

***Join Us for Our Kick-Off Meeting***



**Saturday, September 13, 2025**  
**10:30 am ~ Noon**

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

- ~ Hear about our Tech Trek students' experience at Camp Hopper
- ~ Congratulate our Local Scholarship recipients
- ~ Learn about our programs for the year ahead
- ~ Invite prospective members to learn about AAUW

***What Is Happening with Title IX?***  
**Wednesday, September 17, 2025**  
**5:30 pm ~ 7:00 pm**



The AAUW Washington Online Branch invites you to a VIRTUAL panel discussion on the history, current landscape, and future implications of Title IX, with a focus on its impact on gender equity in education, athletics and beyond. Panelists include:

- Dr. Dorothy McBride, professor emeritus of political science at Florida Atlantic University
- Dr. Julie McCleery, Co-Director, UW Center for leadership in Athletics, College of Education
- Dr. Domanic Vanthom, WSU Vancouver, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Deputy Title IX Coordinator

***You must pre-register by September 15.*** Click [HERE](#) for the Google Form for registration. Complete the form; 48 hours before the presentation you will receive the Zoom link. More information is in the email you received from AAUW California dated August 14, 2025.

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

## ***Our 2025-2026 Elected Branch Leaders***

President	Laurie Lindsey (303) 941-1956	<a href="mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com">lauriellindsey@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Mara Otlans (253) 202-3307	<a href="mailto:marao9@live.com">marao9@live.com</a>
Treasurer	Lynn Sprague (408) 867-9375	<a href="mailto:lynnspr@gmail.com">lynnspr@gmail.com</a>
Membership VP	Virginia Turner (408) 866-4234	<a href="mailto:vturner@sbcglobal.net">vturner@sbcglobal.net</a>
Membership Treasurer	Louise Quenon (408) 867-0698	<a href="mailto:lquenon@comcast.net">lquenon@comcast.net</a>
AAUW Fund VP	OPEN	

## ***Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW Budget, 2025-2026***

	<b>Proposed Income</b>	<b>FY 2025-2026</b>
1	Branch Dues <i>(70 paid members)</i>	1,400.00
2	Directory Ads <i>(not solicited in current format)</i>	0.00
3	Miscellaneous Income <i>(donations)</i>	300.00
4	Newsletter print and mail <i>(20 @ \$15)</i>	300.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
	<b>Proposed Expenses</b>	
6	Bank Fees	25.00
7	Board Meeting Room Fee <i>(currently not needed)</i>	0.00
8	Branch Supplies <i>(stationery, Zoom account, etc.)</i>	200.00
9	CA Secretary of State Filing Fee **	30.00
10	Convention – State	0.00
11	Directory Postage - First Class	100.00
12	Directory Printing & Production	50.00
13	<i>Grapevine</i> (Newsletter) Postage	150.00
15	<i>Grapevine</i> (Newsletter) Printing & Production	175.00
16	Installation of New Board	0.00
17	Insurance CA AAUW	475.00
18	Interbranch Council Dues	30.00
19	Leadership Training	0.00
20	Meeting Facility Rental/Donation	150.00
21	Meeting Refreshments/Beverages/Potluck	50.00
22	Membership Recruitment/Renewal	125.00
23	President Expenses <i>(printing, postage, named gift)</i>	50.00
24	Speaker Honorarium & Programs	150.00
25	Sunshine Committee Expenses <i>(cards, postage)</i>	50.00
28	Treasurer Expenses <i>(postage, checks, etc.)</i>	50.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,860.00</b>
	<b>Net Income/Deficit</b>	<b>\$140.00</b>
	** Biennial expense due spring 2026	

## *Messages from Our Branch Leaders*

### *Upcoming Programs at the Saratoga Library*

Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey about the kinds of programs or speakers you would like to attend. Over the summer we have been working to arrange our programs, and several are already confirmed for later in the year. We hope we can confirm even more before our kick-off meeting September 13. If you know about a speaker or program of general interest, please contact me or any board member; see page 2 for the phone and email.



If you need a ride to the meeting, please call Virginia Turner at 408-866-4234; several members have offered to provide a ride and we'll try to connect you. This will be your chance to meet our energetic Tech Trek campers and congratulate our amazing Local Scholarship recipients.

Friends and family members are welcome to attend these programs without charge. The Saratoga Library is a convenient location and fully accessible. This is also an easy way to introduce people to AAUW and to our mission to support women and girls.

Yes, Zoom is a powerful tool, but personal interaction is so much more satisfying. **It would be wonderful to see you all in person at our September 13 meeting!**

*Laurie Lindsey, President*

### *Looking Toward the Future of AAUW*

In the last *Grapevine* we highlighted AAUW's Strategic Priorities: Advancing Equity through Higher Education. Our priorities include funding higher education, removing barriers to success in education and the workplace, and strengthening AAUW's reach in our local communities and across the country. AAUW remains committed to higher education as the key to women's equity. Your membership helps make that possible, and we thank you for joining.

