

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING
STEM FITNESS for ADULTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

ORINDA COMMUNITY CHURCH
10 Irwin Way, Orinda



WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
ANN WILLOUGHBY

Expanding Your Horizons Network Board of Directors
(Read more about Ann on page 3)

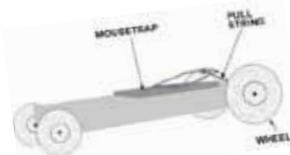
9:30 am ~ Social Time
10:00 am ~ Program Begins

Did you ever think that middle school girls who love science and math are the only ones having all the fun?

As our March 2017 *Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) STEM Conference* at Saint Mary's College draws near and *Tech Trek Science Camp* applications are available, we thought it was time for us all (regardless of age) to have some fun.

Come to "STEM FITNESS for ADULTS" and see for yourself why our middle school girls are having such a good time.

Can you design a bridge that won't collapse under its own weight? What about solving the unsolvable *Insanity Block Puzzle* by trial and error, race a mousetrap car or find out why geometry can really be fun?



Don't miss this informative and fun program with hands-on STEM demos and a dynamite speaker who will explain it all to us.

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 21
GENERAL MEETING

Dr. Beth Burnside, the former Vice Chancellor for Research and Professor Emerita of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of California, Berkeley, will speak at our February General Meeting. Dr. Burnside will discuss her AAUW Fellowship and the challenges of being a woman in academia and science.

Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Burnside was:

- the first woman faculty member in the anatomy department at the University of Pennsylvania,
- the first female Dean of Biological Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley, and
- the only woman to serve as Vice Chancellor for Research at Cal where she managed an annual budget of \$600 million in research funding.

GLORIA WESTON
1922~2016

Read a special tribute to this amazing woman on page 7.



Join the Scholarship Team at Amphora in Lafayette on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9** for a special Valentine Tribute.

Turn to page 5 for all the details.

...From LAURA'S DESK

**Happy New Year!**

Another year has passed and we have lots happening within our branch in the coming months. Before moving onto 2017 I would like to share a very special moment that **Stacia Cragholm** and I shared last week when meeting with some of the high school volunteers who are working with us on the EYH/STEM conference. These young women have participated in a number of activities sponsored by AAUW-OML, including Sister-to-Sister, Tech Trek, and the first EYH/STEM Conference last March. I asked them what was it that attracted them to our programs and brought them back multiple times. The girls value and spoke fondly of all their AAUW experiences. Their comments were heart warming and reinforced our belief that we are succeeding in implementing AAUW's mission and these offspring of our programs are themselves carrying out the mission. We are coming full circle.

Cara Wolfe, a Sister-to-Sister facilitator and a Tech Trek Camper, talked about meeting a middle schooler last spring who voiced excitement about the conference to her. Cara warmly reflected on her AAUW experiences and how she enjoys giving back and feeling the joy in witnessing this student's excitement about their day. Cara loved all the different activities the workshops provided. She expressed that Tech Trek was a life-changing time for her as she looks forward to studying computer sciences in college. Cara recalled a story **Marie Bonilla** shared about being the only woman in her department and getting a tie as a gift from her employer. Cara is encouraged to pursue her interests as a woman in a male dominated career. She said she loved having the opportunity to hear our stories.

All the girls agreed the opportunities they have had while working with the AAUW women were inspiring them to have courage as they are facing their challenges in life as young women, as well as shaping their career choices. Another girl, Ally, voiced her enthusiasm for the conference, seeing it as a way for her to carry out the AAUW mission – empowering young women. Ally thinks it is the “coolest thing ever” when she gets to do all the stuff that interests her. She especially values “working with people who are like-minded and take things seriously.” She thinks her AAUW experiences are opportunities that have inspired her and hopes others will have these same defining moments. This meeting ranks as a defining moment for Stacia and me – what a privilege it is to work with these warm and genuine young women. It was pure joy to witness. My thanks to Stacia, for pulling together her notes from the meeting allowing us to share with you the girl's thoughts on why they continue to return to our programs over and over again.

So as we move forward into 2017, I am truly inspired to continue participating in these programs we bring to the young women of our community, knowing I am making a difference in another person's life. As a member of AAUW-OML I am blessed with the opportunity to be engaged in living a purposeful and fulfilling life. I, for one, can't ask for a better way of living life to the fullest.

