

Adelante



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Affiliate

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss these October events & announcements:

- October 4: Visit Domaine Artefact Vineyard & Winery with Grape Expectations
- October 6: Participate in the Walk to Defeat ALS with Happy Healthy Hikers
- October 9: General Meeting
- October 18: Enjoy Giardino with the Travel Group

President's Message by Harriet Gerza

Welcome Back!

Our year is underway and our first meeting on September 14 was a great success! It is always gratifying to hear from our Tech Trek girls and Scholarship winners. Thank you for approving our new budget and electing our new board member, Miriam Lauff, to join us as co-2nd Vice President of Membership, along with Pam Ames. We are still looking to fill one additional appointed chair as our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator. If you are interested in hearing more about it, please contact me.

I was recently invited to attend a state board workshop held here in San Diego and met the new AAUW California President, Charmen Goehring. It was interesting to watch our new state board in action and hear them discuss their priorities, especially the ones to support all affiliates more directly. We hope to get Charmen to come to San Diego to speak with us sometime soon.

Speaking of DEI Awareness, as past president Michelle did a great job highlighting various ethnic and diversity celebrations each month, which I'd like to continue. September 16 kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month, which started in 1968 as a way to pay tribute to the Hispanic and Latinx communities' contributions to the nation. This group is the nation's

second-fastest growing racial or ethnic group after Asian Americans. October is National Disability Employment Awareness month, which is designated to recognize how people with disabilities strengthen the workforce and deserve absolute inclusion in the workplace.

One last bit of news, as many of you might have been aware, Michelle Blasberg's husband had been diagnosed and struggling with ALS. Sadly, he lost his battle and passed away last week. She plans to have a Celebration of Life Open House on October 6 from 3-6 p.m. for all who would like to stop by. In lieu of flowers, Michelle asks that [donations be made to the ALS Association in Phil Blasberg's name.](#)

October 9 General Meeting by Karen McGurk

We are privileged to have Jeanne Weidner, the League of Women Voters' Speaker Bureau Chair (and our own affiliate member!), speaking at the General Meeting on October 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the RB Eastview Community Center; 17520 Drayton Hall Way, San Diego 92128.

The League of Women Voters will present a non-partisan, unbiased evaluation of the November 2024 state and local ballot measures and propositions. The presentation will include what they would do, how they would change existing law, who would benefit, how much they cost and who would pay for them, who supports/opposes them, and who's paying to support/oppose them.

Please bring your mail ballots and/or election materials to "follow along." The San Diego Registrar of Voters will be mailing ballots to all registered voters on October 5.

*Let's have some fun! The Theme for October is **Patriotic** or **Suffrage**, so wear patriotic or suffrage colors and gear.*

This meeting is open to the community so please feel free to invite family and friends. Be sure to RSVP to aauwboard@gmail.com if you plan to attend.



Finance Report by Kathy Moore

At the September meeting the 2024-2025 budget proposed by the Board was unanimously passed. The 2024-2025 budget remains very similar to last year's, and the affiliate is in a strong financial situation due to ongoing efforts to reduce costs and increase membership.

Operating Account

Income \$3060
Expenses \$3500
Deficit \$440

Operating Bank Balance August 31, 2024, was \$6,100

With a successful Cover to Cover fundraising event, as well as a strong Fall Campaign, the affiliate starts the year well able to continue funding Tech Trek, Scholarships, and Speech Trek awards at the same level as previous years. This in contrast to recent years and is due to generous contributions to the Fall Campaign as well as all the work that went into the Cover to Cover luncheon. With your continued support, our affiliate will be able to continue this mission next year as well; please keep this in mind as we go into the Fall Campaign.

Fundraising Account

Income \$18,000
Expenses \$17,300
Surplus \$700

Fundraising Bank Balance August 31, 2024, was \$10,200.

