



**ALAMEDA BRANCH
2022-23 BOARD**
alameda-ca.aauw.net

LEADERSHIP TEAM

PRESIDENT

Barbara Krummel

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Marilyn Sharron

MEMBERSHIP VPs

Paula Biwer & Silver Alkhafaji

PROGRAM VPs

Ellie Barrantes & Karen Kenney

AAUW FUNDS VP

Mary Oppedahl

FINANCE VP

Susan Myers

SECRETARY

Michelle Pero Igo

HISTORIAN: Beth Sibley

HOSPITALITY

Cynthia Silva, Dorothy

Kerwin & Marilyn Sharron

NEWSLETTER: Jennifer Ayres

PARLIAMENTARIAN/Bylaws

Penelope Washbourn

PUBLIC POLICY

Donna Vaughn

PUBLICITY

Elizabeth McGaffey

SUNSHINE: Cynthia Silva

TECH TREK COORDINATOR

Barbara Krummel

FUNDS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dorothy Kerwin

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Penny Washbourn, Silver
Alkhafaji, & Shubha Fanse

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Jennifer Ayres

Alameda Branch News

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

December 2022

A publication of AAUW-Alameda Branch, chartered 1962

Vol. 60, Issue 4

Let's Get Together for our Holiday Luncheon



December 10, 2022, from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

At the High Street Station

(Located at the corner of Encinal and High Street)

We will have a voluntary gift exchange (value of \$25 or less). The more the merrier!

There will be a hot buffet lunch for \$40.00 (tax and gratuity included) per person. Please RSVP to Ellie Barrantes at esbarrantes@gmail.com. Please send a check made out to AAUW Alameda Branch to Ellie Barrantes, 1160 Bismarck Lane, Alameda, CA 94502 or you can pay at the door.

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

Happy Holiday Season to all of our members. I hope you're planning fun and exploration with friends and family. I like to think of the holidays as an opportunity to practice an "attitude of gratitude" so here it goes...

I would like to thank all of our amazing members for continuing to make our branch fun, fabulous and friendly. Through your participation in our interest groups and your work and donations to support the AAUW mission, you have created a vibrant branch that makes a difference in our community! Next, a shout out to our hard-working and dedicated Board members (they are listed at the top of this newsletter). At our monthly Board meetings, we plan, organize and strategize to make sure the branch is supporting our mission and our members. Our Board meetings are held the first Monday of the month via Zoom. This means that it's easy for anyone to "drop in" if you're curious. Laura Porter will be sending out an e-blast each month with the Zoom link. Please consider stopping in to see what the Board is working on and maybe you'll want to join as a Board member in the future...

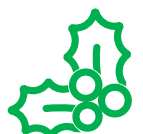
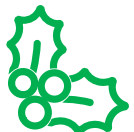
As the new year approaches, consider a new challenge—there are some opportunities in this newsletter!

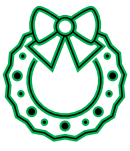


We Need Your Help!!

Whether you have a background in marketing and/or public relations, are a regular on social media or just have ideas about how we can better communicate--our branch needs help formulating a plan on how to reach our membership and larger Alameda community. We are forming an ad hoc committee to "reconsider our media presence". Our goals include targeted solutions to increase membership, more participation of current members, fundraising, community engagement, etc. (thanks to Laura Porter for her input). If you're interested in helping or have questions, please contact me at barbarakrummel@comcast.net or text at 510-846-5887.

-Barbara Krummel, AAUW Alameda Branch President





TEMPLE ISRAEL HOLIDAY FEST — DECEMBER 4 11 - 4 PM
3183 Mecartney Road , Bay Farm near Library



Help support our Peralta Colleges Foundation for College of Alameda AAUW Transfer Scholarship Fund.

Our branch will be selling items at Temple Israel's annual Holiday Fest, 11am - 4pm on Sunday, December 4. We'll be selling handmade craft items, edible treats, and plants grown by the Dirt Divas. All proceeds from the sale will go to our Transfer Scholarship Fund. We are also excited to participate in the event to further promote AAUW and our branch to members of the community.

