



## American Association of University Women



**Gig Harbor Branch**

**JUNE 2016**

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### **Dues are Due!**



It is time once again to pay your dues to AAUW. Your \$74 contributes to the improvement of the Gig Harbor community and for women everywhere.

Higher education is promoted through scholarships, STEM education is provided to middle school girls at TechTrek camps, and fun activities are offered to you with intelligent, interesting and innovative women.

AAUW advocates for women on equal pay and other public policy issues, breaks down stereotypes and conducts research on issues important to women.

Send your dues for 2016-2017 to Nancy Williams, PO Box 2705, Gig Harbor, WA 98335. Make sure you include the membership form, mailed to you earlier, with your dues. You can also pay online through the National website [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). If you have questions, call or email Nancy [nkw1012@earthlink.net](mailto:nkw1012@earthlink.net), (253) 779-4666.

And remember...\$46 of your dues is tax deductible.



Many thanks to the outgoing Board, listed on the left, for their work for AAUW GH during 2015-2016. A new Board of Directors will begin in September.

### **Upcoming Events-Mark your Calendar!**

#### **AAUW and Minerva Scholarship Picnic**

**Thursday, August 18, 2016**

**5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Sea Cliff – Beach Shelter**

**1206 Beach Ln NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332**

**Directions will be provided in next month's newsletter.**

## In Case You Missed It-Women, Dress & Fashion 1890—1940

Karen Anderson, our Chapter President, gave a presentation about women's fashion at our Branch Meeting on May 21st.

She said that clothes in this period showed how women fit into society. Fashionable dress was primarily for affluent, urban women who were not supposed to work. Women who worked wore uniforms which marked their station within society.

Fashion was often impractical at the end of the nineteenth century such as the Gibson Girls with her tiny waists, big hats and forty pounds of petticoats. Women were **clad in immobility**. Maternity corsets lead to **high rates of maternal and infant mortality**. Continuing the



trend into the early twentieth century women wore "hobble skirts" that restricted their ability to walk.

The 1920s saw women's fashion become less restrictive as a woman's right to vote became law. But women were viewed as threats as they fought for their rights. Activist women were viewed as un-American and seditious.

Attractiveness became a measure of a woman's worth in advertisements. Older women were viewed as less desirable ("fossils vs. flappers") and women were encouraged to compete for men's favors. Women's bodies were considered un-clean as demonstrated in ads that encouraged women to use Lysol as a douche so they would not lose their husbands to a younger "working" woman.

Poor, minority and migrant women sewed their clothes and those of their children. They were expected to blend into white society by straightening their hair and whitening their skin.

During the depression years of the 1930s, fashion was a fantasy played out in movies and women aspired to look like a movie star, while trying to feed their families. FDR's *New Deal* did not offer jobs to women and social programs to provide a safety net were inadequate. World War II ended the depression and Rosie the Riveter became a symbol for women's strength.

Karen's presentation corresponded to an exhibit at the Harbor History Museum. Those in attendance at the Branch Meeting were treated to free admission to the exhibit after the meeting.

## In Case You Missed It– Tech Trek Pizza Party

Eight of the ten girls who will attend this year's Tech Trek camp met the Tech Trek Committee and each other on May 25th. After a short presentation, the girls and their families enjoyed pizza and games to get to know one another. The ten girls sponsored by the Gig Harbor Chapter include:

### Key Peninsula Middle School

Erin Pierson

Emma Swainston

### Harbor Ridge Middle School

Hope Flanigan

Ailsa Gilbert

Katherine Milner

### Goodman Middle School

Hanna Davis

Kate Gardner

Allison Hagen

Elisabeth Johnson

Olivia Schwab



### Tech Trek Committee

From left to right

Patricia Gwynn

Claudia Thompson

Claudia Wade

Mary Williams

Barb Schmit

Marlene Buffington



*Photos by Martha Shellenberger 2016*



# AAUW GH Calendar

## June 2016

**Board (Transition) Meeting-Wednesday, June 8th at 11am at Julie Buffington's home, 502 S. Sheridan Avenue, Tacoma, (253) 267-1066.** Bring a pot luck dish to share.

**Bon Appetit- Tuesday, June 21st at 6pm.** Rosemary hosts Thyme at Claudia Thompson's home, Marlene Buffington co hosts. Sage hosts Parsley at Susan Pettersson's home, Cindy Saunders co hosts. For more information call Sue Engen at (253) 265-1677 or Diane Edison at (253) 851-1056.

