



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



### The Advocate, December 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 through Dec. 31, 2020.

**From the Editor 2:** In January 2021, the Advocate will have a new editor, **Beth Clark**. Please submit articles and pictures to Beth at [bclark143@comcast.net](mailto:bclark143@comcast.net). Please also 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.

### From the President



We wrap up a truly astounding year—capped off with a break-through for all women with our first woman Vice President of the United States. Please take a moment to read the AAUW Statement from our president, Kim Churches, expressing our pride in Kamala Harris’ election and our hopeful expectations for the new administration to unite our country.

We are entering our holiday season in a very different world with pandemic restrictions. Yet, we seek to experience the joy and peace of the season.

I hope you enjoyed our November program, Embracing Life Online, where we learned how various digital communication tools can help us to communicate. Despite the pitfalls of social media, we believe these apps, along with video conferencing, can enrich our lives in a time when in person meetings are not possible. We are relying heavily on Zoom, for example, to continue our branch activities. If you need help connecting to zoom, please check out the article on page 5 to learn the basics. If you need more help, please let us know by contacting the [webmaster](#) to ask for a one-on-one mentor to help you join in programs and events.

Our November Triple-Win FUNDraiser was a smashing success. Thanks to our Team Leaders, Susan Terzuoli and Teresa Cheung, and to all our members who supported FUND with a wonderful meal. We held our second Zoom Wine Chat and Board Update party on the same evening and enjoyed a fun social check-in time loosely centered on our online life experiences. Our next Wine, Chat and Board Update party will be January 21 at 5:00 pm – it’s a fun way to catch up with your AAUW friends.

Our December Program will kick off the holiday season with a festive social event via Zoom, complete with party games and other activities. Join in to share holiday cheer and fellowship, Dec. 3, 5-7:00 p.m.

Your 20-21 AAUW Member Directory should have just arrived via snail mail. Thanks so much to Joanne Quijano for leading this major effort.

Finally, I want to extend our thanks to Aline Soules, our Advocate Editor, for her excellent work in creating our newsletter, and join me in welcoming Beth Clark as she takes the helm with the January issue. The dedicated work of all our many volunteers is something for which we can be truly grateful.

Wishing you and your family a healthy and happy holiday season.  
Christine Ritter, President

December, 2020 To Do List

- Enjoy a **Healthy Holiday Season Program, December 3, 5:00 p.m.**
- Make your 2020 Tax-Deductible Donation to the AAUW Fund before December 31 – it’s matched dollar for dollar!
- Save the Date: **Wine, Chat, and Board Update Party, Jan. 21, 5:00 p.m.**
- Watch your email for our January Program information. Topic: Social Justice
- Sign up for Zoom Great Decisions Interest Group starting in February
- Stay safe and enjoy the holiday

## **AAUW Statement on the Election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris**

**Statement from AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches, November 10, 2020**

The nation's voters have spoken, and a historic election is over: Despite the challenges of a global pandemic, Americans cast their ballots in record numbers and elected Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to lead our nation forward.

All of us at AAUW are honored to have witnessed — and participated in — the power of our democracy, with impressive numbers of women, people of color and young Americans joining in with their voices and their votes.

AAUW is particularly heartened and inspired by the election of so many women to positions of power. Most notably, we celebrate the fact that Vice President-elect Kamala Harris has shattered barriers, becoming the first Black American, Indian and South Asian American to assume the second highest office in the land. The daughter of immigrants and a graduate of Howard University, she gives us hope for a future where women can reach the highest heights.

We are also encouraged by President-elect Biden's promise to unite our sorely divided country and to find common ground and common good. Yet we are mindful of the challenges and the work that lie ahead. In 2021, AAUW will turn 140 years old, and as we have in every year prior, we will work tirelessly on behalf of women and girls to advance laws, policies and practices that ensure equity in education, employment and economic security — and equal justice for all.

## **CA AAUW Communications Team Supports Member Engagement**

Using a variety of techniques, the communications team has successfully engaged members while supporting a number of important board initiatives.

- A whopping 83% of branches have attended the twice-monthly webinar series. With topics ranging from fundraising techniques to the importance of public policy and how to hold a virtual speech trek competition, everyone can find a topic of interest. Missed any of the twelve webinars that have been held since the beginning of July? Want to know what is coming next? See our webinar schedule online [HERE](#).
- Engagement in social media climbed as the GOTV (Get Out The Vote) campaign encouraged members to be active on any channel of social media. We saw the engagement on our own Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn accounts skyrocket as a result.
- Public Policy got a facelift this month so you can find information more easily. Check out the new format [HERE](#).

There are many opportunities to work behind the scenes making AAUW California more visible, by optimizing messages, supporting our website and webinars, and maintaining a variety of information. We expect additional opportunities as we engage with the new marketing initiative. If you have skills you'd like to share, submit an application to join the team. You can use your red pen to edit, embrace your love for spreadsheets to track information, solve the puzzle of how to best share information on our website, and design newsletters. If you want to get involved, apply [HERE](#). We'll work with you to find the perfect spot and even provide training if you have the passion.



