



**ALAMEDA BRANCH
2022-23 BOARD**
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

October 2022

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October Legal Affairs Luncheon

**Saturday October 8 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
(Doors open at 11:30 AM)**

China Villa Restaurant* 891-A Island Dr



Our traditional focus of the October meeting is a topic in the legal field. Our luncheon speaker is Robin Seeley who is a retired federal prosecutor. She worked in the United States Attorney office under Robert Mueller. Robin will share her insights into the federal legal system.

Cost: \$30 per person

Please select **one** of the following entrees':

- Chicken with Green Beans
- Broccoli Beef
- 4 kinds of Vegetables (Snow Peas, Water Chestnuts, Zucchini, and Mushrooms)

Please email Ellie Barrantes at esbarrantes@gmail.com with your RSVP including your entree selection. Checks are to be written out to AAUW and mailed to Ellie Barrantes, [1160 Bismarck Lane, Alameda, CA 94502](http://1160BismarckLaneAlamedaCA94502) or you can pay the day of the luncheon by check or cash.

*Seating at this month's venue, China Villa Restaurant, is entirely indoors. As always, those attending should be fully vaccinated

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

Well, our new year has begun and we kicked it off with a lovely luncheon on Saturday, September 10, held at the Park Street Tavern. The food was delicious, the service excellent and they had a great sound system. The owners generously donated their time and provided the space free of cost so that we could keep the price down. Please consider patronizing this restaurant the next time you're planning to eat out. The luncheon was expertly coordinated by our new VPs of Program, Ellie Barrantes and Karen Kenney.

Next up is our monthly Board meeting scheduled for Monday, October 3, starting at 6:00 pm. Since these meetings are now being held via Zoom, I'd like to continue to extend an invitation to any of our members who are curious about leadership in our organization. Use the link below to register and drop in to say hello and learn about the Board and our decision-making process.

You are invited to the AAUW Alameda Branch October Board meeting.

When: Oct 3, 2022 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZUvf-iprzgrGNKq0uvZEfU8bZCVXX9VmJD1>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

-Barbara Krummel, AAUW Alameda Branch President



Thanks so much to everyone who attended the September luncheon which featured our six Tech Trek campers: Jayla (Wood Middle School), Karishma (Academy of Alameda),

Mia (Encinal Jr. Jets), Reshmi, (Bay Farm School), Susan (Bay Farm School) and Zorana (Encinal Jr. Jets). The girls did a great job talking about their camp experience, then went table to table to describe in detail some of the projects they created. We also got to hear from 2019 camper, Luisa Barrantes, who worked at this year's Tech Trek as a Junior Counselor. The ongoing themes expressed by the girls were an awakened enthusiasm for STEM, renewed confidence, and gratitude to our membership. TechTrek continues to change lives!



Thanks to our Tech Trek committee members, Linda Preminger, Shuba Fpanse, Ellie Barrantes, and Jennifer Ayres for their help this year and welcome to new committee member Roberta Schwarz.

This annual luncheon also serves as a fundraiser for Tech Trek and we collected over \$1,000 thanks to the generosity of our members and guests. If you weren't able to attend the luncheon, you can still show your support by going to the Tech Trek section of our website, scroll down and follow the instructions or you can send a check. Checks must be made out to AAUW CA SPF and can be mailed to Barbara Krummel, 3258 Liberty Ave., Alameda, CA 94501. Tech Trek is a 501c3 nonprofit so donations are tax deductible. You will receive a thank you letter with the Tech Trek tax ID number. The cost for each girl is \$1,000 so we have to raise \$5,000 to \$6,000 each year and the branch members are major supporters!

Barbara Krummel, Alameda Branch Tech Trek Coordinator



To provide quality opportunity drawing items, **please bring any of the items listed to the October and November luncheons.**

I would like to tailor the items to the luncheon theme or holiday of the month.

These are some examples of items that I can hopefully create a nice package/basket.

If there are any nice, artsy planters or baskets left from the plant sale, I could make good use of these as well.

I hope to limit the prizes to five per meeting.

Books- Hardback/Paperback
Journals
Candles
Stationery
Unwanted Gift Cards
Boxed Soaps/Lotions

Wine
Scarves
Crochet/ Knitted Items
Picture Frames
Boxed/Packaged Coffee, Tea
Event Tickets

Or any unused gifts received needing a good home.

-Submitted by Cindy Silva

Request for 2023 Calendars



This time of the year we all receive calendars from the many organizations that we donate to.

At the branch luncheons from October to December, please bring any 2023 excess calendars that you may have. We are accepting both wallet and wall calendars.

The calendars will be provided to the clients of the Alameda Food Bank.

Cindy Silva will be collecting the calendars.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Saturday, October 1, 1:00 pm -- **Art Walk Group** – Creative Framing and Gallery

Monday, October 3, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom -- ALL WELCOME !!

