



The Grapevine

December 2020 Volume 68 Issue 4

<https://lpd-ca.aauw.net/>



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AAUW Holiday Winter Wonderland Party

December 16th at 4 PM

Mark your calendars for our AAUW Holiday Party. Many of our members said they were interested so the committee is excitedly planning for a fun event.

An updated Evite will be sent after Thanksgiving with all the details of the holiday event. Each person who replies "YES" by the due date will have a special bag of goodies delivered to their home prior to the event. Party day will include raffles and games.

Of course, dress is fun holiday finery!

This is the time of year to support our local nonprofits. We will be encouraging you to donate to Tri Valley Haven or Open Heart Kitchen. More details will be in the coming Evite.

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NEXT LPD BOARD MEETING

Wed. Dec. 2 @ 1 pm

We'll talk only about programs for the remainder of the year. All members are invited to Zoom in and join the discussion.

Please join us!

The Friday Updates from Marilyn gives the Zoom Address of all LPD meetings.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Devon LaHar
president@aauw-lpd.org

Break out your holiday sweaters, earrings, and fun finery! **RSVP** to your Evite to attend our virtual **AAUW LPD Holiday Party** on **Wed. 12/16/20 4:00 PM**. Each person who replies "YES" by the Evite due date will have a special bag of goodies delivered to their home prior to the event. Party day will include raffles and games. Details on page 1 of this *Grapevine* issue.

The L-P-D Calendar of Events 2020 is on the final page of this *Grapevine* issue.

Thanks to our branch program committees for their brainstorming to continue AAUW LPD virtual programs into 2021! See Girl Program update on Page 5 of this *Grapevine* for information.

Progress toward gender equality appears to be the latest in a long list of casualties of the coronavirus pandemic.

We already know what a 9/2020 [New York Times article](#) details:

Improvements in gender equality in the workplace may be another casualty of the coronavirus, as women find their place in the workforce more at risk.

Substantial research has shown that most professional gender gaps [are in fact motherhood gaps](#): women without children are much closer to parity with men when it comes to salaries and promotions, however, mothers pay a large career penalty.

The **AAUW vision** (fair pay and educational and economic opportunity for women) continues for us until we end our stay-at-home status. What can you do this month to further this vision?

Connect with a branch member! Call to check in on a branch member you haven't seen in awhile. This is one of our *best* ways to support women we know, and fellow branch members may need just the lift that you provide with a short phone call from you during our time at home!

Try Zoom again (or for the first time). Zoom will continue to be a vital way for us to communicate for the near future. AAUW programs and special interest groups depend upon us getting together virtually--and it is great to see your branch friends commiserate and react online! We've all experienced frustration at times with the technology, but a board member or friend can happily try out a short Zoom session with you and walk you through online tools. Remember that you can join our interest groups or programs by phone if connecting by computer doesn't work for you--just ask how.

Write to the *Grapevine*! Branch members would love your reactions....to a book or movie about women that influenced you, an experience during this pandemic that made you grateful, a simple act of kindness you experienced. A couple of sentences or a paragraph help us get to know what affects you, concerns you, or delights you. You open a window on life issues that move you and can inspire others to act. Share with your AAUW LPD friends! Send your thoughts to *Grapevine* editor Carol Guarnaccia.:

newsletter@aauw-lpd.org



COMMUNICATIONS

Marilyn Duman

communications@aauw-lpd.org

We are working to add the L-P-D Directory to the branch website in a password protected area. I will let you know when it is available.

Please get it the habit of checking the website frequently for updates and information: www.aauw-lpd.org.

If you are an interest group leader and would like your virtual events to be advertised in the Friday updates please let me know. Our branch has a paid Zoom account, and we are happy to schedule events for your group.

Happy holidays to everyone!



AAUW FUND

Sandy Hansen

aauwfund@aauw-lpd.org

MATCHING GIFT!

YOUR GIFT GOES TWICE AS FAR

Thank you for your
commitment to a fairer
future for women and girls

Thank you!

Thanks to our generous branch donors, members have donated \$3817 to the AAUW Fund this year. However, 77 of our members have not yet made an extra donation for this year. If YOU are among those members, now is the time (through Dec. 31) to make a donation and know that it will be matched dollar-for-dollar by a commitment that national board members, committee leaders and staff have made.

Donations can be made online through the AAUW website at <https://preview.tinyurl.com/y36ncx48>. (We've reduced the long address for your convenience). Thanks for your support of the AAUW Fund. If you don't make online donations, give Sandy Hansen a call (925/216-4945) and she can help you make your donation.



