

**TUESDAY
JANUARY 19, 2016**
Special Program Film

THE EMPATHY GAP

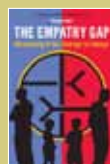
9 am ~Meet & Greet Time
9:30 am ~ Brief Business Meeting
& Announcements
9:45 am ~ The Film will begin
11 am ~ Table Discussions

Over the past several years, the OML Branch has discussed sexual assault in our society through several films. We learned about sexual assault in the military through the film, *The Invisible War*. Recently, the documentary about sexual assault on college campuses, *The Hunting Ground*, examined the horror that college students endure when they try to prosecute their assailant(s). The non-fiction book, *Missoula*, by John Krakauer, exposed the cover-up of sexual assault at the University of Montana.

For our January Program, we will be showing *The Empathy Gap* by filmmaker Thomas Keith. In this film, he looks closely at how American culture bombards young men with sexist and misogynistic messages and how these messages short circuit men's ability to empathize with women, respect them as equals and take feminism seriously. During the film, Mr. Keith draws fascinating parallels between sexism and racism, spelling out how each is rooted in cultural norms that discourage empathy, and shows how men who break with these norms live healthier and happier lives.

After the screening of this 70 minute film, there will be some table questions for discussion. **PLEASE NOTE:** This film contains some profanity and mature content.

For the showing of this film, we plan to bring in special audio-visual equipment to enhance the viewing capabilities.



FEBRUARY MEETING Tuesday, February 16

In February "Nick Whistle" is coming to OML! Turn to page 5 and read more about this exciting new AAUW-sponsored program.



Thursday, February 11

The Scholarship Committee presents its 3rd Annual



Turn to page 4 under
UPCOMING EVENTS for info

WE ARE MOVING!

Starting in September, 2016,
Monthly OML meetings
will be held at the
**Orinda Community Church
Fellowship Hall**
10 Irwin Way
Orinda

Until then, our monthly
meetings will continue to
be held at the
**Holy Trinity Serbian
Church Cultural Center**
1700 School St.
Moraga

WORDS from GAIL ...



Start with a grateful sigh of thanks for the two house events of December at **Kelly Claussen's** and **Leslie Pfeifer's** with song-inducing piano by **Judy Helder** (*check out the cool photos on page 5*). We thank you, too, for your generous end-of-the-year donations to the parts of our organization, for both National and Local priorities.

As the calendar year winds down, there is so much going on here at the branch... The team working on our March 19th STEM event for 120(!) middle-school girls makes amazing, yet orderly progress at nailing down the hands-on activities and workshops, as well as securing our opening and closing speakers (they are great).

The S2S folks have been working with the high school girls who will facilitate the workshops and discussions for middle school girls that are will happen in three Sunday afternoons during February and March of the new year. The evolution of this work is serving the changing needs of the new generations with new challenges and opportunities of middle school. Some of these stay the same and some we could not have imagined.

Scholarship ramps up this year's Valentine's Party set for February 11 along with the serious work of searching for the scholarship awardees themselves from our local high schools and from Saint Mary's College.

I went to see "The Force Awakens" today, and it was wonderful to see yet another strong female lead. I will never think our work is done at liberating women and encouraging their creativity and fulfillment, but watching this movie, it seems the world is making some headway.

2016 will bring new opportunities for each of us, politically, intellectually, environmentally, personally, and probably spiritually. (Feel free to add whatever adverbs/adjectives resonate for you personally). Keep in mind that AAUW has been advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research and we've been doing that since 1881. ... makes me proud to be a part.

All the best, Gail

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2015

AAUW OML Board member voted on a new meeting place for our membership meetings in 2016- 2017. We are enthusiastic about locating a central location at the Orinda Community Hall. We will gather around conversation tables and share our programs as in the present location. Board meetings will take place at Altria Lafayette at 1545 Pleasant Hill Road starting January 12, 2016.

Sister to Sister has been training working high school facilitators to plan the S2S workshops with 6, 7 and 8 grade girls later this winter.

