



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



The Advocate, August 2020 (Online at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/newsletter/>)

From the Editor: 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) for that information. If you submit articles and pictures for next month's issue, please observe the following:

Articles in .doc or .docx, or in the body of an email

Pictures in .jpg (compressed)

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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.

Remember to check our website section on healthful leadership tips for resources to help you thrive under the current health-related restrictions.

From the President

With a wonderfully successful AAUW Garden Walk 2020 behind us, we can all feel proud that we met the challenge of fundraising in the time of COVID. By adapting our plans to meet health guidelines, we were able to fully fund our Local Scholarships for 2021 while also providing a much-needed way for the attendees to get out in nature. Kudos, congratulations and our heartfelt thanks to our Garden Walk Team, led by Kathy Harkins and supported by you, our branch members for this resounding success.



Meanwhile, we are all learning how to apply social distancing that allows us to continue with the meaningful activities in our lives. For our branch, this means we will plan to carry on with our monthly activities while adapting the format to accommodate current health guidelines.

- Our 2020-21 Board of Directors will meet this August to plan our upcoming year's activities within our new constraints. Thank you to all who responded to the Member Survey that closed July 31. The results will inform both our near-term plans and our longer-term direction.
- Several of our interest groups are evolving to continue through zoom meetings and other distancing methods. The updates are listed in the updated DAW Interest Groups sections of this newsletter.
- Our September membership brunch, which will be held in virtual format, is the kick-off for our year and we will work to make it meaningful, productive and fun. Watch your email for a "save the date" message soon.
- Our 2020-21 budget in conjunction with our proposed monthly event calendar will be presented at the September brunch for your approval.

With our move to virtual activities, it is more important than ever for you to check your email regularly for communications from daw.aauw@gmail.com. During the months that we are unable to meet in person, email can help us stay connected through our branch activities.

Wishing you all a safe and relaxing summer to recharge before we come together again in September to kick off our new year advancing women's equity.

Chris Ritter
President 2020-21

Garden Walk 2020

Thanks to so many volunteers, our 20th AAUW Garden Walk 2020 was a success with five fabulous gardens. Even with the extra challenges maneuvering to make it safe with COVID, we sold 520 tickets (75 more than last year). The publicity produced excitement and made it the event of the month. The guests were delighted with the beautiful gardens and many stated that it was the best ever. A very special thanks to two of our members who shared their amazing gardens this year: Sharon Burke and Linda Reeves.

We raised a total of \$19,871.00 (before expenses) through ticket sales and raffles. We made \$1,251.00 from raffle tickets for baskets created and donated by Carol Highton and Julie Grisham and the beautiful quilt made and donated by Mary Mix raised \$310.00. All proceeds support college scholarships for local women.

We had a great 2020 Garden team with many to thank:

Tena Gallagher, a mentor every step of the way also helping with administration, ticket sales, and raffle ticket sales. Deborah Wechsler ticket emails and taking the lead for the Video Tour. Publicity: Chris Ritter, Ticket Master: Monika Witte, Promotional Video: Susan Mann, Social Media: Isabel Lau, Photos: Marian Bliss, Postcard/Ticket Creator: Holly Sauer, Map Creator: Dora-Thea Porter, Webmaster: Teresa Cheung & Roseann Krane, Membership Table: Marsha Anderson-Landau, Directional Signs: Dianne Tinnes

Head Docents: Corrienne Heinemann, Susie Ferreira, Mary Granzotto, Liz Williams, and Susan Terzuoli
Docents: Alicia Jones, Alyssa Harkins, Ann Harding, Ariana Schwarz, Arlene Barnett, Asha Bajaj, Barbara Critchlow, Bette Felton, Carol Gerich, Carol Kennedy, Caroline Sanchez, Cathleen Freeman, Claudia Schwarz, Clay Selland, Deborah Wechsler, Dee Brook, Diane Fornasier, Donna Fuller, Dori Sanchez, Dot Healy, Gwen Gallagher, Ilene Ferguson, Isabel Lau, Jamie Hammind, Janet Dietrich, Joan Mataraci, Joanne Lyons, JoAnne Quijano, Judy Halden, Judy Slinger, Julie Zimmerman, Kara Barentsen, Kat Ovadia, Kathie Hixon, Kathy Gage, Kerry Montalvo, Lani Marshall, Laura Johnson, Laurie Miller, Linda Jimmerson, Lynn Heinemann, Marcia and Herb Steinhardt, Megan Leich, Nancy Norland, Pat Derensis, Pat McElderry, Pat Morris, Rita Hannum, Sandy Leich, Sandy Scott, Sarah Harkins, Shahida Malik, Shari Silva, Sharon Cohune, Sherry Wilcoxson, Sienna McDonald, Susan Sambuceti, Tena Gallagher, Tracy McFall, Verna Kershaw, Victoria Criswell

