



## American Association of University Women

Gig Harbor Branch

APRIL 2017

### WEBSITE

<http://gigharbor-wa.aauw.net/>

### Gig Harbor Executive Board

#### Co-Presidents

Barbara Schmit  
253-549-0814  
Julie Buffington  
253-267-1066

#### Past President

Karen Anderson  
253-509-0781

#### Program VP

Pat Berger  
253-851-2534

#### Membership VP

Kathleen Larson  
720-352-0537

#### Finance VP

Nancy Williams  
253-779-4666

#### Secretary

Mary Williams  
714-509-0524

#### Scholarships

Liz Svigals  
253-530-3456

#### Tech Trek/STEM

Claudia Thompson  
253-514-6017

#### Public Policy

Karen Drum  
253-983-9114

#### Newsletter Editor

Martha Shellenberger  
253-851-7464  
marthashellen  
@comcast.net



### AAUW Gig Harbor Brunch & Business Meeting

Saturday, April 15, 2017-10:00am-Noon



Barb Schmit's Home

227 3rd Ct. Fox Island

253.549.0814

### Please join your fellow AAUW members at the Annual Brunch & Business Meeting.

**It is time to elect officers** for our branch and **we need a quorum** of members. **See the list of candidates on page 3.** Barb Schmit has kindly offered her home for the meeting and brunch is provided by your board. We look forward to, and accept nominations from the floor. Members may volunteer to be appointed to any of the positions. (See Article VI, Officers, b. , of our by laws on page 40 of our member directory).

**Learn more about AAUW and help your branch** by holding an office, as a committee chair, or co-chair, or helping with an event. **The biggest complaint I have heard about organizations is that the same people run them year after year.** If you can help bring your viewpoint to the GH Branch jump right in--the water's fine. **-Pat Berger, Program VP 2015-2017**

### Upcoming Events-Mark your Calendar!

**April 4, 2017-Equal Pay Day**

**April 22, 2017-AAUW Washington** will hold its Annual Meeting at Cedar River Watershed Educational Center near North Bend. Go to <http://aauw-wa.aauw.net/> for more information.

**May 13, 2017-AAUW GH Legacy of Leadership Luncheon/Chico's Fashion Show.** Inn at GH. Watch your mailbox for more information.

**July 9-15, 2017 Tech Trek Pacific Lutheran University**



## Gig Harbor Branch-Presidents' Message

### Presidents' message

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Programs include:

Research - We analyze gender equity issues in education and the workplace.

Campus Leadership - We help shape the lives of the next generation of women leaders.

STEM Education - We are leveling the playing field for girls and women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Public Policy - We advocate for policies that advance equity for women and girls.

**Case Support - We support challenges to sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.**

Salary Negotiation - Through AAUW Start Smart and AAUW Work Smart, we are fighting to close the pay gap, one workshop at a time.

Educational Funding - We provide educational and lifelong learning opportunities for women.

Global Connections - We respond to the global development needs of women, helping them contribute to the economic and social development of their countries.

Member Leadership - We provide leadership development opportunities to AAUW members.

Throughout the coming year, we plan to address these areas in this newsletter.

Julie Buffington and Barb Schmit (co-presidents)



*Barb Schmit & Julie Buffington, Co-Presidents*

**Case Support - We support challenges to sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.**

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Our resources range from community outreach programs to backing of major cases.

Sex discrimination today takes a variety of forms: unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and violations of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 can affect both women and men. LAF addresses these barriers by informing people of their rights and using the legal system to seek justice and change.

See <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/> for more information about LAF.

**Julie Buffington and Barb Schmit (co-presidents)**

## Elected and Appointed Positions



### Elected Positions:

Co-Presidents: Julie Buffington  
Barb Schmit

VP Program: Mary Williams

VP Membership: Kathleen Larson

VP Finance: Nancy Williams

Secretary: Liz Svigals

Immediate Past President: Karen Anderson

### Appointed Positions:

Tech Trek Chair: Claudia Thomson

Scholarship Chair: Liz Svigals

Public Policy Chair: Karen Drum

Newsletter Editor: Martha Shellenberger

The term of office is for one year and begins July 1. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor for elected positions.

