



BONFIRE

San Jose Branch

Empowering Women Since 1881



San Jose Womxn's March 2020
Saturday, January 18
11 am - 3 pm

Elissa Stankiewicz, Public Policy Committee

We Are Marching Again! The Womxn's March 2020 is Saturday, January 18 from 11 am to 3 pm. This year's March theme is "Our Power Counts." The organizers have adjusted the name to include an "x" – to make it clear the March is inclusive of all. Please be aware that the time is subject to change, and the route in Downtown San Jose is yet to be confirmed by the Womxn's March organizers. We tentatively plan to meet at the corner of St. James Park at North 3rd Street and East St. John Street at 10:30 am; bring friends and family to march along with us! Please be sure to register for the March on [eventbrite](#).

AAUW San Jose will have a table in Action Alley at the end of the route again this year. Please come by and talk to people as they stop by our booth! We also need members to help: 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. Please contact [Membership](#) for more information.

Let's make sure AAUW's message of Equity for All is heard!

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

President's Corner

Peg Carlson-Bowen



Happy New Year! We have finally arrived at the 100th anniversary year of women winning the vote nationally. AAUW San Jose has been instrumental, with the support of Supervisor Cindy Chavez, in advocating for education, civic involvement and celebration of this achievement (thanks, Sharon Bouska!). Be sure to check out the website WE2020.org to see listings of all kinds of community events and opportunities to participate.

We will gather again with others in our community to march and support equity for women and girls at the Womxn's March in San Jose on January 18. You might ask why there's an "x" in place of the "e" you normally see? This different spelling is meant to be a welcoming, inclusive term regularly in use since 2015 to explicitly include transgender women and women of color.

Don't miss our New Year's potluck and sign-making party on Wednesday, January 15 at Headquarters. Please invite your friends to join us on that day and at the March. This is a great time to introduce friends to AAUW San Jose in a friendly, informal atmosphere.

Can't wait to see what the year brings!

Cheers,
Peg



"Sock it to Us" Drive
Bobbie Baker



For the month of January, Neighbors Helping Neighbors will be collecting new socks for Front Door Communities in downtown San Jose. Located in the old First Presbyterian Church, this agency has several programs to assist the homeless in downtown, including a clothes closet. They are in constant need for new socks! There will be a bin in the entryway at Headquarters for your donation. So ... "put a sock in it" ... and thanks for your support!

We will also be continuing our warm clothes drive for Santa Maria Urban Ministry in January. Bins are in the Parlor. Coats, sweaters, blankets and scarves are very much appreciated!

Third Wednesday Program
All-Member Potluck
January 15
6:30 - 8:30 pm

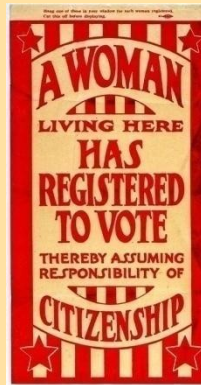


Gather to share with AAUW friends as we start the new year with an All-Member Potluck at Headquarters on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 pm. Plan to share your New Year's resolutions - what will you do to advocate for women and girls this year? Put that into words on a pithy poster to carry at the Womxn's March on January 18. The Public Policy Committee will share non-partisan sign suggestions and provide basic poster board and markers. Bring your own supplies if you want to embellish your poster, which must be hand-held. Help with clean-up is appreciated. No RVSP needed, but if you have questions, please contact Elissa Stankiewicz.

Happy House / Lost and Found Items
Pamela Dougherty, Building & Properties Committee

We simply don't know what to do with surprise gifts left at Headquarters; that is, we don't know whom to thank or advise that it will be trashed. If you leave something, please label who it is for or who is leaving the item so that we will be able to keep our house looking spiffy. Items like sunglasses, phones, and notebooks (clearly lost) can/will be put in the lost and found basket located in the mudroom. Questions or comments about this approach can be sent to Pamela Dougherty.

2020 Suffrage Celebration Update
Sharon Bouska



2020 is finally here!! Time to really start celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Santa Clara County [WE2020](#) Task force has been working on providing some great events that I will be sharing with you and asking if you want to be a part of making them happen.

