

The Grapevine

December, 2021



President Message December 2021

Three long-time very active members have passed away since I became branch president.

- Joan Zehnder was past president and honored by AAUW with the establishment of the *Joan Kavanagh Zehnder International Endowment* in 1982. Joan moved to Boise Idaho several years ago to be closer to family but maintained her membership in our branch. She died August 20, 2021.
- Robin Morgan was past president of our branch, multiple year named gift honoree, and a fifty-year honorary life member. She was an active participant in our branch until the end. Our heartfelt condolences go to her husband Walt who is also a branch member. Robin passed away on Saturday September 25, 2021.
- Pat Mann was very active in many local organizations, including our AAUW branch. She was a two-time past branch president, multiple year named gift honoree, and a fifty-year honorary life member. She was honored with the *Pat Mann Research & Project Endowment* in 1999. Pat died October 28, 2021. More information about her life and accomplishments can be found [HERE](#).

These three ladies contributed much to the vitality of our AAUW-LPD branch, and we appreciate it very much. Please consider increasing your involvement just a little bit so that we can continue to thrive.

I look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party on December 15th and wish you a joyful holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

[Marilyn Duman](#)
AAUW LPD President

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AAUW LPD Board 2021-2022

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<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



Join us for the season's cheer at

AAUW LPD Holiday Party

Wednesday December 15, 2021 5:30pm

Terra Mia in Livermore

More information on page 2. Make your reservations now!

Mail your check to [Anita Massey](#)

(check Friday update, Evite or online directory for address).

Please note that all checks must be received by December 6th.



AAUW LPD Holiday Party

December 15, 2021 5:30pm

Terra Mia Restaurant

4040 East Avenue

Livermore, CA 94550

Do you want to have a wonderful evening, visiting with friends, having an opportunity to win 1 of 6 beautiful gift baskets, give back to a worthy cause and **NOT HAVE TO COOK DINNER?** Then make your reservations (payment due by December 6th) for our annual holiday party.

Let's celebrate being together again and enjoy the ambiance and a cocktail or glass of wine (no host bar) before a buffet dinner at the beautiful Terra Mia Restaurant in Livermore.



Let's extend the cheer by contributing to the community via gift cards on a tree. This year, Tri-Valley Haven is our chosen non-profit. We suggest that you bring \$20 gift card(s) from either Safeway or Target. Additionally 6 beautiful gift baskets will be available for raffle to support our branch activities and Girl Programs.



Mail your \$60 check (payable to AAUW-LPD) to [Anita Massey](#) (contact Anita for her address, check Evite, or online directory). Please note that all checks must be received by December 6th. It may not be possible to add after that date. No refunds will be issued.

Questions? Please look for your Evite or email akm1@comcast.net or call 925-784-4418.

We look forward to safely celebrating with you! As such, please be prepared to show proof of COVID vaccination or a negative COVID test taken no more than 72 hours prior to the event.

Board Briefs from our 11//21 meeting

Everyone is welcome to attend board meetings! Next meeting **Wednesday 12/01 1:00-3:00 PM** [Anita Massey's home](#) (contact Anita (contact Anita or check Friday update, Evite or directory for address) or join by Zoom [CLICK HERE](#) (meeting ID 847 6261 1370, passcode eq8ty2020). Please contact [Marilyn Duman](#) if you plan to attend.

Program-planning updates, idea exchange:

career panel speaker series ongoing; holiday party (Dec); Make-a Difference Day; volunteer organizations show the community what they do (Jan.); wine social (Feb. 19); possible book/author talk during Women's History Month (March), Annual General Meeting lunch (April); possible olive-oil tasting

Tech Trek: National AAUW prefers virtual to in-person camps for Summer 2022, but isn't prohibiting in-person camps if Covid controls are in place. Discussed future AAUW-LPD Tech Trek participation

Opportunity: Compile once-weekly Friday updates (brief calendar information) for branch members. Please contact Marilyn at for information.

Proposed Alameda County redistricting: once-a-decade opportunity to determine how we get represented, based on new census information. Discussed impacts of proposal to change district lines, possible impacts on Tri-Valley, especially Pleasanton. Branch Redistricting Resolution of support given to Pleasanton City Council.



International Lunch Group

In October the group feasted on delicious Greek food at the newly opened Elia's in downtown Pleasanton. We sat outside on a beautiful day among billowing blue scarves.