To each and every member who bought a ticket and helped publicize our event, our branch appreciates your efforts to make this tour a success.

Kathy Harkins
Garden Walk 2020 Chair

Congratulations to Two New AAUW Board Members Does Anyone Else Want to Join?

As we launch into our new year, we are fortunate to have many generous volunteers working to help us move our programs and activities forward. This month, **we welcome two new appointees: Linda Jimerson: Publicity Chair and Isabel Lau: Social Media Manager.** With limitations on in-person meetings this year, our other communications channels become even more important, so I am very thankful for these members stepping up to tackle the challenge.

This leaves us with two projects most in need of leaders:

- **Tech Trek Chair or Co-Chairs** (which just needs candidates selected since we have the funds)
- **Garden Tour 2021 Chair or Co-Chairs** (which we just finished, so now is the time to find gardens for next year – Kathy has some candidates already)

If you have ever thought about leading or co-leading one of these committees, please let Chris Ritter know. Previous Chairs are more than happy to guide you through the process.

Here is the current roster, which still includes opportunities to join an energetic group of women coming together to share their ideas, talents and support. New members are welcome.

Elected Positions

President	Chris Ritter
President Elect	Open
Programs VP	Bette Felton
Membership VP	Marsha Anderson-Landau
Funds CO-VP	Liz Williams
Funds CO-VP	Robin Halloran
Secretary	Holly Sauer
Treasurer	Claudia Schwarz

Appointed Positions

Advertising Sales Manager	Marsha Anderson-Landau
Advocate Editor	Aline Soules
Advocate Circulation Manager	Susetta Welm
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Gross
Database & Directory Manager	Joanne Quijano
Expanding Your Horizons Chair	Judy Lauper
Garden Tour Chair or Co-Chairs	Open, Open
Graphic Designer	Dora-Thea Porter
Holiday Home Tour Chair	Susan Terzuoli
Hospitality Chair	Open
Local Scholarship Chair	Dianne Tinnes
Local Scholarship Treasurer	Tena Gallagher
Membership Treasurer	Tena Gallagher
Nominating Committee Chair	Open
Parliamentarian	Open
Publicity Chair	Linda Jimerson
Public Policy Chair	Asha Bajaj
Social Media Manager	Isabel Lau
Tech Trek Co-Chairs	Open, Open
Webmaster	Roseann Krane

Annual Advertising Effort

The Annual Advertising Effort has begun. Packet mailers are being sent to last year advertisers and other potential participants. Especially challenging at this time in raising these funds is the effect the pandemic is having on business. It's more important than ever to support our membership. Our advertisers appear in the monthly Advocate Membership Directory.

This effort covers the cost of the annual updated Membership Directory and mailing as well as important miscellaneous administrative expenses our branch incurs during the year.

If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in advertising a product, service, or company to our membership, please contact Marsha Anderson Landau.

Public policy update

The U.S. Supreme Court issued several opinions on critical AAUW priorities.

Equal employment Act

In **Bostock v. Clayton County**, the Supreme Court ruled that it is a violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to fire any employee for being gay, lesbian or transgender. AAUW has long argued that Title VII encompasses this meaning and prohibits discrimination based on sex stereotyping.

Women's access to reproductive health and safe abortions

In **June Medical Services v. Russo**, the Supreme Court struck down a 2014 Louisiana law that severely restricts access to abortion. Finding it nearly identical to a Texas law that was deemed unconstitutional in 2016, the Court reiterated that requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital "imposes an undue burden on a woman's constitutional right to choose to have an abortion." AAUW supports choice in the determination of one's reproductive life and joined an amicus brief backing June Medical Services.

