

The Grapevine

November, 2021



President Message November 2021



We are slowly adding in-person activities as we follow California and Alameda County recommendations to prevent Covid-19 infections. You can join us for coffee, book club, international lunch, mah jongg , among other things. Again, please consider increasing your participation in our branch activities. We are hopeful that more of you will join us on committees, at interest groups and at other events as we move forward. I look forward to seeing you!

I hope you had an opportunity to view one or more AAUW Fund online speaker events. They took place October 23rd and 30th and another one takes place on November 7th. Registration is free and more information can be found in the Friday update.

Have a wonderful November. If you are traveling for the Thanksgiving Holiday, I wish you safe travels as you spend time with family and friends.



[Marilyn Duman](#)
AAUW LPD President

Board Briefs from 10/06/21 meeting

- program-planning updates (career panel nights, holiday party)
- procedures for archiving branch history, activities
- Alameda County redistricting process (required of all counties as a result of population changes identified in the the 2020 census)
- ways to honor branch members who have passed away

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AAUW LPD Board 2021-2022

Directors

<i>President</i>	Marilyn Duman
<i>Program</i>	Anita Massey
<i>Program</i>	Sheryl Morgan
<i>Finance</i>	Pam Leong
<i>Membership</i>	Tina Amber

Officers at Large

<i>Communications Coordinator</i>	Marilyn Duman
<i>Secretary</i>	Charlene Grandfield
<i>IBC Liason</i>	Charlene Grandfield
<i>STEM Director</i>	Anita Massey
<i>Publicity</i>	Roz Wright
<i>Public Policy</i>	Roz Wright
<i>AAUW Fund</i>	PJ Wells



Save the Date! AAUW LPD Holiday Party December 15, 5:30pm at Terra Mia in Livermore

Join the festivities! We love sharing the season's warmth with our AAUW friends at this annual event. Don your holiday colors and come for festive food and fun! We will once again be raffling fabulous gift baskets to support our branch programs. Watch your email for more information in **Friday Updates** and **Evite**.

AAUW LPD GIRL PROGRAMS

Planning for College

With the continued support and expertise of member and former college advisor **Diane Keller**, we have once again presented 2 successful programs. On October 12, *What 9th and 10th Grade Girls Need to Know* was presented on Zoom to 50 young women. Of that group 88% found the information to be very or extremely valuable and 88% found the speaker to be very or extremely engaging. The program for Junior girls will be presented on October 19th to about 25 young women. Thank you **Diane Keller, Pam Leong** and **Tina Amber** for supporting this program.



Speaker Series

We are thrilled to announce that **PJ Wells** has agreed to lead this program for a second year. Last year was well received and a great model that PJ has plans to refine and make even more fabulous this year. Her team including **Tina Amber, Sheryl Morgan** and **Charlene Grandfield** has already begun meeting. We are looking for speaker nominations including (but not exclusively) the areas of

- 1) Medical/ Bioengineering/Research/Physician Assistant
- 2) Cybersecurity/Data Science/AI/Robotics
- 3) Social Justice/Equity/Legal/Immigration/Journalism

If you know of candidates, or are interested in helping with this program please email PJ at: pj.wells.ca@gmail.com

Tech Trek

We are thrilled that this flagship program looks to be on track for in person camps, summer of 2022! We have a new and very experienced Program Director, **Karen Manelis**, at the state level. She is moving forward in a very inclusive manner with both the Camp Directors and the new state Tech Trek Committee. She will have her first meeting with the Branch Coordinators on October 26th, and I am pleased that **Karen Cowen** and **Nitu Shinde** will be joining me on that call.

As always, thank you to our branch member for your generosity, it is what makes these programs possible.

Anita Massey and Sheryl Morgan
Program Co-Chairs

AAUW CA PROGRAMS



2021-2022 AAUW Fellows/Grant Recipients

One more AAUW CA Fund Event

Hear [different speakers](#) during each event!

Hear some of our 37 AAUW-funded **California Fellowship and Grant recipients** talk about their studies....you'll be amazed by the ways they are changing our world!

November 7, 2021 1:00-3:00 PM

[Click HERE to register](#)



The **international Lunch Group**

will try Thai cuisine this month!

Join us at

Lemongrass in Livermore on

Wednesday, November 17th 11:30 AM

The restaurant is celebrating their 30 years in Livermore. We will be dining inside. Prefer all attendees are vaccinated.

Since the restaurant does not take reservations please plan to be at the restaurant promptly at 11:30.

Watch your email: Details will be available in the **Evite**. Questions? Call **Tina Amber** at 925-640-8694.

