



empowering women since 1881

AVANTI

www.aawusf.org

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June 2022

President's Message

June 25 Annual Meeting Luncheon

We had hoped to have an in-person luncheon this year, but the recent Covid surge makes that inadvisable. The luncheon will again be on Zoom at noon on June 25. All members will get Zoom invitations later in the month. We are planning some new features for the meeting, so please join us.

Kudos to Us

At the state annual event on April 30 our branch was recognized as being the top contributor in both dollar amount and per capita amount to the national AAUW Fund. The total amount donated was \$40,526, comprised of \$25,000 from branch funds and the rest from 17 individual donors. Let's pat ourselves on the back!

Dues

Dues for the coming fiscal year (2022-2023) are \$88. Of that amount the branch gets only \$1 per member. National dues have been increased by \$3 to \$67, and state dues remain at \$20. Remember that \$64 of your national dues are tax-deductible. If anyone is in need of financial assistance, please contact me or any member of the board. We don't want to lose anyone because of money.

The national website continues to be troublesome, but some of us have managed to pay dues there. If you have difficulty, the fall-back is to write a check to AAUW-SF and mail it to Corrine Sacks.

Member News

Corrine Sacks has been our Avanti editor for at least 14 years and is finally passing the torch to others. Avanti will now be edited by a high school volunteer, Caitlin Dainas, in conjunction with Rosaura Valle. We are deeply grateful to them and to Corrine for her many years of service.

Congratulations to Co-President Kelly Joseph on her new position as Director of Human Resources for ACLU Northern California. We are very proud of her!

See you on Zoom on June 25.

Barbara Spencer, Co-President

Welcome to June!

This is the end of our fiscal year. It's a time of reflection and preparation for the future. What will our branch look like in 5 years? How are we upholding the values and vision for our branch? Are we keeping Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) in the forefront of our thoughts as we make plans?

Co-President Barbara Spencer and I attended an Interbranch Council (IBC) Tea on May 14th. We look forward to partnerships with the IBC during the upcoming year.

On May 21, we had a wonderful Tech Trek send-off. We look forward to hearing about the experiences from our girls, in the fall. Many thanks to our committee who are pictured below!



(Leslie Yuan, Rosaura Valle, Barbara Spencer, Elaine Butler, Kelly Joseph, Mary Renner)

On May 25th, we held a DEI planning meeting, where we discussed our focus as a branch for 2022-2023. We have enjoyed and learned from reading books and having discussions. We want to do more. There were many creative ideas shared to involve new Tech Trek and Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) families. There are social justice issues such as Roe vs. Wade, where we need our voices heard. Read more on our national website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/rallying-for-repro-rights/>

President Biden made Juneteenth an official holiday last year. This is a celebration of the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. There are parades, festivals and celebrations in San Francisco, the weekend of June 18 and 19. The National Museum of African American History & Culture (Smithsonian) has several virtual events: https://nmaahc.si.edu/events/upcoming?event_type_id=All&event_series_id=All&page=0

We thank you for your continued membership and support of improving the lives of women and girls.

See you virtually at our annual luncheon.

Kelly Joseph, Co-President

Juneteenth



The 1862 Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Lincoln, officially freed enslaved people in the U.S. However, it wasn't until two and a half years later that federal troops delivered the news to the 250,000 enslaved residents in Galveston, Texas. These quarter of million people, who were freed on June 19th, 1866, were the last in the country to learn about their emancipation. Juneteenth has been celebrated on this day ever since; it was first officially recognized by Texas in 1979 and is currently a paid state holiday in at least ten states.

<https://www.nhpr.org/nh-news/2021-06-24/ask-civics-10-1-why-is-the-holiday-called-juneteenth-and-what-is-the-significance>

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/20/us/juneteenth-official-holiday-nation/index.html>

Caitlin Dainas, Editor

Slate Of Officers for 2022-2023

The current officers have agreed to continue in their positions. Members are welcome to make a nomination at our branch annual meeting on June 25.

Co- Presidents: Kelly Joseph and Barbara Spencer

Secretary: Rosaura Valle

Membership Vice President: Mary Renner

Treasurer: Corrine Sacks

Tech Trek Coordinator: Elaine Butler

Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) Coordinator:

Rosaura Valle

Avanti Editors: Rosaura Valle and Caitlin Dainas
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator:
 Kelly Joseph
Silver Jubilee Fund Chair: Mary Suter

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

Date: June 23, at 7:30 PM.
Location: ZOOM - call Elaine Butler for zoom link
 415-305-2220
Book/Author: Lightning Men, by Thomas Mullen
Reviewer: Pat Camarena
To receive Zoom link
RSVP: Elaine Butler

We have had some lively and informative discussions this year. Now that summer is approaching it is time to remind you to start reading books to recommend to the group for the September book choice meeting. New members are always welcome to join us.

