



Empowering Women
since 1881



The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

March 2018



APRIL 10: LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS EVENING AT THE SHADOWBROOK

Arrange your own table with friends, or join an AAUW table. Call Jeanne Jorgensen. 477-7025.

APRIL 14: A VOTER'S GUIDE TO NEWS SOURCES

Our Branch is co-sponsoring this event with the League of Women Voters. Susan Kettmann, who is a member of AAUW and the League of Women Voters, will give a Media Overview as part of the program. Santa Cruz Public Library, 224 Church Street. Upstairs Meeting Room.



11:45 AM to 1:30 PM. Bring a sack lunch, if you like. See flyer on pg. 4.

APRIL 21: ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & MUSEUM TOUR

COME JOIN US AND CELEBRATE OUR SANTA CRUZ
AAUW BRANCH AND OUR COMMUNITY MUSEUM!

705 FRONT STREET, SANTA CRUZ

DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN NEXT MONTH'S BEACON

APRIL 21, 2018 11:30 AM

LUNCH, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, BUDGET & TOUR OF THE MUSEUM



Santa Cruz
Museum of
Art & History
at the McPherson Center

Greetings to all members from your very enthusiastic and committed nominating committee. We are working very hard to choose our most inspired and creative leadership for AAUW Santa Cruz next year.

Some board members are staying on while many new faces will be seen. While some things will change, they will continue to represent our membership by advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy & research. Come on down and get involved. We need your help and support to continue our important work with local scholarships, Tech Trek for girls and to end sex trafficking in this county.

If you're interested in serving on the 2018-2019 Board (and please say "YES!"), contact Lois Holcomb locomb@cruzio.com 688-0541 or offer to help with even one small event, like greeting people at one of our Membership Luncheons. It's fun, it's easy, it feels good to get involved. Ask Lois about one-time opportunities.

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
krisssheehan@gmail.com

Hospitality

open

Historian

Nancy Stephens 423-4164
nstephensjd@gmail.com

Communications

Debra Wallace 325-9948
dwallace@karonproperties.com

Beacon Mailing (Postal)

Liz Thorington 408-353-3185
elizabeththorington@yahoo.com

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

President's message:

November 28, 1881 was a fateful day.

Marion Talbot, the first woman to receive a degree in Chemistry, had been corresponding with Ellen Swallow Richards, first woman to graduate from MIT. Frustrated by lack of opportunity for women, the two women invited 15 alumnae from eight colleges to meet in Boston, and *The Association of Collegiate Alumnae or ACA (AAUW's predecessor organization)* was founded. Committed to overcoming barriers to women's education and advancement, the movement spread rapidly.

They faced astonishing discrimination. At that time, it was widely believed that a woman attending college would become infertile, a myth advanced by Harvard-educated physician, Edward Clarke. An ACA committee sent questionnaires to 1,290 members, and showed definitively that higher education did not harm women's health. The data was published in 1885, the start of many research projects conducted by AAUW in its history. (Fun fact: in 1919, the ACA helped raised \$156,413 to purchase a gram of radium for Marie Curie to continue her work.)

In the 1900s, quotas limited the number of women permitted to enroll. Women were allowed only certain classes and majors. Florence Bascom, the first woman admitted to graduate school at Johns Hopkins University, had to sit behind a screen so her presence wouldn't "disrupt" male students. Much of AAUW's work has focused on examining and remedying such inequalities.

With its outstanding history, AAUW now has branches in every state. 170,000 members and supporters, more than 100 student organizations, 800 college and university members, AAUW has awarded more than \$100 million to women scholars and their projects. Title IX, which AAUW worked hard to pass, guarantees equal access to federally funded higher education programs and a safe educational environment.

So thank you, Marian Talbot and Ellen Swallow Richards. You were true visionaries.

Thank you, AAUW, for persevering and continuing their work. We are the grateful beneficiaries.

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](#).

Local Scholarship News



REMEMBER...April 10 is when we have our dining out night at Shadowbrook. Make up a table and phone the restaurant for a reservation, 831-475-1511. If you want to find a group to join, call Jeanne Jorgensen; don't miss out on this great dining adventure. Shadowbrook donates 1/3 of your bill to local scholarships, even meals eaten in the bar (not including bar specials.)

Thanks to **Mary Lou Stewart and Debra Wallace** for making donations to this fine cause this past month.

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.

Tech Trek News

What a busy month for Tech Trek!

