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# Alameda Branch News

*AAUW Alameda Branch celebrates our strengths  
and promotes education and equity for women and girls in our community.*

## DECEMBER 2017

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This is our annual Holiday Lunch. Musical entertainment will be provided by Adam Shulman, an Alameda jazz pianist who leads his own jazz groups as well as performing with internationally known jazz artists. His Trio was featured at a recent Live@ Library Concert at the Alameda Free Library. There will also be a special raffle. Join us for a festive time.

Saturday, December 2, 2017

11:30 am Social, 12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Adam Shulman, local jazz pianist

Cardinal Point

2431 Mariner Square Dr, Alameda

Menu choices are:

Ponzu glazed grilled wild king salmon with squash onigiri and spinach goma

Coq au Vin (chicken braised in red wine) with mushrooms  
and a warm potato and green bean salad

Creamy rotini pasta pesto with green peas, zucchini, broccoli  
and topped with cherry tomatoes and parmesan

Lunch includes a grilled persimmon, toasted pecan & blue cheese salad  
with red onions, arugula, and honey-cider vinaigrette,  
dessert, and coffee or tea.

There will be a cash bar.

Make check payable to AAUW-Alameda Branch for \$39 and mail to:  
Beth Sibley, 721 Harbor Rd., Alameda, CA 94502, easibley@hotmail.com,  
for receipt by Monday, November 27.

*Our Mission is advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.*

## President's Letter

What happened to the Fall? With the holidays just around the corner, we look back at our events these past months and at all our Branch has accomplished. Introduced by President Karas, our second Immigration Nation? Challenges for All Americans panel at the College of Alameda on November 8 was even better than our first event. Dr Laura Fantone, Immigration Historian; Sara MacPherson, Immigration Lawyer; Vanessa Cedeno, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Wilma Chan; Amos White, Alameda People Power; and Veronica Garcia, San Francisco Commission on Human Rights, gave valuable information on past and present immigration policies. Attendees included students, faculty, AAUW members, community members, the Mayor of Alameda Trish Herrera Spencer and guests from AAUW Marin, including Cherie Sorokin, Secretary of the AAUW National Board. They asked penetrating questions and the presenters brought new perspectives on complex issues. All told we had almost 100 people who attended one of the two events.

We are happy to collaborate with the College of Alameda to enrich the educational experience of their students and look forward to more programs in the Spring 2018.

AAUW Alameda Holiday Luncheon on December 2 is a chance for members, family and friends to enjoy a festive meal, musical entertainment and good cheer. Dress up, invite a guest and let's have fun! I hope to see a good turnout!

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season, safe travels to those who venture forth, and in these uncertain times, make sure to cherish your families and friends. A special thanks to all who make this Branch a great community of friendship.

And we should remember the communities affected by the wildfires as they struggle to recover. The holiday season can be particularly difficult. Five of the AAUW members of the Napa Valley Branch lost their homes and nine of the AAUW Santa Rosa Branch lost theirs. Here are two good websites to donate to –

[Our response and how you can help](#) for Napa Valley Community Disaster relief fund and <https://www.redwoodcu.org/northbayfirerelief> for the Santa Rosa Area.

For a comprehensive list of organizations to donate to see the Sacramento Bee: <http://www.sacbee.com/news/state/california/fires/article180136626.html>

For a more personal response, buy a gift card and bring it to our holiday luncheon. I will bring holiday cards we can sign and then send as a package to the Branch Presidents to distribute to their members who lost their homes.

Penny Washbourn President.



Panel members for the Immigration Nation? Presentation: Amos White, Vanessa Cedeno, Veronica Garcia, Penny Washbourn, Mayor Trish Spencer, Char Perlas, Sara MacPherson.

## Membership & Outreach

At the October luncheon meeting Carolee Ziegenhagen, Jill Keimach, Karen Miller, Catherine Bierwith, and Lily Llorens were guests and then joined our branch through National's "Shape the Future" and each saved \$24.50. All (5) new members gave me checks and their filled-out applications on the spot in order to receive that discount.

Since then, Jennifer Williams, Mari Clark, Shubha Fansa and Nan Rideout have joined our branch. Please welcome all these new members and let's hope this flow continues. Also, please encourage your friends and neighbors to join or at least get acquainted with our branch.

We had a follow-up "Immigration Nation?" panel at the College of Alameda on November 8th from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm, that was very informative. These events are good for our members, the Alameda community as a whole, and help to strengthen our relationship with the college.

