

# THE VIEW FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 39, Number 9

May 2023

## May Celebration Event “Time After Time”

Celebrate our accomplishments!  
Welcome the 2023–2024 Board!  
Meet the 2023 Scholarship Recipients!  
Socialize with your AAUW friends!

Saturday, May 20

11:30 AM–1:30 PM

Amador Rancho Community Center  
Russell Room

Cost is \$35 ; includes lunch and beverages

Look for the Evite!

RSVP with your meal choice and payment by May 12

See page 4 and our flyer, page 11, for more 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.

## MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Margo James	3	4 May the Fourth Be With You 	5 	6 7:00 PM Game Night Lucy Weed 828-2203
7 2:00– 4:00 PM Cookies & Careers Michelle Ritenour (See page 6)	8 1:00 PM Daytime Readers Margo James ----- 7:00 PM Board Meeting via Zoom	9	10	11	12	13 9:00 AM Local Walking Group Lois Kamoroff
14 	15 7:00 PM Night Book Group Cheri Ng	16 7:00 PM Bridge Host: Fran Bartholomew	17	18	19	20 11:30 AM– 1:30 PM End-of-Year Celebration (see page 4)
21	22	23	24	25	26 Fourth Friday Flicks Chris White	27
28 29 Art & Wind Festival Ice Cream Sale 		30	31			

### 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.

Mercedes Daggett would appreciate short visits or phone calls and cheerful notes. Also, her birthday is May 4. Her contact information is in our directory.

Congratulations to Nancye Harder and Beth Robertson on their recent retirements!

### Save the Dates

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

## Co-President's Pen



### "May the Fourth Be With You"

So goes the official greeting for May 4<sup>th</sup>, Star Wars Day. Are you among the millions of fans of the worldwide phenomena that is the *Star Wars* franchise? I'm a medium-level fan. I've seen all the movies and my favorite character is Yoda (His quote "Do or do not. There is no try." was popular among my work-time colleagues).

The May Fourth greeting originates from the words of wise Jedi Ben Kenobi to the young Luke Skywalker in the first *Star Wars* film, *Episode IV: A New Hope*, which opened in May 1977. According to the Star Wars website, the force is "a mysterious energy field created by life that binds the galaxy together." On the surface, Obi-wan Kenobi is inviting Luke to employ the force's supernatural power, but at a deeper level he is also guiding Luke to recognize the force of friendship and teamwork—an intrinsic Star Wars theme.

It's true! When we work together, we can do much bigger things. Groups are forces of power and energy that not only bind us together but also help us work more effectively on complex tasks, make better decisions, [experience more happiness, and live longer](#).

**LET'S JOIN FORCES on May 20th to celebrate what we, as a group, have accomplished together.** (Please see your invitation on page 11.) As talented each of us is as an individual, we could never deliver the awesome Tech Trek venture, manage the admirable Local Scholarships, produce fantastic Programs, run fun Interest Groups, fuel the life-altering National Fund scholarships and research, or smoothly operate our Branch. As a popular meme says, "One woman can make a difference, but together we can rock the world."

## YOUR ACTIONS: Plant Seeds for Next Year's Successful Harvest

Spring is also a time when we plant the seeds for future harvests, and these actions set the stage for a fantastic 2023–2024 year. Please review these opportunities for your voice and your service:

- **Branch Resources:** Please sign up to work at the Art and Wind Festival (*see page 4*). This fundraiser is the only vehicle, other than branch dues, to support our operations and programs.
- **National Leadership and Public Policies Agenda:** Please vote for the new Board of Directors, Bylaws Revisions, and Public Policy Additions in the [AAUW National Election](#). Voting begins on April 4 and ends on May 15 at 2:00 PM PST.
- **California Public Policies:** Please vote in the [AAUW California Election](#). Voting began on April 22 and ends on May 13 at midnight PST. Members should receive an email notice. Be sure to check out the proposed Public Policy Priorities [HERE](#) and get ready to vote!
- **Branch Service:** During the business meeting at the Spring Fund Tea, we elected next year's officers (*see the slate below*). Many thanks to all who signed up to serve.