Here's how you can support this event:

- 1-Donate your handmade items by 1pm, Dec. 2
- 2- Assist with organizing and pricing the items on Dec. 2
- 3-Donate your homemade edible items by 11am, Dec. 4
- 4-Assist with our sale at Temple Israel on Dec. 4
- 5-Shop and spread the word about our sale at Temple Israel on Dec. 4

For donations, we would like handmade goods in many craft categories such as crocheted, knitted, quilted, embroidered items; handmade jewelry; ceramics; paper arts/photo note cards; small paintings, candles, soaps, etc. We can also sell homemade edible items such as baked goods, candies and preserves. **Also** please bring paper/plastic bags of any size to the fair.

We are collecting the handcrafted items at Laura Porter's house (352 Channing Way, Alameda) between 10am and 1pm on Friday, December 2, and then pricing them that afternoon. If you can donate items, please include your name, a suggested sale price and information about your item. For example, a knitted scarf should include the type of yarn used; baked goods should include information about any potential allergens, gluten free, contains nuts, etc. and any other helpful information to assist in pricing or that the buyer might want to know. If you can't deliver your items during the scheduled time, please contact Laura to make other arrangements.

Edible items with a short shelf life should be brought directly to the Temple Sunday morning during our set up time, 9-11 am. Otherwise, the edible items can go to Laura's on December 2.

Any unsold items can be: returned to you; used for a future opportunity drawing; or offered for sale at the 2023 plant sale, if plant or gardening themed. We will contact you after the sale about any of your unsold items.

We could use a few more volunteers to work at Laura's house starting at 1pm on Friday, Dec. 2, to sort and price the items. If you have experience and knowledge about handcrafted items and pricing, please consider helping us so we can maximize our profit to benefit the Transfer Scholarship Fund. If you can help sort and price on Dec. 2, please contact Laura at LRAJEAN@AOL.COM or call or text to **510-912-0385**.

Can you work one of these shifts at Temple Israel on Dec. 4?

- 9-11am to set up
- 11am-1pm to work at our sale table
- 1-3pm to work at our sale table
- 3-5pm to conclude the sale and pack up

If you can work one of these time slots, please contact Paula Biwer at pbiwer@yahoo.com, or call or text to **510-918-8577**.

Lastly, you can support our fundraiser by shopping at our table on December 4



WANT MORE WOMEN IN POLITICAL POWER?

Learn about GOV TREK, the new AAUW program!

The goal of Gov Trek is to address the shortage of women in the halls of power by galvanizing high school junior and senior girls to consider careers in public service and elected office. Over five two-hour virtual Saturday sessions, students will engage in interactive and inspiring activities with exposure to female changemakers in politics, related career options, and a campaign simulation project and contest. The free program is open to a maximum of 150 students from throughout California.

Unlike Speech Trek and Tech Trek, branches will not need to be involved in a student selection process. No spreadsheets to complete, no essays to read, no interviews to conduct! Students will register directly with the state Gov Trek program and be admitted on a first come, first served basis with a maximum of 150 participants.

What will the branch's role be? Publicize this program in your schools and community! Readymade materials and guidance will be provided. It's an easy way to provide a high impact program. Plus, you'll gain some community exposure and possibly new members!

Gov Trek 2023 Volunteers Needed! Be a part of it! Learn how you can help us close the gender gap in politics. Submit your name [HERE](#)

If we want more women running the world, this is how we start.

Regards,
Shauna (Oenning) Ruyle
Gov Trek Program Director
AAUW California
govtrek@aauw-ca.org



Request for 2023 Calendars



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

At the branch December luncheon, 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



To provide quality opportunity drawing items, **please bring any of the items listed to the December luncheon.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Sunday, December 4, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm – **Temple Israel Holiday Fest** – See article above

Monday, December 5, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom -- ALL WELCOME !!

