

Save the Date!
September 12, 2015
San Ramon AAUW
Annual Membership Brunch



Crow Canyon Country Club
Greet Old Friends and Make New Ones!
Meet our Tech Trek Campers and
Renaissance Scholars!
(See the September issue for details)

AAUW MISSION AND DIVERSITY STATEMENTS

American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

2014–15 Board

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VP AAUW FUNDS

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CO-VP LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP

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Susan Walker-Christensen

VP FINANCE

Claire Mailhot

RECORDING SECRETARY

Sandie Alex

AAUW San Ramon Information

Websites:

Branch Website: www.sanramon-ca.aauw.net

Webmaster: Isabel Lau

Association website: www.aauw.org

CA State website: www.aauw-ca.org

Branch mailing address:

P.O. Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583

Branch email address:

aauwsr@gmail.com

Facebook:

San Ramon University Women/AAUW

Appointed Officers

ART & WIND FESTIVAL

Debra Marconi

COMMUNICATION

Isabel Lau

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lois Kamoroff

HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP

Betsy Hoffmann

NEWSLETTER

Marsha Froines
Carol Lombardi

PARLIAMENTARIAN

OPEN

PUBLIC POLICY

Susan Beyerle

TECH TREK

Jeanne Benedetti
Debra Marconi

TELEPHONE TREE

Renee Coles
Lois Kamoroff

President's Pen

Warm Greetings!

As we wrap up another year of AAUW business, I want to thank all of you for helping make our branch great. We had a busy year with interesting programs, fun fundraisers, active special interest groups, and productive board meetings. You as a member contribute to our success and I truly appreciate it.

Our recent "fun"draisers were very successful. Here is a summary of the amounts raised:

- Gianni's Restaurant: \$1,240
- Garage Sale: \$ 900
- LAF Fiesta Party: \$ 880
- Wind Festival: \$1,960

The money raised from these events will go toward Tech Trek scholarships, AAUW Funds, and branch programs. Thank you again to all who volunteered at and attended these events.

Millie Kessler and I will attend the AAUW National Convention in San Diego from June 18–21. The schedule is packed with meetings and workshops. We plan to share more about it during our September 12 brunch.

Speaking of our **Annual Membership Brunch**, be sure to mark your calendars for this event on **September 12 at Crow Canyon Country Club**. Look for more details later this summer.

Please remember to renew your membership by June 30. You can send a check or complete it online, whichever is most convenient for you. Look for the Membership article (page 5) with more details.

While some branch activities go on a break during the summer, the incoming board will be meeting to plan our calendar, set the budget, and develop goals for next year. We will share the results of our planning later this summer.

Lastly, I want to personally thank all of you for the wonderful gifts presented to me at the Installation Dinner program. I'm overwhelmed by your generosity. I enjoy volunteering for this group and recognize that the contributions from all of you make our branch great! Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Have a safe, happy summer! I hope to see you in the fall at our Annual Membership Brunch.

Cindy Alpert
Outgoing and Incoming President

Tech Trek



Our six selected campers will head to Sonoma State University on June 21 for their week at camp! Jeanne Benedetti will also be at camp as one of the dorm moms.

Save the date of our Annual Membership Brunch, September 12, so you can meet our campers and hear them tell us about their experiences at camp!

Jeanne Benedetti and Debra Marconi
Co-Chairs, Tech Trek

Happy June Birthdays

Cindy Ferrin	6/03
Elaine Baldwin	6/06
Carol Rowley	6/14
Renae Buckser	6/16
Nancy Powers	6/18
Sally Blackwell	6/21
Marsha Froines	6/22
Debra Roudman	6/23
Jane Young	6/27
Thea Scioscia	6/28
Ralph Hoffmann	6/30

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!



