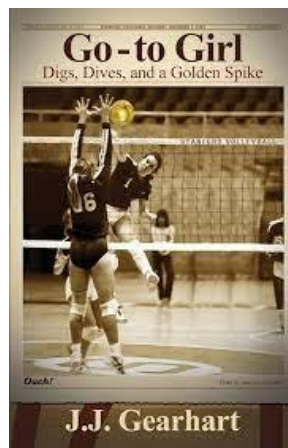


THE VIEW FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 41, Number 7

March 2025

San Ramon's Own "Go-to Girl"



Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen Speaks on the Impact and Evolution of Title IX

**March 20
6:30 PM–7:30 PM**

**San Ramon Community Center
Terrace Room
12501 Alcosta Blvd.
Doors Open at 6:00 PM**

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.

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:00 PM Game Night Lucy Weed
2	3	4 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Margo James 	5	6	7	8 9:00 AM Local Walking Group Lois Kamoroff 925 786-5215
9 	10 1:00 PM Daytime Readers Margo James 6:30 PM Board Meeting via Zoom	11	12	13	14	15 1:00 PM Bocce Kathy Senti
16	17 7:00 PM Night Book Group Cheri Ng  Habit Burger Fundraiser	18 7:00 PM Bridge Chris White 6:00 PM SRVUSD School Board Meeting Habit Burger Fundraiser	19 1:00 PM Women in History Margo James	20 6:30 PM Program: Jenyth Gearhart- Utchen <i>See page 4</i> First day of Spring	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Fourth Friday Flicks Chris White	29
30	31 Cesar Chavez Day					

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.

Save the Dates

Thursday, April 17 Innovator Talk, Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd.
 Saturday, May 3 Year-end Celebration, Russell Room, Amador Rancho Center
 Saturday, May 10 Shredding and E-waste Event, 2949 Morgan Drive, San Ramon

Watch for more information about our 2025 events in future newsletters.

Presidents' Pen

Let's Get Energized!



At our last board meeting, we discussed how we might bring in some new energy to our chapter through new ways to raise funds or host programs and fun events. We have so many wonderful programs we are supporting with our fundraising: Renaissance Scholars, Tech Trek, High School Scholarships and Fund. Additionally, we host programs and events to entertain, inform, and remind us of the important goals toward which AAUW works. Many of our members continue to work hard garnering funds and finding ideas to support these important projects.

In perusing the California AAUW website, I've come across a few novel and exciting ideas to consider:

Fundraising Ideas

- Mock High School Reunion with potluck dinner: a fun gathering where members are given a faux identity and act out high school scenarios
- A Mascot for San Ramon Pet contest: donations to enter a pet photo, donations to buy votes
- An Antiques Roadshow where items are valued for a fee

Program Ideas

- Show a film about women's reproductive rights
- Women Who Protect and Serve: speakers from the police and fire departments
- The Importance of Title IX and Action Steps to Preserve It (see page 4)
- Collect books with protagonists of color or LGBTQ to donate to school districts

What are your thoughts about these ideas? Please speak out and discuss with others or let a board member know what you think. Better yet, volunteer to assist or lead one of these ventures! Let's make March a month to march forward with energy and enthusiasm!

Judy Bracken, Co-President

SAVE THE DATE for Shredding/E-Media* Recycling Fundraiser

Saturday, May 10

10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Bollinger Hills Cabana Parking Lot

2949 Morgan Drive, San Ramon

Suggested Donation:

**\$15 per Banker's Box or Paper Grocery Bag
(Shredding)**

**\$20 per Banker's Box or Paper Grocery Bag
(E-Media)**



Our shredding event fundraiser is back and we are adding E-Media recycling!*

Thanks to Janice Colby, we are able to hold this useful event once again, so do use the months of February, March and April to clean out your files, cabinets and garages.

*E-Media is limited to: monitors, electric cables (cat 5), TVs under 50", remotes, VCRs, speakers, routers, radios/stereos, cameras, telephones (no cellphones), printers and items related to a computer (mouse keyboards, cables, etc.). SORRY, NO COMPUTERS, LAPTOPS, TABLETS, CELLPHONES, VHS TAPES, HARD DRIVES OR FLOPPIES/CDs. Please refer to the event flyer in future newsletters for more details.

Any questions, please contact Lorraine or Susan.

Happy AAUW Anniversaries!

