



**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 17**

**SHOWCASE**

## GENERAL MEETING

Orinda Community Church  
Fellowship Hall  
10 Irwin Lane, Orinda

- Enjoy Breakfast on the Patio
- Reconnect with your OML friends
- Learn about our Priorities
- Sign up for Special Interest Activities
- Guest Speaker TBA

Invite your friends • Introduce them to our branch!  
More Information will be in the September Triad

**Tuesday,  
October 15  
General Meeting**

**Get the Facts  
Before You Vote!**

*AAUW-OML and the  
League of Women Voters  
will discuss the California  
Ballot Propositions at  
our October 15 general  
meeting.*

*Mark your calendar and  
invite friends.*



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We hope to have the directory in your hands at the September meeting. Please email Gail ASAP with corrections to your personal contact information.

## ... from DENISE'S PERSPECTIVE



I am honored to be your president this year. The last time I was president we were hit with a once in a century pandemic. We quickly learned how to use Zoom, worked hard to maintain close personal connections, and kept as many activities going as possible. Our branch is dynamic, welcoming new members, with several major initiatives that requires many dedicated, hard-working women to volunteer to lead and support them. Thank you to those of you involved in the work of our priorities - Tech Trek, STEM Conference, Public

Policy, Scholarship, Burckhalter School, as well as DEI and Saint Mary's College Partnership. We have almost 20 Special Interest Groups, led by devoted members who make sure members have fun and stay connected. If you are not involved in one or more of our activities - there is a place for you!

Our September meeting is our "Showcase," when we inform the membership of all the work we do in our priorities and our interest groups. This year, we will also kick-off our annual fundraiser. We have a new fundraising plan. More to come on that, but I have a hint - there may be dancing in the aisles at Showcase. We will have the League of Women Voters present the ballot propositions to our branch in October. Put both meetings on your calendar - third Tuesday of the month.

There are a couple of things I would like to accomplish this year. Laura Wittenberg has been working for years developing relationships with Saint Mary's College, as a result they are renewing their University partnership with AAUW. Sending someone to NCCSWL is a good way to advance this partnership, there may be other ways too.

My other goal is to create a branch Google Drive and move all of our records to the shared Google Drive. You may think this is just a way to get the 10 boxes of branch history out of my garage, plus the boxes in other leaders' garages. Yes! But really, we need a 21st century system to store our records based on position, not by the person in the position.

Speaking of branch history, we had a big loss recently in the passing of Carol Messenger. She started the tutoring program at Burckhalter Elementary School in Oakland as a branch priority in 1993 and was our Distinguished Woman in 1997. Opening the school library quickly followed. Our members amassed literally tens of thousands of volunteer hours at Burckhalter since then, making this priority one of the most impactful in our history. Thank you Carol. We will miss you. *(Please turn to page 4 and 5 to read other members' memories of Carol.)*

I want to thank the board members who served last year. We have about 20 members on our two boards who work hard month after month in leadership roles. Most are continuing in their role, or are in another one. Thank you all very much for your commitment to OML. And I am very much looking forward to working with the new board, and all of our members to continue to advance equity for women and girls.

**Denise Burian,  
President**

BOARD MEETING  
HIGHLIGHTS  
June 11, 2024

**The 2024-2025 Membership Directory:** The OML-AAUW Directory may be out in September. The committee started one (1) month earlier in planning and solidifying advertising to possibly achieve the early delivery date.

**Vote to Amend membership Requirements:** The change to the membership bylaw (eliminating a college degree requirement) did not pass. The vote needed 2/3 of membership approval to pass the Bylaw change, and it fell short receiving 65.2% approval. Only 38% of the membership voted with many abstaining which made the passage of the change difficult.

**Burckhalter Update:** The committee would like to acknowledge the big effort of the group for revitalizing and refreshing the library to reflect a modernized, contemporary approach to the library. Members of the Burckhalter committee are meeting with the Principal to see if there are other ways our organization can support the school.

