

San Jose Branch

**BONFIRE**

Empowering Women Since 1881

## 2015-2016 Elected Officers

**President**

Bobbie Baker

**President-Elect**

Edna Robison

**Program Vice President**

Jennifer Wirt

**Membership****Co-Vice Presidents**

Nanci Eksterowicz,\* Marty  
Glanzman,\* Margaret Bard,  
Shirley Karabian

**AAUW Funds Vice President**

Sharon Bouska

**AAUW Funds/Legal Advocacy****Fund Vice President**

Kathy Bechly

**Finance Officer**

Pat Diamond

**Treasurer**

Anne Wustrow

**Secretary**

Bernice Redfern

**Building and Properties  
Committee**

Linda Holbrook,\* Pat Brie,\*  
Laura Manthey,\* Judy Ohland,  
Kathy Myers, Sharon Shephard,  
Claire Campodonico, Tracy  
Bunger

\*continuing for the second of  
a 2-year term

**soi-rée**

/swä'rā/

noun

– an evening party or social gathering,  
especially one held for a specific purpose

**Monday****June 1****7 pm**

Neighbors Helping Neighbors invites you to our second annual Soiree. This will be the final meeting of this very active Community Action Project for the current year and an end-of-the-year get-together for Branch members. Our theme is “**Pencils and Protein**”. We are supporting two projects for **Santa Maria Urban Ministries**: one for School Supplies and one for protein food products. NHN will provide wine, soft drinks, appetizers and desserts. You are asked to bring contributions for either “collection”.

**School Supplies**

*to fill backpacks for students in  
grades K-12*

Binder paper  
Pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers  
12-inch rulers  
Pocket folders (no red or blue)  
Glue sticks  
Crayola Markers 10-pack, classic colors  
Notebooks (no red or blue)  
Crayons 24-pack  
Pens – black ink  
Calculators  
Colored pencils  
Scissors

**Protein**

Canned tuna or chicken  
Spam  
Peanut butter  
Canned chili or stew  
Other healthy “protein” items



Curious about NHN? Looking for a way to help? Want to meet the women who do? Come to the party! Everyone is invited. The weather should be wonderful and we should have plenty of daylight for most of the event! Contact [Bobbie Baker](#) with questions.

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



### President's Notes

Diane Trombetta

### Looking Back-Looking Forward

As I look back on my term as President I am proud of many accomplishments, none of which would have been possible without a dedicated, hardworking group of Board members and volunteers. Our work was firmly rooted in the AAUW SJ 2013-17 Strategic Plan (SP).

Goal 1 of the SP states "AAUW SJ will become more visible and active in the community." This year we collaborated with more nonprofits than ever. The Santa Clara County Office of Women's Policy, the Commission on the Status of Women, San Jose State University's Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and the Global Women's Leadership Network were cosponsors of our program "Celebrating Women Leaders," and are among numerous co-sponsors of the yearly Strong Girls Strong Women conference. We are using social media more actively and effectively with new posting guidelines and a team of Branch volunteers to administer our Facebook page. We have initiated the transition to Site Resources, the AAUW website design and management service which will give us technical support and richer content at nominal cost. We are more visible in our campus communities. We recruited four student interns from 3 different campuses and facilitated Start \$mart workshops at Santa Clara University and SJSU.

Goal 2 is to "foster consistent growth in the size, retention, and diversity" of our membership. A new Branch brochure is at the printer's, regular open houses recruited forty new members, and our Branch mission, organization and projects are described more clearly than ever in the new Directory/Handbook. In May the Board combined several job descriptions into a new Communications Committee, whose members will promote and publicize Branch programs and projects (NOTE: volunteers needed for this committee—call me!)

Goal 3 states "AAUW San Jose will advance the AAUW Mission and the Branch Vision through its programs and activities." This year the Program Development Committee allowed for new program suggestions during the course of the year and experimented with program scheduling. Most importantly, they made sure that every program promoted the Strategic Plan.

