



The Grapevine

April 2022



President's Message

I would like to thank the program committee chaired by **Anita Massey** and **Sheryl Morgan** for the wonderful activities planned for this spring. I look forward to seeing you in person at the **branch annual meeting** at Zephyr Restaurant on April 23. This is a great opportunity to celebrate Spring, reconnect and of course attend a fun function with a great speaker. As always, we would love to have your input for future activities so let us know what interests you.

We are actively soliciting committee members for the upcoming year and would love to have your participation. Please join us as we promote AAUW's policy work which, among other things, "connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to empower women and girls."

[Marilyn Duman](#)
AAUW LPD President



You're invited to our AAUW-LPD Annual Meeting and Lunch

**Saturday, April 23
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM**

**Zephyr Restaurant
1736 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550**

No-host beverages and visiting from 12:00-12:30.
Lunch will be served at 12:30.

We look forward to seeing you all as we gather once again for this opportunity to reconnect with each other and the Branch!

Please choose one of three lunch options:

Seared Ahi, Chicken Cobb Salad or Pasta Primavera.

You can **RSVP via Evite** (March 14 email).

Luncheon checks must be received **no later than April 9**.
Please **mail your \$32 luncheon check** (made out to **AAUW-LPD**) to:
Anita Massey, 588 Rhea Way, Livermore, CA 94550.

After lunch we will hold our branch officer election for the 2022-23 program year, followed by our own **Sarah Palmer**, Zone 7 Water Agency Vice-President, speaking on the Delta Conveyance.

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AAUW LPD Board 2021-22 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</i>	Marilyn Duman
<i>Secretary</i>	Charlene Grandfield
<i>IBC Liaison</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

AAUW Website

AAUW has made major changes to the membership section of the website. Several short video tutorials are now available to help you make the transition. Check them out at:
<https://www.aauw.org/new-systems-update/>

Luncheon Questions – contact **Anita Massey** at akm1@comcast.net.



Ann Parker

Stimulating Book Talk!

The March 22 **Coffee and Conversation** event co-sponsored by [Towne Center Books](#) (Livermore) and our branch featured two authors, [Ann Parker](#) and [Katherine Gregorio](#). This well-attended event attracted about 40 members and guests who welcomed good weather at an in-person outdoor gathering held at The Last Word patio!



Katherine Gregorio

Parker and Gregorio spoke about the extensive research they undertook to write each of their books: San Francisco's post-Civil War era (Parker's *The Secret in the Wall*) and Russia during the Cold War (Gregorio's *The Double Life of Katherine Clark*). Both authors' books highlight strong female protagonists: Parker's latest mysteries series featuring unique Inez Stennart in *The Secret in the Wall* and Gregorio's non-fiction tale *The Double Life of Katherine Clark*, the true story of the author's aunt's adventures as a female journalist in Russia during the 1950s and '60s.

Coffee and cookies sweetened the lively question & answer period following these authors' talks. Thanks to committee members who helped to make this event possible!

Gwen Locke Branch Program Committee

Upcoming Branch Programs

The Program Committee has several upcoming, in-person events planned. Please save these dates and check your Evites and Friday updates for more details.

April 9, 4-6: Wine Social - We have moved this annual event to April to allow us to gather in person, hosted by Tina Amber. Spouses/SO/guests are invited. Bring a drink and appetizer to share. RSVP to 2/23 Evite.

April 23, 12-2: Annual Branch Meeting and Luncheon at Zephyr Restaurant in Livermore. See this *Grapevine* issue (page 1) and your 3/14 Evite for details.

May 23, 2:30-4: Olivina Tasting, Livermore. Charles Crohare will host us for a tour of his family Olive Estate followed by a tasting of select products. You will of course have the opportunity to purchase items for your home enjoyment. Attendance will be limited, sign up early when you receive the Evite for this event.

June 17, 4-6: Officer Installation. We will gather for wine and hors d'oeuvres at Marilyn Duman's home to install our branch Board for 2022-23.

As always, we ask that you be fully vaccinated when attending in-person events.

Send your questions to: aauwlpdprograms@gmail.com

[Sheryl Morgan](#) and [Anita Massey](#) Branch Program Chairs



Membership Update

National membership dues will increase \$5 to \$67 for 2022-2023, out of which \$64 will be tax-deductible. California state dues will remain the same at \$20, and branch dues at \$16, neither which are tax deductible.

Membership Renewals will be sent from National via email in the coming months. I encourage you to take advantage of renewing via the *automated online system*. One, it is so easy! Two, there is no paperwork. Last year the majority of our branch members renewed online.

[Tina Amber](#) Branch Membership Chair

Thank you to 2021-2022 Branch Nomination Committee Chair **Pam Leong** and committee for this **nominated slate of branch directors and officers** for program year 2022-2023. Election will be held during our **April 23 Annual Branch Luncheon**.

