

San Jose Branch

BONFIRE**Empowering Women Since 1881****Neighbors Helping Neighbors June Soiree****Monday, June 3****6:30 - 8:30 pm**

You are cordially invited to the social event of the year! Please come to the Neighbors Helping Neighbors June Soiree. Appetizers, desserts, wine and other beverages will be served. A short presentation will be given by Christi Kelly from Family Supportive Housing. Donations of children's sunscreen (8 oz. or less) and full-size deodorant for men and women will be collected for this organization. Come and enjoy a summer evening with friends!

Save The Date**Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Training****Wednesday, June 19****7:00 pm – Headquarters**

Ever wonder what the LGBTQQI meant? Or what is intersex? Why is gender identity important? Ellyn Bloomfield will lead us in a training to review the various terminology we hear every day.

There will be a Q&A after, so please come with your questions. This will be a welcome arena to get those answers you always wanted. Please contact [Elissa Stankiewicz](#) for more information.

**“To advance gender equity for women and girls
through research, education, and advocacy.”**



President's Corner

June 2019

President Virginia Beck

Women Making a Difference, Individually and Collectively

Virginia Kay Beck

I have had the pleasure for this past fiscal year to serve as your president. This has been my second opportunity to serve you as president, the first one being in 2010-2011. When I agreed to serve again, I thought, "Piece of Cake, I've done this before." Well, yes but -----. Although the job is basically the same, I have been amazed at the increased depth and breadth of the Branch activities and service. Everything is BIGGER and BETTER. We are serving the community and our Branch members in many more ways through our Public Policy, Work Smart and Start Smart, College/University Relations, Financially Fit For Life, Local Scholarship, Gifts for Teens, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, SJSU Public Relations Project and Teck Trek. We make a difference nationally through AAUW Fund giving. Internally, we serve our members through our 28 Interest Groups, Third Wednesday and weekend programs and our BONFIRE and Directory. We now connect with potential members through our web site and Facebook. This outreach is important and has greatly contributed to taking in 40 new members. Our four Membership Vice Presidents and Membership Treasurer have been very busy connecting with these new members and helping them find a place in our Branch. Our Finance Committee and officers enable us to be fiscally responsible. Our Building and Properties Committee is the custodians of our Headquarters which we are extremely lucky to have as a Branch.

I told the Board at our first meeting in September that I saw myself as the facilitator of their success. If they needed help in any way to please talk to me. I hope I have added value to the Board members and others serving the Branch.

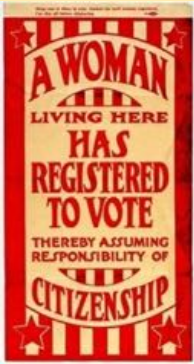
It has been my pleasure to be a part of our thriving, very successful AAUW San Jose as Women Making a Difference, Individually and Collectively.

I wish Peg Carlson-Bowen success and joy as she takes over as your President on July 1. She will be great. I am looking forward to serving her and our Branch. Virginia

Tech Trek Camp 2019

Karelle Cornwell, Tech Trek

The applications are in, the interviews are complete, and we have chosen eight outstanding girls who will be attending Tech Trek at Stanford University this summer. Tech Trek is a one-week camp sponsored by AAUW CA that is held in the summer at college campuses all over the country. The attendees are girls who will be entering 8th grade in the fall and who have shown an interest and aptitude in math and science. Math and science teachers nominate the students, who must then complete an application and submit an essay on the topic "How I Would Use Math or Science to Make the World a Better Place." We then hold interviews at the schools. Next comes the hard part; narrowing down the excellent candidates to the eight who we will send to camp. Everyone should be proud of our Branch for providing this opportunity to inspire girls to aim high and continue their interests in math and science. Thanks to everyone who has supported this endeavor through your contributions to Tech Trek.



2020 Suffrage Celebration Update

Sharon Bouska

Suffrage? When someone says the word "suffrage," what comes to mind? A more important question would be "what does it mean to you?" In one dictionary definition, "suffrage" is the right to vote in political elections. Synonyms include "enfranchisement", "voting rights", "voice", "say", "option", and "choice." Consider the term "democratizing event" when speaking of suffrage. Suffrage was not granted by the Constitution to all citizens of the United States. It took the passage of the 19th Amendment to include women: Constitutionally, the 19th Amendment states: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

The 19th Amendment for inclusive suffrage was first proposed in the Senate in 1878. The bill was defeated, but appeared on the Congressional agenda every year for the next 41 years. Because suffrage laws varied considerably from state to state, a national, unifying law was necessary. By 1919, several states allowed women to vote in all elections (California did so in 1911). 21 states put limitations on women voting: for example, Texas allowed women to vote only in primaries. The remaining 12 states prohibited women from voting altogether.

