



WEBSITE: oml-ca.aauw.net • EMAIL: oml.aauw@gmail.com

#### ~ PROGRAM CALENDAR for the YEAR ~

Our branch program committee and community outreach coordinators have been working hard, For those of you who like to plan ahead, mark your calendars for the following dates:

- Tuesday, September 20 September Showcase
   & Shelby's all-day fundraising event
  - Saturday, October 8 Shred Event
- Tuesday, October 11 Zoom meeting presented by the League of Women Votes on election issues
- Tuesday, October 18 Restaurant Walk fundraiser
- Tuesday, November 15 Celebrating an AAUW Fund recipient
- December Holiday party, silent auction, date to be announced
  - Tuesday, January 17, 2023 Speaker Chris Thompson from Mobility Matters
    - Tuesday, February 14 Speaker from UC Berkeley on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
    - Tuesday, March 14 Speaker on the Roe v Wade Supreme Court Case
      - Saturday, March 25 STEM Conference
      - Sunday, April 9 (or 23) Awards meeting for Scholarship and Tech Trek
    - Tuesday, May 16 Distinguished Woman Luncheon

General meetings are just one part of our branch's programming throughout the year. Read the Triad and check our website (https://oml-ca.aauw.net) for more information on our community outreach projects (Burckhalter, STEM Conference, Scholarships, Tech Trek, and DEI) as well as the many special interest groups that meet each month.

Our branch continues to offer opportunities for learning, discussing current issues, giving back to our community, supporting women and young girls, and last-but-not-least – developing friendships and having fun.

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## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

## **SHOWCASE**

9:30 ~ 11 am

# Orinda Community Church Fellowship Hall

A representative from the Public Defender's Office of Contra Costa County, will speak on social issues and their impact on the lives of many from our underserved communities.

The presentation will accompany the talk with a PowerPoint presentation.

We will also be showcasing our branch priorities and special interest activities.

There will be appetizers and a choice of beverages.

Please plan to bring your friends to this kick-off meeting – a great way to introduce them to our branch!

# Support Our Scholarship Fund!

Join us following Showcase for lunch at Shelby's in Orinda.

Turn to page 3 for all the details.



#### ... PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



#### **Honoring Our Past and Looking to the Future**

Welcome to the new year for AAUW-OML. I am looking forward to an exciting and enriching time with all of you. We have an outstanding board that will help guide our programs for the year. We also have opportunities for new as well as old branch members to join our programs and special interest groups. We continue to work toward supporting AAUW's mission and vision.

What a terrific time we had under Jan Cushman's leadership last year. We achieved 5-Star Status for the second time with the following accomplishments: **Programs** – hosted five mission-based programs that aligned with AAUW National's strategic plan; **Advancement** (membership) – retained over 90% of our membership, added a new member to the Legacy Circle Program (including AAUW in your will or estate plans); **Public Policy and Research** – met with our Assemblywoman and other state officials, participated in AAUW-CA Lobby Day an developed our plans for DEI; and **Communications and External Relations** – maintained our website and social media accounts with uptodate information and a focus on DEI.

Our programming for the new year includes a variety of ways for each of our members to participate in the branch. We hold general meetings once a month where our speakers focus on women's issues. At the heart of our branch activities are the five community outreach programs and our special interest groups. Each of the community outreach programs could use new members offering fresh ideas and support to these programs (Burckhalter, STEM conference, Scholarships, Tech Trek, and DEI). Our special interest groups include book groups, Great Decisions discussions, movie groups, museum tours, golfing, hiking, bocce ball, DEI discussions, origami and writing groups. Please refer to our website and Triad for dates and times these groups meet.

I am looking forward to this coming year and see the following opportunities:

- The chance to encourage more women of all ages and backgrounds to join us and continue working toward greater equity for women and girls,
- The chance to look at the finances and funding requirements for our branch and to develop an overall fundraising strategy so that we can continue these valuable projects which support young women in our communities,
- The chance to work closer with other AAUW branches in our area, connect with our outstanding state organization, and align our work with AAUW national and
- The chance to continue the intellectual stimulation, the problem solving, the friendship and support that our branch has always offered our members. And to have fun!