Be sure to come to our January meeting when you will have an opportunity to check out some of the workshop activities that are schedule for the EYH/STEM Conference in March.

Laura Wittenberg

**BOARD MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS
DECEMBER 13, 2016
Held at the home of
Jean Tuemmler**

It is time for the Nominating Committee to be calling you. Working on the board is very gratifying and lets us know, first hand, what our club is doing. Our early winter and spring plans bring many interesting activities. This year we want you to consider “shadowing” a board member. As an assistant you can help get the work done. We will need to find co-chairs for Program and count on a committee to help you with ideas. Recording Secretary is a wonderful opportunity to see what is happening among our members. Membership is always an interesting position because you can meet the new people and encourage them to participate in branch activities that support our mission of equity and education. Consider what you can do for AAUW-OML.

Our January meeting will be an exciting one. Our STEM Conference in March is open only to middle school girls interested in science, technology, engineering and math. At the January gathering we will be able to enjoy a few of the challenging workshops that the girls will participate in at the March STEM Conference at Saint Mary's College.

The teachers in the middle schools have been asked to nominate two or three girls from the 7th grade classes to apply for our Tech Trek camp taking place in June 2017. The girls will live on the campus of Stanford University and get a real taste of college life.

The board wished everyone a happy holiday and prosperous 2017.

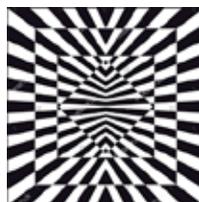
**Maryellen Judson,
Recording Secretary**

FOCUS ON ... EYH-STEM CONFERENCE

All is going well for the upcoming STEM Conference at Saint Mary's College on March 18, 2017. We have 18 exciting hands-on workshops planned, and this month here in the Triad, we are featuring one of the workshops: *Optical Art*.

Optical Art combines art, mathematics and design. Students will be asked to see and design optical illusions, think about the mathematics inside them and pose mathematical questions for their friends.

Optical art consists of geometric shapes and patterns, and is often done in black and white. This type of art creates illusions, leaving the viewer with the impression that objects are moving, vibrating, pulsating or warping. Using a 100-square grid, students will create their own interesting patterns. Each girl will share her design with a friend to find out if she perceives an illusion when looking at the pattern. They will then experiment with breaking the squares in the grid into triangles, rectangles and other shapes.



The workshop leader is **Christy Tyler**, a middle school science teacher for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District. Christy is dedicated to the advancement of digital learning in education and provides training on current technologies to be used in the classroom throughout her school district. She is also an instructional technology coach and assists teachers with technology grant funding applications.

Christy completed course work at the Exploratorium Teacher Institute, which focuses on inquiry-based pedagogy, as well as the KQED Science Educator Program that uses multimedia tools to enhance current science curriculum. She was a Department of Energy's Academies of Creating Teacher Scientists participant at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where she worked to create professional development curriculum on computer modeling in science education. She also played a key role in the "Scientist in the Classroom" program that was launched two years ago. In addition, Christy completed NSTA's New Teacher Fellowship Program and participated in the PBS Learning Media Teacher Core. Currently, she is a Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Mentor for SRVUSD Induction Program as well as a mentor for the Contra Costa County Teacher Internship Program.

Prior to teaching, Christy was employed at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a research scientist in the Geophysics Department and at ENGEIO Incorporated as a staff geologist.

Christy was nominated for the 2012 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and was named the 2011-2012 Educator of the Year by the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce.

Heidi Mayer,
STEM Conference Co-Coordinator

ANN WILLOUGHBY SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER at the JANUARY MEETING



Ann Willoughby serves on the Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Network Board of Directors and has been involved with the Tri-Valley EYH

(TVEYH) Conference for the past 15 plus years, serving as Conference Co-Chair, chair of the TVEYH career fair and as a VIP tour host. She is a member of AAUW and a graduate of UC Berkeley. Ann additionally holds a MBA in Marketing and a MS in Information Systems.

Ann retired from her position as Chief of Staff and Director for National Laboratory Governance in the University of California Office of the National Laboratories (UCNL) in June 2016. The UCNL is responsible for management oversight of three Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratories – Lawrence Berkeley, Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories – on behalf of the UC Board of Regents.

Together these three DOE national labs represent a \$4 billion portfolio of national and global security science and technology programs employing some 20,000 people. Prior to joining the University of California in 2007, Ann worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for 31 years. Her final position at LLNL was as the manager for Community Outreach and K-12 Education Programs.



