

Adelante



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Affiliate

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Don't miss these June events & announcements:

- June 8: Annual End of Year Meeting & Brunch
- June 15: Walk the Mission Beach Boardwalk with Happy Healthy Hikers
- June 21: Enjoy Shiraz Persian Cuisine with the Travel Group
- June 29: Visit Espinosa Vineyards with Grape Expectations

President's Message by Michelle Blasberg

Welcome to June

Here we are the last month of the AAUW fiscal year. The branch will wind down at the end of this month until September, but don't worry, there are many other reasons to appreciate June. June appears to be a busy month of celebrations; not only does it honor Fathers (June 16), it is LGBTQ+ Pride month, National African-American Music Appreciation month, Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness month, and Black Lives Matter month to name just a few month-long honorees. There are full week honorees to remember, as well, such as Learning Disability Week, Refugee Week, Deaf/Blind Awareness Week, and National Boys and Girls Club week. There are singular day celebrations also, for example, National Go Barefoot Day, World Environment Day, World Ocean Day, Juneteenth, and World Rainforest Day. So, no matter what you think about the beginning of June Gloom realize that there are many ways to celebrate this 6th month of the year.

Programs

The Programs committee would like your feedback regarding the upcoming 2024-2025 Programs. The committee is interested in the best time of day, snacks, and topics that are important to you. Meetings will continue to be held at Eastview Community Center for the coming year.

Watch for a survey that will be sent to all members via Survey Monkey. Hard copies will also be available at the Annual Meeting on June 8. Your thoughts and ideas will help us create an exciting calendar of events. Please take the time to complete the survey so the committee can continue to provide insightful and interesting programs.

Renewals – Reminder

The renewals process continues. For members who joined prior to 2022, the renewal period is June 1-30. For the new members who joined after March of 2022, your renewal date is 12 months after your initial membership date. The dues amount includes membership to AAUW National, AAUW-CA, and Affiliate dues. This year the total amount will be \$115.00.

June Affiliate Meeting – Please join us on Saturday, June 8 for an end of year brunch at the Eastview Community Center. We will hear from Shree Patel, Speech Trek affiliate winner and AAUW-CA 2nd place winner, and we will install the new AAUW-PP board for FY25.

Thank You – Finally, I want to thank you all for the opportunity to be the president of the affiliate for the last two years. I have enjoyed working with a great board and have enjoyed seeing the success of our affiliate. It has been amazing to work with and for a great group of smart, independent, and driven women. I know the incoming president, Harriet, and the entire board will do a great job of keeping us moving forward and growing. Thank you, again.

On a different note, as many of you may know, my husband has recently been diagnosed with ALS, and as part of the mission to find a cure for this horrible disease, I am taking part in the ALS Walk in October. I want to extend an invitation to all of you to join me and my family on the walk. If you'd like to join our team you can use the link here [Walk to Defeat ALS Greater San Diego - The ALS Association](#), then search for team name "Phil's Legs" to join my team. As a member of the team you will be asked to set a fundraising goal, but if you don't want to do that, you can just join us the day of the walk and walk with us. We will be making this walk the October Happy Healthy Hikers' walk, so I look forward to all who can join us.

June 8 General Meeting and End of Year Gathering by Karen McGurk

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 8, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. We will be meeting at the Eastview Community Center at 17520 Drayton Hall Way in Rancho Bernardo. You won't want to miss our affiliate's last meeting for the 2023-2024 fiscal year!

Our affiliate Speech Trek winner, Shreeya Patel, will present her prize winning speech on the topic *How can we ensure a robust public school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?*

In addition, our Tech Trek and Gov Trek teams will provide program updates. Finally, we'll install our officers for the coming 2024-2025 fiscal year.

A light luncheon will be served. Please RSVP to: aauwboard@gmail.com. This is a members-only meeting.

Tech Trek Update by Heidi Dalvie, Ellen Dillon, Debbie Lewis, Linda Groeling, Pat Armstrong, AAUW Poway-Penasquitos Affiliate Tech Trek Co-Coordinators

Our 12 selected campers have now completed all their paperwork. The girls are excited about camp and are coming up with a lot of questions. We will be hosting a gathering for all the girls with their parents on June 13 so they can meet each other in person, and we can answer their questions. One of our previous campers has agreed to attend and give her perspective on camp. The new girls always like to hear from the previous campers!



If you have never seen the video that demonstrates the diversity of Tech Trek, watch it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ea3-wTzTZM8>

Volunteering

All camps are dependent on our volunteers. Regardless of the amount of time you can volunteer, there are opportunities to help. Volunteers are as much role models as teachers and counselors. As of today, we have not received the final, daily schedule for camp. Registration will take place on Sunday, June 23. In the past, volunteers have been needed for registration and to cover a classroom session for the dorm moms to attend a staff meeting. This is such a fun way to observe a hands-on lesson!

