 14, 2017 at the Cascade Public Library, 600 NE 136<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver. Residents of Portland, OR who dialed 211 for emergency information regarding financial crisis are followed and featured in the film.

I HAVE A REQUEST...please write me about times in your lives where, because you were female, you were restricted in some way (culture, law, or rule). I'll pass on your responses in a pamphlet format later this year.

## VP Programs News: We get two!



Connie Egeler

Last March, the Nominating Committee made up of Nancy Step-sis, Pam Rio & Sharon Heydet, gave us a slate of officers for 2017-2018. The nominees were duly elected and then installed at the Hostess House in May.

Our newly-elected VP Programs, Connie Egeler, did an excellent job of presiding over the Program Planning Meeting on June 10 and lined up a year's worth of great speakers.

Unfortunately, this summer Connie and her husband have decided they want to sell their home and move near Olympia. While that transition occurs, she will be working with Kay Hansen who has been appointed by the board of directors to take over the job when Connie leaves.



Kay Hansen

Please welcome Kay and thank Connie for all her work!



### Current Dues & the Increase for Next Year

This year (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) our dues remain \$75. Next year, the AAUW National Board of Directors has approved a \$10 increase. So, members of our branch will pay \$85 dues in 2018-19 and we can probably expect a raise in state dues within a few years.

Beverly Olson wrote this article last year to explain where your AAUW dues dollars go. Simplistically, the answer is that right now \$49 goes to National, \$10 to State, and \$16 to Vancouver Branch, but that is only the beginning of the story.

How much money are we talking about?

National	170,000 members at \$49	\$8,330,000
State	2800 members at \$10	\$ 28,000
Local	86 members at \$16	\$ 1,376

National: \$8,330,000. That is a lot, but in order to run a charity, which AAUW is, with a rating of 4 of 5 stars, it takes money. It takes space, technology, leadership and staff. National AAUW has all of this. Fourteen staff members and a Board of Directors work every day. They are working for equality and opportunity for girls and women. If you spend some time on the National website, you will find that donations and dues, your \$49 included, are doing great things.

State of Washington: \$28,000. Washington State is doing a lot with very little. It publishes the Evergreen Leader, holds the State Convention, lobbies the Washington State Legislature, maintains a website, updates needed software, and provides two Tech Trek Camps. Except a lobbyist who is paid \$900 per year, all the work is done by officers and volunteers. No funds are used for office space or telephones.

Vancouver Branch: \$1376. We also do a lot with very little. We use our funds to recruit new members, facilitate monthly meetings, publish a Membership Directory and membership materials, provide a website, send hard copies of our newsletter to members without computers, and hold two annual fundraisers. Our fundraisers and donations allow us to provide \$7000 in annual scholarships for women at WSU and Clark College and send two or three girls to Tech Trek. We also hold a STEM Recognition Reception. Our officers often dip into their own pockets to reach our objectives.

### Vancouver AAUW 2017–2018 Budget

The AAUW Vancouver board of directors approved the budget for 2017 –2018 at a meeting on Aug 17.

If our fundraising activities for this year are successful, our branch will give two \$1000 scholarships to female students at Clark College and contribute \$1500 to our scholarship fund at The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington (where our fund balance is \$90K), with instructions to send two \$2500 to female students at WSU-Vancouver.



Vancouver Branch was carrying a balance of approximately \$4000 at the end of the year, plus approximately \$3500 in a savings account. This year’s budget allows for a second \$1000 scholarship to Clark College. This increases our college scholarship total for the coming year to \$7000, the highest it has ever been in the history of our association. Congratulations everyone!

#### AAUW Vancouver Budget 2016 –2017

<b>Income</b>	
Bridge at The Grant House	250.
Holiday Breakfast	2000.
Membership Dues	1500.
Moola Donations	75.
May Luncheon	300.
<b>Total Income</b>	4125.
<b>Expenses</b>	
General Administration	300.
STEM Recognition Reception	225.
Insurance	185.
Website Fees	120.
Scholarships	3500.
Newsletter & Directory	125.
Membership Activities	250.
<b>Total Expenses</b>	4705.





Member Memos...



