

San Jose Branch

BONFIRE**Empowering Women Since 1881****San Jose Women's March 2019****Saturday, January 19****11 am to 3 pm****Peg Carlson-Bowen, Public Policy Committee**

We Are Marching Again! The Women's March 2019 is Saturday, January 19 from 11 am to 3 pm. The time is subject to change and the route in Downtown San Jose is yet to be confirmed by Women's March organizers. We will confirm the time, route, meeting place and transportation guidance via email to all Branch members before the March. Bring friends and family to march along with us!

AAUW San Jose will have a table in Action Alley at the end of the route again this year. We need members to set up the booth signage before the March, monitor the table during the March, as well as be seated at the table and on the walkway as "greeters" for the public after the March. We will have printed information sheets for topics to talk about and handouts to give to the public, designed by our own SJSU student Public Relations Project. If you would like to sign up to staff the table, please click [here](#) for the sign-up sheet.

This year's March theme is "Truth to Power" and AAUW's message of Equity for All needs to be heard!

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



President's Corner

January 2019

President Virginia Beck

It is the time of the year when we pause to think of the many things for which we are thankful. I am very thankful that my basket is full. I have a home that is warm and fills me with peace. A family close by who are clothed, housed, happy and healthy, and many friends to whom I can go for support, fun and sharing.

I am thankful for my mother and grandmother who had limited education but worked very hard to make homes for their families. It is because of their strength that I am who I am and I am very thankful to them.

I am thankful to be a part of AAUW, an organization that cares about equity for women and girls. I am constantly amazed at the hard work and caring our members exhibit. I know their work is making this a better place for future generations of women. I know my granddaughters' lives will be better because of our work.

I am thankful for all of you – for your support of AAUW San Jose and of me as your President. Happy Holidays, and may your New Year be the best ever.

Board Matters

Kathy Myers/Virginia Beck



The December 5 Board of Directors Meeting highlights are:

Four San Jose State University fourth year students in Public Relations with coordinator Nancy Moreno, AAUW member, presented an overview of their AAUW PR Project Plan. Their goals include telling AAUW's story by generating awareness in San Jose and Santa Clara County communities, promoting and positioning AAUW community activities with relevant and engaging content, and finally, to increase the membership by ten percent this year. They described the four phases of the project. It was very exciting to see these young women's passion for AAUW and their studies.

Anne Wustrow, Editor of the BONFIRE newsletter, gave a presentation to the Board. She described some of the nuts and bolts of how the newsletter is produced. Anne stated what the BONFIRE staff needs from the members is well-written, succinct articles. She also discussed the distribution of the BONFIRE. The newsletter is an opportunity to share with the members and community who we are and what we do in our Branch.

A motion was made by Sharon Bouska, Past-President, to approve the Nominating Committee for 2019. The motion passed. See Sharon's article for more information.



New Year Potluck and Sign Making Wednesday, January 16 6:30 pm - 8 pm at Headquarters

Bring friends and family to share a potluck and make signs for the Women's March 2019. AAUW will provide non-partisan sign suggestions, poster board and markers. Please bring other decorations you may want to use. Our AAUW t-shirts should be available at the party. If you've ordered one, be sure to stop by and pick it up!

Nominating Committee 2019

Sharon Bouska

The Board has approved the following Branch members to serve on the 2019 Nominating Committee: chair: Bobbie Baker; members: Sharon Bouska, Beverly Bassett, Judy Burt, Bobbie Eckerman, Linda Guyer and Grace O'Leary. If you are someone who would like to serve on the 2019 -2020 Board, or know of someone who you think might be interested, please let Bobbie Baker know. The slate of new officers will be presented to the Board in March and will be voted on in April at the General Meeting.

Sock it to Us!

Bobbie Baker
Neighbors Helping Neighbors



On November 30, four members of Neighbors Helping Neighbors provided and served a hot lunch for 25 homeless women at Lifted Spirits, a women's drop-in center associated with the First Presbyterian Church in downtown San Jose. This center provides homeless women a safe, welcoming place where they can come to rest, have a meal, converse with other women and connect with community agencies.

At the next NHN meeting on Monday, January 7, we will be packing bag lunches for Lifted Spirits and collecting new socks for their clothing closet. So, if you received too many socks from Santa, drop off any you can spare in the bins at Headquarters labeled "Sock it to us!"

SAVE THESE DATES

- Feb 2 10am-12pm New Member Open House
- Feb 10 2pm-4pm Barriers to Education – Does Harassment Make a Difference?
San Jose City College Tech Center

Update on SJSU Public Relations Project

Nancy Moreno and Sonia Wright

Great progress is being made! Plans for the updated design of Branch flyers and communications were presented at the December Board meeting by the SJSU students from the on-campus Dwight Bental & Hall Communications Agency. All are in their fourth year of Public Relations or Advertising in the Journalism School of Mass Communications.

