

# Adelante



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Branch

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Don't miss these September events & announcements

- September 10: General Meeting
- September 17: Happy Healthy Hikers visit Los Peñasquitos Canyon
- Book Groups: Did you know we have three book groups? Check the calendar for details!

## From the President by Michelle Blasberg

Welcome back; I hope your summer was restful and fun. As we return to another fiscal year, I am excited to be the Branch President for the 2022 – 2023 year. To remind you, the board consists of:

### Elected Officers:

- President – Michelle Blasberg
- Membership – Harriet Gerza and Linda Johnston
- Programs – Karen McGurk, Ellie Slade and Joie Nolasco
- Treasurer – Sheila Walker

### Appointed Chairs:

- AAUW Funds – Pam Meyer
- Communications – Marie Dye
- Tech Trek Coordinators – Heidi Dalvie, Debbie Lewis, Ellen Dillon
- Speech Trek Coordinator – Karen McGurk
- **Public Policy – Open**
  - Reviewing communication from AAUW-CA regarding public policy and communicating it to the membership
- **Scholarships – Open**
  - Work with local colleges/universities to advertise the scholarships
  - Review applications for completeness
  - Work with a team select recipients

**Open Positions:** As you can see we have two open positions that we need to fill. Please think about joining our management team for any of these positions. If you are interested please reach out to me or any of the other board members for a position description and discussion.

**Board Meetings:** All Board meetings are planned to be virtual and are open to all Branch members. If you'd like to attend the meeting please notify the Board and we will ensure you are sent a link to the meeting. Pursuant to the Branch Standing Rules, the planned board meetings for fiscal year 2023 are scheduled for the following dates:

- August 27, 2022
- October 22, 2022
- January 14, 2023
- March 18, 2023
- May 20, 2023

The board and committee chairs met in July to discuss strategies and plans for this year. As part of our meeting we discussed the need to increase branch dues for next year (2023 – 2024 year). Unfortunately, the fees for the meeting locations and required insurance costs continue to increase. Additionally, our membership has decreased over the last two years due to the pandemic, and we have been unable to recruit new members. We have been operating in a deficit and a branch dues increase of \$10.00 is required to get us operating in the black.

I am excited about the programs being planned for this year, including, as of now, an in-person Cover to Cover in May of 2023, but we need an event chairperson to make this happen. The chairperson will have a committee with some members already lined up to help. Contact me for information about this opportunity.

## Mark Your Calendar for the September 10th Meeting by Ellie Slade

On Saturday, September 10 our branch will kick off the fall season at Palomar College's Rancho Bernardo campus. This meeting is a chance to see how the funds we raise advances girls' and women's education and opportunities.

Specifically, we will hear from our Tech Trekkers and scholarship award winners. In addition, Heidi Dalvie will introduce Madeline Campbell, a former Tech Trekker and employed engineer at Element Biosciences. We are proud to be part of an organization that has awarded more than \$115 million in fellowships, grants, and awards to 13,000 recipients from 145 countries since 1888.

Moreover, we are pleased to have our first fall meeting at the Palomar College's Rancho Bernardo Campus. This college offers 2-year associate and 4-year degrees in fields including science, technology, engineering, art, nursing, and mathematics. Palomar also offers a wide variety of other courses for all types of occupations, personal development, and language programs. Perhaps some of our Tech Trekkers and scholarship award winners may envision Palomar College as a springboard to their advancement. This campus, as well as all community colleges in our state, is part of the California Promise Program that offers students free tuition for the first two years. Many of the 22,000 students transfer on to universities after their start at Palomar and find themselves well prepared to continue their educational journey.

This meeting is just the beginning of the year so stay tuned for an exciting season full of activities and sponsored events from Speech Trek, book clubs, Great Decisions, travel and more. In October we will hear from the League of Women Voters. And, a 24-year female Coast Guard veteran and San Diego Honor Flights Director will share her experience with us in November.

The meeting will be held at 11111 Rancho Bernardo Road in the Community Room. Social time begins at 9:30 a.m. Michelle Blasberg, our president, will start the meeting at 10 a.m. The public is invited, so consider this a great opportunity to bring a friend or neighbor.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to [aauwboard@gmail.com](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com).

## **AAUW Fund: Record Number of California Fellows and Grantees** by Karen

Vanderwerken, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, [aauwfund@aauw-ca.org](mailto:aauwfund@aauw-ca.org)

AAUW awarded \$6 million in Fellowships and Grants this year to 320 recipients. 49 of these are in California.

There will be four Zoom meetings featuring many of these recipients as speakers. You will hear fascinating stories of their research and have an opportunity to schedule some of them as speakers for your branch.

Registration will start in September for meetings on the following dates:

- October 15
- October 22
- October 23
- November 12

This is your chance to see where your AAUW Fund dollars go!