Kathleen Schaub  
Co-President with Janice Colby

### Slate of Officers for 2023–2024 San Ramon AAUW

President	Kathleen Schaub
President-Elect	Vacant
Co-VPs Program	Cindy Alpert Karen Rice
Co-VPs Membership	Harvalee Grimm Betsy Hoffman Margo James
VP-Fund	Vacant
Co-VPs Scholarship	Susan Walker-Christensen Loranne Weir
Co-VPs Finance	Claire Mailhiot Patty Nobles
Co-Recording Secretaries	Judy Bracken Nancy Vandell
Tech Trek	Cindy Alpert
Public Policy	Catherine Lewis
Newsletter	Carol Lombardi Isabel Lau
Communication	Isabel Lau
Art and Wind Festival	Janet Williams
Hospitality	Andrée Chagnon

## Program

### End-of-Year Celebration: “Time After Time”

**Saturday, May 20  
11:30 AM–1:30 PM  
Amador Rancho Community Center  
Russell Room  
1998 Rancho Park Loop, San Ramon**

**Lunch and Program for \$35.00  
RSVP and Payment Required by May 12**

Celebrate a year of accomplishments, fun, and scholarship on **Saturday, May 20** when we gather for our end-of-year reflections “Time After Time.” We will meet the high school scholarship recipients and learn of their aspirations and plans, we will hear about the many branch accomplishments during the past year, we’ll meet the 2023–2024 board members, and we will have time to socialize with our AAUW friends.

**WHERE:** Amador Rancho Community Center, Russell Room; 1998 Rancho Park Loop, San Ramon  
\*This is an in-person event, let’s hear it for some time together!

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 20; 11:30 AM–1:30 PM

**COST:** \$35.00 with boxed lunches from Domenico’s (including beverages). The choices are:

No. 1 Roasted Turkey Breast, Pesto Mayo, Lettuce and Tomatoes on Focaccia

\*includes Wild Rice and Cranberry Salad and A House Baked Chocolate Chip Cookie

No. 2 Roast Beef, Roasted Red Pepper Mayo, Lettuce, Tomatoes, and Pickles on Focaccia

\*includes Insalata Di Pasta Salad and A House Baked Chocolate Chip Cookie

No. 3 Avocado, Cream Cheese with Roasted Red Pepper, Mayo, Lettuce, Tomato, and Cucumbers on Focaccia

\*includes Fresh Fruit Salad and A House Baked Chocolate Chip Cookie

**Please pay by Friday, May 12 to confirm  
your attendance and food preference**

➔ See our flyer on page 11 ➔

**Drawing for Local Scholarship:** A special drawing benefiting Local Scholarship is planned. For \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20, you have a chance to win a bag of assorted items donated by Trader Joe’s in San Ramon. So please bring cash or a check with you to be part of the crew of supporters and take your chance(s) to win this fantastic bag of goodies!

**RSVP: Watch for the Evite, which arrived in late April. DO RSVP so we get an accurate count and your meal order.**

We look forward to a fantastically fun year-end celebration!

Please do invite your friends and family and/or share socially—here is a [link](#) to our flyer—and watch our social media pages too!

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

### San Ramon AAUW Ice Cream Sale Fundraiser



**Sunday, May 28 and Monday, May 29**

Our branch FUNdraiser at the San Ramon Art & Wind Festival will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 28 and 29. 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

## Local Scholarship



### PLEASE SUPPORT THE LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP GIFT CARD EMAIL AUCTION FUNDRAISER ON MAY 8

This fun event is a win-win for both Local Scholarship and the winning bidder. Since all gift cards are donated and all winning bidders get something in exchange for their participation, everyone is a winner!

The winning bidders for April were Rebecca Said, Kathleen Schaub, Julie Gin, and Loranne Weir.

Many thanks to our local businesses for their generous gift card donations:

- Chamois Car Wash in Danville
- San Ramon Habit Burger
- Safeway
- Costco

Just like that, Local Scholarship raised \$308 during this fundraiser! Many thanks to those who participated and our winning bidders.