**Scholarship/Awards Committee:** The committee would like to acknowledge the success of the work done by the members. There were 22 girls interviewed for scholarships. The committee was able to learn a lot about these young women through their applications, essays and interviews. Additionally, many thanks to Bonnie Fender for doing a great job with Scholarship committee fundraising, for example, sneaker donations and fashion show, to name a few.

**Tech Trek:** Camp will be taking place at Santa Clara University the second week of July. *Continued on page 3.* Our seven girls are ready to go. Four of our former campers, Georgia Stankus, Sophia Bitton, Clair Casas,

**FOCUS ON ... SEVERAL WAYS to GET INVOLVED THIS YEAR!**

**From Denise:** I am writing this at an exciting time. We are at the cusp of possibly breaking the ultimate glass ceiling for women – The U.S. Presidency. These next few months will be exciting and also fraught with uncertainty and potential conflict. The elections this year will be hard fought, both nationally and locally. Our branch, led by Public Policy and DEI, will be active in ensuring that local school board candidates who support AAUW public policy priorities are elected. The filing deadline for candidates is August 9. We will keep you informed of opportunities to hear the candidates and support those who support our positions. *Turn to page 2 to read Denise’s OML president’s message.*

**BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

*continued from page 2*

and Christophe Davis will be junior counselors at the Hopper Camp held at Santa Clara camp. Our former campers will be four of the six junior counselors at Camp Hopper. Additionally, Bella Stratfor will be a senior counselor at Sonoma State camp. The keynote speaker will be LaDoris Cordell, a former Superior Court judge.

**STEM Conference:** The STEM Conference committee feels this was the best conference yet. The conference was the smoothest running to date. Communication was far better. Kim Lockett was a tremendous help with the ambassadors and worked very well with Stacia. The committee looks forward to Kim co-chairing the committee.

**DEI:** Moving forward, and in light of politics at our local school board level, DEI will modify its focus to school board elections, which will be the upcoming elections for open positions on our four local school boards. A number of board members are not seeking reelection. Up to ten board members are up for reelection so it will be a very busy cycle. We will know who is running in August when candidates announce their campaigns.

**Public Policy:** The committee anticipates working more closely with DEI given the upcoming, busy election cycle upon us.

Gail Chesler, our 2023-2024 President, handed the gavel to Denise Burian, our 2024-2025 President, and new serving members were welcomed to the Board.

**Marcy Place, Secretary**



**Are you interested in a simple way to encourage getting out the vote?**

The 2024 U.S. election will have a major impact on gender equity in education, women’s economic security, and reproductive and civil rights. The good news? When women vote, we change the conversation.

The Public Policy committee is planning postcard and/or letter writing parties in OML members homes. All you need to do is contact Laura Monin by call, text or email to be notified where and when they will occur. All materials will be supplied.



Laura Monin, Co-Chair, Public Policy  
(925) 631-6667 [lamonin@pacbell.net](mailto:lamonin@pacbell.net)

**Get Involved!**

**AAUW-CA School Board Project**

OML has been participating in local school board meetings to speak out against banning books as one way to support the current California curriculum. We get to speak during the public comment period, which is usually near the beginning of the meeting, using a script provided to our members who attend. The meetings in the Lamorinda area schools for this coming year are listed below.

- **AUHSD (Acalanes Union High School District)** meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm, 1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
- **Lafayette School District** meets the third Wednesday at 6 pm, 3477 School Street
- **Orinda School Board** meets the second Monday at 6 pm, Altarinda Way, Orinda
- **Moraga School District** meets second Tuesday at 6 pm, 1540 School Street, Moraga
- **Walnut Creek School District** meets twice a month - first and third Mondays at 6 pm, 960 Ygnacio Valley Rd

## TECH TREK SUMMER CAMP



### Tech Trekkers had an AMAZING Time at Camp at Santa Clara University!!

The seven enthusiastic rising 8th grade girls who attended Tech Trek camp at Santa Clara University in July were delighted with their special experiences bonding with “like-minded girls” who love science and math and seeing their possible futures in a variety of STEM careers. They also heard words of wisdom from the high school counselors about the transition from middle school to high school.