Also at College of Alameda, in the Student Center (Building F), we will have, "STEM 2" on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm). We are also planning, "Financial Literacy for Women and Men". This will be for adults and students on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 (12:00 pm – 1:30 pm).  
Patti Heimburger

## General Business Meeting

Our next board meeting is Monday, December 4, at 7:00 pm in Conference Room 'C' at the Alameda Hospital. All are welcome.

## Tech Trek Report

First, the Tech Trek committee would like to thank those who made donations this fall: Kevis Brownson, Beth Sibley, Margo Waldron, Helaine Wesley, Paula Biwer, Dorothy Kerwin, Sue Fialer and Karen Guthrie, and anyone who made a cash donation at our September luncheon. We have also received donations in honor of Joy Pratt from Karen Kenney and Judy Sparks. Second, I would like to apologize personally for the delay in sending thank you letters to our donors. I will be sending those out by early December. (editor's note: you are forgiven)

For future donations, we were recently informed that as of November 1, 2017, checks in support of our Alameda Tech Trek branch need to be made out to **AAUW CA SPF. AAUW CA SPF (SPF stands for "special project fund") is a 501(c)3 and donations are tax deductible. The tax ID# is 68-0463071.** All donations will receive an acknowledgement letter from our Alameda Tech Trek branch and those \$250 or larger will also receive an acknowledgement letter from AAUW CA SPF.

## January Event

Date Change. Our previously announced presentation in January will be Wednesday 17th not Tuesday 16th at 4:30 pm -6:00 pm at the Alameda Chamber of Commerce, South Shore Shopping Center. "*LIVING WITH LESS: how to get rid of your stuff*" will be presented by Lis McKinley MA Professional Organizer who will help us with our New Year's resolutions to clean out, clear out, and downsize. Join us for wine and hors d'oeuvres, invite a friend. Your price of admission : bring an item for our Spring yard and book sale, or a non- perishable food for the Alameda Food Bank. RSVP [alameda-ca@aauw.net](mailto:alameda-ca@aauw.net) or call Penny Washbourn 510-748-7455.

## AAUW CA Tax Status

NEWS from AAUW CA: The vote to return AAUW CA to a public benefit corporation failed due to the fact that 26 members voted no. It needs to be unanimous, so if even one person of the total 11,907 members votes no, it will fail again. The significance of this is major, and costly. AAUW CA must be in compliance with AAUW National which is a public benefit corporation and qualifies under federal tax exemption 501(c)(3). This means that the assets are dedicated to charitable purposes exclusively. Our charitable donations, including those for Tech Trek, qualify for special tax status if the organization is a 501(c)(3).

AAUW CA will be running this vote again after Thanksgiving and if you received a ballot electronically before, you will do so again. Others will receive a card with phone in information. To be sure we all understand the meaning of this vote, please call or email me at 510-748-7455 or [pwashbou@hotmail.com](mailto:pwashbou@hotmail.com) before you vote. Questions can be directed to [governance@aauw-ca.org](mailto:governance@aauw-ca.org)



## Celebration!

Our AAUW member Honora Murphy was recently recognized by the City of Alameda with the Community Service Lifetime Achievement Award at a ceremony with Supervisor Wilma Chan, Mayor Trish Herrera Spencer, and Council member Jim Oddie. Congratulations Honora, your AAUW Alameda friends are so proud of all the ways in which you have benefitted our Community and our Branch!

## AAUW Scholarship Recipients

The Northern California AAUW Funds Luncheon was held on October 29 in Danville . It was attended by Dorothy Kerwin and Penny Washbourn. Six California Fellowship and Grant recipients made presentations about their research work and the contribution that the AAUW fellowship made to their work. From neuroscience studies on the gender differences in response to stress, to oenology and viticulture, studies on women in STEM, and research on the efficiency of building heating and cooling systems, these presentations were a wonderful way to see the impact that AAUW funds have on providing educational opportunities for women, both young and mid –career. Put this on your calendar next year! It was an inspiring afternoon.

We will be welcoming Elaini Present, a Career Development Grant recipient, at our February 10 luncheon. Elaini is working on her M.S. in Architecture and both Civil and Environmental Engineering at UC. Berkeley. We look forward to her presentation.

AAUW has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. It is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW is providing more than \$3.7 million in funding for fellowships and grants to 250 outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2017–18 academic year. Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Their intellect, dedication, imagination, and effort promise to forge new paths in scholarship, improve the quality of life for all, and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women worldwide.