If you would like to be a daily volunteer, please respond directly to us with what days and times you are available and/or with any questions you may have ASAP. All daily volunteers need to be AAUW members for insurance purposes. Volunteers also need to complete the Volunteer Conduct Agreement form [HERE](#).

If you want to be more involved than those duties above there are also more extensive roles, you can apply here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/tech-trek-volunteer/>

Please complete your application as soon as possible as positions are filling quickly. Assignments are in process and should be completed soon. Remember, if you are not available to volunteer for the in-person camp dates, consider volunteering at the virtual camp! It's all online and you don't even need to leave your home. Necessary materials will be mailed to you.

2024 Camps

- UC San Diego: In-person June 23-28, 2024
- Virtual: July 21-26, 2024

Please feel free to contact us if you'd like to learn more!

Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) by Debbie Lewis

Meet Dr. Bridget Seegers. Bridget is a scientist who focuses on Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) that threaten wildlife, ecosystem, and human health. She is the NASA lead on the Cyanobacteria Assessment Network (CyAN) project with the goal to validate a cyanobacteria algorithm for US inland waters. Although currently focused on freshwater, she is a research scientist in NASA's Ocean Ecology Lab. Dr. Seegers is passionate about outreach and education.

Our spring meeting was held on Sunday, April 13. The young ladies enjoyed hearing Dr. Seegers' passion for her career, adventures in the field, and most recently her involvement with NASA's Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem (PACE) satellite which was launched on February 8, 2024. PACE will help us better understand our ocean and atmosphere by measuring key variables associated with cloud formation, particles and pollutants in the air, and microscopic, floating marine life (phytoplankton).

Bridget brought a freshwater sample from the San Diego Bay and a digital microscope for the girls to make slides, view, and identify phytoplankton which was an amazing opportunity and so much fun!

In addition, the TTAG groups at AAUW La Mesa/East County and AAUW San Francisco continue to invite our campers to attend virtual events with the focus on Women in STEM.

Please keep your eyes and ears open for youthful, dynamic women in STEM careers to meet our alumni group.



Speech Trek Update by Karen McGurk

We have an AAUW-CA Speech Trek Winner!

On Saturday, April 27, AAUW-CA held its annual meeting which included the finals in the statewide Speech Trek Competition. Our affiliate winner, Shreeya Patel, was awarded **SECOND PLACE!** She was awarded a prize of \$1,000.00 by AAUW-CA. Shreeya's speech can be viewed on YouTube at [Patel 2024](#). Congratulations Shreeya!!

A special thank you to our committee members for their efforts to make this program so successful:

- Judges: Honorine Nocon and Harriet Gerza
- Videographers: Jeanni Harrison and Rene de Charon
- Timer: Joan Thompson
- Ballot Counters: Joan Thompson and Sheila Walker
- Student Coordinator/Greeter: Miriam Lauff.



Membership by Harriet Gerza and Linda Johnston

Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again to renew your membership. By now you should have received your first notice from national since most of the memberships will expire June 30. You have until then to go to the [AAUW website](#) to renew by credit card. This year the membership dues are \$115: \$72 for National; \$20 for CA; and \$23 for our affiliate.



The first step is to log into the AAUW website. This year AAUW is requiring everyone to reset their passwords so you'll have to enter your email address, then request to reset your password, which will be sent through your email account. Once you log in with your new password (remember to write it down and keep it for future use), click membership, and then renew national membership. Locating our affiliate is a bit tricky because they are listed by state, so look for the code CA0159 for Poway-Penasquitos. Once you check the branch, make sure you scroll down to the bottom and click submit. From there it will prompt you to the state, choose CA again, and scroll down to the bottom to submit. Then the process will take you to the payment page where you will enter your credit card info. Bingo, you are renewed for another year!

If you run into any problems call me at 858-775-3314. If you can't pay on-line, you can send a check to Sheila Walker, treasurer, at 13381 Calle Colina, Poway, CA 92064.

Thank you to those that have already renewed! I'll be bugging you through June to renew so please get me off your back!

Special Announcement

Because we have added 6 new members this year, we qualified to receive three FREE national memberships for our efforts under the Shape the Future program. We are awarding these 3 free memberships to our two AAUW Fund honorees, Debbie Lewis and Joan Thompson, for their extraordinary service efforts in support of our affiliate this year. The third free membership is awarded to Cathy Burciaga for her singlehanded recruitment of four dual members from other affiliates to our great affiliate. Congratulations to all three members for their outstanding contributions to keep our affiliate strong for all of us!

