



Empowering Women
since 1881



The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

January 2018

ANNUAL INTERBRANCH COUNCIL LUNCHEON

When: Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018 @ 11:30 a.m.

Where: Bayonet & Blackhorse Golf Club Grill, 1 McClure Way, Seaside

What: Speech about being a Muslim Woman in America today

Who: [Maha Elgenaidi](#), founder & executive director, [Islamic Networks Group](#)

Maha Elgenaidi is the Executive Director of the Islamic Networks Group (www.ing.org), a non-profit organization with affiliates and partners around the country that are pursuing peace and countering all forms of bigotry through education and interfaith engagement while working within the framework of the First Amendment's protection of religious freedom and pluralism. Maha received an M.A. in religious studies from Stanford University and B.A. in political science and economics from the American University in Cairo. She has taught classes on Islam in the modern world at Santa Clara University, Stanford University, and the University of California at Santa Cruz, and has been recognized with numerous awards, including the "Civil Rights Leadership Award" from the California Association of Human Relations Organizations and "Citizen of the Year Award" from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Mail this form or a sheet of paper with the relevant information to reserve your lunch for this exciting event!

Please reserve _____ @ \$26 each. Total enclosed _____

Menu: Please mark your CHOICE of Stuffed Chicken Breast w/Roma tomatoes, jack cheese & basil in a whole grained mustard sauce _____

OR Grilled Portabella Mushroom Sandwich _____

All lunches include organic green salad w/candied walnuts, goat cheese & balsamic vinaigrette, served w/garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables & dinner rolls; chocolate cake w/raspberry sauce; iced tea & lemonade.

Member name _____

Guest _____

Phone# _____

RSVP by Feb. 20

Checks made out to: AAUW-MPB

Mail to: Nancy Soule, 504 Larkin St., Monterey, CA 93940

Reservations need to include your phone number on your check, MADE OUT to
AAUW MPB

ALL RESERVATIONS ARE PRE-PAID AND NON-REFUNDABLE

Contact Sharyn Siebert with any questions: 831-622-0425

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**

Grace Gerbrandt 423-9472
graceger@sbcglobal.net

President-Elect

open

Branch Treasurer

Darby Kremers 206-3623
dkrem19260@aol.com

Secretary

Kit Hein 854-2165
bythebeach15@gmail.com

Vice Presidents**Legal Advocacy**

open

Membership

Louanne Ellison-Cole 471-8381
louanneec@gmail.com

AAUW Fund

Geri Williams 708-4133
gerisjs@aol.com

Program

Trudie Fator 662-8960
trudelaf@aol.com

Appointed**By-Laws & IBC Liaison**

Lois Holcomb 688-0541
locomb@cruzio.com

Local Scholarships / Publicity

Jeanne Jorgensen 477-7025
jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com

Tech Trek

Kris Sheehan 915-3630
krissheehan@gmail.com

Co-Chair:

Geri Williams 708-4133
gerijs@aol.com

Hospitality

open

Historian

Nancy Stephens 423-4164
nstephensjd@gmail.com

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**President's message:**

Existential crisis? AAUW Branches are required to have a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Or they have to close down. Darby Kremers offers to continue as Treasurer for 2018 - 2019. Which leaves YOU the exciting opportunity to be next Branch President or Secretary and keep us in existence. No one has volunteered to be President or President-Elect *in the last five years.*

What's involved? Giving a few hours a month to support community and country. While others say "The sky is falling!", you get to help hold it in place.

AAUW is influential. We were quoted recently in the Washington Post regarding sexual assault. We were cited on PBS News Hour for our workshops in Boston on salary negotiation, on ABC regarding #metoo. The AAUW Executive Director was invited to the White House by President Obama to discuss budget priorities for women's affairs. When AAUW speaks, Congress listens. Click on <https://www.aauw.org/press/> to see our national impact.

Taking a position on the Board is important, stimulating, worthwhile. It's a privilege and a chance to work with an absolutely amazing group of dedicated women. For me personally, it's been rewarding and fun.

So this Spring, when our Nominating Committee contacts you, say "Yes! I want to do my part!" Or surprise a friend by volunteering her! (I'm kidding.)

Women hold up half the sky. Here's your chance to be a pillar.

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](#).

Membership News

A Warm Welcome to our newest member:

Deborah Jacobson

395 Camino Al Barranco

Watsonville, CA 95076

831-228-2542

Deborah.jacobson395@comcast.net



Please make a note of the information above in your directory.

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.

