

# THE VIEW FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 38, Number 9 May 2022

### "Come Together"

Celebrate Our Branch Accomplishments

Congratulate Our 2022–2023 Officers and
the 2022 Scholarship Recipients

Connect with Your AAUW Friends



Saturday, May 21; 11:00 AM-1:30 PM
The Bridges Golf Club, San Ramon
Lunch Will Be Served!

See Page 4 for More Information

### **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.

### MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 12:30 PM Lunch Bunch Via Zoom Marsha Froines	4	5	6	7 7:30 PM Game Night Lucy Weed
8	9 1:00 PM Daytime Readers Via Zoom Margo James 7:00 PM Board Meeting	10	11	12	13	14 9:00 AM Walking Group Lois Kamoroff
15	16 7:00 PM Night Book Group Via Zoom Cheri Ng	17 7:00 PM Bridge Chris White	18	19	20	21 11:00 AM To 1:30 PM Year Celebration Cindy Alpert
22	23	24	25	26	27 7:30 PM Friday Flicks Chris White	28
29	30	31				
Happy Memorial Day!						
Ice Cream Sale at the Art & Wind Festival						

### 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

Watch for more information about our 2022–2023 events coming in future newsletters.

### Co-President's Pen



### May Is an Action Month— Here's <u>Your</u> AAUW Honey-Do List

I'm a big list maker. One of my favorite books is *The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right* by Atul Gawande (Fun Fact: Daytime Readers Group read his book, *Being Mortal*). "For nearly all of history, people's lives have been governed primarily by ignorance," writes the acclaimed surgeon and best-selling author. But today, he says, supported by huge gains in science and technology, we seldom fail for lack of knowing. Instead, "the problem we face is ineptitude...making sure we apply the knowledge we have consistently and correctly."

We all live in an increasingly complex world where life can be difficult to manage at times. Gawande, a worldrenowned expert on patient safety, wrote this book primarily for doctors. First published in 2009, the book follows Gawande and World Health Organization (WHO) on their quest to reduce avoidable death and harm from surgery. What they found is that simple checklists prevented an average of 47% of deaths from surgery complications! This held true at hospitals ranging from Johns Hopkins to the St. Francis Designated District Hospital in Infakara, Tanzania, a rural hospital serving over one million people. Gawande found checklists helped other professions: Aviation (Sully Sullenberger used an airline checklist to avert disaster), construction (skyscraper safety is due to checklists), and entertainment (Van Halen's David Lee Roth famously demanded removal of brown M&Ms in his backstage room to test checklist adherence).

My takeaway: Sometimes the answer to persistent challenges is something simple.

Here's a little AAUW May checklist for you. I hope it makes your life simpler.

- 1. Sign up to attend the End of Year Celebration. On Saturday, May 21, we'll celebrate all we have accomplished in this transitional year of 2021–2022. We must have your response by May 5. See Page 4 for more information.
- 2. Volunteer for Ice Cream sales at the Art & Wind Festival. We've received responses from many volunteers—many thanks if you are among them! We can use a few more volunteers for shifts on May 29 and 30. See Page 4 for more information.
- 3. **Set up your profile on the new AAUW Community Hub.** The new AAUW.org is slowly but surely transforming into a more interactive online place. First step is getting all membership information updated. *See Page 5 for more information*.
- 4. Vote for AAUW CA and AAUW National Officers. By now, you should have received an email to vote for AAUW-CA Officers, and AAUW National is also holding elections. Make your voice heard!
- 5. All on the list of candidates (in the April newsletter) were elected. We'll install our new officers at the End of Year Celebration May 21—so mark your calendar!

Hope to see you soon!

Kathleen Schaub Co-President with Janice Colby

### **Happy May Birthdays**

Fran Bartholomew Mercedes Daggett Kathleen Schaub Chris White Cindy Alpert Phyllis Combs Claire Mailhiot Nancye Harder

### **Program**

**May Celebration** 

Saturday, May 21 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Bridges Golf Club San Ramon

Cost: \$30 Each
RSVP Required by May 5



"Come Together" on Saturday, May 21 for our End of Year celebration! This is the time we recognize our board members 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. Lunch, dessert, and beverages will be served. See the attached flyer for all the details!

