

Adelante



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Affiliate

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss these January events & announcements:

- January 13: Join Happy Healthy Hikers for a visit to Kit Carson Park
- January 26: Visit Vineyard Grant James with Grape Expectations
- January 20: Enjoy Elijah's Deli with the Travel Group
- January 27: IBC All-Branch Luncheon

President's Message by Michelle Blasberg

Happy New Year!! As we get ready to raise a glass to 2024, there are some important programs that I'd like to share with you.

- **IBC Luncheon** – Mark your calendar for the annual IBC All-Branch Luncheon, Saturday January 27 at Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley. The speaker will be Parisa Ijadi-Maghsoodi, Esq., Chair, San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. Please complete the registration flyer attached to this Adelante and mail it to the address listed on the form. Let's get a good group of Poway-Penasquitos members at the luncheon. We can arrange carpools, one from PQ and one from RB, to make the drive easier.
- **Fall Campaign** – To those of you who have already sent in your Fall Campaign donations, thank you so much. As usual, our Affiliate has been very generous in support of Tech Trek and our own fundraising to endow Scholarships and Speech Trek awards. For those who have not yet sent in your donation, it's not too late. Please use the form at the end of this Adelante.
- **Speech Trek** – The competition is set to be in person on February 3 at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch Library. If you'd like to help or just attend, please reach out to Karen McGurk.
- **Gov Trek** – This is a state wide program to get high school girls interested in Public Service. Please reach out to Janice Heather for more information.
- **Nominating Committee** – Joan Thompson is leading the charge to find members willing to take a leadership role in our Affiliate. All positions, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Programs Chair, and Membership Chair, will be open beginning in July of 2024. These positions can be co-lead if having someone to share the responsibility makes it more palatable. Please give some thought to helping lead the Affiliate next fiscal year. All the current board members are more than willing to help provide guidance and support. You are not in this alone.

As you can see, we have a very busy group of programs for this year. As your President, I couldn't be prouder of how our branch supports the mission of AAUW.

GovTrek Registration Closes January 20; Volunteers Needed!

by Janice Heather

Do you know a teen girl who's interested in current events or who's considering a career in government or politics? If so, make sure she registers for AAUW's newest program, GovTrek, a free, virtual, 7-week program for high school junior and senior girls.

For more information on the program, check out these videos created by AAUW members and Gov Trek alumni: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/gov-trek/>, <https://youtu.be/iKXZX7PtluE>
Students can register online, on a first come, first-served basis here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/gov-trek-student-registration/>. The registration deadline is January 20, 2024.

We need members who can work with the girls as coaches and mentors throughout February and March. If you'd like to help or find out more, contact Janice Heather at janiceheather@hotmail.com or go to <https://www.aauw-ca.org/gov-trek/>.



Speech Trek Prepares for February 3 Competition by Karen McGurk

Speech Trek will be held on Saturday, February 3 at 10 a.m. at the Rancho Peñasquitos Public Library. This year's topic is: *How can we ensure a robust public school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?*

It is sure to be an exciting competition. Please join us to listen to the well-articulated thoughts and ideas of our local high school students. This is an open meeting, and friends and family members are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Karen McGurk at aauwboard@gmail.com and please add Speech Trek to the Subject Line.



TTAG (Tech Trek Alumni Group); She Believed She Could, So She Did by Debbie Lewis

Life is all about turning cant's into cans and our Fall Meeting Speaker did just that. Imagine sharing your dream with a teacher who simply responds, "You can't do that." Would it make you stop pursuing your dream or make you push harder to prove them wrong? Our alumni campers met Shelley, a professional Geologist and Project Manager who worked hard to turn a can't into a can!

Our fall meeting was held on Sunday, November 5. The young ladies enjoyed hearing Shelley's passion for her career and many adventures in the field and inspecting the numerous artifacts she shared. After the presentation, they enjoyed a pizza lunch and welcomed the most recent alumni to TTAG.

