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 alameda-ca.aauw.net

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Alameda Branch News

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

March 2022

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Vol. 59, Issue 7

**Luncheon March 12 11:30 at Speisekammer
 Outdoors 20-25 Guests**



Dr. Don Miller - COVID Facts and Protocols

We are back to in-person luncheons. Our March AAUW luncheon will be outdoors at Speisekammer, 2424 Lincoln Avenue, Alameda, CA. See the menu on the last page of this newsletter.

Our speaker will be Dr. Don Miller, an internist at Kaiser Permanente and a board certified infectious disease expert. He will present the latest information on COVID and give us a glimpse of what is next.

Dr. Don Miller moved from Missouri to Alameda in January 2017 and has practiced as an Internal Medicine physician since then. In Missouri, he worked as the Medical Director of the ICU at a local hospital while seeing patients as an Internist and Infectious Disease physician in the clinic. Dr. Miller and his wife enjoy living in Alameda. They have a large family and they like to travel to visit them. One son lives on their certified tree farm where they grow blueberries and walnut, pecan and oak trees.

This is a fantastic opportunity to invite your friends to come share this experience with us to learn more about our organization.

Please send a check for \$40 made out to AAUW Alameda Branch to Paula Biber 340 29th AV UNIT 307 Oakland, CA 94601 by March 3 or call 510-918-8577 if you cannot get the check in the mail on time.

Remember to bring extra cash for our opportunity drawing raffle and for any drinks you wish to purchase. We encourage everyone to carpool.

- Lena Tam and Paula Biber, Program VPs

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

Our February luncheon speaker, Faheema Eissar, inspired me to find out more about AAUW scholarship funds, so here it goes. For more than 130 years, AAUW has funded the educations of countless women so they could follow their dreams. From astronauts to zoologists, the recipients of AAUW's fellowships, grants and awards represent nearly every imaginable field of endeavor. Overall, we've given more than \$115 million to over 13,000 women and nonprofit organizations around the world.

This funding has a tremendous impact. It helps to ease the burden of student debt, which disproportionately affects women, so that promising women can excel in their fields and become leaders in business, government, academia, community activism, the arts and sciences.

AAUW seeks a diverse pool of applicants who represent the full spectrum of ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, gender expressions, socioeconomic backgrounds, disciplines and perspectives.

Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of members and supporters, AAUW will continue to invest in world-changing women through our fellowships and grants program for many decades to come.



Our February luncheon speaker, Faheema Eissar, recipient of an AAUW 2021 International Fellowship, certainly represents the amazing women supported by our donations. Born and raised in Afghanistan, she was not allowed to pursue a formal education until age 12 but that didn't stop her from graduating high school by age 18 and scouring the U.S. for colleges and universities that could accept and support international students. Perseverance is her super power as she returned to Afghanistan to work and learn about the country's government and decision makers, then travelled back to the U.S. to pursue a master of science in international development economics, at the University of San Francisco. Her dream is to return to Afghanistan as a leader and builder of her home country. Her presentation gives me hope in our future world. If you weren't able to attend, we have a Zoom recording that I can share upon request, just shoot me an email barbarakrummel@comcast.net

Each year, the membership has contributed generously to support AAUW's education and training mission. To do so again this year, please **make out your checks to "AAUW" with "Fund 4450" in the memo line.**

Mail your checks to: Mary Oppedahl
2465 Shoreline Drive, Apt 106
Alameda CA 94501



We're excited to plan for an in-person camp this summer at Sonoma State University !!

Plans have been finalized for our summer 2022 program. The best news is that CSU-Fresno, Sonoma State, UC-Davis, UC-Santa Barbara and Whittier College have all responded YES, we want you on campus in summer 2022!. And, there will be TWO weeks of virtual camp – June 19-24 and July 24-29! Even though the campuses are willing to host Tech Trek, the final decision on whether to provide the residential camps this summer will be based on the state of the pandemic later this spring. We know that the residential experience is our preferred method of delivering the Tech Trek program – it's what we've been doing for the last 23 years. If the camp we normally send students to cannot be held for any reason, girls may be transferred to a virtual reservation.

Every girl attending a Tech Trek Science Camp is on a full sponsorship and was first recommended for the program by her middle school science or math teacher. Local AAUW branch coordinators provide the schools and teachers with guidelines for choosing girls who will be successful at camp. Recommended girls are contacted, along with their parents, and asked to complete an application and to write a short essay on a chosen subject.

Our AAUW Alameda Tech Trek committee members--Linda Preminger, Ellie Barrantes, Shubha Fanse and Jennifer Ayres and Barbara Krummel—review the applications then interview selected applicants. Each branch chooses the number of girls they will sponsor—Alameda typically sends six girls. Our selection process is underway so we'll keep you posted....