Tech Trek is arranging to interview students at our Middle Schools for the Summer Science camp. The Tech Trek science program Expanding New Horizons will be open to all middle school girls and will be presented at St. Mary's College on March 19. Speakers are being solicited at this time.

The Scholarship Committee has its applications on our web site and on the high school collegiate application programs at Campolindo, Acalanes, and Miramonte. We continue to work with Kaplan to present practice testing for the new SATs.

We look forward to outstanding member programs in January, February, March and April 2016.

**Maryellen Judson
Recording Secretary**

IN MEMORIAM

Mildred Axelson, one of the founding members of our branch, died on December 2. Her daughter, Linda Axelson Curry, said that she loved the friendships she found in AAUW with other smart, thoughtful women.

THE TRIAD Staff

Editor Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694 email: mlmiller602@gmail.com	Proof Reader Jeanne Melaugh, 954-1007 email: jmelaugh@comcast.net
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2015-2016

President Gail Chesler	Vice-Presidents, AAUW Funds Leslie Pfeiffer, Kelly Claussen
President-Elect Laura Wittenberg	Vice-President, Finance Therese Tamaro
Vice-President, Membership Alison McKenzie, Mary Levey	Recording Secretary Maryellen Judson
Vice-Presidents, Program Diane Bell-Rettger, Judy Helder	

AAUW Association Website: <http://www.oml-ca.aauw.net>
California AAUW Website: www.aauw-ca.org

BURCKHALTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH

“To acquire the habit of reading is to create a refuge from almost all the miseries of life.”

This quotation from Somerset Maugham was provided by OML volunteer, **Mary Olowin**, who added “This must be why the Burckhalter library is such a happy place.”

Each class at visits the library each week and our all- volunteer staff present age appropriate lessons: Whether it’s the Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Christmas or African American month, our volunteers are ready with books, of course, but also power-point presentations or hands on activities or songs to make the subject lively, entertaining as well as educational.

After the activity, students are helped to find a book that match their skill level and will be fun to read, too. There are also contests to encourage students to return their books – so they learn many skills as well expand their horizons with each library experience.

Our volunteers also work with each teacher so they can supplement the teacher’s curriculum during the classroom visits. In addition to all of these activities, the volunteers often sit with one child and read with student, in a one-on-one tutoring session.

And while working with students is the most fun, the volunteers also accomplish all the ‘nuts & bolts’ tasks that keep a library humming. Yes, all the volunteers wear many hats and are always responsive to student needs as they arise – a ‘teaching moment’ is always to be seized!

Speaking of tutoring, in the classroom, **Therese Tamaro** and **Ruth Baldwin** do double duty, splitting their time between the classroom and the library. “It is very rewarding to see individual progress”, both report. **Jan Coe**, **K. deGroot** and **Carrol Foxall** all continue as dedicated tutors who return year after year.

All of our volunteers at Burckhalter are dedicated and enthusiastic and they DO make a difference every day that they work with students! Please let us know if you would like to join our volunteers at Burckhalter school, located in Oakland just a block off of Highway 13 at the Edwards exit. You will find it a most rewarding – and fun – experience!

Carol Messinger & Pat Beckner,
Co-Chairs OML Burckhalter School Project

Alison MacKenzie
Membership Co-VP

MEMBERSHIP MEMOS

Bring a friend, win a prize

Mark your calendars for the February 16, 2016, AAUW meeting. The subject will be the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL-pronounced Nick-Whistle). We will have college women speaking about the program and its value for college age women. This program should be of interest to anyone with a daughter or granddaughter in college or heading to college. (*Read more about NCCWSL on page 5.*)

Although guests are welcome at any meeting, **if you bring a guest to the February meeting both you and your guest will be entered to win a door prize.** So bring a guest on Feb. 16!

Going Electronic

Coming this spring will be a new way to pay your membership dues. While we will still mail out renewal forms as in the past; National AAUW will also give you the option of paying electronically. **There will be two ways to pay!** We hope that this new option will appeal to both procrastinators and people who have difficulty locating a stamp and finding a nearby mailbox. More on this topic in the next few months.

