

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

SHOWCASE

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

- Enjoy a buffet breakfast
- Reconnect with your OML friends
- Learn about our Priorities
- Sign up for Special Interest Activities

*Invite your friends
Introduce them to our branch!*

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21 A Special Public Policy Program

Orinda Community Church
9:30 ~ 11:30 am

Join us to discuss two
important and timely topics

- Congressional
Redistricting in California
- Acalanes Union School
District's move to a
'By-Trustee Area'
Election System

Learn what's driving these initiatives
and the impact they will have locally
and at the national level.

Hear from Experts. Become Informed.

Your Vote Matters.

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for an Important Message
from the League of Women
Voters, Diablo Valley





... from DENISE'S PERSPECTIVE

I can't believe summer is over but I am very excited about our new AAUW-OML year. We kick-off the year with our annual **SHOWCASE** meeting on Tuesday, September 16th at Orinda Community Church. Members love the Showcase meetings because they are all about... US! By that I mean, our OML Branch and all the great community outreach work we do, our impact on the lives of many young people, and the social activities we provide that build friendships and working relationships. Come for a light breakfast buffet and listen to our leaders tell us about all our plans for this year and how you can be involved in them. We need you to volunteer as we could not accomplish them without you. You can help us put on the STEM Conference for middle school girls at on March 7, 2026 (takes over 100 volunteers) or work to send seven 8th graders to Tech Trek (week-long, in-person, hands-on camp at University of Santa Clara). You can also help raise money for scholarships for local high school senior girls and women in the Saint Mary's High Potential 1st Generation program, help operate a library at Burckhalter School in Oakland, and/or engage in public policy and DEI advocacy work within the branch and in the community. ***We make a difference!***

After we work, we play! There are many social interest groups in which you can participate: bocce ball, reading groups, museum group, memoirs writing group, biking group, hiking group, evening salon discussion group, golf, and many more. I can tell you from personal experience, I've made great friends through working together and playing together and my quality of life is so much better because of AAUW-OML.

Note that our branch has two separate 501c organizations. The 501(c)(4) is our branch operating budget. We raise money for it through annual dues and advertising revenue (ads in Directory). It is a non-profit that we pay for rent, printing costs, insurance, coffee and paper supplies at member meetings, any costs incurred for advocacy such as the school board project and lobbying. We don't spend much on that, but we do have to pay rent, some ads in local news weeklies, etc. The second organization we have is 501(c)(3) that includes all costs for our community outreach projects. All donations to a 501(c)(3) are tax deductible so all your contributions are to our "Community Outreach Fund".

Our bylaws state that the full membership must vote on the budget. You will be voting to approve the two separate budgets at the September meeting. You will also be voting on our Strategic Plan, which will reflect what our plans are for the year. They will include putting on a STEM conference for 170 middle school girls, sending 7 girls to Tech Track, giving out local high school and college scholarships, and operating the library at Burckhalter, DEI initiatives, as well as some items AAUW California requires of a 5-star Branch. One of the areas the Board of Directors agreed to focus on for 2025-2026 year is on succession planning. You will hear more about this at Showcase and in the coming months.

Public Policy is closely following the upcoming decision on how to divide the Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) into 5 equal districts. Karen Feeney and I have attended the public hearings in August. There will be two hearings on proposed maps at District offices on September 3rd and 17th, with a final decision on October 15th. Stay tuned for more information in October.

See you at Showcase.

Denise Burian, President

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 12, 2025

Membership

Time to pat ourselves on the back. Our current membership numbers are amazing. Total Membership: 147. (Read more on page 6).

Public Policy

A good number of our members have gone to and will continue to attend public hearings on the redistricting of the Acalanes School District. See the July/August Triad for more information on the very important issue. There will be 2 more meetings with the vote to occur in October. If interested in participating, contact Connie Whitting, Denise Burian or Karen Feeney for important dates and how to get involved.

Burckhalter Elementary School

School has started and the library is in full swing to support the students. If interested in volunteering at the school in the library, please contact Janette Maher at kidlithvr@hotmail.com.

STEM Conference

Save the Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026.

Our Working Board

This year, the board will be working on:

- Updating our branch bylaws.
- Creating a Google Drive for documents and collateral materials.
- 2025-26 Branch Fundraiser.

If interested in more information on "Our Working Board," please join us at our next board meeting on Tuesday, September 9th at Orinda Community Church (1 pm to 3 pm.) or reach out to one of our board members.

