



Empowering Women  
since 1881



# The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

May / June 2018



SAVE  
the  
DATE

**September 15, 2018**

**Tech Trek 20 year Anniversary in Santa Cruz:  
We will be Celebrating the Past with Eyes to the  
Future!**

We will highlight New Member welcomes, Interest Group discussions and signups at our pre-luncheon get together. You won't want to miss it.

Details and reservation form to follow in your August Beacon.

For current, impressive Tech Trek news, see page 6!



*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: 2018****President**

Grace Gerbrandt 423-9472  
[graceger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:graceger@sbcglobal.net)

**President-Elect**

*open*

**Branch Treasurer**

Darby Kremers 206-3623  
[dkrem19260@aol.com](mailto:dkrem19260@aol.com)

**Secretary**

Kit Hein 854-2165  
[bythebeach15@gmail.com](mailto:bythebeach15@gmail.com)

**Vice Presidents****Legal Advocacy**

*open*

**Membership**

Louanne Ellison-Cole 471-8381  
[louanneec@gmail.com](mailto:louanneec@gmail.com)

**AAUW Fund**

Geri Williams 708-4133  
[gerisjs@aol.com](mailto:gerisjs@aol.com)

**Program**

Trudie Fator 662-8960  
[trudelaf@aol.com](mailto:trudelaf@aol.com)

**Appointed****By-Laws & IBC Liaison**

Lois Holcomb 688-0541  
[locomb@cruzio.com](mailto:locomb@cruzio.com)

**Local Scholarships / Publicity**

Jeanne Jorgensen 477-7025  
[jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com)

**Tech Trek**

Kris Sheehan 915-3630  
[krissheehan@gmail.com](mailto:krissheehan@gmail.com)

**Hospitality**

*open*

**Historian**

Nancy Stephens 423-4164  
[nstephensjd@gmail.com](mailto:nstephensjd@gmail.com)

**Communications**

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**Beacon Mailing (Postal)**

Liz Thorington 408-353-3185  
[elizabeththorington@yahoo.com](mailto:elizabeththorington@yahoo.com)

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

**Message TO the President**

This is traditionally where you would find our President's message, but our outgoing President Grace Gerbrandt's message was so good, your Beacon editor felt it needed a page all its own (see next page).

Instead, this space will be used as a **Message to the President**, to express a heartfelt thanks to Grace Gerbrandt for her tireless efforts on behalf of our mission and our branch.

Under Grace's leadership the past two years, we have furthered the goals of our mission and have enjoyed broader community exposure.

Grace—THANK YOU from all of us for your outstanding work!

**Welcome to our new 2018-2019 Board:**

President (shared by): Mary Maier

Judy Cavin Brown

Audrey Strayer

President—Elect: TBA

Membership VP: Mary Lou Stewart

AAUW Funds VP: Marilee Werfhorst

Treasurer: Darby Kremers

Secretary: Jane Eckman

*Appointed officers to be announced by the new board. - Lois Holcomb, Nominating Committee Chair*



## President's Message

This is the last issue of *The Beacon* for the season, my last President's Message, and a good time to review our Branch's accomplishments. The Board and Committee members worked hard this year to strengthen the Santa Cruz County Branch and to make AAUW more visible to the larger community.

**Our results?** We co-sponsored two well-attended community events with the League of Women Voters on *Human Trafficking and Distinguishing Fact in the Media from Fake News*.

Our **End Human Trafficking Committee** works with the District Attorney's office to get rescue information to victims of trafficking. They have an upcoming event, open to the public, to help end the exploitation of children: October 20th, 2018, Saturday 1-4. "Chosen: The True Story of America's Teen Trafficking." A panel of local experts will address local trafficking concerns. Our committee, led by Martha Mangan with Kit Hein, needs *your help with refreshments for the event. This is an easy, one-time chance to do something important for the community. Watch The Beacon for more information or contact Martha, mmanganesesc7@gmail.com.*

Our **Local Scholarship Committee** awarded *eleven scholarships to women re-entering Cabrillo College and women going on to four year colleges, this year to UCSC.* One of AAUW's primary goals is furthering the education of women and this committee's work has been outstanding. Our gratitude and the community's gratitude go to Jeanne Jorgensen, Dorothy Patrick, Jane Amaral, and their many assistants.