The first event is the Womxn's March on January 18. Both AAUW San Jose and the 2020 Task Force will have tables at the March. I would love to have you join me, sharing the enthusiasm of winning the vote. At the Third Wednesday program on January 15, signs can be made for the March. I would also like to invite anyone who is interested in doing some research, museum visiting, and "Remembrance Tree" planning (which I will explain in a future column) to join me on that Third Wednesday at 7 pm. If you can't make it that evening, but would like to hear more about my ideas, please email me at aauwsj2020@gmail.com.

Additionally, I am planning to research which of the AAUW founding members were involved in the fight to win the vote for California women in 1911. I would also like to begin to visit the local countywide museums and art galleries to see what they plan on showcasing around women's suffrage.

"The older I get, the greater power I seem to have to help the world. I am like a snowball – the further I am rolled the more I gain." Susan B. Anthony



**Comfy PJs and Holiday Gift Bags
A Great Match**

Jan Giroux, Gifts for Teens

The Bay Area Chapter of the Pajama Program generously donated 1,200 pairs of pajamas to help fill Gifts for Teens holiday bags in December. What a wonderful and needed addition! Many thanks to Pallie Zambrano of this local non-profit, which offers such an important service to kids living in group homes, in poverty and otherwise in need.



Elaine Benoit of Gifts for Teens and Pallie Zambrano of the Pajama Program .

A great group of AAUW and community/corporate volunteers once again made this annual event a huge success. Details on final number of bags, special gifts, and agencies served will be highlighted in a future issue of the BONFIRE.

**The Sex-Based Wage Gap:
Income Loss for Women is Staggering**

Louise Persson, Legal Advocacy Fund

College-educated women born in the late 1950s lost on average nearly \$800,000 in pay discrimination by age 59 when compared to their male peers. The lack of progress toward pay parity in the last half century is starker than ever. According to the most recent Census Bureau data, women holding full-time, year-round jobs earn, on average, less than 82 cents for each dollar earned by men holding full-time positions. This gap deprives women of more than \$10,000 in average annual earnings, even though women are more likely than men to have formal education and training. The resulting cumulative income loss for a woman over her career is staggering. For women of color, the situation is vastly worse because the gender pay gap is compounded by pay gaps based on race and national origin. African American and Latina women make just 62 and 55 cents, respectively, for each dollar earned by white, non-Hispanic men.

Even as women have entered high-paying fields (like business and law) in greater numbers, pay disparities remain the norm, starting as soon as employees enter the labor market and growing over time. Wage disparities hold across nearly every occupation regardless of whether it is male- or female-dominated. Research confirms the major role that pay discrimination plays. One study found that identically-qualified job applicants with traditionally male names received higher salary offers than those with traditionally female names. Another study showed that mothers applying for jobs were less likely to receive a callback than fathers. More than 50 years after Congress outlawed pay discrimination, the persistent pay gap demands that more resources be devoted to assuring its eradication.



November 2019 Bridge Winners

Bobbie Eckerman

- First Monday: No Bridge
- Second Monday: Judy Kumagai, Lida Kluzek
- Second Thursday: Francine Hileman,
Sandra Savage
- Second Friday: Bobbie Eckerman, Judy Kumagai,
Pam Dougherty
- Third Friday: Lida Kluzek, Mary Braley
- Fourth Tuesday: No Bridge



AAUW CA Convention April 17-19, 2020

Virginia Beck, AAUW CA Convention Chair

We have a very special opportunity to attend the AAUW CA Convention next April 17-19. It is in the Bay Area!!! In fact, it is at the San Francisco Airport Westin, One Old Bayshore Highway, Millbrae, an easy drive from here.

We will be celebrating “Remembering the Past, Rockin’ The Future.” In Fact, our own Sharon Bouska will be the opening speaker as she presents the fight for the vote by California women.

Attendees over the weekend will hear from National CEO, Kim Churches as well as have the opportunity to ask questions of other National Board and staff. Workshops will guide us for best practices, problem solving and meeting challenges in finance, membership, Tech Trek, ADA requirements, diversity, mentoring, public policy and leadership.

