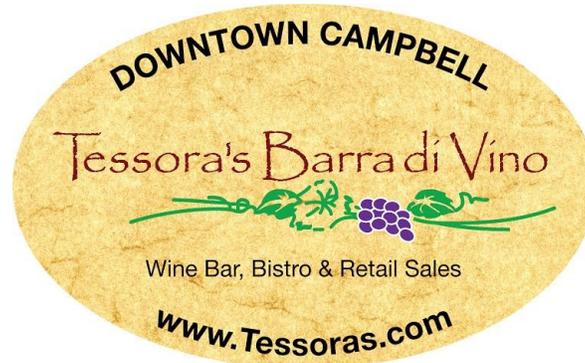


San Jose Branch

BONFIRE**Empowering Women Since 1881**

**An Adventure in Wine: California Cruisin'
Fundraiser Benefiting AAUW Fund and LAF**

Sunday, May 6, 3-5 pm

Tessoras's Barra di Vino

234 E. Campbell Avenue in Downtown Campbell

Your support matters! The support you give for AAUW's programs for equity makes the difference for women and girls now and in the future. AAUW Fund and the Legal Advocacy Fund make the challenges and struggles of so many women and girls surmountable - and sometimes, bearable. The Legal Advocacy Fund is the largest fund in the United States focused on sex discrimination against women. The AAUW Fund is one of the world's largest funds supporting women in graduate studies. The wonderful programs AAUW sponsors nationwide are possible because of the generous donations of our members.

The Fund and LAF programs will host a wine tasting fundraiser on Sunday, May 6, at Tessoras's Barra di Vino, 234 E. Campbell Ave. We'll go California Cruisin', enjoying wines from five California wineries, and appetizers, too. Tessoras's Barra di Vino is a woman-owned and operated company. A free parking garage is nearby.

Advance tickets are \$50; \$60 at the door (an Eventbrite has been created to invite the public to this event: [AAUW SJ Fund & LAF Winetasting Fundraiser](#).)

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. If you're unable to attend, your donation is welcome.

We estimate the fair market value of the goods and services received to be \$30. For tickets, please contact LAF VP [Louise Persson](#) (408-629-8614) or Fund VP [Thea Jacobs](#).

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

Presidents' Corner

May 2018

Co-Presidents: Sharon Bouska & Bobbie Baker



Bobbie Baker, Co-President

Happy Spring to one and all! I encourage everyone to vote on the AAUW National Bylaws Amendments. I want to use this month's "Presidents' Corner" to present my perspective on the degree requirement. Evelyn, my mother, went to high school during the Depression. Although she started with college prep classes, she switched to a secretarial program by her senior year. Upon graduation, she got a job at Prudential Insurance and split her paycheck with her mother. Her father was only marginally employed and the family needed her income. She started night classes at Seton Hall, and at the bus stop to the college, she met Jimmy Baker! World War II came, my dad went overseas, my mom came to California. Fast forward to the 1960's ... my parents and their four children live in San Mateo. My parents start taking evening classes at the College of San Mateo. Each semester they take one class. My mom takes all the French and art classes she can find. My dad takes a variety of courses. They did this for years! Although my mom accumulated many units, she never got a degree. She strongly encouraged all her children to go to college, and her three daughters all have bachelor's degrees! She truly believed in higher education for women. It is distressing to me that while I am a president of a branch of AAUW, my mother would not qualify to join. So, in memory of my mom, I vote to drop the degree requirement and allow any woman who values higher education to join.

Don't Forget the Upcoming Vote on AAUW Proposed Bylaws Amendments!

The AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee has proposed three bylaws amendments for a vote this spring. Voting closes on June 9. You should have received notice of this in an email from Hannah Belec from AAUW National on March 1.

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization. The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization. As new members have joined the organization, it makes sense to present this issue to the membership as it is now. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

Rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the [AAUW website](#). The overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW's mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

Board Matters

Bobbie Baker, Co-President

Membership Vice-Presidents Barbara Gilbert and Jan Bartolotta provided a light supper of sandwiches and salads which fueled the Board of Directors for their meeting. The Board heard updates regarding March programs which included "Marvelous March Matinees," and Third Wednesday's "Sexual Harassment of Low Wage Workers." Both events were well attended.

Please check this BONFIRE for all the exciting upcoming events - just to name one, see the article regarding the next Third Wednesday program on cyber security, "Scams, Spams & Lies: How to Avoid Losing Your Money to Fraud."

Congratulations to AAUW San Jose Being Named One of "Four Fabulous Branches"

Sharon Bouska, Co-President



In the monthly "Board to Board" communication from AAUW-CA, the following announcement was made by Jane Niemeier, Co-President Elect, and Stormy Miller, Director, Program Committee Co-Chairs:

Four Fabulous Branches!

