

San Jose Branch

BONFIRE

Empowering Women Since 1881

IT'S A PARTY

Neighbors Helping Neighbors June Soirée

Monday, June 5, 6:30 – 8 pm

AAUW Headquarters



All Branch members are welcome to this annual event hosted by Neighbors Helping Neighbors. NHN members will provide appetizers, desserts, wine and other beverages. Please bring donations of full-size toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes) or toddler-sized diapers to benefit Next Door Solutions for Domestic Violence.

An Adventure in Wine: International Wine Tasting

Fundraiser Benefiting AAUW Fund and LAF

Sunday, June 25, 3-5:30 pm

Tessoras's Barra di Vino - 234 E. Campbell Avenue

AAUW San Jose will host an afternoon of wine tasting, featuring wines from five countries, each paired with a complementary appetizer. Tessoras's Barra di Vino is a woman-owned and operated company.

Advance Tickets: \$45; at the Door: \$55. With the purchase of your ticket, you will receive three raffle tickets. Raffle begins at 5 pm. We encourage you to purchase bottled wine while at the event to enjoy at home. You will receive a 10% discount and 10% will be donated back to AAUW San Jose.

We estimate the fair market value of the goods and services received to be \$30. The amount that may be deductible as a charitable contribution is \$15. For tickets, please contact [Louise Persson](mailto:Louise.Persson@aauw.org) (408-629-8614).



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

AAUW San Jose Branch Bonfire



President's Corner

Edna Robison

June-July: "Anchoring" To Reflect on Our Mission

Outgoing President Edna Robison chairs the Branch Annual Meeting Luncheon

Ahoy! We're about to dock and reflect on what has transpired during the year. Please stay tuned for our year-end report, which will be on our website.

Thank you to our outgoing Board, Branch leaders, volunteers and members! With your help, our Branch has accomplished our plans and met most of our three-year Strategic Goals. Congratulations to the incoming Board, especially to Sharon Bouska and Bobbie Baker, for taking on the theme of "Women in Action!"

"Women in Action"

Co-Presidents Bobbie Baker and Sharon Bouska want to thank Edna for a year of smooth sailing and great accomplishments. We both look forward to being your prepositional presidents. What does this mean? A preposition shows connections, directions, and actions. So we know there will be a year of women **in** action, women **with** action and women **for** action.



Branch Member Receives Honor from Board of Supervisors

Jean Reed

Member Marlene Bjornsrud received a commendation from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors on May 8 for a "lifetime of work in the women's sports community to encourage the participation of women and girls in physical and sports activities." Several AAUW members and the "BAWSI Posse" attended the meeting to cheer for her. Marlene is one of the founders of the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative (BAWSI), a long-time AAUW member and advocate for Title IX and, most recently, chair of the Public Policy Committee. BAWSI provides after-school sports programs for third to fifth grade girls in underserved schools and for children with disabilities.

Marlene spoke of her commitment to work with "children who would otherwise be overlooked by the sports community," thus missing out on the life-lessons that come with participation in sports activities. Marlene has just moved to Colorado, but says she will always be part of Santa Clara County. We envy the enthusiasm and commitment she will surely bring to her new home, and accept the challenge to keep that spirit alive through AAUW San Jose as well.

BOARD MATTERS

Congratulations to the 2017-2018 Elected/Appointed Board and Building and Properties Committee Members - The outgoing and incoming Boards will meet on June 7, 6:00-8:30 pm, at the J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines, 1000 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose. There will be wine tasting and food. Meeting starts at 6:45 pm. All other members are invited to attend; however, please RSVP to Peggy Maibaum (see Directory) with a \$30 check by May 31, payable to AAUW San Jose Branch, because there is a maximum capacity of 46 at the venue.

