



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



## **The Advocate, October 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](mailto: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).**

**Seeking an Advocate Editor:** As we prepared the September Advocate, I informed our president that I will step down as editor of The Advocate. If you are interested in taking the position, please contact Christine Ritter. I'm happy to answer questions about the position if you're considering it.

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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



What a relief to see our California blue skies again. I hope you are all faring well in our new COVID-safe lives.

Our website says, “***we are tenacious and trailblazing***”, so I am happy to announce that we will demonstrate our tenacity by moving forward with a full menu of 2020-21 programs and events while trailblazing new ways of using virtual tools to keep us safe and keep us connected.

### **Our Website is Key to Staying Connected in our Virtual World**

We are placing new emphasis on the website to keep it chock full of timely information about branch events and other news. [Click here](#) to check it out.

With our new virtual activities, we will post the zoom meeting links in Members Only pages so that unwanted “guests” will not join our meetings. Please [click here](#) to take a look at the Members Only website page and click on the Zoom Meeting Links. You will be asked for a password. **If you don’t know the Members Only password, please go to our main web site, choose “about”, then “contact”, and send a request for password to our webmaster, Teresa Cheung.**

### **Upcoming (Virtual) Programs and Events**

#### ***Membership Brunch- Oct 3, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM***

We launch our year with our virtual Membership Brunch. This year, we have a wonderful AAUW FUND Fellow as our speaker, who will inspire us with her work in rural education. We will also announce our full calendar of branch events, volunteer opportunities and approve our branch operating budget. The Zoom meeting link is in your email invitation sent Sept 9 and on the [Members Only Zoom Links](#) page of our website.

#### ***California 2020 Ballot Initiatives: Pros and Cons - Tuesday Oct 6, 5:00 – 6:30PM***

Here’s a great opportunity to arm ourselves with information on California’s 2020 Ballot Initiatives. We are co-sponsoring this event with the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley. Both members and the public are invited so please spread the word. The Zoom meeting link is in your email invitation sent Sept 14 and on the [Members Only Zoom Links](#) page of our website.

#### ***New Wine Chat and Board Update: Starts October 22, 5:00 – 6:00 PM and repeats third Thursdays.***

All members are invited to join me and other Board Members for a new monthly quick-update and social event called “Wine, Chat and Board Update”. This will be an opportunity to learn the latest branch news followed by small group activities where you can interact with a variety of other members. I hope we will all meet members who we did not already know. The meeting link is on the [Members Only Zoom Links](#) page of our website. I will also send an email invitation with the link closer to the date.

***So, What's So Important About Social Media? Tuesday, November 10, 6:30-8:00PM.***

Our November program features two leading women Social Media Entrepreneurs. They will discuss how the use of social media, zoom and events in the digital world are present in daily life, from careers, to dating and socializing with friends and family. Watch for your email invitation and DAW AAUW website info.

***Friends, Fun and Enjoying the Holiday Season: Thursday, December 3, 5:00 – 7:00 PM***

Save the date for our December Social Program: We are planning to jump-start the holiday season with an all branch social mixer event. Details to follow.

### **Call for Public Policy Advocates**

Public Policy Chair, Asha Baja, is looking for a few good activists who want to help us boost our public policy activities to increase our influence in our local community. To find out more about the Public Policy Committee opportunities, please contact Asha Bajaj.

### **Call for Advocate Editor**

We extend our sincere thanks to Aline Soules, our intrepid Advocate Editor since March, 2019. Aline has decided to step down from her position after our December issue. We will miss her helpful editing of our informative and enjoyable newsletter.

If you would like a fun position where you can try out your newsletter editing skills (we use standard word processing software), please contact Chris Ritter right away. We need your help.

I hope to see you at our upcoming events. As always, please contact me with your thoughts, reactions and ideas for our branch at any time.

Christine Ritter  
President 2020-21

### **Big Goals, Many Tasks: Our Tech Team is Off and Running**

This year, our President Chris Ritter and Webmaster Teresa Cheung are leading a Tech Team to upgrade and update our branch information and communication through our website, social media, and other branch-related technology (<https://daw-ca.aauw.net/digital-media/>).

