



# THE VIEW FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 39, Number 6

February 2023



*Gianni's*  
ITALIAN BISTRO

**Tips for Change Fundraiser  
Supporting Tech Trek  
Is Here!**

**Monday, February 6  
4:30–8:00 PM**

**Your Choice: Dine-in or Takeout  
2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon  
925 820-6969**

**Pre-order for Takeout Required by Sunday, February 5**

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.

## FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 7:00 PM Game Night Lucy Weed
5 6:00 PM: Deadline to order takeout from Gianni's	6 4:30–8:00 PM Gianni's Tips for Change Fundraiser  See page 4	7 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Margo James	8	9	10	11 9:00 AM Local Walking Group Lois Kamoroff
12	13 1:00 PM Daytime Readers Margo James  7:00 PM Board Meeting via Zoom	14  <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 Newsletter deadline	16 6:00 PM DAW Program: What's Next After Foster Care?  See page 7	17 **Special Date** 7:30 PM Fourth Friday Flicks Chris White	18
19	20 7:00 PM Night Book Group Cheri Ng <i>Presidents Day</i>	21 7:00 PM Bridge Chris White  <i>Mardi Gras</i>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

## Snippets

If you have a Snippet item (family events, career changes, etc.) that you would like to share with branch members, please contact Carol Lombardi.

Member Linda Yoshizawa will have several prints exhibited as part of the "Nine Artists/Nine Viewpoints" show at the Lindsay Dirx Brown Gallery in the San Ramon Community Center (12501 Alcosta Blvd, San Ramon) from 2/2–2/28. The show includes the work of nine women from different backgrounds. It is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM–5:00 PM. Please contact the Community Center at 925 973-3200 for weekend hours.

**Did you know?** Your Membership Team is now acting as Corresponding Secretary. If you have information about any member who could use a cheerful note, a get-well card, bereavement note, congratulations, etc., please send an email or text to Margo James.

## Save the Dates

Thursday, March 9	Program: Women in Non-Traditional Careers plus Scholarship Donor Basket Drawing
Wednesday, March 22	Scholarship Fundraiser at the Habit Burger Grill, San Ramon
Saturday, April 22	Fund Tea
Saturday, April 29	Shredding Event
May (date TBD)	End of Year Celebration

## Co-President's Pen



### Be My Friend

On a recent airplane trip, I sat in front of a couple of 20-somethings who joyfully discovered that they were coincidentally on their way to the same destination wedding. “I’m so happy to meet you,” squealed one after they had chatted for a while. “It’s so, so hard to find new friends as an adult.” Hmmm. I guess this very common problem starts early in adulting.

A main reason I joined AAUW was to make new friends. After a rewarding career in technology marketing, I had wonderful connections all over the world. Yet locally—not so many. The *New York Times* recently wrote [a series of articles on adult friendships](#), noting that friendship doesn’t happen organically. It takes time. According to social scientists, it takes at least 40 hours of togetherness to make a casual friend and twice that much to deepen the friendship.

A top recommendation from experts is to join a group that meets regularly. As an AAUW San Ramon member, you are halfway there because our branch offers regular opportunities.

- **Volunteer for the branch board:** I joined the board a year after I joined the branch, and it’s been great for meeting people. We meet once a month by Zoom on the second Monday evening and for a half-day planning session in the summer. Each position has a job that takes a few hours each month—enabling you to contribute to a higher purpose, make your world more vibrant, and learn new things. AAUW CA is also looking for state-level board members. The deadline to apply for state roles is March 1. Click [HERE](#) to get involved.
- **Become active in an interest group:** Are you on the mailing list for one of our seven interest groups? Take the next step and come to the fun monthly get-togethers.

- **Take advantage of events, programs, and fundraising opportunities:** This spring we’ve got three in-person or hybrid events (the March program, the Fund Tea, and the Year-End Celebration), three group fundraising activities (Gianni’s Tech Trek Tips for Change, the annual shredding event, and our ice cream sale at the Art and Wind Festival) as well as Zoom-based programs with opportunities to chat.

A.A. Milne said in *Winnie-the-Pooh*, “You can’t stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes.”



Come make new friendships (including me!) and deepen old ones. The AAUW SR branch door is wide open.