Local Scholarship



The 2015 Local Scholarship recipients have been selected! We were able to offer \$1,500 scholarships to three outstanding young women. The quality of applicants continues to be stronger every year, with this year's recipients presenting a wide range of skills and interests. They all demonstrate outstanding academic achievement; extensive school and community involvement; and talent in athletics, music, writing, and leadership. These young women are very poised and articulate. They were a delight to interview. The selection process has become a challenge for our committee, but getting to interact with these outstanding young women is truly rewarding. We are confident that they will all be very successful in accomplishing their individual goals. We hope that many of you had a chance to meet and speak with them at our Installation Dinner on May 20. If not, here is a brief overview of their many accomplishments and future goals.

Alyssa Hsing is from California High School and will attend Barnard Women's College of Columbia University in New York City. She plans to major in Biology with the goals of becoming an orthopedic surgeon or pursuing medical research. Alyssa has already served as an intern in genetic research at UCSF in the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism. She completed a project involving genetics, hormones, and DNA. As a Cal High School student, Alyssa served as the president of the Science Alliance, which coordinates with other high schools throughout the San Ramon District in mentoring fifth grade students. Alyssa was also a member of the Cal High School track and field team; captain of the tennis team; and involved with CSF, NHS, and the Science Society. She is an accomplished pianist. Alyssa expressed her passion for supporting girls and women in science and serving as a potential role model as an orthopedic surgeon—often a male-dominated profession.

Mimi Evans is from Dougherty Valley High School and will attend the University of Southern California in the fall. She plans to major in Arts, Technology, and the Business of Innovation. Mimi will focus on film production and has already produced a film about the time she spent in a summer exchange program in Japan. As a DVHS student, Mimi has written for the school newspaper and currently serves as the editor. She has also been the

ASB treasurer and has been involved with the DECA Business Club, leadership class, and web design. She participated in a writing program through Kenyon College and the New York Film Academy in Los Angeles. She is also an accomplished pianist.

Alicia Ho is from Dougherty Valley High School and will attend University of California at San Diego. She plans to major in Molecular Biology with the goals of attaining a career in medical research, public health, or as an orthopedic surgeon. She was inspired to pursue a career in the medical field when she attended the Perry Outreach Program, which offers a day-long presentation for young women with hands-on opportunities involving medical and engineering specialties. At DVHS, Alicia wrote for the school newspaper and was a member of the Golf Team, Science Alliance, NHS, and CFS. In addition, Alicia has been a golf coach and a piano teacher for young students. She has also volunteered at both Shepherd's Gate and Ruby's Place, providing activities and craft instruction for children.

Susan Walker-Christensen
Co-Vice President, Local Scholarship with Julie Gin

Happy July Birthdays

Pat Baran	7/01
Stephany Gooch	7/06
Barbara Blalock	7/11
Carol Lopez	7/17
Cheri Ng	7/17
Susan Walker-Christensen	7/20
Chris Burchik	7/21
Pat Campbell	7/30
Sia Sauer	n/a

Happy Independence Day!



Membership



Membership Matters

A shout out to the members who already renewed their memberships, especially those of you who renewed at the installation dinner! So easy, so gratifying—right?! We appreciate your attention to getting your renewals done on time. This allows us to better plan for the upcoming year. We are looking forward to future excellent programs in 2015–2016. Last year, we fell slightly short of our goal of 100 members (at 92), so this year we really want to step it up!

Now is the time to renew your membership if you have not done so yet. PLEASE do so by June 30. We count on your continued support and membership. Renewing is easy and can be done online (preferred) by credit card or by mail with a check for \$89 mailed to San Ramon AAUW, P.O. Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583. If you have a question about renewing, contact Millie Kessler or Claire Mailhiot.