Kris Sheehan reports that our **Tech Trek Committee** had had "fabulous" response and generous support from our Branch members. They report a solid beginning for Tech Trek 2019. For 2018 our Branch of AAUW, Santa Cruz County, is sending *six girls to the STEM Tech Trek camp this summer at Stanford University. This is a major accomplishment, surpassing many of the larger Branches, and we thank Kris Sheehan and her committee.*

We thank all of our Board Members. This is an amazing group of women, volunteers, who show up and work hard to make it all happen. And to have many good laughs in the process.

We are justifiably proud of our Branch's accomplishments. I'm pleased to tell you that AAUW at the California State Level is also very impressed with our Branch.

It's with great pleasure I report that the **California American Association of University Women** has recognized our **Santa Cruz County Branch**, awarding us a **Certificate of Recognition** for our "**outstanding Mission-based program.**" Congratulations to our Board and Committee members for their remarkable achievements and for gaining us statewide attention.

And congratulations to you, our members, for making this work possible. With your energy and support you belong to the nation's number one advocacy group for women's rights and equity. Your membership links you with AAUW women in every state of the nation, and with women in more than 52 countries around the world. You're important. You're needed. Thank you for letting me be part of your accomplishments for the last two years. Let's continue the good work!

-Grace Gerbrandt

## Membership News

### AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2019

If you haven't renewed your membership already, now is the time!

Current dues: National \$59 + State \$20 + local \$16 = \$95

You can renew online by visiting: <https://ww2.aauw.org/national-renew/>

If you need assistance with your member number, please contact Membership Chair Louanne Ellison, 831-471-8381, [louanneec@gmail.com](mailto:louanneec@gmail.com)

If you prefer to renew by mail, please send a check for \$95 payable to AAUW SC County to our Treasurer:

Darby Kremers

2030 N. Pacific #117

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Tel# (831) 206-3623

E-mail [dkrem19260@aol.com](mailto:dkrem19260@aol.com)



The National Headquarters for AAUW is proposing three amendments to their Bylaws to be voted on by the entire membership.

- 1) create three-year staggered board terms for National
- 2) open National board positions to those outside of the AAUW membership,
- 3) eliminate college degree requirement for membership..."

This third amendment generates the most discussion among our Branch members. One of AAUW's primary goals is to advance education for women. Currently membership in AAUW requires a college degree, or an AA degree from a Junior College, or a professional degree such as Registered Nurse, etc. Be sure to think about this measure and cast your vote accordingly.

It's important that our Branch members vote. AAUW has done a great job of making online voting extremely easy. Usually all it takes is a few clicks on their website.

Voting closes June 9. Please vote! Click here:

**VOTE NOW**

It's easy. It's important. Thank you.



## State Election Highlight

Our very own IBC director **Sharyn Siebert** was duly elected as one of five of new State Directors, for the 2018-2020 term on April 27, 2018 at our State Convention in Irvine.

You can read Sharyn's impressive bio here: <http://www.aauw-ca.org/sharyn-siebert-2018-election-bio/>

Congratulations to Sharyn and thank you for your service!



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## Human Trafficking Committee News

Upcoming Fall Event:

Ending the Exploitation of Children  
October 20th, Saturday 1-4PM  
Presenter: Shared Hope  
Bayview Baptist Church  
1335 Seabright Ave., Santa Cruz

Contact Martha Mangan 425-1306 for further information.

We will need volunteers and all attendees if possible. An excellent video "Chosen" will be shown. We would like any donations for a "drawing" to pay for expenses and future projects. Our volunteers have been paying for posters from their own funds. We need \$400 to print stickers that will be tear-off with printed hotline number.



## Local Scholarship News



Our committee awarded eleven scholarships this year to re-entering Cabrillo College and going on to UCSC. You heard many of their inspiring stories at our May luncheon.

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

## Tech Trek News

Seems amazing to think that the AAUW year is practically over!

We have some pretty fabulous Tech Trek accomplishments to report, thanks to our great committee and generous Branch members.

For the first time we are sending 6 girls to Camp Hopper.

We have a solid beginning to next year's donation goal of \$3050.04.

We have had wonderful Branch support of 43 members and 3 vendors/ other non member. Of course we hope to continue to receive member and other support beyond May for 2019.