Gender pay equity

The Supreme Court declined to hear a challenge to the Ninth Circuit Court's decision in *Yovino v. Rizo* that prohibited employers from relying on a person's salary history to justify pay disparities. We are honored to have worked with Aileen Rizo, who challenged the practice under the federal Equal Pay Act, and are proud to have helped establish an important precedent that brings us a step close to gender pay equity.

Immigrant rights

In **Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California**, the Supreme Court rebuked the current administration for their "arbitrary and capricious" decision to rescind the DACA program, as they did not show sufficient legal justification to terminate it.

Unfortunately, the Court also issued unfavorable decisions in two cases AAUW weighed in on via amicus briefs. **Our Lady of Guadalupe School v. Morrissey-Berru** concerned employment discrimination, and **Little Sisters of the Poor Pennsylvania** addressed contraceptive coverage protections within the Affordable Care Act.

Paid Family leave

On May 15, 2020, the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions Act (HEROES) passed the House of Representatives. H.R. 6800 provides relief measures in response to the COVID-19 crisis, including addressing vital AAUW priorities such as expanding paid sick days, family and medical leave, unemployment compensation, and nutrition and food assistance programs, as well as providing student loan forgiveness to some borrowers and expanding funding for free, fair, accessible, and safe elections. Although the Senate has not taken up the HEROES Act, the Senate Majority Leader has signaled the chamber's intent to pass another round of aid by the end of July before benefits made available in the CARES Act run out.

Racial equity and social justice

Representative John Lewis, the towering figure in the historic struggle for racial equality, “the conscience of Congress” and a Georgia Democrat, announced in December that he had Stage 4 pancreatic cancer. He died on July 10th at the age of 80. On the front lines of the bloody campaign to end Jim Crow laws, Mr. Lewis was repeatedly beaten by Southern policemen and arrested 40 times from 1960 to 1966. He was one of the original Freedom Riders and the last surviving speaker from the March on Washington in 1963. Half a century later, Mr. Lewis saw the demonstrations in response to the killing of George Floyd as a continuation of his life’s work. “There will be no turning back,” he said in one of his final interviews.

AAUW condemns racism and recognizes that there can be no justice or equality when Black and Brown communities are seen as less deserving of basic human and civil rights. The statement from AAUW CEO Kim Churches, AAUW Stands Against Racism, pledges to work to advance the policies and systemic changes identified in the **New Era of Public Safety: A Guide to Fair, Safe, and Effective Community Policing and Vision for Justice platforms.**

Pandemic update

California and other states continue to respond to the Corona virus pandemic, with not much coordination for testing and/or equipment or guidelines from the White house. Instead, an embattled CDC tries to get its message out, based on science and data, and once again thwarted by the new edict to turn all virus-related stats to the Department of homeland security.

In some good news there are 2-3 vaccines closer to market. Until then please remember to wear your masks and wash your hands and stay away from big group events.

With the November elections approaching, please write to your senators to vote to expand and safeguard voting rights.

The Voter Access & Education webinar information and recording can be found here (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/get-involved-in-elections/>)

Both this week and last week, we have included an updated call to support the Voting Rights Advancement Act (<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/voting-rights/?emci=d594b1fb-e99f-ea11-86e9-00155d03b5dd&emdi=9073674f-1aa0-ea11-86e9-00155d03b5dd&ceid=932324>)

Stay engaged and informed exercise your right to vote

Asha Bajaj, Public policy chair

Thank You for Completing the 2020 Member Survey

Thank you to all who responded to our DAW AAUW Members Survey 2020. The survey closed July 31st and we are analyzing the results, which we will share in an upcoming newsletter. Your new board will rely on your survey responses to shape our plans for the coming year and beyond.

Thank you for helping your board do the best job we can for you.

Chris Ritter, President

Office Depot/Office Max

AAUW members can save up to 80% on over 93,000 products at Office Depot/OfficeMax. Great for your printing, cleaning and office needs. Shop online or in any Office Depot or OfficeMax store. Enjoy free next-day delivery on online orders over \$50. If you go to <https://officediscounts.org/aauw/>, you can print a free Store Purchasing Card.

Tena Gallagher notes that this is one of the best perks. She had 100 double sided white paper Garden Guides printed with one side colored. Without the discount and before taxes, her bill would have been \$84. With the discount, it was \$36 before taxes. To view all the perks AAUW offers, see <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/discounts-and-perks/>

FaceBook 101 for DAW AAUW Members

Due to the pandemic we have had to rely more and more on technology to stay in touch and abreast with the world around us.

