

February 2017

## NEWSLETTER



FAIRBANKS (AK) BRANCH AAUW



## February Meeting

What's in Place to Prevent Sexual Assault  
& Support Survivors ?

Fairbanks Airport Agency \* 805 Airport Way

Saturday, February 18 @ 11:00 am

Bring a couple of friends.

The public is Welcome

We'll hear about local programs and  
current infrastructure designed to prevent  
sexual assault and/or support survivors.

## January Luncheon Report

13 attended the AAUW January informal luncheon held at the Lemon Grass Thai restaurant on Saturday, January 21. Everyone who attended was encouraged to sit with those who they didn't know. Two attendees marched in the Fairbanks Women's March before coming to the luncheon. The marchers shared their stories of the March, including highlights of the 2,000 women, children, and men who were still marching as the luncheon progressed.



*Ritchie Musick representing  
AAUW's values at Fairbanks  
1/21/17 Women's March  
Check out additional March  
pictures on the photos pages  
of this newsletter.*

## FAIRBANKS 2017 BOARD & DIRECTORS

President  
Gretchen Murphy

Vice President  
Membership  
Carla Willetto

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Secretary  
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Stephanie Stowman

UAF University Partner Rep  
Sine Anahita

Newsletter  
Kayt Sunwood

Scholarship Committee  
Leslie McCartney &  
Kathi Cameron

House Tour Chair  
(open)

Public Policy Chair  
(open)

Equal Pay Day Chair  
Shirley Liss

## **We can use your news, items, and pictures to enhance our Newsletter!**

Send newsletter items, by the last Thursday of the month, to [kayt.sunwood@alaska.edu](mailto:kayt.sunwood@alaska.edu) with the subject line: AAUW Newsletter Item. Please send "Have You Heard" Member News to keep us up on what you are doing, and/or where you are going. Also send reports on Branch activities, pictures, and other items of interest. Future Newsletters will feature profiles of our members so that we can all get to know each other. Newsletters will also feature exciting and engaging new items to facilitate connections. Please send your news to make this NEWSLETTER all that it can be ☺

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## **Fairbanks AAUW Branch Facebook Page**

Find the Facebook public page for our Fairbanks AAUW branch at:

[www.facebook.com/AAUWFairbanksAKBranch](https://www.facebook.com/AAUWFairbanksAKBranch)

Anyone can view this page. Please "like" our page and visit often to catch up on what's happening.

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## **Help build our AAUW community by inviting new members to join**

Let your neighbors, local students, colleagues, and acquaintances know that by [joining AAUW](#) they can help break through barriers for women in government, in the workplace, and on campus.

AAUW's values are non-negotiable. We believe that bias and discrimination of any kind are unacceptable in our national dialogue and that our government must represent all of us. Throughout our 135-year history, we've always stood for solutions that work for all women and families — and we don't intend to quit now. With your support, AAUW will continue to speak truth to power and fight for gender equity from the White House to the statehouse.

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## **HAVE YOU HEARD? Fairbanks member Etsuko Kimura Pederson Profiled in *Creative Alaska***

**Creative Alaska profiles the Rasmuson Foundation 2004 to 2013 Distinguished Artists, Fellowships, and Project Award Winners. Richly illustrated accounts of each of the artists and their work illuminate the challenges and opportunities of the artistic life in Alaska and the powerful impact of the Rasmuson Foundation's support.**

**Creative Alaska  
A Ten-Year Retrospective of Support for  
Alaska Artists, 2004-2013**

**Click the URL below to find out more about the book  
and/or order yourself a copy from UA Press**

<https://www.alaska.edu/uapress/browse/detail/index.xml?id=543>



## Upcoming Book Group Meetings

Date: **Special Event, February 13 (Monday), 12:30 pm Noel Wien Library**

Topic: Webinar with Dr. Atul Gawande, guest speaker at a Beacon Hill Village celebration in Boston sponsored by Aging at Home Fairbanks. (author of Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End)

