

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

NOVEMBER 15 General Meeting 9:30 - 11:30 am Orinda Community Church

RIAD



1 N 🗄 I D

NOVEMBER 2022

For our November AAUW Fund Program, Jessica Moss, a PhD. candidate in religion at Claremont Graduate University will speak about her project called, "Interfaith Community Relationships in Thirdspace."

Please attend to learn about Jessica's efforts to encourage women of different faiths to come together in their own community.

Thank you, OML members for your continued support of AAUW Fund!

Thanks to the generous donations of AAUW members, the state of California has 40 Fellowship and Grant recipients this year. Their brief presentations are on the AAUW California website. The recordings are available to view and cover many areas of study, from sociology to economics, to urban planning, just to name a few. Please go to the website to view these interesting research projects.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Focus on recent Tech Trek fundraisers Page 3

 Remembering Jan Coe, plus meet our newest members Page 4

- Scholarship Highlights
 Page 5
- Donations through Amazon Page 6

- Meet the STEM Ambassadors
 Page 7
 - Special Remembrance of Sally Swanson
 Page 8
 - Special Interest Activities
 Page 9

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 OML's First Annual

HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

Moraga Art Gallery in the Rheem Shopping Center from 5 to 8 pm

"FUN for FUND\$"

This year's celebration will be one of the primary ways we'll be raising money for OML's Outreach Projects.

Join us in honor of friendship, the holidays, all our good work and the impact our branch is having on the community.

for OML members

There will be ...

Lots of Tasty Appetizers
 Wine Tasting

provided by local winemakers (with wine available for sale)

Live Music
 Holiday Items
for you to take a chance on!

Read more about our big plans on Page 8.

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

NOVEMBER 2022



... PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks go out to all of you who are working hard to make this a productive, meaningful, educational year for our community as well as our members. As a reminder, we decided during our Strategic Planning meeting in August to focus on public policy, DEI issues (diversity, equity, and inclusion), communication/ engagement with our community, fundraising for the branch, and membership growth. We are making great progress in all these areas:

Public Policy – we hosted a very successful webinar in October with the League of Women Voters to educate all of us about the propositions on the November ballot. DEI - members have been actively engaged in postcard and letter campaigns across the country, reminding everyone that "Every vote counts." Members have also been actively involved in local elections encouraging voters to educate themselves on the candidates, their true agendas, their source of funding (local, from out of the area, from particular political organizations).

Communications/Engagement – your communications team is working hard to keep the website up to date, get publicity into the local papers, start sending the Triad out on a monthly basis to moms whose daughters have participated in AAUW- OML events like Tech Trek and STEM.

Membership – Linda Bochte, Marie, and others are actively following up on leads for new members and have received several applications. We want to reach out and welcome all new members and get them involved. Special interest chairs are busy with monthly meetings and a variety of activities.

Fundraising – we've had several successful fundraisers including lunch at Shelby's, collecting gently used sneakers, the Shred Event day in Rheem, and the Walnut Creek Restaurant Walk. Thank you to all of you who worked on these projects.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I hope we can all give thanks for the activities and friendships we have within our OML branch. Please consider a donation to an individual Community Outreach Project (Burckhalter, Scholarships, STEM Conference, Tech Trek, or DEI) or to the general fund of our branch so that we can continue our work in seeking equity for women and girls.

We have an abundance of programs and activities in the months ahead. Join us in November to hear from one or more AAUW Fellows, in December for a Holiday Party, in the new year to hear from our own Sandy Fox-Sohner.

Peggy S. Cabaniss, President

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

BOARD MEETING October 11, 2022

The board met the same day as our general membership evening ZOOM meeting.

All were interested in utilizing Denis Burian's webinar skills and interfacing the League of Women Voters materials. This California election offers us seven propositions. Each one having far reaching values and consequences. Each issue was presented by a student from Saint Mary's College. Just seeing the TV news coverage, receiving campaign literature, and listening to voting recommendations does not satisfy our need for understanding. The coverage provided by these college students was excellent. If you missed the program, we have recorded it and it will be available on the OML website. Do not forget to vote November 8.

We are looking forward to our November general meeting at Orinda Community Church. Many members donate to AAUW Funds. Come and listen to a university scholar who has been a recipient of our funds. The women represent education, science, arts, governmental studies, and many other studies. They are outstanding women.

Our 2022-2023 year is off to a great start and we need all of you to join us and to enjoy each other's company. See you November 15 at 9:30 am..