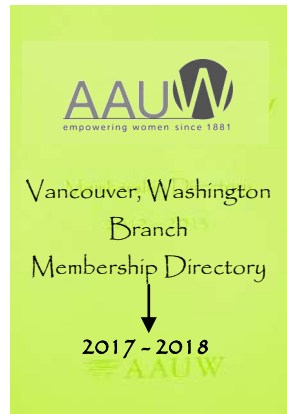
Directory Updates & Member Notes

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- ◆ **Pattie Kupperman**, 14023 SE 35th Loop Vancouver 98683, 951-704-2008, 73767@comcast.net
- ◆ **Sandi Erdman**, 306 NE Basset Road, Vancouver 98685 360-433-9311, sandi.erdman@neilkelly.com
- ◆ **Jan Pinaire** 10615 NE 30th Avenue Vancouver 98686 402-305-7731, jpinaire@rcn.com

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

You will soon be emailed a PDF copy of all the data for the new directory. Please check it out and notify Kathy Walker and Pat Stephens of any errors in your listing. Pat hopes to have the 2016-2017 directory printed and ready to hand out at the October general meeting.



When the membership PDF file has been updated with any corrections, it will be posted on our website, with a password, so that you may access it at any time. Branch members will be notified when the document has been posted and will be given the password to access it.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The first column in the new PDF file contains your membership number for AAUW National. It is needed for access to valuable parts of their website.

◆ Bridge News ◆

Kudos to Bridge Winners...

April

- 1st Place - Diane Grubel
- 2nd Place - Jan Harvey

May

- 1st Place - Sue Hennum
- 2nd Place - Camille Wainwright

June

- 1st Place - Nancy Bonner
- 2nd Place - Kay Hansen

July

- 1st Place Tie! - Camille Wainwright & Iona Clark



Interest Group: Great Decisions



Great Decisions, meets at Vancouver Pointe, 4555 NE 66th Ave, Vancouver. The group meets on the last Monday of each month.

On Sep 25, the eighth chapter (Nuclear Security) of the 2017 *Great Decisions* book, will be discussed. The book may be purchased from

Amazon or from the Foreign Policy Association at: [www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/?act=gd\\_materials](http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_materials)

SAVE THE DATE FOR AAUW MEETINGS AND EVENTS IN 2017-2018



MONTH	TOPIC/SPEAKER (Meetings at 10 am unless noted)
Sep 9	DNA & Genetics, Prof. Steven Sylvester
Oct 14	AAUW Tech Trek Program, campers & teacher
Nov 11	The WSU Library, Karen Diller
Dec 9	Holiday Brunch Fundraiser, Royal Oaks
Jan 13	Homeless in Clark Co., Anne McEnery-Ogle

MONTH	TOPIC/SPEAKER (Meetings at 10 am unless noted)
Feb 10	Opportunities for Women, Dr. Noel Schultz
Mar 10	Centenarians, Cari Corbet Owen, psychologist
Apr 14	Hanford Nuclear Waste Update
May 12	Installation Meeting
Jun 9	Program Planning meeting





# AAUW STEM Recognition Reception April 23, 2017



The young women being honored were from various Vancouver high schools



Barb Crozier at the microphone

Relatives and friends gathered at the Clark County Public Utilities Auditorium on April 23, to watch AAUW honor girls that were juniors in high school and who excel in STEM subjects.

Melanie Handshaw and Barb Crozier ran the event, which included a buffet, inspirational speeches, and each girl being recognized individually. Branch members took turns announcing the girls' names and reading their biographies.

Emma Kelp-Stebbins, a mechanical engineer at Hewlett Packard, spoke about her experiences choosing a STEM major in college, getting a job after graduation, and her resulting career as an engineer in the high tech industry.



Georgie Buckler helped read the names and bios



Chris Lines took a turn announcing names





AAUW has fought against gender and race bias and stereotyping for 136 years. The protests and violence in Charlottesville, VA this month make it clear that we need to remain vigilant and continue to fight for equality for all, never letting down our guard against hate and prejudice.

In the spirit of a picture being worth a thousand words, I offer the pictures and quotes displayed here to provoke thought and inspire you to keep up the good fight, teaching your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren the importance of human rights, love and compassion.

I am proud to be president of a branch of a group that supports human rights and decency.