For November, the group met at Lemongrass in Livermore for outstanding Thai food. The camaraderie and conversations were wonderful.



The group will take a break during December and resume eating out in January.

If you are interested in joining this group, look for Evites after the holidays.

Do you have a restaurant or type of food you'd like to try? Call **Tina Amber** at 925-640-8694.

What's in a name? This year's AAUW annual convention will be different. Renaming it the **Annual Event** and holding it virtually are only the beginning.

Adventures in AAUWland will take you on a journey. On **Saturday April 30, 2022**, we will all be explorers, searching for new ways to connect to AAUW and its mission.

You're invited to **Choose Your Own Adventure** to:

- hear inspirational words from keynote speakers, [Lisa Maatz](#), Senior Adviser, Ohio Citizen Action (and former AAUW Policy Rock Star) and [Jasmine Sadler](#), Owner and Founder of The STEAM Collaborative
- be inspired by three national AAUW Speech Trek finalists' videos
- visit Zoom breakout room sessions that venture into whatever AAUW ideas you find interesting. Share thoughts, stories, experiences, and maybe some debate. Move freely back and forth between breakout rooms.

Be a Trail Guide! What topics, experiences, stories are you (or someone you know) dying to talk about? You can host an informal 30-minute breakout room! No agenda. No PowerPoint. No handouts. Just inspire the conversation! Click [here](#) to learn more and see potential topic ideas.



Do you know....how our AAUW branch has responded to the needs of women both locally and much further geographically? Here are more **reflections from a few AAUW LPD past presidents** (years 1990-2000).



I remember Margaretta Lovell, Associate Professor of Art history at UC Berkeley. She was a Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) grant receiver in her fight against the glass ceiling at the University. I was appalled at what she had had to go through. This led to my consistent support of LAF.

- We visited the School-Age Mothers Program, enlightening for us all.
- Kay Huff and Cathy James invited the Goodwill Ladies for our Educational Foundation (EF) lunch. I was swept away by the quality of the old clothing and the seamstresses who made them.
- We had a spectacular murder mystery night, one we remembered when planning this year's success. Walt Morgan was doing his first stint as membership treasurer!

Pat Mann AAUW LPD Branch President 1992-93

As president of our branch, I had the great opportunity to pick up skills that I use in all aspects of my life. AAUW has been one of the first calls I make whenever I move into a new community.

One of the more impressive things I remember our branch doing is participating in the voter education campaign. It was so impressive to see a room full of women mailing flyers, making phone calls, etc.

Myla Grasso AAUW LPD Branch President 1993-1994

I remember the AAUW State Convention in San Jose and shining as a five-star branch; a year of fabulous newsletters (thank you, Marie Bledsoe); learning the obstacles girls face and, in true AAUW form, learning how to beat those obstacles.

My year as AAUW LPD president was also my year as mom to a 1, 3, and 5-year-old. Diapers, finger-painting, toddler beds, preschool, Moms and Tots, Mom's Night Out...thankfully, book club and especially friendships.

Philomena Rambo AAUW LPD Branch President 1994-1995

My mom, Marti Silva, is a long-time AAUW LPD member, so I grew up with AAUW in the background. My first AAUW activity was joining the Moms and Tots group and babysitting coop.....and that initial involvement led to participation in other interest groups; a book club, investment club, and wine education group. Being a volunteer host on the branch's 30-minute community television show *Byline AAUW* (interviews with community members about educational and women's issues) led to my current position as producer and host of *Fully Informed* at the same television station.

Carolyn Siegfried AAUW LPD Branch President 1995-1996

The year I was president-elect was one of sheer panic because I didn't own a computer, have an email address, nor had I ever "surfed the net". Instead of concentrating on learning how to be president, I learned the skills to bring myself into the computer age. For that, thank you AAUW!

I finished my term with a renewed admiration for our intelligent, forward-thinking members who are never content with the status of women--but consistently focus on improving and advancing opportunities for women.

Pam Copeland AAUW LPD Branch President 1998-1999



“Picture an invisible weightless knapsack.

Inside my knapsack are assets I can count on...special provisions, maps, passports, codebooks, visas, clothes, tools. I know I can use these assets daily, but I’m usually oblivious to these assets.”

Peggy McIntosh, feminist author of the 1989 classic paper *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*, collected observations during her teaching career. She was surprised to note at least 50 hidden benefits of the privilege white people experience in everyday life. “I repeatedly forgot each of the realizations on

this list until I wrote them down. For me, white privilege has turned out to be an elusive and fugitive subject.” McIntosh noted crossovers between this list of white privilege and male privilege.