The 2016-2017 Board approved or reported the following:

- Resignation of Jane Guinther (moved to the East Coast) and appointment of Michelle Lalljie as the new Tech Trek Chair.
- Resignation of Marlene Bjornsrud (moved to Colorado) and appointment of Peg Carlson-Bowen as Public Policy Chair
- Building and Properties: Exterior work may need to be done with regard to gutters, downspouts, and dry rot. The plan partially references the Home Inspection Report from September 2014 and the information obtained from two (2) contractors and two (2) AAUW realtors.
- AAUW Fund/LAF Fundraising (Wine Tasting), June 25: Please read article on the front cover.
- Public Policy: Ramping up action items and membership, now up to 54. The Committee met on May 17 to plan for 2017-2018 advocacy and activism on Gender and Pay Equity, Title IX: Campus Sexual Violence, and Healthcare Access and Affordability.
- College and University Relations: Collaborated with Public Policy on a "Take Back the Night" event at San Jose State University to present AAUW information pamphlets on sexual violence.
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors Annual Soirée, June 5: Please read article on page 1.
- Membership Update: 322 members at the end of April versus 315 last year (reduction from March due to the passing of Carol Baker and Darlene Paulsen). The Open House on May 2 yielded seven (7) more members and eight (8) prospects.

Deadlines:

June 7 – Board votes on Revised Policies and Procedures, including Appendix A: Job Descriptions, and Proposed Summer Budgets for General Funds and Building and Properties.

June 15 – AAUW online voting ends at 6:00 pm (PST), 9:00 pm (EST).

June 18 – Submit vouchers (signed and countersigned) to our Branch Treasurer.

June 30 - Mandatory Bylaws due to AAUW (no membership votes are necessary).

June 30 – Year-End Reports from the outgoing Board – for publication on our Website. The following have already submitted their reports: College/University Relations, Title IX, Strong Women Leadership Conference, and Public Policy.

July 9-15 – A total of nine (9) girls will attend the STEM camp at Stanford. Members are welcome to visit them on Thursday, July 13

Calling All New Members!

Have you joined AAUW in the last year? Please come to a **Get-Acquainted Social** on June 11 at Headquarters at 5 pm. We'll have a chance to get better acquainted, answer any questions that may have come up since you joined, and most importantly, have FUN. Please RSVP to membership@aauwsanjose.org.

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Strategic Plan Update

Sharon Bouska, Co-President

2017 marks the end of the three-year Strategic Plan adopted June 20, 2014. The Strategic Plan can be found on the Members Only page of the AAUW San Jose website, and on the inside cover of the directory. I am pleased to report that our Branch has exceeded the expectations of the Strategic Plan Committee. You have been kept apprised of events and happenings through the BONFIRE as well as our website. The Archives Committee, College/University Partners, Communications, Leadership Committee, Programs, Membership and Strong Women are a few parts of AAUW San Jose that have addressed one or more of the four goals. There were four areas to be worked on during 2016-2017: Community Action Projects, volunteer activities, finance and Public Policy.

Community Action Projects (CAPs) - More publicity is encouraged for our extraordinary CAPs. This term, the Membership Committee highlighted the CAPs in each of their Open Houses. The CAPs will be a focus of the Fall Event.

Volunteer Activities - Providing information on short-term service projects that members can take advantage of. There are plans to make a "done in a day" feature on our website, Facebook and in the BONFIRE.

Finance - There are specific items that the Finance Committee will address at upcoming meetings.

Public Policy - I am pleased to announce that our Public Policy Committee has blossomed to 54 members! Nurtured for many years by Gloria Leonard, shepherded most recently by Marlene Bjornsrud, and now directed by Peg Carlson-Bowen, Public Policy is active in bringing information to our members on matters that affect women and girls. In May, the Board gave its approval for Public Policy to email members about legislative measures that need our attention. Check the BONFIRE and our website calendar for upcoming events in which you might be interested in participating. Civic engagement is our duty and our right!



