



ALAMEDA BRANCH
2020-21 BOARD
 alameda-ca.aauw.net

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Mark Hamilton

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Barbara Krummel

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Alameda Branch News

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

April 2021

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April Luncheon Update



Saturday, April 10 11 AM Luncheon/Workshop

11 AM sign-in and workshop beginning at 11:30 AM. Please provide your own lunch and a snack and come ZOOM with us to find out more about this year's **PLANT SALE** on May 1 and important organization business. We are delighted to have **Penny Washbourn** as our workshop presenter.

Register, in Advance, for this Zoom Meeting, using this link:

[https://slusd-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtf-ggzksHdFs_ElMwBm0ft-ot6Fd1pJH](https://slusd-us.zoom.us/j/84461222222)

Find out more about Penny and the Plant Sale by looking at the last pages of this newsletter.

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

Information for April 10 Annual Business Meeting (Monthly Luncheon Program)

Thirty (30) Day Notice was given, via e-blast, regarding Three (3) Proposed Bylaws Changes for consideration and voting by the Members participating in the Monthly Luncheon Program/Annual Business Meeting on April 10, 2021.

NOTE: These changes were reviewed by the Board and are designed to best serve the changing needs of our Association and bring our By-Laws in line with past practices that have evolved over many years.

ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations.

Current text:

a. There shall be a nominating committee of 5 members, elected or appointed as follows: 2 appointed by board and 3 elected by the branch at least 2 months prior to the annual election. The president should not serve on this committee

Proposed text (replacement/additional text italicized):

a. There shall be a nominating committee of *at least five (5) members, appointed by the Immediate Past President, who shall serve as the Convener of the Nominating Committee.* The current President should not serve on this committee.

Section 1. Nominations.

Deletions in Section b are proposed, as follows:

The term of service on the nominating committee shall be for one year (from time of appointment ~~or election until the branch election~~) ~~for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.~~

ARTICLE X. OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers

Current text:

d. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time, and no elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than 2 consecutive terms in the same office.

Proposed (replacement) text:

a. *Officers may serve up to two consecutive terms in the same office. The Board may approve an officer to hold more than one office at a time and may authorize officers to serve for a third consecutive term in the same office.*

Thirty (30) Day Notice

Slate of Officers for the 2021-2022 Membership Year for consideration and voting by the Members participating in the Monthly Luncheon Program/Annual Business Meeting on April 10, 2021.

President-Elect: Open

President: Barbara Krummel

Finance Vice President: Susan Myers

Program Vice President: Paula Biwer and Lena Tam

Membership Vice President: Paula Biwer, Silver Alkhafaji and Marilyn Sharron

Secretary: Mark Hamilton

AAUW Funds Vice President: Mary Oppedahl

Sixty (60) Day Notice

The AAUW-Alameda Branch Board, during its upcoming May 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting, plans to consider and vote on a **\$2.00 Local Dues increase for the 2021-2022 Membership Year**, along with a provision that there be no further dues increases considered for the 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 Membership Years.

Rationale: AAUW-Alameda Branch dues have not been increased for several years. This modest increase will allow our Association to continue and expand existing programs related to our Mission of Empowerment for Women and Girls and progress toward True Equity. No further Local Branch dues increases will be considered until the 2024-2025 Membership Year, at the earliest.

GENERAL NOTE: Any/all questions, comments, and/or suggestions from Members with regard to these Notices should be sent to the current President, Mark Hamilton, via e-mail, at mdham21@yahoo.com. All Member input will be shared with the Board during its regular monthly Meeting, on April 5 and with the Members assembled for the Monthly Luncheon Program/Annual Business Meeting on April 10. All Members are welcome and will be invited to register for and attend both Meetings.

New Member Spotlight – Spring 2021



Kay Miles Weinstein

I graduated from Scripps College in 1975 with a B.A. in Art and Art History. Since college, I have lived in the East Bay -- eight years ago, I divorced and moved from Albany to Alameda. I have three sons: Jeffrey, married and living in Indiana; Benjamin, living between California and Asia; and Daniel, married and living in New York.

I have been a preschool teacher for over thirty years. Presently, I am teaching a part-time virtual preschool class for The Lake School in Oakland. I volunteer with the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society and attend many events and music appreciation classes at Rhythmix Cultural Works. I have joined the Book, Cinema, Museum, and Ethnic Dining Groups. I look forward to meeting more of you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

NOTE: All Events will be virtual (on the Zoom platform) until further notice.

