



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Branch

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss these March Events & Announcements

- March 10: General Meeting on Pay Equity and Tech Trek Camp
- March 19: Zoom Travel Chat
- March 27: Game Night FUNdraiser
- Tech Trek Volunteers Needed in June and July

March 10 Meeting to Examine Pay Equity Issue & Plan 2021 Tech Trek Camp by Janice Heather

Our Wednesday, March 10, 6:30 p.m. meeting will be an important one. We'll hear an update on the issue of the pay equity from Kathi Harper, who is the public policy chair of our sister AAUW branch in Oceanside/Carlsbad/Vista. Kathi will explain what the gender pay gap is, how it affects different populations, what AAUW is doing to address it, what's being done legislatively to address it, and what branches can do to address it. As we all know, this has been an important issue forever and is now much in the news, especially with a new administration in Washington. Bring your questions and your suggestions.

We're also going to hear from our branch's Tech Trek committee on plans for the 2021 camp. This year, we'll need volunteers for new camp roles and there will also be new mentoring opportunities.

Be sure to join us on March 10 so you don't miss these important and interesting discussions

Membership Matters by Pam Ames, Membership Chair

It's membership renewal season, with only ninety days until every membership ends on June 30th. AAUW National issues invoices for annual membership renewals in March, and an email will be sent to every member around March 15th that will allow you to renew by credit

card or check. The membership fee for 2021-2022 is \$99.00 (National \$62, State \$20, Branch \$17). As a reminder, the AAUW "year" is July - June.

Any NEW member signing up after March 15 will have balance of this year free and their \$99 membership will expire in June 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Pam at 619-889-6229 or pamames123@gmail.com.

What is Equal Pay Day? A Symbolic Date by AAUW <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/equal-pay-day-calendar/>

Equal Pay Day denotes how far into the new year women must work to be paid what men were paid the previous year. Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal was to raise awareness about the gender wage gap. Since then, other Equal Pay Days have been added to the calendar to denote that mothers and most women of color face a wider-than-average gap and need to work even longer to catch up to men's earnings.

2021 Equal Pay Days

- **Asian American and Pacific Islander Women's Equal Day** is March 9. Asian American and Pacific Islander women are paid 87 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
- **All Women's Equal Pay Day** is March 24. Women working full time and year-round are paid 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man who works full time and year-round.
- **Mother's Equal Pay Day** is June 4. Mothers are paid 70 cents for every dollar paid to fathers.
- **Black Women's Equal Pay Day** is August 3. Black women are paid 63 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
- **Native American Women's Equal Pay Day** is September 8. Native women are paid 60 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
- **Latina's Equal Pay Day** is October 21. Latinas are paid 55 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

Speech Trek Winner by Marie Dye

We have a winner! Our branch awarded \$500.00 to first place Speech Trek winner, Vidhi Kulkarni (pictured here) from Del Norte High School, second place went to Jay Wang from Mark Kepler High School for a \$250.00 prize, third place was awarded to Olivia Toledo from Mira Mesa High School for a \$100.00 prize and fourth place was awarded to Nirja Trivedi from Westview High School for a \$50.00 prize. The speeches were on the topic "Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?"

Vidhi will represent our branch in the state semi-final contest in March. The top three semi-finalists will be invited to present their speech in person at the AAUW California convention in April. Stay tuned for the results!



Thanks to the Speech Trek judges who gave up their Saturday morning to participate in this contest: Darshana Patel, who is on the Poway Unified School Board; Phil Barham, who teaches elementary school in Mira Mesa; and Jennifer Nasheed and Jacquie Mosley-Pastrana, both from Toastmasters.

Thanks to the following AAUW team members for working this event: Honorine Nocon for leading us effortlessly through Zoom; Miriam Lauff for being the student contact; Michelle Blasberg for being the contact for the judges and also announcing the contest results; Joan Thompson for being the speech contest timer and Harriet Gerza, Sheila Walker and Karen McGurk for helping the team practice multiple times on Zoom.

Thanks to our membership for supporting this event.

Abraxas High School's Garden by Jeanene Cook

Abraxas High School's garden has been in full swing with community volunteers helping to plant, maintain and harvest the garden. The school then works with local organizations to distribute the produce to needy families in PUSD and to some senior facilities. You can tour the garden each Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at Abraxas High School, 12450 Glen Oak Road, Poway 92064. For more information or to volunteer <http://www.abraxasgarden.com/>.