Marcy Place, Secretary



FOCUS ON ... GETTING READY for the STEM CONFERENCE ~ MARCH 7, 2026**The High School Ambassador Program**

Our high school ambassadors play a large role in planning the conference. They are all girls who have attended Tech Trek Science Camp and prior STEM Conferences, and are looking for ways to get involved in community leadership roles. With our OML members, they help plan the conference and are assigned to accompany the middle school attendees to all their workshops. Below is a way that one of our ambassadors is making a difference at her high school.

Closing the AI Gender Gap — One Teen at a Time

My name is Colbie Freese, a senior at Campolindo High School, and a Lead Ambassador for this March's AAUW-OML STEM conference. Every year, I'm excited to empower middle school girls to explore STEM careers. I first joined as a participant and loved exploring topics like criminology, architectural engineering, and human brains - subjects we rarely see in school. I've kept coming back because I want other girls to be just as inspired as I was. Being an ambassador helped teach me how to lead - from running volunteer trainings to representing the conference at events.

Last year, I realized I wanted to create a similar experience for more girls. So I founded SHINE! Girls Leadership to empower young girls through leadership training and mentorship. I've since led workshops on topics like crafting SMART goals and building confidence - and it's been amazing to see the impact on attendees.

After an advanced computer science class, I started experimenting with artificial intelligence tools like ChatGPT and was fascinated by the possibilities. When I shared my excitement around AI with my peers, I was surprised at the uncertainty many teenagers, especially girls, felt about using these tools. That hesitancy is concerning because women are already about 25% less likely than men to use AI tools, which can limit their opportunities in the future.

My hope is that SHINE! Girls Leadership can help change this, so I am introducing a 3-workshop virtual training created specifically for teenage girls to explore AI in a safe, fun, and supportive space. On September 7th from 3:00-4:00 p.m. SHINE! Girls Leadership is launching AI in Action, a virtual AI training for girls. During that workshop, we'll explore what AI is, how to use it responsibly, and how girls can use it to bring their own ideas to life. I hope this new leadership program empowers even more girls to see AI as a tool for their own studies and passions.

If you know a teenage girl - family members, friends, or neighbors - please share this program with them. Spreading the word will help us reach more girls who can benefit. Visit shinegirlsleadership.com or contact me at colbie.freese@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you for helping me spread the word!

Colbie Freese

The STEM Committee had its first meeting on August 18th and is already at work to plan another amazing STEM Conference for middle school girls. Thank you to **Shelia Apte, Marie Bonilla, Peggy Cabaniss, Stacia Cragholm, Sandy Fox-Sohner, Danielle Ginestro, Chris Laszcz-Davis, Renee Rosado and Laura Wittenburg** for being our key committee members. **Kim Lockett and Denise Burian** will continue as co-chairs this year.

We have 13 returning high school ambassadors and are selecting new members as I write this. This year we have four 12th grade ambassadors who will be lead ambassadors. As leads they have committed to giving additional time to plan and run our monthly ambassador meetings. We have a great group again this year and are looking forward to strengthening our leadership program for the high school members.

We know many of you consistently volunteer at the STEM Conference and we truly appreciate your time and help! Mark your calendars for our 10th annual STEM Conference at Saint Mary's College on Saturday, March 7, 2026. We will be starting volunteer sign ups this month and have sign-up sheets at our General Meeting on Sept 16th. We will need volunteers for:

- Conference Check-in Morning (7:30 am-9 am)
- Hospitality (7:30 am-3:30 pm)
- Adult Workshop Monitor (8:30 am-3:30 pm)
- Lunch (12-2 pm)
- Parent Program (8:30-11 am)

If you want to sign up, [click on this link](#) to reserve your spot. Shelia Apte is our lead for volunteer recruitment so let her know if you have any questions.

**Kim Lockett, Co-Chair,
STEM Conference**

TECH TREK REUNION ~ SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Tech Trek Girls Welcomed at Our Reunion

This year our eight Tech Trek girls attended three different camps! They shared their different experiences at the reunion. Molly Eichenberger, Anna Ginestro, Helen Liu, Olivia MacDiarmid, Emily Pongpairaj and Surya Spitzer attended Tech Trek camp at Santa Clara University. Farah Falahati went to camp at Fresno State University and Maro Yoshikuni attended the virtual camp.



Although their experiences were different, they all enjoyed a wide variety of hands-on workshops, built structures, met women with careers in STEM, and made friends with like-minded girls. Aria Falahati, who was one of three of our past Tech

Trekkers who were counselors at Santa Clara, shared her experiences as the assistant to the climate science/ocean core class teacher and assisting a dorm mom with her dorm group. Former Tech Trekker and counselor Georgia Stankus talked about the challenge of teaching STEMLingo to the 82 girls at camp, including making sure that the girls could build a device based on an Arduino and program it.

