

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE COMING SOON ...

Look for an email in May with your
2020-21 membership renewal forms!

Given the shelter-in-place situation and not knowing when we'll be able (or willing) to get out, we're sending membership renewal forms electronically!!! For the few who do not have email, we will mail your copy. Dues of \$103 remain unchanged for the coming year (Natl. \$59, State \$20, and Branch \$24).

TWO WAYS TO PAY DUES:

1. **By mail with check:** Print the membership renewal form included in the May 15 email. Complete and mail the form and your check to the address on the renewal form.
2. **Online using credit card:** Within a week of receiving the email from Marie, look for an email from Peggy Cabaniss. This email will contain a **unique direct link** to your profile at AAUW with renewal instructions.

TWO WAYS TO MAKE DONATIONS:

If you wish to make donations to our philanthropies, send a separate check (with allocations noted on the memo line) or go to our branch website link, <https://oml-ca.aauw.net>, and click on the **DONATE** button.

TWO WAYS TO SUBMIT MEMBER PROFILE INFORMATION:

Whether you pay dues via check or online, continue to send us your profile information. You can print the member profile form in the May 15 email and mail it in. Or you can do this electronically by clicking on the **FILL OUT PROFILE** button in the May 15 email.

Your profile information is very important! We succeed with an engaged membership. We need to know your updated address, programs you want, and how you would like to be involved. Together we're a strong team, providing important public services, enriching our own lives, and making new friends. This is the strength of AAUW-OML and why so many women have enjoyed long years of commitment to our branch.

Thank you in advance for renewing your membership. Contact **Marie Bonilla** or **Gail Chesler** if you have questions. And please turn to page 5 to read about two of our newest members.

Marie Bonilla, VP, Membership

Our branch kicked off its first ever Zoom General Meeting on Tuesday, April 28 with 38 "in attendance."



The meeting, set up and conducted by **Denise Burian**, allowed us time to share what's going on in our lives and listen to guest speaker **Pat Rudebusch**, owner of Orinda Books, provide great suggestions of uplifting books for these troubling times. The complete list is available, along with how to order them, by going to the OML website.



Be sure to join us again on **Tuesday, May 19** at 9:30 am for another online meeting. Look for an e-blast with complete information on the guest speaker and the link to connect on Zoom.

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... from DENISE'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Members,

I hope your family and you are fine, safe and healthy during this most unusual time. I know the shelter-in-place is hardest on people living alone, as many seniors do, so I hope you are finding ways to connect to family and friends.

I am thankful for my membership in OML, as I cherish the ways we have found to stay connected. We just had our first "virtual" membership meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, April 28. I hope you were able to join us and hear Pat Rudebusch from Orinda Books give us ideas on what to read and how to order and receive books from her store. We are going to have a second virtual all member meeting on Tuesday, May 19 at 9:30 am. I hope you can join us. If you need help with the technology, please call me or most any member of the board and we will walk you through the connection process.

You will receive the annual member renewal letter and forms this month from Marie Bonilla (see front page article) by email this year. Did you know that over 50 percent of our members volunteer during the year for one of our outreach programs or belong to an interest group? That is an amazing level of member engagement for any organization. Thank you for your participation. We could not accomplish what we do for Tech Trek, Scholarship, the STEM Conference or at Burckhalter without your volunteer time.

Did you know that we receive about two-thirds of donations by our members to our community projects and AAUW Fund during membership renewal time? Thank you so much for your generosity. Please remember to renew and to send in your additional donations with your renewal. You can print the forms and mail them in; or renew via the link Peggy Cabaniss will send you, then separately send in your donations.

We are planning on having our annual luncheon in September this year to honor our Distinguished Woman, **Jan Cushman**, and announce our AAUW Fund Branch Named Gift Honoree, and spend much needed real face time with our AAUW friends.

Our branch is making progress on getting recognition of all we do through the AAUW National Five-Star program. I believe we will get at least four stars, hopefully all five. We've had AAUW strategic plan related programs this year, including WorkSmart, and members are generous donors to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. We have a great website and newsletter with articles about AAUW public policy priorities. You can view our Succession Plan and Strategic Plan on our website. Laura Monin and I are planning a virtual meeting with Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan in May to discuss AAUW-CA supported legislation. Call us if you want to join us. I encourage you to view AAUW National's new website and participate in the online programs and advocacy outreach they are offering frequently to keep us informed and engaged.