Do you Facebook?

Did you know that DAW AAUW has a Facebook page?

Here's the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/DanvilleAlamoWalnutCreekAauw>



Have you “liked” our page? Click on “like.”

If you “like” our page you will receive updates on our postings. We post articles of interest concerning women in leadership and/or science roles. We post information about our organization’s events.

You may also “share” these postings with your friends by clicking the “share” button. When you do so your Facebook friends see it and you help us spread the word. Liking and sharing are good things to do with our posts.



We appreciate your support.

DAW Interest Groups

Below is the current list of Interest Groups and Leaders, with an update on the status of the group given our current meeting restrictions. 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).

If you are looking to connect with other members and have an idea for an Interest Group that lends itself to virtual activities, please let Chris Ritter know and we will help you find other interested members for your new group).

Group Name	Status	Leader Name(s)	Meeting Day	Time
Art and Garden	On COVID hiatus	Jacque Schubert	Wednesdays or Fridays	Varies
Beads2Jewelry	On COVID hiatus	Maureen Mapes, Dianne Giacovelli	1st Thursday	1:00 PM
Bridge: Daytime Party (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Angela Domer	3rd Monday	10:00 AM
Bridge: Duplicate (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Lola Rohrs	4th Monday	10:00 AM
Bridge: Evening (WL)	Trying Trickster on-line bridge	Arlene Barnett	2nd Wednesday	7:30 PM
Gourmet: Adventurous Chefs (WL)	Socially Distanced outdoor BYO lunch	Sherry Wilcoxson	1st Friday	11:30 AM
Gourmet: Culinary Navigators	on COVID hiatus	Sandy Killoran, Marilyn Steichen	1st Saturday	6:30 PM
Gourmet: Epicureans	on COVID hiatus	Elizabeth Williams	3rd Saturday	6:00 PM
Great Decisions Daytime and Evening	Start early next year	Mary Granzotto, Mary Ellen Blake	Weekly for eight weeks (Jan-Mar)	Mon 7:30 PM Tues 1:30 PM
Hiking	on COVID hiatus	Joanne Quijano	Monthly	Varies
Literature: Contemporary Books (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Diane Stangel	4th Wednesday	9:30 AM
Literature: Daytime	Conference call meetings	Laurie Ehrlich	4th Thursday	9:30 AM
Literature: Evening	Zoom meetings	Linda Jimerson	4th Tuesday	7:30 PM
Literature: Novel Ideas (WL)	Zoom meetings	Kathy Harkins	3rd Tuesday	1:00PM
Mah Jongg 1 (WL)	on hiatus	Paula Weintraub	Monday Weekly	10:00 AM
Mah Jongg 2 (WL)	Some playing online	Paula Weintraub	Tuesday Weekly	10:00 AM
Movies: Cinema 1	waiting for new movies/considering Zoom	Pat McElderry	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
Movies: First Friday Film (WL)	Zoom meetings on Netflix movies	Kathy Harkins	Alternating Fridays	7:00 PM
Movies & Lunch	on COVID hiatus	Mary Twist	2nd Tuesday	11:30 AM
Movies: Oscars (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Mary Mix	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
Movies: Friday Night Movie (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Kath Clayton	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
Needle Arts	On COVID hiatus	Sandy Killoran, Holly Sauer	2nd Monday	1:30-3:30 PM
Writers	on break until fall 2020	Kathy Gage	2nd Tuesday	1:00-3:00 PM

Our Wonderful Sponsors

Sad News-

AAUW sends our heartfelt condolences to the family of Lydia Leveriza. Lydia was a co-owner with her brother, Louis, of Diablo printing. Together, they have provided printing services for years to our branch including printing our tour postcards, our Advocate, and our directory. We will very much miss Lydia and her cheerful attitude and her caring diligence.



For more information, please see Lydia's obituary:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/eastbaytimes/obituary.aspx?n=lydia-leveriza&pid=196474597>



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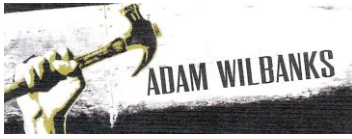
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**AAUW DAW members are marked with an asterisk*

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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