



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



**The Advocate, January 2020**  
(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 ([soulesa@yahoo.com](mailto:soulesa@yahoo.com)) for that information. If you submit articles and pictures for next month's Advocate, 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 February 2020 newsletter by Jan. 20 to [soulesa@yahoo.com](mailto: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

It has been an active December. I have been so pleased to see so many of you this month at the open house holiday get-together and at our very successful Holiday Home Tour. Also please note the article later in this issue about our visit with the Honorable Congressman Mark DeSaulnier.

Our activities are making our branch stronger. One of the ways we document this is via the AAUW 5-Star program. Below is a chart showing our progress. Green highlights the initiatives we have completed. You will see this chart each month as we update our goals and accomplishments.

Please also see the next page for our January 23 program.

### AAUW Five Star Program

Area of Focus	Branches
<b>Programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host 3-5 strategic plan- related programs (e.g., Forum on economic security, Work Smart Online Training Day, Operation Equity: Reading for Results participation, panel on women and leadership) in FY20.</li> <li>• Representative(s) from the branch complete the community resource mapping exercise.</li> </ul>
<b>Advancement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$30 per capita (member) gift raised for greatest needs. Shift focus in branch giving from fellowships and grants/LAF to greatest needs or strategic plan focus areas by 50%.</li> <li>• Retain 90% or more of branch membership and submit annual dues by September 30.</li> <li>• Increase the Legacy Circle Members in your state by 10%.</li> </ul>
<b>Communications &amp; External Relations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and Work Smart Online.</li> <li>• Monthly posts are required for social media; Work Smart Online must be included on the website home page.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Policy &amp; Research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. representative(s) and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus.</li> <li>• Ensure a branch public policy chair is appointed who collaborates with the state public policy chair.</li> <li>• Host at least one public event where Action Network sign-ups are collected.</li> </ul>
<b>Governance &amp; Sustainability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align planning with state and AAUW national strategic plans.</li> <li>• Branch board institutes a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives are included in the future leadership.</li> </ul>

Deborah Wechsler

Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Advocate January 2020

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# AAUW and

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS DIABLO VALLEY

Invite you to learn about and discuss an Initiative on the 2020 Ballot:

### SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST FUNDING ACT

Did you know ...

-our property taxes pay for local government services like public libraries, local parks, first responders, roads?

-commercial property owners, before 1978, contributed almost half of California property taxes?

-commercial properties change ownership infrequently and owners can use a loophole in the law to avoid a change in their tax base? The result is that in 2019 commercial property owners' tax share is only about 28% of the total property taxes while homeowners' share is 72%.



**WHEN: JANUARY 23, 2020**

**TIME: 7:00 PM**

**LOCATION: Danville  
Congregational Church  
Kairos Hall**

LWV Diablo Valley League members will explain how **Schools and Communities First**, a November 2020 initiative, will direct new money to Schools and local Communities without changing residential or agricultural property taxes while protecting small businesses.

At the conclusion of the discussion, there will be an informal poll on AAUW endorsement of the initiative.

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Home Tour: A Huge Success

Wow. What a great turn out for our 14th Annual Holiday Home Tour (HHT). We sold 496 tickets for the two-day event and netted over \$17,000 for Local Scholarship and Tech Trek camperships. Our expenses (printing postcards, tickets, refreshments) only totaled 6%.

So many helping hands contributed to this exciting success. THANK YOU to the following:

Head Docents: **Judy Lauper, Susan Terzuoli, Fran Crisman, Pat DeRensis, Joanne Quijano** with **Corrienne Heinemann**, acting as the head docent at her home. They recruited and organized their crews into shifts: selling tickets, distributing booties and providing informative descriptions of the six beautifully decorated homes.

**Anna Freitas**'s culinary crew creatively presented yummy goodies that so many of our members baked and provided warm cider in the fabulous outdoor patio at the Galletly home.

