



ALAMEDA BRANCH  
2016-2017 BOARD  
alameda-ca.aauw.net

PRESIDENT

Penny Washbourn

PRESIDENT-ELECT

*Open*

AAUW FUNDS VP

Inge Grethe

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND VP

Sally Faulhaber

MEMBERSHIP VP

Patti Heimbürger

Joy Pratt

PROGRAM VP

Dorothy Kerwin

Mary Ann Rose

SECRETARY

Earleen Hamlin

FINANCE OFFICER

Cindy Silva

HISTORIAN

*Open*

HOSPITALITY

Judy Sparks

Barbara Ihling

NEWSLETTER

Dorothy Kerwin

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Patti Heimbürger

PUBLIC POLICY

Donna Vaughn

PUBLICITY

Elizabeth McGaffey

SUNSHINE

Cindy Silva

TECH TREK CO-ORDINATOR

Adele Aced

Inge Grethe

Judy Ireland

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE

RELATIONS

Patti Heimbürger

# Alameda Branch News

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

MAY 2017

A publication of AAUW Alameda Branch, chartered 1962

Vol. 54, Issue 9

## Volunteers of the Year Recognition and 2017 –2018 Board Installation

After being elected in April, it is time for our new board to be installed. Any organization is only as successful as its members – we are fortunate to have exceptional individuals willing to take on hours of volunteer work to make sure our branch functions smoothly. Join us in saying thank you to those who served and in welcoming those new to the board for next year.

We will also recognize four members as Volunteers of the Year.

This event is a brunch, note the social time starts at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 13, 2018 Meeting  
10:00 a.m. Social, 10:30 a.m. Brunch  
Community Center of Harbor Bay Isle  
3195 Mecartney Rd

This will be a breakfast buffet.

Vegetable Frittata, quiche, O'Brien potatoes, chicken link sausage,  
assorted bagels and pastries, fresh fruit salad  
Coffee and Tea

Make the check out to AAUW-Alameda Branch for \$30 and mail to: Mary Ann Rose,  
933 Shoreline Dr, #306, Alameda, CA 94501, marose94501@gmail.com  
for receipt by Tuesday, May 9

*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

Looking forward to our Brunch meeting on May 13, 2017, we not only have the opportunity to install the new Board members who were voted into office at our April meeting, but it is an opportunity to thank the outgoing Board members as well as the interest group leaders and committee members who have done such an excellent job this past year. A special thanks goes to Inge Grethe for stepping in to fill the Website Coordinator position in January, to Sally Faulhaber for LAF, for Dorothy Kerwin and Mary Ann Rose for Program VPs, to Earleen Hamlin for her long service as Secretary, and to Donna Vaughn for Public Policy. A special thanks also goes to Joy Pratt for assisting with AAUW Fund this year.

We thank all the continuing Board members Patti Heimbürger, Joy Pratt, Dorothy Kerwin, Cindy Silva, Elizabeth McGaffey, Judy Sparks and Barbara Ihling, Adele Aced, Judy Ireland and Linda Preminger for your service this past year and willingness to serve another term to support our Branch.

Recognition is also due to our interest group leaders Kate Quick and Cindy Silva for our book groups, Vicki Cuadra and Lynn Groh for our bridge groups, Judy Sparks and Marlis White for our Museum group, to Kevis Brownson for the Cinema Club, Dorothy Kerwin for Great Decisions, Mark Hamilton for his Ethnic Dining group, for his Facebook postings and overall support of branch events, and to our newest interest group leader Amy Rose for the Technology Users group. We had a lot of fun and learned a lot!

Committees have been very active this past year along with individual members who worked on Special Events. Our Tech Trek Committee, Adele Aced, Linda Preminger, Judy Ireland, Kevis Brownson, Patti Heimbürger, Barbara Krummel, Rose Anne White and Amy Rose have not only recruited and selected the 5 girls who will be attending the Sonoma State Tech Trek Camp in June, but they conducted a highly successful Silent Auction in December and participated in the East Bay Community Foundation's EAST BAY GIVES one day online Fundraiser on MAY 4 and got our program on social media.

