



FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, February 16



Social Time (with coffee, tea and snacks) - 9-9:30
Meeting & Program - 9:30-11:30

Where will you be February 16th? Come to our Branch General Meeting and learn about one of the ways AAUW helps yet another segment of “women and girls” advance.

How come we don’t know much about “**nick-whistle**”? *Let’s fix that.* It’s pronounced “nick-whistle” and for the past 30 years the **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)** has been making a difference in the preparation, training, mentoring, and networking possibilities for rising women student leaders. *Read more about this exciting program on page 7.*

At the February meeting, we will:

- Share some exciting facts and videos of these young women’s experiences.
- Skype-in with two graduates of NCCWSL to ask questions.
- Learn about some of the skills-building and other workshops from which the girls will chose.

Look forward to seeing you there!

BRING-A-GUEST DOOR PRIZE AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING!

Make things even more interesting by bringing a guest with you to this meeting. *Everyone bringing a guest will receive a door prize.* The prize will be a surprise, but we promise it will be of use. Doesn’t that make you want to come and bring a guest? *We hope so!*

Please turn to page 6 for a very special announcement about this year’s **Distinguished Woman Award.**

Coming on
MARCH 15
CUBA!



OML Celebrates
Women’s History Month
with a special program on
the Women of Cuba

Thursday, February 11

The Scholarship Committee
presents its 3rd Annual



Turn to page 2 under 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 ...



This is certainly a busy time for the OML branch! We have a nominating committee hard at work finding the right set of our women to lead the branch next year, and there's a committee planning the May Luncheon festivities, as well as a special woman planning the luncheon itself. The Sister-to-Sister folks are about to convene their three Super Sundays with HS young women facilitating and middle schoolers learning, engaging and taking part. Scholarship has posted its applications and is looking forward to the Valentine's party (are you signed up?). Tech Trek is working with the middle schools to find the six smart 8th graders to go to STEM camp in July. I hear there are some new Start Smart workshops being planned, and the Burckhalter Library and Tutor volunteers are hard at it. Our new big deal is the Expanding Your Horizons day at Saint Mary's – have you volunteered? The workshops and speakers will be splendid – I'm excited to help out. Is there something you'd like to get involved in? If you don't know how to become one of the worker bees, let me know – I can help you (and help us by doing so).

Our program meetings continue to provide a time and place for our band of smart women to reconvene, to learn, to experience, to share, to discuss. The January program on the "Empathy Gap" stirred up a lot of conversation and energy. I hope you'll be with me in February for the Nick-Whistle program. Then there's an international program on Cuba in March. Wow – it's all good.

As ever, Gail Chesler

VALENTINE PARTY!
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016
 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

at the home of PEGGY CABANISS
 743 Crossbrook Drive • Moraga



If you haven't already gotten your RSVP in for the third annual Scholarship Committee's **VALENTINE PARTY**, you have until Monday, February 8. Just call **Karen Mankowski** (925-283-9085) and let her know that you are planning to attend.

We are excited to have two local florists – **Christie Hastings** and **Nancy Huseby** – who have been trained in the Japanese art of flower arranging by world-renowned Ikebana artist, Yayoi Soho Sakai, a teacher at the Orinda Community Center. The floral arrangements will be raffled off after the demo.

All proceeds go toward the Scholarship funds for three local High School graduating senior girls and one graduating St. Mary's College female pursuing a graduate degree. We need your help to make these funds a reality. *Thank you!*

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!

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 8

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

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

OML January Board Meeting

The OML Board met Tuesday, January 12, in its new meeting place, Atria Park Lafayette. We were warmly welcomed, and this will be our board meeting place.

We were reminded that in September our Monthly Membership Meetings will take place at the Orinda Community Church on 3rd Tuesday mornings.

Patty Proctor of S2S distributed application fliers for the Sister-to-Sister program for Middle School girls. The girls will meet Sunday afternoons, February 7 & 28 and March 13. Please make your middle school daughters, granddaughters and neighbors aware of this great program.

AAUW-OML is offering a First for us. All 6,7,8th grade girls are invited to participate in the Expanding Your Horizons Day at Saint Mary's College on Saturday, March 19. There will be a keynote speaker from Pixar and 12 morning and afternoon workshops from which to choose offering exciting science, math and technology activities. We need AAUW volunteers to work the program, so please sign up. Let the girls know!