Officers

President	Marilyn Duman
Program chair(s)	Anita Massey & Sheryl Morgan
Membership	Tina Amber
Finance	Pam Leong *



Directors

AAUW Fund	PJ Wells
Interbranch Council	Charlene Grandfield
Publicity	Roz Wright
Historian/Archives	Sandy Hansen
Director at Large	Chris Alesso
Secretary	Pam Leong
STEM/Girl Program Director	Anita Massey
Membership Recruitment	Tina Amber
Nomination Committee 2022-2023	Roz Wright & Pam Leong

*A Yes vote on this nominated slate of officers includes approval of Pam Leong extending her service in this office as Finance Chair beyond the two consecutive terms recommended by branch bylaws.

During AAUW **Lobby Week**, branch members in each state meet with their legislative representatives to discuss AAUW priority bills.

These 3-5 bills are identified through discussion with each state's AAUW Public Policy Committee. These bills focus on **AAUW's mission**: *To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy*. Click on links below:



[Economic Security](#) [Human Trafficking](#) [Reproductive Health](#)
[Social Justice Reform](#) [Student Debt](#) [Title IX](#) [Voter Education](#)

Which legislative bills does AAUW California support? Which of these bills were passed in 2021? Which bills are in process or have become inactive? Click on [AAUW CA Bill Tracking Report](#) to see bill progress.

**AAUW Celebrates the Nomination of
 Ketanji Brown Jackson
 to the US Supreme Court!**



Click [here](#) to read the statement of AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria L. Blackwell. Click [here](#) to read about Ketanji Brown Jackson.

AAUW recommends: [Contact your Senators](#) to support confirmation of Judge Brown as US Supreme Court Judge. Complete a form at the bottom of the linked page in less than 5 minutes).



Local Scholarship Update

Donations have been rolling in!! We have a goal of \$6,000 and are getting close. If you haven't sent your check in the return envelope as yet, **it is NOT too late**. We hope to have **every member participate** in this effort to provide local women with funds for college expenses in their final years.

The following members have donated recently: *Monica Potter, Joan Green, Elva Cooper, Walt Morgan, Fern Corley, Carol Kinnard, Charlene Grandfield, Norma Foss, Mercedes Daggett, Karen Richardson, Carolyn Kotch, Devon LaHar, Susan Wacek and Family, Anne Dini, Chris Allesso, Sandy Hansen, Pushpa Dalal and Nancy Rensink*. Thanks to all!

Vicki-Dawn Rader and **Ginny Reineking**
Local Scholarship Co-Chairs

Local Organization to Give Out Women's College Scholarship Funds

([click here](#) for *The Independent* article, Mar 12, 2022)

"We're trying to help women become elevated in all aspects of life," said **Susan Wacek**, coordinator for the AAUW Local Scholarship Foundation.

- Thank you to the **AAUW LPD Local Scholarship Foundation** and **Roz Wright** for publicizing this area scholarship to college sophomores and juniors in the Tri-Valley!
- Thanks also to the scholarship board and selection committee for reviewing scholarship candidate applications and choosing worthy young women who benefit from this scholarship!
- And *many thanks* again to so many of you generous branch members who annually support local young women to advance their educational goals!

There's still time...for you, your friends, and family to give in support! The Foundation awards annual scholarships to female college sophomores or juniors who were raised in the Tri-Valley or who now live in Pleasanton, Dublin, or Livermore.

Please send your **donation check** (made out to AAUW-LPD Local Scholarship Foundation) to:
Ginny Reiniking 4123 Silver St. Pleasanton, CA 94566

AAUW LPD's **Mission Discussion Group** talks about a range of topics that affect women. Facilitator **Chris Allesso** solicits possible topics from group members, who then share article links to articles and other sources that the group uses as discussion starters.

During February and March, this group has looked at national and local childcare needs during the last two get-togethers. They found that the Tri-Valley appears to have better overall childcare options than some other places in the Bay area.

From this AAUW CA 1/15/2022 article [Childcare: An Overdue and Critical Investment](#): AAUW is calling on the 117th Congress to ensure that a permanent paid leave program, childcare funding and the Child Tax Credit are included in the budget reconciliation process.

Mission Discussion Group meets the second Thursday 10:00-11:00 AM each month to talk about a range of topics. Contact [Chris](#) and watch emailed Friday updates for location and topic information.



Grab your compass and join the expedition. Instead of an annual California State Convention, try out the.....

AAUW Annual Event
Saturday, April 30th 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
[Click here to register](#)

Explore new routes to connect to AAUW and its mission...together.

Morning Session:

- Kick off with inspirational words from Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO and others.
- Review our advocacy efforts.
- Hear inspiring words of three Speech Trek finalists
- Announce Named Gift Honoree and Top 10 Branch Fund Contributions.

Afternoon session:

- Meet accomplished candidates for the 2022-23 AAUW CA board of directors.
- Meet a dancing scientist, Jasmine Sadler, owner and founder of The STEAM Collaborative.
- Hear what three winners of the 2022 Branch Activity of the Year Award did.

“Choose Your Own Adventure” instead of choosing the usual workshops...