Saturday, December 10, 12:00 pm – **December Luncheon**

Saturday, December 10, 5:30 pm – **Global Cooking Group** – Annual Holiday Fest

Monday, December 12, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Sunday, December 18 – **Cinema Club**

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

Tuesday, December 20, 7:15 pm – **Evening Books Group** – 2nd Annual Online Reunion

Tuesday-Wednesday, March 21-22, 2023 – **Lobby Days**



Lobby Days are Here Again....

Ginny Hatfield, AAUW California Public Policy Committee Member

Save the Dates March 21st and March 22nd, are the AAUW CA scheduled Lobby Days, so mark your calendars and be sure to sign up to participate when our Lobby Day registration arrives in your January mailbox.

Advocating for our top 3 priority bills is fundamental to achieving our legislative priorities by addressing economic security for all women, providing equal access to public education and insuring social and racial justice for all members of society. We need all members on board and will be counting on you to reach out to our elected officials in the CA legislature.

Our Public Policy Committee will make it easy for you to do so. This year instead of a full week, Lobby Day will consist of two days and will occur while the legislature is in session, not on break. Hopefully, this will provide more opportunity to actually speak with a member in lieu of a staffer. Our plans are to make it hybrid – virtual and in-person. Those branches in and around Sacramento would have the option of in-person meetings at the Capitol with the remaining branches meeting virtually or in-person with staffers in the district. So, a bit more flexibility this year as the committee feels it's beneficial to establish relationships with our elected leaders' local staff.

Our AAUW legislative Advocate will be scheduling meetings with the member offices willing to participate, and once you return your Lobby Day survey, the committee will begin to assemble branch participants and match them with Assembly and Senate districts in order to assign teams. We will provide you with material on the bills we are supporting and have scheduled a mandatory training webinar for March 20th, so you'll have the information at your fingertips. If you have participated in Lobby Day in the past, we would love to hear from you on what worked and what didn't, please send your comments to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org.

Lobby Day is our chance to make a concerted impact on the priorities and values we, as AAUW members, hold dear. It brings out the "advocates" in all us for improving the economic and educational lives of women and girls. And goodness knows, we need that commitment now more than ever. So, mark those calendars and join us on Lobby Day/s.

Branch Interest Groups



Out to Lunch Bunch at Mersea Restaurant on Treasure Island

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 again in January. We meet the first or second Friday or Saturday of the month and visit an art gallery hosting a reception on Webster Street, Park Street, Frank Bette Center, Rhythmix, or Oakland. For more information about the group, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, December 18, 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

Dirt Divas will not meet in December due to participation in December 4 Temple Holiday Fair. Plans are in the works for January, February and March. Please continue to plant seeds at the earliest optimal time, root cuttings and transplant succulents and other hardy plants. Keep those "green thumbs" busy.

Evening Books

The Evening Book group meets on Tuesday, December 20 at 7:15 pm for our 2nd Annual Online Reunion. Members from our past and present are invited to join us from anywhere in the world for this special meeting. 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, and to get the link for the meeting, please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Global Cooking Group

The Global Cooking Group will meet on Saturday December 10 at 5:30 pm for our annual holiday fest. Bring an appetizer from your holiday tradition, no matter across the world or across the USA - all are welcome. Enjoy a cup of glögg or hot spiced cider! To respond for the party, please email kevis.brownson@gmail.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 December and June. **For more information, contact Dorothy Kerwin --** kerwindorothy@gmail.com

Mah Jongg (American Style)

We usually 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







The Museum Group is not planning an activity for December. See you in the new year.

Out to Lunch Bunch

The Out to Lunch Bunch meets on the second Wednesday of each month. We travel near and far trying restaurants new to us, or old favorites! If you are interested, or would like more information. call Virginia Darrow, (510) 409-7481.

Calendar Branch Activities

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4-Temple Israel Holiday Fest 11-4	5-Board mtg 6:00 pm via Zoom	6	7- 	8	9	10- Luncheon 12:00 PM
11	12- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM	13	14	15	16	17
18-- Cinema Club Hanukkah 	19- Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	20- Evening Book Club 7:15 PM	21- 	22	23	24
25-Christmas 	26-  HAPPY KWANZAA	27	28	29	30	31-New Year's Eve 

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.