

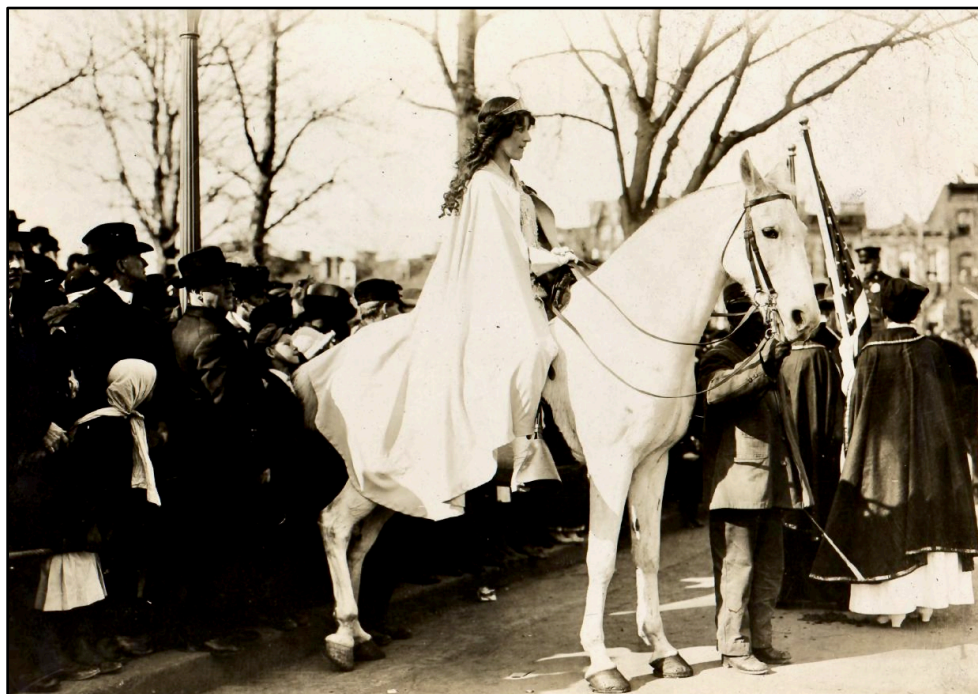
# the TIDINGS

News of AAUW-Half Moon Bay

Volume 54, Issue 7

March 2021

## Women's Herstory Month: Keep Celebrating Our Right to Vote



*Lawyer Inez Milholland Boissevain, wearing a white cape, seated on a white horse at the National American Woman Suffrage Association parade, March 3, 1913, Washington, D.C.*

**Monday, March 15, 2021 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

Conventional history has barely scratched the surface on recognizing phenomenal American women, their struggles, and their accomplishments. A monumental accomplishment was the passage of the 19th Amendment. Yes, we should still celebrate.

Join us for an evening with two suffragist authors, **Cynthia Chin-Lee** and **Robert P.J. Cooney**.

Cynthia (Cyndi) has held two parallel careers. Newly retired in February from Oracle, she was senior manager of informational development. This full-time career did not stop her from also embracing and excelling at writing several children's books. Her most recent publication is the YA

Scholastic book *Women and the Right to Vote*. This area of research was prompted by meeting with our other presenter, Robert (Bob) at an Oracle event. As an Asian American, Cyndi is keenly aware of the heinous tactics of voter suppression. Her presentation will be on Race and the Suffrage Movement.

A newer branch member, Cyndi's information does not appear in our current directory. I can tell you that she is a Harvard graduate. Click [here](#) to see her Wikipedia page.

Bob has spent more than 25 years writing women back into history. Author of *Winning the Vote - the Triumph of the American*

*Continued on page 3*

### Join Us

VP Programs **Peggy Rozhon** invites you to a Zoom meeting. Please RSVP to her at [prozhon@gmail.com](mailto:prozhon@gmail.com) if you will attend.

**Topic:** AAUW-HMB monthly meeting

**When:** March 15 at 7 p.m.

Join Zoom meeting at [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84032604601?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84032604601?pwd=aTVrZHE2VC9XMxF6bEITVEdmVnloQT09)  
[pwd=aTVrZHE2VC9XMxF6bEITVEdmVnloQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84032604601?pwd=aTVrZHE2VC9XMxF6bEITVEdmVnloQT09)

**Meeting ID:** 840 3260 4601

**Passcode:** 951853

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

P.O. 1414

El Granada, CA 94018  
[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* **Waiting for the Vaccine?**

Have you gotten the COVID-19  
vaccine? If you are having trouble  
getting an appointment, here is an  
address that worked for me:  
[SMCHHealth.org](http://SMCHHealth.org).

