

San Jose Branch

BONFIRE



Empowering Women Since 1881

EVC STRONG WOMEN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

A **FREE** CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO EMPOWERING WOMEN
FOR AGES
18+



DESIGNED BY FREEPIK FROM FLATICON

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2017
8:45AM TO 1:30PM**

**MEET WOMEN LEADERS | RAFFLE PRIZES
RESOURCE FAIR | BREAKFAST & LUNCH INCLUDED**

**WORKSHOPS ON CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT,
BODY IMAGE, HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AND MORE**

PLEASE REGISTER AT:

strongwomenleadershipconference.eventbrite.com

**FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONTACT:
408-979-9141 OR 408-629-8614**

THERE IS A SEPARATE CONFERENCE FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
Register at : sgsw2017.eventbrite.com



County of Santa Clara
Office of Women's Policy

For more information on conference, see Louise Persson article inside, page 4

**AAUW advances equity for women and girls
through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research**



President's Corner

Edna Robison

March: *Taking Women's History Month to the Present*

Thank you: to all the women of the world whose voices rang at the beginning of the year; to volunteers who advance equity for women and girls; to our predecessors who paved the way for us to be where we are now; and to the panel of speakers of "Women Changing Our World: Paths to Leadership!" who inspired us to deliver a message of hope amidst uncertainties in today's environment.

The Women's March is over, and our Branch moves forward to make more history. This month, we prepare to make young women strong leaders (read Louise Persson's article) by introducing them to topics relevant to present-day cultural currents. We recognize that the future belongs to the younger generation, so in the upcoming months we hope that someone will raise her hand to lead our Tech Trek team and the middle school girls whom we are sending to a one-week STEM camp at Stanford.

Bobbie Baker will also take us to the 1910s via a movie entitled "Iron Jawed Angels." (Read Bobbie Baker article)

March is also the month the Nominating Committee presents nominees for the next fiscal year. Our Branch thanks the committee for their work and the nominees for accepting the challenge to blaze more trails next fiscal year.

The "steering" wheel is here for the taking!

BOARD MATTERS

- Diana Taylor, Chair of the Archives Committee, presented their three-year report to the Board. (Read Diana Taylor article) A complete report will be sent to the Branch, AAUW-CA and AAUW.
- The Board accepted the resignations of Janice Robbins and Tracy Bunger and approved their replacements, respectively, as follows: Peg Carlson-Bowen - Program VP and Kathy Myers - Building & Properties Chair. Also approved was the release of the "Money Matters" materials developed by the Financially Fit For Life Committee to Suzanne Doty, who is scheduled to make a presentation at the Elmwood Jail, with restrictions, as specified in the motion. Additionally, the Board approved the contract with Proven Termite so the Building & Properties Committee can move forward with the project to treat and control termites at Headquarters for a total cost not to exceed \$3,000.
- Public Policy reported that Branch members attended the hearing on women's issues on January 17 at the Santa Clara County government offices. Louise Persson presented the most important priorities of our Branch. Suzanne Doty expressed her views. Women's March organizers Geri Madden and Pam Dougherty coordinated the January 21 march, attended by over 30 Branch members and their families. To make AAUW visible to the community, Peg Carlson-Bowen secured an Action Alley table and led Branch volunteers to hand out materials after the march. Walk-ins totaled 90 women. Public Policy also scheduled a meeting with State Senator Jim Beall to discuss legislative priorities related to women and girls.
- Membership Update: 306 members at January 31, 2017 (302 last year); four new members, two deceased.
- The Start Smart workshop has expanded to San Jose City College. The Strong Women Leadership Conference that will be held at Evergreen Valley College on March 18 tapped a student volunteer to help reinforce the importance of having an AAUW student organization at EVC. The student whom the Branch sent to NCCWSL in June 2016 won a position on the Associated Student Body, and will help set up the second annual "Elect Her" workshop.

