



# BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

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

May 2025, Vol. 95, Issue 9

## President's Message

Maureen Buchner

This month we are getting a clearer picture of the Federal funding cuts to education, libraries, national parks, the arts, and many areas that we could not imagine before. At AAUW, our mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. There are ways we, as individuals, can help to achieve these goals.

If you want to find more about what you can do, there is a webinar on the national AAUW website called: *AAUW Standing Strong Against Attacks on Equity in Education*. This webinar is recorded so you can watch it at your convenience. There are other upcoming webinars regarding other ways you can help to advance women and girls. We will try to keep you posted on how to watch them as they are broadcast.

Thousands of people have responded to the rumors about cutting funds for Social Security and Medicare. There are many of us who have similar concerns. If we join together to demand changes, we can make a difference. AAUW and AAUW CA have extensive Public Policy agendas to assist with our mission. Keep informed and active by checking the AAUW CA Public Policy issues:

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/issues-we-care-about/>

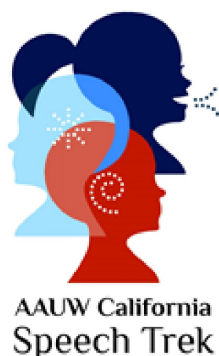
Another way is through the *Action Network* at AAUW. By signing up for *Two-Minute Activists*, you will receive timely alerts to contact your state or national elected officials as bills come to the floor. To receive these alerts, please visit this site: <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist-form/>

## Annual Dues

You haven't seen the annual dues envelopes yet because AAUW and AAUW-CA are still debating if they will raise dues and by how much. However, if you choose to pay your dues online NOW you will not see an increase in state dues. Likewise, if you pay the National dues by May 31, you will not have an increase in dues. We will be mailing your renewal envelopes very soon. Please look for them and respond quickly to avoid the increase.

## San Mateo Branch Calendar 2025

May 15      Dessert Buffet/Ice Cream Party  
Speech Trek Finals, 2:00 pm  
792 Widgeon St, Foster City  
Hosts: Maureen and Stephen Buchner  
RSVP to 650-573-1604 or  
[widgeonmab@yahoo.com](mailto:widgeonmab@yahoo.com)



## May General Meeting Dessert Buffet and Ice Cream Party

Maureen and Stephen Buchner will host, on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, our second annual Dessert Buffet on the deck of the Foster City lagoon, where we will watch the Speech Trek finals for 2025. The address is 792 Widgeon St, Foster City.

Speech Trek, an annual speech contest, began in 2007 and is AAUW California's signature high school program. The contest is open to girls and boys who are actively enrolled in high school (grades 9-12). The contests begin at the branch level. First place winners' videos from each participating branch are then uploaded for judging. The top three contestants advance to the state finals and compete for cash awards.

This year the finals include our own Tech Trek camper from 2023, Nyssa Mitra. She is one of the top three entering the finals. She is currently a freshman at San Mateo High School. Nyssa served as a virtual coach for Tech Trek Virtual Camp last summer. Join us for this fun event! Please RSVP to Maureen at 650-573-1604 or widgeonmab@yahoo.com. Let's all come to eat delicious dessert and cheer for Nyssa!

### Tech Trek

The Tech Trek Committee has announced that scholarships have been awarded to 8 exceptional eighth graders from the San Mateo-Foster City School District.

The following students will attend a fun and challenging week at Santa Clara University: Hailee Bailey, Sophie Petra, Nia Knox, Madizon Oliveras, Amy Samora Delgadillo, Hannah Lipton, Mila Morales, and Julia Heneghan. In addition, Veda Kalmanje will be attending the Virtual Tech Trek Camp.

The on campus fee is \$1,200.00, and the virtual camper's fee is \$500.00. The students pay only \$50 of that fee, thanks to our volunteers and our AAUW members who have generously contributed to Tech Trek! Remember, *AAUW-CA SPF* is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. You can contribute to Tech Trek as part of your *Required Minimum Distribution* from your IRA. This will lower your taxes while supporting a terrific cause. Be sure to indicate *Camp Hopper, San Mateo Branch* on the memo line of your check. If you have questions, call Maureen Buchner, 650-573-1604.

### NCCWSL

This is the month for registrations for the annual meeting of the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). This year the conference will be guided by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). As the leading voice of student affairs, NASPA drives innovation and evidence-based, student-centered practice throughout higher education, nationally and globally. NASPA, unites college women from across the nation for a transformative experience in leadership development, networking, and inspiration. AAUW is pleased to team up with this organization to empower student leaders.

Our branch is sponsoring two students from *Women's Mentoring and Leadership Academy (WMLA)* at Skyline College. Professor Danielle Powell tells us that the students are very excited about their upcoming trip to their first leadership conference.

#### In Memoriam

It is with a very heavy heart that we say goodbye to two of our dear friends. **Marcia Leonhardt** passed away from an auto accident on April 23, 2025, and **Karlyn Schneider** passed away on April 26, 2025, from consequences from a fall. We will let you know about services for these wonderful women.