The morning core classes were packed with hands-on activities. Some of the activities included evaluating finger prints forensics fingerpainting and using logic to follow the clues to solve a “murder” in forensics. They also built a greenhouse to imitate global warming and learned about oil spills and how melting glaciers affect the ocean in climate science. Dissecting flowers and learning about insect pollinators and the chemistry of photosynthesis in botany were also part of the weeklong activities, as well as making roller coasters, mousetrap cars and stomp rockets in engineering.

Everyone went on a field trip to the Alviso marshlands and salt flats on a very hot day – thank goodness there was a breeze! We also visited the Valley Wastewater Recycling Plant where they showed us the process to make household effluent water clean enough to drink. The girls learned how much water it takes for various foods – beef and pork take the most water, and what a surprise to learn that it takes 600 gallons to make one t-shirt!

A lecture on thermodynamics preceded making ice cream. In chemistry class (*photo at right*) the girls explored the vitamin C content of beverages, and were honored to have **Marie Wolbach**, the founder of Tech Trek, join them for that class!

**Build It Night was the grand finale!** The girls learned about structural engineering and each dorm group built a structure of their own imagination and design using rolled up newspapers. The constructions included a windmill, two ferris wheels, a train, a hot air balloon, the house from the movie *Up* and a tent with a fireplace and a mascot squid head in front tent with a squid. It was a very busy week!

**Molly Mudgett**, a former Tech Trekker from Lafayette now working as an engineer at Apple, taught the robotics class and acted as a co-director of the camp. **Gail Chesler** taught a workshop to soldering a flashlight soldering and also was the camp treasurer. **Kim Lockett** organized volunteers for the Mad City Money workshop, that included **Christine Walwyn**, **Sheila Apte** and **Stacia Cragholm** where the girls had to try to balance a budget while obtaining all the items a household requires. Former Tech Trekkers **Giorgia Stankus**, **Claire Casado**, **Christophe Davis** and **Sophia Bitton** were junior counselors. **Jan Cushman** and **Toni Fannin** were dorm moms at camp.

OML: everyone thanks you for all your support – you helped us earn us a bunch of brownie points with Tech Trek!

**Jan Cushman, Chair, Tech Trek**



*Above: This year's Tech Trek girls with Jan and junior counselors who are former Tech Trek campers.*



In the September issue, you can read personal comments from our OML Tech Trek girls about their camp experiences this summer.

## BURCKHALTER LIBRARY NEWS

### Better World Day

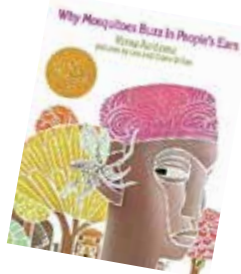
Staff and students participated in a service project for Better World Day. With 1,000 books the Africa Library Project can start a school library. Burckhalter is helping a school in South Africa. We supported their project by helping collect books, then sorting and packing them for shipment across the sea. It was nice to see the students learn the importance and satisfaction of service to others.

#### Here are a few titles.

*Off to Class*, by Susan Hughes

*Why Mosquitos Buzz in People's Ear: A West Africa Tale*

*Elephants Come Home*



School starts August 12th. If you like to visit Burckhalter Elementary School in Oakland to see if volunteering once a month or weekly is possible, please contact me at [kidlitivr@hotmail.com](mailto:kidlitivr@hotmail.com).

**Janette Maher, Chair, Burckhalter Project**

## SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee has updated their application for 2025 and hope to have it on our Website by October. We will continue to offer one \$2000 scholarship at each of the local high schools and two \$2000 scholarship for the Saint Mary's College High Potential Program. We honor women who have shown leadership through their community engagement.

Scholarship plans to continue their fundraising efforts with partnering with Tried and True Tutoring by scheduling ACT and SAT practice classes and exams at the local high schools. We will continue our Sneakers collection for Got Sneakers. Please keep collecting sneakers. You may bring them to our meetings or drop them off at one of locations: 24 fitness in Rheem, Lafayette Veterans Memorial building, Lafayette and Orinda pickle ball courts and many thanks to Stacia we have a container back at the Oakwood Gym! We are also planning on holding a fashion show at Harper Greer in February.

