



The Shareline

Tech Trek Get Together



Meet our 2021 Trekkers and hear about their virtual adventures.

DATE: Sunday, September 19, 2021

WHERE: ZOOM EVENT

Meeting ID **832 1388 7700**

Passcode **505465**

TIME: 2 pm to 4 pm

RSVP: Judy Harrison:
jharrison663@comcast.net

In Memory of Evelyn Gertler



Evelyn Gertler, a valued, long-term member of our branch passed away August 6, 2021. Thank you to Ursula Batz for giving us a glimpse into the life of this special woman.

“Evelyn was a friend of mine for about 20 years. She had a full life of family involvement, teaching, and fighting for social justice causes. When she and husband Al lived in New Orleans, she taught in a former Black school during the years of desegregation. When several classes from her school arrived at a museum for a tour of an exhibit, they were told no docents were available to show them the exhibit. She said that she

would explain the exhibit to the children herself. And she did.

In Oakland, when the Teachers’ Union was striking for better conditions at the school, Evelyn laid down on the street to prevent a laundry truck from crossing the picket line, astounding her students. She was, first and foremost a teacher, always looking for ways to open the minds and eyes of children. She continued volunteering at her school for several years after she retired because she missed the children.

In our community, she actively participated in AAUW, POE, and especially the Friends of the Library, both in Hayward and in Castro Valley. She played the violin, to Betty Spees’ cello and Loris Colburn ‘s piano as background music at many Hayward Area organizational events adding a touch of class to the events.

Evelyn’s family was of great importance to her. She and Al had two children, Fred and Janet, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren to whom she was known as GG (great grandmother). She and Fred shared a love of violin playing and reading and discussing the books they both read. She was one of a kind and will be dearly missed.”

Evelyn’s Facebook page had this post from her family:

There will eventually be a memorial/celebration; we will keep you posted.

For those so interested, here is a link to her obituary.

<https://www.lastingmemories.com/memorial/evelyn-gertler...>

For those who wish to remember Evelyn, please consider donating to an organization supporting elementary school students and teachers. Send condolences and/or contribution notices to Fred Gertler at 1283 Laguna St, Livermore, CA 94550. Thank you.

Hearts of Hayward - Annual Volunteer Awards and Recognition Dinner

Hayward will hold its 43rd annual Hayward Volunteer Recognition and Awards Dinner to honor outstanding volunteers who contribute their time and energy to benefit local human services, non-profits and other programs in Hayward. The names form an honor roll of Hayward's outstanding residents and most selfless volunteers, who help sustain a vibrant community and inspire other to contribute to a dynamic future for Hayward.



View the pre-recorded event ceremony beginning **Tuesday, October 5, 2021**, and accessible any time after. The link to be provided as soon as available.



Our Heart of Hayward for 2021 is **Pat Macsata**. Pat joined our Branch board in 2017, although she's been an AAUW member since 1997 and an ardent supporter of the advancement of women and girls in education and all aspects of American life since 1980. She immediately became an active and valued member, bringing her ukulele band to perform at our annual holiday party that first year. Since then, she has authored donation letters to local Tech companies in support of Tech Trek; chaired a successful Author's event; brought a local energy company to Castro Valley Library to present their new energy program; presented an engaging portrait of Congresswoman Katie

Porter; and coordinated on-going "dining out" events for branch members highlighting local ethnic restaurants. Pat's enthusiasm, energy, and spontaneity has brought needed vitality to our Branch.

President's Message

Hello Branch Members. Life, as we know it, is finally taking shape again. The Branch met in July, via Zoom, to plan great activities for the coming year. We hope you will attend, as it is always great seeing you and catching up on our lives. So many friendships have grown through our membership, which means our sadness is intensified when a friend passes. Evelyn Gertler, longtime member and valued friend died August 6, 2021. Please read her memoriam later in the Shareline.

Unfortunately, the resurgence of the Coronavirus, particularly, the Delta variant, has made it unlikely that we will reconvene in-person events/programs in the near future. Fortunately, we have the option to meet virtually via Zoom. If you would like assistance with using this online technology, please give me a call at 510-435-6150.

As we move into September, and the changing of the seasons, we also move into the election cycles. There is an important election coming up for California: The Recall Election of Governor Gavin Newsom on **September 14th**. Check the [Secretary of State website](#) for full information, and check [Voter's Edge](#) for information on the candidates. Every Californian will receive a write-in ballot. Be sure to fill yours out and send it in or take it to your nearest polling location to drop it off.

On **September 19th** our branch will be hosting the two Tech Treks girls, **Isabela Zaragoza**, Bret Harte Middle School and **Sofia Cruz**, Washington Manor Middle School, that attended the first virtual Tech Trek camp this summer. They will talk with us about their experience with the camp and present a few of the projects they completed. See the Tech Trek article, in this Shareline, for registration information. Hope to see everyone there.

