



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



The Advocate, October 2019
(Online at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/newsletter/>)

From the Editor

Just a reminder that contact information for persons mentioned in the Advocate can be found in your directory. If you do not have a directory, please contact Aline Soules for that information. If you submit articles and pictures, please observe the following: **Articles in .doc or .docx, or in the body of an email. Pictures in .jpg (compressed).** Please submit your items for the October newsletter by **Oct. 20** to soulesa@yahoo.com

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Cards of Condolence, Health Wishes, or Congratulations for our members

When you know of an AAUW-DAW member who might appreciate a "Get Well" card, need a condolence card upon the death of a loved one, or a congratulations card, **please let our Corresponding Secretary, Pat Gross**, know. Pat will send cards on behalf of our Branch.

From the President

As mentioned in September, your 2019-20 Executive Board and Committee Chairs met on August 30 to set our goals and priorities for the coming year and ensure that they are aligned with and supportive of

the AAUW National Strategic Plan. Here are highlights of that meeting and our September Board meeting:

We agreed to focus on growing our membership with retiring professionals and people experiencing a life-change (empty-nesters). This is a demographic that is often searching for ways to become connected with new friends, activities and community service. A good match for us.

There are three strategic focus areas for AAUW:

- **Education & Training**—Our branch currently has strong programs in Education (Tech Trek and Local Scholarships at University level). We are expanding this effort into supporting students transitioning through the foster care programs.
- **Economic Security**—We will support Economic Security through the Work Smart program and our support of AAUW Funds. We are planning a February program on using the WorkSmart and StartSmart negotiation tools.
- **Leadership**—Our Branch programs this year will emphasize encouraging women and girls to embrace Leadership positions in the political, business and personal arenas. Our January program will offer an opportunity to learn about leadership roles on ballot initiatives affecting our schools and communities.

Please note our upcoming programs:

Sunday, October 6: AAUW Fund Luncheon at the Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville:

AAUW has awarded \$4M in fellowships and grants to 259 women and community projects for the 2019-2020 academic year. There are 30 Fellows and Grant recipients study in California in 2019-20, and several will be guest speakers at the three AAUW Fund Luncheons. Six to eight recipients will give a brief overview of their studies or projects and highlight what AAUW's support has meant to them.

Make your reservation NOW at <http://www.aauw-ca.org/fall-fund-luncheons/>.

Saturday, October 26: Our 50th Anniversary Celebration.

See below for details. **RSVP** at <https://dau-ca.aauw.net/50th-anniversary>.

Monday, November 18: Higher Education Transitions for Foster Youth

AAUW Annual Fund: Letter to Members

In October, you will receive a letter regarding the **AAUW Annual Fund**. Donations to this important fund will sustain programs that help women reach their goals, create change, advance equality, empower women and girls and much more.

Your tax-deductible gift of any amount **MUST** be made by November 30, 2019. You may designate a program. Write the program name on your check. All undesignated funds will be dispersed as needed to other AAUW projects. To make a contribution send a check made payable to AAUW Fund and mail to AAUW Fund, PO Box 996, Alamo, CA. 94507. To make a donation by credit card go to <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift> (here you can designate a particular program).

For a list of programs, go to <https://www.aauw.org/files/2014/11/The-AAUW-FundDiagram.pdf>.

50th Anniversary of our Branch



Invitations to our 50th Anniversary Celebration have been mailed. I hope you are now making plans to attend with your AAUW friends. We are very excited to have this opportunity to share the successes of our past 50 years and look forward to our future success.

We have been working through the details of our program and are very excited to share these details with you:

- Our program will begin at 5:00 PM with a reception featuring a no-host bar and hot appetizers. A slide show featuring our many AAUW members, accomplishments, and fun times over the last 50 years will run on a screen. A display table will feature major accomplishments.
- The reception will be followed with a warm welcome to all and introductions of our special guests, including the Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and a representative from the office of the Honorable Mark DeSaulnier. We are so happy that they can join us and look forward to their remarks.
- Dinner will follow. Entree choices are Grilled Filet Mignon, Halibut with Olives and Tomatoes, and Mushroom Risotto. Red and white wines will accompany dinner.
- Our after-dinner program will begin with recognition of our charter members and our past presidents. Our feature presentation will highlight our 50 Years of Success. The program will conclude with special thanks to all of our members, a tribute looking forward to our next 50 years, and a champagne toast to our future.
- A dessert honoring our golden anniversary will conclude the evening.