Items planned for the May 8 email auction are

- **MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL** 🌸: A \$75 Ma Jolie salon/spa gift card
- \$48 in Habit Charburger cards
- \$25 Ultimate Eats gift card

Watch for an email blast a few days before the event highlighting all gift cards available and the auction rules. All winning bidders will be contacted by Loranne Weir of Local Scholarship. In case of a tie, you will be given an opportunity to increase your bid, otherwise the winner will be determined by random drawing.

### SPECIAL DRAWING AT MAY 20 END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION

**At San Ramon AAUW, we love our drawings!**

At the End-of-Year Celebration—for \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20—members have a chance to win a bag of assorted items donated by Trader Joe's of San Ramon. So please bring cash or a check to participate in the fun! Thank you!

## SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES

### High School Scholarships

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

Two of these students attend California High School, and one is a student at Dougherty Valley. We have chosen all three to receive our \$1,000 scholarships. They will be invited to our End of Year Celebration on May 20 when, hopefully, you will have a chance to meet them. Watch for more details about these three students in the next newsletter.

### Renaissance Scholars

One of our current scholarship recipients, Michelle May, reports that she has a new job as a Senior Care Coordinator for City Serve Tri Valley in Pleasanton. This is consistent with her academic area of focus of Human Development/Gerontology. In addition, Michelle and her two daughters have moved to a house in Concord. We wish Michelle well!

We received and reviewed four applications from the CSUEB Renaissance Scholars program. We have raised the funds to support all four! They have demonstrated significant determination, resilience, and motivation to achieve their academic and personal goals. They will be honored at our September event, more details about these deserving young women will be in a future newsletter.

Thank you to all members who have made direct donations to Local Scholarship and/or have supported our fundraisers. Your continued support and generosity have a direct and positive impact on the lives of all our scholarship recipients, both at the local high schools and the CSUEB Renaissance Scholars.

*Continued next page*





## Local Scholarship, cont'd

### HABIT BURGER FUNDRAISER UPDATE

**Thank you** to our AAUW members, family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers who participated in the Habit Burger Grill Fundraiser for Local Scholarship on Wednesday, March 22. We are very pleased with the support from everyone! We will receive a check for **\$142.21**, which was 20 percent of the sales for the day.

We are very close to reaching our goal of \$10,000. If you'd like to support Local Scholarship, it's not too late. The more money we raise, the more scholarships we can give. You can send a check to AAUW San Ramon and write "Local Scholarship" on the memo line.

If you'd like a tax deduction, address the check to AAUW CA SPF. On the memo line, write "Local Scholarship-San Ramon." Checks can be mailed to our treasurer, Claire Mailhiot, at PO Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583.

Thank you for your support of Local Scholarship!

Loranne Weir, Julie Gin, and Susan Walker-Christensen  
Co-VPs AAUW-San Ramon Local Scholarship

### NEW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP! COOKIES & CAREERS

We are excited to introduce "Cookies and Careers," a new program geared toward connecting young girls and their moms with women in different careers. Our first meeting will be on Sunday, May 7, 2:00–4:00 PM. The theme is "Transitioning from Elementary to Middle School." The guest speakers include current Tech Trekkers as well as fellow member Sandy Budde, who will attend in the capacity of a retired middle school principal. This will be an opportunity for incoming 6<sup>th</sup>-grade girls and their moms to learn all about going to middle school next year. We have some great ideas for future speakers and look forward to sharing AAUW with more women in the community!

Wondering how you can get involved? We'll need help with cookies and light beverages, host homes, speakers, **AND** sharing all we do as members of AAUW San Ramon. Please, come join the fun! Contact Michelle Ritenour for more information:

Michelle Wong Ritenour  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

### In Memoriam



**Beverly Kleyn  
1927–2023**

Beverly Kleyn, longtime AAUW member, passed peacefully on March 22 in San Ramon, just one day short of turning 96 years old. She was the mother of 4 children, grandmother of 8, and great-grandmother of 16. A proponent of higher education, Beverly met her husband while a student at college. She earned her master's degree and teaching credential while raising her family. All 4 children and 8 grandchildren have college degrees; some have graduate degrees. Beverly enjoyed AAUW, especially the book club.



