



Grapevine Newsletter

November - December, 2023

Plan to Attend Our AAUW Programs in 2024!

January 20,
2024

Homelessness: Amigos de Guadalupe

Saturday, January 20, 2024

1:30 pm ~ 2:30 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

Stephanie Jayne and Laura Delgado will talk about their unique approach to combatting homelessness, and will introduce us to some of the other services they provide. Amigos de Guadalupe has education as part of their Core Belief and Mission.

February 17,
2024

Artificial Intelligence

Saturday, February 17, 2024

1:30 pm ~ 2:30 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

Ajit Barve, PhD, is an engineering manager at Reality Labs (a Meta company), working in the field of virtual reality which relies heavily on Artificial Intelligence. Ajit will talk about its benefits, its risks and what we need to know about AI.

March 23,
2024

Art and Culture: San Jose Art Museum

Saturday, March 23, 2024

1:30 pm ~ 2:30 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

Deputy Director Karen Rapp will talk about the museum's mission, how they select exhibits, what is involved in putting together an exhibit, and more.

Programs are open to everyone. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Food is not allowed at the Library but you are welcome to bring a drink in a covered container

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

Our 2023-2024 Elected Officers

Co-President	Arleen Pickett (408) 356-3233	arleenpickett@gmail.com
Co-President	Laurie Lindsey (303) 941-1956	lauriellindsey@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.*

Do You Need a Ride to a Meeting?

We have some exciting meetings planned and want to help you attend in person. Several members have indicated that they would be happy to provide a ride to members who need one. Now we need to connect those who need a ride and those who can provide a ride. If you want to attend one of our meetings and need a ride, contact Virginia Turner, Membership VP, at vturner@sbcglobal.net or 408-866-4234. She will try to connect you with someone who is also planning to attend.



Directory Update

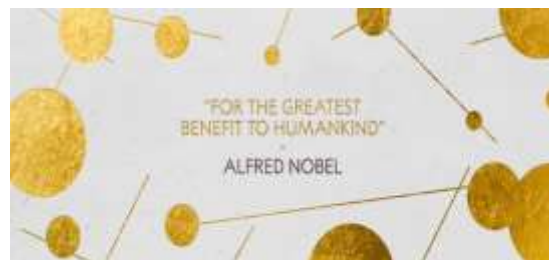
Julie Stevens: add cell phone number 408-656-5261

Please send any directory corrections or changes to Louise Quenon, our database manager, at 408-867-0698 or lquenon@comcast.net.

Message from Our Co-Presidents

Three Women Win Nobel Prizes

Three of this year's winners of the Nobel Prize are women. Particularly notable is that these women all work in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields where women have historically been underrepresented.



Claudia Goldin produced ground-breaking research on women in the workforce and is the third woman to receive the Nobel Prize in Economics since the award started in 1969. She has spent decades analyzing 200 years of historical data to produce research showing the history of women in the job market. Her research includes pieces on the drivers of female labor-force participation, the origins of the gender pay gap, and hiring biases against women. She was the first woman to secure tenure in Harvard's economics department.

Katalin Kariko and her fellow researcher Drew Weissman were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19. They found a way to modify mRNA and later developed a delivery technique to package the mRNA in lipid nanoparticles. This makes it possible for mRNA to reach the proper part of the body and trigger an immune response to fight disease.

Anne L'Huiller, along with Pierre Agostini and Ferenc Krausz, received the Nobel Prize in Physics for having demonstrated a way of creating extremely short pulses of light (measured in attoseconds) that can be used to measure the rapid processes in which electrons move or change energy. When electrons move in atoms and molecules, they move on attosecond timescales. By generating pulses of light that last tens or hundreds of attoseconds, scientists can study the movements of electrons.

How does this relate to AAUW? Those of you who heard our Tech Trek girls at our September meeting know that these young ladies are all excited about STEM after their week at the camp at Sonoma State. Maybe one of them will win a Nobel Prize some day!



Looking ahead, we have some great programs planned for the rest of our year, as you can tell from the first page of this Grapevine. We hope you will be able to join us. All the programs will be held at the Saratoga Library which is very accessible, and guests are always welcome.

Laurie Lindsey and Arleen Pickett

Meet Arleen Pickett, Our 2023 Named Gift Honoree

Congratulations to our own award winner, **Arleen Pickett**, who was selected as the Los Gatos-Saratoga Named Gift Honoree for 2023 for her many contributions to AAUW.

Arleen received her BA in Music from the University of the Pacific, and later earned an MA in education from UC Berkeley. She first joined AAUW as a new mother in the 1970's when she wanted to make new friends. She enjoyed the discussion of water policy and other big issues of the day. Upon returning to California and approaching retirement, she again wanted to make new friends and rejoined in 2011. Arleen loves the book group, the hiking group, serving on the Board, and helping raise scholarship money for young women.

For many years she has chaired the Authors Lunch event, steering the event through the complexities and challenges of Zoom presentations and Covid pandemic restrictions. This year she agreed to be Co-President with Laurie Lindsey and is enthusiastically pursuing a variety of presentations and events to revitalize our branch.



We appreciate all that Arleen has done for our branch to earn this well deserved recognition!

Arleen Pickett (left) gets her Named Gift pin from past president Virginia Turner (right) at the October Board meeting.

AAUW Seeks Candidates for the Board

AAUW California is looking for enthusiastic, committed, and proven leaders to serve on the AAUW California Board of Directors. How about you, or someone you know with leadership talent?