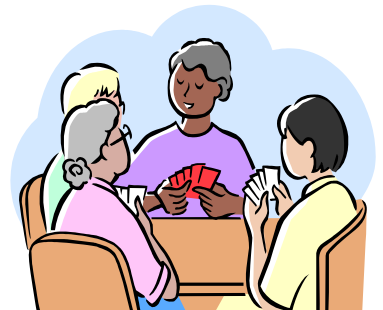


**Evening Book Group—Monday, June 27th at the Peninsula Library. 6:30 pm refreshments; 7:00 Meeting Time..** Our book for June is **Life After Life** by **Kate Atkinson**. Susan Pettersson will lead the discussion. Julie Buffington and Ruth Cannon will provide refreshments. For more information please phone Sue Hines (253) 761-5080 or Salli Montgomery (253) 857-8057.

**Who Done It (Mystery Book Group)—Tuesday June 14th.** The hostess is Mary Lou Zimmer. We are reading **Michael Connelly**, presented by Marilyn Davis. For more information call Carol Robinson at (253) 265-6141.

**Bridge-Day—** Our group meets on the third Tuesday of each month in a member's home for an afternoon of bridge. Please call Marilyn Davis (253) 229-0953 for more information.

**Bridge-Evening—**The evening bridge group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. Please call Mary Williams (253) 509-0524 or Bev Storkman (253) 851-2402 to confirm a date and time and reserve a seat at the table.



**Lunch Bunch—**The Lunch Bunch meets at 12:30 pm every second Wednesday of the month at the Inn of Gig Harbor. Everyone is invited. No need to call ahead.

### **Happy Birthday to members celebrating June birthdays.**

Ruth Cannon	06-01
Sue Hines	06-03
Sara Montgomery	06-03
Patricia Mattox	06-05
Elizabeth Ann Danis	06-24
June Lane	06-25
Robin Horne	06-26
Ann Worswick	06-26
Tonia Simpson	06-30





## Gig Harbor Branch-Announcements

**Newsletter Deadline: June 22nd for the July/August 2016 newsletter.** Send your articles and pictures to marthashellen@comcast.net. Remember to include last names, locations, dates and times for the information you send.

### Did you see it?

The Minerva Scholarship Fund was featured in Gig Harbor Life. To read the article go to:  
<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/local/gig-harbor/Scholarship-awards-available-for-Gig-Harbor-women-returning-to-school-379014001.html>



## AAUW's ¡Adelante! Book Recommendations

¡Adelante! books help to open dialogues on women, diversity, and change.

June 2016 LGBT Pride Month

*Charity and Sylvia: A Same-Sex Marriage in Early America*

By Rachel Hope Cleves

Conventional wisdom holds that same-sex marriage is a purely modern innovation, a concept that was unheard of in the United States' early history. But as Rachel Hope Cleves demonstrates in this eye-opening book, same-sex marriage is hardly new. Revered by their community, Charity and Sylvia operated a tailor shop in the 19th century that employed many local women, served as guiding lights within their church, and helped raise their many nieces and nephews. *Charity and Sylvia* is the intimate history of their extraordinary 44-year union. Drawing on an array of original documents including diaries, letters, and poetry, Cleves traces the couple's lives in sharp detail. Providing an illuminating glimpse into a relationship that turns conventional notions of same-sex marriage on their heads and reveals early America to be a place both more diverse and more accommodating than modern society might imagine, *Charity and Sylvia* is a significant contribution to our limited knowledge of LGBT history in the United States.

Available in print, Kindle, Nook e-book, and audiobook formats

AAUW Members: Save 30% off *Charity and Sylvia* when you order through Oxford University Press! Just use promo code **AAFLYG6** at checkout.

AAUW Newsletter

Gig Harbor Branch

P.O. Box 2705

Address Service Requested

**Dated Material**

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT: In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. 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.

Show your thanks by supporting the following businesses that help support the newsletter:

**Bella's Kitchen and Home**  
**Uptown and Downtown GH**

**Mostly Books**  
**Books for all Ages**

**Kelly's Café and Espresso**

**Sea Hags Gift Shop**

**Morso**  
**Eat and drink at the head of the bay**

