



## Grapevine Newsletter

### March-April, 2021

### ***Afternoon Tea and Talks with Authors***

*Proceeds benefit Local Scholarships to women majoring in STEM fields*

Join us virtually for the last of our afternoon talks with local authors. Relax with a cup of tea and your favorite snack for this one-hour Zoom meeting with author Mark Greenside. Books can be ordered from the website listed.



**Mark Greenside**

Thursday, March 18, 2021 – 4 to 5 pm

*I'll Never Be French (no matter what I do) and  
(not quite) Mastering the Art of French Living*

On a trip to France with his wife, everything in the “Old World” seemed new to Mark, including himself. Enjoy his explorations in his fun books.

**Website:** [markgreenside.com](http://markgreenside.com)

**Cost: \$50 per person** *(tax deductible)*

### ***How to Register for the Talk:***

1. You must register at least **24 hours** in advance.
2. Make your **\$50 check** payable to **ISPF-AAUW** and include your **email address**.
3. Mail your check and email address to:  
**Arleen Pickett, 204 Danville Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032**
4. Payment may also be made **through PayPal** by clicking on the Donate button on our AAUW branch website at <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca.aauw.net/>

**Questions?** Call **Arleen Pickett** at 408-356-3233 or email [arleenpickett@gmail.com](mailto:arleenpickett@gmail.com).

### ***California AAUW Annual Meeting – April 17, 2021***

The Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom, starting at 9:30 am on Saturday, April 17, 2021. The agenda will include board accomplishments, Speech Trek winner videos, public policy discussion, and an update with Julia Brown, AAUW California Board Chair, and a national update. You must register if you wish to attend; registration is free. Check the California AAUW website at <https://www.aauw-ca.org> for more details.

Our Branch website is <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca.aauw.net>

## ***Our 2020-2021 Elected Officers***

Co-President	Sumi Tanabe (408) 253-6191	atanabe@hotmail.com
Co-President	Marlene Lamb (408) 497-1556	marlenela37@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lynn Sprague (408) 867-9375	lynnspr@gmail.com
Secretary	Mara Otlans (253) 202-3307	marafelz@comcast.net
AAUW Fund VP	Judy Borlase (408) 669-6828	judith@borlase.com
Membership VP	Virginia Turner (408) 866-4234	vturner@sbcglobal.net
Membership Treasurer	Louise Quenon (408) 867-0698	lquenon@comcast.net

### ***AAUW MISSION STATEMENT***

*AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*

## ***In Memoriam***



**Virginia O'Reilly January 18, 1931 – December 10, 2020**

Born in Portland, Oregon, Virginia's early life was filled with violin recitals, horseback riding and family get togethers. She graduated from University of Portland with a BA in Music Education, and earned her MA in Counseling Psychology from Stanford University. She worked at Montana State University and San Jose State University, retiring in 1989. She played violin for the San Jose Symphony and in a string quartet, the "Shrink N' Violets," which played charity events and in each other's backyards. In 1973 Virginia married widower Dr. Robert O'Reilly; they enjoyed 40 happy years together until his death in 2014. She is survived by her stepchildren and grandchildren.

## *Message from Your Co-President*

March is Women's History Month. It's about time credit is given where credit is due. Here are some interesting inventions that women have created.

***The Car Heater:*** Margaret A. Wilcox invented the car heater in 1893; she also invented a combined clothes and dishwasher.

***Monopoly:*** The popular board game was designed by Elizabeth Magie in 1904, originally called the Landlord's Game. The purpose of this game was to expose the injustices of unchecked capitalism. Her game was ripped off by Charles Darrow who sold it to Parker Brothers 30 years later. However, Parker Brothers later paid Elizabeth \$500 for her game.



***The Fire Escape:*** Invented by Anna Connelly in 1887.

***The Life Raft:*** Marie Beasley invented the Life Raft in 1882; she also invented a machine that makes barrels.

***Solar Heating:*** Dr. Maria Telkes, a psychiatrist, invented solar heating for residential use in 1947.

***The Medical Syringe:*** A medical syringe which could be operated with only one hand was invented by Letitia Geer in 1899.

***The Modern Electric Refrigerator:*** Florence Parpart invented the electric refrigerator in 1914; she also invented an improved street cleaning machine.



***The Ice Cream Maker:*** Nancy Johnson invented the ice cream maker in 1843; her patented design is still used today.

***The Computer Algorithm:*** Ada Lovelace is essentially the first computer programmer because of her work with Charles Babbage at the University of London in 1842. In fact, her notes were an essential key to helping Alan Turing's work on the first modern computers in the 1940's.

***Telecommunications Technology:*** Some of the technology developed by Dr. Shirley Jackson include portable fax, touch tone telephones, solar cells, fiber optic cables, and the technology behind caller ID and call waiting.