## Bylaws



The following pages include the bylaws for the Gig Harbor branch **with proposed changes underlined in blue and deletions struckthrough in red**. Please review the changes and attend the Business Meeting to vote on these changes. We need a quorum to approve them.

## Dues



We will propose a small dues increase of \$5 per year. Our dues have not increased in a number of years yet costs to conduct business have gone up. The \$5 increase brings Branch dues to \$20. Neither AAUW-National nor AAUW-Washington State increased their dues this year. National remains \$49 and State remains \$10. With approval of the Branch increase to \$20, total AAUW dues for Gig Harbor members will be \$79.

# **BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GIG HARBOR**

## **ARTICLE I. NAME AND GOVERNANCE**

**Section 1.** Name. The name of the organization shall be the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Gig Harbor, hereinafter known as the “Affiliate.”

**Section 2.** Affiliate. AAUW Gig Harbor is an Affiliate of AAUW as defined in Article V.

**Section 3.** Legal Compliance. The Affiliate shall comply with the requirements of AAUW and federal, state, and local law. The bylaws of the Affiliate shall in no way conflict with the AAUW Bylaws and/or policies.

## **ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** Purpose. The purpose of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. The purpose of the Affiliate is to further AAUW purposes and policies.

**Section 2.** Policies and Programs. In keeping with this purpose, the Affiliate shall promote equity, education, and development of opportunities for women and girls that enable them to realize their full potential.

## **ARTICLE III. USE OF NAME**

**Section 1.** Policies and Programs. The policies and programs of AAUW shall be binding on all members engaged in AAUW activities, and no member shall use the name of AAUW to oppose such policies or programs.

**Section 2.** Proper Use of Name and Logo. The name and logo of AAUW may be used only by members (as defined below at Article IV, Section 2) and Affiliates (as defined below at Article V, Section 1) only according to policies and procedures established by the AAUW Board of Directors; others may do so only according to written licenses.

**Section 3.** Individual Freedom of Speech. These bylaws shall not abridge the freedom of speech of any AAUW member to speak an opinion in the member’s own name.

## **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Composition. The members of AAUW at present consist of members (“Individual Members”) and college/university members (“College/University Members”).

**Section 2.** Basis of Membership.

a. Individual Members.

(1) Eligibility. An individual holding an associate’s (or equivalent, e.g., RN), bachelor’s, or higher degree from a higher education institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S Department of Education (an “Accredited Higher Education Institution”) or other qualified educational institution located outside of the United States, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors, shall be eligible to receive admission to AAUW membership; such membership shall be granted upon payment of AAUW dues. The provisions set forth in this section are the sole requirement for eligibility and admissibility to AAUW membership except that the AAUW Board of Directors may establish a process to assess credentials that are submitted based on degree equivalence.

(2) Appeals of Refusals of Admission to Membership. Any potential Individual Member or College/University Member who claims qualification for membership in AAUW and who has been refused admission to membership may present credentials to the AAUW Board of Directors for review. The decision of the AAUW Board of Directors shall be final.

(3) Saving Clause. No Individual Member shall lose membership due to any change in the status of the higher education institution upon which original qualification for membership was based.

# **BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GIG HARBOR**

## **(4) Life Membership.**

(a) Paid. An Individual Member may become a life member (a "Life Member") upon a one-time payment of twenty years' annual AAUW dues, based on the amount of annual AAUW dues the year the Member elects to become a Life Member. Thereafter, the Life Member shall be exempt from the payment of AAUW national dues.

(b) Fifty-Year Honorary. An Individual Member who has paid AAUW dues for fifty years shall become a Life Member and shall thereafter be exempt from the payment of AAUW national dues.

b. College/University Members. Any Accredited Higher Education Institution or other qualified higher education institution located outside the United States, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors, that pays annual dues to AAUW shall be eligible to be a College/University Member. Each College/University Member shall appoint one or two representatives who are eligible to be Individual Members and who shall each have the membership benefits of an Individual Member and any other benefits that accrue to representatives of College/University Members, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Student Associates.** The AAUW Board of Directors may permit undergraduate students enrolled in Accredited Higher Education Institutions or in other qualified educational institutions located outside the United States, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors, to associate with AAUW, with fees (if any) and benefits as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors.