- More than 20 Zoom breakout rooms will have informal conversations hosted by branch members.
- No set agendas, Powerpoints, or handouts. Just sharing thoughts, stories, experiences, maybe debate.
- Move freely back and forth between breakout rooms to try what interests you.



Ukrainian Female Authors to check out.....

Oksana Zabuzhko: A talented Ukrainian author, Oksana Zabuzhko grew up in an intellectual family who were repressed during the ruling of Stalin. Oksana studied philosophy at Kyiv University, where she also completed her [doctorate](#) in aesthetics in 1987. Oksana’s work is soaked with feminist motives and human relations issues. Her novels are translated into more than 20 languages. Books to read: [Fieldwork in Ukrainian Sex](#) and [The Museum of](#)

[Abandoned Secrets.](#)








Maria Matios: Maria Matios’ work has won numerous awards, including the BBC Book of the Year in 2008. She is one of the best-selling writers and influential women in Ukraine, a former deputy at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Parliament), and an extremely fruitful writer. Maria’s first poems were published at age fifteen. Maria bases her books on the unique experiences of her family, whose roots go back as far as 1790. Books to read: [Sweet Darusia](#) (2003) and [Hardly Ever Otherwise](#) (2012).



Iren Rozdobudko: A contemporary writer, journalist, and screenwriter, Iren Rozdobudko is the author of almost 30 works of art. She is included in the top 10 most published writers in Ukraine. Iren was a scriptwriter for the 2014 Ukrainian drama *The Guide*, which was Ukraine’s entry for the Academy Award [Best Foreign Language Film](#). Click [here](#) for Iren’s novel *The Lost Button* (geography stretching from Kiev, the Ukraine’s periphery, Russia and the US).



Lina Kostenko: This poetess and writer is legendary in Ukraine and abroad. A distinctive feature of her works is intellectualism. In her poetry, the author’s themes are the mystery of being, the feeling of love, and Ukraine’s history. Lina’s poetry collection *300 Poetries, Selected* went out of stock within the first month of publication, as did her only novel, *Notes of the Ukrainian Insane*, showing the life of Ukrainian society during the times of the Orange Revolution in 2004. Click [here](#) for a *Chernobyl Poem*.

Mah Jongg Fun	(first and third Tuesdays/month)	Contact JoAnn for more information.
Cocktails and Conversation 	Tues April 5, 5:50 PM We will meet at the Cellar Door 4469 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton (opposite the Firehouse Theater)	Contact Marilyn for more information..
Branch Board Meeting	Wed April 6, 1:00pm – 3:00pm (first Wednesday each month). All members are welcome to attend!	We will meet at Tina Amber's home . Contact Marilyn if you plan to attend in person or by Zoom (link will be provided).
Monday Night Bridge 	Mon April 4 and 18, 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
Branch Wine Social	Sat April 9, 4:00-6:00pm hosted by Tina Amber 2704 Turnstone Dr, Pleasanton 94566	Spouses/SO/guests invited. Please bring a beverage of any kind and appetizer to share. RSVP to 2/23 Evite.
Afternoon Book Group 	Wed April 13, 1:30-3:00pm (second Wednesday each month) Contact Devon or check Friday update emails for information. See upcoming titles	Discuss Summer Hours at the Robbers Library (by Sue Halpern) reviewed by Joah Leighty. Corrie and MaryAnn Karlsen host 2994 Rodeo Ln Livermore, 94550-6812
Mission Discussion Group	Thu April 14, 10:00am–11:00am Join us for a friendly discussion of current events and other topics!	Contact Chris for information and discussion topic. Check Friday updates for meeting location or Zoom link.
International Lunch Group	Watch emailed Friday updates and Evite for information about our next lunch date and location!	
Coffee And... 	Thu April 21, 10:00am–11:00am (second Thursday each month) Join us for coffee, tea, snacks, and conversation!	We will meet at Paris Baguette 6700 Santa Rita Rd, Pleasanton or by Zoom. Check your Friday update emails for location or Zoom link.
Solo Dining 	Fri April 22, 5:30 PM Brava Garden Eatery 724 Main St., Pleasanton	Enjoy eating out with friends! Check your Friday updates or contact Sandie 925-999-8400 for information.
Annual Branch Lunch RSVP via Evite (March 14 email) Choose 1: <i>Seared Ahi, Chicken Cobb Salad, or Pasta Primavera.</i>	Sat April 23, 12:00-2:00pm Zephyr Grill & Bar 1736 First St, Livermore No-host beverages, socialize from 12:00-12:30. Lunch served at 12:30.	Please <u>mail your \$32 luncheon check</u> (made out to <u>AAUW-LPD</u>) to: Anita Massey 588 Rhea Way, Livermore, CA 94550. Checks must be received <u>no later than April 9</u>
Morning Book Group	Thu April 28, 9:30 –11:00am (fourth Thursday each month) Contact Bev for location or Zoom link.	Discuss <i>The House Uptown</i> (Melissa Ginsberg) See upcoming titles