The Program Committee considered over 50 programs to recognize as Programs of the Quarter, and we picked four branches. The first branch we choose was San Jose Branch for its four mission-based programs/events that were held in the January 1 – March 31 quarter. In January, the branch participated in the Women’s March in San Jose. In February, they presented a program entitled, “Be Informed to Disrupt Human Trafficking”. In March, the branch encouraged members to attend the women’s basketball games at Stanford and Santa Clara Universities, thus showing their support for Title IX. Their branch program for March was a film and a discussion about “Sexual Harassment of Low-Wage Workers”. The San Jose Branch is doing amazing work.

Third Wednesday Program

May 16, 7-8:30 pm

Scams, Spams & Lies: How to Avoid Losing Your Money to Fraud

Please join us to learn about the myriad ways that fraudsters can separate you from your money - and what you can do about it.

We are fortunate to have Suzana Gal, Director of Mediation Services, Consumer Protection Unit of the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, as our expert guide who will show us how to:

- avoid bank frauds, online and otherwise
- avoid ID theft
- create and manage passwords
- avoid really tricky scams
- shop safely online
- deal with computer hijacking
- avoid phone frauds and scams



Come learn important ways to keep yourself, your family and your money safe! Light refreshments will be served.



In Memoriam

Betty Van Arsdale

1918 – 2018

Betty Van Arsdale, one of AAUW-San Jose's outstanding members, passed away peacefully on April 2, 2018 at age 99. Betty had been a member of the Branch for nearly 60 years and remained active until shortly before her passing. During her years of AAUW membership she held several important positions, such as newsletter editor, HQ chair, and parliamentarian - positions which required hard work and were a true reflection of her interests. She was a named grant honoree in 1975 and also assisted in the publication of a Branch cookbook. (Yes, we did a cook book as a fund raiser.)

Betty, with her husband, Gordon, a professor at San Jose State University, enjoyed travel, entertaining, gardening, bridge, and played in a tennis group until age 70 when she decided that she was "no longer competitive." Betty was a founding member of the University Women's Investment Club and maintained a leadership position in that group for over 30 years.

AAUW-San Jose is very fortunate to have had Betty Van Arsdale as a member.



The Communications Committee Needs YOU!

Elin Bolt, Website Co-Editor

After being instrumental in managing the Branch website since 2015, my co-editor, Elizabeth Guimarin, is transitioning out of this role. Everything is working well and set up for a new person to step in and assume Co-Editor responsibilities.

Our website is hosted by Site Resources at AAUW National, and the platform we use is WordPress. The editing is done through a web page. Branch Website Co-Editors duties entail primarily managing regular homepage postings; content corresponds to Branch events and items of interest featured in the monthly BONFIRE newsletter and through interfacing with Branch committees and interest groups. The Website Co-Editors also add, edit and remove content on the various website pages. This role requires someone with good attention to detail and an artistic eye.

The time commitment varies depending on the activities of the Branch, but generally it's a few hours a month. The Co-Editors generally meet the week following the monthly Board meeting and BONFIRE deadline to discuss and decide on content.

If you are interested in this position, please contact admin@aauwsanjose.org to discuss how you can contribute to our Branch's visibility to its membership and in the community through this important medium!

March 2018 AAUW Bridge Winners

Bobbie Eckerman



First Monday: Mary Braley, Pat Seaman

Second Monday: Judy Kumagai, Bobbie Eckerman, Pam Dougherty

Second Thursday: Bobbie Eckerman, Judy Hart

Second Friday (Duplicate): Bobbie Eckerman, Sandy Bonnet

Third Friday: Bobbie Eckerman, Judy Kumagai, Leela Viswanathan

Fourth Tuesday: Sandra Savage, Patty Baggese

Your Donations Making a Difference

Cheryl Markman, Local Scholarship Committee



The Local Scholarship Committee is pleased to provide the following update regarding our recent scholarship recipients. The success of this project is due in large part to your generosity in donating to this cause. Between 2012 and 2016, Local Scholarship awarded 58 scholarships. Grace O'Leary contacted those scholarship recipients, and here is what she learned.

Among the 58 scholarships that were awarded, eleven of them went to recipients who had applied a second time and were awarded a second scholarship. All but one of the 47 recipients has indicated that they have graduated and are working, and all but one are working in the fields for which they majored. Among them are engineers, a health coordinator at a major tech company, accountants, an advertising supervisor, a preschool specialist, a high school psychologist, a biochemist, a government clerk, a youth advocate, a community college counselor, registered nurses, a public relations representative for a tech firm, an assessment clerk in language proficiency for a school district and a physical education teacher. What a wonderfully diverse group!