While our activities may be adjusted to comply with our new world, the work of our branch continues as we begin to plan for next year on Tech Trek, Scholarship awards, the STEM Conference, Burckhalter, and our Saint Mary's College partnership. For now, stay inside, stay safe, and stay connected through our online activities.

Denise Burian, President

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS April 14, 2020

A first for our OML branch was the April board meeting. President Denise Burian hosted the meeting via the Zoom platform. It was wonderful to see so many board members while observing the shelter-in-place protocol.

The celebration of Jan Cushman as our 2020 Distinguished Woman will have to wait until September. We hope the Moraga Country Club will be available at that time.

Membership renewal is coming up soon. Members can renew online or via snail mail. Information about membership renewal will be sent to members.

Marielle Boortz, with input from past and present job holders, presented the Board with a revision of OML Branch Policies and Procedures. Denise Burian, Alison Mackenzie and Gail Chesler reviewed the draft prior to the meeting. After discussion and a few changes, the document was voted upon and the motion passed.

Future OML general meeting procedures and topics were discussed. We might be seeing each other via Zoom for our next general meeting.

Linda Bochte, Secretary

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

CO-PRESIDENTS:

**Marielle Boortz and
Alison MacKenzie**

PRESIDENT-ELECT: (open)

AAUW FUND CO-VPs:

Diane Bell and Marilyn Evans

PROGRAM VP:

Chris Laszcz-Davis

MEMBERSHIP VP:

Marie Bonilla

SECRETARY: Linda Bochte

FINANCE VP: Peggy Cabaniss

FOCUS ON ... 2020 DISTINGUISHED WOMAN ~ JAN CUSHMAN



Jan Cushman was born in Ithaca, NY. Her father was a professor of agricultural education at Cornell, and her mother was an educator and principal. In Ithaca's high school days, both Jan and now husband Bruce McGurk (*both pictured at left*) met in band. Jan was a sophomore playing clarinet and Bruce, a senior with trombone. Young love persisted.

Jan had a biology major with a minor in education. She might want to be a teacher; that ran in the family. In graduate programs, Jan and Bruce found programs that gave them strong credentials and allowed them to be together. They targeted cities where both careers could advance.

At Utah State University, an NIH Scientific Programs Grant funded Jan's PhD. From there, they moved to Virginia where Bruce had been tapped by the Forest Service. In those days finding jobs wasn't easy and Jan doubled down looking for scientific work. She prowled the yellow pages looking for a job at a lab. When Jan was invited to come in for an interview in the toxicology department she said "yes" and spent some time learning what she'd need to know for a great interview; she looked it up and added that to her own impressive knowledge and skills. The Jan/Bruce team came to Northern California where she worked at Chevron for 30 years in positions of toxicological and management importance. Noteworthy – those years included hiring, mentoring, and promoting women to positions of increasing responsibility. All of that tells the reader something about Jan's academic and professional life. It tells about her preparation to jump right into the AAUW-OML branch's Tech Trek project. As our president said, "Jan, you are Tech Trek for us."



Jan with her dad, 1953



Jan's family at the beach in Hawaii.

In the many nominating letters. Jan is described as thoughtful, efficient, dependable, professional, "steps up when needed," "it's as good as done," and "a pleasure to work with her." There were examples with applause for Tech Trek, the Tech Savvy grant application, and the EYH curriculum; these

stand out. Also cited were activities in many branch projects – membership, AAUW Fund, and board meetings, where there was a need, Jan was often there. All of us are united in wanting Jan on our team and several said they couldn't imagine the branch without her presence and contributions.

Jan will read letters of applause from branch members, from Tech Trek camp directors, buddies, and roommates, and from young women she has mentored. We also have some family letters that have great bits. Both



Jan with her sister Nanette in 1984

Bruce and daughter, Rosalie, recall with pleasure the fishing trips and the dissection that happened afterward to learn about organs and "what did that fish eat recently." Jan is quietly passionate about Tech Trek. She has done an extraordinary job leading the team to get the job done here in OML. These same mentoring and guiding skills were in evidence during that annual trip to Tech Trek Stanford as a dorm mom. Those 12-14 dorm girls see Jan as a real role model with STEM background and mindset.

Jan has done so much for us here at OML and her family provides added credits to that resume. Among these is the work Jan does with senior level Girl Scouts in pursuit of their Gold Award. Of course, she has guided her two grown children and Rosalie says, "Mom is a fantastic leader who brings her drive, organization, and intelligence to bear on everything she does."

