

**TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17**
SHOWCASE
GENERAL MEETING

Orinda Community Church
Fellowship Hall
10 Irwin Lane, Orinda
9:30 ~ 11:30 am

- Enjoy Breakfast on the Patio
- Reconnect with your OML friends
- Learn about our Priorities
- Sign up for Special Interest Activities
- Participate in our Fundraiser Kick-off

Invite your friends • Introduce them to our branch!

At this meeting, OML members, Barbara Bell and Diane Bell will introduce us to a new branch fundraising concept – Raising the Bar! You will find out just how much it takes to support our branch priority projects and how you can help us raise the bar. We are starting out with the bar already raised, thanks to a generous \$2,000 donation from one of our Tech Trek parents and two \$500 donations.

Turn to page 3 to learn about how our fundraiser works.

At this meeting, we will also be looking for your vote on the Branch Proposed Budget for 2024-25, outlined on page 8.

**Tuesday,
October 15**
General Meeting

AAUW-OML and the League of Women Voters, Diablo Valley, will help us better understand the confusing ballot initiatives.

Attend and Get Educated!

There will be 10 State ballot propositions on the November ballot. At this meeting, representatives from the League of Women Voters Diablo Valley will be providing a PowerPoint presentation reviewing each initiative, detailing the Pros and Cons, and defining the supporters and opponents of each.

Propositions on this years' ballot encompassing our Public Policy Priorities are:

- Prop 3 – Freedom to Marry
- Prop 6 - End Slavery in California Act
- Prop 32 – Raises minimum wage to \$18

Turn to page 6 to find out how you can help Public Policy committee members get out the vote.

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... from DENISE'S PERSPECTIVE



As advocates for equity for women – I am sure you join me in the excitement of being so close to breaking the ultimate glass ceiling – the President of the United States! Many brave women blazed the trail to get to this point, and it is about time. But we can't take success for granted. There is still work to be done. Which is why AAUW and our OML Branch continue the work at the local level. *So what do we do?* OML members work to send girls to Tech Trek camp, put on the STEM Conference for middle school girls, provide

leadership training and mentoring through our ambassadorship program, and volunteer at Burckhalter Elementary School Library. We also provide scholarships to local high school girls and to first Generation women at Saint Mary's College who demonstrate leadership potential. We also send two women to AAUW's National Conference of College Student Women Leaders and advocate for public policy in our local communities. We just sent a Candidate Questionnaire to the school board candidates in the Acalanes and Lafayette school districts so we can let you know which candidates support AAUW's public policy priorities. Several of us will attend local postcard writing parties to get out the vote. Contact Laura Monin about dates so you can join us. We do it all to advance equity for women and girls.

I recently attended the Tech Trek Reunion event. The seven girls who were there, and the three high school girls who were camp counselors were so excited about their experience. We also began meeting with 17 Ambassadors who will help us put on the STEM Conference on March 8, 2025. We are giving them more responsibility this year and they are excited about developing leadership abilities. We know we positively impact the futures of the girls for whom and with whom we work.

You will hear a lot about the programs OML sponsors at our annual Showcase meeting on Tuesday, September 17. We are devoting this meeting to take a deeper dive into the work of our branch. Many of our members volunteer a lot of time to our projects, but we always need more help. It takes a large village to accomplish our work for the year. And we change the lives of these girls and young women. In addition, our membership will hear about and vote on the 2024-25 budgets, posted on page 8.

Our Action Plan for the year for all projects costs over \$48,000. We raise some of that money in various small fundraisers, donations throughout the year, plus registration fees collected for the STEM Conference. The fundraiser party we had the last two years, while very successful, took a lot of time from members who also run our projects, and it cost several of us a significant amount. For example, not counting the \$75 ticket for the event, I spent over \$300 on the prizes, plus my time to ask for, pick up, and prepare the prize baskets. So we created a new plan – a direct fundraising request to our members, from family and friends, and even parents of the girls we serve. It is called *Raising the Bar*. We will have a thank you celebration at the end of our drive for all members and donors. I hope you will join me in pledging as much as you can so our community outreach volunteers can spend more time working on the projects and less time fundraising. See you on September 17th.

