

# the TIDINGS

News of AAUW-Half Moon Bay

Volume 54, Issue 1

September 2020



## **Forward into Light, Forward into 2020-2021 Virtual Membership Luncheon Saturday, Sept. 26 11 a.m.**

This issue of *Tidings* will be sent just a few days after the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. "Forward into Light," a suffragist battle cry, will ring throughout this celebratory year. Each month, there will be something – a blurb, a speaker, a short video – enriching our knowledge and appreciation of the selfless women who championed this monumental endeavor and achievement.

Membership VP Kathleen Freitas and Program VP Peggy Rozhon welcome you all to our September membership luncheon via Zoom, served a la carte and al fresco from your very own refrigerator.

The gathering will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26. Look for your Zoom invitation coming mid-September. Make your favorite dish and eat the whole thing, come in your pajamas, turn off the video and pretend it's old time radio. Just make the

best of it for yourself.

None of us is thrilled to see each other greatly reduced, a minuscule, pixelated screen image of our smiling faces. We would rather see the real thing, in person! But the point is, Zoom makes it possible for us to see each other and we can, shall, and will make the most of this necessary adaptation.

Our luncheon theme, Forward into 2020-2021, will feature a brief bio from our new members, an overview of upcoming ballot propositions, a virtual sing along, not one but two video clips, and a book "review."

So plug in your computer, iPad, cell phone or landline and be ready and all charged up for this September virtual, but tasty luncheon.

*Peggy Rozhon, Program VP*

*Image: Women's suffrage banner circa 1917 in the Votes for Women exhibit at the National Portrait Gallery.*



**American Association  
of University Women  
Half Moon Bay Branch**

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



Email blasts must be approved by the President. Email preferred.

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Articles should be pasted into the body of the email. Attach any photos as jpg or png files.

Sara R. Hayden, Editor

Betty Lee-Kendall,

E-mailed Circulation

Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

### Neighborhood Groups

South Half Moon Bay, Central Half Moon Bay, North Half Moon Bay, El Granada/Miramar and Moss Beach/Montara. Look for the distribution in your directory.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW Half Moon Bay Branch is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation. Your contribution is tax-deductible.

## President's Message

### Women Have Had the Right to Vote for 100 Years

Prior to 1776, women had the right to vote in several of the colonies in what would become the United States, but by 1807 every state constitution denied even limited suffrage.

In 1848 the movement for women's rights launched on a national level with the Seneca Falls Convention organized by **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and **Lucretia Mott**. The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted American women the right to vote, a right known as women's suffrage, and was ratified on Aug. 18, 1920,

ending almost a century of protest.

California AAUW does not sanction in-person meetings during COVID-19. We will be continuing board and general meetings through Zoom. If anyone has problems with Zoom please call someone in the group. Some of our interest groups are meeting via Zoom.

Someday we will be able to have face-to-face meetings again. Until then, take care, wear a mask, social distance, and wash your hands.

Stay well!

*Suzanne Mau, President*

## Important COVID-19 Reminder

AAUW does not sanction in-person meetings at this time nor for the foreseeable future. Our insurance coverage may allow meetings if waivers are signed, but that option would likely be tested in court. AAUW's guidance is in adherence with California mandates and in the best interests of all our members. Let's remain safe today and enjoy gatherings in the future!

I know that I feel fenced in and

sad not seeing people face-to-face. We, the members of AAUW, mostly fall in the group of people who need to be extremely careful. I am really sorry, because I know how much we would like to socialize and would try to be socially distant, but in-person meetings would put us at risk. We need to follow the rules and stay well and safe. I do not think an in-person meeting is safe.

*Suzanne Mau, President*

## Board Positions Open

There are three positions open on our board: Historian, Parliamentarian and Fundraising. If you're interested in participating in the branch at this level, please email **Suzanne Mau** at [suzannemau\\_aauw@yahoo.com](mailto:suzannemau_aauw@yahoo.com).

## AAUW Fund Fall Luncheons

The 2020-2021 Fund luncheons with AAUW fellows and grant recipients are going virtual. They will be held Saturday, Oct. 10, and Saturday, Oct. 24, in one convenient location – your computer. Because of the pandemic, AAUW-California is replacing the physical Fund luncheons with two webinars.

