



**ALAMEDA BRANCH
2023-24 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*

September 2024

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AAUW Fall Mixer - Activity Group Leaders/ Committee Chairs Q&A

When: Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Where: Almanac Beer Company Taproom 651-B W. Tower Ave

Time: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

What: No host beer and soft drinks from Almanac.
\$5-10 donation at the door for snacks

RSVP to Kevis Brownson at kevis.brownson@gmail.com
or [510-463-4966](tel:510-463-4966)

At our welcome back for the fall mixer, AAUW Alameda activity group leaders and committee chairs will introduce their groups to the membership. Prospective group members may find out in person about all that AAUW Alameda Branch has to offer. Please ask your friends and others you know interested in promoting opportunities for women and girls, such as your daughter or son or other local relatives!

Almanac has ample parking across the street from the location and is very family friendly. RSVP is helpful for knowing what space to stake out and for the snacks but if you forget to respond, please just come! We'll be at one of the shaded tables outside. Any questions, please call or write Kevis.

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

For me September always feels like back to school. I hope you have enjoyed your summer, and are ready to be back to AAUW! Since our last general membership meeting in May, we have said thanks and good-bye to Cindy Silva and Roberta Schwarz. We have welcomed three new members: **Eloise Mason**, **Bernice Smith** and **Sheri Stock**. Look for their informative bios in this newsletter.

Just four years ago, I joined AAUW for the first time. I have been impressed with the advocacy of AAUW for equity for girls and women at the state and national levels. At our branch level, we fundraise to support the education of middle school girls through college women. Our vice presidents recruit great speakers for our general membership meetings. Last, but not least, I have made friends in the four interest groups I participate in. We have members who have been active for decades, and newcomers like me. I appreciate the dedication and hard work of all of our members who make our advocacy, fundraising, programming and interest groups possible.

I look forward to being your president this year. Our board meetings are on the first Monday of the month at 6pm, and they are open to all members. I encourage you to attend our board meetings, and see if you would like to become more active in our branch. Let me know if you wish to attend, and I will send you the zoom link. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, ideas or concerns.

Kay Weinstein, President
kayweinstein@gmail.com



College of Alameda student Melissa Zibouche, NCCWSL scholarship award winner, attended a 3 day Leadership Conference at the University of Maryland in May 2024. Penny Washbourn, Alameda Branch NCCWSL coordinator, attended for the first time. All dressed up for the final Grand Award reception. We look forward to hearing from Melissa at our November program.

Thank you for your generous support of our NCCWSL program.
-Penny Washbourn

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Monday, August 26, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom – All Welcome!

Saturday, September 7, 6:00 pm – **Global Restaurant Dining Group** – Moxie Steakhouse

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

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

Monday, September 16, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books Club**

Tuesday, September 17, 7:00 pm – **Evening Books Group**

Wednesday September 18, 4:30 – 6:30 pm – **Welcome Back Mixer** – All About AAUW Alameda

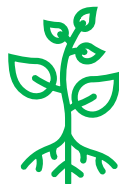
Thursday, September 19, 9:30 am – **Museum Group** – De Young – American Beauty Osher Collection

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

Sunday, October 6 – **Cinema Club**

Saturday, October 19 – **Global Cooking Group**

Mark your calendar with our monthly membership meeting dates: October 19, November 14, December 10, January 11, February 13, March 8, April 5, and May 17. Check our website calendar for the complete schedule at <https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/calendar/>. **For a complete list see the last page of this newsletter.**



PLANT SALE - we need your help!



Last year, with more than 20 AAUW members' help, we raised around \$2500 to support Alameda college students' attendance at a national women's leadership conference in Washington, DC. Now we need one or more people to step up to share the leadership for our SEVENTH ANNUAL AAUW PLANT SALE May, 2025. Paula is unable to do it and is very willing to help pass on the collective knowledge that makes this important fund raising effort such a successful and satisfying activity. Please contact Paula at pbiwer@yahoo.com.

Membership Renewal

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – PAST DUE

*****Deadline June 30, 2024*****

The dues for the 2024-2025 year are \$115.

You may renew online or by check. To renew online you need to know our branch number: CA0128 Alameda. Many find it easier to renew by check. Make out your check to AAUW, and mail to Marilyn Sharron, 1437 Morton St. Apt. D, Alameda, CA 94501-2462.

