

# Adelante



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Branch

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Don't miss these December Events

- December 9: Virtual Holiday Party
- Great Decisions and Book Clubs are meeting via Zoom – see the Event Calendar!
- Visit Filoli Historic Estate and Gardens virtually
- January 21, 2021: Save the date for the upcoming Interbranch Council of San Diego County (IBC) group meeting

## Celebrate the Holidays with Your AAUW - PP Friends at a Virtual Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 9 by Janice Heather and Sheila Walker

Save the date of Wednesday, December 9 at 7 p.m. for a Zoom Holiday Party. Even though we can't gather in person, we can still celebrate the holidays and the good work we've done this year with Speech Trek, virtual Tech Trek and awarding scholarships.

You'll want to wear your favorite holiday hat, study up on holiday trivia and bring your favorite holiday beverage as we've planned an evening of fun and great company. We'll have a holiday trivia contest with prizes and a prize for the best holiday hat, judged by our Debbie Boyd. Debbie knows a few things about hats so be creative. We'll also break into small groups in chat rooms so we can catch up with longtime friends and maybe talk to someone new. And, we'll recognize the important work several of our members do with other organizations in our community. So, mark your calendar for December 9 and look for an email message a few days before with the Zoom link. We're looking forward to seeing your smiling faces!

If you have questions about this meeting or about Zoom, please contact Sheila Walker at [sekw@san.rr.com](mailto:sekw@san.rr.com). We look forward to staying connected and continuing to serve our membership during this challenging time.

## President's Message by Cathy Burciaga

As a truly historic year draws to a close most of you will be thinking about how to navigate the holidays. This is always a very special time of year as it usually provides us the opportunity to enjoy the company of family and friends that is all too often missing the rest of the year.

Recently, I've talked to a number of you about how you plan to savor the relationships that are most important to you and your responses are almost always the same – be the one to reach out. Because there is so much pent-up desire for togetherness right now, I found that it can be easier than you'd think. For example, last month I reached out to my seven sisters (who live all over the west) and proposed that we do a monthly "bake" together on Zoom. We just finished our second one with much talking over one another and laughter, and we're looking forward to our December bake.

In the same spirit, here within our AAUW family we'll be reaching out to you on the evening of December 9th for our fabulous holiday party. Janice and Sheila have been working hard to create a festive holiday experience that is all about fun and inclusion. So, I hope to see you all there!

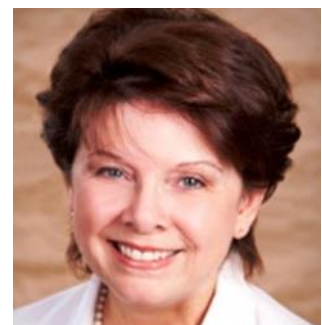
On behalf of your board and committee members, here's wishing you an exceptionally happy and safe holiday season.

-Cathy

## Membership Matters by Pam Ames, Membership Chair

This month we learn more about our current President, Cathy Burciaga!

Cathy Gauthier Burciaga has been a member of our Poway Penasquitos branch for three years. However, she's been a member of AAUW for a total of 29 years and is



a dual member with the San Diego branch. She has held many offices in the San Diego branch and AAUW Interbranch Council (IBC). As well as serving as President, she's a member of the Mystery Book group and our AAUW Travel Group.