Membership Matters by Pam Ames

Our Member Directory 2024-2025 is hot off the press. If you didn't receive yours at the September meeting, they will be distributed during the next few weeks at interest groups and hand delivered by our members. Thank you, Michele Michaels, for being our editor and publisher and doing a great job!

Tech Trek Alumni Group (TTAG) by Debbie Lewis

Exciting news for TTAG! A leadership committee was formed, and they held their first summer social at Summer Movie in the Park in Old Poway on August 10. Our enthusiastic leadership team greeted new 2024 campers with a warm welcome. The young women shared an evening of fun, laughter, and made connections under the stars. We ended our evening watching the classic movie HOOK. Alumni wore their Tech Trek camp shirts and generated a lot of interest from the crowd. What a perfect way to wrap up the summer and begin the school year with new friends.



2024 Women's Re-entry Scholarships Awarded by Cathy Burciaga, Scholarship Chair, photo by Janice Heather

At our lively members' meeting and brunch on September 14, five deserving young women, accompanied by their friends and families, were awarded college scholarships for scholastic achievement.

Back row (l to r): Brenda Nguyen (San Diego City College), Cathy Burciaga (Scholarship Chair), Elena Alcaraz (Point Loma Nazarene University), Jana Tran (University of North Texas); front row (l to r): Roxanne Word (San Diego City College), Olivia Fentress (CSU San Marcos).

The awardees will also receive invitations to join the affiliate as student members. Applications for the new 2025 scholarship season will become available in February.



2024 Ballot Propositions - Support AAUW California Public Policy Priorities by Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko, Co-Chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee (shared by Marie Dye)

This November, California voters will decide the fate of 10 statewide ballot propositions. While we encourage members to support additional propositions that may capture the spirit of AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities (PPPs), we suggest that four of the propositions on the ballot in 2024 deserve a YES vote from our members for their explicit alignment with AAUW California's PPPs.

Proposition 2, Public Education Facilities Bond Measure (2024), proposes issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of California's public education facilities. \$8.5 billion would be allocated to K-12 schools and \$1.5 billion would support improvements at community colleges. [Many school facilities](#) are over 50 years old and require significant upgrades to meet current technological and education needs. [Research](#) shows that modernized school facilities correlate with better test scores, higher attendance, and improved teacher retention rates. The last time districts received state funding for infrastructure improvements was in 2016, when Prop 51 authorized \$9 billion in bonds. That money has now run out, and Proposition 2 would help fund school projects totaling \$3.5 billion that have already been approved and are awaiting funding.

AAUW California supports "Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including pre-school and post-secondary," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 2.

Proposition 3, Constitutional Right to Marriage, would amend the California Constitution to recognize the fundamental right to marry, and would remove the language banning same-sex marriage, passed by voters in 2008, from the state constitution. In practice, the ban has been nullified since a [Supreme Court ruling in 2013](#) which allowed same-sex marriages to resume in California. Proposition 3 will enshrine the fundamental right to marry and protect against any potential future changes to federal marriage protections.

AAUW California supports "Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of gender identity and expression, and all family structures," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 3.

Proposition 4, Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure, would allocate the state to issue \$10 billion in bonds to fund various environmental, energy, and water projects. While there is a range of projects the ballot measure would fund that would benefit all Californians who are confronted with the impacts of sea-level rise, extreme heat, wildfire dangers, and air/water pollution, Proposition 4 would also require that 40% of the bond revenue be used to fund activities that benefit communities with lower incomes or that are affected by environmental changes or disasters. Also, as AAUW California's Public Policy Committee has pointed out in the past, [addressing climate issues and advancing gender equity is directly related to environmental sustainability, and vice versa](#).

AAUW California supports "Social and racial justice for all members of society, including equal access to quality affordable healthcare, housing and a healthy environment," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 4.

