



## *Grapevine Newsletter*

### May - June, 2022

### ***AAUW Elections***

**AAUW National election** is open until May 16, 2022, and includes election of members of the national Board of Directors and changes in the bylaws that would streamline the nomination process and ballot administration. You should have received an email from Shannon Wolfe with instructions for voting. Learn more about the candidates and issues on the AAUW National website at: [National Election – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#)

**AAUW California election** is open until May 14, 2022, and includes electing members of the board of directors and the secretary. You should have received an email from AAUW California with instructions for voting; more information is available on the AAUW California website at [2022 Candidates - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](#).

### ***Saratoga Blossom Festival***



The weather on April 9 was perfect, and hundreds of local residents of all ages came to the Heritage Orchard, enjoying old vehicles and farm equipment, musical performances, crafts people, artists, organizations and costumed historical figures. Our member **Kay Duffy** was showing her beautiful water colors, one of which was on the cover of the day's program.

At our AAUW table we talked with people, handed out flyers and brochures, and explained how we help women and girls in our local community. Many thanks to the members who helped set up and staff the table all day: Marilyn Fuller, Laurie Lindsey, Mara Otlans, Lynn Sprague, and Virginia Turner.

*Sumi Tanabe, Co-President*

### ***Title IX Webinar Is Available***

Santa Clara Interbranch Council organized an excellent Zoom webinar on Title IX and "What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You." If you missed the presentation, you can access the recording, as well as a list of resources, on the AAUW Morgan Hill Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/aauwmh/videos/1423417111409717>

*Allyson Johnson, Los Altos-Mountain View Branch*



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

## ***Our 2021-2022 Elected Officers***

Co-President	Sumi Tanabe (408) 253-6191	atanabe@hotmail.com
Co-President	Marlene Lamb (408) 497-1555	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.*

## ***Looking for Branch Leaders***



We hope to have more in-person meetings and events this coming year and are looking for people who can help as board members, committee chairs, and section coordinators. There is a wide range of tasks to be done; check the directory for a complete list of board positions.

**Are you willing to help?** Please contact Sumi Tanabe or Marlene Lamb, co-presidents, to get more information about a particular job or interest. You can help keep our branch strong!

## ***Directory Update - New Address:***

Marlene Duffin  
870 Morningside Drive, G223  
Fullerton, CA 92835

Phones: 714-256-5754  
408-892-1515

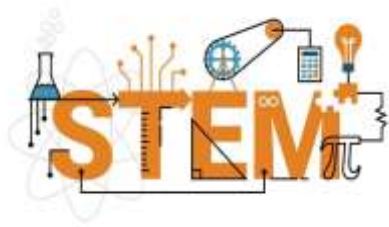
## *Message from Your Co-President*

### *My Eleven Years as a Tech Trek Dorm Mom*

It all began in 2008 when the San Jose branch selected my granddaughter Kaitlin for the Tech Trek Camp at Stanford University. I was encouraged to sign up as a substitute dorm mom who always seemed to be needed at the last minute. Well, one of the dorm moms broke her leg and thus began my 11-year run. I arrived at Stanford orientation in July for a week of sleeping in the basement of a fraternity house, sharing bathrooms with 12 campers, and eating in a college cafeteria. My college-age son wanted to know if I had really thought this out.

The first night of camp we all went over general camp rules, the binders the girls would keep, and the bulletin board with our floor's schedule. My roommate, Kathy Uskert, and I lined up our groups and gave them numbers so it was easy to call attendance, and we came up with dorm group nicknames. Lights went out at 10:00 pm.

Campers were kept busy morning to night, with very little free time. There was a very short dorm meeting before breakfast to check that campers had their water bottles and were wearing appropriate clothes and tennis shoes. We left for breakfast about 7:45, wearing our Tech Trek lanyards with our identification and room key (later these became electronic). Core classes started at 9:00 in subjects like **Forensics, Physics, Math, Food as Chemistry, and Oceanography**. Afternoons offered various activities, field trips and presentations, and one evening there was astronomy which was a real favorite (and was only fogged out one of my 11 years). The campers always enjoyed "Professional Women's Night" where they could talk to women in many different professions. In their spare time the campers rolled newspapers into tubes, fastened with masking tape, which were used on construction night. The first year, with no aid or hints from dorm moms, my group built the Eiffel Tower.