Our Valentine Party will take place Thursday, February 11, at the home of Peggy Cabaniss. Experts in Ikebana will tell us the background of this very unique Japanese flower arranging and will demonstrate the art. The party will feature lots of chocolate and bubbly plus a special sale table featuring beautiful treasures. The party will benefit the scholarships we will award to our local high school senior girls and a St. Mary's College senior woman.

Maryellen Judson,
Secretary

FOCUS ON ... EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS



AAUW OML
Expanding Your Horizons STEM Conference
at Saint Mary's College
Inspiring girls to recognize their potential
and pursue opportunities in science, technology,
engineering and mathematics (STEM)

- Want to join the FBI in investigating a crime scene?
- If you took apart a computer and put it back together would it work?
- Could you build a strong bridge?
- Ever wonder what a marshmallow would do in a vacuum?
- Want to build a Star Wars galaxy with code?

The 120 middle school girls who attend our Expanding Your Horizons conference on March 19 will have to choose between these and other equally fascinating workshops focusing on imagery of Earth and Mars, greenhouse gases, human bones and fossils, building a wind-driven vehicle, biofuels, and digital film-making.

The day will begin with a presentation by **Danielle Feinberg**, Director of Photography for Lighting at Pixar Animation Studios, who will share film clips from Pixar films and explain how computer programming was used to create the films. Then each girl will attend three exciting hands-on workshops during the day. Over lunch, there will be discussions with professional women in different STEM careers and a chance to interact with other girls also interested in STEM fields. The conference will close with a motivational presentation by **M. J. Marggraff**, commercial pilot and mission support for Virgin Galactic, who is also one of our branch members.

Parents will have the opportunity to hear a presentation by Saint Mary's College of Science to learn how to foster their daughters' interest in STEM studies and careers. How exciting to have this experience on a beautiful college campus that will excite the girls about college opportunities!

Girls will be able to register for the conference starting on February 6 at: www.expandingyourhorizons.org/conferences/AAUWSAINTMARYS. Cost for the conference is \$20.

Are you free on March 19 to help with the conference?
Contact Stacia Cragholm (staciawater@hotmail.com)
for more information.

*Girls! Do you love
Science & Math?*

**EXPAND
YOUR
HORIZONS!**
at a one-day

**S.T.E.M.
Conference
& Workshop**



MARCH 19, 2016

**Saint Mary's College
Soda Center • Moraga**

*Open to all Middle
School Girls interested
in learning more about
Science, Technology,
Engineering & Math*

SPECIAL THANKS ...

to **Dr. Kristen Beck** and **Saint Mary's College** for their phenomenal support of the conference! And thanks to **Heidi Mayer** and **Stacia Cragholm** for leading our organizing group; and the critical contributions of **Christine Walwyn**, **Chris Laszcz-Davis**, **Peggy Cabaniss**, **Sandy Fox-Sohner**, **Laura Wittenberg**, **Marty Schimbor**, **Jan Cushman**; and to **Mary Leigh Miller** for the designing of the brochure (pictured above).

This conference is made possible by generous financial support from **Saint Mary's College of Science**, **Chevron** and the **Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**, as well as individual contributions.

MEMBERSHIP MEMOS

HALF YEARLY DUES—JANUARY TO MARCH 15, 2016

Did you know that any new members joining AAUW—Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch January through March 15, 2016, pay \$56.50 for the 2015-2016 membership year? This is called a half-year membership, and the amount covers membership until July 1, 2016, when the member will then owe the full 2016-2017 dues amount. In addition, \$23.00 of the \$56.50 is tax deductible, as AAUW is a 501(c)(3) organization. The half yearly dues forms will be available at the February and March meetings and are on our website.

MARCH 16 ON NEW MEMBERS GET 15 MONTHS MEMBERSHIP

If a person becomes a new member effective March 16, 2016, when the new dues amount for next year will be known, the person would pay the full 2016-2017 dues amount with a membership effective March 16, 2016, through June 30, 2017. In other words, 15 months' membership for the cost of 12 months. That's three months free!

SHAPE THE FUTURE—JOIN AT AN EVENT

And if the half-year membership and 15-month membership are not enough to inspire bringing a guest to a meeting, consider the national AAUW *Shape the Future* program. If a person joins at a branch program open to the public, like our monthly events, she (or he!) would have another 50% off the national dues, part of which are tax deductible.