A very big Thank You this month goes to **Kit Hein, Nancy Stephens, Patricia Nellany, Phylis Taylor, Nicci Winner, Cynthia Schuette, Barbara Lewis, Debra Wallace and Anne Sherwood** for their donations to our 2019 Tech Trek-ers!

If you have not yet donated, please consider doing so. 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.

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 will host our 2018 Tech Trek girls at a Get Acquainted Party on June 24th. We will invite last year's girls as well to share some of their Camp Hopper adventures with the 'new' girls. Theresa Hice has promised to attend as she wants to visit the girls at Camp Hopper at Stanford in July.

We are developing a Mentoring Program for 'After Tech Trek, What's Next?' and hope Theresa will have time in the Fall to help us. We are meeting with Caroline Park and Pauline Blaimont responsible for the new UCSC WISE (Women in Science/ Engineering) group. They have a program called SIS (Science Impacting Society) where local middle school students participate in lab tours, speaker events, hands-on science activities etc on the UCSC campus. We think it will be a great fit for our Tech Trek girls to continue their math and science interests after their summer experience at Camp Hopper. A WISE rep will attend our Fall Luncheon to share further information on SIS and mentoring.

At our September 15th meeting, we will celebrate **20 Years of Tech Trek** with Lois Holcomb and Jane Amaral speaking a few minutes about the beginning of Tech Trek in our Branch. We have invited a past Tech Trek parent, an involved teacher and a couple of girls who attended Camp Hopper previously to also say a few words.

We will look to the future with current Tech Trek attendees sharing Camp Hopper 2018 experiences and end with a brief discussion of the Mentoring collaboration with WISE.

When you arrive at Seascapes September 15th, Membership will be there to greet you and will have information for you. So, bring potential new members with you. There will be tables set up with reps from Interest Groups ready to share their experiences and invite you to participate. We will spend some time meeting new, and greeting old friends before going into lunch.

Thank you so much,  
Kris





## AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch Interest Groups

All work and no play? To counteract that we have a variety of interest groups for our members. If you'd like to join a group or attend one to see if it interests you, please contact the leaders listed below. We'd love to see you.

If you're interested in starting a new Interest Group, we welcome your ideas. Contact Louanne Ellison [louanneec@gmail.com](mailto:louanneec@gmail.com).

In order to attract new members and make AAUW's goals more visible to the community, our Membership meetings and luncheons are open to the public. Come join us and bring a friend! You'll find an amazing group of women who offer you friendship and intellectual stimulation.

***\*\*Please note that most of our interest groups break for the summer...recommencing in September. Announcements will be found in the August Beacon.***

### 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 next meet the first Tuesday in September. Details to follow in the August Beacon. All are welcome to join this lively group. Get in touch with Joan Schwimmer, [joanschwimmer@hotmail.com](mailto:joanschwimmer@hotmail.com) for further information.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One, meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 1pm. The next meeting will be on September 27th. Contact leader Andrea Losee for details and/or if you'd like to join the group!

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section Two, Leader, Susan Elgin, phone (831) 335-7288, email [elgin@cruzio.com](mailto:elgin@cruzio.com). This group reads one book each month. Our next meeting will be in September. Contact Susan for details.

### Reader's Theater

Our next meeting will be in September. See August Beacon 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 [bob-bi44@gmail.com](mailto:bob-bi44@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](mailto:irishpml@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Bridge

Bridge is coordinated by Jeanne Jorgensen. Contact her for details at [Jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jowens7069@aol.com).

### Adventure Group

Stay tuned for upcoming adventures. Call or text Jane at 359-3357 OR email at [lvswamp@charter.net](mailto: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 Mangan, tel # 425-1306, for more details. See page 6 for announcements.

### Great Decisions

Great Decisions will start again in the fall. Our meetings are lively, respectful, and always informative. Visitors and new members are welcome.

Contact VickieBirdsall@yahoo.com or [grace-ger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:grace-ger@sbcglobal.net) for more information

# May 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28 memorial DAY	29	30	31		



# June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 1pm Human Trafficking committee*	
3	4 10am Board Meeting	5	6	7 11:30 Lunch Bunch *	8	9
10	11 12pm Bridge*	12	13	14 Flag Day	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Tech Trek Social	25	26	27	28	29	30





# Branch Schedule

## 2018



June 4 Board Meeting CFSCC—Solari room



### 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 Web-  
site (at [aauw.org](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_