The coming year is also one of challenges and threats to women and many of the basic rights we have come to take for granted. We look forward to our Public Policy committee, our DEI project, and all our OML members learning more about these issues and working towards equitable solutions for all women.

Peggy S. Cabaniss, President

### BOARD MEETING June 14, 2022

The OML Board 501C4 met June 28 following our In and Out Board Meeting. As we had enjoyed a festive lunch, all the board members, those leaving office and those joining, were enthusiastic about the coming year.

President Peggy Cabaniss called us to order at noon with introductions. Most often heard by the board members was the value of AAUW friends. We partake in many activities and through action we have been fortunate to make wonderful friends.

Peggy Cabaniss gave us an overview of AAUW National organization and stressed that the AAUW mission remains relevant to the economic security, education and leadership for women and girls.

We are excited the STEM Conference will take place at Saint Mary's College.

We are looking forward to a season of general membership meetings with current topics. This will be a midterm election year and the State of California will present many Propositions. We are pleased the League of Women Voters will help sort the pros and cons. We are looking forward to in person meetings with a few gatherings planned for the Zoom platform.

Maryellen Judson, Secretary

# ELECTED OFFICERS 2022-2023

President – Peggy Cabaniss
President-elect – OPEN
Secretary – Mary Ellen Judson
Finance VP – Marielle Boortz
Fund VPs –
Diane Bell and Gail Chesler
Program VP – Barbara Bell
Membership VP – Linda Bochte

### **FOCUS ON ... SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING**

The scholarship committee is exploring new fundraising ideas for future scholarships. We are looking for practical fundraisers that scholarship members can prepare and that branch members will find inviting and enjoyable. We are also looking for ways to raise funds from members in our Lamorinda community.

Our first fundraiser occurs on the day of our September branch meeting. It's an opportunity to catch up with AAUW friends after the summer. We invite members and their friends to join us after the meeting for lunch at Shelby's Restaurant in Orinda Theater Square.

#### Let's recycle!

Bonnie Fend has found a new community fundraising project. Bonnie and Joan Foster are organizing Sneakers 4 Scholarships. We will be collecting worn sneakers from our members and the community. We think this is a good way for everyone to help reduce pollution. Read her article in the sidebar.

Mary Ann McLeod, Co-Chair, Scholarship



# Tuesday, September 20th All Day

AAUW-OML and Shelby's are partnering to raise money for scholarships for each of the local High Schools and Saint Mary's College women. Ten percent of the proceeds will be donated to our scholarships!

The AAUW-OML branch scholarship program provides college scholarships to senior girls at Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte high schools for their community service.

Through the Saint Mary's College High Potential Program, we provide scholarships for women undergraduate students.

Join us for lunch, dinner and takeout or all three.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!





Are your sneakers taking up too much room in your closet? Did you know that your gently worn sneakers could help AAUW raise funds for their high school and Saint Mary's College scholarships?

Well, they can and here's how...Our scholarship committee is participating in a fundraiser where there is nothing to buy or sell; all we need is your support and your gently worn, used, or new sneakers! We will be collecting sneakers from September through May thoughout our community. We will send them to a company called Got Sneakers. They will in turn give the new and slightly used sneakers to people in need and recycle the rest to use in play grounds and roadways. We will receive a payment per pair of shoes.

Did you know most people throw away their unwanted sneakers after 250-400 miles, or every 125-200 days, without ever thinking about recycling? Since sneakers are manufactured with materials that are not biodegradable, they remain in landfills or are incinerated which leads to toxic chemicals in our air and soil.

With your help, we can keep sneakers out of landfills, reduce toxic chemicals in our air and soil, and raise money to support our local scholarships. Let's make a difference together! Ask your neighbors and family. Bring the sneakers to our monthly meetings. Look for our sign,

and we will take care of the rest.