We are so proud of the work that our branch is doing to fund our Tech Trek campers and several Local Scholarships. But we need members who can help with the everyday work of keeping the branch functioning, and we would love to have new members to join us and bring their ideas and enthusiasm. Over the next few months, the Board will be working on ways to recruit and retain new members, and we would love to hear any suggestions you may have.

See you September 13!

*Louise Quenon and Virginia Turner, Membership*

### ***AAUW MISSION STATEMENT***

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

## ***Current Interest Groups and Committees***

### ***Book Review***

We discuss any books we've been reading. Each member tells us about the book, whether they loved it or hated it. We learn about a variety of books we may want to read in the future, whether on Kindle, from the library, in print or electronic, even audio! We meet on the third Friday of each month at 10 a.m.

**Margaret Bard, 408-439-9398 or [margaretbard@gmail.com](mailto:margaretbard@gmail.com).**



### ***Bridge***



We currently have a duplicate group and two "social" groups and are always looking for more players to join our groups as regular members or subs. Each bridge group plays one afternoon per month.

**Louise Quenon, 408-867-0698 or [lquenon@comcast.net](mailto:lquenon@comcast.net).**

### ***Conversations in Spanish***

We meet via Zoom for about an hour and a half, on the first and third Tuesday afternoons each month, to chat in Spanish about all sorts of topics. Join us to practice your Spanish language skills.

*We are looking for someone to act as our group leader.*

**Laurie Lindsey (interim), 303-941-1956 or [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).**



### ***Film Buffs***



We meet the LAST Friday of the month to discuss movies we have seen in person, or on Netflix and other services, and alert other members to what we enjoyed (or didn't). Sometimes we do Zoom meetings or we go out to lunch.

**Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555 or [marlenela37@gmail.com](mailto:marlenela37@gmail.com)**

### ***Great Decisions***

This discussion program gives us opportunities to learn about 8 current world affairs and to give feedback to the Foreign Policy Association. Sessions are held February-May. A briefing book and a video provide background information for each topic.

**Ginger Good, 408-866-1331 or [villavis@ix.netcom.com](mailto:villavis@ix.netcom.com).**



### ***Local Scholarship Committee***



We award several scholarships to West Valley College women who are transferring to a 4-year college or university to continue their education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) or related fields. We meet once a year in March to review the applications and select the recipients.

**Laurie Lindsey, 303-941-1956 or [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).**

## ***Tech Trek Committee***



Tech Trek is a one-week residential camp held at Santa Clara University for girls who have completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade. The camp focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) to help girls realize that they can excel in these areas of study and may want to consider them for future academic studies. Volunteers are needed to interview applicants, serve as dorm moms, or help in many different ways.

**Cynthia Miller, 408-439-6530 or [cynthia@koshume.com](mailto:cynthia@koshume.com)**

## ***Travel “Armchair Adventures”***

Multi-media travel adventure programs, presented by AAUW members and friends, are offered on the first Friday of the month in October, November, and January through May, at 7:30 pm. via Zoom.

*We are looking for someone to coordinate this group.*

**Laurie Lindsey (interim), 303-941-1956 or [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).**



## ***Looking for Group Leaders***

Several groups are currently inactive because they do not have leaders. We would be happy to reactivate any of these groups if there is enough interest.

## ***Authors’ Lunch***



Invite three authors to speak to us about their books, how they got them published, back stories of characters or situations in the books. This has frequently been an opportunity to raise money for Local Scholarships but that is not required. Perfect for people who like to read!

## ***Out to Lunch***



Meet at local restaurants for good food and friendship. Try new restaurants or return to familiar places. Someone needs to collect RSVPs and make reservations at the selected restaurant. No cooking required. Perfect for anyone who likes to eat and socialize!

## ***Scenic Hikes and Walks***



Many, many thanks to **Jane Bishop and Kay Duffy** who have been organizing two adventures every month to local places of interest – parks, trails, historic spots -- for more than 25 years! However, they are no longer able to lead the group and hope that someone will step up and keep the group going. Jane and Kay have had lots of fun, made a lot of friends, and had some good adventures in that time. Perfect for anyone who likes to hike or walk!