There are five elements to their project, including work for the upcoming Women's March, and four additional projects:

- Public relations and publicity design and branding
- Merchandise and promotional items
- Community engagement
- Governance and templates for future use

If you have any questions or need more updates, please contact the Branch liaisons with the student team: Nancy Moreno with Membership and Sonia Wright with the University-College Relations Committee.

New Member Profiles

Claire Campodonico

MICHELE LEFEVRE graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a BS in Business Administration. In her career, she managed her employers' government contract awards to major subcontractors, including working for Pratt & Whitney, an aerospace manufacturer, and on the F-22 Raptor aircraft programs.



Strong Start Program

Claire Noonan, InterBranch Council Chair

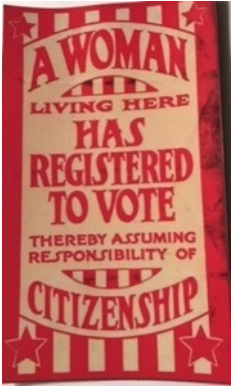
AAUW San Jose along with the other six branches from Santa Clara County that make up the InterBranch Council has voted to support the Strong Start initiative.

AAUW's public policy advocates support for a strong system of high-quality public education and adequate and equitable funding for all students, including preschool. Even though they do not vote, the nearly 438,000 children living in Santa Clara County deserve elected officials who understand how funding and policy decisions impact their lives. So, the Santa Clara County Local Early Education Planning Council, Strong Start of Santa Clara County and Kids in Common, a program of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, came together to create a Voter's Guide on Children's Issues. The guide asked each candidate running for selected local, state or federal offices in Santa Clara County to answer questions about their priorities for children.

The California Budget and Policy Center has released its latest child care and preschool fact sheet with the headline that, adjusted for inflation, state spending on early care and education (ECE) programs are "near pre-recession levels with [a] boost from one-time funding." However, funding for vital pieces of California's ECE system, like the centralized eligibility lists, resource and referral agencies, and local planning councils, have either not been restored or have not kept pace with inflation. Given that, the report seems less like cause for celebration than evidence of the state's ongoing underinvestment in its youngest citizens.

For more information, see

<http://www.strongstartsantaclara.org>.



Update on 100 Years of Suffrage Celebration

Sharon Bouska

The first 2020 countywide task force met November 14, 2018. Over 40 leaders from the community began an introductory session to plan what a celebration in honor of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment would look like. Our next meeting will be January 9 from 4:30-6:00 pm in Morgan Hill. If you are interested in attending, please contact me.

AAUW's knowledge surrounding Title IX has come to the attention of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. It has been reported that the Federal Department of Education is planning on dramatically changing how schools report and handle sexual assault. What this revamping of Title IX will look like is unknown, but it does not bode well for the victims. AAUW National CEO Kim Churches has voiced her concerns over the proposed changes to Title IX; you can read her statements on the AAUW National website. The public has between 45-60 days to respond to the report once it is published.

AAUW San Jose has been asked to become a key collaborator within the county to offer our assistance in drafting a comment ensuring that the experiences of Santa Clara County students and educators are considered in making these proposed changes. We also believe this is an important opportunity for local school districts as well as concerned partners to reinforce that they value the safety and security of all students.

In addition, Supervisor Dave Cortese has put forth a recommended action to the Board of Supervisors of offering limited pro bono legal representation for students, school districts, community colleges, and universities to help investigate and address sexual harassment and assault under Title IX.



Weekend Walkers

January 12

San Jose Museum of Art

Weekend Walkers will route our Saturday walk on January 12 through the San Jose Museum of Art. We will see the current exhibition [Other Walks, Other Lines](#) that focuses on artists using walking. We may also join the “participatory” event “Creative Minds: Suffragette City” which was featured at the Women’s March in Washington DC and elsewhere. Contact [Jean Reed](#) to confirm time to meet at the museum.

“Walking is both universal and idiosyncratic: we all walk but choose different paths, peppered by different interactions and experiences.” From the website for the San Jose Museum of Art

“We must find time to
STOP & THANK
the *people who make*
a difference
in our lives”

—John F. Kennedy



**College-University Partners,
E-student Affiliates and Student Organizations**



Alyce Athanasiou

Chair of College-University Relations Committee

There are three College-University partners associated with AAUW San Jose: Evergreen Valley College, San Jose State University and Santa Clara University. AAUW has over 800 College-University partners in the country. College-University membership connects the campus to grants and fellowships, leadership training, professional development, educational resources and advocacy tools. AAUW campus membership offers the students scholarships and salary negotiation workshops.

The College-University Relations Committee has recruited 70 E-student affiliates over the last three years. We are able to provide free membership per AAUW policy for undergraduate or degree-seeking graduates enrolled in full-time or part-time programs at an AAUW College-University partner campus. The student may be affiliated with the national organization or a local branch and has access to all AAUW information online and in print. Students can go online to join at [aauw.org/ student-join-renew](http://aauw.org/student-join-renew). Students who are not at a College-University partner campus may join for a yearly membership cost of \$18.50. We also started sending the BONFIRE to students in December 2018, and will continue to reach out to them with AAUW activities.



SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY IN SILICON VALLEY

November 2018

Bridge Winners

Bobbie Eckerman



First Monday: Joan Benedetti, Pat Mikolic
Second Monday: Bobbie Eckerman, Mary Braley
Second Thursday: Nancy Valby, Sue Swackhamer
Second Friday: Darline Wilson, Pam Dougherty,
Lida Kluzek
Third Friday: Darline Wilson, Mary Braley
Fourth Tuesday: Bobbie Eckerman

***I have learned over the years that
when one's mind is made up, this
diminishes fear; knowing what must
be done does away with fear.***

Rosa Parks

AAUW San Jose Branch BONFIRE

January 2019 Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all meeting are at Headquarters and are shown in BLUE. Events in **RED** meet elsewhere. To schedule a meeting, check the [Branch Calendar](#), then contact [Pam Dougherty](#). 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 Jan 1 | 10am-12pm German Conversation (RSVP Barbara Snyder) |
| Wed Jan 2 | 7-8:30pm AAUW BOARD Meeting (Virginia Beck) |
| Thu Jan 3 | 1-3pm Knitting Know How (RSVP Margaret McCartney) |
| Mon Jan 7 | 9:30am-12:30pm Bridge (RSVP Pat Mikolic)
6:30-8:30pm Neighbors Helping Neighbors (Bobbie Baker) |
| Tue Jan 8 | 10-11:30am Book Discussion "Enlightenment Now" by Steven Pinker (Terry McBride)
10-11:30am Conversacion Espanol (RSVP Barbara Snyder)
7-8:30pm Public Policy (Peg Carlson-Bowen) |
| Wed Jan 9 | 10-2pm. Art Appreciation -Legion of Honor-Islam and the Classical Heritage Jewels (Jan Bartolotta)
6-7pm Title IX Sports Equity (Laura Manthey)
7-8:30pm Evening Book Discussion -Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng, Karelle Cornwell (Laura Manthey) |
| Thu Jan 10 | 9:30-11:00am Great Decisions AM (Mary Ann Carnavale)
7:15-10pm Bridge (RSVP Bobbie Eckerman) |
| Fri Jan 11 | 10am-2pm Duplicate Bridge (RSVP Lida Kluzek) |
| Sat Jan 12 | 10am-12pm Membership-New Member Chat (Jan Bartolotta). Social for all
6:30pm-9:30pm. Couples Gourmet (RSVP Margaret Bard) |
| Sun Jan 13 | TBD Film Fans (RSVP Linda Snashall) |
| Mon Jan 14 | 10am-1pm Bridge (RSVP Rosemary Busch)
1:30-2:30pm. Financially Fit for Life (Leslie Larson)
6-9pm Light Gourmet (RSVP Cheryl Markman) |
| Tue Jan 15 | 10-11:45am French Conversation (RSVP Barbara Snyder)
1-3pm Knitting Know How (RSVP Margaret McCartney)
7-8:30pm Public Policy Working Groups (Peg Carlson-Bowen) |
| Wed Jan 16 | 6:30-8pm Public Policy Pot Luck & Women's March Sign Making (Peg Carlson-Bowen) |
| Thur Jan 17 | 10am-12pm Family History (Susan Brundage)
7-8:30pm Mystery Lovers (Blue Bird, Blue Bird by Attica Locke (Sharon Shephard)) |
| Fri Jan 18 | 10am-1pm Bridge (RSVP Lida Kluzek) |
| Sat Jan 19 | 11am-3pm Women's March San Jose |
| Mon Jan 21 | 9:30-11am Exploring World Literature -The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra-Vaseem Khan (RSVP Diana Taylor)
6:30-9pm International Gourmet Moroccan (Judy Collard) |
| Tue Jan 22 | 11:30am-2pm. Lunch Bunch (Diana Taylor)
7-8:30pm Great Decisions Evening Group (Karelle Cornwell / Angie Ho)
7:15-10pm Bridge (RSVP Bobbie Eckerman) |
| Thu Jan 24 | 9:30am - 11:00am Great Decisions AM (Mary Ann Carnavale)
6:30-8:30pm Game Night (RSVP by Mon. to Sandee Plymire (408 280-5799)) |
| Fri Jan 25 | 1-3pm Local Scholarship (Margaret Bard) |
| Mon Jan 28 | 9:30-11am Building&Properties Committee (Linda Goldberg)
6:30-7:30pm Gourmet Vegetarian (Jean Wyatt) |

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: Virginia Beck

BONFIRE Editor: Anne Wustrow

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

Distribution: Linda Guyer, Alma Powell

Change of Address: Kathy Heihn

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*



Public Policy Presentation:

Barriers to Education:

Does Harassment Make A Difference?

Sunday, February 10

2 pm - 4 pm

San Jose City College Tech Center

Join us to understand the reasons why many girls and women don't complete their education. Our speaker and panelists will approach this from the perspective of middle school through college. We will also explore solutions to the barriers girls and women still face, and hear about successful strategies that have worked in local schools.



Empowering Women Since 1881

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