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Alameda Branch News

*Celebrating our strengths and promoting education and equity
for women and girls in our community*

September 2019

A publication of AAUW-Alameda Branch, chartered 1962

Vol. 57, Issue 1

September Luncheon Update

Our September 14 Tech Trek Luncheon will start at 11:30 at Girls Inc. of the Island City, 1724 Santa Clara Avenue (Alameda). The lunch will be catered by Blue Dot Cafe at a cost of **\$16.00 per person**, and will include a choice of sandwiches (both meat and vegetarian), salad, chips, desert, and ice tea or water. **Please write a check, payable to AAUW Alameda Branch, and mail it to Paula Biwer, 1804 2nd St., Alameda, CA, 94501-1830 by September 7.** *If you cannot get your check to Paula on time, please call her at (510) 918-8577, text her, or send her an e-mail at pbiwer@yahoo.com to let her know. She can make your reservation and you can pay either by check or credit card at the event.* This is an excellent Luncheon to invite your friends to, as potential future members, because they will experience the uplifting presentation by our Tech Trek participants and also hear about various Member Groups and upcoming events and activities. Please try to carpool to all events-- it's good for the environment and may encourage others to attend.

Please remember that this an annual fund-raising event – see details in the Tech Trek Coordinator Update (next page). There will also be an opportunity drawing. Bring any/all items you would like to donate for future drawings with you to the event and give them to President-Elect Mark Hamilton.

2019 Tech Trek Campers:



Our Mission is to advance 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 Corner

Welcome Back from Summer!! I hope everyone had a great summer with exciting excursions.

As they say, "If it ain't broke don't fix it," and that is how we feel about continuing programs from the last two years that have been highly successful. We are always interested in trying new programs and fundraising events. "FUN!!!" Is the key word. We want to provide our members entertaining events and introduce others to our organization.

I am excited to see new members becoming increasingly involved on the Board and the various Interest Groups. We were concerned that our Evening Book Group was going to fade away, but, due to the efforts of Kevis Brownson, we have not only survived, but now have thirteen members. More are welcome, too. Last weekend, while attending our Ethnic Dining Group event, we recruited some husbands as members of our branch. That was exciting!!

Our Program Co-Vice Presidents, Paula Biber and Penny Washbourn, have identified some new restaurant venue possibilities and programs for the coming year. It sounds exciting, what they have planned. We will also be collaborating with other Alameda civic organizations on events that support AAUW's mission throughout the year. This also provides great exposure for us in the City and assists with our efforts to recruit new members.

We are always looking for new things to do in Alameda, venues for luncheons, and new Interest Group possibilities. If you have any ideas, please contact the Board members -- we will always need and seek your help and inspiration. This is YOUR Branch, and we are here to provide good programs and build relationships amongst our members.

Most importantly, we want to let the people of Alameda know who we are and what our organization represents. All are welcome to join and participate in our Branch.

Cynthia (Cindy) Silva, President, 2019-2020

Tech Trek Coordinator Update (from Barbara Krummel, Committee Chair)

Last year, our Alameda Branch provided scholarships to six girls from Alameda schools to attend STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Camp at Sonoma State University for a week. They lived in the dorms, ate in the cafeteria, attended lectures, learned by doing, went on outings, met professional women working in STEM fields, and had bunches of fun!

The cost for each girl is \$1,000, so our goal is to raise \$5,000 each year. Our Branch Members are major supporters! ***Donations can be made by check or credit card at the September Luncheon.*** If you are not able to attend the luncheon, you can still show your support by going to the Tech Trek section of our website, scroll down and click on the "Donate" button or by sending a check. ***Checks must be made out to AAUW CA SPF and can be mailed to Barbara Krummel, 3258 Liberty Ave, Alameda, CA 94501.*** Many thanks to all for sending our girls to camp!

We are excited to announce a new matching Challenge Grant of up to \$1,000, offered by Carolyn Gannon, Patti Heimburger's sister, in memory of Patti's and her commitment to the Tech Trek Program. Our goal for this Fall fundraising is \$1,000. When we reach this goal, we will have the funds necessary to send two students to Tech Trek camp next summer!

Additional Luncheon Notes

Your Co-Vice Presidents of Programs, Paula Biber and Penny Washbourn, have planned a tantalizing array of venues for the 2019-20 AAUW Luncheon/Lecture series. We will be visiting familiar favorites like the German Restaurant, Speisekammer, and the beautiful, historic Cohen Bray house in Oakland for our December 7 afternoon Holiday Tea/Luncheon Extravaganza.

Please join us for as many Luncheons as you can. Program Co-Vice President Penny Washbourn will be providing information about the presenters for each of the Luncheons, here in the Newsletter, throughout the Membership Year.

A New program feature at each of our Luncheons will be to highlight one of our Interest Groups and activities. We will begin in September with Kate Quick, describing the Afternoon Book Group.