## September, 2025

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- 2    **Tuesday**    **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom.** For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).
- 8    **Monday**    **Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 am** at the home of Louise Quenon. For more information, contact Louise at [lquenon@comcast.net](mailto:lquenon@comcast.net) or 408-867-0698.
- 13    **Saturday**    **Kick-off Meeting. 10:30 am to Noon,** Fellowship Hall, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 14103 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga CA 95070. Additional information can be found on the front page of this *Grapevine*. If you need a ride, please call Virginia Turner at 408-866-4234.
- 16    **Tuesday**    **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom.** For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).
- 17    **Wednesday**    **Virtual Program on Title IX.** Meets **5:30 pm to 7:00 pm** via Zoom. Panel discussion will explore the history of Title IX, current landscape, and the future challenges of Title IX. See front page of this *Grapevine* for additional information. ***Registration is required by September 15.***
- 19    **Friday**    **Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am.** Come to discuss any book, good or bad, with the group. For details, contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-439-9398 or [margaretbard@gmail.com](mailto:margaretbard@gmail.com). **Come and Find Your Next Great Read!**
- 26    **Friday**    **Film Buffs.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408- 497-1555, for details.

## *In Memoriam*

**Mary Sessler** graduated from San Jose State University with a BA in Education and served as an elementary school teacher in the Cupertino Union School District for 33 years. She joined AAUW in 1992 and enjoyed the bridge groups. She also loved her association with the Saratoga Foothill Club. She is survived by her husband Carl Sessler, sons Matt Buchanan and Mark Buchanan, and granddaughter Jessica Buchanan, along with sons Rob Sessler, Clint Sessler, and Chris Sessler. She was 87.

## October, 2025

- 6 **Monday** **Board Meeting.** Meets at **10 am via Zoom.** For more information please contact Laurie Lindsey at [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com) All members are welcome!
- 7 **Tuesday** **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets **3:00 – 4:30 pm via Zoom.** For more information, contact Laurie Lindsey at [lauriellindsey@gmail.com](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).
- 17 **Friday** **Book Review.** Meets at **10:00 am.** Discuss any book, good or bad, with the group. For details, contact Chair, Margaret Bard, 408-439-9398 or [margaretbard@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:lauriellindsey@gmail.com).
- 24 **Friday** **Film Buffs.** Contact Chair, Marlene Lamb, 408-497-1555, for details.



### *Please Welcome Our Newest Member*

Susie Woodford  
5138 Alan Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95124

Phone: 408-832-4131  
Email: [susiewoodford@att.net](mailto:susiewoodford@att.net)

Susie earned her BSN in Nursing from the American College of Education, her MSN in Nursing Administration from the American College of Education, and her Doctorate in Nursing Education from University of Nevada, Reno. She is currently working part time. She joined AAUW to make new friends and community connections.

### *Directory Corrections*



If you receive the *Grapevine* by mail, you will also receive the 2025-2026 directory by mail; if you receive the *Grapevine* by email, you also will receive the directory by email. Please take a minute and **double check** that your information is listed correctly, especially if you have recently moved or changed your phone or email.

Send any corrections or changes to Louise Quenon, our database manager, at 408-867-0698 or [lquenon@comcast.net](mailto:lquenon@comcast.net).

## ***Public Policy Committee News***

### ***Priority Bills for California Legislative Session***

The AAUW California Public Policy Committee follows several bills related to AAUW's mission and public policy priorities as they move through the legislative process. Here are some updates:



- **Support AB 1098:** “Pregnancy Protections for All Students Act” provides protections for pregnant undergraduate students akin to those offered to graduate students at public institutions in California. Requires colleges and universities to have more robust and effective means of informing students about their rights under federal and state law. The Bill is currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- **Support AB 418:** This bill would prohibit a health service provider from denying coverage for services based upon race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, including sexual preference or gender identity, intersex traits, and pregnancy. The bill is currently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **Support SB 771:** “Social Media Company May Be Liable for Civil Penalty for Unlawful Intimidation.” This AAUW CA cosponsored bill will clarify existing law to ensure that social media content that incites attacks or violent behavior against a specific community is actionable. It will increase financial penalties to more accurately reflect the real-time and potential harm caused by incendiary content which threatens individuals and communities. The Bill is currently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

### ***Strategic Priorities for National AAUW***

In a time of growing challenges to education access, AAUW renews our commitment to higher education as the key to equity and empowers a stronger, unified movement to create lasting change.

1. **Fund Higher Education:** Provide grants and fellowships for women in underserved communities and underrepresented fields like STEM; support women in academia and research; build networks for alumnae to lead and expand AAUW's impact globally.
2. **Remove Barriers to Success in Education and the Workplace:** Champion legislation supporting paid family and medical leave, paid sick days, pay equity, and workplace harassment protections; promote inclusive, safe, and accessible educational environments through enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws.
3. **Strengthen AAUW's Reach:** Support an effective network of states and branches through aligned strategies and initiatives; grow organizational sustainability through member engagement and impact evaluation.

If you are interested in Public Policy issues, please call me at 408-410-2582 or email me at [msmyrabeth@yahoo.com](mailto:msmyrabeth@yahoo.com) so we can develop a branch program of education and action.

*Myra Sternlieb, Public Policy Committee Chair*

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