I must confess that I only lost 2 girls, but, thank goodness, they came back to the dorm. One girl had left her binder in the class room and wanted to go back and get it. Her friend said she would go with her. I was thinking they were in a building close to our dorm. NO! They didn't come back until after lunch was over, and their dorm mates were all upset and the director wasn't very happy with me. When the girls finally arrived, I told them they were not in trouble – it was a communication problem. "All's well that ends well."

Several of the dorm moms have kept in touch over the years, despite the distances from our homes, meeting in San Francisco at least once a year for lunch. During Covid we did Zoom meetings every other Monday. Like my granddaughter, Tech Trek changed my life.

Finally, I must mention **Cynthia Miller**, whose daughter Jennifer was a camper my second year at Stanford. After camp was over Cynthia joined AAUW, worked as a dorm mom, and then co-directed Camp Hopper with Jennifer.

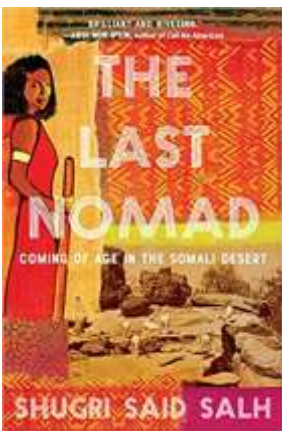
*Marlene Lamb, Co-President*

## ***Membership Renewal***

Your membership renewal forms will be mailed to you mid-May; please return the forms and your check by June 30 so that we can be sure to include you in our branch directory. National dues are \$67 (of which \$64 is tax-deductible); California dues are \$20; and Los Gatos-Saratoga branch dues are \$20. Total dues for 2022-2023 are \$107. Honorary Life members – those who have been AAUW members for 50 years or more – do not pay any dues, and Dual members – those who are members of another branch – pay only \$20 Los Gatos-Saratoga branch dues.

*Virginia Turner, Membership VP*

## ***Report from Author's Talk - Shugri Said Salh***



Our branch sponsored a very successful Author Talk on February 26. Our speaker, Shugri Said Salh, told us of her early life in Somalia where she was part of a nomadic community, herding goats and camels, with constant moves to find water and avert dangers. In her engaging and warm presentation, she told us of her journey out of war-torn Mogadishu to Canada and finally to Northern California. From her roots in Somalia, Shugri learned the art of storytelling; that gift comes through in her book *The Last Nomad: Coming of Age in the Somali Desert*. It is available in bookstores and libraries for those who would like to read her whole story.

There were nearly 50 attendees for this Zoom talk and more than \$880 in voluntary donations was raised for our Local Scholarship fund. Visit our branch website to listen to her presentation, in case you missed it.

The Author's Luncheon Committee is committed to continuing the author talks and will return to the practice of hosting the luncheon in person as soon as it is possible.

*Arleen Pickett, Authors Luncheon Committee*

## ***Film Buffs Get Together for Lunch***

Members enjoyed meeting in person at the Los Gatos Diner to discuss recent movies.

*Left to right:*

*Marlene Lamb (Chair), Cathy Foscto, Madeleine Salzman, Barbara Lea, Lita Askanas and Vicki Feigelson*





## ***“Just”***

by AAUW member Judy Davidson, September 2021

I hate it when they say this word, “*just*”.  
“*Just*” enter the four-digit number  
Followed by your specially created  
Secret ID that we told you about last year.

*Just* press this key and this key  
And this next one  
Wait five seconds  
And press this other icon, right here.

They say it so smugly.  
Of course, *they* know what they are doing.  
They have done it a hundred times already  
And this is my first time.