#### The *Bay Leaves* is taking a summer hiatus

It's a pleasure to edit the *Bay Leaves* but I couldn't do it without a lot of help. Thank you to **Annette Delaney & Anne Horgan** for their proofreading; to **Maureen Buchner** for all the articles she has written; and to **Anne Horgan** for mailing the *Bay Leaves* every month. *See you in September. The summer schedule is below.*  
--Gayle Hardt, editor

## May 2025 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay,  
650-349-1330, maedchris@aol.com

### **Boggle (All Members Welcome)**

Judy Steele, 650-574-8089, Judy-Steele@comcast.net

Wed. May 21, at 1:30 pm

Judy Steele, 798 Widgeon St, FC

### **Book Discussion I**

Elissa James, 650-579-290,  
elissajames@comcast.net

Thurs. May 15, at 10:00 am

Fran Gillen, 31 Hilltop Rd, SM,  
650-347-3653

*The Fraud*, Zadie Smith

### **Book Discussion II**

Judy Podesta, 415-412-3709,  
jpodesta555@sbcglobal.net

Thurs. May 22, at 12:00 pm

Sandy Shapiro, 1700 Toledo Ave,  
B'Game, 650-652-4890

*Book Selection*

### **Book Discussion III**

Ginny Brooks, 650-393-4203,  
fcpackerfan@gmail.com

Mary Ann McKay, 650-349-1330,  
maedchris@aol.com

Thurs. May 15, at 1:30 pm

Elizabeth Jamieson, 754 Edgewood  
Rd, SM, 650-347-3657

*The First Ladies*, Marie Benedict and  
Victoria C. Murray

### **Bridge**

Elissa James, 650-579-2901  
elissajames@comcast.net

Mon. May 19, at 12:30 pm

Marge Denni, 1661 Taylor St, SM,  
650-573-8460

### **Drama Reading**

Marjorie Kobe, 650-579-5650  
maggieshaw@dkobe.com

Wed. May 14, at 9:30 am

Marjorie Kobe, 1220 Grove Ave,  
Burlingame

### **Great Decisions - Foreign Affairs**

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

Thurs. May 8, at 10:30 am

Marilyn and Mark Meyerson  
457 Highlands Ave, SM,  
410-647-5275

*India: Between China, the West and  
the Global South*

### **Lunch Bunch!**

Annette Delaney, 415-235-1155  
annettedelaney@yahoo.com

Fri. May 16, at 11:30 am

Pacific Catch, 243 S B St, San Mateo,  
Host: Annette Delaney, please RSVP to  
Annette

### **Mah Jongg**

Helen Hatchett, 650-571-6129,  
helenhatch@earthlink.net

Wed. May 14, at 1:00 pm

Helen Hatchett, 954 Shoreline Dr, SM

Tues. May 27, at 1:00 pm

Maureen Buchner, 792 Widgeon St, FC  
650-573-1604

### **Membership: New and Prospective**

Mary Ann McKay, 650-349-1330,  
maedchris@aol.com

### **Movie Group**

Mary Ann McKay, maedchris@aol.com,  
650-445-5206

### **No meeting in May**

### **Mystery Book Group**

Mikki Coffino, 650-341-2428,  
mikkicof@att.net

Fri. May 9, at 1:30 pm

Barb Schotzko, 324 Landfair Ave, SM,  
650-345-6294

*A Refiner's Fire*, Donna Leon

**Walking 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 10:00 am**

**Walking Group is on Summer Hiatus**

✂ \_Clip & Save \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

### **Interest Section Summer Schedule**

#### **Boggle**

Judy Steele 650-574-8089

Wed, June 18, at 1:30

Wed, July 16, at 1:30

Wed, August 20, at 1:30

Judy Steele, 798 Widgeon St, FC

#### **Book I**

Elissa James, 650-579-290

Thurs, June 19, at 10:00

Elissa James, 50 Mounds Rd. #311, SM  
Pot Luck

#### **Bridge**

Elissa James, 650-579-290,  
elissajames@comcast.net

Mon, June 16, at 12:30

Mon, July 21, at 12:30

Mon, Aug 18, at 12:30

Marge Denni, 1661 Taylor St, SM,  
650-573-8460

#### **Great Decisions/Foreign Affairs**

Margo King, 650-458-3073

Thurs, June 12 at 10:30

Betty Bernstein, 204 W Poplar, SM,  
650-343-9137

*International Climate Cooperation in an  
Era of Geopolitical Turmoil*

#### **Mystery Book**

Mikki Coffino, 650-341-2428

Fri, June 13 at 1:30

*The Body in the Piazza*, Katherine Page

Fri, July 11, at 1:30

*The First Lie Wins*, Ashley Elston

Fri, Aug 8, at 1:30

*The Monogram Murders*, Sophie Hannah  
Barb Schotzko, 324 Landfair Ave, SM,  
650-345-6294

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.*

## May 2025

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