## Upcoming Events

AAUW's College of Alameda Scholarship Fundraiser will be Sunday, April 22, 2018, from 3:00 pm -5:00 pm, location to be announced. The cost will be \$25 for wine and refreshments. Representatives will be invited from the College of Alameda. There will be a Special Raffle.

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS - AAUW ALAMEDA YARD SALE This will be Saturday, May 19, 2018, from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm at 3258 Liberty Avenue. Start saving items for the yard and book sale and putting them aside as you do your Spring clean out. (See above). Books, jewelry, plants, kitchen, small furniture, accessories, decorative items, toys, specialty clothing items, etc etc. We will be arranging pick up from your home the day before the event, so start collecting and stay tuned for further information. The Funds raised from this Yard Sale will go to our AAUW Alameda College of Alameda Scholarship Fund and from the Book Sale as a Branch contribution to the AAUW Funds (see article about scholarships)

## Volunteers NEEDED!

The Intergenerational Women's History Project with Girls Inc of the Island City is happening again.

Three of our members, Virginia Darrow , Betty Hatch, and Dorothy Kerwin are celebrating major AAUW milestones this year and we will honor them at our end of year May luncheon. We need three volunteers to work with three high school students who will be nominated by Girls Inc to interview one of our Golden Members and to write up the interview into a one page story, which we will publish.

What will be your role? To meet with the girls on Monday January 22 at 4:30 pm-6:00 pm at Girls Inc to go over the guidelines and time lines for the project. Meet individually with your girl to get to know her and go over the questions she would like to ask. Sample questions will be provided. Schedule an appointment with your AAUW member at her home at a time the student can make and transport the girl, stay at the interview and bring her home. The meeting should be no more than one hour. After the interview, which the girl will conduct, debrief and set a time for the first rough draft and then over the subsequent weeks be an editor and receive drafts by email. Many students now use Google docs which facilitates making revisions.

Benefits to you as a volunteer? Immense! You are helping a young woman become more confident in her interviewing and writing skills and helping her to learn about women's personal histories from the past. You will also get to know our AAUW member in an in depth manner. How infrequently we really get to hear each others' stories!

Email me at [pwashbou@hotmail.com](mailto:pwashbou@hotmail.com) or call me at 510-748-7455 if you are interested.

## BRANCH ACTIVITIES

### AFTERNOON BOOKS

Kate Quick  
523-3612

### EVENING BOOKS

Cindy Silva  
523-4677

### CINEMA CLUB

Kevis Brownson

### BRIDGE

Joyce Denyven  
523-6341

### ETHNIC DINNER GROUP

Mark Hamilton  
749-0738

### MUSEUM GROUP

Judy Sparks  
523-6736  
Marlis White  
522-8383

### TECHNOLOGY USERS GROUP

Penny Washbourn  
748-7455

### Ethnic Dining Group

This Group meets once a month, usually on the third Saturday evening. If you like good food and good company, join us.  
For more information, call Mark Hamilton at 510 749-0738.

### Museum Group

Too late for press.  
Call Judy Sparks, 523-6736 or Marlis White, 522-8383 for more information.

### Evening Books

No meeting in December. For more information, call Karen Scanlon, 523-6456.

### Afternoon Books

We'll meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday, December 18, to discuss books we are currently reading. Call Kate Quick, 523-3612, for location and more information.

### Cinema Club

We are a lively group of movie lovers who visit the Alameda Theatre on the first Sunday of every month, October through June, to see a current movie, usually an afternoon matinee. Spouses are welcome to attend. Afterwards, we walk over to Tucker's for refreshments and conversation.

How it works: please send an email to kevis.brownson at gmail.com to join the group, and then you will get an email to vote on the movie on the Friday before the event. We post the event on Facebook and the Alameda Branch Web site as well.

### Bridge Group

If you are interested in bridge, particularly in being a substitute, contact Joyce Denyven at 523-6341. The current bridge group meets at different times depending on the needs of the group.

### Tech Users Group

No meeting in December, we'll pick up again in January.



Alameda Branch  
 P.O. Box 2932  
 Alameda, CA 94501  
 Change Service Requested

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women, offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendship. AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. Membership is open to all graduates who hold associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degrees from an accredited college or university, and college/university students.

Branch Activities	DECEMBER						2017
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2 11:30 am Luncheon	
3	4 7 pm Business Meeting	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13 Happy Hanukkah	14	15	16	
17	18 1:30 pm Afternoon Books	19	20	21	22	23	
24 / 31	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28	29	30	