- Barbara Krummel, AAUW Alameda Tech Trek Chair



New Group!



The **2nd Friday Art Walk Group** meets on Friday, March 11 at 5:00 pm at the Al Fresco Dining Park on Taylor & Webster St. We will meet and visit the various stores hosting art exhibitions on Webster Street. In future months we may visit the other galleries in Alameda and Oakland having art openings on 2nd Fridays. For more information about the group, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com .



AAUW-Alameda Branch 2022-2023 Officers Nominations Committee Preliminary Report

Article IX, Section 1, Item a, of the Nominations and Elections section of our Branch Bylaws states: “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.”

It is my honor to be serving our Branch as its Immediate Past President during this current 2021-2022 Membership Year. I am pleased to report that the Committee’s work is almost complete. We have a full Slate of Nominees for the Elected Offices of our Branch, to present to the Board this month for preliminary approval before it is presented to the Members in attendance at the April Luncheon/Membership Celebration/New Year Kick-Off/Annual Business Meeting for consideration and a vote.

Here is the **Preliminary Slate** for consideration for the upcoming 2022-2023 Membership Year:

President: Barbara Krummel (incumbent)

President-Elect: Marilyn Sharron (incumbent)

Membership Co-Vice Presidents (VPs): Paula Biwer and Silver Alkhafaji

Program Co-Vice Presidents (VPs): Karen Kenney and Elizabeth “Ellie” Barrantes

AAUW Funds Vice President (VP): Mary Oppedahl (incumbent)

Finance Vice President (VP): Susan Myers (incumbent)

Secretary: Michelle Pero Igo

NOTE: All Appointed Positions (which do not require a vote of the Membership for approval) are filled for next year, and a list will be provided to all Members in April. Advance information can be requested. See my contact information, below.

Please seriously consider volunteering for this important Committee next year, at this time, and/or suggesting names of other Members who should be considered for inclusion on the Committee. I will soon be retiring and moving to the East Coast, but (an)other leader(s) who think(s) your participation would enhance the Committee’s effectiveness and/or diversity may contact you, moving forward.

You can contact me via e-mail, at mdham21@yahoo.com or by phone, at either (510) 749-0738 (land line) or (510) 219-7961 (mobile device).

Mark Hamilton

Secretary, Immediate Past President, Website Coordinator, Hospitality Committee Member, Ethnic Dining Group Organizer, and Funds Committee Member -- AAUW-Alameda Branch Member -- AAUW-National Inclusion and Equity Committee (IEC)

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Friday, March 4, 1:30 pm – 1:30 pm – **Plant Sale Meeting**

Monday, March 7, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom -- ALL WELCOME !!

Friday, March 11, 5:00 pm – **2nd Friday Art Walk Group** – New Group!

Saturday, March 12, **11:30 am** – **March Luncheon** – at Speisekammer with Dr. Don Miller

Monday, March 14, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Tuesday, March 15 – **Equal Pay Day**

Thursday, March 17, **10:00 am** – **Museum Group** – OMCA - **Edith Heath: A Life in Clay**

Friday, March 18, 1:00 pm – **Dirt Divas/Gardening Club** – Ploughshares

Saturday, March 19, 6:00 pm -- **Ethnic Dining Group**

Sunday, March 20 – **Cinema Club**

Monday, March 21, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books Group** - New members welcome!

Tuesday, March 22, 7:15 pm – **Evening Books Group** – New members welcome!

Monday, March 28, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

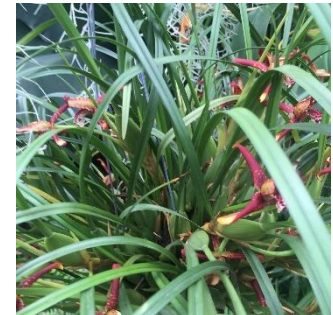
Help us plan for the 2022 AAUW Plant Sale!

Time: Friday, March 4, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Place: 1554 Everett St, Alameda, outside in the garden, weather permitting, otherwise inside with the windows open

Light refreshments will be served - please respond so we can plan.

Text Paula at 510-918-8577 .



You do not need to be a gardener to join us - just want to help with organization and working at the sale. It's a great opportunity to get together and organize something good!

All of the money raised will go to provide scholarships for College of Alameda women in the study abroad program. The plant sale will be held the morning of Saturday April 30 at 2 sale sites.

