

# THE AAUW KEY

Palo Alto CA Branch

April 2018 • Volume 65 • Number 4

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## **Palo Alto Branch Annual Meeting and Lunch**

**Saturday, April 21, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Embarcadero Room, Rinconada Library  
1213 Newell Road, Palo Alto**

*Enjoy lunch of Chinese chicken salad and home-made desserts with your AAUW friends. There will be a short business meeting and election of officers, followed by a presentation by Palo Alto Barb Mackraz, founder of the Morocco Library Project.*



*Barb Mackraz with Fatima Zahra Taghlaoui, a founding team member of the Morocco Library Project*

*Please RSVP for this event at [paloalto-ca.aauw.net](http://paloalto-ca.aauw.net) or leave a message at 650-856-0618 by April 18.*

## General Meeting April 21

This is our annual general meeting. We will have the traditional lunch of Chinese Chicken Salad and homemade desserts. In the business portion of the meeting we will elect branch officers for the 2018-19 year.

Our speaker will be a Barb Mackraz, a Palo Alto woman who has created a library project in Morocco. She will tell of how she was moved to help the students in one school who wanted to have a library of English language books.

Since the project's inception in 2015, several other schools have become involved, including one that is a boarding school in the desert for girls from nomadic families.

<https://www.morocolibraries.org>

### Slate of Officers for 2018-2019

Co-presidents: Betsy Colby,  
Charlotte Jackson, Marie Wolbach

Recording Secretary: Joyce Freiberg

Administrative Secretary: Barbara Bowden

Treasurer: Mary Seabury

Membership: Gail Schubert

Membership Treasurer: Mary Morrison

AAUW Funds: Millie Saxman



## Another “First Woman To...”

Geraldine Richmond has become the first woman to win the Priestley Medal, the American Chemical Society's highest honor. Her other honors include the National Medal of Science and she has served as the president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

According to the article in C&N news, Richmond, besides being a pioneer in the field of how water molecules behave at water-oil and water-air interfaces, is known as a mentor who is anxious to pass on her insights and assist other in her field.

She founded and serves as chair of [COACH](#), a grass roots organization that has helped in the career advancement of over 20,000 women and scientist in the U.S. and internationally.

## Looking Ahead to 2020

The Interbranch Council of AAUW has begun discussion about ways we might commemorate the 100 anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. The Interbranch Council (IBC), which represents all the AAUW branches in Santa Clara County, has asked for help from county supervisor Cindy Chavez, who declares herself eager to support this important anniversary.

A year-long celebration from August 2019 culminating in August 2020 is likely. Mary Morrison who is the Palo Alto representative to the IBC is asking for input from members: How can we demonstrate the importance of women's vote and the positive effect that women's suffrage has had on our country since 1920? What would you like to see included in this celebration? Send your suggestions to the leadership team or to [marykmorrison1029@mail.com](mailto:marykmorrison1029@mail.com).

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Authors Lunch in Support of Tech Trek

By Anna Zara

On the first Saturday in March we hosted our Annual Authors Lunch and it was a smashing success. Many thanks to Barbara Evans for finding the authors, arranging the venue and managing the ticket sales!

This year's authors were [Karen Joy Fowler](#), [Maggie Shen King](#) and [Robin Sloan](#) with author [Tad Williams](#) (Barbara's son) as our panel moderator. Through Tad's questions the authors shared with us insights into their writing process and how they find the central theme of for their work. One comment that has stayed with me from the panel discussion was how disorienting it can be for an author to see their work translated into a language they do not know, and that it is humbling to realize that their thoughts can be shared across languages and cultures through the work of translators.

we have had an impact on the lives of over 15,000 girls.



Judi Swope, Marie Wolbach, Tech Trek teacher Natalie McClure, Lori Van Houten



Judy Brodsky, Barbara Evans, her son and daughter-in-law with Liz Kniss, Mayor of Palo Alto



Maggie Shen King, Robin Sloan & Karen Joy Fowler

As enjoyable as the luncheon conversations and author panel were, the goal of the luncheon is to raise funds to support girls selected to attend AAUW's Tech Trek summer camp. This year an anonymous donor stepped forward and offered a PBS style \$ for \$ challenge grant where all donations made at the luncheon would be matched up to \$1,000. We surpassed the \$1,000 challenge by \$500 bringing the total raised to over \$2,000!