**Holly Sauer** has designed the ticket layout for the past three tours.

**Mary Mix** and **Marcia Steinhardt** were our ticket masters and database experts.

**Marian Bliss** is our in-house creative photographer and creates a photo montage for each homeowner.

**Marsha Anderson-Landau** visited each home and wrote the descriptions for our tickets.

**Dora-Thea Porter** creates the map so that no one gets lost.

**Dianne and Tim Tinnes** placed all the directional signs for the two-day event and took them down at the conclusion of the tour

**Emily Kalin**, one of this past year's Tech Trekkers, who volunteered for the Saturday afternoon shift.

**Elle Bonner** handled our publicity.

**Mary Kelly**, a past member who moved to Tahoe, for her quilt.

and **Susan Terzuoli**, my co-chair, who created the idea of the HHT originally.

A very special thanks to all who helped make this another successful year. We had 74 docents from our branch participate and many more who contributed tasty treats for the refreshment house. Many thanks to spouses for their support! We thank **Teresa Cheung** for generously contributing gift certificates from Montecatini Restaurant for each homeowner. We also thank East Bay Flower Company's owner, **Kris Simpson**, for her generous support by selling 54% of our tickets. Many of you supported the HHT by

taking friends on the tour. AND, of course, there would be no HHT without the generous homeowners opening their doors to our event. We are so appreciative of their hospitality:

**Jan and Steve Galletly, Kay and Tom Weatherford, Diane Folsom, Chara and John Rodriques, Ingrid and Bruce Lara, and our own member, Corrienne and Mark Heinemann.** We also had several friends of members of AAUW who volunteered.

Please forward any leads for possible homes for 2020 HHT on Friday, December 11 and Saturday, December 12.

Local Scholarships will be awarded at the spring installation in June. Please come to meet the outstanding recipients of this year's HHT fund-raising event. The Tech Trek nomination process begins this month as well as the applications for our local scholarships are available on our website.

**Tena Gallagher, Co-chair**

[And thanks to Tena for her hard work, as well.—Editor]

### **Local Scholarship, Thanks to the Holiday Home Tour**



Thanks to our successful Holiday Home Tour our branch will be able to fund multiple scholarships. **Please spread the word.** Detailed requirements can be found on the branch website. Applicants must have lived in our local area during high school or currently reside in Danville, Alamo, or greater Walnut Creek. Our branch will award scholarships to undergraduates entering their junior year in college next fall. Applicants pursuing an advanced degree (Masters, Doctoral, post-doctoral) are also eligible. Awards will be a minimum of \$1000. If you would like to serve on the Scholarship Committee, please let Nancy Murray know. The work will take place in March and one meeting in April.

Thanks, Nancy Murray

Pictured: Roseanne Krane with the winning quilt.

## Tech Trek Volunteers Needed



Our branch will send nine to twelve 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls to the weeklong Tech Trek science camp at Sonoma State again in 2020. [Picture: Last year’s participants] **We need AAUW members to serve in the student interview and selection process.** The task includes attending a local orientation meeting in January, and then working with one or two other members to interview prospective campers from one of our six middle schools. The interviews will take place in February. They usually take a few hours on one afternoon – date to be chosen by you.

The Tech Trek curriculum consists of STEM related presentations, hands on projects, games and field trips, all presented by “role model” professional women active in their STEM fields. The girls also get a taste of campus life as they live in a dorm on a college campus for the week. This very successful AAUW program can open a girl’s eyes to her full potential for a meaningful STEM career. **Please let Dianne Tinnes know if you can support us by serving as in interviewer.** One or two volunteers are also needed to be **dorm moms** for the camp June 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. It can be very rewarding to interact with these talented girls.