*Building a Bridge at the
2016 STEM Conference*

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

After we all recover from the holidays, it is time once again to meet for *Coffee on Us*. The next coffee is scheduled for Saturday, January 28 at 9 am at Sideboard in Lafayette. It is located at 3535 Plaza Way, which is in that small group of shops next to the old Park Theater. There is street parking available, but you could also park for free in the Safeway parking lot and walk across Mt. Diablo Blvd. We will be meeting inside. *Come join us!*



There will be no coffee or wine social in February as we will all be at the Valentine Party at Amphora on February 9. *See you there!*

**Alison Mackenzie and Mary Levey,
Membership Co-Chairs**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Calling for volunteers who would like to serve on the Nominating Committee or who would like to join the board in one of the open positions. We are looking for someone to serve as Secretary, Program Chair (a position often co-chaired) and co-chairs for Funds, Membership, Publicity, Finance and a co-chair for Mary Leigh Miller to help with the Directory, Newsletter, etc. I feel it is very important that we develop back-ups for all essential positions on the board.

Laura Wittenberg

THE OML 2017 DISTINGUISHED WOMEN IS WAITING TO BE FOUND!

Who will you nominate for this year's honoree?

After a wonderful celebration of the dedicated and talented Burckhalter volunteers last May, we return to the previous format of honoring a single person for her contributions to the OML Branch. There are many distinguished AAUW women who have made significant contributions. We will honor one. It is up to you to share your thoughts and to write a letter of recommendation.

Your reasons for this letter are yours. Don't feel you can't say enough. Other letters will help to say it all. Perhaps she's your friend. Maybe you've seen her in action or admired her from afar. Maybe you've worked with her in AAUW. Or, maybe she's inspired and encouraged you to get involved! She is a member who has demonstrated leadership, initiative, and creativity in our branch and toward the AAUW mission, to her community, and to her profession.

OML's Distinguished Woman is selected from YOUR nomination along with those of others. These letters don't need to be lengthy – just heartfelt and sincere. If you write a nomination every year or if you've never written one before, take a few minutes to pass along your thoughts. All letters are kept confidential to committee members and are kept for five years.

**Please mail a letter to:
PAT LOPKER, 235 CORLISS DRIVE, MORAGA, CA 94556
or send to Pat's email: califpal@aol.com**

2016-17 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
- Jill West Nutrition Consulting*
- Matthew McLeod, Realtor – Dudum Real Estate Group
- Open Sesame Natural Foods
- Persons Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery – Barbara Persons, MD FACS
- Ware Designs – Fine Jewelry

MORAGA

- AAAAA Rent-A-Space
- Goodwill Industries of the Greater East Bay
- National Assoc. for Advancement of Female People – Diane Bell-Rettger*
- Neighborhood Computers
- New Delhi Bistro
- Royal Siam Thai Cuisine
- ShopMORAGAFirst.com – Moraga Chamber of Commerce
- The UPS Store
- 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
- East Bay Appliance Guy
- Hearing Science of Walnut Creek
- Herbs & Spices Catering, Alameda
- Maxine Christison Interior Design – Maxine Christison*

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

AAUW-OML BRANCH SCHOLARSHIPS NEWS

Developing Leadership Skills Through Community Service

The AAUW report *Barriers and Bias, the Status of Women in Leadership* lists volunteer opportunities as a way to develop leadership skills while helping to make a difference in the world. **Carina Novell**, our Saint Mary's scholarship recipient, demonstrates the leadership skill of self-development. Here is what she wrote about her experience of leading a tutoring program at the San Diego Bayside Community Center:

“At first I was hesitant and lacked confidence in my ability to teach – I did not have the training nor the experience I believed necessary to successfully tutor. However, I learned to become comfortable with the uncomfortable using both the analytical ‘economics’ and the creative ‘English’ side of my brain. I researched effective disciplinary actions, reached out to other teachers for advice regarding certain students and crafted creative reading games to make the after-school program more fun.”

Carina is currently studying at the UC Davis School of Law. She plans to advocate for gender equality and economic opportunity.



Carina Novell with her mother at the OML Awards Program last April.