A Newcomer's Tea will be held on Sunday, January 21st from 2-4pm to welcome and get acquainted with our new members at Jeanne Jorgensen's home: 270 19th Ave Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

New members joining during 2016, 2017 and 2018 are invited to come. Some of the Board members will be attending to lend information about the ways you can participate in both the social groups and in the National, State and Branch activities, as well as a variety of other avenues, supporting the Advancement of Equity for Women and Girls through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research.

New members should have received a written invitation, but some invitations may have been lost in the holiday mail. Please be assured you are welcome and we hope you'll attend. Just let Louanne Ellison know by leaving your name at 831 471 8381.



With all of the distressing news out there these days, **Eileen Buron** shared this good news regarding her daughter **Melissa's** exciting new position at the Legion and de Young! As you will see from her welcome/introductory letter, **Melissa's** credentials and accomplishments are exemplary. We extend our congrats and very best wishes!

Dear Colleagues,

After an extensive search, I am pleased to announce that **Melissa Buron** will assume the role of Director, Art Division, effective January 2, 2018. Melissa will manage the administrative functions of the Art Division, essentially, matters of and coordination among Curatorial, Conservation, the Library, Photo Services and Publications. Her responsibility will also be to align the priorities of the Art Division within the overall strategic priorities of the Museums. Melissa will split her time between the Legion and the de Young. She will see through her scheduled exhibitions and will continue to stay involved in curatorial programming.

Melissa graduated magna cum laude from Brown University where she earned a BA with Honors in art history. She also holds an MA with Distinction in art history from the University of London, Birkbeck College, where she is currently enrolled as a PhD candidate. Melissa joined the Fine Arts Museums in June 2008, and her contributions have supported nearly twenty temporary exhibitions on subjects from the fifteenth to the nineteenth century. Her forthcoming projects include, Truth and Beauty: The Pre-Raphaelites and the Old Masters, an exhibition in summer 2018 on the Pre-Raphaelites and their sources of inspiration, and a monographic exhibition about James Tissot (1836-1902), scheduled for spring 2020, which will be co-organized with the Musée d'Orsay.

Please join me in welcoming Melissa to this exciting new position at the Museums.

Sincerely,
Charlie

Charles M Castillo
Director of Human Resources and Administration
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
de Young and Legion of Honor

Attention Branch Members:

A few of us are going to represent AAUW there (t-shirts, signs, etc.) and would love to have company. If anyone is interested in joining us, please call or text me 925-305-6301 for meet-up location. Thanks. -Kit Hein

SANTA CRUZ WOMEN'S MARCH



20th January 2018

@ 10am **Pre-March Activities on Cooper St. At the front of the MAH**
Local artists and friends are facilitating family friendly interactive art activities. Sidewalk chalk drawing • face painting • large-scale printmaking, and more.

@ 11am **MARCH Attendees will gather Downtown, Santa Cruz on Pacific Ave at Locust**

@ 12pm **THE MARCH BEGINS**

Guest Musicians **Post March at Louden Nelson Center @1pm**

- Taylor Rae
- Carolyn Sills Combo
- Coffis Brothers & Mt.Men
- Tammi Brown
- Green Dog

Local Performers

- Watsonville Taiko Drummers
- Senderos dancers

Speakers

- Bettina Aptheker
- Brenda Griffin
- Gail Pellerin
- Judith Estrada
- DACA Recipients

TACOS FRIES SALADS



SANDWICHES WRAPS

Food Trucks A Go Go a local food truck event company will be bringing food to our 2018 event, providing a delicious experience of Santa Cruz County food trucks!

THIS IS A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT! All are welcome. Along the march route you'll see expressions of resistance from many of our local artists.

March in solidarity with your community in support of, those who are at risk, who are frightened for their future. For our children, our wellbeing and a sustainable planet.

If you're passionate about making a change in 2018 for the better - come and celebrate the continuing resistance.

Santa Cruz Women's March - BE THE CHANGE 2018
SCCWOMENSMARCH.ORG

Join us as we move into PRO-ACTIVISM!
48 non-profit community heroes will be at Louden Nelson sharing how you can be effective!

Local Scholarship News

Our annual Holiday luncheon supporting the Local Scholarship Funds for re-entry women to UCSC and Cabrillo College was, as usual, a great event. 55 attendees enjoyed music by Fiat Musica, bought raffle ticket & won great prizes; we netted over \$1000 for our scholarship award. Several members made generous donations to our fund so we thank **Audrey Strayer, Beth Svee, Pat Nellany, Mary K Simpson, Lois Holcomb and Lorraine Margon.**

See page 6 for excerpts from thank you letters we've received from grateful scholars.

If you would like to make a contribution to this wonderful fund, make out a check to AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch - Local Scholarships & send to: Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Holiday Party Snaps—Thank you Historian Nancy Stephens

Click here to view full size album: [Holiday Party 2017](#)



Tech Trek News

Hello 2018!