We strongly agree and are so pleased to have Jan Cushman as our Distinguished Woman of 2020!

Gail Chesler, 2019 Distinguished Woman



Jan and her Tech Trek dorm girls in July 2019

MEMBERS CORNER • **WHAT AAUW MEANS TO ME**

MJ Marggraff
OML Member Since 2014

Curiosity: From Hunch to Innovation
What's Your Curiosity Type?

Summer. A time that opens fresh, new ways for our youth to spend time away, with a chance to leave their usual classroom routines and be in camps that encourage, inspire, and build new friendships, STEM skills, sports skills. Not this summer. The Summer of 2020 will be different. But for some, just a new way to challenge their curiosity.

Covid-19 has imposed a new way of life. For many young people, their summer camps are closed. Just days before the Covid-induced shut-down, I joined a panel of AAUW members to interview and choose a small number of middle-school girls to attend Tech Trek camp in July. All were eager for the chance to engage with others on this outstanding adventure. Then it was cancelled. Would this leave them to wander – or to wonder?

I believe these talented 12/13-year-olds will look at what new challenges the virus presents and see an opportunity. One of the most outstanding things these students showed our panel was what it means to be curious. From them, I learned they approach problems with curiosity and their curiosity will see them through challenges now and in the future.

Each young student was her own story. Each told our panel how all her life (a decade +) she challenged her hunch about the life of snails, or pet behavior, or applications of robotics, or how to make the world kinder, cleaner, or safer. Sometimes, many said, their experiments worked out and sometimes they didn't; but that didn't deter them. They were curious to know more and try again. The exciting thing is that there IS always more to know. This virus will not be a show-stopper for them. We have much to learn from their zest for life.

What do you want to do right now? From now on? I pose the question to all – from our middle-school students to those who think our choices and careers have been upended or are over. Take a page from these young, curious students – our future



leaders. Ask yourself: What are you inquisitive about? Maybe you already know where you'll land in these curiosity types: Are you an Artist? Inventor? Scientist? Explorer? Not sure? Here's a brief test to give you an idea.

Britannica Curiosity Compass – Four Types

The outcome on what type I am? It concluded that I am a scientist. I'm inventing a new product now and am co-founder of a startup. I think I have some of each of the four. What about you? Are you curious enough to find out? Go to: <https://curiosity.britannica.com/curiosity-types.html>.

Next year will bring a chance to meet new Tech Trek candidates and hear about their quests. I can't wait. I learn so much from them.

MJ Marggraff, a stay-at-home mom in her forties, followed a dream to learn to fly—and found that the sky was her calling. A commercial pilot and flight instructor, she set her sights to contribute to NASA's goals to return to the Moon and on to Mars. As a mission support rep for Virgin Galactic, MJ trained for suborbital flight to prepare and inspire others to see the edge of space. After completing a doctorate on applied solutions for space health, she co-founded a startup, Kinoo, developing an AI technology to mitigate the effects of isolation and provide connectedness between astronauts and their families on long-duration space expeditions. A Tech Trek speaker and interviewer since 2015, she says, "The students inspire me."

MEMBERS CORNER is a new Triad feature.

How has AAUW impacted your life? What would you like to tell us?

Submit your story (350 words) to Lana Reichick: Lanasan@aol.com. **Subject: AAUW Members Corner.**

AAUW FUND DONATIONS

Many thanks for your support. Your dollars make a difference.

A heartfelt thank you to the generous members of OML who donated over \$7,200 in 2019. You heard the call for donations of unrestricted funds and you responded – everyone of you donors gave to the Greatest Needs Fund! Way to go OML!