## **Section 4. Dues.**

a. Amount. The annual dues and member benefits for any category of member shall be established by a two-thirds vote of the AAUW Board of Directors. Members shall be notified of the intent to consider a change in the dues, the proposed amount, and the rationale for the change at least 60 days prior to the vote.

b. Payment. Member dues shall be payable in accordance with procedures established by the AAUW Board of Directors.

**Section 5. Severance of Membership.** Any Member may be suspended or removed from membership for any conduct that tends to injure AAUW or to adversely affect its reputation or that is contrary to or destructive of its mission according to these bylaws, with action taken following policies and procedures adopted by the AAUW Board of Directors. In addition, a College/University Member that is no longer eligible for membership shall be removed from membership as soon as practicable after it loses its eligibility.

## **Article V. AAUW AFFILIATES**

**Section 1. AAUW Affiliate Defined.** An AAUW Affiliate ("Affiliate") is an organization affiliated with AAUW for the purpose of supporting AAUW's mission through Affiliate programs, fundraising, networking, and/or other activities. Affiliates are typically nonprofit membership organizations under state law and may also have been recognized as tax-exempt 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organizations under the Internal Revenue Code. An Affiliate may use AAUW's name and/or logo only if approved by the AAUW Board of Directors.

## **Section 2. Organization.**

a. Purpose. Affiliates shall promote the purposes, programs, and policies of AAUW.

b. Bylaws. Affiliates shall develop bylaws as meet their needs. However, any such bylaws shall not conflict with AAUW Bylaws or with applicable law.

c. Structure. Affiliates may create such leadership structures as meet their needs. Each Affiliate shall provide AAUW with designated contacts for administration and finance.

# BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GIG HARBOR

## Section 3. Loss of Recognition of an Affiliate.

- a. The AAUW affiliation status of an Affiliate may be revoked for cause through affiliation review procedures specified by the AAUW Board of Directors.
- b. The Affiliate shall have the right to appeal to the AAUW Board of Directors within a designated period.

**Section 4. Property and Assets.** The title to all property, funds, and assets of an Affiliate is vested in the Affiliate. An Affiliate shall have complete control of its property and assets, except that such property and assets shall not be used for any purpose contrary to AAUW's purposes. In the event of the dissolution of an Affiliate or the termination of an Affiliate's affiliation with AAUW, all assets of the Affiliate shall be transferred and delivered to AAUW or to another Affiliate designated by AAUW. AAUW may solicit and consider recommendations from local leaders before making a designation.

## ARTICLE VI. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Affiliate in all instances in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the AAUW Bylaws or with the requirements of AAUW or applicable laws.

## ARTICLE VII. AAUW-MANDATED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

AAUW-mandated amendments shall be implemented by the Affiliate's board of directors without a vote of the Affiliate's membership and as prescribed by the AAUW Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS

**Section 1. Officers.** The elected officers for the branch shall be president, vice president of membership, vice president of program, vice president of finance, and secretary.

- a. Elected officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assume office. Term of office shall begin on July 1. Should the incumbent officer be unwilling to continue to serve, and no successor agrees to be nominated or appointed, the office will remain vacant and the duties of the office will be carried out by the other members of the board.
- b. ~~The appointed officers for the branch shall be communications chair, fund raising chair, interest group coordinator, newsletter editor, Tech Trek coordinator, and scholarship chair.~~ Appointed officers shall be appointed by the president and confirmed by the board of directors as needed. Examples may include Public Policy Chair, Newsletter Editor, Tech Trek Coordinator and Scholarship Chair.
- c. The past president will be a ~~non-voting~~ member of the board of directors. ~~If the most immediate past president is not available to serve or holds another position on the board, the next most immediate past president will be eligible to serve.~~
- d. No elected ~~or appointed~~ officer shall hold more than one elected office at a time.
- e. The elected and appointed officers shall be the board of directors for the branch with one vote for each office.
- f. ~~Board members who are absent may delegate any member of the branch to vote in their place at a meeting.~~
- g. f. Elected and appointed offices may be filled by co-officers.
- h. g. All vacancies in office shall be filled for the unexpired term by the board. Each office may be filled by an officer or co-officers. Each office has one vote.



# BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GIG HARBOR

**Section 2. Duties.** Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and, by the rules or policies and procedures adopted by the board of directors, ~~and~~, and by the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised. The elected and appointed directors shall facilitate and promote the purpose and mission of AAUW.

- a. The president shall be the official spokesperson and representative for the branch and shall be responsible for submitting such reports and forms as required by AAUW.
- b. The vice presidents for membership and program shall perform such duties as the president and the board shall direct and as specified in branch policies and job descriptions.
- c. The Vice President for Finance shall be responsible for collecting, distributing and accounting for the funds of the branch and for meeting specific deadlines.
- d. The Secretary shall record and keep minutes of all board, membership, and special meetings.

## ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

### Section 1. Nominations.

- a. The Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of at least three (3) eligible members at least three (3) months prior to the annual meeting.
- ~~b. The term of service on the nominating committee shall be for one year for a maximum of two consecutive terms.~~
- ~~e.~~ b. names of the nominees for elected office shall be published and sent to every member at least fifteen days prior to the annual branch meeting.
- ~~d.~~ c. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

**Section 2. Elections.** Elections shall be held at the annual branch meeting.

**Section 3.** Elections shall be by ballot unless there is only one nominee for a given office, in which case the election may be by a voice vote. Election shall be by a majority vote of those voting. ~~Mail ballot or electronic voting may be used for elections, provided the number of members voting meets the quorum stated for meetings in Article X.~~

## ARTICLE X. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 1. Composition.** The Board of Directors shall include the elected officers and the ~~following~~ appointed officers: ~~communications chair, fund raising chair, interest group coordinator, newsletter editor, Tech Trek coordinator, and scholarship chair.~~ This organization must have a minimum of two separate officers, one responsible for the management of the organization and one responsible for the financial affairs. In addition, the organization shall designate a member other than the contacts for administration and finance to record and make available upon request the minutes of each noticed branch or affiliated entity meeting and board meeting.

**Section 2. Administrative Responsibilities.** The board shall have the power to administer affairs of the branch and to carry out its programs and its policies, and shall accept responsibilities delegated by AAUW and the state. It shall act for the branch between membership meetings. The board shall have fiscal responsibility as outlined in Article XII, Financial Administration, Section 2.

**Section 3. Meetings.** Meetings of the board shall be held at least six (6) times a year at a time and place agreed upon by the board.

# BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GIG HARBOR

**Section 4. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called by the president or shall be called upon written request of three (3) members of the board provided that at least five (5) days' notice of such meeting and its agenda have been given to the members of the board.

**Section 5. Quorum.** The quorum for a meeting of the board shall be a majority of the voting members. Co-officers shall be considered as one voting member of the board.

~~**Section 6. Voting Between Meetings.** Between meetings of the branch board, written or electronic vote of the board may be taken at the request of the president on any question submitted to the board in writing provided that every member of the board shall have the opportunity to vote upon the question submitted. If a majority shall vote on any question so submitted, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if at a board meeting. The result of the vote shall be in the minutes of the next board meeting.~~

~~Any action which could be taken at a meeting of the members may be taken without a meeting if a written consent setting forth the action so taken is signed by all members entitled to vote with respect to the subject matter thereof. Such written consents may be signed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which, taken together, shall constitute one and the same document. Any such written consent shall be inserted in the minute book as if it were the minutes of a meeting of the members.~~

**Section 7 6. Removal from Office.** A member of the Board of Directors may be removed for any reason by a two-thirds vote of the board in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by AAUW.

## ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES

**Section 1. Establishing Committees.** The president may establish standing and special committees as needed.

**Section 2. Purpose.** With the approval of the board, each standing and special committee shall formulate programs and activities to carry out the mission of AAUW.

**Section 3. Voting.** Committee chairs and committee members other than those specified in Article VII are encouraged to participate in board meetings but have no board voting privileges.

## ARTICLE XII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

**Section 1. Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year shall correspond with that of AAUW and shall begin on July 1.

