



**ALAMEDA BRANCH
2019-20 BOARD**

alameda-ca.aauw.net

LEADERSHIP TEAM

PRESIDENT

Cynthia Silva

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Mark Hamilton

MEMBERSHIP VPs

Susan Myers & Mark Hamilton

PROGRAM VPs

Penny Washbourn and

Paula Biwer

AAUW FUNDS VPs

Karen Scanlon and

Mary Oppedahl

FINANCE VPs

Lisa Fitts, Jennifer Ayres,

and Susan Myers

SECRETARY

Mary Oppedahl

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY

Dorothy Kerwin

HISTORIAN -- Open

HOSPITALITY

Claudia Lewey, Lois Pryor,

and Sue Fialer

NEWSLETTER: Mark Hamilton

PARLIAMENTARIAN/Bylaws

Dorothy Kerwin

PUBLIC POLICY

Donna Vaughn

PUBLICITY

Elizabeth McGaffey

SUNSHINE: Cynthia Silva

TECH TREK COORDINATOR

Barbara Krummel

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Penny Washbourn and

Dorie Guess Behrstock

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

JoAnn Ainsworth

Alameda Branch News

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

April 2020

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT – NO APRIL LUNCHEON, OTHER EVENTS CANCELLED/POSTPONED

Out of an abundance of caution over the COVID-19 Pandemic, your Branch Board has come to consensus that **our planned April 11 Luncheon has been cancelled and will be postponed**. We will be extending our Luncheon calendar by one month and holding a **June Luncheon instead**. The venue for that event will be Dragon Rouge Vietnamese Restaurant, which was the secured venue for the April Luncheon.

The Members present at our April Luncheons each year are asked to ratify, by vote, the Slate of Officers for the next Membership Year. Because of the postponement of that Luncheon, alternate methods for voting on the Slate will be provided at some point in the month of April. Preliminary discussions have centered around an electronic poll, for Members who receive Newsletter Notifications electronically, via Mailchimp, and returnable paper ballots to be distributed to Members who receive paper copies of the Newsletter by mail. You can find the **full list of nominated 2020-2021 Officers**, along with Appointed Positions and Committee Chairpersons, on **Page Two of this Newsletter**.

In addition, several other planned events have been cancelled or postponed due to this public health emergency. Alameda Government has cancelled the April 18 Earth Day Celebration and may or may not reschedule it. Our planned Plant Sale, our major annual fundraising event, at that Celebration, is, therefore also cancelled. Leadership has begun a discussion about possibly scheduling one or more major plant sales for the community. Details will follow as soon as possible. Please see the separate **article about Plant Sales on Page Three of this Newsletter** for more details.

Please also see the **updated Announcements/Special Events list, also on Page Three**, to check on the “Cancelled,” “Postponed,” or “Tentative” status of all previously planned events for the remainder of the current Membership Year.

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.

AAUW Alameda Board Officers 2020-2021

President: Mark Hamilton

President-Elect: Barbara Krummel

Co-Vice Presidents for Programs: Paula Biber, Lena Tam

Co-Vice Presidents for Membership: Susan Myers, Paula Biber

Vice President for AAUW Funds: Mary Oppedahl

Vice President for Finance/Treasurer: Susan Myers

Secretary: Cynthia "Cindy" Silva

Appointed Positions

Communications/Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Ayres

Public Policy/E-Blasts: Donna Vaughn

Tech Trek Coordinator: Barbara Krummel

Website Coordinator: Mark Hamilton

Publicity: Elizabeth McGaffey, Joyce Quartly

Hospitality: Cindy Silva (Drawings), Karen Guthrie, Silver Alkhafaji, Mark Hamilton

Sunshine: Cynthia "Cindy" Silva

Parliamentarian/By-Laws/Nominations for 2021-22 Officers: Cynthia "Cindy" Silva

College/University Relations: Penny Washbourn

East Bay Community Foundation Grant Liaison: Dorothy Kerwin

Correspondence Secretary: Dorothy Kerwin

Committee Chairs

Fundraising: Open -- Committee to be formed (to be discussed at June Retreat)