Denise Burian, President

BOARD MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS
August 13, 2024

Denise Burian took over the gavel from Gail Chesler and will lead us through 2024-25 AAUW-OML year.

A “Must See” September Meeting: The meeting will showcase our branch priorities along with our social activities. Additionally, the roll-out of a new fundraiser designed to replace our December event will be presented.

Membership: Currently, AAUW-OML has renewed over 100 members and expects the number to increase with new members. Goal is to expand our membership by 15% to 20%. Ideas to accomplish this expansion: evening programs that include an educational component (i.e., planning for retirement); target women moving into retirement; encourage our current membership to invite potential members to these educational programs and our meetings; improve and increase our advertising efforts

Public Policy: At our October meeting, women from the League of Women Voters will attend the meeting to discuss ballot propositions.

OML High School Initiative: Current junior and senior high school ambassadors have created a program promoting three (3) “Health Pillars” (priorities) for high school teenagers (Mental Health, Period Poverty and Healthcare & Medicine). A Project Proposal Request was presented to Denise Burian for AAUW-OML sponsorship consideration. The Mission of “Teens for Women's Health” is to combat gender health inequities.

Trek Tech: 80 to 82 girls attended the camp. Lamorinda had a great representation of counselors and presenters at the camp, including a workshop conducted by Gail Chesler. The reunion for the Stanley/OIS/Josquin Moraga camp attendees was held on August 23 at 7 pm at Miramonte Gardens. This is a great opportunity to hear from the girls about their experiences at camp.

Continued on page 6

FOCUS ON ... RAISING THE BAR!

Raise the Bar for Tomorrow's Leaders

OML is excited to be kicking off a fundraising campaign in support of the branch priorities: Scholarships to local graduating seniors and women student leaders at Saint Mary's College, Tech Trek Summer Camp for rising 8th grade girls, annual STEM Conference for middle school girls, Burckhalter Elementary School library, and Diversity-Equity-Inclusion initiatives.

At our September, October and November general meetings, we will be accepting your contributions that will help us raise the bar. In December, all donors will be invited to a special celebratory party – the fundraising team's thank you for your interest and support of one of the most important parts of our branch's mission.

Did you know? One of the best ways to contribute to a nonprofit is through an IRA or 401-K distribution. If you are over 59, each year you can designate direct donations to a 501(c)3 nonprofit (as the OML Branch Community Outreach is) without any income tax consequences.

Consider donating in one of these categories:

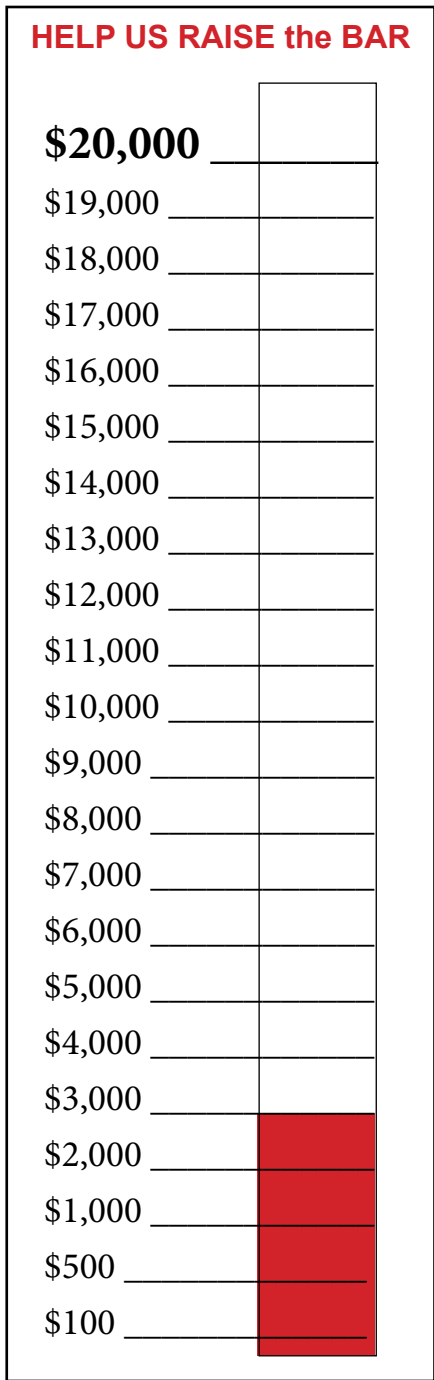
- \$100 Seeds of Hope
- \$250 Bright Futures
- \$500 Stand for Tomorrow
- \$750 Transforming Lives
- \$1000 Dreams for All

Our goal by December 1: \$20,000!