Kathy Walker, president

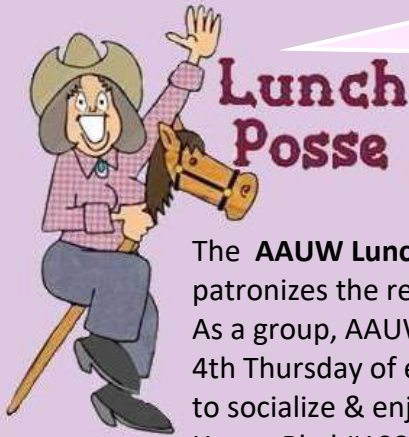


Rachel Macy Stafford wrote this and it was posted on Facebook a few days ago: **My daughter's friend was called an ugly name on the school bus. I asked my daughter if she was okay. My child said tearfully: "Mama, she didn't say anything, so I just scooted closer." Then, she admitted, "I didn't know what to do, Mama, so I just hurt with her."**





# Lunch Posse: Lapellah on September 28<sup>th</sup> — **NEW TIME 1:00pm**



Saddle up and ride on over to Lapellah on Sep 28 at 1:00 pm!

2017 DATE	1:00 @TARGET RESTAURANT
Sep 28	Lapellah (Grand Central)
Oct 26	Stardust Diner (164th)
Nov 23	Olive Garden (Thurston, Mall)

The **AAUW Lunch Posse** chairperson, Diane Grubel, organizes these gatherings. The Lunch Posse patronizes the restaurants that have donated gift cards to our holiday fundraiser the previous year. As a group, AAUW members, plus friends and spouses, visit one of the restaurants, usually on the 4th Thursday of each month, have lunch, and say “thank you” to the management. It’s a great time to socialize & enjoy a meal. We’ll be having lunch on **Sep 28, at 1:00 at Lapellah**, 2520 Columbia House Blvd #108, Vancouver, WA 98661.

**TO ATTEND: contact Diane Grubel at 360.263.4506 or ECGrubel@aol.com**



At Firehouse Subs in March: Lorraine and Ken Wheeler; Diane Grubel, Carol Brain, Kathy Walker, Bob Serafini & Kitty Welsh

### BRANCH LEADERS 2016 -2017

#### **Officers:**

- President - Kathy Walker, kcwalker41@gmail.com
- VP Programs - Connie Egeler, c\_cegeler@msn.com
- VP Programs - Kay Hansen, jkhansenor@aol.com
- VP Membership – Cheryl Weir, cheryweirvncvr@gmail.com
- VP Finance – Carol Brain, braincarol@aol.com
- VP Communication - Diane Grubel, ECGrubel@aol.com

#### **Chairpersons:**

- Public Policy - Beverly Olson, beverlyolson@centurylink.net
- Holiday Fundraiser - Ruth Harbaugh, rhtravel@comcast.net
- Interbranch Council Reps - Kathy Walker & Carol Brain
- College/Univ. Relations - Chris Lines, clines4@comcast.net
- Newsletter Editor - Kathy Walker, kcwalker41@gmail.com
- Auditor - Camille Wainwright, wainwric@comcast.net
- Scholarships - Kara Lynn Rankin, karalynnraink@gmail.com
- Caring Hearts - Donna Roberge, robenoz@comcast.net
- Website - Camille Wainwright, wainwric@comcast.net
- STEM Reception - Melanie Handshaw, meltravels2001@yahoo.com

### INTEREST GROUP LEADERS 2016 -2017

- Bridge:** Ruth Harbaugh, rhtravel@comcast.net
- Lunch Posse:** Diane Grubel, ECGrubel@aol.com
- Mah Jongg:** Lorraine Wheeler, lorrainewheeler5445@gmail.com
- Meaningful Movies:** Beverly Olson, beverlyolson@centurylink.net
- Nonfiction Books:** Nancy Stepsis, nf8@evansville.edu & Pam Rio, pamelaprunetree@hotmail.com
- 1st Thursday Book Club:** Michelle Girts, magirts@comcast.net
- 1st Wednesday Book Club:** Ruetta Dykstra, dykstrar@gmail.com

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

**Vision Statement:** 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.



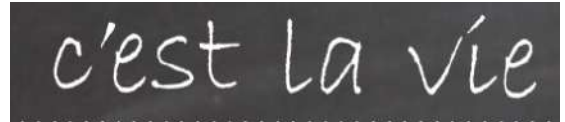
AAUW Please Patronize our Wonderful 2016 Donors!!!