International Book Group

Date: Monday, June 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
Location: ZOOM
Book/Author: *"Helen Has a Sister: A Tale of Ancient Greece"*, by Penelope Haines
Hostess/Zoom Coordinator: Barbara Spencer
RSVP: Barbara

Lunch Bunch

Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at noon
Location: The Taco Shop @ Underdogs
Address: 1824 Irving Street/ near Lincoln
RSVP: Mary Suter

Avanti Intern

We welcome Caitlin Dainas as our Avanti intern. Caitlin will be entering 11th grade at Foothill High School in the fall and is interested in human rights, content creation, and communications. Please send your contributions by the 25th of the month for publication in the following Avanti issue to Caitlin.

Tech Trek Celebration

The Tech Trek Committee held their annual party for girls to attend a residential camp or to participate in a virtual camp. We have 5 girls attending CSU Fresno, five girls going to UC Davis and five girls participating in a virtual camp. We had 12 girls and their families attending the party at the Bryant Street Sport's Basement. Thanks to the folks at Sport's Basement for the free use of the community room. We had four Tech Trek alumnae, who helped with sign ins and led an icebreaker game so the girls could meet each other and have fun. The parents asked questions and were given the newest information about the camps. Rosaura took them into the future with an invitation to join TTAG (T-Tag) after their camp experience. It was a wonderful party. Thank you to committee members who helped with the celebration.

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator





San Francisco branch TTAG featured at the 2022 AAUW-CA Annual Meeting

On April 30, the 2022 AAUW California Annual Meeting took place, once again, online. Online events do offer advantages: no meeting registration costs, no transportation costs, no mobility issues. An additional upside is collaborating with other branches all over California.

The 2022 Annual Event modified the traditional workshops into “AAUWland Exploration Sessions” (each to be held for half an hour in a zoom breakout room, once in the morning and once in the afternoon) with the goal for the attendees of exploring a variety of topics in a informal manner and conversational setting (a.k.a. no power point allowed).

Taking advantage of this opportunity to showcase our San Francisco branch TTAG program (Tech Trek Alumnae Group), I invited the South Bay of LA TTAG, the first TTAG to be launched in California in 2014, to get together for a AAUWland session around the topic “Start Your Own Branch TTAG”. Meeting organizers had asked us to pitch our topic to meeting attendees in a 20 second commercial style video. With a collage of photographs from South Bay and San Francisco TTAG events, and a Tech Trek Alumna voice over, our commercial invited the audience to attend our session: *“Would you like your Tech Trek Alumnae to continue their passion for STEM and follow through with a related career? And, perhaps, eventually become members of your AAUW branch? Come hear how from two branches and from Tech Trek Alumnae themselves!”* Check out the commercial at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U0Pkva3s9ltZlUhyqEXxx5fVb3ix2Gtd/view?usp=sharing>

South Bay TTAG Advisors Terry Hays-Horner and Deborah Thomas (Beach Cities branch), and Denise DeVenuto

(Palos Verdes branch) explained how their TTAG started as a natural continuation of Tech Trek, and how it developed into what it is today: a group led by the Tech Trek Alumnae themselves, with a governance structure modeled on a AAUW branch. The three South Bay Tech Trek Alumnae, a high school junior, a high school senior and a college sophomore, talked about the benefits of TTAG from their perspective. TTAG offered them leadership and public speaking opportunities, and a group of like-minded girls interested in STEM careers, as well as an essay topic for their college applications!

With the help of Alice Matthews, Torrance branch president and TTAG coordinator, we managed an active session that registered the second highest participation at the meeting: we counted at least 33 participants in the morning and 18 in the afternoon (the meeting hosted 226 attendees and 18 different AAUWland sessions).

This event was inspirational for our own San Francisco branch TTAG which, after the first Cal Academy visit in the fall of 2019, has now produced a 2021-2022 season with eight different events. The TTAG Newsletter currently involves two of our Tech Trek Alumnae, and our goal is to broaden the involvement of Alumnae in the coming year, following in the footsteps of the original TTAG.