Bring your check to one of our fall meetings or consider donating online by going to our website donor page. You can also click on this QR code.



HELP US RAISE the BAR



**SHRED PAPERS ON SITE
AAUW-OML SHRED DAY**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12
9 am to noon
5A Rent-A-Space
455 Moraga Rd • Moraga

SAVE THE DATE:
SHRED PAPERS ON SITE

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 12**
9 am to noon
at 5A Rent-A-Space
Moraga




AAUW-OML's Annual Tech Trek Paper Shredding Fundraiser returns to 5A Rent-A-Space on Shred Day – always on the second Saturday in October.

Shred Papers On Site

Mark your calendars. Save the date! Plan to securely shred boxes of papers to help send local middle school girls to AAUW's own Tech Trek STEM camp.

Quick and easy – no need to get out of your car. Tech Trek volunteers will lift and empty your boxes into the secure paper shredding truck bins and return your empty file boxes to your car. No need to remove staples, paper clips or paper file covers.

Shred Fees:

\$12 per bankers' size box
Pulverized shredding on site by local company, *Diablo Paper Shredding*. Adding a generous donation for TECH TREK to help cover our increased costs will be much appreciated. Cash, checks, and cards accepted.

Thank you for your support.

TECH TREK SUMMER CAMP

Tech Trekkers Thank OML for Their Experience at Camp!!

Sadie Ginestro: I had an outstanding time over this week. My favorite workshop we did was flashlights. In this class we got to solder wires to make a small flashlight! One other class I really enjoyed was robotics. During the school year I chose coding and robotics as my elective but this robotics class was SO much better!!! We got to explore a lot more, and we got challenged much more. Finally, I feel like having the opportunity to learn without boys was extremely helpful. Classes went a lot faster and we were able to learn more and get more done. I hope this camp will keep giving girls like me an amazing experience!

Priya Holl: My core class has been AMAZING. I didn't know how much I would enjoy forensics but the teacher is great, the group is great and the murder mystery has been a blast! Soldering, 3D math, instant insanity, Mad City Money and the counselor panel all were interesting and fun. All in all, Tech Trek has been amazing and I am very grateful for all the money that you raised that allowed everyone to participate in Tech Trek.

Madelyn Azalde: This has been one of my favorite experiences. The labs, classes, dorm group, lectures and people have taught me so much. I have never learned so much in one week. I was so inspired by all the amazing women. Tech Trek has opened my eyes and sparked so many interests. Thank you for giving me this wonderful, once in a lifetime opportunity.

Olivia Sanders: I want to thank you for allowing me to have the wonderful experience of being in Tech Trek. I have learned

a lot about many different interesting topics and have many interesting people who are amazed about all this as I am. I have helped conduct many interesting experiments in my core class, Climate Science, such as cleaning up oil spills...that is only scratching the surface of all the exciting and intriguing things going on at this camp.

Quinn Sousa: Thank you so much for enabling me to go to Tech Trek. I had such an awesome week because of you. My two favorite parts were the field trip and meeting so many new friends. On our field trip we visited Alviso county park and the Valley Water Purification Center. I learned so much about the water purification process and the wildlife in marshes and wetlands. I had an amazing experience at Tech Trek and I can't thank you enough for enabling me to experience it.

Merritt Thompson: The biggest thing I will take away is how it has changed my viewpoint. I used to think: I can learn to do that later. But I can learn to do that now. I have done and worked on things that before Tech Trek I wouldn't have thought I could do. So thank you not only giving me an action-packed week, not only learning and expanding my knowledge, but also changing my viewpoint.

