

IN/OUT BOARD MEETING TUESDAY JUNE 12th 10 am ~ 2 pm Skywest Club House 1888 Holland Drive, Walnut Creek (Off of Pleasant Hill Road behind Lunardi's)

The In/Out Board Meeting will be Tuesday, June 12. This is when the “old” Board and the “new” board meet for a regular board meeting, have lunch (graciously provided by the current board members) and then do some planning for the coming year.

It is important that outgoing and incoming board members meet together to pass on important information for continuity, as well as to support any new members who have not served on the board or have not held a position.

After the board meeting and lunch, we will review and update the **Branch Goals and Action Plan** developed at the board retreat last year, have a program meeting with the entire board and end by providing an opportunity for the new members in each position to meet with their outgoing counterparts to go over what the new person in the position needs to know.

Draft Agenda:

- Board Meeting**
- Potluck Lunch**
- Review Branch Goals and Action Plan**
- Meet to plan next year's Membership Programs**
- Gather in small groups to pass along information on each position**

All members are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Denise Burian.

OML EXECUTIVE BOARD • 2018-19

- PRESIDENT**
Denise Burian
- PRESIDENT ELECT**
still open
- PROGRAM VPs**
Laura Wittenberg
Marielle Boortz
- MEMBERSHIP VPs**
Maryellen Judson
Carrol Foxall
- AAUW FUND VPs**
Lynda Leonard
Diane Bell-Rettger
- SECRETARY**
Judy Hammon
- FINANCE VP**
Peggy Cabaniss

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(l to r) The 2018-19 Executive Board:
Denise Burian,
Laura Wittenberg,
Marielle Boortz
Lynda Leonard,
Judy Hammon,
Maryellen Judson
and Carrol Foxall.

Missing: Diane Bell-Rettger and Peggy Cabaniss.

... from LAURA'S DESK

Last month I reviewed with you my last two years as your president. It was a wonderful journey of learning and growing for me and for our branch. Our strategic plan going forward became our guide for taking action. It is a living document and as you can see from Denise's first letter as president, she plans to continue to move us forward.

Denise was a wonderful president-elect, supporting me and the branch with her active participation. She like many of us was hesitant to commit to the position. She was relatively new to AAUW-OML and felt she needed more time to get to know the organization. She had travel plans, family commitments: there was a new baby on the way, her daughter Mariah was running of Congress, and much more. My response was what better way to learn about AAUW than from the inside. I assured Denise we would make it work so she could meet all those other obligations. She came on board and we had a wonderful ride together working as a team. We have a dedicated group of women on our board who are also team players who support one another. Denise needs a president-elect – it is truly a fun job and you could not ask for a better friend and colleague with whom to work. Try it and see how you might also find, as Denise and I did, the job is fun and interesting, and we as members of AAUW-OML are truly able to make a difference for many by our active participation.



I now move to Co-Vice-President of Programs with Marielle Boortz. Any ideas or suggestions for topics or speakers please let one of us know.

Laura Wittenberg, Outgoing President

Denise and Laura at the May Luncheon.

... from DENISE'S PROSPECTIVE

I am thrilled to be a part of the OML Branch, and look forward to supporting the wonderful activities of our Scholarship, Tech Trek, STEM Conference and Burckhalter committees. The results of their work are life changing to many girls. I saw examples at the ice cream social while listening to former Tech Trekkers talk about their AAUW experience and recent college acceptance into mechanical engineering and neuroscience programs. That is empowerment!

While our general meetings have a summer hiatus, the board and committees continue to work during the summer planning and preparing for the year ahead. I appreciate the efforts of so many dedicated members. Our In/Out Board Meeting is June 12 and all members are welcome to participate. *And we are still looking for a president-elect!*

Thank you for putting your trust in me this year to lead the branch. As president, I hope my actions and support will help empower your work to reach more women and girls this year.

Denise Burian, Incoming President

MAY 8, 2018 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The last regular board meeting of the 2017 – 2018 year was all about reporting successes and wrapping up the branch's business. And a very good year it was!

Scholarship and Tech Trek Chairs, Mary Ann McLeod and Sandy Fox-Sohner declared that the Awards Meeting on April 22 went very well with good attendance and a superb speaker, Samantha Stuber from Miramonte High School. Scholarships were given to senior girls at our three local high schools, a Saint Mary's graduate student, and to our seven middle school girls heading to Tech Trek camp this summer. These scholarships, plus our STEM program involving 200 girls earlier this spring, truly go a long way to fulfilling our mission at AAUW OML.