NCCWSL Scholarships: Penny Washbourn

Audit Committee: Susan Myers and Dorothy Kerwin

Budget: Open -- Committee to be formed (to be discussed at June Retreat)

March 14 Luncheon – Slate of 2020-21 Officers Announced/Presented

April Voting on Slate of 2020-21 Officers – Electronically or by mail (TBD)

May 9 Luncheon (tentative) – 2020-21 Officers Installed

ANNOUNCEMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS

Monday, April 6 – 6:00 pm – Monthly Board Meeting – Location TBD

Saturday, April 11 – 11:30 am -- Monthly Luncheon -- **CANCELLED/POSTPONED to June**

Friday, April 17 – Sunday, April 19 – AAUW State Convention -- **CANCELLED**

Friday, April 17 – 3:00-6:00 pm -- Earth Day Celebration Plant Pre-Sale -- **CANCELLED/POSTPONED** (see article below)

Saturday, April 18 – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm -- Alameda Earth Day Celebration/AAUW Plant Sale -- **CANCELLED/May Be Rescheduled**

Monday, April 20 – 6:00 pm – Alameda Authors Series IV, #3 – **POSTPONED**

Wednesday April 22 -- 4:00-6:00 pm -- Women in STEM Conference – **POSTPONED to the fall 2020**

Thursday, Apr. 23 -- 7:00 pm – Showing of “Misrepresentation” (movie) at Alameda High School, co-sponsored with the Alameda Unified School District -- **CANCELLED/POSTPONED**

Sunday April 26 – 3:00 pm -- AAUW/College of Alameda Scholarship Fundraiser **CANCELLED/May Be Rescheduled**

Saturday, May 9 -- 11:30 am -- Monthly Luncheon -- (**Tentative**/details to follow in May Newsletter)

Wednesday, May 20 – 6:00 pm – Alameda Authors Series IV, #4 (**Tentative**/details to follow in May Newsletter)

Plant Sale Updates



To All Of Our Amazing AAUW Growers – Plant Sale Update

In light of the cancellation of the Alameda Earth Day Celebration and, therefore, our Earth Day Plant Sale and Pre-Sale, here’s an idea from Committee Chair Paula Biver. How about inviting friends, family, and neighbors to purchase plants directly from you? That way, we could expand the group of people that are likely to buy our wonderful plants if/when new sales events are scheduled. An added benefit of this would be to not have to transport as many plants to Barbara's house and/or to and from future sales events.

Please charge five dollars for any four-inch pots that have thriving plants in them and charge less, at your discretion, for those that are OK, but not quite “there” yet. You can collect cash or checks (made out to AAUW-Alameda Branch) from your patrons. Put aside any collected funds until it can be determined how/when they can be “handed over” to Paula and her hard-working Committee.

Paula is curious to see how much money can be raised in this way, so please keep track of what you have collected. Thanks again for all of your tremendous talents with the propagation of a wide variety of plants for this Project. Keep watering and nurturing the plants in your care and “stay tuned” for further updates!

APRIL IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Now is the time to renew your AAUW membership for 2020-2021. There are only two ways to do this and both are relatively convenient:

- 1. Online -- simply send me an email – samsat@att.net -- and I will have the correct renewal link sent to you.** Contacting national AAUW directly will not work. However, with the renewal link it is rather easy. It is best to do this shortly after you get the link, so it does not get lost in your email.
- 2. The other way to renew is to send a \$100 check to me, Susan Myers, 3215 Garfield Ave, Alameda 94501.** The check should be **made out to AAUW-Alameda Branch**

Either way works just fine. This will insure your membership in the national, state, and branch levels of our fine organization. Your renewal will help to continue the many activities and programs run by our branch as well as state and national programs.

Some of the things we do at the branch level include seven interest groups and awarding three College of Alameda scholarships, one designated for study abroad. Tech Trek is another important branch activity. The newest addition for us is to send two girls to NCCWSL – the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. This is just sample of what the branch does.