Our OML Community Service applications are now online

Applications are now available on the AAUW-OML website and deadlines are March 7 for high school girls and March 14 for Saint Mary's students. Our branch offers four scholarships based on a minimum 3.0 GPA as well as community service: one scholarship for \$5,000 and two for \$1,000 each to seniors from Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte high schools and one \$5,000 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior from Saint Mary's College, who plans to continue her education.

If you know a someone who is eligible, please let her know about our scholarship opportunities.

**Mary Ann McLeod,
Chair, Scholarship Committee**

This is another in a series of articles on past OML scholarship recipients.



Scholarship Fundraiser at Amphora THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2017 6~8 pm

It's a new year, and after all of the indulgences of the holidays, let's get back to healthy eating! What better way than to join in the fun and learn about heart-healthy olive oil at Scholarship's fourth annual Valentine party at Amphora Nueva, Purveyor of Fine Olive Oil, 7 Fiesta Lane, Lafayette.

Savor an array of heavy hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy Amphora's famous blood orange brownies. Drinks include wine and Amphora's awesome non-alcoholic white balsamic vinegar spritzers.

Highly desirable raffle items and gift certificates – donated by local businesses – will pique your interest while you sample a wide array of Amphora's olive oil and balsamic vinegar, delighting your taste buds.



The cost is \$30.
(**\$15 plus a percentage of sales directly benefit the Scholarship Fund.**)

Make checks payable to AAUW-OML Community Outreach Fund, Inc.

**Mail checks to BONNIE FEND
4 THUNE AVE., MORAGA, 94556**

Or, if tickets are still available, you can pay by credit card at the January meeting.

Questions? Contact Bonnie at brfend@sbcglobal.net or 510-219-9455.



PUBLIC POLICY NEWS



With a new president about to be inaugurated, the AAUW Washington office – in conjunction with State AAUW chapters – have been active in planning for the presidential transition.

Some highlights taken from National AAUW’s website of its concerns and recent actions are as follows:

The Importance of Cabinet Appointments:

“Why do presidential cabinet picks matter to women and girls? From campus sexual assault to sex discrimination to reproductive health care, all kinds of crucial issues can be at stake when a presidential administration comes into office.....

AAUW will be watching these confirmation hearings with our mission and goals in mind. The heads of certain agencies stand to have significant influence, positive or negative, on issues affecting women and families. We have our own questions for nominees of certain agencies that will deal directly with AAUW’s Public Policy priorities.”

Accordingly, the AAUW Washington office will be focusing in particular on the vetting of the appointees to lead the:

- U.S. Department of Education,
- U.S. Department of Labor,
- U.S. Department of Justice and
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For example, attempts to make fundamental changes to two core priorities of AAUW are already likely: the incoming Administration’s pledge to “repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act,” and the past advocacy of “school choice” by the incoming president’s designee to head the Department of Education.

On these two subjects, AAUW has recently reported as follows:

Changing the Affordable Care Act:

The State-by-State Impact: The Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare, was enacted in 2010 and has had widespread positive impacts on women’s health, including reducing the number of women who are uninsured by 44 percent. The law eliminates “gender rating” charging women higher premiums for individually purchased health care plans and it ensures coverage of women’s health services and preventative care. It also expanded the Medicaid program for low-income individuals in certain states. But the law is facing a legitimate threat in the new administration and Congress. If the ACA is repealed, nearly 30 million Americans will lose their health insurance by 2019.

Exploring the Effects of Charter School Expansion

A new report from the Economic Policy Institute examines the effects of charter school expansion in large and mid-sized U.S. cities.... The report also provides a checklist of questions for policymakers to take into account if they are considering charter school expansion. This report is particularly important in light of growing criticism of charter schools from education and civil rights groups. In October, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) called for a moratorium on charter school expansion and for the strengthening of oversight in governance and practice. AAUW believes that all publicly funded schools – including charter schools – must be accountable to the public for academic achievement, health and safety standards, and the civil rights of all students.

Because of the importance of these and other issues, AAUW will be sending a delegation to the January 21, 2017, Women’s March on Washington. On that day activists will rally across the country to send a vital message: Women’s rights are human rights. We will let you know if we hear about any local marches on the 21st.

**Jan Coe & Laura Monin
Public Policy Co-Chairs**

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTIES

**Taken at Sandy Fox-Sohner’s
home on December 9 by K. de Groot**

GLORIA WESTON**August 25, 1922 ~ December 23, 2016**

We celebrate the vibrant life of Gloria Weston, who died December 23rd. She was 94. At age sixteen, Gloria traveled alone by train from New Jersey to attend UC Berkeley. There she met her beloved, John Weston. After marriage and wartime duties in Hawaii, they moved to Minnesota, then returned to Berkeley; they later settled in Orinda.

