

THE AAUW KEY

Palo Alto CA Branch
May 2017 • Volume 64 • Number 4

*Branch Annual Meeting
with lunch and program*



*Saturday, May 20,
11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Unitarian Universalist Church
Fireside Room
505 E. Charleston Rd. Palo Alto*

*Program will be presented by the
Palo Alto Branch Writers Group.
See the article inside the Key.*



*Please respond to Barbara Evans at
650-856-0618 or evansbanjo@sbcglobal.net
by May 18 with your lunch reservation. There is
no cost, but we must have a reservation to provide enough food.*

Membership Matters

By Gail Schubert

Q: What can I do to create positive societal change effectively?

A: Join AAUW

We know we can contact our legislators and state our cases. In fact, we are strongly encouraged to do so. AAUW has paid advocates who evaluate proposed legislation in Sacramento and Washington DC, are in contact with elected officials, inform members about those specific bills affecting women and girls and represent AAUW.

One individual can have an influence.

AAUW represents tens of thousands of individuals. Its voice commands attention and respect. AAUW's research papers on topics especially important to women and girls (bullying, human trafficking, inequity in the workplace and Title IX compliance, to name a few) are distributed widely and are often cited in media reports.

Because AAUW has consultative status with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs we have an international influence as well.

AAUW's scholarships and grants program is unsurpassed. It has brought opportunities to women who could not have realized their educational goals without this help.

College students may participate in AAUW's programs to develop and practice leadership skills, leading to future opportunities.

What can you do to effect positive societal change?

**-- Join AAUW --
info@aauw-paloalto.org**

May Branch General Meeting with the Writers Section

By Marcia Baugh, Chair

The Writers Section has been active in the Palo Alto branch almost from the Branch's beginning in 1930. The members meet twice a month to read what they've written to each other. In this way we are encouraged to keep up our writing. We have heard over the years several novels, a chapter per meeting, written by different members. Members have shared travel journals, memoirs letters to the editors of local newspapers, short stories and poetry.

We have shared our work with the Branch on previous occasions, and we are delighted to be able to do so again. Join us on at the General Meeting on May 20th to hear some of the things we have written whether fact or fiction, prose or poetry.

Come and enjoy lunch with us!

RSVP To Barbara Evens
program@aauw-paloalto.org

Membership Renewal

By Mary Morrison, Membership

In early May you will receive a notice to renew your national, state and local branch AAUW membership for 2017-18. If we have an email address for you, your renewal will be sent via email as AAUW has now made it possible for us to pay our dues through their website. With this method, the National Office will do all of the bookkeeping and our local branch dues will be deposited directly to our branch bank account. Members without an email address will receive a renewal via US mail. Also, for members who prefer to renew by writing a check, a renewal check may be mailed to our branch membership treasurer, Mary Morrison. Her address will be on the renewal notice you will receive. Contact Mary Morrison with questions or issues membership@aauw-paloalto.org.

Family History Section Meeting

By Betsy Colby, Chair

The Family History section met Tuesday April 11 and learned from Barbara Lumbard about the role of women in the Revolutionary war. Abigail Adams promoted women's right to her husband while others such as Lydia Darragh assisted George Washington's spies. Barbara shared chapters from her delightful story about this period called 'Perilous Shadows'.

We were fortunate to also learn from Heather Galanis about Mourning Jewelry, which was popularized during Queen Victoria's time. Heather brought many samples of beautiful pins and necklaces. This photo shows Barbara modeling a piece of black lace, with Heather behind her wearing a beautiful mourning jewelry necklace.



The Family History Section meets at 11:45 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at Cibo's. Contact Betsy Colby for information and details about this section.



2017 Tech Trek Campers Selected!

- By Anna Zara

This year our branch has selected seven local 7th grade girls from a pool of over 30 girls nominated by their teachers to attend Tech Trek's Camp Grace Hopper at Stanford in July. Each girl who applied for a Tech Trek sponsorship filled out an application and wrote a 400-500 word essay on something that she found excited from either her math or science classes. Once we received the completed applications we then set up interview teams to meet with each girl and make our camper selections.

In reading the girls essays we were able to see the spark for math or science noticed by each girls nominating teacher. We then visited five schools and one agency to meet each girl and then make our selections. Meeting each girl was a joy as they are all lovely, charming and bright – making the selections was difficult, as all candidates would make good campers.

2017 Tech Trek campers from Palo Alto:

- Alanna Stevenson, 49ers Academy, East Palo Alto
- Andrea Gamino, Foundation for College Education, East Palo Alto
- Vasuda Dokiparthi, JLS, Palo Alto
- Cristina Becerra, Jordan, Palo Alto
- Melissa Cisneros, St. Elizabeth Seton, Palo Alto
- Dana Souter, Terman, Palo Alto
- Alana Fong, Terman, Palo Alto

Excerpts of the selected campers' essays are available on our Branch website under the Education tab.