This is from Kimberley Churches, AAUW's Chief Executive officer

This will be the **second match** of 2020 from volunteer leaders and staff — who also raised a substantial sum in the spring. Their generosity in this time of hardship heartens me as much as yours does. You've shown you're capable of extraordinary change through your actions, activism and kindness. And extraordinary effort is exactly what's needed right now.

With your DOUBLED gift, we will:

- Demand Congress approve **long-overdue financial relief** to the millions of Americans devastated by the pandemic, which disproportionately harms women and people of color.
- Push policymakers to pass the **paid leave and equity laws** that women and people of color desperately need to endure this crisis without losing their jobs or being forced to work sick.
- Offer **career development programs**, tools and networking to women who are low-wage workers, students and recent college grads.

INTEREST GROUPS

Please note: some of these listed branch activities are cancelled. Other groups may be connecting on Zoom or by phone! Check with the group's contact for more information. Communication Chair Marilyn Duman's Friday Update has the information needed.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

CHAIR: Nancy Rensink
dupbridge@aauw-lpd.org

MONDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

CHAIR: Marti Silva
monbridsg@aaaw-lpd.org

LADIES LUNCH 'N MURDER

CHAIR: Maria Kennedy
mkenedy@aauw-lpd.org

Keep reading those murder/
 mysteries!

MAH JONGG, AMERICAN STYLE

Chair: JoAnn Houk
mahjongg@aauw-lpd.org

MORNING BOOKS

CHAIR: Bev Howell
ambooks@aauw-lpd.org
 Thursday, December 17 @ 9:30 am
 Via Zoom

BOOK: *The Secret of the Chateau*
 AUTHOR: Kathleen McGurl
 HOSTESS &
 REVIEWER: Chris Alesso

Members will receive an email with the
 Zoom address before the meeting.

EVENING BOOKS

CHAIR: Joan Leighty
pmbooks2@aauw-lpd.org

Wednesday, December 9 @ 7:30 PM

BOOK: *America's First Daughter*
 Author: Stephanie Dray
 Reviewer: Chris Alesso

Members will receive an email with the
 Zoom address each month.

The Friday Updates give the
 addresses for the following:

COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION

Zoom in at 5:30 PM, Tuesday
 Dec. 1 (1st Tue. Ea. month)

COFFEE AND

Zoom in at 10 AM on Thursday
 Dec. 3 (1st Thur. ea. month)

MISSION DISCUSSION GROUP

CHAIR: Chris Alesso
chris@aauw-lpd.org
 Zoom in at 10 AM, Thursday
 Dec. 10
 (2nd Thur. ea. month)

AFTERNOON BOOKS

CHAIR: Mary Ann Karlsen
pmbooks1@aauw-lpd.org
 No meetings until further notice.

SOLO DINING

CHAIR: Sandie Brown
solodining@aauw-lpd.org
 Nothing until further notice.

Book Review from the Evening Book Club

by Susan Wacek

We just read The Honey Bus by Meredith May. It was unanimous-
 we all enjoyed the story telling in this book. It is a true story of
 Meredith's life in an unstable home starting in Rhode Island and ending
 in Big Sur. Her grandfather and his bees helped navigate her throughout
 her life. Fascinating facts about bees were ever present in this book.
 What a GREAT read!!



STEM DIRECTOR Anita Massey stem@aauw-lpd.org**Girl Program Update**

Plans are moving forward for our program, **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.....STEM & MORE.** This program will be presented on three Thursday evenings from mid-January through early February. It is geared for high school girls and intended to make them aware of varied careers they may not have considered as well as the requirements to achieve these positions. A participant can register for 1, 2 or all 3 of the sessions.

The line-up of presenters below is comprised of young women who are family and friends of our members. These professional women will share their stories and paths to success in a “Ted Talk” format. If you wish to share this event with young friends or family, advance registration is required.

Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:00 PM - the evening's speakers will include:
Sr. Director - Legal
Sr, Director – Product Marketing Sales – Business Applications
Sr. Director Controller
To reserve a seat at this event register here. https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqdOGtqjluGNSZ9aCdBLsZr7Jd00FOH6sc
Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 700 PM - the evening's speakers will include:
Epidemiologist
Archaeologist
School Psychologist
Genetic Counselor
Sr. Consulting Biologist
To reserve a seat at this event register here. https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtduCqrzMvG9MCuiJqWj1Whnj9CqUoqyyd
Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 700 PM - the evening's speakers will include:
Internet Security
UX Product Designer
Public Relations, Multi Media
Graphic/Multi-Media Design
To reserve a seat at this event register here. https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUodeCsrDkiG9FREohSaUo44tYED9D0zdwL

Many thanks to those who are working on our Girl Programs. Apologies to Susan Hong for mis-spelling her name in the *Grapevine* last month.