Goals for the meeting:

1. Sign up for scheduled times/tasks.
2. Discuss propagating plants from cuttings and seeds
3. Discuss strategies to involve your neighbors in growing plants for us, donating pots, and buying plants from us.
4. Discuss how to make the plant sale a fun event- enlist your creativity!



California Signs Equal Pay Pledge, Highlights Investments and Actions to Advance Pay and Gender Equity

Led by First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, the California Equal Pay Pledge seeks to turn the nation's strongest pay laws into the smallest pay gap

For the first time in state history, California will establish a Chief Equity Officer to lead efforts to improve state hiring with an equity focus

SACRAMENTO – Building on previous actions to ensure gender and pay equity, Governor Gavin Newsom, First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, and the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) today announced the State of California has signed the [California Equal Pay Pledge](#), an initiative the First Partner launched to close the gender pay gap. Governor Newsom also announced the creation of a new Chief Equity Officer position to lead efforts to improve state hiring and other procedures with an equity focus, including efforts to achieve pay parity among the state government workforce.

“I’m proud to announce that California has signed the Equal Pay Pledge to advance pay equity in our workforce,” said Governor Newsom. “Signing the pledge and establishing a Chief Equity Officer position are just the latest examples of our continued commitment to ensuring our state government workforce practices reflect the highest standards of economic, gender and racial equity.”

The announcement follows the unveiling of the Governor’s California Blueprint, which includes a proposed \$1.4 million package to improve awareness of state pay equity rights and inform enforcement efforts against those that violate equal pay laws.

“We can’t reach full gender equity or close persistent gender and racial wealth gaps without reaching pay equity,” said California First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, whose California for ALL Women campaign promotes initiatives that build women’s economic equity, support equal representation, and advance a family-first agenda. “As the state’s largest employer, California is leading by example. I call on other employers to join us as we work to create a California where all women are valued, respected, and paid equitably.”

Over 60 major California employers, including Airbnb, Apple, Gap Inc., Intel and Twitter, have signed the pledge, which the First Partner leads in collaboration with the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls and the California Labor Commissioner’s Office. By signing the Equal Pay Pledge, signatories agree to conduct an annual, company-wide gender pay analysis, review hiring and promotion procedures to reduce unconscious bias and structural barriers, and promote best practices to close the pay gap.

California regularly releases summarized annual pay data for state employees through CalHR’s Women’s Earnings Report, Annual Census and Total Compensation Reports. The latest [Women’s](#)

Earnings Report, which includes state employee pay data from 2020, indicates that the state worker gender pay gap has trended downward since 2010. In 2010, the civil service gender pay gap was 21.3 percent and decreased to 14.3 percent in 2020. For the first time, the Women's Earnings Report incorporates additional data sets to provide a better understanding of how state employees are compensated in each bargaining unit.

California has some of the strongest pay laws in the country, including a law signed by Governor Newsom in 2020 to promote compliance with state equal pay and anti-discrimination laws through mandated statewide pay data reporting for employers with 100 or more employees. Despite continued progress since the enactment of the California Equal Pay Act of 1949, studies estimate that California women continue to lose a combined **\$87 billion** a year due to the wage gap, with Latina, Black and Native American women experiencing the widest gaps.

What are You Doing this Year to Mark Equal Pay Day?

Ginny Hatfield and Shelley Mitchell
AAUW CA Public Policy Committee



AAUW believes that pay equity and equal employment opportunity are matters of simple fairness. We know that on the average, women earn about 80 cents for every dollar men earn. Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal of Equal Pay Day was to raise awareness about the gender wage gap.

Each year this date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The date normally moves earlier each year as the wage gap closes, as women's average wages rise faster than men's. Equal Pay Day was traditionally a Tuesday in April, but happily, in 2021, the date was March 24, meaning that things had improved. And this year the news is even better – all women in the aggregate will reach parity with all white men on March 15, 2022. Better, but we're still not there.

On June 10, 2021, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which had passed the House of Representatives and amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 by providing more effective remedies to victims of wage discrimination based on sex, was filibustered in the Senate on a 49-50 vote. Now is the time to let your elected officials know how you feel about this failure to codify pay equity.

AAUW Branches throughout the country have marked this day with activities that highlight the wage gap. Here are some suggestions for things your branch can do.

- Write your Congressmen to encourage them to support the Paycheck Fairness Act.
- Encourage your local city council or county board of supervisors to issue a proclamation in support of pay equity.
- Wear Red to symbolize that women's paychecks are "in the red" when compared to men.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local paper or offer to submit an op-ed.
- Share a timely post on social media to spread awareness.
- Hold an event on your local campus and offer cookies to women that are proportionately smaller than the ones you offer to men. Also invite participants to become student affiliate members of AAUW.
- Invite community members to an "unhappy hour."