The Membership and Outreach Committee led by Patti Heimbürger and Joy Pratt with Honora Murphy, Dorie Behrstock, Beth Sibley and Barbara Krummel has had a busy year, both enrolling and welcoming new members, planning our major outreach events, providing coordination and registration support and spreading the word about AAUW. Our Communications Committee Kevis Brownson, Keri Clark, Elizabeth McGaffey, Dorothy Kerwin and Donna Vaughn, have made great strides in updating our website and making it easier for prospective members to learn about us. We also added a Facebook page and Twitter account to help our social media presence.

A special thanks goes to two of our new members Linda Pon for initiating and coordinating our "How to talk with your kids about Sexual Harassment" at Wood Middle School in February, and to Char Perlas for planning, coordinating with the College of Alameda our highly successful "Enhancing Opportunities for Women in STEM event" that was attended by over 100 people.

In March Kevis Brownson planned and marketed our newest event the Alameda Author Series at Cardinal Point, which we hope will become an annual tradition. Patti Heimbürger planned our annual fundraising event for our College of Alameda scholarships. Thanks also to Earleen Hamlin for hosting the event.

## Membership & Outreach

"Enhancing Opportunities for Women in STEM" panel and networking event at the College Of Alameda was a success! For all of you who could not make it, you would be amazed as to how much was covered and how well it was attended.

The next local author book talks at Cardinal Point is on April 19<sup>th</sup>, and then May 17<sup>th</sup> all at 7:00. I know that each one will be helpful to all.

The College of Alameda scholarship fundraiser on April 22nd (Sat.) 3:00 - 5:00 at Earleen Hamlin's house and this will be the only fundraiser for the year. Please donate to this worthy cause. Tim Karas, President of the College of Alameda and Leslie Reiman, College of Alameda Biology department, and one of our current scholarship awardees, Fudhah M Al Khafaj, Biology Science - AS with a 4.0 GPA will be our guest speakers. Of course you can donate if you cannot attend the fundraiser and please mail your checks to me. I will give all the checks to Peralta Colleges Foundation to make sure they go into our account.

The Immigration panel (Wednesday), September 27 from 6:30-8:00 pm will be held at the Library. This will be cosponsored by the FAL and the League that is in the planning stage. Patti Heimbürger & Joy Pratt Co-Chair Membership

## General Business Meeting

Our next board meeting is Monday, May 1 at 7:00 pm in Conference Room 'C' at the Alameda Hospital. All are welcome.

## Tech Trek Report

After interviewing 10 candidates and some difficult decision making, the Tech Trek Committee has selected 5 campers for the 2017 STEM Program at Sonoma State. This year's lucky students are from ACLC, NEA, Lincoln Middle School and for the first-time, Alameda Academy.

## Tech Trek Fundraising

Up next, our participation in the East Bay Gives On-Line Community Fundraising event.

\*\*\*\*Your Tech Trek donation couldn't be easier \*\*\*\*

1. Go to the East Bay Gives web site at [eastbaygives.org](http://eastbaygives.org) on Thursday, May 4, 2017
2. Then type **AAUW Alameda Branch Tech Trek Project** or under "education" in the categories button, then press the donate button, to find Tech Trek on the first page
3. Use your credit card to donate as little as \$20 or as much as you like.

**\*\*\*\*Please help us make this event a huge success\*\*\*\***



On Thursday, May 4, 2017, **East Bay Gives** aims to mobilize more than 15,000 people to give \$5 million to support hundreds of nonprofits. Nonprofit organizations in the Bay Area will benefit from this day of giving, including nonprofits focusing on arts and culture, education, and the environment.

Since 2009, **AAUW Alameda** has sent dozens of Alameda middle school girls to Tech Trek at Sonoma State University. Tech Trek is a week-long residential summer camp designed to give girls hands-on experience in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, learn about potential STEM careers, and connect with women role models. **Donate to AAUW Alameda Branch Tech Trek Project on May 4, 2017 to help girls sustain and continue their interests in STEM.**

Visit [www.eastbaygives.org/AAUWAlamedaBranchTechTrekProject](http://www.eastbaygives.org/AAUWAlamedaBranchTechTrekProject) on May 4th to Donate!



