



Grapevine Newsletter

July - August, 2022

Save the Date: “The Last Hurrah”

After thirty-plus years, it is time for the Committee on Homeless Women and Children to have one more – and it’s our LAST – fundraiser.

Saturday, September 17, 2022

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Doors open at 1:00 pm

Immanuel Lutheran Church ~ Fellowship Hall
14103 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

- Fill your jewelry box with new-to-you items from pre-priced tables (\$1 to \$10) as well as special pieces
- Light refreshments at your seat, self-serve cold drinks
- Covid vaccination required



Price: \$25

Make checks payable to ISPF – AAUW
Include your phone number and those of your guests

Reservations are required by September 3

Call or email Sumi Tanabe:
6498 Bibel Avenue, San Jose, CA 95129
(408) 253-6191 atanabe@hotmail.com

To donate jewelry, call JoAn Lambert (408) 867-6237

For additional information call or email Nancy Anderson:
(408) 982-5731 dander2567@aol.com

All proceeds are donated to various agencies within the Santa Clara Valley.

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

Our 2022-2023 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.*

Directory Correction: **Sofie Giles** email address: sofisea@gmail.com



Board members enjoyed in-person meeting June 6 (from left: Arleen Pickett, Lynn Sprague, Laurie Lindsey, Louise Quenon, Margaret Bard, Mara Otlans, and Marlene Lamb)

Message from Your Co-President

“In diversity, there is beauty and there is strength.”

This quotation from Maya Angelou highlights the growing awareness of the importance of diversity and identity in all aspects of our lives. As an organization, AAUW seeks to promote inclusion and awareness for all members to create an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive membership reflective of today’s world. Our branch is looking for someone who would like to get more involved in this timely issue. Could that person be YOU?

What is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) about? It’s about:

Age, Color, Education,
Ethnicity & National Origin,
Gender & Gender Identity,
Immigration Status,
Income & Socioeconomic Status,
Marital Status, Occupation,
Parental Status, Political Beliefs,
Physical & Mental Ability, Race,
Religious Beliefs, Sexual Orientation,
Veteran Status



Maya Angelou also said “Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better.” Learn more about DEI through a short slide presentation found on the AAUW-California website at [AAUW-ca DEI.pptx](#).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Resources

Elaine Johnson, the DEI Director of AAUW-California, has provided a book list to facilitate discussions about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. We all need to be aware of these issues in our branch recruitment and activities. Some of the reading suggestions include the following:

- Bernard, Emily. *Black Is the Body*. Vintage Books, 2019.
- Eberhardt, Jennifer L. *Biased*. Penguin Books, 2020.
- Sowell, Thomas. *Discrimination and Disparities*. Hachett Book Group, 2019.
- King, Billie Jean. *All In: An Autobiography*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2021.
- Wilkerson, Isabel. *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent*. Random House, 2020.
- Nordell, Jessica. *The End of Bias*. Metropolitan Books, 2021.
- Larsen, Deborah. *The White*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2002.
- Sacks, Oliver. *The Mind’s Eye*. Vintage Books, 2010.

Sumi Tanabe, Co-President

Watch this space! Over the next several issues we will be telling you about our Board members ~ how they heard about AAUW ~ activities they are part of ~ their hobbies and interests.

Mara Otlans ~ Our Named Gift Honoree



Mara Otlans receives her Named Gift Honoree pin from co-president Marlene Lamb

After retirement, Mara moved to Campbell to be near her two children. When looking for a community to enhance her new life, AAUW seemed a natural fit. She was familiar with the organization because her mother had belonged in Tacoma, and several retired friends pointed her toward it. It was great to find a group of intelligent and interesting women who enjoyed reading, hiking, and travel. She soon joined the Board as Sunshine Chair and became involved in Scholarship Recipient selection, the book group, and the hiking group. She is now serving as Recording Secretary and looks forward to events and activities and continuing friendships in the coming years!

Congratulations

Audry Lynch won a first-place award in the National League of American Pen Women's Biennial for her children's book, *Ruben's Tales from the Amazon Jungle*. Well done, Audry!

Our Newest Honorary Life Members

AAUW recognizes an individual member who has paid Association dues for fifty years by awarding Life Membership. The member is then exempt from payment of Association dues, California state dues, and Los Gatos-Saratoga branch dues.

Ann Hexamer graduated from the University of Buffalo, New York with a BA in psychology. She first joined the Scotia-Glenville NY branch, then the Schenectady branch, and finally the Los Gatos-Saratoga branch, where she has been a member for the past 50 years. She was our Named Gift recipient in 1977 because of her many contributions to the branch.

Joan Kjemtrup earned her BA degree in Bacteriology from UC Berkeley, and spent many years as an enrolled agent for the Internal Revenue Service. She joined AAUW when she responded to an ad in the local paper and found a group of educated, stimulating women. She particularly enjoyed the supper club where she and her late husband could meet other people in a casual setting, and the Authors Lunch is another of her favorite activities.

Lynn Sprague graduated from the University of Rochester with a BA in Psychology, and earned her MEd in Elementary Education from Tufts University. Her first branch was the Bedford/Lexington MA branch; she joined the Los Gatos-Saratoga branch when she and her husband moved west. Some friends had told her that AAUW was a good group to join and she has met many interesting people over the years. She likes the smaller groups like bridge and the book group, and particularly identifies with AAUW's support of education, especially for minority women and those are the first generation to attend college.