- Cost to attend is \$30 per person.
- A reservation is required as we need to provide a head count and meal selection to the venue by May 7.
- Meal choices are:
  - Pacific Rim salad with mixed greens, chicken, and miso dressing
  - o Penne pasta with meatballs and tomato
  - Polenta tower with vegetables (vegan and gluten-free)
- Please respond to the Evite that was sent in April.
- If you plan to attend, please select your meal (note in Memo) and send your check made payable to AAUW San Ramon to:

San Ramon AAUW PO Box 336 San Ramon, CA 94583

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

### San Ramon AAUW Ice Cream Sale Fundraiser



Sunday, May 29 and Monday, May 30

Thank You to Members Who Have Volunteered to Sell Ice Cream

#### Additional Volunteers Welcomed

Our branch FUNdraiser at the San Ramon Art & Wind Festival will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 29 and 30. This FUNdraiser supports scholarships, administrative needs, and great programs for our local branch.

### Sign up early to volunteer for your favorite shift!

We will have 2 carts at the festival and each cart needs 2 volunteers for a short shift. Teens are welcome to help, but they need to be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers may bring a chair. Each cart has an umbrella to provide some shade.

The shifts are:

10:30 AM-1:00 PM 1:00-3:30 PM 3:30-6:00 PM

Selling ice cream products (especially if the weather cooperates) is FUN and easy! Send me an e-mail to volunteer for a shift.

Janet Williams
Art & Wind Festival Chair

### **Tech Trek**



"I am interested in attending Tech Trek because it gives me an opportunity to meet more girls who share a passion for science and engineering. I also want to learn about others' perspectives on ways that they think math and science will change the world. Doing hands-on projects is something that I hope we will be able to do in Tech Trek, and I am interested about possible engineering or building challenges. Another thing that interests me about attending Tech Trek is learning about how we can use engineering to help developing countries in fields like agriculture, mining, and technology. I am also curious about how we can replace humans with artificial intelligence in dangerous jobs with technology."

Sahana Nagandla from Pine Valley Middle School

This is an example of the caliber of the 13 applicants. We found it difficult to choose who to sponsor and who to leave out in this complicated year, but choose we did! Our Reading Subcommittee spent numerous hours reading essays, ranking, and commenting. The Interview Subcommittee met the applicants via Zoom, asked them identical questions, and discussed their responses. After the final ranking, we chose the top finalists. We submitted the names of 6 girls for residential camp, 2 girls for virtual camp, and 2 alternates, well within the timelines.

In the final analysis, our branch is sponsoring 6 middle school San Ramon girls for the 2022 residential camp in Sonoma from June 19–25 for the cost of \$1,000 each. We are also sponsoring 2 girls for the virtual Tech Trek camps, either the one from June 19–24 or the one from July 24–29, for the cost of \$500 per person.

From Pine Valley, 2 students were selected to attend the residential camp: Anaika Khatod and Sahana Nagandia. Additionally, Sharita Angadi is an alternate if any of the other students are unable to attend. From Gale Ranch, 3 students were selected to attend the residential camp: Naisha Aggerwal, Aynura Murid, and Anuujin Thompson. From Windemere Ranch, 3 students were selected: Rhea Shenoi for the residential camp, and Tanishi Rawal and Grace Sehgal for the virtual camps. Additionally, Apurva Reddy is an alternate if other students are unable to attend.

All the girls are very excited, anticipating a stimulating and fun summer adventure into the STEM world. Our branch will invite the residential campers to an orientation session sponsored by IBC (Inter-Branch Council). The

time and place are yet to be determined. Camp materials and other "goodies" will be delivered to each virtual camper by branch volunteers prior to camp.

In addition, our 2022 Tech Trek campers will be invited to the branch September membership event. This will provide branch members an opportunity to meet the young women and hear about their camp experiences, what they liked, what they learned, and how it changed their lives. Please plan to attend.

Thank you to all the members who have and continue to support Tech Trek.

Late Notice: Please Read

#### **Volunteers Needed**

### Be a Class Monitor for Tech Trek Camp June 20–24, 2022

Have the fun experience and satisfaction of being a Volunteer Class Monitor for the AAUW Tech Trek Camp at Sonoma State University for a morning (8:30 AM—noon) or afternoon (1:00–4:00 PM) during the week of June 20–24. Help with one (or more) of the core classes, workshops, field trips, or financial decision simulations. Make Tech Trek Camp an exciting and rewarding experience for the girls.

