



Empowering Women
since 1881



The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

October 2017

**WE ARE
FAMOUS**

**Our Membership/Tech Trek Luncheon
and Human Trafficking Event
made the news!**

Human Trafficking Event October 7th:

See page 3 for a note from Event Chair Martha Mangan

Santa Cruz Sentinel Article & photos, page A01, October 8th:

Santa Cruz, Monterey counties still hubs for human trafficking

[Click here to read the article](#)

Letter to the editor from Grace Gerbrandt & Barbara Lewis, October 13th:

Thank you for Covering Human Trafficking Event

[Click here to read the letter](#)



Santa Cruz detective Laurel Schonfield, one of the speakers at a panel presentation on the subject of ending human trafficking in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties, describes a daily caseload of human-trafficking cases. (Lucjan Szewczyk -- Santa Cruz Sentinel)

Membership/Tech Trek Luncheon September 23rd:

Don't miss page 4 for a message from Tech Trek Chair Kris Sheehan

Santa Cruz Sentinel Article in Namedropping, October 7th:

Supporting Young Females in STEM

[Click here to read the article](#)



AAUW: Empowering Women Since 1881

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held at 10 a.m., on the first Monday of each month. If you wish to be on the agenda, please contact the President in advance. All members are welcome to attend!

Officers and Committees: 2017-2018**President**

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open

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**President's message:**

Uh oh. Plato nailed it: "Wise people speak because they have something to say. Foolish people speak because they have to say something." The President's Message is supposed to "say something" worthy and appropriate, but what could be equal to this strange point in our history?

We're watching the Assaulter-In-Chief and his cronies like Betsy Devos, Scott Pruitt, Steve Bannon, Jeff Sessions assault and undo what we thought we'd gained in the last fifty years—women's rights, civil rights, educational advances, ecological protections, arms treaties.

It's tempting to sit on the sidelines in shocked disbelief, trying to make sense of it all. But AAUW doesn't sit it out. We get involved and stay involved. For 136 years, AAUW has been plugging away, chipping relentlessly at the barriers women face. Our membership and efforts help AAUW go forward with this task, advancing equity for woman and building a stronger, more just society. Even when—especially when—we face an Assaulter-in-Chief.

Needing wise words here, I'll rely on Helen Keller: "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Grace Gerbrandt

President, AAUW Santa Cruz County

Learn more about AAUW's ongoing fight. Become a two-minute activist by clicking [here](#), or sign up for email newsletter Mission & Action [here](#).

Human Trafficking Event

Human Trafficking Event, October 7th:

Many thanks to those that participated in the Oct 7th "Trafficking" event. It was well attended. Every chair was occupied. Our speakers were fantastic, Deborah Pembroke, a former victim, spoke eloquently of her experiences and also filled in for Monarch services describing their education programs, Nancy Stephens, a retired attorney, subbed for the DA, and the police department was represented by Detective Schonfield. A lively Q/A period was held and the comments by audience later implied they learned valuable information about the issue. Rising International presented a display of their work throughout the world as well as Dress a Girl Around the World spoke of their activities accompanied by a power point presentation.

Again both League of Women Voters and our members are to be commended for their willingness to participate in all areas: refreshments, publicity, set-up and clean-up. Our success depended on this. Kudos to all! -Martha Mangan

Santa Cruz Sentinel Article & photos, page A01, October 8th: [Click here to read the article](#)



Deborah Pembroke, a human trafficking survivor and chairwoman of Coalition to End Human Trafficking in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties, speaks at a panel presentation on the subject Saturday at Santa Cruz Police Department. (Lucjan Szewczyk -- Santa Cruz Sentinel)



Donna Waters, from the Dress a Girl Around the World Program, shows a map of global dress distribution by the charity Saturday at Santa Cruz Police Department during a presentation Saturday by the Coalition to End Human Trafficking in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. (Lucjan Szewczyk -- Santa Cruz Sentinel)



ONLY 60 PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE
VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOTS
IN 2016.

Only 60 percent of eligible voters cast their ballots in 2016.

The right to vote is an essential part of our democracy. During the 2016 election voters in many states faced [new restrictions](#) at the polls. Without the protections of the Voting Rights Act (which was [weakened](#) in a 2013 U.S. Supreme Court decision), new laws were enacted, producing a chaotic voting environment that confused voters and created unnecessary barriers to the ballot box. Voter suppression tactics such as voter identification laws make it increasingly difficult for Americans to vote — particularly people of color, older people, low-income people, and those living in rural America, some of whom may not have driver's licenses or any means of obtaining one. Women are also affected by these laws: For example, many women have changed their names after marriage but have not updated their ID cards to reflect that change. We need Congress to act now to uphold the fundamental right to vote.