While we will miss catching up

with other members, the webinars will give us the opportunity to participate without driving over the hill to attend the luncheons.

Please mark Oct. 10 and 24 on your calendar and watch for updates on how to sign up for the webinars.

*Carol Joyce, Vice President AAUW Funds*

## Big Lift Collaborative

Education on the Coastsides has become far more difficult during this time of pandemic.

Because the schools were closed, the Big Lift summer program could not meet with K-3 children, but those served by the program were provided with workbooks.

The HMB Library provided STEM kits, free books, and curbside pickups of ordered books. Coastsides Childrens' Program provided limited child care in August for small groups of children who could safely distance. Limited day care will be provided in the fall for qualifying families.

Big Lift Collaborative has continued to meet during the summer to discuss solutions to the problems of inequity with remote learning. Cabrillo will begin school

with remote learning, but many families do not have adequate wi-fi to ensure internet connections. The Coastsides has notoriously bad wi-fi connections. Imagine a large family in crowded rooms with limited resources and extremely limited technology trying to meet the needs of K-12 students at the same time.

At the most recent meeting on Aug. 4, members of the collaborative discussed the possibility of partnerships with business and the San Mateo County Office of Education to tackle what seems like an insurmountable task of educating the youngsters of our community. Our future actually depends on educating our kids.

*Sue Hatfield, AAUW representative*

## Get out the Vote

Join AAUW California's collective effort to spread important "Get out the Vote" reminders across all social media platforms.

### How it works

1. Take a picture, selfie or use one of AAUW's pictures by clicking [here](#) and scrolling down to the bottom of the page.

2. Copy the weekly message and hashtags below. Be sure to include the hashtags – that's what makes it trend.

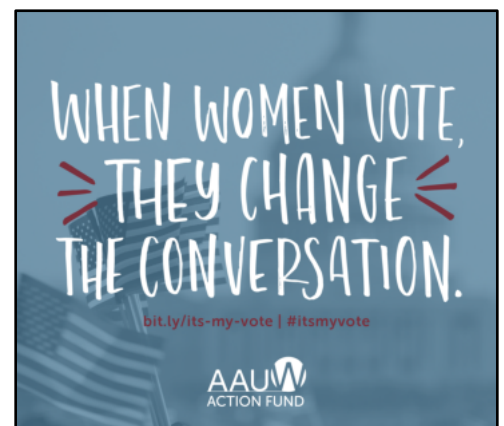
3. Go to your own Facebook, Instagram or Twitter account and create your own post by uploading your photo and pasting the copied message and hashtags.

Thanks for helping AAUW California spread "Get out the Vote!"

#AAUW\_CA

#GOTV2020

#RegisterToVote



## In Memorium

Longtime branch member **Judy Macias** died Aug. 11. Cards can be sent to:  
The Macias Family  
871 San Ramon Ave.  
Moss Beach, CA 94038.

An advertisement for Main Street Goldworks Fine Jewelry. On the left, there is a photograph of a crescent moon pendant with several small diamonds set into it. Below the photo, the text "Our Moonlight Pendant" is written. On the right, the business name "Main Street GOLDWORKS FINE JEWELRY" is displayed in a stylized font. Below the name, a list of services is provided: "\* Diamond Broker", "\* Custom Design", "\* Jewelry Repair", "\* Watch Repair", and "\* Engravings", "\* Appraisals". At the bottom, the business's slogan "Creativity • Craftsmanship • Service • Value Providing Generations of Trust" is written, followed by the address "542 Main Street, HMB 650.726.2546", the website "www.mainstreetgoldwork.com", and the hours "Tues.-Sat. 10:00-5:30".

## *Dates to Save & Remember*

**September 8**

International  
Literacy Day

**September 26**

Branch Meeting

**October 11**

International  
Day of the Girl

**October 19**

Voter registration  
deadline

•

Branch Meeting

**November 3**

General Election

*Please check calendars  
on the [AAUW-HMB](#),  
[AAUW-CA](#) and [AAUW](#)  
websites for updates,  
additional events and  
announcements.*

## Updates from Tech Trek Alumnae

Though the pandemic prevented us from sending a new cohort of Coastside girls to Tech Trek at Stanford in 2020, we still enjoy hearing from some of the 100-plus Tech Trek alums who are pursuing college degrees and careers all across the country. Branch members who were on our June branch Zoom event got to see and hear from **Laura Vollmer**, TT 1999, who is doing research in childhood obesity at the UC Nutrition Policy Institute; **Shelly Schabinger**, TT 2010, who was enthusiastic about her job in the San Mateo County Coroner's Office as a forensics technician; and **Jackie Lopez**, TT 2011, who just graduated from UCLA. Jackie just followed up in August to let us know she arrived in Ithaca, NY, and is ready to begin her PhD program in chemistry.