Hope to see you soon!  
Kathleen Schaub  
Co-President with Janice Colby

### Happy February Birthdays!

Carol Lombardi  
Sarah Scholl  
Margo James  
Sara Lashanlo  
Kathy Senti  
Victoria Bissell  
Lynda Gann



## Tech Trek

**Tips for Change Fundraiser**  
**Monday, February 6; 4:30–8:00 PM**  
**at**



**2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd.**  
**925-820-6969**

To reserve a table or order online,  
Click [here](#)

**Pre-Order for Takeout Required**  
**by Sunday, February 5, 6:00 PM**

**Our biggest fundraising event at Gianni's Italian Bistro is February 6! Please see the attached flyer for details.**

**Note that the blue text in the flyer is a link to the restaurant's website. Just double-click on it, and you'll be right there, ready to order!**

What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day (one week early) than to enjoy a delicious Italian dinner while supporting Tech Trek? Gianni's of San Ramon is hosting a "Tips for Change Event" to benefit AAUW San Ramon Tech Trek.

Owners Gianni and Melanie Bartoletti support our Tech Trek project by generously donating 10% of the evening's proceeds along with **all the tips** to Tech Trek. If you dine indoors, you will be served by one of seven AAUW San Ramon members who volunteered to be your waiters. If your preference is takeout, other volunteer members will greet you when you arrive to pick up your order.

We will have tip jars at every table, so bring your spare change to add to your tip. If you contribute your tip in the form of a check, payable to "AAUW CA SPF" with "Tech Trek-San Ramon" in the memo line, it will be tax-deductible for you.

Help support Tech Trek by encouraging your friends, neighbors, and family members to join you in getting a February 6 dinner from Gianni's Italian Bistro. Please download the attached flyer and forward it to your friends.

Facebook and Instagram enthusiasts, please help us advertise by commenting, sharing, and liking our event,

which is on this Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SRAAUW> and this Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/sanramonaauw/>. It's also the first thing you see when you search for AAUW San Ramon.

**Buy a Raffle Ticket for a Chance at a  
Gorgeous Valentine Gift Basket**



In addition, Chris and Steve Burchik generously donated a Valentine Chocolate Gift basket to raffle off at Gianni's. There are over two pounds of delicious Belgian chocolate in the basket, worth \$80. Don't forget to bring cash or checks to purchase your raffle tickets.

If you can't make it for either dine-in or takeout that evening but would like to contribute to our fundraiser, mail a check payable to "AAUW CA SPF" with "Tech Trek-San Ramon" in the memo line to: AAUW San Ramon, P.O. Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583. AAUW CA SPF (AAUW California Special Projects Fund) is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation. The Tech Trek committee thanks you in advance for your patronage and/or your help in advertising our event.

### Tech Trek Committee News

Our branch Tech Trek committee school liaisons have requested STEM teachers at the San Ramon middle schools (Gale Ranch, Iron Horse, Pine Valley, and Windemere Ranch) to nominate up to five girls per school.

Tech Trek campers were nominated by their seventh-grade STEM teachers in January. Nominated girls will complete an application, write an essay, and be interviewed by the Tech Trek committee. We plan to select our campers for this year by April 15.

Stella Hadjimarkos  
Tech Trek Co-Chair with Cordelia Hwang

## Program

### Mark Your Calendars!

Our thanks to you for continuing to support our branch programs. We had a wonderful turnout for our December holiday celebration, and our January speakers—Susan and Ralph Alcorn with Karen Najarian—drew 38 attendees on Zoom to hear their compelling stories about backpacking and self-publishing!

**Save these dates** for our upcoming programs you won't want to miss:

#### **Thursday, March 9: Women in Non-Traditional Careers**

A panel of women will share their experiences working in primarily male-dominated jobs.

#### **Saturday/Sunday, May 20/21 (TBD): Year-End Celebration**

Meet our High School Scholarship recipients and welcome in the new San Ramon AAUW Board

Look for more details in future newsletters and on our social media pages!

Cindy Alpert, Co-Vice President, Program  
with Karen Rice

## Local Scholarship

### Donor Gift Basket Drawing To Be Held at the March 9 Program

Once again, we plan to hold a drawing for a Thank-You Donor Gift Basket for anyone who donates to AAUW San Ramon Local Scholarship. Donations made from July 1, 2022 through the day of the drawing at the March 9 program are eligible.

Any member, their family, or friends who make a monetary donation, regardless of amount, either directly or through SPF, will have their name entered in the drawing. ONE LUCKY donor's name will be drawn, and the winner doesn't need to be present to win—but how fun if they are!

