

Hayward/Castro Valley Branch
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Empowering women since 1881

August 2021



The Shareline



PANDEMIC TAKEOUT DINING EVENT

Benefitting

AAUW

Hayward/Castro Valley
Tech Trek Program

MONDAY, AUGUST 16
PICK UP YOUR ORDERS BETWEEN
4:30 PM AND 7:30 PM

Tech Trek is a one-week STEM camp for 7th grade girls designed to develop interest, excitement and self-confidence in this field. They live in dorms as college students and participate in challenging hands-on activities throughout the week.

Presenting a Tips for Change Take Out event. To place your order go to www.giannissanramon.com or call 925-820-6969. For online orders click on "order online" button, then click on delivery or pickup. Be sure to **Click on August 16**, then choose your items and your desired time for pickup or delivery. (Wine and cocktails available to go.)

Please place order by Saturday August 14 so the chef can be prepared.

As always, all tips and 10% of sales go to support the cause. You will enjoy a wonderful dinner to go and support Tech Trek. It's a **Win-Win**.

If you can't participate but would like to make a tax-deductible donation you may do so: write a check to **AAUW-CA SPF**, on the Memo Line put **Tech Trek Sonoma State** and mail it to **Helene Carr, Treasurer, P.O. Box 642, Hayward, CA 94543**.

2065 SAN RAMON VALLEY BLVD.
SAN RAMON, CA. 94583
WWW.GIANNISSANRAMON.COM
925.820.6969





Tech Trek Tips for Change Organizing

You might want to pick one driver for a group of you to pick up your meals and deliver them to you-or-even better, gather together to eat—make it a party!

Linda Slater and Judy Harrison have volunteered to pick up meals, time TBA.

This was quite successful last year even though we couldn't dine out. We made over \$3000. Hope to hear from all of you either with orders or checks or both!

Next year Tech Trek will be residential at various universities throughout the state. Our girls will go to Sonoma State. There will be many changes and updates to the program that may include a hybrid version that is in-person and virtual. Stay tuned as AAUW gears up for a new and better Tech Trek.

President's Message

Dear Friends, Our AAUW 2020-21 year has come to an end, and what a year it has been- all virtual since March of 2020. The 2021-2022 AAUW year will bring some extremely exciting things and we look forward to making a difference once again. AAUW California posted that we are in a transitional stage and to follow county guidelines for meeting in one space— inside or outside. Our Branch programs and events will continue on Zoom until more information can be provided or with the agreement of all participants.

On July 7th, the Branch held our planning session. We had a lively and constructive discussion about potential programs, events, and fundraisers for the coming year. We concurred on the following strategies:

- A priority on projects around education, inclusion, and diversity;
- A focus on local community projects and partnerships;
- Collaboration with like-minded organizations to maximize our impact and community exposure; and
- Conduct a mix of online and in-person events.

In August, our Branch will resurrect the Social Media Project with LWVEA with a focus on voter suppression. The project involves posting across several platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and SnapChat to inform our members and the community. If you like to use social media, please join us.

We will also be hosting an Alameda County Redistricting forum, date TBD, with the Alameda County Coalition for Fair Redistricting. The Coalition is advancing a fair and transparent redistricting process that includes drawing maps that prioritize communities and their people. For more information click [HERE](#).

As our year rolls out there will be plenty of opportunities for you to get involved with programs of importance to you, both just for fun and to make a difference in our Community, our State, and our Country.

Just a reminder: If you have not had an opportunity to renew your membership, now is the time. If you need assistance, please let Liz Bathgate or me know.

Continue to stay safe. All the best. Linda Slater, Branch Administrative Officer

Membership

There are a number of members who have not as yet sent in their dues. I have sent out three notices from National where you can send in your dues using your credit card. If you wish to do it by mail, you can send me a check made out to AAUW for \$97.00. My address is 22112 Queen Street, Castro Valley, CA 94546. Liz Bathgate

We have great plans for in person events this coming year since we are all vaccinated. The first event in September will be a chance to hear from our two Tech Treckers who attended camp virtually in June and July. This is one of our premier programs that has been ongoing for many years and hearing from these gals is always a treat.



Work Smart & Start Smart Salary Negotiation Training



National Conference for College Women Student Leaders



STEMEd for Girls



Empower

Vote Forward



Vote Forward is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower grassroots volunteers to help voters from underrepresented communities, across the Country, and to encourage them to vote. Their strategy is to write letters to voters, and you can do it right from home!