Founded in 1998 here in Palo Alto by Marie Wolbach, this will be the 20<sup>th</sup> summer that Tech Trek will be supporting the spark for math and science rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls – all told

### An Unnamed Woman Scientist

Anna Zara and others called our attention to a story that underscores the value of AAUW's work with young girls in Tech Trek. A [New York Times story](#) showed a picture that depicted the attendees at a conference on whales in 1971. The picture included 38 men, all captioned with names and one unnamed woman. The author in searching for that unnamed woman found out that she was Sheila Minor Huff, a retired, 71-year-old grandmother of five who belly dances, volunteers at her church and lives in Virginia.

Mrs. Huff graduated with a degree in biology, but was first asked to work as a typist, a job she refused because she had "not gone to school to be a secretary".

## Unnamed Woman Scientist--continued

She went on to complete a master's degree while working fulltime and worked with top government officials on a range of projects, rising to one of the highest rank possible in the Department of the Interior.

Mrs. Huff said she was not too concerned about not being named in the 1971 photo. "When I try to do good, when I try and add back to this wonderful earth that we have, when I try to protect it, does it matter that anybody knows my name?"

A version of this article appeared in print on March 20, 2018, on Page B4 of the New York edition with the headline: She Was the Only Woman in a Photo of 38 Scientists. Now She Has a Name.

## Mansfields Honored

Ellie Mansfield, long-time active member of AAUW Palo Alto, and her husband Dick Mansfield, have been named among the 2018 Avenidas Lifetimes of Achievement awardees.

"When you think of powerhouses in the local community, these new Avenidas Lifetimes of achievement honorees are the ones who first come to mind," Avenidas President and CEO Amy Andonian stated in a press release.

Ellie Mansfield served Palo Alto AAUW in several roles including branch president 1970-72. She served on the state Educational Foundation and as assistant to the state Program Vice-President. A quilt she made for

EF now hangs in the Washington, DC, AAUW office.

A graduate of Stanford Law School, Ellie was the first female member on the board of Comerica Bank, which was originally the County Bank of Santa Cruz. She has been a PTA president, Girl Scouts leader and Avenidas board member.

Ellie and Dick work as docents at the Manzanar National Historic Site, one of the 10 "relocation centers" that incarcerated a large number of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

An afternoon Garden Party on May 20 will honor the awardees. It is a fund-raiser for Avenidas Senior Center and tickets are \$75. Additional information and tickets are available by calling 650-289-5445.



# April 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy Easter!	2 7p Mah Jong	3 1:30p Writers  1:00p <u>Board Meeting</u>	4	5	6	7
8	9 7:30p Drama Reading	10 10 Mediation  11:45 Family History  1:30p Mystery Books	11	12	13 10 Walkers  <u>Calendar items due</u> <a href="mailto:calendar@aauw-paloalto.org">mailto:calendar@aauw-paloalto.org</a>	14
15	16 7p Mah Jong	17 1:30p Writers  2p Afternoon Books	18	19	20	21 11:30a: <u>Annual Meeting</u>
22 5:00p Wine Tasting	23 1:30p: Gadabouts	24 10 Meditation	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**Board Meeting:** The Branch board meeting will be on **April 5** at 1:00pm in the Embarcadero Room of Rinconada Library. All branch members are welcome to attend. Please email [president@auw-paloalto.org](mailto:president@auw-paloalto.org) with comments or questions

**Annual Meeting:** Our 2018 Annual Lunch Meeting will be on **April 21** at 11:30am in the Embarcadero Room of Rinconada Library. Please RSVP at [aauw-paloalto.org](http://aauw-paloalto.org) so that we may have sufficient salads and dessert for everyone who comes.