Saturday, October 3, 4:00 pm -- Gray Loft Gallery

Saturday, October 8, 12:00 pm – **October Luncheon**

Monday, October 10, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Wednesday, October 12, 10:30 am – **Out to Lunch Bunch** – Dead Fish Restaurant

Thursday, October 13, 9:30 am – **Museum Group** – De Young – Ramses the Great

Sunday, October 16 – **Cinema Club**

Monday, October 17, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books Group** – New members welcome!

Tuesday, October 18, 7:15 pm – **Evening Books Group** – New members welcome!

Thursday, October 20, 6:00 pm – **Diablo Valley LWV** – State November Ballot Initiatives

Friday, October 21, 1:00 pm – **Dirt Divas**

Monday, October 24, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**



When *Women Vote*, We Change the Conversation!

AAUW California supports the passage of **Propositions 1 and 28** on the November ballot.

Proposition 1. The decision by the Supreme Court of the United States to overturn Roe v. Wade dealt a serious blow to the rights of women to make their own decision about their bodies. This spurred many state legislatures to act to ban abortion, some with no exceptions for rape, incest, or endangering the life of the mother. Abortion bans in other states have already taken effect. Yet polls in many states show a majority in support of protecting the rights of women to choose to have abortions. Currently women are coming from other states to obtain abortions in California. An Abortion Access website is being formed in our state to enable and assist out-of-state women with travel arrangements, housing, medical appointments and other matters.

California Legislators, recognizing the remote possibility that at some future time state legislation could ban abortions, took timely action in June to pass SCR 10. This put Proposition 1, the Constitutional Right to Reproductive Freedom, on the November ballot. Passage of Prop 1 will amend the California Constitution, stating “Section 1.1 is added to Article I thereof, to read: SEC. 1.1. The state shall not deny or interfere with an individual's reproductive freedom in their most intimate decisions, which includes their fundamental right to choose to have an abortion and their fundamental right to choose or refuse contraceptives. This section is intended to further the constitutional right to privacy guaranteed by Section 1, and the constitutional right to not be denied equal protection guaranteed by Section 7. Nothing herein narrows or limits the right to privacy or equal protection.”

AAUW CA has begun a Social Media campaign to educate and encourage voters to support Prop 1. Weekly messages contain important facts. If you don't use social media, we urge you to email the messages to others who do!

Proposition 28. In the context of AAUW CA's Public Policy Priorities in support of Education, AAUW CA supports Proposition 28, The Arts and Music in Schools – Funding Guarantee and Accountability Act. Studies on educational achievement prove that arts and music education improve student learning. Music education has been shown to improve cognitive development and spatial reasoning while the dramatic arts improve reading comprehension. Arts and music education has also been shown to improve school attendance and individual self-confidence and motivation to learn, particularly among poor and other at-risk students. Yet these programs are usually the first cut when school budgets are reduced. Prop 28 would provide a minimum source of annual funding coming from the state General Fund to K-12 public schools to supplement arts education programs. School districts would be held accountable to use the funds for hiring certificated employees and purchasing supplies and materials. Read the full propositions on the Secretary of State website, www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-measures

Become informed, and Vote on November 8, 2022!!

PLEASE NOTE: There was an error in the AAUW California September Newsletter article. The article provided a link to National's Get Out the Vote Toolkit, however the link was to their old site. The site has been updated and the new and correct link is:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/advocacy-toolkit/> .

--Submitted by Amy Hom, Los Altos - Mountain View AAUW, AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee



New Interest Group – Out to Lunch Bunch !



We have a new Interest Group planning to have lunch adventures at Bay Area restaurants the second Wednesday of each month. We will meet at the Ross parking lot, at South Shore, to carpool. The first six people to make a reservation may ride in the van. More people can go if there are volunteer drivers. The meeting time will vary depending on the destination.

Branch Interest Groups

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 Karen Scanlon, 510-523-5456, for more information.**

Art Walk Group

The Art Walk group will meet on Saturday, October 1, at 1:00 pm, to go to the Creative Framing & Gallery at 2700 Park Blvd in Oakland for a Saturday Stroll. We may be arranging a carpool to go to this event, and if so we will meet at the Nob Hill Foods parking lot near Starbucks/Pet Food Express. We might have lunch at a nearby restaurant after seeing the small gallery. Art Walk group meets the first or second Friday or Saturday of the month and visits an art gallery hosting a reception on Webster Street, Park Street, Frank Bette Center, Rhythmix, or Oakland. For more information about the group and to respond for this month, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, October 16, for a matinee at the Alameda Theatre followed by a gathering at Tucker's Ice Cream for discussion. To join us or for more information about the group, please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Dirt Divas/Garden Club - There will be no meeting in October.

Our next event will be Friday, October 21, 1pm at Phoenix Commons, 340 29 th Avenue, Oakland. At this meeting we'll learn how to propagate geraniums and other plants from cuttings and also how to plant rooted cuttings such as philodendrons. These newly potted plants will be nurtured and then sold at our May, 2023 plant sale. This planting party is open to all branch members and friends that want to learn how to grow and care for these plants. If interested, participants can take their newly potted plants home to care for them until the sale, or we can have a foster plant parent tend to them. If you'd like to participate in this event, please **RSVP to Paula Biwer** (call or text to **510-918-8577** or email to pbiwer@yahoo.com).