***The Modern Paper Bag:*** Margaret Knight invented a machine that makes square-bottomed paper bags in 1871. She almost didn't get credit when Charles Anan tried to steal her work, claiming that it wasn't possible for a woman to create this brilliant invention. Margaret also invented a safety device for cotton mills when she was 12; that invention is still being used today.

Aren't these women amazing!

*Marlene Lamb, Co-President*

## ***Vote on Degree Requirement for AAUW Membership***

The AAUW National Board of Directors strongly supports elimination of the degree requirement for membership and is bringing the requirement to the membership for a vote this spring. This important change is a critical step in bringing AAUW's bylaws and membership requirement in line with our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. While AAUW is fiercely committed to the educational attainment of all women, given our commitment to inclusion, this is simply the right thing to do.

Proposals to eliminate the degree requirement for membership have come before the membership for vote a number of times. The Board feels very strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now counter to our mission, and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

Voting will take place from **April 7, 2021 to May 17, 2021**. Those who have an email address on file with AAUW will receive instructions electronically; others will receive notification of the vote by mail.



### ***Why is the Board asking to eliminate the membership requirement?***

1. Because it is the right thing to do and because it is in keeping with our mission to advance gender equity.
2. Eliminating the degree requirement will bring AAUW membership criteria in line with its mission – to advance gender equity.
3. Greater diversity can only strengthen AAUW and our ability to advance equity.
4. Times have changed and society has changed. AAUW strives to meet our mission and society's needs today.
5. AAUW empowers women. How does keeping the membership requirement help you empower women?
6. Just like our founding mothers, we can be role models for positive change in the world. But we cannot have the impact we seek when our membership criteria don't match our mission and values.
7. AAUW is unique due to our breadth of programming, research, policy and advocacy, fellowships and grants, and most importantly, a grassroots membership that can be mobilized to fight for what we believe in. We should open this powerful grassroots network up to all who want to join the fight.
8. Education comes in many forms. Those who do not have degrees can still be strong advocates for our mission.
9. AAUW must evolve to survive.



## *Our Newest Honorary Life Members*

**Donna Muzzy** earned her BA in Social Welfare at UC Berkeley and, encouraged by her father, minored in business; she used this background while working for Ray Chem and other local companies in accounting. A friend invited her to an AAUW meeting and she decided to join in 1970. At first she was in the “Juniors” group which provided social activities for members under the age of 35, and over time she has participated in the bridge groups, the gourmet group, supper club, and the wine tasting group, and has been in charge of entertainment groups like Sights and Sounds. She loves reading the *Grapevine* to keep up with what is happening in the branch.

**Terri Raynaud** received both her BA and MA from San Jose State University and spent her entire career as an educator with the Saratoga School District. She joined AAUW at the encouragement of Mary Pastrone, a fellow Italian, and they started an Italian group within the Los Gatos-Saratoga branch. She has had a lot of fun over the years in various branch activities like bridge, local scholarships and the annual potluck lunch. She recognizes the dramatic changes that started during the 1970's as more women began working outside the home which clearly has impacted organizations like AAUW.

## *Join Our Walkers for Morgan Hill's Wildflower Run*



Contact Jane Bishop at 408-356-7796 for more information. It's always a fun event!

## March, 2021



- 1 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom.** Contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or [lynnspr@gmail.com](mailto:lynnspr@gmail.com) for Zoom information. **All members are welcome!**
- 2 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets at **3:00 pm via Zoom.** Please contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-368-3805, if interested in joining, and for Zoom details.
- 5 Friday Armchair Adventure Travels. Incredible and Inviting India,** presented by George and Tamar Mednick. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom.** India is one of the oldest civilizations in the world. The kaleidoscopic variety of colors, cultures, climates and cuisine present a powerful sensory experience. The complex history of this enchanted land is apparent throughout the diverse range of sites we visited on a custom escorted tour. Contact JoAn Lambert 408-867-6237 for Zoom details.
- 9 Tuesday Committee on Homeless Women and Children.** Sheltering in place until further notice. Please contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-368-3805, for information.
- 11 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks – Wildflowers.** A short drive; bring your lunch. **Meet promptly, 9 AM, Los Gatos.** *Free limited parking* at Northside lot off Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd, behind Starbucks and Petco. Questions? Call Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.  
*\*\*We continue to observe Covid-19 rules, wearing masks, not carpooling. Without carpools, hiking times are usually shorter.*
- 16 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets at **3:00 pm via Zoom.** Please contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-368-3805, if interested in joining, and for Zoom details.
- 17 Wednesday Let's Do Lunch.** Due to Covid-19, meetings will be discontinued until further notice. Please contact Chair, Joanna Yates, 408-395-2950, for more information.
- 18 Thursday Afternoon Tea and Talks with Authors – Mark Greenside,** author of *I'll Never Be French*, and *Mastering the Art of French Living*, will speak **4-5pm via Zoom.** Last of series of 3 afternoon ZOOM talks with local authors. Cost \$50 for all 3 talks. Contact committee chair, Arleen Pickett, 408-356-3233 for more information about this talk.
- 19 Friday AM Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom.** Discuss a book, good or bad, with others in the group. Contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-377-6625 or [margaretbard@gmail.com](mailto:margaretbard@gmail.com). **Come and Find Your Next Great Read.**
- 23 Tuesday Film Buffs. Come join us on Zoom.** Movie theaters aren't open, so we review films from Netflix, Amazon or other streaming services, and members also recommend new TV Series. For more information, contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-356-8441.
- 25 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks – Back by Noon Hike. Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga.** Argonaut Shopping Center, Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd, way out in front of the CVS Pharmacy. Questions? Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.

