



ALAMEDA BRANCH
2018-2019 BOARD
alameda-ca.aauw.net

LEADERSHIP TEAM CHAIR

Karen Scanlon

**PRESIDENT-ELECT: Open
MEMBERSHIP VP**

PROGRAM VP

Penny Washbourn

AAUW FUNDS VP

Karen Scanlon and Jennifer
Williams

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND VP

Jennifer Williams

SECRETARY

Mary Oppedahl

FINANCE

Lisa Fitts, Jennifer Ayres and
Susan Myers

HISTORIAN: Open

HOSPITALITY

Lois Pryor, Sue Fialer and
Claudia Lewey

NEWSLETTER

Mari Clark

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Dorothy Kerwin

PUBLIC POLICY

Mary Oppedahl

PUBLICITY

Elizabeth McGaffey

SUNSHINE

Cindy Silva

TECH TREK CO-ORDINATOR

Barbara Krummel

**UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE
RELATIONS**

Patti Heimbürger

WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR

JoAnn Ainsworth

BYLAWS

Betty Hatch

Alameda Branch News

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

DECEMBER 2018

A publication of AAUW Alameda Branch, chartered 1962 Vol. 56, Issue 4



DECEMBER 1 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION LUNCH AND PARTY

Saturday December 1, 2018

11:30 am

Pasta Pelican Restaurant 2455 Mariner Square Drive, Alameda

(Change of planned venue due to cost and circumstances beyond our control)

With a gorgeous view of the water, and a lovely no-host bar and dining room and great selection of food, we will enjoy a convivial environment to host our annual Holiday Party. This is a day to splurge, dress up, bring a loved one or friend and have fun. The FUN part! Each participant needs to bring an unmarked wrapped gift of modest value of something you have at home...or if you need to buy something, keep it under \$10. Mark Hamilton will try to keep order as our "Silly" gift exchange gets uproarious when our selected gifts are at risk from other participants, who can steal them away! Fun will be had!

Our banquet menu includes two salads, vegetables, etc.

Pollo Picatta: Chicken in lemon butter sauce, sautéed mushrooms, capers and fresh basil

Penne Spring: Asparagus, green onion, peas and baby spinach in white wine, olive oil, parmesan sauce

Salmone di Aneto : filet of salmon topped with creamy garlic sauce

Pasta Bolognese with beef sauce

Cake and cookies

It will be served buffet style, so bring your appetite and enjoy a selection.

Reservations are needed by: Saturday November 24

If you are away for Thanksgiving, make sure you email Penny or call and leave a message and let her know you are attending so we can provide accurate head count by Monday November 26.

510-748-7455 pwashbou@hotmail.com

Price: \$46

(Remember there is no opportunity drawing this month)

Send check made out to AAUW Alameda Branch

Penny Washbourn, 501 Lagunaria Lane, Alameda 94502

Our Mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

AAUW Alameda Branch Leadership Team 2018-2019

Leadership responsibility for our AAUW Alameda Branch this year will be shared among five Board members and one ex officio.

Karen Scanlon VP Ed Fund will chair the Team and be the point person for “presidential” communication from AAUW National and AAUW CA. Penny Washbourn VP Programs, Susan Myers Finance, Mary Oppedahl Secretary and Dorothy Kerwin Parliamentarian will also serve.

Key emails:

Karen Scanlon	yakitt@aol.com
Penny Washbourn	pwashbou@hotmail.com
Susan Myers	samsat@att.net
Mary Oppedahl	moppedahl@yahoo.com
Dorothy Kerwin	kerwindorothy@gmail.com
Mari Clark	meclark922@gmail.com



Alameda Branch
P.O. Box 2932
Alameda, CA 94501
<https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/>

Monthly Luncheon Opportunity Drawings

At each regular Monthly AAUW Alameda Branch Luncheon, we hold an Opportunity Drawing for valuable prizes. The proceeds from these Drawings benefit our Special Fundraisers for Scholarships, as result of a Board vote in 2017. Please consider generous participation in these Drawings. Donations are welcome, if tickets are not desired. We depend on our Members to donate small items of value for the Drawings. Simply bring any such items to the Luncheon with you and give them to Mark Hamilton or his substitute if he is not able to attend.