The national AAUW focus is education and training, economic security, and leadership. It is one the world's largest sources of fellowships and grants for graduate women.

The latest news for the California AAUW is the state convention. This one is convenient. The dates are April 17-19 and will be at the Westin San Francisco Airport in Millbrae. Additional information is available at aauw-ca.org. We need all of us to have strong branch – so renewing is a good idea!

Susan Myers, Co-Vice President for Membership.

NEWS from AAUW College of Alameda Scholarships

1. First Patti Heimburger College of Alameda Study Abroad Scholarship awarded!

The Peralta Colleges Foundation has announced the first winner of the **\$1,000 Study Abroad** scholarship to a female student from the College of Alameda. We look forward to hearing from Maya and our other two awardees at our **College of Scholarship Fundraiser on Sunday, April 26 at 3pm at Girls Inc. Thank you for your generosity for helping to open the world to this student. Her life will be forever changed by this experience!**

2. Our newest AAUW College Scholarships to help develop future women leaders is to send two students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) to be held at the University of Maryland May 27-30, 2020. We now have our NCCWSL Scholarship Review Committee in place: Karen Kenney, Silver Alkhafaji, Annette Koch, and Tina Vasconcellos from College of Alameda. Interviews will be rescheduled once the College of Alameda reopens. Thanks to all!

Check out the link on our AAUW website: <https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/nccwsl>

For further information, contact Penny Washbourn, pwashbou@hotmail.com or call 510-748-7455

Author's Corner

Check it out, dear family and friends: **EXPECT TROUBLE** e-book is on sale for 99 cents and the **EXPECT DECEPTION** e-book is \$1.99 until April 18.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS. This sale is to introduce new readers to the Operation Delphi series -- the U.S. government recruits psychics to hunt down Nazi spies during WWII.

EXPECT BETRAYAL is Book 3 of this award-winning series -- releases on April 18.

FORWARD this to others you know who enjoy gripping suspense in authentic historical settings, wrapped in other-worldly experiences, with the fast pace of a thriller, but the feel of a cozy.

Sincerely,



JoAnn Smith Ainsworth

EXPECT BETRAYAL (Book 3) (e-book 9781393579403) launching April 18, 2020

EXPECT DECEPTION (Book 2) (e-book 978-1-63152-061-7, print 978-1-63152-060-0)

EXPECT TROUBLE (Book 1) (e-book 978-1-48356-197-4, print 978-1-48356-196-7, audio (Digital ISBN: 9780998749013 Digital Library ISBN: 9780998749020)

THE FARMER AND THE WOOD NYMPH (Book 2) (e-book 978-1-61160-660-7; print 978-1-61160-590-7)

POLITE ENEMIES (Book 1) (e-book 978-1-61160-636-2, print 978-1-61160-898-4)

OUT OF THE DARK (Book 2) (e-book 978-1-38671-769-0)

MATILDA'S SONG (Book 1) (e-book 978-1-38669-246-1)

<https://www.joannsmithainsworth.com>

Visit Twitter @JoAnnAinsworth and Facebook's JoAnn Smith Ainsworth Fan Page and profile.

Black History and Women's History Months Spotlight Four Black Women Who Fought for Gender Equality

Published February 04, 2020 on the AAUW-California website

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the 19th Amendment, a milestone in securing women's right to vote. It wasn't until 45 years later, when the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed, that women of color were granted the right to vote.

Sadly, Black women routinely faced racism within the women's suffrage movement. Even today, a variety of laws threaten to prevent them from casting their ballots.

Black women have not remained silent in the face of these setbacks. Although they have often been leaders and innovators in the fight for equality, history has had an unfortunate tendency to erase their legacy and voices. In honor of Black History Month and Women's History Month, here are four amazing women of color who have helped fight for -- and win -- greater equality for women.

Go to this link for the full article with pictures of these World Heroines:

<https://www.aauw.org/article/4-black-women-who-fought-for-gender-equality/>

Branch Interest Groups

NOTE: In general, for the month of April, Special Interest Group Leaders should be contacted to find out if scheduled events will be cancelled. Postponed, or rescheduled.