Athena Simbajon: Thank you for choosing and sponsoring me to go to this STEM camp! It's really fun and I've made new friends in my dorm group! Tech Trek isn't like any other STEM camp that I've been in, which gives me a chance to step out of my comfort zone (and away from my electronics). I've had many opportunities to learn new things, all of which I've taken advantage of.

Jan Cushman, Chair, Tech Trek



We enjoyed a reunion with all of our seven Tech Trek girls and three of the four counselors who were past Tech Trekkers on Friday, August 23. Molly Mudgett, a former Tech Trekker, (on the left) also joined us and the girls were delighted to see her again.

Coming in October:

- Shred Day Event
Saturday,
October 12
- Walnut Creek
Restaurant Walk
(Date TBA)

Both are fundraisers for Tech Trek

STEM CONFERENCE UPDATE

We are already working hard to plan our 2025 STEM Conference for Middle School Girls. Kim Lockett is going to chair our committee this year. Kim is in her second year volunteering with AAUW. Kim taught middle school science at JM for 21 years. She now works for Stanford Health Care Supply Chain as a Sr. Training Specialist. She took middle school students from JM to Costa Rica for 17 years. She also volunteers with a YMCA Model government program which provides opportunities for high school students to develop their leadership skills. Other key volunteers are Denise Burian (co-chair), Peggy Cabaniss (Hospitality & Facilities) Stacia Cragholm (Workshops), Shelia Apte (Volunteer Recruitment), Chris Laszcz-Davis (Sponsorships), Laura Wittenburg (Parent Program), Sandy Fox-Sohner (Conference Speaker) Marie Bonilla, and Renee Rosado.

We are looking for a lead to help with Publicity and Community Outreach. If you are interested in helping please contact Kim or Denise. We will also need day of volunteers to help make our conference on March 8 at Saint Mary’s College a success. We will have a sign up at our AAUW General Meeting on Sept 17.

We have selected 17 high school ambassadors to help plan the conference. Our ambassador program has become so popular that we had to have students fill out an application this year. We have two Senior Ambassadors who have already started planning and meeting with Kim and they will lead our group. We had our first ambassador meeting on August 25 where we selected four Lead Ambassadors to take on a larger role.



Here is a photo of some of our Ambassadors for this year. They are from grades 9-12 and represent quite a few area high schools: Campolindo, Miramonte, Acalanes, Las Lomas, College Park, Carondelet and Athenian. That’s Kim on the far left!

Kim Lockett, Chair, STEM Conference.

SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE

OML is following the local school board elections. We will be paying particular attention to the Acalanes Union High School District, as there are six candidates, both pro-public education and conservative candidates, on the ballot for two open seats. Moraga has three pro-public candidates vying for two open seats.

OML sent out candidate questionnaires to the Acalanes and Moraga District candidates. Once our Public Policy and DEI committees review the submissions, we will notify our members which candidates’ responses are in line with AAUW’s public policy priorities. In addition to the list of candidates for each district below (thought you should see who is running in the uncontested districts as well), you will find the list of candidate forums currently scheduled for the Acalanes and Moraga Districts.

**Acalanes Union High School District
Two open seats, six open candidates**

- Peter Catalano
- Wendy Reicher
- Sibyl Minighini
- Stacey Eggers Schweppe
- Andrew Fontan
- Paul Chopra

**Moraga School District
Two open seats, three candidates**

- Stephanie Dickerson
- Lee Hays
- Gian David Panetta

**Lafayette School District
Two open seats - no contest**

- Jon Deane
- Alita Maria Smit

**Orinda School District
Two open seats - no contest**

- Vinita Anantavat
- Hillary Weiner

Upcoming School Board Candidate Forums

The Las Trampas Creek Council of PTAs [LTCC] is planning Candidate Forums for two of the contested campaigns in our area – Acalanes and Moraga School Board. LTCC has scheduled forums with the League of Women Voters (LWV) as Event Moderators for: Moraga School District - Wednesday, October 9th at 7pm (location TBD) and AUHSD - Thursday, October 17th at 7pm (location TBD).

