



THE VIEW

FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 38, Number 8

April 2022

*AAUW Fund Spring Tea
Fundraiser*

*Saturday, April 16
2:00 -4:00 PM*

*Featuring
Alison Espinosa-Setchko
See Page 4 for Details*

**Shredding Event Fundraiser
Benefitting Local Scholarship**



**Saturday, April 30
10:00 AM–1:00 PM**
See Flyer (page 11) for Details

AAUW MISSION AND DIVERSITY STATEMENTS

American Association of University Women advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Don't forget to dial the area code first! All are 925 unless shown otherwise.				1	2 7:30 PM Game Night Lucy Weed
3 Literary Stroll in Brentwood (See page 10)	4	5 12:30 PM Lunch Bunch Marsha Froines	6	7	8	9 9:00 AM Walking Group Lois Kamoroff
10	11 1:00 PM Special Daytime and Night Book Group Meeting Margo James 7:00 PM Board Meeting	12	13	14	15	16 2:00 PM– 4:00 PM FUND Tea (See page 4)
17	18	19 7:00 PM Bridge Chris White	20	21	22 7:30 PM Friday Flicks Chris White	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Shredding Fundraiser Loranne Weir 9:30 AM– 1:00 PM AAUW CA Virtual Annual Event

Snippets

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

Save the Dates

Saturday, May 21: Annual End-of-Year Celebration
May 29–30 Ice Cream Sales at Art & Wind Festival

Co-President's Pen



Here Comes the Sun!

Wow! It's April and it's hard to believe we will soon wrap up our 2021–2022 year! But hold the phone! There are still some interesting events coming to you this month and next.

As we conclude our AAUW year, we will have a new slate of officers who have graciously agreed to help lead the branch in our 2022–2023 year ahead. Kathleen and I are so grateful for the time everyone has generously donated to help our branch. It's never too late to lend a hand! We'd love to have you volunteer to help with one of our fun upcoming events.

Let's Get Together!

On Saturday, April 16, we get to gather in person for our annual Fund event! Join us for a lovely tea with some scrumptious treats and meet Alison Espinosa-Setchko, one of our AAUW Fund Grant Recipients. Alison will talk to us about her profession as a social worker, where she has helped people who have experienced severe harm. She is a Fulbright scholar and has worked locally with Oakland youth.

Scholarship Shred Event

Saturday, April 30 is a great time to spring clean and get those old tax records out of your garage! The Scholarship recipients will again benefit when you haul out your trash! Bring your shredding to the Bollinger Hills Cabana and let the shred truck destroy it right before your eyes! We are asking for \$12 for each banker's box or bag of papers. If you would like to donate more, your donation would be greatly appreciated. This is the 11th year for this event! Let's keep the tradition going. Tell your friends and family members to join us from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM or until the truck is full.

AAUW Annual Event

Also on Saturday, April 30, AAUW California will host a virtual Annual Event from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. No traveling involved! Jump on the Zoom link to learn what AAUW California has in store! To make this even easier, here's the link! <https://www.aauw-ca.org/event/2022-aauw-california-annual-meeting/>

Looking Forward to May!

Save May 21 for our End-of-Year Branch Celebration! Our Program Co-Chairs, Cindy Alpert and Lynda Gann, have an elegant lunchtime event planned for us to again gather together. You won't want to miss our celebration at Bridges Golf Club.

San Ramon Art & Wind Festival

Come spend a couple of hours with us at the San Ramon Art & Wind Festival. We can use your help to sell ice cream once again to earn money for our branch operations budget. This event helps us bring programs to you and our community. Please consider giving us a bit of your time on Sunday, May 29 or Monday, May 30 as we spread a little sweetness to festival attendees.

Both Kathleen and I are looking forward to the year ahead being one where our branch is again able to participate in person as active members of our wonderful community.

A big thank-you to all who helped make our branch successful.