Between now and the plant sale, we are collecting ceramic and terra cotta pots we can sell. If you have any pots to donate in saleable condition, you can bring them to the October meeting, drop them off at Dorothy Kerwin's house in front of her garage (2918 Lincoln Ave., Alameda), or contact Paula to arrange pickup. Finally, you can help by saving small shipping boxes (e.g., from Amazon), Costco produce flats, etc. for the plant sale.

If you are interested in learning more about the Dirt Divas and our activities, please contact Paula.

Evening Books

The Evening Book group meets on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:15 pm to discuss *Long Division* by Kiese Laymon. We are actively looking for new members for our group. For this year's book list, please see our web page <https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/book-club/>. To join us or for more information, please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Global Cooking Group

The Global Cooking Group (CGC) is regrouping after our Ethnic Dining Group (which cooked 9 to 10 months each year) split into a restaurant group and our cooking group. We still plan to cook 9-10 months yearly and dine out 2-3 months (as always).

Our September dining started at Dragon Rouge on September 17 and we are still planning for October. We usually meet on the third Saturday each month at a member's home or in social spaces like at Phoenix Commons.

Please contact any GCG member or Dorie Behrstock at dgbintl@gmail.com or by phone/text at 510-409-7478 for more info.

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

Mah Jongg (American Style)

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoon of each month to play American-style Mah Jongg. Beginners are welcome and we can teach you how to play if you'd like to give it a try. Contact Laura Porter at Lrajean@aol.com or **510-912-0385** for more information about the Mah Jongg interest group.

Museum Group

On Thursday, October 13 (second Thursday), the Museum Group will go to the de Young to see the exhibit **RAMSES THE GREAT AND THE GOLD OF THE PHARAOHS**.

Ramses II was an eminent military officer who became king of Egypt and is regarded as the mightiest pharaoh of the New Kingdom--Egypt's Golden Age. Ramses II ascended the throne of Egypt in his twenties and ruled for 6 decades. He lived for 92 years when life expectancy was 34 years. He secured and expanded the borders of the country and made peace. He embarked on a construction campaign of cities, buildings, temples, obelisks, and colossal statues.

Ramses's tomb in the Valley of the Kings suffered near total destruction by ancient plunderers. Therefore, the exhibit includes stunning objects from royal tombs of the Middle Kingdom. The exhibit shows the fabulous wealth of the pharaohs, the extravagance of their burials, and the superb work of Egyptian artists.


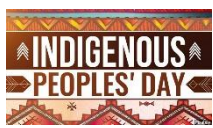

We meet at South Shore Shopping Center 9:00 a.m. Carpool leaves from the Ross Parking Lot at **9:30 a.m. sharp**. If you are interested in going, contact Judy Sparks, [judysparks@comcast.net](mailto:judy Sparks@comcast.net) or call **510-523-6736**. We have lunch at the museum cafeteria at 11:30.

Out to Lunch Bunch

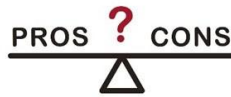
On October 12th we are going to The Dead Fish restaurant in Crockett. We will be meeting in the Ross parking lot at the South Shore Mall at 10:30am and leaving sharply at 10:45. For reservations call Virginia Darrow at (510) 409-7481 by Oct. 7th. Hope to see you!

Calendar Branch Activities

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1- Art Walk Group 4:00 PM
2	3-Board mtg 6:00 pm via Zoom	4- Yom Kippur 	5	6	7	8- Luncheon 12:00 PM
9	10- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM 	11	12-Out to Lunch Bunch 10:30 AM	13- Museum Group 9:30 AM	14	15
16-- Cinema Club	17- Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	18- Evening Book Club 7:15 PM	19	20—DV LWM – Ballot Initiatives	21- Dirt Divas 1:00 PM	22
23	24- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM	25	26	27	28	29
30	31- Halloween 					

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.



Examining the November 2022 California Ballot Initiatives

**Thursday, October 20th
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Greenbrook Clubhouse
300 Greenbrook Drive, Danville**

Join the American Association of University Women's Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch (AAUW DAW) and the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley in an informative presentation of the pros and cons related to our 2022 ballot measures. A presentation by the speakers will help us sort through the latest array of initiatives.

This year, more than ever, we need to prepare for this critical election before we cast our ballots. California is facing unprecedented challenges to our democracy, not to mention the public health and economic crises. As voters, we must consider critical issues such as systemic racism, homelessness, rebuilding crumbling infrastructures, and a wide range of measures on this year's ballot.

This discussion offers a look behind the slogans to better understand the ballot measure opportunities and their consequences.

RSVP via [Eventbrite](#)