## **AAUW-PP Fund Honorees** by Pamela Meyer, AAUW Fund Chair

Congratulations to our AAUW Fund Honorees! Our branch donated \$3,136 to AAUW Fund in 2021. For each \$750 we donate, we can honor one of our own. This year we honor Cathy Burciaga, Janice Heather, Sheila Walker, and Adrienne Peterson. Cathy, Janice, and Sheila have held the offices of president and program vice presidents for the last three years and have helped us get through the pandemic with strong leadership and interesting programs. Adrienne Peterson has brought a professional quality to our newsletter for the last five years. We honor these women for a job well done. We will present the certificates at the September general meeting. See you then!

**What I need to know:** AAUW Fund will hold four events to showcase the recipients of AAUW-sponsored grants and their interesting work.

**What I need to do:** Register for the events.

**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](http://ca.aauw.net)

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

[m](mailto:m)

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

**President:** Michelle  
Blasberg

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

**Presidents:** Karen  
McGurk, Joie Nolasco,  
Ellie Slade

**Membership/2<sup>nd</sup> Vice**

**Presidents:** Harriet  
Gerza, Linda Johnston

**Secretary:** Joan Natoli

**Treasurer:** Sheila Walker

**Calling all Members!** by Harriet Gerza

If you haven't already renewed your membership, Linda Johnston or I will be contacting you soon. It's been a challenge with the new national AAUW system, but once you have it next year will be a lot easier! I'd be happy to talk you through the online process, so just give me a call at 858-775-3314. We want to renew all members before the end of the month so we can publish our new directory and be able to distribute it at the September meeting.

If you are interested in placing a business card size advertisement in the directory for a mere \$50.00 – What a deal! Goes out to all 100+ members! – contact Michele at [mmichaels@san.rr.com](mailto:mmichaels@san.rr.com) before August 30.

This year we will be launching a new recruitment campaign for members, so watch for details coming soon!

**Speech Trek Returns February 4, 2023** by Karen McGurk

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 a 5-6 minute speeches on the following public policy topic:

*How can communities, organizations and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights?*

Look for additional information in upcoming editions of the Adelante. Questions? Contact Karen McGurk at [aauwboard@gmail.com](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com). Please add Speech Trek to the Subject Line.

**What is Gov Trek?** by Marie Dye

Gov Trek is a new AAUW-California program to be introduced next year. This innovative program was created by the Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista branch to teach high school juniors and seniors how politics really works and to encourage them in a career of politics including running for office. A state committee has been formed to introduce this program statewide next year. The plan is to start with a virtual statewide program, then eventually bring it to any interested branches. The committee is starting to form and meet so if you are interested, please let Marie Dye know at [mdye@san.rr.com](mailto:mdye@san.rr.com).

**Gardens and More: Holiday Heaven at SDBG** by Joan Natoli,

Coordinator

**Lightscape** is coming to San Diego Botanic Garden, November 18, 2022 – January 1, 2023. **Lightscape** is an internationally acclaimed installation including over a million lights. It has previously been seen and enjoyed in New York, London, Los Angeles, and Chicago. Cost: Adults: \$29-\$27, depending on date. Children (3-12): \$18-\$16.

**Tickets and Parking may sell out quickly.** For more information:

<https://sdbg.org/LIGHTSCAPE/>

So...of course, you can privately arrange for a date/time your family can attend. Or...those interested in attending as a group on the evening of Friday, December 2 could EMAIL ME ASAP at [itolanj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:itolanj@sbcglobal.net). If we have enough interest, this would be our Gardens & More event for December. Family and friends are welcome! PLEASE NOTIFY ME BY September 23, if you are interested and willing to pay by the end of September (I would buy tickets; you would reimburse me). Or, you could buy them yourself. Either way, I just need to know names and number of folks, to see if this will work as a group event for December 2.

## Tech Trek 2022 by Heidi Dalvie, Ellen Dillon, Debbie Lewis, Co-Coordinators

There were two Tech Trek camps at UCSD, both virtual this year, due to the pandemic and various COVID restrictions. Many California camps were held in-person and we are expecting UCSD to return to in-person next year also.

Our branch sent seven girls to camp this year and each girl received a robotics kit with necessary supplies. The girls had several STEM-related courses throughout the week and their primary project was to learn how to create "Wearable Tech," with electronic parts that moved, blinked, and turned. Since each girl was working alone from her own home, she needed to communicate and collaborate very closely with the coaches to learn the appropriate skills to create her "Wearable Tech."

Feedback after the camps was very positive!

We have invited the girls and a parent to come to our AAUW September 10 branch meeting. The girls have not met each other, since this year's camp was online. We will ask them to come early to the brunch to meet each other and take a group photo. Please introduce yourself and help them feel welcome. Each girl will give a short presentation of their camp experience and demonstrate their "Wearable Tech" project.

This year we have also invited Madeline Campbell to our September 10 branch meeting. She is a young Mechanical Engineer who previously attended Tech Trek camp. Maddie is currently working at Element Biosciences and she will tell us briefly about her experience working in a STEM field.