Recent high school class of 2020 graduates sent greetings too: **Melissa Godoy**, TT 2015, writes that she is going to study environmental science at UCSB; **Mia Griffiths** is planning to attend and swim competitively in Division I at Eastern Illinois University; and **Sonya Cullen** will study nursing at Arizona State University. She said the current arrangement allows her to live in the dorms, but with flex online/in-person classes.

Recent notices to the *Half Moon Bay Review* listed **Julie Raffetto**, TT 2014, on the dean's list at Northeastern University. Her fellow Tech Trekker **Michaela McGee** was

named to the spring semester dean's honor roll at University of Wyoming.

And here's a newsy note from **Angelica Haro**, TT 2010:

"... It is a crazy time to be currently enrolled as a nursing student! I am now finishing up my third semester in nursing school at CSU Chico (only one year to go!). We weren't allowed into the hospital to finish our clinical rotations for the second half of this semester, and I unfortunately wasn't able to make it to a labor and delivery nor a pediatrics unit as I was supposed to. Luckily, though, we were able to finish our hours through an online format. We provided various hours of education presentations to pregnant mothers and children ages 6-12 years old in our Chico community.

"A crucial part of nursing is educating the patient. I felt as though it almost gave us an experience with practicing telehealth! And, of course, as nurses we have to learn how to be flexible — anything can happen during our shift, just as pandemics can come at unplanned times like these into our world!"

Not only did some of these Tech Trekkers go on to serve as counselors at Tech Trek when they were in high school, but some have helped us with local fundraising events and have been generous Coastside Gives donors. We are so proud of all these young women.

*Julie Gerth, Tech Trek chair*



# AAUW Commits to Equity for Black Women and Girls

A widespread protest movement has emerged in 2020, clearly and loudly demanding greater racial equity through systemic change. This protest movement is in line with the core mission of AAUW: "To advance gender equity for women and girls through research,

education, and advocacy." How are these two aligned? AAUW's central mission statement implies a focus on *all* women and girls. To achieve this mission, we must demand greater equity for Black women and girls.

At the national level, AAUW has acknowledged that the organization

has historically fallen short of this goal, as it has lacked diversity and inclusion in leadership, membership and focus. AAUW has taken concrete steps to create organizational change to better address its mission of serving all women.

Individual AAUW members can also take concrete steps to make sure that the inclusive mission of AAUW is made into a reality — here with a specific focus on racial equity for Black women and girls. One way this can be done is through white members learning about and engaging in anti-racism and white allyship.

Anti-racism is the active practice of calling out racism when it is encountered, which may include having uncomfortable conversations about race and racism in everyday life. Non-racism, the internal and often silent opposition to racism, is positive, but it is not enough to create necessary change. Related to anti-racism is white allyship. White allies are people who make the long-term commitments and efforts necessary to recognize their racially based privilege and who continually work in solidarity with oppressed groups engaged in institutional and political struggles for justice.

*Melissa Maceyko, AAUW CA Public Policy Committee*

## Gender Equity in Education Act

**Mary Vargas** recently attended an AAUW-CA Speech Trek Zoom meeting. There were quite a few other branches also involved. Because schools will be doing "distance learning" at the beginning of the school year, we will also begin this way. In October, we will contact the teachers and students. Tutoring by Zoom may be easier as both students and tutors will be able to work from home. This could change if we get the

coronavirus under control. The state contest in March may be held live or by Zoom, as ours here in HMB will be. **Allene Zanger** will attend a state webinar on how to present the contestants to our branch and our winner to the state on Zoom, if necessary. The theme this year will deal with the influence of social media on young people.

*Mary Vargas and Allene Zanger, Speech Trek Co-Chairs*

## Did You Know ...

The Nineteenth Amendment reads, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.