Gail Chesler taught girls how to solder to make a flashlight which was a favorite of many girls. Karen Feeney enjoyed her role as a new dorm mom, successfully managing the 12 girls in her dorm group while having fun. Everyone had great comments about their experiences! Several parents shared that their daughters talked non-stop about camp on their way home! Special thanks to Christine Walwyn for making the Miramonte Gardens Clubhouse available for our event.

Excerpts from their thank you notes:

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to come to Tech Trek, which has opened my eyes to so many paths in my future."

"Thank you so much again for making me believe my STEM path is important. I really loved meeting and bonding with girls who love STEM as much as me, because it makes me believe that girls are the future of science."

"It's been an amazing experience. From soldering my own flashlight (which I never imagined being able to do) to doing an experiment in a college chem lab, each day brought exciting challenges and activities."

"All the classes were amazing and I loved all the hands-on activities. This camp was so awesome, and I am so thankful for this experience."

"Although everything this week has been extremely enjoyable, the number one thing I would like to thank you for is enabling me to make so many different friends and connections with those around me. I really feel as if I've created a new family here."

"This was so amazing. I loved my core class, specifically learning how to inject vaccines and training to inject epipens and also learning about the cardiovascular system."

Turn to the next page to find out how you can support this important program.



**Jan Cushman, Chair, Tech Trek
Photos by Sandy Fox-Sohner**

TWO IMPORTANT FUNDRAISERS for TECH TREK COMING UP NEXT MONTH!

SHRED PAPERS ON SITE
AAUW-OML SHRED DAY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11
 9 am to noon
 5A Rent-A-Space
 455 Moraga Rd • 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. Send questions to: lanasan@aol.com



(Photo above) Taken at one of our past Shred Days– we are there to help you!

(Photo at upper right): Enjoying the Restaurant Walk last October at Five Tacos.

**A TASTE of
 WALNUT CREEK
 WEDNESDAY,
 OCTOBER 15**

The Restaurant Walk Fundraiser for Tech Trek Returns!

Bring your credit card, cash or check-book to the Showcase meeting on September 16 to buy your tickets. Enjoy tastes from over 20 restaurants in Walnut Creek for only \$45 per ticket.

Plan to meet up with friends to walk and eat! If you miss the meeting, contact **Jan Cushman**, 925-818-0459, or jancushman@comcast.net by October 7 and I will deliver the tickets to you!



BURCKHALTER

School started this month with big changes. We are moving to Mondays. Everyone is busy with new curriculum and we are looking at books to support new learning. Welcome Laura Monin to our committee. I'll be available at Showcase for any questions.

Janette Maher, Chair, Burckhalter



New branch member, Dianne Faieta, shows off some of the popular library books.

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR ...

... or One of Our Sponsors

Every AAUW-OML directory advertiser has the option to have an annual feature piece in our Triad. This is mine—important for our branch. When I joined AAUW-OML, I became an advertiser—35 years ago. I have always had a “side gig” in addition to my “real job.” I advertised my MK cosmetics years, my gift basket services, my “bricks and mortar” irrigation business in San Ramon, and my belief in ViaVienté. I started sipping Via in 2007. For the record, I have now lived more years than my dad, my mom, and my brother. No flu, no Covid; just two 3-day head colds in 18 years. I said in 2007, “I expect this purple resveratrol elixir to give me an extra decade of life.” I think it’s working.

In OML, we have members who have been advertisers for decades: K. deGroot, Soraya Golesorkhi, Joan Evans, Diane Bell, and me. We all know our annual ads are essentially a donation to fund the expense of running our branch. This is separate from our members’ focus on our priority projects. STEM, Tech Trek, Scholarships, and Burckhalter are supported separately through our 501(c)(3).

It is ONLY our advertising sponsors and our annual dues that underwrite the costs of running our branch: meeting rooms, insurance, website costs, speakers honorariums, CPA expenses, etc. We are in a critical moment. We need more advertising sponsors to support our branch. We lose renewal advertisers when businesses are sold or close, decision makers retire, or advertisers don’t see the value of supporting us. Each renewal loss is a punch-in-the-gut to OML.

A small team of members strive to keep our advertisers renewing. We have big losses this year. Some of our reps have just one renewal account because they had the COURAGE to ask a business owner they know well to support OML.

Where do you do business? Who is your tax accountant? What is your favorite restaurant? Where do you spend dollars? Who is your good friend who believes in OML? How can we represent a professional you know? You do not need to have a business to support your branch. Be the first to subscribe to a \$150 card space that says, “I’m Jane DoeSomething, and I support this branch.” You do not need to be an ad sales rep to have just ONE account who believes in the good work we do. Think about the places where you do business. One of our ad team members will help you do the paperwork after you make a solid contact with your people.