Public Policy will be the focus on Sunday as we hear from government officials and from branches who have energized their membership through public policy action. Our very own President, Peg Carlson-Bowen will speak.

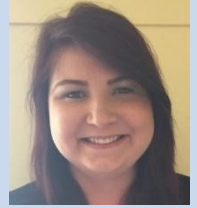
We have a special opportunity as our Branch is awarding scholarships to attend. See Pat Diamond’s accompanying article for more information.

See you at the Convention!!!!!!

AAUW Convention Pat Diamond, Finance Committee

To encourage attendance at the AAUW California convention, the AAUW SJ Board of Directors has approved reimbursing 3 branch members \$500 of the cost of attending. The convention will be held in Millbrae April 17-19, 2020. But don't wait until then! The first 3 who contact Pat Diamond will be on the list to have \$500 of their costs subsidized. Please contact Pat Diamond at Finance@AAUWSanJose.org.

An Update on Angela Pope, Past Local Scholarship Recipient Cheryl Markman, Local Scholarship Committee



Angela Pope is the last of our featured 2019 Local Scholarship recipients who was also a recipient in 2018. She graduated from Evergreen Valley College Magna Cum Laude with a double degree in Accounting and Paralegal. From Evergreen Valley College, she transferred to Santa Clara University. As of this past summer, she had completed one year at Santa Clara and had four quarters left before graduation. While completing her education, she is working part-time at an executive search firm. After graduation she will sit for the CPA exam and is hoping to open her own boutique CPA firm.

Although Angela is very busy with her course work and part-time job, she takes responsibility for caring for her disabled father. She relaxes playing with her dog Peach, a female Jack Russell Terrier, and like most young women, enjoys trying new make-up trends. And while she really likes to read, she hasn't had much time for that lately.

“By the way, in the new code of laws, which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors ... If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.” — Abigail Adams (1744–1818)

Los Gatos-Saratoga – American Association of University Women

Meet Our Three Local Authors

Benefiting Local Scholarship and Tech Trek

Authors' Luncheon 2020

Thursday, January 30, 2020 | 11:00 am – 2:30 pm

The Terraces of Los Gatos (800 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos)

Meet our three authors and have them autograph their books



Yangsze Choo



S. A. Lelchuk



Shobha Roa

Yangsze Choo, author of *The Night Tiger* and first book *The Ghost Bride*

S. A. Lelchuk, author of *Save Me from Dangerous Men* (debut novel)

Shobha Roa, *Girls Burn Brighter*, debut novel and *An Unrestored Woman* (short stories).

Invite your friends to a delightful afternoon of good food and interesting book talk

Door will open at 11:00 am for No/host wine bar and socializing;
brief meeting at 11:30 am followed shortly by lunch; Open Seating

Cost is \$55.00 per person, (\$23.00 is tax deductible)

Luncheon – Choice of Entrée, Endive and Arugula Salad, Choice of Beverage,
and Ice Cream & Cookie Dessert

Choice of Entrées – (1) Pan-seared Salmon; (2) Mediterranean Chicken Breast;
(3) Crispy Potato Gnocchi with Forest Mushrooms – Vegetarian

Make Check Payable to ISPF and include your menu choice with your check.

Send the Names of Your Guests and their Entrée Choices as well

Mail to Eleanor Yick, 105 Stacia St, Los Gatos, CA 95030 | <egyick@icloud.com>

(Include your email to receive a confirmation that your check has been received)

Reservations with payment must be received by **January 20, 2020** to guarantee your attendance!

AAUW BONFIRE San Jose Branch

January 2020 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 Katherine Linnemann. RSVP means the group needs to know who will attend. Weekend Walkers meet most Saturday and Sundays for an hour long walk. To receive weekly emails about walks contact Jean Reed.