"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Black and other minority women would not gain the right to vote until President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Although the act aimed to eliminate these practices, gerrymandering and other voter suppression techniques continue to threaten all Americans' right to the elective franchise.



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# AAUW HMB Named Gift Honorees for 2019-2020



*Carol Joyce and Vivian Costello*



*Sue Hatfield and Carol Joyce*



*Gael Erickson*

As Vice President of AAUW Funds, it is my privilege to announce this year's three Named Gift Honorees.

The Named Gift Honoree program is recognition from AAUW National for our contributions to funds that support mission-based research and advocacy. The honorees are chosen in accordance with our branch policy. In January, members were asked to submit nominations. The nominees were reviewed to determine if they met the criteria set forth in our policy. The final decision was made by a committee made up of **Carol Joyce**, AAUW Funds Vice President, **Diana Kalos**, **Mary Alice Pearce** and **Mary Sheridan**.

The certificate honorees receive is signed by AAUW CEO **Kim Churches** and reads: In appreciation of your significant contributions to the mission of AAUW, Half Moon Bay Branch named a gift to the AAUW in your honor.

The 2019-2020 Named Gift Honorees are:

**Vivian Costello:** Since joining the branch in 2015, Vivian has become known as the person who is always ready to pitch in wherever needed. This is reflected in the reasons she

was chosen as a Named Gift Honoree:

Vivian just completed her third year as treasurer. In this role, Vivian fine-tuned the branch's accounting process and developed an Excel spreadsheet that will assist future treasurers. She also instituted the branch credit card process, helping the 2019 Theater Fundraiser raise a record amount of funds after attendees learned how easy it was to use their credit card.

In addition to her behind-the-scenes work as treasurer, Vivian was also honored for generously sharing her excellent baking skills to provide desserts for numerous branch functions including the Johnston House tea, 50th anniversary bash, theater fundraisers and holiday and scholarship luncheons. Her generosity results in more funds to support our mission and her delicious treats always satisfy our sweet tooth.

Most recently, she co-chaired our branch's participation in the Day for Girls project to create kits that allow girls who would otherwise miss school during their menstrual period to stay in school. With Vivian and **Karen Hume's** leadership, the volunteers met their goal to create 101 kits that will be in the next

expedition to Rwanda.

**Sue Hatfield:** Sue is a longtime member of our branch. She is best known for her dedication to the local scholarship program. Since 2010, Sue has worked tirelessly securing funds, ensuring women graduates understand that their scholarships promote our mission of advancing gender equity, and overseeing the process to award the scholarships. Her efforts to award the Pilarcitos Alternative High School "Pursuing Your Goals" scholarship is just one example of how she goes above and beyond to help local women continue their education.

But the local scholarship program is not the only way Sue has made an impact as an AAUW member.

- She was a Named Gift Honoree recipient in 1988.

- After her retirement from teaching, Sue volunteered in our Elementary School Tutoring Group and still volunteers at El Granada Elementary School.

- Sue was one of three AAUW members recognized by the Cabrillo Unified School District board for her volunteer work.

- She served for six years as our

*Continued on page 7*

# AAUW HMB Named Gift Honorees for 2019-2020

*Continued from page 6*

representative on the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee and continues as our representative on the Big Lift Collaborative.

• Last but not least, Sue was also instrumental in bringing the Coastsides Gives fundraiser to our branch.

**Gael Erickson:** Gael is honored posthumously as our third Named Gift Honoree. Gael joined our branch in 2009. She served on

the board in a number of roles including membership treasurer, public information and program vice president. She also participated in several interest groups.

Gael was a founding member of our local STEM camp. She was instrumental in planning the curriculum and finding experts to share their STEM knowledge. Gael taught classes every year.

In addition to sharing her love of

science, Gael served as a role model for Coastsides women while serving in local government as a member of the Granada Sanitary District board, the Midcoast Community Council and Midcoast Park Lands. She was also active in several environmental groups including Committee for Green Foothills and the Greenbelt Alliance.

*Carol Joyce, Vice President  
AAUW Funds*

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## Our Right to Vote

Every day there seems to be something new in the news. On top of the list is finding a vaccine for the coronavirus, Black Lives Matter, school openings, the economy, the upcoming November election, and the controversial mail-in ballots.