Proposition 32, Raises Minimum Wage, would raise California's current minimum wage of \$16 per hour. Employers with 26 or more employees would pay \$18 per hour beginning in 2025. Employers with 25 or fewer employees would pay \$17 per hour in 2025 and \$18 per hour in 2026. California has a high cost of living and our current \$16 minimum wage is well below the estimated living wage needed to support a household's basic needs. Women and communities of color bear the burden of low-wage jobs. The California Civil Rights Department (CRD) [released data](#) showing that in 2021, roughly half of all Latino, Black, and Native American workers earned \$32,329 or less - \$10,000 less than the state's per capita income. 54 percent of all workers in California earning \$32,239 or less were women. A minimum wage of \$18 will reduce income inequality and improve the standard of living for millions of California workers, especially women and people of color.

AAUW California supports "Economic Security for All Women," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 32.

For guidance on additional ballot measures that are adjacent to, but not directly within, the scope of AAUW California's PPPs, please see this excellent guide provided by the [League of Women Voters of California](#).

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

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 Affiliate is a 501(c)3 corporation.

President: Harriet Gerza

Programs/1st Vice

Presidents: Karen

McGurk, Joie Nolasco

Membership/2nd Vice

Presidents: Pam Ames,

Miriam Lauff

Secretary: Debby

Dutilly

Treasurer: Kathy Moore

Travel Group Lunch by Pam Ames

The Travel Group will meet for lunch at an Italian restaurant in Lemon Grove on Friday, October 18 at 11:30 a.m. Giardino offers a weekday lunch menu that comes highly recommended. Giardino is located at 8131 Broadway, Lemon Grove, and the carpool will meet at the Park & Ride at Scripps Poway Parkway/Yanni's at 11 a.m. Everyone is invited! Please RSVP to Pam Ames at pamames123@gmail.com.

Happy Healthy Hikers Walk to Defeat ALS by Michelle Blasberg

Please join us for the Happy Healthy Hikers' October walk. Our walk will be part of the Walk to Defeat ALS on Sunday, October 6 at De Anza Cove Mission Bay, 3000 N. Mission Bay Drive. We are walking in memory of Michelle Blasberg's husband Phil, who passed away last month. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m., and the walk begins at 10:30 a.m. De Anza Cove and is an easy walk of 5K (3.1 miles). If you'd like to donate to the ALS walk or join the team, click here [Phil's Legs](#).

We will carpool from the Scripps Ranch Park and Ride at 8:30 a.m. RSVP to Mary Alice Rudelich at mary.rudelich@aol.com, or text 801-440-2601.

Grape Expectations's October 4 Outing Features a Fan Favorite by Janice Heather

Well, the wine lovers in our group have spoken! As a result, Grape Expectations is heading back to another favorite winery in October, Domaine Artefact Vineyard and Winery, at 15406 Highland Valley Road. Domaine Artefact offers a large selection of traditional Rhône varietals with something to please any palate.

<https://domaineartefact.wine/>

We're meeting early in October, on Friday, October 4, so mark your calendar now. We'll be at the winery from 3-5 p.m., and carpools will leave from the parking lot of the former RB Souplantation at 2:30 p.m. Please RSVP to

janiceheather@hotmail.com to attend. Cheers! 🍷

Notable Women in History: Joan of Arc, Heroine of France, 1412-1431 by Joie Nolasco

Joan of Arc was known by several names, perhaps not even knowing her last name. In her birth town of Domrémy, she went by Jehanette. At her trial, she was referred to as Jehanne La Pucelle, meaning Joan the Maiden. Arc supposedly came from her father's name.

There is speculation she may have had mental health issues, as she claimed at the age of thirteen to have received messages from angels who said her life's mission was to assist Charles VII to the throne. However, even after she successfully accomplished this feat and proved herself in battle, he never came to her rescue.

Joan of Arc had a distinctive look. She cut her hair short, which is now associated with a French "bob," and wore suits of armor to fight and rule her men in battle, with some mistaking her for a man which helped her garner respect.

