



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



The Advocate, May 2022

Online at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/newsletter/>

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May is a transitional month – spring flowers in the Bay Area are beautiful, we’ve enjoyed some late season rains, and now the hills are starting to dry out toward summer. For our branch, we are winding up the events of Fiscal Year 2021-22, while looking forward to new plans, programs, and energy for the coming year. The Vineyard Stroll was a great opportunity to start the direction for more in-person events. I’m happy to anticipate the trend will continue into the summer and fall, including our Branch Installation in June. I know we’ve missed the connection and the energy that’s created when seeing and socializing with our group.

With all of the stress in our world right now, I hope that we can be empowered by being active in our association. It gives us a framework for our activism and provides a local, supportive community of like-minded spirits. It’s been a challenge to feel that connection over Zoom; we have met in smaller groups when possible, and we have persevered!

Besides bringing May flowers, May is a month that honors numerous worthy groups including mothers, veterans, workers and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Of course, many are one and the same. In this month’s issue we highlight some of the more noteworthy, though we are all worth celebrating, don’t you think?

Take care – be kind.

Joanne Quijano, President DAW Branch



May Checklist

- **May 10, 7:00 pm, via Zoom** – Leading and Finding Solutions with Lucinda Jackson - [RSVP Here](#)
- **May 15** – Deadline to vote for California AAUW directors
- **May 19, 9:30am** – **Branch Board meeting**
- **June 16, 5:00pm** – **Branch Installation** – Save the date!
- [Donate here](#) to support the DAW fundraising campaign
- **Volunteer!** Become a candidate for the **branch board**, learn about positions [HERE](#)

May Programs Update

“Grandma Moses, mother of ten children who started painting seriously when she was 78 years old.

Attend Leading and Finding Solutions: Women in the Workplace and in Retirement

May 10, 7:00 pm via Zoom



Lucinda Jackson will speak about empowering women in the workplace and in our next acts. She'll give ideas for leading and overcoming gender barriers in our careers—and then post-careers, how to take those same strengths into planning and actualizing your next act, retirement.

As a PhD scientist and global corporate executive, Ms. Jackson spent almost fifty years in academia and Fortune 500 companies. She has published articles, book chapters, magazine columns and patents and is featured on podcasts and radio. She is the founder of LJ Ventures, where she speaks and consults on energy and the environment and empowering women (and men!) in the workplace and in our next act.

[RSVP Here](#)

Connect with Lucinda Jackson or find her books at: www.lucindajackson.com.



Save the dates! Coming attractions

Branch Installation – June 16. Plans are underway to hold the installation of our 2022-23 branch board in a gracious backyard setting. The evening will include drinks and refreshments and a chance to meet our new officers.

Membership Brunch – Sept 17. Our annual brunch will be held in person at Crow Canyon Country Club.

Lucretia Mott – 19th-century feminist activist, abolitionist, social reformer and pacifist who helped launch the women’s rights movement.



Vote now – AAUW National Election

Please take a moment to vote in the [AAUW National Election](#). Elect members to the national AAUW Board of Directors and vote on changes to the bylaws to streamline the nominations process and ballot administration. If you don’t have the initial email with your member number and PIN, please stay tuned for additional outreach. Or, you can reference your account in the Community Hub. Online voting ends on May 16 at 2 p.m.



Congratulate new Fellows and Grantees!

We’re excited to announce that AAUW has awarded nearly \$6 million in funding to 320 Fellows and Grantees in the 2022-23 award year—the highest amount ever! These exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.



Participate in a webinar on student debt

Join AAUW’s Public Policy team as they and guest speakers explore realities and misconceptions about the student debt crisis in this May 3 [webinar](#). Our panelists, Katherine Welbeck, director of advocacy from the Student Borrower Protection Center and Natalia Abrams, president of the Student Debt Crisis Center, will share their research and efforts to help borrowers.

Get money smart - AAUW Empower Spring Series

The 2022 AAUW Empower leadership series focuses on giving women tools and tactics to build personal financial security. The next session will be Tuesday, May 10, at 5 p.m. ET, and features Daphne A. Wright, a financial planner and personal economics life coach. It will cover strategies for approaching investments and retirement planning. [Register now](#). And share with your networks!

“SPC Sagen Maddalena – U.S. Olympian, Army sharpshooter and California veteran.



