

Evening Salon

Members meet in the evening once a month to discuss current culture and issues of the day. Topics will be decided upon by the group.
Second Thursday, members’ homes at 7 pm
Denise Burian denburian@gmail.com

Financially Savvy Women

Join this special interest group on the first Tuesday of every month to discuss the following topics: net worth, cash flow, investments, estate plans, inheritance issues, professional advisors, red flags/fraud. Our goal is to become more financially savvy about our money, how we use it, what we could do with it, and when we need help with our finances.
For more information, please email or call
Peggy Cabaniss pcabaniss7@gmail.com 925-708-5178.:

Golf

Interested members get together for golf twice a month at local public courses.
Second and fourth Mondays, Time and place TBD
Janita Gee jgee17@yahoo.com

Great Decisions

This discussion program is a world affairs educational program bringing people together to discover, discuss, and reach opinions about foreign policy issues. Materials are provided to help people reach informed opinions on issues, Discussions are always the best part ! *First Wednesday, 10-11:30 am*
Judy Helder judyhelder@gmail.com

Hiking – East Bay Regional Parks

Interested in outdoor exercise and fun conversation along the way. Consider joining the AAUW Hiking group. The group meets once a month on the second Saturday. The hikes are moderate, + three mile hikes in and around the East Bay. When possible, our hikes will be led by an East Bay Regional Park naturalist (which might cause the date to vary). Monthly emails will inform the group of the hike date, time, location, length, difficulty and carpool location. *Second Saturday, mornings,*
Marcy Place 925.858.0433

Memoirs and Musings

Everyone has a story! Whether you have already begun your memoirs or have just been thinking about doing it “someday,” this might be the interest group for you! We are a sharing, supportive group, and all levels of writing abilities and experience are welcome. We meet in each other's homes monthly, time and date to be determined. **Judy Hammon** jj.hammon@gmail.com
Sheila Apte Sheila.apte@gmail.com

Museums & Gorgeous Gardens (formerly Museum Mavens)

We have reimaged our interest group to include gardens of the East Bay as well as museums. We will be visiting gardens and having lunch afterwards as well as visiting museums locally.
Dates & Locations TBA
Marjorie Singler singlermarjorie@gmail.com
Marjorie seeks a few folks to help brainstorm and implement individual outings.

In years gone by, **other interest groups** have been enjoyed by many OML branch members. At the moment, these 4 groups can't be convened because they have **no named LEADER**. So please see if any of these resonate for you. Often “being the leader” entails not-a lot of work and allows a lot of pleasure on the part of the group’s participants. If you think you’d be willing to try out this role for a year, let **Gail Chesler** know.

1. **GIG – Games Interest Group**. Meets at members’ homes to play board games, e.g., Scrabble, Mexican Train. The host picks the games or members bring whatever they want to play.
2. **Daytime Movie Group** –some member picks a movie that is being shown locally, invites branch folks to get tickets, we meet, see the movie together and go to coffee or lunch together.
3. **Evening Movie Group** – members or couples go to a named movie during a month and then meet at some member’s home at a selected evening to discuss the movie.
4. **International Travel Group** – members or couples who travel abroad convene to share memories of some trip (using slides, etc.) to a pot-luck dinner meeting of all group members at someone’s home.



ORINDA • MORAGA • LAFAYETTE
BRANCH

2025-2026
OVERVIEW

AAUW advances equity for women
and girls through advocacy,
education, and research.

AAUW Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch Overview • 2025-2026

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW VALUE PROPOSITION

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

MONTHLY EVENTS

Most General meetings are held at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Watch the *Triad* for details or check our website: oml-ca.aauw.net. Scheduled dates/times for 2025-26:

September 16	Tuesday	9:30 am
October 21	Tuesday	9:30 am
November 18	Tuesday	9:30 am
December Holiday gatherings – to be announced		
January 20	Tuesday	9:30 am
February 17	Tuesday	9:30 am
March 17	Tuesday	9:30 am
April 19	Sunday	3:00 pm
Scholarship / Tech Trek Awards Program		
May18 (May Luncheon)	Monday	11:30 am
Luncheon location to be determined		