If you made a donation in 2019 and your name doesn't appear on the list above, our apologies. This means that our branch has not received credit for your gift. Many of you are now donating online, which means the transaction is bypassing our treasurer Peggy Cabaniss and Marilyn and me. Please provide us with the date and amount of your payment, and we will try to sort things out.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Trudy Barron | June Howe |
| Patricia Beckner | Maryellen Judson |
| Marie Bonilla | Joanne Killiam |
| Marielle J Boortz | Nancy S Kornfield |
| Valarie Burgess | Wendy Kramer |
| Denise Burian | Lynda Leonard |
| Peggy Cabaniss | Mary E Levey |
| Sally B Church | Patricia Lopker |
| Janet Coe | Alison MacKenzie |
| Jennifer Cook | Janette D Maher |
| Stacia Cragholm | Normala Marcus |
| Janette R Cushman | Mary Ann McLeod |
| Jill Eberhard | Janet Mendenhall |
| Joyanne A Elkinton-Walker | Carol Messinger |
| Marilyn Evans | Jennifer Offringa |
| Marna T Eyring | Judith Porta |
| Bonnie Fend | Laura Sawczuk |
| Bonnie Gallogly | Janet Thibault |
| Soraya Golesorkhi | Anne Thompkins |
| Judy Hammon | Avon Wilson |
| Barbara J Harbuck | Laura Wittenberg |

Branch Named Gift Honoree for 2019 to Be Announced at September Luncheon

Each year our branch honors a member who has done outstanding work in supporting the programs and goals of the AAUW Fund. Earlier this year a meeting was conducted by our AAUW Fund vice presidents, at which, those present considered our many generous branch members and chose one worthy woman to honor with this designation. At the September Luncheon, we will announce our selection and thank this special woman, who has committed her support to the work of AAUW.

**Lynda Leonard and Marilyn Evans,
Co-VPs, AAUW Fund**

NEW OML MEMBERS

Welcome Kellen Fisher and Carol Heppenstall



Carol Heppenstall has a BA from the University of Pennsylvania in art history and an MA in museum education. Originally from Winnipeg, she moved to the US in 1970

when her husband took a residency at U of Penn and worked as an RN in Medical Intensive Care. They raised two children in Philadelphia. In 1997 Carol moved to Toronto and worked as the Arts and Culture Director of Adventure Canada and opened an art gallery featuring the work of Canadian indigenous peoples. She retired to Santa Fe in 2007 where she published a memoir, *Time and Tides*. In the fall of 2019, she moved to Walnut Creek to be closer to her children. Carol was active in the Santa Fe Branch serving as treasurer for two terms. She is interested in the educational aspects of AAUW and helped interview potential OML scholarship recipients. Her priorities include AAUW Fund, scholarship, and public policy. She's also interested in Museum Mavens and the international travel group and has signed up for general meeting snacks and "giving a hand where needed."

Kellen Fisher has a BA from CSU Sacramento in art. About two years ago she moved from Grass Valley to Moraga. She is a sales director and a commercial real estate agent. Her daughter attends Miramonte. Kellen helped with our STEM Conference in 2019 and joined OML this past fall. Her priorities include the STEM Conference and scholarship. Kellen is interested in our movie group and signed up for the membership/greeting committee and publicity coordination.

We look forward to Carol's and Kellen's friendship and involvement in OML!

Marie Bonilla, VP, Membership

TECH TREK UPDATE

Looking for STEM activities for children at home?

We were so disappointed to have our Tech Trek camp and STEM Conference canceled this year. But here is a way to encourage your young people to stay engaged with STEM activities at home. We shared this website with all the girls who applied to Tech Trek.

Launched in 2010, **Learn How to Smile** was started by a group of science museums dedicated to sharing great science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities with the educators and learners of the world. From this website, you can search almost 3,500 excellent STEM activities on the web from science museums, universities, public television stations and other educational organizations. You can filter by age, material costs and learning time.

There are nine main subject areas shown at right. Visit their website to learn more: www.howtosmile.org.

Jan Cushman,
Coordinator, Tech Trek



ADVERTISING UPDATE

Our Advertisers Can Use Your Support

Spring is here and summer weather is blossoming. There's lots to be done!

Navigating from home, with our advertisers in mind, can help everyone get the job done. Give them a call, use their service if it can be done safely, and leave a message of gratitude.

What's Open?

Although some of the directory advertisers are temporarily closed, several of our professionals and service providers continue to meet your needs. All phone numbers are in the Directory and also on the 4x8 "Town List" card that you took home from a general meeting.

Most of our restaurants and food purveyors have been able to stay open by providing take-out orders. Please refer to the April Triad (*page 4*) or go to the OML website for the complete list and contact information.

We hope you are taking advantage of the restaurants and services as they help support the work we do.

Wishing you safe, healthy weeks of May.