Vote for your California AAUW Directors

There’s still time to vote for your California AAUW directors. You should’ve received an email with your ballot and have until May 15 to submit. You can also request a paper ballot. Read the candidates’ biographies on the state website [here](#).

By Charmen Goehring, Nominations & Elections Chair,
nominating@aauw-ca.org

See the bills we’re supporting

Guided by our member-approved Public Policy Priorities for 2021-2023, the AAUW California Public Policy Committee has selected the bills that we will be supporting as they move through the 2022 Session of the California Legislature.

Here are the six highest priority bills:



- AB 92—creates an equitable sliding scale for family fees to alleviate the burden on working families struggling to pay for childcare and early childhood education services.
- AB 1666—enables persons to come from outside California for abortions and not be impacted by laws of other states. Co-sponsor
- AB 1968—mandates the creation of websites at CSU/UC campuses to assist sexual assault survivors.
- AB 2881—Student parents get priority enrollment, registration, and access to basic needs centers, enabling them to remain in California colleges.
- SB 523—Expands contraceptive coverage by requiring health plans to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing.
- SB 1375—updates statutes relating to abortion care to allow nurse practitioners to practice under standard protocols to provide first-trimester abortion care

AAUW California is experiencing greater visibility among elected legislators by sponsoring/co-sponsoring bills. The California Public Policy Committee members spent many hours in March researching bills, and in discussions over two days, select the bills to support. AAUW members are working to improve the lives of women and children in California!

By Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, CA Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

DAW Branch Reports

Patsy Mink – the first woman of color elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was a key author for Title IX, a law that advanced gender equity within federal funding policies for education. This law was later renamed the Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act in her honor.

Applaud our 2022 DAW scholarship winners!

The Local Scholarship Committee, Liz Peters, Nancy Murray, Carole Allen and Becky Bhatt, are excited to announce the recipients for 2022. Our deserving students who also devote their spare time to volunteerism are:



- **Shannon Nesbit** - attended UCSB and will be going to medical school in the fall. Shannon is interested in working with communities and preventative health care.
- **Shelby Bates** - attends USC and is working toward a degree in Business Administration with a minor in Economics. Shelby has done a tremendous amount of work with the homeless community.
- **Tatum Hall** - attends Claremont McKenna College and is working toward a degree in Economics and Literature. Tatum hopes to help large corporations improve their corporate governance to improve the lives of employees, the earth and our society.
- **Amy Daseking** - attends Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and is working toward a degree in Kinesiology. Amy volunteers with “Kids Against Hunger” preparing food packages for people struck by disaster or poverty.
- **Angela Filosa** - attends Fairfield University and Florence University of the Arts working towards a degree in Biology with a minor in Psychology. She plans to become a Genetic Counselor.

All will receive at least \$2,000 thanks to our fundraising efforts. We are pleased to provide monetary aid to these students; all were quite appreciative and relieved to have some financial help.

Read more detailed descriptions about each super achiever [here](#). A huge thanks to the Local Scholarship Committee and all the women throughout the year who create events to raise money for these scholarships. It truly takes a village.

By Rebecca Bhatt, beckybhatt@gmail.com

The Nominating Committee wants you!

Be a part of the 2022-23 AAUW branch board. We're looking to build a cohesive team, mentored and supported by our outgoing board members, to re-launch our in-person activities after the long COVID isolation. Here are three great opportunities:



Membership VP – This team welcomes new members and makes sure they find ways to participate in our activities. With the support of the Board, this team also plans the fall Membership Brunch and the spring Membership Appreciation events. Your role would be to represent the interests of our members in all our board decisions.

Funds VP – Write our fall solicitation letter asking members for donations to our projects and ensure our donations to the AAUW National fund are credited to our branch. This is a great position for a new member to learn all about our work and an opportunity to shape our activities as a voting board member. We have two mentors ready to help you with this primarily administrative role.

Programs Co-VP – Tanya Earls has offered to be co-VP for Programs and she needs a partner. This team selects speakers and agendas for our branch and public educational programs. Bette Felton will mentor and bring her abundant pool of potential speakers!

President or President-Elect – Our leader and coordinator, the President works with the board at our summer strategy meeting to set the branch priorities for the year and leads monthly board meetings where we coordinate the activities of all our committees. If you are a new member and like to manage groups, the President-Elect position is a great way to contribute your ideas to the board while learning the ropes. Joanne Quijano (current President) and Chris Ritter (past President) can coach and mentor these fun roles.