## Volunteer of the Year Recognition Awards

Awards will be presented to Earleen Hamlin, Char Perlas, Linda Pon, and Cindy Silva at our May meeting. We appreciate our volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.

## Member Invitation

Member invitation: Saturday, July 8, 2017, 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. There will be a Strategic Planning Meeting at Dorothy Kerwin's house 2918 Lincoln Ave, Alameda CA 94501 510-759-9159.

Want to participate in shaping the future direction of the Branch? Have some good ideas for new programs or fund raising or interest groups? Now is the time to come and join outgoing and incoming Boards as we assess where we have been and where we want to go and how to get there. NEW members are especially welcome. Sandwich lunch. Mary Anne Rose will have details in June at marose94501@gmail.com or 510-217-8664

## Member Survey Planned

Your feedback on our programs is most important as a foundation for our planning for next year! When the Survey Monkey comes via email, or if you receive it in hard copy, please take a moment to fill it out and send back. It will be short. Whether you are a long-standing or new member, we want to be sure we hear from you. Thank you.

## Book Talks

Our last book talk will be at 7:00 pm Wednesday, May 17 at Cardinal Point.

The book is The Hour of Daydreams by Renee Macalino Rutledge

"In this contemporary reimagining of a Filipino folktale, Manolo Lualhati, a respected doctor in the Philippine countryside, believes his wife hides a secret. Prior to their marriage, he spied her wearing wings and flying to the stars each evening. As Tala tries to keep her dangerous past from her new husband, Manolo begins questioning the gaps in her stories, and his suspicions push him even further from the truth."

Free and open to the public! Please make a reservation using the Eventbrite

## Election Results – 2017 / 2018 Board

Thanks to all for your willingness to serve. Join us on May 13 for the installation of the new board.

President	Penny Washbourn
President Elect	Open
Vice-President Membership	Patti Heimberger
Vice-President Program	Beth Sibley / Joy Pratt
Vice-President AAUW Funds	Karen Scanlon
Vice-President LAF	Pat McClaren
Finance Officer	Cindy Silva / Barbara Krummel
Secretary	Karen Guthrie

## 2017-2018 Appointed officers Alameda Branch

Hospitality: Judy Sparks and Barbara Ihling; Newsletter/ Directory : Dorothy Kerwin; Parliamentarian: Patti Heimburger;

Public Policy: Mary Oppendahl , Publicity: Elizabeth McGaffey; Sunshine: Cindy Silva; Tech Trek Coordinator: TBA

Website Coordinator : Kaitlin O'Donnell; University / College Relations: Patti Heimburger; Bylaws: open.

## Website gets a new look

A special thanks to Joy Pratt and Barry Benioff from Mastick who took a special picture for our website of the Park Street Bridge. Now we need a short tag line to go with this image that describes what we do as AAUW for women and girls. Anyone with a way with words, send an email! Take a look. pwashbou@hotmail.com

## BRANCH ACTIVITIES

### AFTERNOON BOOKS

Kate Quick  
523-3612

### EVENING BOOKS

Cindy Silva  
523-4677

### TUES AFTERNOON BRIDGE

Vicki Cuadra  
523-5789

### CINEMA CLUB

Kevis Brownson

### COUPLES BRIDGE

Lynn Groh  
522-2473

### ETHNIC DINNER GROUP

Mark Hamilton  
749-0738

### MUSEUM GROUP

Judy Sparks  
523-6736  
Marlis White  
522-8383

### TECHNOLOGY USERS GROUP

Amy Rose  
916 337-1259

## Ethnic Dining Group

This group meets on the third Saturday, May 20. If you like good food and good company, join us. For more information call Mark Hamilton, 749-0738.

## Museum Group

Our May 18, 2017 trip will be a visit to **TAO House** in the green hills of Danville, Eugene and Carlotta O'Neill's historic home where O'Neill wrote his most famous plays. The National Park Service guided tour will pick us up at 9:50 a.m. in downtown Danville and transport us by shuttle to the house and grounds. The tour is free, your tax dollars at work. We will be accompanied by our own O'Neill expert, Dr. Dan Cawthon, a long time member of the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, who has directed O'Neill's plays and introduced many audiences to his life and works over the years. Over lunch in downtown Danville after the 2 hour tour we will continue the conversation. Limit 9. Meet at Ross parking lot at 8:55 a.m.