Maryellen Judson, Secretary



FOCUS ON ... TWO SUCCESSFUL TECH TREK FUNDRAISERS

Stop By For

Leaders Jan Cushman

and Sandy Fox-Sohner

- ready for shred cars

to arrive.

Shred

The second Saturday in October brought the return of our annual Shred Papers on Site event, held at 5A Rent-A-Space, with generous support from 5A

DRIVE UP TO SHRED

Manager George Burns. With our team of hard working Tech Trek volunteers, who have worked this event every year since 2014 (minus two Covid years), we had a great successful day. Led by fearless TT Chair Jan Cushman who asked the tough donation question at every car, we generated \$2,000, funding two of our seven annual scholarships to Tech Trek camp. It was all due to Jan's dedication to the task and the generous donations of shred customers and our members.

Grateful kudos go to all who worked four hours at the entire event: Peggy Cabaniss, Jan Cushman, Sharon Doi (Tech Trek mom), Bonnie Fend, Sandy Fox-Sohner, Judy Helder, Therese Tamaro, Christine Walwyn, Laura Wittenberg, and Lana Reichick, the event coordinator who established this Tech Trek fundraiser with 5A in 2014 and has organized it every year. Added thanks to **Ellen Beans, Marielle Boortz, Stacia Cragholm, Bonnie Gallogly, Mary Leigh Miller, Steve Sohner** and **Michael Swan** (Tech Trek dad) who all worked behind-the-scenes tasks before, during, and after the event—as did the supportive 5A crew.



We appreciate our social media posters who generated publicity in neighborhoods, news outlets, and on FB. In addition to our event volunteers who also posted online, we had great help from Nancy Brewer and Denise Burian. Photos give a glimpse of shred day as we prepped and waited for cars to drive up to shred.

> Mark your calendar for Shred Day: October 14, 2023.



We enjoyed the stroll around downtown Walnut Creek on a beautiful evening sampling so many foods! Everything was delicious, from the pasta with bolognese sauce and garlic bread to the mini tacos to the seafood canape and more. And of course, don't forget the ice cream from the San Francisco Creamery! We were full before we made it to all 15 restaurants.



Thanks to your participation, the event earned Tech Trek \$273. We hope that next year more people will be comfortable joining us!

Husbands even joined in! Above: Dick and Tory Courtney.







Jan Cushman, Chair, Tech Trek





Above: This is your paper on pulverized shred.

At left, Loyal crew at the bankers table, Therese Tamaro and Christine Walwyn, with Lana Reichick, shred event coordinator.

BURCKHALTER

Remembering Jan Coe

Jan Coe was OML president 2005-2007 and was named OML Distinguished Woman in 2011. She was also a devoted volunteer at Burckhalter School for many years.

On the morning of October 10, ten friends of Jan Coe gathered at the home of AAUW member, Vanessa Crews, to make Apricot Pepper Jelly. Jan and

Vanessa made this delicious jelly as a fundraiser for Miramonte High School for about ten years beginning in 1994, usually making 1,000 jars of jelly in a single day. This involved multiple teams of women to shop, prep, cook, clean, label and deliver the jelly - all flawlessly managed by Jan in an era before cell phones, email and laptops.



Jan always combined her volunteer efforts with fun, including the very popular Apricot Pepper Jelly workshops. This year's smaller workshop continued that tradition as Jan's friends smiled and worked their way through four batches of jelly. Each woman took home a few jars of Apricot Pepper Jelly and made a generous donation to AAUW-OML.

Together they raised \$585 towards AAUW-OML's Burckhalter School project in memory of Jan Coe. Jan would be so pleased!

Vanessa Crews

OML BRANCH MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Three new members joined in October, Michele Jacobson, Lou Williams and Shelley Zovickian.

Michele Jacobson is a graduate of Cal Poly State University with a BS in city and regional planning. She is currently retired. She has an interest in Tech Trek, movies, hiking and program planning.

Lou Williams is a graduate of Cal State East Bay with a BS in accounting/finance. She worked for a Wall Street firm for many years. She is interested in AAUW Fund, public policy and DEI. Other interests are golf, museums, hiking, and international travel. She has skills in finance and fundraising.

Shelley Zovickian is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara with a BA in Spanish and San Francisco State University with a masters in social work. Priorities of interest are scholarship, public policy and DEI. Other interests are international travel, hiking and evening salon. She helped with the postcard project.

Nine members were called about renewing and follow-up emails will be sent.