April 2017 Bridge Winners

[Bobbie Eckerman](#)

First Monday: Joan Benedetti, Pat Mikolic, Leela **Viswanathan**

Second Monday: Rosemary Busch, Bobbie Eckerman, Kennette Shannon

Second Thursday: Francine Hileman, Judy Kumagai

Second Friday (Duplicate): Cancelled

Third Friday: Lida Kluzek, Mary Fitzgerald

Fourth Tuesday: Sandra Savage, Sue Swackhamer



Third Wednesday Program

Wednesday, June 21 - 7-8:30 pm

PERU

Unexpected Adventures in Peru

Join member Sharon Burkett in a reliving of her recent trip to Peru through photos and stories. Sharon is an avid photographer and birder, and as an experienced docent at Elkhorn Slough and the Monterey Bay Aquarium, she knows how to spot the most interesting features of her surroundings. You will enjoy sharing her adventure!

National Convention Travelers

Peg Carlson-Bowen and Sharon Bouska will travel to Washington DC for the AAUW National Convention from June 14-17. Both are excited to meet with members from many states, as well as our representatives in Congress. Peg and Sharon will inform us of what they learned when they return.

AAUW National Election



Information can be found in the Spring 2017 issue of Outlook which was mailed to you in late April. There are new Public Policy issues to be adopted, candidates for the National Board of Directors to be elected, and changes to AAUW Bylaws regarding the requirements for joining AAUW. This is an exciting election! Online voting ends June 15. If there are questions, please visit the national election site,





Santa Clara County IBC Program Awarded by AAUW-California

Diane Trombetta, AAUW San Jose IBC Representative

Congratulations to the Santa Clara County Inter Branch Council! Our IBC has been given a Branch Program Recognition Award for the March 2017 program "Women Changing Our World: Paths to Leadership." We are officially in the AAUW CA Hall of Fame!



Local Scholarship Awards

Cheryl Markman

The Local Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that from 35 applicants, 16 women were chosen to be interviewed. The Interview Committee awarded approximately \$50,000 to the finalists who will be enrolled in colleges and universities in the fall. Included among the scholarships was a special Edie Kerr Memorial Scholarship. A list of recipients will be printed in the September BONFIRE. Come and meet them at Fall Event.

It isn't too early to think about next year. The more money we have, the more we have to give. Please think of us when you renew your membership. Write your check to ISPF-AAUW-Local Scholarship. Thank you!

Communications Communiqué

Elin Bolt and Elizabeth Guimarin, Communications Committee

As we head into summer and anticipate the new year for our Branch on July 1, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank members for their contributions to and interactions with our Facebook and Shutterfly pages, and for all the comments and suggestions with respect to content on the website. Keep 'em coming! Staying current with all of these media helps to get the message out to the community about what our Branch is all about and what our impact on that community is now, and strives to be in the future.

We'd also like to let you know that several "role emails" have been created for various committees, Community Action Projects and interest groups within the Branch. For example, the role email for the Communications Committee is communications@aauwsanjose.org. What this means is that a group can designate one or more people to receive emails specific to their group. This is a useful tool as it can be updated at any time whenever there is a change in leadership and/or membership. Please contact us if your group doesn't have a role email now and would like to set one up.

Now is also a good time for incoming chairs of each group to review the information that's presented on the website and let us know if any changes need to be made. This is our "window to the world" so to speak, so keeping the content there as up-to-date as possible is very important. Several chairpersons have already done so, and we'd like to encourage all groups to do so for the upcoming new Branch year.

Finally, just to refresh your memories about who the members of the Communications Committee are:

BONFIRE Editor: [Anne Wustrow](#)

Website: [Elizabeth Guimarin](#) and [Elin Bolt](#)

Facebook: [Esther Ludlow](#)

Shutterfly: [Sherry Portillo](#)

Media Relations: [Linda Guyer](#)

Role Email Manager: [Elizabeth Guimarin](#)

Let's "keep the communication lines open" and work together to continue presenting a positive, energetic and engaging image to our community!

TO ALL MEMBERS: Please send your membership renewals before June 1 to ensure your name is in the Directory for Fall Event.

New Member Profiles

RITA ARBOUR is a resident of Campbell. She earned her AS degree in Nutrition Sciences from San Jose City College in 2000. Mary Ann Carnevale referred her to our Branch. Now retired, Rita's hobbies include golf, dance, bowling and camping. She would like to start a new support group for separated/divorced women with young children.