The carpool meets at the Ross parking lot at South Shore Center. We leave at 8:55 a.m. sharp. Please reserve a seat ASAP if you want to go. Contact Judy Sparks at [JudySparks@comcast.net](mailto:JudySparks@comcast.net) or call 523-6736. We will have lunch in a restaurant in Danville and we are usually home between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm

## Evening Books

The book for Tuesday, May 23, is The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George. For location and more information, call Cindy Silva, 523-4677.

## Afternoon Books

We'll meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday, May 15, to discuss books we are currently reading. Call Kate Quick, 523-3612, for location and more information.

## Cinema Club

Our next cinema date is May 7. 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@gmail.com](mailto:kevis.brownson@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.

## Technology Users Group

Join us on Thursday, May 18 from 7 pm-9 pm at the home of Earleen Hamlin, 2849 Lincoln Ave, for our drop-in, self-help users group. It will be facilitated by new member Amy Rose whose goal is to help us adapt to new communications technologies, whether on our smart phones, tablets, lap tops, or home computers.

If you are using a new phone, trying to learn a new application, or hoping to upgrade your skill levels, this is the group for you. Bring your laptops, smart phones, tablets. Outlets and wi-fi will be available. Email Amy at [amyjane.rose@gmail.com](mailto:amyjane.rose@gmail.com) or call at 916-337-1259

## Member Biography – Karen Butter

I was born in Indiana but left the Midwest to attend college in the Bay Area. After graduating with an AB in Sociology from UC Berkeley in 1970 (the class without a commencement due to the war demonstrations) I completed my Masters in Librarianship in Kansas and worked in Kansas City as a hospital library for a few years. I spent most of my career as an academic health sciences librarian working at the University of Utah, Johns Hopkins and for the last 25 years at UCSF, serving as the University Librarian (Library Director). It was a wonderful job and a great career with enormous changes in information technology. I retired in January 2016 and, to keep busy, I am the Action Co-Chair for the League of Women Voters Alameda and, currently, President of the Board of the Alameda Free Library Foundation. I like to garden, read, cook and travel. I just returned from a road trip a weeks ago to see spring flowers and hike state and national parks and last fall spent 3 weeks in Bali.

## College of Alameda Scholarship Recipients

\*\* Sharon is one of our College of Alameda scholarship recipients, majoring in Psychology. Sharon gave me permission to quote parts of her essay but only list her first name. She was raised by traditional Chinese parents and this posed some personal difficulties. Patti Heimburger

My name is Sharon and I am 23 years old. I am a 4th year student at College of Alameda and I have been a resident of Alameda for about 17 years. As a young adolescent, I was once a truant and struggled to understand the importance of education. I was filled with remorse to have wasted so much time; but better late than never as I gradually returned to my studies. I'm currently waiting for admission into SFSU/SJSU for the upcoming Fall 2017. I have maintained a 3.0 GPA for several consecutive semesters all while working 2 jobs to support my living, food, and school expenses. I moved out from home at an early age because of the perpetual negativity that happened daily. I would never forget the feeling of being lost, scared, and disconnected from the most important people of my life. My attendance in school was sporadic, but nonetheless I was trying even with all the stress and pressure of work.

Even with the adversities going on in my life, I never gave up on myself or my education because I want to graduate and give back to the community one day. I later joined student government; which ultimately became my safe haven. It was a place where I felt accepted, appreciated for my efforts, and nothing but positivity. I had peers who were supportive and studious, motivating me to challenge myself. My greatest achievement during this time was when I was appointed as Secretary of Office. I gained valuable experience during my time in student government. I learned how to run meetings and events, create agendas, take minutes, and how to empower myself through the ample supply of resources that the school had to offer. I attended seminars, educational workshops, and coordinated campus events as well as reconditioning campus infrastructure. Being in student government kept me on track in my classes; I picked up new study habits and was fully committed in going to tutoring. I want to continue to pursue my goals in education and to utilize the knowledge and experience that I've acquired to help others.

