



BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

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

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President's Message

Maureen Buchner

The first order of business for this month is to introduce our new Program Vice President, Marcia Lowell Leonhart. Marcia has volunteered to fill our open position on the board. We thank you for stepping forward to help our branch board function. If there are any program topics you would like covered, please contact Marcia at 650-343-5971 or lionhouse@aol.com.

There is a great new look for the *Public Policy News* from California AAUW which is coming online monthly to share updates and articles. Go to: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/civicrm/ mailing/ url/?u=520&qid=11068>

The first program of the 2023-2024 year was a Webinar on Thursday, September 21: *California School Board Project: Book Banning and Curricula Censorship in California*. You can find the recording of the Webinar on the AAUW CA website. Our Public Policy interest section will be watching it and discussing AAUW's involvement at the next meeting.

Mystery Book Group

Love a good mystery? Join the AAUW Mystery Book section. We read cozy mysteries, crime fiction, police procedurals and everything in between. We meet at a member's home where we enjoy refreshments and a good book discussion. If you would like to join us, please contact Gayle Hardt.

Generosity of our Members

Our 27 year member, Billie Lou Sands, moved to the Peninsula Regent last year. The Regent notified us that Billie Lou gave a generous charitable gift to the Peninsula Regent Educational Grant Program in honor of the American Association of University Women San Mateo Branch. This program provides associates (employees) grants to help them pursue or continue their college education. Thank you, Billie Lou, for supporting AAUW education goals locally!

San Mateo Branch 2023 Calendar

Oct 14

Equity, Social Justice and Inclusion in our Schools

Redwood Shores Library,
399 Marine Parkway, RWC
1:30 pm check-in; speaker at 2:00 pm

World Teachers' Day, October 5

UNESCO proclaimed October 5 to be World Teachers' Day in 1994. This recommendation sets forth the rights and responsibilities of teachers as well as standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, teaching and learning conditions. Since its adoption, the recommendation has been considered an important set of guidelines to promote teachers' status in the interest of quality education.

Access to quality education is a fundamental human right. It is also critical to meeting the biggest challenges of our time, from eradicating poverty and achieving social justice to fighting climate change. Teachers are central to this vision of the future.

Teachers are the heart of education. Yet, teachers are leaving the profession they love, and fewer young people aspire to become teachers. UNESCO estimates that the world needs over 69 million new teachers by 2030, and the shortage only continues to grow. Urgent action is imperative.

Ensuring teachers everywhere are well-trained, well-supported, and well-remunerated is the only way to reverse the teacher shortage and start building the education workforce we need for the future we want. This *World Teachers' Day*, join the mobilization calling on government to invest in teachers and in quality public education.

Public Policy

Webinar: Book Banning and Curricula Censorship in California

Book banning and censorship of educational materials are rapidly sweeping across the country, but we don't have to - and we won't - tolerate it. Join our Public Policy interest section as we watch a recording of the AAUW CA webinar to learn what the AAUW Public Policy team is doing about it, and how you can help.

On the webinar, the School Board Project committee members will explain the problem and the proposed solution, along with a member of the League of Women Voters to guide us with some useful tips about speaking out at school board meetings. We will also be discussing possible subjects for future meetings. We meet on October 10th at 10:30 am.

Tech Trek 2023

California hosted camps at 8 campuses throughout the state, plus virtual camp for those who could not attend in person. We had almost 250 volunteers from 110 AAUW branches to serve 800 girls. The San Mateo Branch contributed \$9,500 to provide STEM camps for the 11 Tech Trekkers from Borel, Bayside and Bowditch Middle Schools.