This year's interview teams were made up of the following Branch members: Mary Ashley, Barbara Bowden, Heather Buhr, Betsy Colby, Marsha Duro, Barbara Evans, Luise Maier, Lori Von Houten, and Anna Zara

AAUW Palo Alto 2017-2018 Board and Officer Slate

At our May General Meeting we will be voting on the 2017-2018 Branch budget and slate of officers. As you can see we have some open positions still. Please email president@aauw-paloalto.org if you'd like to step up and volunteer for one of these positions in support of your Branch.

Leadership Team: Betsy Colby, Charlotte Jackson and Marie Wolbach

Admin Secretary: Barbara Bowden
Secretary: Amanda Martin
Treasurer: Mary Seabury
Membership Treasurer: Mary Morrison
AAUW Funds: <vacant>

Program: Barbara Evans
Membership: Gail Schubert

Public Policy: Diane Rolfe
University Relations: Rosenna Yau
Tech Trek: Anna Zara
Directory: Betsy Colby
Section Coordinator: <vacant>
Historian: Marcia Baugh

Key Editor: <vacant>
Webmaster/Calendar: Anna Zara

Many Thanks to our 2016-2017 Team!

We would like to thank the outgoing team who served our branch in leadership positions in 2016-2017, many of whom are serving our Branch for another term:

Leadership Team 2016-2017:
 Barbara Bowden, Judy Brodsky, and Judi Swope

Admin Secretary: Barbara Bowden
Secretary: Amanda Martin
Treasurer: Mary Seabury
Membership Treasurer: Mary Morrison

Program: Barbara Evans
Membership: Rosenna Yau/Gail Schubert

Public Policy: Diane Rolfe
University Relations: Rosenna Yau
Tech Trek: Anna Zara
Directory: Betsy Colby
Section Coordinator: Marian Gex
Historian: Marcia Baugh

Key Editor: Barbara Evans/Marie Wolbach
Webmaster/Calendar: Anna Zara

Section Chairs: Barbara Bowden, Barbara Evans, Betsy Colby, Carol Hansen, Charlotte Jackson, Joyce Freiberg, Marcia Baugh, Mary Ashley, Millie Saxman, Miriam Gex, Misao Sakamoto, Scotty Martinson, Wilma Milligan,

Palo Alto Branch AAUW Proposed Budget for 2017-2018

By The Leadership Team

Expenses

<i>The Key</i>	\$1,200
Branch Directory	\$0
General Meetings	\$1,100
Membership & Mailing	\$160
Social Activities	\$0
Conventions & Mtgs	\$700
Awards	\$200
Publicity	\$200
Administration	\$1,200
Miscellaneous	\$50
Community Connections	\$100
Total Expenses	\$4,910

Income & Reserves

Dues Income	\$2,640
Reserves	\$2,270

Branch Tech Trek Sponsorships

Per camper sponsorship fee in 2018	\$1,000
Fund balance for 2018 fees	\$5,832

May 2017 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
.	1 Mah Jong	2 Writers	3 Evening Bridge	4	5	6 .
7	8 Drama Reading	9 Meditation Family History Mystery Books	10 .	11	12 Walkers .	13 Film Buffs
14 Mother's Day	15 Mah Jong	16 Writers Afternoon Books	17	18	19	20 May Branch Program
21 .	22 Gad Abouts	23 Meditation	24	25	26	27
28 Wine Tasting	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

Please refer to your Branch Directory for section contacts – or email sections@aauw-paloalto.org to reach the Branch section coordinator.

Board Meeting: The next Branch Board meeting will be on June 2 at 1:00 pm at Channing House. All members are welcome to attend – email president@aauw-paloalto.org for details.

Afternoon Books (was Monday Evening Books): Meets **May 16**, the 3rd Tuesday at a member's house. For the location of the next meeting, please email Joyce Freiberg

Mystery Books: Meets, **May 9**, the 2nd Tuesday at 1:30 pm at the home of Marcia Baugh, please contact Marcia for the this month's theme and to let her know that you will be coming.

Drama Reading: Meets, **May 8**, the 2nd Monday of the month from October through May. Please call Millie Saxman for further information.

Evening Bridge: Meets, **May 3**, the 1st Wednesday of the month. More players needed. Call Wilma Milligan for further information.