Travel Group *Zoom Travel Chat* by Pam Ames

The travel group will meet for their 2nd Zoom chat on Friday, March 19th at 4 p.m. The topic will be "**What mistake turned out OK?**" If you don't have a story but would still like to participate, you are welcome to join in to listen and spend time with other members. Put your tray tables up, buckle those seat belts and enjoy some travel memories. If you are not a member of this group but would like to be included, please contact Pam at pamames123@gmail.com.

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

California AAUW

www.aauw-ca.org

**PowayPenasquitos
AAUW**

www.powayarea-

ca.aauw.net

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

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AAUW Poway
Penasquitos Branch is a
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President: Cathy
Burciaga

Programs/1st Vice

Presidents: Janice
Heather & Sheila
Walker

Membership: Pam
Ames

Secretary: Karen
McGurk

Treasurer: Michelle
Blasberg

Tech Trek – We're Looking for Volunteers by Ellen Dillon

One of the most important parts of Tech Trek is not the camp itself, but all the wonderful women of all ages who will contribute their precious and limited time to so many girls' futures!

Do you want to get involved with Tech Trek this year? In 2021, there will be three virtual Tech Trek camps – one in June and two in July. The camp director, Mary Isaac, is recruiting volunteers to help conduct the camps. They will need AAUW members to help with various roles, both in advance planning for the camp and during the camp itself. Volunteer positions during the camp will all be online. Prior to camp, volunteers will be needed to pick up and deliver camp kits to the girls. You can volunteer for one camp session or for more than one session. Here is additional information about the camp: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2021-virtual-tech-trek-internal/>

Do you want to get involved as a Mentor for our Tech Trek girls? Our branch is exploring how we can assist our Tech Trek girls through a Mentoring Program. We will match AAUW members one-on-one with Tech Trek girls who have already completed the camp. We will be able to counsel and guide the girls through high school and through the college application process. You can do this on your own schedule, answer their questions along the way and eventually, maybe they'll join us as AAUW members!

We will give a presentation at the March AAUW General Meeting with more details. If you have questions prior to that, please contact Aresa Toukdarian, Heidi Dalvie or Ellen Dillon, our Tech Trek Branch Coordinators.

February Meeting Highlights Women in Engineering and Members' Movie Trivia Knowledge by Janice Heather

On February 10, our branch hosted a Zoom discussion about Women in Engineering with Agnes Weber, Senior Vice President of TRC, a global consulting, engineering and construction management firm. Weber shared her experiences as a woman in a STEM field and we discussed how and when to reach girls and connect them with the tremendous opportunities she said exist in STEM fields. It was definitely food for thought as we shape our virtual 2021 Tech Trek camp.

Before we finished, in a nod to Valentine's Day, we did a fun movie trivia contest, matching quotes with famous movies about love and romance. It was a tough contest, but we had four winners who tied for the most correct answers. Congratulations and Starbucks gift cards go to members Karen Lust, Pam Ames, Harriet Gerza, and Aresa Toukdarian! ♥

Game Night Fundraiser! by Deborah Boyd

We will be having a Zoom FUNdraiser for Scholarships on Saturday March 27th, at 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. We will be playing GAMES, having fun, laughing and challenging our brains.

This FUNdraiser supports our branch's work to provide college scholarships to women who have reentered college after a break in their education. Scholars must be at least 23 years of age and have completed certain requirements contained in the application on our website. April 1st is the deadline to submit applications, with transcripts provided by June. We give three \$2000 awards in September, either virtually or at an awards luncheon!

We are very grateful for those of you who have already contributed to this fund. We have raised approximately \$4800 so far. If you would like to send another, or your first, contribution, please make your check out to AAUW-PP, mark "Re-entry Scholarships" on the info line, and mail to our treasurer Michelle Blasberg at 12509 Montero Ct., San Diego, CA 92128.



Poway – Penasquitos Branch

Please join us on
Wednesday, March 10th at 6:30 pm

Kathi Harper will update us on



AND

We'll hear about Tech Trek



This will be a Zoom meeting.

Watch for an email with the link to the meeting.