Meet Our Local Scholarship Recipients

The Local Scholarship Committee has awarded scholarships of \$3,000 each to two women students at West Valley College who are transferring to a four-year college in 2022-2023. Due to the on-going Covid-19 virus pandemic, it's been another strange year to give out scholarships, and we regret we are again unable to present these awards in person. We congratulate this year's recipients and wish them well.

Khatareh Taghizadeh has had a long path toward achieving her educational goals. She is from Iran, where it is considered inappropriate for women to study math and science, subjects which she loves. Due to her father's Baha'i faith, she was unable to attend college in Iran, so after working for some years and helping support her family, she immigrated to Turkey with her young daughter, in the hopes of eventually making it to the U.S. After six years in Turkey, Khatareh was able to obtain a U.S. visa and she came here to pursue her dream of becoming a computer engineer. Khatareh learned English while studying in her field and supporting her daughter as a single mother. These past five years in California have been challenging, but this fall she plans to transfer to either San Jose State or San Francisco State University to complete her studies.



Hannah Wagster has long had a love of science and a strong desire to help others. She has lots of experience volunteering with children. Hannah has taken dance classes for many years and has taught dance as well. She has been tutoring peers in chemistry at West Valley College. She is in the Honors Program there, as well as the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society. Hannah has had some setbacks along her educational path but has worked hard to overcome them and has found support in the Women in STEM group at West Valley College. She has even taken on a leadership role in that organization. This fall, Hannah plans to transfer to the University of California Santa Barbara, where she will major in Biopsychology. Her dream is to continue on to medical school and become a pediatrician.

A big **THANK YOU** to members for your generous donations. Your support of the scholarship fund helps tremendously, allowing us to give these students some extra financial support they need as they continue their university education and pursue their STEM career goals. You are making a big difference in their lives!



The committee is composed of educators or those who have worked in educational institutions. The members are: Marilyn Fuller, Chair; Laurie Lindsey, Audry Lynch, Mara Otlans, Jane Parks-McKay, Karen Pock, Dianne Priest, Julie Stevens, and Sumi Tanabe.

Marilyn Fuller, Local Scholarship Committee Chair

July, 2022



- 5 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.
- 11 Monday **No Board Meetings in July and August.** Will meet Monday, **September 12 at 10:00 am via Zoom.** Please contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or lynnspr@gmail.com for Zoom information.
- 12 Tuesday **Committee on Homeless Women and Children.** No meeting in July. For more Information, contact Chair, Nancy Anderson, 408-982-5731.
- 14 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walks.** *For easy walks and fun talks - **JOIN US!***
Sign up with Kay Duffy: k@kayduffywatercolors.com or 408-867-0508, or Jane Bishop, JTrailcats@aol.com or 408-356-7796.
NEW ALMADEN QUICKSILVER TOWN. We will explore this historic old mining town and hope for a museum tour. Bring lunch. **Meet Promptly, 9 am, Los Gatos:** free limited parking, Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco.
- 15 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. **Come and Find Your Next Great Read.**
- 19 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.
- 20 Wednesday **Let's Do Lunch. No meeting in July.** For more information, contact Chair, Joanna Yates, 408-395-2950.
- 26 Tuesday **Film Buffs. No meeting in July.** For information, contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555.
- 28 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walks – BACK BY NOON HIKE.** Stay for coffee or lunch afterwards. **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.

Membership Renewal

You should have received your membership renewal forms in the mail; if you did not receive them or need another copy, please let me know. Return the forms and your check by July 1 so that we can be sure to include you in our branch directory. Total dues for 2022-2023 are \$107. Honorary Life members do not pay any dues, and Dual members pay only \$20 Los Gatos-Saratoga branch dues.



Virginia Turner, Membership VP

August, 2022



- 1 Monday** **No Board Meeting in August.** Will meet Monday, **September 12, at 10:00 am via Zoom.** Please contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or lynnspr@gmail.com for Zoom information.
- 2 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 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.
- 11 Thursday** **Scenic Hikes and Walks – HALF MOON BAY COASTAL WALK.** An easy exploration walk along the bay coast with an early lunch or dinner at Barbara's Fish Trap, plus some cute shops. **Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga,** Argonaut Shopping Center on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road. Look for us way out in front of CVS Pharmacy away from shops and bank. Questions? Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508, or Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796.
- 16 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.
- 17 Wednesday** **Let's Do Lunch. No meeting in August.** For more information, contact Chair, Joanna Yates, 408-395-2950.
- 18 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.
- 19 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.**
- 25 Thursday** **Scenic Hikes and Walks – BACK BY NOON HIKE.** Stay for 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.
- 30 Tuesday** **Film Buffs. No meeting in August.** For information, contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555.



July - August
2022

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

AAUW Public Policy Committee

Are you interested in Public Policy? Consider joining the AAUW California Public Policy Committee which is now accepting applications. Here is a sample of what the committee did this year:

- Co-sponsored bills to help low-income working mothers lower their childcare costs, prevent women from other states from being sued in California for obtaining an abortion here, and secured a legislative resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of Title IX.
- Supported 30 other bill that, among other things, require pay transparency reports on gender and ethnicity, and for women in the construction industry; prohibit businesses from charging more for women's products; require colleges to post uniform protocols for reporting campus sexual assault; provide relief for college students with dependent children; establish a state office of Racial Equity; and provide for confidentiality for election workers.

New year the Committee will be revising its Public Policy Priorities, working on an original AAUW bill, facing an important election in fall, 2022; and gearing up for a new legislative session and Lobby Day in spring, 2023. Check the California AAUW website for details.

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

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