**Followed by: Book Club Meeting @ Margaret Van Flein's, Linck Estates**, 924 Kellum, Unit #208, 322-0621 [off Cowles & 10th, behind Arctic Bowl] featuring discussion of Gawande's book Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End

Date: **March 13, (Monday), 1:30 pm**

Title/Author: To the Bright Edge of the World: A Novel / by Eowyn Ivey [Alaskan author]  
*NOTE: Library audio and printed copies are frequently in use so you may need to place a hold on this title \* Library phone: 459-1020 Available on Kindle.*

Location: To be determined.

Date: **April 10, (Monday), 1:30 pm**

Title/Author: The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion  
/ by Jonathan Haidt [non-fiction, 2013]

Location: To be determined.

Date: **May 8 (Monday), 1:30 pm**

Title/Author: Still Life / by Louise Penny [fiction, 2008]

Location: To be determined.

## BOOK DESCRIPTIONS:

**Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande [non-fiction 2014].** Medicine has triumphed in modern times, transforming birth, injury, and infectious disease from harrowing to manageable. But in the inevitable condition of aging and death, the goals of medicine seem too frequently to run counter to the interest of the human spirit. ... Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families. Gawande offers examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, and he explores the varieties of hospice care to demonstrate that a person's last weeks or months may be rich and dignified.

**To the Bright Edge of the World: A Novel / by Eowyn Ivey** {An Amazon Best Book of August 2016} I'm just going to say it: Eowyn Ivey can really write. For those who read *The Snow Child* this statement comes as no surprise. In *To the Bright Edge of the World*, her second novel, Ivey manages to turn an adventure set in Alaska into much more. The book begins with a contemporary relative donating to a small museum the journals and other artifacts from an 1885 expedition. The journals were written by his great-uncle, Colonel Alan Forrester, and his great-aunt, Sophie. While we read about Alan's accounts of his full-on Alaskan adventure, we are also introduced to Sophie's struggles back in Vancouver. Each experiences a shift in the prism through which they see reality—Sophie takes up photography, and Alan

begins to develop a more wild view of the world around him. Read it for the adventure. Read it for the time you'll spend thinking about it long after you've turned the last page.

**The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion / by Jonathan Haidt [non-fiction, 2013]** This well-researched examination of human moral impulses will appeal to liberals and conservatives alike following the 2016 presidential campaign and election. As America descends deeper into polarization and paralysis, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt has done the seemingly impossible—challenged conventional thinking about morality, politics, and religion in a way that speaks to everyone on the political spectrum. Drawing on his twenty five years of groundbreaking research on moral psychology, he shows how moral judgments arise not from reason but from gut feelings. He shows why liberals, conservatives, and libertarians have such different intuitions about right and wrong, and he shows why each side is actually right about many of its central concerns.

**Still Life / by Louise Penny [fiction, 2008]** Winner of the New Blood Dagger, Arthur Ellis, Barry, Anthony, and Dilys awards. Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surûté du Québec and his team of investigators are called in to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, just north of the U.S. border, has been found dead in the woods. The locals are certain it's a tragic hunting accident and nothing more, but Gamache smells something foul in these remote woods, and is soon certain that Jane Neal died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bow hunter. Still Life introduces not only an engaging series hero in Inspector Gamache, who commands his forces--and this series--with integrity and quiet courage, but also a winning and talented new writer of traditional mysteries in the person of Louise Penny.

### Speaking of Books

Our branch is honoring the memory of Ellen Whitcher with a Book Tile at Noel Wien Library. The Ellen Whitcher Tile is mounted in Stack #10, Shelf #3, #8 in the row. Please visit Ellen's Book Tile next time you are at the Library.