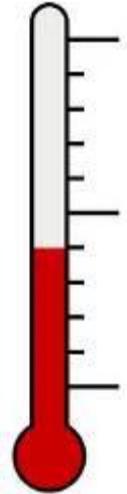
Online Membership Renewal Procedure

1. **Log in** to the AAUW website <http://www.aauw.org>. You'll need your ID number (listed in our directory) and your password. If this is the first time you have used the online process, you'll need to register: use your ID number and create a password.
2. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "**Member Services Database**" on the left side. There are other paths which will eventually lead you to "Member Services Database" as well (but they take more clicks)—just be sure to get to the member database and NOT the fill-in form.
3. Now click on "**Enter MSD.**"
4. Click on "**Enter Member Services Database.**" Notice the list of items on the left. You can choose to edit your contact information, make voluntary contributions, and renew your membership.

5. Click on "**Renew My Membership**" and follow the prompts.
6. To make contributions or check your contact information, click on the corresponding box and **follow the prompts.**
7. Congratulations! You have successfully continued your support for a worthy cause!

Our goal is 100% renewals by July 1, 2015.
As of June 9, we are at 40%.

Have YOU
Renewed
Your
MEMBERSHIP
Yet?



Millie Kessler,
Co-Vice President, Membership with Arlene Chang

Happy August Birthdays

Susan Beyerle	8/01
Diana Maiden	8/02
Janice Colby	8/04
Diane Schinnerer	8/07
Debra Marconi	8/11
Mary Venkat	8/14
Lucy Weed	8/15
Linda Yoshizawa	8/22
Judy Bracken	8/27

*Always be a first-rate version of
yourself, instead of a second-rate
version of somebody else.*

Judy Garland

Program

Thanks for Your Support!



We began partnering with the San Ramon Library for our monthly general programs two years ago, and I have been privileged to help bring them to you and the local public. This partnership enabled us to bring a variety of interesting speakers to the library's community room for a reasonable cost to our branch. Since we are a non-profit organization, it's a relief to split the speaker's fees with the library and to be free of room rental fees for our programs. Please continue to attend these outstanding programs as your new Program vice presidents, Chris Burchik and Kim Guiliano, work with the library staff to keep programs lively and current. As the library undergoes remodeling, watch for new program locations next year.

Our May program featured a presentation by volunteer extraordinaire, Sally Scholl, showing various projects she volunteers with in Africa. Sally also conducted the installation of our branch officers for 2015–2016 with a water-wise theme. Thank you, Sally! If you attended the installation dinner, you also had a chance to meet our high school scholarship recipients and their parents.

Our longtime leader, Cindy Alpert, expressed her gratitude and delight when presented with our branch thank-you gifts. Because so many members sent in contributions toward her gift, she will enjoy a spa morning or afternoon complete with massage, facial, and sauna at Kure Spa in Danville and then treat herself to some shopping at Nordstrom and/or the new Nordstrom Rack in Dublin. And avid Giants fan that she is, she'll also be able to chill a bottle of Mumm sparkling wine boasting a SF Giants label to enjoy at home the next time the team wins. Thank you to the many members who contributed to Cindy's well-deserved gift.

I look forward to helping the branch as AAUW Funds Vice President next year! Stay tuned for information about this important arm of AAUW in future newsletters.

Margie Goldware
Vice President, Program

Public Policy



Making College a Safe Environment for All Students

About 28 percent of college women are targets of attempted or completed sexual assault.

While the U.S. Department of Education discloses schools with pending Title IX investigations for cases of sexual violence, there is nothing publicly available listing the schools with Title IX reviews for sexual harassment complaints. AAUW's own research revealed that 2/3 of college students experience sexual harassment.

A Freedom of Information Act request revealed that, as of June 2015, there are 162 complaints of either sexual harassment or sexual assault and harassment being investigated at 143 colleges and universities. But, since the Department of Education does not make these investigations public, the schools involved have largely been able to avoid public scrutiny. Clearly, there is still work to do to achieve transparency and accountability on our nation's campuses.

Recently Introduced Legislation to Combat Sexual Violence on Campus

On June 4, 2015, Representatives Jackie Speier (D-CA) and Patrick Meehan (R-PA) introduced their *Hold Accountable and Lend Transparency (HALT) on Campus Sexual Violence Act*.