Linda Bochte, VP, Membership



As we celebrate Thanksgiving here is a wonderful opportunity to support families less fortunate than ours.

Each year the staff at Burckhalter Elementary both give and collect donations toward ensuring families at the school can afford Thanksgiving dinner.

If you would like join us in this endeavor you can either write a check to the Community Outreach Fund or purchase a Safeway gift card to donate. If writing a check, please write Burckhalter Thanksgiving at the bottom of the check.

We will use the funds to purchase Safeway cards and deliver them to the school. If you are purchasing a Safeway card please contact me (925-876-4639) or give it to one of our Burckhalter volunteers to bring to school.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

Joanie Jump, Burckhalter Volunteer



Linda Boche, new OML member, Karen Feeney, and Janette Maher in their Holloween best at the Burckhalter library.

NOVEMBER 2022

SCHOLARSHIP

Each month we feature one of our community service 2022 awardees and highlight an authentic leadership skill we recognized in her community service. Community service allows girls to interact and work with others and helps student volunteers to network and connect with others towards a common goal.



Girls Who Lead Inspire Others CAROLINE HOSKINS Miramonte High School

Caroline Hoskins (Carly) has participated in athletics, journalism, and clubs in the Miramonte High School Community. As captain of the water polo team, she facilitated communication among coaches, team members, team parents.

She was a mentor to fellow teammates and led the team's culture. Carly received the Chris Lloyd memorial spirt award voted by team members and the coaches award. Carly was also editor at large and broadcast director of the Miramonte paper The Mirador. She was also a member of the Latin club and link crew.

Carly's interest in volunteering and her water polo team were combined when she led Adopt-a-Family, Miramonte Water Polo. The team collected and delivered over fifty gifts and \$!,000 to provide a Christmas for a family. This has become a lasting tradition for the team.

GIVE (Girls Independent Volunteer Experience) helps girls discover and volunteer with local nonprofit organizations. Carly is a six-year member of the organization. She participated in Special Olympics "Night to Shine" and Sea Serpents swim program. Carly was also a founding member of Team Lamorinda, It Takes a Village. This group assembled, packaged and delivered over 8,000 face coverings to Bay Area hospitals. For three years Carly was also the leader of the Grateful Gatherings Lamorinda Chapter which helps families transition from homelessness or abuse by fully furnishing their new living space into a place they can call home.

Carly and her fellow volunteers can feel the impact of their work. She says, "Each time a family comes 'home' and tearfully explores their new space, the expressions on everyone's faces – my volunteer's, the family's, and my own – paint an inspiring story: the value of extending our hands to make a difference. The impact of a focused group effort. The power of home. The line between someone with or without a home is thinner than we think."

Our high school and college applications are now available on our website oml-ca.aauw.net. High school senior woman at Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte are eligible for our community service awards. Sophomore or Junior women in the High Potential Program at Saint Mary's College are eligible for our community engagement awards. If you know a student who may be eligible for these awards, please ask her to apply.

Our next scholarship committee meeting is November 3 at 1:30 pm at Mary Ann McLeod's house.



Scholarship has received \$83.25 for our first 11 bags! We have mailed 17 more bags.

Please continue to

help our scholarship program by asking your family (especially grandkids), friends and neighbors to save their gently worn sneakers. These sneakers can help AAUW raise funds for our local high school scholarships and Saint Mary's College High Potential Program scholarships.

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.

We have sneaker drop-off locations at Moraga Hardware, The Lafayette Veterans Memorial Center and the Rossmoor gym, plus we will be collecting at all our in-person branch meetings.

Let's make a difference together! Tell your friends, neighbors and family.



Shelby's & Scholarships

Scholarship raised \$913 at our Shelby's event and \$350 from 10 percent of proceeds from the day. Another \$530 came from our silent auction and \$33 in cash donations.

Once again, thanks to all who worked on the event and those who supported it. I hope you all will continue to patronize this business!

> Bonnie Fend, Co-Chair, Scholarship

Mary Ann McLeod, Co-Chair, Scholarship

PUBLIC POLICY in ACTION





Janet Thomas and Kay James of the League of Women Voters Diablo Valley held their "Pros and Cons" Zoom Webinar on October 11 to a large crowd of over 100 participants. The presentation consisted of videos on each of the

seven propositions on the November 8 ballot presented by Saint Mary's College students.

Thanks to our tech gurus Denise Burian and Marielle Boortz who were responsible for facilitating the webinar. If you missed the meeting, the presentation is available on our AAUW-OML website at *http://oml-ca.aauw.net*.