The cost of this special event is \$75 per person, One guest per member is welcome. To RSVP, please visit our website at daw-ca.aauw.net/50th-anniversary/. If you have questions about the event or your reservation, please contact Holly Sauer or any member of our committee.

Committee members are Loretta Lewis, Millie Lindsey, Marilyn Milam, Elaine Reisert, Holly Sauer, Deborah Wechsler, and Chris Winter.

What is the Difference and Where does my Donation Go?

Yes, there is a difference between the AAUW Fund and the AAUW DAW Funds. The following is a quick snapshot of how they differ:

AAUW Fund – National	AAUW DAW – Local
Funded by: - Garden Tour - Individual Donations	Funded By: - Holiday Home Tour
Revenue Used For: - Research - STEM Education - Legal Advocacy - Education Funding - and much more	Revenue Used For: - Local Scholarship - Tech Trek Camperships - Expenses
For more information about AAUW funds: - http://www.aauw.org	For more information about DAW funds - http://daw-ca.aauw.net

Look for the upcoming donation letter coming in October (details above). This is a wonderful way to help women continue their studies and make a difference in our world.

Liz Williams and Robin Halloran

Another Outstanding Membership Brunch

With 100 attendees, the Brunch was held on September 14 at the Crow Canyon Country Club.

A beautiful day, the spectacular view of Mt. Diablo dominated the space. Pre-lunch appetizers and beverages were served in the lounge. For the first time, some of our advertisers participated in the foyer with brochures, business cards, and tabletop presentations. Many popular interest groups has sign-up sheets. Two long tables were set up with branch archival albums.

The traditional raffled holiday Quilt held pride of place in the foyer. This quilt will continue to attract tickets throughout the Holiday Home Tour. Our Quilt winner from the Garden Tour this past spring—the beautiful Blue/Green Quilt—was Teresa Cheung.

Our Brunch speaker was Dr. Elizabeth Hillman, the new President of Mills College in Oakland. Dr. Hillman has an illustrious background, holding multiple degrees in Engineering, History, and Law, as well as military experience. She discussed Oakland’s community challenges, a student populations of 60% women of color, and the possibility of building housing on the 135-acre campus. The school was founded in 1852 as a seminary for young women, and is older than many prominent colleges, such as Stanford. Dr. Hillman spoke about women in leadership positions, the ongoing emphasis of women in Science and Technology, and Sexual Harassment in the workplace.

We continue to attract new members, welcoming several at the Brunch, along with our Summer 2019 Tech Trek women and parents. We also remembered those members no longer with us, and noted the 50th Anniversary Memberships of Roseann Krane and Mary Ellen Brown.



Public Policy Update

“Gig” workers bill AB-5

Now approved, this bill requires companies like Uber and Lyft to treat contract workers as employees. The bill will apply, despite their efforts to negotiate an exemption. In California, the legislation will affect at least 1M workers who have been on the receiving end of outsourcing and franchising. Many have been pushed into contractor status with no access to basic protections like minimum wage and unemployment insurance. Ride-hailing drivers, food-delivery couriers, janitors, nail salon workers, construction workers and franchise owners could now be reclassified as employees. Also affected are free-lance writers and others, some of whom will have their work curtailed, as employers will not employ these individuals beyond the legal limit set in the bill, thereby reducing their work opportunities.

Statewide Rent Control

California is on the verge of having statewide rent control. Assembly Bill 1482 will bar landlords from hiking rents more than 5 percent, plus local inflation, in one year. Inflation varies by region, but averages about 2.5 percent in California. Assembly member David Chiu (D-San Francisco), who authored the bill, says the rent cap is designed to prevent “rent gouging” and “egregious” increases. It also includes a provision requiring landlords to have “just cause” when evicting a tenant. The bill now heads to Gov. Gavin Newsom’s desk.

