



**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

January 2023

A publication of AAUW-Alameda Branch, chartered 1962

Vol. 60, Issue 5



We will not be having a luncheon for the month of January. During this time, Karen Kenney and Ellie Barrantes will work on our future luncheons and explore new ideas and options for AAUW. Have a safe and happy holiday!

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

It's the time of year for New Year's resolutions. Why not make getting more involved in our AAUW leadership one of yours? Our organization depends on our members to keep us running as a well oiled machine. We can use your talents and energy to keep us chugging along. If you get a call asking for your help, please consider the power of saying "yes". Try something new in 2023, you'll be pleasantly surprised I'm sure.

-Barbara Krummel

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Monday, January 9, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Monday, January 9 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom -- ALL WELCOME !!

Wednesday, January 11 – **Out to Lunch Bunch**

Sunday, January 15 – **Cinema Club**

Monday, January 16, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books Group**

Tuesday, January 17, 7:15 pm – **Evening Books Group**

Thursday, January 19, 9:30 am – **Museum Group** – SF MOMA – Joan Brown

Friday, January 20, 3:00 – 4:30 pm – **Dirt Divas** - Art Workshop

Monday, January 23, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

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



Temple Israel Craft Fair Results



Thank you to the 23 AAUW members and friends who helped make things, price things, sell things, purchase stuff and make a donation at our first AAUW/Alameda branch craft fair. It was a huge success. We sold over \$1800 in crafts, food, and plants and handed out over 125 informational flyers. The board has decided to participate again next year and I am inviting all of our crafters to begin making beautiful things to sell and store away for next year. Also, please save any lengths of holiday ribbon and any tissue paper. It's wonderful to reuse these holiday supplies. Just save them up and hand to Paula at a future meeting.

2023 Calendar Drive Results

The 2023 calendar drive is over!!!



At the monthly luncheons and various meetings, we collected over 150 calendars. It was an impressive success. We would like to thank all the members that donated the calendars.

The calendars were very appreciated by the patrons of the Alameda Food Bank.

We are planning on having the drive again in the Late Summer/Fall for the 2024 calendars. 18 month calendars are also accepted.

“A gesture so small meant so much to those with so little.”

Cynthia Silva
Calendar Chair

Opportunity Drawings



We have received a generous number of opportunity drawing donations this year to support our drawings through May 2024.

NO FURTHER DONATIONS are needed.

A new item is that the tax reporting of income has required us to file additional documents pertaining to our opportunity drawings. This impacts the finance officers responsibilities prompting a review of this monthly event.

The continuation of the drawings during the next term will be reviewed at a future board meeting.

Much effort and time is required for this monthly event. The gifts have been presented in a new manner, are of higher quality, but sales are down. Five to six prizes are prepared for each luncheon averaging \$20 and up each.

If you have any comments pertaining to this function, please email Cynthia Silva.

Cynthia Silva
Hospitality Chair

Sunshine

This is just a reminder to email Cynthia Silva if you have knowledge of any life events for any of our members.

This includes, Get Well, Thinking of You, Sympathy, New Home and Congratulations. If you see a need, please let Cynthia know. The cards sent are of high quality.

The cards are sent to our members on behalf of our local branch.

-Cynthia Silva, Sunshine Chair



Elections Finally Over – How'd We Do in '22?

-Kathi Harper, Public Policy Chair AAUW California

The election is finally over! In addition to an end to the non-stop requests for donations, AAUW members can be pretty happy with the results. Here are a few highlights:

- 1 woman each was added to the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate, bringing the numbers to 124 (H) and 25 (S)
- Of the total of 149, 54 are women of color
- We lost the most powerful woman in government (Nancy Pelosi) but still have a woman on the Minority leadership team, Minority Whip Katherine Clark
- Governors of 12 states are now women
- 23% of all mayors across the nation are women, including our brand new and **first** female mayor of Los Angeles, Karen Bass
- 20 women won new seats in the California Legislature and 30 female incumbents were re-elected, bringing the total to 50 – but still just 42%
- All executive positions in California except Governor are filled by women, including Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Controller, as well as the Senate Pro Tem
- Proposition 1 prevailed and women's right to control their own reproductive choices is now enshrined in our constitution.

And here are some fun facts:

- Only 3.2% of all members of Congress to date have been women
- California has sent more women to Congress than any other state – a total of 47 to date
- Vermont is the only state that has never sent a woman to either the House or the Senate

The State Public Policy committee thanks each and every AAUW California member who voted, who assisted in our Voter Education (VE) campaign by spreading our messages on social media, who took the pledge to vote for Prop 1 (we had 437 sign up!) and who worked within their branches to do their own VE events.

For a more detailed analysis of the election results, visit <https://www.aauw-ca.org/got-voter-fatigue/>



AAUW Alameda NCCWSL News

from Penny Washbourn.NCCWSL Coordinator and Susan Myers, Treasurer

Many of our members may not know that our College of Alameda NCCWSL Scholarship program still exists! With that impossible acronym...(just think “nick whistle”), these letters stand for the AAUW “ **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders**”. This conference has been around for decades and brings second year (and above) students from community colleges and universities from across the country to the University of Maryland for a two day conference. The goal is to develop student leadership skills across five core learning objectives: Leadership Development, Professional Development, Activism, Women’s Issues, and Identity and Diversity. Inspiring Speakers are drawn from some remarkable women leaders in all sectors of society. Women are also given the opportunity to focus on their own academic and professional goals and bond with other women from across the country. After all this intense work, students are able to have an extra day for sight seeing in our nation’s capital.