The HALT Act will help to end sexual harassment and violence on campus by instituting climate surveys, increasing incentives for schools to follow the law, and ensuring transparency about ongoing U.S. Department of Education and Department of Justice investigations. **Your representatives need to hear from you about the importance of this issue—[urge them to cosponsor the HALT Act today](#).**

Now that the 2014–2015 academic year has drawn to a close, it's especially important to keep this issue front-of-mind and to demand that our elected representatives support critically needed legislation for transparency and accountability. All students continue to be at significant risk for on-campus violence throughout their college experience. Let's not wait until classes resume in the fall to take this fight to Congress. Our children and grandchildren are counting on us.

Susan Beyerle
Public Policy Chairwoman

Money Matters



An Economic Update

The U.S. economy is bouncing back after a largely weather-driven first quarter decline, just as it did a year ago. The April 2015 Employment Situation report showed enough strength to suggest the economy is gaining traction, with growth in “good old American know-how” jobs continuing. Encouragingly, wage growth in this important segment has also been above average. We continue to watch wages in all sectors, as more bounce is needed to ensure broad-based wage growth.

The most recent report on new claims for unemployment fell to its lowest level since 2000, and the four-week average for these claims is at a 15-year low. These healthy results are another indication that temporary factors affecting the economy in the first quarter are fading, keeping the Federal Reserve on track to potentially raise rates in the latter part of 2015.

There is continued confidence in the strength of the consumer, with consistent consumption patterns that we’ve seen before (in the early stage of the recovery from the Great Recession), i.e., consumers spending some, saving some, and paying down some debt. It was encouraging that March sales rebounded and were revised up, despite April retail sales disappointing many. Second quarter core retail sales are now running 2% ahead of the first quarter—a big improvement from the 0.5% first quarter gain. And again, temporary factors affecting first quarter retail sales have subsided.

These recent economic reports do not change the expectation that U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) will grow 3%-plus over the remainder of 2015, consistent with growth rates during the previous business cycle. Looking ahead, consumer spending gains continue to look supportive of GDP growth in the coming months.

In our eyes, the U.S. economy is bouncing back after a weak first quarter, and based on the many indicators we follow, it continues to have solid roots. To be sure, more is needed, and in the weeks ahead we will be watching the

consumer, jobs, wages, and other key economic indicators for evidence this bounceback is occurring.

As always, if you have questions, please contact me.

Please email your financial questions to diane@oaktreewealth.com. Your personal information will be kept confidential.

For a list of states in which I am registered to do business, please visit www.oaktreewealth.com.

Diane Woodward
Member Columnist

Diane Woodward, CFP®, RICP® is a registered representative with and securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC www.finra.org www.sipc.org This research material has been prepared by LPL Financial.

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AAUW Funds

Be sure to check out our 2015–2016 newsletter issues for interesting articles about AAUW Funds from our incoming vice president, Margie Goldware.

AAUW Funds at the national level covers a wide area of programs to benefit women now and in the future. There is the Legal Advocacy Fund, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, the Educational Opportunities Fund, the Public Policy Fund, and the Leadership Programs Fund among others.

All of these funds have their special purposes, and all are intended to work toward promoting education and equity for women.

Enjoy Your Summer!



Interest Groups

LUNCH BUNCH

First Tuesdays

Join us for delicious food and lively conversation! Be sure to notify Marsha on the prior Sunday if you will attend.

Tuesday, June 2; 11:30 AM

The View Restaurant at Bridges Golf Club 735-4253
9000 S. Gale Ridge Road, San Ramon
Call Marsha by Sunday, May 31.

Tuesday, July 7; 11:30 AM

Blackhawk Grille 736-4295
3540 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville
Call Marsha by Sunday, July 5.