The scholarship committee meets the first Thursday of the month. If you are interested in joining the scholarship committee or would like more information, please contact Bonnie Fend at [brfend@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brfend@sbcglobal.net). Jill Eberhard and Jill Fernald will be joining me in co-chairing the committee this year by assisting me with technology and clerical matters.

**Bonnie Fend, Chair, Scholarship Committee**

## 2023-24 AAUW-OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

\*AAUW members

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Steve Hall, Tech Help & Consulting  
The Service Outlet – Marc Harvey  
Todd Bunch, Lamorinda's Handyman  
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**Look for a new list of advertisers in the October issue of the Triad**



## REMEMBERING CAROL MESSINGER



*Carol Messinger, who passed away on June 7, touched the lives of many OML members. Here are memories written by some of the people she was closest to – those who worked under her tutelage at Burckhalter and/or shared their stories with her in the Memoirs & Musings group, that she started 10 years ago.*

Carol had a large portfolio as longtime chair of Community Relations: the two Burckhalter School projects – tutoring and library the Christmas toy drive; Tenderloin Project and chairing the Memoirs and Musings interest group. She handled all of these not just efficiently but with love.

**Marilyn Budge**  
(pictured at right)



The first time I met Carol Messinger was when she was named Distinguished Woman of our OML Branch of AAUW. The year was 1997. I was quite new to our organization at the time, and somewhat boldly had volunteered to do publicity. And so, with my newfound boldness, I invited our new Distinguished Woman to come over to my house for coffee and an interview. Carol, being Carol, gladly accepted. The article told of Carol's involvement in our branch "adopting" Burckhalter Elementary School in Oakland as one of our priorities. But more importantly, that encounter marked the beginning of a wonderful friendship that lasted 27 years.

It so happened that the very same week, my husband Jud told me he'd met the nicest guy when he joined a local Organ Workshop group. That man was David Messinger, Carol's husband. With our husbands' interest in organ playing and Carol's and my participation in AAUW, we four had a double bond. Over the years a cascade of organ concerts, get-togethers, and activities followed. Those many moments have become precious memories.

In more recent years, my participation in the AAUW Memoirs and Musings interest group brought me closer to Carol, as well as to the other members of our group. Carol was an avid and prolific writer and shared many aspects of her interesting life and musings with us. She was an amazing person in countless ways. But most consequential to me was that she was my friend. And, if you were lucky enough to have had Carol as a friend, you were pretty darned lucky.

**Judy Hammon**

Although we first met in 2019, it feels to me like I have always known Carol. She hosted many of our "Memoirs" meeting at her home. I was rarely an "on time" person and her kind welcoming smile always eased my distress at being late. The memories of her innate kindness reflected in her wordless warm smiles are indelibly printed in my heart.

**Cayo Marschner**

I find it hard to remember when I first met Carol and David Messinger, but think it was in a small restaurant on the coast of the main road through Carmel. I do not think we had ever met before but we got talking and it never seemed to stop. We went together down that road, much less people in those days and we walked along the road quite gently and looking at all the strange houses and strange plants. On the way home we paid another visit to a shop where David had spotted a metal bird display, and went in and bought it. I liked it myself so always had a look for it when I visited their house in Lafayette – on the bookshelf, just watching life there. I also remember that Carol found a small fox who liked the chairs in the garden just outside the patio and spent each night there, without being disturbed by the occupants. Carol, however, had a very brief look for him most evenings.

As far as I can remember there was always a Christmas party at the Messingers. Lots of people were always invited and a few of us used to help play the organ, which David was learning. We always sung religious hymns then, and then went into the dining room and had wonderful food which Carol must have spent a great of time and effort preparing.

When I went with Carol and David to Iceland we visited numerous churches, some quite small and David would usually try out their organ, each one of which was almost always quite different. Carol and I would sit on a wooden bench and watch David play, which he enjoyed a lot. I miss their wonderful friendship a huge amount.



**Jennifer Cook**

*Carol, with Cayo and Jennifer at a Memoirs meeting*

## REMEMBERING CAROL MESSINGER, continued



her accomplishments, was instrumental in organizing the Burckhalter volunteers.

