

# THE AAUW KEY

Palo Alto CA Branch

**FALL 2016**



## ***Annual Branch Homecoming Sunday September 25***

***Time: 1:30 – 3:30***

***Place: The Embarcadero Room  
Rinconada Library  
Newell Road, Palo Alto***

***Asra Hussain will be our speaker  
Her topic will be  
“Getting to Know Your Muslim Neighbors”  
A question and Answer period will follow.***

***Light refreshments will be served.***



## **AAUW, Palo Alto Branch News**

Board Meeting August 5, 2016

The following are excerpts from minutes of the August 5 board meeting as prepared by Barbara Bowden, edited for space reasons.

**Membership:** Mary Morrison reported that there are several members of long standing who have not paid their current year's dues. The list was passed around and board members agreed to call those with whom they have a relationship. Dues for a member of long standing who is currently dealing with multiple challenges will be paid from the branch dues assistance fund.

**Tech Trek:** the board agreed that we should send six campers in 2017, which will essentially use most of our accumulated funds in the account.

We plan to invite the 2016 Tech Trek participants and a parent to our Saturday, November 12 potluck luncheon.

The board discussed the issues Anna Zara dealt with in trying to work through the school district to contact science and math teachers in EPA schools; it was suggested that approaching the individual teachers might be effective as an alternative.

The program schedule was reviewed. The next general meeting is on Sunday, September 25, 1:30 – 3:30 in the Embarcadero Room of the Rinconada Library.

The Holiday Giving Event will take place in the 10<sup>th</sup> floor lounge at Channing House on Saturday, December 10 from 2 – 4. Bowden will check with Tempe Javitz to see if she still wants young adult books for the Girls to Women Group in EPA.

**Equal Pay Day:** no specific action planned at this time. Mary Morrison reminded us that

the San Jose Branch has an active program at their community colleges, Start Smart to Work Smart, to reach women entering the job market for the first time, as well as those who are already employed. It was suggested that we contact Foothill College about presenting the program; Mary Morrison is a qualified instructor.

Claire Noonan, Los Altos Branch, is encouraging active support for a Strong Start initiative, a coalition of many groups working toward more and better early childhood education, ages 3-8. It was determined that we should wait for a public policy review from AAUW CA, since do not have a clear picture of the group's plan for future action.

Judy Brodsky will be our representative to the IBC for the 2016 – 2017 year. Marcia Baugh offered to attend the September 26 meeting with Judy.

### **In Memoriam**

Long time member Laddie Hughes has passed away. Quoting from her obituary "Her tireless advocacy for equal rights for women and her involvement in local and national politics were unique for the day and transformational for women leaders who have followed..." Laddie was also, until very recently, a regular attendee at branch events and a generous contributor. – Editor.

**Help Needed:** Program VP, Barbara Evans would appreciate help on publicity. We can get together for coffee or at my house and discuss possible publicity opportunities. This will be especially useful for the Authors Lunch where we would like to guarantee a good attendance. Email me at [program@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto:program@aauw-paloalto.org).

## Calendar for Fall 2016

Please refer to your member directory for section contact details. An email may also be sent to [sections@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto:sections@aauw-paloalto.org) for more information on our Branch sections.

**Board Meeting:** Friday October 7 and also December 2, 2016; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.,. All branch members are welcome to attend. Please email [president@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto:president@aauw-paloalto.org) for meeting location.

**Monday Evening Books:** Meets the third Monday at a member's house. For the location of the next meeting call Winnie Lew or Barbara Evans.

**Mystery Books:** Meets the second Tuesday at 1:30 pm at the home of Marcia Baugh, 490 Gary Court, P.A. RSVP to Marcia and learn topic.

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

**Evening Bridge:** Meets the first Wednesday of the month. More players needed. Call Wilma Milligan for further information.

**Family History: Note Date Change.** Meets on the **second Tuesday**, 11:45 a.m. at Cibo's, 3398 El Camino, Palo Alto for a no-host lunch. Topics: Oct 11, memories of childhood home; Nov.8, memories of Winnie the Pooh; Dec. 13, women and holiday traditions. Please contact Betsy Colby with any questions.

**Film Buffs:** Meets second 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:** Gad-Abouts usually meets year round on the fourth Monday of the month at 2 p.m. to plan outings and adventures of all kinds. Meeting location is Misao Sakamoto's home in P.A. Please call Scotty Martinson for information.

**Mah Jong:** Beginners and advanced players are invited to play Mah Jong, a Chinese tile game. Meets on the first and third Mondays at 7:00 pm. Call Marcia Baugh for location and other details.

**Meditation:** Meets the second and fourth Tuesday at 10 a.m. For location call Charlotte Jackson, or Marcia Baugh.

**Supper Club:** Meets on the first Saturday at 7 p.m. Call Mary Morrison for information.

**Walkers:** Meets the morning of the second Friday of the month. Please call Mary Ashley (494-1829) for more information or to join the e-mail list.

**Wine Tasting:** Meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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:** Meets the first and third Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. Call Marcia Baugh for location.



**– Future Branch Events –  
Save These Dates**

**Saturday November 12**, Fireside Room of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 E. Charleston Road, 11:30 – 2:00 potluck lunch with Tech Trek girls and their parents.

**Saturday December 10** Branch Giving Event  
Channing House Tenth Floor Lounge 2 – 4

**Saturday February 25** **AUTHORS LUNCH**  
Benefit for Tech Trek!

## Notes From Our Campers

Dear Palo Alto AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. I am having an awesome time; I love this place so much. I love my engineering design class and so far we have built a rattrap car. Also I am very thankful for all the different jobs I've been learning about and hopefully I can become a scientist or a really cool math teacher. I've met so many amazing women that have changed my way of seeing science. I have also made some cool friends.