As you know from past Beacons we set a goal of being able to send 6 Santa Cruz County girls to Tech Trek Camp Hopper at Stanford this coming summer at a cost of \$1,000 per girl. (Parents pay \$50.)

The Good News, we are almost halfway there!!! However, as we need to send the funds to the camp by March 1, we still have a long way to go before the due date!

Please think of contributing your tax deductible donation and writing a check to AAUW CA SPF. It is a 501 3c fully deductible charity. Tax ID 68-0463071. Checks should be written to AAUW CA SPF (Tech Trek on the memo line) and sent to Kris Sheehan, 215 Brodin La, Corralitos, CA 95076.

We really appreciate all your past, and future support for Tech Trek, giving Santa Cruz County young women an opportunity to experience STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). It has proven to make a huge difference in their lives and future.

We received donations from Patricia Nellany, Lorraine Margon, Kit Hein, Lois Holcomb and so far in January. We are extremely appreciative of their generosity and support for the Tech Trek girls.

I participated in an AAUW National call this week with AAUW Corporate Development, Cece Cizek discussing Grants and Corporate Sponsorship. We have identified a few available local grants. We would love to have help in Grant Writing, if any members have ex-

perience and would like to give us a hand. Please email me at krisrsheehan@gmail.com if you can help.

The Tech Trek Committee has begun the Tech Trek girls' selection process this month by contacting county schools and teachers. Following teacher nomination, the Committee will be hard at work reading and reviewing the applications the girls submit. From the applications which include essays on their interest in science, and or math and computers, around half of the girls are chosen to be interviewed. We'll keep you up to date with our progress.

-Kris Sheehan,
Tech Trek
Chair



Local Scholarship News Cont'd



We received thank you letters from some of the women who received scholarships at our Local Scholarship Luncheon last May. All were extremely effusive in their thanks to AAUW Santa Cruz Branch for supporting them in their educational endeavors. Here are excerpts from those we received. The complete letters will be available for view at future meetings.

Mayre A. Renteria

“...express my heartfelt gratitude for awarding me the ...Endowed Scholarship. Your generous gift toward my education is turning my dreams into reality.” (She is training to be a Radiologist & plans on becoming a licensed Sonographer after she transfers to Foothill College.)

Stacey Bucher

“My lifelong dream of becoming a nurse is becoming a reality thanks to generous educational scholarships like yours (I am a) young mother of two children...Cabrillo College not only offers reasonable class fees but is part of our bigger community...your investment in my success motivates me to keep doing my absolute best”

Thayara Almeida

“...express my gratitude...this donation...will allow me to achieve my dreams and make them a reality... to reach my educational & career goals of becoming an Environmental Engineer....I plan on transferring to Cal Poly, UC Davis or San Jose State for ...Civil Engineering (then) graduate school (for a degree in) Environmental Engineering...Knowing that there are people in this world that want me to succeed is an enormous motivator.”

Araceley Contreras

“I am a re-entry student (with) two amazing children. I graduated from Cabrillo (in) Sociology & Liberal Arts. I am ..a transfer student at (UCSC). It has always been a dream to attend UCSC...(and I hope to receive) a degree in Community Studies & Sociology. My goal is to start up my own organization dedicated to youth empowerment. ...I am excited to start a new chapter in my life and will work hard on succeeding for myself, my children and the youth I work with.”

Jaraclia Iturrios

“I come from a big family (14th of 18; mother died when Jaraclia was 21)...as a child achieving a dream in a professional career looked impossible for me...(however receiving) this scholarship gave me the opportunity to follow my dream. I feel like I would have died without this help. (Now) I can pursue by goal to achieve an AA degree and bachelor's degree in Accounting. Thank you for hearing my voice and for believing in me.”

Brandi Farrar

“...Without your support, continuing my education would be financially even more difficult than it is already. I feel very lucky to receive support from a wonderful organization of women who value educational achievement....My focus is on getting into the masters occupational therapy program at San Jose State University...There are no college graduates in my family and only a handful of high school graduates. ..So,..it really is an honor to receive this special award to assist....my hope for the future.”

Public Policy News



Tell Congress: Stand Up for Dreamers! Pass the Dream Act Without Amendment

For the past five years, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program has provided nearly 800,000 recipients the ability to attend school, go to work, and contribute to our economy without fear of deportation. But with a simple swipe of the pen, President Trump has [moved toward ending the DACA program](#), taking with it the opportunity for thousands of immigrants to achieve the American Dream.