I am like a foreigner in a new country  
Struggling to communicate the basics.  
Where is the rest room? I inquire,  
Saying please and thank you in their language.

These helpers in my tech world  
Are all good people  
They want to help me  
Explore this wondrous new world.

But when they say “*Just* do x and y and z”  
In that tone that implies it’s easy  
I close my ears and refuse the help.  
My shoulders throb with the tension of it all.

Sometimes I get out my old-fashioned helpers  
Pen and Paper. I beseech them,  
“Slow down so that I can write what you say  
And have half a chance to remember later in  
the day.”

Have patience with me, please, please do.  
And I’ll have patience with you.  
Together we can solve the generation gap  
And occasionally I’ll have something  
to teach you.

**Gilroy AAUW Fundraiser**

# **Quilt Show**


All proceeds go towards the AAUW Scholarships for Girls

Saturday, May 7, 2022, 11 AM - 3 PM  
IFDES Lodge of Gilroy, 250 Old Gilroy Street, Gilroy CA  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Quilt Viewing and Lite Lunch Served 11 AM - 2:30 PM  
Wine & Quilters Cocktail for purchase. Admission \$30/Person  
\*\*\*\*\*

Opportunity Quilt Tickets:  
\$10 each, Winner need not  
be present.  
Winner Chosen May 7, 2022  
Drawing at 3 PM  
\*\*\*\*\*

Tickets may be  
purchased from  
American Association  
of University Women  
Gilroy Branch  
\*\*\*\*\*

For further Ticket  
Information, Contact:  
Marianne Peoples  
(408)842-9022  
Judy Bozzo  
(408)607-1621



The Opportunity Quilt was made by Margie Enger. The quilt is constructed by using a series of well-placed rectangles and squares. The fabrics used are a silver ginkgo on a black and silver background with a silver sparkle background fabric bordered with a grey-black fabric with silver squares. The quilt measures 58 by 76 inches.

## May, 2022



- 2 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom.** Please contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or [lynnspr@gmail.com](mailto:lynnspr@gmail.com) for Zoom information. **All members are welcome!**
- 3 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets at **3:00 pm via Zoom.** Please contact Marilyn Fuller, 408-679-1167 if interested in joining, and for Zoom details.
- 6 Friday Armchair Adventure Travels - GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST.** Presented by photographers Bunny Laden and Glen Gould. Meets at **7:30 pm via ZOOM.** A fascinating adventure program on the Great Bear Rainforest in Canada, one of the largest remaining unspoiled temperate rainforests in the world. It is home to whales, salmon, wolves, grizzly bears, black bears, and the rare "spirit" bear. Hear about their wet and wonderful journey on an 82-foot sailboat through this unique ecosystem. Call JoAn Lambert, 408-867-6237 for Zoom details..
- 10 Tuesday Committee on Homeless Women and Children.** No meeting in May. For more information contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-982-5731.
- 12 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks.** *For easy walks and fun talks - JOIN US!* Sign up with Kay Duffy: [k@kayduffywatercolors.com](mailto:k@kayduffywatercolors.com) or 408-867-0508, or Jane Bishop, [JTrailcats@aol.com](mailto:JTrailcats@aol.com) or 408-356-7796. **GRANT RANCH.** Up Mt. Hamilton for spectacular wildflowers. **Meet Promptly, 9 am, Saratoga,** Argonaut Shopping Center on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd. Look for us way out in front of CVS Pharmacy away from shops and bank.
- 17 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets at **3:00 pm via Zoom.** Please contact Marilyn Fuller, 408-679-1167 if interested in joining, and for Zoom details.
- 18 Wednesday Let's Do Lunch.** Meets at **12:30 pm at Aldo's Ristorante,** 14109 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos. RSVP to Chair, Joanna Yates, 408-395-2950. *Come for our long-awaited reunion.*
- 20 Friday AM Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am.** Come to discuss a book, good or bad, with others in the group. For details, contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-377-6625 or [margaretbard@gmail.com](mailto:margaretbard@gmail.com). **Come and Find Your Next Great Read.**
- 26 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks – BACK BY NOON HIKE.** Stay for coffee or lunch afterwards. **Meet Promptly, 9 am, Saratoga.** Argonaut Shopping Center on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd, way out in front of CVS Pharmacy away from shops and bank. Questions? Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508, or Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796.
- 31 Tuesday Film Buffs.** Meets at **11:30 for lunch at Los Gatos Diner,** 235 Los Gatos-Saratoga Rd, Los Gatos. Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555.