One of my favorite things so far is getting to see a solar power car on our field trip. Also, getting to make a rattrap car made with disc and rubber band. Also I love how I got to do things I've never done before. I really thank you amazing and wonderful women for sending me to an unforgettable experience. This is my second home. I really wish this camp were 2 weeks long because I love learning science. All my new friends make it even more fun.

I may be annoying, but I just can't stop thanking you wonderful women for this amazing experience. This is the best camp ever. But once again, thank you SO MUCH.

Jackie C. – St. Elizabeth Seton School

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Dear AAUW of Palo Alto,

Thank you so, so, so much for this opportunity! I really do appreciate it. So far I have thoroughly enjoyed camp. I think that it is great to encourage girls in STEM, because we can do just as well, or if not better than men!

My core class is called Application Inventor, and so far it has been awesome! We use MIT App Inventor to program and design our tablet apps. My favorite app we have made is called Mole Mash, a game where you have to tap on a mole that pops up on the screen before it disappears. My favorite Tech Trek activity was Robotics. We got to build and program a Lego Mindstorm robot to do a many things, like playing golf! I also really enjoyed the Pixar Presentation. It was amazing to see how much hard work goes into a single movie! We learned that it came take up to 5 years to create an animated film.

Again, thank you so much for the whole Tech Trek experience. In addition to learning many new things, I made many new friends, and most importantly, I have had a lot of fun! Tech Trek as encouraged me to pursue a career in STEM and also take classes and camps in coding.

Yasmine A. – Terman

Dear Palo Alto AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. Here at Tech Trek I had the opportunity to meet girls just like me that have the same interests in Math and Science.

My favorite part of the week here at Tech Trek has been making new friends with people here at camp, fountain hopping, and forensic science. Fountain hopping was so much fun exploring more of the Stanford campus along with many beautiful fountains there. I enjoyed forensics because we made up a fake crime case of a murder mystery for the Tech Trek campers. We came up with evidence for four possible suspects, which was really fun. Tech Trek has inspired me to strive even more towards an engineering career.

Overall, I had a great experience here at Tech Trek because it had a variety of stuff to do. Tech Trek also gave me the opportunity to meet new people that I soon became friends with while at the same time having fun while learning.

Dayana B. – JLS

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Dear AAUW Palo Alto Branch Members,

Thank you for giving your valuable resources to me and to this program. I would like to assure you that not a single penny went to waste because I loved every second of this camp. Without the changes this week as made on me, I do not think I would be the same as I thought I would be in fifteen years. The quote, "It takes a village to raise a child," really is a true statement. My childhood and teenage years would not be complete without this awesome village known as Tech Trek, shaping it. I really appreciated all that you did for me, eighty other girls, and all the people that know and act upon your message at American Association of University Women. Hopefully, one day, I can come back as a counselor, dorm mom, or even a lady at Professional Women's Night, because my journey here has already been extremely positive and I could not wait for more of this encouraging atmosphere.

Some specific aspects of the camp I enjoyed the most were lectures. I generally loved both the astronomy and structures talks because of the phenomenal speakers and presentations. Thought I truly believe they were overshadowed by the presence of the college financing talk. While the idea of mounds of student loans before gave me worries and "put downs," she showed us many different

approaches that gave me feelings of empowerment. Also, I really believe this camp will shape the classes I take at university and my profession in life. Another of my favorite talks was on high school and Pixar. The counselors did a wonderful job answering questions and Danielle really had a special way of engaging everyone in her Power Point. Though really, what part of the week wasn't engaging? For one last time, I would like to thank the Branch members and donors who gave their precious time, money and much more to give someone like me a wonderful and truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Your generosity not only changed my entire future, but also my interests and life goals. I know I don't speak for just myself when I say this week is the most fun, educating, powerful, and necessary camp for all girls.

Dunya M. –JLS

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Dear Palo Alto Branch,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. I'm so glad that I could have this opportunity to view many math and science related, possible occupations for me to have in the future. So far, this week, I have had a lot of fun in my core class and also other activities Tech Trek planned. I will never forget this amazing experience and I'm sure it will help me find what to study in college and help me get a job later on.

My core class this week was engineering. When I found this out, I was very excited because my dad is an engineer and I have always been fascinated by his job. My favorite things that I have done in engineering so far include: building courses for marbles to help me learn about friction and momentum, building hover crafts, building balloon powered cars, and building mouse trap powered cars. I also was very interested by the college financing workshop and Robotics. I also really enjoyed working with chemicals in a lab.

I'm thankful that you sent me here. For, if I hadn't come to Tech Trek, I wouldn't have done all those cool things.

Without you and your contributions to this camp, I would have never been able to come. So thank you for giving me this great opportunity to express myself through science and math.

Dear AAUW Palo Alto,

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to go to Tech Trek. This week has been so much fun, from programming Lego Minestorm robots to talking stargazing tours. This week has opened my eyes to all the amazing jobs in STEM fields, and has encouraged me to follow my passion.

One of the amazing things we did this week was hearing a talk from Danielle Feinberg, a lighting director from PIXAR Studios. She talked to us about all the steps in making a PIXAR film, from coming up with an idea to putting gin the final details. She talked to us through what each job does, and how she got to where she is today.

Again, thank you so much for taking the time to send me to Tech Trek. This camp has taught me many amazing things, such as planning for my future, and teaching me about STEM fields. This camp has been an awesome experience, and has taught me that I can be whatever I want to be.

Jessica F. - Jordan



2016 Palo Alto Branch Tech Trek Campers



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PERIODICALS

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

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I certify that the above information is true and complete: Barbara Evans, Editor.