**Section 2. Financial Policies.** The board shall set and maintain policies and procedures to control financial records consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and federal, state, and local laws, including an annual financial review.

**Section 3. Budget.** The board shall adopt an annual budget for presentation to the branch.



# BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GIG HARBOR

## ARTICLE XIII. BRANCH MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Section 1. Annual Meeting.** The branch shall hold an annual meeting to conduct the business of the branch, including but not limited to: electing officers, establishing dues, amending bylaws, and receiving reports. ~~This meeting shall be held between April 1 and June 1.~~

**Section 2. Membership Meetings.** The branch shall hold at least five (5) meetings during the fiscal year.

**Section 3. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called by the president or shall be called by the president at the written request of three (3) members of the board or ten percent (10%) of the branch membership.

**Section 4. Meetings Notice.** A meeting notice shall be sent to all members of the branch at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.

**Section 5. Quorum.** A quorum shall be fifteen percent (15%) of the branch membership.

## ARTICLE XIV. INDEMNIFICATION

~~Every board or committee member may be indemnified by the branch against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred or imposed upon such board or committee members in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, or proceeding to which the board or committee member may become involved by reason of being or having been a member of the board or committee, or any settlement thereof, unless adjudged therein to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duties. In the event of a settlement, the indemnification herein shall apply only when the branch board approves such settlement and reimbursement as being in the best interest of the branch. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to and not exclusive of all other rights to which the member of the board or committee is entitled.~~

## ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS NOT MANDATED BY AAUW

Provisions of the Organization's bylaws not mandated by AAUW may be amended by a two-thirds (unless otherwise stipulated by state law) vote of members voting after a quorum is attained. Proposed bylaws amendments shall be sent to the entire membership at least ~~45~~ 14 days prior to the applicable meeting.

**Bylaws Reviewed and Amended: May 2014**

**Compliance Update: May 2016**

**Compliance Update: November 2016**

**Compliance Update: January 2017**

**Bylaws Reviewed and Amended: April 2017**

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT-Gig Harbor Mayor Jill Guernsey



*Gig Harbor Mayor Jill Guernsey*  
*Courtesy: Pat Berger 2017*

Jill Guernsey, mayor of Gig Harbor, gave a very interesting and informative presentation at the AAUW-GH branch meeting on March 18, 2017. She talked as she presented a power point entitled Gig Harbor: The Maritime City. She noted that *Smithsonian Magazine* named Gig Harbor #5 of the 20 best small towns in the U.S. in 2012!

Mayor Guernsey told us that Gig Harbor was incorporated in 1946 with a population of approximately 800 people. In 2016, the population was 9,065. Population growth continues to be an issue for Gig Harbor. She explained that the city of Gig Harbor has 101 employees and three administrators (the Mayor, the City Administrator and the Open Government Advisor).

Mayor Guernsey described several current development projects in Gig Harbor: McCormick Creek, One Harbor Point, the Village at Harbor Hill, and the Gig Harbor Sports Complex. She also outlined the current dilemma with the Post Office and the need to find a new appropriate site for it in downtown Gig Harbor. Recently completed projects include Donkey Creek Daylighting, Crescent Creek Park playground, the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Boat Moorage Kiosks. Projects in progress include the Skansie Welcome Plaza/Lift Station 4B, Harbor Hill Drive Extension, and Ancich Waterfront Park. She discussed traffic improvements involving the Pt. Fosdick/Olympic Drive intersection and the Wollochet Drive intersection.

She provided contact information: [guernesya@cityofgigharbor.net](mailto:guernesya@cityofgigharbor.net), 253-853-7611. The city of Gig Harbor website at <http://www.cityofgigharbor.net> is a very informative and helpful resource. All present learned a great deal about our community.



## Gig Harbor Branch-Announcements

**Newsletter Deadline: April 20, 2017 for the May 2017 newsletter.** Please send your articles and pictures by the deadline to [marthashellen@comcast.net](mailto:marthashellen@comcast.net). Remember to include last names, locations, dates and times for the information you send.



