



CELEBRATING US!

NO GENERAL MEETING in DECEMBER



GET in the MOOD for the HOLIDAYS!



Join your OML friends in two of our members' homes for camaraderie, singing and special holiday cheer!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9
4 ~ 6 pm

Wine & Cheese Party
at the home of
SANDY FOX-SOHNER
27 Williams Drive, Moraga

Please RSVP by 12/5
to Jan Coe –
jankcoe@gmail.com

Beginning at 5 pm
Join GAIL BURNETT
around the piano
as you sing your favorite
holiday songs

The branch will provide wine
and non-alcoholic drinks
Please bring a small appetizer
(finger food) to share

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13
10 am ~ 12 noon

Coffee Party
at the home of
JEAN TUEMMLER
3250 Phillips Road, Lafayette

Please RSVP to
Maryellen Judson –
thjudson@aol.com

Bring an ornament
to exchange and some
sweets to share.
Do you have a favorite
holiday memory?
Let's hear it!

Plan to carpool to Jean's home
as parking is limited.
Maryellen will coordinate.

STEM FITNESS FOR ADULTS

**TUESDAY,
JANUARY 17**

9:30 am Social
10:00 am Program

Do you ever think that maybe the middle school girls are having all the fun? As our STEM Conference at Saint Mary's nears and we are taking applications for Tech Trek Camp this summer, we thought it was time for us to have some fun.

AAUW-OML STEM FITNESS FOR ADULTS



Come and see for yourself why the girls are having such a good time.

- Design a bridge that won't collapse under its own weight,
- Solve the unsolvable Insanity Block Puzzle by trial and error on pen and paper,
- Race a mousetrap car or maybe dig for fossils...

We will have a special guest speaker to explain it all to us including "What Is Coding?" You will even have a chance to do a little coding of your own to produce a binary friendship bracelet.

This is our chance to learn about STEM, socialize and play.
See you there!





...From LAURA'S DESK

Wow, it is already December! We have had a very busy year with three successful General Meetings: great programs, great attendance, and lots of enthusiasm. It is truly wonderful to be a part of community of dynamic and engaged women. And there is so much more to come. For starters our January meeting will be an opportunity for us to learn all about STEM and even get a chance to actually try some of the interactive projects being presented at the EYH/STEM conference for the middle school girls in March.

Our Christmas events are just around the corner, check the calendar for the dates and locations. Scholarship is moving full speed ahead and applications are coming in already from high school seniors and the Valentine Social and fundraiser at Amphora is rapidly approaching. Be sure to get your tickets early as we expect to sell out quickly. Space is limited – only 35 tickets remain. Tech Trek will soon recruit their campers for the two-week summer camp and the EHY/STEM Conference will take place on March 18th. All of these activities occur because of our members' willingness to join together with the AAUW-OML Board to help make things happen. It takes a village of willing workers.

Speaking of our board, it's that time for us to recruit a Nominating Committee. This year's committee will have it a little easier since I have committed to serve for a second term and Denise will continue as President Elect. I would appreciate volunteers willing to serve on the nominating committee to step forward to help us develop a slate of officers for 2017-2018. Just email me or phone.

I want to thank all of you who have helped to make this year so positive. I have had the privilege of working with many of you – planning, problem solving and working together to help change our world for the better. We are getting to know each other in a much deeper way and having fun – I love that part the most. We have such a great group of women in our community.

Have a safe and happy holiday season. Let's move into 2017 by working to change the rhetoric, to get involved in the process advocating for equity for all women and girls through education, research, advocacy and philanthropy in any way you can. Let our voices be heard on behalf of all women and children.

**Happy Holidays,
Laura**

Branch Bylaws Update

AAUW National and State will require all branches to revise their bylaws in 2017. We do not know yet what changes they want but they said to expect to receive a template in January. Our branch will convene a Bylaws Committee, chaired by Denise Burian. Once we receive the template to make the required changes plus any other changes we wish to make, we will bring it to the Board and the full membership for a vote. You can expect to see the revised bylaws no later than April for a vote at our May meeting. All branch bylaws revisions must be complete and sent to National by June 30, 2017.

**Denise Burian,
President-Elect**

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS NOVEMBER 8, 2016

The STEM Conference has outstanding workshops planned for our middle school girls in March, 2017 at Saint Mary's College. The committee meets on alternating weeks – contact Stacia Cragholm to join the group. Outreach to students beyond our immediate area will be encouraged.

We are looking for interested members to look at the positions on our board of directors. Both elected and appointed positions will be available and meeting and working with these great women is a privilege.