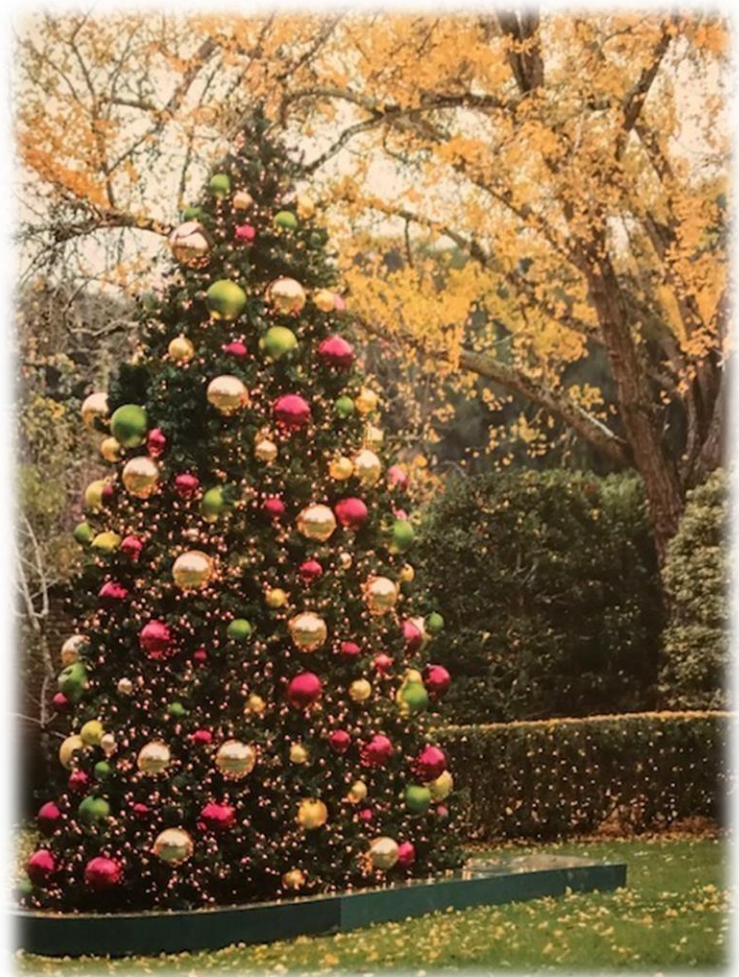
Since her early teens, she has been an unapologetic “women’s libber” and enjoys mentoring young women as they navigate their teen years and then transition from college to the work force. This is especially true of her own two daughters and her grandchildren.

Cathy was born into a large French-Canadian family in Gatineau, Quebec, grew up in the capital city of Ottawa and was educated in small private schools until age 15 when she emigrated with her family to California. It was in Los Angeles that she attended a large public high school for the first time and remembers this as one of the most terrifying culture shocks of her life. After going on to earn a BA degree in Psychology from Cal State Northridge, she studied health behavior research methodology at USC Medical School completing all but dissertation (ABD). By this time, she had met and married Ernesto “Ernie” Burciaga. Cathy and Ernie have been happily married 50 years this month. She has also worked fulltime since age 16 in various fields – mostly fiscal analysis, fiscal management, and procurement of grant funding – but is especially enjoying her current career of 13 years “and counting” as a residential realtor.

A local Scripps Rancher for 25 years, Cathy says she has found a true home with the Poway-Peñasquitos branch and its active, friendly membership and would like to help do more with new member outreach in the Scripps Ranch area going forward.

### **Filoli Historic Estate and Garden Tour** by Jeanene Cook (articles + photo)

For a virtual holiday treat visit Filoli's historic house and gardens located in California, twenty-five miles south of San Francisco. Also known as the Bourn-Roth Estate, the property includes sixteen acres of formal gardens and a 654-acre estate. And, at this time of the year you can enjoy the beautifully decorated holiday gardens. Locate the Virtual Tour page on the web site ([filoli.org](https://filoli.org)) and read about Filoli History and the families who lived there, the Garden Resource Center for advice and garden information, Blog Posts on various aspects of the gardens, and Bloom Watch for current plants in bloom. You can even download a Zoom background for your next Zoom meeting! For further information see <https://filoli.org/>.



**AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN  
POWAY PENASQUITOS  
BRANCH**

**Diversity Statement**

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class

**Mission Statement**

AAUW advances equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, leadership, and research.

**AAUW's Value Promise**

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

**National AAUW**

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**California AAUW**

[www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)

**PowayPenasquitos  
AAUW**

[www.powayarea-](http://www.powayarea-ca.aauw.net)

[ca.aauw.net](http://www.powayarea-ca.aauw.net)

[aauwboard@gmail.co](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com)

[m](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com)

AAUW Poway  
Penasquitos Branch is a  
501(c)3 corporation

**President:** Cathy  
Buriaga

**Programs/1<sup>st</sup> Vice**

**Presidents:** Janice  
Heather & Sheila  
Walker

**Membership:** Pam  
Ames

**Secretary:** Karen  
McGurk

**Treasurer:** Michelle  
Blasberg

## COVID Update Helps Us Prepare for Winter by Janice Heather

About 40 branch members joined us November 14 via Zoom for our general membership meeting, which featured a talk by Dr. JD Malone of the County's coronavirus response team. Dr Malone updated us on where the virus is worst and why and described the County's efforts to test, track & treat people who are infected with the virus. He answered members' questions about the tests available and talked about how to handle the holidays.