Bonnie Fend, Co-Chair, Scholarship

#### **TECH TREK and UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS**

#### Tech Trek Camp a Success!



The two virtual Tech Trek camps in June and

July were very successful and the feed-back was excellent. **Madeline Carpenter wrote:** "I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to go to Tech Trek. I had an incredible experience at this camp, I learned a lot of cool new things and met some really fascinating people."

Stacia Cragholm and Judy Helder saved the day by making sure the girls who attended the June camp received their boxes of materials while I was on vacation. Very special thanks to them!

There will be a reunion at the Orinda Community Church patio sometime in August or September to hear from the girls what they thought and have them share their creative "wearable tech" featuring LED lights and positional and continuous servos as well as their strengths, interests and values.

Jan Cushman, Chair, Tech Trek

# A Taste of Walnut Creek Restaurant Walk Is Back!

The 23rd Annual Restaurant Walk will be held on Tuesday, October 18.

The organizer, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, plans to have restaurants signed up and passports available in September.

This year tickets will be \$36. Plan to come stroll and eat and support Tech Trek!

#### 2022 Shred Event

SAVE THE DATE:

SHRED PAPERS ON SITE

Destroy CDs • DVDs • Hard Drives



# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 9 am to noon at 5A Rent-A-Space • Moraga



AAUW-OML's annual Tech Trek paper shredding fundraiser will return as an annual event at 5A Rent-A-Space on the second Saturday in October.

Mark your calendar. Plan to securely shred three full boxes of papers to help us meet our Tech Trek goals to send local middle school girls to AAUW's own Tech Trek science & math camp.

Quick and easy. No need to get out of your car. Our same annual Tech Trek volunteers will lift and empty your boxes into the secure paper shredding truck, returning your empty file boxes to your car.

**\$10 per file box.** You keep your boxes. No need to remove staples, paper clips, or paper file covers. You may also destroy, separately: metal CDs, DVDs and computer hard drives removed from computers and laptops.

Any questions, email Lana Reichick at lanasan@aol.com.

#### **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

Welcome to our two new membership who joined in May – Ling Yan and Jeanne McEwan.

Ling is interested in Burckhalter, scholarships, and STEM efforts. She indicated an interest in bike riding, great decisions, DEI, and international travel. She has already met with the Burckhalter committee and is looking forward to helping this fall. Ling works full time as a Tax VP. She said on her profile: "I'm passionate about identifying and fostering young women with high potential, especially in under-represented areas such as in science and technology. I am also interested in providing advice to women and help them advance to leadership positions."

Jeanne is interested in Tech Trek, our STEM Conference, and Public Policy. She indicated an interest in Great decisions and will give a hand where needed. Jeanne is retired and lives in Moraga.

Thank you to those of you who have paid dues and submitted your updated profile sheets. Second reminders were sent to the remaining members on July 18. We look forward to seeing you all this fall.

Linda Bochte, VP, Membership

### **BURCKHALTER UPDATE**

School begins again, and we are excited to be back in the library August 10. The library will be open each week on Wednesdays and Thursdays with students coming to see the new books purchased by our branch. Thank you for your generous donations for up-to-date nonfiction books and books for early readers.

Contact Janette Maher if you would like a tour of the school/library. Come and meet the staff and students at our community outreach program that our branch has supported for over two decades.

Janette Maher, Burckhalter Coordinator

### **PUBLIC POLICY**



#### **AAUW California Position on the Dobbs Decision**

AAUW California joins AAUW National in condemning the Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health which

overturns Roe v. Wade and, with it, a woman's right to make her own reproductive health decisions – a core public policy priority for both AAUW and AAUW California.

What does this momentous Supreme Court ruling mean for AAUW? What does it mean for California? What does it mean for YOU, your daughters, your grand-daughters, et al.? Our California Public Policy Committee chair, Kathi Harper led a Zoom webinar entitled: AAUW California's Position on the Dobbs Decision on Thursday, July 7th.