NEW MEMBER

We all welcome **Linda Luini**, a new member who joined at the January meeting. Linda lives in Orinda with her husband, Jim, and is a retired elementary school teacher. She indicates she is interested in world events and issues, book groups, movie groups and museum mavens and is willing to bring snacks to the meetings and lend a hand where she can. Welcome Linda!

BRING-A-GUEST DOOR PRIZE AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING

The above are all benefits for new members, but current members haven't been forgotten. The February meeting on the National College Conference of Women Student Leaders (known familiarly as "NICKWHISTLE") promises to be of great interest. Make things even more interesting by bringing a guest with you to the meeting. Anyone bringing a guest will receive a door prize. The prize will be a surprise, but we promise it will be of use to everyone. Doesn't that make you want to come and bring a guest? We hope so! See you soon.

DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Please make the following change in your directories: Kelly Claussen's cell phone number was incorrectly entered. The correct number is: (510) 882-2814.

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

The newly amended bylaws are now on the OML website. You can read them by clicking on the following link: <http://oml-ca.aauw.net/files/2014/03/Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette-by-laws-1-12-16.pdf>

FOCUS ON ... SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK



The schedule of books for this group has been changed due to the unavailability of some in paperback. The new schedule for Feb.-April is as follows:

• February 19:

Olive Kitteridge,
by Elizabeth Strout

• March 18:

Leaving Before the Rains Come,
by Alexandra Fuller

• April 15:

Triumph of Seeds,
by Thor Hansson

On the third Friday of each month this book group meets at the Orinda Book Store at 10 am to discuss one of a wide variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction. All branch members who have read that month's selection are welcome.

Contact Susan Wilson, 376-0606, for more info.

MUSEUM MAVENS



The Museum Mavens are planning a trip by carpool to the Anderson Art Collection Museum at Stanford in March or April. Watch for the specific date next month.

AAUW FUNDS NEWS

**Moshak v. University of Tennessee:
Discrimination Too Common in College Athletics**

AAUW is proud to have supported this discrimination case that was successfully settled this month, January 2016. Jennifer Moshak, a former employee of the University of Tennessee’s women’s athletic department, claimed she was unlawfully discriminated against and eventually forced out of her position during a university-led merger of the men’s and women’s athletic departments. She and two other plaintiffs argued that they were fired after making complaints alleging unequal pay between men’s and women’s athletic department employees. They filed suit against the university, alleging sex discrimination and unlawful retaliation under Title VII of the Civil Right Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education amendments of 1972 and the Equal Pay Act of 1963. The plaintiffs said that during the merger, which was led by newly hired Athletic Director Dave Hart, the vast majority – 66 percent – of positions terminated either were held by women or were associated with the women’s athletic department.

The **AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund** has been crucial to the success of many gender discrimination cases, providing financial and organization backing. The funds come directly from the generous contribution of AAUW members.

**Leslie Pfeifer
AAUW Funds Co-VP**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS NEWS

AAUW-OML Scholarship Applications are Online

If you know an Acalanes, Campolindo, Miramonte, or Saint Mary’s senior woman who has a GPA of 3.0 or more and is committed to community service, direct her to our oml-ca.aauw.net website. Our merit-based scholarship applications are on line.

We will award two \$5000 scholarships, one to a Saint Mary’s student who is planning to go on to graduate school and one to a Lamorinda high school senior woman. Two additional \$1000 scholarships will be given to Lamorinda high school seniors. The deadline to complete applications for Saint Mary’s students is Wednesday, February 17, 2016. High School applications must be received by Wednesday, March 2, 2016.

**Mary Ann McLeod
Scholarship Co-Director**

**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

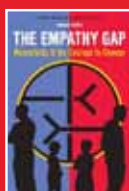
- Joan Evans* & Angie Evans Traxinger, Village Associates Real Estate
- La Piazza Pizzeria Trattoria
- Orinda Books
- Piccolo Napoli
- Redwood Cottage
- Sea Ranch Vacation Rental – Elaine Gallaher*
- Shelby’s Restaurant
- Soraya Golesorkhi*, Realtor – Coldwell Banker

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.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM JANUARY



Diane Bell-Rettger (right) presented the film Empathy Gap and led the table discussions afterwards.

OML HONORS THE BURCKHALTER VOLUNTEERS

Who will be the AAUW OML Distinguished Women of 2016?

