



BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

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

March 2021, Vol 91, Issue 7

President's Message

Judy Steele

Notes from National and State AAUW

Between April 7 at 9 am PDT and May 17 at 2 pm PDT, all AAUW members will have the opportunity to vote on an important national bylaws amendment that will eliminate the degree requirement for membership. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the rationale for the proposed bylaws change brought by the [AAUW Board of Directors](#) and the AAUW Governance Committee.

Plan to attend (via Zoom) the AAUW California Annual Meeting on April 17 to hear AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown as she brings us all the news from AAUW National and the latest about the proposed bylaws change. Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register.

AAUW California's voting period is 4/16/2021-5/7/2021. Please click [HERE](#) to visit the state nominations and elections page and see the bios of the candidates: Sandi Gabe, President-Elect; Roli Wendorf, CFO; Carol Holzgraf and Judy Cavin Brown, Directors. We will also be voting on the State's Public Policy Priorities.

Lobby Day

Thank you to all our members who signed up to join us on March 24 for our virtual Lobby Day. We had an incredible turnout by the January 8th deadline, which helped us establish a baseline for the number of legislators with whom we could meet. We will, however, continue to take registrations through the end of February. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

Please Note: all members who have signed up for Lobby Day must register for and attend the training webinar on March 22 at 7:00 pm. Training will cover the bills we want members to talk about as well as the logistics for the day. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

March 24 Is Equal Pay Day

Ask your elected officials to proclaim MARCH 24 as EQUAL PAY DAY. Encourage your city council, mayor, or county board of supervisors to proclaim Equal Pay Day in your community using one of the sample

proclamations on the AAUW CA website [HERE](#). Equal Pay Day marks the symbolic day when women's earnings catch up to men's earnings from the previous year.

Will YOU do a little more in 2021-22?

Your Board is searching for members to fill our offices for 2021-22. Do consider taking a position yourself or perhaps you know someone who seems like a good fit for a position. No experience is needed, and plenty of help is available from former officers. We meet only once a month for an hour or so and, with Zoom, no driving is needed. Please contact Judy Steele with suggestions or to volunteer.

San Mateo Branch 2021 Calendar

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|----------|--|
| March 24 | The Photography of Jessamine Spear Johnson, <i>The Changing West</i>
Presented by granddaughter, Tempe Javitz, Zoom meeting at 1:00 pm |
| April 14 | Annual Meeting, Election of Officers
Dr Mary Mead presents: <i>Demons, Creatures & Monsters - Oh My!</i>
Zoom meeting at 1:00 pm |
| May 17 | Channy Chhi Laux discusses her flight from Cambodia and new life in the US.
Zoom meeting at 1:00 pm |

Public Policy/Current Events

Betty Bernstein

Our Public Policy discussion group will try something new in March when we join the League of Women Voters of North and Central San Mateo County to look at community policing and mental health issues in the county.

Since last Summer, there has been much discussion about community policing, especially in regard to those with mental health issues. We were delighted to learn that the League is planning a meeting on this subject. They invited us to join them by Zoom on Tuesday, March 16 at 12:00, noon. The topic to be discussed will be *Mental Health Crisis in San Mateo County - Meeting Our Community's Needs*.

The Changing West: Photographs by Jessamine Spear Johnson

Tempe Javitz is the granddaughter of Montana photographer, Jessamine Spear Johnson (1886-1978). Since 2007, Tempe has worked to preserve Jessamine's massive legacy, which includes 34 boxes of photos, in addition to diaries and genealogical notes. Tempe will tell us about her experience of conserving and cataloging Jessamine's photos, while showing us Jessamine's impressive techniques and her wide breadth of themes. Her photo collection encompasses portraits; landscapes; botanicals; historical sites; silhouettes she titled *Skyliners*; candid shots; and even still life compositions from the early 1900's through the 1950's.

Tempe grew up in southeastern Montana at the Spear O Ranch in Kirby, Montana. She graduated from Scripps College in Claremont, California with a BA in English Literature and a minor in Humanities. She and her husband, Hal, have lived in the Bay Area since 1971. At the time of her retirement, Tempe had been a State Farm Insurance agent for 27 years in Palo Alto.

Currently, Tempe is writing a book about Jessamine's life and photography. Like her grandmother, Tempe has been an avid photographer since her grandmother gave her a camera when she was eight years old.

Demons, Creatures, and Monsters – Oh My!

Mythical creatures, legendary beasts, terrifying monsters - they are supernatural, mystical, often god-like or demon-like beings, and they have fascinated us since ancient times. They have filled folklore, stories, songs, and works of art. They may even be able to protect us - from viruses. Dr. Mary Mead, a docent with the Asian Art Museum, will present this fascinating topic to us at our Annual Meeting on April 14 at 1:00 pm.

