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2024-25 BOARD**

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Alameda Branch News

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

February 2025

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Branch Meeting

February 13, 2025 7:00 PM Via Zoom

(watch for upcoming E-blasts that will have the Zoom link and speaker details)

Again this year, our February Branch meeting will highlight AAUW's **Ed Fund**.

We will be fortunate to have one of the California recipients of National's scholarship and grant program as a speaker. We have an amazing array of accomplished young women pursuing advanced degrees with help from AAUW from which to select our speaker. We are confident that this year's speaker will, as in years past, make an interesting and compelling presentation outlining her area of study, and how she hopes to advance the interests of women and girls upon completion of her education.

To make it easier for one of these busy young women to join us, we have made this a Zoom event. We hope that the format will encourage as many of you as possible to attend as well. And don't forget to put your checkbook next to your computer so you can support this important work going forward with a generous donation. There is nothing like seeing these wonderful women in person (or virtually in person) to underscore the doors we help open for them and the lives they will touch in the future.

-Mary Oppedahl, Alameda Branch AAUW Fund VP
and Kevis Brownson, Barbara Krummel and Paula Biber, Program VPs

President's Corner

Thanks to Kevis Brownson for hosting a delightful Toast in the New Year on January 4. Wonderful champagnes chosen by Kevis, a yummy tea catered by Julie's Coffee and Tea House, and the company of so many members helped us to start 2025 in high spirits!

Calling all AAUW Alameda Members to Help with Corporate Fundraising!

Our board has composed an excellent letter (containing our 501c3 tax ID#) asking for corporate donations to fund our programs: College of Alameda Transfer Scholarships and TechTrek.

Are you a client of a financial advisor, banker or lender, insurance provider, realtor? (For example, I have reached out to my financial advisor with Ameriprise. Our treasurer is reaching out to Poppy Bank, where our branch has its checking account.)

We need you to reach out to corporations that you do business with. Speak to your contact person about donations. It is best if you can identify the donations coordinator, but not essential.

The next step is for you to send me the contact information for your chosen corporation, and I will provide the letter. It is as simple as that! Early in the new year is a great time to approach corporations, as they are beginning to make their donation commitments for the year. Questions: email me at: kayweinstein@gmail.com

You are all invited to our February general meeting on Zoom. Our VP for Funds, Mary Oppedahl, has arranged for one of our scholarship recipients to be our speaker. See more information in the article in this newsletter. Also, watch for the E-blast with details about registering for this general meeting.

For those of you who missed our December 10 Zoom talk by Arun Kumar on Generative Artificial Intelligence, here is the link to the recording of this interesting and informative talk:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/4ziVEIf3BZdAwkut7WV1DS5K5NxcDumZjAe58PV8UjwI27cSKIXHzHqlDgDspNa.npfxsIZe_McJ74qx?startTime=1733884991000

Passcode: 5s4T+s7&

Happy New Year,

Kay Weinstein, President, kayweinstein@gmail.com



***** CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE ON OUR NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE *****

Please join us to nominate members to serve on our Board of Directors for 2025-6.

Help us prepare for our election in April. Contact: kayweinstein@gmail.com



AAUW College Transfer Fund Receives Generous Donation From Transfer Student

In 1962, John Oppedahl began his college education at the old Merritt College campus on Grove Street in Oakland, hoping to transfer to UC Berkeley after two years. In addition to his classes, John joined the school newspaper which, he could not have known then, set him on the path to what would become a fulfilling and successful career.

John worked hard at his course work to earn the grades necessary to transfer to Cal, while learning how to be a journalist from courses and his work on the student newspaper. John did not have much money so he also worked nights pumping gas in Alameda.

John's hard work paid off. He transferred to Cal in the Fall of 1964. In addition to course work and his gas station job, John joined the campus newspaper, the Daily Californian, just as the Free Speech Movement erupted on the Cal campus. Eventually, John was able to quit his gas station job to become a stringer for the San Francisco Examiner, reporting on the Free Speech Movement, then-Governor Reagan's efforts to "control" campus sit-ins and the burgeoning anti-war movement, and continued to work on the Daily Californian, going from reporter to editor.

After graduation, John obtained a Masters Degree in Journalism from Columbia University and began a career that took him from reporter to editors and finally to publisher, first at the morning daily newspaper in Phoenix, the Arizona Republic, and later the San Francisco Chronicle.

Looking back at his education and career at age 80, John appreciates how valuable his community college education was in enabling him to transfer to Cal and to forge his career.