Soon after, I met her husband, David, a locally well-known structural engineer. I am in the same profession so we formed a unique bond. Carol shared countless stories about the people and the iconic projects he worked on, of which I knew several.

Through her life stories which she eloquently narrated, I learned about an America I didn't know. I learned how her engineer dad, homemaker mom and the three of them lived in a modest home in Alameda. Her mom made beautiful dresses for her. She told me about the depression years when her grandparents moved in with them. She talked about the social environment, the expectations, hopes and struggles. It all sounded so much like where I grew up. The surroundings and the challenges may be different and yet felt so familiar. As an immigrant, I had certain assumptions about how an "American" lived.

Carol was only a year younger than my mother. Yet, while so different in many ways, they were both similar in many ways. Listening to the different narratives in our group, especially Carol's, fundamentally changed my perception of America. Thinking about Carol and how deeply she touched my life, speaks to the universal human experience we share. This reminds me of a saying from an ancient Indian writing: *"Meeting strangers in the world is like two twigs coming together while floating in the river. For a second or two they are converging, coming closer together. Their paths flowing downstream and eventually meeting the ocean may be the same but will never meet again."*

I am so grateful to have had Carol in my life, even so briefly.

**Sheila Apte**

*Pictured above with Judy Hammon*

I first met Carol when Marilyn Budge (a long time AAUW member who moved to Hawaii years ago) picked me up to attend my first Memoirs meeting at Carol's home. I joined the group and was helping at Burckhalter School at the time. I didn't know for a long time that Carol, who rarely talked about

Carol was the founder of our AAUW Burckhalter Project. From day one, she was deeply dedicated and devoted to all the projects she oversaw. She guided us for more than 20 years in the library and with our tutoring. She was always so engaging with the teachers and staff and so encouraging and supportive with her students. Her commitment and energy were boundless! She was always there for us. Everyone loved her!

**K. De Groot**  
**A 20 year tutoring volunteer**



**Some photo memories from the Burckhalter days**



## SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

### LaReina Torres ~ Fueled by Determination My Experience at NCCWSL

Attending the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) organized by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) was an unbelievable experience to network, educate me on AAUW, and meet like-minded women in a variety of fields. Throughout this conference, I encountered not only remarkable individuals but a number of inspiring speakers. Speakers such as Ambericent Cornett, who defied convention by transitioning from a military and intelligence background to establishing her own epidemiology lab. Another speaker, India Prather, opened my eyes to how scholarships can not only be an asset to my education but create a tremendous skill set. Moreover, interacting with the CEO of AAUW, Gloria Blackwell, was nothing short of awe-inspiring, as she shared her perspective on the organization's goals and aspirations.



*LaReina with AAUW  
Chief Executive officer,  
Gloria Blackwell*

One of the most significant takeaways for me was the realization that it is never too late to chart a new career path or choose to take an unconventional route because no one should be constrained by preconceived limitations. This experience has instilled in me a profound sense of empowerment and optimism about my own potential to effect positive change. Additionally, it has fueled my determination to advocate for pressing issues such as women's health, medical research, and personal advocacy, all of which are integral to the ethos of AAUW and NCCWSL.

Laura Wittenberg has invited me to introduce the partner student affiliate membership to Saint Mary's women students. It would be an honor to extend the transformative experiences I had at NCCWSL to other young women student leaders. The guidance and opportunities provided by AAUW and NCCWSL are vital for nurturing the next generation of female leaders at Saint Mary's College. Three other students from Saint Mary's who attended the New Leadership Program at Saint Mary's this summer, have expressed interest in our working together with Myrna Santiago, Ph.D. to launch an AAUW Student Affiliate Club on campus. We would be sharing resources that we as students have at the college as a partner member of AAUW. By creating more avenues for us to engage with these empowering platforms, we can inspire and equip ourselves with the tools and confidence to make a meaningful impact in the world.

### OML Partnership with Saint Mary's College

I met with Dr. Myrna Santiago, PhD, Director of Women and Gender Studies on the recommendation of Dr. Aeelah Soine, PhD, Interim Vice Provost of Student Studies. Dr. Soine believed our branch has a shared mission: Develop Women Leaders through education, advocacy, philanthropy and research. Our plan is to partner with Saint Mary's Women and Gender Studies program.