Final touches to our May Luncheon were reported by Luncheon Chair Marla Schroeder. Her many helpers: Mary Ann McLeod, Alison Mackenzie, Mary Levy, Lana Reichick, Jan Coe, Mary Leigh Miller, Judy Helder, K. DeGroot and Sandy Fox-Sohner, along with President Laura Wittenberg, all had roles in putting together the luncheon. Hopefully, everyone who contributed is noted here.

Three of our OML members, Stacia Cragholm, Pat Lopker, and Laura Wittenberg, attended the state convention in Irvine, CA. They heard keynote speaker, Kimberly Churches, CEO of the National AAUW, who wants to enroll younger people and make the organization more visible on college campuses.

This board's final assignment was to mail out membership invoices for next year's dues. Please mail yours in today. See you next year!

Judy Hammon, Secretary

FOCUS ON ... The 2018 MAY LUNCHEON



Maryellen and Tom Judson holding the scrapbook.

The annual May Luncheon celebration was held at the Moraga Country Club on Tuesday, May 15. We honored our branch's 2018 Distinguished Woman, **Maryellen Judson** and also saw the newly elected Executive Board installed by **Jan Coe**. The AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree, **Peggy Cabaniss**, was announced as well.

Over 80 attended, including three tables of family and friends of Maryellen.



Mary Ann McLeod presents Maryellen with an engraved platter.

OML would like to thank **Marla Schroeder** and her committee for an outstanding job of coordinating this event as well as **Mary Ann McLeod** and the Distinguished Woman Committee for all that they did, including assembling a beautifully appointed scrapbook of nominating and congratulatory letters plus many photos chronicling Maryellen's life.

Photos below capture the enjoyment of the day.



Photos on this page, page 2 and the front page provided by K. de Groot and Sandy Fox-Sohner

AAUW FUND SPECIAL HONOR

Peggy Cabaniss Is the AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree



Every year, the branch has the opportunity to name a woman as the Branch Named Gift Honoree. This honor pays special tribute to a person who has given extraordinary service and supported our AAUW branch for the national AAUW Fund. This fund advances our mission by sustaining all of our national programs and activities – fellowships and grants, legal advocacy, groundbreaking research, leadership programs and public policy. We are very pleased to announce that this year's branch named gift honoree is **Peggy Cabaniss**.

Peggy joined AAUW in 1972 and has been a lifelong supporter of AAUW and its mission. She is co-founder and current board member of HC Financial Advisors, Inc., in Lafayette. She was our branch distinguished woman in 1983. She just completed two two-year terms on AAUW's national investment committee. Did you know we have over \$120 million in assets that must be managed? We are grateful for people like Peggy, who volunteer to oversee important decisions. She has applied to be on AAUW's national finance committee and will be our branch finance vice president for the coming year!

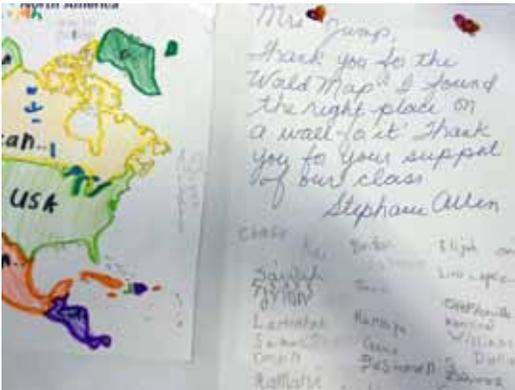
Peggy has given her time and talent to AAUW OML and to AAUW Fund. Thank you, Peggy, for your efforts and support.

Marie Bonilla, Co-VP, AAUW Fund

Due to a prior family commitment, Peggy was not able to attend the May Luncheon.

The BURCKHALTER PROJECT

In 1992 Carol Messinger brought a proposal to the AAUW Board: an underserved elementary school in East Oakland needed tutors and a library. While our suburban schools are filled with adult volunteers and parents clubs raising funds for the “extras,” Burckhalter Elementary, just a short drive down Highway 13, had neither of these. The Board agreed to make Burckhalter our Community Project and a branch priority. Since then, our AAUW members have continued their generous support. There is a wonderful library open and staffed three days a week, and tutors help in the classroom and the computer lab. Financial donations from members allow us to purchase books and supplies during times of Oakland school district cuts. As a result of member donations, we were able to also distribute paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues and pencils, all items teachers would have to purchase themselves.



This is the letter we received from second grade teacher, Ms. Allen and her students.