Janice Colby
Co-President with Kathleen Schaub



Fund



Spring Tea AAUW Fund Fundraising Event

(Limited In-Person or Unlimited Virtual Event Options)

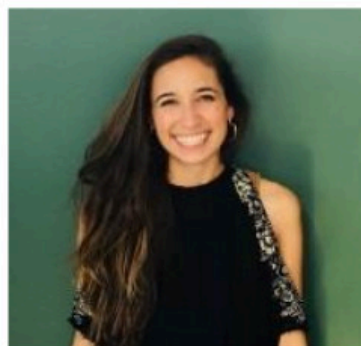
Saturday April 16, 2022

Bollinger Hills Cabana, 2951 Morgan Drive

(or virtual via Zoom)

2:00 to 4:00 PM

Our AAUW Grant recipient speaker for the upcoming April 16 AAUW Fund event is the impressive **Alison Espinosa-Setchko** from Oakland. Alison is dedicated to creating healing in the lives of survivors and perpetrators of severe harm. Until recently, she was Program Manager at The Ahimsa Collective coordinating a "Restorative Approaches to Intimate Violence" program for incarcerated men. She currently works as a therapist and case manager at Mills College in Oakland, CA. As an abolitionist and MSW candidate at Smith College School for Social Work, Alison seeks to challenge the field of social work's complicity with the carceral system and to promote restorative responses to harm that create true safety and wholeness for all communities.



Bronze – \$25 Minimum Donation

Silver – \$35 (min. donation & 6 drawing tickets)

Gold – \$50 or more (min. donation & 15 drawing tickets)

You will have the option to donate more or purchase more drawing tickets during the event, so bring your checkbooks and/or cash.

Drawing Prizes:

3 Bottles of Bent Creek Petite Sirah

12 Bottles of McGrail wine

(all wines value \$30-\$50/bottle; 15 separate drawings)

1 lb Box Custom Burchik Chocolates (valued at \$50)

6 Floral Centerpieces (6 separate drawings)

For everyone's safety, patio doors will be open for ventilation and chairs will be available outside in the pool area for social time.

Vaccination status will be verified at the door. We will follow CCC masking protocols in place at the time. You will also be asked to sign a waiver if you attend in person.

Look for your Evite with event details! Questions: aauwsr@gmail.com



How to Pay for Event: Make Checks Payable to: **AAUW SAN RAMON**

In the Memo Field Write "FUND" AND EITHER "IN-PERSON" OR "VIRTUAL"

Mail Checks & Form to:

AAUW SAN RAMON

PO BOX 336

SAN RAMON CA 94583

Name: _____

Check one: In Person _____ Virtual _____ Unable to attend _____

____ \$25 Bronze

Please accept this donation

____ \$35 Silver

\$ _____ to AAUW FUND.

____ \$50 Gold

Local Scholarship



And the Winner Is...

Patty Nobles was the lucky winner of the Donor Gift Basket drawing on March 14, held at the board meeting. We are most grateful to all who support Local Scholarship, both monetarily and through volunteer efforts, both big and small. We couldn't award the scholarships we do without your generosity and giving spirit. Thank you!

Shredding Event Fundraiser

Saturday, April 30
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
(Event is over when shredding truck is full!)

Bollinger Hills Cabana Parking Lot
2949 Morgan Drive, San Ramon

Suggested Donation
\$12 per Banker's Box or Grocery Bag



Our shredding event fundraiser is back! With the help of Janice Colby and Janice Nugent, we are able to hold this event again, so you can use the month of April to clean out your files while you're gathering your tax documents!

Please contact Lorraine if you have more questions.

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

AAUW Board Nominations 2022–2023

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of elected officers to the current AAUW Board of Directors at the March 14, 2022 meeting. We will vote on this slate at our general meeting on April 16, 2022 at the beginning of the AAUW Fund event.

Co-Presidents:

Janice Colby and Kathleen Schaub

President Elect: **OPEN**

Co-Vice Presidents, Program:

Cindy Alpert and Karen Rice

Co-Vice Presidents, Membership

Harvalee Grimm, Betsy Hoffmann, and Margo James

Co-Vice Presidents, Local Scholarship:

Julie Gin, Susan Walker-Christensen, and Lorraine Weir

Co-Vice Presidents, AAUW Fund: **OPEN**

Co-Vice Presidents, Finance:

Claire Mailhiot and Patty Nobles

Co-Recording Secretaries:

Judy Bracken and Beth Robertson

In addition, the following people have agreed to fill our appointed positions.