Linda and I want to thank all of you for helping to grow our membership this year by adding 11 new members overall. You are the backbone of our organization and our number one recruiting superpower so keep on spreading the word!

State Named Gift Honoree Announced by Pamela Meyer

It's an honor to present Jane Niemeier with the 2024 State Named Gift Honoree!

- She is an active dual member of the San Diego and the La Mesa-EI Cajon Branches.
- She serves as the San Diego IBC liaison.
- She has served in most branch positions including President, Treasurer, and Program Chair.
- She was the 2021-2023 State Nominating Committee Chair.
- She served as the 2014 AAUW California Convention Chair.
- She served six years on the AAUW California State Board as Co-President, Program Chair, and State Oversight Committee.
- She has been appointed a director to the AAUW California Special Project Fund (SPF).

Congratulations, Jane, and thank you for your leadership.

AAUW California Public Policy Updates shared by Janice Heather

What I need to know: Title IX guidelines have at last been updated with many important changes. AAUW lobbied for the positive changes which were recently signed into law by President Biden.

Our Lobby Days event was very successful with 140 women from 63 branches lobbying for the three top bills we support. The Resistbot arm of our Action Alert system is primed and ready for use.

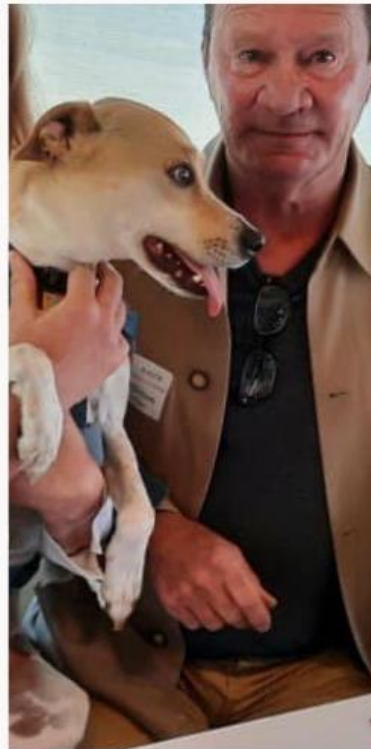
What I need to do: Think about joining the Lobby Days activity next spring. Branch members who've done it in the past say it's a unique and rewarding experience.

Make your voice heard! Sign up for [AAUW's Action Alert](#) system so you can personally react to critical legislative activity when it occurs!

Read the complete Public Policy Newsletter [here](#).

**Cover to
Cover Authors
Luncheon on
May 11** photos
submitted by Marie
Dye

Bestselling authors,
Tammy Leitner and
T. Jefferson Parker,
spoke about their
latest novels at the
annual luncheon and
fundraising event for
the re-entry women
college scholarships
and Speech Trek
program.



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
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, June 15, join us for the end of year hike and breakfast at Mission Beach Ocean Front walk. We will be walking the Ocean Front Walk at Mission Beach starting at 8:30 a.m., with a breakfast reservation at World Famous Restaurant at 9:15 a.m., then a leisurely stroll back to our cars. This hike/walk always proves to be one of the most enjoyable walks as we have a great view of the Pacific Ocean and a wonderful breakfast to celebrate the halfway point.

We will meet at 7:45 a.m. at the Scripps Ranch Park and Ride (near Yanni's Bistro) to carpool to the Mission Beach parking lot. If you plan to meet us at Mission Beach, we will meet at the parking lot on the corner of W. Mission Bay Drive and Mission Blvd in Mission Beach at 8:30 a.m. to start our excursion. If you plan to drive yourself, please be at the Lifeguard Station at the end of W. Mission Bay Drive by 8:30 a.m.

Please RSVP to Michelle Blasberg at 858-774-2474 or michblas09@gmail.com to let her know if you will be carpooling and dining with us. Reservations will be made for breakfast based on the number of RSVPs. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Grape Expectations Returns to Espinosa Winery by Janice Heather

Branch members who enjoy wine will visit Espinosa Winery on Saturday, June 29 from 3-5 p.m. This family-run winery was a favorite of several members during our previous visit, and their garden setting and art are especially lovely.

You can find Espinosa Winery at 15360 Bandy Canyon Road and learn more about their wines at <https://www.espinosavineyards.com>.

