



BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

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

March 2025, Vol. 95, Issue 7

President's Message

Maureen Buchner

March is coming soon with a lot of changes. On March 9, we change to daylight savings time where we set our clocks ahead 1 hour; March 20 is the vernal equinox or the first day of spring; and don't forget, March 14 is Pi day. These are changes we know and understand, but we're facing new challenges that will take a long time to understand and react to with this new administration. Despite these obstacles, we need to keep in mind the goals of AAUW to ensure women and girls have an even chance to succeed, have access to good healthcare and to thrive. We can attain these goals if we continue to fight for them. That's why your membership in AAUW is so crucial. We can't do much by ourselves, but as a group, we can fight and win.

AAUW's mission is to *advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy* (Emphasis added). AAUW has expressed its reactions to the recent national election results that have significantly altered the political landscape. With the new administration, the organization has reiterated its commitment to advocacy for women's rights. Gloria Blackwell, CEO of AAUW, emphasized that AAUW intends to hold all elected officials accountable regarding women's rights, bodily autonomy, and the necessary access to education and economic opportunities, addressing disparities especially affecting women of color.

AAUW had a webinar in October 2024, describing how the new administration's play book, *Project 2025*, undermines the goals of AAUW. On the following page you will find an article describing just how that might happen.

We can still enjoy the coming spring with longer and warmer days, the beauty of everything coming into bloom and a large piece of your favorite Pi(e).

Clip & Save 

San Mateo Branch Calendar 2025

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Mar 8 | <i>DEI for Women in Tech/Sciences</i>
Skyway Center, 655 Skyway Rd, SC, 1:30 |
| April 25 | Annual Meeting/Election of Officers
BJ's Restaurant, 2206 Bridgepoint Pkwy,
San Mateo, 12:00 noon |

Nominations for Officer

Vice President of Programs

We are in the process of nominating a slate of officers for the 2025-2026 year. At this point we need someone to fill the office of Vice President of Programs. This position will liaison with the Mid-Peninsula VP of Programs to combine our meetings. The Board will also assist you in developing programs. Let Maureen Buchner know if you are interested.

The Impact of Project 2025

AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities (PPP) consist of four pillars:

- Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students
- Economic Security for All Women
- Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society
- Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles

Project 2025 would directly impact all four pillars. Let's look at how they will be affected.

AAUW PPP: Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students.

Project 2025 would dismantle the Department of Education, the only federal agency mandated to enforce Title IX. It would phase out Title I, which provides funds to schools serving low-income students and eliminate the Head Start program. It would implement voucher programs that are unaccountable and weaken regulations against charter schools. And last, Project 2025 would create censorship of historically accurate information about marginalization based on race, gender, and systemic oppression.

AAUW PPP: Economic Security for All Women, including Equity in the Workplace and Retirement Security.

Project 2025 would change Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforcement priorities toward religious liberty decreasing focus on pay discrimination, sex-based harassment, and racial discrimination. It would weaken Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits sex discrimination in the workplace. It would also make Medicare Advantage the default enrollment option eventually privatizing Medicare.

AAUW PPP: Social and Racial Justice for all and Self-determination in Reproductive Health.

Project 2025 would disavow abortion as part of health care, Withdraw Medicaid funds for states that expand abortion access, prohibit Medicaid funds for Planned Parenthood, and Reverse the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) in order to deny emergency abortion care to people experiencing pregnancy complications, criminalizing doctors who provide such care.

AAUW PPP: Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles.

Project 2025 would result in even fewer women rising to leadership roles, because they would be economically marginalized and unable to sustain educational access.

What can be done? Every time you vote, vote for those who will uphold AAUW's priorities, tell your representatives to fight in court to stop these policies, and donate to organizations like AAUW and those who share our goals. More detailed information can be found on the AAUW-CA website.

Women's History Month

Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. Although women's accomplishments should be celebrated all year, we should emphasize them in March. Now it is even more important to educate the children of the important contributions that women have made in the United States. It is also important to educate everyone on how the rights that were gained by these courageous women could be decimated by the current Administration.

Bobbi Benson Would Like to Say Goodby

After an enjoyable 21 years as Leader of the Hiking/Walking Group and 6 years as Leader of California Fact & Legend, I must say goodbye to California and head to Colorado!

Thank you for your warm welcome and support. Both of these groups, plus others I joined, were so much fun, thanks to the cheerful cooperation of terrific group members—we had some wonderful times! And, I liked serving on the Board—hats off to the commitment I witnessed there.

Four Tips to Recognize Email Scams

- Be suspicious of unusual requests for money.
- Look at the writing for spelling and grammar errors or unusual wording.
- Stay calm, do not rush to comply to a request.
- Look carefully at the sender's email address: hover your mouse over the sender's name to reveal their email address.

If in doubt, do not respond to the request.

March 2025 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay

Boggle (All Members Welcome)

Judy Steele

Wed. Mar 19, at 1:30 pm

Host: Judy Steele

Book Discussion I

Elissa James

Thurs. Mar 20, at 10:00 am

Host: Maureen Buchner

The Marriage Portrait, Maggie O'Farrell

Book Discussion II

Karlyn Schneider

Thurs. Mar 27, at 12:00 pm

Contact Karlyn for location

The Mystery of the Lace Wedding Dress,
by Katherine Woodall

Book Discussion III

Ginny Brooks

Mary Ann McKay

Thurs. Mar 20, at 1:30 pm

Host: Gretta Csatho

The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger

Bridge

Elissa James

Mon. Mar 17, at 12:30 pm

Host: Marge Denni

Drama Reading

Marjorie Kobe

Wed. Mar 12, at 9:30 am

Host: Joan Grant

Great Decisions - Foreign Affairs

Margo King

Thurs. Mar 13, at 10:30 am

Host: Margo King

Evolution of U.S. Leadership in the Global Economy

Lunch Bunch!

Annette Delaney

Fri. Mar 21, at 11:30 am

Gin Mon Chinese Restaurant, Carlmont Village

1079 Alameda De Las Pulgas, Belmont

Host: Anne Horgan

Mah Jongg

Helen Hatchett

Wed. Mar 12, at 1:00 pm

Host: Helen Hatchett

Tues. Mar 25, at 1:00 pm

Host: Maureen Buchner

Membership: New and Prospective

Mary Ann McKay

Movie Group

Mary Ann McKay

Tues. Mar 11, Time TBD

Please contact Mary Ann for more information

Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Fri. Mar 14, at 1:30 pm

Host: Barb Schotzko *The Spy Coast*, Tess Gerritsen

Walking 2nd and 4th Mondays at 10:00 am

Bobbi Benson

Mon. Mar 10, at 10:00 am

Contact Bobbi for more details

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 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 General Meeting
9 Daylight Savings Time	10 Walking	11 Movie Group	12 Drama Reading Mah Jongg	13 Foreign Affairs	14 Mystery Book	15
16	17 Bridge	18	19 Boggle	20 Vernal Equinox Book I Book III	21 Lunch Bunch!	22
23	24	25 Mah Jongg	26	27 Book II	28	29
30	31					