

Life Transitions and the Law
Saturday, November 9, 2024
1:30 pm ~ 3:00 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

Janis Carney is a Certified Elder Law Attorney and co-founder of Widlast Legal. She has written many informational books and has been recognized as one of the premier elder law specialists in California. She will discuss some of the key issues surrounding life transitions and their legal implications:

- Critical elements of Life Transition Planning
- Continuing Care Retirement Communities
- Long-term care considerations
- Residential vs. in-home care
- When to access public benefits (Medi-Cal, VA, etc.).



Looking Ahead to Programs in 2025



War Bride, Picture Bride
Saturday, January 25, 2025
1:30 pm ~ 3:00 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

Sonia Gomez, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of US history at Santa Clara University. Her talk will examine the role of war brides and picture brides and how they helped shape Japanese Americans.

Adventures with Bunny Laden
Saturday, February 22, 2025
1:30 pm ~ 3:00 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070



Bunny Laden is an extraordinary photographer whose travels range from Sable Island in the North Atlantic to Antarctica. Her talk will likely involve penguins, as she is trying to photograph every species.

No cost to attend. Programs are open to everyone!

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

Our 2024-2025 Elected Officers

Co-President	Laurie Lindsey (303) 941-1956	lauriellindsey@gmail.com
Co-President	Arleen Pickett (408) 724-7905	arleenpickett@gmail.com
Secretary	Mara Otlans (253) 202-3307	marao9@live.com
Treasurer	Lynn Sprague (408) 867-9375	lynnspr@gmail.com
Membership VP	Virginia Turner (408) 866-4234	vturner@sbcglobal.net
Membership Treasurer	Louise Quenon (408) 867-0698	lquenon@comcast.net
AAUW Fund VP	Arleen Pickett (408) 724-7905	arleenpickett@gmail.com

In Memoriam

We learned recently that **Donette Dake** passed away this spring. From 1965 to 2004 she was an instructor in computer application and digital media/internet services at West Valley College. She joined AAUW in 1997 and used her design talents as *Grapevine* editor for many years.

Congratulations to our Named Gift Honoree!

Lynn Sprague was born and raised in New York state and attended the University of Rochester. When she moved to Massachusetts she got a MEd degree from Tufts University and first joined AAUW at the invitation of a neighbor. She has been an active member since then, enjoying the evening book group and various bridge groups. She is an Honorary Life Member with more than 50 years of membership.

Since 2018 she has served as the Branch Treasurer, preparing the annual budget and taking care of the deposits and expenses of the branch. In recognition of her long and dedicated service, she was selected as our Named Gift Honoree for 2024. Co-president Arleen Pickett announced this honor at the August Board meeting.



Thank you, Lynn, for all you do for our branch!

Message from Our Co-Presidents

At our October board meeting we welcomed **Myra Sternlieb** as our new Public Policy chair. Myra is an RN, and has been serving as president of her national nursing sorority. She is passionate about the public policy issues that AAUW is concerned with and is forming a local group to work on these issues. We have not had a Public Policy chair in many years, so Myra will be a breath of fresh air! Read more about the AAUW California public policy priorities in this newsletter on page 5.



Coincidentally, our first program for 2024-2025 fell into the Public Policy area. On October 5, **Moira Barker** and **Kristen Murphy** spoke about changes and challenges in elementary education. It was such an informative and well-prepared presentation. They were gracious enough to share their slides with us. [Click here to access them.](#)

Kristin and Moira spoke about the challenges students and teachers have had after the COVID pandemic, especially the need for “Social and Emotional Learning.” They discussed the new requirement for “Transitional Kindergarten,” the challenges of declining enrollment, and how to create balance in children’s lives so they can be successful students, but also be allowed to be children. An interesting idea was the concept of “Connectedness” so that each student has at least one adult at school with whom they feel comfortable discussing things they want to talk about. Kristin and Moira also discussed their framework for evaluating when students may need more support and how it is implemented. We invite you to review the slides. Their email addresses are in the slides, and they are willing to answer questions.

Finally, we were sad to note the passing of **Lilly Ledbetter**. She was a supervisor at Goodyear Tire and Rubber’s plant in Gadsden, Alabama, from 1979 to 1998. When she was nearing retirement, she received an anonymous note revealing that she was making thousands less per year than the men in her position. Ultimately her lawsuit against Goodyear led to the passage of the Fair Pay Act of 2009 which was the first bill that President Barack Obama signed into law. If you are not familiar with Lilly’s activism, you may want to read about her on NBC ([click here](#)) or Wikipedia ([click here](#)), or do a Google Search.