Scholarship reported that the applications for high school scholarships are currently found on the AAUW-OML website. If you know a senior girl at Acalanes, Campolindo or Miramonte high schools, let them know we are offering \$7,000 in awards. We offer \$5,000 to a Saint Mary's student for graduate study. The committee will also offer a diagnostic test and workshop for college bound students at Miramonte.

We are looking forward to the January, 2017 membership meeting when an interactive program will heighten our interest in the STEM (Science, technology, engineering and math) interests with our students.

We plan to visit with all our members at the holiday parties held at Sandy Fox-Sohner's home on Friday, December 9, from 4-6 pm and at Jean Tuemmler's home on Tuesday, December 13 from 10 am to 12 noon. Please RSVP and bring your favorite memories to share.

**Maryellen Judson,
Recording Secretary**



PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW continues to be active on the Public Policy front. Several updates have been sent out in the weeks since the election:

AAUW intends to approach our work with both the new administration and Congress with AAUW's mission in mind. After this hyperpartisan election year, AAUW's nonpartisan leadership and research-based advocacy is needed now more than ever.

AAUW will find common ground with the Trump administration and the new Congress on issues that are important to women and working families. Women want progress on issues that affect them, and AAUW intends to be a valued ally and fierce critic, depending on what is warranted.

Election 2016 touched on many issues that affect women and families at every level: local, state and federal. We still face congressional gridlock over the Paycheck Fairness Act. Students are still waiting for real action on college affordability and high student debt, and they expect a continued commitment to combating campus sexual assault. Working families are still looking for good jobs with paid family and medical leave and other workplace equity policies. And Americans still don't have the basic necessity of a full Supreme Court.

AAUW highlighted several takeaways from the election:

- Women did make impressive gains in Senate representation this cycle. In 2017 there will be 21 women serving in the U.S. Senate – the highest number in history. The chamber will also feature a record number of women of color.
- Ballot measures related to AAUW's priority issues had a pretty successful night. Voters in Maine, Colorado, Washington and Arizona voted to increase their state minimum wages. Arizona and Washington also approved new paid sick leave programs. Alaska passed an initiative to automatically register all qualified voters when applying for a Permanent Fund dividend. In addition, California passed a number of AAUW-supported ballot initiatives, including wins for community college funding and improving health coverage for low-income Californians.
- Fourteen states had new voting restrictions in place in 2016. Politicians should not be allowed to choose their electorate – or to manipulate it in a way that not only silences voters' voices but affects the outcome.

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

DISTINGUISHED WOMAN

There are many distinguished women in our AAUW-OML branch. Next year we will be honoring one of our branch members who has demonstrated leadership, creativity and dedication to the OML mission. Our 2017 Distinguished Woman will be selected based solely on members' nominations, so please look around and start thinking about a devoted AAUW-OML member whom you would like to nominate. *Thank you!!*

Pat Lopker, califpal@aol.com

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS from the NOVEMBER MEETING



MarketPlace (top) K. deGroot with HL Ittner in front of K.'s jewelry display (underneath) Jan Cushman selling her hand-designed cards.

(photos below) Marie Bonilla and Catharine Baker. (underneath) Mary Ann McLeod and Laura Wittenberg.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Members in November

Two new members joined our branch at the meeting in November:

Suzanne Krance-Hevery was dropping her child off at TOPS preschool when she heard Katharine Baker would be speaking. Suzanne stayed for the meeting and joined at the end. Suzanne has a PhD in Toxicology from the University of Rochester School of Medicine. She is a former cancer researcher who is now a stay-at-home mom. She is very interested in advancing women's rights and possibly bringing back the issue of the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. She is also interested in developing more support for new moms. Perhaps she will be able to recruit other TOPS parents to AAUW and the work that we do. **Sandi Johnson** got a Bachelor of Science degree in economics from UC Davis and almost completed her MBA at Cal State Hayward before deciding to become a CPA. She is currently working part time as a CPA. She is going to work on the scholarship committee but is also interested in helping in other areas. We are always looking for good accounting experience so I am sure her skills will be put to good use.

Welcome to both new members! Since the beginning of September we have 16 new members. At meetings you can recognize them by the polka dots and blue ribbon on their name tags. Please make a special effort to introduce yourself and make all them feel welcomed and included.

Coffee On Us on November 11

We had our last scheduled coffee on November 11 at the Rheem Starbucks. Ten women attended and all enjoyed coffee, conversation and a lovely morning. In December, we hope that all of our members, and especially the new members, will attend at least one of the holiday get-togethers: the coffee on Tuesday, December 13 at 10 am and/or the wine and cheese party on Friday, December 9 at 4 pm. Details are on the front page.



We will schedule further small group coffees or wine get-togethers after the first of the year. If you would like to weigh in on your favorite spot or a preferred day and time, please email Alison at alimac2020@gmail.com.