## **Enjoying a Healthy Holiday Season**

**Thursday, December 3, 2020**

**5:00 – 7:00 PM**

**Zoom Meeting Link:**

<https://daw-ca.aauw.net/zoom-meet>

**You will need to enter your AAUW password  
To access the meeting links page.**

**THE PASSWORD IS ON PAGE 6  
OF YOUR 2020-2021 MEMBER DIRECTORY.**

### **Celebrate the coming year with your DAW friends**

Share your 2020 learnings with your AAUW friends, starting with  
a fun icebreaker activity led by Kathy Harkins

This virtual event will help us recognize how we have learned,  
grown, and found joy within this challenging year. Let's get ready  
for 2021 with increased strength and reduced stress!

## Tips for those new to Zoom

For many of us, learning how to use new technology seems quite daunting. It's a lot more comfortable to stick with what we know. However, during this pandemic we need to adapt to continue to enjoy activities. Zoom is actually easier to use than you might think. Some short videos on YouTube do an excellent job describing the basics of Zoom. They show the Zoom interface icons you might use to ask questions, turn your microphone on and off, and more.

Essentially all that you need to do to use Zoom is:

1. Download Zoom onto your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
2. A few minutes before a meeting, click the link in the email that the meeting host sent you.

Videos about Using Zoom	Link
<p>“How to Join a Zoom meeting For the First Time” It tells you how to download the Zoom application so that you can use Zoom.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E</a></p>
<p>“How to Join A Zoom Meeting for the First Time (Zoom: The Basics)” It includes more background information.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbbYqiurgeo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbbYqiurgeo</a></p>
<p>“Zoom Virtual Meeting Guide”</p>	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLK0WAS3Kt4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLK0WAS3Kt4</a></p>
<p><b>Downloading and Practicing Using Zoom</b> It's best to download Zoom onto your computer, iPad, or smartphone before your meeting and practice.</p>	
<p>Download Zoom onto a Windows or a Mac computer.</p>	<p><a href="https://zoom.us/download">https://zoom.us/download</a></p>
<p>Download Zoom onto a tablet or smartphone.(Go to the App store and download Zoom Cloud meetings.)</p>	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMosg1kHmuM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMosg1kHmuM</a></p>
<p>Practice using Zoom</p>	<p><a href="https://zoom.com/test">https://zoom.com/test</a></p>

Beth Clark

## **Funds Advocacy**

By now everyone should have received their Funds solicitation letter. If you haven't please contact Robin Halloran or Liz Williams. In addition, we have all received a letter from the AAUW National Office announcing that all donations between now and December 31, 2020 will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$42,500, so it's a great time to donate.

We have had questions regarding your membership number and where to find it.

**Your membership number is on the back cover of your directory.**

**You need to include your membership number in order for our branch to receive credit for your donation**, even though National's website says your member number is optional it is NOT if you want our branch to receive credit.

**Please enter your member number at the bottom on the page when you make your donation.**

National is still asking that donations be made to the Greatest Needs Fund, so please consider their request when you make your donation.

Here is the link to the special donation-matching funds page: <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift-new/?treatment=MAJMATCH20&AppealCode=F21LDMXTXX1X>

Remember: **Your donation is tax deductible and WILL BE MATCHED DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2020.**

Liz Williams and Robin Halloran

## **Fun Fundraiser Raises Funds**

HUGE thanks to members Susan Terzuoli and Teresa Cheung! Together in about a month they put together and executed a fabulous and delicious fundraiser in partnership with Montecatini Restaurant. Teresa, along with her husband, own Montecatini Restaurant and have been dedicated supporters of AAUW.

Thank you, also, to the members who picked up and delivered the dinners. The fundraiser could not have been successful without Frank Terzuoli, Maryam Alexandrian-Adams, Kathy Hixon, Joanne Quijano, Roseann Krane, Carol Highton, Judy Lauper, and Pat DeRensis as drivers to deliver the dinners.

**We raised over \$1,700.**

**Thank you, Everyone.**

Liz Williams and Robin Halloran

## New Membership Directory

The Branch Membership Directory for 2020-2021 has been completed. If you haven't received it already, you should find the Directory, with its bright orange cover, in your mailbox soon.

Inside, you'll see the usual members' listings along with plenty of other useful listings about our Branch Board members, our many Special Interest Groups and our Neighborhood Groups. In addition, there are updated contacts and web links for our branch, state and national AAUW folks.

One very important new item included is the member's password for our branch web site – look for this on page 6, just below our branch's web address.