If you have an idea (or are a Jane DoeSomething), reach me: Lana. My ad is on the back cover of your OML directory. Read my business listing inside the book. Text me to get your own personal “Jane DoeSomething” paperwork started. I will be delighted to become your OML ad rep.

My name is Lana Reichick, and I support this branch.

— Oh, and thank you for honoring me your “DW” in 2025! Be thinking about the long hidden member who should be named in 2026. Start writing your nomination letters now.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Time to pat ourselves on the back. Our current membership numbers are amazing.

- Total Membership: 147
(122 National Members)
- Honorary Life Members: 13
- Lifetime Members: 6
- Student Affiliates: 2
- Saint Mary’s Student Affiliates: 7

Please welcome our new 2025-26 members (to date):

- Kirstian Becker
- Antonia Jannin
- Kathy Wagner

There is always room for more. Contact Laura Wittenberg and her co-chair Kathy Wagner with new member ideas.

2024-25 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
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

CASA ORINDA
Meadow View Winery
Soraya Golesorkhi*
– Coldwell Banker Realty

WALNUT CREEK & Beyond

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



An Important Note from the League of Women Voters, Diablo Valley

We all have most likely received a flyer in the mail recently from a billionaire who is opposed to the redistricting. The League of Women Voters was mentioned in this pamphlet and wants to set the record straight. The message below was emailed out by the local LWV to their mailing list and bears repeating here:

Dear LWVDV Members and Community:

You may have received a mailer from "Protect Voters First" about the redistricting ballot initiative this November. By naming our organization and quoting Gloria Chun Hoo, the mailer wrongly implies that the League of Women Voters of California endorses the information contained in the flyer.

This implication is incorrect and misleads voters – The League of Women Voters is not part of that coalition, and the League of Women Voters of California did not authorize this action.

They go on to say the LWV Diablo Valley is reviewing the legislation and will announce a decision on the ballot issue in the near future.

AAUW FUND UPDATE

AAUW FUND - Greatest Needs Donations from Our Branch

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

July – December 2024:	\$5,059
January – June 2025:	\$2,904
Total from our branch:	<u>\$7,963</u>

The following list of names are from our members, some of whom have given more than once (indicated with an asterisk).

Trudy Barron	Marilyn Evans *	Mary Mlynek
Barbara Bell	Jill Fernald	Marcy Place *
Marilyn Budge	Sharon Flower	Vera Potapenko
Valarie Burgess	Sandra Fox-Sohner	Lana Reichick
Denise Burian *	Marta Johnson	Renee Ross
Peggy Cabaniss	Jaleh Kilpatrick	Laura Sawczuk
Gail Chesler	Wendy Kramer	Robin Spencer
Sally Church *	Pat Lopker	Natallia Westin
Liddy Clark	Alison Mackenzie	Avon Wilson
Jennifer Cook	Carolyn Marschner	Laura Wittenberg
Stacia Cragholm		

We thank the members here who have donated to The AAUW Fund this past fiscal year. Contributions to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund benefits the on the National level in many ways: Research and Policy, programs, help with their membership costs, and communication which keeps AAUW at the forefront of women's equity.

Marilyn Evans, Outgoing VP, AAUW Fund

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Our AAUW-OML Branch high school scholarship awardees are university bound; **Emma Wong** is off to UCLA to follow a pre-med path. **Jenna Kessler** is heading to Skidmore College in upstate New York to study environmental science. **Mia Polichio** is attending to Notre Dame through the Gateway Program as a co-enrolled student at Holy Cross and Notre Dame for her freshman year, but ultimately graduating with the Notre Dame class of 2029!

All the Saint Mary's students are returning to complete their studies. **Rebecca Carranza, Sophia Gonzales** and **Felicia Coleman** plan to graduate in June 2026. **Mayra Jimenez Almaras** is graduating in December 2025. All these young women are continuing to find opportunities to take the lead and build their leadership skills.

Our scholarship committee usually meets on the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 in members' homes. Our first meeting, however, is on Thursday, September 11th. We will meet at Joan Foster's home (146 La Espiral, Orinda). If you would like to more information about our committee, please contact Bonnie Fend at brfend@sbc-global.net. Join us at our first meeting or sign up at our September branch showcase meeting!

If you are looking for a fun, social group and want to be impressed and involved with selecting young women in high school and college by awarding scholarships, please check out our committee. You will be amazed with their leadership abilities and their community engagement activities. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new members in September.