CYNTHIA ANN HOLMES lives in Milpitas. Her sister belongs to the Napa Branch and referred her. She holds a BA in Penology from SJSU and a MA in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling from Santa Clara University. Her career was as a Counselor at Muriel Wright's Girls' Ranch and as a Librarian at Carden El Encanto Academy. She is now retired. She joined AAUW because "I need some intelligent female contact. I do believe women's time is coming, and I want to encourage girls."

JANET CHANG resides in Los Gatos. Both her BS in Nursing and her MS in Public Health were obtained at SJSU. She is Director of Student Health Services at San Jose City College. As a tenured faculty member, she also teaches health survey courses.

MARJORIE CRAIG received her MS in Nursing with a focus on Psychiatry from the University of California at San Francisco. She was employed by SJSU as a Student Services Counselor for over 23 years. She previously belonged to the AAUW Branch in Amador County. Now retired, she joined our Branch because "AAUW supports girls and women. I am President of Help Kenyan Children and have made fourteen missions there."

ISABELLA NYAKUNDI obtained her MS from the University of Minnesota in 1999. She is a computer engineer.

PAMELA PARRISH received a BA in Mathematics from Winthrop University in South Carolina. After a career which included work as a Principal Program Manager at Oracle in Santa Clara, she is now retired. She was referred to our Branch by her friend Nancy Moreno.

KIM SIMMONS earned her BS in Business Administration with a concentration on International Business from SJSU in 1986. She owns her own consulting firm, NAV Consulting Group. She was inspired to join AAUW at the recent Women's March.

June / July 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](#).

Thu Jun 1	11 am – 1 pm Family History - Potluck & Planning (RSVP Susan Brundage)
Fri Jun 2	1 pm - 4 pm Local Scholarship (Thea Jacobs)
Sun Jun 4	1-3 pm Tech Trek Ice Cream Social at Cambrian Library, 1780 Hillsdale Ave 95124 (RSVP Michelle Lalljie)
Mon Jun 5	9:30 am - 12:30 pm Monday Bridge (RSVP Pat Mikolic) 6:30 pm - 8 pm Neighbors Helping Neighbors Soirée (Sally Bailey)
Tue Jun 6	10 am - 12 pm German Conversation (Barbara Snyder)
Wed Jun 7	6 pm - 8:30 pm Joint Board Meeting – J.Lohr, 1000 Lenzen Ave, San Jose. (RSVP Peggy Maibaum by May 31)
Thu Jun 8	7:15 pm - 10 pm Bridge (RSVP Bobbie Eckerman)
Fri Jun 9	10 am - 2 pm Duplicate Bridge (RSVP Lida Kluzek)
Sat Jun 10	6 pm - 10 pm Couples Gourmet (RSVP Margaret Bard)
Sun Jun 11	Film Fans (RSVP Linda Snashall) 5 pm - 8 pm Membership Social (Margaret Bard)