Whatever you decide to do, start planning now. We can't wait for equal pay!

You can get more information and samples of proclamations and letters from the [National Committee on Pay Equity](#). You can also find out more on AAUW National's website on Pay Equity at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/pay-gap-faqs/>

Branch Interest Groups



Museum Group at the Napa Valley Museum



Dirt Divas preparing for Plant Sale



Cinema Club at the Alameda Film Festival



2nd Friday Art Walk Group

We will meet on Friday, March 11 at 5:00 pm at the Al Fresco Dining Park on Taylor & Webster St. We will visit the various stores hosting art exhibitions on Webster Street. In future months we may visit the other galleries in Alameda and Oakland having art openings on 2nd Fridays. For more information about the group, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

Afternoon Books

We meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday to discuss books we are currently reading. **We are looking for more members! Call Kate Quick, 510-523-3612, for more information.**

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, March 20, for a matinee. If COVID precautions allow, we will meet at the Alameda Theatre followed by a gathering at Tucker's Ice Cream for discussion. If not, we will plan a virtual event. To join us or 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. *We will be meeting in person, with masks and as socially distanced as possible, 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 Evening Book group meets on Tuesday, March 22 at 7:15 pm to discuss *Dancing in the Mosque: An Afghan Mother's Letter to her Son* by Homeira Qaderi. We are actively looking for new members for our group.

For this year's book list, please see our web page at <https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/book-club/> . To join us or for more information , please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

Dirt Divas/Garden Club

Come join the Dirt Divas at 1:00pm Friday, March 18 when we visit Ploughshares Nursery at 2107 Main Street, Alameda. Ploughshares is a non-profit retail plant nursery that specializes in California native, drought tolerant, and edible plants. 100% of the proceeds from the nursery support Alameda Point Collaborative's supportive housing community for formerly homeless families and individuals. Please join us for this local, outdoor activity and help support a non-profit organization doing important work in our community.

Please contact Paula at pbiwer@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

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 March and June. **For more information, contact Dorothy Kerwin -- kerwindorothy@gmail.com**

Mah Jongg (American Style)

The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 1:30 PM. Contact Laura Porter at Lrajean@aol.com or 510-912-0385 if you'd like to play in the Mah Jongg Interest Group.

Museum Group

We will be going to the **Oakland Museum** on March 17, 2022, and we will see:

Edith Heath: A Life in Clay.

Trailblazer. Rebel. Revolutionary. Discover the story of Edith Heath, founder and designer of Heath Ceramics. Heath transformed the ceramics industry, creating dinnerware from California clay for "Sunday best" and everyday use. Driven by the power of good design, and a commitment to her craft, Heath's vision continues to live on through her stoneware and tile over 70 years later.


Durable, not delicate, simple, yet stylish, Heath Ceramics is an icon of American design.

We meet at South Shore Shopping Center at 10:00 a.m. Carpool leaves from the Ross Parking Lot at **10:30 a.m.**, sharp. If you are interested in going, contact Judy Sparks,

judysparks@comcast.net or call 510-523-6736. We meet for lunch in the cafeteria at 11:30 AM..

Calendar Branch Activities

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4- Plant Sale Mtg 1:30 PM	5
6	7- Board Meeting 6:00 PM via Zoom	8	9	10	11- 2 nd Friday Art Walk 5:00 PM	12- Luncheon 11:30 AM at Speisekammer
13	14- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM	15- Equal Pay Day 	16	17- Museum Group 10:00 AM	18-Dirt Divas 1:00 PM	19- Ethnic Dining Group 6:00 PM
20- Cinema Club	21- Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	22- Evening Book Club 7:15 PM	23	24	25	26
27	28- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM	29	30	31		

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.

Speisekammer Family Style Menu

Appetizers

Reibekuchen (Gf)/(V)

Potato Pancakes served with house made Apple Compote

Combination German Salads (Gf)/(V)

Cucumber Salad, Red Beet Salad,
Carrot Salad, Cabbage Salad

Entree

Grilled Sausage Platter (Gf)– with a mixture of Sausages & Smoked Pork Chop
(Bratwurst, Thurlinger, Bock/Weiswurst, Kleine Nurnberger)
served on a bed of Sauerkraut

Wiener Schnitzel

Breaded and Pan Fried Pork Cutlet - Sliced into strips for sharing

Gratinierte Kasespätzle (V)

Spätzle baked with Caramelized Onion & European Cheese Blend

Sides

Seasonal Vegetable (Gf)/(V)

Mashed Potatoes (Gf)/(V)

Dessert

Chocolate Bread Pudding w/ Vanilla Sauce