Chris Burchik

40 years

Chris White

40 years

Program

San Ramon's Own "Go-To Girl"

**Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen:
A Title IX Pioneer
March 20
6:30 PM –7:30 PM**

**San Ramon Community Center
Terrace Room
12501 Alcosta Blvd.
Doors Open at 6:00 PM**

Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen is our San Ramon Poet Laureate, a published book author and playwright, public speaker, and a tenured adjunct writing studies professor at St. Mary's College!

Jenyth will share her experience as the first Stanford University female athletic scholarship recipient. As a Stanford student, Jenyth pursued a dream to play on the Womens' Olympic Volleyball team while working toward a medical degree.

Now fondly called "Professor G," she will share her experience as a Stanford athlete and how Title IX impacted her as a young woman.

With this firsthand experience, Jenyth will talk about what Title IX was originally intended to do and what it does now. She will go into the changes we are seeing with the current administration and what we should do to protect our rights and those of future generations.

Professor G is a multi-genre author. She has advanced creative writing degrees in fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry. During her 30-year teaching career, she has focused on teaching advanced composition to high school seniors and first-year college students. The evening should prove to be a spirited presentation of Title IX, a program that has served us for 53 years.

**Save the Date: April 17
Investing in Innovators
6:00 PM–8:00 PM
Danville Congregational Church
989 San Ramon Valley Blvd.**

Join us for a program we are holding jointly with the Danville/Alamo/Walnut Creek and Pleasanton/Dublin/Livermore branches as we hear from Adamaka Ajaelo,

Founding Executive Director of Self-eSTEM. Adamaka is one of the National Fund Grantees, and she will talk about her initiative to transform the lives of more than 1,600 young women.

Save the Date: May 3 Time to Celebrate!

Join all members at our year-end celebration! We will again enjoy an informal lunch in the Russell Room at the Amador Rancho Center. Details to follow!

We hope to see you at any and all of these events!

Janice Colby
VP Program

Tech Trek



A huge THANK YOU to our members and guests that enjoyed a tasty meal at Virtue + Vice. This was our first "fun"draiser at this restaurant and it looked like everyone enjoyed the virtuous food and tasty vices. Thanks to your generosity, **we raised \$1,597 for Tech Trek!**

Great service was provided by our fantastic servers: Cindy Alpert, Judy Bracken, Pam Bugbee, Cyn Coulouthros, Isabel Lau, Kathy Senti, and Karen Van Zino.

See photos on page 7

The amount raised here is a great start to funding the camperships. We appreciate your generosity and support for this great program.

We received 18 nominations from the four middle schools and will begin the selection process in March. Our goal is to send 6 girls to residential camp held at Sonoma State and 2 girls to virtual camp.

More information about Tech Trek can be found here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/tech-trek/>

Thank you in advance for all your support. Looking forward to a fantastic 2025!

Cindy Alpert & Kathy Senti
Co-Tech Trek Coordinators

Local Scholarship



Habit Burger Grill Fundraiser
Monday & Tuesday, March 17 & March 18
11:00 AM–9:00 PM
3121 Crow Canyon Place, Unit D

Please join us for a fundraiser supporting Local Scholarship at the Habit Burger Grill in San Ramon (near the corner of Crow Canyon Road and Camino Ramon). We are pleased to hold this fundraiser for two days.

Our branch will receive 20 percent of the net sales from this event. Present the attached flyer (on page 10) or show the offer on your smartphone to the cashier upon ordering.

Online Orders: Don't forget to enter the code **GIVE BACK** when placing your **online** order so our branch receives credit for your purchase. Do let the Habit staff cashier know if you placed an online, mobile, or phone order so they will know to credit our fundraiser. The Habit staff will collect receipts to keep track of our transactions.

You can help Local Scholarship by telling your friends, neighbors, colleagues, family, and organizations that you belong to about this exciting fundraiser.

Thank you in advance for your support. I plan to purchase lunch and dinner on Monday to support our fundraiser. I'll be there at 11:00 AM for lunch if anyone of you would like to join me for lunch. It's a good way to enjoy St. Patrick's day by dining out. Questions? Call Julie Gin.

Julie Gin, Local Scholarship Fundraiser Coordinator

High School Scholarship Update

The application for the Local Scholarship award has been posted on the AAUW San Ramon website and several social media platforms. Counseling and Career Staff have been contacted at California and Dougherty Valley High. Students can access the application directly through our website, and site staff may also choose to provide hard copies. The deadline for submission of the application is **March 28, 2025**.