Dr. Mead was born and raised in Japan, hence her fascination and comfort with Asian art. After 25 years in corporate telecommunications, she returned to her first love - teaching. While teaching, Dr. Mead would require her World and Comparative Religions classes to visit the Asian Art Museum to actually see the deities they were studying. When she semi-retired she decided to intensify her connection with the museum and became a docent. Dr. Mead loves giving tours and presentations because they allow her to share her passion with others. At this meeting, we will also be electing our slate of candidates for 2021-2022. Please join us, by Zoom, for an interesting afternoon.

New Members

Welcome to New Branch Member

Ginny Brooks

Ginny is an alumna of the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in Sociology. A resident of Foster City since 1983, she has raised her 2 children here and is currently a co-leader of her granddaughter's Brownie Troop and the President of her HOA. Her hobbies include bridge, reading, crossword puzzles, and walking. We have also known her as our helpful, friendly administrator of the Community College Board at CSM.

March is *Women's History Month*

Gayle Hardt

Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society. AAUW's mission is to support women and girls and the Covid Pandemic is a time they need more support than ever.

During the last year, women have left the workforce at four times the rate of men. The burden of parenting and running a household while also working a job during the pandemic has created the need for someone to stay home, and women are bearing the brunt of it.

Among women with children, Black and Latina women dropped out of the labor force at higher rates than White women. Black women with children have had it worst of all groups, with their participation rate declining by 6.4 percentage points between February and September.

One of the reasons is lack of affordable day care. San Mateo County has many programs to assist in this area. Peninsula Family Service, Build-up SMC, and Family Connection are three of the organizations who support working families. Please consider looking into how you can support working women in this area.

Dues Notice

AAUW membership renewal invoices will be mailed in April to all branch members. As most of you know, National AAUW increased the membership dues \$3.00 for next year. Because we have not had any in-person meetings this year, our Board of Directors decided to pay the \$3 increase from our operating budget. Renewing branch member's dues remains at \$100, the same as last year. If you would like a printed copy of the *Bay Leaves*, please add \$15 to your dues.

Please return your dues by May 15 so we may include your membership in our Branch Directory.

March 2021 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay

Boggle (All Members Welcome)

Judy Steele

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Boggle will not be meeting.

Book Discussion I

Elissa James

Thurs, Mar 18th, at 10:00 am

Book I will be meeting by Zoom.

The Great Believers, Rebecca Makkai

Book Discussion II (wait list)

Karlyn Schneider

Thurs, Mar 25th, at 12:30 pm

Book II will be meeting by Zoom.

The Dutch House, Ann Patchett

Book Discussion III (wait list)

Mary Ann McKay

Pat Fuetsch

Thurs, Mar 18th 1:30 pm

Book III will be meeting by Zoom.

American Dirt, Jeanine Cummins

Book Discussion IV

Jan Lamphier

Fri, Mar 26th, at 10:00 am

Book IV will be meeting by Zoom.

Frederick Douglas, David Blight

Bridge

Elissa James

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Bridge will not be meeting.

California Fact & Legend

Bobbi Benson

Tue, Mar 2nd at 10:10 am (Time change)

California Fact & Legend will be meeting by Zoom.

Dining Out

Jane Bradley

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Dining Out will not be meeting.

Drama Reading

Marjorie Kobe

Wed, Mar 10th, at 9:30 am

Drama Reading will be meeting by Zoom.

Ethnic Dining

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Ethnic Dining will not be meeting.

Ethnic Lunch

Annette Delaney

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Ethnic Lunch will not be meeting.

Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions

Margo King

Thurs, Mar 11th, 10:30 am

Foreign Affairs will be meeting by Zoom.

The Future of Persian Gulf Security

Hiking 2nd Monday, 10:00 am

Bobbi Benson

Mon, Mar 8th, 10:00 am

We take easy, short walks, masks on, in safe areas that we drive to separately. Contact Bobbi Benson to find out the next location.

Mah Jongg

Helen Hatchett, 571-6129, helenhatch@earthlink.net

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Mah Jongg will not be meeting.

Membership: New and Prospective

Maureen Buchner

Mary Ann McKay

Monday Movie

Mary Ann McKay

During the Corona Virus pandemic, Monday Movie will not be meeting.

Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Fri, Mar 12th, at 1:30 pm

Mystery Book will be meeting by Zoom.

The Distant Dead, Heather Young

Public Policy/Current Events

Betty Bernstein

Diane Silven

Tues, Mar 16th, noon (Date & Time Change)

Public Policy will be meeting by Zoom.

Joint meeting with League of Women Voters

Topic: *Mental Health, Meeting Community Needs*

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

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

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

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 CA Fact & Legend	3	4 AAUW Board Meeting	5	6
7	8 Hiking	9	10 Drama Reading	11 Foreign Affairs	12 Mystery Book Group	13
14	15	16 Public Policy	17	18 Book I Book III	19	20
21	22	23	24 General Meeting	25 Book II	26 Book IV	27
28	29	30	31			