AAUW San Jose Branch Bonfire

Branch Donations for Calendar Year 2016:

3999-Unrestricted LAF Support	9,540.00
4229-Mooneen Lecce Giving Circle Special Projects Fund	1, 500.00
4336-Educational Opportunities Fund	885.00
4337-Public Policy Fund	370.00
4339-Leadership Program Fund	190.00
4346-Clearwater, FL/Carol Monash Hirshfield Fund	100.00
4372-Sacramento Branch 100 th Anniversary	20.00
4402-Charting The Course Campaign	12,050.00
5035-Tech Trek Stanford CA-Curie	10,200.00
9110-AAUW Fund	5,989.32
9170-Eleanor Roosevelt Fund	1,040.00
TOTAL CA0100-San Jose Inc.	41,884.32



Open House For New Members

March 2, 7 pm at Headquarters

Do you know someone you think would be an asset to AAUW San Jose? Would she enjoy the benefits of membership in our branch? Bring her to the Open House on March 2 which is being planned by the Membership Team. We will describe the CAPs and Interest Groups, serve refreshments, enjoy chatting, and answer questions from potential members. More questions? Contact [Margaret Bard](#).



Call for a Tech Trek Chair

Our beloved Tech Trek Chair, Jane Guinther, will be moving to the East Coast in April 2017. She has been the rock of this Community Action Project for 12 years, coordinating with AAUW-CA, the Inter-Branch Council (IBC) of Santa Clara County, volunteers from the AAUW San Jose Branch, and San Jose middle schools. She also served as “dorm mom” at the Stanford STEM camp for many of those years. Her departure will leave a big hole in this project and in our hearts. Our Tech Trek Branch team met in January, making progress dividing the tasks. We’re underway with applications delivered to our schools and an interview team is in the queue; however, we are in need of a Tech Trek chair.

If you have an interest in our young girls’ future, education and career opportunities, please contact [Marty Glanzman](#) or [Jane Guinther](#) for information on moving Tech Trek forward. A team exists to perform tasks, but they need a leader who will coordinate with the volunteers and the AAUW committees mentioned above. Let’s continue showing our girls the limitless opportunities of a career in STEM!

Local Scholarship Applications Available

Cheryl Markman

AAUW Local Scholarship awards are granted to women whose permanent home address is in Campbell, Milpitas, San Jose or Santa Clara; who have completed two full years at an accredited college or university; who have a GPA of 3.0 or higher; and who are enrolled in a four-year institution as an undergraduate in the fall of 2017. Applications for 2017 Local Scholarship awards are available as of March 1 on our Branch website, www.aauwsanjose.org. The deadline for application submission is April 15.

Grants are based on significance of educational goals, scholastic achievements, merits of the application and an interview with members of the Local Scholarship Committee. The number and dollar amounts of the scholarships awarded each year depend on the funds available. In 2016 we awarded over \$57,000 in scholarships!

Please encourage friends and family members who meet the eligibility requirements to apply. Direct any questions to [Thea Jacobs](#).

Financially Fit For Life

Wanted: Volunteers to help present a program co-sponsored by AAUW-SJ and the Santa Clara County Credit Union called “Mad City Money” at Tech Trek camp in July. Contact [Mary Barry](#) for more information.

Strong Women Leadership Conference

Sat March 18
Evergreen Valley College
8:45 am - 1:30 pm

"Strong Women" is a collaboration with Evergreen Valley College and financially supported by the Commission on the Status of Women and the Office of Women's Policy -- and, of course, AAUW San Jose. This conference supports women of college age and above, while our previous conference, "Strong Girls, Strong Women," continues to serve high school girls. The Strong Women conference features dynamic speakers and presenters who will inspire and energize you. Our Keynote speaker, Chandra Brooks, Vice Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women, has promised us a powerful speech.

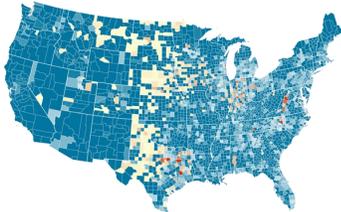
Strong Women workshops include: Political Empowerment; Money Matters (thank you, Financially Fit for Life!); Sexual Assault; Yoga; Loving Your Body; Positive Relationships; Self-Defense; and chefs demonstrating healthy meals and offering free samples.