Our next program is on November 9. Janis Carney, attorney and elder law specialist, will speak to us about “Life Transitions and the Law”. There is a flyer available ([click here](#)) and the link is also posted on the front page of our website. We hope to see you there; guests are welcome.

We wish you all a very happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season!

Laurie Lindsey and Arleen Pickett, Co-Presidents



Interbranch Special Projects Foundation Needs You

After more than 12 years as Treasurer for the Interbranch Special Projects Foundation (ISPF), **Virginia Turner** will be retiring in July, the close of the 2024-25 fiscal year. She needs someone to take over the job of Treasurer. ISPF is a non-profit charity which means that donations to AAUW programs like Tech Trek and Local Scholarships are tax-deductible. Five AAUW branches within Santa Clara County -- Gilroy, Los Gatos-Saratoga, Morgan Hill, San Jose, and Sunnyvale-Cupertino -- fund projects through ISPF.



What does the Treasurer do? The Treasurer makes deposits, reimburses people for expenses, and writes checks for community grants or scholarship awards to various colleges and universities as requested. Like many financial tasks, attention to detail is essential. A few hours per week is usually all that is needed to keep the records in good order.

If you are comfortable and conscientious with tasks like balancing your checkbook, this could be the job for you! Virginia will provide training and background resources and promises to mentor the new Treasurer as needed. If you think you might be interested, contact Virginia Turner at 408-866-4234 or vturner@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Our Newest Honorary Life Members

National AAUW has recognized two of our branch members as Honorary Life Members with more than 50 years of membership. **Shirley Cancellieri** has a BA in Education from San Jose State and joined AAUW in 1963. **Sybil Lewis** has a BA in Child Development from Goucher College and joined in 1962. We thank them both for their long-time commitment to AAUW!

It's Time for Great Decisions

Sign up now for this timely discussion program, produced by the Foreign Policy Association. We will meet from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Senior Portable Building at 19655 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga, every other Friday, February through May. Participants are encouraged to purchase a Briefing Book before the sessions begin. Books can be purchased directly from the Foreign Policy Association at www.fpa.org/great_decisions/ for \$35 plus shipping.

Here are this year's dates and the 8 topics to be covered:



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| February 7 | American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads |
| February 21 | Changing Leadership of the World Economy |
| March 7 | U.S. – China Relations |
| March 21 | International Cooperation on Climate Change |
| April 4 | The Future of NATO and European Security |
| April 18 | AI and American National Security |
| May 2 | India between China, the West, and Global South |
| May 18 | After Gaza: American Policy in the Middle East |

The League of Women Voters, AAUW, and Saratoga Seniors are joint sponsors of the program. For more information, please contact **Ginger Good, 408-866-1331** or villavis@ix.netcom.com.

Join Our New Public Policy Committee

Myra Sternlieb has volunteered to be our Public Policy Committee chair and is looking for other members to join her and help establish some goals and projects for the branch. Several elements are included within Public Policy such as legislative proposals at the state and national level, Title IX compliance, women’s reproductive health, economic security for women and many others.

The Public Policy Priorities for AAUW California are listed on this card and can be found on their website. If you want to become part of this committee, please contact Myra at 408-410-2582 or mmsmyrabeth@yahoo.com.

Current Propositions Supported by AAUW:

Proposition 2: Bonds for public schools and community colleges

Proposition 3: Right to marry

Proposition 4: Bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, and protecting communities and natural lands from climate risks

Proposition 32: Raising minimum wage

November 5 is Election Day!

Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked by November 5 or dropped off at a vote center by 8 pm.

2023-2025
AAUW
 of California
PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

The AAUW California Public Policy Program establishes policy directives that will guide our members, inform our legislative priorities, serve our mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, and are consistent with our values of achieving fair and equitable opportunities for our diverse society. Toward that end, AAUW California advocates policies that promote, enhance and ensure:

