

The Grapevine

January 2025



Be the change you wish to see

What you can do this month:

Attend the event at the Museum on Main on January 9

Remember to change to 2025!

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PROGRAM

Member Memories

Several years ago, branch member Chris Alesso interviewed many of our members about their AAUW memories and their lives in the Tri-Valley. Museum Curator Ken MacLennan volunteered his time to film these interactions. There are many fascinating stories to hear!

Join us at the museum on Thursday, January 9, 4:30 PM, while we enjoy light refreshments and view highlights of some of these interviews.

The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in Pleasanton.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The timing of our newsletter allows me say both "Good Bye, 2024" and "Welcome, 2025!"

AAUW LPD has had a successful 2024! In addition to interest groups, bridge and book groups, international lunches and wine appreciation, and the mission discussion group, we have been very active.

In September, we started the year with our kick-off lunch held at the Dublin Civic Center. Our new program co-chair, Nancy Hudson, coordinated the event. Baskets were raffled to help support both Scholarship and Tech Trek, and we had young women from both programs speak to us.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT (continued)

October featured a meeting at Denica's where we had a discussion of the upcoming propositions before election day. I know I count on these to ease the burden of researching each proposition on my own.

November saw Tech Trek hosting their first ever fundraiser at Page Mill Winery. We are looking forward to making this an annual event.

Our annual holiday dinner was held in December at Terra Mia in Livermore. There are many folks to thank for making this a success. Please accept my apology if I forget someone.

- We raffled 5 gift baskets and a wreath, with the money designated for girl programs like STEM Day held in March and the Innovation Fair held in April. Your generosity raised \$380.00. All of the gift baskets were lovely, and one of the favorites was a Sauced basket donated by Kelly Kimball.
- You collectively donated \$700 in gift cards for the Tri Valley Haven. Your generosity and willingness to help women and families in need is impressive and so on point for our mission.
- Myla Grasso coordinated our entertainment. We enjoyed a 4 person group of ukulele players who played holiday music while we ate and then led us in a short sing along. They were fabulous and added a fun festive note to the evening. Thanks, Myla.
- My BIG thank you for the night goes to Nancy Hudson for again pulling all of the moving parts together.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah as you take a time to enjoy friends and family as we reset for next year.

And now on to 2025! If you aren't already exhausted, this is what I know is coming, and there may be more . . .

January 9 will have us gathering at Museum on Main where we will get to view some interview snips that provide a bit of branch history.

March is Women's History Month with activities to be announced. It is also when the Local Scholarship Committee's fundraiser is generally in full swing. Please remember the wonderful women who spoke to us last September, and donate generously to help support the next group like them.

April 26 will be our annual meeting at Zephyr in Livermore. I know Nancy is working on securing a speaker. If you have ideas or can help, I'm sure she'd welcome your assistance.

Cheers, Anita

MEMBERSHIP

Keeping Current

Just a reminder that if you change your email, address or phone number let us know! You can either make the changes yourself on the AAUW.org portal, or you can send the changes to Tina Amber at tmamber6@gmail.com, and she will make the updates for you. We want all our members to receive our newsletter, Evites and weekly updates.

Make a Difference Day

Our Branch will again be participating in Pleasanton's "Make a Difference Day" on Saturday, January 18. If you would like to help staff our table (to recruit new members), send Tina a note. Or, if you know of anyone looking for a way to get involved, encourage them to attend this event at the Senior Center and visit our table.

Evites

AAUW-LPD uses the Evite system to inform our members of upcoming events and to track RSVPs for planning purposes. There are many positives to the system, including a reminder system and a "what to bring" system. We can divide the membership list into subgroups. It is also free! We have heard that some members have difficulty with the RSVP function. I would recommend that you download the free app on your smart phone. The app is extremely easy to use. Questions on Evites? Call or send Tina a note.

GIRL PROGRAMS

STEM Day for Girls

Save the date! On March 8, 2025, AAUW LPD is partnering with Sandia National Labs for a 1-day STEM workshop for 4th and 5th grade girls. STEM Day will be held at Las Positas College in Livermore. We will need many volunteers to help with workshops, registration, escorting girls on campus, lunch, set up, and clean up, just to mention a few duties. If you would like to volunteer a few hours, half day, or full day, we definitely can use your help! No worries if you have time constraints or mobility concerns, there are many duties that you can participate in. To volunteer and to learn more, contact Pam Leong, p_c_leong@yahoo.com, or Naomi Siu, naomi.f.siu@gmail.com. Please join us for a day of childhood wonderment!



