



Picture Bride, War 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 passion is understanding how race, ethnicity and gender have shaped migration and diasporic communities. This talk will examine the role of war brides and picture brides and how they helped shape Japanese America.

Adventures with Bunny Laden

Saturday, February 22, 2025

1:30 pm ~ 3:00 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070



Bunny Laden, Ph.D., is well known to our AAUW members. She is an extraordinary photographer, and she and her husband have taken many unusual trips, from Sable Island in the North Atlantic to Antarctica (on a National Geographic ship). This talk will likely involve penguins, as Bunny is trying to photograph every species.

Looking Ahead ~ Save the Date

Water: What Should We Know?

Saturday, March 29, 2025

1:30 pm ~ 3:00 pm

Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

The San Jose Water Company, Kurt Elvert, will speak with us about all things related to water in Santa Clara County – its purity, the processes, the public's responsibility, and its price.



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

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

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

February Is Black History Month

Here are a few of the many Black women who have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more.

Bessie Coleman became the first Black woman to become a pilot (1921) and went on to a career as a "barnstormer" or stunt pilot.

Alice Coachman was the first Black woman from any country to win an Olympic gold medal (1948) and the first Black female athlete to endorse an international consumer brand, Coca Cola.

Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968, where she served for 14 years. She was the first Black candidate to run for President (1972), founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.

Toni Morrison released her Pulitzer Prize winning novel *Beloved* in 1987; in 1993 she became the first Black woman to win a Nobel Prize in Literature.



Message from Our Co-Presidents

We hope you have had joyous holidays and are looking forward to the programs we have planned for 2025. We encourage you to bring friends and family members – these programs are open to the public without charge. The Saratoga Library is a convenient location and we are happy to partner with them to present these speakers.

If you were dreaming of a warmer climate, we encourage you to watch our Armchair Travel Program on January 3, as **Airdrie Kincaid** presents “A Tropical Winter Adventure.” Airdrie is a member of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club, and she has been invaluable in putting together the travel programs for this year.

On January 25, at the Saratoga Library, **Sonia Gomez** will present a talk about her research and new book *Picture Bride, War Bride*. Sonia is an associate professor of US History at Santa Clara University. A flyer will be available soon which you can share with anyone who is interested.

Then on February 22, at the Saratoga Library, we will share the adventures of **Bunny Laden** who has traveled extensively from the north to the south. She has previously presented some of her stories with the Armchair Travel Program and is always well prepared and eager to answer questions.



In case you missed our program about “Life Transitions and the Law” on November 9, **Janis Carney**, attorney and elder law specialist, has made her slides available to us. You can scroll through the presentation and pause on topics that most interest you. Simply click on this hyperlink to access our branch Google drive.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Wt7xgHmDd8o7tGj_60SyZmT6lGbLprwH/view

Finally, I wanted to tell you that in February, Arleen Pickett will be moving to Missouri to be near her son and his family. We will surely miss Arleen. Arleen is the person who brought me into AAUW. She has been a mentor and friend for more than 20 years. She is also my back-fence neighbor, and I will surely miss our chats and sharing recipes and treats. While I will feel a bit lost without her, I’m so glad she will be near her family.

On behalf of Arleen and myself, we wish you health and happiness in the New Year!

Laurie Lindsey and Arleen Pickett, Co-Presidents



Morgan Hill AAUW Wildflower Run Is March 30

Once again, our Hikes and Walks group plans to participate in the Wildflower Run – of course we plan to walk, rather than run. After the event we will go out for brunch. Call **Jane Bishop** at 408-356-7796 or email her at Jtrailcats@aol.com for more information and to get the AAUW member discount. It's a great way to support the activities of the Morgan Hill branch and a lot of fun for everyone.



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. A brief video will be shown before each discussion session.

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.

Directory Corrections

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.

Public Policy Committee News

AAUW California Public Policy Report Card

AAUW California took positions on several of the state propositions on the November 5 ballot.