The Moraga Citizens Network will be holding a candidate night on October 3 at the Soda Center at Saint Mary’s College and via Zoom. The candidate night will start starting at 6:30 pm with the Town Council Candidates. The section devoted to the Moraga School District Board Candidates, starts at 7:15 pm. We will continue to keep you informed of any additional candidate forums, postcard writing events, or other election activities as it gets closer to November.

Turn to the next page for more on our school boards.

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES



Come to the Party!

Our first postcard and/or letter writing party will be held on Thursday, September 12th, 10 to noon, at the home of Denise Burian. Please RSVP to Denise if you can make it.

We will be contacting voters asking for them to vote for local school board candidates who have indicated via questionnaire their support for AAUW Public Policy Priorities. In addition, we will be contacting low turnout voters in other states urging them to vote in this crucial national election.

There will be additional “parties” in the coming weeks. Please contact Laura Monin if interested in participating or hosting a future party.

Laura Monin, Public Policy Co-chair

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Our AAUW-OML branch High School scholarship awardees are university bound; Zoya is off to Boston University and Nicole Hu and Bella Stratford are both starting Cal Berkeley. Ayana has graduated and is continuing her work with the San Mateo County Health Department office of Diversity and Equity to better engage marginalized communities in matters of mental health. La Reina Torres, and Evony Jackson are resuming their studies at Saint Mary’s College.

Last month you heard from La Reina regarding her experience with NCCWSL. These young women are continuing to find opportunities to take the lead and build their leadership skills.

Our scholarship committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm. Our first meeting is Thursday, September 5, we will meet at Carol Heppenstall’s house. If you would like to join our committee, please contact Bonnie Fend at brfend@sbcglobal.net. Join us at our first meeting or sign up at Showcase, our September branch meeting! If you are looking for a fun, social group and want to be impressed with what the young women in high school and college are doing, we invite you to check out our committee. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new members.



Don’t forget to keep collecting those sneakers!

Bonnie Fend, Chair, Scholarship Committee

SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE, cont.

Ongoing School Board Monitoring Efforts

OML members continue to monitor school board meetings in the Acalanes, Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda Districts on a monthly basis (the Acalanes District frequently has two meetings a month). Our members often introduce themselves during the Public Comment portion of the meeting to tell the board members 1) who we represent; 2) that we support the needs of all students, academic freedom, protection from censorship, and bias-free education; and, 3) inform them about AAUW activities that support their students, e.g., Scholarships and Tech Trek. When appropriate, members will also comment on important, relevant agenda items, including topics such as DEI, curriculum, and staff and student support.

Last year, meetings got particularly heated when representatives from groups, such as *Moms for Liberty* and other extremist organizations, attended the meeting to promote their conservative, anti-public education agendas. Please contact Karen Feeney or Laura Monin if you are interested in participating in these efforts.

Karen Feeney, DEI Committee

BOARD MEETING continued

Burckhalter School: At this point, it is uncertain when the library will open. Teachers usually like a couple of weeks for the students to settle into school prior to opening the library. The committee NEEDS volunteers.

Fundraising: Watch for the return of many of our successful fundraising efforts: Sneaker Drive, Restaurant Walk, Shred Event, Fashion show and the possible return of Tried and True.

NOTE: February 2025 meeting will be held at a different location (TBA).

Marcy Place, Secretary

AAUW FUND – GREATEST NEEDS

Contributions to AAUW Fund help benefit AAUW at the national level in the following ways:

- Research & Policy – updates to and dissemination of our widely-cited signature research reports are funded almost entirely by Greatest Needs
- Programs – staff time and other direct expenses for NC-CWSL, Salary Negotiation, Financial Literacy and Leadership Programs funded with Greatest Needs
- Membership – membership expenses are not funded completely with dues and need additional revenue from Greatest Needs
- Communication – Greatest Needs helps keep AAUW at the forefront of a national dialogue about Women’s Equity

Note that AAUW is rated “Four Star” by Charity Navigator – your donations are being wisely spent in furthering the mission of AAUW.