San Mateo sponsored 8 students on campus and 3 virtual campers. On Saturday, September 9, we met the girls to listen to their enthusiastic reviews of their experiences. The following are excerpts from their thank you letters, beginning with those who attended at Sonoma State:

Chelsea Nayak (Borel) wrote, *It has inspired me to explore more about science such as astronomy or zoology. Professional Women's Night really inspired me to go to work in STEM.*

Katelyn Chou (Borel) wrote, *Tech Trek was the first time I had a roommate and it was amazing! The opportunity was fantastic and I loved every moment!*

Emma Sakai (Bayside) wrote, *I got a chance to learn Robotics and STEM in general here. I was so excited to learn about other women in STEM and I have a feeling this will affect my future decisions positively. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and the top of my head.*

Bella Victor (Bayside) wrote, *Before Tech Trek, I thought science was just one category, but now I know how interesting it's become for me. Every day we had classes on different subjects related to science and we have to think outside the box all the time.*

Letters from Bowditch students at Fresno State:

Ellie Leo wrote, *I really enjoyed coding my ping pong game in my app developing class. I loved meeting all these new girls and creating life long memories. I am truly grateful for this amazing experience.*

Sanaya Mishra wrote, *The rope challenge taught me the most important thing in STEM is communication, as it brings solutions, ideas, and commitment. Thank you for choosing me for this camp.*

Tanvi Patel wrote, *My favorite part of Aerospace Core Class was making hot air balloons because I had always wondered how they fly. Staying in CSU, Fresno really gave me a good learning experience, a taste of college life.*

Surbhi Sakshi wrote, *This is a memory that I will cherish forever, I tried many new things and tried to break my limits. My core class was cyber security and I may want to pursue it as a career. Thanks for all the support.*

Nyssa Mitra wrote, *I attended Virtual Camp and it was SO much fun. I was inspired by speakers, and had new friends in breakout rooms. Our projects were to make an item with cardboard, attach an arduino, code a circuit to turn on a light or move an attachment in a circle. Next year I want to be a virtual camp counselor!*

We are looking forward to even more Tech Trek campers next year. If you would like to be a volunteer at a camp in the summer of 2024, please contact Maureen Buchner.



Four of our 2023 Tech Trek Campers

October 2023 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay

Boggle (All Members Welcome)

Judy Steele

No Meeting in October

Book Discussion I

Elissa James

Thurs. Oct 19, at 10:00 am

Host: Fran Gillen

The Sympathizer, Biet Thanh Nguyen

Book Discussion II (wait list)

Karlynn Schneider

Thurs. Oct 26, at 12:30 pm

Host: Judy Podesta, 307 Castilian Way, SM,
650-342-5838

Born a Crime, Trevor Noah

Book Discussion III (wait list)

Pat Fuetsch

Mary Ann McKay

Thurs. Oct 19, at 1:30 pm

Host: Barb Schotzko

Foster, Claire Keegan

Bridge

Elissa James

Mon. Oct 16, 12:30 pm

Host: Marge Denni

California Fact & Legend

Helen Hatchett

No Meeting in October

Drama Reading

Marjorie Kobe

Wed. Oct 11, at 9:30 am

The Regent, 1 Baldwin Ave, SM

Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions

Margo King, 650-458-3073, margoking3@yahoo.com

Thurs. Oct 12, at 10:30 am

Host: Norma Tarrow

Climate change, Environmental Degradation and Migration

Lunch Bunch!

Annette Delaney

Fri. Oct 20, at 11:30 am

Tokemoana's Polynesian Restaurant

4000 El Camino Real, SM (Former Villa)

Mah Jongg

Helen Hatchett

Wed. Oct 11, at 1:30 pm

Tues. Oct 24, at 1:30 pm

Host: Helen Hatchett

Membership: New and Prospective

Mary Ann McKay

Movie Group

Mary Ann McKay

No Meeting in October

Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Fri. Oct 13, at 1:30 pm

Host: Barb Schotzko

Arsenic and Adobo, Mia P. Manasala

Public Policy/Current Events

Nancy Hobbs

Diane Silven

Tues. Oct 10, at 10:30 am

Host: Gayle Hardt

Book Banning and Curricula Censorship in California

Walking 2nd and 4th Mondays 10:00 am year round

Bobbi Benson

Mon. Oct 9, 10:00 am

Mon. Oct 23, 10:00 am

Contact Bobbi Benson for more information.

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.

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 AAUW Board Meeting	6	7
8	9 <i>Indigenous People Day</i> Walking	10 Public Policy	11 Drama Reading Mah Jongg	12 Foreign Affairs	13 Mystery Book Group	14 General Meeting
15	16 Bridge	17	18	19 Book I Book III	20 Lunch Bunch	21
22	23 Walking	24 Mah Jongg	25	26 Book II	27	28
29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>				