

San Jose Branch

***BONFIRE***



Empowering Women Since 1881



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN – SAN JOSE  
AND  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN JOSE/SANTA CLARA

## PROS AND CONS FORUM

BALLOT PROPOSITIONS - NOVEMBER 4, 2014 BALLOT

OCTOBER 11, 2014 - 10-12 PM



BASCOM AVENUE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
COMMUNITY ROOM (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Elevator)  
1000 S. BASCOM AVENUE  
SAN JOSE, CA

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. INFORMATION: Contact [Gloria Leonard](#) – 626-437-8798.

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



## President's Notes Diane Trombetta

Diane Trombetta, President

As you probably know from reading last month's BONFIRE, the Board of Directors has approved the Goals and Objectives portion of our new three-year Strategic Plan. Now we need your feedback on the best ways to implement the plan so that we will reach those goals. Yes, I know: if you're like me, you probably ignore surveys asking for "feedback." If a telemarketer wants my opinion, I figure I should at least be offered a gift coupon for my time and trouble. It's very different, though, when my daughters ask for my opinion, or a friend wants to know "How would you handle this?" Then I'm flattered and I want to tell them everything I can think of, probably more than they want to hear!

That's how I hope you'll feel when you receive the survey asking you to rate the Strategies and Actions listed in our 2014-17 Strategic Plan. You can also sign up to participate in a "focus group," where you'll have the opportunity to suggest how to improve member recruitment and retention, the quality of Branch programs, recruitment of Branch leaders, our visibility in the community and our effectiveness in fulfilling the AAUW mission. Our Strategic Plan may look great on paper, but it's the approval and enthusiasm of our members which will transform the words into actions that benefit real women and girls. We hope to have an electronic survey ready to send out by mid-October. Please take a few minutes to give us your much-valued opinion—just remember a friend is asking for your advice!

**Do you have a KEY to Headquarters which you no longer need? Please leave it in the Building & Properties folder on the sunporch or mail to Laura Manthey ASAP (include your name, please). You will be rewarded with a lighter purse!**

## Board Matters

In what is probably the busiest Board meeting of the year, Board members passed motions to:

1. Move all Branch accounts to Chase Bank in Willow Glen.
2. Support the biennial Public Policy Program of AAUW and AAUW CA.
3. Accept for consideration a draft of the General Fund budget. The draft is available to all Branch members. Contact [Pat Diamond](#) if you would like her to send you a copy.
4. Arrange installation of new carpeting at Headquarters.
5. Send the solicitation letter for AAUW Funds and LAF in February instead of October.
6. Approve the appointment of Bernice Redfern as Secretary to replace Elaine McMahon, who resigned.

## AAUW: Did You Know?

As a member of AAUW, you have an official Member ID number. With that number and a personal password, you have access to the Member Services Database and all the other tools and exclusive content of the AAUW website ([www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)). Enter "Website FAQ" in the Search window on AAUW's home page; click on the link "website FAQ;" scroll down to "I don't have my member ID." Click on the link "member ID online." A window will pop up asking for your name, state and zip code. Enter the information and your member ID will pop up. Dig into this gold mine of information and program resources! Your Member ID is also printed on the back of your *Outlook* magazine.

## Public Policy



Public Policy Committee

[Jacqui Gustafarro](#) and [Gloria Leonard](#), Co-Chairs

**Get Out The Vote Campaign** The best way you can honor the brave suffragists who helped secure the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment is to VOTE and ACT. AAUW members have a proud record of voting, even in mid-term elections (November 4). The “action” is to motivate young women to vote as well. Access to online registration and election information is important to younger (and older) voters. Spread the word that AAUW is recommending the nonpartisan website [canlvote.org](http://canlvote.org), where voters will find state by state information. The Branch Public Policy Committee will bring this information to students at the C/U campuses, along with voter education on issues. We are also partnering with the LWV SJ/SC for a Pros and Cons Forum on October 11 at the Bascom Avenue Library Community Room (see front page). AAUW-CA ballot initiative positions are displayed on the bulletin board and at [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org).

**California Tracked Bills** AAUW-CA has had a successful legislative session so far. In 2014, we expect successful outcomes with supported bills to enforce Title IX for high school athletics, extend Title IX protections to pregnant and parenting graduate students, provide sexual harassment protections for unpaid interns, better protect students from sexual harassment and cyberbullying and remove barriers to full contraceptive coverage under the Affordable Care Act. The bills are on the Governor's desk; he must sign or veto by September 30. The Branch Public Policy bulletin board will display the Governor's Report Card when we have the final results.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS!