Once we fill our elected board slate, we will work on filling the appointed positions and committees. Thanks to those of you who have already signaled your interest.

To find out more, please call Chris Ritter or any of the Nominating Committee members.

By Chris Ritter, Nominating Committee Chair

Nominating Committee: Bette Felton, Marsha Anderson, Joanne Quijano, Judy Slinger

Volunteer for Tech Trek – June 20-24

Tech Trek is happening in person this year at Sonoma State University and we're looking for volunteers interested in having a fun, meaningful time.

Class Monitors - Class monitors act as assistants in core classes, workshops and field trips and are imperative for keeping our student to adult ratio at 10:1. Our branch must provide at least one or two volunteers to help for one morning or afternoon during the week.

Mad City Money support - We need 12-15 volunteers to help with this financial awareness program sponsored by Travis Credit Union. Trekkers practice budgeting during a 2½ hour simulation with realistic scenarios and experience the consequences of financial decisions. We need multiple volunteers to keep things running smoothly.

It's a fun and a great way to interact with some smart and delightful 7th grade young women.

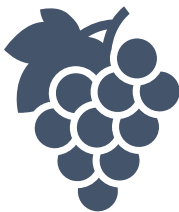
[Sign up here.](#) For help contact Virginia Hewgley, Coordinator, at 925-768-4417 or vhewgley@astound.net

Thanks so much for helping us make sure it runs smoothly so our Trekkers have an optimal experience.

By Deborah Wechsler, Tech Trek Chair

It was a “grape time” at the Vineyard Stroll

The Vineyard Stroll was a rousing success! Many thanks to **Bette and Jim Felton** for opening their beautiful home and vineyard property April 22 for this branch fundraiser. In addition, a host of branch volunteers contributed food, raffle baskets, silent auction wines, a quilt and their time to help – it all came together for a great evening. Attendees had the chance to sip wine, enjoy strolling in a peaceful setting, sample tasty treats, and mingle with fellow branch members and guests for a worthy cause.



Ticket sales, along with raffles and silent auction, generated much needed funds for our branch's Local Scholarship initiative. Based on preliminary accounting, we raised over \$4,000! And the quilt raffle raised another \$500 for the special Creative Endeavors scholarship.



Mike Patella, Chris Ritter, and Judy Slinger -
ready to pour wine

A big **THANK YOU** to all the dedicated members of our branch who helped with time, donations, and creative energy to make the Vineyard Stroll a great fundraising event! See more photos on [here](#) our branch website.

Membership Corner

Yulia Tymoshenko – first, and so far only, woman to serve as prime minister of Ukraine.

Remembering member Marilyn Steichen



Branch member *Marilyn Steichen* passed away April 15. Marilyn was a valued member of AAUW DAW and participated in gourmet, golf and bridge interest groups. Marilyn taught in several high schools for over 40 years before retiring in 2004 from Monte Vista High School. She volunteered for Blue Star Moms, and was also a long time, very active member of the women educator's society Delta Kappa Gamma, helping coordinate projects to aid foster children and the homeless.

Our condolences to her husband Dean, and her children Adrienne and Geof.

From the Editor



Contribute to the Advocate

Send ideas, articles and pictures to Editor Stephanie Denman, steph@denmans.us by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue. Submissions should be in the following format:

- Articles in a .doc or .docx file, or in the body of an email
- Pictures in .jpg format (compressed)

Find contact information about people mentioned in the Advocate on our [branch website](#) and in your directory. If you do not have a directory, contact Tena Gallagher.

From the Treasurer



Handle money matters here

Please send expense vouchers or deposits to our AAUW P.O. Box 996 in Alamo, 94507 for expedited processing. Refer to our branch website for specific forms and instructions – Click on [Members Page](#).

Our Wonderful Sponsors

We're always looking for new advertisers. Funds go toward branch expenses such as printing, membership directory, and postage. Advertiser names and businesses will appear in our fall Membership Directory and the monthly Advocate. Contact Marsha Anderson Landau, email: marsha888@comcast.net, or call (925) 351-8188.



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*DAW AAUW 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.

Stephanie Denman, Acting Editor
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