In addition, the AAUW La Mesa/East County TTAG invited our campers to attend two events in November. The first was a guided tour of the General Dynamics facility. The second was a Zoom meeting discussion with FBI Agents on what it is like to work as an agent and threat analyst.



Public Policy Resources: Keep up with What AAUW is doing on Legislation in Sacramento by AAUW Public Policy Committee

You have a lot of things to keep track of birthdays, wisdom teeth extraction appointments, Netflix series releases, and United Nations meetings. Here's one more: [AAUW California Bill Tracker](#). Our Public Policy Committee labors to thoughtfully select the legislation we will follow as well as those we support with our funds and our energy. How are we doing? The Bill Tracker is kept up to date so you can be too. Check it periodically to see what bills we're rallying around and how they're doing. Put it on your calendar in red between the chiropractic appointment and the dog's rabies shot.

**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

California AAUW

www.aauw-ca.org

**PowayPenasquitos
AAUW**

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

ca.aauw.net

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

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

President: Michelle Blasberg

Programs/1st Vice

Presidents: Karen McGurk, Joie Nolasco, Ellie Slade

Membership/2nd Vice

Presidents: Harriet Gerza, Linda Johnston

Secretary: Joan Natoli

Treasurer: Sheila Walker

Happy Healthy Hikers by Mary Alice Rudelich and Jo Beneke

On Saturday, January 13, Healthy, Happy Hikers will be taking an easy 2.5-3-mile hike in Kit Carson Park. The address is 3333 Bear Valley Parkway, Escondido. Niki de Saint Phalle's Queen Califia's Magical Circle will be a highlight of the hike. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. Carpools will be arranged. Dogs are welcome on this hike.

Kit Carson Park is named after Christopher Carson, the famous scout who guided Captain John C. Fremont over the Sierra Nevada Mountains during a government expedition. Queen Califia's Magical Circle is a mosaic sculpture garden inspired by California's mythical, historic, and cultural roots.

We hope you will join us for this hike. Please RSVP to Mary.rudelich@aol.com.

Buon Anno,
Mary Alice and Jo



Coronado Ferry Landing

Grape Expectations Planning 2024 Winery Visits by Janice Heather

Our wine tasting interest group, Grape Expectations, will continue their search for the perfect wine in 2024, as well as continuing to enjoy good times together.

On Friday, January 26, we'll revisit a favorite Ramona winery, Vineyard Grant James. Folks who went there last year enjoyed the fire pits and beautiful views along with the wines. Grant James is located at 25260 E Old Julian Highway. We'll be there between 3-5 p.m. <https://www.vineyardgrantjames.com/>

On February 24, we'll visit a new winery, Bastian, located in the San Pasqual Valley at 15326 Bandy Canyon Rd.

For more information on the group or to reserve your spot in January or February, email Janice Heather at janiceheather@hotmail.com.

Cheers for a Happy New Year! 🥂

Travel Group by Pam Ames

The Travel Group will meet on Saturday, January 20 at 11:30 a.m. at Elijah's Restaurant & Delicatessen to experience your favorite New York style dishes. <http://www.elijahsrestaurant.com/>.

Elijah's is located at 7061 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. The carpool will meet at 11 a.m. at the Park-and-Ride next to Yanni's off Scripps Poway Parkway. RSVP to Pam Ames at pamames123@gmail.com. All are welcome!