Although AAUW fund donations are maintained on a calendar basis, our donations for the past fiscal year are as follows:

July – Dec 2023:	\$5255
Jan – June 2024	\$3177
Total from our branch	\$8,432

We thank the following members who have donated to AAUW Fund this past fiscal year:

Trudy Barron	Denise Burian
Ruth Joseph	Patricia Lopker
Laura Wittenberg	Stacia Cragholm
Diane Bell	Mary Levey
Maryellen Judson	Leslie Pfeifer
Mary Ann McLeod	Gail Chesler
Jennet Zundel	Valarie Burgess
Soraya Golesorkhi	Mary Ann McLeod
Denise Burian	Alison Mackenzie
Sally Church	Martha Schimbor
June Howe	Marilyn Evans
Laura Wittenberg	Trudy Barron
Sharon Flower	Laura Wittenberg
Victoria Courtney	Marie Bonilla
Janet Mendenhall	Marcella Place
Barbara Bell	Lucy Oberg-Olson
Avon Wilson	Janette Maher
Janette Maher	Judy Hammon
Peggy Cabaniss	Carrol Foxall

Peggy Cabaniss, Outgoing VP, AAUW Fund

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

As the co-chair of membership with Ling Yan I am excited to share with you our goals and action plans to help increase membership through outreach to soon-to-be and new retirees who are looking for ways to give back while reconnecting with their community and building friendships with women who share mutual interests. I am also the AAUW-OML liaison with Saint Mary’s College under AAUW’s National College and University Member Partnership. I have been networking with the faculty and department leaders for eight years.

Last spring I was referred to Myrna Santiago, Director of the Woman and Gender Studies program, and Maria Ruiz, Global Studies professor. They helped initiate the New Leadership Program at Saint Mary’s – a one-week on-campus, residential intensive to prepare undergraduate women to pursue a career in public service and leadership. Myrna asked if our members could help her connect with various people to participate as speakers or leaders in residence. It was a privilege to refer Myrna to our members and our connections to women leaders in public office, both locally and beyond. This connection has opened doors for our branch to truly begin building a mutually beneficial relationship with the college and our branch. As a result, 10 young women participants applied to join AAUW as e-student members under the College and University Member Partnership program. These young women are looking forward to working with our branch to support our priorities, especially the STEM Conference, Public Policy and Voter initiatives and DEI. They will also have an opportunity to attend the AAUW National Conference for College Women Leaders (NCCWSL) next May at the University of Maryland.

Our goal is to continue to build this relationship to increase AAUW-OML’s visibility in the Lamorinda Community and beyond. We hope to work together to provide programs and resources that make a difference as we work to support these rising stars and leaders in public office and community service careers.

Laura Wittenberg, Co-Chair, Membership and Saint Mary’s Liaison

A Passing of Note:

Connie Meuser passed away on August 10. Connie was an early Burckhalter volunteer and in 1995, was instrumental in opening the Library with an all AAUW-OML volunteer staff. She worked in the library for 25 years and was the Chair for several years in the 2010’s. Connie was missed when she retired five years ago and will forever be remembered by her friends as a loving, caring, intuitive Librarian and wonderful person. Services are private.

PROPOSED 24-25 BUDGET

Proposed Community Outreach Fund FY24/25 Budget

Proposed OML Branch FY24/25 Budget

	Actual FY23/24	Proposed FY24/25
Burckhalter		
Beginning account balance	4,164	3,878
Expenses-books, supplies	-5,833	-5,000
Donations	5,546	1,200
Ending account balance	3,878*	78
DEI		
Beginning account balance	1,872	3,097
Expenses	0	-2,200
Donations	1,225	200
Ending account balance	3,097*	1,097
Local Scholarship		
Beginning account balance	29,833	28,937
Fundraisers expenses +other	-1,762	-1,900
Scholarships-HS seniors	-6,000	-6,000
Scholarships-St. Mary's HP/TRIO students	-4,000	-4,000
Scholarships - NCCWSL	-595	-3,000
Donations	5,867	2,000
Fundraisers income	5,595	3,900
Ending account balance	28,937*	19,937
STEM		
Beginning account balance	13,826	20,997
Ambassadors meetings & volunteers gifts	-1,142	-1,400
Conference intern	0	-1,800
Conference meals, snacks	-3,613	-4,000
Conference honoraria	-1,134	-1,400
Materials	-1,170	-940
St. Mary's rental fee	-5,168	-5,600
T-shirts/tote bags	-3,110	-4,000
Conference other expenses	-760	-1,136
Conference attendee fees	7,950	8,400
Donations & other income	15,318	11,400
Ending account balance	20,997*	20,521
Tech Trek		
Beginning account balance	14,197	17,242
Camper scholarships	-8,400	-8,400
Fundraisers expenses	-1,367	-1,400
Other expenses	-388	-690
Parents' contributions	250	350
Donations	9,227	4,500
Fundraisers income	3,723	3,700
Ending account balance	17,242*	15,302
Unallocated		
Beginning account balance	5,643	5,549
Expenses	-462	-450
Allocations to projects	-15,000	TBD
Donations & other income	2,753	2,000
COF fundraiser net, undesignated income	12,615	13,000
Ending account balance	5,549	20,099