Wednesday, March 24 – **Virtual Lobby Day**

Monday, April 5, 6:00 pm – **Board Meeting** – ALL WELCOME !! Non-board members may contact Mark Hamilton mdham21@yahoo.com for an Invitation to Register

Thursday,]April 8, 9:30 am -- **Museum Group**

Saturday, April 10, 11:00 am – **April Luncheon** – The Writing Experience with Penny Washbourn

Sunday, April 11, 4:00 pm -- **Cinema Club**

Friday, April 16, 1:00 pm – **Dirt Divas/Gardening Club**

Saturday, April 17, 6:00 pm -- **Ethnic Dining Group**

Monday, April 19, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books Group**

Tuesday, April 27, 7:00 pm -- **Evening Books Group**

Saturday, May 1 – **Plant Sale** – Live and in Person! Please wear a mask

Saturday, May 8 – **May Luncheon** – Jennifer Williams, Alameda School Board

Tuesday-Wednesday, May 25-26 – **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders**

Saturday, June 12 – **June “End of Year Celebration”** catered by Julie’s Coffee & Tea Garden

The Future for Roe v Wade and Choice

by Claire Noonan, California Public Policy committee



The times they are changing – a new president and vice-president who support pro-choice, but a sixth very conservative justice is added to the Supreme Court.

Abortion rights activists stress state-by-state vigilance to be aware of how reproductive choice is now used as a political tool, says Ilyse Hogue, recently retired president of NARAL. New anti-choice bills are mainly introduced by the white male religious minority, except in Montana with six abortion-limiting bills introduced this year by conservative female legislators and one male. For instance, extreme 2021 legislation in Tennessee will allow fathers to veto an abortion. A Texas bill will require a fetus to have a lawyer. Arizona's new bills propose to criminalize a woman who gets an abortion and the doctor who performs it.

During a pandemic telemedicine is valuable to prescribe pills for medication abortions. In July 2020 the federal courts temporarily suspended the doctor's visit rule for the first pill, mifepristone, but in January 2021 SCOTUS reinstated the rule. Patients again must visit a doctor for the first pill and get a prescription to obtain the second, misoprostol.

These restrictions have a particularly significant impact on low-income communities, which often include women of color, which are stressed economically by the year-long and counting pandemic. Clinics especially in the South, like [West Alabama Women's Center](#), are constantly searching for money sources to provide reproductive services as well as current needs for newborn assistance. The center focuses on providing financial assistance to the under-served, even when services are 'temporarily' deemed "non-essential". Despite efforts to provide full-spectrum reproductive health care access, dwindling numbers of clinics from the Sun Belt across the Deep South curb the availability of services. In the Navajo Nation, Covid infection is so high that patients need a doctor's note to leave the tribal area for a clinic appointment.

Consequently, vigilance means watching the power of the courts, encouraging reversal of the Hyde Amendment, and backing codification of the Roe v Wade decision. As you know, each woman in California can choose, but support for organizations that oversee the reproductive health rights of women in America are worth the effort.

Branch Interest Groups

Afternoon Books

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

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

Bridge Group No meeting this month.

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets at 4:00 pm April 11 via Zoom, to discuss the movie *North Country* (shown on KQED 3/27). For more information about the group, please contact Kevis

at kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

Ethnic Dining Group

Meets monthly, usually on the third Saturday evening, at 6:00 pm. *All Gatherings will be virtual, on the Zoom platform, until further notice.* If you like good food and good company, join us. **For more information, contact Mark Hamilton -- (510) 749-0738 or mdham21@yahoo.com**

Evening Books

The 4th Tuesday Evening Book group meets at 7:00 pm April 27 via Zoom, to discuss *Girl, Woman, Other: A Novel* (Booker Prize winner) by Bernardine Evaristo. For more information about the group, please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

For a list of the remaining books this year, please visit link:

<https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/book-club/>

Dirt Divas/Garden Club

Friday, April 16 – Meets virtually every month on the third Friday at 1 PM. Everyone is welcome and we will be preparing for the spring plant sale fund raiser. **Contact Paula Biwer pbiwer@yahoo.com (510)918-8577 for more information.**

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

The Museum Group will go to the de Young Museum on Thursday, April 8 to see the Frida Kahlo exhibit "Appearances Can Be Deceiving". We have waited a long time to get to see it. Then we will have lunch at the restaurant's outdoor space. Please bring your own water.