Fall Kick-off Thanks

We celebrated being “Together Again” at our Fall kick-off on Saturday, September 18. Thank you to **JoAnn Houk** for hosting us in her beautiful yard. Thank you also to the planning committee who made the event happen: **Chris Alesso, Tina Amber, Marilyn Duman, Charlene Grandfield, Pam Leong** and **Roz Wright**.

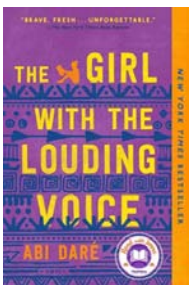
Not to be forgotten, thanks to all of you for the fabulous food.

Be sure to put our **Holiday party** on your calendar: **December 15, 5:30pm at Terra Mia, in Livermore**. We will once again be raffling fabulous gift baskets to support our branch programs.

(Above information from Program Chairs Anita Massey and Sheryl Morgan was omitted from October 2021 Grapevine, with apologies from Grapevine editor Devon LaHar)

WE ARE READERS

AAUW LPD Afternoon Book Group comment

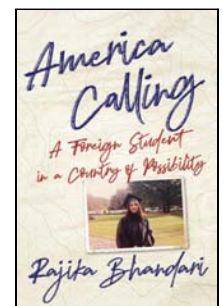


The Girl With The Louding Voice is written in “broken” English and is very well done. It shows how unequal the sexes are in Nigeria. ‘Barefoot and pregnant in the kitchen’ is an expression that can be applied here. Also, a willingness to be educated against all obstacles is a general theme throughout. This is a brilliant read.

-Susan Wacek

America Calling: A Foreign Student in a Country of Possibility

This book by 1995-96 AAUW International Fellow Rajika Bhandari is a both deeply personal story of one immigrant’s search for her place and voice, and an incisive analysis of America’s relationship with the rest of the world through a powerful tool of diplomacy: education.



Do you know....how our AAUW branch has responded to the needs of women both locally and much further geographically? Here are **reflections from a few AAUW LPD past presidents** (years 1962-1990); look for more in the December *Grapevine*.



AAUW began an experimental study center in 1963 for 7th and 8th grade Junction Avenue School so that they have a quiet place to do their homework.

Margory Bunyard AAUW LPD Branch President 1962-64

The highlight of my tenure as president for the LPD AAUW Branch was doing our accuracy in news media study; creating observer corps to attend City Council and Planning Commission Meetings in Livermore and Pleasanton and checking the accuracy of coverage of the three newspapers (*The Herald, Times* and *Independent*) afterward. We received national recognition for this, and then successfully lobbied for a national study topic Media Issues in Communication. We were then appointed to serve as the California State Chair for that topic for two years, with branches all over California and the US doing meaningful studies: *The Images of Women in the Media, The Effect of Violence in the Media on Children*, etc.

Charlotte Severin AAUW LPD Branch President 1972-74

I was president during a very exciting time. We were in the midst of the Women's Movement, and it kept our branch very busy. We worked hard to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, and although it failed, it did raise the awareness of the country to the fact that women were not being given equal treatment. We wore pins that said *59 cents*, since that's what women earned in comparison to men doing similar work. Title IX helped women athletes in our schools.

Dawn Gordner AAUW LPD Branch President 1974-75

Our branch responded to a perceived community need by compiling a Pre-School Directory. Members visited every preschool in the Tri-Valley Area and completed a questionnaire for each. Although the pre-schools were not evaluated, the directory included guidelines to help parents in assessing where to send their children.

Barbara Hempill AAUW LPD Branch President 1987-88

The Association Convention for 1989 was held in Washington, D.C. Sandy Hansen was incoming president, and Barbara Hempill and I were immediate past presidents. We stayed at the Sheraton Washington Hotel, which stair-steps uphill a couple blocks from the subway. The schedule was packed with briefings, caucuses, business meetings, and even an address by President George Bush.

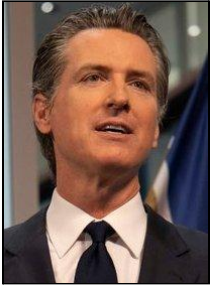
Robin Morgan AAUW LPD Branch President 1987-88

A highlight of my term as branch president was that I was thrilled to have recruited a full board well in advance of the beginning of my term, so that all positions were filled and our branch had good attendance at district leadership events that prepared them for their responsibilities.

Following my Presidency, I became involved at the state level (state Director of Public Policy Committee, state Secretary, working to maintain and upgrade our state website).