Tuesday, August 4; 11:30 AM

Let's enjoy our conversation surrounded by the redwoods on the patio at
Faz 838-1320
600 Hartz Avenue, Danville
Parking is behind the restaurant (driveway north of the restaurant on Hartz). RSVP by Sunday, August 2.
If you aren't on the e-mail reminder list, contact:
Marsha Froines



GAME NIGHT

First Saturdays

Saturday, June 6; 7:30 PM

Host: Mary Venkat

Saturday, July 11 (Note: Second Saturday); 7:30 PM

Host: Chris Burchik

Saturday, August 1; 7:30 PM

Host: Beth Allen

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

Interest Groups

CHINESE MAH JONG

First Tuesdays and Third Thursdays

Tuesday, June 2; 7:00 PM

Host: Lucy Weed

Thursday, June 18; 7:00 PM

Host: Linda Louie

Tuesday, July 7; 7:00 PM

Host: Julie Gin

Thursday, July 23 (Note: Fourth Thursday); 7:00 PM

Host: Beth Allen

Tuesday, August 4; 7:00 PM

Host: Mary Venkat

Thursday, August 20; 7:00 PM

Host: Faye Isaacson

Please RSVP to the host.

If you have questions about this group, contact
Beth Allen

Interest Groups

THE BOOKIES DAYTIME READERS

Second Mondays

Monday, June 8; 1:00–3:00 PM

Host: Pat Baran

We will discuss *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. It is a delightful book and a quick read. If you plan to attend, please contact Pat.

The Daytime Bookies group will take a break during the months of July, August, and September. Please contact Sandie if you are willing to co-chair this group so that we can resume our meetings in October.

Sandie Alex



READING SOCIETY

Third Mondays

Monday, June 15; 7:00 PM

Arlene Addison will review *Some Luck* by Jane Smiley, at her home:

Monday, July 20; 7:00 PM

Elaine Baldwin will review *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr at the home of

Host: Millie Kessler

Monday, August 17; 7:00 PM

Karen van Zino will review *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt at the home of

Host: Diane Griffiths

If you have questions about this group, contact Cheri Ng



Interest Groups

THIRD TUESDAY BRIDGE

Third Tuesdays

Tuesday, June 16; 7–10 PM

Host: Margo James

Tuesday, July 21; 7–10 PM

Host: Renee Coles

Tuesday, August 18; 7–10 PM

Host: Mercedes Daggett

RSVP via phone; no e-mail.

RSVP required

Contact host as soon as possible to let her know if you are playing or not. If you have questions or would like to join this group, please contact:

Chris White



WALKING GROUP

Saturday, June 20; 9:00 AM

Meet at the Bollinger Park and Ride at 9:00 AM to carpool to Benicia for a walk downtown with history, shops, and lunch. Bring \$1 to pay for your share of the bridge toll.

Saturday, July 18; 9:00 AM

Meet at the Bollinger Park and Ride at 9:00 AM to carpool to Sibley Volcano Regional Preserve in the Oakland Hills for a moderate 3.5-mile loop.

Saturday, August 15; 9:00 AM

Meet at the Bollinger Park and Ride at 9:00 AM to carpool to the Bishop Ranch Preserve in San Ramon for an easy 2.5-mile walk.

Let us know you're coming, and we will wait for you.



Interest Groups

FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

Contact the Monthly Organizer if you are interested in joining us. Watch your email for location and time of movie.

Friday, June 26

Organizer: Fran Bartholomew

Friday, July 24

Organizer: TBA; watch your e-mail for information.

Friday, August 28

Organizer: Diane Griffiths

If you would like to receive these e-mails, please contact:
Chris White

Interest Groups

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group is taking a rest for the summer and will reconvene in the fall. Please stop by our table at the annual membership brunch in September to learn more about our program plans for 2015–2016.

Travel Group programs are open to AAUW members, their spouses, friends and significant others. We'd love to see you at our events this year!

