



Grapevine Newsletter

March - April, 2023

Authors' Luncheon Coming Soon ~ MAY 13, 2023

We are delighted to announce that we will host an in-person Authors' Luncheon this spring.

Saturday, May 13, 2023

11:30 am – 2:00 pm

The location is yet to be determined. The cost for the luncheon will be about \$60, and proceeds benefit our Local Scholarship fund. We will hear these three wonderful authors:



Shirley Tallman

A novelist and screenwriter, her popular Sarah Woodson mystery series (*Murder on Nob Hill*, *Death on Telegraph Hill* and others) is set in San Francisco.



Traci Bliss

Her non-fiction books include *Big Basin Redwood Forest*. She highlights the importance of the women who were instrumental in founding California's oldest state park.



Lucy Jane Bledsoe

Author of fiction and non-fiction books for both adults (*Biting the Apple*) and children (*No Stopping Us Now*), a champion of Title IX and all rights for women.

More details will be coming in the May-June Grapevine. For additional information call or email Arleen Pickett: (408) 356-3233 arleenpickett@gmail.com.

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	Arleen Pickett (408) 356-3233	arleenpickett@gmail.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.*

Please Welcome Our Newest Member

Kelly Weisberg (Dual member) Phone: 408-891-2230
15927 Viewfield Road email: Kelly_weisberg@yahoo.com
Monte Sereno, CA 95030
Brandeis University – PhD Sociology
UC Berkeley – JD Law

Directory Corrections

If you need to correct or change your information in our directory, please contact Louise Quenon, our database manager, at 408-867-0698 or lquenon@comcast.net.



***Help us spread the word about AAUW!
Invite a friend or co-worker or family
member to join.***

Message from Your Co-President **WOMEN INVENTORS**

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 Dishwasher: Josephine Cochrane invented the dishwasher in 1887. She also marketed her machine to hotel owners and opened her own factory without the help of a man.

Wireless transmission technology: Film star Hedy Lamarr invented a secret communications system during World War II for radio-controlled torpedoes. This technology helped pave the way for everything from Wi-Fi to GPS.



Closed Circuit TV: Marie Van Brittan Brown invented CCTV because of the slow response of police officers in 1969 to help people ensure their own security. Modern CCTV systems are used for home security and police work today.

Gas-powered central heating: Although Alice Parker's invention in 1919 of a gas-powered central heater was never manufactured, her idea inspired the central heating systems used today.



Kevlar: In 1965 Stephanie Kwolek, while searching for a lightweight and strong plastic for use in car tires, invented this life-saving material which is 5 times stronger than steel and is used, as one example, to make bulletproof vests.

Windshield Wiper: In 1903 Mary Anderson invented a windshield cleaning device, but it was not until after her patent expired that it became standard equipment on cars.

COBOL computer language: Dr. Grace Murray Hopper was a computer scientist who invented COBOL, the first user-friendly business computer software system, in the 1940's. She was also a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy and the first person to use the term "bug" in reference to a glitch in a computer system when she literally found a bug (moth) causing problems with her computer.

Aren't these women amazing!

BECOME A BRANCH LEADER

We are putting together the leadership team for 2023-2024. Many positions could be shared, and we will be happy to provide you with the materials you need to succeed. **Would you be willing to serve on the Board next year?** If so, just contact any one of the current Leadership Team members listed above. You can help keep our branch strong!

Marlene Lamb, Co-President

Farewell to the Committee on Homeless Women and Children

It began in 1985 when Georgia Travis, a retired social worker, realized that there were homeless women and children in Silicon Valley -- and that AAUW should do something to help. Our committee started as a Women's Issue group that year; the next year it was adopted by the Interbranch Council (representing all AAUW branches in Santa Clara County). In order to raise money for the Committee on Homeless Women and Children, the Interbranch Special Projects Foundation (ISPF) was created in 1988 as a charitable nonprofit organization. The first ISPF project was the English Tea, an event that continued for many, many years.

Along with raising money for several local agencies helping homeless women and children, the Committee provided a hot lunch every month, hosted a holiday party with gifts for homeless women, and studied the enormous problems facing the homeless. Georgia's vision is now being sustained in the Georgia Travis House, part of LifeMoves, which provides stabilization, shelter, and services for homeless women and children in San Jose.



Gifts for homeless women at annual Holiday Party



Georgia Travis



Jewelry sales at the English Tea



English Tea, 2013 ("Hats Off")

Sadly, there are still homeless women and children in Silicon Valley, but the Committee can no longer keep up the work involved in fundraising and in-person service and has decided to close. Thank you for supporting our work for the past 38 years. Remaining funds will be sent to the agencies we have proudly supported in their efforts to eliminate homelessness.

More information to come in the May *Grapevine*.

Nancy Anderson and JoAn Lambert, Committee Co-Chairs

AAUW National and AAUW California News

Elections

National and state elections are around the corner. You will receive voting information by email, and online voting is encouraged. Those without a valid email address will receive their ballot by regular mail.

The national election voting is open April 5 to May 15. Items on the ballot include approval of the Public Policy Priorities which establish the federal issues on which AAUW will focus their advocacy efforts, and Bylaws amendments related to Board operations and the structure of bylaws. There is no proposal to change membership requirements. More information is available at www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools.