AAUW GreenThumbers: We can all start getting ready for Next Year's Alameda Earth Day Celebration and our Second Annual Plant Sale. Please start saving any plastic pots you have from purchasing plants and small individual plastic yogurt containers for the children's planting activity. Also, think about propagating something different in addition to succulents. Coordinator Paula Biver is really getting into African Violets after purchasing some at last year's sale. The more variety we have, the greater the sales.

You can bring your saved plastic pots and small yogurt containers to each Luncheon, beginning in September. Paula will be collecting and storing them for the Earth Day Event.

Funds Lunch October 6th in Danville.

AAUW is excited to announce 259 awards and \$4 million in funding for fellows and grantees in the 2019-20 award year! This exceptional group of recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. For 130 years, AAUW has been a leading source of funding for graduate women, providing more than \$115 million in fellowships and grants to more than 13,000 women and nonprofit organizations in the United States and around the world.

At the Danville lunch, several scholars will talk about their studies and their journeys. It is from this group that we select our speaker for our Branch Funds Luncheon in February. This is a chance to hear from the rest of these amazing women. Save the date -- we will be carpooling. Contact Karen Scanlon, yakiit@aol.com or 510-523-6456 for more information.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Now is the time to renew your membership for 2019-2020! **To renew online, e-mail Susan Myers at samsat@att.net -- she will send the correct renewal link to you. Contacting AAUW directly without this link does not work.**

You can also renew by sending a check directly to Susan. The check should be for \$100 and made out to AAUW Alameda. Susan's address is 3215 Garfield Ave, Alameda, CA 94501-1713. With questions, feel free to call her at (510) 326-8955.

Interest Group Spotlight

The Museum Group -- Judy Sparks and Marlis White, Co-Chairs -- is one of the interest groups of AAUW-Alameda Branch. The Group meets on the second Thursday of each month to go to an exhibit. Last year, they saw the Gaugin, Monet, and Rubens exhibits at the Legion of Honor and The DeYoung. They also toured the historic Cohen-Bray House, in Oakland, for High Tea and went to the Cantor at Stanford. Their most recent trip was to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) to see the Andy Warhol exhibit. The Co-Chairs also publish the dates of the docent lectures at Alameda Library on the exhibits they are planning to attend. These lectures are always excellent.

You can find out about their upcoming monthly trips through articles in the Branch Interest Group section of the Newsletter. The Chairs have a Museum Group Loop to which they send more information. To be included in that Loop or to find out more information, e-mail judysparks@comcast.net or call (510)-523-6736. You may also email Marlis White at mmwww29@live.com or call (510)-522-8383.

We meet at the Ross Parking lot at Southshore Center and generally leave at 9:30 sharp. We see the exhibit, have lunch, usually at the museum, and are home between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. We welcome new people to join us, especially if you are willing to drive.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

September 14 -- 11:30 am – Monthly Luncheon – Program honoring Tech Trek participants and their families (see details elsewhere in this Newsletter).

Remembering Patti

Long-time Member and Past President Patti Heimburger bequeathed nearly all her estate to the East Bay Community Foundation. Patti's sister, Carolyn Gannon wanted to share, with all of us, the profile honoring Patti in the latest EBCF newsletter (link below). The profile appears about half-way down and at this link:

<https://www.ebcf.org/in-memory-of-patti-heimburger/>

The photo is from one of the fundraisers for the African Library Project (Patti attended them all since 2008). Carolyn reported: "I'm very happy that the newsletter profile include links for Rhythmix Cultural Center and AAUW – Alameda Branch, two non-profits where she spent so much joyful and enriching time, as well as developed lasting friendships."

TITLE IX MAKES A REAL, TANGIBLE AND UNDENIABLE DIFFERENCE

Submitted by Mary Oppedahl

The USA Women's Soccer Team recently won its fourth World Cup Championship. Whether you like soccer or not, we all celebrate the victory of that remarkable group of women. It is also important to remember that their victory would likely not have been possible were it not for Title IX.

In 1996, pursuant to a settlement of a lawsuit filed by the National Organization for Women, the California State University agreed to take action to achieve parity in funding and slots for women's sports teams. To achieve that goal, California State University, Bakersfield ("CSU-B") adopted squad size targets, which would encourage the expansion of women's teams while limiting the size of men's teams. The men's wrestling team, which had its roster cut for two consecutive years, sued, alleging discrimination based on gender in violation of Title IX and the Equal Protection Clause of the Federal Constitution. The case ended up in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals after CSUB lost in the trial court and had an injunction entered against it prohibiting squad size reductions.