Note: These volunteers are vital to keep the camp's student-to-adult ratio at 10:1.

Sign up online with the SignUp Genius schedule at Class Monitor Sign Up. If you have questions or difficulty with the online sign up, please call or e-mail Virginia Hewgley, *vhewgley@astound.net*, 925-768-4417.

Stella Hadjimarkos and Cordelia Hwang Co-Coordinators



### Membership



### Membership Matters

## Call to Action It's Time to Renew Your Dues Everything About the Process Has Changed

AAUW National has upgraded their website systems to include all functions of membership. The new program is up and running. Each of us should eventually receive an email from AAUW National explaining the new features. Please note that everyone is encouraged to (1) have or open an account and (2) renew dues on the national website. Let's get started! **GO TO: aauw.org** 

- Log in—button is in the upper right corner on the screen
- If you already have an account, you will need to reset your password.
- If you do not have an account, you will be prompted to create one.
- Renew/pay for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 dues totaling \$107.
  - ✓ AAUW National: \$67
  - ✓ San Ramon Branch (CA0189): \$20
  - ✓ State (CA): \$20

We are ready to assist you with online registration and/or paying by check. Just let us know how we can help.

### New Member Spotlight Susan Volsky



Susan is a graduate of UC San Diego's Paralegal Program. She retired from the California State Attorney's Office in

2017, having worked in its criminal division for 22 years. She is passionate about women's issues and causes for children.

Wanting to be closer to her daughter, son-in-law, and two grandsons, Susan moved to Danville from the San Diego area last July. She loves to read and considers herself a movie enthusiast. She also likes to play Bridge and Mahjong. Susan is looking forward to joining several of our special interest groups. You may have already met her on our walk around Annabel Lake.

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

### **Communications**

#### **News from AAUW**

### Become A Volunteer Start Smart or Work Smart Facilitator

Are you committed to pay equity? Become a certified AAUW salary negotiation volunteer facilitator! AAUW depends on people like you to help empower thousands of women annually to negotiate their salaries and benefits.

Join the AAUW team of skilled volunteer facilitators to further your leadership development, gain public speaking experience, and sharpen your own negotiation skills and expertise. AAUW National provides the tools, resources, and materials to help you become a successful facilitator.

E-mail <u>Salary@aauw.org</u> to determine if you are eligible for this training. If so, you will receive an access code to register online. If you are a licensed AAUW campus or Work Smart partner, please provide the name(s) and e-mail addresses of prospective volunteer facilitator(s) to the AAUW National office at <u>connect@aauw.org</u>. Once you have registered for the Volunteer Facilitator Training, allow up to seven business days for enrollment.

The interactive training gives a deeper understanding of the workshop curricula and bolsters facilitation skills. Participants have 60 days from the enrollment date to complete the training. When the training is complete, AAUW and the licensed partners will reach out to you when there are upcoming volunteer opportunities in your area and provide access to the workshop materials upon confirmation of your volunteer schedule.

Continued on next page

### Communications, continued

For questions on renewing your facilitator certification, contact AAUW National via e-mail at Salary@aauw.org.

Source: Michelle Miller-Galaz and Donna Lilly, Board to Board/Marketing: University and Organization Collaboration, April 2022; here.

### **Vote for Your AAUW CA Directors**

The Nominations and Elections Committee is excited to announce that we have a candidate for secretary and a slate of candidates for the California State AAUW's seven open director positions. Thanks to everyone who stepped up to serve on the State Board of Directors.

The voting period runs from April 23 to May 15 and all members will receive an e-mail with their ballots. Members may also request a paper ballot by calling the AAUW CA office at 916-389-0220.

Read the candidates' bios on the state website at https://www.aauw-ca.org/2022-candidates/

Source: Charmen Goehring, California Connection, April 2022, <u>here</u>.

Isabel Lau, Communications Chair

### Did you know...?

AAUW California members contributed over \$494,000 to AAUW Fund.

Source: Lynn Batchelor, Board to Board/AAUW Fund, April 2022, here.