Rena Buckser

Anne Hayden

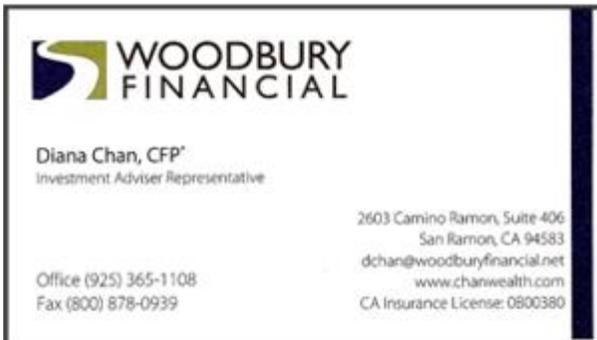


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CA Insurance Lic. #0785820. Diane is a Registered Representative with and securities and financial planning offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC.



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JUNE 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Marsha Froines	3	4	5	6 7:30 PM Game Night Mary Venkat
		7:00 PM Mah Jong Lucy Weed				
7	8 1:00 PM Daytime Bookies Pat Baran	9 5:00 PM Board Meeting Cindy Alpert	10	11	12	13
14	15 7:00 PM Reading Society Arlene Addison	16 7:00 PM Bridge Margo James	17	18 7:00 PM Mah Jong Linda Louie	19 AAUW National Convention San Diego	20 9:00 AM Walking Group Diane Griffiths
				AAUW National Convention		AAUW National Convention San Diego
21 AAUW National Convention San Diego	22	23	24	25	26 Fourth Friday Flicks Fran Bartholomew	27
28	29	30 Last Day to Pay Your Membership Dues on Time for 2015–2016				

SNIPPETS

Debbie Marconi would like to thank all of her AAUW friends for the many rides, meals, prayers, good thoughts, and cards that were sent during her bout with cancer. She is finally home and making great strides in her recovery. Debbie reports that she can “finally smell the roses again.”

Isabel and Danny Lau recently traveled to New York City to watch their son, Steven, graduate from Columbia University with an undergraduate degree in Economics and Math. After graduation, Steven traveled to France and Italy, returned to NYC to move into his apartment, and visited home. Steven will begin working for JP Morgan Chase in July.

If you have a Snippet item (family events, career changes, etc.) that you would like to share with branch members, please contact Marsha Froines at. **This column depends on member contributions.**

Save the Dates

July 11: San Ramon AAUW Summer Planning Meeting for 2015–2016

September 12: San Ramon AAUW Annual Membership Brunch, Crow Canyon Country Club

JULY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 
5	6	7 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Marsha Froines	8	9	10	11 Planning Meeting for 2015–2016 Cindy Alpert
		7:00 PM Mah Jong Julie Gin				7:30 PM Game Night Chris Burchik
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 9:00 AM Walking Group Diane Griffiths
19	20 7:00 PM Reading Society Millie Kessler	21 7:00 PM Bridge Renee Coles	22	23 7:00 PM Mah Jong Beth Allen	24 Fourth Friday Flicks (Organizer TBA via e-mail)	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SNIPPETS

Susan Walker-Christensen and her husband Chuck are thrilled to announce the arrival of their first grandchild on Monday, June 8. Mikaela Marie Gorman greeted parents Sarah Christensen and Andrew Gorman, weighing in at 8 lbs. 2 oz.

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AUGUST 2015

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						1 7:30 PM Game Night Beth Allen
2	3	4 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Marsha Froines	5	6	7	8
		7:00 PM Mah Jong Mary Venkat				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 9:00 AM Walking Group Diane Griffiths
16 Newsletter Deadline for September Articles	17 7:00 PM Reading Society Diane Griffiths	18 7:00 PM Bridge Mercedes Daggett	19	20 7:00 PM Mah Jong Faye Isaacson	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Fourth Friday Flicks Diane Griffiths	29
30	31					

SNIPPETS

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