## Learn About Our Branch and Your Board

Sue Cochran, AAUW CA, will conduct a training workshop at Headquarters on Saturday, October 18 from 10 am to 12:30 pm. This session will focus on the legal and financial responsibilities of Board members, and will provide answers to questions such as “Who owns a non-profit?” “What are the differences between a Management Board and a Governance Board?” “How can Board members reduce or prevent the possibility of lawsuits?” Branch members are welcome even if they are not Board members. RSVP by October 1 to [Diane Trombetta](#).

Title IX/Sports Equity:  
Think About It

*“The more male dominated the athletics leadership is, the less likely it is that women will be hired as coaches.”* From *The Troubling Case of Women Coaches* by Deborah Brake.  
[Read more.](#)

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER  
TO VOTE**

**October 20**

Make your Vote Count on  
**November 4**

### Meetings & Events

October 1, Wednesday 7 pm

#### **Board Meeting**

Social time from 6:30 pm

[Diane Trombetta](#)

October 6, Monday 6:30 pm

#### **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

"Project Linus" before meeting

[Bobbie Baker](#)

October 11, Sat. 10 am – 12 noon

#### **Pros & Cons Forum**

Bascom Avenue Public Library

See front page

[Gloria Leonard](#) 626-437-8798

October 15, Wednesday 7 pm

#### **Third Wednesday Program**

Nine for IX

[Laura Manthey](#)

October 18, Sat. 10 am – 12:30 pm

#### **Board Responsibility Workshop**

See article

RSVP to [Diane Trombetta](#)

October 21, Tuesday 6 pm

#### **Public Policy**

[Jacqui Gustafarro](#) & [Gloria Leonard](#)

October 24, Friday 1 pm

#### **Local Scholarship Committee Meeting**

[Grace O'Leary](#)

October 27, Monday 9:30 – 11:30 am

#### **Building & Properties Committee**

[Linda Guyer](#)

### AAUW Funds in Action - Leadership Programs Fund

[Sharon Shephard](#), AAUW Funds VP

In the coming months, BONFIRE articles will highlight some ways your donations to AAUW Funds support our mission of advancing women's issues. Did you know AAUW San Jose sent ten young women to the National Conference for Women Student Leaders held in June 2014? More than 900 students (130 on scholarships) gathered in Washington DC to learn life and leadership skills. Empowering the next generation of women leaders is an important goal we all support.

Crissel Rodriguez who received one of our scholarships wrote:

*I was greatly inspired by a young woman who will be traveling to Nigeria to provide therapy to women whose girls have been kidnapped. I mentioned I had experience in graphic design, she asked me to develop a marketing kit with her to distribute on issues of self-defense, local and global resources....I leave this conference empowered and conscientious that I have the power to shape my future.*



Crissel Rodriguez attended NCWSL on scholarship from AAUW San Jose.

### College/University Relations Committee (C/URC) ... With a Twist!

[Suzanne Doty](#) and [Helen Stevens](#), Co-Chairs

Calling all Branch members who have an interest in more involvement with local higher education to join C/URC and current committee members to renew their service ... but with a new format. The full committee will no longer meet monthly. Instead, members will work in sub-groups dedicated to one of our four member campuses (Evergreen Valley, San Jose City, San Jose State and Santa Clara University) or focused on one of our program foci: Elect Her, Sexual Violence on Campuses, \$tart \$mart or other topics that may emerge. We hope to co-sponsor at least one program per campus in 2014-15.

The full committee will meet only 3-4 times throughout the year, primarily for purposes of reassessment and adjustment as needed. Intrigued? We need you! Please contact Co-Chairs [Suzanne Doty](#) or [Helen Stevens](#). Thank you!

### October 8 is National Youth Science Day

National Youth Science Day was created to spark early youth interest and leadership in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) careers in an effort to keep America competitive. This year's experiment is "[Rockets to the Rescue](#)." Activities include designing and building an aerodynamic food transportation device that can deliver a payload of nutritious food to disaster victims.

## Welcome New Members!

[Claire Campodonico](#)

[REYNA DOWNEY](#) graduated from Santa Clara University with a BS in Psychology. She then earned her MS in Forensic Psychology from Marymount University. Next, from Palo Alto University, she received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Forensics. She completed her internship at San Quentin State Penitentiary in 2013. She is a proud military wife; her husband is active duty Coast Guard. Reyna was referred by Willow Glen Charm Facebook.

[RENEE FISHER](#) is a native of France. She received all of her education there, including her Teaching Credential to teach at the university level. Moving to the United States, she worked in the field of computer science for many years. She was also employed by New York University to teach French conversation and 19<sup>th</sup> Century literature. She is now retired. She was referred by member Monique Lee.