SPECIAL EVENTS

Shred Papers on Site*: October 11, 5A Rent-A-Space, 9 am-noon
Restaurant Walk*: Wednesday, October 15
Harper Greer Fashion Show* April 30, 2026, 3 -6pm
STEM Conference: Saturday, March 7, 2026, Saint Mary's College
* those with this star are fundraisers

ASSOCIATION & STATE PRIORITIES

AAUW Fund

AAUW is a national organization which oversees 650 branches of which OML is one. The AAUW Fund is supported by all branches in contributions as well as a portion of our annual dues. National supports the following programs: Research & Advocacy, public policy, support of membership in our branch, and keeping AAUW at the forefront of women's equity. This has been a vital organization since it was founded in 1881. **Danielle Ginestro** dginestro@yahoo.com

Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

The committee cultivates members' awareness through discussion, education, and advocacy. We host a reading/discussion group. We sponsor speakers for our general meetings and partner with Public Policy to advocate for policies that will result in progress towards advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in our communities. **Denise Burian** denburian@gmail.com

Public Policy

“We, the people, are the fourth branch of American democracy. We must continue to believe that we can make a difference through political action and engagement. The AAUW-OML Public Policy Committee monitors local, state, and federal issues that are relevant and align with AAUW's mission, keeping our members informed and ready to act. Our goal is to make meaningful political engagement easy - both individually and collectively. **Shari Simon** sharisimon55@gmail.com

Tech Trek

Our branch raises funds to send rising 8th grade girls from our community schools to a week-long science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) summer camp. Each of the girls chosen shows a passionate interest in STEM subjects and is honored at our April event. Our branch has sent 144 girls to camp since 1998. **Jan Cushman** jancushman@comcast.net

Burckhalter Elementary School Project

Our volunteers manage the operation of the library of this elementary school, providing a access to a library that might not otherwise exist. Volunteers engage with the students by reading stories and teaching essential library skills. We expand the library's collection by adding books with funds generously donated by our members. **Janette Maher** kidlitr@hotmail.com

Scholarship

This committee raises funds for Lamorinda HS seniors and undergraduate students in Saint Mary's College High Potential Program. Coordinating with HS college and career counselors and the high potential coaches, we seek students who enrich their school environment and discover their leadership abilities through community service engagement.

Committee members read applications, interview student finalists, select the awardees, and celebrate at our April awards program. **Bonnie Fend** brfend@sbcglobal.net

STEM Conference

The STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) conference is designed to introduce 6th – 8th grade girls to a variety of STEM hands-on workshops. OML partners with Saint Mary's College to put on this 1-day conference on March 7, 2026. Parents can attend the Parent Program during the morning of the conference. **Kim Lockett** kimlockett@gmail.com

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Anyone Who's Read the Book

Every month we meet to discuss one of a wide variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction. We welcome all branch members who have read that month's selection. *Third Friday, 10 a.m., Orinda Books or on Zoom*
Mary Mlynek ml_mlynek@yahoo.com
Susan Wilson schnappsmom@sbcglobal.net

Best Seller/Critics' Choice Books

Books are chosen from best-seller lists and favorable reviews. Members pay a fee and rotate ten books monthly, keeping the last book. Note: There are no scheduled meetings. **Andrea Green** asdgreen@comcast.net

Bike Riding

Bike with other AAUW members on mostly level trails in Contra Costa and Alameda counties at a relaxed pace. Each month a different trail is selected with a different starting point. Meet at the starting location with your bike at the designated time. Rides are typically the last Thursday of the month. Monthly emails will designate the ride location, time and meeting place. **Marcy Place** marcyPlace1@gmail.com

Bocce Ball

We meet at the Moraga Commons bocce ball courts for a friendly game or two. No experience necessary. *First & Third Mondays at 9:30*
Mary Leigh Miller mlmiller602@gmail.com

DEI/BLM (Black Lives Matter) Group

The DEI group will sponsor a lending library for the Branch, and advocate for justice and fairness in local public policies. *Second Mondays at 3:00 p.m. (zoom/in-person varies)*
Denise Burian denburian@gmail.com