**Bonnie Fend,
Chair, Scholarship**

MEMBERS' CORNER

**Laura (DiMuro) Monin**

Laura was born 80 years ago in the New York City borough of The Bronx. She lived her first 18 years in a three generational lively Italian household until she left home for Simmons College in Boston, having won a full scholarship. She was the valedictorian of her 4,000 student public high school. At Simmons (1963-67), a time of the Civil Rights Movement, the United Farm Workers “grape strike,” and the Vietnam War, Laura was awakened to social justice and activism. She spent much of her time organizing her student community.

Her first jobs after graduation were in government: Ministry of Housing & Local Government (London – 1967-68); Office of Planning (Albany, NY 1969-71); and Office of Mayor John Lindsay (NYC, 1971-72). What followed was twelve years as a full-time mother of three (1972-1984) during which she volunteered at schools, ran for School Board (lost), and became a breastfeeding counselor with La Leche League. In 1985, she joined the first cohort of the new field of Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs). For the next 30 years, she helped thousands of new mothers and their infants in hospital settings (Alta Bates, Highland, John Muir and Children’s) where she helped create lactation programs which included in-servicing medical staff, and at five Bay Area Women and Children’s Supplemental Food Program (WIC) clinics where she trained over 70 WIC participants to be breastfeeding peer counselors.

Laura first joined AAUW in the early 1980s. After retirement in 2015, she became co-chair of Public Policy (2015-2025), having re-joined AAUW-OML in 2013, during which she encouraged the branch to be strongly involved in legislation and activism. During this time, she also intermittently volunteered with Scholarship, Tech Trek, STEM Conference, DEI, and will begin volunteering at the Burckhalter School Library this school year, 2025-26. Laura always brings valued strength wherever she contributes in OML.

Small World: Members Laura and Lana discovered after the May Luncheon that Laura’s college roommate at Simmons College in Boston was Lana’s closest colleague at Bloomingdale’s New York. At SEVENTEEN, Lana encouraged “Ro,” Executive Editor, to interview her friend and colleague Julie for an open position in the magazine’s Fashion Office. Julie and Lana worked side by side daily for the next three years. Laura Monin’s Julie Murphy was Lana’s Julie Murphy! One and the same lovely woman. R.I.P., dear friend.

Lana Reichick

MEMBERS' CORNER was created in 2020 to tell the stories of our members—the women who help establish the legacy of OML. We read stories of how the Burckhalter Project began, how our STEM Conference was created, plus interesting stories from 50-year members. We want to know all your stories. New and long-standing members, please contribute. Tell us your story. How did you come to join AAUW? Submit your 350 word bio to Members Corner curator, Lana Reichick.

DEI LENDING LIBRARY



The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion group is establishing a lending library which will launch at the Showcase meeting. You can check out a book for up to two months. The books being offered were read by all or many DEI members and are highly recommended by the group. **Here is the list of our top 10 books:**

Biased, by Jennifer Eberhardt. Uncovering hidden prejudice that shapes, what we see, think and do.

Caste, by Isabel Wilkerson. Beyond race, class and other factors a caste system influences people’s lives.

The First Ladies, by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray. First lady Eleanor Roosevelt & civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune – an unlikely friendship that changed the world (Fiction)

Harlem Shuffle, by Colson Whitehead. Race, power & the history of Harlem in a thrill-ride crime novel.

How To Be an Anti-Racist, by Ibram X. Kendi. An essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond the awareness of racism to the next step.

How the Word Is Passed, by Clint Smith. An unforgettable tour of monuments & landmarks shows us how slavery has been central in shaping our nation’s collective history and ourselves.

The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander. Examines how mass incarceration & the War on Drugs created a new racial caste system, continuing racial discrimination despite formal color blindness.

The Warmth of Other Suns, by Isabel Wilkerson. The migration of 6 million Black citizens who fled the South for the North & West in search of a better life, from WW1 to 1970.

White Fragility, by Robin Deangelo. Why it’s so hard White people to talk about racism.

The Other Wes Moore, by Wes Moore. One name, two fates.