Meet at Ross Parking Lot at South Shore for a 9:30 sharp departure. Please wear a mask

For more information, contact Judy Sparks at judysparks@comcast.net or call 510-919-5083.

Calendar

Branch Activities	April					2021
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4-Easter 	5—Board Meeting 6:00 PM	6	7	8- Museum Group 9:30 AM	9	10-Luncheon via Zoom 11:00 AM
11-- Cinema Club 4:00 PM	12-Ramadan begins 	13	14	15	16-Dirt Divas 1:00 PM	17 -Ethnic Dining Group 6:00PM
18	19- Afternoon Books 1:30PM	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27- Evening Book Club 7:00 PM	28	29	30	May 1—Plant Sale 

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.



**Penny Washbourn will present an interactive Zoom workshop on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 11.30am for the AAUW-Alameda Branch on:
Writing Into My Life: Musings on Aging as a Spiritual Journey, or
How to become an Everyday Mystic.**

Author: *Becoming Woman, The Quest for Wholeness in Female Experience* (1977)

Penny will reflect on the challenges and blessings of taking up the writing life as an older person. Whether our writing is for ourselves or as a legacy to leave our children, she is convinced of the critical psychological and spiritual importance of writing and reflection, particularly for women during this later life stage. What is required of us is not just storytelling from our younger years, but coming to terms with our sorrows as well as our joys, and facing our losses with courage to find acceptance of our limited time horizon.

Writing assists us in finding our own Voices, expressing our own values, and finding integrity in this stage of life. Paying close attention to what all of our senses reveal around us is also essential for finding joy, even in dark days.

Please have a piece of paper and pencil handy, and have a favorite rock or piece of wood, a shell or feather, a fresh flower or small plant nearby. We will have the opportunity for small group reflection.

Penny Washbourn, is Professor Emerita of Saint Mary's College of California where for 27 years she served in several administrative and teaching roles. A Member of AAUW-Alameda since 2013, she has served as President and been on the Board since 2016. She has two children and two grandsons.

****You must Register, in Advance, for this Zoom Meeting, using this link:**

https://slusd-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtf--ggzksHdFs_ElMwBm0ft-ot6Fd1pJH

After registering, you will receive a separate Confirmation E-mail with the link to use to participate at the appointed time on April 10.



One of the 7 beautiful types of geraniums for sale

AAUW 2021 PLANT SALE

Please participate in this year's plant sale with all profits going to the **Alameda Food Bank**. The sale is on Saturday, May 1. Purchase a \$25 Eventbrite ticket for 5 plants and shop exclusively from 8 AM to 9 AM. Everyone else can shop from 9 AM until 2 PM. The shopping locations are at 2918 Lincoln Ave., Alameda and 352 Channing Way, Bay Farm Island, Alameda. Both sites will have a similar collection of plants including perennials, annuals, vegetables, herbs, succulents and indoor plants. Every dollar you spend buys seven dollars worth of food. We are accepting credit cards, cash and checks at each site. Please encourage your family, friends, neighbors to support this very important event.

Advance tickets with priority access to sale 8 am to 9 am at
<https://grealamedaplantcaper.eventbrite.com>

Volunteers are needed: We need help the day before the sale (flexible timing) to help prepare the plants for sale. This is a job that can be done while sitting at a table. We also need volunteers from 7-8 AM on sale day to help with set up at each site, and from 2-3pm to help with cleaning up at each site.

Used pot donations needed: We are looking for donations of good condition terra-cotta pots or ceramic pots of any size, with or without saucers, or just saucers. All donations should be clean and have no cracks.

Please contact Paula Biber (pbiber@yahoo.com or text 510-918-8577) to volunteer or make donations.

We are very proud to collaborate with the Alameda Food Bank and give support to such an important community service. Our goal is to raise \$3000. If you do not need any plants, but would like to make a donation, please write a check to the Alameda Food Bank and send it to Paula Biber 1804 2nd St., Alameda, CA 94501 or donate to the fundraiser on Eventbrite at <https://grealamedaplantcaper.eventbrite.com>