Our Team consists of 6 board members (Chris Ritter, Teresa Cheung, Deborah Wechsler, Isabel Lau, Linda Jimerson, and Joanne Quijano) and we have big goals of embracing technology for our branch to accomplish our AAUW goals. Since the formation of our Tech Team in August, we have had three Zoom meetings already to discuss current needs, formulate solutions and set priorities on our tasks. For more details of our Tech Team, goals and specific tasks, please visit <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/technology-project/>

Teresa Cheung, Webmaster

## Communications/Social Media

I'd like to introduce you to our Instagram (IG) page.

[https://www.instagram.com/danvillealamowc\\_aauw/](https://www.instagram.com/danvillealamowc_aauw/)

If you have an IG account, we encourage you to visit our page and click "follow" so you can receive our postings.

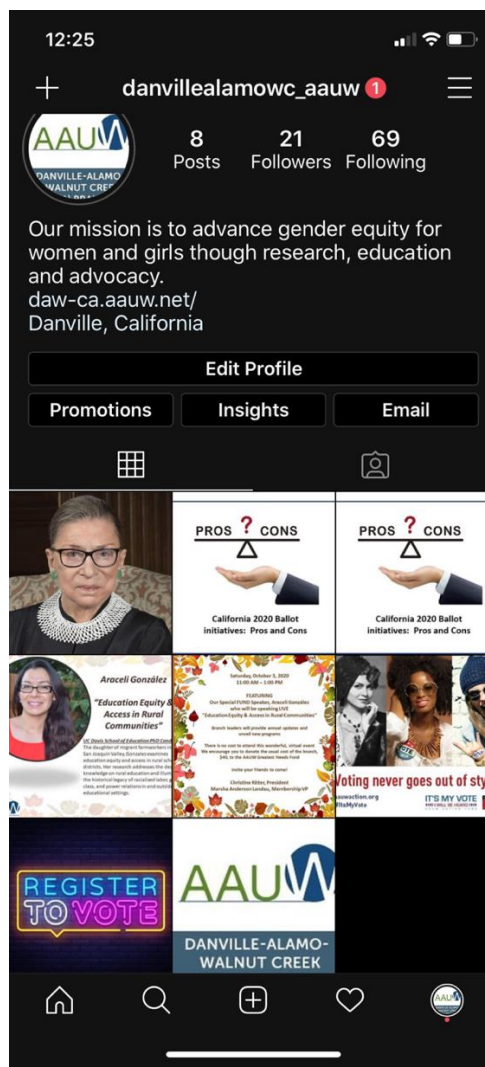
Just as a reminder we also have a Facebook page.

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

Both these sites will provide the latest and most up-to-date information that concern our group.

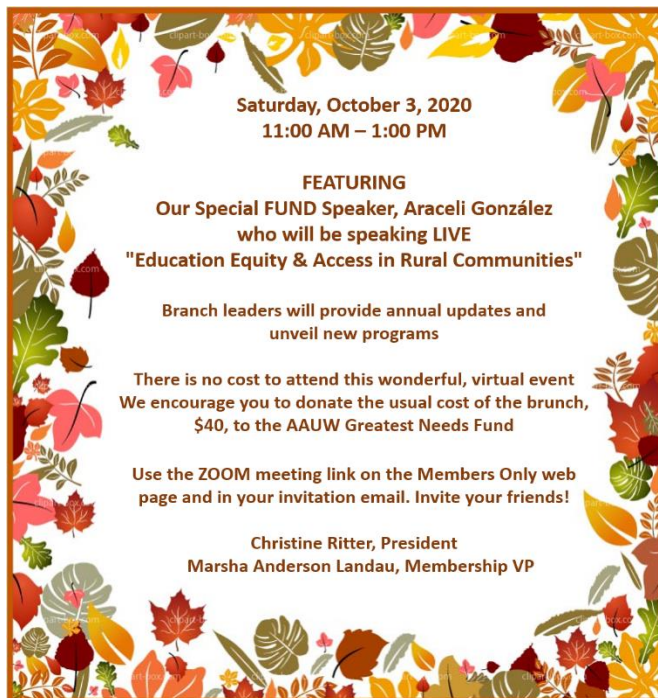
Please, join us on social media.

Isabel Lau  
Social Media Manager



## Join the Fall Virtual Membership Brunch

**Saturday, October 3 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Bring your salad and Zoom together**



We are kicking off our year with our virtual Fall Membership Brunch featuring FUND Fellow, Araceli González, speaking on the topic “Educational Equity and Access in Rural School Districts”. Also on the agenda are new-member introductions and the unveiling of our Calendar of Activities and other special initiatives for this year. Check your email for your zoom meeting invitation or go to the [Members Only Zoom Links](#) in our website to find the meeting link.