And it's so important to note that, as a group, our recipients are not burdened with debt from achieving their Bachelor's degree. Each and every one recognized our AAUW branch as the source of her scholarship and expressed gratitude for our support and encouragement. Here's just a sampling of some of what they had to say:

"I've been doing research in bio energy studies. The findings will be published soon. I am so excited!"

"Water is my passion. As a civil engineer, I work in water resources to keep that tap flowing! I haven't experienced harassment in this male dominated field."

"It's been a wild ride since I graduated. I was hired right out of college at the corporate level in advertising. I love my job."

"Thank you for reaching out to me. The scholarship I received allowed me to work fewer hours and put more attention on my classes. You changed my life."

"Thank you for reaching out to me. The scholarship I received allowed me to work fewer hours and put more attention on my classes. You changed my life."

So, thanks again to all of our donors, and congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients!

Tenant Parking Space Reminder

Linda Goldberg, Chair of B&P Committee

The Building & Properties Committee would like to remind you that there are three designated parking spaces for our new tenant, Enlume, Inc. When you are using our lot, please remember to leave those spaces open for their use. The spaces will be designated with signs. Thank you.

New Member Profiles

Claire Campodonico

ZORAYA GARAY received her MBA from the University of Phoenix in 2003. She is an Office Specialist II, managing an office and as-needed staff. She works for the City of Santa Clara in the Parks and Recreation Department within the Cemetery Division. She learned of AAUW at the Women's March.

LORIANN BAGGETT, who lives in Santa Clara, learned of AAUW at the Women's March. She has her BS in Biochemistry from UC Davis. After a career as a Research Associate in the biotech industry, she retired at a young age to spend more time with her children and family.

SHARON KROEBER received her BA in Sociology from St. Louis University and her nursing training at UC San Diego. She is employed as a registered nurse. Members Sharon Bouska and Kathy Myers referred her to our Branch.

LEE SPACE earned her BA from SJSU in English Literature. She heard of AAUW at the Women's March. Lee is a Senior Manager Alliance Marketing for Palo Alto Networks. She manages and supports strategic technology partnerships.

ANN WAGNER earned a BA in Chemistry and a MA in Anatomy from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. Then came her Masters in Molecular Biology from UC Berkeley. She is employed as an Account Executive at CONCERN:EAP (Employee Assistance Program). The Women's March gave her the opportunity to join AAUW.

CASSANDRA MANCINI is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara where she earned her BA in 2017. She is employed as a Field Representative. She learned of our recent Open House by going online.

LAURA HERRERA graduated from SJSU where she earned her BA in 2009. She is employed as a Program Manager. She recently purchased a home in San Jose and became inspired to be a part of change in her community by joining AAUW.

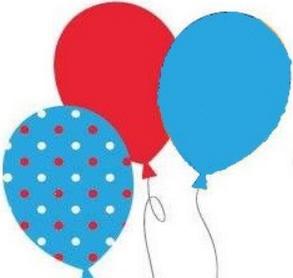
SHARON SUGERMAN received her MS from the University of Chicago in 1989. Now retired, she was a Research Director in the field of public health. Sharon recently moved to San Jose from Sacramento where she also was a member of AAUW.

KATIE BAUMAN received a BA from Stanford University in 1999, her M.ED. from Notre Dame de Namur in 2004, a MS from California University of Pennsylvania in 2009, and is currently attending San Francisco State University working toward her MA. Katie is a teacher. She received an AAUW scholarship when in high school.

TEJESWI PRATIMA DODDA, a resident of Santa Clara, earned her Masters in Communication in 2010 from the University of Hartford in Connecticut. She works in the field of domestic violence, doing communications and programs work. Before joining our Branch, Tejeswi was a National member.

New Member Open House

May 3, 7 pm



Attention new members ... we're having a party! Come get acquainted with other new members and the Membership Team on Thursday, May 3, at 7 pm at Headquarters. If you're a new member who has joined in the last year or so and haven't been able to come to a New Member Social before (or even if you came to the one in January and want to come again!), we look forward to getting better acquainted. Snacks and drinks will be served. Please RSVP to Membership@aauwsanjose.org.

AAUW San Jose Branch BONFIRE

May 2018 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](#).