[Urge your members of Congress to protect voting rights.](#)

Tech Trek News



The Fall Membership and Tech Trek luncheon, September 23rd recognized five girls who had been selected for the 2017 Tech Trek summer camp at Stanford, Camp Hopper.

It was a wonderful get together after a summer hiatus. Jane Amaral introduced the five girls who were excited to share with Members a few of their experiences from the week long camp. Each had picked a specific math or science area on which to concentrate, from Astronomy to Marine Biology and more.

To further add to the Members' STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering Math) knowledge, UCSC's Psychology Chair, Dr. Campbell Leaper and his Graduate Assistant Christine Starr shared details of their recent studies with high school students STEM motivation through student internships at UCSC; girls' involvement in STEM-related extra-curricular programs and exploring how biology classroom experiences may predict undergraduate women's and underrepresented students' sense of belonging and motivation in STEM. A spirited Q and A followed the talk enjoyed by the attendees.

We are very grateful to **Jean Gregson, Jamie Muzzio and Lynn Cummins** for their donations to Tech Trek at the luncheon.

We will be happy to accept donations throughout the year so that we can continue to provide scholarships for Santa Cruz County 7th grade girls to attend Tech Trek Camp Hopper in the summer of 2018.



You may donate either online or by check. When on AAUW online, designate Santa Cruz Tech Trek, Camp Hopper as the recipient. There is a new way to address a check donation. All checks for Tech Trek should be written to AAUW CA SPF with Santa Cruz County Tech Trek, Camp Hopper on the memo line. Checks should be mailed to Kris Sheehan, 215 Brodin La, Corralitos, CA 95076.

A great big Thank You to wonderful Tech Trek Committee members who helped with the luncheon: **Kathy Oing (who took great pictures), Jane Amaral (introducing the girls), Joan Rider, Susan Kettmann and Jean Gregson (hostessing.)**

Thank you Santa Cruz AAUW Members so very much for your continued support of girls and their interest in STEM, at a very important time of their lives.

Warmly, Kris

Santa Cruz Sentinel Article in Namedropping, October 7th:

Supporting Young Females in STEM

[Click here to read the article](#)



Local Scholarship News



Save the date: December 9, 2017 for our Holiday luncheon supporting the Local Scholarship Funds for re-entry women to UCSC and Cabrillo College.

We thank **Anne Sherwood, Anne McCallum, Lois Holcomb, Audrey Strayer & Dottie Smith** who have sent contributions to the fund recently.

For those of you who would like to make a contribution to this wonderful fund, please make out checks to AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch Local Scholarships & send to: Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

AAUW Fund News

Support us through AAUW Fund

You can...

Create change,

Advance equity,

Empower women and girls

With a single donation to AAUW Fund.

One AAUW. One Mission. One Fund

The AAUW Fund advances AAUW's mission by sustaining all our programs and activities. Your unrestricted gift to the AAUW Fund helps incubate and disseminate programs that

- above all, advance equity for women and girls
- strengthen AAUW's role in the global community
- respond to and eradicate the persistent challenges facing women and girls
- leverage new opportunities and attract new audiences to our mission

In short, the programs listed here get results for women and girls. And that's AAUW's top priority, now and in the future.

Gifts to the AAUW Fund are dispersed as needed to impactful projects that advance the mission of AAUW. Your undesignated donation will be used to support worthy programs. It is not necessary to be a member to contribute to the AAUW Fund; a tax-deductible gift of any amount will help this vital work. In 2015, California donors contributed over \$700,000 to the national AAUW Fund to benefit AAUW projects.

Join that crusading group and help provide opportunities for women. Your contribution will be well used for programs that matter.

You may donate online at: <http://www.aauw-ca.org/category/aauw-fund/>

Be sure to indicate: Santa Cruz County Branch on the information line, along with the name of a particular fund, if you wish.



Upcoming State Funds Luncheons, October 28th, 29th

AAUW AWARD LUNCHEONS October 28-27, 2017, South San Francisco and Danville.

The American Association of University Women is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women. This year AAUW awarded more than \$3.7 million in 241 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and non-profit organizations in the 2017-18 academic year.