Message from December Board Chair

The Holidays are upon us! By the time you read this, the election and its aftermath will be over, and our Thanksgiving dinner a warm memory. Having just come back from my first trip to mainland China, I am most grateful for the civic freedoms we have in the U.S. and how important it is for all of us to exercise and protect these freedoms.

As we celebrate our Holidays let us treasure the friendships and associations with the many members over the years who have made such contributions to the lives of women and girls and have enriched our communities. We have so much for which to be thankful, standing on their shoulders.

New Membership VP co-chair: We want to thank Kendall Harcourt who has been Membership co-chair this year and was active last year with College of Alameda events as well as helping many of us with our tech devices. Due to relocation and a new job in Concord, Kendall is stepping down from the Board. We wish her well and have benefitted from her enthusiasm and commitment to the AAUW mission. Luckily, Cindy Silva has agreed to serve a co-chair of Membership along with Susan Myers, so we are in good hands. Thank you Cindy!

We have just received this from the AAUW CA Public Policy chair:

In the November Board-to-Board communication, I outlined the Public Policy Committee’s plan to solicit member participation in the revision of our AAUW California Public Policy Priorities for 2019-2021. You also received messages about the plan from your Public Policy Committee liaisons. The plan was based on branches holding discussions of the priorities and possible changes at branch or board meetings, or other meetings of members, and submitting responses by January 30, 2019. Unfortunately, this timeline does not meet requirements to have the proposed revised priorities published in the winter edition of *California Perspective*, which comes out in January. Therefore, we have revised the plan for member input as follows:

We are going to use an electronic survey to solicit every member's input on the proposed priorities before they are presented for final approval in Spring 2019. This survey will be sent out shortly. It lists the priorities and asks members to agree with the current statements or to offer suggestions for changes. **Responses are due by December 10.** Please encourage your branch members to participate in the survey and add their voice.

v

December Chair Penny Washbourn

Cinema Group

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 at an afternoon matinee (reduced ticket price). 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 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. On Saturday, you will receive an email letting you know what movie we will see on Sunday. We post the event on Facebook and the Alameda Branch Web site as well.

Urban Treks

Join us on Monday, December 10 for Urban Treks. This will be the holiday version. We'll visit decorations all around the financial district and SOMA, now called East Cut. We meet at the 'O' bus stop at the corner of Santa Clara and Broadway, in front of Kamakura at 9 am. Bus fare is \$2.20 (senior) each way. We highly recommend the Clipper card, but they do take cash. Lunch is in the \$10 - \$12 range and we'll plan on taking the 2:00 pm bus home.

Afternoon Books

We'll meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday to discuss books we are currently reading. Call Kate Quick, 510-523-3612, for location and more information.

Bridge Group

If you are interested in bridge, particularly in being a substitute, contact Joyce Denyven at 510-523-6341. The current bridge group meets at different times depending on the needs of the group.

Tech Users Group

This is a self-help group for users of smart phones, tablets and new applications to help us stay up with the digital age. Contact Penny Washbourn 510-748-7455

Evening Books

Fourth Tuesday 7:15 pm. For more information, call Cindy Silva at 510-523-4677 November book:

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.

Great Decisions

The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book. Books are ordered in December. Eight meetings are held between February and June. For more information contact Dorothy Kerwin kerwindorothy@gmail.com

MUSEUM GROUP TO GO TO "EAST MEETS WEST" AT LEGION ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

From this exhibition of 150 pieces associated with Mughal emperors, maharajas, and their courts we will see items of historical importance as well as opulent objects from contemporary jewelers such as Cartier and JAR.

