



The Grapevine

March 2023



President's Message

As we welcome spring, the program committee has planned several in-person activities, including an author talk in March and a wine-tasting adventure in May. Be sure to mark your calendar for our **annual luncheon meeting** on April 22 at Zephyr Grill in Livermore. Our calendar of coming events on the branch website and the Friday updates are great resources to keep you informed.

We would love to have your input concerning our branch's mission, programs, and activities. To that end look for a short survey which will be emailed to you later in March

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

[Marilyn Duman](#)
AAUW LPD President

Upcoming Branch Programs

TEASER –We are planning an event with Town Center Books to help celebrate **Women's History Month**. We will share more in a Friday update as soon as they are final. We are looking at a mid-March date.

AAUW-LPD's annual meeting will be held **Saturday, April 22** at the Zephyr Grill in Livermore. The cost will be \$39.00 per person and you will have a choice of entrée. Please watch for your invite arriving soon. We will need your RSVP and a check by April 14.

- 11:30 Social–Catch up with friends and enjoy a beverage from the no-host bar
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Business Meeting
- 1:15 Guest Speaker

This year we are fortunate to have [Dr. Kelly Bowers](#), CEO of the [Three Valleys Community Foundation](#) speaking to us. Community foundations are grantmaking public charities, dedicated to improving the lives of people in a defined local geographic area.

Questions answered at aauwlpdprograms@gmail.com.

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



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**Grapevine
submissions welcome!**
Information of any length by phone or email:
newsletter@aauw-lpd.org
925-548-4333.

Comments about a book you've read, female character or event that inspired you?

Branch member news or congratulations?

Questions, suggestions also welcome!

Membership News

Membership renewals for 2023-2024 will begin in April. The membership year for current members begins July 1.

For new members, the membership expiration date is determined by their join date. Their membership will expire a year after the date of joining.



AAUW is moving to an online renewal system. I will be encouraging all of you to open an AAUW online account. More details to follow in the coming months.

Tina Amber

Branch Membership Chair

Annual Local Scholarship Fundraiser

The 2023 AAUW-LPD Scholarship Foundation **Non-Event Fundraiser** theme is *Defraying College Costs*. By supporting this year's non-event, you help to fund scholarships for deserving local women in their final two undergraduate years. This is the easiest way to support our efforts to assist young women in their last two years of college—and it is *never* too late to make a donation to help these students reach their educational goals!

Thank you all for your donations. You or your friends and family can still make a tax deductible contribution to fund our scholarships. You can also use our EIN 90-0534633 to request matching funds from your employer. Please email scholarships@aauw-lpd.org for more information.

Vicki-Dawn Rader and Ginny Reineking

Local Scholarship Non-Event Co-Chairs

AAUW Local Foundation Scholarship News

You have all received a clever **Non-Event Fundraiser** letter in the mail from our very own AAUW Local Scholarship Foundation Please consider giving to this worthy cause! We also appreciate the generous donations we have received from your family members and friends.



Here is a update from one of last year's local scholarship winners:

Sadie Eldredge, one of last year's scholarship winners has updated me on her academic and volunteer endeavors. She has been loving her world of academia! Sadie just came back from a Radiology Conference and has experienced hospital rotations in CT, general X-ray, & MRI. She loves working with children. Concurrently, she received a 4.0 in her studies.

Regarding volunteering and extracurricular opportunities:

- * Sadie continues to serve as the President of the Class of 2023.
- * She is now chair for the California Society of Radiologic Technologists student committee—fundraising and organizing service activities for RSSA.
- * She volunteered at Northridge Hospital's Holiday Jam which provided food, gifts and activities for underserved children.

Sadie continues to be thankful for our support!

Susan Wacek, Coordinator, Local Scholarship Foundation



AAUW California 2023 **Gov Trek** is a virtual program for high school junior and senior girls to inspire career pursuit in public service and elected office. Students are exposed to women legislators, career options, and the inner workings of a political campaign. The program culminates in a group competition to create a realistic campaign simulation.

Our January inaugural session started with a 3-minute [video address](#) from fellow Californian Speaker Emerita **Nancy Pelosi**. We were privileged to have the first woman Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives greet us as we explore careers in public office and elected positions (five 2-hour sessions through March, 2023).



Equal Pay Day 2023

This symbolic day denotes how far into the year women must work to be paid what men were paid the previous year. Equal Pay Day 2023 is on **March 14** to represent the current state of the gender pay gap: *83% for full-time workers and 77% for all workers* (including part-time and seasonal).