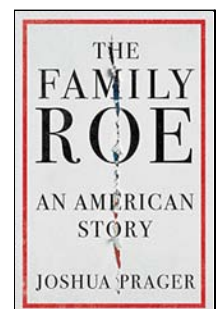
Examples from the *Invisible Backpack* essay:

- I can go shopping alone most of the time, pretty well assured that I will not be followed or harassed.
- I can turn on the television or open to the front page of the paper and see people of my race widely represented.
- I can go into a music shop and count on finding music of my race represented, into a supermarket and find staple foods that fit my cultural traditions, into a hairdresser and find someone who can cut my hair.
- Whether I use checks, credit cards or cash, I can count on my skin color not to work against the appearance of financial reliability.
- I can swear, or dress in secondhand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty, or the illiteracy of my race.
- I can speak in public to a powerful male group without putting my race on trial.
- If I should need to move, I can be pretty sure of renting or purchasing housing in an area which I can afford and in which I would want to live.
- I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group.
- I can be pretty sure that if I ask to talk to “the person in charge,” I will be facing a person of my race.
- If a traffic cop pulls me over or if the IRS audits my tax return, I can be sure I haven’t been singled out because of my race.
- I can take a job with an affirmative action employer without having co-workers on the job suspect that I got it because of race.
- I can be sure that if I need legal or medical help, my race will not work against me.
- When I am told about our national heritage or about "civilization," I am shown that people of my color made it what it is.

Peggy Macintosh founded the [National SEED Project](#) to confirm her belief that teachers could be leaders of their own professional development.

[The Family Roe: An American Story](#) by Joshua Prager

In his third book, Prager tells the stories of the overlooked women behind the 1973 Supreme Court decision. Using interviews, letters, and personal papers, Prager tells the Roe story through the life of Norma McCorvey (whose unwanted pregnancy gave way to the Supreme Court case), Linda Coffee (lawyer who filed the original lawsuit), Curtis Boyd (fundamentalist Christian turned abortion provider), and Mildred Jefferson (first Black woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School).



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

Mah Jongg Fun	(first and third Tuesdays/month)	Contact JoAnn for information.
Branch Board Meeting	Wed December 1, 1:00pm – 3:00pm (first Wednesday each month) Anita Massey 's house Contact Marilyn for details.	All members are welcome to attend! CLICK HERE to join Zoom meeting meeting ID is 847 6261 1370 passcode is eq8ty2020
AAUW LPD Holiday Party Checks Due December 6! Holiday Party is Wed. Dec. 15, Terra Mia, Livermore \$60 check payable to AAUW-LPD; mail to Anita Massey (contact Anita or check Friday update, Evite or directory for address).		
Monday Night Bridge	 Mon. December 6 & 20, 7:00pm (second and fourth Mondays monthly) Contact Marti for information.	Bridge meets via Zoom . If you are unable to click on the link: recurring meeting ID 871 0728 2781 passcode 104382
Cocktails and Conversation	 Tues. December 7, 5:30pm – 7:00pm (first Tuesday each month)	Contact Marilyn for details. Check Friday updates for location change.
Afternoon Book Group	 Wed December 8, 1:30pm – 3:00pm (second Wednesday each month) Contact Devon for location information.	<i>West with Giraffes</i> reviewed by Roz Wright See upcoming titles
Mission Discussion Group	Thu December 9, 10:00am–11:00am	Chris Alesso's home Contact Chris for information and discussion topic!
International Lunch Group	 We'll meet again in January 2022! Watch for Evite	
AAUW LPD Holiday Party!	 Wed December 15, 2021 5:30pm	Terra Mia Restaurant 4040 East Avenue Livermore, CA 94550
Coffee And...	 Thu December 16, 10:00am–11:00am (second Thursday each month) Join us for coffee or tea, snacks, and conversation!	Paris Baguette, Pleasanton (corner of Santa Rita and Pimlico) Check your Friday update email for any changes.
Solo Dining	Fri December 17, 1:00pm lunch Contact Sandie 925-999-8400 for information.	Da Boccery 175 E. Vineyard, Livermore Enjoy eating out with friends!
Morning Book Group	Thu December 23, 9:30am – 11:00am (fourth Thursday each month) Contact Bev for details	Discuss <i>The Sanatorium</i> See upcoming titles