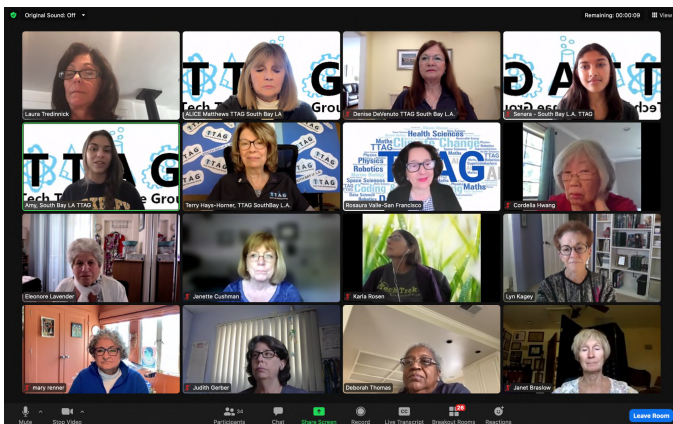
Incredibly Confident



“It’s so worthwhile being a judge, because if I made good, I can help prove that a woman’s place is as much on the bench, in City Council, or in Congress, as in the home.”

Although spoken by Florence Ellinwood Allen many years ago, these sentiments are certainly relevant today in light of the recent appointment of our new Supreme Court Justice Katanji Brown Jackson and the election of our first woman Vice President Kamala Harris. Countless other women have faced many challenges and overcome great odds to become successful in their chosen fields.

Florence Ellinwood Allen was the holder of several “firsts” in the legal field in the early 1900s. Descended from New England colonists, she grew up in Utah, the daughter of pioneers. Setbacks did not really hold her back. Incredible confidence helped her overcome many obstacles. She also understood the importance of organizations that supported people who wanted to change their lives and move forward. After her hopes for a musical career were negated by injury, she completed a master’s degree in political science. While living at New York’s Henry Street Settlement House she worked for the Immigrants Protective League. In spite of facing rejection by several law schools, she managed to earn her degree from New York University and passed the Ohio bar in



Rosaura Valle, TTAG Coordinator

1914. Then thirty years old, Ellen used her position as a lawyer on behalf of the women's suffrage movement. That activity paid off personally. In 1919, before women had the right to vote, she was appointed assistant prosecutor of Cuyahoga County in Ohio. The next year, in the first election in which women could vote, she was elected to a local judgeship.

With incredible confidence in herself and the voters, she ran in the very next election for the state Supreme Court. She credited much of her amazing success to the women she had met during her suffrage work. saying: "The women were my organization. They simply got in touch with the women in every county who had been active in the suffrage movement. They handled my publicity, wrote letters to the newspapers, arranged my meetings, and distributed my very meager campaign literature. We had little money... and won by a 300,000 vote majority."

Re-elected by a wide margin in 1928, she was the first woman in the world to sit on a court of last resort. Another "first" was established when Franklin Roosevelt appointed Florence to the United States Court of Appeals, which is just beneath the Supreme Court. She remained there until retiring in 1969, serving also as Chief Justice.

There are many organizations today that work to advance equity for women and girls . Certainly our own AAUW is a

prominent one and dear to our hearts. One other resource for finding noteworthy groups is: Iowa State University's Carrie Chapman Center for Women and Politics.

Info.iastate.edu

www.case.edu

www.womenofthehall.org

www.britannica.com

Pat Camarena

June Birthdays

Anni Puckett (Stroh) June 10

Mary Graves June 10

Lucretia Axtell June 12

Sarah Bolmer June 17

Mary Suter June 21

Sandra Tye June 28

AAUWSF Board

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aauwsfbranch@gmail.com

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 Rosaura Valle

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator:
 Kelly Joseph

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 TTAG Comm Meeting	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Board Meeting 7PM	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Lunch Bunch 12 Noon	16	17 Afternoon/ Books 1:30 PM	18
19	20 International Books 7:00PM	21	22	23 Mystery /Adventure Books 7:30PM	24	25 Annual Meeting Luncheon
26	27	28	29	30		

We can draw lessons from the past, but we cannot live in it.

Johnson Lyndon

Avanti Editor

AAUW
 San Francisco Branch
 P.O. Box 31405
 San Francisco, CA 94131-0405
 Address Correction Requested

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation’s leading organization advocating equality for women and girls. It has a national membership of 150,000. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. Check out our website www.aauwsf.org



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

Marie Curie & AAUW

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. This was true even for one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her groundbreaking research had reached a virtual standstill.

Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

Pay Equity

AAUW has been on the front lines fighting for Pay Equity for over a hundred years.

AAUW was there in the Oval Office in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.

AAUW was there in 2009 when President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

AAUW continues the fight for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act to ensure women have further equal pay protections. The pay gap is real.

AAUW will continue the fight to achieve pay equity; the economic security of American families depends on it.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing indicative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund’s annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes indicative and replicable college and university programs.