The attractive, reusable, and sturdy-handled gift basket is wine themed with an estimated value of \$125–\$150. So far, the basket contains:

- 1 bottle of Bent Creek 2020 Chardonnay from the Mendocino Coast vineyard
- 1 bottle of Artesa Estate Vineyard 2017 Pinot Noir from the Los Carneros region, Napa Valley
- 1 wine opener
- 1 package of 40 lovely sunflower design napkins
- 1 gift card to Chamois Car Wash (Danville) for a Deluxe car wash (valued at \$33)
- 1 box of cocoa chocolate truffles
- 1 bag cornbread crisps
- possibly one more gift card TBD



Thank you in advance for your generous support of Local Scholarship!

### Save the Date! Wednesday, March 22!

Local Scholarship will host an all-day fundraiser at the Habit Burger Grill Wednesday, March 22. Twenty percent (20%) of the proceeds will be donated to the Local Scholarship funds for local high school students and Renaissance Scholars. Bring in the flyer (in the March newsletter) or show it to the cashier on your smart phone. Address: 3121 Crow Canyon Place, San Ramon  
Hours: 11:00 AM–9:00 PM

Please spread the word to your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. It's a good day to not have to cook! You might want to order an extra meal/salad for another day. Thank you in advance for supporting this fundraiser for Local Scholarship.

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



## Public Policy



### AAUW California Celebrates Black Women in History

Many Black women have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more. For Black History month, we celebrate the achievements of but a few:



**Sojourner Truth**, a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights (1797–1883).



**Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin** (age 15) helped initiate the [Civil Rights movement](#) by refusing to give up their seats to white men on Montgomery, Alabama buses. Their actions inspired resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional.



**Dorothy Jean Dandridge** was an actress, singer and dancer, the first African-American film star to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Carmen Jones* (1954). [In 1940, Hattie McDaniel won for Best Supporting Actress in *Gone with the Wind*.—Ed.]



**Katherine Johnson**, a brilliant mathematician, was one of three Black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools. Her greatest contribution was to space exploration through her calculations synching Apollo's Lunar Module with the lunar-orbiting Module. She also worked on the Space Shuttle. (1958–1986)



**Madam C.J. Walker** was considered the wealthiest African-American businesswoman in America (1911–1919), by developing and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women. She hired 40,000 “ambassadors” to sell her products.



**Shirley Chisholm** was [the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968](#). She served as a representative from New York for 14 years, was the first Black candidate to run for president in the 1972 race, and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.



**Mae Jemison** became the [first Black woman to fly to space](#) on the space shuttle *Endeavour*. She was also the first Black woman admitted to the astronaut training program, in 1987.



**Toni Morrison** released her novel *Beloved* in 1987, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, based on the true story of an African American enslaved woman. In 1993, Morrison became the first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.



**Oprah Winfrey**, born into poverty in rural [Mississippi](#) to a single teenage mother, molested as a child and pregnant at 14, became the most influential woman in the world by many accounts. An American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and [philanthropist](#), she was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only Black billionaire.

**Source:** Nancy Major, AAUW California Public Policy Committee, [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org), [here](#)

And let's also remember **Harriet Tubman**, who escaped slavery in Maryland and fled north, then returned several times to bring other slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad; **Ella Fitzgerald**, renowned jazz singer who faced discrimination and restrictions on where she could perform; and **Ketanji Brown Jackson**, the first Black woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Catherine Lewis, Public Policy Chair

## Membership



### Membership Matters

Our San Ramon branch remains strong with 99 members as of February 2023. Together we have welcomed 15 new and continuing members since 2020—a time that we can all agree offered many social challenges. Yet, we've grown because we've asked, invited, and welcomed others to share our camaraderie and the mission of our branch. The programs about which we are passionate have interested membership as well. Two of our newest members are mothers of our Tech Trek 2022 campers. Five of our members are our 2022 Renaissance Scholar recipients, whom we sponsor as student affiliates. And members stay and rejoin—even after moving out of the area—to remain active in our Interest Groups. Working together, we've grown. Let's keep up these good work!

### Prospective Member Guests and Shape The Future Discount

Guests are welcome at our events and meetings unless otherwise mentioned. If you know someone who is interested in learning about and potentially joining our branch, please share their contact information with the membership team. We will invite them to the next event(s). Please remember that we are able to extend the Shape The Future discount to new members who join at or soon after attending events and or meetings. The discount is 50% off the national dues for one year: a \$33.50 savings.