We seek candidates for:

- Secretary (two-year term 2024-2026)
- Four Directors (two-year terms 2024-2026)
- One Director (one-year term (2024-2025))

The AAUW California website will have more information about the positions and the nomination forms.

Great Decisions Program

This discussion program gives us opportunities to learn about current world affairs and to give feedback to the Foreign Policy Association. Topics this year are:

- Mideast realignment
- Climate technology and competition
- Science across borders
- US - China trade rivalry
- NATO's future
- Understanding Indonesia
- High Seas Treaty
- Pandemic preparedness



Discussion sessions will begin in February. Each session lasts about 2 hours and will be held in the Saratoga Senior Center. Participants can purchase the briefing book (\$35) which provides background information for each topic; they will be distributed in January. A short video is also available at each session. **Registration is required.**

For more information contact Ginger Good at (408) 866-1331 or email villavis@ix.netcom.com. Discussion coordinator is Todd White at (408) 391-8301 or email tw6785@yahoo.com.

Programs from Local AAUW Branches:

Sunnyvale-Cupertino AAUW Dance Event

Ranjani Ganesh, a senior at Homestead High School, will share her skill and knowledge of Bharatanatyam Dance, one of the oldest Indian classical dance forms, which she has been learning for the past 10 years. There is no cost to attend but donations to Second Harvest of Silicon Valley are welcomed.

Saturday, November 4, 2023 – 1:00 pm ~ 2:30 pm

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, 728 W. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale 94087

San Jose AAUW Program on Charitable Giving

Learn about several different ways you can support AAUW charitable activities like Tech Trek and Local Scholarships. Light refreshments and musical entertainment will be provided; no cost to attend. Please RSVP to Diane Trombetta, tddtaug@yahoo.com, if you are attending so they can plan refreshments.

Saturday, November 18, 2023 – 10 AM ~ 12 Noon

Wesley Room, United Methodist Church, 1420 Newport Avenue, San Jose 95125

November, 2023



- 3 Friday Armchair Adventure Travels. Safari to Incredible Botswana,** presented by Photographer Mercury Freedom. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom.** Our trip started on a houseboat on the Chobe River where we saw and photographed the many animals living around the river. Next we visited the Okavango Delta, rising early each morning for our trip in Land Rovers to view and photograph wildlife. Our last stop was the Kalahari Desert for more wildlife viewing and photographing. Our last 3 days were spent visiting Victoria Falls and surrounding areas in Zimbabwe. *Contact JoAn Lambert for Zoom link at jgdblum@earthlink.net or 408-867-6237.*
- 6 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 AM via Zoom.** Please contact Sumi Tanabe at atanabe@hotmail.com or Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com for information. All members are welcome!
- 6 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 – CALERO COUNTY PARK.** Views of the lovely lake on McKean Road. **Meet Promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga.** Argonaut Shopping Center, Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road, opposite CVS. Questions? Contact your Hikes and Walks leaders: Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 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.
- 24 Friday Scenic Hikes and Walks – FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING.** Walk off that huge turkey dinner in Sanborn Park. Families are welcome! **Meet promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga.** Argonaut Shopping Center, Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road, opposite CVS. Questions? Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 28 Tuesday Film Buffs.** Meets at **11:30 am.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555 for details.

December, 2023



- 4 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 AM via Zoom.** Please contact Sumi Tanabe at atanabe@hotmail.com or Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com for information. All members are welcome!
- 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.
- 14 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks – HOLIDAY PARTY.** Hike up lovely Fall Creek in Felton and share holiday goodies at Hallcrest Winery. Kay provides drinks, plates, utensils. **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.
PS: If weather is really poor, we will party at Kay's at 11:30. Call Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 15 Friday AM Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am.** Discuss any 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.
- 21 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. Bring gloves and clippers, if you have them; bags and grabbers will be provided. Questions? Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 26 Tuesday Film Buffs.** Meets at **11:30 am.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555 for details.
- 28 Thursday Scenic Hikes and Walks – BACK BY NOON HIKE =** view Christmas decorations??? Coffee or lunch? **Meet promptly, 9 AM, Saratoga.** Argonaut Shopping Center, Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road, opposite CVS. Questions? Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.

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



November –
December, 2023

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

AAUW California Priority Legislation Scorecard

We are happy to report that our priority bills did pretty well in this cycle. Twelve bills were sent to the governor's desk and 10 were signed into law. Another 16 bills were transitioned to 2-year bills meaning that they be reconsidered in the 2024 legislative cycle. Among the signed bills are these:

- **AB 1394** is the first-in-the-nation law holding social media companies accountable for child sex trafficking and abuse. Social media companies would face civil penalties for each act of commercial sexual exploitation facilitated, aided or abetted by their platform.
- **AB 524** prohibits discrimination against employees based on their status as a family caregiver.
- **AB 1071** authorizes and encourages school districts to provide teen dating violence prevention education to all pupils in grades 7-12.
- **AB 1078** expands the diversity of the social science curriculum, requiring instruction in social sciences to include a study of the role and contributions of people of all genders, Latino Americans, LGBTQ+ Americans and other ethnic, cultural, religious, and socioeconomic status groups.

For additional information about the legislative priorities, check the AAUW CA website.

Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko, Co-Chairs, CA State Public Policy Committee

Grapevine Committee: Virginia Turner, editor; Julie Stevens, calendar; Ann Griffin, proofreader; Laurie Lindsey, web liaison. Deadline for January-February, 2024 issue is **December 16, 2023**. Email materials to vturner@sbcglobal.net. Branch website: <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca.aauw.net/>.