**Araceli González** is a Ph.D. candidate in the School Organization and Educational Policy program at UC Davis' School of Education. Prior to the doctoral program, Araceli worked as a grant writer for a farm worker service nonprofit organization in the San Joaquin Valley.

Araceli was born and raised in a rural community of Jalisco, México and migrated to California’s agricultural San Joaquin Valley at the age of 13. Araceli holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/Political Theory from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and a Master’s degree in Public Administration from California State University, Fresno.

As the daughter of migrant farmworkers in the San Joaquin Valley, Araceli examines education equity and access in rural school districts as it relates to socio-political racialization of farm work and the regional political economy. More specifically, her research centers the experiences and education leadership practices of Latinx farm work dependent mothers of immigrant background as they actively seek access to a quality education for their children in K-20 systems. This research addresses the dearth of knowledge on rural education and illuminates the historical legacy of racialized labor, gender, class, and power relations in and outside of educational settings.

## Funds and Finances

Don’t forget to make your reservation for our annual branch meeting to be held online (Zoom) on Saturday, October 3rd from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Delayed from April, we look forward to hearing Araceli González in October.

**Look for the annual Funds Solicitation letter.** It will arrive in your mailboxes in late October. Through these funds we are able to contribute to furthering the education of scholars such as Araceli. Our goal this year is to raise \$15,000.00.

Liz Williams and Robin Halloran

## Updates for the 2020-2021 DAW Branch Directory

The 2020-2021 edition of our DAW Branch directory will soon be in the works. We would like to have the latest information about you, including address, email, and phone numbers to include in the new version. If you haven't yet notified the Branch, please let me know if there are any updates to your directory information.

It would also be great to have photos of as many of our members as possible to include with the member listings; currently there are quite a few missing. In addition, some of the photos are a bit dated – you know who you are. Now's the time to get that new photo in. Ideally, the photo should be a head shot, in black and white, with a square shape. A .jpg file is best, but whatever you have is welcome; I can convert or edit as needed. Just attach the photo's file to an email and send it to Joanne Quijano.

**Photos and updates must be received by October 17th** for inclusion in the new directory, so send them now. If you have any questions, please call or email.

Joanne Quijano  
Database & Directory Manager

## Public Policy Update

### *Prepare to Vote on California Ballot Initiatives*

Please join us on Oct 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 6:30 PM for program to understand the pros and cons of these ballot initiatives and measures.

The flyer is enclosed in a red border. On the left side, there is a logo for AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA) Branch. Below it is a graphic with the text 'PROS ? CONS' and a hand holding a scale. Further down is the LWV logo. On the right side, the text reads: 'AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch in partnership with the Diablo Valley League of Women Voters presents California 2020 Ballot Initiatives: Pros and Cons'. At the bottom, a blue banner contains the text: 'Tuesday, October 6, 5:00 – 6:30 pm Virtual Event via Zoom'.

There are two ways to join the meeting:

- **DAW AAUW Members** – The Zoom meeting link is in your email invitation to this event sent September 14. The [Zoom link](#) for Members is also listed on our website's "Members Only"



page. This link will admit you to the meeting directly without a reservation. [Click here](#) to contact the Webmaster if you do not know your Members Only password.

- **Members and Non-Members** - [Registration](#) is also available through EventBrite meeting management for both members and also non-members. Click on the link below to register for a free ticket to the event. EventBrite will send you the zoom link to join the meeting. Please invite your friends to register by sending them this registration link:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/california-2020-ballot-initiatives-pros-and-cons-tickets-119185596327>

### **AAUW Supports 7 of 12 Ballot Initiatives**

**Twelve (12) ballot measures** were certified to appear on the ballot for the election on November 3, 2020. AAUW CA has announced its support for seven of the 12 initiatives. Branches are not required to adopt the supported measures but they cannot oppose them.

### **Ballot Initiatives for November 3, 2020:**

Click the number of the proposition below to find out more specifics from [Ballotpedia.org](http://Ballotpedia.org). Or, review the [California 2020 Ballot Initiatives Pros and Cons](#) on from the League of Women Voters posted on our DAW AAUW website.