Before lunch we will have our annual meeting where we will vote on our 2018-2019 Branch Slate and review Branch business. After lunch Barb Mackraz will speak on the Morocco Library Project - <https://www.morocolibraries.org/who-we-are>.

**Afternoon Books:** Will meet on Apr 17 at 2:00, the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 [jraven@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jraven@sbcglobal.net).

**Drama Reading:** Meets Apr. 9, the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 (799-7095)

**Family History:** Meets Apr. 10, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, at 11:45 at Cibo's Restaurant, 3398 El Camino for a no-host lunch meeting with monthly historical themes.

**Section Chair:** Betsy Colby [elcolby@aol.com](mailto:elcolby@aol.com)

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

**Section Chair:** Barbara Evans (856-0618)

**Gadabouts:** Meets Apr. 23, the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 (493-2902)

**Mah Jong:** Meets Apr. 2 & 16. Beginners and advanced players are invited to play Mah Jong, a Chinese tile game. Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:00 pm year round.

**Section Chair:** Marcia Baugh (493-5125).

**Meditation:** Meets Apr. 10 & 24, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 10 a.m.

**Section Chair:** Charlotte Jackson, 493-6973 or [jacksoncharlotte@comcast.net](mailto:jacksoncharlotte@comcast.net)

**Mystery Books:** Meets Apr. 10, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, at 1:30 pm at the home of Marcia Baugh, 490 Gary Court, P.A. RSVP to Marcia (493-5125 or [marciadbaugh@att.net](mailto:marciadbaugh@att.net)) and learn topic.

**Walkers:** Meets Apr. 13, the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 (494-1829)

**Wine Tasting:** Meets Apr. 22, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, from 5 – 7 PM. Members study and taste wines, domestic and imported, selected by members of the group. Spouses are welcome.

**Section Chairs:** Barbara Bowden (324-7586) & Carol Hansen (328-0638).

**Writers:** Meets Apr. 3 & 17 meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month, at 1:30 p.m.

**Section Chair:** Marcia Baugh (493-5125 or [Marciadbaugh@att.net](mailto:Marciadbaugh@att.net)).



## Book Review

Marian Gex was our hostess for Afternoon Books when we met at Channing House on March 20. Our March choice had been "*Lincoln in the Bardo*".

This book that shows Lincoln, inconsolable after the death of his son, continuing to visit the graveyard.

Meanwhile the other souls who are In this sort of Limbo, refuse to recognize that they are dead and speak of the caskets as "sick boxes". It is written in a very unusual style with quotations, both real and spurious, placed among the conversations of the spirits. The speech of the bardo inhabitants ranges from pious to bawdy as it reflects the life that they have not yet abandoned

## Movie Review

One of the joys of Netflix is being able to finally see the movies that pass too quickly from the local theaters. One reads a review on Thursday and thinks, "that sounds interesting". Then it's Friday and the movie is nowhere to be seen.

We have begun to use Netflix to catch up with those reviewed films that have gone too soon. Recently we ordered the well-reviewed film "**Their Finest**". In London during the bombing of World War II a government group is making a propaganda film of the evacuation from Dunkirk. As usual there are arguments about telling the truth rather than dressing it up for political purposes. But this is really a bittersweet story about people making connections during a time of peril and tragedy.

## In Memoriam

Margaret Ann Niven passed away January 27 at Stanford Hospital. A long time branch member, Margaret had belonged to several sections, including Stitchery. She was an accomplished needle-woman and known for her beautiful quilts which were true works of art.

[Full obituary PaloAlto OnLine](#)



## Tech Trek Celebration Lunch

2018 Campers from both Palo Alto and Los Altos/Mountain View branches will be invited to a lunch on Sunday, April 29.

If you are interested in being one of the Palo Alto branch members attending, you can get information from Anna Zara about how many can be accommodated and the price. Email [aauw.pa.techtrek@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.pa.techtrek@gmail.com)



*The Key*  
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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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Section Calendar items may be sent to the Calendar Editor by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month at: [calendar@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto: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 Evans, Editor.