



BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

<http://sanmateo-ca.aauw.net>

November 2017, Vol 88, Issue 3

Presidents' Message

Ramona Raybin and Jane Bradley

Since AAUW's founding, our members and our supporters have spoken out about policies important to women and girls. That is essentially the core mission of AAUW. Without all of our voices, invaluable legislation would have never been passed. In recent years, such legislation included the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

Now, it seems more than ever, it is important for all of us to become "two-minute activists" and rally our state and national representatives to hold the line against a White House and some in Congress who seem determined to undermine the progress we worked so hard to achieve. In years past, you needed to sit down and write a letter or make a phone call but now for most of us, all you have to do is press a button on your computer and your message of support or opposition to pending legislation lands on your Congressperson's desk in seconds.

Next time you get a message from AAUW regarding legislation, I urge you to take two minutes and ACT by sending a message to your representatives. If you are not online but are aware of pending legislation, take the time to phone or drop a note to your representative. If you need your representatives' contact information, look on page 2 of the AAUW branch yearbook.

While you may be confident your representatives support AAUW's goals, we have been advised they need to hear from us. We shouldn't assume they are supporting and/or voting as we would wish. For them, it is a numbers game and they need to be confident their constituents are aware and supportive of the positions they are taking.

We need a few volunteers to help the Program/Hospitality Committee Chairperson. The time commitment is limited to assisting at the Flower Arranging program on Nov. 4th & the April Annual Meeting. Please Contact Gerhild Klein if you'd like to help.

Upcoming Branch Events

Please Save the Date!

- Oct 28 AAUW Funds Luncheon
Basque Cultural Center SSF, 12:30 pm
- Oct 29 Tech Trek Brunch
San Mateo Senior Center, 11:30 am
- Nov 4 Flower Arranging for the Holidays
SMCCCD Board Room, 1:00 pm
- April 20 Annual Meeting/Fundraiser Luncheon
Congregational Church, 751 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont, 11:30 am

Tech Trek

We are proud of our Tech Trek alumnae, some of whom you will meet at the Tech Trek Brunch on Oct 29th. Through the fantastic support of our branch members we have sponsored 100 local girls to attend Tech Trek camps over the years. 2018 will be the 20th anniversary of Tech Trek Camps at Stanford. There will be a reunion at the State convention in Irvine in April. Marie Wolbach, our founder, has been awarded the Palo Alto Kiwanis Angel Award for 2017.

We plan to reserve 8 spaces for our branch girls in 2018. We always have to wait for our dorm assignment to see what the total number of girls can be. The branch needs to raise a total of \$1,000.00 for each camper. **This year we will return to making checks out to AAUW-CA SPF.** (Please understand that you will have to rewrite the check if it is not made out correctly.) The state special projects fund is a 501(C) 3, and your contribution is tax deductible. Please mail your check to Maureen Buchner. Each camp has a separate treasurer who does a fantastic job of tracking donations for each branch. All of our funds are due at the end of February.

It's gratifying to see the girls return as much more focused, enthusiastic, and motivated 13 year-olds! Unfortunately, we still find that girls need to be encouraged to join the ranks of boys in STEM subjects. That's why *Women's Professional Night* at the camp is such an eye-opener for our campers!

Public Policy/Current Events

Betty Bernstein

Our Public Policy/Current Events discussion group will learn about the often life changing services that volunteers provide through San Mateo County's Court Appointed Social Advocates (CASA) program when they meet on Tuesday, Nov. 14th at 10:30 am.

The CASA program matches adult volunteers with children in the foster care system. The volunteers serve as mentors and advocates for the children whose parents have been unable to care for them.

Nilda Aldred, recruitment and outreach coordinator for CASA of San Mateo, will explain how the program works to help the children in our county at the home of Lyn Haithcox. Lyn is pleased to host a program on this subject since she served as a CASA volunteer when she was living in the Midwest. The meeting is open to all AAUW members and guests.

Membership

As of Oct. 4, 2017: 144

50-year members: 23

Thanks to the following branch members for donations to AAUW Funds, LAF, Tech Trek and NCCWSL included with their annual dues:

Bobbi Benson, Susan Blake, Maureen Buchner, Marilyn Canon, Katherine Colman, Betty Drisko, Gayle Flanagan, Patricia Frates, Pat Fuetsch, Gayle Hardt, June Hendrickson, Nancy Jalonen, Elissa James, Margo King, Marjorie Kobe, Mary Anne McGuire-Hickey, Barbara Otter, Cindy Robbins-Roth, Shirley Roberson, Sherrean Rundberg, Barbara Schotzko, Diane Silven, Kathy Wiblin, May-Blossom Wilkinson and Jennie Wong.