Pat Lopker,
Advertising Coordinator

BURCKHALTER

While Burckhalter school is essentially closed, there is still a way for the AAUW community to help the students and their families. The Oakland Public Education Fund has established a **COVID-19 Rapid Relief Fund**. The money in this fund is being used to provide food for students, ensure that facilities are properly cleaned, ensure continuity of learning, (including providing Chrome books), and to help vulnerable families.

Although you cannot earmark your donation for Burckhalter, over 80 percent of the students enrolled at Burckhalter do qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

This link will take you to the donations website

<https://www.classy.org/give/277078/#!/donation/checkout>

To find out more about the Oakland Public Education Fund you can go to <https://www.oaklandfund.org/>

Joan Jump, Burckhalter Coordinator



NOTES FROM the STATE AAUW ANNUAL MEETING



As you know the AAUW-CA convention, which had been scheduled for this April was cancelled. The required annual meeting was converted to a Zoom webinar, which was open for all California AAUW members to attend from home. If you want to read more details about it, you can check on the website for the state AAUW at aauw-ca.org. Here are a few highlights:

We have been working on the 5 Star program in the OML branch. While we have met the criteria for probably three stars, we haven't met all five. Good to know that only two branches in the entire country have met all five stars – the Marin Branch here across the bay and the Bellingham, Washington Branch.

The state AAUW Fund representative did a nice tribute to **Jo Harberson** recognizing all she had done to support AAUW and AAUW Fund during her lifetime. Her son and her daughter had been scheduled to appear at the convention to present a final gift from Jo to AAUW Fund.

Speaking of AAUW Fund, the top branch for total donations to AAUW fund was the Marin branch with a total donation of \$37,206 for the year. Danville, Alamo, Walnut Creek came in second with a total of \$33,889. Both of these branches have significant community fundraisers which raise money for the Fund. All of the top fundraising branches were in Northern California. On a per capita basis, the top branch was tiny little Calaveras County with a total of five members and a per capita donation of \$366 per member. They are disbanding this year and I imagine they closed down their treasury with a donation to the Fund.

Branch recognition for STEM programs was given to Humboldt, Long Beach and San Mateo. The branch projects that won \$500 state grants were Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista for "Gov-Trek" and Mariposa for "Tech-Connect: MultiMedia Messages". I may be prejudiced but none sounded as good as what we do. In order to be recognized for the outstanding work we do from kindergarten through college, perhaps we should be contacting the state programs branch and let them know at programs@aauw.ca.org.

In the membership report, overall the state is down approximately 300 members from what was projected for the year. The branches that were recognized for the most new members were Healdsburg with 21 new members, Atascadero with 17 and San Diego with 14.

Kim Churches, the National AAUW President, also spoke of the efforts that are going to be needed in the future. They are bolstering online training and have hired a federal policy director and grassroots policy director. AAUW has trained 175,000 in Work Smart online. They are working with the historically black colleges to present more Start Smart workshops.

NCCWSL is cancelled for this year, but is scheduled for May 26-29, 2021 at the University of Maryland.

Alison Mackenzie, President Elect

2019-20 AAUW OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

*AAUW members

LAFAYETTE

Alex Rose Interior Design
Asian Accents – Original Designs in Jewelry by K. de Groot*
Bistro Burger & Grill
Creative Alterations – Josef Jamkochain
DIABLO FOODS
The Image Studio – Marjory DeRoeck & Carolyn Woodworth, Consultants
Persons Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery – Barbara Persons, MD FACS
TECH HELP Consulting – Steve Hall
The Service Outlet – Marc Harvey
The UPS Store
Ware Designs – Fine Jewelry

MORAGA

AAAAA Rent-A-Space
National Assoc. for Advancement of Female People – Diane Bell*
Neighborhood Computers
New Delhi Indian Bistro
Royal Siam Thai Cuisine
Town Bakery and Cafe
The UPS Store
ViaVienté – Lana Reichick*

ORINDA

Angie Evans Traxinger & Joan Evans* – Village Associates Real Estate
Casa Orinda
Meadow View Winery
Shelby's Restaurant
Soraya Golesorkhi*, Realtor – Coldwell Banker
Todd Bunch, Lamorinda's Handyman
The UPS Store

WALNUT CREEK & Beyond

Bay Alarm Company
Goodwill Industries of the Greater East Bay
Hearing Science of Walnut Creek
Herbs & Spices Catering, Alameda – Wendy Shay
Milner's Jewelers, Countrywood Shopping Center, Pleasant Hill
The Service Outlet – Marc Harvey, San Ramon

Please refer to the membership directory for complete advertising information.