She continued studies at John F. Kennedy University (JFKU) receiving her Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy and completing all the course

work toward a Ph.D. She had a private practice in clinical social work, and served many years on the JFKU Board of Regents.

A long dedicated member of AAUW, she served both in Minnesota and OML as Branch President, in many executive board positions, on the Inter-Branch Council, and in positions at the AAUW-CA state level. She often attended Association conventions, and traveled to the World Women's Conference in China in 1995, where Hillary Clinton gave her speech: "Women's Rights Are Human Rights."

Gloria was always supportive of OML Branch priorities and AAUW Funds – the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). She was honored after the Gloria Weston Research and Projects Grant was created, when friends and colleagues quickly completed the \$30,000 capital fund to generate future grants. A passionate advocate, she gave donations and her presence, sitting in the courtroom audience for days to show support at important LAF-supported legal cases. Her commitment to LAF led to the establishment of the Gloria Weston Campus Outreach Fund, a part of AAUW Funds, which provides support for deserving projects – to make a difference for women on California college campuses.

OML Branch honored Gloria as Distinguished Woman of the Year in 1989, and Named Gift Honoree in 2010. Gloria led a remarkable life, intellectually active into her 95th year: studying French, completing The New York Times crosswords, and participating in an online writing course. She was a world traveler, talented photographer, and avid reader – especially enjoying the legal mystery novels of Lisa Scottoline (*pictured on right at a book signing*), with whom she developed a

friendship. On learning of Gloria's passing, Lisa wrote: "Oh, what terrible news this is. She was such an amazing and wonderful woman, and I felt so proud to know her. I'm very sad to hear this."

In 1995, following a well received Branch program titled, "As you age, do you want to be a Wise Woman or Crone?" Gloria helped lead a discussion group called Wise Women. Twenty years later, the remaining members were caring friends in her last years.

Gloria was preceded in death by her husband John and eldest son Eric. She is survived by her son Scott, and daughters Pam and Marcia. Her cat will reside at The Cat House on the Kings, a no-cage rescue center near Fresno. Honoring Gloria's wishes, no service is planned. Gifts "in memory of Gloria Weston" may be made to: **AAUW-OML Community Outreach Fund**, noting the Branch priority of your choice.

Lana Reichick

**THE TRIAD Staff****Editor**

Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694
email: mlmiller602@gmail.com

Proof Reader

Lynda Leonard, 254-6254
email: lyndaeleonard@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016-2017**President**

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Gail Chesler

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Maryellen Judson

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

JANUARY 2017 at a GLANCE

1 SUN – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP

Pass along your book.

3 TUES – BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon – Joyce Dickey 825-7991

6 FRI– BIKE GROUP

Contact Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com

7 SAT – INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GROUP

No meeting this month

Check with Ksenija Soster-Olmer for more info

9, 23 MON – GOLF

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

10 TUES – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Location for all board meetings: Atria,
1545 Pleasant Hill Rd., Lafayette

17 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

STEM Fitness for Adults

9:30-12 noon – Orinda Community Church
10 Irwin Way, Orinda

18 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS

Contact Carol Messinger 283-8741

20 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK

10 am – Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda
The Little Paris Bookshop, by Nina George
Contact Judy Peak, 376-0540, for more info

20 FRI – LET’S GO TO THE MOVIES

Contact Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694, for more info

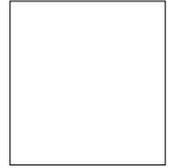
24 TUE – JANUARY TRIAD DEADLINE

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

28 SAT – *Coffee On Us*

9 am – Sideboard Café in Lafayette
(Read about it on page 4)

AAUW-OML
Database Coord.
52 Wandel Drive
Moraga, CA 94556



FEBRUARY 2017

Look for more listings in the February Triad

9 THUR – VALENTINE PARTY

6-8 pm – Amphora Nueva, 7 Fiesta Lane, Lafayette
Read more on page 5

14 TUES – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Atria, 1545 Pleasant Hill Rd., Lafayette

21 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

BETH BURNSIDE,

AAUW Fellow and Research Scientist

9:30-12 noon – Orinda Community Church
10 Irwin Way, Orinda

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.