PROPOSED 501(c) 3 BUDGET for 2025-26

Each year we ask members to approve the budgets for our branch (a 501©4 organization) and our Community Outreach Fund (a 501©3 organization). Our board has reviewed and approved the two budgets presented below and on the following page, and we will ask members to vote on both at the September Showcase meeting. Excluding our contributions to national and our own Community Outreach Fund, it costs our branch approximately \$7500 per year to operate the branch. We spend approximately \$50,000 on the five projects within our 501©3. Both of these groups are on sound financial footing due to the generous donations from our members and the community. Please contact our treasurer, Peggy S. Cabaniss, at pcabaniss7@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Peggy Cabaniss, VP, Finance

Ordinary Income/ Expenses	Actual 2024-2025	Proposed Budget
Beginning Balance Bank Account	79,700	86,995
BURCKHALTER		
Income from branch fundraiser	3,650	
Income-"Jan Coe" fundraiser	1,664	1,500
Income- Donations from Indiv.	290	500
Expense- New books for Library	(3,659)	(4,000)
Expense- Used books for give-away	(439)	(600)
Expense- Supplies/Equipment	(459)	(400)
Net Income	1,047	(3,000)
DEI		
Income from branch fundraiser	-	
Income- payments for T-shirts	580	
Income- Women's Orinda..for HER	390	-
Income-Donations	-	200
Expense- DEI Meeting	(196)	(500)
Expense - Materials	(82)	(100)
Expense- Book lending library	-	(100)
Expense- HER period Prod (reimb)	(358)	(33)
Expense- T-shirts	(902)	-
Net Income	(568)	(533)
SCHOLARSHIP		
Income from branch fundraiser	5,835	
Income- Donations-general	775	1,000
Income Fashion Show	635	550
Income Sneakers for scholars	433	100
IncomeTried & True testing	4,964	2,500
Expense- Awards Day flowers etc	(78)	(150)
Expense- Fashion Show	(35)	(50)
Expense- Printing	-	(100)
Expenses Scholarships-Seniors	(6,000)	(6,000)
Expenses Scholarships- St.Mary's HP/TRIO	(8,000)	(4,000)
Expense- Tried & True	(2,083)	(1,500)
Net Income	(3,553)	(7,650)
TECH TREK		
Income from branch fundraiser	4,915	
Income- Donations	5,314	3,300
Income- Parents' Contribution	45	350
Income- Mt Mikes Pizza	-	100
Income- Restaurant Walk	1,125	1,080
Income- Shred Fest	3,337	3,000
Expense- April Awards Ceremony	(365)	(275)
Expense- Ice Cream Social	-	(200)
Expense- Printing	(49)	(50)
Expense- Restaurant Walk	(780)	(720)
Expense- Shred Fest	(813)	(995)
Expense- Tech Trek Other	(119)	(100)
Expense- Scholarships to Camp	(8,400)	(8,600)
Expense- Welcom Home Reception	-	(175)
Net Income	4,210	(3,285)

STEM Conference		
Income from branch fundraiser	7,100	
Income- Attendees Fees	8,500	9,600
Income- Undesignated donation	100	-
Income- Donations, Individuals	4,002	2,100
Income- Donations- Grants	-	5,000
Income- Donations - Orgs	6,750	6,000
Expense-Ambassador Meeting	(426)	(500)
Expense- Event Materials	(431)	(600)
Expense- Breakfast Volunteers	(78)	(1,000)
Expense- Conf. Lunch	(3,448)	(2,900)
Expense- Hospitality & WS lunch	(703)	(800)
Expense- Parent Program food	In other items	(500)
Expense- Food-snacks	(409)	(500)
Expense- Conf Internship	(1,800)	-
Expense- Gifts for Volunteers	In anothr item	(720)
Expense- Keynote speaker stipend	-	(200)
Expense- Mail Chimp Subscription	(345)	(350)
Expense- PayPal/Square fees	(305)	(350)
Expense- Prizes	(720)	(200)
Expense- Publicity, marketing,adv.	(194)	(200)
Expense- Saint Mary's Rental fee	(6,085)	(6,500)
Expense- T-shirts/tote bags	(3,250)	(3,600)
Expense- WS leader stipends	(900)	(1,200)
Expense- Workshop Materials	(1,129)	(1,200)
Net Income	6,228	1,380
Undesignated		
Income (branch fundraiser and donations)	24,491	14,000
Expenses (thank you party)	(3,060)	(2,750)
Distribution to Projects	(21,500)	-
Net Income	(69)	11,250
Ending Balance bank account	86,995	85,157

Turn to the following page for the 501(c)4 budget.

Please note that both of these budgets have been posted on our website and will also be available for review at each table at the Showcase meeting.



