

# THE AAUW KEY

Palo Alto CA Branch

May 2019 • Volume 66 • Number 4

## AAUW Palo Alto Annual Meeting and Spring Luncheon

Saturday, May 18, noon to 1:30 p.m.  
Embarcadero Room, Rinconada Library  
1213 Newell Road, Palo Alto  
RSVP online at [paloalto-ca.aauw.net](http://paloalto-ca.aauw.net)

*Enjoy a free lunch of Chinese chicken salad and home-made desserts with your AAUW friends. Our annual branch business meeting will cover the election of officers, the budget and discussing plans for next year.*

*After the meeting please join us for the 2:30 pm performance of Erma Bombeck: By Your Side next door at the Palo Alto Art Center Auditorium.*

### Erma Bombeck: By Your Side

portrayed by acclaimed living history scholar, playwright and performer Susan Marie Frontczak.

**Tickets: \$20**

Proceeds go to AAUW Fellowships.  
Link to Eventbrite online ticketing at  
[paloalto-ca.aauw.net](http://paloalto-ca.aauw.net), or buy at the door

*Erma Bombeck captured with great poignancy and humor the daily life of a new American phenomenon: the suburban housewife. Believing you had to be able to laugh at life to get through it, she captured the essence of the housewife's daily struggles in her column "At Wit's End" three days a week, eventually appearing in 900 newspapers across the country.*



## Can you pass the motherhood test?

by Erma Bombeck (April 13, 1986)

It seems as if the whole world is cramming for tests these days. Athletes are sweating out urine tests, citizens accused of a crime are up-tight over lie-detector tests, and teachers are burning the midnight oil over competence tests. It's just a matter of time before someone comes up with a test to measure the proficiency of a woman who wishes to become a Mother.

If you're a potential Mother, it could be very revealing. If you're an old Mother, it's an explanation as to how you got old.

### TRUE OR FALSE:

- A new Mother outgrows her need for sleep.
- Running out of disposable diapers takes away from your will to live.
- An innocent-looking 2-year-old with the face of an angel could start a revolution in Disneyland, using weapons and mercenaries from Disney World.
- The term "an active child" is redundant.
- By the time you tell your children about sex they feel sorry for you that you had to learn about it so late in life.
- After the age of six weeks, a child will no longer assume the guilt for your stretch marks.

### MULTIPLE CHOICE:

- Parents struggle desperately for longevity to:
  - a) See their children married and successful.
  - b) Enjoy grandchildren.
  - c) Be a burden.
- If a child announces he/she is writing a book:
  - (a) Put him/her back in the will.
  - (b) Hold out for casting approval and have Julia Roberts play you at the age of 22.

### ESSAY:

Record your emotions in a social situation if a child were asked if his mother worked and he replied, "She doesn't have a REAL job."

You will hear other examples of Erma Bombeck's humorous take on the job of being a mother when you attend Susan Frontczak's performance of "Erma Bombeck: By Your Side" right after our general meeting May 18.



## Our 2019 Tech Trek Campers have been selected!

Our camper selection has been completed and we are happy to announce our group of 2019 Tech Trek Campers:

- Betsabe A., Greene (Jordan)
- Keila A., Ravenswood/49ers Academy
- Leslie C., Fletcher (Terman)
- Eliska I., JLS
- Maria I., Ravenswood/49ers Academy
- Cristal L., Ravenswood/49ers Academy
- Maya P., Fletcher (Terman)

Many hands made light work! Judi Swope coordinated the interview teams. Those teams were:

Ravenswood/49ers Academy: Barbara Evans, Chezire Aclimandos and Natalie McClure/

Greene (Jordan): Judi Swope & Cathy Fisher

JLS: Judi Swope, Natalie McClure & Cathy Fisher

Fletcher (Terman): Barbara Bowden, Marsha Duro & Lori Van Houten

Marsha Duro coordinated all the letters and certificates for the girls, getting them printed, signed and delivered.