Our luncheon panel of women leaders will share the challenges they've faced, their accomplishments and offer next steps. The panel will include: Ruth Silver Taube, women's labor lawyer and activist; education activist Helen Kassa; San Jose Women's March organizer Shay Franco-Clausen; and AAUW San Jose Local Scholarship recipient Trang Nguyen. Our moderator is San Jose City Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas.

Breakfast and lunch are included, admission is free and there are giveaways, too! Registration is at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strong-women-leadership-conference-tickets>. Want to volunteer for the day of the Strong Women conference? Contact Louise Persson (408-629-8614 or louisepersson1@gmail.com).

This is a day by us and for us -- strong women! Join us. Bring your friends and family, and come away strengthened, connected and empowered.

PUBLIC POLICY



AAUW Opposes Attacks on Reproductive Rights

Gloria Leonard, [Public Policy](#) Committee

Reproductive rights have been under attack for decades -- even before *Roe v. Wade* -- and advocates are facing grave challenges and attacks both at the federal and state levels. **States continue to advance anti-abortion legislation;** in the last four years, states have enacted a total of [288 abortion restrictions](#), and more than half of U.S. women of reproductive age currently [live in states](#) that are hostile or extremely hostile to abortion rights. The map which can be viewed at the attached link: <https://thenationalcampaign.org/resource/accessmap> illustrates those areas where there is limited access to services.

AAUW continues to pursue opportunities to improve access to care by working with Congress and the relevant federal agencies on the following initiatives: (1) AAUW opposes any attempt to limit access to Title X programs and supports increased Title X funding, (2) AAUW advocates for effective health care laws that empower women to make their own positive health care decisions, and (3) AAUW supports comprehensive legislation that provides preventative health and education to support reproductive care for women that ensures access to legally prescribed contraception.

For more information on AAUW's position on reproductive rights, see <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/reproductive-rights/>.



Teens Express Gratitude From the Heart
Jan Giroux, [Gifts for Teens](#)

The Gifts for Teens committee is already hard at work pricing and purchasing needed teen items for the 2017 holiday gift bags. While being able to assemble, fill and distribute gift bags to needy teens is fulfilling in itself, hearing feedback from actual teen recipients is so much more rewarding. And whether you were a volunteer helping assemble the gift bags or a monetary donor, this feedback is meant for you, too.

One male recipient voiced, "It's always hard to put pure gratitude into just words because they never truly explain my feelings. Thank you for taking the time out and bringing these gifts. For no matter what is in the bag, it is the thoughtfulness that this thank you goes out to." A foster teen said, "Thank you so much for sending me Christmas gifts. This year has been really rough for me. I truly appreciate you supporting me and my peers." And lastly, a female recipient expressed, "Thank you for the wonderful duffel bag. You have no idea how much it means during this time of year to know that people care."

Gifts for Teens again would like to thank all the volunteers and donors for 2016. Without you, we wouldn't be able to do what we do. And knowing you helped put a smile on a needy teen's face is priceless.

New Member Profiles

Claire Campodonico

KATHY NOETHER received her BA in Music from Notre Dame de Namur University in 1969. She went on to earn her MS in Educational Administration from National University in 2000. Kathy has been a long-term National member and decided, with the encouragement of a friend who is active in the Sonora Branch, to join our Branch. She is a retired educator and administrator from the Cupertino Union School District.

PAYJE REDMOND joined our Branch because she wants to be part of a legacy that supports women in STEM. She also wants to be a member of a local community of women activists. Payje will receive her BS in Journalism from SJSU in May of 2018. Being a student member, she quickly located our Branch through a Google search.