Type	Prop #	Subject	Description	<a href="#">AAUW CA Position</a>
<a href="#">CISS</a>	<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">Bonds</a>	Issues \$5.5 billion in bonds for <b>state stem cell research</b> institute	Support
<a href="#">CICA</a>	<a href="#">15</a>	<a href="#">Taxes</a>	Requires <b>commercial and industrial properties to be taxed based on market value</b> and dedicates revenue	Support
<a href="#">LRCA</a>	<a href="#">16</a>	<a href="#">Affirmative Action</a>	<b>Repeals Proposition 209 (1996), which says that the state cannot discriminate or grant preferential treatment</b> based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, education, or contracting	Support
<a href="#">LRCA</a>	<a href="#">17</a>	<a href="#">Suffrage</a>	Restores the <b>right to vote to people convicted of felonies who are on parole</b>	Support
<a href="#">LRCA</a>	<a href="#">18</a>	<a href="#">Suffrage</a>	Allows <b>17-year-olds who will be 18 at the time of the next general election to vote</b> in primaries and special elections	Support
<a href="#">LRCA</a>	<a href="#">19</a>	<a href="#">Taxes</a>	Changes <b>tax assessment transfers and inheritance rules</b>	No
<a href="#">CISS</a>	<a href="#">20</a>	<a href="#">Law Enforcement</a>	Makes changes to policies related to <b>criminal sentencing</b> charges, prison release, and DNA collection	No
<a href="#">CISS</a>	<a href="#">21</a>	<a href="#">Housing</a>	Expands local governments' power to use <b>rent control</b>	Support
<a href="#">CISS</a>	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">Business</a>	Considers <b>app-based drivers to be independent contractors</b> and enacts several labor policies related to app-based companies	No
<a href="#">CISS</a>	<a href="#">23</a>	<a href="#">Healthcare</a>	Requires <b>physician on-site at dialysis clinics</b> and consent from the state for a clinic to close	No
<a href="#">CISS</a>	<a href="#">24</a>	<a href="#">Business</a>	Expands the provisions of the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) and creates the <b>California Privacy Protection Agency</b> to implement and enforce the CCPA	No
<a href="#">VR</a>	<a href="#">25</a>	<a href="#">Trials</a>	Replaces <b>cash bail</b> with risk assessments for suspects awaiting trial	Support

Source: [https://ballotpedia.org/California\\_2020\\_ballot\\_propositions](https://ballotpedia.org/California_2020_ballot_propositions)

## **GOTV (Get out the Vote) Voter Guide**

“California is well positioned to vote by mail given its past use and overwhelming voter acceptance.”  
Michael Baldassaro, Public Policy Institute of California.

### ***Important Dates***

- **Oct 9, 2020:** Deadline to register, online or by mail
- **Oct 27th:** Deadline to apply for absentee Ballot by mail
- **Nov 3rd:** Election Day

Voting Rules and options: Register at <https://registertovote.ca.gov>

Voters will get a mailed ballot in October without requesting it. You can also request an absentee ballot at <http://sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail> No witness signature is required. No ID photo is required.

Note that early voting begins Oct 5th in some counties.

### ***Polling places***

Find your voting location at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place>  
Polls will be open from 7am to 8 pm., will have sanitizers, and will practice social distance.

### ***Resources***

Elections and voter information: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/>

Toll free voter hotline: 800-345-8683 (VOTE)

By California law, residents can find out if their ballot arrived at the county elections office, if it was counted and, if not, the reason it was not counted.

Track the status of your ballot: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-status>

**Remember your vote is your voice. Let it be heard loud and clear at the ballot box.**

If any of you are interested in doing phone banking or phone texting please send an email to the following address: [rov.dcmv@gmail.com](mailto:rov.dcmv@gmail.com)



### ***Get Out the Vote Postcard Project Update***

We completed a very successful postcard writing campaign to get the vote out this month. The project involved writing cards to 500 people in Tarrant county Texas. The script was bilingual and we really enjoyed the exercise. Estimados senioritas.

Our special thanks to the following volunteers: Bev Nidick, Chris Ritter, Pat DeRensis (who took 3 packets), Pat Morrison, Judy Finch, Cathy Colman, Asha Bajaj, Martha Gus Slavin, and Isabel Lau. Apologies to some of the volunteers who were not able to participate: Marcia Steinhardt, Judy Keenholtz, Nancy Murray, Dianne Tinnes (who wrote cards on her own initiative), and Kathy Gage.