Thank you,
Membership Committee



Membership Report

Welcome new members: Eloise Mason, Sheri Stock, and Bernice Smith!

Eloise Mason

Happy to introduce myself to the group. I was born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1945 and “grew up” in Gainesville, Florida. I attended Queens University of Charlotte when it was Queens College, a small, single sex liberal arts school. I graduated from Appalachian State University with a BS and then Masters degree in Political Science and a Graduate teacher’s certificate and taught elementary and middle school until my husband and I had a daughter and I happily became a stay at home mom who volunteered in my daughter’s school and worked as a volunteer observer in polling stations for federal and state elections.

I am avid reader and home cook who not only loves to cook but also loves to feed people!

Two years ago my husband and I joined our daughter and her family in Alameda. We don’t want to miss our grandchildren growing up!

We have enjoyed life in California, the climate, the flowers, the farmers markets and, of course, the beach. I am making good use of Mastic Senior Center’s exercise opportunities. I love to walk and Alameda is so very walkable.

I am looking forward to getting know some of you AAUW members. Thanks!

Sharon (Sheri) Stock

In an attempt to provide a brief bio I submit the following!!!

I think where I hail from, they would call me an apple knocker as I was raised in a small apple county in Central Washington known as the apple capital of the world. I think at the time, it was! I left immediately after high school and for a short time attended the University of Washington but was selected as a candidate for the Ford Modeling Agency for which I worked -several years doing print work, the advertising for the Seattle World's Fair being one amazing -project and I believe my photos are still hanging in the mezzanine of the Space Needle. And then my son was born in mid-sixties. Not getting back to my skeletal frame, I was tired of being told I was eating myself out of a job and left that career to begin my journey through commercial design at UCLA. I was involved in this work 30 years during which I had the opportunity to travel to many countries for design shows. I loved traveling and have been to the seven continents which I enjoyed, especially Antarctica.

(I should add, that while involved in a modeling project in San Francisco in 1960, I got involved in the racing circuit of the SCCA of California (long story), got credentials at the Bob Bonderaunt school of racing at the then Sonoma Speedway, bought a Porche and raced for two years until I totally scared myself and left that behind, but kept the Porche!!!)

I retired in the mid-nineties and did consulting work for about 10 years and remarried in 2000, unfortunately losing my husband 18 months ago!

In 2008, my daughter-in-law was murdered and my son going through difficult circumstances, I raised my two granddaughters who were aged 9 and 11, now 26 and 28! I am so proud of these now lovely successful ladies both finishing their master's programs, one in Eco-toxicology and the younger one in Engineering -material sciences!

All that work being completed, I now and have been doing a lot of volunteering! Currently, in Kiwanis helping to raise funds for college scholarships, community grants, etc; quite involved in several activities at Christ Episcopal Church – Altar Guild, Parish Life (I love a party), Welcoming Ministry, Stewardship and teach Sunday School.

I attend the gym a couple times a week and do three classes at Mastick Senior Center trying to keep it all together, a difficult task!!!

I have enjoyed “trying” to play Mah Jongg with your group and look forward to discovering where I will find my way in your organization!

If you have any referrals for membership, please contact Kay Weinstein.

-Kay Weinstein Vice President-Membership



Who is Telling Us the News in Oakland: A Forum on the State of Local Journalism

Concerned about getting accurate local news in this time of shrinking newspapers and AI?

Join the Oakland-Piedmont Branch of AAUW and the Rockridge Branch of the Oakland Public Library to hear a panel of local news providers discuss "Who is Telling Us the News? A forum on the state of local journalism". The discussion will be held on from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on September 28, 2024 at the Rockridge Library, [5366 College Ave, Oakland](#). See the link below for details.

<https://oaklandlibrary.bibliocommons.com/events/66ba46b1cf36f57164b0e0b2>



2024 Updates to Title IX: An Overview of Changes and Challenges

By Missy Maceyko, Co-Chair, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

On Friday, April 19, 2024, the Biden Administration released long-awaited [guidance on the application and administration of Title IX](#). The rule changes rework Trump Administration guidance on the handling of campus sexual assault, providing expanded protections for survivors and expanding Title IX protections against sex/gender-based harassment and discrimination to protect members of the LGBTQ+ community, as well as pregnant and parenting students.