- Tue May 1 10am - 12pm **German Conversation** ([Barbara Snyder](#))
6pm - 8pm **Public Policy** ([Peg Carlson-Bowen](#))
- Wed May 2 6:30pm - 8:30pm **Board Meeting** - Social time from 6:30, meeting from 7 pm ([Sharon Bouska/Bobbie Baker](#))
- Thu May 3 10am - 12pm **Prospective Member Open House** ([Jan Bartolotta](#))
1pm - 3pm **Knitting Know How** (RSVP [Margaret McCartney](#))
7pm - 8:30pm **New Member Social** ([Anne Andrews](#))
- Sat May 5 9:30am - 1pm **Weekend Walkers** - Los Altos Redwood Grove ([Jean Reed](#))
10:30am - 12:00pm **College/University Relations** ([Alyce Athanasiou](#))
- Sun May 6 3pm - 5pm **Wine Tasting Fundraiser** (Benefits AAUW Funds/LAF) Tessora's Barra di Vino, 234 E Campbell Ave;
free parking nearby ([Louise Persson](#))
- Mon May 7 9:30am - 12:30pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Pat Mikolic](#))
7pm - 8pm **Neighbors Helping Neighbors** ([Karelle Cornwell](#))
- Tue May 8 10am - 11:30am **Book Discussion *My Lovely Wife In The Psych Ward*** by Mark Lukach, a 2018 Silicon Valley Reads selection ([Terry McBride](#))
10am - 11:30am **Conversacion Espanol** (RSVP [Barbara Snyder](#))
- Wed May 9 10am - 2pm **Art Appreciation** - San Jose Downtown Doors ([Jan Bartolotta](#))
6pm - 7pm **Title IX Sports Equity** ([Laura Manthey](#))
7pm - 8:30pm **Evening Book Discussion - *The Japanese Lover*** by Isabel Allende ([Laura Manthey](#))
- Thu May 10 9:30am - 11:30am **Great Decisions** ([Maureen Curulla](#))
7:15pm - 10pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Bobbie Eckerman](#))
- Fri May 11 10am - 2pm **Duplicate Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
- Sat May 12 6:30pm - 9:30pm **Couples Gourmet** (RSVP [Margaret Bard](#))
- Mon May 14 10am - 1pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Rosemary Busch](#))
1:30pm - 2:30pm **Financially Fit for Life** ([Leslie Larson](#))
6pm - 9pm **Light Gourmet** (RSVP [Cheryl Markman](#))
- Tue May 15 10am - 11:45am **French Conversation** ([Barbara Snyder](#))
1pm - 3pm **Knitting Know How** (RSVP [Margaret McCartney](#))
- Wed May 16 7pm - 8:30pm **3rd Wed "Cyber & Other Kinds of Fraud & Security Issues"** ([Leslie Larson](#))
- Thu May 17 10am - 12pm **Family History** ([Susan Brundage](#))
7pm - 8:30pm **Mystery Lovers - *Bruno, Chief of Police*** by Martin Walker ([Sharon Shephard](#))
- Fri May 18 10am - 1pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
- Mon May 21 9:30am - 11am **Exploring World Literature** - Short Stories by Rabindranat Tagore ([Diana Taylor](#))
6pm - 9pm **International Gourmet** - Planning (RSVP [Jan Bartolotta](#))
- Tue May 22 11:30am - 2pm **Lunch Bunch** ([Diana Taylor](#))
7pm - 8:30pm **Great Decisions** ([Karelle Cornwell](#))
7:15pm - 10pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Bobbie Eckerman](#))
- Thu May 24 9:30am - 11:30am **Great Decisions** ([Maureen Curulla](#))
6:30pm - 8:30pm **Game Night** (RSVP by Monday to Sandee Plymire 408-280-5799)
- Fri May 25 1pm - 3:30pm **Local Scholarship** ([Virginia Beck](#))
- Mon May 28 6:30pm - 7:30pm **Gourmet Vegetarian** ([Jean Wyatt](#))
- Tue May 29 9:30am - 11am **Building and Properties Committee** ([Linda Goldberg](#))
- Wed May 30 **Mothers' Equal Pay Day** (when parenting women catch up to what parenting men were paid last year)

SAVE THE DATE

- Mon Jun 4 6:30pm - 8pm **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Soiree**
- Wed Jun 6 6pm - 8:30pm **Joint Board Meeting**
- Sat Jun 9 10am - noon **Prospective Member Open House**
- Wed Jun 20 7pm - 8:30pm **3rd Wed: Environmental Awareness: "Soil is a Sponge!"**

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BONFIRE Editor: Anne Wustrow

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

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Change of Address: Kathy Heihn

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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.

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

PERIODICALS
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AAUW San Jose Branch *Established 1909*

SAVE THE DATE

Members

Prospective Member Open House

Saturday, June 9, 10 am

Save the Date for

Neighbors Helping Neighbors June Soiree

Karelle Cornwell and Sally Bailey, Co-Chairs



NHN will be hosting this event on Monday, June 4, from 6:30 to 8 pm. We will be serving appetizers, desserts, wine and other beverages, as well as collecting donations of diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6) and bodysuits or “onesies” (sizes newborn to 12 months) for Sacred Heart Community Service. SHCS is one of the many organizations that NHN supports by helping those in need.



Empowering Women Since 1881

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