#### Click HERE for Presentation, or go to:

https://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-california-position-on-the-dobbs-decision-webinar/

If you did not participate, we highly recommend that you listen to the recording. Her webinar gave the history of relevant past Supreme Court decisions concerning women's reproductive health. Stay tuned for actions we can take locally. In addition, the webinar explains:

- What the opinion does and does not say,
- What the opinion means for California, and
- What the post-Dobbs landscape looks like for women.

# AAUW Statement Strongly Condemning the U.S. Supreme Court's Opinion on Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. The decision overturns the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling that established abortion as a constitutionally protected right nearly 50 years ago and ignores the will of the American people, 80 percent of whom support legal abortion.

AAUW believes everyone has the right to make decisions about their own reproductive lives without government interference. Abortion access is vital to women's ability to control their lives, bodies and futures. Without reproductive freedom, there can be no equity. Being able to choose whether and when to become a parent improves women's well-being and fosters economic security – a crucial component of AAUW's mission. This is particularly important in a country that lacks accessible maternal health care, paid caregiving leave and workplace protections for pregnant workers.

The Court's decision hurts all of us, but it will do the most harm to low-income people, women of color, immigrants, people with disabilities and LGBTQ+ people, because these groups already face substantial barriers to accessing reproductive services and health care.

While the Court's decision is a major setback for all Americans, AAUW remains steadfast in our commitment to protecting reproductive rights, a vital component of gender equity.

#### 50th Anniversary of Title IX

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education, protecting staff and students in any educational institution or program that receives federal funds. This includes local school districts, colleges and universities, for-profit schools, career and technical education programs, libraries, and museums. Music, choir, sex education classes, and sports involving bodily contact are exempt from Title IX, as are religious institutions if the law would violate their religious tenets. Admissions policies at private undergraduate institutions are also exempt.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of Title IX, its regulations, and its guidance.

AAUW applauds the Biden Administration's recent proposal of new rules to strengthen Title IX's impact. However, AAUW believes OCR must receive adequate funding to strengthen its Title IX enforcement efforts, and advocates thorough investigation of complaints and proactive compliance review.

# Laura Monin & Connie Whitting, Co-Chairs, Public Policy



# Notice change of our usual general meeting date

The Diablo Valley League of Women Voters will present their Pros and Cons program via Zoom on Tuesday, October 11 at 7 pm.

This will be a non-partisan exploration of the propositions that will be on the November ballot. Participation with other AAUW Branches and the general community is welcome.

### **UPCOMING OML BOARD MEETING**

### STRATEGIC PLANNING August 9 • 9-11:30 am

Saint Mary's College • Brother Urban Gregory (BUG) Hall Section C4, Building #115

At the entry guard gate turn left, turn left into the main parking lot.

This meeting will focus on updating the **Strategic Plan** for our branch. We are fortunate to have a strategic plan in place that has been updated each year since it was developed at an in-person meeting several years ago. It seems like a good time to review our plan and consider some of the following questions:

- In general, what are the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (known as a SWOT analysis) of our branch and our activities?
- How does our branch's Strategic Plan align with AAUW National's overall goals?
- What needs to be added to our Strategic Plan to help us operate more efficiently and effectively?
- What are the immediate needs of our branch and what are our limitations?

**Elizabeth Davis**, Dean School of Economics and Business Administration and professor of Stategy and Management, will lead this meeting. We look forward to an exciting session to brainstorm on the future for AAUW-OML!

### **CATCHING UP ON AAUW NATIONAL**

#### Where We Stand: Paycheck Fairness Act

AAUW believes that pay equity and equal opportunity are matters of simple fairness. Despite civil rights laws and advancements in women's economic status, workplace discrimination still persists. As AAUW's report The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap explains, the latest numbers from the U.S. Census Bureau once again revealed that women working full-time, year-round are typically paid only 83 cents for every dollar paid to men. And the pay gaps are even wider for women of color. African American women and Latinas make, respectively, 63 and 55 cents on the dollar as compared to non-Hispanic, white men.