- Thu Jan 2 1 - 3pm **Knitting Know How** (RSVP [Margaret McCartney](#))
7 - 8:30pm **Public Policy Committee** (Public Policy Committee. [Elissa Stankiewicz](#))
- Sat Jan 4 10 – 12pm **AAUW Board Meeting** ([President](#))
- Mon Jan 6 10 - 1pm **Bridge First Monday** (RSVP [Bobbie Eckerman](#))
6:30 - 8pm **Neighbors Helping Neighbors** ([Bobbie Baker](#))
- Tue Jan 7 10 - 12pm **German Conversation** (RSVP [Barbara Snyder](#))
- Wed Jan 8 10 - 2pm **Art Appreciation** ([Jan Bartolotta](#))
7 - 8:30pm **Evening Book Discussion**: A Gentleman in Moscow by A. Towles ([Laura Manthey/Nancy Hooton](#))
- Thu Jan 9 9:30 - 11am **Great Decisions AM** ([Mary Ann Carnavale](#))
1 - 4pm **Bridge Second Thursday** (RSVP [Bobbie Eckerman](#))
- Fri Jan 10 10 - 2pm **Duplicate Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
- Sat Jan 11 6:30 - 9:30pm **Couples Gourmet** (RSVP [Harriet Tower](#))
- Sun Jan 12 All day **Film Fans** (RSVP [Linda Snashall](#))
- Mon Jan 13 10 - 1pm **Bridge Second Monday** (RSVP [Rosemary Busch](#))
6 - 9pm **Light Gourmet** (RSVP [Cheryl Markman](#))
- Tue Jan 14 10 - 11:30am **Second Tuesday Book Group**: Becoming by M. Obama ([Lida Kluzek](#))
10 - 11:30am **Conversacion Espanol** (RSVP [Barbara Snyder](#))
- Wed Jan 15 7 - 8:30pm **Third Wednesday Program: Womxn's March Pithy Poster Party** ([Elissa Stankiewicz](#))
- Thu Jan 16 10 - 12pm **Family History** ([Susan Brundage](#))
7 - 8:30pm **Mystery Lovers**: Devotion of Suspect X by K. Higashino ([Sharon Shepherd](#))
- Fri Jan 17 10 - 1pm **Bridge** (RSVP [Lida Kluzek](#))
- Sat Jan 18 All day **San Jose Womxn's March** ([Elissa Stankiewicz](#))
- Mon Jan 20 9:30 -11 am **Exploring World Literature**: Say Nothing by Patrick Keefe ([Diana Taylor](#))
6:30 - 8:30pm **International Gourmet**: Britain (Hostess [Bobbie Gilchrist](#) [Jan Bartolotta](#))
- Tue Jan 21 10 - 11:45am **French Conversation** (RSVP [Barbara Snyder](#))
1 - 3pm **Knitting Know How** (RSVP [Margaret McCartney](#))
- Thu Jan 23 9:30 - 11am **Great Decisions AM** ([Mary Ann Carnavale](#))
6:30 - 8:30pm **Game Night** ([Sandeey Plymire](#))
- Fri Jan 24 11:30 - 1pm **Local Scholarship Fund Raising Committee** ([Mary Jane Vitkovich](#))
1 - 3pm **Local Scholarship** ([Margaret Bard](#))
- Mon Jan 27 9:30 - 11am **Building and Properties Committee** ([Pamela Dougherty](#))
11:30 - 12:30pm **Gourmet Vegetarian** ([Jean Wyatt](#))
1 - 4pm **Interbranch Council** ([Sharon Bouska](#), IBC Representative) ([Sharon Bouska](#))
- Tue Jan 28 11:30 - 1pm **Lunch Bunch** Taiwan Restaurant ([Diana Taylor](#))
1 - 4pm **Bridge Fourth Tuesday** (RSVP [Bobbie Eckerman](#))
7 - 9pm **Great Decisions-Evening Group** ([Sharon Shephard/Elaine Peterson](#))

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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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PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID

AAUW San Jose Branch Established 1909



SAVE THE DATE



Pithy Poster Potluck

Back again for 2020! Create your poster for the Womxn's March, eat good food, and laugh with friends!

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 6:30-8:30 pm @ HQ.

Open to All AAUW Members

Public Policy will have: non-partisan sign suggestions, basic poster board, and markers.

Please bring your own poster embellishments...and food/drink to share.

No RSVP needed. For questions, contact Elissa Stankiewicz.



Empowering Women Since 1881

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