On August 26, 1920, women finally secured universal suffrage across the country. To say it was easy would be a mistake; women and men labored long and hard to guarantee women their legal voting rights, voice, say, option and choice.

Were women hungry for equal participation in voting? Ten days after the 19th Amendment was ratified, 10 million women joined the electorate. In the article by Mark Mancini entitled "[19 Facts About the 19th Amendment](#)," legal scholar Akhil Reed Amar points out that the sheer number of brand new voters created by this legal action made it "the single biggest democratizing event in American history."

As we move closer to elections in 2020, take time to remember that when you vote, you are continuing to be

part of this amazing democratizing event: the emancipation and empowerment of women. And when someone asks you what this 19th Amendment, this suffrage stuff, is all about, you can proudly state that it is where your voice was legally heard loud and clear!

Board Matters

At the May 1 Board meeting, Thea Jacobs announced Sharon Bouska and Bobbie Baker as the Named Gift Honorees for this year. This award is given to the person or persons who have served the Branch in an exceptional way over a long period of time. Thea then listed the numerous contributions they have made to the Branch. Bobbie and Sharon's names have been added to the plaque that hangs in the hallway near the door to the office.

Leslie Larson hosted a WorkSmart registration drive prior to the meeting. She assisted members in signing on to the WorkSmart site. Leslie then informed those present of the various interesting aspects of the website.

Virginia Beck encouraged all Board members to vote for the National and State AAUW Boards. Members have been sent emails with the ballots for the various officers. The emails may be difficult to identify as ballots. The state AAUW email is a Survey Monkey email that was sent on April 22, and the National AAUW email was sent on May 1. Virginia stressed the importance of voting for the officers since their decisions affect the local branches.



April 2019 Bridge Winners

Bobbie Eckerman

First Monday: Joan Benedetti, Kinnette Shannon

Second Monday: Rosemary Busch, Mary Braley

Second Thursday: Sandra Savage, Virginia Beck

Second Friday: Lida Kluzek, Pam Dougherty,
Jean Kudlick

Third Friday: Peggy Maibaum, Leela Viswanathan

Fourth Tuesday: Judy Hart

An Update on Jasmine Ureno-Diaz, Past Local Scholarship Recipient

Cheryl Markman, Local Scholarship



Jasmine Ureno-Diaz was awarded the Mary Fitzgerald Scholarship by the Local Scholarship Committee in May 2018. Here's a bit more about her before and since.

Jasmine is an ardent supporter of immigrant and refugee rights. Since 2016, she has worked for Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network (SIREN) in support of immigrant and refugee rights justice campaigns. She has also been involved in the Chicana-Latina Youth Leadership Conference (CLYLP) Planning Committee, the Empowering Women of Color Conference (EWOC) 2019 Planning Committee, the Sexual Violence Commission, and the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) College Leadership Program. Jasmine is obviously a very compassionate and dedicated young woman.

Her goals are to complete her undergraduate degrees in Ethnic Studies and Gender and Women's Studies at UC Berkeley and to complete dual graduate and law degrees to enable her to practice human rights law and eventually conduct research as a professor.

When not at work or engaged in her school curriculum, Jasmine is involved in her own Healing and Resistance Mindfulness Meditation Workshop for practicing meditation and mindfulness breathing techniques, focusing on the intersections of self-care, social justice and reconnecting back to the earth. She also enjoys writing and performing poetry, practicing yoga, and spending time in the outdoors hiking and simply relaxing and picnicking with friends.

Marianne Williamson

*"Nothing liberates our
greatness like the desire to
help, the desire to serve."*



TITLE IX

Take a Bow

Jean Reed, Title IX/Sports Equity Group

One of the great things about being a member of AAUW is that, as a dues-paying member, you get to take a bit of credit for everything we do. Here's what you did this year to promote opportunities for women and girls in the area of Title IX.

Title IX is the law passed in 1972 that guarantees equity in any program that receives federal funds. This covers almost all schools and some other public programs. It's not just sports. Title IX applies to all education programs and protects those who are pregnant and parenting, LGBTQ and non-traditionally gendered individuals. It also prohibits sexual harassment. That's a lot to cover.

Title IX requires that every school have a Title IX Coordinator. As little as five years ago, not all of our local schools were aware of this requirement. Due to work by the Title IX/Sports Equity Group to compile and publish an annual directory, we can be confident that every school in Santa Clara County now assigns someone to this important position.

For the first time this year, several local schools created a full-time position for the Title IX Coordinator, sometimes also called the Equity Officer. However, many schools still find it a challenge to provide training for the Title IX Coordinator. To help fill this gap, AAUW San Jose hosted four teleconferences during the year to provide information and resources. Experts on various aspects of Title IX spoke for about 45 minutes on each call, followed by question and answer. We used the Directory of Title IX Coordinators (available on the AAUW San Jose website) to send out invitations. At least 13 school districts attended calls in person, in addition to other interested parties from outside of the county. Others listened to recordings of the call at a later time.