AAUW POWAY-PENASQUITOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2023

Date	Group	Topic	Group Leader	Meeting Details	Good to Know
Jan 9	Page Turners	Dear America by Jose Antonio Varga	Pam Ames, pamames123@gmail.com	Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Pam Coon, 16521 Corte Paulina in Poway. RSVP to Pam Ames.	Meets the second Tuesday of every month at a member's home at 1:30 p.m. Contact Pam Ames if you wish to be added to the distribution list.
Jan 13	Happy Healthy Hikers	N/A	Mary Alice Rudelich, mary.rudelich@aol.com	Join us for an easy 2.5-3-mile hike in Kit Carson Park located at 3333 Bear Valley Parkway in Escondido. Niki de Saint Phalle's Queen Califia's Magical Circle will be a highlight of the hike. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. Carpools will be arranged. Dogs are welcome on this hike. RSVP to Mary Alice.	Hikes are once a month ranging from easy to moderate levels. Contact Mary Alice to be added to the distribution list.
Jan 15	Games Group	N/A	Aresa Toukdarian, atoukdar@gmail.com	Meet at the home of Harriet Gerza, 17888 Avenida Cordillera in RB from 7-9 p.m. RSVP to Aresa.	Group meets once a month to play board games. Contact Aresa if you want to be added to the distribution list.
Jan 20	Travel Group	N/A	Pam Ames, pamames123@gmail.com	Meet at 11:30 a.m. at Elijah's Deli, 7061 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Carpool will meet at 11 a.m. at the Park-and-Ride next to Yanni's off Scripps Poway Parkway. RSVP to Pam Ames.	Meets monthly at various local restaurants. Contact Pam Ames to be added to the distribution list.
Jan 22	Monday Mysteries Book Group	Silverview by John LeCarre	Pam Meyer, pamela.me4@gmail.com	Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Debby Dutilly, 17470-85 Plaza Cerrado in RB. RSVP to Pam Meyer.	Meets the fourth Monday of every month. Want to join the discussion? Email Pam Meyer.
Jan 25	Evening Book Group	Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver	Ann Morgan, annmorgansd@yahoo.com ; Marilyn Scheininger, marilyn.scheininger@gmail.com	Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Marilyn Scheininger, 13041 Caminito Bautizo. RSVP to Marilyn at marilyn.scheininger1@gmail.com .	Meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. If you want to join the discussion, please email Ann or Marilyn.
Jan 26	Grape Expectations	N/A	Janice Heather, janiceheather@gmail.com	We will meet at the Vineyard Grant James winery in Ramona from 3-5 p.m. https://www.vineyardgrantjames.com To reserve your spot, RSVP to Janice Heather at janiceheather@gmail.com .	We meet monthly for either wine or beer tasting. Please contact Janice to be added to the distribution list.
Jan 27	IBC Luncheon	San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls	Karen McGurk, kmcgurkrn@sbcglobal.net Ellie Slade, elliehs10.4.1582@gmail.com Joie Nolasco, joienolasco@gmail.com	Come hear Parisa Ijadi-Maghsoodi, Esq. who is the current chair of the San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, give us an update on the vital work of this commission.	Questions? Contact Cathy Burciaga at 858-449-5096 or cburciaga@san.rr.com

No meeting	Great Decisions	N/A	Sally Jacobson, sjacobs4@san.rr.com	No meeting in January. See you in February.	Meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. No meeting in Dec., Jan., July, and Aug. Interested in joining? Please email Sally at sjacobs4@san.rr.com
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December 1, 2024
Fall Fundraising Campaign 2024

As noted in the September issue of the Adelante; AAUW National has updated how branches are described, all branches now are referred to as affiliate. In order to honor this change, we have used affiliate in this letter.

Welcome to the AAUW Poway Penasquitos Fall Fundraising Campaign for fiscal year 2024. Our membership is always very generous in donating to our key causes, Re-entry Scholarships, Speech Trek, Tech Trek, which support students in their educational pursuits.

In prior years our membership has generously supported AAUW Funds, which enables AAUW National to provide leadership. This year the Board has decided not to include AAUW-Funds in our Fall Campaign. We suggest you continue to give to AAUW Funds throughout the year

This year we are focusing our fundraising efforts to support the affiliate programs below:

- **Re-Entry Scholarship Program**– This fund provides scholarships to students re-entering community college or a four-year college/university.
- **Speech Trek Program** – This is an AAUW-CA sponsored competition for high-school students. AAUW-CA selects a topic, the applicants prepare and present a five-to-six-minute speech in support of the topic. The topic for the 2024 competition is: **“If an educated population is essential to a nation’s prosperity, then how can we ensure a robust public-school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?”** This fund provides prizes to the top three speakers in the annual affiliate competition.
- **Tech Trek Program** – This fund enables our affiliate to send seventh grade students from local middle schools to a one-week sleep away camp at UCSD. The focus of the camp is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Each of these programs supports and encourages students to reach for the stars. If you would like more information on any of these programs, please don’t hesitate to ask any of the board members.