As a result, John has made a generous donation of close to \$8000 to our branch's community college transfer fund. John noted how much of a difference a small scholarship would have made to him and wants to help other students who need that financial boost now.

-Mary Oppedahl, Ed Funds VP

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Saturday, February 1, 6:00 pm – **Global Restaurant Dining Group** – Trabocco

Sunday, February 2 – **Cinema Club**

Monday, February 3, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom – All Welcome!

Thursday, February 6, 9:30 am – **Museum Group** – de Young – Tamara de Lempicka

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

Thursday, February 13, 7:00 pm – **Branch Meeting via Zoom** – check upcoming E-blasts for link

Saturday, February 15, 6:00 pm – **Global Cooking Group**

Monday, February 17, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books**

Tuesday, February 18, 7:00 pm – **Evening Books**

Thursday, February 20, 9:30 am – **Museum Group** – SF MOMA – Amy Sherald

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



California Public Policy News

Happy New Year! Please click [HERE](#) for the **January issue of Public Policy News**. Included is an article for your February branch newsletters about "Why Public Policy Priorities Matter." Also included are details for several upcoming virtual events, and an update regarding the ratification of the ERA.

Thank you for everything you do on behalf of women and girls

Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko - Co-chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee
publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org



January Holiday Tea !

Branch Interest Groups

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.

Afternoon books is meeting Monday the 17th at 1:30 at the library of the Alameda Naval Air Station Museum, hosted by Ellen Chestnut. 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, February 2, 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

Evening books will be meeting on Tuesday February 18 at 7pm at Penny Washbourn's House 501 Lagunaria Lane Alameda 94502 to discuss **Finding the Mother Tree**, a groundbreaking book by Suzanne Simard. All are welcome, even if you have not been part of the book group before, come and give it a try.

Please call or email to confirm your attendance [510-748-7455](tel:510-748-7455) or pwashbou@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 next meeting is February 15 at the home of Carol White. Other gatherings this year will be on **Saturdays on April 26, June 21, and August 16**, generally at 6:00 pm. To join us or for more information, please contact Jennifer McGaffey at jjmcgaffey@guenean.com.

Global Restaurant Dining Group

The Global Restaurant Dining Group will be dining at Trabocco Restaurant, 2213 S Shore Ctr, Alameda, CA 94501, on Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 6 PM. Please come join us!

Please contact Marilyn Sharron at marilynvsharron@gmail.com or [215-317-6002](tel:215-317-6002) for more information.

Mah Jongg

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

We will have **two museum trips in February!**

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On Thursday, **February 6** we will go to the de Young to see the exhibit Tamara de Lempicka (1894-1980). She was the artist who defined Art Deco painting. The exhibition covers the full arc of Lempicka's adventurous life and artistic development, from the post-Cubist training in early 1920's Paris, study of European old Masters, and interpretation of Russian avant-gardes, to her reflections on antiquity from her late years in North America. The exhibition presents the works that made Lempicka famous in the Paris Salon and in exhibitions in Italy, Poland, and the U.S.

A section will be devoted to the "new woman", as exemplified by Lempicka herself, who defies stereotypes both in fashion and social norms. One of her most famous paintings, *The Lady with Gloves*, *The Girl in the Green Dress* is featured on the cover of the Fine Arts magazine Fall 2024.

We will eat lunch at the cafeteria.

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We will visit MOMA in San Francisco on **February 20**, and see:

Amy Sherald: American Sublime invites you to breathe. Come and be taken in by the colors, shapes, and forms painted by one of America's defining contemporary portraitists.

This exhibition presents nearly 50 of Amy Sherald's luminous paintings, including her iconic portraits of Michelle Obama and Breonna Taylor, poetic early works, and new works on view for the first time. Sherald's artworks convey the quiet power in everyday people and invite viewers to participate in a more complex debate about accepted notions of American identity.

We will have lunch at the Grove - Yerba Buena at 11:30 a.m.




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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**. Please RSVP if you would like to go contact Judy Sparks, JudySparks@comcast.net for more information.

Calendar

Branch Activities

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1- Global Restaurant Dining Group 6:00 PM
2-Cinema Club 	3-Board Meeting 6:00 PM	4	5	6- Museum Group 9:30 AM	7	8
9	10- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM;	11	12	13- Branch Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM	14 	15-Global Cooking Group 6:00 PM
16 	17-Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	18- Evening Books 7:00 PM	19	20- Museum Group 9:30 AM	21	22
23	24- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM	25	26	27	28 Ramadan	