### Your National Account

It is recommended that each of us activate our individual account on the national website. To do so, go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org). Select **Membership**, then **AAUW Community Hub**. You'll need to use your current email address to get started. You'll be prompted to create a password, which will then give you access to your current information on the national database and to functions to renew and donate. Remember that you are considered an *existing* member. Your membership number is on our branch directory. Contact Harvalee Grimm for assistance.

### Membership Directory

The branch directory was sent to your email on December 23, 2022. Please forward changes, additions, and errors to Margo James.

Happy Valentine's Day from your Membership Team  
Harvalee, Margo, and Betsy

## Fund



### 2022: A Successful Year for Fund

Thank you for your contributions to our success! The target for donations by California members was a lofty \$525,000. By the end of November, we beat that goal by \$44,682 exceeding last year's donation and that doesn't even count December's donations. Yay!

If you didn't get a chance to view the 2022 recipients from California (there were 41), you can watch videos of the four Fund events, where 38 of these worthy women talk about their work, by clicking [HERE](#).

**What's Next after Foster Care?**  
Thursday February 16, 2023  
6PM – 8PM  
Greenbrook Clubhouse,  
300 Greenbrook Drive, Danville

**Speakers:**  
Roshawn Campbell,  
Coordinator for CSU East Bay Renaissance Scholars  
Britt Wade, LCSW,  
Workforce Development Manager for Family  
Harvest Farm

To RSVP visit <https://dau-ca.aauw.net/2023feb/>

**AAUW** Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)

DAW AAUW's Program "What's Next after Foster Care?" includes a presentation on the Renaissance Scholar program at CSUEB and another program, Family Harvest Farm, that support foster children. Visit the link above then click on "Events/2023 Foster Care" for more details.

**Thank you to our volunteer  
editors and proofreaders!**

**Judy Bracken**

**Cindy Ferrin**

**Lois Kamoroff**

**Rebecca Said**

**Lucy Weed**

# Communication

## Social Media and Your Role

You are an important member of the Communication Team, and we need your assistance.

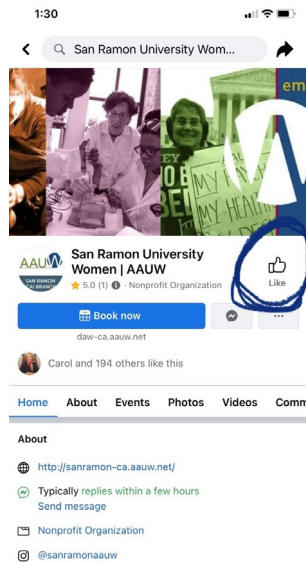
Social media relies on the community clicking on “Like,” “Follow,” “Comment,” and “Share”—this is where you come in.

We need you to do the following.

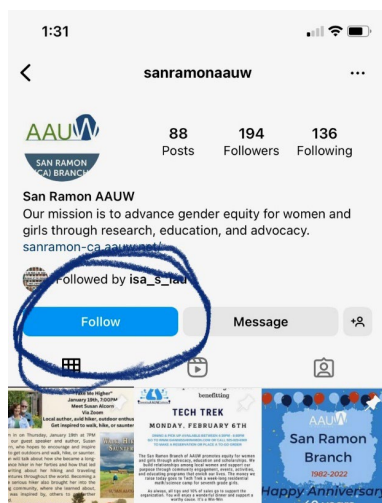
1. Hit “Like” on our Facebook page.

When that thumbs-up turns blue, you have liked our page, and our FB page should show up in your feed when we post.

Like so →



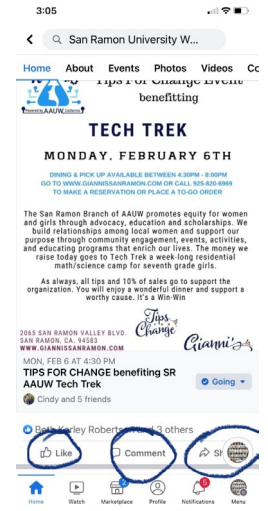
2. Similarly for Instagram, except this time you will “Follow” us. →



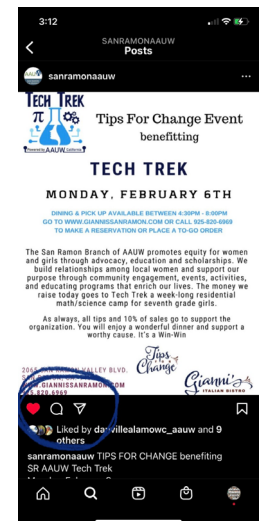
3. Once you see our posts on Facebook, we need you to “Like,” “Comment,” and “Share.”

