

San Jose Branch

**BONFIRE**

Empowering Women Since 1881

## Holiday Time, Share Time!

**What? Holiday Party (for members only)**

**When? Sunday, December 11, 1-3 pm**

**Where? AAUW San Jose Branch Headquarters, 1165 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125**

**What to Bring? Favorite treats - desserts, finger foods. Drinks will be provided**

**What to Wear? Any colorful Holiday outfit - Prizes for the "Best Holiday Attire"**

**RSVP to [president@aauwsanjose.org](mailto:president@aauwsanjose.org) by Wednesday, December 7.**

**Join us to celebrate our 107 years as a Branch and thank all our volunteers who make a difference in our community! Let's rock the House!**



### Holiday Lights Walk with Weekend Walkers



The Willow Glen neighborhood around Headquarters is well-known for its wonderful holiday lights. On Saturday, December 17, the South Bay Striders will join Weekend Walkers for an evening walk. Come to Headquarters at 6 pm with a dish to share if you want to start the evening with a potluck supper. We'll leave at 7 pm for the walk which takes us down Candy Cane Lane, past Santa and his sleigh and more. RSVP to Jean Reed (408-297-2691) so we don't leave anyone behind.

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



**President's Corner, [Edna Robison](#)**

**Reflecting on Why We Care for Our Branch**

The spirit of the Cubs winning the World Series after 108 years reminds us that dreams do come true, but only with persistence, skill, and teamwork! Since 1909 (that's 107 years!), thousands of local college-educated women from our Branch and community volunteers have risen up to give hope to people in need. In January, our Nominating Committee will be

contacting members so that we can "build our bench" for the next fiscal year to continue our mission, break barriers, and shatter glass ceilings. Let's send "happy thoughts" to them as they convene and call for leaders who will "steer" us towards Changing the Climate for Women and Girls! Three cheers for our Nominating Committee!

Peace to All and Happy Holidays!

***BOARD MATTERS***

The Board approved the following motions:

- That the following six (6) members of the Nominating Committee be approved by the Board: Bobbie Eckerman, Grace O'Leary, Risë Berry, Anne Andrews, Marilyn Jackson and Nanci Eksterowicz. The Committee will be led by Linda Goldberg, who had already been approved by the Board to be the Nominating Committee Chair.
- That a committee be formed with Elizabeth Guimarin as chair to develop a policy with appropriate actions to protect members' personal information on AAUW San Jose social media. This committee will present a policy and implementation timeline at the December board meeting.
- That the Branch follow AAUW-CA and National's lead and waive our student membership dues for the students of our Campus Partners.

"Maraming Salamat" (Thank You, in Tagalog) for supporting our Branch this year!

**PUBLIC POLICY**

**Bruised, Battered and Bewildered?  
Become a Two-Minute Activist and Find Your Voice**

[Gloria Leonard](#), Public Policy Committee



*San Jose Branch member Louise Persson is on the left*

Feeling battered and bruised from the recent political campaign season? It is easy to get disillusioned because of that campaign's strange behavior and lack of civility, ceaseless campaign ads and social media rants, but we can't turn away from our advocacy work and continuing to influence policy. That's not who we are.

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to advance our work to empower women and girls. With the member-endorsed [Public Policy Program](#) as our guide, AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women.

If you are looking for an easy way to stay engaged with policies AAUW supports, you are encouraged to sign up for Two-Minute Activist emails. Once you sign up, AAUW Action Fund sends email notices to contact your members of Congress when something urgent happens. They have emails already prepared to send to your Congressperson, so you only need to click a few buttons to make a difference! You can sign up at this link:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist>.

**A Call to Restore Civility to Political Discourse**

[Marlene Bjornsrud](#), Chair, Public Policy

Following the election, it will be important for each of us to be committed to restoring civility to the political discourse. It is time to rid ourselves of hostility and antagonism and move toward dialogue marked by humility and an honest appreciation for diverse opinions. The eyes of children everywhere are upon us and we owe it to them to restore a sense of respect for one another. When women vote, they change the conversation!



## Work Smart Comes to San Jose!

**Next workshop – Dec 10** from 1:30 pm to 3:45 pm  
King Library, 150 E Fernando St. Room 225, San Jose

[Register Here](#) – [See Flyer](#)

Any questions, please call or email Janice Robbins at 408--269--4620, [janicemrobbins@yahoo.com](mailto:janicemrobbins@yahoo.com) or Suzanne Doty at 408--398-5100 , [suzannedoty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suzannedoty@sbcglobal.net).