Yes, you read that right! This award, given annually at the May Luncheon, is the highest honor the OML branch can bestow, but with great thought and an Executive Board decision, the usual selection process of a single honoree will be postponed until 2017. The Award this year will honor a “group of women” serving our mission together – **the Burckhalter Volunteers.**



Many of our AAUW-OML members have served at the Burckhalter School in southeast Oakland on a regular or an occasional basis for well over two decades. As tutors and library volunteers, they have collectively accomplished a huge effort in advancing our AAUW mission of education and equity for women and girls. Through strong leadership, these members have contributed a valuable community service with energy and dedication.

We are certainly overdue and thrilled to award this recognition at this time. Much more will be said in the months to come by a special 2016 committee, chaired by **Denise Burian**. They will be guiding the wonderful presentation and distinguished honor to the Burckhalter Volunteers at the Luncheon on May 17.

In 2017, I will resume my responsibility to the branch as Distinguished Woman Committee Chair. For 2016, we can appreciate this as a long overdue and highly deserved honor that will be bestowed on our Burckhalter Volunteers.

Pat Lopker,
2015 Distinguished Woman Awardee

Equal Pay/Start Smart 2016 Update

AAUW promotes Equal Pay and Gender Equity in the Workplace by offering Wage Negotiation Workshops across the country. After attaining the rights to Start Smart and Work Smart classes from the former WAGE Project last year, classes are now being offered to more align with the goals of AAUW. Members are being recruited to promote and facilitate workshops at their local centers of higher education. Trainings are now offered FREE, through online webinars to members and college partners of AAUW.



In Contra Costa County, eleven members have expressed interest in delivering the workshops locally (seven are OML members). Last year Contra Costa County Inter-Branch Council purchased a three-year license for the Contra Costa Community College District. A successful workshop was presented at DVC last April, and a spring workshop on March 10th is now being planned. We are working to expand the program to Cal State East Bay/ Concord, St. Mary's, and JFK Universities.

If you are interested in joining the Start Smart Team, or want to attend a workshop, you can contact any of the OML members on the team: **Marie Bonilla, Tory Courtney, Marjorie Singler, Diane Bell-Rettger, Sara Lautenbach, Ibis Schlesinger and Jill West.**

PUBLIC POLICY

It's My Vote

This is an election year, and don't we know it by all of the pundits and the candidates themselves, expressing their opinions every day. Many states have passed laws restricting voter access to the polls. In California, our legislature did the opposite by passing the Motor Voter Law that requires DMV to send every licensed driver a voter registration packet with all drivers license renewals. Note - you only need to return it if you are not a current registered voter, or if you moved and need to update your voter registration file.



AAUW National is concerned about making sure all voices are heard at the ballot box and has begun an “It's My Vote” campaign. AAUW does not endorse individual candidates, so the goal is to make AAUW Public Policy Priorities a central area of discussions with candidates. Topics such as equal pay, judicial nominations that support positions that protect family planning programs, protection of social security, college access and affordability, affirmative action, and paid sick days should all be part of the discussion. AAUW asks us to reach out to candidates – asking them about their positions and informing them about our positions.

A second part of the strategy is to personally engage in efforts to increase voter registration and turnout. They encourage us to carry around voter registration packets to give to non-registered voters, and then to help people get to the polls on Election Day. *Your public policy committee will have voter registration forms available at all branch meetings this year.*

Denise Burian
Public Policy Co-Director

SISTER-to-SISTER NEWS



A Woman Emerged

She fills the meeting room with her enthusiastic presence and a big warm smile. Meet Ciana Torres, a new member of the S2S adult training team. However, Ciana is not new to the program.

It began in seventh grade. Her mom and her best friend's mom were visiting, when her friend's mom started talking about this new program she heard about: AAUW's Sister-to-Sister Summit. "Sign up Ciana," she said. "They can go together." And that was just the beginning.

Recognizing that she needed skills to pick and choose her friends carefully, Ciana signed up for the Summit in seventh grade. "Having an older girl looking out for me, listening and caring for me, meant a lot," she says. S2S helped her learn about herself and acquire skills that she will use for the rest of her life. Furthermore, she says that her experiences with S2S have helped her decide what she wants to do with her life.

"Finding out who you are and what you want to be is no easy task," Ciana says. So when she graduated from middle school, she continued on to high school and signed up for training to become a leader/facilitator. After four years we said goodbye to her last spring when she graduated from high school. A woman emerged, a woman with a toolbox of skills to carry with her throughout her life.

