

THE AAUW KEY

Palo Alto CA Branch

November 2017 • Volume 65 • Number 3

General Meeting

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Featuring



AAUW Fellow Adele Kuzmiakova.

Ph.D. candidate in Engineering at Stanford.

Embarcadero Room, Rinconada Library

1213 Newell Road Palo Alto

10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving brunch and social time

11:00 a.m. Meeting and Program

See how AAUW uses your donations to the Funds.

Donations to support Fellowships will be accepted at the meeting.

Toiletries will be collected for the Opportunity Center.



Leadership Team Message

By Betsy Colby, Co-President

We have had an energetic fall with excellent programs.

Our September Kickoff program was a smashing success with a standing room only crowd who came to hear Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian. Thank you to all who helped to organize and host that event.

The October program was a wonderful time to meet and greet our Tech Trek campers and enjoy their enthusiasm. Thank you to Anna Zara for setting this up and doing all the coordination for our branch's Tech Trek camper selection. We also again thank Marie Wolbach for her original idea for Tech Trek years ago, which has made this amazing program possible. Our Public Policy chair, Diane Rolfe, is coordinating some excellent programs along with League of Women Voters. We can learn about many important issues.

If you have ideas for future programs or issues you think we should be involved with, send an email to president@aauw-paloalto.org.

I want to promote our high-quality sections, which are described after the Calendar. There is a wide variety to choose from. Try some out and get involved. It is a great way to meet AAUW members and get connected.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the energetic, wise women in our branch who are making the world a better place. Invite your friends to join us.



A few alumnae Trekkers who were sponsored by the Kiwanis to attend the Angel Award reception honoring Marie Wolbach and Tech Trek on Oct. 19. Photo by Judy Kramer.

Meet Adele Kuzmiakova

Featured speaker at the AAUW November 18 meeting is Adele Kuzmiakova. She was awarded an AAUW International Fellowship to study at Stanford University this year. Adele, a citizen of Brazil whose discipline is engineering, is a Ph.D. candidate. Her research focuses on modeling urban mobility and social dynamics.

Adele wrote that she is anxious to meet AAUW members who made this opportunity possible for her. Join us to meet this young woman who confirms the value of the AAUW Fellowship program.

International Fellowships



Name: [Adele Kuzmiakova](#)
Award Year: 2017-18
Award: International Fellowship
Institution: Stanford University
Citizenship: Brazil
Location: Stanford, California
Discipline: Engineering
Degree and Specialization: Ph.D., Data Science

Adele Kuzmiakova's research focuses on modeling urban mobility and social dynamics.

2017 Fall Kick-Off Meeting A smashing success!!

By Anna Zara

This year there was a big change to the format of our Branch's annual Fall kick-off meeting. Instead of the annual welcome luncheon where the plans for Branch programs and sections were introduced, we held a joint meeting with the Palo Alto League of Women Voters at the Palo Alto City Council chambers featuring [Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian](#).

At this meeting, Joe shared with the over 300 attendees what he had learned over several weeks this past winter in conversations with residents and politicians in North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Michigan counties that historically had supported Democratic candidates for President of the United States but where the support in 2016 was for the Republican candidate, Donald Trump. Joe's purpose for taking this trip was "simply to listen, learn and understand." Over the course of two hours Joe did just that – the audience was diverse and attentive.

Joe shared some of the reading materials that he read in preparation for the trip:

- *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by JD Vance
- *White Working Class: Overcoming Class Cluelessness in America* by Joan Williams
- *Politics of Resentment* by Katherine Cramer
- *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* by Arlie Russell Hochschild

Supervisor Joe Simitian speaking to overflow crowd.
Photo by Anna Zara.



The Key: November 2017



How to Donate to Our Branch Tech Trek Camper Sponsorships

By Anna Zara

A big **THANKS** to everyone who supports our Branch's Tech Trek camper sponsorships! In 2017 we sponsored seven campers from Palo Alto and East Palo Alto schools and we hope to sponsor another seven campers at the 2018 Tech Trek Camp Grace Hopper – 2018 will be the 20th Anniversary of the start of Tech Trek right here in Palo Alto.

Our October Branch meeting featured our Branch's 2017 Tech Trek Campers and part of the information imparted that evening was the directions for contributing our Branch's camper sponsorships. As was mentioned at the Branch meeting, there are changes in the accounting for our sponsorship fund and those changes mean that there are changes in how donation checks are filled out.