Renaissance Scholars Update

In February, we had great meetings with our current scholarship recipients at Cal State University East Bay to give them their second \$750 check and to spend some time just checking in.

The application for the 2025 Scholarship award has been given to Renaissance Scholars Program Coordinator Roshawn Campbell, and the deadline for submission of the application is **March 14, 2025**.

Winter Gift Card Auction Results

The Winter Gift Card Auction results are in! We are so very grateful to all who generously participated, bidding face value and sometimes more. Because of you, we raised \$835! That means Local Scholarship raised \$1,220 in the 2024–2025 Gift Card Auctions—that's more than one scholarship award.

The following businesses generously donated gift cards, certificates, etc. to our cause. Please thank them for their support of AAUW next time you visit:

Bent Creek Winery (Livermore), Costco, Country Waffles, Danville Chocolates, Esin, Hazy Barbecue, Livermore Wine Trolley, Luna Loca, Macy's, Pacific Catch restaurant, Pressed Juicery in Danville, Safeway, Yersen Gelato Cakes

Loranne Weir and Susan Walker-Christensen
Co-VPs, Local Scholarship

Happy March Birthdays!

Cyn Coulouthros
Julie Gin
Renu Kulkarni
Catherine Lewis
Teresa Kalashian
Faye Isaacson
Linda Henika
Leslie Adams
Michelle Ritenour
Joy Perkins



March 20: First day of Spring

Membership



Membership Matters

New Member Spotlight



Cyn Coulouthros

It is a pleasure to introduce **Cyn Coulouthros**. In her eager pursuit to “meet people who care about community and want to build a welcoming place to live,” Cyn found our AAUW branch. Many of you may have met her at the presentation by Quest, at Virtue & Vice where she waited tables, and at Annabel Lake with our walking group.

Cyn was born in Atlanta, Georgia. During her youth, her parents eventually settled their family in California after living in several other states and the Caribbean Islands.

Cyn and her husband have lived in the Diablo Valley for over 20 years. They and their son live in San Ramon. Cyn is a graduate of UC San Diego, where she earned a BA degree in Studio Art. To enhance her skills, she later studied Architectural Design at UC Berkeley extension. Cyn has used those skills and others cultivated throughout her career to create and build her own business.

[YesPlease.Garden](#) combines her interests in marketing and business development with passions toward landscape design–related projects and environmental concerns.

One of Cyn’s favorite pastimes is her participation in the [Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour](#).

Happy Spring from your Membership Team
Harvalee & Margo

**Thank you to our eagle-eyed proofreaders,
Nancy Vandell and Lucy Weed**

Public Policy



Project 2025 Is Becoming Reality Take Action to Fight Back!

As Co-Directors Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko outlined in October 2024, <https://www.aauw-ca.org/project-2025-and-how-it-would-impact-aauw-public-policy-priorities/> the objectives of Project 2025 directly counter the Public Policy Priorities of AAUW California. With federal policy pronouncements and changes taking place at a head-spinning pace since January 20, 2025, it is clear that there is a concerted effort by a number of coalitions in the federal government to make Project 2025 become reality.

For example:

- The Executive Order declaring that there are “only two genders, male and female.”
- The Executive Order eliminating federal funds for schools that recognize transgender identities or teach about structural racism, white privilege, and unconscious bias.
- The Executive Order directing federal agencies to look for ways to expand access to private school vouchers.
- The Executive Order rescinding a dozen Biden-era executive actions supporting racial equity and combating discrimination against gay and transgender people.
- The Office of Management and Budget order freezing all federal financial assistance (since rescinded but with a standing order for agencies to restrict DEI programming and “woke gender ideology”).
- The Executive Order withdrawing the United States from the 2015 Paris agreement, which seeks to avoid the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

While this may seem overwhelming, note that individuals and coalitions are already pushing back in a number of ways, from direct refusal to comply, to spamming federal surveillance accounts, to direct legal challenges.

AAUW California is building out our own action-items database, which will go live for you this spring.

For more information and to learn how you can get involved, please go to this link:

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2025/02/public-policy-news-february-2025.pdf/>

Catherine Lewis, Public Policy

Dining for a Cause



Stalwart servers take notes. Missing: Isabel Lau, Karen Van Zino



Interest Groups

GAME NIGHT

First Saturday

Saturday, March 1; 7:00 PM

Game night will be at Linda Louie's home.
Please RSVP to Linda.