GIRL PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

Tech Trek Alum Group

There is a state committee helping branches develop alum groups for our Trekkers. We recognize the importance of keeping our Trekkers closely engaged with AAUW, STEM, and the friendships they formed at camp throughout their high school and college years and beyond.

To support this effort, a new workgroup within the state Tech Trek committee has been established known as TTAZ -- the Tech Trek Alum Zone. Their vision is that every branch that sends campers to Tech Trek continues to follow and support their Trekkers, minimally for the first five years after camp.

This year, TTAZ is focused on three action items to reconnect AAUW branches with their Tech Trek alums and to connect Tech Trek alums with each other.

1. Help branches form Tech Trek Alum Groups (TTAGs): These groups will provide alums with opportunities to plan, participate in, and enjoy local and virtual STEM activities, encouraging them to pursue futures in STEM.
2. Support the Tech Trek Alum Community (TTAC): Join forces with the TTAC Advisory Board -- a statewide committee of high school and college Tech Trek alums-- to design and deliver statewide educational, career, and social programs to ALL alums.
3. Improve alum contact information: Ensure we have accurate, up-to-date information to strengthen communication and engagement with our alums.

If you are interested in helping LPD form a TTAG, please reach out to Nitu Shinde, Anita Massey or Sheryl Morgan.

Tech Trek Fundraiser

Save the date of October 16, 2025, for the second annual Tech Trek fundraiser at Page Mill Winery. We enjoyed working with the winery this year. It was a first attempt and fell a bit short of our goal, but it was enough of a success to try again. We listened to your comments, and to address the cold and damp, we are moving it one month earlier. We also heard the concerns about food and are exploring options there.

If any of you would like to help with next year's Tech Trek Fundraiser, please reach out to Anita Massey. The hours are flexible and will look like 1 organizational meeting in late August, with 2 or 3 Zoom touch bases and some email follow-ups between then and October 16, 2025. This little bit of your time will go far in ensuring we can again afford the cost of sending 9 girls to camp.

If any of you missed the opportunity to attend the event or forgot leave us a donation, your tax deductible donations are still welcome. Please send checks made out to LPD – AAUW Tech Trek Scholarship to PO Box 661, Livermore, CA 94550.

FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA

CELEBRATING THE PRESENT WHILE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

'Tis the season for celebrating. Let's celebrate the outstanding dedication of our AAUW California Board of Directors. Each board member has made major contributions, and together their impact has been impressive. Their work can be seen on the state website at aauw-ca.org. The webinar on Project 2025 is of special interest as we prepare for the coming year.

In 2025, we will be electing a president-elect, chief financial officer, and three board members.

Every member will receive an email invitation to vote. Voting will begin in April. Consider applying or nominating someone for these critical positions.

We can celebrate the present and encourage members to apply for AAUW California Board positions!

LOBBY DAYS 2025 - SAVE THE DATE!

Get ready to advance legislation that makes a difference! This spring, the AAUW California 2025 Lobby Days event will be held over two days: an in-person meeting day at the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 8, and a virtual meeting day over Zoom on Wednesday, April 9 . A registration form will arrive in your inbox in early January. For more details about the event, see the December issue of Public Policy News [HERE](#).



CELEBRATIONS

Holiday dinner at Terra Mia



We would love to share photos of your interest groups!
Email them to
newsletter@lpd-aauw.org

CELEBRATIONS (Continued)



*Farewell, 2024
Welcome, 2025*

2024/25 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President/Administrator - Anita Massey
Finance - Myla Grasso
Secretary- Saundra Bauer

Program Co-Chairs- Gwen Locke, Nancy Hudson
AAUW Fund - PJ Wells
Membership - Tina Amber
Publicity and Public Policy - Roz Wright
STEM Director - Sheryl Morgan

BRANCH ACTIVITIES AND INTEREST GROUPS

Board Meeting

NOTE: The January Board meeting is Wednesday, January 8, 10 AM.
Branch Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome at board meetings, so please contact [Anita Massey](#) if you plan to attend.

Interest Groups

Watch the Friday updates for updated or additional information.
Interest groups are open to active AAUW LPD branch members only.
Guests may attend a maximum of three times without becoming a member.

Wine Enthusiasts		Watch for info on next tasting
International Lunch Group		Watch for info on next lunch
Monday Night Bridge	7 PM, 2 nd and 4 th Mondays	January 13 and 27
Morning Book Group	9:30 AM, 4 th Monday	January 27
Afternoon Book Group	1:30 PM, 2 nd Wednesday	January 8
Cocktails & Conversation	5:30 PM, 1 st Thursday	January 2

Newsletter edited by Myla Grasso. Articles or photos for consideration may be submitted to newsletter@lpd-aauw.org.