	Actual FY23/24	Proposed FY24/25
INCOME		
Branch Dues	2,592	2,544
May Luncheon	2,784	2,700
Advertising	3,790	3,000
Other	134	100
Total Income	9,300	8,344
EXPENSES		
Administration		
Insurance	570	600
Memorial Gifts	200	200
Postage	240	250
Other	178	310
Community Involvement		
AAUW Fund contribution	1,000	1,000
AAUW Fund expenses	0	0
Community Outreach	0	1,000
Public Policy	0	300
Leadership Recognition		
Distinguished Woman Award	357	350
Meetings		
Zoom account	433	400
Hospital. Supplies+micr.	380	350
May luncheon	2,942	2,700
Program	625	1,000
Room rental	1,965	2,125
Membership		
Advertising	0	365
e-news	180	200
Gift memberships	0	0
Overview/Directory	368	375
Membership activities	111	100
Triad	245	250
Total Ex-penses	9,794	11,875
NET INCOME	-494	-3,531

*Includes board-approved allocation from COF unallocated monies

To view a complete breakdown of these proposed budgets, please contact OML's VP of Finance at: AAUWOMLTreasurer@gmail.com
 These two proposed budgets will be at the September general meeting where you will be asked to vote on their acceptance.

SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES

ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK

**Friday, September 20 • 10 am
at Orinda Books,
276 Village Square, Orinda**

Book: *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See, historical fiction, 365 pages. An intense emotional story about two best friends and their friendship on the Korean island of Jeju, a culture where the women have been free diving 40-60 feet into the cold, rough ocean collecting seafood since the 17th century. For the women divers it is a story of courage, endurance, persistence, as well as physical and psychological bravery. Contact Susan Wilson, schnappsmom@sbcglobal.net, or Mary Mlynek, ml_mlynek@yahoo.com

GREAT DECISIONS

**Wednesday, September 4
10 am • Joanie Jump's home**

The topic for this month is #8, *Pandemic Preparedness: Ending the Deadly Cycle of Panic and Neglect*. Information and sign-ups will be at Showcase on September 17. Email Judy Helder: judyhelder@gmail.com

EVENING SALON

**Thursday, September 12 • 6 pm
at Janette Maher's home**

All members are welcome for refreshments and drinks in an open and casual environment. We bring topics to discuss – social, cultural, important news stories.. Contact Denise Burian at denburian@gmail.com for more information.

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. for information about this month's ride.

MUSEUM MAVENS

**Friday, September 6 • 12 noon
Ristorante Amoroma, Moraga**

We are hoping you will join us at Ristorante Amoroma's in Moraga to help plan our year for Museum Mavens and Gorgeous Gardens. We have some ideas and would love your feedback! Feel free to bring any suggestions you have and just enjoy getting together for lunch. RSVP: TrudyLBarron@gmail.com

On Saturday, October 12, we are planning to attend the Asian Cultural Festival at the Blackhawk Museum Plaza. Look for more information next month.

DEI – BLM ALLIES GROUP

**Monday, September 9
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. We will discuss the results of the school board candidate questionnaires to evaluate which candidates best meet our public policy priorities. Contact Denise Burian for more info. denburian@gmail.com.