**Legacy of Leadership Luncheon-May 13th.** Get ready for a **fun time** and to honor the women who have contributed so much to AAUW GH. There will be a **Chicos Fashion Show** modeled by AAUW GH members.



**Baskets** filled with goodies will be up for **auction** as will **delectable desserts**. And to top it off there will be a **raffle**. Tickets will be on sale for \$2 each or \$6 for ten. **Fun activities** will be throughout the luncheon. Watch your mail for more information.

We will have a **game matching childhood photos to AAUW Members**. If you would like to submit a childhood photo, **please send a copy of your photo to [Kathleen@rklarson4@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleen@rklarson4@gmail.com) by April 15th**, or mail a copy to Barb Schmit, 5021 104th Ave Ct NW, Gig Harbor 98335

**If you love Chicos Fashions** we have another fun activity for you. **We need models for the May Fashion Show.** No modeling experience necessary and all ages and sizes are welcome. Call Mary Williams (253-213-9573 ) if you are interested.



**The Tech Trek committee has been busy interviewing applicants** for this year's summer science camp at PLU.

Seventeen (17) applications have been received (six from Key Peninsula; six from Harbor Ridge; four from Goodman; and one from Kopachuck). We plan to select twelve (12) girls this year.

Don't forget to stop by the Gig Harbor Farmers Market, in the former Peninsula Gardens location, beginning April 1, 2017. **Carol Robinson will be selling her knitwear in support of the named scholarship fund.** Stop by her booth to see and buy her latest creations. You will be helping a woman in our community return to college.





## Gig Harbor Branch-Announcements



### Member Directory Changes and Additions

**New address:**               **Edison, Diane**  
1707 N. Vassault #10-3  
Tacoma, WA 98406

**New phone number:**   **Williams, Mary**  
253-213-9573

### Happy Birthday to members celebrating April birthdays.

Janet Stuart	04-04
Georgia Hoghaug	04-06
Claudia Wade	04-07
Nancy Lee Koehnke	04-08
Elizabeth Langford	04-11
Elizabeth Murray	04-12
Patricia Morton	04-23
Catherine Luria	04-24



### AAUW Cheer of the Week

**Iceland plans to become the [first nation](#) to require equal pay for women by law.** During a recent International Women's Day summit, Iceland's Prime Minister Bjarni Benediktsson discussed the upcoming plan to require companies with more than 25 employees to prove that they pay men and women equal pay for equal work.

### AAUW Jeer of the Week

**Wisconsin elected officials have set the stage to [remove hundreds of thousands](#) of people from its voter rolls.** The state Elections Commission approved a plan to notify and remove people who have not cast a ballot in four years from its registration rolls.



## Gig Harbor Branch-Public Policy

### Gear Up for Equal Pay Day

Would you like to work at least 15 months for the same paycheck your male coworker received in just 12 months? Well, if you're a woman odds are [you already do](#).

Equal Pay Day — which takes place Tuesday, April 4, this year — is the symbolic day when women's pay finally "catches up" to the wages that men took home the previous year. The date represents the fact that women working full time, year-round in the United States typically [are paid just 80 percent of what men are paid](#), or a gap of 20 percent. (AAUW also observes the equal pay days in March for [Asian American women](#), in August for [African American women](#), in September for [Native American women](#), and in October for [Latina women](#).)

Missing 20 percent or more of a paycheck is a hard hit. Think about how that loss of wages adds up over a lifetime, and we're talking about losing a substantial chunk of change — change that could have greatly aided women and their families. The pay gap is closing but at a glacial pace. At the current rate, [women won't achieve equal pay until 2152](#). Women and families can't afford to wait that long, nor can we risk rolling back the progress [that has been made](#) on equal pay.

Luckily, Equal Pay Day is the perfect opportunity to organize action to close the gender pay gap. If you're looking for ways to take action and speed up progress, you've come to the right place. Each week until April 4, [AAUW.org](#) will share a new action for observing Equal Pay Day and provide more tips and tools for how you can help ensure that women are paid fairly.