Goal 4 states "The Board of Directors will ensure the Branch's ability to grow and develop through sustaina-

ble use of financial and human resources." Between the Finance Committee's and the Building and Properties Committee's excellent resource management, we end the year with a newly-refurbished Headquarters, a more user-friendly General Fund budget process and chart of accounts, meticulous records of all financial activities, and a wise allocation of reserves for the future. By adopting action-focused rather than report-focused Board meetings, we made good use of another scarce resource: Branch leadership. Finally, the new Archives Committee will work over the next two years to preserve a priceless resource, our Branch history.

The monthly "Board Matters" column gives a summary of major Board decisions, and the Bonfire is full of examples of active volunteers. But there are still members who say, "The Branch will keep going no matter what." Unfortunately this is not the case. Branches have disappeared or cut programs drastically because they haven't recruited the next generation of members and leaders. We had fewer programs this year because members didn't volunteer to organize them. The hard cover and spiral binding were eliminated from the Directory because no one volunteered to sell ads to cover those costs. More importantly, we risk losing excellent Community Action Projects such as Tech Excellence if no one volunteers to succeed the women who have led these projects year after year.

If you value our Branch and the AAUW mission, donate some time to the branch-- however much time is comfortable for you. There are simple, time-limited tasks, challenging leadership opportunities and everything in between. Contact any member of the incoming Board and ask how you can help. Read the BONFIRE carefully for "help wanted" announcements. Find an inspiring project on the Public Policy Committee or join the College-University Relations Committee and bring AAUW to young women and young women into AAUW. Above all, don't assume that "someone else" will keep our branch going. That "someone else" is you!

Thank you for giving me this space every month to share my thoughts, and for the opportunity to lead the Branch this past year. A special thank you to all of you who expressed your support early on and offered help along the way.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### New Member Profiles

Claire Campodonico

**EMALIE MCGINNIS** was referred to our Branch by Janice Robbins. Emalie earned her BA in English Literature and her MA in Educational Leadership from Santa Clara University. From SJSU, she obtained her B-CLAD Multiple Subject Credential. She is currently the Director for Technology and Information Services at San Jose Unified School District. She is also an adjunct lecturer at SCU. Being an active mother to two boys, Emalie and her husband also raise chickens.

**LORI JAIN** lives in Santa Clara. She earned her BS at Santa Clara University in Commerce with an emphasis in Accounting. Continuing her studies at SCU, she received a Masters in Business Administration. Lori is married and has a fifteen year old son. She began her career as a Certified Public Accountant and has also held positions in Accounting and Information Technology for a high-tech company. She currently is employed by SCU in the Controller's Office as a Financial Systems Accounting Manager.

### Members in the News

Member **Barbara Snyder** was honored at The Junior League of San Jose's 46th Annual Volunteer Luncheon in April. Barbara received a well-deserved Crystal Bowl in appreciation for all the time and effort she has put in as a volunteer at Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley. Congratulations Barbara!

Member Claire Campodonico was recently appointed as the representative commissioner for the city of Monte Sereno to Saratoga Library's county-wide system. Claire has been an active volunteer with Saratoga Library for over ten years. She is honored to represent Monte Sereno as its Library Commissioner until October 2017.

## BOARD MATTERS

At the May 6 meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously approved revised Policies and Procedures presented by the Bylaws Committee. Revisions include updated Job Descriptions and creation of a Branch Communications Committee. The Board approved full voting rights for ex-officio members on all committees. Policies and Procedures are updated at least every other year and reflect who we are and what we do as members of the San Jose Branch. Copies of the documents are available upon request by contacting [Pat Diamond](#), Bylaws Committee Chair.