Beginning in November, donations to Tech Trek via check will need to use the payee "**AAUW CA SPF**" as AAUW California Special Project Fund will again be doing the donation management for the California Tech Trek camps. The memo line should read "**Tech Trek – Camp Hopper – Palo Alto**"

I will continue to collect any donations from our Branch members so that part of the donation process has not changed. Please direct any questions regarding donations to our camper sponsorship fund to me at tech-trek@aauw-paloalto.org

Those of you with a facebook account may see what all happened during Tech Trek's Camp Grace Hopper at this page: <https://www.facebook.com/techtrekcamphoper2017/>

November 2017 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends	6 7p Mahjong	7 10:30 Board Meeting 1:30p Writers	8 .	9	10 10 Walkers	11
12	13 7:30p Drama Reading	14 10 Mediation 11:45 Family History 1:30p Mystery Books	15	16	17	18 10:30 BRANCH MEETING
19 .	20 7p Mahjong	21 1:30p Writers 2p Afternoon Books	22	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	24	25
26	27 1:30p: Gadabouts	28 10 Meditation	29	30		

Board Meeting: The Branch board meeting will be on **November 7** at 10:30 a.m. in the Embarcadero Room of Rinconada Library.

All branch members are welcome to attend. Please email president@auw-paloalto.org with comments or questions

General Meeting: The AAUW Funds and Holiday General Meeting will be on **November 18** at 10:30 a.m. in the Embarcadero Room of Rinconada Library.

Stanford Engineering graduation student Adele Kuzmiakova, a 2017 AAUW Funds grantee, will share her experiences and work. All members are welcome and encouraged to bring a guest to enjoy a Thanksgiving Brunch!

Travel sized toiletries will be collected at this meeting for donation to the Palo Alto Opportunity Center.

Please refer to your member directory for section chair contact information or send an email to sections@aauw-paloalto.org

Afternoon Books: Will meet on Nov 21 at 2:00 p.m., the 3rd Tuesday, at member's homes. RSVP to Joyce to learn the address of the meeting and the next book to be read.

Section Chair: Joyce Freiberg

Drama Reading: Meets Nov. 13, the 2nd Monday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Ashley. The group reads a play script distributed by an AAUW drama reading committee for a network of California branches.

Section Chair: Millie Saxman

Family History: Meets Nov. 14, the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 11:45 at Cibo's Restaurant, 3398 El Camino for a no-host lunch meeting with monthly historical themes. This month's topic is a walk through the Italian Immigrant experience 1909-1950.

Section Chair: Betsy Colby

Film Buffs: This section is reorganizing to reflect changing membership and movie scene.

Section Chair: Barbara Evans

Gadabouts: Meets Nov. 27, the 4th Monday of the month, at 1:30 p.m. to plan outings and adventures of all kinds. Meeting location is Misao Sakamoto's home, 4275 Suzanne Dr. P.A.

Section Chair: Scotty Martinson

Mahjong: Meets Nov. 6 & 20. Beginners and advanced players are invited to play Mahjong, a Chinese tile game. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 p.m. year-round. **Section Chair:** Marcia Baugh.

Meditation: Meets Nov. 14 & 28, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 10 a.m.

Section Chair: Charlotte Jackson

Mystery Books: Meets Nov. 14, the 2nd Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Marcia Baugh, RSVP to Marcia and learn topic.

Walkers: Meets Nov. 10, the 2nd Friday of the month, at 10:00 a.m. Walks vary from easy to somewhat challenging at parks and locations decided by the group.

Section Chair: Mary Ashley)

Wine Tasting: Usually meets on the 4th Sunday of the month, from 5 – 7 p.m. **The Section will not be meeting in November or December due to the autumn and winter holidays.** Members study and taste wines, domestic and imported, selected by members of the group. Spouses are welcome.

Section Chairs: Barbara Bowden & Carol Hansen

Writers: Meets Nov. 7 & 21, meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, at 1:30 p.m.

Section Chair: Marcia Baugh



Section News: Mahjong

Mahjong is a Chinese game using tiles. It is best with three or four players. There are different ways to play the game, but the version we play twice monthly (the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings from 7 to 9) is sort of like playing Gin rummy. It takes luck and skill to play, but we play it as a game, not cut throat like some. We "gamble" for colored Popsicle sticks. We would welcome new members up to a point. There is just so much space where we play for more tables. Anyone interested in learning more about the game, please contact Marcia Baugh, chair



Welcome New Members

New and returning members during the past couple years are welcomed to Palo Alto AAUW. There will be several opportunities to greet them in person through out the branch year.

Gertrude (Gert) Shearer
Kathleen (Kathy) Bridges Rafael
Heather Buhr
Katherine Causey
Pearl Director
Marsha Duro
Liz Kniss
Pam Moore
Joanne Payne

Short biographies of Gert and Kathy are below. Introductions to others will be in subsequent issues.