Finally, please note that your AAUW member number is printed just after your name that's printed on the outside cover of the Directory with your mailing address. **Please use this when donating (see Funds article above).**

Joanne Quijano, Directory Manager

## Advocate Editor

It has been my pleasure and privilege to be your newsletter editor over the last couple of years. As I step down from this role, I'm delighted that Beth Clark has agreed to succeed me. Beth graduated from the University of Puget Sound and, on coming to California, earned certification in Technical Writing at San Jose State. She has spent the last thirty years working as a technical writer.

I've enjoyed my time as editor of the Newsletter and I've learned a lot from working with the articles that so many of you send for inclusion in the next issue. I'm sure Beth will gain a new perspective on our branch activities as she works with the newsletter and I wish her all the best as she takes the reins.

Aline Soules

## Public Policy Update

Our election is over, and people turned out in massive numbers to vote. The voting process has been declared fraud-free, the Electoral College will meet in December, and it is anticipated that President-elect, Joe Biden, will take the oath of office in January.

### What's next?

**December 14, 2020:** Each state's certified results will be reflected in the votes taken by the Electoral College.

**December 23, 2020:** Congress will receive the results from the Electoral College. Because the U. S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled against faithless Electors, the Electors are expected to vote according to the popular vote in their respective states.

**Jan 3, 2021:** The 117<sup>th</sup> Congress will be sworn into office.

**Jan 6, 2021:** Congress will count the electoral votes and certify the winner. The candidate team with 270+ electoral votes will be declared President and Vice-president.

**Jan 20, 2021:** We anticipate that Joe Biden and Kamala Harris will be sworn into office.

**Vice President:** Our own Californian, Kamala Harris, will be the first woman, the first Black, and the first South Asian American to serve. Harris has been a leader in legislative reform as Attorney General in our state and has spoken often about the disproportionate effect of coronavirus on Black and Brown communities. Her early beginnings in Oakland/Berkeley sowed the seeds of her civil rights and social justice reforms. Her recent book, *We hold these Truths*, provides a good window into the background and motivations of this truly remarkable woman.

Her new role creates an opening for a new U. S. Senator from California. Prospective picks include Barbara Lee, Alex Padilla, Xavier Becerra, and Libby Schaff.

**AAUW supports a peaceful transition:** AAUW joins with the World Justice Project in supporting the rule of law and peaceful acceptance of election results as stated in the [“A Joint Appeal to Protect the Rule of Law in the 2020 U.S. Elections”](#):

“We urge those in leadership positions to encourage peaceful participation in the election Process and to condemn any threats or acts of violence. We also urge all Americans to exercise patience, civility, and restraint, so that the results of the elections can be determined in accordance with the rule of law and peacefully accepted by the American people.”

**Call to Action:** Make your voice heard in the halls of our representatives. We deserve a peaceful and smooth transition. We deserve a coordinated and adequate response to the pandemic and we deserve a chance to issue stimulus help to the many people who have lost their jobs.

Let’s urge our representatives to do the do the right thing by our democracy and nation.

Stay well-Stay engaged and keep up the fight.

Asha Bajaj, Public policy chair

## **A Special Note about Great Decisions**

**Great Decisions** is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program provides background information and policy options for the eight most critical issues facing America each year and serves as the focal text for discussion groups across the country.

[https://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/](https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/)



We are kicking off the Great Decisions 2021 interest group meetings on Monday February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021. This year, due to current restrictions we will be meeting online. This presents a problem; last year's Monday evening group averaged about 15 participants while the Tuesday afternoon group averaged slightly more.

This group size works for face-to-face meetings but presents problems for video meetings. As a result, I would like to break these groups up into smaller sizes. **This is where I need your help. Are you able to form a smaller group on any day/time convenient for you?** You will not have to do anything but create your group and select a moderator for each meeting – that's it. FYI, we will continue with the Monday & Tuesday groups.

I will continue to send weekly reminders but will refer members to a new Great Decisions website containing all the information needed for each week's meeting. The videos are on You Tube and available to all. For audio, we will use zoom.

Below are the topics for 2021 and anyone is welcome to join this group.

If you have any questions or are new to Great Decisions and would like to join, please email or call Mary Ellen Blake.

Week of	Topic
2/01/2021	Global Supply Chains and National Security
2/08/2021	Persian Gulf Security Issues
2/15/2021	Brexit and the European Union
2/22/2021	Struggles Over the Melting Arctic
3/01/2021	China's Role in Africa
3/08/2021	The Korean Peninsula
3/15/2021	Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic
3/22/2021	The End of Globalization?

## 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 Giacovelli	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 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</u></b> 1 (WL)	on hiatus	Paula Weintraub	Monday Weekly	10:00 AM
<b><u>Mah Jongg</u></b> 2 (WL)	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</u></b> (WL)	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</u></b> (WL)	on COVID hiatus	Mary Mix	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
<b><u>Movies: Third Friday Film</u></b> (WL)	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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*Everyone Deserves a Bra that Fits*

Veronica Szender

<https://www.revelationinfit.com/>

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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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