Our Tech Trek Committee: Jean Gregson, Jane Amaral, Kit Hein, Lynn Barry and Geri Williams met and reviewed all the applications and essays from the 7th grade Santa Cruz girls nominated by their teachers, to compete for AAUW Tech Trek scholarships to Camp Hopper at Stanford.

After hours of deliberation over the girls' submissions, we set up interviews for 19 girls in South county, March 10th and North County on the 17th. As we interview, we will look for girls who not only excel in math and science, and may not have an opportunity for this in depth college camp experience, but who are passionate about trying to change the world through STEM.

Once the interviews are completed, we will select six girls and two alternates to represent Santa Cruz County AAUW at Camp Hopper. The scholarship winners will be notified in early April.

We decided that there were such outstanding candidates this year that, for the first time we would send six, rather than 5 girls (as in the past). This will reduce our Branch Tech Trek fund total, leaving little toward next year's, 2019 Camp Hopper commitment.

We fundraise year round to provide the funds for the Tech Trek camp experience. Recently you will have received a request by USPS mail, asking for you to donate to Tech Trek. As the cost for each girl selected to Camp Hopper is \$1000, (which the Branch underwrites), I hope you will continue to generously support Tech Trek efforts for the coming year. Thank you to those who have already responded to our efforts.

You may make your tax deductible donation by writing a check to AAUW CA SPF. It is a 501 3c fully deductible charity, Tax ID 68-0463071 and sending them to Kris Sheehan, 215 Brodin La, Corralitos, CA 95076.

The Tech Trek girls who may become future math, science or computer science successes will appreciate your help.

Thanks so very much to **Jane Amaral, Shari Hastings and Stephany Aguilar** who made generous donations to Tech Trek in February.

While requesting use of Scotts Valley Rec Center for our interviews in North County, **Jean Gregson** discussed AAUW Tech Trek so convincingly that a Scotts Valley City Council member, **Stephany Aguilar**, wrote a personal check in support of the program. Thank you Jean!

Thank you all for your continuing interest in Tech Trek.

-Kris



Fascinating article courtesy of our Facebook editor, Lorraine Margon, demonstrates why programs like Tech Trek are so important:

In Iran, nearly 70% of university graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are women—a higher percentage than in any other country. Nearby Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are close, each boasting over 60% female graduates in science, still more of the rest of the world. Click here to read the full article: <https://qz.com/1223067/iran-and-saudi-arabia-lead-when-it-comes-to-women-in-science/>

*Susan Kettmann, who is a member of AAUW and the League of Women Voters, will give a Media Overview as part of the program:

A VOTER'S GUIDE TO NEWS SOURCES

Distinguishing fact from fiction in a changing media landscape

Saturday

April 14, 2018

11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.

**Santa Cruz Library
Downtown Branch
Meeting Room**

224 Church Street • Santa Cruz • California



Overwhelmed by news media saturated with partisanship, pundits, and infotainment?

Learn how to find high-quality journalism, stay well-informed, and keep up with breaking news. Find out how six mega-corporations have come to own 90% of US news and entertainment media.

Our featured speaker, Lyle Troxell, host of the radio show/podcast Geek Speak, has been talking about the intersection of media and technology for 18 years.

Attendees may bring their own lunch.

For more information:

lwvsc.org/calendar league@lwvsc 831-325-4140

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

AAUW
Santa Cruz County (CA) Branch

Human Trafficking Committee News

End Human Trafficking Committee is moving forward. Our committee is now working with the District Attorney's office of our county to implement the posting requirements of SB1193. This law requires all designated businesses to post notices describing how and what to do if trafficking is observed. Louden Nelson will host a Human Trafficking workshop, sponsored by law enforcement, on the 24th of March, 11-5: Register at www.coalitiontoendhumantrafficking.org. The public is invited.

Mark your October calendar for an event on October 20th. Shared Hope, a national organization, will provide a speaker, member of DA office, Santa Cruz County Board of Education and child welfare will comprise a panel to address local concerns. A film "Chosen-A Documentary by Shared Hope International" will be shown. Information on prevention will be the focus.

An ongoing project for the committee is posting the hotline number required by California law in the appropriate locations. We are joined by a group from Faith Community Church. This project requires many volunteers and footwork. We welcome help. Please join us at monthly meeting, 201 Prospect Hts, 1PM, 1st Saturday of month, April 7th.