### San Francisco Stairway Walk

Corona Heights & Buena Vista Park  
Saturday June 13

Weekend Walkers will be climbing to the center of San Francisco, the Corona Heights District. This is a complex setting of dramatic rock formations, hills, high rises and glorious views of the Bay. Varieties of street trees and individual gardens grace the Edwardian homes with their varied architectural details and pleasing color palettes. As always there are many avenues of discovery, history and surprises along these stairway walks. After a picnic lunch we'll follow the paths through the oldest park in San Francisco, Buena Vista Park. The curb stones were originally head stones until the SF graveyards were moved to Colma in the 1930's. Meet at Headquarters at 9 am to carpool; return by 4 pm. RSVP to [Jane Guinther](#) and note if you are willing to drive.

### PUBLIC POLICY

#### Women's Economic Empowerment Means a Stronger California

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

State and community advocates, including AAUW CA, are joining with elected leaders in a call for an agenda that empowers women and brings equality to the state's workplace. Together advocates are supporting multiple policy actions that:

- Reduce poverty and build assets
- Expand access to affordable, quality early childhood care and education
- Ensure fair pay and job opportunities
- Support working families

A new policy paper issued by the Stronger California Advocates Network notes that women comprise almost half the workforce in California and are often the primary income-earners. It also highlights that California's recovery from the recession of 2007-2008 was due in large part to women's contributions to the workforce. However, women are too often unable to secure full-time employment due to lack of decent child care, inflexible, unpredictable schedules, and are much more likely to be employed at jobs that pay minimum wage or less.

The Stronger California Advocates Network hopes to remedy these conditions and envisions California as a place where women can afford to care for themselves and their children, earn a fair living wage and advance themselves through expanded work opportunities. Through passage of proposed legislation like the Fair Pay Act-SB 358, the Equal Pay for Equal Work Act of 2015-AB 1354, and the Earn and Learn Bill, California can set the standard for the rest of the country. Why California? It is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world and it is also where 12% of America's women live. Check out [Stronger California](#) (be sure to scroll down) and the key legislation being proposed in 2015.

#### AAUW CA Election Results

The following officers have been elected: Donna Mertens, President Elect; Pat Ferrer, Chief Financial Officer; Deanna Arthur, Secretary. The three new Directors elected are Lynne Batchelor, Nancy Mahr and Charlene Goehring. All will take office on July 1, joining continuing board members Kathleen Doty (President), Kathy Andreini, Virginia Beck, Susan Negrete, Jane Niemeier, and Sharon Westafer. The proposed Public Policy Priorities and the proposed Bylaws amendment both passed.

#### AAUW Funds Update

Generous donations from San Jose Branch members have totaled more than \$12,500 thus far! \$4,000 has been earmarked for scholarships for students from our community to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). We are continuing to encourage donations until June 30! You still have time to make your contribution. Make your donations today! Questions? Contact [Kathy Bechly](#) or [Sharon Shephard](#).

*Reminder!*

• It's graduation time. The Give a Grad a Gift program allows AAUW members to give recent college graduates a free, one-year AAUW membership within two years of graduation, at no cost to you or them. Don't forget your Community College graduates. A member can give as many gifts as they wish; there is no limit. The free National membership is a great introduction to AAUW. To join a local branch, State and Branch dues need to be paid. Click [HERE](#).

• [Vote AAUW National](#) until June 19. Click on the VOTE button. Enter your member ID, then click SEARCH. Enter your voter PIN. Call 800-326-2289 with questions.



**San Jose Branch Honors Members**  
[Sharon Shephard](#) AAUW Funds VP

Beverly Bassett and Louise Persson were recognized at the April Annual Luncheon as **Named Gift Honorees** for establishing a "little something for girls." For three years the Strong Girls/Strong Women Conference has exemplified the AAUW mission and our Branch goals.