Earlier this year we purchased three sets of the California Young Readers’ Medal nominated books and established a book club. Students who read all three of the novels, were able to discuss the novels with the librarians, then vote for their favorite and receive a \$5 Starbucks card. The winner was *Pax* by Sara Pennypacker. We were also able to purchase a large wall map of the world for the second grade teacher, Ms. Allen, who was teaching geograpy (the continents).

The Burckhalter budget for this year is \$1,400. We are currently ordering the California Young Medal nominees for 2018-2019, along with some badly needed science books. We will probably come in under budget for the year, and are holding back funds for next year, given the unpredictable nature of Oakland school district library funding.

We don’t know yet what the next school year will look like, but we know that AAUW will continue to be there for this school and its students and teachers.

2017-2018 LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS:

Marilyn Evans, Diane Bell-Rettger, Pat Beckner, Jill Fernald, Mary Olowin, Mary Levey, Alison MacKinzie, Linda Bochte, Janette Maher and non-OML members Kanan Shah and Joanie Jump

TUTORS:

Therese Tamaro, Jan Coe, Carol Foxall and Sheila Apte

If you are interested in volunteering at Burckhalter for the 2018-2019 school year, contact **Pat Beckner** at patbeckner@yahoo.com. For library volunteers we request a four hour a week commitment on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday mornings from 9 to noon. Tutors work out their schedule with the classroom teacher. We would particularly like to find someone bilingual in English/Spanish as we have several new Hispanic students who arrived in the middle of the year with no English at all.

Pat Beckner, Chair, Community Service Projects

PUBLIC POLICY

Administration Institutes Domestic Gag Rule

The Department of Health and Human Services submitted a proposed rule change today that will prevent Title X-funded health care providers from giving any information about abortion services to patients, implementing a domestic gag rule. Timing for implementation is not set at this point. The rule would prevent patients from receiving full and accurate information about health care options, and directly target providers like Planned Parenthood through onerous “physical separation” requirements. These requirements are designed to make it impossible for patients to get the health care they need. In addition, because the rule impacts funding from Title X, the program that provides dedicated funding for reproductive health care for low-income and underserved populations, the change would disproportionately impact low-income women and women of color. More than 110 organizations, including AAUW, signed a letter this week opposing the implementation of a domestic gag rule and supporting the right of every woman to access safe, affordable, and comprehensive reproductive health care.

Remember to VOTE in the June 5 election! Your vote is your voice!

Educate yourself about the candidates and the Propositions that are on this year’s ballot and then cast your votes!

Women Are Deeper in Debt

An updated version of AAUW’s report *Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans* found that women now hold almost two-thirds (\$890 billion) of the country’s \$1.4-trillion student debt. The ever-growing cost of college disproportionately burdens women, who take on more debt during their education and struggle to pay it back, in part due to the gender pay gap.

**Jan Coe, Co-Chair,
Public Policy**

TECH TREK NEWS

Tech Trek Tote Bags Now on Sale

Carry your groceries in style, support our Tech Trek program, and show/tell the community about Tech Trek and AAUW. Only \$12 for this large sturdy canvas bag you can keep in your car for all your shopping trips.



Please send checks (made out to **AAUW-OML Community Outreach Fund** with **Tech Trek** on the memo line) to **Sandy Fox-Sohner at 27 Williams Drive, Moraga, CA 94556**. The tote bags will be delivered to you at the next AAUW meeting or mailed to you if requested. *Thank you!*

Ice Cream, Cookies and Fruit!

All these treats were enjoyed by this year's Tech Trek scholarship winners, their parents, former Tech Trekkers and some of our branch members at an Ice Cream Social held on May 23 at the Miramonte Garden clubhouse. The girls got to know each other and hear advice from former Tech Trekkers Molly Mudgett, Hannah Liu, Maddie and Olivia House and Natalie Davis. Jan Cushman showed pictures of the dorm rooms, cafeteria, camp classes and activities and everyone had their questions answered. Molly will be a senior counselor and Christine Walwyn and Gail Chesler will be dorm moms this year. Camp Hopper starts on July 15 for a wonderful week of STEM experiences!

Thanks to those who brought refreshments (Terese Tamaro, Sheila Apte, Denise Burian, Sandy Fox-Sohner and Jan Cushman) and thanks to Christine Walwyn for arranging for the clubhouse. Special thanks to all of our donors who make it possible for us to send these bright young women to camp!

The girls in the photo below, from left to right, are Isabelle Katz, Liesel Hilke-meyer, Jada Hembrador, Ella Easley, Maya Martono, Marianne Eichmann and Maggie Conklin.