In 1999, ruling in favor of CSUB, Judge Cynthia Holcomb Hall wrote:

"This past summer, 90,185 enthusiastic fans crowded into Pasadena's historic Rose Bowl for the finals of the Women's World Cup soccer match. An estimated 40 million television viewers also tuned in to watch a thrilling battle between the American and Chinese teams. The match ended when American defender Brandi Chastain fired a ball past Chinese goalkeeper Gao Hong, breaking a 4-4 shootout tie. The victory sparked a national celebration and a realization by many that women's sports could be as exciting, competitive, and lucrative as men's sports. The victorious athletes understood as well as anyone the connection between a 27-year-old statute and tangible progress in women's athletics. [Citations quoting Chastain's statement that 'all of this is because of IX' and defender Kate Sobrero's statement that 'we are all Title IX babies, and this shows it's working.'] Title IX has enhanced, and will continue to enhance, women's opportunities to enjoy the thrill of victory, the agony of defeat, and the many tangible benefits that flow from just being given a chance to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Today we join our sister circuits in holding that Title IX does not bar universities from taking steps to ensure that women are approximately as well represented in sports programs as they are in student bodies. We REVERSE and VACATE the preliminary injunction.

It is 20 years later. and the American Women's soccer team just won its fourth World Cup. What Judge Hall said, in 1999, remains true today, but our work is not done. The women's team still makes less than the men's team even though the women's team is ranked #1 and the men's team is ranked #24. Twenty-fourth from the top and 26 from the bottom, the literal definition of "average."

To let me brag a little, my former law firm won this case for CSUB in 1999. The case is: *Neal v. The Board of Trustees of the California State Universities, 198 F. 3d 763 (9th Cir. 1999)*.

AAUW Work Smart Initiative

AAUW has established a goal of providing salary negotiation training to 100,000 women this year and 1,000,000 women by 2022 in order to help close the wage gap between men and women. AAUW has developed an **online training module** for individual women to learn salary negotiation skills. It is **available to all, not just members**.

To reach its goals, AAUW National is asking its members for their help in **making the online training tool available to as many working women as possible**. That includes working women in our branch as well as our members' daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends. The National AAUW office suggests that each of us take the training ourselves so that we can explain its specifics and value to those women to whom we will reach out.

You can find the training module as follows:

1. Website: <https://salary.aauw.org>
2. Click on "start your online salary negotiation course now"
3. Complete the registration, including creating a personal password for this tool (be sure to accept the terms of privacy)

The online course will take several hours. If you are not inclined to do the entire course, yourself, but believe **the online training will benefit other women you know**, please **give them the instructions (above) or simply forward the link**. **LET'S MAKE THIS HAPPEN!** We can help ourselves, our daughters, our friends, and their friends increase their own salaries and help our country move closer to wage equity.

Branch Interest Groups

Ethnic Dining Group

This Group meets monthly, usually on the third Saturday evening, starting at 6:00 pm. If you like good food and good company, join us. **For more information, contact Mark Hamilton -- 510 749-0738 or mdham21@yahoo.com**

Great Decisions Group

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book and meeting in a discussion group to have a conversation about the most critical global issues facing America today. Books are ordered in December, and eight meetings are held between February and June. **For more information, contact Dorothy Kerwin -- kerwindorothy@gmail.com**

Museum Group will be going to The Legion of Honor on September 12, 2019. We will see:

Dada Movement Exhibit

Strange Days: Dada, Surrealism, and the Book brings together rarely seen work from several of the greatest artists of the twentieth century, including Pablo Picasso, Max Ernst, Man Ray, Joan Miró, Louise Bourgeois, and others. Poets and artists launched the Dada movement in 1916, holding a mirror of absurdity to the skewed rationalism of a society they deemed responsible for the horrors of World War I. In 1924, poet André Breton's *Surrealist Manifesto* fully established a new movement to go beyond what he viewed as the dead-end nihilism of Dada, invoking Freudian notions of the primacy of dreams and the unconscious while embracing the Dadaists' practice of chance operations.

Collaboration between artists and poets was common. For the Dadaists and Surrealists, the book form was an ideal performance space, uniquely suited to a meeting of disparate elements, as in collage, dream imagery, or free association in writing. The books in this exhibition offer eloquent testimony to the liberating power of hybrid expression.

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

Afternoon Books

We will meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday, September 16, to discuss books we are currently reading.

Call Kate Quick, 523-3612, for more information.

(continued next page)

Evening Books

Fourth Tuesday of each month -- 7:15 pm. **Call Cindy Silva at 510- 523-4677** for more information, including the title of the book the Group is currently reading.

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 in the evening once a month in different homes. Yes, we can furnish a printed schedule upon request.

At present, we have five regular partnerships and need a sixth regular partnership to complete a third table of bridge. Currently, we use two substitutes to make that sixth partnership.

Cinema Group

We are a lively group of movie lovers who visit the Alameda Theatre on the first Sunday afternoon of every month, October through June, to see a current movie. Spouses are welcome to attend.

For more information please e-mail Kevis Brownson at kevis.brownson@gmail.com

Calendar

| Branch Activities | September | | | | | | 2019 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| 1 | 2 – Labor Day Holiday | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12-- 9:30 am -- Museum Group | 13 | 14 -- 11:30 am – Monthly Luncheon – Tech Trek Celebration/Fund-Raiser – Girls, Inc., Recreation Room | |
| 15 | 16 – 1:30 pm -- Afternoon Books Group | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 – 6:00 pm -- Ethnic Dining Group | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 – 7:15 pm -- Evening Books Group | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | | |

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.