The COVID-19 pandemic pushed many women, especially women of color, into part-time or seasonal work, or out of the workforce all together. Because of this, past methods of calculating the wage gap fell short of accurately capturing the full picture. We can advocate on behalf of all women in the workforce using this new inclusive methodology.

Salary Transparency Laws Gain Momentum

New legislation went into effect in California and Washington state, requiring companies with 15 or more employees to post pay ranges in all job postings and to provide that information to employees who seek it. Read AAUW CEO Gloria L. Blackwell's recent [MSNBC article](#) about the growing movement toward pay transparency.

Closing the Digital Gender Gap

Wed, March 15 (11:00 am Pacific Time)

Join AAUW for an engaging [online panel discussion](#) about the “digital gender gap.” You’ll learn from our expert panel how women are still being left behind from pursuing the most promising tech fields of the future—and how we can work to change that. Click on the above link for free registration.

AAUW Features This News (January 2023)

Forbes. [The Majority Of America's Top-Ranked Colleges Will Be Led By A Woman Or Person Of Color This Fall](#). Michael T. Nietzel. January 31

Medium. [Inspirational Women in STEM and Tech: Dr Kimberly Clay of Play Like a Girl!® On The 5 Leadership Lessons She Learned From Her Experience](#). January 29

Yahoo! Finance. [Latinas in Finances Shows Strong Representation of Hispanic Women in Financial Industry: Eighteen Authors Present Personal Stories. Change Narrative](#). January 23

Ms.Magazine. [We Need to Push Harder for Women's Representation in Leadership](#). Gloria L. Blackwell. January 5.

Times Higher Education. [Claudine Gay at Harvard: a powerful step towards equality](#). Paul Basken. January 4.



Women's History Month 2023: Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories

Throughout 2023, the National Women's History Alliance (NWHHA) will encourage recognition of women, past and present, who have been active in all forms of media and storytelling including print, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts, and more.

Key dates in history for American women:

International Women's Day, March 8, was established as a holiday in 1911.

The first major march on Washington by suffragists happened on March 3, 1913.

The National Woman's Party was formed in March 1917. The group was dedicated to getting women the right to vote.

Title IX was passed on March 1, 1972. In fact, the first-ever [Women's History Week was created in order to bolster support for Title IX](#), which prohibited discrimination due to sex in federally funded education programs.

The Equal Rights Amendment was passed in the Senate on March 22, 1972.



Be inspired by stories of women and issues central to being female.

[Listen to Storycorps Archives](#) of women's history in short interviews.

[20 Best New Women History Books To Read In 2023](#) (BookAuthority)

AAUW CA [Women's History Month archives](#) links to courageous women pioneers who broke ground for the advancement of women.

Women's History Month 2023: [Lean in and learn more with these events around the Bay Area](#)

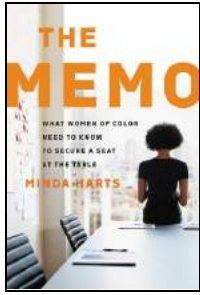
East Bay Regional Park District [Women's History Month article](#) highlights women's contributions which have led to protecting open space and connecting people with nature in the East Bay.



Power Partnership: AAUW & Ms.

Ms. Magazine, founded by activists Gloria Steinem and Dorothy Pitman Hughes, is a periodical providing "feminist news and information." Introduced as a preview within a December 1971 issue of *New York Magazine*, *Ms.* ran as a monthly publication until 1987, when it converted to a quarterly.

As part of a special partnership, AAUW members are offered a free one-year subscription to the legendary *Ms. Magazine*. This [free subscription](#) includes four print issues of *Ms.* magazine, special sales offers for the forth-coming *Ms.* book, a best-of collection from **50 Years of Ms.: The Best of the Pathfinding Magazine That Ignited a Revolution** [Sign up](#) to get yours today!

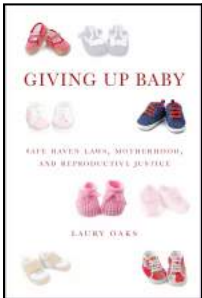


Minda Harts is a sought-after speaker committed to empowering women to thrive at work, even when they face sexism and racism still present in many workplaces. She is the founder of The Memo LLC, a career development company and assistant professor of public service at New York University.