FOCUS ON ... SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bikers Hit the Path

Diane Bell-Rettger, Ellen Beans, Patty Proctor and Jan Cushman (taking the picture) biked the loop on the Contra Costa and Ygnacio Canal Trails on November 30. Although it was pretty chilly, that didn’t stop us from enjoying the ducks on the canals, the fall colors and the great conversation as we peddled.

Want to get moving the last Monday of January? Join the Biking Group for an easy 10-12 mile bike ride on flat trails on January 25. If you are interested, contact Ellen Beans (ellen.beans@gmail.com).



UPCOMING OML EVENTS

Our Community – Our Young Women – Their Education

AAUW OML Scholarship Committee Invites You
to Celebrate Friendship, Hearts, Flowers & Desserts

VALENTINE PARTY!

Join us for Chocolate & Bubbly, Ikebana Flower Arranging,
Brownie Tastings, Raffle Prizes... and so much more!

Bring a friend • Be with friends • Celebrate Valentine's Day
• Raise much-needed funds for scholarships awarded
to young women from Lamorinda – our girls who are
dedicated to community service and academic achievement.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

at the home of PEGGY CABANISS
743 Crossbrook Drive • Moraga

Suggested Donation: \$15.00 paid in advance
This donation is not tax deductible

Click on this link: <http://oml-ca.aauw.net>
Scroll down to: "RSVP Valentine Fundraiser"
and click to download the reservation form.
Mail it in with your check today!

Contact Karen Mankowski with any questions:
kmankows@comcast.net

PUBLIC POLICY

BECOME A TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST!

When you sign up to be a Two-Minute Activist (instructions on AAUW-OML website) you also get on the National AAUW email list to receive the *AAUW Washington Update*. This publication provides you with updates about legislation on which AAUW has taken a position.

The December 11th update informs us that the "Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA)" was passed by Congress and signed by the President. AAUW, along with 36 other civil rights and education groups, supported this measure, which replaced **No Child Left Behind**. AAUW has been advocating for its passage for months.

The "AAUW Cheer of the Week" is a study that found that "boardrooms that had strong female leadership returned a 36% greater return since 2009" compared to male-dominated boards. Something to consider when picking investments.

In AAUW California news, we became the state with the strongest equal pay protections in the nation when the Governor signed the California Fair Pay Act, requiring employers to pay workers equally for "substantially similar work." Our organization was active during the legislative process and present for the signing of the bill at the Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park in Richmond. This achievement moves us forward toward AAUW California's #1 legislative priority - Fair Pay and Job Opportunities.

Remember to visit the AAUW and AAUW California websites frequently to read about activities of and progress on AAUW initiatives.

Denise Burian
Public Policy Co-Chair

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@ 5A Rent-A-Space • 455 Moraga Rd.

Rain or Shine • Just \$7 per file box
9:00 am • 1:00 pm • Keep your file boxes



3rd ANNUAL TECH TREK SHRED-FEST: MAY 21, 2016

Save the Date:

Mark your calendar to securely shred personal papers **ON SITE**
SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2016, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Just \$7 per file box

THE FEBRUARY MEETING in more DETAIL



The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders
(referred to as "Nick Whistle")
 convenes June 2-4, 2016, at the University of Maryland in College Park.
They are anticipating 1,000 for this year.

Never heard of NCCWSL?

It's yet *another* way that AAUW encourages growth and success for yet *another* segment of women and girls, that is, the College Women who are or want to be Student Leaders. Take a look at this photo...



We've seen similar enthusiasm from the S2S middle and high-school girls and from the Tech Trek 8th graders. This is yet another age bracket in which AAUW encourages and provides resources.

For 2½ days every year for the past 30 years, college students have convened to attend workshops and practice new skills at getting to be Women Student Leaders. Examples include "build your own elevator speech for the CEO of your dream job", "learn to network productively", ..