## Gifts for Teens Bag Assembly

Fri Dec 2 thru Mon Dec 12

Location: Cambrian Park Plaza, 14934 Camden Avenue (corner of Union Ave)

Contact: Kathy Heihn [kathy@gifts4teens.org](mailto:kathy@gifts4teens.org).

## AAUW San Jose Branch Headquarters Address

[Tracy Bunger](#), B&P Committee

Our Headquarters building on 1165 Minnesota Avenue has a new mailing address to better differentiate it from our tenant space on the upper floor. The new address has been given to us by San Jose to be used for all utilities and mailing services. Our Branch letterhead and website will reflect this change as well. The new address is:

AAUW San Jose CA Branch  
1165 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 100  
San Jose, CA 95125

The tenant space on the second floor is designated as Suite 200. We will continue to use the mailbox on the post in front of the house for both the tenant's and our mail, and it will be sorted appropriately. Suite number labels will be added to the mailbox.

## New Member

[Claire Campodonico](#)

[MICHELE MORK-OVSON](#) earned her BA degree in Sociology and History from UC Santa Barbara in 1967. Her skills include event planning. She is a realtor and has worked with the Forbes Group. Her neighbor Elaine Peterson is also a member of our Branch. Michelle is pleased to have found a women's group so close to her home that has a Mission Statement that promotes her core values.

## Directory of Title IX Coordinators 2016-2017

[Jean Reed](#) for Title IX/Sports Equity Interest Group

The updated Directory of Title IX Coordinators for Santa Clara County was distributed to all local school districts last month. The Title IX Coordinators' responsibilities are critical to the development, implementation, and monitoring of meaningful efforts to comply with Title IX. The Directory is intended to facilitate communication between Title IX Coordinators for the exchange of ideas, experiences and best practices. It is available as a resource to the community on the [AAUW website](#) (search for Title IX). If friends or family have concerns about equity at school, the Directory will tell them who to contact.

This is the fifth Directory compiled by AAUW San Jose. Chair Laura Manthey was recognized by AAUW National as a Title IX Champion for starting the project. Many thanks to the members who helped with emails and phone calls to verify current contact information.

## Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.



## In Memoriam



Jacqueline (Jackie) Chase passed away on October 16, 2016. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Allen Chase, as well as 5 children and 6 grandchildren. Her good friend, Bobbie Eckerman, wrote the following tribute:

Jackie Chase was a retired elementary teacher. Jackie was very spiritual; each year she taught religious education to young children at Transfiguration Church. She also was a lifetime member of a small faith group. She always was available to help with any project. Jackie loved to play bridge and played several times each month at Headquarters. She always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye. She will be greatly missed by her many friends.

## Building and Properties Committee Income & Expense Report - November

[Tracy Bunger](#), B&P Committee Chair

The Building Fund Income and Expense Detail July 1 through October 2016 was entered and reviewed by the Building and Properties Committee on October 24. The rental income from our tenant Total Building Care, Inc. for \$1,498.00 was received for the month. The Expenses for the month include the payment of Real Estate Taxes (\$1,176.16) and Insurance (\$1,876.00) as budgeted. Our contract with Comcast was renewed for \$89.00/month for 3 years. This is \$12 less/month than our previous contract. Our new gardening service began this month. The new fee is \$150/month, which is \$25/month less than previous service.

Repair and painting of the front porch step and side railing along with touch-up painting of back porch and replacement of mid-section of the handrail of the tenant's stairwell were completed October 10. Total exterior building repair and maintenance was \$1,455.

### Local Scholarship Holiday Boutique Wrap-Up

[Cheryl Markman](#)

Happy Holidays and Thank You from the Local Scholarship Committee. Due to the generosity of everyone who contributed to and shopped at the 2016 Holiday Boutique last month, we will be able to grant scholarships in 2017 totaling \$6000. It is hoped this total will be higher as Branch members may purchase some baskets, quilts and scarves, not sold on the day of the Boutique, at a later date. Thank you all!!!



### October 2016 AAUW Bridge Winners

[Bobbie Eckerman](#)

**First Monday:** Sherry Britt, Bobbie Eckerman

**Second Monday:** Bobbie Eckerman, Wanda Foss

**Second Thursday:** No Bridge

**Second Friday (Duplicate):** Darline Wilson, Alma Powell, Jean Kudlick

**Third Friday:** Mary Fitzgerald, Lida Kluzek, Cheryl Brewer

**Fourth Tuesday:** Judy Kumagai, Sue Dietz

### Be In The Seats

Attendance is commonly used as an indicator of interest. When more people attend women's sports events, it becomes more likely that additional resources will be allocated for advertising, facilities and scheduling, which then further increase attendance. Be part of the cycle to support female athletes by attending a game this month. Here are a couple of suggestions:

Sun Dec. 4 @ 2 pm Stanford Women's Basketball vs UC Davis, Maples Pavilion, \$10 General Admission at the door

Wed Dec 7 @ 3:30 pm Pioneer vs Leigh girls' soccer, Pioneer High School

# 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 [Kathy Myers](#). 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](#).