I was able to get an appointment  
for the next day. The site was at the  
San Mateo Event Center, where

you drove through in your car. It  
took about half an hour and I left  
with my next appointment.

Hopefully, soon there will be  
herd immunity and we can return to  
meeting face-to-face.

*Suzanne Mau, President*

## **AAUW's New Equity Network**

Are you interested in building  
your network, enhancing your  
professional development, and  
working alongside others to  
advocate for change? The Equity  
Network, a new AAUW initiative,  
is advancing the conversation and  
leading the charge to achieve  
equity for all. Connect with  
individuals who share your  
commitment to inclusion on our  
campuses, in our workplaces, and  
in our communities — and who  
want to do something about it.

Being part of the Equity

Network community provides  
access to the *Equity Express*  
newsletter, priority registration for  
AAUW events, and learning  
sessions on topics such as  
advocating for policy change,  
salary negotiation skills, and  
diversity and inclusion.

Leadership forums about issues  
include intentional networking,  
difficult workplace conversations,  
refining your personal brand, and  
allyship for all genders.

Contact [equity@aauw.org](mailto:equity@aauw.org) for  
more information.

## ***Coastside Gives Is Coming! Save the Date – May 6!***

**COASTSIDE  
GIVES**

**A COASTSIDE DAY OF GIVING**

**MAY 6th 2021**

# Big Lift Collaborative News

The Big Lift Cohort continues to work toward meeting the educational needs of the children of the Coastside community.

A half-day in-person summer program is being planned for pre-school – third grade, with classes of 12 students. Coastside Children's Programs is hoping to reopen the Montara Farallon View site on May 1.

The County Office of Education is pressuring the state to provide more adequate funding. The library continues to expand its programs including book clubs, a science after-school program, author visits, maker programs, and an April poetry month. The Boys and Girls Club has established learning pods, has started sports programs, and is

planning for the summer. Cabrillo Unified School District is hoping to reopen for pre-k, kindergarten, and

first-grade learning

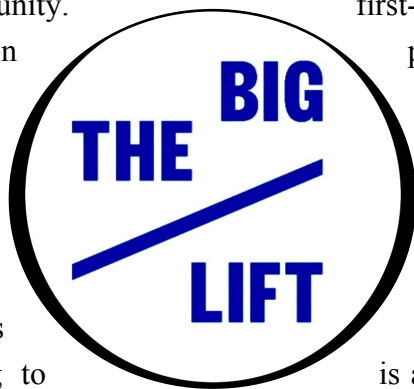
pods when the county is in the orange; the goal is mid-March.

Teachers and staff will be vaccinated. CUSD is applying for grants

to support the educational program.

The collaborative seems hopeful and excited to meet the needs of children who are suffering from remote learning. Everyone is anxious to provide the best programs possible under the current and future conditions.

Sue Hatfield, AAUW Representative



## Branch Meeting

*Continued from page 1*

*Woman Suffrage Movement*, Bob's work has been hailed as the suffrage "bible" by *The Wall Street Journal*, which also named it one of the five best books on the suffrage movement. A recipient of a research grant from the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at Harvard, he served as a consultant on several suffrage-related books, publications, and films including the PBS documentary, "One Woman, One Vote." Bob has spoken at the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Constitution Center, and the Library of Congress. We are honored to have him present to our branch.

Bob is the founder of American Graphic Press. Here is the [link](#) to his website, with wonderful information and suffrage articles.

Here is the direct [link](#) to his book, *Winning the Vote*.

Please email **Peggy Rozhon** at [prozhon@gmail.com](mailto:prozhon@gmail.com) and let her know if you plan to attend and how many of your friends and family members will also join with us on Zoom.

*Peggy Rozhon, VP Programs*



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## ***Dates to Remember***

**Monday, March 15**

General Meeting  
7 p.m.