Art & Wind Festival: **Janet Williams**

Communications: **Isabel Lau**

Hospitality: **Andree Chagnon**

Newsletter: **Marsha Froines and Carol Lombardi**

Public Policy: **Catherine Lewis**

Tech Trek: **Stella Hadjimarkos and Cordelia Hwang**

We will continue our search to fill the open positions. We are also looking for additional help in Communications and Tech Trek. The current teams in these areas would like to mentor and develop new leaders to fill these roles in the future. Serving on the Board of Directors is a great way to learn more about AAUW and share your talents with the group. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let us know!

We appreciate your support!

Cindy Alpert, Chris Burchik, Julie Gin, and Cheri Ng
Nominating Committee

Program

Save The Date!

Saturday, May 21

Annual May Celebration



“Come Together” on Saturday, May 21 for our end-of-year celebration! This is the time we recognize our members on the Board of Directors and meet the high school scholarship recipients. We will also celebrate each other, as we will meet in person.

This fun event will be held at the Bridges Golf Club in San Ramon from 11:00 AM–1:30 PM.

Lunch, dessert, and beverages will be served!

More details to come in the May newsletter.

We appreciate your support of all our programs this year and look forward to an opportunity to celebrate together in May!

Cindy Alpert,
Co-Vice President, Program with Lynda Gann



On Saturday, March 12, there were five of us hardy walkers who walked 2.6 miles. The group included Janice Colby, Lorraine Weir, Kathleen Schaub, Harvalee Grimm, and me, Lois Kamoroff. We always have interesting conversations and, best of all, we get to know each other better.

We enjoyed the beautiful vistas of our Bishop Ranch Lake and then walked the perimeter. The weather was perfect! Some of us continued the exercise and fun at the San Ramon Farmer’s Market. Such beautiful fruit, vegetables, flowers, and an array of various other delectables are always available each Saturday morning.

I hope others can join us in our future AAUW walks on the second Saturday of each month. Our next walk is April 9; we meet in front of Target (plentiful parking) at 9:00 AM.

Hope to see you there!

Your walking guides,
Lois Kamoroff with Andree Chagnon

April Birthdays

Loranne Weir
Fiona Waterhouse
Patty Nobles
Patricia Kelly
Betsy Hoffmann
Lael Adediji
Karen Rice



Tech Trek



Gianni's Tips for Change Fundraiser

The fundraiser was a success! In the words of Melanie, the restaurant's owner: "You guys did an amazing job as usual." We made a total of \$1,615 from 10% of the proceeds plus tips as well as direct donations. We extend our thanks to all the members who participated either by ordering food and giving a generous tip or by sending a direct check to the P.O. box.

Special thanks to our volunteers who took the orders and delivered them to the cars: Cindy Alpert, Chris Burchik, Karen Rice, Kathleen Schaub, and Lucy Weed.

We reserved February 6, 2023 for next year, when we hope to enjoy a dinner inside the restaurant.

Tech Trek Committee News

March was our most busy month. Our hardworking School Liaison team contacted STEM teachers and principals in four middle schools. We received 17 nominations from three schools: Pine Valley, Windemere Ranch, and Gale Ranch. Iron Horse Middle School did not participate this year. Ultimately 1 student opted out and, from those remaining, 3 did not send an application. The final number of applicants is 13.

Every member of the Tech Trek committee completed a Volunteer Conduct Certification. The parents filled out certification forms and students submitted essays and applications.

The Reading Subcommittee (Stella Hadjimarkos, Arila Barnes, Marsha Froines, Margo James, Rebecca Said, and Nancy Vandell) read the applications and essays. They chose the top 12 applicants to be awarded interviews and ranked them all.