[SUSAN KADEZABEK](#) just moved to California from New Jersey, and as a first-time AAUW member wants to contribute to local and state issues that our Branch works on. As a university librarian in New Jersey, Susan earned both her BA in History and MA in Library Services from Rutgers University. She volunteers at a local food pantry, but would also like to find a permanent job that capitalizes on her research and analytical skills--which rules out shoveling snow!

[ELIZABETH GUIMARIN](#) resides in Campbell. She was referred to our Branch through the Women's Conference website. She earned her BS in Chemistry and MS in Soil Chemistry at Utah State University. She began in environmental chemistry, then moved to Internet Services. She later earned her Project and Program Management Certificate from UC-Santa Cruz Extension and Project Management Professional Certification from Project Management Institute.

### Membership

[Linda Goldberg](#)

Membership Questions? The Membership team wants you to know that we are a pretty interchangeable group. If you have any questions, you may contact any one of us, but there are a few areas that are specific. If you are wondering who to call for membership questions:

Board Representative: [Nanci Eksterowicz](#)

Introduction of prospective member: [Linda Goldberg](#)

Open House questions: [Kathy Myers](#)

Corrections to contact information: Membership Treasurer, [Linda Lloyd](#)

Problems with membership information: Anyone on the Membership Team

Missing Directory: [Peg Carlson-Bowen](#)

### August 2014 AAUW Bridge Winners

[Bobbie Eckerman](#)

First Monday: Joan Benedetti, Pat Seaman, Jackie Chase

Second Monday: Jackie Chase, LeelaViswanathan, Judy Kumagai

Second Thursday: Darline Wilson, Virginia Beck

Second Friday (Duplicate): Denise Kwan, Ruth White, Barbara Shandera

Third Friday: Lida Kluzek, Mary Fitzgerald, Leela Viswanathan

Fourth Tuesday: Darline Wilson, Patty Baggese, Sandra Savage

### Open House for Prospective Members

Come and join us for our first Branch Open House of the season, scheduled at Headquarters on **Tuesday, October 28 at 7pm.** Introduce your friends and associates to AAUW at an event designed just for them! Interest Group representatives will be there to provide experiences on their activities. AAUW background and informational literature will be featured and the Membership Committee will be available to register new members. We also need our most convincing advocates: our current, enthusiastic AAUW members to share what AAUW can do for us and our community! For additional information, please contact [Kathv Mvers](#).





### Kudos for Gifts for Teens

*"We applaud ISPF-American Association of University Women, Gifts for Teens, for the work the organization does in our community to make it a better place to live. Congratulations for your organization's hard work and outreach efforts!"*  
Quote from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

### Looking Forward to the Holiday Boutique

[Cheryl Markman](#), Local Scholarship

AAUW San Jose has been providing scholarships for women for 34 years through the Local Scholarship Community Action Project. In addition to monetary donations from AAUW San Jose members, Local Scholarship is funded through grant writing and an annual Holiday Boutique, now in its 13th year. The Boutique will be held this year on Saturday, November 15. Donations of items for the Boutique are currently being sought. Please consider giving home-baked goods; handcrafted jewelry; needlework, hand-knitted or craft items; small gifts; holiday decorations and other items of décor. Many Interest Groups donate a thematic basket related to their area of interest. Thanks to your generosity, now in giving and with your purchases at the Boutique. We look forward to another successful fund-raising event.

Local Scholarships are available to women who have completed two full years at an accredited college or university and are enrolled in a four-year institution. Grant amounts have increased to as much as \$3000. A special \$4000 scholarship was established in honor of past committee chair Edie Kerr. To date, nearly \$145,000 has been awarded to 117 recipients. In 2014, a total of \$29,500 was awarded to 12 recipients.

For more information, please contact [Grace O'Leary](#) (408-268-0798).

### Fill a Bag-Spread Holiday Joy

[Jan Giroux](#), Gifts for Teens



Imagine the smile on a needy or homeless teen's face when they receive an unexpected holiday gift. Get a head start and begin holiday shopping early by contributing to Gifts for Teens and help us make this scenario a reality! Cash donations and/or items like store gift cards, socks, gloves, t-shirts (no red or blue) for boys or girls, toiletries, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste (no travel sizes), nail polish or small hand-held games (like puzzles and NERF balls) are needed. Only new items are included in the gift bags. Excess corporate incentive items like logo shirts, cups, hats, etc. are welcome as well.

Donations should be placed in the Gifts for Teens box in the parlor closet at AAUW San Jose Headquarters with the donor's name and address inside. We need your help to fill 1,275 gift bags this year. Donations from generous members like you can help us achieve this goal. Remember, if you shop Amazon, log onto [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose Gifts for Teens as your charity. There is no cost to you and Amazon gives a percentage to Gifts for Teens.