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### And, for the Writers Among Us:

Writer's group, Thursday February 16, noon at Pike's Landing Restaurant  
Bring some of your writing for reading to the group. For more info or questions contact Rose Levno





## 1/21/17 Women's March

At the January 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 March on Washington nonpartisan rally, women's rights advocates delivered the message that ~women's rights are human rights~ in Washington DC with an official AAUW delegation. AAUW members across the nation and around the world represented AAUW in local marches as well. Fairbanks Branch AAUW was represented here in Fairbanks at our local march which gathered a crowd surpassing the 2,000 mark. Raven Landing Community Center filled to overcapacity before the 10AM starting time so those who could were asked to keep marching the loop along Cowles across Airport to keep the inside crowd below the fire marshal limit. There were so many people that Fairbanks AAUW members didn't necessarily find each other nor march in mass. March we did, however, some of us (and UAF friends) carrying our AAUW banner! See the March on Fairbanks Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/marchonfairbanks> for future plans.





And another March picture. This one from the Women's March in Atlanta. Fairbanks Branch Member Marilyn Russell marched in Atlanta alongside the Honorable Representative John Lewis who you see in the center of this photo!

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## Elizabeth Peratrovich Celebration

"I would not have expected that I, who am barely out of savagery, would have to remind the gentlemen with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind them of our Bill of Rights."

For those who know anything about Elizabeth Peratrovich, this sound bite from her famous remarks to the Territorial Legislature is probably what they think of. Her signature accomplishment was the passage of the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945, which made Alaska the first place in the United States to outlaw racial discrimination. The floor speech she delivered immediately before the bill passed the Territorial Senate is what she is best known for, but her systematic efforts to fight discrimination in Alaska started long before she set foot in the Senate chambers.

See the following page for your invitation to the Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Celebration & Alaska Native Education Program Grant Goals Discussion.

## [Sign up for AAUW Two-Minute Activist](#)

Since AAUW's founding in 1881, our members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. The messages you send through the Two-Minute Activist tool play an important role in the work we do. As an Action Network subscriber, you will receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress, find detailed information on legislation currently under consideration, and write letters to the editor of your local paper. For most of these messages to be sent to our three Alaskans in Washington D.C., you just have to click to add your name. You also have the opportunity to add your own personal message. This is a great way to simply keep our elected leaders aware that they represent all Alaskans on a wide variety of issues.

Sign up on [aauw.org](http://aauw.org)

## National Bright Spots

### House GOP women selected to chair record number of committees

U.S. House Republican women now chair three standing committees, showing [record gains](#) in leadership. While women make up only nine percent of the Republican Party's share of U.S. Representatives, Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), Susan Brooks (R-IN), and Diane Black (R-TN) have risen to lead the House Education and Workforce, Ethics, and Budget Committees, respectively. More Republican women have also been assigned to lead House subcommittees, including [Rep. Elise Stefanik \(R-NY\)](#) who will chair the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities. GOP women in the U.S. Senate also made history, as Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) will be the first Republican woman to chair two different Senate committees.



Join the Alaska Native Education Program and  
Native Student Union of UAF in...

## **Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Celebration & Alaska Native Education Program Grant Goals Discussion**



The Alaska Native Education Program  
and Native Student Union of UAF will  
collaborate in celebrating Elizabeth  
Peratrovich Day!

### **Event Activities:**

- Potluck Style Dinner
- Traditional Song and Dance
- A discussion panel with UAF students
- Community discussion on ANE's current grant goals
- Free and open to the community

**Elizabeth  
Peratrovich**  
Alaskan. Native. Woman. Activist.

When: February 8th, 2017  
Where: Tanana Middle School,  
600 Trainor Gate Road  
Time: 5:30PM-7:30PM

Contact Information:  
Shelby Fisher-Salmom,  
ANE Program Secretary  
Phone: (907) 452-2000  
ext. 11468 Email:  
[ssfishersalmon@k12northstar.org](mailto:ssfishersalmon@k12northstar.org)



Share this flier with information about applying for our AAUW Scholarships



## SCHOLARSHIPS

**Ann Rhian Memorial Scholarship  
Nancy Johnson Memorial Scholarship**

The Fairbanks Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is offering **two (2) \$1,000 scholarships** to women who...