### **Public Policy**



Greetings! AAUW California has identified the bills listed below as being important for AAUW to support. Catherine Lewis, Public Policy Chair

### **AAUW CA Sponsors California Legislation**

Guided by our member-approved Public Policy Priorities for 2021–2023, the AAUW California Public Policy Committee has selected the bills that we will be supporting as they move through the 2022 Session of the California Legislature. Here are the six *highest priority* bills:

AB 92—Creates an equitable sliding scale for family fees to alleviate the burden on working families struggling to pay for childcare and early childhood education services. (Co-sponsor)

AB 1666—Enables persons to come from outside California for abortions and not be impacted by laws of other states. (Co-sponsor)

AB 1968—Mandates the creation of websites at CSU/UC campuses to assist sexual assault survivors.

AB 2881—Student parents get priority enrollment, registration, and access to basic needs centers, enabling them to remain in California colleges.

SB 523—Expands contraceptive coverage by requiring health plans to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing.

SB 1375—Updates statutes relating to abortion care to allow nurse practitioners to practice under standard protocols to provide first-trimester abortion care.

Within our Public Policy Priorities, 6 bills are related to Economic Security for All Women, 7 are related to Equal Access to Public Education, and 18 are related to Social and Racial Justice for all Members of Society.

AAUW California is experiencing greater visibility among elected legislators by sponsoring and co-sponsoring bills.

The Public Policy Committee members spent many hours in March researching bills and in discussions over two days to select bills to support. AAUW members are working to improve the lives of women and children in California!

Source: Kathleen Harper and Sue Miller, Board to Board/Public Policy, April 2022, <u>here</u>.

### Local Scholarship



The Local Scholarship Committee received nine applications for our scholarship this year from girls planning to attend four-year universities or colleges this fall. Once again, these young women are quite an impressive group. They have demonstrated significant academic skills as well as accomplishments in athletics, science, music, leadership, and volunteer service. Many have also been involved in other community and/or social activities, as well as part-time jobs.

Four of these students attend California High School and five attend Dougherty Valley High School. We have chosen four this year to receive our \$1,000 scholarships—two from each of the high schools. They have been invited to our End of Year Celebration and, hopefully, they will be able to attend so you will have a chance to meet them. In addition, I will share details regarding each of the chosen recipients in the next newsletter.

We have also received and reviewed our applications from the CSUEB Renaissance Scholars program. This year we received five applications and feel that we have the funds to support all five. They have all demonstrated significant determination, resilience, and motivation in order to achieve their academic and personal goals. They will be honored at our September event, and I will provide more details about these individuals prior to that time.

We thank all of our members who have made direct donations to Local Scholarship and/or have supported our fundraisers throughout the year. Your continued support and generosity have a significant, direct, and positive impact on the lives of the young women who are our scholarship recipients, both at the local high schools and the CSUEB Renaissance Scholars.

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

### **Walking Group**

We had our second Saturday of the month AAUW walk on April 9. In attendance were Lois K., Chris B., Kathleen S., Harvalee, Janice C., and me.



During our lovely walk around Annabel Lake, we saw a beautiful Great Blue Heron resting in the reeds. We usually circle the lake two or three times, then some of us walk to the Farmers Market at the City Center.



We may try some other walking loops in the future such as Storywalk, Central Park Loop, Bishop Ranch Loop, Walking District Loop, or Connector Loop.

Looking forward to our next walk on Saturday May 14!

Andrée Chagnon Co-Leader with Lois Kamoroff

### **Fund**



Pam and I are happy to report we had great success hosting the first San Ramon Branch AAUW Fund Spring in-person/virtual hybrid fundraising event with thanks to our technology team of Jack and Beth Robertson and Lucy Weed. Our speaker, Alison Espinosa-Setchko, was virtual, which made it easier to provide the Zoom connections to our virtual participants.

The Bollinger Hills Cabana was colorfully decorated in spring colors with vases of pretty flowers. There were individual plates of delicious treats for each attendee plus tea and Prosecco for all. We enjoyed visiting with one another and sampling our delicious treats, and then it was time for our presentation. Alison gave an inspiring and informative talk on her history and the difficult work in the field of Restorative Justice. We wish her well in her upcoming career in this challenging and meaningful work.

We concluded with raffle drawings for the flower arrangements and the 15 bottles of fine McGrail and Bent Creek Vineyards wines generously donated by Beth Robertson and Loranne Weir. The grand prize drawings were for two boxes of gourmet chocolates handcrafted by Steven Burchik and donated by Chris Burchik.