Laura Monin, Co-Chair, Public Policy



At postcard/letter writing parties held over three Sundays in October, AAUW members hand wrote 80 postcards and 80 letters to voters in four states –

Arizona, Texas, Louisiana and Georgia. The postcards urged the recipients to go to the pole to vote.

Parties were held at the homes of Denise Burian, Peggy Cabaniss and Laura Monin. Those participating were Ann Tompkins, Marilyn Evans, Mary Ann McLeod, and new member Shelley Zovickian. Thanks to all who participated especially Shelley, one of our newest members, who attended two parties!

Serendipitously, after our three postcard parties were done and delivered, Lana Reichick viewed a video panel discussion on voting rights from Book Passage Bookstore in Marin. She watched author Anita Gail Jones tell her story of sending 5000 postcards in 2020, helping influence the voters in Lees County,

Georgia, where she grew up. Lana reached Anita that day, pledging to get 500 cards sent within five days.

Here is the box of postcards that our members completed and sent out a few days later.



Laura Monin Co-Chair, Public Policy Denise Burian, Chair, DEI Committee

ATTENTION ONLINE SHOPPERS!

Are you an Amazon Smile customer? Do you know about Smile?

Great news! You can now designate AAUW-OML's Community Outreach Fund to receive micro-donations generated by your purchases. Our aggregate purchases can add bucks to our OML outreach.

Before you place your orders for holiday gifts or household basics, stop-check-confirm. (SCC) Does your browser bar show you are in smile.Amazon.com? Your shopping cart transfers automatically to Smile whenever you enter through the Smile URL. Only purchases ordered through Smile will generate micro-donations. (The Amazon app does not.)

To make it easy, put the smile icon on your personal phone screen. The icon will send you through Smile when heading to Amazon. Here are Amazon's instructions for putting Smile on your personal phone screen.

Visit smile.amazon.com

- 1. Tap the share icon at the bottom of the window.
- 2. Tap Add to Home Screen, and then tap Add.
- 3. Tap the new icon on your home screen to return at any time to smile.amazon.com.

Read more about using Smile and designating your beneficiary at Amazon. *https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about*

Remember: always go through smile.amazon.com first when heading to Amazon. Check the URL in your browser bar at the top of your screen to confirm you are in Smile before you click "place order."

Thank you for supporting our AAUW-OML outreach fund.

Lana Reichick, Longtime OML Member and Amazon patron

STEM CONFERENCE ~ MARCH 25, 2023

Celebrating Our Ambassadors

Our ambassador program has roots back to our Sister-to -Sister priority when we mentored high school girls to provide leadership for middle school girls. The ambassadors develop their leadership skills, learn to have a voice, and continue focusing on STEM education and career opportunities. Most of our ambassadors are past Tech Trekkers, who already exhibit strong interest in STEM education.

Currently we have 13 ambassadors, four from Miramonte High School, one from Acalanes and nine from Campolindo. The ambassadors provide leadership beginning in September with the planning and execution of the conference. They recruit and train most of the volunteers, attend Rotary meetings to showcase our conference, and manage most of the logistics the day of the event. These young women are developing potentially lifealtering skills and giving hope for the future.

Stacia Cragholm, Chair, STEM Conference

Jada Hembrador Senior, Miramonte High School

While I have always been fascinated by science, my interest took flight when I first attended an AAUW STEM conference in sixth grade. There, I was introduced to an Amgen Biotech experience which catalyzed

my desire to learn more about pharmaceutical development through a biomedical engineering lens.

Awe-inspired, I continued learning through programs, like John's Hopkins Biomedical Engineering Innovation and research in soft robotics at UC Santa Barbara. However, this would not have been possible without another AAUW program: Tech Trek. Attending Tech Trek introduced me to a wealth of professional women in STEM, who provided mentorship, taught me to overcome my insecurity about being a woman interested in STEM and equipped me with the technical skills necessary for that success. I rejoined the AAUW Network as an ambassador and Tech Trek Build Coach to have the opportunity to emulate my mentors' impact on me for a new generation of girls.

As an ambassador, I have the opportunity to help young girls find and pursue their budding interest in STEM by organizing events, like our annual STEM Conference, and teaching girls how to code with Arduino. If I hadn't attended AAUW programs, I likely wouldn't have the confidence to push myself towards a biomedical engineering career. I would like to thank the AAUW for nurturing my STEM potential, and I am so proud to help inspire a new generation of young girls.