SCHOLARSHIP ~ KEEPING CONNECTED

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank our tireless tech members who are keeping us connected. **Gail Chesler** configured our online raffle which allowed us to raise \$770. Thanks to all who supported these efforts and congratulations to the winners. We were fortunate to complete our scholarship interviews before social distancing was announced. **Mary Leigh Miller** made it possible for us to share information about our awardees to all branch members with an e-blast and connection to our web page.

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

A MESSAGE FROM LAMORINDA SUNRISE ROTARY

We all know too well by now that the COVID-19 pandemic is pushing healthcare systems to the breaking point – leaving our frontline medical providers overwhelmed and exhausted. Many people are desperately looking for a way to help, in addition to sheltering-in-place, in this unprecedented time of suffering.

Volunteer Surge was established less than three weeks ago, launched by the Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club in concert with Rotary International and partners including the Yale School of Public Health, ADP WorkMarket, Salesforce, Amazon Web Services, GoFundMe®, and The Global Impact Group. It was launched to provide free, online training of volunteer community health workers, to perform the most basic caretaking tasks for vulnerable people so that professionals can focus on the most acute needs.

Volunteer Surge’s goal is to train 1,000,000 volunteers as soon as possible. There are two options for the training: One is a 30- to 35-hour course that provides 75 percent of the requirements needed to become a certified nurse assistant. The other is an 8- to 10-hour course to train telesupport volunteers who will work in the comfort and safety of their homes to check on vulnerable people sheltered in place, and to refer them to professional healthcare providers, when necessary.

The volunteers will be managed by the ADP WorkMarket freelance task system, and the Salesforce Health Cloud, to match them with the needs of local health authorities throughout the country.

The Global Impact Group, a Rotary-related non-profit, has all you need to know to register your interest in supporting the front line or becoming a telesupport volunteer. For more information visit www.theglobalimpactgroup.org. where you can watch a short video.

AAUW members can play a critical role in promoting and engaging in this program, and join those interested in making a difference. Let’s have our AAUW members join the thousands of Rotary and other community volunteers around the country on in this journey. Thank you in advance for your interest and consideration.

Chris Laszcz-Davis, OML Member and Program VP, 2020-21



Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary has been a longtime sponsor of the OML STEM Conference.

SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU



Thank you, thank you so much for the scholarship and thank you AAUW for your kindness your generosity and your support throughout the years. You

have change my life. You’ve been on this journey with me from the beginning starting in seventh grade when I received a scholarship to attend the Tech Trek science camp and I learned that I could be smart and I had the potential to go into the STEM fields.

This truly changed my perspective on the world and ever since then AAUW has been supporting me. And then when I volunteered with AAUW to help put on the 2019 STEAM Conference I saw that not only myself was empowered by taking on a leadership role, but every single girl who went to that conference was inspired and passionate about what they were there for and what an incredible place they were in. And then with the scholarship I am so grateful for this opportunity to continue my dreams and my passions to maybe be a doctor or a lawyer.

I’m not quite sure yet but what I am sure about is I have a passion to change the world and I know the confidence that AAUW helped me form will help me on this path to pursue my dreams. So thank you AAUW for supporting me going to college and beyond. I truly appreciate it and I am grateful to you every day.

**Sophia Kofoed,
Miramonte High School
Scholarship Recipient**

The above message was transcribed from an online video sent to Mary Ann McLeod.

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES

Standing Strong Through Crisis

During this challenging time, AAUW stands together as a caring and connected community. For nearly 140 years, we have been there for one another and fought for the economic security of American women and families.

Our work together to achieve equity has never been more important. Women are particularly vulnerable to financial shocks, since they're paid less than men, shoulder a greater proportion of student debt, and have less saved for retirement. They also hold 54 percent of low-wage jobs, many of which have been eliminated or lack basic benefits.

Support Voting Rights



AAUW's voter education and access work is more important than ever as the COVID-19 crisis poses an unprecedented challenge to our electoral process. Now is the time to fight back against voter suppression and ensure everyone can vote

by exploring different avenues for voter registration and deepening our understanding of key policies and candidates' stances.