In sum, the 2024 regulations clarify what sex-based discrimination is and who should be protected from sex-based discrimination under Title IX: the regulations prohibit discrimination not only on the basis of sex, but also on the basis of sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

[Many of the major changes in guidance under Title IX](#) come from a centering of the term "sex-based," including a redefinition of "sexual harassment" as "sex-based harassment." Under this redefinition, sex-based harassment still includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, but, importantly, allows harassment to be defined as conduct that contributes to the creation of a sex-based hostile environment, more broadly. This means that unwelcome sex-based conduct can be more holistically understood as problematic, including a consideration of conduct that is not only offensive but also so severe or pervasive that it limits one's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.

The 2024 guidance also reforms the process for reporting, hearing, and resolving Title IX complaints, which is an important shift, as guidance issued under the Trump Administration created a reporting environment that many experts agreed was [friendlier to those accused of misconduct than to those who were victimized by misconduct](#).

Because the focus of Title IX guidance has shifted to protecting against "sex-based" forms of discrimination and harassment, it also clarifies the boundaries of pregnancy-related

discrimination and expands protections to the LGBTQ+ community. Both of these expansions under Title IX [align with current interpretations of federal law under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act](#), which prohibit workplace discrimination on the basis of sex/gender.

- While the changes to Title IX have been [widely supported as an overall good](#) by a wide coalition of gender equity advocates, including [AAUW National](#), a coalition of states and conservative advocacy organizations have started to file lawsuits [to block the new rules](#) from going into effect, as scheduled, on August 1, 2024. Furthermore, at the time of this writing, [at least eight states](#)' governors have issued executive orders that openly refuse to comply with the new guidance, putting their state universities at risk of losing all federal funding.

Officials who have filed suit and/or who refuse to comply with the new Title IX guidance claim that the rules conflict with their state laws, especially those aimed at the due process rights of those accused of misconduct, [LGBTQ+ material in curricula](#), and the regulation of transgender students' access to bathrooms and sports teams. Therefore, these state officials claim that they should not have to follow the new guidance.

For a concise overview of major rule changes under the 2024 guidance, check out the coverage in *Ms. Magazine*, [here](#). For continued updates, you can also peruse upcoming issues [of Public Policy News](#) via AAUW California throughout the summer.



Passing of Joyce Denyven

Some of you may have already heard the sad news, but we just wanted to be sure everyone was informed of the passing of longtime member Joyce Denyven on Thursday, May 9, following a stroke. Karen Kenney wrote this lovely tribute to share with you all.

Joyce Denyvsn sadly passed away on May 9 and left an indelible mark on the community of Alameda. A stellar leader and volunteer, examples of Joyce's service include serving as an Alameda School Board member, Alameda Boy Scout Council member, Alameda Girl Scout troop leader, Alameda Welfare Council Board member, and AAUW member. Joyce was the longest tenured Executive Director at Girls Inc. of the Island City (formerly Alameda Girls Club). For over 30 years Joyce grew Girls Inc. from a small program in the basement of the First Congregational Church to a thriving and dynamic multi-aspect non-profit located in a brilliant historical building and property. She was a treasured mentor to staff and budding women leaders. Joyce received numerous awards from multiple entities including being named the City of Alameda Volunteer of the year. We will miss her.

Joyce was one of three 50-year AAUW Alameda branch members interviewed for an inter-generational women's history project in 2016. You can read more about Joyce's many accomplishments and a summary of her life story as part of that project here:

<https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/womens-history-interview-project/>

Branch Interest Groups



Museum Group at Rosie the Riveter Museum



Honoring outgoing president Marilyn Sharron at the June Luncheon

Afternoon Books

The Afternoon Book Club meets on the 3rd Monday of the Month at various members' homes. New members are welcome, and there is no "homework". We share what we have read and trade books. Members read all genres, although mysteries seem to be a group favorite. Our September meeting is on Monday the 16th at 1:30 pm at the home of Kevis Brownson. Contact Karen Scanlon at yakitt@aol.com or [510-523-6456](tel:510-523-6456) for more information.

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, October 6, 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.

Evening Books

The Evening Book group meets on the third Tuesday of the month in members' homes. Our books for 2024-25 are *The Potter's Field* by Andrea Camilleri (9/17), *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict (10/15), *Mozart's Starling* by Lyanda Lynne Haupt (11/19), *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro (1/21), and *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard (2/18). The September 17 meeting will take place at the home of Kevis Brownson. For more information about the group or to join us, please contact Penny Washbourn at penelopewashbourn@gmail.com.