MICHELLE LALLJIE earned her BS in Mechanical Engineering from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in 1991. She is employed by Amazon as a Senior Operations Manager. Michelle has chosen to change her National membership to a Branch membership so she can be more active in promoting other women in the fields of STEM. Her skills also include advanced Excel, Word and PowerPoint. She is a resident of Los Gatos. Michelle first learned of AAUW from her mother.

LESLIE LARSON received her BS in Spanish from Occidental College. After graduate work in Bogota, Colombia on a Rotary International Graduate Fellowship, she returned to California where she worked as a legislative aide for a state senator in Sacramento. In 1979 she earned an MA in Library and Information Science at UCLA. She spent 20 years in high tech marketing with a variety of software, hardware and internet companies. Leslie resides in Cupertino. She was referred by Sharon Niedermaier.

In Memoriam 

Mary Ann Roberts passed away on Christmas Eve. Several past presidents remembered her services to our community. Rita Skillman and Linda Snashall said that Mary Ann was one of the original Vegetarian Gourmet founders who introduced quinoa and healthy eating habits to the members. Mary Ellen Heising remembered Mary Ann as a bright, caring woman who never lost her Georgia accent or southern charm.

Barbara Bettencourt enjoyed getting to know Mary Ann in the Gourmet and Exploring World Literature interest groups. And Jean Wyatt reminds us that Mary Ann will be fondly remembered by her four daughters, many grandchildren and the numerous exchange students who she and her husband hosted over the years.

Archive Committee Report

Diana Taylor, Chair

In January, the Archive Committee turned over to History San Jose (HSJ) the following: a second copy of the 100-year history book to be placed in storage with other materials; Branch Presidents' reports from 1940-2000 (some were missing) which had been sent to AAUW and AAUW-CA; complete Building and Properties minutes from 1969 to 2000; copies of Articles of Incorporation with Amendments dated 1949, 1958, 1965; and a check for \$150 from the Branch as a budgeted donation to purchase storage supplies. Our monetary donations have enabled HSJ to purchase archival storage material for our collection, including oversized boxes for the old scrapbooks.

HSJ indexes our files in such a way that reference to our collection can be found at Online Archive of California (www.oac.cdlib.org). Our Branch collection is found at www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c80g3qqk/. The total length of our paper deposits with HSJ from the beginning of this project is approximately nine linear feet. Anyone can access those records on site at HSJ, and Branch members are welcome any time.

The following Archive Committee members met twice a month over the past two years and have been faithful, diligent and so patient with this tedious work: Marilyn Jackson, co-chair; Grace O'Leary, Barbara Gilbert, Lida Kluzek, Judith Ohland, Bernice Redfern (1 year), and Laura Manthey (final 6 months). Some work will continue until June in finalizing all of our objectives with this project, such as preparing archiving recommendations for officers and committee chairs using National AAUW guidelines.

2017 AAUW National Election — One Member, One Vote

AAUW members will receive their voter information in early April by e-mail and mail with the Spring AAUW Outlook! Candidate slate, bylaws proposals, Public Policy Program proposals, and resolutions will be published in the Spring issue of AAUW Outlook. And don't forget to check for the latest updates on the [AAUW National Election web page](#).

January 2017 Bridge Winners

Bobbie Eckerman, [Bridge Groups](#)



First Monday: No Bridge

Second Monday: Rosemary Busch, Mary Braley, Pam Dougherty

Second Tuesday: Sue Dietz, Bobbie Eckerman

Second Friday: (Duplicate) Joan Benedetti, Bobbie Eckerman, Lida Kluzek

Third Friday: Lida Kluzek, Sandy Bonnet

Fourth Tuesday: Patty Baggese, Darline Wilson

Building and Properties Committee Announcements

Scheduling at Headquarters

Do you need to request use of Headquarters? As of February 1, [Bernice Redfern](#) will be doing the scheduling. Please contact her directly. Remember, you can also check on the availability of Headquarters at the online calendar: <https://teamup.com/ks4b97690d4f5baaf5/>.