NCAA athletic Bill

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, the California State Assembly overwhelmingly passed a bill that would allow college athletes to make money off their own name, image, and likeness more easily.. The measure is almost ensured to go to Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Some other bills Newsom needs to act on by Sunday, Oct. 13th

- SB 24 (Leyva): Requires access to abortion pills for college students at public universities by 2023. Public universities currently offer only contraception and pregnancy option counseling.
- AB 170 (Gonzalez): A last-minute Dynamex exemption for newspaper delivery workers. Newspapers argued switching the workers from contractors to employees would be financially debilitating.
- AB 681 (Gonzalez): Provides voters with information before a presidential primary about options for switching from no-party-preference in order to cast a ballot in the election.
- SB 136 (Wiener): Eliminates the automatic addition of prison time to the sentences of some repeat offenders. Supporters argue it will help reduce mass incarceration.
- SB 328 (Portantino): Requires that middle schools start no earlier than 8am and high schools no later than 8:30am. Gov. Brown previously vetoed a similar bill.
- AB 48 (O’Donnell): Places a \$15 billion bond for preschool, K-12, community colleges, UC and CSU facilities on the March 2020 ballot.
- AB 218 (Gonzalez): Expands the statute of limitations for childhood sexual assault

Asha Bajaj, Chair, Public Policy

Holiday Home Tour is Back for 2019

Friday, December 13, and Saturday, December 14
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Preparations are in full swing for our 14th annual Holiday Home Tour and your HHT Committee is very excited about the tour this year. Volunteers are needed to provide refreshments and/or serve as docents. In addition, we are selling raffle tickets for a beautiful holiday quilt donated by past member, Mary Kelly.

Please be on the lookout for sign-up sheets and raffle tickets at branch events. You may also contact Tena Gallagher or Susan Terzouli to volunteer, or visit our website: <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/hht2019/>. **Tickets will be available in mid-November.**

We have identified four magnificent homes for our tour; however...

we are looking for one additional house. Please consider volunteering your home, or volunteer some of your time to ask friends and acquaintances to open their homes for our fundraiser.

We will follow up on all your suggestions. This will also help us prepare for next year's tour. Whatever amount of time you have available, whatever your interests and skills, we would love your help in making this our most successful Home Tour yet.



Our Holiday Home Tour is one of two fundraisers we host each year. Funds raised directly support young women in both the middle school and college levels. We send middle-school girls to Tech Trek, a summer camp dedicated to raising interest and skills in science and we provide scholarships for undergraduate and graduate studies to outstanding young women in multiple areas of study. Last year we sent nine girls to Tech Trek.

We can't make these critical contributions to our community without you.

Bring a friend and see beautifully decorated homes for the holidays. Event benefits Local Scholarship and Tech Trek. ***Volunteer to be a docent and/or bake some cookies for the refreshment home.***

DAW Interest Groups are Expanding – Act Now

Welcoming new participants to our AAUW Interest Groups was a popular way to kick off the year at our Membership Brunch. Going into the Brunch, we had over 22 interest groups with a cumulative membership of over 300. Nearly all groups were represented by staff, who shared their passion and reached out to other members. As a result, we had over 70 new interest group sign-ups at the brunch and we plan to form 4 new groups. Including new sign-ups, our average member joins 1.5 Interest Groups. With the popularity of our groups, we find that many are waitlisted, so we are looking at ways to accommodate all members who want to participate. Here are some steps so far:

New Groups are Forming – Join Now

The Gourmet: Epicureans Group has 10 on its waitlist, which is enough for a new group. The current group meets once every 2 months at member homes for a gourmet dinner cooked by the group members. Liz Williams will contact those on the waitlist to identify a leader who can get the new group started with her guidance. Now is the time to call Liz if you want to lead or join a Gourmet Cooking group.

Our Gourmet: Adventurous Chefs lunch group has a waitlist of 4, which is a good start on a new group if someone agrees to be the leader. The current group meets monthly at a gourmet restaurant monthly for food and friendship. Please contact Sherry Wilcoxson if you would like to lead or join this newly-forming group.

The Third Friday Film Group is a new group being formed by Kath Clayton. This movie discussion group is looking to settle on a format after their first meeting. Spouses and partners are welcome. Please contact Kath if you are interested as the group is filling up quickly.

For aspiring Mah Jongg players, now is your chance to learn. Paula Weintraub is starting a new group for players who want to learn American Mah Jongg. Please contact her to take advantage of this great opportunity to learn a new game.

Bridge Groups are Signing up Subs—Join the Sub Team

The Bridge groups are adding subs, who will work into the groups as members turn over. If you want to become a regular member of one of these groups, being a sub is a great way to meet the other players and be available when openings come up. Please contact the group leader if you want to play.