### **New Report Highlights Threat of Vouchers and Tax Credits to Public Education**

With President Trump and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos pushing for \$20 billion in federal funds to be used for block grants supporting school choice initiatives like vouchers, [The Century Foundation](#) released a report that identified school vouchers and tax credits as a real threat to public education. In addition to redirecting funding away from public schools, TCF argues that vouchers also increase student segregation by race and socioeconomic status. Additionally, vouchers, which siphon taxpayer money to private schools, have shown to have a potentially [negative impact](#) on student achievement. The report supports socioeconomic integration programs in public school districts and the expansion of magnet programs that have shown to expand student educational opportunities. With the [House Oversight Committee](#) voting to approve the continuation of the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program, the only federally-funded voucher program in the nation, AAUW reaffirms that when federal funds are re-directed to private and religious schools through school voucher programs, it puts the education and civil rights of women and girls at risk. [Tell your senators and representative](#) to protect funding for public schools, and to oppose any school voucher schemes that may come before the 115th Congress.

### Become a Two-Minute Activist

Receive e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox. Join the AAUW Action Network today!

Karen Drum, Public Policy Chair





## National Announcements and Resources

### BECOME A TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST!

**You can join AAUW Action Network and receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your elected officials.** You will also receive Action Network e-mails from AAUW and the AAUW Action Fund and will have the option of receiving the "Washington Update" newsletter, AAUW's members-only weekly e-bulletin with the latest policy news. The AAUW Two-Minute Activist sign-up form is at

[http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?organization\\_KEY=50796&table=supporter&Email=&killorg=True](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?organization_KEY=50796&table=supporter&Email=&killorg=True)

### Give a Grad a Gift

**As an AAUW member, you can gift one year of free AAUW national membership to as many recent college/university graduates as you like.** (And yes, national members, that means you, too!) We all know that the future of our organization depends on today's graduates. Give a minute; gain a new community of AAUW leaders. Here's how it works:



#### Identify the recent college or university graduates in your networks.

These recent graduates can be family, friends, neighbors, former students, friends of friends, you name it! You could even gift AAUW memberships to the entire graduating class of your local college or university. Anyone who has graduated within the past two years is eligible to receive one free membership from an AAUW member.

#### Collect their information.

You'll need to know the mailing address, phone number, e-mail, and alma mater for each of these future AAUW members.

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## AAUW's ¡Adelante! Book Recommendations

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

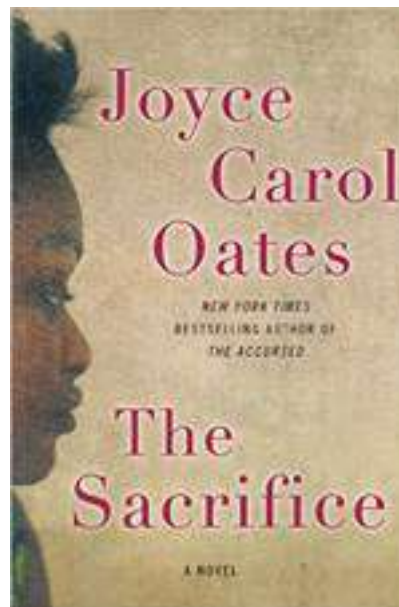
### March 2017

AAUW's ¡Adelante! Books for April 2017

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

### April 2017

#### Sexual Assault Awareness Month



#### The Sacrifice

By Joyce Carol Oates

“When a 14-year-old girl is the alleged victim of a terrible act of racial violence, the incident shocks and galvanizes her community, exacerbating the racial tension that has been simmering in this New Jersey town for decades. Unfolding in a succession of multiracial voices, in a community transfixed by this alleged crime and the spectacle unfolding around it, this profound novel exposes what — and who — the “sacrifice” actually is and what consequences these events hold for us all. Oates offers a sympathetic portrait of the young girl and her mother and challenges our expectations and beliefs about our society, our biases, and ourselves. As the chorus of its voices — from the police to the media to the victim and her family — reaches a crescendo, *The Sacrifice* offers a shocking new understanding of power and oppression, innocence and guilt, truth and sensationalism, justice and retribution.”

Recommended by Peggy Woods-Clark, AAUW national member

Available in print, Kindle, Nook, and audiobook formats





We reported on the loss of Melinda "Mindy" Fahy in the January newsletter. Her obituary appeared in the Peninsula Gateway on March 23, 2017.