Ethnic Dining Group -- Meets monthly, usually third Saturday evening, 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

The Museum Group (tentative) will go to the **deYoung Museum** on **Thursday, April 9**, to see the exhibit:

Frida Kahlo: "Appearances Can Be Deceiving"

Born in 1907, Kahlo lived her formative years against the backdrop of the Mexican Revolution (1910-1920), which shaped her enduring commitment to communism. At age 21, Frida met and married Diego Rivera, an established artist. Their passionate relationship survived infidelities, the pressures of Rivera's career, a divorce, remarriage, and Frida's fragile health. She contracted polio at age 6 and suffered an almost fatal accident at age 18. Kahlo started painting at age 25, while she was recuperating from the medical complications, physical limitations, and intense chronic pain resulting from the accident. Through her self-portraits, Kahlo explored her political views, her health struggles, her accident, her turbulent marriage, and her inability to have children. She adopted indigenous Mexican dress, which consisted of brightly colored blouses and skirts that are Tehuana, from the state of Oaxaca, in southeastern Mexico. Frida was mainly known as Rivera's wife and her art was practically unknown.

Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera arrived in San Francisco in November of 1930. Diego had been hired to paint murals for the City Club of San Francisco and the San Francisco Art Institute. She was 23 and it was her first time away from Mexico. During her time here, Frida painted self-portraits in Tehuana costumes. She wrote home to her parents about local women, whom she called "scarecrows" and "dull." "The gringas like me and take notice of my clothes and jewelry. All the painters want me to pose for them." Paintings from this period began her rise to fame and recognition. She had two solo shows. Feminists admired that she stood up for her principles. In 2002, Julie Taymor's film, "Frida" (featuring Selma Hayek) raised her profile further, resulting in a retrospective at Tate Modern and other worldwide exhibitions.

At the time of Frida's death, in 1954, her husband insisted that all of her belongings be locked away. In 2004, a remarkable trove of the artist's personal belongings was unsealed at her lifetime home, La Casa Azul (the Blue House) in Mexico City. 6,000 photographs, 22,000 documents, and 300 of her personal items -- including medicines, orthopedic devices, clothing, jewelry, and accessories that have never been seen on the West Coast-- are among the items on display in the exhibition. Now Frida Kahlo is known as an artist in her own right.

We meet at the Ross Parking lot at South Shore Center and leave at 9:30 am sharp. Please let Judy know if you want to go or for further information, contact Judy Sparks at judysparks@comcast.net or by phone at 510-523-6736.

This trip is subject to change/postponement/cancellation resulting from new information concerning COVID-19.

Afternoon Books -- We will meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday, April 20, to discuss books we are currently reading. Call Kate Quick, 523-3612, for more information.

Evening Books -- **Cancelled for April 28.** Usually the 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 -- We are still looking for substitutes -- call Joyce Denyven at 510-523-6341 or send an e-mail to her at denyven@comcast.net

Cinema Group -- **Cancelled for April 5.** 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 – Page Seven

Branch Activities	April						2020
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2	3	4	
5 -- Cinema Group -- cancelled	6 -- 6:00 pm -- Board Meeting, Alameda Hospital -- Location TBD	7	8	9-- 9:30 am -- Museum Group (tentative)	10	11 -- NOTE: Monthly Luncheon cancelled -- postponed to June 2020	
12	13	14	15	16	17 -- Earth Day Plant Presale -- cancelled -- may be rescheduled	18 -- NOTE: Alameda Earth Day Celebration -- cancelled -- may be rescheduled 6:00 Ethnic Dining Group -- may be cancelled	
19	20 -- 1:30 pm -- Afternoon Books Group Alameda Author Series #3 at Alameda Library -- cancelled -- will be rescheduled	21	22	23	24	25	
26 -- AAUW/College of Alameda Fundraiser -- cancelled -- may be rescheduled	27	28 -- Evening Books Group -- cancelled	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.