Come hear some of the recipients report on their exciting work. If you'd like to help form a carpool, contact Grace Gerbrandt graceger@sbcglobal.net. The reservation deadline is October 18th. This is always an inspiring event.

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/event/northern-california-aauw-fund-luncheon/> SSF

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/event/northern-california-aauw-fund-luncheon-2/> Danville

Membership News

2017-2018 Membership Directory:

Once again, A HUGE THANK YOU to **Louanne Ellison** and her daughter for producing our 2017-2018 Member Directory. Those who are unable to attend the September 23rd meeting should have received their directory by personal delivery or US mail. Contact Louanne if you have any questions: 831 471 8381.

Additions and Changes:

Contact Louanne Ellison if your information is incorrect in any way at 831 471 8381 leaving a message with corrections if not answered or email louanneec@gmail.com. She will contact Debra Wallace with corrections.

Interest Group News



Bridge Group

Calling all bridge players. Currently we have one active bridge group which meets on the 2nd Monday of the month. In the past we have had at least 3 regular monthly groups plus a round robin group. We have had inquiries from 2 new members not attached to a regular AAUW bridge group. We need several more to start a regular group. If any members are interested in being in a monthly bridge group, please contact Jeanne Jorgensen, 477-7025, jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com

Reader's Theater

Dear AAUW actresses,

We will not meet in November, due to travel plans and other conflicts for our members. We will start the next play on the third Monday in December, which is December 18, with several major dramatic works being considered at the present time. Since "The Seagull" is a comedy, we did have some laughs while performing.

Cheers,
Barbara



New Interest Group—First Event:

FIELD TRIP INTEREST GROUP

PLACE: Sculpture Garden at [Sierra Azul Nursery](#), Watsonville —Hwy. 129
DATE: Tues. October 17th
TIME: 11:30 a.m.

Meet at Comerica Bank at corner of Main Street and Green Valley Road, Watsonville. We will go together from there. Bring a brown bag lunch.

Call or email me if interested or want more information or directions.

Jane Amaral
lvswamp@charter.net
359-3357

If you have something to share from your interest group's activities, send your write-ups and/or photos to Debra Wallace, dwallace@karonproperties.com.



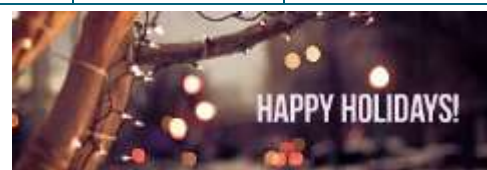
October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Bridge* 1pm Reader's Theater*	17 Field Trip to Sierra Azul*	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	27	28 AAUW Fund luncheon—SF
29 AAUW Fund luncheon—Danville	30	31 Halloween				

November 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 11:45 am Lunch Bunch*	3	4	
5 Daylight Savings Time ends	6 10am Board Meeting	7 7pm Evening Books*	8	9	10	11
12	13 Bridge*	14	15	16 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Happy Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		





AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch Interest Groups

All work and no play will make you dull--and to counteract that we have a variety of interest groups enjoyed by many of our members. Some have gone on for years!

Some of these groups are close to capacity (limited by how much room people have in their homes) but it's always possible to start a new section. If you're interested in starting a new group, check with Louanne Ellison, she will be able to give you some pointers.

Membership in these interest groups is a privilege of AAUW membership; you may bring a non-member guest three times but then we ask that they join AAUW if they wish to continue to attend. In order to attract new members and make AAUW's aims and goals more visible to the public, our lunches/meetings are open to the public.

Book Groups

Our book groups have become extremely popular. Numbers in the groups fluctuate, and if you're interested contact the leaders to see if there's an opening at your preferred time. A new group is not difficult to establish, that's how we ended up with three!

Tuesday Evening Books,

The Tuesday night Book Group will meet on November 7, 2017. All are welcome to join this lively group. Get in touch with Joan Schwimmer, joanschwimmer@hotmail.com, phone (408) 348-6472 for further information.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One, Leader Carole Beckett, phone 457-2992, email cabeckett@sbcglobal.net; We will meet on October 26th and November 16. Contact Carole for details.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section Two, Leader, Susan Elgin, phone (831) 335-7288, email elgin@cruzio.com. This group reads one book each month. Our upcoming meetings are on October 26th and November 16. Contact Susan for details.