Proposition 2 -- \$10 billion bond measure to build and fix schools: PASSED

Proposition 3 -- Right to marry: PASSED

Proposition 4 -- \$10 billion bond measure to mitigate climate change: PASSED

Proposition 32 -- Raising minimum wage to \$18 per hour: FAILED

AAUW National Update

The Equal Rights Amendment is not yet law. AAUW has urged President Biden to ask the archivist to publish the ERA by January 20, 2025 so it can be extended for 4 more years.

Title IX presentation ~ January 9, 2025:

Kathi Harper, member of the AAUW Public Policy Committee and chair of the School Board Project, will present "2024 Revisions to Title IX: How They Impact AAUW Values and Public Policy Priorities." Learn about the Title IX changes from the Trump to the Biden administrations, and future challenges. The presentation will be via Zoom on Thursday, January 9, from 3 to 4 pm. If you are interested in participating, here is the **Registration link:**



<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMldetpz0oHNGszzoXKEr8JhdhqTpclkfA#/registration>

We would welcome more members for the Public Policy Committee! If you want to become part of this committee, please contact Myra at 408-410-2582 or mmyrabeth@yahoo.com.

Myra Sternlieb, Public Policy Committee Chair

Looking for an ISPF Treasurer: Training Provided

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. 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 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.

Virginia Turner, ISPF Treasurer

January, 2025



- 3 Friday** **Armchair Adventure Travels. A Tropical Winter Adventure** presented by Airdrie Kincaid. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom**. Airdrie will describe her trip from Panama to Barbados. You will visit a birding jungle lodge in Panama, take a cruise through the Panama Canal, visit Cartagena, Colombia, and then join a U.S. Lighthouse Society tour of numerous islands in the Caribbean. *For information and Zoom links, please contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com or Airdrie Kincaid at airdrie@att.net.*
- 6 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.
- 7 Tuesday** **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom**. For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 9 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.
- 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. 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.
- 17 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!**
- 21 Tuesday** **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom**. For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 25 Saturday** **General Meeting – PICTURE BRIDE, WAR BRIDE.** Saratoga Library, **1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**. Sonia Gomez will examine the role of war brides and picture brides and how they helped shape Japanese America. See front page of this newsletter for details.
- 28 Tuesday** **Film Buffs.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555 for details.

February, 2025



- 3 Monday Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 AM via Zoom.** Please contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com for information. All members are welcome!
- 4 Tuesday Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom.** For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.
- 7 Friday Armchair Adventure Travels. China in Focus** presented by Harland Crowder. Meets at **7:30 pm via Zoom.** Howard will present a photographic journey through China, featuring three main locations: Wuzhen on the Yangtze River; Haungshan, a UNESCO World Heritage site; and Shanghai, the megacity, a mix of modernism and colonial French culture. *For information and Zoom links, please contact Laurie Lindsey at lauriellindsey@gmail.com.*
- 13 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.
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- 21 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!**
- 22 Saturday General Meeting – ADVENTURES WITH BUNNY LADEN.** Saratoga Library, **1:30 pm – 3:00 pm.** Bunny Laden is an extraordinary photographer whose travels range from Sable Island in the North Atlantic to Antarctica. See front page of this newsletter for details.
- 25 Tuesday Film Buffs.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555 for details.
- 27 Thursday Scenic Walking Adventures.** Take a relaxing walk locally and have coffee. **Meet promptly 9 AM, Los Gatos** free limited parking Northside lot, behind Starbucks and Petco. For information on these adventures, please contact Jane Bishop, 408-356-7796, or Kay Duffy, 408-867-0508.



January –
February, 2025

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

Many Thanks on Behalf of Our Tech Trek Campers

We sent a letter to our members in November asking for donations to help fund our Tech Trek campers this coming summer. Your response has been overwhelming! Generous members really responded to guarantee that we can send our usual group of 6 girls. Thank you so much!



Anyone involved with Tech Trek – interviewing the girls, serving as dorm moms, helping during camp activities – can see the impact this program has on the students, awakening their interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The girls brought that excitement to us in person at our September meeting, and we expect that many of them will continue to pursue courses and careers in the STEM fields.

All donations are appreciated, whether it is in response to the letter or when you renew your membership in the spring. Your gift will help our local girls for much longer than the week they attend the actual camp.

Cynthia Miller, Tech Trek Committee Chair

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