The meeting, including his presentation, was recorded and is available in the Members section of our branch website under Zoom Meetings. The password for the Members section is ADELANTE. To check it out, go to <https://powayarea-ca.aauw.net/members-only/zoom-meetings/>.

## AAUW-PP Website Now Features Members Only Resources by M Louise McDevitt

Our branch AAUW website now includes a couple of new Members Only pages. Our recent General Meetings on Zoom have been saved to video and are now available to view on the ZOOM MEETINGS page. There is a link to see and/or download any handouts from the meetings as well. Videos of each upcoming General Meeting will be uploaded sometime within the week following the meeting. There is also a new TECH TREK page where you can view the students' presentations of their robotic hats (flashing lights and all) from last summer's Robotics Camp.

The Monthly Calendar page is currently being updated to include the full list of 2020-2021's upcoming Zoom Book Club and Great Decision gatherings. Peruse the list and see which meetings you would like to attend. And remember, the ADELANTE page is where you can find all past copies of the newsletter.

Go to <https://powayarea-ca.aauw.net/>, hover your mouse over MEMBERS ONLY in the top menu list, and select a page from the dropdown menu. Remember to enter the password ADELANTE when requested.

## Interbranch Council of San Diego County (IBC) Meeting on January 23, 2021 by Harriet Gerza

Save the date! Each year the Interbranch Council of San Diego County (IBC) has a group meeting to bring together all eight branches. This year we will be "Zooming" a meeting on Saturday, January 23, 2021. Our speakers are still being confirmed but our topic will be Mental Health and Wellness During Covid-19. We hope to offer discussion and insight on how we and our families are handling quarantining at home, plus tips for dealing with feelings of isolation, depression, or just sadness. Speakers include Pam Smith, San Diego County Health and Human Services, and Dr Lissa Lim, a psychologist at Cal State University. More specific details will be coming soon. Things appear to be changing fast and we may have more information on vaccines, etc. too. We hope you can join us for this very informative event.



## AAUW POWAY PENASQUITOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



<p><b>December</b> <b>Thursday</b> <b>6.30 pm</b></p> <p>Great Decisions will not meet in December and January.</p>	<p><b>Great Decisions</b> Marie Dye 858-538-1689 <a href="mailto:mdye@san.rr.com">mdye@san.rr.com</a></p>	<p><b>Great Decisions</b> is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the <i>Great Decisions Briefing Book</i> and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Each year, eight topics are chosen by a panel of experts. For more info: <a href="http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions">www.fpa.org/great_decisions</a></p>	<p><b>RSVP: Marie Dye</b> if you are interested in joining the group. She will send you a <b>ZOOM</b> invitation. All are welcome to join the discussion.</p> <p><b>Great Decisions will not meet in December and January.</b></p>
<p><b>December 7<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Monday</b> <b>1:30 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Mystery Book Group</b> Pamela Meyer 619-855-4071 <a href="mailto:pamela.me4@gmail.com">pamela.me4@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Memory Man</b> by David Baldacci Amos Decker's life changed forever – twice. The first time was a violent helmet-to-helmet collision knocked him off the field forever and left him with an improbable side effect – he can forget nothing. The second big change is nearly two decades later, when, Decker returns from a stakeout one evening to find his wife, young daughter, and brother-in-law all murdered. <b>Discussion Leader: Pamela Meyer</b></p>	<p><b>Pam Meyer</b> will send the <b>ZOOM</b> invitation. You have read the book and want to join the group? Email <b>Pam</b> by December 5<sup>th</sup> so she can send you the link.</p>
<p><b>December 9<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Wednesday</b></p> <p><b>GENERAL MEETING</b> <b>7 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>General Meeting</b> <b>Program Co-chairs</b> Janice Heather <a href="mailto:janiceheather@hotmail.com">janiceheather@hotmail.com</a> Sheila Walker <a href="mailto:sekw@san.rr.com">sekw@san.rr.com</a></p>	<p><b>Holiday Party</b> Wear a festive holiday hat and bring a cup of your favorite holiday beverage. We are planning holiday trivia games with prizes and lots of opportunities to reconnect and catch up with friends. We will also highlight several local groups doing good work in our communities</p>	<p><b>The ZOOM link invitation will be sent to the whole membership a few days before the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Look for it!</b></p> <p>For more information email: <a href="mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com">aauwboard@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>December 15<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Tuesday</b> <b>1:30 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>3rd Tuesday with Books</b> Pam Ames 858-578-4283 619-889-6229 (cell) <a href="mailto:pamames123@gmail.com">pamames123@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Murmur of Bees</b> by Sofia Sergovia From a beguiling voice in Mexican fiction comes an astonishing novel about a mysterious child with the power to change a family's history in a country on the verge of revolution: a baby abandoned under a bridge, little Simonopio is for some locals the stuff of superstition, a child kissed by the devil. <b>Discussion Leader: Pam Ames</b></p>	<p><b>Pam Ames</b> will send the <b>ZOOM</b> invitation. You want to read the book and join the group? Email <b>Pam</b> by December 13<sup>th</sup></p>