As an added bonus, one of our 2016 campers have been offered a Junior Councilor position at Camp Hopper.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a joint celebration of our campers with the Los Altos/Mountain View Branch. Many thanks to Barbara Bowden for getting Tech Trek bears for each of our campers – these bears will be given to our campers at the May 5<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Charlotte Jackson, Scotty Martinson and I have been reorganizing our very small storage space at the First Baptist Church. We have collected a miscellany of treasures. These will be avail for purchase at quite reasonable prices at the May 18 General Meeting.

There are some gently used 3 ring binders, 2 tea pots and creamers, glass punch cups, a glass bowl and other items we have found or may yet find in our explorations. Come to the May 18 meeting and see what we have, just waiting for you to get a great deal. The money will go directly into the Branch treasury.

--Marcia Baugh

“My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance”. –Erma Bombeck

## Branch Annual Meeting Business

The main Items of business at the general meeting will be to vote on the budget and a slate of officers.

**Your AAUW board has approved the following budget and asks that the membership approve it:**

### AAUW Palo Alto branch budget 2019-2020

Income	
Membership dues (75 dues paying members * \$21)	1575
Gifts and other revenue	300
Tech Trek Family Contrib: 6*50	300
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2175</b>

Expenses	
Storage closet at First Baptist church	300
Program Room rental, honorariums	500
Key newsletter production Printing, mailing	400
PO Box fee	100
Membership marketing Brochure production	250
Tech Trek Admin	300
AAUW CA state insurance	400
IBC dues	50
Miscellaneous	60
Web Hosting	100
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2450</b>

Our bank account as of Dec 2018 had \$16,000, so we can withdraw funds to make up the difference between income and expenses.

**The nominating committee recommends that membership elect the following Nominees for 2019-2020 AAUW Palo Alto Leadership positions.**

#### Elected positions

President or Co-president: **Vacant**

Program: Marie Wolbach

Membership: Gail Schubert

Membership Finance: Mary Morrison

Recording Secretary: Joyce Freiberg

Administrative Secretary: Barbara Bowden

Treasurer: Ellie Mansfield

Funds: Charlotte Jackson

Millie Saxman

Directors: Betsy Colby

Barbara Jackson

#### Appointed positions

College Relations: Rosenna Yau

Historian: Marcia Baugh

International Relations : Helen Young

Newsletter editor: Barbara Evans

Public policy: Diane Rolfe

Sections: Scotty Martinson

Tech Trek: Anna Zara

Webmaster: Anna Zara

With the position of president or co-president yet to be filled, we seek volunteers from the membership. It is not the most difficult Board position, believe it or not. When shared, it reduces responsibility and is more fun. We encourage friends to volunteer together or any one member to step up.

For detailed information about the job, ask any former president or call Nominating Committee members Marie Wolbach or Scotty

**New Branch Member:  
Patricia Pugh**

Patricia was recruited by Miriam Teeter. She is a graduate of Indiana U and Western Michigan.

Welcome to the branch, Patricia!

**IBC NEWS**

Mary Morrison, our Branch's IBC representative, has also passed on this member information from the Interbranch Council Meeting: although those of you renewing on line will not see a change, **paper renewal checks will no longer be received by national.** Your branch officers are now required to deposit any member renewal checks in our branch bank accounts and then send the amounts owed for national and state dues via debit card to national office.

**Branch History Wanted**

In 2020 the Palo Alto Branch of AAUW will celebrate its 90th anniversary.

We have a detailed history of the first 30 years and a history of the next 30 years. I, as Branch historian, am working to put together the ensuing 30 years.

I need some help. If you have any of the following items – or any other “tasty\_ items related to the Branch history – please contact me.

Keys: September 1985 through 1987 (September through June)> Any issues from 1983 - 84 and any other stray editions from between 1983 - 84 & 1996 – 97.

Thank you.  
Marcia Baugh, Branch historian

**San Jose Branch Provides  
Gifts for Teens**

The Gifts for Teens project provides community support and help to homeless and low-income San Jose teenagers. About 1,300 sturdy duffels and totes are stuffed with fun and practical gifts and distributed at holiday time to teens living in poverty who are often overlooked by local youth charity programs.