She attends DVC, majoring in political science with a focus on women's rights and empowerment. "Women need to help women. We are the ones knocking each other down," she says. Even with working part-time and going to school, Ciana joined adult S2S team with the three Super Sundays in February and March that will help high school girls develop the skills they need – women helping women.

Where is Ciana going? She would like an internship with the United Nation's division of women. She wants to travel to other countries and help people. Now she is pursuing the opportunity to be an intern at the governor's office. Ciana's goal? To be the governor of California. WOW! Way to go Ciana!

Lynda Leonard
Sister-to-Sister Team Member

Super Sunday Sessions Soon ... and we can use your help!

January had us hard at work in preparation for the first Super Sunday Session on February 7, followed by sessions on February 28 and March 13. All sessions run from 2:30-4:30 pm.

We need five adults on February 7 to help with registration and T-shirt distribution. On February 28 and March 13, we need one adult for check-in.

We also need donations of snack food: cheese, crackers, salami (they love salami), veggies with hummus, fruit, and cookies and brownies. *The girls really appreciate the food!*

If you would like to help or donate food, please call Lynda Leonard at 254-6254.

More about NICK-WHISTLE

Nearly 1,000 College Women Student Leaders will gather for a 2½-day conference in early June in Washington DC. The program will include an opening session; networking sessions; the Women of Distinction Awards ceremony and reception; a game night; keynote speakers; graduate school and career fair with exhibitors; workshops; a Friday night out on the town; and the closing session.

One of the Women of Distinction last year was the Goldie Blox founder, Debbie Sterling, a local phenomenon. In other years, speakers included Chelsea Clinton and Lilly Ledbetter. Lincoln said it, "The only way to predict your future is to create it." and every year NCCWSL honors the women who have lived it!

As their brochure says, "NCCWSL is where college women make their future what they want. As America's premier conference for college women, NCCWSL provides a transformative experience for attendees and prepares them to be the next generation of leaders. Each attendee becomes a part of the conference's 30-year legacy.

As a branch, we know a lot about:

- **Tech Trek** and our 8th grade girls,
- **Grants made by National** to help graduate students complete their studies (November's AAUW Funds program),
- The work we do at the **Burckhalter School**
- Learning more about our new **Expanding Your Horizons** day-long STEM workshops (coming up March 19th).
- Our **Sister-to-Sister** – Super Sundays and
- The **Scholarships** we offer both high school senior girls and one graduate of Saint Mary's college.

How come we don't know much about "nick-whistle"? **We're hoping to change that at the February meeting.**

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

1 MON – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP

Pass along your book

1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29 – MON & THURS – TENNIS

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

2 TUES – BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon – Joyce Dickey 825-7991

6 SAT – INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GROUP

The Meeting is been cancelled for this Month.

Contact Ksenija Soster-Olmer for more info

7, 28 SUN S2S SUNDAY SUPER SESSIONS

2-4:30 pm – Orinda Community Center

Contact Valarie Burgess for more info

8, 22 MON – GOLF

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

9 TUES – BOARD MEETING

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

1545 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette

11, 18, 25 WED – GREAT DECISIONS

9:30 am – Hacienda de las Flores, Moraga

11 THUR – **VALENTINE PARTY!**

1:30 pm – home of Peggy Cabaniss

(Read more about this fundraiser on page 5)

16 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

9 am – Holy Trinity Serbian Church

National Coalition for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)

17 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS

Contact Carol Messinger 283-8741

19 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK

Olive Kitteridge, by **Elizabeth Strout**

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

Please note new information about future books on page 4.

19 FRI – LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES

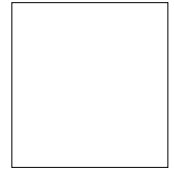
Contact Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694

AAUW-OML

Database Coord.

3537 Springhill Rd

Lafayette, CA 94549



24 WED – JANUARY TRIAD DEADLINE

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

29 MON – BIKE GROUP

Contact Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com

MARCH 2016

Look for more listings in the March Tri

8 TUES – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Atria, 1545 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette

15 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

9 am – Holy Trinity Serbian Church

INTERN'L WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH – CUBA

19 SAT – EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS

S.T.E.M. CONFERENCE

8 am - 3 pm – Saint Mary's College, Soda Center

Shred.



3rd ANNUAL TECH TREK

SHRED-FEST: MAY 21, 2016

Mark your calendars

@ 5A Rent-A-Space • 455 Moraga Rd.

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.