Family History: Meets the 2nd Tuesday – **May 9**, 11:45am at Cibo's 3398 El Camino, Palo Alto for a no-host lunch. This month we will be discussing hobbies through the years – Bring samples of hobbies your family has enjoyed. Contact Betsy Colby for questions

Film Buffs: Meets, **May 13**, the 2nd Saturday.
Note New Time: 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. New Location: Sixth Floor Lounge at Channing House. Spouses are welcome. Call Marian Gex for further information or to be added to the e-mail list.

Gad-Abouts: **Nov. 22.** Gad-Abouts usually meets year round on the 4th Monday of the month at 2 p.m. to plan outings and adventures of all kinds. Meeting location is Misao Sakamoto's home. Please call Scotty Martinson for information.

Mah Jong: **May 1 & May 15.** Beginners and advanced players are invited to play Mah Jong, a Chinese tile game. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 pm. Call Marcia Baugh for location and other details.

Meditation: **May 9 & May 23.** Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 10 a.m. For location and other details call or email Charlotte Jackson

Walkers: **May 12.** Meets the morning of the 2nd Friday of the month. Please call Mary Ashley for more information or to join the e-mail list.

Wine Tasting: **May 28.** Meets on the 4th Sunday, except December, from 5 to 7 p.m. Members study and taste wines, domestic and imported, selected by members of the group. Spouses are welcome. Call Barbara Bowden or Carol Hansen for information.

Writers: **May 2 & May 16.** Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. Call Marcia Baugh or location.



AAUW CA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

AAUW-CA Public Policy Co-Chairs

Sue Miller, suellen-aauw@wavecable.org
and Nancy Mahr, nlmahr@verizon.net

In March 2017, the California Public Policy Committee met in Sacramento with our lobbyist Shannon Smith-Crowley and AAUW California President Donna Mertens. We discussed the work of the Public Policy Committee and pending state legislation addressing issues that relate to the AAUW mission and AAUW California's public policy priorities.

In preparation for that meeting, Committee members researched individual bills. They presented their reports at the meeting. Discussion followed each bill presented. Committee members decided whether to include a given bill on our priority list and what positions to take on the bill: Support, Oppose, or Watch. Some bills were discarded as not being as vital to the mission or to our public policy priorities, thereby allowing Shannon and the organization to focus our advocacy efforts on the issues of greatest importance to AAUW.

The following areas are those that our priority bills address (in no special order):

- Education, including Title IX
- Employment and salary
- Women's health
- Human trafficking
- Child care
- Discrimination
- Religious disclosure (freedom from)

As bills move through their respective legislative houses, we will send specific bill information and, in some cases, Action Alerts requesting your help in our advocacy efforts. We will also update the public policy section of the website and provide a link to a list of our priority bills with their status.

Don't forget to vote this month in the AAUW National Election!

The **National AAUW** election starts on April 17th and ends on June 15th. There are several issues on the ballot. Details about the election can be found on the AAUW National website.

One very important issue is the potential change in membership requirements. This bylaws amendment has been on the ballot every other year for several years and would remove the requirement for a college degree to become a member. Many members worry that this would make us like every other women's organization. But, looking at it from another angle, to some people it is a barrier. Maybe it is time to change. But be sure to vote this year.

New leaders will be elected and those people make final decisions on AAUW programs, budget, and future directions.

Members vote on Public Policy priorities, among other items. Let your voice be heard.

Voter PINs for the national election will be e-mailed to members and have been mailed with the Spring *AAUW Outlook*. Candidate slate, bylaws proposals, Public Policy Program proposals, and resolutions published in the Spring *AAUW Outlook*.

AAUW California elections are also in progress, until May 12. Donna Mertens, AAUW CA Presidents wrote the following. "We currently have an uncontested slate of officers. The [Public Policy priorities](#) will be the only item on the ballot. Members will receive an email, or postcard if no email is on file, with instructions on how to vote.

"We all know that the right to vote is an honor. We make changes for women and girls every day. Don't forget to vote!"



The Key
AAUW
PALO ALTO BRANCH
P.O. BOX 60653
Palo Alto, CA 94306-0653

PERIODICALS

Palo Alto Branch 2016-2017 Leadership Team:
Barbara Bowden, Judy Brodsky, Judi Swope

Barbara Bowden Administrative Secretary:
Marie Wolbach, Anna Zara Key Co-Editors:
Winnie Lew, Calendar Editor:

admin_secy@aauw-paloalto.org
key@aauw-paloalto.org
calendar@aauw-paloalto.org

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.

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Article submissions may be sent to the *Key* Editor by the 13th of the month at: key@aauw-paloalto.org
Section Calendar items may be sent to the Calendar Editor by the 10th of the month at: calendar@aauw-paloalto.org

Postmaster: Send address changes to AAUW Administrative Secretary. P.O. Box 60653, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0653.
I certify that the above information is true and complete: Barbara Bowden, Administrative Secretary.