Continue to stay safe. All the best.

Linda Slater, Branch Administrative Officer

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 her at darrell.and.helene@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events



Drama Reading

WHEN: Thursday, September 2, 2021

TIME: 1- 3 PM

WHERE: Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86965084627?pwd=VzBPaFBGSk54QlYrVFY3Z3V3QytOdz09>

Meeting ID: 869 6508 4627

Passcode: 269286

We were planning on returning to indoor play reading, but with this Delta variant I am thinking that we should do Zoom again. We will meet early in the month, this time, because I am busy the second and third Thursday's.

I am not sure which play we will be reading. I will send out a Google Group notice when the plays arrive and are ready for pickup. We are lucky this year to be able to read 10 plays. YEA!!!
Liz



Dining Out

Where: Top Hatters 855 MacArthur Blvd., San Leandro

Date: Wednesday, September 8th

Time: Let's meet at 12 noon.

For the near future, we are favoring outdoor events just to be extra careful about guarding our health. Prior to the pandemic, a new restaurant arrived on the dining scene in San Leandro in an old location and called itself Top Hatters Kitchen. This place offers modern dining in a former haberdashery. And it has a patio for outside dining. The menu changes frequently but always has an international twist.

*****We need to make reservations, so please notify me by **September 1st** if you are coming***** Pat Macsata

patmacsata@gmail.com

Evening Book Group



Date: Thursday, September 16, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM

Where: Pat Macsata's Home 17212 President Dr. Castro Valley, CA 94546

In August *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson was facilitated by Tammy Tribbles. She interspersed with antidotes from her experience hiking a 110 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. We plan on sharing an Asian inspired potluck to accompany our book *Where the Past Begins: A Writer's Memoir*. Linda Myers will facilitate the discussion of Amy Tan's book. In *Writer's Memoir*, Tan is shown at her most intimate in revealing the truths and inspirations that underlie her extraordinary fiction. By delving into vivid memories of her traumatic childhood, confessions of self-doubt in her journals, and heartbreaking letters to and from her mother, she gives evidence to all that made it both unlikely and inevitable that she would become a writer.

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. If you have questions about directions or the potluck please email Pat Macsata at patmacsata@gmail.com Hope to see you there.

Representation matters: Let's draw equitable lines

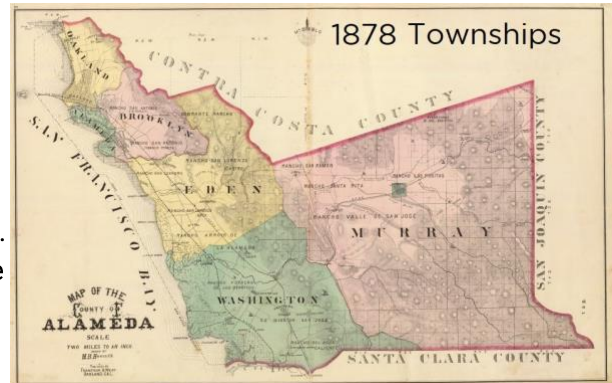
By the Alameda County Coalition for Fair Redistricting

Everyone counts! was the rallying cry when we prepared for the Census of 2020. Other events of 2020 drew attention to long-standing systemic inequities. Now, in 2021, we are critically aware that communities with common interests need to be heard, so their environmental, health, social, and economic needs can be represented. Thanks to community participation, the 2020 census counted residents in record numbers **so more funding will come to our communities!**

Alameda County currently spends \$3.5 billion of your tax dollars annually for physical and mental health, public safety, roads, and other critical services. Based on the census, district boundaries for the elected officials who allocate those dollars will be redrawn in late 2021, to rebalance the number of people in each district. Fair and inclusive redistricting (redrawing) is crucial to serve our communities. **We will have to live with the new boundaries through 2030!**

Every resident of Alameda County, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic, and immigration status has the right to participate in redistricting by sharing their insights about their community and where the lines should be drawn. Starting in 2008, California began enacting several new laws for redistricting to empower people to identify how they want to be represented. The California Independent Commission for Redistricting now draws the boundaries for Congress, state legislature and Board of Equalization.

The laws can help keep neighborhoods together and also apply to cities, counties, census designated areas and special districts — including recreation, sewer, transportation, water, and healthcare. Like the state, some counties and cities have independent redistricting. In Alameda County, the Board of Supervisors will decide the district lines in late 2021. Those lines can only reflect community input if people **speak up**.