Minda's bestselling books include [*The Memo: What Women of Color Need to Know to Secure a Seat at the Table*](#), and *Right Within: How to Heal from Racial Trauma in the Workplace*.



Minda is the keynote speaker for the 2023 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) sponsored by AAUW at the University of Maryland, College Park.

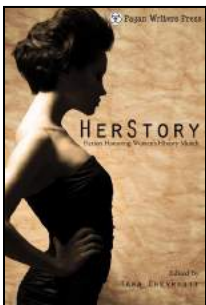


Giving Up Baby: Safe Haven Laws, Motherhood, and Reproductive Justice

“Baby safe haven” laws allow a parent to relinquish a newborn baby legally and anonymously at a specified institutional location. These laws were established in every state between 1999 and 2009. Baby safe haven laws were thought to offer a solution to the consequences of unwanted pregnancies: mothers would no longer be burdened with children they could not care for, and newborn babies would no longer be abandoned in dumpsters.

Yet while these laws are well-meaning, they ignore the real problem: some women lack key social and economic support that mothers need to raise children. Safe haven laws may do little to help disadvantaged women. Instead, safe haven law advocates target teenagers, women of color, and poor women with safe haven information and see relinquishing custody of their newborns as an act of maternal love. Disadvantaged women are preemptively judged as “bad” mothers whose babies would be better off without them.

Laury Oaks (Feminist Studies Professor, UC Santa Barbara) argues that the labeling of certain women (teenagers, women of color, and poor women) as potential “bad” mothers should best be understood as an issue of reproductive justice. Safe haven discussion often promotes narrow images of who deserves to be a mother. These discussions also reflect restrictive views on how we should treat women experiencing unwanted pregnancy.



In ancient times, women were regarded as sacred. They were thought to hold the mystical power of creation—responsible for the continuation of our species. With the rise of science and religion, these myths were dispelled and our view of women changed.

HerStory: Fiction Honoring Women's History Month is a collection of short stories from today's top authors. Author [Tara Chevrest](#) features female characters that exemplify strength of mind, body, and character. Some of these tales are based on real people while others are purely fictional. All are standing up for themselves and what they believe in.



[Nine Groundbreaking Inventions by Women](#)

Women inventors are behind a wide range of key innovations, from Kevlar to dishwashers to better life rafts.

[Eleven Bold Women Who Changed the World](#)

From the female Paul Revere and a Hollywood starlet-turned-inventor to a political pioneer and the first female sports star, explore the legacies of these daring women.



Click on our [branch calendar](#) link to see month-by-month activities.

Click on any calendar entry link for more information.

Watch also for our AAUW-LPD Friday update emails.

Activities & Interest Groups

International Lunch Group	Meets on various days and times. Watch for an Evite
Monday Night Bridge	Meets the 2 nd Monday of the month at 7 pm
Morning Book Group	Meets the 4 th Thursday of the month at 9:30 am
Afternoon Book Group	Meets the 2 nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30 pm
Mission Discussion Group	Meets the 2 nd Thursday of the month at 10 am (March 9 discussion on <i>banned books</i>)
Solo Dining Group	Meets the 2 nd Friday of the month for lunch or dinner
Coffee and...	Meets the 3 rd Thursday of the month at 10 am at Paris Baguette (6700, Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton)
Cocktails & Conversation	Meets the 1 st Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm at 828 Bites & Brews (828 Main St., Pleasanton)



We will miss...long-time member **Elva Cooper**, who passed away on February 8th. Cards can be sent to her husband Phil and family at 100 Valley Avenue, #241, Pleasanton 94566. We will pass along more information about Elva's memorial service (March 25 at Lynnewood United Methodist Church) when we receive it.



Elva Cooper served as our branch College/Community relations chair during the mid-2000's. She spoke about the Mentoring Program at Las Positas College, which began last year. Mentors from local employers (including LLNL & Sandia) as well as AAUW-LPD branch members, were paired with female Las Positas students, with particular focus on STEM-related majors. Elva's goal was to get more branch members involved with students during the college academic years as connections between school and future work lives.

Elva chaired AAUW-LPD's *Tribute to Excellence* Award during the mid-2000's. This annual award goes to a Las Positas College female student with a good academic record who demonstrates a record of community service, and a plan to work toward completion of a Bachelor's degree. We continue to award student recipients with a special pin, plaque and monetary gift.