Global Cooking Group

The Global Cooking Group meets every two months at a member's home to share a potluck meal of an interesting cuisine from around the world and US. Our gatherings this year will be on **Saturdays October 19, February 15, April 26, June 21, and August 16**, generally at 6:00 pm. To join us or for more information, please contact Jennifer McGaffey at jjmccgaffey@guenean.com.

Global Restaurant Dining Group

We meet the first Saturday of the month at different restaurants. Members rotate in hosting, taking care of reservations, and collecting payments. To join, please call or text Marilyn Sharron at [215-317-6002](tel:215-317-6002) or email her at marilynsharron@gmail.com. The Global Restaurant Dining Group will meet Saturday September 7th at Moxie Steakhouse, 1640 Park St, Alameda 94501 at 6 pm. For reservations, please contact Donna Vaughn at [510 846-0877](tel:510-846-0877) or at dbvaughn@comcast.net

Mah Jongg (American Style)

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoon of each month to play American-style Mah Jongg using the National Mah Jongg League card and rules. Beginners and experienced players are welcome. Contact Laura Porter at Lrajean@aol.com or [510-912-0385](tel:510-912-0385) for more information about the Mah Jongg interest group.

Museum Group

On Thursday, September 19 the Museum Group will visit the De Young museum and see:

American Beauty: The Osher Collection of American Art

The 19th and 20th centuries were an exceptionally dynamic time in American culture. This exhibit at the De young museum illustrates the ways American artists have sought to define and declare American styles and sensibilities through reflecting a multiplicity of voices and perspectives. Anchored by Impressionist and Realist artworks, the show spans the years 1848 to 1960, presenting a variety of artistic responses to this complex period. Included in the exhibition are works by John Singer Sargent, Georgia O'Keefe, Winslow Homer and Alexander Calder. The historic sweep of these paintings, drawings, and sculptures is reflected by several recurring themes, including the adventurous spirit of artists abroad, enduring allure of Impressionism, intimacy and immediacy of portraiture, and beauty of America's landscapes and seascapes.

The carpool will leave from the Ross parking lot at South shore. Be there at 9:15 a.m. for a **9:30 a.m. sharp** departure. We will have lunch at the museum cafeteria at 11:00 a.m. please RSVP if you would like to go contact Judy Sparks JudySparks@comcast.net

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](tel:510-409-7481).

Calendar

Branch Activities

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2- 	3	4	5	6	7- Global Restaurant Dining Group 6:00 PM
8	9- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM	10	11-Out to Lunch Bunch	12	13	14
15	16- Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	17-Evening Books 7:00 PM	18- Welcome Back Mixer 4:30-6:30 PM	19-Museum Group 9:30 AM	20	21
22	23- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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.

AAUW Meetings 2024-2025

Date & Time	Program Description	Venue	Lead
September 18 4:30-6:30 Happy Hour	“All About AAUW Alameda” Buy own beverages, donations for food (TJ’s), mingling with interest group reps	Almanac Beer Co. 651B W. Tower	Kevis
October 19 (Rosh Hashanah is 10/2-4, Yom Kippur is 10/12) 11:30-1:30	Tech Trek campers presentation, “build your own sandwich bar”	Trinity Lutheran parish hall	Barbara
November 14 Afternoon Tea 3:00-5:00	Hear from NCCWSL attendees (including Mary-Jo Knight) & CoA scholarship recipients	In Person tea in member home with pot luck food from board	Barbara
December 10 7:00-9:00 pm	Lecture on AI	Zoom	Paula
January 11 4:30-6:30 Champagne happy hour	“Toast in the New Year”	Kevis’s home	Kevis Paula details and publicity
February 13 7:00-9:00 pm	AAUW funds speaker	Zoom	Barbara with Mary O.
March 8 Saturday afternoon tea 1:30-3:30	Author talk - 2 authors - Janet Dawson and Rebecca Gomez Farrell	Italian American League or Trinity Lutheran or Rhythmix or HB Community Room or Home of Truth cottage	Kevis
April 5 Saturday luncheon 11:30-1:30	Branch Annual meeting with elections Speaker - Herb Behrstock on United Nations	Italian American League or Trinity Lutheran or ?	Kevis
May 17 Saturday luncheon or brunch or tea (Mother’s Day is 5/11)	Branch Board installation	Julie’s Alameda	Paula