Encouraged by our own Alameda member Silver Al Khafaji ,who had attended NCCWSL when she was a student at UC Berkeley, in 2019 we raised money for two scholarships administered by AAUW CA Special projects fund. We set up a nominations process with the College of Alameda, set up an interview and screening committee with representation from the College and our members and interviewed our finalists on Zoom., only to have the in-person event canceled in 2020, 2021 and 2022 due to the Pandemic.

Great news! The in- person conference will take place May 31-June 3, 2023 . Our screening committee will be myself, Susan Myers, Silver Al Khafaji , Annette Koch and Tina Vasconcellos VP of Student Services COA.

The review of applications and interviews will be done via Zoom in March. If anyone would enjoy joining us we will have a planning meeting in February, read applications and have an initial meeting to select finalists the second week of March and schedule four half hour interviews the third week of March. Awards must be made by end of March.

Please contact me if you are interested and available during that period of time. It is a most enjoyable process to meet these students.

We will also need to add to our NCCWSL fund through donations and Fund raising activities for 2024. Each scholarship is \$1,500 and covers transportation , registration , room and board and the extra night in the dorm.

If any one is interested in making a donation at any time please contact me for proper preparation of the check or funds transfer as the funds do **NOT** go to AAUW Alameda, but to the Special Projects Fund(like Tech Trek) pwashbou@gmail.com

Thanks so much for your support. This is a great way to build future younger membership for our branch.

ART WORKSHOPS

-sponsored by Dirt Divas artist: Mandar Wagholikar



Please join us for a one or two day afternoon zoom art class with Mandar, who will model how to create a picture using acrylics or oil pastels on a nature theme. The first class is on Friday, January 20, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM and the second class on Friday, February 3, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM. Each class is an hour and a half in length and you can take one or both classes. You do not need to have any art experience. Here is a list of what supplies are needed: an iPad or computer to see the zoom broadcast, another device to see the inspiration image (iPad, iPhone, computer or print out image), an area to sit where you have enough light and space, an easel is optional, acrylic paint set or an oil pastel paint set, paper towels, flat and round brushes, paper plate for mixing colors, jar of water, an apron, paper or canvas panel, and your favorite drink. Each class costs \$35. Pay Mandar through Venmo, PayPal or Zelle to his email address mandarfineart@gmail.com. If you do not have any of the above payment methods, you can pay by check to Mandar Wagholikar, 321 Laguna Vista Alameda, CA 94501, or use his telephone number **914-419-3989** and in the memo or note section write AAUW art class and which dates or just write AAUW both. Once you are enrolled in one or both classes, Mandar will send you via email the link to join the zoom class.

Please register as soon possible with an email to me and a payment directly to him. This is wonderful opportunity to begin 2023 with creativity and fellowship. All friends are invited too. any questions, contact Paula Biber at pbiwer@yahoo.com.

-Paula Biber



December Luncheon Secret Santa Party!

Branch Interest Groups

Afternoon Books

Come join other avid readers on the third Monday of the month at Peet's inside Nob Hill Market at 1:30pm. Each person discusses and reviews the books they have read in the past month. We also swap books as well as collect books for the Friends of the Library Book Sale. Contact Karen Scanlon for more information at yakitt@aol.com or 510-523-6456.

Art Walk Group

The Art Walk group is not viable right now because we have lost so many galleries with the pandemic. The original idea was to visit galleries in Jingtletown and Alameda on the second Friday openings. There was even a shuttle bus for it. But this has still not really started happening again, another casualty of Covid. Thus, we will announce if this group ever gets going again. For more information about the group, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, January 15, 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 – We will not be having typical meetings in January and February due to the art workshop. We encourage everybody to participate and I have acrylic and oil pastels people can borrow. Just contact Paula at pbiwer@yahoo.com or text/call **510-918-8577** if you have any questions about the workshop. Everyone is invited to attend!

We continue to collect any size ceramic/terra-cotta pots, plants in pots that you or your neighbors no longer want and any other odds and ends of bags of soil and rocks, etc. to be reused at our May plant sale. Please drop off everything at Dorothy Kerwin's house (2918 Lincoln Ave., Alameda) in front of her garage or on her front steps. Thanks in advance for your many donations.

Evening Books

The Evening Book group meets on Tuesday, January 17 at 7:15 pm. Our book this month is *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race*. For this year's book list, please see our web page . To join us or for more information , please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Global Cooking Group

For more information, please email kevis.brownson@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

We will be going to MOMA in San Francisco on January 19, and we will see: **Joan Brown's Paintings:** She was an American painter and prominent member of the second generation of the Bay Area Figurative artists. Working in a thickly pigmented and textural style, the imagery in Brown's work was often drawn from her personal life. Her paintings frequently depicted women and animals, while later in her career she integrated mystical and New Age imagery using simplified stylizations and strong narrative themes. "How do I know when I've finished a painting?" Brown said in a 1979 interview. "It's when that element of surprise is there. We will go for lunch at THE GROVE, 690 Mission. 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 at judysparks@comcast.net or call **510-523-6736**.

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

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9-Board mtg 6:00 pm via Zoom; Mah Jongg 1:30 PM	10	11- Out to Lunch Bunch	12	13	14
15-- Cinema Club	16- Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	17- Evening Book Club 7:15 PM	18	19- Museum Group 9:30 AM	20- Dirt Divas 3:00 PM	21
22	23- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM	24	25	26	27	28
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.