At our general meeting in February, we'll hear from a panel of Berkeley and other college young women who have experienced this incredible preparation. You'll get to ask questions and to reflect on how this might help any youthful woman on campus who is headed onward into life and career.

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTIES

Photo highlights from the December 15th Holiday Party at Leslie Pfeifer's home in Moraga with Judy Helder at the piano.



We apologize... no photos were taken at Kelly Claussen's home the previous week. I guess we were all having too much fun!

2015-16 AAUW OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

**AAUW members*

LAFAYETTE

- Asian Accents – Original Designs in Jewelry by K. de Groot*
- Creative Alterations – Josef Jamkochain
- DIABLO FOODS
- Indigo & Poppy – Fine California Living
- Matthew McLeod, Realtor – Dudum Real Estate Group
- Open Sesame Natural Foods
- P & L Framing
- Persons Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery – Barbara Persons, MD FACS
- Ware Designs – Fine Jewelry

MORAGA

- AAAAA Rent-A-Space
- Goodwill Industries of the Greater East Bay
- King Florist & Gifts
- Massage Envy
- National Assoc. for Advancement of Female People – Diane Bell-Rettger*
- Neighborhood Computers
- New Delhi Bistro
- Royal Siam Thai Cuisine
- ShopMORAGAFirst.com – Moraga Chamber
- Terzetto Cuisine Café
- ViaVienté – Lana Reichick*

ORINDA

- Joan Evans* & Angie Evans Traxinger, Village Associates Real Estate
- La Piazza Pizzeria Trattoria
- Orinda Books
- Piccolo Napoli
- Redwood Cottage
- Sea Ranch Vacation Rental – Elaine Gallaher*
- Shelby's Restaurant
- Soraya Golesorkhi*, Realtor – Coldwell Banker

WALNUT CREEK & Beyond

- Bay Alarm Company
- Hearing Science of Walnut Creek
- Herbs & Spices Catering, Alameda
- Laurie Muggee Fitness
- Maxine Christison Interior Design – Maxine Christison*

Please refer to your current membership directory for complete advertising information.

JANUARY AT A GLANCE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

1 FRI – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP

Pass along your book

4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28 – MON & THURS – TENNIS

8:15-10 am – Contact Tory Courtney, 376-1295

5 TUES – BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon – Joyce Dickey 825-7991

9 SAT – INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GROUP

Croatia & the Balkans at the home of Mary Leigh Miller

Contact Ksenija Soster-Olmer for more info

11, 25 MON – GOLF

Contact Jan Gee for t-time and venue, 938-1316

12 TUES – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – New location for all board meetings: Atria,

1545 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette

15 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK

The Triumph of Seeds, by Thor Hanson

10 am – Orinda Book Store, Contact Susan Wilson, 376-0606

15 FRI – LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES

Contact Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694

19 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

9 am – Holy Trinity Serbian Church

THE EMPATHY GAP

20 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS

Contact Carol Messinger 283-8741

24 SUN – JANUARY TRIAD DEADLINE

Send articles to Mary Leigh Miller; mlmiller602@gmail.com

25 MON – BIKE GROUP

Contact Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com

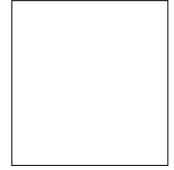
(Read more about this group on page 3)

AAUW-OML

Database Coord.

3537 Springhill Rd

Lafayette, CA 94549



FEBRUARY 2016

Look for more listings in the February Triad

9 TUES – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Atria, 1545 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette

11 THUR – *VALENTINE PARTY!*

1:30 pm – home of Peggy Cabaniss

(Read more about this fundraiser on page 4)

16 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

9 am – Holy Trinity Serbian Church

NCCWSL

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL SPECIAL INTEREST COORDINATORS

If your group decides to meet on a different day or time than normal or if you are no longer meeting, please contact our Calendar Coordinator, BONNIE GALLOGLY, so she can update the website calendar.