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed



LUNCH BUNCH

First Tuesday

Tuesday, March 4; 11:30 PM

We are going to the Hula Wok BBQ, 2441 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, San Ramon. Here is the menu: [Hula Wok BBQ menu](#)

To join the email reminder list, contact:
Margo James



LOCAL WALKING GROUP

Second Saturday

Saturday, March 8; 9:00 AM

We'll walk around Annabel 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

Lunch Bunch



At Gurkha Kitchen for lunch, 12 members enjoyed the delicious food and lively company!

Interest Groups

DAYTIME READERS

Second Monday

Monday, March 10; 1:00–3:00 PM

Via Zoom videoconference

This month we are reading *The Golden Gate: A Novel* by Amy Chua. Nancy Vandell will lead the discussion. If you have questions or wish to be put on the email list to receive a Zoom invitation, please contact Margo James



BOCCE

Third Saturday

Saturday, March 15; 1:00–3:00 PM

We'll play at the Senior Center on Alcosta Blvd. I hope you can come and meet a friendly, fun group of women. And remember, no prior experience is necessary! If you have any questions, please contact



THE NIGHT BOOK GROUP

Third Monday

Via Zoom videoconference

Monday, March 17; 7:00 PM

Karen Van Zino will review *The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle & Flying Club*, by Helen Simonson.

Questions? Contact Cheri Ng



TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

Third Tuesday

Tuesday, March 18; 7:00–9:00 PM or so

Virtual and/or in Person

Host: Sandy Budde

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

Kindly 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

Interest Groups

WOMEN IN HISTORY

Third Wednesday

Wednesday, March 19; 1:00 PM

Via Zoom teleconference

Diane Griffiths will lead a discussion about Katharine Graham: [Episode 257: Katharine Graham](#).
Margo James



FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

Friday, March 28; 7:30 PM, via Zoom

Discussion Leader: Fran Bartholomew

Watch: *6 Triple Eight* on Netflix

Please volunteer for one of these dates—

April 25, May 23—or it won't happen!

Contact Chris White



LET'S GO!

Saturday, March 29; 10:30 AM–12:30 PM

Author and historian Chris Enss: "Wayward Women of the American West" at the Blackhawk Museum

The lecture is free with your admission to the museum. Buy your tickets in advance: Adult \$20, Senior/Veteran \$15, (non-refundable). We need to arrive at 10:00 AM for best seating. If you would like to join us, let Chris White know. If you would like to join us for lunch after the lecture, let Chris White know:

Local Walking Group

It was a chilly morning but sunny after the beautiful fog lifted off the lake—revealing more ducks than we have seen before! It was a nice way to start the day.



Front row: Ashley, Beth, Harvalee, Linda, Andree;
Middle row: Cyn, Janet, Loranne, Claire; Back row:
Kathleen

2024–2025 Board

CO-PRESIDENTS

Cindy Alpert
Judy Bracken

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Kathleen Schaub

VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAM

Janet Colby

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, MEMBERSHIP

Harvalee Grimm
Betsy Hoffmann
Margo James

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, SCHOLARSHIP

Susan Walker-Christensen
Loranne Weir

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, FINANCE

Claire Mailhot
Archana Vashneya

CO-RECORDING SECRETARIES

Alice Miller
Nancy Vandell

OPEN POSITIONS

President Elect
Vice President, The Fund

AAUW San Ramon Information

Websites:

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

Webmasters: Isabel Lau, Beth Robertson

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 email address:

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

GOV TREK

Leela Gopal

HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP

Andrée Chagnon

NEWSLETTER

Isabel Lau
Carol Lombardi

PUBLIC POLICY

Catherine Lewis

TECH TREK

Cindy Alpert
Kathy Senti

**FEEL-GOOD
FOOD FOR
A CAUSE** 



**JOIN HABIT BURGER & GRILL IN SUPPORT OF
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

**MONDAY & TUESDAY, MARCH 17 & 18
11:00 AM-9:00 PM**

Enter code **GIVEBACK** when placing your order at the in-restaurant kiosk, the Habit Burger & Grill Mobile app, or habitburger.com.

Or, simply present this printed flyer or show this offer on your smart phone to the cashier upon ordering. Habit Burger & Grill will donate **20% OF NET SALES** from this event to benefit your organization.



3121 Crow Canyon Pl., #D
San Ramon, CA 94583



4685298

*For Habit Team Member only

Net sales do not include sales tax, gift card purchases, or tips. Orders placed on third party websites or apps are not eligible for this Fundraiser.