Since ancient times India has captivated the West with its textiles, spices, diamonds, and gemstones. As early as 1526 European diplomats saw the opulence of the Mughal Empire and wanted to establish trade for profit. In 1505 the Portuguese established the Estado de India with its capital in Goa. In the 1600's other countries established trading companies, the chief one being the East India Company, established by the English, for commerce. The East India Company flourished and by the 18th century its business accounted for half the world's trade. Through this trading, the British Government got involved and established its Raj or rule, under the crown, which ended only when India became independent in 1947.

Gemstones played an important part in this East-West exchange. The Mughal courts favored and considered sacred the striking deep green emeralds, which were sourced from Colombia, South America to Portuguese Goa. Lapidaries then carved the emeralds with stylized and floral patterns that gave Indian jewelry one of its most recognizable features. India also had diamonds extracted from mines near Golconda. These Golconda diamonds were cut and had the reputation of being the finest in size and quality. These diamonds would be traded to Europe where they were recut in the "brilliant style", which increased fire and sparkle, but lost a lot of the weight.

Diamonds were always traded to European kings to be worn to show power and wealth. King Louis XIV had a vast number of Indian diamonds. These diamonds were obtained from the traveler Jean-Baptiste Tavernier, who in 1669 sold 1000 diamonds to the French monarch, including the huge French Blue, which today is known as the Hope diamond. Louis XIV wore his diamonds as buttons, cravat pins, hat clasps, in orders or chivalry, and on his sword hilts.

Carpool leaves from the Ross Parking lot at 9:30 am sharp. If you are interested in going, contact Judy Sparks at JudySparks@comcast.net or call 510-523-6736. We will meet for lunch in the cafeteria at 11:30 am

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, November 10, 2018, we held our annual luncheon at Pier 29 Restaurant to support the legal advocacy fund of AAUW. This fund works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. AAUW resources range from community outreach programs to backing of major cases. Our guest speaker was local attorney Srinoi Rousseau, whose legal practice focuses on elder law, including conservatorships (including limited conservatorships for the developmentally disabled), Medi-Cal eligibility, wills and trusts, and powers of attorney. At the luncheon, Ms. Rousseau talked about signs of financial abuse and what to look for, including phone scams, romance scams, and caregiver scams. She reported that 90% of financial abuse situations are perpetrated by family members. People can protect themselves from abuse by planning ahead and completing estate planning. The most important thing Ms. Rousseau discussed was the importance of building strong relationships around us, including with our banking institutions and good neighbors, who will look out for us in times of need. If anyone suspects that a friend or neighbor may be the victim of financial abuse, you may call the Alameda County Adult Protective Services Agency to make a report. Their reporting hotline is 1-866-225-5277. Their website is: http://www.alamedasocialservices.org/public/services/elders_and_disabled_adults/protective_services.cfm. We raised \$550.00 to support the legal advocacy fund at the luncheon. Checks must be mailed in within 30 days of the event. Jennifer Williams will wait two weeks to send in the donations in case others would like to donate to this important fund. **Please send checks to her no later than November 24** to 22 Shannon Circle, Alameda, CA., 94502. Make your check out to **AAUW Funds** and put **LAF** in the memo line.

MISSION: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

VISION: Equity for all

VALUES: Nonpartisan, Fact-based, Integrity, Inclusion and Intersectionality

FOCUS: Education and Training, Economic Security, Leadership

Saturday January 26, 2019 4:30-6pm at Alameda Hospital, Conference Room A
Tame the Paper Tiger – presentation about decluttering and organizing papers by Liz McKinley

Wednesday February 13, 2019 5.30-7:50pm at Alameda Free Library,
Dark Money – a film about money in politics co-sponsored by AAUW Alameda, Friends of the Library and League of Women Voters of Alameda

TRANSPORTATION NEEDED?
If you would like a ride to any of our events, please don't hesitate to call or email: Penny Washbourn
510-748-7455
pwashbou@hotmail.com

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					2018
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 LUNCHEON
2	3 BOARD MTG Alameda Hosp. 7pm	4	5	6	7	8

Happy Holidays