Positive feedback on the value of the calls tells us that our Branch really provided a needed service to the Title IX Coordinators. So take a bow; you have contributed toward the "vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education," one of the AAUW Public Policy Priorities. You are working to oppose efforts by the current administration to systematically dismantle Title IX protections. If you are interested in doing more, contact the [Public Policy Committee](#) or the [Title IX/Sports Equity](#) Group. There is still work to be done – and you will enjoy working with our team!



What's New with Gifts for Teens?

Jan Giroux, Gifts for Teens

Gifts for Teens is in the thick of it as preparations have already begun to purchase items for our holiday gift bags. The goal again this year is 1,200 bags plus 75 extra gifts distributed to five local agencies that provide needed services to homeless or low-income teens. Two grants have been written and submitted to offset the purchase of good quality hooded sweatshirts - the most popular item in the bag. Our knitters are crafting wonderful scarves and hats that are also welcome items.

Follow us on our Gifts for Teens Facebook page for updates. And as a reminder, if you shop Amazon, log on to smile.amazon.com and choose Gifts for Teens as your charity. There is no cost to you and Amazon gives a percentage to Gifts for Teens.

Giving back to the community is part of Gifts for Teens mission. A teen client from last year summed it up best after receiving his gift bag; "This IS Christmas for me."



Your generous gift of holiday bags meant so much to our clients. They were excited to open the bags and see all the wonderful gifts inside.

Sincerely,
Leri Bohner Director of Development
State Certified Alcohol and Drug Recovery Programs



AAUW's public policy advocates a strong system of high-quality public education and adequate, equitable funding for all students, **including preschool**. Santa Clara County Interbranch Council AAUW is an Early Childhood Education advocate at www.strongstartsantaclara.org.

The Center for American Progress (CAP) released an update about America's childcare deserts. A working definition means census tracts where there are more than three times as many children under the age of five as licensed childcare slots. The 2019 analysis reinforces the finding that in all 50 states and Washington, DC 51-one percent live in neighborhoods classified as childcare deserts.

For California, overall, 60% of the state's population lives in a childcare desert – which ranks 42nd out of the 50 states and Washington DC. 72% of the lowest low-income tracts in California are childcare deserts. Barriers are higher for families with challenges like children with disabilities and second language issues.

Grail Family Services presented its project "Building Blocks of Parenting" Family Engagement App at the SCCOE Strong Start meeting of April 9, 2019. The tool for parents provides strategies and activities to strengthen six areas of healthy child development. The app is being launched in Oak Grove and Alum Rock School Districts, focusing on parents of children in their childcare and pre-school programs. Anyone with an iPhone or Android platform can access the app.

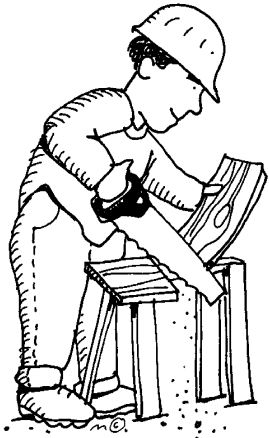
Governor Newsom's current budget proposal - \$2 billion for Early Childhood Education - has put the issue up front for legislative bills. AB 125 and SB 174 are essentially the same bill almost sure to consolidate and pass and move for signature by the governor. The bills establish a single regional state reimbursement rate system for all early childhood learning services that would account for the disparities in costs for services in different areas of the state.

New Member Profiles

Claire Campodonico

BARBARA ROSS earned her Master's in Nursing from USF. From the University of Cincinnati, she received her Doctorate in Education. Now retired, she was a Nursing Professor at Indiana University. She lives in Willow Glen and enjoys international travel.

SUSAN WALKER learned of our Branch at the recent Women's March. She graduated from the University of Washington with a Master's in Library Science. She was employed as a Business Librarian at Adobe Systems. She is an active member of Villa Montalvo's Service Group and loves to travel.



Headquarters Kitchen and Bathroom Remodel Update

Linda Goldberg,
Building and Properties Chair

During the summer months of July and August, the remodel of the kitchen and bathroom will be underway and Headquarters will be a "construction zone." The renovation is scheduled to begin July 8 and take 6-7 weeks, but we will have the kitchen and bathroom packed up and vacated by July 1.

As a result, no business meetings can be held at Headquarters during this time. If you need to access any of your files in the office, you will be able to enter through the FRONT DOOR ONLY (the same key works in the front door lock). If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to let me know, or ask any member of Buildings and Properties Committee.



EMPOWERING WOMEN IN CALIFORNIA

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

AAUW California Mission:

AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education, and resources.