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- Mon Jun 12 10 am - 1 pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Rosemary Busch](#))
11:30 pm - 2 pm **Financially Fit for Life** (RSVP [Mary Barry](#)) Lunch meeting at Sweet Mango on Willow Street
6 pm - 9 pm **Light Gourmet** (RSVP [Cheryl Markman](#))
- Tue Jun 13 10 am - 12 pm **Tuesday Morning Book Club** ([Maggi Benson](#))
10 am - 11:30 am **Conversacion Espanol** (RSVP [Nancy Toledo](#))
- Wed Jun 14 to 17 2017 **AAUW National Convention and "Eduvacation"** Washington, D.C.
- Wed Jun 14 9 am - 10 am **Art Appreciation** Filoli House and Gardens - meet at Headquarters at 9:15, leave at 9:30 (RSVP [Charlotte Mackay](#) 408-446-2315)
7 pm - 9 pm **Wednesday Night Book Group** - Silicon Valley Reads: *Unfair* by Adam Benforado & *Writing My Wrongs* by Shaka Senghor ([Laura Manthey](#))
- Thu Jun 15 7 pm - 8:30 pm **Mystery Lovers** - Edgar Winner TBA ([Sharon Shephard](#))
- Fri Jun 16 10 am - 1 pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm **Singles Potluck** ([Isabelle Wright](#))
- Sat Jun 17 9 am - 1 pm **Weekend Walkers** Sanborn Park (RSVP [Jean Reed](#))
- Mon Jun 19 9:30 am - 11:30 am **Exploring World Literature** - Fairy Tales by Hans Christian Anderson ([Sue Eichenbaum](#))
- Tue Jun 20 10 am - 11:45 am **French Conversation** ([Barbara Snyder](#))
6 pm - 8 pm **Public Policy** ([Peg Carlson-Bowen](#))
- Wed Jun 21 7 pm - 8:30 pm **3rd Wed Program: Unexpected Adventures in Peru** ([Sharon Burkett](#))
- Thu Jun 22 7 pm - 9 pm **Game Night** (RSVP by Monday [Connie Wolff](#))
- Sun Jun 25 3 pm - 5:30 pm **Wine Tasting Fundraiser** - Tessora's Barra di Vino Wine Bar, 234 E. Campbell Ave ([Louise Persson](#))
- Mon Jun 26 9:30 am - 11:30 am **Building and Properties Committee Meeting** ([Kathy Myers](#))
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm **Veggie Gourmet Potluck** ([Jean Wyatt](#) 408-262--3372)
- Tue Jun 27 11:30 am - 1:30 pm **Lunch Bunch** - Country Gourmet, 1314 S. Mary Ave, Sunnyvale ([Diana Taylor](#))
7 pm - 8:30 pm **Great Decisions Evening Grp** ([Karelle Cornwell](#))
7:15 pm - 10 pm **Bridge** (RSVP Bobbie Eckerman bridge4thtuesday@aauwsanjose.org)
- Fri Jun 30 1 pm - 4 pm **Local Scholarship** ([Thea Jacobs](#))
- Tue Jul 4 10 am - 12 pm **German Conversation** - ([Barbara Snyder](#))
- Tue Jul 11 10 am - 11:30 am **Conversacion Espanol** - (RSVP [Nancy Toledo](#))
- Wed Jul 12 9:30 am - 2 pm **Art Appreciation**- Sculpture Garden at Sierra Azul Nursery in Watsonville (RSVP [Cheryl Markman](#))
- Fri Jul 14 10 am - 2 pm **Duplicate Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
- Tue Jul 18 10 am - 11:45 am **French Conversation** - ([Barbara Snyder](#))
6 pm - 8 pm **Public Policy** ([Peg Carlson-Bowen](#))
- Wed Jul 19 9 am - 10:30 am **Tech Trek @ Stanford Tour/Visitation** (RSVP [Michelle Lalljie](#))
6:30 pm - 9 pm **Third Wednesday "At the Movies"** - "Hidden Figures" ([Jean Reed](#))
- Thu Jul 20 7 pm - 8:30 pm **Mystery Lovers** - "Beach Read" share/swap/snack ([Sharon Shephard](#))
- Fri Jul 21 10 am - 1 pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
- Tue Jul 25 7 pm - 8:30 pm **Great Decisions Evening** ([Karelle Cornwell](#))

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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.

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Gifts for Teens 2017 Major FUNraiser Coming Soon

Jan Giroux, Gifts for Teens

Save the date - October 14, 2017 for the Broomstick Ball at the Valencia Hotel in Santana Row. Get ready to kick up your heels for a night of dinner, drinks, dancing, a high-end silent auction and lots of fun. It will be a spooktacular night. Gifts for Teens is excited to be one of two beneficiaries for this event that offers a grant from the proceeds to help fund our annual gift bag assembly.

The event is sponsored by Silicon Valley Cares, a group of local philanthropic women who raise funds for non-profit organizations benefiting children, teens, animals, the homeless and crisis solutions within Santa Clara County. More details coming in later BONFIRE issues.



Empowering Women Since 1881

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