Here in California, all registered voters will be sent a ballot to vote and return by mail. We have recently heard from the new Postmaster General that mail may take longer to be delivered, because he is eliminating overtime for postal workers.



President Trump has just stated that he will not put more money into the budget for USPS so that ballots are sent and received in time to be counted. Trump has stated that by holding out on more money, it will discourage mail-in voting. My advice would be to mail in your ballot at least two weeks early or, better yet, take into the election office on Tower Road. There will be more information in the October *Tidings*.

*Mary Vargas, Public Policy Chair*

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## Shop with our Advertisers

Please support our dedicated advertisers. They are open and eager to serve you through this pandemic. It is so important to the community that these businesses remain open and it is very generous of them to continue to support AAUW during this difficult financial time.

If you have a business or know of one that would like to advertise in *Tidings*, the cost is \$65 for the next nine issues or \$10 per issue. Please contact Nancy Evans at [egnancy@comcast.net](mailto:egnancy@comcast.net).



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# September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Great Decisions 5:30 p.m.	23 Janus noon	24	25	26 Branch Meeting 11 a.m.
27	28	29 Evening Book Group 7 p.m.	30	1	2	3



# Vivian Costello, Outgoing Treasurer



It's been an honor to serve as Treasurer for the past three years. The job of treasurer has been both challenging **and** rewarding. The challenge for me, being a new member of the branch and AAUW for only two years, was learning the infrastructure of AAUW national and state, and our branch. My rewards are getting to know many great women who share a commitment of promoting women's equality in the workplace and our society, and enabling young women to pursue an education after high school through grants and scholarships. I've enjoyed very much the opportunity to plan and prepare food for the Theater Bash fundraiser and our branch celebrations.

*Vivian Costello, 2019-2020 Treasurer*

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# Sheila Spieller, Incoming Scholarships Co-Chair

After two years as co-membership vice president, I have decided to work with **Sue Hatfield** on the scholarship committee leadership. Luckily, I have been an application reader for three years and have Sue to guide me, as well as support from the previous chair **Suzanne Dufore** (she is a hard act to follow!).

I wanted to remind everyone of our 2020 scholarship winners. It was a difficult decision with so many qualified, skilled young women, but here are the three recipients for this year:

**Grace (Willow) Gelpman** is a senior at UC Santa Cruz majoring in art and literature: creative writing

**Elizabeth (Lizzie) Pyle** is a senior at UC Berkeley majoring in environmental science and education.

**Julie Neal** attends UC Santa Cruz and majors in environmental studies/community studies.

Each of these amazing young women received \$2000 from our branch.

*Sheila Spieller, Co-Chair Local Scholarships 2020-2021*



# Some Interest Groups Meeting via Zoom

A lot has changed in 2020 and some of our interest groups are no longer able to interact in person. These interest groups are on hiatus until it is safe to meet in person: **Bridge, Curiosity Club** (formerly STEM), **Gourmet, Great Books, Out & About, Out to Breakfast** and **Walk & Talk**.



**Evening Book Group:** Zooming in on the reads for the coming book season, we have an intriguing, eclectic group of books and participants. Why not read them and join us for a lively discussion? Our next meeting is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29. Lee Ellis will facilitate a discussion of

*Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver.

Here are the choices until the end of this year: Oct. 27: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson; Dec. 1: *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett. No meeting in November. All the above books are available in paperback and are available through the library. To join in or sign up, email **Nancy Evans** at [egnancy@comcast.net](mailto:egnancy@comcast.net) at least one week prior to the Zoom meeting.



**Great Decisions:** We're Zooming. Our first meeting on

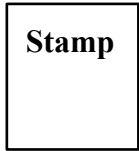
Aug. 25 was about the Red Sea. The next is Tuesday, Sept. 22, at 5:30 p.m. on the of topic human trafficking. There are YouTube links to the topics so you don't have to have the book for this meeting. If you're not already on the list, email **Barbara Von Glahn** and she'll send you the details.



**Janus:** We will meet via Zoom for the foreseeable future. Please consider joining us at noon on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is Sept. 23 at noon. Email **Mary Alice Pearce** at [maalice\\_hmb@comcast.net](mailto:maalice_hmb@comcast.net) to join the group.



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