DACA recipients - also known as Dreamers - are an integral part of our communities. Ninety-seven percent are either in school or employed. One-quarter are enrolled in institutions of higher education while another third are in high school and considering their options for postsecondary education and career training. AAUW understands the impact that education has on the lives of students and on the nation's overall prosperity and strength. The DACA program has opened the doors to higher education for thousands of Dreamers, while developing a skilled workforce prepared to compete in the global economy. Our commitment to increasing opportunities in education for all women and girls stands firm.

The President's decision to end DACA is both morally and fiscally irresponsible and Congress must take action. Tell Congress we must protect Dreamers and pass the Dream Act today! The Dream Act is a bipartisan, bicameral bill that would offer many, including DACA recipients, protection from deportation while allowing them to continue to access education or work and contribute to our society. Our higher education system and our economy are stronger because of the contributions of DACA recipients.

Send a message to your members of Congress that urges their support for a clean Dream Act. We encourage you to personalize AAUW's draft letter before submitting.

Click here to take action: [Two-minute Activist: Support Clean Dream Act](#)

Our 2017 Impact!



17,000

People learned to negotiate their salary through AAUW workshops.



\$3.7 MILLION

Was awarded to women & community projects.



270,000

Messages were sent to lawmakers by AAUW Members & supporters.

[HELP AAUW DO EVEN MORE IN 2018](#)




January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
14	15 MLK Day Reader's Theater*	16	17	18 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	19	20 Women's March
21 New Member Tea	22	23	24	25	26 Great Deci- sions*	27
28	29	30	31			



February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 11:30 Lunch Bunch *	2 9:30 Easy Walking Group*	3 1pm Human Trafficking committee*	
4	5 10am Board Meeting	6 7pm Evening Books*	7	8	9 Great Deci- sions*	10
11	12 12pm Bridge*	13	14 	15 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	16	17
18	19 Reader's Theater*	20	21	22	23 Great Deci- sions*	24 IBC Event, see pg. 1
25	26	27	28			



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 luncheons/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 February 6, 2018 at Joyce Hopkins home, 251 Beach Pines Drive, Aptos. We will be discussing STRANGERS IN THEIR OWN LAND, by Arlie Hochschild. Vickie Birdsall will lead the discussion Call 638-2397 for directions. All are welcome to join this lively group. Get in touch with Joan Schwimmer, joanschwimmer@hotmail.com for further information.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One, Leader Carole Beckett, phone 457-2992, email cabeckett@sbcglobal.net; We will meet on January 18 and February 15. 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 January 18 and February 15. Contact Susan for details.

Reader's Theater

Our next meetings will be on January 15 and February 19. 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

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

GREAT DECISIONS begins its 2018 Season on Friday, January 26, 10 am.

January 26 TOPIC: CHINA AND AMERICA: The New Geopolitical Equation

Discussion Leader: Barbara Lewis Hostess: Vickie Birdsall

February 9 TOPIC: RUSSIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

Discussion Leader: Joan Schwimmer Hostess: Grace Gerbrandt

For information, contact graceger@sbcglobal.net, vickiebirdsall@yahoo.com

Local Outings

FIELD TRIP INTEREST GROUP

Stay tuned for exciting upcoming field trips after the holidays! Contact Jane Amaral with questions or suggestions: lvswamp@charter.net 359-3357

Human Trafficking Committee

The Human Trafficking Committee meets the first Saturday of every month, 1PM, 201 Prospect Hts. Contact Martha Mangán, tel # 425-1306, for more details.

Easy Walking Group

A new Easy Walking Group has formed. Our next meeting is February 2nd walk at Rio Del Mar State Beach

Meet at parking lot/beach entrance at 9:30 a.m.

Coffee afterward at Pixie Deli nearby.

Notify Louanne Ellison- louanneec@gmail.com -471-8381 or Audrey Strayer molliej6@cruzio.com --475-9073 if you will be there.

Some areas we propose to walk are Rio Del Mar, West Cliff, San Lorenzo river beginning near the ocean, Arana Gulch and we are welcoming other ideas.



Branch Schedule

2018



January	21	New Member Tea	Home of Jeanne Jorgensen
February	5	Board Meeting	CFSCC—Couch room
	24	Interbranch Council Luncheon	Bayonet and Blackhorse Golf Club Grill
March	5	Board Meeting	CFSCC—Couch room
April	2	Board Meeting	CFSCC—Couch room
	10	Local Scholarships Dinner	Shadowbrook
	21	Annual Gen. Membership Business Meeting	Museum of Natural History
	27-29	State Convention	Irvine
May	7	Board Meeting	CFSCC—Couch room
	19	Local Scholarship Luncheon, Installation of Officers	Seascape Resort

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.

GIVE
TO AAUW

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 Web-
site (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 _____