Our coalition is engaging with diverse communities using the same approaches as the 2020 census outreach to ensure that you have the information and opportunity to submit your opinion about how your community should be divided or kept together. Such “community of interest information” must be submitted by **the middle of September** via <https://redistricting2021.acgov.org> and/or using the State tool: [DrawMyCACommunity.org](https://drawmycacommunity.org) and sending the info to the County.

You can make sure the story of your community is represented in the new map by helping to educate others, and empowering them to draw their community of interest map and send it to the Board of Supervisors. Please:

- Ask us to give a presentation at your organization or congregation.
- Include an article like this one in your community newsletter.
- And pledge to participate: fairmap.works/2021pledge

Email: organize@alcoredistricting.org or visit www.alcoredistricting.org or [@alcoredistricting](https://twitter.com/alcoredistricting)





Book Group

The group did not meet during the summer months. However, plans will be made for how the group will continue in September/October. 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.

EBMUD Virtual Tours

Have you ever wondered about where your poop goes after you flush the toilet? Join us for a virtual tour of the EBMUD Wastewater Treatment Plant located in West Oakland to learn about how wastewater treatment protects both public health and the San Francisco Bay. All ages and experience levels are welcome.

Sign up for a virtual tour by clicking one of the links below and registering with your contact information:

- [Friday 9/10 10-11 AM](#)
- [Wednesday 9/22 2-3 PM](#)
- [Thursday 10/7 6-7 PM](#)
- [Thursday 10/28 3-4 PM](#)

Click [HERE](#) for more information about virtual tours. For other information about wastewater pollution prevention, check out <https://www.ebmud.com/cleanbay>



The Time Eleanor Roosevelt Became an Olympic Bobsled Racer

From Reader's Digest by Marc Peyser (Updated 6/18/2021)

Eleanor Roosevelt can claim more than her fair share of First Lady firsts. She was the first wife of a president to attend an inaugural ball without her husband. She was the first to hold her own White House press conferences (where only female reporters were invited to attend). And she was the first to go on to a successful post-White House career as a diplomat. Less well-known—but no less impressive—is the fact that she was the first First Lady to race down an Olympic bobsled course.

In 1932, the third Winter Olympics were held in Lake Placid, New York. As the governor of the host state, Franklin Roosevelt had the honor of officially opening the games. Naturally, he brought New York's first lady with him. Among their stops on that cold day in February was a luncheon at the clubhouse near the recently opened bobsled run, the crowned jewel of the Lake Placid facility. Paul Stevens, one of the four Stevens brothers on the American bobsled team, was explaining the intricacies of the state-of-the-art bobsled run to Eleanor when he had a crazy idea. Would she like to go for a ride? Mrs. Roosevelt, who later in life developed a taste for driving her own car a bit too fast—and occasionally crashing it—said yes. (She also came to enjoy flying, especially when her friend Amelia Earhart was at the controls.)



Whether Stevens mentioned that just the week before the German bobsled team had ended up in the hospital when its sled careered off the track at the run's notoriously dangerous "shady corner" is lost to history. What we do know is that a few minutes later Eleanor had strapped on a leather helmet, climbed into a sled driven by Henry Homburger, the Americans' best driver, and was off on a ride that could exceed 60 mph. "The sled passed through the 'zigzag,' a double series of curves, and a few moments later was visible streaking down the mountain side and into the final curve," the New York Times reported. "It shot up the wall of ice and down again and then raced under the finish bridge and up the slope to a standstill." Eleanor emerged with a big smile on her face. "She complimented Homburger on his skill in handling the sled, and Harry returned the favor by expressing his admiration of her courage," The Associated Press reported.

<https://www.rd.com/article/eleanor-roosevelt-bobsled/>

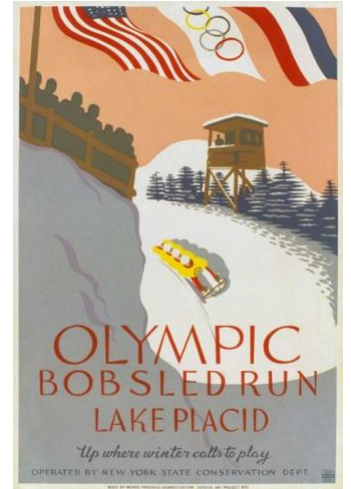
[#EleanorRoosevelt](#) [#Olympics](#) [#1932Olympics](#) [#LakePlacid](#) [#BobsledTeam](#)

[#FDR](#) [#NewYork](#) [#NPSHydePark](#) [#Courage](#)

Olympic Poster - Wikipedia

Photo of Eleanor Roosevelt - NARA Archives/Shutterstock

[\(20+\) Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site](#) | [Facebook](#)



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.



Hayward/Castro Valley Branch
www.hcv-ca.aauw.net