- Economic Security for All Women, including:**
 - Equity in the workplace
 - Enforcement of workplace anti-discrimination statutes
 - Security in retirement
 - Access to job training for career development
 - Work-life balance, including access to quality affordable childcare and paid sick and caregiving leave
- Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, including:**
 - Vigorous enforcement of Title IX
 - Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including pre-school and post-secondary
 - Removal of barriers for girls to access instruction in STEM fields
 - Civics instruction in all CA high schools
 - Access to diverse staff and curriculum that represents historically accurate information
 - Funding adequate to support a strong infrastructure, and equitable access to resources, including technology
 - Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic and charter schools that do not meet public school civil rights and accountability standards
- Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society, including:**
 - Self-determination in reproductive health
 - Equal access to quality affordable health care, housing and a healthy environment
 - Freedom from violence in all its forms and wherever it occurs, including violence against historically marginalized groups, and support for policies that reduce or prevent gun violence.
 - Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of gender identity and expression, and all family structures
 - Protection and expansion of voting rights
 - Support for United Nations sustainable development goals which address human rights and women’s and girls’ concerns
- Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles, including:**
 - Proportional appointment to publicly held corporate boards
 - Access to leadership skills training
 - Access to programs that promote participation in public service careers

www.aauw-ca.org

Directory Corrections



New email address or phone number? Please send any corrections or changes in your directory listing to Louise Quenon, our database manager, at 408-867-0698 or lquenon@comcast.net. This helps keep our records up-to-date.

November, 2024



- 1 Friday Armchair Adventure Travels. A Brazilian Wildlife Adventure** presented by Mercury Freedom. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom**. Mercury returns to describe his trip to Pantanal Brazil. You will see many interesting critters, including jaguars, giant river otters, caimans, birds like Jabaru storks and kingfishers galore. He will also share some amazing photos and a little about Brazilian cowboys.
For information and Zoom links, please contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 4 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 am** at the home of Laurie Lindsey. For more information, contact Laurie at lauriellindsey@gmail.com or 303-941-1956.
- 5 Tuesday Election Day! Vote in person or by mail.**
- 5 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom**. For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 9 Saturday General Meeting – LIFE TRANSITIONS AND THE LAW.** Saratoga Library, **1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**. Janis Carney will discuss key issues surrounding life transitions. See front page of this newsletter for details.
- 14 Thursday Scenic Walking Adventures.** Take interesting walks around the local area, and stay for coffee. **Meet promptly 9 AM, Los Gatos** free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. For information on these adventures, contact Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 15 Friday AM Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am**. Come to discuss any book, good or bad, with others in the group. For details, contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-439-9398 or margaretbard@gmail.com. **Come and Find Your Next Great Read!**
- 19 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom**. For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 26 Tuesday Film Buffs.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555 for details.
- 29 Friday Scenic Walking Adventures – FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING.** Work off some of that big turkey dinner with an invigorating walk! Family members are welcome to join us. **Meet promptly 9 AM, Los Gatos** free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. For more information on these adventures, contact Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.

December, 2024

- 2 **Monday** **Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 AM via Zoom.** Please contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com for information. All members are welcome!
- 3 **Tuesday** **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom.** For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 12 **Thursday** **Scenic Walking Adventures.** Take interesting walks around the local area and stay for coffee. **Meet promptly 9 AM, Los Gatos** free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. For information on these adventures, contact Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 17 **Tuesday** **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom.** For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 20 **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, 408-439-9398 or margaretbard@gmail.com. Check our branch website for titles of some of the books we have been reading. **Come and Find Your Next Great Read!**
- 26 **Thursday** **Scenic Hikes and Walks -- DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS WALK.** Take a relaxing walk locally and have coffee. **Meet promptly 9 AM, Los Gatos** free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. Family members are welcome. For information on these adventures, please contact Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.
- 31 **Tuesday** **Film Buffs.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555 for details.



AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

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



Los Gatos-Saratoga Inc. (CA) Branch

*November –
December, 2024*

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

AAUW California Public Policy Legislative Report Card

Out of 41 bills where AAUW California took a position, 29 made it to the governor’s desk and 21 were signed; 12 bills died due to cost issues. Three of our A priority bills were signed:

- AB 2843: Health Care Coverage for Rape and Sexual Assault Survivors
- AB 2326: Public Postsecondary Education: Sex Discrimination Policies
- AB 2099: Protecting Reproductive Health

In addition, 2 of our B priority bills were signed:

- AB 1790: Requires CSU system to strengthen protections against sexual harassment
- AB 1831: Expands law prohibiting possession and distribution of material depicting minors performing sexual activities to include AI and computer-generated images

The governor also signed AB 1955 which prohibits public schools from notifying parents if their child uses a different name or pronouns or identifies as a different gender than assigned at birth. California is the first state in the nation to ban forced outing of transgender students.

Myra Sternlieb, Public Policy Committee Chair

Grapevine Committee: Virginia Turner, editor; Julie Stevens, calendar; Susan Lange, proofreader; Laurie Lindsey, web liaison. Deadline for January-February, 2025 issue is **December 16, 2024**. Email materials to vturner@sbcglobal.net. Branch website: <https://losgatos-saratoga-ca.aauw.net/>.