Giorgia Stankus Sophomore, Campolindo High School

I have always been fascinated by STEM fields and activities. I remember being in elementary school carrying around a little journal where I sketched out all of the

inventions I wanted to create. I found YouTube videos of how different machines worked and added those to my sketches.

I first began gaining more knowledge when I went to the AAUW STEM Conferences. The different workshops were so eye-opening. I had such an enjoyable time having these handson experiences. I also had an amazing opportunity when I was accepted into Tech Trek in 2020. When COVID-19 caused everything to shut down, I was devastated, but thankful that the camp was done over Zoom. I signed up for every possible workshop. I was exposed to a variety of different subjects.

All my experiences with AAUW have taught me so much, and lead me to being a Tech Trek coach and an Ambassador for the STEM Conferences. I am so grateful to AAUW for creating all of these opportunities that have been crucial to my interest in STEM.

Liesel Hilkemeyer Senior, Campolindo High

I have been interested in STEM for as long as I can remember - starting out as a preschooler, wanting to be a veterinarian. I've always been interested in helping people and learning about science and



math, so it was clear to me that I could unite this interest and that STEM was my way to leave a positive impact on the world.

Through AAUW programs I have been able to talk to professional women. I saw myself in them, inspiring me to push past any limitations set in my way. These programs were instrumental in cultivating my early passion for STEM, without AAUW I don't know if my childhood excitement would have continued into a potential career path for me.

I have been involved with the ambassador program, planning the 2020-2023 STEM Conferences, helping facilitate Girls4STEM webinars, and even doing an online Tech Trek camp in 2021, teaching girls about Arduino coding. I have loved every minute of my time with AAUW and my role as an ambassador has expanded my knowledge. AAUW women have positively impacted my life. I want other girls and gender minorities in my community to realize their STEM potentials. I want to enable them to explore their interests and find new ones.

MORE on the HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER



Remember how much you enjoyed last year's holiday get together?

We want to make this year's celebration even more special by raising money for OML's Outreach Projects.



Reserve your spot for this exciting event at the November general meeting and on the OML website as well. Click on the link below to make a reservation online for your self and your guests.

https://checkout.square.site/merchant/JJ9E2WWX6N22Z/ checkout/MLUQL3REXL4Q3XBUXLRCOYYF

IN MEMORIAM ~ SALLY SWANSON

Sally Swanson, a member since 2009, passed away unexpectedly on October 26 of a massive stroke. Sally was involved in the scholarship committee, travel group, Great Decisions, and helpful in other areas as needed. She was a strong believer in AAUW's mission, mentoring many women throughout her career, and was a lifelong learner. Mary Ann McLeod described Sally as a caring and soft spoken leader. She was very kind and generous to family, friends and to all she met.



Sally is survived by her wife Ruth Cohen, also a member; her daughter and family, and her son, all from Moraga; two sisters from Washington; and many friends. Memorial service plans are pending.

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

The 2022-23 Membership Directory is in the works and will be available soon.



SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES

EVENING SALON Thursday, November 10 At Shari Simon's home • 7 pm

All members are welcome for appetizers and wine. We have an open discussion about issues of the day – social, cultural, important news stories. And we laugh, not necessarily about the news, but we always find something to chat and laugh about. Contact Denise Burian if you would like to join. *denburian@ gmail.com*.

DEI – BLM ALLIES GROUP Monday, November 14 Via Zoom • 3:30 pm

The DEI/BLM group meets via Zoom. Note new day and time. We are reading and discussing "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander through Chapter 4. We will finish the book and discuss chapters 5 & 6 in December. Contact Denise Burian to be included. *denburian@gmail.com*.

HIKING EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS Saturday, November 12 & Friday, November 25

Nov. 12 will be led by Ellen Beans starting at the Valle Vista Staging area – meet at Outdoor Supply Hardware lot behind Canyon Brewery at 9 am to carpool (just a real short distance there).

I am suggesting a **Friday Nov. 25** hike put on by EB Parks at Redwood – a bit longer but it will test your skills if you have been hiking with us since 2/22 – you can always go as far as you can. For more information on this, contact me, Marilyn Evans, *marilynbevans@att.net*.

We are planning hikes month by month and everything will be noted in future Triads. Individual reminders will be sent to those who have signed up just prior to the upcoming hike. Hope to see you! Marilyn Evans and Ellen Beans.