**May 28 and 29**

## Tech Trek



*"I was very excited when I learned that my Math teacher had nominated me for a chance to participate in a renowned and fun program like Tech Trek, and believe it will be an unforgettable experience for me. From a young age, I have always loved Science and Math. I still remember the joy I experienced learning the periodic table song in second grade with my older sister, though now I am beginning to understand it much better. I continue my passion towards STEM by participating in math olympiads and math kangaroo, or paying keen attention during the squid dissection, or watching programs like "Eons" by PBS. I have also discovered my love for coding, learning different languages like Python, html and Javascript.*

*I hope to continue my interest in the field of STEM, not just learning individual aspects, but combining them to maximize outcomes like using Math with Chemistry, or Technology with Biology. Tech Trek has so many opportunities, like fun science experiments, environmental projects, coding workshops, drone flying activities, and learning life skills through math. In Tech Trek, I hope to interact with like-minded peers and collaborate with them in fun experiments and group projects and make lasting friendships. I look forward to meeting inspirational women leaders and experts in the STEM field, understanding their journey and experiences, and learning from them. Given the broad horizon of the Tech Trek program, I want to be a part of this memorable experience and enrich my knowledge in STEM."*

This is an example of the caliber of the 14 applicants for camp. The branch's Tech Trek committee selected 8 young women to be sponsored for the 2023 AAUW STEM Camps this summer and 3 young women as alternates (one of the alternates declined to be wait-listed). Here's a list of the sponsorship winners and alternates, which include students of all four San Ramon middle schools:

Ami Ajgaonkar, Nandita Bhat, Manasvi Dasari, Aubrey Fast, Isabelle Griffin, Annabelle Lee, Raya Lin, Adhya Mahesh, Saanvi Mallajosyula, Esha Rai

The selected number of campers is in agreement with the branch's MOU (Memorandum Of Understanding) with State AAUW. The \$7,500 funding for these sponsorships is already in the branch's Sonoma Camp account (along with a similar carryover balance).

The rapid, efficient selection process was enabled by the Readers Team consisting of Kathy Senti, Purvi Rawal, Becky Said and Arila Barnes (led by Stella Hadjimarkos) and the Interview Team consisting of Sindhura Putumbaka, Nancy Vandell, and Lucy Weed (led by Karen Rice).

We are extremely grateful to have such a hard-working, dedicated, insightful, and wise group for this complex selection process. It has been a wonderful and exciting Tech Trek selection process, and we look forward to hearing from our campers in September.

## Can You Help?

### Class Monitors Needed

Looking for a brief summer camp experience and a chance to interact with amazing Tech Trek campers? The residential camp at Sonoma State University needs AAUW adult volunteers, called "class monitors," to help maintain the needed 1:10 adult/student ratio at classes, workshops, field trips, etc. Experience Tech Trek camp firsthand. Please contact Diane Coventry, Sonoma camp director, at [coventrydiane638@gmail.com](mailto:coventrydiane638@gmail.com) or Cordelia Hwang if you're interested.

### Coaches Needed

The virtual camp is asking for both Tech Trek Alumnae and adult AAUW members to volunteer as coaches (social, build, and workshop). Training is provided. More information about the virtual camp positions and how to apply can be found at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2023/02/tech-trek-potential-staff-invitation-with-link-to-instructions.docx/>

Stella Hadjimarkos and Cordelia Hwang,  
Tech Trek Co-Coordiators

## Get a Yellow Postcard?

AAUW National is conducting a data verification project with a partner, PCI. Each member should get an email and postcard—both of which are legitimate.

Please read them and check out the FAQs on the National website to learn more.

## Membership



### Membership Matters

Spring has sprung! After what seemed like an extra-long winter, it's great to be outside again, taking in the lovely views, and sharing good times with family and friends. We look forward to greeting our AAUW San Ramon community at the April and May Program events.

### Membership Renewal 2023–2024: Ready! Set!.....WAIT!

**Ready** yourself to renew your membership dues sometime after the month of May.

**Set** your password and open your online account at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org). Select Membership then Community Hub.

**Wait** for an email from your board with instructions about how to renew online or by check.

Contact Harvalee Grimm if you need assistance opening your online account.

### Corresponding Secretary

Please let Margo James know when our branch can lend support to members during the many changes of life. Cards of congratulations, condolence, encouragement, etc. will be sent on behalf of our branch.