Sandy Hansen AAUW LPD Branch President 1989-90

AAUW Legislative Updates (from AAUW California Public Policy Committee Co-Chair Kathi Harper)



In mid-October, Governor Newsom acted on AAUW CA priority bills awaiting his signature. Here are the results:

- SIGNED** SB 62 requires fair pay, instead of “by the piece” payment, for garment workers
- SIGNED** AB 367 free menstrual products must be provided in girls/women’s bathrooms in schools
- SIGNED** AB 887 allows domestic violence restraining orders to be filed electronically
- VETOED** AB 123 increases paid family leave benefits to 65 –75% of regular pay
- VETOED** AB 1074 requires hotel and janitorial workers who have lost their jobs due the pandemic to be prioritized for hiring as businesses reopen

The Vote and Reproductive Rights (information from AAUW Action Fund Washington Update)

This year, a historic number of restrictive laws were enacted or proposed in two key issue areas: **voting and reproductive rights.**

What are “[anti-voter bills](#)”? What are “[anti-abortion bills](#)”? [What’s the connection?](#)

AAUW message: Congress must act to protect our constitutional rights in every state.

Sign up now for the [2-Minute Activist](#). Act on its recommendations to keep pressure on your representatives.

Pass the [Freedom to Vote Act](#) and the [Women’s Health Protection Act](#)!

How does AAUW set [Public Policy Priorities](#)?

- In the fall of even-numbered years the **AAUW Public Policy Committee (APPC)** solicits feedback from AAUW members and staff to develop proposed Public Policy Priorities.
- The proposed draft is posted online for a comment period and submission of additional proposed revisions.
- A final draft is reviewed by the AAUW Board of Directors, amended as necessary, and approved.
- Finally, AAUW members vote on these proposed Public Policy Priorities in the spring of odd-numbered years.
- The adopted Public Policy Priorities guide the federal action issues on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts and guide the work of the national staff.

Where We Stand

- AAUW’s policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to empower women and girls.
- AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women.
- We support strong laws to close the wage gap, provide paid sick time and parental leave, protect pregnant workers, curtail sexual harassment and more.
- [Where we stand.](#) [Explore the issues.](#)



Click on [AAUW LPD calendar](#) for branch activities. Check your emails for **AAUW Friday updates**.
Check **Good Reads** for book group book descriptions.

<p>Mah Jongg Fun</p> 	<p>Tues. November 2 & 16, 1:00pm (first and third Tuesdays each month) Contact JoAnn for location and information.</p>	<p>Join us--even if you've never played--and see how much fun this game is!</p>
<p>Cocktails and Conversation</p> 	<p>Tues. November 2, 5:30pm – 7:00pm (first Tuesday each month) Contact Marilyn for details. Check Friday updates for location change.</p>	<p>Join us at the newly remodeled Pleasanton Lucky store--outside patio if weather cooperates. (Corner of Hopyard Road and W. Las Positas Blvd.)</p>
<p>Branch Board Meeting</p>	<p>Wed. November 3, 1:00pm – 3:00pm (first Wednesday each month) Contact Marilyn for details.</p>	<p>All members welcome to attend! CLICK HERE to join Zoom meeting meeting ID is 847 6261 1370 passcode is eq8ty2020</p>
<p>Monday Night Bridge</p> 	<p>Mon. November 8 & 22, 7:00pm (second and fourth Mondays monthly) Contact Marti for information.</p>	<p>Bridge meets via Zoom. If you are unable to click on the link: recurring meeting ID 871 0728 2781 passcode 104382</p>
<p>Afternoon Book Group</p> 	<p>Wed November 10, 1:30pm – 3:00pm (second Wednesday each month) Contact Devon for location information.</p>	<p>Maria Kennedy reviews at her home Book: <i>Running With Roselle</i></p>
<p>Mission Discussion Group</p>	<p>Thu November 11, 10:00am–11:00am Contact Chris for information and discussion topic!!</p>	<p>Panera Bread in Fallon Gateway Shopping Center, Dublin</p>
<p>International Lunch Group</p> 	<p>Wed, November 17, 11:30 AM Call Tina 925-640-8694 for information</p>	<p>Lemongrass Thai Restaurant Livermore Watch for email Evite!</p>
<p>Coffee And...</p> 	<p>Thu November 18, 10:00am–11:00am (second Thursday each month) Join us for coffee or tea, snacks, and conversation!</p>	<p>Paris Baguette, Pleasanton (corner of Santa Rita and Pimlico) Check your Friday update email for any changes.</p>
<p>Morning Book Group</p>	<p>Thu November 18, 9:30am – 11:00am (fourth Thursday each month) See upcoming titles</p>	<p>PJ Wells hostess Discuss <i>Next Year in Havana</i></p>
<p>Solo Dining</p>	<p>Fri November 19, 1:00pm lunch Contact Sandie for information.</p>	<p>Da Boccery 175 E. Vineyard, Livermore You don't have to be single to join this group, you just need to enjoy eating out with friends!</p>