Securing Headquarters

Every now and then, the front door to Headquarters is found open or unlocked. It is everyone's responsibility to make sure the front door is locked, whether or not they use the front door! The House is such a wonderful resource for us all; please protect it. Thank you.

Third Wednesday Program

Wed March 15
1 pm and 6:30 pm

Plan to celebrate Women's History Month by viewing the HBO film "Iron Jawed Angels" at Headquarters on March 15. This 2004 film depicts the American women's suffrage movement in the 1910s, and follows Alice Paul and Lucy Burns as they employ peaceful, non-violent and effective strategies to obtain the right to vote for women. There will be two showings, a matinee and an evening performance. Popcorn and soft drinks will be available. The film is slightly over 2 hours, so bring cushions if you want to be very comfortable! Questions, contact [Bobbie Baker](#).

Save the Dates

Sat March 11, 9 am - 4 pm - Annual AAUW CA leadership training day at San Jose City College, \$30/person, including lunch. Contact [Jenny Redfern](#).

Sun March 26, 7:30 am - AAUW Morgan Hill 34th Annual Wildflower Run. Raises money for scholarships for women and girls (see <http://www.aauw-morganhill.org> and http://wildflowerrun.org/files/runner_guide_2017.pdf)

AAUW San Jose Branch Bonfire

CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at Headquarters and are shown in BLUE. Events in RED meet elsewhere. To schedule a meeting, check the [Branch Calendar](#), then contact [Bernice Redfern](#). RSVP means the group needs to know who will attend.

Weekend Walkers meets most Saturdays and Sundays at 8am for an hour-long walk. To receive weekly emails about walks, contact [Jean Reed](#).

Wed Mar 1	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Board Meeting - Social time from 6:30, meeting from 7 pm (Edna Robison)
Thu Mar 2	7 pm - 8:30 pm Open House for Prospective Members (Margaret Bard)
Mon Mar 6	9:30 am - 12:30 pm Monday Bridge (RSVP Pat Mikolic) 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Neighbors Helping Neighbors (Sally Bailey) Pack survival backpacks from 6:30; meeting from 7 pm
Tue Mar 7	10 am - 12 pm German Conversation (Barbara Snyder)
Wed Mar 8	9 am - 10 am Art Appreciation - Oakland Museum of CA "Out of the Box: the Rise of the Sneaker Culture" & "Bees: Tiny insect-Big Impact" (RSVP Edy Young) 7 pm - 9 pm Wednesday Night Book Group - A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith (Laura Manthey)
Thu Mar 9	9:30 am - 11:30 am Great Decisions (Maureen Curulla) 7:15 pm - 10 pm Bridge (RSVP Bobbie Eckerman)
Fri Mar 10	10 am - 2 pm Duplicate Bridge (RSVP Lida Kluzek)
Sat Mar 11	6 pm - 10 pm Couples Gourmet (RSVP Margaret Bard)
Sun Mar 12	Film Fans (RSVP Linda Snashall)
Mon Mar 13	10 am - 1 pm Bridge (RSVP Rosemary Busch) 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Financially Fit for Life (Mary Barry) 6 pm - 9 pm Light Gourmet (RSVP Cheryl Markman)
Tue Mar 14	10 am - 12 pm Tuesday Morning Book Club - Ladies of Liberty by Cokie Roberts (Maggi Benson) 10 am - 11:30 am Conversacion Espanol - (RSVP Nancy Toledo)
Wed Mar 15	1 pm - 3 pm Progr am for Women's History Month - "Iron Jawed Angels" matinee (Bobbie Baker) 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Progr am for Women's History Month - "Iron Jawed Angels" evening show (Bobbie Baker)
Thu Mar 16	10 am - 12 pm Family History - DNA research updates (Susan Brundage) 7 pm - 8:30 pm Mystery Lovers - The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra by Vaseem Khan (Sharon Shephard)
Fri Mar 17	10 am - 1 pm Bridge (RSVP Lida Kluzek) 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Singles Potluck (Isabelle Wright)
Sat Mar 18	Strong Women Leadership Conference - Evergreen Valley Community College (Louise Persson)
Mon Mar 20	9:30 am - 11:30 am Exploring World Literature - The Bridal Wreath by Sigrid Undset (Sue Eichenbaum) 6:30 pm - 10 pm International Gourmet - Korea (RSVP Jan Bartolotta)
Tue Mar 21	10 am - 11:45 am French Conversation - (Barbara Snyder) 6 pm - 8 pm Public Policy (Marlene Bjornsrud)
Thu Mar 23	9:30 am - 11:30 am Great Decisions (Maureen Curulla) 7 pm - 9 pm Game Night (RSVP by Monday Connie Wolff)
Mon Mar 27	8:30 am - 10:30 am Wildflower Run - Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill (WildflowerRun.org for registration and course details) 9 am - 11 am Building and Properties Committee Meeting (Kathy Myers) 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Veggie Gourmet Potluck (Jean Wyatt 408-262--3372)
Tue Mar 28	11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch Bunch Hong's Gourmet, 14510 Big Basin Way, Saratoga (Janice Robbins) 7 pm - 8:30 pm Great Decisions Evening (Karelle Cornwell) 7:15 pm - 10 pm Bridge (RSVP Bobbie Eckerman)
Fri Mar 31	1 pm - 4 pm Local Scholarship - (Thea Jacobs)