Barbara Bowden has called our attention to this project of the San Jose branch. The Knitters of Channing House are also working to provide caps and scarfs for those gift bags. Those who are interested and wish to know more can email [admin\\_secy@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto:admin_secy@aauw-paloalto.org)

“The odds of going to the store for a load of bread and coming out with only a loaf of bread are three billion to one”.  
--Erma Bombeck

**Please refer to your Member Directory for section contact information or email Scotty Martinson, our section coordinator, at [sections@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto:sections@aauw-paloalto.org)**

**AFTERNOON BOOKS:** Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2:00 at the homes of section members. For information about the next book selection and meeting location, email Joyce Freiberg.

**DRAMA READING:** Meets on 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. For further info call Millie Saxman.

**FAMILY HISTORY:** Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at Cibo's Restaurant, 3398 El Camino at 11:45 a.m. for a no-host lunch meeting with monthly historical themes. Please contact Betsy Colby.

**GADABOUTS:** Meets year-round on the fourth Monday at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Misao Sakamoto, 4275 Suzanne Drive, to plan adventures and outings of all kinds. For further info call Scotty Martinson.

**MAH JONG:** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at members' homes. Beginners and advanced players are invited to play Mah Jong, a Chinese tile game. For further info and locations call Marcia Baugh.

**MEDITATION:** Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 10 a.m., at the home of Marcia Baugh. All are welcome come and learn about meditation. For further info call Charlotte Jackson

**MYSTERY BOOKS:** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m., at the home of Marcia Baugh. The group discusses a new topic each time. For further info call Marcia Baugh

**WALKERS:** meets the morning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of most months at 10 a.m. Carpooling is available to the starting point of the walk if it is outside of Palo Alto. Walks vary from easy to somewhat challenging. Suggestions are always welcome. Please call Mary Ashley for more info.

**WINE TASTING:** Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month from 5 to 7 p.m. imported, selected by the group. Spouses are welcome. For further info call Carol Hansen or Barbara Bowden.

**WRITERS:** Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m, at the homes of members. The members meet twice a month to read to each other what they have written. In this way we are encouraged to keep up our writing. Please contact Marcia Baugh.

"All of us have moments in our lives that test our courage. Taking children into a house with a white carpet is one of them."

--Erma Bombeck

# May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Tech Trek Celebration With Los Altos	6 Mah Jong 7:00 p.m.	7 AAUW Board Mtg., Writers 1:30 p.m.	8	9	10	11
12	13 Drama Reading 7:30 p.m.	14 Meditation 10 a.m. Family History 11:45 Mystery Books 1:30 p.m.	15	16	17 Walkers 10 a.m.	18 Branch General Meeting
19	20 Mah Jong 7:00 p.m.	21 Afternoon Books 2 p.m. Writers 1:30 p.m.	22	23	24	25
26 Wine Tasters 5-7 p.m.	27 Gadabouts 1:30 p.m.	28 Meditation 10 a.m.	29	30	31	

The Branch Board meets in the Embarcadero room of the Rinconada Library. All members are welcomed to attend.

“My approach to housework is if the item doesn’t multiply, smell, catch fire or block the refrigerator door, let it be. No one else cares. Why should you?”

--Erma Bombeck



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

PERIODICALS

Palo Alto Branch 2018-2019 Leadership Team:  
Betsy Colby, Charlotte Jackson

Barbara Bowden Administrative Secretary  
Barbara Evans, Key Editor:

admin\_secy@aauw-paloalto.org  
key@aauw-paloalto.org

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

*The Key* (USPS 017-220) is published four times per year by the Palo Alto Branch, AAUW.  
P.O. Box 60653, Palo Alto, California 94306-0653. <http://www.aauw-paloalto.org/>  
Annual AAUW membership dues of \$91.00 include a subscription to *The Key*.  
Periodical Postage Paid at Palo Alto, CA 94301 and at additional mailing offices.  
Membership and circulation are 100 for the current year.

Article submissions may be sent to the *Key* Editor by the 13<sup>th</sup> of the month at: [key@aauw-paloalto.org](mailto:key@aauw-paloalto.org)  
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.

May 2019 KEY