All donations to Re-entry Scholarships and Speech Trek are retained and managed by the affiliate through our fundraising account. Tech Trek donations are sent to AAUW-CA and are maintained in our escrow account to support students selected for Tech Trek by the affiliate. The donations to Tech Trek are tax deductible

The Board wants to thank you for supporting the efforts of the affiliate to help students who are striving to achieve their goals. Please donate to our efforts to support local students to reach for the stars.

Please complete the attached page and return with your donation.

Sincerely,

Michelle Blasberg

Michelle Blasberg
President
AAUW Poway Penasquitos Affiliate
aauwboard@gmail.com



Name: _____

I would like to support our local Re-entry Scholarship and Speech Trek programs. I understand that this donation is NOT tax-deductible.

Please make your check payable to AAUW PP with Scholarship/Speech Trek in the memo line.

\$250 _____

\$150 _____

\$100 _____

Other _____

I would like to support the Tech Trek program. I understand this donation is tax-deductible.

Please make your check payable to AAUW CASPF with TTSD-PP in the memo line.

\$250 _____

\$150 _____

\$100 _____

Other _____

Please enclose this form with your check/sand mail it the Affiliate Treasurer:

Sheila Walker,
13381 Calle Colina
Poway, CA 92064

Thank you for your contribution to our programs.

Any questions? Email aauboard@gmail.com

San Diego County InterBranch Council (SDC-IBC)

Annual All-Branch Luncheon

Saturday, January 27, 2024, 11:00am



Cabrillo-Diego
Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista
Del Mar-Leucadia
Fallbrook
La Mesa-El Cajon
Poway-Peñasquitos
San Diego



Handlery Hotel (Crystal Ballroom)
950 Hotel Circle North
San Diego (Mission Valley)

The **San Diego** and **Cabrillo-Diego Branches** cordially invite you to join us for lunch

Our Special Guest Speaker:



Parisa Ijadi-Maghsoodi, Esquire is a poverty, civil rights and social justice attorney, having served as the Assistant Director of Public Service at the USD School of Law where she is currently Professor of Poverty Law. As the current Chair of the San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, Ms. Ijadi-Maghsoodi will update us on the vital work of this important Commission.

and a good time together renewing old friendships, meeting new friends, bidding on enticing auction items to take home, and hearing what the other members have been up to.
See you at the Handlery!

OR

Check-in 11:00am
Lunch 12:00pm

Questions? Call or text Cathy at (858) 449-5096, or e-mail cburciaga@san.rr.com

RSVPs are a Must - by January 22 please!!

Yes, (name) _____ (branch) _____ will be there.

And, I am bringing _____ guests: _____

Select Your Entrée(s): Chicken Pesto Panini Carne Asada Salad
 Vegetarian Pesto Panini

Cost: \$48. Enclosed is my check payable to "SDC-IBC".
Tear off this reply & mail to: AAUW IBC Luncheon, PO Box 262012, San Diego, CA 92196

SPEECH TREK COMPETITION

February 3, 2024

California 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:

How can we ensure a robust public school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?

INTERESTED? Contact AAUW Poway-Peñasquitos Affiliate at aauwboard@gmail.com for more information and to register for the event. Please include Speech Trek in the subject line. **Application deadline is January 20, 2024.*** The contest will be held in-person at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch Library.

LOCAL PRIZES

First Place - \$750.00

Second Place - \$500.00

Third Place - \$250.00

Winner of the local contest participates in state semi-finals.

The top three state semi-finalists compete for more cash prizes.

Speeches from previous years can be viewed on YouTube by searching "Speech Trek."

***Please note:** The competition will be limited to the first 10 applicants.