If you'd like to join us, email me at janiceheather@hotmail.com so I can reserve enough space. Hope to see you there! Cheers! 🍷

Flo-Jo, Fastest Woman of All-Time! Notable Women in History by Joie Nolasco

With the Paris Olympics coming up, let's remember Florence Griffith Joyner, otherwise known as Flo-Jo. Recognized for her dramatic long hair, long fingernails, and bright tracksuits, her college training was interrupted when she had to temporarily leave to support her family. However, Flo-Jo persisted in her running and eventually won three Olympic gold medals and two silvers. She still holds world records in the 100 and 200-meter sprints from the 1988 Seoul Olympics. One of her many famous quotes is "I believe in the impossible because no one else does." Flo-Jo is still known as the fastest woman of all-time!



Read more at "Florence Griffith-Joyner." *Contemporary Black Biography*, vol. 28, Gale, 2001. *Gale In Context: Biography*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/K1606001775/BIC?u=sddp_main&sid=bookmark-BIC&xid=f289922b. Accessed 14 May 2024.

Photo: <https://time.com/5793709/florence-griffith-joyner-100-women-of-the-year/>

AAUW POWAY-PENASQUITOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2024

Date	Group	Topic	Group Leader	Meeting Details	Good to Know
June 6	Great Decisions	NATO's Future	Marie Dye, mdye@san.rr.com	We will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Terry Humphrey, 13195 Bavarian Drive in Rancho Penasquitos. RSVP to Terry at thumphrey@palomar.edu if you can attend.	Meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. No meeting in Dec., Jan., July, and Aug. Interested in joining? Marie Dye at mdye@san.rr.com .
June 8	Affiliate Meeting	Meet our Speech Trek winner, hear updates on Gov Trek and Tech Trek and much more!	Joie Nolasco, joienolasco@gmail.com Karen McGurk, kmcgurkrn@sbcglobal.net Ellie Slade, elliehs10.4.1582@gmail.com	Join us from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for our year end meeting at the Eastview Community Center, 17520 Drayton Hall Way in Rancho Bernardo. A light lunch will be served. RSVP to aauwboard@gmail.com .	This is a members only meeting.
June 10	Games Group	N/A	Aresa Toukdarian, atoukdar@gmail.com	This month we will meet from 1-3 p.m. at the home of Harriet Gerza, 17888 Avenida Cordillera in Rancho Bernardo. Please RSVP to Harriet at harriet.gerza@gmail.com .	Group meets once a month to play board games. Contact Aresa if you want to be added to the distribution list.
June 11	Page Turners	The book of Charlie, by David Von Drehle	Pam Ames, pamames123@gmail.com	Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Gloria Piscopo, 16647 Bernardo Oaks Drive in Rancho Bernardo. RSVP to Pam at pamames123@gmail.com if you can attend.	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.
June 15	Happy Healthy Hikers	N/A	Mary Alice Rudelich, mary.rudelich@aol.com	We will walk the boardwalk at Mission Beach followed by breakfast at World Famous restaurant. We will meet at the Park and Ride next to Yanni's Bistro to carpool at 7:45 a.m. If you plan to meet us at Mission Beach, we will meet at the corner of W Mission Bay Dr and Mission Blvd at 8:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Michelle at 858-774-2474 or michblas09@gmail.com to let her know if you are carpooling and dining.	Hikes are once a month ranging from easy to moderate levels. Contact Mary Alice to be added to the distribution list.
June 21	Travel Group	N/A	Pam Ames, pamames123@gmail.com	We will meet at Shiraz Persian Cuisine located at 12125 Alta Carmel Court in Rancho Bernardo at noon. Please RSVP to Pam if you can attend.	Meets monthly at various local restaurants. Contact Pam Ames to be added to the distribution list.

June 24	Monday Mysteries Book Group	Box 88 , by Charles Cummings	Pam Meyer, pamela.me4@gmail.com	Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Pam Coon, 16521 Corte Paulina in Poway. RSVP to Pam at prcoon1@sbcglobal.net .	Meets the fourth Monday of every month. Please email Pam Meyer to be added to the distribution list.
June 27	Thursday Book Group	The Perfect Predator , by Steffanie Strathdee	Ann Morgan, annmorgansd@yahoo.com ; Marilyn Scheininger, marilyn.scheininger@gmail.com	Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Sally Jacobson, 13433 Appalachian Way in Rancho Penasquitos. RSVP to Sally at sjacobs4@san.rr.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.
June 29	Grape Expectations	N/A	Janice Heather, janiceheather@gmail.com	We will meet at the Espinosa Vineyards located at 15360 Bandy Canyon Road in Escondido from 3- 5 p.m. Please RSVP to Janice at janiceheather@gmail.com .	We meet monthly for either wine or beer tasting. Please contact Janice to be added to the distribution list.