Updates from AAUW-CA Public Policy Team

Provided by Kathi Harper,
Public Policy Committee Co-Chair

The committee met with Advocate Magaly Zaval at her office in Sacramento on March 13. Although challenging, the meeting was productive. 44 bills were reviewed with the following resolutions:

Co-sponsor one bill (SB973)

Support 26 bills in the following categories:

Product Regulation – three bills

Family Planning – five bills

Education – six bills

Labor/Wages – two bills

Gender Equity/Discrimination – four bills

Family Protection – three bills

Sexual Assault and Sex Education – two bills

Eight bills will be watched for further developments, and 10 bills were dropped.

For more information on these bills, click here: <https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/publish.aspx?session=19&id=920d3c91-39f9-4e59-a017-b2d993254aef>.

**Jan Coe and Laura Monin,
Co-Chairs, Public Policy**

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Many Special Interest Groups are currently on hold but here are two that are continuing via Zoom. Check with SIG coordinators to see if other groups are "Zoom-active."

EVENING SALON

Every Thursday in May
via Zoom • 7-9 pm

This is an open discussion group talking about cultural and social issues of the day. We have decided to meet every Thursday evening during this shelter-in-place period to share friendship as well as current topics. **Want to join in the conversation?** Contact **Denise Burian**, denburian@gmail.com to receive a Zoom invitation to the meeting.

ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK

Friday, April 15
10 am • via ZOOM

The book club is resuming on Zoom on our usual day. **Jill Eberhard** will be hosting and providing the link needed to join the meeting via an email. The discussion this month will include two books: *Unsheltered* and *Bridge of Clay*.

Coming up will be selection of new books for the 2020-2021 season. Many thanks to **Nancy Reynolds** who has hosted a luncheon in the past for our annual book selection. This year we will be voting by email. Please send your choices to either of us following the May meeting.

Contact **Jill Eberhard** (254-5589; jill@gemed.com) or **Marilyn Evans** (376-3484; marilynbevans@att.net) for more information or if you need help logging onto Zoom.

Missing GIG (Games Interest Group)?

Here are a few online suggestions provided by Janette Maher.

- **Code Names** Teams try to identify all the secret agents. 25 possible code names, Game owner sends out a picture of the 25 card grid to all players.
- **Say Anything (3-8 players)** A get to know you better game. Questions are read out loud, everyone guesses which answers the reader will like best, correct guesser gets the win.
- **Do You Know Me?** Players take turns from 450 hilarious yes/no questions, other players vote on whether they think it is truly yes or no; anyone who guesses incorrectly must take a drink.

Check the June Triad for some more online games.

**MAY 2020
AT A GLANCE**

1 FRI – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP
Pass along your books.

FIRST SAT – INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GROUP
*This group hopes to starting meeting via Zoom in June.
Look for more details in the June issue.*

7, 14, 21, 28 THUR – EVENING SALON
7 pm – Via the Zoom app.
*Contact Denise Burian if you want to be included.
Read more on page 9.*

MON – GOLF GROUP
Contact Jan Gee for time and venue, jgee17@yahoo.com.
This activity will resume once the golf courses reopen.

12 TUE – BOARD MEETING
1 pm – Via the Zoom app
Contact Denise Burian to be included.

15 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK
10 am – Via the Zoom app
Read more on page 9.

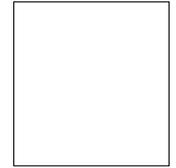
15 FRI – LETS GO TO THE MOVIES
Contact Mary Leigh Miller, mlmiller602@gmail.com.
We may met via Zoom, otherwise canceled.

19 TUE – GENERAL MEETING
10 am – Via the Zoom app
Speaker to be announced
Look for an e-blast prior to the meeting day with a link to join the meeting.

MAY LUNCHEON (Originally scheduled for May 19)
Honoring Distinguished Woman, Jan Cushman
Postponed to September 15, Moraga Country Club

24 SUN – DEADLINE for JUNE TRIAD
Send all articles to Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694
mlmiller602gmail.com.

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



29 FRI – BIKE GROUP
Contact Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com.
This is a great way to get some exercise and keep your social distancing!

JUNE 2020
Look for more listings in the JUNE issue.

9 TUE – IN-OUT BOARD MEETING
1 pm – Via the Zoom app
Unless otherwise noted

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL
SPECIAL INTEREST COORDINATORS:**

If your group decides to meet on a different day or time than normal, please contact our Calendar Coordinator, BONNIE GALLOGLY, so she can update the website calendar.



RESTAURANT | CATERING

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