Many Groups are Welcoming New Members

Art and Garden, led by Jacque Schubert, is open to all who enjoy exploring the many wonders of our Bay Area with a morning excursion to a museum, garden or other point of interest in the Bay Area, followed by lunch.

Hiking Group, led by Joanne Quijano, is a great way to be outdoors, exercise and get to know your fellow members. Hikes are generally moderate, between 3-6 miles, and take 2.5 – 4 hours and may include lunch.

Great Decisions is America’s largest discussion program about world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching a DVD pertaining to that week’s topic, and meeting in a group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Our Great Decisions groups meet weekly for 8 weeks starting in January. The Monday evening group includes spouses and partners and the Tuesday afternoon group is for members. Contact Mary Granzotto or Mary Ellen Blake if you want to join.

The Movies: Cinema 1 group leader Pat McElderry says they welcome new members to join them for wine, appetizers and dessert with lively discussions of 2 movies per month.

The Writers group, led by Kathy Gage, invites you to join them in their supportive group where you can test your writing and enjoy constructive feedback as you write and/or re-write your work.

If All Else Fails, Start a New Group

If your passion lies in a group with a waitlist, don’t despair. Talk to the current leader about starting a new group with her help. You can start with members on the wait list and we can recruit more members through the Advocate and the web site. Or, if you have an idea for a new group, Contact Chris Ritter and we can help you recruit new members through the Advocate and web site.

Updated Interest Groups and Leaders

Here is the updated list of Interest Groups and Leaders, with notations of new groups being formed. The leader contact info is in your directory except for new members. For their contact information, ask the Advocate editor, Aline Soules (soulesa@yahoo.com). **NOTE about Art and Garden:** For October’s event, please contact Jacque Schubert, who is working to finalize plans for the month.

Group Name	Leader Name(s)	Meeting Day	Time
Art and Garden	Jacque Schubert	Wednesdays or Fridays	Varies. For Oct., contact Jacque.
Beads2Jewelry (WL)	Maureen Mapes & Dianne Giacobelli	1st Thursday	1:00 PM
Bridge: Daytime Party (WL)	Angela Domer	3rd Monday	10:00 AM
Bridge: Duplicate (WL)	Lola Rohrs	4th Monday	10:00 AM
Bridge: Evening (WL)	Arlene Barnett	2nd Wednesday	7:30 PM
Gourmet: Adventurous Chefs (WL)	Sherry Wilcoxson- Will help start new group for waitlisters	1st Friday	11:30 AM

Gourmet: Epicureans (WL)	Ann Shelton- Liz Williams will help start new group for waitlisters	3rd Saturday	6:00 PM
Great Decisions Daytime and Evening	Mary Granzotto and Mary Ellen Blake	Weekly for eight weeks	Monday 7:30PM Tuesday 1:30 PM
Hiking	Joanne Quijano	Monthly	Varies
Literature: Contemporary Books (WL)	Diane Stangel	4th Wednesday	9:30 AM
Literature: Daytime (WL)	Laurie Ehrlich	4th Thursday	9:30 AM
Literature: Evening (WL)	Linda Jimerson	4th Tuesday	7:30 PM
Literature: Novel Ideas (WL)	Kathy Harkins	3rd Tuesday	1:00PM
Mah Jongg 1 (WL)	Paula Weintraub	Monday Weekly	10:00 AM
Mah Jongg 2 (WL)	Paula Weintraub-looking for beginners to start a new group	Tuesday Weekly	10:00 AM
Movies: Cinema 1	Pat McElderry	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
Movies: First Friday Film (WL)	Kathy Harkins	1st Friday	7:00 PM
Movies & Lunch (WL)	Mary Twist	2nd Tuesday	11:30 AM
Movies: Oscars (WL)	Mary Mix	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
Third Friday Film - New Group	Kath Clayton NEW MEMBER	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
Needle Arts (WL)	Sandy Killoran, Holly Sauer	2nd Monday	1:30-3:30 PM
Writers	Kathy Gage	2nd Tuesday	1:00 to 3:00 PM

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The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

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

Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Vision: AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

The Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch promotes and supports our AAUW mission through local scholarships, AAUW program support, panel discussions, Tech Trek, AAUW Fund, and topical guest speakers.

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