Contact Elaine Benoit at 408-268-9654 or [Jan Giroux](#) (408-996-8875) or visit [www.gifts4teens.org](http://www.gifts4teens.org). Holiday gift bag assembly will be the first two weeks in December. More details to come in a future issue.

## Branch Programs and Updates

### October Calendar

All meetings are at Headquarters unless otherwise noted. Some groups have space or participation limits. If you are new to a group or only attend occasionally, please contact the group to confirm that there is space available. RSVP means that the group needs to know who will attend.

**Weekend Walkers** meets most Saturdays and Sundays at 8 am for an hour-long walk on the Los Gatos Creek Trail. To receive weekly emails about walks, contact [jjkreed@comcast.net](mailto:jjkreed@comcast.net).

Dienstag 7 Oktober um 11 Uhr  
**Deutsche Unterhaltung**  
Bei [Barbara Snyder](#)

October 8, Wednesday  
**Art Appreciation**  
Cantor Museum, Robert Frank Exhibit  
RSVP [Marty Glanzman](#)  
[Jan Bartolotta](#) 408-259-7915

October 8, Wednesday 7 pm  
**Wednesday Night Book Group**  
*The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd  
[Laura Manthey](#)

October 9, Thursday 7:15 pm  
**Evening Bridge**  
Member's Home  
[Bobbie Eckerman](#) 408-266-0560

October 10, Friday 10 am  
**Duplicate Bridge**  
[Lida Kluzek](#) 408-294-4770

October 11, Saturday 6:30 pm  
**Couples Gourmet**  
Member's Home  
[Margaret Bard](#) 408-377-6625

October 13, Monday 6 pm  
**Gourmet Light**  
Member's Home  
[Barbara Bettencourt](#)

Martes 14 octubre a las nueve y media  
**Conversacion espanol**  
A la casa de [Barbara Snyder](#)

October 14, Tuesday 10 – 11:30 am  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Book Club**  
*The Coffee Trader* by David Liss  
Joyce Baker, 408-259-8343

October 16, Thursday 7 pm  
**Mystery Lovers**  
*The Bottoms* by Joe R. Lansdale  
[Sharon Shephard](#)

October 17, Friday 10 am  
**Bridge**  
[Lida Kluzek](#) 408-294-4770

October 17, Friday 6:30 pm  
**Singles Potluck**  
Jean Wyatt 408-262-3372

October 20, Monday 9:30 am  
**Exploring World Literature**  
*The Lady of the Camellias* by Alexandre Dumas fils  
[Lucy Poindexter](#)

October 20, Monday 6:30pm  
**Gourmet International**  
Dinner Out  
RSVP [Arlene Veteska](#)

Mardi 21 Octobre `a 11 heures  
**Conversation Français**  
[Chez Renee Fisher](#)  
RSVP 408-268-7569

October 23, Thursday 6:30 pm  
**Game Night**  
RSVP by Monday October 20  
Sandee Plymire 408-280-5799

October 27, Monday 6:30 pm  
**Vegetarian Potluck**  
Jean Wyatt 408-262-3372

October 28, Tuesday 11:30 am  
**Lunch Bunch**  
Teske's Germania Restaurant  
255 North 1st Street  
RSVP [Diana Taylor](#)

October 28, Tuesday 7 pm  
**Evening Bridge**  
Member's Home  
[Bobbie Eckerman](#)  
408-266-0560

**Mandatory USPS Notice 2014-15**

**Vote  
Nov.  
4**

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**PERIODICALS  
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**Editorial Staff:** Sue Covey, Diane Lane, Linda Rowlett  
**Distribution:** Alma Powell  
**Change of Address:** Linda Lloyd

**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.

**AAUW San Jose Branch *Established in 1909***

**Third Wednesday Program**

**Have a ball at Third Wednesday!**

**Nine for IX**

**"The '99ers"**

**October 15, 7-8:30 pm  
Headquarters**



Brandi Chastain, pulling off her shirt and falling to her knees, arms raised in triumph...who could forget that moment? Please join us for a viewing of the film "The 99ers" followed by discussion. This ESPNW Nine for IX documentary will give us a look into the 1999 World Cup winning soccer team, a team that changed the way we look at women in sports. Julie Foudy narrates the film, focusing on the strong team ethic that brought the team to victory and a permanent place in the hearts of so many Americans.

Sponsored by Title IX/Sports Equity  
[Laura Manthey](#)



*Empowering Women Since 1881*

See the San Jose Branch Website at [www.aauwsanjose.org](http://www.aauwsanjose.org) for more information.