The SGSW conferences are collaborations between AAUW-SJ and the Santa Clara County Office of Women's Policy (OWP). Other agencies are stepping up, providing support and partnering the event. SGSW focuses on high school girls. In three years, almost 1000 attendees have benefited from workshops, demonstrations, and panel discussions addressing physical and emotional health and safety. The 2016 Conference is already being planned. Louise and Beverly are examples of "strong women" and we are pleased to honor their achievements.



### New PR and Outreach Chair Looking for Volunteers and Ideas!

As members of the new Communications Committee, PR and Outreach volunteers will forge connections with local women's groups and other organizations in order to promote AAUW-San Jose's mission and activities and member recruitment. We need good researchers, networkers, writers, speakers and anyone interested in meeting members of like-minded women's groups. Which organizations do you think would make good partners for AAUW? Think of social, industry, professional, and other groups and let me know your thoughts. Do you already have connections to women's groups in the South Bay? Please contribute your talents and suggestions to the Communications Committee by contacting [Emily Dods](#).

### ♣♦ APRIL 2015 AAUW BRIDGE WINNERS

Bobbie Eckerman

First Monday: Leela Viswanathan, Jean Benedetti  
Second Monday: Lida Kluzek, Judy Kumagai, Pat Mikolic  
Second Thursday: Nancy Valby, Judy Hart  
Second Friday (Duplicate): Sue Dietz, Darline Wilson, Lida Kluzek  
Third Friday: Alma Powell, Lida Kluzek, Sue Dietz  
Fourth Tuesday: Virginia Beck, Sue Dietz, Nancy Valby

### Thirty Thousand Dollars Awarded In Local Scholarships

[Grace O'Leary](#)

Thirteen well-qualified women who will be juniors or seniors at a university this fall have been awarded scholarships. Grants ranged from \$1,000 to \$4,000. Seven women will attend SJSU, two will transfer to UC Santa Cruz and another two will attend UC Davis. Two recipients are continuing at San Francisco State University and Cal State East Bay.

The Local Scholarship Interview sub-committee selected Maria Lopez, a student at West Valley College, to receive the Ruby Trombetta Memorial Scholarship of \$4,000 this year. Lupita, as she likes to be called, will attend UC Santa Cruz in the fall to major in Economics. She ultimately hopes to work with the government in a capacity where she can affect public policy budgets to help communities in need. Thank you all who support our Local Scholarship Community Action Project.



### Gifts for Teens Lets Everyone Give

[Jan Giroux](#)



Gifts for Teens was thrilled to be one of the recipients of a Sharks Foundation grant. The generous \$24,300 grant will fund new shoe gift cards for local needy teens for this year's holiday gift bags. But a shoe gift card is only a start. Much more is needed to fill nearly 1500 gift bags.

Fundraising continues throughout the year using many different approaches. For example, the History Club of Los Gatos pulled out all the stops when they hosted "A World of Tastes", a fun-filled luncheon of culinary treats from around the world, proceeds benefiting Gifts for Teens. Whole Foods Market, Blossom Hill manager presented Gifts for Teens leaders with a \$500 check to kick off the May 5th Day of Giving when Silicon Valley Gives raised \$6500 online. Sincere thanks to the corporate sponsors and to individuals and Branch members who helped to buy gifts and fill bags for needy teens. Watch for more ways to give. One of them will be right for you.



# AAUW San Jose Branch Bonfire

## JUNE CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at Headquarters. To schedule a meeting, check the [Branch Calendar](#), then contact [Laura Manthey](#). If you are new to a group or only attend occasionally, please contact the group to confirm that space is available. RSVP means that the group needs to know who will attend.

## JUNE INTEREST GROUPS

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 [Jean Reed](#)

AAUW San Jose has many active Bridge groups. Contact [Bobbie Eckerman](#) if interested in joining or being added to a list of substitutes.