To participate, click [HERE](#) to open the website, hit “I’m Ready to Write”, and register for a Vote Forward account. Write as many letters as your time allows. Choose a voter name and you will be given a nonpartisan template which encourages that recipient to vote and provides important election information.

Then you write **one to three personal sentences** expressing why you choose to vote. The language is to be objective and not to influence voting along party lines. (Vote Forward mentions that the voters are likely to be registered Democrats.)

You provide the envelopes, stamps, and blue or black pen.

Sending a Vote Forward letter is one of the easiest things you can do to increase election turnout. It only takes about 15 minutes, per letter, and a stamp, to meaningfully increase the odds that a fellow citizen will vote. Please consider this opportunity. Vote Forward will answer most of your questions and I am available, too. Helene Victor 510-886-1640 or email me at darrell.and.helene@gmail.com.



Upcoming events

Evening Book Group



When: Thursday, August 19, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM - Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89489469550pwd=TXIUMUxSeXRIR052b0pNeGdKaW5lUT09>

Meeting ID: 894 8946 9550 / Passcode: 938511

Dial by Telephone to +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) Enter Meeting ID & Passcode

In May *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich was facilitated by Pat Macsata. Ms. Erdrich's book is a fictionalized account of an important incident in the life of her grandfather, a member of the Chippewa tribe.

Evening Book Group will not meet in June or July.

We resume in August with *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson facilitated by Tammy Tribbles. She will intersperse with antidotes from her experience hiking a 166 mile section of the Appalachian Trail (AT) this June. The story follows Iowa native Bryson, who after living 20 years in England, decides to reconnect with his mother country by hiking the length of the 2100-mile AT. He plunges into the wilderness and emerges with a consistently comical account of a neophyte woodsman learning hard lessons about self-reliance.

In September, we will resume in-person meetings at Pat Macsata's home where Linda Myers will facilitate a discussion of one of Amy Tan's memoirs, to be determined.

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson will be our October read, again facilitated by Tammy Tribbles. The Caste describes racism in the United States as an aspect of a caste system – a society-wide system of social stratification characterized by hierarchy, inclusion and exclusion, and purity.

All are welcome. Please join us.



Book Group

The branch book group had its final successful meeting of our pandemic year on Monday, May 17. Five members discussed Gayle Tzemach Lemmon's novel *The Dressmaker of Khair Khan*. Linda Slater facilitated the lively discussion.

The group has survived the year thanks to Linda Slater who organized the Zoom meetings. Margaret Hankle, Genie Lester, Linda Myers, Pat Macsata, Carol Jarvis, Rita Sklar, Ruth Rymer and Brenda Senturia shared their skills by facilitating discussions, giving reviews and loyally joining the meetings. They and members who did not participate due to inability to Zoom, look forward to the autumn when in- person meetings will likely be possible again.

The group will not meet during the summer months. However, plans will be made for how the group will continue in September. Watch for further news about the group in future issues of *The Shareline*.

All branch members are always welcome to join this group. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Barbara Jones at bb_jones@pacbell.net.



Drama Reading

We will once again return to reading a play in person at my home starting on October 14th. I do not know what the plays are for this year as the branch that sends them out has not contacted me with the list. Once I get that information, I will email all the members who attended in the past. We will read the second Thursday of each month at 1pm. We receive 8 plays each year. If you are interested, please contact me and I will add you to the list of participants. Enjoy your summer!

Questions? Contact Liz Bathgate at 510-581-0461 or at lbbathgate@att.net

HCV BRANCH PLANNING SESSION 2021-2022

The Branch annual planning meeting was held Thursday, July 7th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm via Zoom. Branch president Linda Slater moderated the meeting. We hoped to get broader support from the membership, but regardless we accomplished a lot. We met to get a sense of what people want to see for this coming year. Here are the groups' expectations:

1. Focus on education, inclusion, and diversity.
2. Local Community related programs
3. New blood in the organization
4. Raise awareness of what the branch does in the community.
5. Increase collaboration with like-minded organizations.

BRANCH FINANCES

Branch Treasurer, Helene Carr, provided our financial report. Due to the pandemic our only source of income, beyond membership, was the Gianni's fundraiser earmarked for Tech Trek. Our income was \$1,444.00 with expenditures of \$2,616.88. \$1,172.88 was borrowed from prudent reserve to cover a branch donation of \$2,000 to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. It was suggested that the Board closely review the individual member giving before making a branch donation, since our members are historically generous.