Harvalee Grimm, Margo James, and Betsy Hoffmann  
Co-VPs Membership



### Walking Group



On a beautiful Saturday morning, six of us had a lovely walk twice around Annabel Lake in San Ramon. Chris Burchik, Andrée Chagnon, Susan Walker-Christiansen, Harvalee Grimm, Lois Kamoroff, and Lorraine Weir had wonderful conversations during their walk .

We look forward to YOU joining our future outings!

Lois Kamoroff and Andrée Chagnon  
Co-Leaders, Local Walking Group

### Thank You to This Issue's Volunteer Editors and Proofreaders!

Judy Bracken  
Lucy Weed  
Chris White

### Happy May Birthdays

Frances Bartholomew  
Mercedes Daggett  
Kathleen Schaub  
Christine White  
Cynthia Alpert  
Susan Volsky  
Heather Taapken  
Claire Mailhot



## Interest Groups

### LUNCH BUNCH

#### First Tuesday

Tuesday, May 2; 11:30 PM

Since it's almost Cinco de Mayo, we will go to Dos Coyotes Border Cafe to enjoy some Mexican food and atmosphere. As always, we will get separate checks. Dos Coyotes is at 3191 Crow Canyon Place, Suite L, San Ramon (next to Sprouts). Hasta la vista!  
To join the e-mail reminder list, contact:  
Margo James

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### GAME NIGHT

#### First Saturday

Saturday, May 6; 7:00 PM

We'll meet at the home of Diane Griffiths. Kindly RSVP to Diane.  
Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

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### "NEW" COOKIES & CAREERS

First meeting: Sunday, May 7; 2:00–4:00 PM

In person

See introductory article on page 6.

Contact: Michelle Wong Ritenour for more information:

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### DAYTIME READERS

#### Second Monday

Monday, May 8; 1:00–3:00 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

We are reading *Violeta* by Isabel Allende. Chris White will lead the discussion.

If you have questions or wish to be put on the e-mail list to receive a Zoom invitation, please contact

Margo James

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## Interest Groups

### LOCAL WALKING GROUP

#### Second Saturday

Saturday, May 13; 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:

Andrée Chagnon

Lois Kamoroff

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### THE NIGHT BOOK GROUP

#### Third Monday

Via Zoom videoconference

Monday, May 15; 7:00 PM

Chris Burchik will review *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles.

Questions? Contact Cheri Ng

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### TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

#### Third Tuesday

Tuesday, May 16; 7:00–10:00 PM or so, Virtual and/or in person

Host: Fran Bartholomew

We will play bridge via Zoom/teleconference and BridgeBase and/or in person.

Please RSVP to Chris White and let her know:

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

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### FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

Friday, May 26; 7:30 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

Organizer: TBA

Film/Series: TBA

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

We desperately need volunteers to pick a film for 5/26, 6/23, 7/28.

Please Volunteer!!

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 Mailhiot  
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

# AAUW San Ramon invites you to “Time After Time”

Celebrate our accomplishments, welcome the 2023–2024 Board, meet the 2023 Scholarship recipients, and socialize with your AAUW friends at our end-of-year celebration lunch!

**Saturday, May 20**

**11:30 AM–1:30 PM**

**Amador Rancho Community Center  
Russell Room  
1998 Rancho Park Loop Road, San Ramon, CA**

**Cost is \$35 and includes lunch, dessert and beverage  
Reservations and advance payment required.**

Members, please RSVP via the Evite emailed to you.  
Nonmembers interested in attending, please email us at [aauwsr@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsr@gmail.com)  
And/or send your payment and include your lunch choice

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your lunch choice below and send **\$35 payment** made payable to **AAUW San Ramon** to: AAUW San Ramon, PO Box 336, San Ramon CA 94583

**Credit card payments:** Click here: <https://bit.ly/3KOLM1t>

- ☐ Roasted Turkey Breast Sandwich with Wild Rice & Cranberry Salad
- ☐ Roast Beef Sandwich with Insalata Di Pasta Salad
- ☐ Avocado, Cream Cheese, Cucumber Sandwich with Fresh Fruit Salad