### JUNE

June 1, Monday 9:30 am  
**Bridge**  
RSVP [Pat Mikolic](#)

Dienstag 2 Juni um 11 Uhr  
**Deutsche Unterhaltung**  
bei [Pat Brie](#) RSVP

June 8, Monday 10 am  
**Bridge**  
RSVP [Rosemary Busch](#)

June 8, Monday 6 pm  
**Gourmet Light**  
Member's home  
[Cheryl Markman](#)

June 9, Tuesday 10 am  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Book Group**  
Almaden Valley picnic  
Book selection for next year  
Joyce Baker 408-259-8343

Martes 9 Junio a las diez  
**Conversación español**  
RSVP a [Nan Toledo](#)

June 10, Wednesday  
**Art Appreciation**  
Legion of Honor  
High Style: Brooklyn Museum Costumes  
RSVP [Nanci Eksterowicz](#)

June 10, Wednesday 7 pm  
**Wednesday Evening Book Group**  
Silicon Valley Reads  
[Laura Manthey](#)

June 11, Thursday 10 am–1 pm  
**Family History Planning & Picnic**  
RSVP [Susan Brundage](#) 408-294-6130

June 13, Saturday 9 am – 4 pm  
**Weekend Walkers**  
Corona Heights Stairway Walk  
RSVP [Jean Reed](#)

June 13, Saturday  
**Couples Gourmet**  
Member's home  
[Margaret Bard](#)

June 14, Sunday  
**Film Fans**  
[Linda Snashall](#)

June 15, Monday 9:30 am  
**Exploring World Literature**  
*Cousin Bette (La Cousine Bette)* by  
Honoré de Balzac  
Year End Luncheon  
[Lucy Poindexter](#)

Mardi 16 Juin à 11 heures  
**Conversation français**  
chez [Barbara Snyder](#) RSVP

June 18, Thursday 7 pm  
**Mystery Lovers**  
*Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn  
[Sharon Shephard](#)

June 19, Friday 6:30 pm  
**Singles Potluck**  
Jean Wyatt 408-262-3372

June 19, Friday  
Last day to [VOTE National](#)

June 20, Saturday  
Last day to submit vouchers  
[Anne Wustrow](#)

June 22, Monday 6:30 pm  
**Vegetarian Gourmet Potluck**  
Jean Wyatt 408-262-3372

June 23, Tuesday 11:30  
**Lunch Bunch**  
El Burro Restaurant  
Pruneyard Center  
1875 S. Bascom Ave, Campbell  
RSVP [Joyce Rabourn](#) 408-266-6332

June 23, Tuesday 7–8:30 pm  
**Great Decisions**  
*Syria's Refugee Crisis*  
[Jan Palajac](#)

June 25, Thursday 6:30–8:30 pm  
**Game Night**  
Bring a game and a munchie  
RSVP by Monday June 22  
Sandee Plymire 408-280-5799



- Dues are due. If you have not yet sent in your dues payment for 2015-2016, please send your check TODAY to Headquarters. For most members, dues are \$96. If you are uncertain of the dues amount, contact [Linda Goldberg](#). The membership year begins on July 1. Prompt dues payment keeps your membership active.
- If you need reimbursement for expenses or have a bill to pay, please be sure that you get the voucher – with two signatures – to Treasurer [Anne Wustrow](#) before June 20 so that accounting for the 2015-2016 year can be closed. Expenses after this date will require approval in next year's budget.

# AAUW San Jose Branch Bonfire

## JULY CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at Headquarters. To schedule a meeting, check the [Branch Calendar](#), then contact [Laura Manthey](#). If you are new to a group or only attend occasionally, please contact the group to confirm that space is available. RSVP means that the group needs to know who will attend.

## JULY INTEREST GROUPS

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 [Jean Reed](#)

AAUW San Jose has many active Bridge groups. Contact [Bobbie Eckerman](#) if interested in joining or being added to a list of substitutes.