Professors Myrna Santiago and Maria Ruiz took up the challenge to launch a campus leadership program. The idea began at Rutgers University 30 years ago and has expanded to 15 colleges nationwide. The week-long program focuses on teaching undergraduate women how to become actively involved in politics, advocacy, and public service. (*Read Myrna Santiago's article on the leadership program in the April '24 issue of the Triad.*)

Myrna asked if I could help her recruiting speakers, workshop leaders, local politicians and community activists, as well as possible donors/sponsors for the project. I agreed to help in any way I could. I felt this was a great opportunity for our branch of AAUW to actively support them. I shared with her the contact information for a number of our members who were actively involved in our communities and beyond. Denise Burian, Chris Laszcz-Davis, Laura Monin, Ellen Beans and Shari Simon, to name a few of our own members, participated in the events. AAUW-OML was acknowledged at several of the networking events and in the media for our support.

I have had the privilege of meeting a number of the student participants. What surprised me was the number of young women who had attended Tech Trek, received AAUW branch scholarships and attended NCCWSL. Looking forward we have five students at Saint Mary's who would like to become pro-active in creating an AAUW-Student Affiliate Club with the Women and Gender Studies faculty as advisors in partnership with AAUW-OML. These young women are grateful to the members of AAUW and the local branches who have supported them in their journey. This opportunity for our branch aligns with the state mission and priorities: Gov. Trek, Leadership, Scholarship, DEI, STEM and more. I look forward to working with these young women in the coming year.

For more information and student testimonials of the first "The NEW (New Education for Women's) Leadership program" follow this link: <https://www.stmarys-ca.edu/new-leadership>  
**Laura Wittenberg, Saint Mary's Liaison**



## SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES

**CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP**

Calling all avid readers who want to read 10 recent best sellers for a total cost of \$25! There are a few spaces left in the Critics' Choice pass-around book group. You read one book each month from October through July or August, and then pass it on at the beginning of the next month. Plus, you keep the last book.

Thanks to all of you who participated in the selection process, held earlier this year due to my travel plans. Here is the list of books we will read in the coming year:

1. *Night Watch* by Jayne Anne Phillips
2. *Small Mercies* by Dennis Lehane
3. *Table for Two* by Amor Towles
4. *The Women* by Kristin Hannah
5. *Solito* by Javier Zamora
6. *How to Age Disgracefully: A Novel* by Claire Pooley
7. *The Glassmaker* by Tracy Chevalier
8. *An Unfinished Love Story* by Doris Kearns Goodwin
9. *Burn Book* by Kara Swisher
10. *When Women Ran 5th Avenue* by Julie Satow

If you haven't let me know if you are participating this year, I would like to hear from you. We will hold the group to 30 participants and open up to new members after all current members have the opportunity to renew. Look for me at Showcase on September 17! Andrea Green, [asdgreen@comcast.net](mailto:asdgreen@comcast.net).

**BIKE RIDING GROUP  
Last Thursday of the Month**

Our group bicycles on the last Thursday morning of each month. We ride on trails (not on streets). Please contact Diane Bell, [dianelouise2020@yahoo.com](mailto:dianelouise2020@yahoo.com). for information about this month's ride.

**ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK  
Friday, August 16 • 10 am  
at Orinda Books,  
276 Village Square, Orinda**

Book: *Tom Lake*, by Ann Patchett, In the spring of 2020 Lara's three daughters return to the family's orchard in northern Michigan. While picking cherries they beg their mother to tell them the story of Peter Duke, a famous actor with whom she shared both a stage and a romance years before at a theater company called Tom Lake. The book is a meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives of our parents before they became parents. It explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart. Contact Susan Wilson, [schnappsmom@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schnappsmom@sbcglobal.net), or Mary Mlynek, [ml\\_mlynek@yahoo.com](mailto:ml_mlynek@yahoo.com) for more information.