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

Membership chair, Liz Bathgate, reported that in 2020-2021 we had 91 members. While many members have renewed, there are still 39 members who have not for 2021-2022. Please submit your membership dues as soon as possible. Questions? Contact Liz Bathgate.

BRANCH TECH TREK PROGRAM

Tech Trek chair, Judy Harrison, reported that we sent two campers to virtual camp in 2020. One student who attended in June was so enthused that she wants to be a member of an alumni group. Our second camper attended camp in July. Our annual Gianni's Fundraiser is scheduled for August 16th from 5 – 8 PM. It will be Take Out only again this year. We are hoping to have our first in-person event on September 19th at Faith Lutheran Church where our two Tech Trek campers will have a chance to tell us all about their camp experience.

PROGRAMS FOR THE FUTURE:

This is where it got really fun, and the rubber hit the road.

1. Sara Lamnin is active in the **Alameda County Coalition for Fair Redistricting**. She talked about the census and redrawing of lines of all governmental districts. Communities have a say in how they are defined. The public has to know about their options. She has a presentation that will be presented in late July or early August.
2. **Social Media Project:** Voter suppression has lasting effects on the electorate. What can be done to combat it? This is going on in 45 states. The League of Women Voters of the Eden Area (LWVEA) and the HCV Branch will post each month over Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and SnapChat to inform our community about voter suppression issues.
3. **Vote Forward** is a non-partisan agency that empowers volunteers to write letters to voters in states that have passed discriminatory laws. The letters give voters the encouragement to go out and vote in spite of the new laws.

4. We will coordinate an update to our successful 2016 **Human Trafficking Program**. Jo Loss suggested we honor retiring District Attorney Nancy O'Malley by asking her to speak at an event with other organization such as Love Never Fails.
5. Support **local backpack and book drives** for local schools, highlighting books on inclusion, diversity, and equality. Attendees had lots of ideas of local organizations to collaborate with.
6. Pat Macsata suggested a social activity at the **Ruth Bancroft Gardens** in Walnut Creek including lunch at a local restaurant. Other social events might include a visit to the Lace museum in Sunnyvale and resuming Ethnic Dining Out with a visit to La Pastierrie Francaise for lunch or dinner.
7. **Travel Talks:** Tammy Tribble just returned from walking 166 miles of the Appalachian Trail. She is willing to talk about her experiences and show photo's. Judy Harrison is also willing to talk about her latest trip.
8. **Fundraisers:** (1) a jewelry clinic featuring jewelry making, repair and appraisal; (2) a spring plant sale; and (3) a wine tasting (with chocolate?).

As you can see we came up with plenty of good ideas. Now we need **YOUR** help to get them to fruition. Please choose one that you would like to champion and get involved. Remember October 5th at 6 PM on Zoom, our Branch will be honoring our 2020 Heart of Hayward - Pat Macsata for her wonderful contributions to our branch. You won't want to miss it!

AAUW National Election Results



Many thanks to everyone who voted in AAUW's 2021 National Election. It took a mere three days to reach the required quorum—a testament to our members' passion and engagement. I am honored and humbled to have been re-elected to serve as your board chair for three more years. I am also pleased to report that Malinda Gaul was re-elected as board vice chair, and Elizabeth Haynes and Joseph Bertolino will retain their board seats. AAUW's public policy priorities were approved by 92% of voters. The board-recommended ballot initiative to remove the college-degree membership requirement did not receive the two thirds, or 66.6%, vote required to enact a bylaw change. However, the board is heartened that a remarkable 63% of you voted in favor of making this change, indicating a momentum shift toward a more inclusive membership. This was a significantly higher number than we saw in previous votes, which hovered just below 50%, to make the change. While we have many voices, I know we all share the same commitment to AAUW's mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy, and our vision of achieving equity for all. Julia T. Brown, Esq. Board Chair

AAUW California Election Results

Congratulations to the elected board members:

- President-Elect - Sandi Gabe
- Chief Financial Officer - Roli Wendorf
- Director - Carol Holzgrafe

Moving forward...

- Bylaw changes - Passed
- Public Policy Priorities - Passed

Click [HERE](#) for details for details on elected candidates, public policy priorities, and changes to the bylaws.



Member News

If you have news about a member who needs to be congratulated on a special occasion or accomplishment, who needs to be encouraged during illness or difficult time, or to be reminded we are here for him/her, please contact your corresponding secretary Barbara Jones at 510.538.0516 or by email at bb_jones@pacbell.net.

This is especially important during these pandemic times when we are isolated from our branch friends and not enjoying our usual meetings. Let's show our friends know we care.