In the fall, past Teck Trekkers Molly Mudgett will attend Northwestern University, majoring in mechanical engineering and Natalie Davis will attend UC Santa Cruz, majoring in neuroscience.

**Sandy Fox-Sohner and Jan Cushman,
Co-Chairs, Tech Trek**

**2017-18 AAUW OML
SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS**
*AAUW members

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- Creative Alterations – Josef Jamkochain
- Diablo Foods
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- Open Sesame Natural Foods
- Persons Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery – Barbara Persons, MD FACS
- Ware Designs – Fine Jewelry

MORAGA

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- Herbs & Spices Catering, Alameda

Please refer to the membership directory for complete advertising information.



OML SPONSORS A NEW SCHOLARSHIP



NCCWSL

*Challenge
yourself.
Inspire others.
Create impact.*

Laura Wittenberg and **Denise Burian** are preparing a college partnership between AAUW and Saint Mary's College. In coordination with the partnership the **Scholarship Committee** has decided to fund a new college scholarship.

The Scholarship Committee voted to send two Saint Mary's students, (sophomore or junior year) to attend AAUW's **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)** held at the University of Maryland, College Park the last week in May. The OML Branch will pay for the girls' registration, round trip flights and travel expenses such as transportation and food not covered by the conference. The cost for each student will be \$1000 to \$1,250 per student.

In the three decades since NCCWSL was founded, AAUW has empowered more than 10,000 women to close the leadership gap and make an impact on their campuses and in their communities. You can learn about the conference at NCCWSL@aauw.org. Below is a section from the webpage listing the activities and goals for students attending the conference.

We curate our **conference agenda** so that attendees – college students and educators alike – can tailor their experience to fit their current and future aspirations. Over the course of our three-day conference, attendees will:

- Build real-world skills at dozens of **workshops**
- Connect with more than 100 graduate programs and employers at our **Graduate School Fair and Career Fair**
- Be inspired by our **speakers** and **Women of Distinction awardees**
- Discuss and debate today's most pressing issues with industry experts during our **panel and lecture series**
- Network with peers from across the country to build lifelong relationships
- Explore our nation's capital during a **night out in Washington, D.C.**

NCCWSL workshops and lectures are structured around the following core learning objectives:

- **Professional development:** Build a professional tool kit for postgraduate life
- **Leadership development:** Develop and strengthen a leadership narrative through voice, skill-set, and mind-set
- **Activism:** Know the how, why, and when to take action
- **Women's issues:** Gain a better understanding of issues and policies affecting women on a local, national, and global scale
- **Identity and diversity:** Own one's personal identity and role in increasing and supporting diverse voices

In addition to our AAUW-OML College Leadership Awards we will offer a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating student at each of our three local high schools.

Mary Ann McLeod, Chair, Scholarship Committee

MORE from the APRIL AWARDS MEETING

The Equation to Success

The Scholarship Committee was very pleased to hear Samantha Stuber's talk to the students, parents and branch members at our April Awards Ceremony. Her equation to success follows the guidelines we follow when deciding which graduates will receive our OML scholarships.

(S + A)^t ≈ Success.

Samantha explained to our members and guests what truly goes into making a student, and ultimately a person, successful to make an impact in our world. The "S" stands for service as a way to expand your world and define yourself. The "A" stands for authenticity, which you will discover as you develop values through service. The "t" stands for the tools the student learns along the way. For example: setting goals, communication skills, the importance of engagement and inclusion. These are the components that make leaders in classrooms, at home and in the workplace.

Samantha is a Lamorinda native who worked in several small businesses but eventually found her passion in helping students during the monumental and high-pressure time in their high school years. She continues her service by creating a website that will help students in all socio-economic levels find the scholarship help they need.



Mary Ann McLeod

Due to lack of space in the May Triad, we were not able to include this article on Samantha Stuber's outstanding presentation at the April Awards Meeting. Ed.

MEMBERSHIP

Dues are now payable. Deadline is June 30

On May 9 the dues statements for the 2018-2019 membership year were mailed to all members. If you did not get a dues statement, please contact Alison Mackenzie for a replacement. The membership year ends on June 30. Please promptly return your profile form with a check made out to AAUW-OML to the membership treasurer, Shelly Drasin. If you want to pay online with a credit card, contact Gail Chesler and she will send you the link.

While the National dues have increased by \$10, we hope that every member will rejoin in order to continue the great work done by AAUW. Even if you yourself are not taking advantage of branch activities, rejoin in order to support AAUW and its mission to increase gender equity through legislation, research and scholarships and fellowships. If you are not an active member of the OML branch, rejoin and make this coming year the year that you do participate in order to provide opportunities for women, girls and boys in our larger community.