Gertrude (Gert) Shearer. A graduate of Iowa State University, Gertrude Shearer also took classes at Foothill College in computer programming that led to a fulfilling career in that field. She joined the branch to join a circle of friends and acquaintances with a common interest in current events. Gert enjoys discussing books, movies and plays, going on outings and hearing other women discuss their experiences.

Kathy Rafael is a dual member of Palo Alto AAUW. Her primary branch is Mid-Peninsula AAUW (formerly San Carlos AAUW). A graduate of Univ. of CA at San Diego in 1974, majoring in Sociology, Kathy also attended Western Kentucky University and then received her CPA certificate upon course completion. Kathy enjoys books, crosstitching, the Warriors and her 4 beautiful grandchildren. She is the new editor of *The Key*.

October Board Meeting Actions

At the AAUW Palo Alto Board of Directors meeting on October 3, 2017, the following actions were taken.

- Elected Joyce Freiberg as Secretary, accepted the resignation of previous Secretary Amanda Martin
- Planned for a Thanksgiving brunch as part of the November 18 meeting
- Agreed to collect toiletries for the Opportunity Center at the November meeting
- Cancelled the February meeting
- Passed a motion to send seven (7) girls to Tech Trek in 2018

October General Meeting Highlights

Our October general meeting featured a panel of our 2017 Tech Trek campers. Each girl shared the highlights of the week for her while a slide show of photos taken during the week of camp played behind them. Each girl and her mother repeated their thanks to our Branch for the opportunity to attend Tech Trek.

Each girl was also thrilled with the opportunity to live like a college student and to make new friends while working on projects.



Palo Alto 2017 Tech Trek Campers

Snapshots of AAUW History

AAUW was founded in 1881 by 17 women college graduates. They sought support at a time when women were told that attending college could lead to mental illness and reproductive problems. The group expanded and soon raised money for scientists to research those claims. Scientists proved them false.

By 1888, the group had formed a non-profit foundation so members around the country could raise funds to support women in college and graduate school or doing post-graduate work. In 1921, Marie Curie received a grant to buy a gram of radium. In 2016, \$3.7 million was awarded in fellowships and grants to women.

AAUW is non-partisan but has always been active in the public policy arena. They lobby for issues but do not endorse candidates. During the women's suffrage movement, several AAUW members were arrested for protesting in front of the White House as groups worked together in seeking the right to vote.

In both the World Wars, AAUW formed committees to help bring refugees, especially female educators, to the United States. American women risked their lives going to Europe or Asia to bring women refugees to the U.S. AAUW then assisted the female professors secure new positions at universities in the U.S.

AAUW was one of the first organizations to support Civil Rights bills and Title IX. Lilly Ledbetter credits AAUW with pushing to get the law bearing her name passed so women can more easily sue for workplace discrimination.

Currently, AAUW continues its decades-long campaign for Pay Equity, lobbies for Safety on Campuses, and works to retain Title IX.

Source: <http://www.aauw.org/tag/aauw-history/>
Compiled by Marie Wolbach



Support Fellowships, Grants and Legal Advocacy Fund

Donations to AAUW Funds, the non-profit wing of AAUW, which gives fellowship, grants or legal assistance to eligible women, may be made by check or by credit card online.

Checks should be payable to AAUW with "Funds" on the memo line, adding Fellowship or LAF if there's a preference for one of them. Mail checks by December 1st to AAUW Palo Alto, PO Box 60653, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Online: go to <http://www.aauw.org> and touch the GIVE button on the left of the page. That will take you to a page of choices for donations. Donations made by Dec. 30 are tax deductible in 2017.

In Memoriam

AAUW sends sincere sympathy to long-time member and past-president of the Palo Alto branch **Roberta Uebbing**, and her husband John Uebbing, on the sudden death of their son, Jack Uebbing.

Elinor Wilner, a member of AAUW for over 50 years, died at her Palo Alto home on October 11. Elinor had been in poor health for several years but was an active member of the Palo Alto AAUW until health problems developed. A graduate of New York University, she served various positions on the Board of Directors for many years. At the time *The Key* went to press, memorial service plans had not been announced. Condolences are extended to her husband, Bruce, and their son.



The Key
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PERIODICALS

Palo Alto Branch 2017-2018 Leadership Team: president@aauw-paloalto.org
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Barbara Bowden Administrative Secretary
Scotty Martinson Section Coordinator
Kathy Rafael, Key Editor:
Anna Zara, Calendar Editor:

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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 13th 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: Editor