Report from October AAUW Fund Virtual Luncheons

In normal times, AAUW members gather on three dates to attend luncheons in Northern and Southern California to hear short presentations from the recipients of grants and fellowships who are in California. Now we are not in "normal" times, so two events were held in October, each with 10 or so speakers. The presentations were all recorded and videos are available at the AAUW-CA website at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-fund-luncheons/>. Each presentation runs about 10 minutes.

As you probably know, I now live at a senior residence. I participate in a "current events" weekly discussion group at my residence, led by an instructor at a local community college and recently discussion included the systemic difficulties in reaching and helping low income students of color to succeed in college. Immediately I thought of **Constance Iloh**, the fellow supported by the **Anne Les American Fellowship** (among others). Being able to watch – and stop the video and read the slides of her presentation is helpful. Her final slide links to her website at www.constanceiloh.com. Her research can lead to colleges doing more to support the students who have many life challenges, among them being persons of color who are parenting, struggling financially and can often feel blocked by "the system". So many students today have very different life experiences than our cohorts when we were students. One can also get the feeling that AAUW is supporting important society-changing research. Her segment begins at about 36:30 on the Oct. 24 video.

Claire Breining is pursuing a second career as a nurse/practitioner/midwife, focusing on providing services to underserved racial groups. The U.S. makes little use of midwives who can provide maternity services to women of color. Claire is from the Midwest and completed high school and started college in Argentina. She completed college in Wisconsin, where she became interested in immigration issues related to Spanish-speaking women and children, which moved her to work as an immigration paralegal following college. She eventually left the paralegal field and for four years was a project manager at a tech start-up. While working in tech her immigration/advocacy "basis" found her becoming a volunteer birth doula, which has now inspired her to pursue the formal training for a career change to gain an M.S. as a Nurse Practitioner at UCSF, specializing in midwifery. Her presentation includes slides which detail the racial disparities in maternity services for women of color, especially for black women. She hopes to work as a Nurse/practitioner/midwife in a public hospital in California, with the eventual goal of opening her own non-profit stand-alone birthing center in an area that currently doesn't offer this option to birthing families. She's supported by 25 AAUW endowments, including the **Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch/Dawn Gordner Grant**. Her presentation begins at 1:33:45 on the video.

Denise Mitchell is a teacher at Martin Luther King Jr. High School in Riverside, pursuing an M.S. in Botany & Plant Sciences at UC Riverside. She's an inspirational experienced teacher, who, 30 years after graduating from Riverside, is now returning to receive her M.S. She is committed to inspiring her students to pursue STEM careers and to have a sense of reverence for our planet. Her research presentation is rather technical, involving tracking various plants indigenous to the desert areas near Riverside and studying how they manage to survive hot, dry conditions. If you're interested in gardening and ecology you can focus on her research explanation. Denise is supported by 25 endowments, including the **Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch/Patricia Ann Mann Grant**. Her presentation is the final one on the video, beginning at 1:54:18.



STANDING RULES AMENDMENT

In the next few weeks all members with e-mail will receive an email using SurveyMonkey seeking your approval of these proposals. Others will receive a printed ballot in regular mail.

Our branch has Bylaws, Policies & Procedures, and Standing Rules. The Standing Rules appear annually in the branch directory that all members receive. These Standing Rules relate to branch activities, affect all members and can be amended only by a vote of all members. Our board has reviewed our Standing Rules and seeks approval by the branch of two amendments. One affects Programs/Activities of the branch, the other affects members.

- 1) Insert as #2 under Program and renumber the following sections: "Branch meetings are covered under our insurance policy through AAUW California. In accord with this coverage, we take the guidance of AAUW California regarding having in-person meetings of any size. As a branch, we adhere to this guidance."
- 2) Add as #3 under Membership: "As a national grassroots organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and their families, members are encouraged to participate in the programs and activities of the branch. "

Reasoning: The addition under Program needs to be added to ensure that membership understands the reason that in-person meetings may be limited. Generic language is used to avoid calling out the specific crisis we are enduring and make it hold in the event of any future circumstance. This is urgent and needs to be done now.

The addition under Membership is being added now because it is convenient to go to the members with a vote as rarely as possible. This addition is being made to help members understand that a commitment to the branch beyond the payment of dues is encouraged. Participation includes support of the various AAUW fundraising programs.

Thanks for your cooperation as these changes are made.



LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

challenging sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace

[AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund](#) recently streamlined the application and grant-making system to better support plaintiffs facing sex discrimination in employment or education. They also launched Clinic Campus Outreach Grants, which are available to law school clinical programs in California and New York that address legal claims regarding gender equity.