PROPOSED 501(c) 4 BUDGET for 2025-26

	Actual F2025	Budget F2026
Beginning Balance of bank accounts	28,341.00	25,390.00
Income		
Branch Dues	2,942.00	2,880.00
Triad Subscription	60.00	60.00
May Luncheon	2,850.00	2,700.00
Other Types of Income		
Advertising	3,305.00	3,000.00
Interest	1.75	0.00
Miscellaneous	177.00	0.00
Total Other Types of Income	3,483.75	3,000.00
Total Income	9,335.75	8,640.00
Expense		
Administration		
Supplies	0.00	120.00
Filing/Registr	25.00	50.00
Funds Assess	0.00	65.00
Insurance	601.00	600.00
Memorial Gift	0.00	100.00
Postage	309.00	300.00
Printing/Copie	84.03	75.00
Total Administration	1,019.03	1,310.00
Community Involvement		
St. Mary's Col	406.08	600.00
AAUW Fund	1,500.00	1,000.00
AAUW Fund	29.32	30.00
Community O	1,000.00	1,000.00
Public Policy	363.92	300.00
Total Community Involvement	3,299.32	2,930.00
Leadership Recognition		
Distinguished	442.18	400.00
Total Leadership Recognition	442.18	400.00
Meetings		
Zoom Account	449.57	420.00
Hospitality Su	44.91	150.00
May Luncheon	2,788.00	2,700.00
Program	900.00	1,000.00
Room Rental	1,630.00	1,800.00
Total Meetings	5,812.48	6,070.00
Membership		
Advertisers	543.00	600.00
E-news	193.20	200.00
Overview/Dire	200.90	260.00
Membership	100.34	300.00
Triad	0.00	100.00
Total Membership	1,037.44	1,460.00
PayPal fees	45.40	0.00
Total Expense	11,655.85	12,170.00
Net Ordinary Income	-2,320.10	-3,530.00
Ending balance (Actual and Estimated)	25,390.00	21,860.00

NEW LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE at
SAINT MARY'S
COLLEGE

The Women and Gender Studies Program at Saint Mary's College, in collaboration with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the American Association of University Women invite our local and regional communities to a NEW Leadership conference on *Women's Leadership in the Current Political Moment*.

**The conference will take place
on Thursday, September 4
in Hagerty Lounge.**

Please RSVP for lunch to:
newleadershipsmc@stmarys-ca.edu

The program is as follows:

- 9:50 am Welcome
- 10:15 am–11:45 a.m. Panel: Mayor of Berkeley, Adena Ishii; Mayor of El Cerrito, Carolyn Wysinger; Council Member of Pinole, Norma Martinez-Rubin
- 12 noon Keynote speaker: Gilda Gonzales, MPA, Outgoing President & CEO PPNorCal, SMC alumna
- 1:30 pm Lunch
- 3 pm. Concluding Remarks: mayor of Oakland, Barbara Lee
- 4 pm Reception

The conference is free, but if you can contribute to the 2026 NEW Leadership Institute, we would be grateful. Donations can be made here:



SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES

CRITICS' CHOICE BOOKS

This group chooses and reads 10 or 11 recent best sellers for a total cost of \$30. We are divided into groups of 10 or 11. 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. *We need several more people this coming year to sign up.* If you would like to join the group, send a check for \$30, made out to **Andrea Green, to 1210 Larch Ave., Moraga**, or bring it to the Showcase meeting on September 16. Your first book should be picked up on October 1, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm at Andrea's home. Any questions, call Andrea at 925 376-7087.

Here are the books we've chosen for the coming year:

Audition by Katie Kitamura
Good Dirt by Charmaine Wilkerson
Native Speaker by Chang Rae Lee
The Time of the Child by Niall Williams
The Satisfaction Café by Kathy Wang
Isola by Allegra Goodman
Empire of AI by Karen Hao
Fragmented by Ilana Yurkiewicz
The Aviator and the Showman by Laurie Gwen Shapiro
Who is Government? by Michael Lewis
The Serviceberry by Robin Wall Kimmerer

BOCCE BALL

**First & Third Mondays • 10 am
Moraga Commons Bocce Courts**

We meet for casual play at the Moraga Commons on the first and third Mondays, weather permitting. Contact Mary Leigh Miller at mlmiller602@gmail.com for more information.

Learn about and sign up for other Special Interest Groups at SHOWCASE in September 16. And find out more about the ones listed on this page.

**ANYONE WHO HAS READ
THE BOOK**

**Friday, September 19 • 10am
Orinda Books
276 Village Square, Orinda**

Book: *The Writing of the Gods, The Race to Decode the Rosetta Stone*, by Edward Dolnick, non-fiction, 336 pages. The Rosetta Stone was discovered broken, in Egypt in 1799 and contained writing in Greek and hieroglyphics. Although Egypt dominated the world for 30 centuries, everything about its culture was a mystery. Who could translate this, would it be the French man or the British man? For more information about this group, contact Mary Mlynek, ml_mlynek@yahoo.com.

GREAT DECISIONS

Plans are the same for this year as they were for 2025. The booklet for Great Decisions 2026 will be ordered on October 13. If you are interested in joining this group, please send your check for \$35 written to Judy Helder at 18 Inverleith Terrace, Moraga, CA 94556. You can also give it to me at the September 16 meeting.