### JULY

July 6, Monday 9:30 am  
**Bridge**  
RSVP [Pat Mikolic](#)

Dienstag 7 Juli um 11 Uhr  
**Deutsche Unterhaltung**  
bei [Pat Brie](#) RSVP

July 8, Wednesday 10 am  
**Art Appreciation**  
Carpool to Cantor Museum  
[Diana Taylor](#)

July 11, Saturday 8:45 – 1 pm  
**Weekend Walkers**  
Wunderlick Park, Woodside  
RSVP [Jean Reed](#)

July 11, Saturday  
**Couples Gourmet**  
Member's home  
[Margaret Bard](#)

July 12, Sunday  
**Film Fans**  
[Linda Snashall](#)

July 13, Monday 10 am  
**Bridge**  
RSVP [Rosemary Busch](#)

July 13, Monday 6 pm  
**Gourmet Light**  
Member's home  
[Cheryl Markman](#)

Martes 14 Julio a las diez  
**Conversación español**  
RSVP a [Nan Toledo](#)

July 16, Thursday 7 pm  
**Mystery Lovers**  
"Beach Read" share/swap  
[Sharon Shephard](#)

Mardi 21 juillet 11hr  
**Conversation Francais**  
Chez [Monique Lee](#) RSVP

July 23, Thursday 6:30–8:30 pm  
**Game Night**  
Bring a game and a munchie  
RSVP by Monday July 20  
Sande Plymire 408-280-5799

July 28, Tuesday 11:30 am  
**Lunch Bunch**  
Willow Street Pizza  
1072 Willow Street, San Jose  
[Sally Brandt](#)

July 28, Tuesday 7–8:30 pm  
**Great Decisions**  
*Human Trafficking*  
[Jan Palajac](#)

## JUNE - JULY MEETINGS & EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at Headquarters.  
Meetings are open to all members. ★ Events are open to the public.

June 1, Monday 7 pm  
**Neighbors Helping Neighbors Soiree**  
See front page  
[Bobbie Baker](#)

June 3, Wednesday 6 – 8:30 pm  
**Joint Board Meeting**  
Viva Restaurant  
15970 Los Gatos Blvd  
[Diane Trombetta](#)

June 5, Friday 11 am  
**Local Scholarship Meeting & Luncheon**  
[Grace O'Leary](#)

June 10, Wednesday 6 – 6:50 pm  
**Title IX/Sports Equity**  
[Laura Manthey](#)

June 16, Tuesday 6 pm  
**Public Policy Committee**  
[Jacqui Gustaferrro](#)

June 22, Monday 9:30–11:30 am  
**Building and Properties Committee**  
[Linda Guyer](#)

July 15, Wednesday 7pm  
★ Third Wednesday Program  
**Glorious Women Never Age!**  
See back page  
[Jean Reed](#)

Thursday July 16, 8:30am-noon  
**Tech Trek Tour**  
Stanford University  
RSVP [Jane Guinther](#)



**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:** Diane Trombetta

**Bonfire Staff: Editor:** Jean Reed

**Editorial Staff:** Sue Covey, Dianne Lane, Jennifer Wirt, Elin Bolt

**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.

**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***



Third Wednesday Program  
**Glorious Women Never Age!**  
with Dr. Christiane Northrup  
July 15 at 7pm

View and discuss this PBS broadcast with fellow Branch members

Dr. Northrup has always counseled that health isn't just for the young. In her newest special, Christiane Northrup, M.D. visionary pioneer and one of the world's leading authorities in the field of women's health and wellness, takes on the topic of "aging" - and turns it on its head! She challenges the most popular but least helpful perspectives on women's "aging," replacing the notion of decline and decrepitude with the profound understanding that growing older means an increase in wisdom and value. Dr. Northrup skillfully collects and interprets research from astronaut studies, eldercare, the fields of sexuality, orthopedics and other areas, and combines them with her own clinical and life experience. The result is 7 Steps that every woman should take in her journey to getting older - without aging. Contact [Jean Reed](#) or Charlotte McKay.



*Empowering Women Since 1881*

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