We know that women take home less money than they have rightfully earned in every industry, no matter what they do, how much education they have and where they are from. AAUW research found that even when controlling for factors known to affect earnings, such as education and training, marital status, and hours worked, college-educated women still earn seven percent less than men just one year out of college.

While the gap has narrowed since passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963, progress has largely stalled. Because of limited enforcement tools and weak remedies, the law has not been able to fulfill its promise. The Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA) provides a much-needed update to the Equal Pay Act. The PFA would give women the tools they need to successfully challenge pay discrimination and to provide incentives to employers to comply with the law. The bill takes several important steps, including: ensuring non-retaliation for wage disclosure, prohibiting use of salary history, ensuring job-relatedness, equalizing remedies, helping challenge systemic discrimination, clarifying comparable establishments and providing for pay data collection and additional assistance and resources for businesses.

### 2022-23 AAUW OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

\*AAUW members

#### **LAFAYETTE**

Asian Accents – Original Designs in Jewelry by K. de Groot\* Creative Alterations – Josef Jamkochain DIABLO FOODS

Persons Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
– Barbara Persons, MD FACS
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\*
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
Soraya Golesorkhi\*

- Coldwell Banker Realty
The UPS Store

#### **WALNUT CREEK & Beyond**

Bay Alarm Company
Herbs & Spices Catering, Alameda
– Wendy Shay
Milner's Jewelers, Countrywood
Shopping Center, Pleasant Hill

Please refer to the membership directory for complete advertising information.

# IT'S COMING! The 22-23 OML DIRECTORY

Gail Chesler will be taking over putting together the branch direcory this coming year, with help from Pat Lopker, our advertising coordinator.

Look for updates on their progress in upcoming Triad issues.

### **SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES**

#### EVENING SALON Thursday, August 11 At Janette Maher's home 7 pm

We are now meeting on the second Thursday night of the month. Since it is still summer and COVID is spiking again, we will meet at 6 pm at the home of Janette Maher. Her backyard is "maahhvelous," with a great view – perfect for appetizers and conversation. Contact Denise Burian for more details, denburian@gmail.com.

#### BOCCE BALL 1st & 3rd Mondays Moraga Commons • 9:30 am

We meet for fun but also to hone our skills for competion with the Tuesday evening Bocce Ball league. Contact Mary Leigh Miller at 925 360-4443 or online at *mlmiller602@gmail.com* for more information

#### HIKING EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS Saturdays • 10 am - 12 noon

Contact Janette Maher, *kidlitlvr@hot-mail.com* for the latest information on these twice-a-month, moderately easy hikes in the Bay Area led by local guides.

**Sat., Aug. 13** we will go to Briones Park. Plan to meet us at the Orinda Rite Aid at 9 am so we can start hiking at 9:30 at Briones.

**Sat., Aug. 27** will be an East Bay Park hike at Lake Chabot from 9:30-11:45 am. It is flat and 3.75 miles. For this hike we will meet at the OSH parking lot, Moraga (right behind Canyon Brewery), at 8:45 am.

# ORIGAMI ANYONE? Returns October 17 at 1 pm

#### GREAT DECISIONS Wednesday, August 3 Via Zoom • 10 am

Have harsh drug control policies caused more harm than good? The issue of migration to the United States from Latin America has overshadowed the war on drugs, which has been underway for decades with little signs of progress. What are the roots and the bureaucratic logic behind today's dominant drug policies in Latin America? Is it time to reconsider punitive drug policies that disrupt supply chains and punish drug possession? To be part of this discussion, contact Marielle for the Zoom invitation, mjboortz@aol.com.

#### CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday, August 16 At Andrea Green's home 10 am

We will be having a meeting at my house on August 16 at 10 am to select books for the coming year. Please come with suggestions and reviews of books. We will probably sit in backyard and spread out on the patio to make the meeting as safe from COVID as possible. Hope you can make it!

If you can't join us, please send me your ideas for new books by email at asdgreen@comcast.net or by snail mail to 1210 Larch Ave, Moraga CA 94556.

### BIKE RIDING GROUP Thursday, August 25 • 9:30 am

Our group bicycles on the last Thursday morning of each month. We ride on trails (not on streets). If you enjoy exploring on your bicycle, there are many interesting rides in the Bay Area! Please contact Diane Bell for information about this month's ride: dianelouise2020@yahoo.com.

#### ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK Friday, August 19 Via Zoom • 10 am

The Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah, Texas 1934. Elsa Martinelli had finally found the life she yearned for, but when drought threatens, all Elsa's world is shattered to the winds. Her husband has fled, she is forced to make the most agonizing decision of her life: fight for the land that she loves or take her beloved children to California in search of a better life. We hope you will be able to join us. Contact Susan Wilson for the Zoom invite, schnappsmom@sbcglobal.net.

# MUSEUM MAVENS Third Wednesday of the month Via Zoom • 12 noon

Join us for Zoom museum tours every Wednesday from 11 am - 12 noon with a program called *Well Connected* and online discussions of tours every third Wednesday of the month at noon, hosted by **Marielle Boortz**. For more information, email **Marjorie Singler** at *singlermarjorie@gmail.com* or text 925 878-5915. *Note: Marjorie is looking for a new chair to take over her job.* 

#### DEI – BLM ALLIES GROUP Wednesday, September 14 Via Zoom • 10 am

The DEI/BLM group will meet again on Wednesday, September 14 from 10 to 11 am. We have been reading *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander over the summer and will discuss it on September 14. We are working with Public Policy and Programs and hope to have a brief presentation and discussion on the Dodd Supreme Court decision at our September Showcase meeting. Contact Denise Burian for more details, *denburian@gmail.com*.



# **AUGUST 2022 AT A GLANCE**

3 WED – GREAT DECISIONS 10 am – Via Zoom Read more on page 7.

1, 15 MON – BOCCE BALL 10 am – Moraga Commons bocce ball courts Contact Mary Leigh Miller, mlmiller602@gmail.com

#### 7 TUE - BOARD MEETING

1 - 3 pm – Orinda Community Church

8, 22 MON – GOLF GROUP Contact Jan Gee for time and venue, *jgee17@yahoo.com*.

11 THUR – EVENING SALON 6 pm – Janette Maher's home

13 SAT – REGIONAL PARK HIKE 9 am – Meet at Rite Aid in Orinda. *Read more on page 7.* 

16 TUE – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP MEETING 10 am – Home of Andrea Green *Read more on page 7*.

17 WED – MUSEUM MAVENS 12 noon – Via Zoom Read more on page 7.

17 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS 1 pm – Via Zoom Contact Carol Messinger.

19 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK 10 am – Via Zoom

24 WED – DEADLINE for SEPTEMBER 2022 TRIAD Send all articles to Mary Leigh Miller, 925 360-4443 *mlmiller602gmail.com*.

25 THURS – BIKE RIDING GROUP 9:30 am Contact Diane Bell, *dianelouise2020@yahoo.com*. *Read more on page 7*.

27 SAT – REGIONAL PARK HIKE 8:45 am – Meet at OSH in Moraga. *Read more on page 7.* 

3537 S	-OML ase Coord. springhill Rd. atte, CA 94549		

#### **SEPTEMBER 2022**

13 TUE - BOARD MEETING

1 - 3 pm – Orinda Community Church.

20 TUE - SHOWCASE

9:30-11:30 am – Orinda Community Church

20 TUE - SHELBY'S & SCHOLARSHIPS

All day – Shelby's Restaurant, Theater Square, Orinda *Read more on page 3*.

# 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.