We are grateful to the following volunteers for the abundant help they provided:

- ➤ The Fund Committee: Anne Hayden, Pat Kelly, and Beth Robertson.
- ➤ The Hospitality Committee: Harvalee Grimm, Betsy Hoffman, Jo Anne Barron, and Margo James.
- ➤ The Communications Committee: Isabel Lau, Marsha Froines, Carol Lombardi, and Lucy Weed.

These ladies all worked many hours to help us with all the pieces and parts to make this event so fun and successful.



We extend extra gratitude to Jack Robertson, who dedicated his time and technology equipment on several occasions and a full day at the event to run the technology portion for our hybrid media event. We would not have been able to seamlessly run this event without his help, equipment, and expertise. Thank you, Jack!



Toward the end of the program, Anne Hayden generously announced that she would match dollar for dollar any donation made that day up to \$500. Wow! Thank you, Ann, for generating such excitement to give!



Thank you to all who attended both in-person and virtually and to all who generously donated to this worthy cause. We don't yet have the exact amount that was raised at this event, but we estimate it to be in excess of \$1,200. With the support of our donors and attendees, this event was enjoyable and a fundraising success.

Elaine Graves, Co-Vice President, Fund with Pam Bugbee

### **Interest Groups**

### LUNCH BUNCH First Tuesday

Tuesday, May 3; 12:30 PM Via Zoom videoconference

Until we can resume meeting in person, this will be another virtual Lunch Bunch meeting. Watch for the email with the Zoom link. To join the e-mail reminder list, contact:

Marsha Froines

### **GAME NIGHT First Saturday**

Saturday, May 7; 7:30 PM Via Zoom videoconference

Information about the Zoom call will be sent prior to May 7.

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

### DAYTIME READERS Second Monday

Monday, May 9; 1:00–3:00 PM Via Zoom videoconference

Chris White will lead our discussion of *Still Life* by Louise Penny. If you have questions or wish to be put on the email list to receive a Zoom invitation, please contact Margo James



### **Interest Groups**

#### **LOCAL WALKING GROUP**

**Second Saturday** 

Saturday, May 14; 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.

Andrée Chagnon Lois Kamoroff

### THE NIGHT BOOK GROUP Third Monday

Via Zoom videoconference Monday, May 16; 7:00 PM

Karen VanZino will review *Deacon King Kong*, by James McBride.

Questions? Contact Cheri Ng

### **TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE**

Tuesday, May 17; 7:00-9:00 PM or so

Hostess: Chris White

**RSVP** 

We will play via Zoom/teleconference and BridgeBase and in-person if enough people wish to get together. I am willing to host. If you would like play, please RSVP and let me know if you are interested in virtual or inperson. I will then attempt to arrange tables accordingly. Contact Chris White as soon as possible to let me know if you are playing or not.

#### FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

Friday, May 27; 7:30 PM Via Zoom videoconference

Mary Venkat will lead a discussion on her movie pick *Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom*, available on Amazon Prime, You Tube, Apple, Google Play, and ?. Let Chris White know if you wish to receive a Zoom link. Fran Bartholomew has volunteered to organize June Friday Flicks on June 24. Watch for her pick! Diane Griffiths has volunteered for July 22. Thank you to all those that have volunteered! So great that people are stepping up to continue our discussions for Friday Flicks. 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 Mailhiot 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

### "Come Together"



Celebrate with your AAUW friends, acknowledge the outgoing and incoming Branch Board members, and meet the 2022 High School Scholarship recipients at our End of Year Celebration lunch!

May 21, 2022; 11:00 AM-1:30 PM The Bridges Golf Club, Fireside Room 9000 S. Gale Ridge Road, San Ramon

Cost is \$30 per person and includes choice of entrée, bread & butter, dessert, and beverage.

Please RSVP by May 5<sup>th</sup> with entrée choice.

RSVP to the Evite or by sending your payment.

Reservations and advance payment required.

Look for Evite with details!

Name:
Mark your entrée choice and send <b>\$30 payment</b> made payable to <b>AAUW San Ramon</b> to: AAUW San Ramon, PO Box 336, San Ramon CA 94583.
☐ Pacific Rim salad, mixed Asian greens, grilled chicken, miso dressing
☐ Baked Penne pasta, meatballs, mozzarella, tomatoes, basil
□ Polenta Tower with spinach, tomatoes, zucchini, carrots, tomato and basil sauce (vegan & gluten-free)