## April, 2021



- 2 Friday**      **Armchair Adventure Travels. The Three Gorges of the Yangtze River**, presented by Ed Chang. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom**. The Three Gorges reservoir region is about a 200 kilometer (120 miles) stretch of the Yangtze River between Chongqing and Yichang cities. The three gorges are Qutang, Wu, and Xiling, and the Three Gorges Dam is located in Sandouping city. The natural beauty of the Three Gorges has been appreciated for hundreds of years. Contact JoAn Lambert at 408-867-6237 for Zoom details.
- 5 Monday**      **Board Meeting**. Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom**. Contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or [lynnspr@gmail.com](mailto:lynnspr@gmail.com) for Zoom information. **All members are welcome!**
- 6 Tuesday**      **Conversations in Spanish**. Meets at **3:00 pm via Zoom**. Please contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-368-3805, if interested in joining, and for Zoom details.
- 8 Thursday**      **Scenic Hikes and Walks – CANADA DEL ORO OPEN SPACE PRESERVE**. Explore the newer trail along old Mayfair Ranch road in this lovely park south of Almaden. We will drive separately. **Meet promptly, 9 AM, Los Gatos**. Free limited parking, Northside lot, way behind Starbucks and Petco. Questions? Call Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508. **Seeking New Hikers!**
- 13 Tuesday**      **Committee on Homeless Women and Children**. Sheltering in place until further notice. Please contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-368-3805, for more information.
- 15 Thursday**      **Scenic Hikes and Walks – TRAIL CLEANUP**. Back by Noon hike + coffee and/or Lunch. **Meet promptly, 9 AM, Los Gatos**. Free limited parking, Northside lot, way behind Starbucks and Petco. Questions? Call Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 16 Friday**      **AM Book Review**. Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom**. Discuss a book, good or bad, with others in the group. Contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-377-6625 or [margaretbard@gmail.com](mailto:margaretbard@gmail.com). **Come and Find Your Next Great Read**.
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- 22 Thursday**      **Scenic Hikes and Walks – BACK BY NOON HIKE**. **Meet promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga**. Argonaut Shopping Center, Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd, way out in front of CVS.
- 27 Tuesday**      **Film Buffs**. **Come join us on Zoom**. Movie theaters aren't open, so we review films from Netflix, Amazon or other streaming services, and members also recommend new TV Series. For more information, contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-356-8441.



March –  
April, 2021

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch  
American Association of University Women  
14415 Evans Lane  
Saratoga, CA 95070

**Grapevine Committee:** Virginia Turner, interim editor; Julie Stevens, calendar; Ann Griffin, proofreader. Deadline for May-June issue is **April 16, 2021**. Email materials to [vturner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vturner@sbcglobal.net). Branch website: <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca-aauw.net>

## ***AAUW Public Policy Committee – Gender Pay Gap***

March 31 is Equal Pay Day. According to the AAUW report *The Simple Truth*, it will take white women until the year 2069 to achieve parity with men based on the projected earnings ratio compiled between 1988-2019. For women of color the numbers are even worse. Black women will have to wait until the year 2369 – 350 years – and Latina women are not projected to reach parity until 2451! The reasons for these disparities are known, and understanding what's causing the problem is the first step to meeting it head on. Members are urged to read the report summary on the AAUW national website at [https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/10/SimpleTruth\\_1.8.pdf](https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/10/SimpleTruth_1.8.pdf).

AAUW is leading the charge to effectuate change, and you are part of the solution with the work our branch undertakes on behalf of women and girls. The more we educate ourselves and others about the scope of this gender wage gap with programs like Start Smart, Work Smart and NCCWSL, the more we chip away at the disparity. We can make progress in decreasing the gender pay gap.