Jamba Juice



REGAL CINEMAS



Talk of the Town Salon



The Last Tangle Spa, Beauty & Personal Care





# AAUW Vancouver Branch Interest Groups



Every Tuesday  
1-4 pm at Lorraine Wheeler's  
10916 SE 18th St., Vancouver

**Sep 5,12,19,26**  
**1-4 pm**

at Lorraine Wheeler's

Mah Jongg lessons are offered to newcomers to the group.

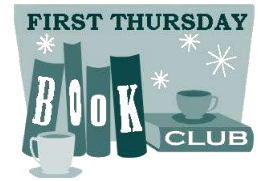
Contact Lorraine Wheeler for info at: 360-314-2480 or lorrainewheeler5445@gmail.com



Monthly, 1st Wednesday, 3 pm

**Sep 6 3 pm**

Contact Retta Dykstra for details at 360-210-4650 or dykstrar@gmail.com



Monthly, 1st Thursday, 2 pm

**Sep 7 2 pm**

Sharon Heydet hosts & Lorraine Wheeler leads the discussion of *I Heard the Owl Call My Name* by Margaret Craven

Contact Michelle Girts or visit <http://vancouver-wa.aauw.net> for more information



Every other month, 3rd Thurs, 10 a.m.  
Shorewood, 5555 E Evergreen Blvd.

**Sep 21 10 am**

*The Meaning Of Human Existence* by EC Wilson

Contact: Nancy Stepsis or Pam Rio



Monthly at Various Restaurants  
4th Thursday, 1:30 p.m.

**Sep 28 1:30 pm**  
**Lapellah**

2520 Columbia House Blvd #108, Vancouver, WA 98661  
Please contact Diane Grubel at [ECGrubel@aol.com](mailto:ECGrubel@aol.com) to reserve your space.



Monthly, 2nd Thursday, 5:30 pm  
Cascade Park Library  
600 NE 136th Ave, Vancouver

**Social Justice Documentaries**

**Sep 14 5:30 pm**  
**Movie: American Winter**



The film follows the personal stories of families struggling in the aftermath of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Filmed over the course of one winter in one American city, the film presents an intimate snapshot of the state of the nation's economy.

For more information, contact Beverly Olson at [beverlyolson@centurylink.net](mailto:beverlyolson@centurylink.net)



Monthly, 4th Friday, 10 am - 3pm  
Glenwood Card Room  
5500 NE 82nd Ave, Vancouver

**Sep 22 10 am - 3 pm**  
**Glenwood Card Room**

The card room at Glenwood is on the 3rd floor of the main building on 82nd Ave.

Contact a hostess for information or to play.  
September hostesses:

**BRING your lunch!**



Monthly, Last Monday, 2pm,  
Vancouver Pointe, 4555 NE 66th Ave, Vancouver

**Sep 25 2 pm**

Read the eighth topic in the 2017 Foreign Policy Assn. book:



**Nuclear Security**

Held jointly with Hudson's Bay AAUW

[kcwalker41@gmail.com](mailto:kcwalker41@gmail.com) for info



# September 2017 Vancouver Branch AAUW Activities & Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Mah Jongg 1:00 p.m. at Lorraine Wheeler's	6 1st Wed. Book Club 3 p.m. at TBA	7 1st Thurs Book Club 2 p.m. at Sharon Heydet's	8	9 General Meeting 10 a.m. at Pacific Continental
10	11	12 Mah Jongg 1:00 p.m. at Lorraine Wheeler's	13	14 Meaningful Movies 5:30 p.m. at Cascade Park Library	15	16
17	18	19 Mah Jongg 1:00 p.m. at Lorraine Wheeler's	20	21	22 AAUW Bridge 10 a.m. at Glenwood	23
24	25 Great Decisions 2:00 p.m. at Vancouver Pointe	26 Mah Jongg 1:00 p.m. at Lorraine Wheeler's	27	28 Lunch Posse 1:30 p.m. at Lapellah	29	30 

 Please consider the environment before printing this publication.

Vancouver Branch AAUW  
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Vancouver, WA 98665  
Address correction  
requested