This is an open meeting, please invite friends to join us.

One of the most important parts of Tech Trek is not the camp itself, but all the wonderful women of all ages who will contribute their precious and limited time to so many girls' futures!



2021 Virtual Tech Trek Camp Volunteer Positions

AAUW-CA is offering three week-long virtual camps in June and July of 2021. Organizers are looking for a combination of adult coaches (AAUW members) and Near-Peer coaches (TTAG members) to assist during the virtual camp sessions. *Minimum requirements for TTAG is 14 years of age and two years since your Tech Trek Camp experience.*

The planned schedule includes a core class every morning with breakout sessions. At noon there is an inspirational speaker, and in the afternoons there are two workshops on various STEM subjects, with more opportunities for breakout sessions. Plans for evening sessions are still underway.

BUILD COACHES: will guide girls in designing and building the technical portions of their project and

- complete 4-6 hours of hardware training prior to camp
- are able to commit to all 5 days of the week, from 8:30 am -12:00 pm
- lead a group of 4-6 girls in building projects, supported by a Lead Technical Instructor
- are prepared to complete the final project

SOCIAL COACHES: will guide girls in the social aspects of completing their project and

- complete 2-4 hours of instruction prior to camp
- are able to commit to all 5 days of the week, from 8:30 am -12:00 pm
- take attendance, monitor engagement and ensure the girls complete required tasks, such as surveys
- are responsible for guiding group of 4-6 girls by defining some project elements and criteria, completing surveys, taking attendance, monitoring engagement and ensuring the required tasks are completed (supported by a Lead Social Instructor) *If a Social Coach wishes to assist in the building, she may also take the Build Coach training (recommended).*

WORKSHOP COACHES: will lead girls in post-inspiration debriefs and afternoon workshops (two) and

- complete any training associated with Workshop activities prior to camp
- lead debriefs and assist workshop presenters in breakouts sessions during the afternoon
- take attendance, monitor engagement and ensure the girls complete required tasks, such as surveys
- intervene in limited discipline issues, e.g., interruptions, inappropriate language, non-participation
- participate in (up to) eight workshop sessions (1:30 – 5:15 pm daily)—two a day for four days, plus a 5:30 pm debrief
 - some flexibility as to the choices and timing of assigned workshops
 - Evening sessions available from 7-8:30

Stipends are offered to coaches. Background Checks may be required, as determined by AAUW.

YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE ANOTHER COACH HELPING YOU!

Applications for the Coach positions are open now until sufficient candidates brought onboard.

Please consider being available for more than one week.

AAUW-Poway Penasquitos Fund-
Raiser
Benefiting Scholarships



Virtual Game Night!

Saturday, March 27, 2021

**6:30pm Check in/Social
Games Begin @ 7:00 pm**

**\$15/person Reserve a spot,
send a check!**

Write check to **AAUW-PP**

Memo line: Games

Send to: Debbie Boyd, 13612 El Mar Ave, Poway 92064

Please include your email address with check. You'll be sent
the zoom link with your reservation.

- Wear your most comfy PJ's or sweats,
- Grab a snack and favorite drink,
- Challenge your mind
- Laugh a lot
- Win a prize!

We'll play several board games during the evening with your friends and have so much fun you'll forget you're in quarantine.

No zoom or game experience needed!