The Interviewing Subcommittee (Cordelia Hwang, Harvalee Grimm, Karen Rice, and Lucy Weed) completed the interviews. The campers of 2022 have been selected. April 15 is the deadline for submitting the names of the lucky girls to the Sonoma camp.

General Information from Tech Trek California

Residential and virtual camps are humming along with plans for 2022 camps. The sponsorship fee for in-person camp is \$1,000 for Sonoma State, the same as in 2019. The virtual camp fee will be \$500.



A volunteer from AAUW observes a Tech Trek camper performing an experiment. (Source: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/TT-HEART.png>)

An Opportunity To Be a Part of a Virtual Camp!

Want a chance to deliver a workshop or core course this summer? The Virtual Tech Trek Camp 2022 (VTTC2022) team is looking for engaging 90-minute hands-on or interactive STEM workshops, along with core courses using a project-based approach and containing 15 hours of STEM curriculum that will result in something tangible for students to keep. Submit a proposal [HERE](#) or contact the virtual team at techtrek-virtualcomm@aauw-ca.org if you have questions. Stipends or service hours may be offered to qualified presenters.

Stella Hadjimarkos,
Tech Trek Co-Chair with Cordelia Hwang



Public Policy



Greetings! This month we are sharing the notes and updates from the Contra Costa County IBC Public Policy Committee meeting that was held on March 9 as well as an article from AAUW National about retirement income equity for women. Our branch has identified this issue as an important topic of concern.

Catherine Lewis,
Public Policy Chair

Contra Costa County IBC Public Policy Committee Report

Meeting date: March 9, 2022

Members present: Asha Bajaj DAWC, Catherine Lewis San Ramon, Laura Monin OML, M. Selph WCC, Reba Siero PH-M, Debbie Cummings DCC, and Shveta Shaurie DAWC

We reviewed our recommendations and activities from the January meeting and focused on 2022 spring options. We reviewed the OML Zoom meeting with Steve Glazer. He pretty much stuck to items he wanted to discuss with little focus on AAUW priorities.

These are planned Public Policy oriented meetings and activities in which we encourage all branches to have members participate:

- March 30: San Ramon is holding a Zoom meeting regarding Census Redistricting and how that will affect local residents and what it means for AAUW issues. Guest is Steven Spedowski, Deputy San Ramon City Manager. To participate, contact aauwsr@gmail.com. Again, we hope for IBC branch turnout and public participation.
- We discussed Lobby Week (April 11–15) meeting(s) with local representatives. If you signed up, remember to attend the Zoom Training on April 7. If you didn't sign up, you can attend the training and, if there are openings, you still might be able to participate. Sign-ups totaled 110 people, but things do come up that might cause dropouts on the selected days.

AAUW has chosen some 30 to 35 bills to focus on, and they will be discussed at these meetings. The training will provide talking points on the bills.

- We plan to contact League of Women Voters soon, since this will be a busy year for them in the fall. We plan to coordinate an IBC event so that individual branches won't have to call on the League for separate meetings in the fall. We should have some information for IBC by our May report.

Other relevant issues:

- This is the 50th Anniversary of Title IX. Is your branch doing anything?
- AAUW has issued a Proclamation of Support for Ketanji Brown Jackson. See it on the website.

We continue to be open to any interested members to join us at our Zoom meetings. Let me know and I will be sure to send you a Zoom link.

Debbie Cummings

AAUW contacts for Public Policy information:
Kathy Harper and Sue Miller publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

From AAUW National: Women & Retirement

A lifelong pay gap culminates in the fact that women have significantly less income than men during their retirement years, a time when they are particularly vulnerable.

Not-So-Golden Years

Women encounter a pay gap at every stage of life, but nowhere is it more pronounced than during the retirement years. On all three components of the "three-legged stool" of retirement security—Social Security, pension, and savings—women fall short. As a result, they have 70% of the income that men have during retirement.

Older women are more likely than men to live below the poverty line. That's because, over the course of a lifetime, the gender pay gap causes women to lose out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in earnings, making it difficult for them to accumulate savings.