Directories Have Been Mailed

All of the directories that were not picked up by the November 15 meeting have been mailed. If you did not receive a directory it is probably because someone picked it up for you but has not given it to you yet. If it still hasn't shown up, let Alison know and we will mail you a copy. The primary purpose of the membership card on the front is to provide each member with her membership number. With this number you can log on to the National AAUW site where you will find a wide variety of information and you can view many interesting videos. You can also pay your dues online next spring with a credit card.

Alison Mackenzie & Mary Levey
Membership Co-Chairs

2016-17 AAUW OML
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*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.

Scholarship Applications Are Online Now

The winter holiday school break won't be all play for Lamorinda senior girls; many will be busy writing and pulling together information for their application for one of four scholarships offered by AAUW-OML: one for \$5,000 and two for \$1,000 each to be awarded to seniors from Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte high schools and one \$5,000 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior from Saint Mary's College.

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. Then the fun begins for scholarship committee members: studying the applications. It's exciting to see how these young women live their lives and to learn about their interests, their choices of community service, their academic achievements, their reflections on what their experiences have taught them and their recognition, through the application process, of the leadership skills that they have acquired and nurtured along the way.

Then comes the hard part, selecting the winners. Committee members study the applications, conduct interviews and then discuss the merits of each. It's tough picking the best of the best, but rewarding to recognize someone for her unique contribution to the Lamorinda community. What a fine group of young women are growing up amongst us!

JOIN THE PARTY!



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

For more info,
contact **Bonnie Fend**
brfend@sbcglobal.net
or call 510-219-9455



Scholarship's Fourth Annual VALENTINE EVENT

**THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 9, 2017**

**A Special
Heart-Healthy Treat!
at AMPHORA
Purveyors of Fine Olive
Oil in Lafayette**

*Learn about the art of olive oil
making from industry experts!*

*Enjoy a private tasting of their
extensive assortment of premium
infused extra virgin oils and
aged balsamic vinegars*

*Savor an array of heavy hors
d'oeuvres and exceptional desserts*

*Drinks include wine and
non-alcoholic white balsamic
vinegar spritzers*

Cost: \$30 per person
*(\$15 plus a percentage of
olive oil sales benefit the
Scholarship Fund)*

**35
Limited to 40 guests!**



AAUW-OML BRANCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Developing Leadership Skills Through Community Service

Our committee members are impressed when reading the scholarship applications and interviewing the students. These high school students demonstrate AAUW Leadership Essentials by practicing the skills required to accomplish their goals and perceiving the complexity of their projects.

**Eleanor Roeder
Miramonte High School
Northwestern University**

Communication skills and identifying strategic relations are two leadership skills **Eleanor Roeder** (*in photo below on the right*) developed while working within her volunteer organization.



Here's what she had to say.

"As membership chair of the Orinda Juniores I was responsible for recruiting, training and welcoming new members. This year as president, I organized the service projects, managed the funds, communicated with all members and established relationships with local community organizations."

Look for future articles on
past scholarship recipients

DECEMBER at a GLANCE

1 THUR – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP
Pass along your book.

6 TUES – BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon – Joyce Dickey 825-7991

2 FRI– BIKE GROUP
Contact Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com

3 SAT – INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GROUP
No meeting this month
Check with Ksenija Soster-Olmer for more info

9 FRI – HOLIDAY WINE & CHEESE PARTY
4-6 pm – Home of Sandy Fox-Sohner
(see more info on front page)

13 TUE – HOLIDAY COFFEE PARTY
10 am-noon – Home of Jean Tuemmler
(see more info on front page)

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

12 MON – GOLF
Contact Jan Gee for t-time and venue, 938-1316

21 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS
Contact Carol Messinger 283-8741

16 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK
10 am – Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda
Heretic – Why Islam Needs A Reformation Now
by Ayaan Hirsi Ali
Contact Judy Peak, 376-0540, for more info

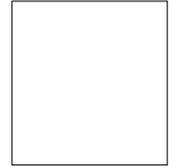
16 FRI – LET’S GO TO THE MOVIES
Contact Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694 for more info

20 TUE – JANUARY TRIAD DEADLINE
Send articles to Mary Leigh Miller, mlmiller602@gmail.com
Note the earlier deadline!

25 SUN – *MERRY CHRISTMAS!*



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



JANUARY 2017

Look for more listings in the January Triad

1 SUN – *HAPPY NEW YEAR!*



10 TUES – BOARD MEETING
1 pm – 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

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.

IN MEMORIAM

The OML Branch was saddened by the recent death of Carol Messinger’s husband, David. A memorial service in his honor will be held on Saturday, December 3 at the Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church at 11 am.

Rita Reginato, a former OML member who served as president in 1976-77 passed away on October 14.