<p><b>December 17</b> <b>Thursday</b> <b>7 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Thursday Evening Book</b> Ann Morgan - 858-484-5290 <a href="mailto:annmmorgansd@yahoo.com">annmmorgansd@yahoo.com</a> Berina Pennington 858-722-9628 <a href="mailto:berina@san.rr.com">berina@san.rr.com</a></p>	<p><b>Big Little Lies</b> by Lianne Moriarty <i>A murder...A tragic accident...Or just parents behaving badly? What's indisputable is that someone is dead. Big Little Lies is a brilliant take on ex-husbands and second wives, mothers and daughters, schoolyard scandal, and the little lies that can turn lethal.</i> <b>Discussion Leader: Janine Reeder</b></p>	<p><b>Ann Morgan</b> will send the <b>ZOOM</b> invitation. You have read the book and want to join the group? Email <b>Ann</b> by December 15<sup>th</sup></p>
<p><b>December</b> Different Saturdays</p>	<p><b>Hikers</b> Gayle Ziaskas 858-484-7596619-855-4071 <a href="mailto:gzia@aol.com">gzia@aol.com</a></p>	<p><b>Happy Hikers</b> <i>Right now, the Happy Hikers are continuing to follow COVID-19 restrictions related to group gatherings.</i></p>	<p><b>Gayle Ziaskas</b> <i>We hope the hikers are continuing to walk either on their own or with family members or close friends.</i></p>
<p><b>December</b> Mondays 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Games Group</b> Lyn Johnston 858-831-0052 <a href="mailto:lynjohn@san.rr.com">lynjohn@san.rr.com</a></p>	<p><b>Games Group</b> <i>Right now, the Games interest group is continuing to follow COVID-19 restrictions related to group gatherings.</i></p>	<p><b>Lyn Johnston</b> <i>Hopefully, you are playing games with your family and friends.</i></p>
<p><b>December</b> Fridays 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Travel Group</b> Pam Ames 619-889-6229 (cell) <a href="mailto:pamames123@gmail.com">pamames123@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Travel Group</b> <i>Right now, the Travel interest group is continuing to follow COVID-19 restrictions related to group gatherings.</i></p>	<p><b>Pam Ames</b> <i>At this time, the Travel group is taking a vacation from meeting at local, ethnic restaurants.</i></p>



**Poway – Penasquitos Branch**

Please join us for our  
**Virtual Holiday Party**

**Wednesday, December 9th at 7 pm.**

**Wear a Festive Holiday hat  
& bring a Holiday drink**

**Join in some fun trivia games with prizes**

**Enjoy social time with friends**

**Hear about local groups doing good work**

**Watch for the Zoom invite in your email**

## January 30, 2021 SPEECH TREK



Local high school students are invited to compete in Speech Trek, a speech competition sponsored by the American Association of University Women of California. All contestants create 5-6-minute speeches on the following public policy topic:

**“Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?”**

**INTERESTED?** Contact AAUW Poway- Peñasquitos Branch at [aauwboard@gmail.com](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com) for more information and to register for the event.

Registration deadline is January 25, 2021

### **LOCAL PRIZES**

First Place- \$\$500.00

Second Place- \$250.00

Winner of local contest participates in state semi-finals.

Top three state semi-finalists compete for more cash prizes

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/?s=Speech+Trek>

Search YouTube Speech Trek 2020 for videos of previous participants