MUSEUM and GORGEOUS GARDENS GROUP Saturday, November 5 Hearst Art Museum Saint Mary's College

The Museum Group will be attending a tour of the Saint Mary's Hearst Art Gallery where we will hear a live cellist from 11 am to noon. Our tour will be from noon to 1 pm, with lunch at Amorama's in Moraga on the outside patio for those who would like to join us afterwards. The current exhibition is titled *Fake It Till You Make It*, which explores how authenticity in art is defined. Please RSVP to *trudyLbarron@gmail.com* if you are interested in attending and also if you would like to be included for lunch.

GREAT DECISIONS Wednesday, November 5 Via Zoom • 10 am

We have finished our topics for 2022 and have decided to discuss IRAN for our November meeting. Please forward any recent articles that you have about Iran for our discussion.

Books are ordered for 2023. They should arrive early in January. We will discuss possible topics for December and January at our November 4 meeting. If you have a topic that you would like to discuss, text or call Judy Helder 925-980-0151 or *judyhelder@ gmail.com* for more information.

ORIGAMI ANYONE?

The next origami session is January 16, 2023. *lyndaeleonard@gmail.com*.

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

Contact Mary Leigh Miller at 925 360-4443 or online at *mlmiller602@gmail. com* for more information.

ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK Friday, November 17 Via Zoom • 10 am

The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead. This small but important book won the 2020 Pulitzer Prize. Elwood Curtis, a bright black boy, brought up by his grandmother in 1960's Tallahassee, Florida, is capriciously and unjustly sentenced to time in a hellacious reform school. He forms a friendship with another young inmate who realistically sees Elwood as hopelessly naive and believed that the Jim Crow world is crooked; he does his best to quietly scheme to avoid trouble. It is this relationship which drives the story, which is based on the true story of a reform school which operated for 111 years and warped the lives of countless youngsters. Colson Whitehead has written a devastating redemptive work well worthy of its Pulitzer Prize. Contact Susan Wilson for the Zoom link. schnappsmom@sbcglobal.net

Hey there, do you like your interest group? The branch has two special interest groups looking for a new coordinator. Both the **Games Interest Group (GIG)** and the **Daytime Movie Group** have been popular with our members in the past. If you are interested in bringing either of these back to action, please give a call to Marie Bonilla. (Marie is working with the Special Interest Groups now – in the absence of a President-Elect)

And if you have thought of a NEW Special Interest Group that you'd like to coordinate, that idea can be distributed to the members and - lo and behold - we might have a new group of members with that interest in common. *Think about it.*

THE TRIAD NOVEMBER 2022

NOVEMBER 2022 AT A GLANCE

1 TUE – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP Please pass your book.

1, 15 TUE – STEM PLANNING MEETING 1-3 pm – Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette

2 WED – GREAT DECISIONS 10 am – Via Zoom *Read more on page 9.*

3 THURS – SCHOLARSHIP MEETING 1:30 pm – Mary Ann McLeod's home

5 SAT – MUSEUM MAVENS Hearst Museum Tour & Cello Concert 11 am-1 pm, with optional lunch following. *Read more on page 9*

7, 21 MON – BOCCE BALL 9:30 am – Moraga Commons bocce ball courts *Read more on page 9*.

8 TUE – BOARD MEETING 1 -3 pm – Orinda Community Church

12, 26 SAT – REGIONAL PARK HIKES *Read more on page 9.*

14, 28 MON – GOLF GROUP Contact Jan Gee for time and venue, *jgee17@yahoo.com*.

14 MON – DEI-BLM ALLIES GROUP 3:30 pm – Via Zoom *Read more on page 9*.

15 TUE – AAUW FUND PROGRAM Fellowship Recipient, Jessica Moss 9:30-11:30 am

10 THUR – EVENING SALON 7 pm – Mary Leigh Miller's home *Read more on page 9*.

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

18 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK 10 am – Via Zoom *Read more on page 9* AAUW-OML Database Coord. 3537 Springhill Rd. Lafayette, CA 94549

18 FRI – FRIDAY EVENING MOVIE GROUP7 pm – Contact Mary Leigh Miller for more information.

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

24 THURS – BIKE RIDING GROUP 9:30 am – Meeting place TBA Contact Diane Bell, *dianelouise2020@yahoo.com*. *Read more on page 9*.

DECEMBER 2022 Look for more information in the December Triad

11 SUN – HOLIDAY FUNDRAISING PARTY 5-8 pm – Moraga Art Gallery

13 TUE – BOARD MEETING 1-3 pm – Venue TBA

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.