Why, you ask?

These social media sites operate on algorithms. That means the more folks like you do any of these three things, the more people will see our posts. →



4. Back to Instagram: You will want to “like” (hit the heart), “comment,” and share (arrow) to your story (goes away after 24 hours). →



Why are we asking you to do this?

Because we want more members of our community to see all the great things happening in our branch.

We want to build our membership, and we need your help to spread news about the good work you are all a part of.

Isabel Lau, Communication  
With Carol Lombardi





## Interest Groups

### GAME NIGHT

#### First Saturday

**Saturday, February 4; 7:00 PM\*\* Note time change\*\***

Game night will be at the home of Diane Griffiths.

Please RSVP to Diane.

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

### LUNCH BUNCH

#### First Tuesday

**Tuesday, February 7; 11:30 AM**

We will meet in person at Fresh Millions, 2550 San Ramon Valley Boulevard #B2, San Ramon.

To join the email reminder list, contact:

Margo James

### DAYTIME READERS

#### Second Monday

**Monday, February 13; 1:00–3:00 PM**

**Via Zoom videoconference**

Kathleen Schaub will lead our discussion of *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. Please contact Margo James for the Zoom link or to be put on the distribution list.

Margo James

### LOCAL WALKING GROUP

#### Second Saturday

**Saturday, February 11; 9:00 AM**

Our January 14 walk was cancelled due to a very heavy downpour. What a great deal of needed rain we got, but all at one time, yikes! Looking forward to seeing our walkers for our next meeting, hopefully under sunny skies.

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:

Andrée Chagnon

Lois Kamoroff



## Interest Groups

### THE NIGHT BOOK GROUP

#### Third Monday

**Via Zoom videoconference**

**Monday, February 20; 7:00 PM**

Anne Hayden will review *A History of the World in 6 Glasses* by Tom Standage.

Questions? Contact Cheri Ng

### TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

**Tuesday, February 21; 7:00–10:00 PM or so**

Virtual and/or in Person

Hostess Needed! Or we will be totally virtual this month.

RSVP to Chris White.

We will play bridge via Zoom/teleconference and BridgeBase and/or in person. Our in-person get together is undetermined: We need a hostess, 7:00–10:00 PM.

Kindly RSVP and let me know

1. if you are interested in playing or not
2. if you wish to play in person or virtual

### FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

**Friday, February 17; 7:30 PM \*\*Special Date\*\***

**Via Zoom videoconference**

**Organizer: Chris White**

*Women Talking* (2022)—Starring Frances McDormand, Rooney Mara, Claire Foy, Jessie Buckley. The real-life facts are [beyond horrifying](#). Between 2005 and 2009, 150 women and young girls were drugged and then raped by men in their secluded Mennonite community in Bolivia. . Available to stream on: Netflix, Vudu, Amazon Prime, and ?

Let Chris White know if you wish to receive a Zoom link for the above event.

Please contact Chris White



## 2022–2023 Board

### CO-PRESIDENTS

Janice Colby  
Kathleen Schaub

### IMMEDIATE PAST CO-PRESIDENTS

Janice Colby  
Kathleen Schaub

### CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, PROGRAM

Cindy Alpert  
Karen Rice

### CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, MEMBERSHIP

Harvalee Grimm  
Betsy Hoffmann  
Margo James

### CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, THE FUND OPEN

### 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](http://www.sanramon-ca.aauw.net)

Webmaster: Isabel Lau

Association website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

CA State website: [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)

CCC IBC website: [cbc-ibc-ca.aauw.org](http://cbc-ibc-ca.aauw.org)

### **Branch mailing address:**

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

### **Branch email address:**

[aauwsr@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsr@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** San Ramon University Women/AAUW

**Instagram:** @sanramonaauw

## Appointed Officers

### ART & WIND FESTIVAL

Janet Williams

### COMMUNICATION

Isabel Lau

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

*Duties have been assumed by Membership*

### HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP

Andrée Chagnon

### NEWSLETTER

Carol Lombardi

### PUBLIC POLICY

Catherine Lewis

### TECH TREK

Stella Hadjimarkos  
Cordelia Hwang