\*\* Fudhah M Al Khafaj is one of our College of Alameda scholarship recipients who is majoring in Biology and has received awards from Girls Inc. of the Island City and from the College of Alameda. Fudhah has given me permission to quote parts of her essay and I must admit it was hard not to include all of it. Patti Heimburger

I view my volunteering work with Girls Inc. as a powerful means of reducing the underrepresentation of women in STEM by empowering low-income and culturally diverse young women to explore their passion for science.

When it comes to my personal life, after my childhood in war-torn Iraq, I have emerged fearless and unstoppable when it comes to achieving my educational and career goals. In my home country, I faced significant challenges. During the 2003 invasion of Iraq, I lived with the thundering sound of Apache helicopters and bombardments for months. Helplessly, I would gather with my family in a narrow hallway in our house to remain distant from the fragile windows.

After moving to the United States in 2013 with my family as war refugees, I faced an immense cultural shift and all its associated challenges, such as racism, language barrier, financial barriers, and homesickness. I strived to overcome those obstacles and stepped further out of my comfort zone to seek and take advantage of any educational and career opportunities available. Eventually, my goal is to study Chemical Biology and develop pharmaceutical drugs and treatments for unmet and under-met medical needs around the globe.

## AAUW – Alameda Branch 2017 - 2018 Membership

We, the Alameda Branch want you to continue your membership. You created a steady flow of our growth, and we need you to allow us to continue this. We are proud of our strong Tech Trek program, and our scholarships at the College of Alameda. We have informative luncheons, interest groups, and hopefully more successful evening events which should keep many of us busy. Please note that there is a chance you will not be listed in the Alameda Branch Roster if we do not receive payment by August 1, 2017.

### Online renewal:

For all members with an email address, please renew your membership online through an AAUW invoice email for membership payment. This procedure will be simple.

### Mail renewal:

#### (You can also pay by check)

Copy or cut the below form. Complete the information and mail it back with your check to our post office box.

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#### AAUW-Alameda Branch 2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

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Last name		First name	
<i>(If any of the following have changed from last year, please update)</i>			
Street address			
City	State	Zip code	
Phone(s) Home:	Mobile:	Work (opt):	
E-Mail:			

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#### Branch 2016–2017 Dues (July 1 – June 30)

National	\$49
State	\$20
Branch	\$21
<b>Total Dues</b>	<b>\$90</b>

Please return this form and your *check made out to: Alameda Branch AAUW.*  
Mail to: **PO Box 2932 Alameda, CA 94501-0932**

Patti Heimburger and Joy Pratt, AAUW Membership VPs



The AAUW Alameda Branch Tech Trek Project will be again participating in The East Bay Gives on-line fundraising event on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please join us to help make it possible for deserving Alameda middle school girls to attend the week-long Tech Trek Science and Math Camp during the summer.



Since 2009, **AAUW Alameda** has sent dozens of Alameda middle school girls to Tech Trek at Sonoma State University. Tech Trek is a week-long residential summer camp designed to give girls hands-on experience in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, learn about potential STEM careers, and connect with women role models. **Donate to AAUW Alameda Branch Tech Trek Project on May 4, 2017 to help girls sustain and continue their interests in STEM.**

Visit [www.eastbaygives.org/AAUWAlamedaBranchTechTrekProject](http://www.eastbaygives.org/AAUWAlamedaBranchTechTrekProject) on May 4th to Donate!

- 1 Just use your phone, lap-top or tablet to go to the East Bay Gives web site at [eastbaygives.org](http://eastbaygives.org) anytime on **Thurs. May 4th**
- 2 Then type **AAUW Alameda Branch Tech Trek Project** or under education in the categories button, then donate, to find Tech Trek
- 3 Use your credit card to donate as little as \$20, or as much as you like.





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	MAY						2017
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1 7:00 pm Business Meeting All are welcome	2	3	4 East Bay Gives Tech Trek Fundraiser	5	6 7:30 pm Bridge	
7 Cinema Club	8	9 12:30 pm Bridge	10	11	12	13 10:00 am Brunch and Installation	
14	15 1:30 pm Afternoon Books	16	17 7:00 pm Book Talk Cardinal Point	18 8:55 am Museum Group 7:00 pm Tech Users' Group	19	20 7:00 pm Ethnic Dinner	
21	22	23 7:15 pm Evening Books	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				