Mainly the strategic battle planner and cheerleader for the troops, she nearly died after being struck with an arrow that pierced her between the neck and shoulder. She was captured by the English during the Hundred Years War, then traded to France where she was charged with heresy, witchcraft, and wearing men's clothing. She was sentenced to death to be burned at the stake. Normally the executioner would strangle the "criminal," but in Joan's case she was placed too high on the stake, so she truly burned to death. In 1456, Pope Callixtus III held a new trial in which she was exonerated. May 30 is a national holiday in France, a day to remember Joan's loyalty, bravery, and ultimate sacrifice. Read more here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joan_of_Arc.

(Photo: By Derived from original commons upload at which is now in the history version: 01:39, 13. 8. 2005Colour-graded to reveal more detail using GIMP software "curves" tool, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=123841>)



AAUW POWAY-PENASQUITOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 2024

Date	Group	Topic	Group Leader	Meeting Details	Good to Know
Oct. 3	Great Decisions	High Seas Treaty	Sally Jacobson, jacobs@san.rr.com Marie Dye, mdye@san.rr.com	We will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Karen McGurk, 14905 Derringer Road in Poway. Please RSVP to Karen at kmcgurkrn@sbcglobal.net .	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 Jacobson at sjacobs4@san.rr.com .
Oct. 4	Grape Expectations	N/A	Janice Heather, janiceheather@gmail.com	We will meet at the Domaine Artefact Vineyard & Winery from 3-5 p.m. Bring your own snacks. 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.
Oct. 6	Happy Healthy Hikers	N/A	Mary Alice Rudelich, mary.rudelich@aol.com	ALS walk at DeAnza Cove, Mission Bay in honor of Phil Blasberg. Carpool will meet at 8:30 a.m. at Scripps Ranch Park and Ride by Yanni's. Walk starts at 10:30 a.m. RSVP to Mary Alice at mary.rudelich@aol.com .	Hikes are once a month ranging from easy to moderate levels. Contact Mary Alice to be added to the distribution list.
Oct. 8	Page Turners	Prequel , by Rachel Maddow	Pam Ames, pamames123@gmail.com	Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Cathy Burciaga, 11689 Petenwell Road. RSVP to Cathy at cburciaga@san.rr.com if you plan to 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.
Oct. 9	Affiliate Meeting	November Ballot Propositions	Joie Nolasco, joienolasco@gmail.com Karen McGurk, kmcgurkrn@sbcglobal.net	Come hear about the ballot propositions from Jeanne Weidner, League of Women Voters! We will meet at Eastview RB Community Center, 17520 Drayton Hall Way in Rancho Bernardo. Wine, cheese, and snacks will be served. RSVP to aauwboard@gmail.com .	Friends and family welcome!
Oct. 18	Travel Group	N/A	Pam Ames, pamames123@gmail.com	We will meet at Giardino, 8131 Broadway in Lemon Grove at 11:30 a.m. The carpool will leave at 11 a.m. from the Park and Ride next to Yanni's restaurant located off Scripps Highlands Drive. Please RSVP to Pam if you can attend.	Meets monthly at various local restaurants. Contact Pam Ames to be added to the distribution list.
Oct. 24	Thursday Book Group	First Lie Wins , by Ashley Elston	Ann Morgan, annmorgansd@yahoo.com ; Marilyn Scheininger, marilyn.scheininger@gmail.com	Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Michelle Blasberg, 12509 Montero Courtin, Rancho Bernardo. RSVP to Michelle at michblas09@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.

Oct. 28	Monday Mysteries Book Group	Golden Cage , by Camilla Lackberg	Pam Meyer, pamela.me4@gmail.com	Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Pam Coon, 16521 Corte Paulina. Please RSVP to Pam Coon at prcoon1@sbcglobal.net if you plan to attend.	Meets the fourth Monday of every month. Please email Pam Meyer to be added to the distribution list.
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