July 2019 – Meetings to be held outside of Headquarters.

Tue Jul 2	10:00am - 12:00pm	German Conversation (Barbara Snyder)
Tue Jul 9	10:00am - 11:30am	Conversacion Español (Barbara Snyder)
Wed Jul 10	10:00am - 2:00pm	Art Appreciation (Jan Bartolotta)
Tue Jul 16	10:00am - 11:45am	French Conversation (Barbara Snyder)
Tue Jul 23	11:30am - 2:00pm	Lunch Bunch (Diana Taylor)

AAUW San Jose Branch BONFIRE

June 2019 Calendar

Due to technical difficulties, the location of all meetings should be confirmed with the person organizing the meeting. To schedule a meeting, check the [Branch Calendar](#), then contact [Pam Dougherty](#) or [Kathy Linnemann](#).) 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](#).

Sun Jun 2	10:30am – 1:00pm Membership Transition Meeting (Jan Barlotta)
Mon Jun 3	9:30am – 12:30pm Bridge (Pat Mikolic) 6:30pm - 8:30pm Neighbors Helping Neighbors (Bobbie Baker)
Tue Jun 4	10:00am 12:00pm German Conversation (Barbara Snyder) 7:00pm - 8:30pm Public Policy Monthly Meeting (Peg Carlson-Bowen)
Wed Jun 5	7:00pm - 8:30pm AAUW BOARD Meeting (Virginia Beck)
Thu Jun 6	10:00am - 12:00pm Family History (Susan Brundage) 1:00pm - 3:00pm Knitting Know How (Margaret McCartney) 7:00pm - 8:30pm - Public Policy Committee (Peg Carlson-Bowen)
Sat Jun 8	6:30pm - 9:30pm Couples Gourmet (Margaret Bard)
Sun Jun 9	TBD Film Fans (Linda Snashall)
Mon Jun 10	10:00am - 1:00pm Bridge (Rosemary Busch) 1:30pm - 2:30pm Financially Fit for Life (Leslie Larson) 6:00pm - 9:00pm Light Gourmet (Cheryl Markman)
Tue Jun 11	10:00am - 11:30am Book Discussion - No Lunch –(Terry McBride) 10:00am - 11:30am Conversacion Español (Barbara Snyder)
Wed Jun 12	10:00am - 2:00pm Art Appreciation (Jan Bartolotta) 6:00pm - 7:00pm Title IX Sports Equity (Laura Manthey) 7:00pm - 8:30pm Evening Book Discussion The Leavers by Lisa Ko (Laura Manthey)
Thu Jun 13	7:15pm - 10:00pm Bridge (Bobbie Eckerman)
Fri Jun 14	10:00am - 2:00pm Duplicate Bridge (Lida Kluzek)
Mon Jun 17	9:30am - 11:00am Exploring World Lit-Home Fire by Kamila Shamsie (Diana Taylor) 6:30pm - 9:00pm International Gourmet-Dessert and Gift Exchange (Brenda Ladewig)
Tue Jun 18	10:00am - 11:45am French Conversation (Barbara Snyder) 1:00pm - 3:00pm Knitting Know How (Margaret McCartney)
Wed Jun 19	7:00pm - 8:30pm 3rd Wed Program: S O & G I-see article (Elissa Stankewicz)
Thu Jun 20	7:00pm - 8:30pm Mystery Lovers (Book Swap/Beach Reads/ Food/ (Sharon Shephard)
Fri Jun 21	10:00am - 1:00pm Bridge (Lida Kluzek)
Mon Jun 24	11:30am - 12:30pm Gourmet Vegetarian (Jean Wyatt) 12:00pm - 2:00pm Building and Properties Committee (Linda Goldberg)
Tue Jun 25	11:30am - 2:00pm Lunch Bunch (Diana Taylor) 7:00pm - 8:30pm Great Decisions Evening Group (Karelle Cornwell / Angie Ho) 7:15pm - 10:00pm Bridge (Bobbie Eckerman)
Wed Jun 26	8:30am - 10:30am Public Policy Collaboration Meeting (Peg Carlson-Bowen)
Thu Jun 27	6:30pm - 8:30pm Game Night (RSVP by Monday to Sandee Plymire (408) 280-5799)
Fri Jun 28	1:00pm - 3:00pm Local Scholarship (Margaret Bard)

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, 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.

San Jose Branch

AAUW Headquarters

1165 Minnesota Avenue

San Jose, CA 95125-3324

Phone: 408-294-2430

PERIODICALS

POSTAGE PAID

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 14

AAUW SAN JOSE FALL EVENT

First Congregational Church, corner Leigh and Hamilton.

Come join your friends and see what the new Board has planned for the upcoming year.



Empowering Women Since 1881



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