Questions: Call Debbie
858-486-4390 or
travelstardebbie@yahoo.com



AAUW POWAY PENASQUITOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



March 4th 1st Thursday 6:30 pm	Great Decisions – Leader: Marie Dye 858-538-1689 mdye@san.rr.com	Topic: <i>The future of Persian Gulf security</i> <i>The Persian Gulf remains tense as the rivalry between the regional powers of Saudi Arabia and Iran continues. Is using military force a viable foreign policy option for 2021 and beyond?</i> Discussion leader: Joan Natoli	RSVP: for Zoom link Marie Dye 858-733-2850 mdye@san.rr.com Interested in joining the group? Email Marie Dye by March 2nd to receive an invite to the discussion
March 16th 2nd Tuesday 1:30 p.m.	3rd Tuesdays with Books Leader: Pam Ames 858-578-4283 619-889-6229 (cell) pamames123@gmail.com	The Dutch House by Ann Patchett <i>A richly moving story that explores the indelible bond between two siblings, the house of their childhood, and a past that will not let them go. This is the story of a paradise lost, a tour de force that digs deeply into questions of inheritance, love and forgiveness, of how we want to see ourselves and of who we really are. Set over the course of five decades, The Dutch House is a dark fairy tale about two smart people who cannot overcome their past.</i> Discussion Leader: Karen Lust	RSVP: Pam Ames will send the ZOOM invitation. You want to read the book and join the group? Email Pam Ames by March 14th
March 10th Wednesday 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Janice Heather 360-982-9719 janiceheather@hotmail.com Sheila Walker 858-722-3761 sekw@san.rr.com	Pay Equity in 2021 Speaker: Kathi Harper , Public Policy co-chair, AAUW/CA and Vice president AAUW/CA 2021 Tech Trek Camp, need for branch volunteers and mentors	The ZOOM link invitation will be sent to the whole membership a few days before the March 10th meeting. Look for it! For more information email: aauwboard@gmail.com
March 15th Monday 6:30 p.m.	Debbie Boyd 858-486-4390 travelstardebbie@yahoo.com	Practice Games Night! Play games with other members on Zoom. Lots of fun. Get ready for the fundraiser on March 27th.	Debbie Boyd will send the ZOOM invitation. Interested in joining the group? Let Debbie Boyd know by March 14th
March 19th FRIDAY 4 p.m.	Travel Group Leader: Pam Ames 858-578-4283, 619-889-6229 (cell) pamames123!!@gmail.com	Travel Chat We will talk travel!	Pam Ames will send the ZOOM invitation. Interested in joining the group? Let Pam Ames know by Thursday, March 18th

March 22nd 4th Monday 1:30 p.m.	Mystery Book Group Leader: Pamela Meyer 619-855-4071 Pamela.me4@gmail.com	Bad Blood by John Carreyou <i>Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup". Nonfiction. In 2014, Elizabeth Holmes - a Stanford University dropout - was widely viewed as the female Steve Jobs. Her start-up company promised to revolutionize the medical world with a machine that would make blood testing significantly faster and easier. The only problem -- it didn't work. This is the story of one of the biggest corporate frauds since Enron.</i> Discussion leader: Pam Coon	RSVP: Pamela Meyer will send the Zoom invitation. You have read the book and want to join the group? Email Pam by March 20th
March 26th 4th Thursday 7 p.m.	Thursday Evening Book Grp Leaders: Ann Morgan 858-484-5290 annmmorgansd@yahoo.com Berina Pennington 858-484-3603 berina@san.rr.com	American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins <i>Lydia Quixano Pérez lives in the Mexican city of Acapulco. She runs a bookstore. She has a son, Luca, the love of her life, and a wonderful husband who is a journalist. And while there are cracks beginning to show in Acapulco because of the drug cartels, her life is, by and large, comfortable... American Dirt will leave readers utterly changed. It is a literary achievement filled with poignancy, drama, and humanity on every page.</i> Leader: Barbara Fisher	RSVP: Ann Morgan will send the Zoom invitation. You have read the book and want to join the group? Email Ann by March 24th
March 27th Saturday 6:30 p.m.	Games Group Debbie Boyd 858-486-4390 travelstardebbie@yahoo.com	 Fundraiser Join us for a fun evening playing games on Zoom. Cost is \$15 per person. Benefits our scholarship program.	Debbie Boyd will send the Zoom invitation. Se the flyer in the <i>Adelante!</i> for more information. It is going to be fun!!!
Different Saturdays	Hikers Gayle Ziaskas 858-484-7596619-855-4071 gzia@aol.com	Happy Hikers <i>We hope the hikers are continuing to walk either on their own or with family members or close friends.</i>	Gayle Ziaskas <i>Right now, the Happy Hikers are continuing to follow COVID-19 restrictions related to group gatherings.</i>
1st Friday (alternate months) 9-11:30 am	Garden Gals Jeanene Cook (Acting) 858-487-9215 Jeanenec@san.rr.com	Garden Gals <i>We hope the garden group is enjoying virtual garden tours or locally when allowed to be open.</i>	Jeanene Cook <i>Right now the Garden interest group is continuing to follow COVID-19 restrictions related to group gatherings.</i>