Dianne Tinnes, Monika Witte, Tech Trek Co-Chairs

## Welcome New Members

Below are the names of our new members. We look forward to getting to know them and enjoying many years of their participation in our branch. From Marsha Anderson Landau

Maryam Alexandrian-Adams	Jan Hershfeld	Susan Sambuceti
Rebecca Bauer-Kahan	Cheryl Hosking	Claudia Schwartz
Rebecca Calzia-Bhatt	Gailyn Johnson	Judy Slinger
Kath Clayton	Christine Jordan	Marilyn Steichen
Jeanne Cochran	Sosanna Kuruvila	Liz Stuart
Desiree Corpening	Joe Lurie	Lin Taylor
Lisa DeLorme	Shahida Malik	Joan Trezek
Janet Dietrich	Jennifer McBride	Leslie Vilhauer
Vivian Franklin		Patricia Walter

## DAW-AAUW Visit with Honorable Mark DeSaulnier – Dec 2, 2019

Four representatives from Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW met with the Honorable Mark DeSaulnier, Representative for the 11<sup>th</sup> District, on December 2, 2019. Present at the meeting from DAW Branch were Asha Bajaj (Public Policy Chair), Bette Felton (VP Programs), Chris Ritter (President-Elect) and Deborah Wechsler (President). We had a very productive meeting with the Congressman. Some areas of collaboration included the need to bring back mock elections and debates on current affairs in the local schools, increase awareness of the political process, and improve citizenship to keep our democracy vital and strong. AAUW public policy priorities were shared and we pledged our support for any bills reflecting education, women's access to healthcare, Title IX and Equal pay legislation.



Asha set up the meeting with the following background for Representative DeSaulnier:

- Our AAUW mission
- Our legal advocacy fund that supports women who have been discriminated in the universities, Title IX recipients and tenure related issues, along with sexual harassment.
- Our desire to explore areas of common interest where we could take this advocacy into the community, our local schools and help strengthen the work of the honorable Congressman.

Before the meeting we determined to focus on:

- 1) WorkSmart promotion at all levels (National, State, Local)
- 2) Protecting Title IX
- 3) Student Loan issue (mostly women in debt)
- 4) How our local branch can raise our advocacy and effectiveness profile



We prepared by looking up his sponsored bills and voting records on key initiatives of interest to AAUW. We noted his support of several education initiatives, and shared with him AAUW's key priorities, including pay equity (focused on the WorkSmart initiative), Student Loan debt, and Title IX concerns.

Representative DeSaulnier shared that he is on two committees of importance to him in today's fractious political climate: The House Rules Committee and a committee on modernization of the House, focusing on legislative effectiveness. It was telling of the polarized climate that out of the 40 bills he sponsored none of them were bi-partisan.

We jointly determined 3 areas of collaboration going forward:

- 1) A Branch program focusing on how to vet information, which in turn could help create more effective legislation by showing constituents how to become better educated with facts and detect fake news stories. DeSaulnier's office might be able to provide some materials with respect to media consumption and vetting ideas. This may be paired with or build off of some ideas in the book: "They Don't Represent Us, Reclaiming our Democracy" by Lawrence Lessig. DeSaulnier suggested this book would point to some best practices on **restoring civic engagement**.
- 2) Partnering with the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, which has an endowment committee that is charged with identifying long-term sustainable and innovative projects for engaging citizens in government. Related to the initiative "Generation Citizen", a program to promote student engagement in government and finding likeminded groups in the community to strengthen our advocacy on all fronts: education, research and women's equity.
- 3) Focus on holding mock elections as an education for students in civic involvement.

Congressman DeSaulnier encouraged AAUW members to continue to send emails about issues to his office. It is the best way to ensure that he is aligned with his constituents.

We are encouraged that we raised the awareness of AAUW with Representative DeSaulnier and his staff, and we hope this will be the first of such meetings on an annual basis.

### **AAUW's Annual Art Contest**

You will soon be able to showcase your art in AAUW's annual AAUW Art Contest. We look forward to members' paintings, photographs and other works **beginning on January 7**. While all entries are accepted, we encourage you to consider **works that speak to AAUW's mission and values** when entering and voting. Stay tuned to [www.aauw.org/contests](http://www.aauw.org/contests) for details on how to enter and when to cast your vote.