Sunnyvale-Cupertino Branch Presents “When Women Won the Vote”

Sunnyvale-Cupertino Branch of AAUW produced a reader’s theater video on YouTube to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment of the Constitution in 1920, giving white women the right to vote. The video includes excerpts from women living in the Sunnyvale-Cupertino area.

Click [HERE](#) to view the video

Work Smart Salary Negotiation Workshop – Negotiating with Confidence

12/08/2020 11:45 am – 1:00pm Click [HERE](#) to register for “Negotiating with Confidence”

Great information to pass on to your daughters, granddaughters, and neighbors!

The Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women ([Friends COSW](#)) of San Francisco is partnering with [AAUW Work Smart](#) program to host a series of virtual workshops on salary negotiation.

AAUW Work Smart Salary Negotiation Webinars Will Help You

- > Determine Personal Value
- > Set target salary and benefits
- > Create strategy to make your pitch
- > Practice, practice, practice

Friends COSW is a non-profit corporation founded in 1976 to support the mission of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Friends support programs ensure equal treatment of women and girls, especially initiatives that foster their socioeconomic, political and educational advancement through policies, legislation and programs with a focus for women and girls in need.



Watch for the Survey/Monkey email in the next few weeks. Members need to give their input and vote on the proposals to make the changes in our Standing Rules.

Among other things, current members and those just joining need to be aware of the responsibility of making a commitment to participate in the L-P-D branch’s programs and activities.

Those without email will receive a printed ballot in the U.S.P.S. mail.

Click on the address below for lots of information about the Gender Pay Gap—very concerning information.



<https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/simple-truth/>.



L-P-D CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

Dec. 1	5:30 PM	Cocktails & Conversation	1st Tuesdays
Dec. 2	1:00 PM	Branch Board Meeting	1st Wednesdays
Dec. 3	10:00 AM	Coffee AND	1st Thursdays
Dec. 9	7:30 PM	Evening Books	2nd Wednesdays
Dec. 10	10:00 AM	Mission Discussion Group	2nd Thursdays
Nov. 7	7:00 PM	Virtual Bridge	Mondays
Dec. 16	4:00 PM	Holiday Party	Gift Certificates Tri-Valley Haven and/or Open Heart Kitchen
Dec. 17	9:30 AM	Morning Books	Third Thursdays
Dec. 18		Grapevine Deadline for January issue	
Dec. 31		Matching AAUW Fund donation deadline.	
Jan. 14, Jan. 28 , Feb. 11	3 part series		Career Opportunities-STEM and More Part of Girl Programs

2021



These dates are subject to change, especially around holiday times. All are Zoom meetings. You will be notified about the addresses and passcodes before each meeting. **Please use the up-to-date information you will be given before each meeting.** Dates, addresses and passcodes may change during the month.

2020-2021 AAUW-LPD BOARDPRESIDENT—Devon Lahar—president@aauw-lpd.orgPROGRAM CO-CHAIRS—Maria Kennedy & Gwen Locke
program@aauw-lpd.orgFINANCE OFFICER CO-CHAIRS—Chris Alesso & Pam Leong
finance@aauw-lpd.orgMEMBERSHIP—Tina Amber—membership@aauw-lpd.orgDIRECTORS-AT-LARGECOMMUNICATIONS—Marilyn Duman—communications@aauw-lpd.orgSECRETARY—Charlene Grandfield—secretary@aauw-lpd.orgSTEM DIRECTOR —Anita Massey—stem@aauw-lpd.orgPUBLICITY & PUBLIC POLICY - Roz Wright-
advocacy@aauw-lpd.org

DIRECTOR AT LARGE .- P.J. Wells

Appointed Chairs

AAUW Fund : Sandy Hansen

Archivist : Sandy Hansen

Bylaws

Chris Alesso

Marilyn Duman

Sandy Hansen

Carolyn Kotch

College/Univ Relations: TBD

Directory : Marilyn Duman

Inter-branch Council : TBD

Newsletter: Carol Guarnaccia

Website Admin : Sheryl Morgan



Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch
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Address Service Requested

AAUW Mission:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

AAUW Values:

Nonpartisan. Fact-based.
Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

AAUW's Value Promise:

Equity for All

AAUW EMPOWERS ALL
WOMEN AND GIRLS TO
REACH THEIR HIGHEST
POTENTIAL.

VISIT THE AAUW
WEBSITES
www.aauw.org
www.aauw-ca.org
www.aauw-lpd.org
www.facebook.com/aauwlpd



THE GRAPEVINE

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Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch

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Newsletter Editor

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January issue is deadline December 18.

Submit all articles (email or in writing & formatted) to Carol.