Save the Date

Sat April 22	Annual Meeting & Luncheon (see back page for details)
Sat May 20	FFFL "Selecting a Senior Living Community"
Mon June 5	7:00-8:30 pm Neighbors Helping Neighbors Soirée
June 14-17	2017 AAUW National Convention and "Eduvacation" Washington, D.C.

San Jose Branch Bonfire (USPS 857-400) is published monthly except July for \$8.95 per year by AAUW San Jose Branch, 1165 Minnesota Ave., San Jose CA 95125-3324.

Periodicals Postage Paid at San Jose, CA

Postmaster: Send address changes to AAUW San Jose Branch, 1165 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose, CA

President: Edna Robison

BONFIRE Editor: Anne Wustrow

Editorial Staff: Elin Bolt, Sharon Burkett, Helen Gendler, Jan Giroux

Distribution: Linda Guyer, Alma Powell

Change of Address: Kathy Heihn

BONFIRE ARTICLE SUBMITTAL RULES:

The sole purpose of this publication is to convey the association's business to its membership. Only articles and announcements related to Branch business will be considered for inclusion.

San Jose Branch
AAUW Headquarters
1165 Minnesota Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125-3324
Phone: 408-294-2430

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID

AAUW San Jose Branch *Established 1909*

AAUW San Jose Annual Luncheon

Saturday, April 22
11:30 am – 2 pm
Three Flames
1547 Meridian Avenue, San Jose

Election and Installation of 2017-2018 Officers

Enjoy Seeing Old Friends and Welcoming New Members

Celebrate Your New Slate of Officers

Shan Meltzer, an AAUW American Fellowship recipient, will speak about her studies at UC San Francisco in the Neuroscience PhD program. Shan is dedicated to teaching, mentoring and improving the status of women in science.

This will be a fun-filled memorable event. Please join us in support of all things AAUW!

Menu:

Tilapia with cilantro and diced tomato in a chardonnay sauce
London Broil - thinly sliced steak topped with sautéed mushrooms
Breast of Chicken Sauté - tender, boneless breast in a white wine and mushroom sauce
Pasta Primavera - penne pasta with fresh sautéed vegetables in their house marinara sauce
All (except pasta) will be served with buttered potatoes, seasonal vegetable, dinner salad, rolls, butter, coffee and dessert.

Please send your check for \$30.00, which includes tax and tip, to Risë Berry, 460 Golfview Drive, San Jose, CA 95127, no later than April 14. Please make out the check to AAUW-SJ and indicate your entrée choice in the memo line.



You're Invited!

Empowering Women Since 1881



See the San Jose Branch Website at www.aauwsanjose.org for more information.