



BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

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

March 2024, Vol 94, Issue 7

President's Message

Maureen Buchner

This year March is an important month. I get to add one more candle to my birthday cake but that is just a minor event in comparison to all the others happening this month.

What is really important is our opportunity to vote in the primaries on March 5, 2024. Most of us have already received our ballots. It's a good idea to fill them out and send them in now, so there is no chance of forgetting to send them in a timely manner. Another way to vote is to go to any designated voting center in the county to vote in person.

We also have an opportunity to vote on the AAUW CA state officers and at the national level and an amendment to AAUW Bylaws soon.

Our California state officers have endorsed changing the requirement for membership. All voting will take place online starting April 3. Most members will receive emails from vote@simplyvoting.com with their unique Elector ID and Password to vote.

Members without an email address on file will receive a paper ballot by mail. Online voting opens on April 3, 2024, and remains open until 9:00 am PST on May 15. Please look for your ballot and vote on this important issue.

Public Policy

Step up for Pro-Choice webinar

The March Public Policy meeting will be an encore webinar about the overturning of *Roe v Wade*. Our speaker is Dr. Christine Henneberg, MD/MS from Cal and UCSF. She is a practicing physician and author.

Dr. Henneberg will discuss the "side effects" of the *Dobbs* decision and how it has played out politically. *What can pro-choice groups advocate for in 2024? What is the best role for those in 'blue' states?* This webinar was originally available in January 2024. Please join us on Tuesday, March 12, at the home of Gayle Hardt if you missed the first presentation.

San Mateo Branch Calendar 2024

- March 9 *Women's Mentoring and Leadership Academy at Skyline College (WMLA)*
Professor Danielle Powell will speak on the program for women at Skyline College Redwood Shores Library, at 1:30 pm
399 Marine Pkwy, Redwood City
- April Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
Time and place TBD

March General Meeting

Please join us on March 9 at Redwood Shores Library to meet Professor Danielle Powell of Skyline College. She will introduce us to the Women's Mentoring and Leadership Academy (WMLA). Their mission is *empowering and transforming women at Skyline College to achieve personal and professional growth*.

Professor Powell will share with us her insight gained from attending AAUW's National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) meeting last May. The conference has been held at the University of Maryland for a decade. We have sent a number of talented young women to this conference with very positive reviews.

The San Mateo Branch has now partnered with WMLA to send students from the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD) to this conference. Please attend this informative meeting to understand the far-reaching impact of NCCWSL.

New Member

Please welcome our new member:

Muriel Sonne

Muriel received her degree and teaching credential from UC Berkeley. She taught high school English and lived in Orinda until 2023 when she moved to San Mateo. She has 2 children and 4 grandchildren. Two of her grandsons attend Carlmont High School. She is interested in education, Public Policy, and book groups.

AAUW Funds

Greatest Needs Donations Exceeding Expectations

Congratulations to branch members and leaders!

It has just been reported that preliminary California donations to the *Greatest Needs Fund* for 2023 (the total of all AAUW donations) is \$512,514 which is \$65,000 above our projected amount! Well done everyone!

If you'd like to support AAUW's missions monetarily, there are four AAUW Funds that are designed to support the mission of AAUW. You may contribute to any of the funds to support a specific goal of AAUW.

AAUW Greatest Needs fund (9110)

This fund allows the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.

AAUW Educational and Training fund (4450)

This fund addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination. This fund supports STEM, Title IX and Pathway to Jobs. Examples of programs include: Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives, Fellowships and Grants, Public Policy, and Research.

AAUW Economic Security fund (4449)

This fund ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiations, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life. This fund supports Pay Equity, Title VII, and Retirement Security. Examples of programs include: Start Smart, Work Smart, and Legal Advocacy Fund.

AAUW Leadership fund (4452)

This fund supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations. This fund supports Career, Workplace, and Training. Examples of programs include: Campus Action Projects, Empower, and NCCWSL.

If you have an interest in supporting a specific fund, make your check payable to AAUW Funds and place the name and number of the fund in the memo line of your check. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

AAUW Bylaws Change 2024

The National AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee recommend approval of the following bylaw amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. This change will align our membership practices with our purpose of advancing equity for women and girls and enable us to include members with the diverse backgrounds and perspectives needed to achieve our purpose in today's world.

AAUW CA Board of Directors strongly supports the amendment for the following reasons:

- AAUW's vision is *equity for all* and our membership practices should align with our vision.
- One of AAUW's values is inclusivity and our membership practices should align with our values.
- AAUW does not qualify for grants from companies and foundations that value diversity, inclusion and equity. We are losing out on funding that could help us move forward with our mission and vision.
- There are many paths to education beyond colleges and universities, including technical education and on-the-job training.
- AAUW is not *dumbing down*; it is opening its doors to people who are just as passionate as we are about our mission and values.
- Education is foundational to our mission and will remain a focus for AAUW. Dropping the degree requirement will only impact who may join our organization, not the work we do.

AAUW's name, which continues to have significant brand recognition for AAUW as a women's rights organization, will remain the same if the amendment is adopted.

Summary of the Proposed Revision of Article III:

- Replace the Individual Members paragraph of the Membership Qualification provision (currently Article III Section 2 a) with new language indicating the sole requirement for membership is support of AAUW's purpose.
- Delete the provision on Student Associates (currently Section 3) since students would be allowed to join as full members of AAUW thus eliminating the need for a Student Associate provision.

There are other revisions to this amendment that are mainly for clarification. Please consider this bylaw change carefully, it could affect the future of AAUW.

You will find the entire proposed bylaw and other information at the follow cite:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2024-aauw-proposed-bylaws-changes/>

March 2024 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay

Boggle (All Members Welcome)

Judy Steele

Wed. Mar 20, at 1:30 pm

Host: Judy Steele

Book Discussion I

Elissa James

Thurs. Mar 21, at 10:00 am

Host: Anne Horgan

Midnight Library, Matt Haig

Book Discussion II (wait list)

Karlyn Schneider

Thurs. Mar 28, at 12:00 pm

Host: April Cherrington

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow,
Gabrielle Zevin

Book Discussion III (wait list)

Pat Fuetsch

Mary Ann McKay

Thurs. Mar 21, at 1:30 pm

Location **TBD**

Hello Beautiful, Ann Napolitano

Bridge

Elissa James

Mon. Mar 18, 12:30 pm

Host: Marge Denni

California Fact & Legend

Helen Hatchett

No Meeting in March

Drama Reading

Marjorie Kobe

Wed. Mar 13, at 9:30 am

Host: Marjorie Kobe

Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions

Margo King

Thurs. Mar 14, at 10:30 am

Host: Diana McDonough

Global Trade and Green Energy

Lunch Bunch!

Annette Delaney

Fri. Mar 15, at 11:30 am

Divino, 968 Ralston Ave, Belmont

Mah Jongg

Helen Hatchett

Wed. Mar 13, at 1:00 pm

Host: Helen Hatchett

Tues. Mar 26, at 1:00 pm

Host: Maureen Buchner

Membership: New and Prospective

Mary Ann McKay

Movie Group

Mary Ann McKay

Tues. Mar 5, time TBD

Please contact Mary Ann for more information

Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Fri. Mar 8, at 1:30 pm

Host: Barb Schotzko

The Last Devil to Die, Book 4, Richard Osman

Public Policy/Current Events

Diane Silven

Tues. Mar 12, at 10:30 am

Host: Gayle Hardt

The affect of *Dobbs* on women's choice, webinar

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

Bobbi Benson

Mon. Mar 11, 10:00 am

Mon. Mar 25, 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.

March 2024

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