Prior to the camps, the Tech Trek coordinator, Mary Isaac, asked for help assembling the hundreds of kits needed for the girls. One of our branch members, Heidi Dalvie, volunteered the use of her home for the assembly-line operation. Several AAUW members from our branch and other branches took over her home with supplies and boxes for the better part of a week!



## AAUW POWAY-PENASQUITOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## September 2022

Date	Group	Topic	Group Leader	Meeting Details	Good to know
Sept 19	<b>Games</b>	N/A	Debbie Boyd <a href="mailto:travelstardebbie@yhoo.com">travelstardebbie@yhoo.com</a>	We will meet at the home of Desiree Louis-Maubert at 17705 Devereux Road in Rancho Bernardo at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Debbie Boyd	Play board games once a month in the evening at a member's home.
No meeting this month	<b>Garden Gals</b>	N/A	Joan Natoli <a href="mailto:itolanj@sbcglobal.net">itolanj@sbcglobal.net</a>	N/A	The Garden Gals wish you a happy Labor Day weekend and lovely beginning of Autumn. Please send your ideas to Joan. The first outing will be Friday, Oct 7. Stay tuned for more details!
Sept 10	<b>General Meeting</b>	Meet the Tech Trek attendees and Scholarship winners. Madeline Campbell, a former Tech Trekker, will also speak.	Ellie Slade, Karen McGurk, and Joie Nolasco	9:30 a.m. social time; 10:00-11:30 a.m. is program. Palomar College Rancho Bernardo Campus, 11111 Rancho Bernardo Road, ROOM SEC 111. RSVP to <a href="mailto:AAUWboard@gmail.com">AAUWboard@gmail.com</a>	Branch general meetings are usually the second Wednesday of the month in the evening with a few Saturday programs. Open to the public so invite your friends and family, all are welcome!
Sept 1	<b>Great Decisions</b>	Drug Policy in Latin America	Sally Jacobson, <a href="mailto:sjacobs4@san.rr.com">sjacobs4@san.rr.com</a>	6:30 p.m. Hostess: Sally Jacobson, 13433 Appalachian Way in Rancho Penasquitos. RSVP to Sally at <a href="mailto:sjacobs4@san.rr.com">sjacobs4@san.rr.com</a> or 858-663-7250 if attending in-person or if you wish to attend via Zoom.	Meets first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m., except no meeting in January, August, or December.
Sept 16	<b>Grape Expectations</b>	N/A	Janice Heather <a href="mailto:janiceheather@hotmail.com">janiceheather@hotmail.com</a>	From 3-5 p.m. we will meet at a winery TBD. RSVP to Janice Heather if you plan to attend or for more information,	Meets monthly at a local winery or maybe even a brewery!
Sept 17	<b>Happy Healthy Hikers</b>	N/A	Mary Alice Rudelich <a href="mailto:mary.rudelich@aol.com">mary.rudelich@aol.com</a>	8:30 a.m. at Los Penasquitos Canyon (East End) at Canyonside Community Park located at Canyonside Park Dr and Black Mountain Rd. This is an easy 6-mile round trip hike. Meet at the last parking area past the ball fields on Canyonside Dr.	Hikes are once a month ranging from easy to moderate levels.
Sept 26	<b>Mystery Book Group</b>	The book is <i>The Thursday Murder Club</i> by Richard Osman	Pam Meyer <a href="mailto:pamela.me4@gmail.com">pamela.me4@gmail.com</a>	1:30 p.m. Location TBD	Meets the fourth Monday of every month. Want to join the discussion? Email Pam Meyer

Sept 20	<b>Page Turners</b>	Book is <i>Hour of the Witch</i> by Chris Bohjalian	Pam Ames <a href="mailto:pamames123@gmail.com">pamames123@gmail.com</a>	1:30 p.m. over Zoom	Meets the third Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. If want to join the discussion, email Pam Ames.
Sept 22	<b>Thursday Evening Book Group</b>	Book is <i>Suite Francaise</i> by Irene Nemirovsky	Ann Morgan <a href="mailto:annmogansd@yahoo.com">annmogansd@yahoo.com</a> Marilyn Scheininger <a href="mailto:Marilyn.Scheininger@gmail.com">Marilyn.Scheininger@gmail.com</a>	7:00 p.m.	Group meets the fourth Thursday of every month. If you want to join the discussion, please email Ann or Marilyn.
No meeting this month	<b>Travel Group</b>	N/A	Pam Ames <a href="mailto:pamames123@gmail.com">pamames123@gmail.com</a>	N/A	Meets monthly at various local restaurants.



# FALL KICKOFF MEETING

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 • 9:30 AM**

We are proud to introduce:

- ★ Summer Tech Trekkers
- ★ Madeline Campbell, former Tech Trekker and mechanical engineer at Element Biosciences
- ★ Scholarship Winners

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to [aauwboard@gmail.com](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com)  
This is an open meeting, please invite friends and family to join us.

Palomar College Rancho Bernardo Campus, Community Room  
11111 Rancho Bernardo Road