Tentative Topics are listed here:

- America & the World: Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy
- Trump Tariffs & the Future of the World Economy
- U.S.-China relations
- Ruptured Alliances & the Risk of Nuclear Proliferation
- Ukraine & the Future of European Security
- Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order
- U.S. Engagement of Africa
- The Future of Democracy & Human Rights in a Divided World

For more information, contact Judy Helder, judyhelder@gmail.com.

**FINANCIALLY SAVVY WOMEN
2025/26 Schedule**

We meet the first Tuesday of every month from 1 pm-3 pm to discuss various topics that affect our financial lives. There are six sessions scheduled for the coming year. Here are the first three:

Tuesday, October 7:

Understanding NET WORTH – what accounts do you have, where are they held, what is their value, how are they invested, how are they titled, how are they distributed per your estate plans?

Tuesday, November 4:

Understanding CASH FLOW – what money comes in, what money goes out, are you spending too much?, are you spending too little?, what plans do you have for gifting/donations/vacations/health, how can you make a “quick budget” each year?

Tuesday, December 2:

Reviewing and understanding ESTATE PLANS – wills, trusts, health care directives, general power of attorney for business transactions. Sharing and discussing your estate plans with your family – does your family know how your estate will be divided when you pass, how to have a family meeting, pros and cons of sharing the details with family members.

EVENING SALON

**Thursday, September 11 • 6 pm
Home of Liddy Clark**

Evening Salon is a casual discussion group trying to make sense of the current issues of the day. We share snacks and wine and enjoy each other's company. The September Salon will be at the home of Liddy Clark in Orinda. We will meet at 6 pm for light supper potluck in her lovely back yard. Discussion will begin around 7 pm. Contact Denise Burian or Liddy Clark for details. Contact Denise Burian, denburian@gmail.com, to get on her email contact list.

SEPTEMBER 2025 AT A GLANCE

4 THU – LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MEETING
and RECEPTION

9:50 am - 5:30 pm – Hagerty Hall, Saint Mary's College
Read more on page 10.

8, 22 MON – GOLF GROUP

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

9 TUE – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Orinda Community Church

11 THU – SCHOLARSHIP MEETING

1:30 pm – Home of Joan Foster

Read more on page 7.

11 THU – EVENING SALON

6 pm – Home of Liddy Clark

Read more on page 11.

15 MON – BOCCE BALL

9:30 am – Moraga Commons bocce ball courts

(No bocce on September 1 - Labor Day)

Read more on page 11.

16 TUE – SHOWCASE!

9:30 am – Orinda Community Church

19 FRI – ANYONE WHO'S READ THE BOOK

10 am – Orinda Books

Read more on page 11.

OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS

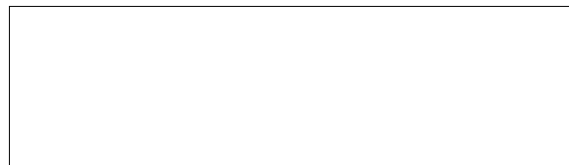
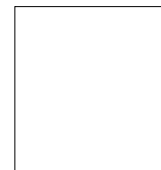
**Wednesday, September 3rd
7:30 p.m. Walnut Creek Library**

***How do Washington's latest actions affect
Contra Costa County residents?***

Join the League of Women Voters Diablo Valley and a panel of government leaders to discuss the impact of DOGE and the 'Big Beautiful Bill' on our local communities.

To register, email: Unite.rise@lwvdv.org

AAUW-OML
Database Coord.
7 Mariposa Lane
Orinda, CA 94563



October 2025

Look for more information in the October Triad

11 SAT – SHRED DAY

9 am-noon – 5-A Rent-A-Space in Moraga

Read more on page 5.

14 TUE – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Orinda Community Church

15 WED – RESTAURANT WALK

5:30-8:30 pm – Downtown Walnut Creek

Read more on page 5.

21 TUE – PUBLIC POLICY MEETING

9:30 am – Orinda Community Church

BECOME A TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST
Let AAUW help you *Make Your Voice Heard*.

Join AAUW's Action Network by signing upfront for the TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST. AAUW will send you emails periodically about upcoming legislation. When you click on the link they send, a letter will pop up that is already written to our two senators or our Rep. Mark De Saulnier asking them to vote either for or against a specific legislation. A recent example was one on voting no on the current budget bill going through Congress.

You will be asked to fill out your name and address (they want to know that you live in their district), and the letters will be automatically sent to them. You will even receive a follow-up response from the legislator a few days later. To sign up, click this link:

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>