- reside in Alaska's interior;
- are pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce after a break;
- or are pursuing an educational project.

**DOWNLOAD INSTRUCTIONS AND AN APPLICATION form at**

**[fairbanks-ak.aauw.net/scholarships](http://fairbanks-ak.aauw.net/scholarships)**

**ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY: MARCH 1, 2017**

**For more information:**

Leslie McCartney, AAUW Scholarship Coordinator

[lmccartney@alaska.edu](mailto:lmccartney@alaska.edu) or 907-474-7737

Or visit: [fairbanks-ak.aauw.net/scholarships](http://fairbanks-ak.aauw.net/scholarships)

AAUW advances equity for women and girls  
Through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.  
**AAUW.org • [fairbanks-ak.aauw.net](http://fairbanks-ak.aauw.net)**

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## President's Corner

Do you enjoy walking at Creamers Field, riding through the community on bike paths, or attending world class concerts? Without Fairbanks AAUW we might not enjoy these things that make our town a great place to live. Our Branch has a long history of activism and service to Fairbanks. What ideas do you have to continue our legacy of community activism? What would enhance life in Fairbanks for women and girls? The mission statement of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. If you have a good action idea, AAUW could be your platform. I invite all our members to reach out to board members with your vision. Following the national election and The Women's March many people are searching for direction and regrouping. Perhaps your idea will be the one to coalesce the disparate groups. After all, the Women's March was started by a single woman in remote Hana, Hawaii, and it became an international phenomenon. Let your voice be heard!

### Equal Pay Day is April 4

Shirley Liss is in charge of AAUW Equal Pay Day. Please contact her if you would like to work on this important day of recognition.

### House Tour Committee

Mark your calendars for July 8, 2017, the day of our annual house tour. This fundraiser supports our scholarships so please volunteer to help out on that day. If you would like to serve on the organizing committee, contact Rita Osborne or Ritchie Musick. The committee will begin meeting in February.

### Revision and Update of Bylaws

AAUW required bylaw updates at all levels in order to be in legal compliance nationwide. Our local branch completed the bylaws revisions in December, and they will be voted on at the annual meeting in March. Though the format may be different, there are only three changes of note:

- 1) AAUW Branch is now named "Affiliate".
- 2) The Nominating Committee members will be appointed for two year terms instead of one year as in the past.
- 3) The Financial Officer is limited to two 2 year terms.

Articles I through VIII are AAUW written and vetted and not open to change as they describe the foundation that has always been part of our bylaws. The proposed bylaws can be read at our Fairbanks Branch website.

### Calling All History Buffs

Do you enjoy local history and learning about Fairbanks? We need to update our Branch History and are looking for 2 or 3 members who would like to spend part of a day looking through a box of archived material to write up accomplishments of the last few years. Our Historians could not complete the project due to illness, so please consider stepping in. Contact Gretchen Murphy at 479-8224.

## Upcoming Dates to Put on Your Calendar

Our meeting calendar has been organized by our Program VP Pat Babcock  
with assistance from additional members. Thanks ALL!

### Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, February 18	Preventing Sexual Assault/Supporting Survivors 11am Fairbanks Resource Agency
Monday, March 20	Annual Meeting 6:30 PM (location being confirmed)
April 4 Equal Pay Day	Equal Pay Day, local actions TBD (contact Shirley Liss with ideas)
Saturday, April 22	Scholarship Luncheon @ Raven Landing, Building 4 (time TBD)
Friday, May 19	Wine & Cheese Social (details TBD)

AAUW Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy,  
education, philanthropy, and research.

National website [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

Fairbanks Branch website <http://fairbanks-ak.aauw.net>

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Fairbanks (AK) Branch AAUW

[FairbanksAK.AAUW@gmail.com](mailto:FairbanksAK.AAUW@gmail.com)