Continued on next page

Public Policy, continued

What's more, because women are more likely to work part-time, or to move in and out of the workforce as they juggle caregiving responsibilities, they are less able to save for retirement and less likely to have access to an employer-sponsored retirement plan. Lower wages—coupled with time away from work—result in lower Social Security benefits.

At the same time, women typically live longer than men, meaning they will face higher costs in retirement both in terms of daily living expenses and health-care costs. And women are more likely to rely on Social Security to meet those expenses.

American women deserve a secure retirement, no matter what career choices they made during their lifetime. To ensure that, we need laws and policies that will strengthen retirement programs, including protecting Social Security, improving pension benefits, and ensuring women receive fair pay throughout their careers to bolster their savings. Gender equity is a lifelong proposition!

Membership



Membership Matters

Spring is here! It is an inviting time to venture outdoors to see the wildflowers, enjoy the green hillsides, and once again greet our friends and family. We especially look forward to greeting our AAUW San Ramon Branch community at the April and May Program events.

Membership Renewal and Fee Increase

AAUW National recently implemented a new software program to include membership functions. You are encouraged to utilize this online program to renew your dues. Each member should have received an e-mail from AAUW National about the process to renew. At this writing, we do not have any more details, so please pay particular attention to the directions in the e-mail. In the coming months, we'll be better able to address any particular needs of our members with the renewal process.

Rest assured that we'll lend a helping hand. You will find tutorials posted on the national website under Membership/Looking for the Member Services Database? Go to aauw.org.

Dues for 2022–2023 total \$107: AAUW National—\$67; AAUW California—\$20; AAUW San Ramon—\$20.

New Member Registration Fee

A new member who joins now will pay full dues, which will cover their membership until June 2023. This is a particularly beneficial time to build our AAUW San Ramon community.

AAUW California

Board of Directors Election April 23–May 15

Please plan to vote to elect the following eight positions to the AAUW California Board of Directors:

- Secretary
- Three one-year term directors
- Four two-year term directors

Each member will receive an e-mail containing a personal invitation to vote and a link to the ballot. You will find candidate biographies at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2022-candidates>

Annual Event April 30



It's a full day of honors and introductions, highlights and spotlights, new ideas and networking, all focused on AAUW California. To register, go to <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2022-annual-event-a-real-adventure/>

Looking forward to seeing you at our next program event and special interest group gatherings!

Harvalee Grimm,
Co-Vice President, Membership with
Betsy Hoffmann and Margo James

Friends of the Brentwood Library present

Brentwood Literary Stroll

Sunday, April 3, 2022

1:00-4:00 pm



- Visit Fiction and Non-Fiction Authors at Downtown Brentwood Businesses
- Children's Authors at Brentwood Library
- Light Refreshments Included
- Check-in Tables at Brentwood Library, 104 Oak Street, and the Corner of First and Oak Streets

Participating Downtown Businesses

- Brentwood Library
- Chelsea Fusion
- CoCo Wine Company
- Corcoran Global Living
- Dino's Sandwich Shop
- Harry's Wine Depot & Tavern
- La Fuente
- Roadees Cafe
- Sip And Scoop
- VFW Brentwood
- Zephyr's

Participating Authors

- Tamin Ansary
- Steven Burchik
- Matthew Felix
- Dan Hanel
- Carol Jensen
- Joey Garcia
- Steven Kent Mirassou
- Suzy Q. Orpin
- Sarah Sundin
- Vicki L Ward

Children's Book Authors

- Carolyn Joyce Dodds
- Claudia Hull
- Phelicia Lang

Tickets \$5

brentwoodlibrary.brownpapertickets.com

The Brentwood Literary Stroll is supported by a City of Brentwood Grant



This flyer was submitted by Kim Giuliano, a former member of the San Ramon Branch of AAUW.

The San Ramon Branch of
American Association of University Women
Hosts a

SHREDDING EVENT FUNDRAISER

Saturday, April 30th

10:00 AM–1:00 PM

(Event is over when shredder truck is full.)