Total Donations: **\$2,405.00**

Flower Arranging for the Holidays

Join us for another fun afternoon of flower arranging! The San Mateo Branch will hold a class on holiday flower arranging on Saturday, Nov. 4, beginning at 1:00 pm at the San Mateo County Community Colleges District Office, 2nd Floor, 3401 CSM Drive, San Mateo. This class will be taught by floral designer Relli Siegel. She will create a number of different arrangements for this class. You may even be able to take one home. There will be a drawing from the names of those attending to give them away at the end of the program. **There is a \$10.00 fee to cover the cost of the supplies which is payable at the door.**

California Fact and Legend

Bobbi Benson

The Tenderloin Museum & Walking Tour was great! Nine of us—Diane, Betty, Helen H & Helen F, Julie, Bobbi, Erika, Jan, and Ramona—learned that 400 buildings in the Tenderloin are on the National Registry of Historic Places; learned why it was called the Tenderloin (because the payoffs to the police by gambling dens and brothels enabled them to eat the best cuts of meat); that it was the birthplace of pornography; that at one time there were 3 movie studios right next to each other; that many of the beautiful buildings which are now garages were once carriage houses; and that many celebrities and bands got their starts there.

But the main thing we learned from our guide Pam, *the Real Deal*, was that it's a true neighborhood; where people hang out together on the street; where people meet at St. Boniface for free lunches, no questions asked (succotash today); where they can be guided to social services which are available on every street; where sometimes it takes as long as 3-4 years to get into subsidized housing; and where there are free veterinarian services, mobile showers, and pews available for sleeping. It's a gritty but friendly place.



25% of the single-room-occupancy residential hotels (shared baths) are owned by nonprofit.

Giving Thanks and Giving Hope

Thanksgiving is a time for gathering with family and friends to share not only a delicious meal but the comfort of community. Traditionally we give thanks for our blessings and reflect back on our lives during the previous year, the good and bad times.

These last few months have been trying times for our Country with hurricanes in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, plus the terrible fire storms in our own Bay Area. Most of us have family or friends who have been affected by these tragedies. We want to support those affected by these disasters with our thoughts but we can also support them with our generosity. The best way to do this is to contribute to the Red Cross or a known charity. To do so would be a blessing for you and the recipients.

November 2017 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay,

Boggle

Judy Steele

Wed, Nov 15th at 1:00 pm

Host: Judy Steele

Book Discussion I

Elissa James,

Thurs, Nov 16th, 10:00 am

Maureen Buchner,

Lab Girl, Hope Jahren

Book Discussion II (wait list)

Judy Podesta,

Thurs, Nov 30th at 12:00 pm (Note Change of Date)

Host: Ramona Raybin

Where the River Ends, Charles Martin

Book Discussion III (wait list)

Sherrean Rundberg

Thurs, Nov. 16th at 1:30 pm

Host: Gretta Csatho

Bossypants, Tina Fey

Book Discussion IV

Mikki Coffino

Fri, Nov. 17th at 10:00 am (Note Date Change)

Cathy Jensen

A Gentleman in Moscow, Amor Towles

Bridge

Elissa James

Mon, Nov 13th at 1:00 pm (Note Date Change)

Host: Helen Hatchett

California Fact & Legend

Bobbi Benson

Tue, Nov 7th 10:30 am, \$5 fee payable at the door

John Lumea, Emperor Norton's Bridge Campaign

Host: Barb Schotzk

Dining Out

Jane Bradley

Wed, Nov 15th at 6:00 pm (carpool? call Jane)

La Lanterna Ristaurante, 25th Ave San Mateo

RSVP to Hostess Jane Bradley by 11/10

Drama Reading

Marjorie Kobe

Wed. Nov 1st, 9:00 am

Host: Gerhild Klein

Ethnic Dining

Sue Rosenberg

Contact Sue Rosenberg for Ethnic Dining in November

Ethnic Lunch

Annette Delaney

No Meeting in November

Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions

Margo King

Thurs, Nov 9th 10:30 am

Host: Kate Parnes

Nuclear Security

Hiking Always 10 AM year round

Bobbi Benson

Mon, Nov 13th Stairway Walk, SF

Mon, Nov 27th Bayshore Walk

To join us anytime, contact Bobbi Benson

Mah Jongg

Helen Hatchett

Wed, Nov 8th 1:30 pm

Tues, Nov 28th 1:30 pm

Host: Helen Hatchett

Membership: New and Prospective

Maureen Buchner

Monday Movie

Mary Ann McKay

Mon. Nov 6th time TBD

Email Mary Ann McKay to get on the email list

Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Fri. Nov 10th at 1:30 am

Host: Barb Schotzko

The Buzzard Table, Margaret Maron

Public Policy/Current Events

Betty Bernstein

Diane Silven

Tues, Nov 14th 10:30 am

Host: Lyn Haithcox

Speaker: Nilda Alfred, CASA of San Mateo

How CASA helps our County's Foster Children

American Association of University Women
P.O. Box 1465
San Mateo, CA 94401-0816

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

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

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Drama Reading	2 AAUW Board Meeting	3	4 Flower Arranging
5	6 Monday Movie	7 California Fact and Legend	8 Mah Jongg	9 Foreign Affairs	10 Mystery Book Group	11
12	13 Hiking Bridge	14 Public Policy	15 Boggle Dining Out	16 Book I Book III	17 Book IV	18
19	20	21	22	23 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	24	25
26	27 Hiking	28 Mah Jongg	29	30 Book II		