Melinda L. Fahy "Mindy" Melinda Lawrence Fahy of Gig Harbor, Washington died of metastatic cancer on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at the age of 73. Born on November 12, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan, she lived for her first 12 years in Detroit and Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, moving in 1956 to Chatham, New Jersey where she lived until she graduated from Chatham High School in 1961. She attended Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York and graduated with a B.A. in Psychology in 1965. She was hired as an actuarial assistant by New York Life Insurance, worked her way up through the company, taught herself multiple computer languages, helped her department(s) to convert from ledgers to spreadsheet analysis and after 32 years retired as an Assistant Vice President. She then moved to Raft Island, Washington and purchased the waterfront home of her dreams. Everything that she did, she did with zest and devotion. Before girls were allowed in little league, she was a catcher on a baseball team at age 11 and had a fine arm. She was an accomplished pianist, literate in French, passionate about Broadway musicals and theatre and a superb equestrienne. She was a life member of the U.S. Tennis Association and used to play with her friends in the old Grand Central Station tennis courts. She loved to travel. She saw the Kremlin; the Parthenon; the Louvre; Versailles; Stonehenge. She sailed the North Atlantic on the Queen Elizabeth II. Like any good Irishwoman, she visited Ireland 3 times. She saw the world. She did work for Volunteer Services for the Elderly of Yorkville, New York as well as a number of other not-for-profit organizations. She became a Master Gardener as well as a member of the Horsehead Bay Garden Club and Bon Appetit. She was immensely generous, helping her family many times with gifts and financial support. She was a lifelong Democrat and proud of it. Melinda was predeceased by her parents, Elmore and Dorothy Fahy and her sister, Caroline F. Wade. She is survived by her brother, Edward R. Fahy and her nieces and nephews, Elton L. Wade II, Jessica R. DeGidio, David Weller-Fahy, Kat Weller-Fahy, Johanna Weller-Fahy and Kelsey Taylor Fahy. A memorial service will be held at the Bradley Funeral Home at 345 Main St., Chatham, New Jersey at 10:30 A.M. on March 25, followed by a graveside ceremony at the Fair Mount Cemetery in Chatham. Donations may be made in her name to [Heifer International](#) or to the Minerva Scholarship Fund of the American Association of University Women. Published in News Tribune (Tacoma) on Mar. 23, 2017



## AAUW GH Calendar

### April 2017

**Board Meeting-2nd Wednesday of each month at 3:00-5:00pm at Cutters Point-Olympic Village (in the Fred Meyer shopping center). [Upcoming meeting:](#) Wednesday April 12, 2017**

**Bon Appetit-April 18, 2017, 6:00 pm.** PARSLEY hosts SAGE at Diane's home, with co-host Joyce. ROSEMARY hosts THYME at Rosemary's home, with co-host Mary.



**Evening Book Group-Monday, April 24, 2017 at the Peninsula Library 6:30 Refreshments; 7:00 Meeting Time.** Our book for April is "**A Thousand Splendid Suns**" by **Khaled Hosseini**. Bring questions and observations for a group discussion. Susan Pettersson and Salli Montgomery will provide refreshments. For more information please phone Sue Hines (253) 761-5080 or Salli Montgomery (253) 857-8057.

**Monday, May 15, 2017** we will discuss "**Astoria**" by **Peter Stark**. Karen Anderson will lead the discussion. Refreshments provided by Martha Shellenberger and Sue Hines.

**Who Done It (Mystery Book Group) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. April 11, 2017** we are reading Steve Martini. Sybil Mercer is our hostess and presenter. For further information call Carol Robinson (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 Barb Schmit (253) 549-0814 for more information.

**Bridge-Evening—** If you are interested in playing, please call Mary Williams (253) 509-0524 or Barb Schmit (253) 549-0814.

**Lunch Bunch—**The Lunch Bunch meets at 12:30pm every second Wednesday of the month. Harvester Restaurant, 5601 Soundview Dr., Gig Harbor 98335. Everyone is invited. No need to call ahead.



AAUW Newsletter

Gig Harbor Branch

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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.

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