Reader's Theater—see page 6 for details

To join and for further information, contact Barbara Lewis, chairperson of this interest group, by telephone at 335-7816 or by email at bobbi44@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch meets on the first Thursday of the month. All AAUW members are welcome to join us. Contact Kathy Oing irishpml@yahoo.com for more information.

Bridge—see page 6 for details

Bridge is coordinated by Jeanne Jorgensen. Contact her for details at Jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com, 831-477-7025.

Dining Out—Seeking a new leader This is a lot like Lunch Bunch except it's in the evening and spouses/partners are included. If you are interested in leading the group in trying different restaurants around town, contact former leader Linda Owens, 408-204-0408, jowens7069@aol.com.

Great Decisions

We'll meet in November to plan our next season. The date and place for this planning session will be emailed. Starting in January, Great Decisions will meet eight times to discuss topics selected by the Foreign Policy Association. New members and interested visitors are welcome. Contact Vickie Birdsall vickiebird-sall@yahoo.com or Grace Gerbrandt grace-ger@sbcglobal.net.

New Interest Group: Local Outings

FIELD TRIP INTEREST GROUP

PLACE: Sculpture Garden at Sierra Azul Nursery, Watsonville —Hwy. 129

DATE: Tues. October 17th

TIME: 11:30 a.m.

Meet at Comerica Bank at corner of Main Street and Green Valley Road, Watsonville. We will go together from there. Bring a brown bag lunch. Call or email me if interested or want more information or directions.

Jane Amaral
lvswamp@charter.net
359-3357



Branch Schedule

2017-2018



October	28	AAUW Fund Luncheon	San Francisco
	29	AAUW Fund Luncheon	Danville
	31	Halloween	
November	5	Daylight Savings Time ends	
	6	Board Meeting	
December	4	Board Meeting	
	9	Holiday Local Scholarships Luncheon Program: Fiat Musica, Fundraising Raffle	Seascope Golf Club
January	8	Board Meeting	
February	5	Board Meeting	
	TBA	Interbranch Council Luncheon	TBA
March	5	Board Meeting	
April	2	Board Meeting	
	10	Local Scholarships Dinner	Shadowbrook
	21	Annual Gen. Membership Business Meeting	Museum of Natural History
	27-29	State Convention	Irvine
May	7	Board Meeting	
	19	Local Scholarship Luncheon, Installation of Officers	Seascope Resort



In 2017, states passed 57 new abortion restrictions.

There's nothing more frightening than a politician who doesn't trust a woman to make her own informed choices about her health. But in 2017 we've seen repeated efforts at the state and federal levels to limit women's access to [reproductive health care](#), including access to birth control. Every woman should have the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the guidelines of her moral and religious beliefs.

[Stand up to attacks on reproductive rights.](#)



Help Us to Help Others

Our philanthropic projects benefit women of all ages,
both here at home and across the nation.

Make a donation to remember a family member, friend or colleague, or to honor a birthday, anniversary, graduation or other special occasion.

AAUW Fund

Make checks payable to
AAUW FUND and send to
Geraldine Williams
412 Rio Del Mar Blvd.
Aptos, CA 95003

*for AAUW Funds contributions, you may
mail your check or do it online on the
AAUW Website (at aauw.org - click on
Educational Funding)*

Local Scholarships

Make checks payable to
AAUW-LS and send to
Jeanne Jorgensen
270 19th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Tech Trek

(Girls Science Scholarships)

Make checks payable to
AAUW CA SPF, with Santa Cruz
County Tech Trek, Camp Hopper on
the memo line
and send to
Kris Sheehan
215 Brodin Lane
Corralitos, CA 95076

In Memory of/In Honor of _____
Send announcement to _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____



**AT THE CURRENT RATE OF
PROGRESS, THE GENDER PAY GAP
WON'T CLOSE UNTIL 2119.**



Research indicates it could be 102 years before women are paid as much as men.

New data show that women working full time in the United States typically are paid just 80 percent of what non-Hispanic white men are paid. Because of the gender pay gap women have less disposable income with which to repay their student loans, leaving them paying more and for a longer time than men. These setbacks compound over a lifetime and can lead to families' financial insecurity. That's why AAUW is fighting to close the pay gap by offering salary negotiation workshops; providing case support to plaintiffs seeking fair pay; and advocating legislative action on equal pay at the federal, state, and local levels.

[Join AAUW in the fight for fair pay.](#)