Bollinger Hills Cabana Parking Lot
2949 Morgan Drive, San Ramon



Suggested Donation:
\$12 per Banker's Box or Paper Grocery Bag

All Proceeds Benefit Scholarships for Local Students

Questions? Contact Loranne at laweir4@aol.com or 925-202-7808
Co-Sponsors: Janice Colby of Keller Williams Realty CA DRE #01270034
Janice Nugent of Compass Mortgage Advisors NMLS #289353 / BRE #01353236

Interest Groups

GAME NIGHT

First Saturday

Saturday, April 2; 7:30 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

Information about the Zoom call will be sent prior to April 2.

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed



LUNCH BUNCH

First Tuesday

Tuesday, April 5; 12:30 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

Until we can resume meeting in person, this will be another virtual Lunch Bunch meeting. Margo James has kindly agreed to set the meeting up, so watch for her e-mail with the Zoom link. If Margo is unavailable, Lucy Weed will do the honors. To join the e-mail reminder list, contact:

Marsha Froines



LOCAL WALKING GROUP

Second Saturday

Saturday, April 9; 9:00 AM

We'll walk around the lake at Bishop Ranch. The walkway is gravel and paved in some areas and an easy flat terrain. Parking should be easy at the Target parking lot. Everyone is welcome, including your dogs...! RSVP if you would like to be a part of this interest group. Contact:

Andree Chagnon

Lois Kamoroff



Joy Perkins

Designing Smart Solutions for Busy People
925-216-9883 • omnibusorganizing@gmail.com

Interest Groups

DAYTIME READERS

Second Monday

Special Joint Meeting

Monday, April 11; 1:00–3:00 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

We are reading *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Isiguro. This will be a joint meeting with the Night Book Group. If you have questions or wish to be put on the e-mail list to receive a Zoom invitation, please contact Margo James



THE NIGHT BOOK GROUP

Special Joint Meeting

Monday, April 11; 1:00–3:00 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

We are reading *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro. This will be a joint discussion with the Daytime Readers. Questions? Contact Cheri Ng



TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

Third Tuesday

Tuesday, April 19; 7:00–9:00 PM or so

Hostess: Chris White

RSVP required.

Wow! Our bridge group is alive and well, growing to four tables in March! We are so happy to have our new members. Right now we are playing remotely but hope to soon go to a hybrid model, with some playing in person and some online. In the meantime, we will continue to meet via Zoom/teleconference and BridgeBase. If you would like to be included in this group please RSVP:

Contact Chris White as soon as possible to let me know if you are playing or Not.



FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

Friday, April 22; 7:30 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

Chris Burchik will lead a discussion on her movie pick *The Imitation Game*, available on Amazon Prime and Netflix. Let Chris White know if you wish to receive a Zoom link.

Contact Chris White

2021–2022 Board

CO-PRESIDENTS

Janice Colby
Kathleen Schaub

IMMEDIATE PAST CO-PRESIDENTS

Chris Burchik
Lucy Weed

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, PROGRAM

Cindy Alpert
Lynda Gann

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, MEMBERSHIP

Harvalee Grimm
Betsy Hoffmann
Margo James

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, THE FUND

Pam Bugbee
Elaine Graves

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, SCHOLARSHIP

Julie Gin
Susan Walker-Christensen
Loranne Weir

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, FINANCE

Claire Mailhot
Patty Nobles

CO-RECORDING SECRETARIES

Judy Bracken
Beth Robertson

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
CCC IBC website: cbc-ibc-ca.aauw.org

Branch mailing address:

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

Branch e-mail address:

aauwsr@gmail.com

Facebook: San Ramon University Women/AAUW

Instagram: @sanramonaauw

Appointed Officers

ART & WIND FESTIVAL

Janet Williams

COMMUNICATION

Isabel Lau

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lois Kamoroff

HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP

Betsy Hoffmann
Andree Chagnon

NEWSLETTER

Marsha Froines
Carol Lombardi

PUBLIC POLICY

Catherine Lewis

TECH TREK

Stella Hadjimarkos
Cordelia Hwang

Don't forget to dial 1-925 first!