There were a few glitches in zip codes in a number of addresses and our erstwhile group went the extra step to verify these as we went along –a full and profound gratitude to all of you. We invite you all to the next project on Phone banking via texting.

We also sponsored the school board candidates' forum on September 23rd in conjunction with the PTA and the League of women Voters.

**We are looking for a few good activists to join the public policy committee.** If interested, please contact Asha Bajaj.

Stay engaged. Stay alert. Stay involved.

Asha Bajaj  
Public Policy chair

### **DAW Interest Groups**

Due to the pandemic, many groups are on hiatus. Please see our updated web site for the complete list of Interest Groups, Leaders and their status with respect to meeting while staying socially distant. Here is the link: <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/about/contact/section/>.

(Contact information for Interest Group Leaders can be found in the Membership Directory)

Group Name	Status	Leader Name(s)	Meeting Day	Time
<b><u>Art and Garden</u></b>	On COVID hiatus	Jacque Schubert	Wednesdays or Fridays	Varies
<b><u>Beads2Jewelry</u></b>	On COVID hiatus	Maureen Mapes & Dianne Giacobelli	1st Thursday	1:00 PM
<b><u>Bridge: Daytime Party</u></b> (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Angela Domer	3rd Monday	10:00 AM
<b><u>Bridge: Duplicate</u></b> (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Lola Rohrs	4th Monday	10:00 AM
<b><u>Bridge: Evening</u></b> (WL)	Trying Trickster on-line bridge	Arlene Barnett	2nd Wednesday	7:30 PM
<b><u>Gourmet: Adventurous Chefs</u></b> (WL)	Socially Distanced outdoor BYO lunch	Sherry Wilcoxson	1st Friday	11:30 AM
<b><u>Gourmet: Culinary Navigators</u></b>	on COVID hiatus	Sandy Killoran & Marilyn Steichen	1st Saturday	6:30 PM
<b><u>Gourmet: Epicureans</u></b>	on COVID hiatus	Elizabeth Williams	3rd Saturday	6:00 PM
<b><u>Great Decisions</u></b> 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
<b><u>Hiking</u></b>	on COVID hiatus	Joanne Quijano	Monthly	Varies
<b><u>Literature: Contemporary Books</u></b> (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Diane Stangel	4th Wednesday	9:30 AM
<b><u>Literature: Daytime</u></b>	Conference call meetings	Laurie Ehrlich	4th Thursday	9:30 AM
<b><u>Literature: Evening</u></b>	Zoom meetings	Linda Jimerson	4th Tuesday	7:30 PM
<b><u>Literature: Novel Ideas</u></b> (WL)	Zoom meetings	Kathy Harkins	3rd Tuesday	1:00PM

<b><u>Mah Jongg 1 (WL)</u></b>	on hiatus	Paula Weintraub	Monday Weekly	10:00 AM
<b><u>Mah Jongg 2 (WL)</u></b>	Some playing online	Paula Weintraub	Tuesday Weekly	10:00 AM
<b><u>Movies: Cinema 1</u></b>	waiting for new movies/considering Zoom	Pat McElderry	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
<b><u>Movies: First Friday Film (WL)</u></b>	Zoom meetings on Netflix movies	Kathy Harkins	Alternating Fridays	7:00 PM
<b><u>Movies &amp; Lunch</u></b>	on COVID hiatus	Mary Twist	2nd Tuesday	11:30 AM
<b><u>Movies: Oscars (WL)</u></b>	on COVID hiatus	Mary Mix	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
<b><u>Movies: Third Friday Film (WL)</u></b>	on COVID hiatus	Kath Clayton	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
<b><u>Needle Arts</u></b>	On COVID hiatus	Sandy Killoran, Holly Sauer	2nd Monday	1:30-3:30 PM
<b><u>Writers</u></b>	on break until fall 2020	Kathy Gage	2nd Tuesday	1:00-3:00 PM

(WL) = Wait Listed

## Our Wonderful Sponsors



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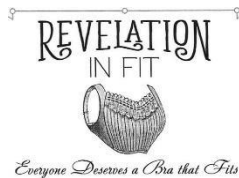
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*\*AAUW DAW members are marked with an asterisk*

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, 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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