AAUW Fund News

Geri Williams, branch VP of AAUW Funds, wishes to thank Linda Melton for her generous donation.

Thank you!

Public Policy News

Will you commit to fighting back for students' rights?



Plain and simple: students should be able to go to schools free from sex discrimination.

But U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos has [already taken action](#) to roll back protections for survivors of sexual assault under the law. The Department of Education has stated that it plans to change Title IX's regulations, which could weaken students' civil rights and federal enforcement of Title IX. They've indicated the process could start as early as this month. We're ready to fight back. Are you?

Instances of sexual violence and discrimination interfere with students' ability to learn, and they have no place in our schools. **We must speak out against any attacks on Title IX that attempt to diminish protections for students.**



1. [Click here to read up on Secretary DeVos' actions and what they mean for equitable access to education for women and girls.](#)
2. [Then, pledge to take part in AAUW's campaign to protect Title IX.](#) We'll provide you with timely reminders, tools, talking points, and resources you need to make your voice heard once the Department of Education kicks off the regulatory process.

Now is our opportunity to let the Department of Education know we won't stand for any rollbacks to students' Title IX rights. Commit to speaking up to protect equity in education during this critical time.

TAKE ACTION!



March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11	12 12pm Bridge*	13	14	15	16	17 
18	19 Reader's Theater*	20	21	22 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	23 Great Decisions*	24 11am Human Trafficking Workshop,
25	26	27	28	29	30 	31

**SHE BELIEVED
SHE COULD,
SO SHE DID.**

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 10am Board Meeting	3 7pm Evening Books*	4	5 11:30 Lunch Bunch *	6 9:30 Easy Walking Group*	7 1pm Human Trafficking committee*
8	9	10	11	12	13 Great Decisions*	14 11:45am AAUW/ LWV Event, see pg. 4
15	16 12pm Bridge* Reader's Theater*	17	18	19 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	20	21 11:30 Annual Bus. Meeting, see pg. 1
22	23	24	25	26	27 Great Decisions*	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 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 April 3, 2018 at 7pm. We will be discussing THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DEVOS by Dominic Smith. Our discussion leader will be Eileen Buron and we will meet at Louanne Ellison's home, 1421 Chanticleer, SC. For directions, call 471-8381. 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 March 22 and April 19. 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 March 22 and April 19. Contact Susan for details.

Reader's Theater

Our next meetings will be on March 19 and April 16. 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.

Adventure Group

Stay tuned for upcoming adventures. CALL OR TEXT JANE at 359-3357 OR email at lvswamp@charter.net to join the group.

Human Trafficking Committee

The Human Trafficking Committee meets the first Saturday of every month, 1PM, 201 Prospect Hts. Contact Martha Managan, tel # 425-1306, for more details. See page 5 for announcements.

Easy Walking Group

Next month's April 6 walk will be at Santa Cruz Wharf--parking across street from surfer statue--

Rain cancels--

Contact info same--Audrey or Louanne.

Notify Louanne Ellison- louanneec@gmail.com -471-8381 or Audrey Strayer molliej6@cruzio.com --475-9073

if you will be there.

Great Decisions

Great Decisions will meet on the following **Fridays, 10 am - 12 pm.**

Visitors and new members are welcome.

VickieBirdsall@yahoo.com or graceger@sbcglobal.net for more information.

March 23 TOPIC: U.S. GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND THE MILITARY

Discussion Leaders: Martha Ashelman and Kathy Donovan

April 13 TOPIC: GLOBAL HEALTH: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

Discussion Leader: Kit Hein

April 27 TOPIC: THE WANING OF PAX AMERICANA

Discussion Leader: Lorraine Margon

May 11 TOPIC: SOUTH AFRICA'S FRAGILE DEMOCRACY

Discussion Leader: Darby Kremers

For information, contact graceger@sbcglobal.net, vickiebird-sall@yahoo.com



Branch Schedule

2018



March	WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH		
.....			
April	2	Board Meeting	CFSCC—Couch room
	10	Local Scholarships Dinner	Shadowbrook
	14	Voter's Guide Event with LWV	SC Library, upstairs
	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.

<p>AAUW Fund Make checks payable to AAUW FUND and send to Geraldine Williams 412 Rio Del Mar Blvd. Aptos, CA 95003</p> <p><small>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)</small></p>	<p>Local Scholarships Make checks payable to AAUW-LS and send to Jeanne Jorgensen 270 19th Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95062</p>	<p>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</p>
--	--	--

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