## June, 2022



- 3 Friday**      **Armchair Adventure Travels – ICELAND AND SELDOM VISITED GRIMSEY ISLAND.** Presented by nature photographer Judy Duffy. Meets at **7:30 pm via ZOOM.** Share Judy's recent adventure to Iceland, particularly her visit to Grimsey Island where huge colonies of birds far outnumber human inhabitants. Her photos include Atlantic Puffins, Arctic Terns, Razorbills, Northern Fulmars, and more. Call JoAn Lambert, 408-867-6237 for Zoom details.
- 6 Monday**      **Board Meeting.** Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom.** Please contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or lynnnspr@gmail.com for Zoom information. **All members are welcome!**
- 7 Tuesday**      **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets at **3:00 pm via Zoom.** Please contact Marilyn Fuller, 408-679-1167 if interested in joining, and for Zoom details.
- 9 Thursday**      **Scenic Hikes and Walks - WILDER RANCH.** An easy walk along the ocean cliffs north of Santa Cruz. Lots of birds and seals. Visit the old ranch barns and bring picnic lunch. **Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Los Gatos:** free limited parking, Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. Questions? Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508, or Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796.
- 14 Tuesday**      **Committee on Homeless Women and Children.** Meets at **1:30 pm** at Nancy Anderson's house, 1639 Daphne Drive, San Jose. For more information, contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-982-5731.
- 15 Wednesday**      **Let's Do Lunch.** Meets at **12:30 pm at Bella Saratoga,** 14503 Big Basin Way, Saratoga. RSVP Chair, Joanna Yates, 408-395-2950. *Enjoy friendships and fun conversation.*
- 16 Thursday**      **Scenic Hikes and Walks - TRAIL CLEANUP =** Back by Noon hike + coffee or lunch. **Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Los Gatos:** Free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. Questions? Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 17 Friday**      **AM Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am.** Discuss a book, good or bad, with others in the group. For details, contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-377-6625 or margaretbard@gmail.com. **Come and Find Your Next Great Read.**
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- 28 Tuesday**      **Film Buffs.** Meets at **11:30 am.** For information, contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555.



May - June  
2022

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

## ***AAUW Supports Legislative Proposals***

The Public Policy Committee is supporting the following six bills during the 2022 California legislature session:

- AB 92 - creates an equitable sliding scale for family childcare fees
- AB 1666 - enables persons from outside CA to obtain abortions
- AB 1968 - mandates websites at CSU/UC campuses to assist sexual assault survivors
- AB 2881 - gives priority to student parents in CA colleges
- SB 523 - expands health plans' contraceptive coverage
- SB 1375 - allows nurse practitioners to practice under standard protocols to provide first-trimester abortion care

*Kathleen Harper and Sue Miller, Co-Chairs, AAUW CA Public Policy Committee*

Santa Clara County Office of Education supports efforts to provide a permanent child tax credit. Abundant research shows the tax credit's value for children, parents, and our economy. Negotiations are ongoing in Congress and in California, so encourage your local representatives to stand up for your children and your children's children by passing these measures.



**Grapevine Committee:** Virginia Turner, editor; Julie Stevens, calendar; Ann Griffin, proofreader; Laurie Lindsey, web liaison. Deadline for July-August issue is **June 16, 2022**. Email materials to [vturner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vturner@sbcglobal.net). Branch website: <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca.aauw.net/>