The California election voting is open April 22 to May 13. Items on the ballot include election of members of the Board of Directors, and approval of the Public Policy Priorities. For more information go to www.aauw-ca.org/2023-aauw-California-nomination-election-process.

California AAUW Annual Event April 22

In lieu of a convention, California AAUW is holding its Annual Event from 9 am to 4 pm via ZOOM. There will be interviews, keynote speakers, finalists from Speech Trek and Gov Trek, as well as a public policy update on legislation where AAUW has taken a position. More information is available on the California AAUW website at www.aauw-ca.org.



Membership Renewal Coming

We will be sending renewal packets in May to everyone on our membership roster. The national AAUW dues are now \$72 (of which \$69 is tax-deductible), California dues are \$20, and branch dues are \$20 for a total of \$112. Dual members pay only Los Gatos-Saratoga dues because their national and California dues are paid through their primary branch. The cost to receive a mailed Grapevine is \$15.

Virginia Turner, Membership VP

Morgan Hill 40th Anniversary Wildflower Run March 26

Our hikers and walkers will be taking part again this year, and we welcome more participants. We do not “run” as such, but we plan to walk the distance and go out for lunch after the event. Contact Jane Bishop at 408-356-7796 for more information. We welcome all hikers and walkers to join us for this fun event.

March, 2023



- 3 Friday** **Armchair Adventure Travels. Travelin' Again: Italy and France**, presented by photographers George and Tamar Mednick. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom**. An extended European trip gave us three unusual travel experiences. We hiked some remarkable and relatively undiscovered alpine trails around the Aosta Valley of Italy. Then we moved to France for a luxurious 12-night escape at a spectacular refurbished chateau in the Angers region. Next it was off to the Burgundy region for a 7-night excursion on the ancient Nivernais canal, where we were the crew. Finally a quick visit to Paris and some hidden gems. *Contact JoAn Lambert for Zoom link at jgdblamm@earthlink.net or 408-867-6237.*
- 6 Monday** **Board Meeting.** Meets at **10:00 am via Zoom**. Please contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or lynnspr@gmail.com for Zoom information.
- 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 – COYOTE LAKE -- HARVEY BEAR COUNTY PARK.** Picturesque lake in south county. An easy uphill for some beautiful views. Bring lunch. **Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Los Gatos**, free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. Questions? Call Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508 or Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796.
- 14 Tuesday** **Committee on Homeless Women and Children.** This Interest Group is no longer active. See related article on page 4 of this newsletter.
- 15 Wednesday** **Let's Do Lunch.** This Interest Group is no longer active.
- 17 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.**
- 21 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.
- 23 Thursday** **Scenic Hikes and Walks – BACK BY NOON HIKE + coffee or lunch. Meet promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga**, Argonaut Shopping Center, Sunnyvale/Saratoga Road, opposite CVS. Questions: Contact Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 26 Sunday** **WILDFLOWER 3K-10K WALK/RUN** – Join us for Morgan Hill AAUW's exciting, energetic fundraiser for scholarships. Most of us walk 5K or 10K and then go to breakfast/lunch in San Jose. Details: www.WildflowerRun.org. Call Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796 and get AAUW member discount.
- 28 Tuesday** **Film Buffs.** Meets at **11:30 am**. Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555.

April, 2023



- 3 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 AM via Zoom.** Contact Lynn Sprague, 408-867-9375 or lynnspr@gmail.com for information. All members are welcome!
- 4 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.
- 7 Friday Armchair Adventure Travels. Sable Island – A Sandbar in the North Atlantic,** presented by photographers Bunny Laden and Glen Gould. Meets at **7:30 pm via ZOOM.** Before modern navigation, Sable was the cause of more than 350 shipwrecks. Today feral horses, breeding seals, and Parks Canada rangers populate this remote island. Come hear about our two-day visit to Sable Island, and a side trip to The Gully Marine Protected Area.
Contact JoAn Lambert for Zoom link at jgdblamm@earthlink.net or 408-867-6237.
- 13 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks – RANCHO CANADA DEL ORO.** Explore the lovely green hills and wildflowers in this open space preserve near Morgan Hill. **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.
- 18 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 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.
- 21 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.**
- 22 Saturday California AAUW Annual Event via Zoom, 9 am to 4 pm.** See page 5 for details.
- 25 Tuesday Film Buffs.** Meets at **11:30 am.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555.
- 27 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks -- BACK BY NOON HIKE --** Coffee or lunch? **Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga.** Argonaut Shopping Center, Sunnyvale/Saratoga Rd, opposite CVS. Questions? Contact Kay Duffy: 408-867-0508, or Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796.



*March –
April, 2023*

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

News from AAUW California Public Policy Transgender Day of Visibility

Each year on March 31, the world observes Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) to raise awareness about transgender people. It is a day to celebrate the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the poverty, discrimination, and violence the community faces. Although the past decade has seen a more vocal public push for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives around gender, the current sociopolitical climate of the United States is often openly hostile to transgender and gender non-confirming individuals.

Visit the California AAUW Public Policy website to learn more about this issue.

Melissa Maceyko, Member AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Grapevine Committee: Virginia Turner, editor; Julie Stevens, calendar; Ann Griffin, proofreader; Laurie Lindsey, web liaison. Deadline for May-June, 2023 issue is **April 16, 2023**. Email materials to vturner@sbcglobal.net. Branch website: <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca.aauw.net/>