HIKING EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS

In order for hiking to continue, this group needs a leader to join Ellen Beans, who will be staying on as co-leader. We are reaching out now to the membership to fulfill this request. A change will now be one stroll/hike a month, led by East Bay Parks, something we have done right along. These hikes occur on Sat. at 10 am. We have established meeting spots to carpool at 9:30 am. The hikes are an easy 2-3 miles in nearby parks and dogs are welcome too. Give some thought to joining us and keeping the hiking going. Marilyn Evans, marilynbevans@att.net. Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com

2023-24 AAUW-OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

*AAUW members

LAFAYETTE

- Asian Accents – Original Designs in Jewelry by K. de Groot*
- Creative Alterations – Josef Jamkochain
- DIABLO FOODS
- Hollie's Homegrown
- Persons Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery – Barbara Persons, MD FACS
- Steve Hall, Tech Help & Consulting
- The Service Outlet – Marc Harvey
- Todd Bunch, Lamorinda's Handyman
- Ware Designs – Fine Jewelry

MORAGA

- AAAAA Rent-A-Space
- E's Auto Service & Repair, Inc
- Golden Palace Restaurant
- National Assoc. for Advancement of Female People – Diane Bell*
- Town Bakery and Cafe
- ViaVienté – Lana Reichick*

ORINDA

- Angie Evans Traxinger & Joan Evans* – Village Associates Real Estate
- CASA ORINDA
- Meadow View Winery
- Shelby's Restaurant and Catering (Complimentary recognition)
- Soraya Golesorkhi* – Coldwell Banker Realty

WALNUT CREEK & Beyond

- Bay Alarm Company
- Milner's Jewelers – Countrywood Shopping Center, Pleasant Hill

Look for a new list of advertisers in the October issue of the Triad

BOCCE BALL

**Monday 16 • 10 am
Moraga Commons Bocce Courts**

We meet for casual play at the Moraga Commons on the first and third Mondays. Not a lot of experience is necessary – it's an easy game to learn! Contact Mary Leigh Miller at mlmiller602@gmail.com for more information.

**SEPTEMBER 2024
AT A GLANCE**

4 WED – GREAT DECISIONS

10 am – Joanie Jump’s home

Read more on page 9.

5 THU – SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

1 pm – Carol Heppenstall’s home

Read more on page 6.

6 FRI – MUSEUM MAVEN LUNCHEON

12 noon – Ristorante Amoroma, Moraga

Read more on page 9

9, 23 MON – GOLF GROUP

Contact Jan Gee for time and venue, jgee17@yahoo.com.

9 MON – DEI-BLM Allies Group

3 pm – Via Zoom

Read more on page 9.

10 TUE – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Orinda Community Church

12 THU – GET OUT THE VOTE POSTCARD WRITING

10 am to noon – Home of Denise Burian

Read more on page 6.

12 THUR – EVENING SALON

6 pm –Home of Janette Maher

Read more on page 9.

16 MON – BOCCE BALL

10 am – Moraga Commons Bocce Courts

Read more on page 9.

17 TUE – SHOWCASE

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

20 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK

10 am – Orinda Books

Read more on page 9.

24 TUE – DEADLINE for OCTOBER TRIAD

Send all articles to Mary Leigh Miller, 925 360-4443

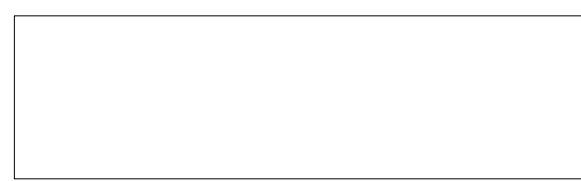
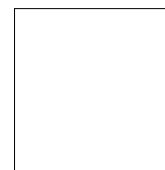
mlmiller602@gmail.com.

26 THURS – BIKE RIDING GROUP

9:30 am – Meeting place TBA

.Read more on page 9

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



OCTOBER 2024

Look for more information in the October Triad

10 TUE – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Orinda Community Church

12 SAT – SHRED DAY EVENT

9 am-noon – 5A Rent-A-Space, Moraga

Read more on page 3.

15 TUE – PUBLIC POLICY - PROPOSITIONS

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.

All our special interest groups will be showcased at our first general meeting of the upcoming year on September 19.

You will have the opportunity to sign up and get more information on each activity.