Mon Dec 5	9:30 am - 12:30 pm	<b>Monday Bridge</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Pat Mikolic</a> )
Tue Dec 6	10 am - 12 pm	<b>German Conversation</b> ( <a href="#">Barbara Snyder</a> )
Wed Dec 7	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b> Social time from 6:30, meeting from 7 pm ( <a href="#">Edna Robison</a> )
Thu Dec 8	11:30 am	<b>Lunch Bunch</b> The Blue Door, 1502 Saratoga Ave. (RSVP <a href="#">Diana Taylor</a> )
	7:15 pm - 10 pm	<b>Bridge</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Bobbie Eckerman</a> )
Fri Dec 9	10 am - 2 pm	<b>Duplicate Bridge</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Lida Kluzek</a> )
Sat Dec 10	6 pm - 10 pm	<b>Couples Gourmet</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Margaret Bard</a> )
Sun Dec 11		<b>Film Fans</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Linda Snashall</a> )
Sun Dec 11		<b>Holiday Social at Headquarters</b>
Mon Dec 12	10 am - 1 pm	<b>Bridge</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Rosemary Busch</a> )
	1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>Financially Fit for Life</b> ( <a href="#">Mary Barry</a> )
	6 pm - 9 pm	<b>Light Gourmet</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Cheryl Markman</a> )
Tue Dec 13	12 noon	<b>Tuesday Morning Book Club</b> Christmas lunch at Sienna Bistro in Willow Glen ( <a href="#">Maggi Benson</a> ) "Bring a book to exchange."
	10 am - 11:30 am	<b>Conversacion Espanol</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Nancy Toledo</a> )
Wed Dec 14	9 am - 3 pm	<b>Art Appreciation</b> Legion of Honor - Painters of 17th Century France - Read My Pins: The Madeleine Albright collection ( <a href="#">Maggie Benson</a> )
	6 pm - 7 pm	<b>Title IX/Sports Equity</b> ( <a href="#">Laura Manthey</a> )
Fri Dec 16	10 am - 1 pm	<b>Bridge</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Lida Kluzek</a> )
	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	<b>Singles Potluck</b> ( <a href="#">Isabelle Wright</a> )
Sat Dec 17	6 pm - 8:30 pm	<b>Weekend Walkers Holiday Lights Walk</b> Potluck at 6pm; walk at 7 pm ( <a href="#">Jean Reed</a> )
Mon Dec 19	6:30 pm - 9 pm	<b>International Gourmet</b> Holiday Meeting (RSVP <a href="#">Jan Bartolotta</a> )
Tue Dec 20	10 am - 11:45 am	<b>French Conversation</b> ( <a href="#">Barbara Snyder</a> )
Wed Dec 21	6:30 pm	<b>International Gourmet</b> (RSVP <a href="#">Jan Bartollota</a> )
Mon Dec 26	9 am - 11 am	<b>Building and Properties Committee Meeting</b> ( <a href="#">Tracy Bunger</a> )

**eduvacation (e-jə-və-'kā-shən)**

*n.* an educational trip — that turns into the time of your life



2017 AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION

JUNE 14-17 WASHINGTON DC

## Save the Date

June 14-17, 2017 [AAUW National Convention and "Eduvacation"](#)



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**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**

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**PERIODICALS**

**POSTAGE PAID**

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



**Sunday, January 29, 2017, 2 - 4 pm**

**San Jose City College Auditorium**

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the IBC program "Creating Your Own Path: Women Changing the World." This panel discussion will feature Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, Kimberly Bryant (Founder, Black Girls Code), Caryn Beck-Dudley (Dean, Leavey School of Business at SCU), Superior Court Judge Julianne Sylva, and Marlene Bjornsrud (Founder, Alliance of Women Coaches and Chair of AAUW San Jose Public Policy Committee). These five outstanding women will share the challenges they face as they create and pursue their life paths. Come and hear what inspired them to face and overcome major challenges, hear how their work is changing the world, and learn how we can all create paths to success and personal fulfillment.



*Empowering Women Since 1881*