### **AAUW Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Meeting on the 2020 U.S. Census**

Matt Lardner, Census Outreach Coordinator for Contra Costa County, and Chunling Wang with the U.S. Census Bureau will speak at the American Association of University Women-Orinda Moraga Lafayette Branch general meeting on **Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** (9:30-10:00 a.m. social time) at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Their presentation will cover efforts to ensure a complete 2020 census count in Contra Costa County, particularly of the hardest to reach populations, and how you can help. Admission is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required. For more information, visit our website at <https://oml-CA.aauw.net>



## Work Smart



### Welcome to AAUW Work Smart Online.

As an AAUW Member, you're an ambassador, helping to build relationships between AAUW and the public. By supporting mission-based programs and resources, you're showing your solidarity in ways that will impact the lives of women for generations to come and helping us to end the gender pay gap by 2030 by training 10 million women by 2022. Empower the women you know in the workforce on salary negotiation by **sharing this free course**. As a member ambassador, we hope you will login and explore the course at your leisure with your email address and default password of Salary1.

**Empower the women in your life to negotiate for fair and equal pay by directing them to [salary.aauw.org](https://salary.aauw.org) to register for this course.**

SHARE THE COURSE

LOG IN NOW

For assistance, contact [salary@aauw.org](mailto:salary@aauw.org).

HELP SPREAD THE WORD

ELENA NOBLE, CCC FACILITATOR

ENOBLE4@ASTOUND.NET

## DAW Interest Groups

Below is the current list of Interest Groups and Leaders, with notations of new groups that formed in fall 2019. 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](mailto:soulesa@yahoo.com)).

**NOTE about Art and Garden:** On **Wednesday, January 15, 2020**, Art & Garden will BART to the Oakland Museum of CA for an 11:30 am docent tour of **“No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man”**. Cost is \$18/person and we’ll lunch at OMCA’s Blue Oak Café after our tour. This is a Smithsonian traveling exhibit, and Oakland marks the show’s West Coast debut and final stop on its tour. This is a playful exhibition of touchable, climbable, and even huggable creations that usually only appear at the annual spectacle of maker machinations in the Nevada desert. The idea was to share a taste of the creativity and radical self-expression that happens at Burning Man, especially with so many of the artists and makers coming from right here in the Bay Area. We’ll carpool to BART from Alamo and Danville. Contact Jacque Schubert for more information.

**Note about Great Decisions:** Informed Citizens Make Great Decisions ([https://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions](https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions))

Great Decisions—America’s Global Affairs Discussion Group will meet weekly for eight weeks from **February 2020 through March 2020**.

1. **Mondays, beginning Feb. 3, 7 p.m.**, Mercer Social Room, 1655 N. California Blvd., Walnut Creek. Contact Mary Granzotto, OR
2. **Tuesdays, beginning Feb. 4, 1:30 p.m.** Location rotates weekly and will be announced one week prior to each meeting. The first meeting will be at the home of Beverley Nidick. Contact Mary Ellen Blake.

Great Decisions is a program developed by the Foreign Policy Association to serve as a catalyst for developing awareness, understanding, and informed opinion on U.S. foreign policy and global issues.

2020 topics: Climate Change and the Global Order; India and Pakistan; Red Sea Security; Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking; U.S. Relations and the Northern Triangle (Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala); China’s Road into Latin America; The Philippines and the U.S.; Artificial Intelligence and Data.

Group Name	Leader Name(s)	Meeting Day	Time
Art and Garden	Jacque Schubert	Wednesdays or Fridays	Varies. See above or contact Jacque.
Beads2Jewelry (WL)	Maureen Mapes & Dianne Giacovelli	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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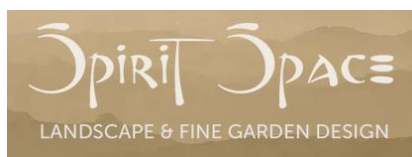


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*\*AAUW DAW members are marked with an asterisk*

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.

Aline Soules, Editor  
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