**DEI – BLM ALLIES GROUP  
Monday, August 12  
Via Zoom • 3-4:15 pm**

The DEI group decided we will focus on the School Board Project and local school board elections until the November election. Please join us for ensuring our local schools are represented by elected officials who reflect our public policy priorities. DEI is open to all interested members. Contact Denise Burian or Shari Simon for more info: [denburian@gmail.com](mailto:denburian@gmail.com). [sharisimon55@gmail.com](mailto:sharisimon55@gmail.com).

**EVENING SALON  
Thursday, August 8 • 6 pm  
at Mary Leigh Miller's home**

All members are welcome for refreshments and drinks in an open and casual environment. We bring topics to discuss - about issues of the day- social, cultural, important news stories. There will be no meeting in July. Contact Denise Burian at [denburian@gmail.com](mailto:denburian@gmail.com) for more information.

**GREAT DECISIONS  
Wednesday, August 7  
10 am • Sue Wilson's home**

The topic for this month is #7 – High Seas Treaty. Please RSVP to Susan Wilson, [schnappsmom@sbcglobal.com](mailto:schnappsmom@sbcglobal.com). Her address: 25 Waterloo Place, Moraga 925 376-0606

**2025 TOPICS AND AUTHORS**

- American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads - John Ikenberry
- U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy - Daniel Drezner
- U.S.-China Relations - Thomas J. Christensen
- International Cooperation on Climate Change - Josh Busby
- The Future of NATO and European Security - Kori Schake
- AI and American National Security - Julie George
- India: Between China, the West, and the Global South - Leslie Vinjamuri
- After Gaza: American Policy in the Middle East - Daniel Kurtzer



Information and sign-ups will be at Showcase on September 17. Email Judy Helder: [judyhelder@gmail.com](mailto:judyhelder@gmail.com)

**BOCCE BALL  
Monday 6 & 20 • 10 am  
Every Tuesday • 6 pm  
Moraga Commons Bocce Courts**

We meet for casual play at the Moraga Commons on the first and third Mondays. In the spring and summer months we also play Tuesday evenings in a league game. You are welcome to join either or both groups. Not a lot of experience is necessary – it's an easy game to learn! Contact Mary Leigh Miller at [mlmiller602@gmail.com](mailto:mlmiller602@gmail.com) for more information.

**AUGUST 2024  
AT A GLANCE**

5, 19 MON – BOCCE BALL  
10 am – Moraga Commons Bocce Courts  
*Read more on page 9.*

7 WED – GREAT DECISIONS  
10 am – Susan Wilson’s home  
*Read more on page 9.*

8 THUR – EVENING SALON  
7 pm –Home of Mary Leigh Miller  
*Read more on page 9.*

12, 26 MON – GOLF GROUP  
Contact Jan Gee for time and venue, [jgee17@yahoo.com](mailto:jgee17@yahoo.com).

12 MON – DEI-BLM Allies Group  
3 pm – Via Zoom  
*Read more on page 9.*

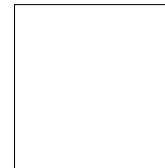
**13 TUE – BOARD MEETING**  
**10 am – Orinda Community Church**

16 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK  
10 am – Orinda Books  
*Read more on page 9.*

24 SAT – DEADLINE for SEPTEMBER TRIAD  
Send all articles to Mary Leigh Miller, 925 360-4443  
[mlmiller602@gmail.com](mailto:mlmiller602@gmail.com).

29 THURS – BIKE RIDING GROUP  
9:30 am – Meeting place TBA  
Contact Diane Bell, [dianelouise2020@yahoo.com](mailto:dianelouise2020@yahoo.com).

AAUW-OML  
Database Coord.  
3537 Springhill Rd.  
Lafayette, CA 94549



**SEPTEMBER 2024**

*Look for more information in the September Triad*

**10 TUE – BOARD MEETING**  
**10 am – Orinda Community Church**

**17 TUE – SHOWCASE**  
**9:30-11:30 am – Orinda Community Church**

**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.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Some of our special interest groups take a break in the summer. They will all be showcased at our first general meeting of the upcoming year on September 17. You will have the opportunity to sign up and get more information on each activity.