Orinda 4th of July Booth

As we have done in past years (*photo at right*), AAUW-OML will have a table at the Orinda Park on the 4th of July. It is a great opportunity to make our organization better known in the community. We often are able to inform incoming local high school senior girls of the opportunity to apply for one of our scholarships or to tell middle school girls of Tech Trek or our upcoming STEM Conference in March. *You can help by volunteering to work a shift at the table which goes from about 10:30 to 1:00.*

Contact Maryellen Judson if you can help out on the 4th.



Coffee On Us

There were eight of us at the Coffee On Us event at Sideboard in Lafayette on May 5. The membership committee has been holding randomly scheduled coffees and wine and conversation events throughout the year. This is a great way to get to know members you might not otherwise see in a small group setting. There is no coffee or wine event scheduled for June. Check the OML website for any scheduled events during the summer.

Changing of the Guard

After three years, Alison Mackenzie and Mary Levey are turning over the membership duties to new Co-VPs **Maryellen Judson** and **Carrol Foxall**. We all know they will do a terrific job. You can help ease them in gently by paying your dues on time this year, as being a bill collector is nobody's favorite part of the job.

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



OML BRANCH UPDATE

OML Policies and Procedures and Standing Rules

A committee comprised of board members has been reviewing OML's policies and procedures that were last amended in April, 2014. A draft of the amended policies and procedures will be presented to the OML board prior to the June 12 board meeting. After discussion, the board will vote whether or not to approve them. You may review this information on the OML website.

This same committee is also reviewing OML's Standing Rules that were last updated in September, 2014. After review by the board in June, the amended Standing Rules will be voted on by the membership at the September general meeting. OML's Standing Rules are published in the OML Directory and posted on the OML website.

**Jan Coe, Chair,
Policies and Procedures Comm.**

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTS

Summer Movie Group

For June, July and August, the First Friday Film Group will become the Summer Movie Group. We can go see movies whenever we want! Turnout has not been great on Fridays, possibly due to the fact that we don't know until Wednesday which movies and times will be available on Friday. So, to give us more time to plan, the next movie will be Tuesday, June 5. I will announce the film and time via email on Thursday, May 31. If you are not on our email list and would like to be, email me at the link below. I will be asking the group for input on what day they like best (First Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday).

Email Pat Beckner with thoughts, suggestions, anything. See you at the Movies! patbeckner@yahoo.com

JUNE 2018 AT A GLANCE

1 FRI – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP
Pass along your books

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

5 TUES – BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon – Joyce Dickey, 825-7991

5 TUES – DAYTIME MOVIE GROUP
Time and theater TBA
Read more about the day of the week change on page 7
Contact Pat Beckner at patbeckner@yahoo.com.

7 THUR – EVENING SALON
7 pm – home of Janette Maher
All members are welcome. Please call Janette or Denise Burian if you have any questions.

11, 25 MON – GOLF
Contact Jan Gee for t-time and venue, 938-1316

12 TUES – IN/OUT BOARD MEETING
10 am-3 pm – Skywest Club House,
1888 Holland Drive, Walnut Creek

15 FRI – LETS GO TO THE MOVIES
Contact Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694, for more info

20 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS
1-3 pm – We meet every month, in members homes.
Contact Carol Messinger – messingerd@aol.com or 891-4201

JULY 2018

20 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK
The Woman on the Orient Express by Lindsay Jayne Ashford
10:30 am – Home of Mary Mlynek, ml_mlynek@yahoo.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**5th Annual Tech Trek
SHRED•FEST
at 5A Rent-A-Space**

**OCTOBER 13, 2018
9 am-12 noon
Secure paper shredding**

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



**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL
SPECIAL INTEREST PARTICIPANTS:**
Many monthly activities do not meet during the summer. Check with the coordinators for more information or go to the OML Branch website.

Save the Date Lunch-Bridge-Bunco-Dominos



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018

A FALL GAME DAY

with CATERED LUNCH
MIRAMONTE GARDENS CLUBHOUSE
11:30 am ~ 3 pm

Proceeds to benefit the OML Scholarship Fund

Please put this date on your calendar and round up all your card and game-playing friends for a great day of fun.

Also – consider valunteering with the planning and execution of this great fundraising event.

There's lots of help needed!

Contact Laura Monin for more information or to sign up. 631-6667 – lamonin@pacbell.net

Look for lots more information in the upcoming issues of the Triad.