**Monday, March 22**

AAUW California  
Lobby Day Training

**Wednesday, March 24**

AAUW California  
Lobby Day



Women's Equal Pay Day

**Wednesday, April 7**

AAUW National Election  
Voting Begins

**Friday, April 16**

AAUW California Election  
Voting Begins

**Saturday, April 17**

AAUW California  
Annual Meeting

**Monday, April 19**

General Meeting  
7 p.m.

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

## **Encouraging Action from New Administration**

There is encouraging news for women with the new administration in place: 144 women were elected to serve in Congress, 9.7% of them women of color. Women comprise more than half of the U.S. population, 36% are women of color. Six transgender people were elected to state offices. President Biden has assembled the most diverse cabinet in American history.

President Biden has issued executive orders:

- Protecting gay, lesbian, and transgender people from an array of discrimination in schools, the workplace, housing, and healthcare. Transgender people now can serve openly in the military.
- Restoring women's rights through federal funding for abortion providers and organizations such as Planned Parenthood.
- Rescinding the "Mexico City rule," which prohibited foreign aid to organizations that provided abortions and abortion counseling.

- Directing the Department of Urban Development to explore the effects of former President Donald Trump's actions on fair housing laws and halt new contracts for private prisons.

- Disbanding the "1776 Commission" designed to advance patriotic education in the wake of the "1619 Project" that explored how slavery and racism shaped the nation's history.

- Reaffirming tribal sovereignty and acknowledging and disavowing discrimination against Asian Americans during the pandemic.

- Pledging to reunite families that had been pulled apart because the "zero tolerance" policy that led to the separation of migrant families at the border and providing a path to citizenship for the Dreamers.

The administration must work with Congress to convert in many of these anti-discrimination actions into law.

*Mary Vargas, Public Policy Chair*

## **Did you know?**

### **Question:**

What do Kevlar, fire escapes, windshield wipers, space station batteries, laser cataract surgery, and space rocket propulsion systems have in common?

*All were invented by women.*

**Answer:**

# Gratitude from AAUW to AAUW Half Moon Bay

*On Jan. 27 I received the following email from **Kimberly Churches**, AAUW CEO, expressing her gratitude for our support of the Greatest Needs Fund through our 2020 branch donation of \$5,750. In addition to our branch donation, individual members donated \$7,231 to the funds of their choice.*

*I want to echo Kim's recognition of the generosity of our branch and our members. Thank you for your support of branch fundraisers and of AAUW Funds.*

*Carol Joyce, AAUW Fund, VP*



Dear AAUW Half Moon Bay Branch leaders and members,

We finally made it—2020 is in our rearview mirrors. Goodness, what a year 2020 was! Heartfelt wishes to each of you for a healthy New Year ahead. I hope this note finds you all safe and well and that you've drawn strength during these challenging times from the bonds that connect AAUW members.

As we begin 2021, all of us at

AAUW National will continue to work from home, as we have since March 2020 — which seems like light years ago! Looking back, I'm so proud of our national office staff and all they accomplished: pivoting to virtual programs, increasing our advocacy, and working with fierce commitment to further our mission, all in the face of unprecedented challenges. Looking forward, I am confident we will continue to meet the moment as our staff remains as hard-working and as motivated as we've ever been to secure equity for women and girls.


I just learned from our team that your Half Moon Bay branch has made a generous donation to our Greatest Needs Fund. Please share my personal thanks with all those whose passion for AAUW's mission made this gift possible. Your generosity gives us a head start as we finally have turned the page on 2020 to embrace 2021 with determination, an abundance of resilience, and clear-eyed optimism.

Your AAUW Greatest Needs gift provides flexible support, which is especially important now as we continue to face challenges on every front. Your gift enables us to intensify our focus on addressing inequities exposed and exacerbated by the pandemic, which run even deeper in our society than many of us realized.

Late last year I wrote an op-ed for *Newsweek* about how COVID-19 is so tough on working moms, and what policies and actions we can take toward economic recovery. But it's a long road ahead and your support is crucial to keep us focused on research, analysis, policy/advocacy, and programs that will help girls and women make strides in every part of our society.

Please continue to take every precaution and be safe throughout this new year. Thank you, thank you, thank you for this gift and for all that you do! I hope to "see" many of you on a Zoom AAUW webinar soon.

*With gratitude, Kim*



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# AAUW California Elections 2021



*Sandi Gabe*



*Roli Wendorf*



*Carol Holzgrafe*



*Judy Cavin Brown*

AAUW California's bylaws limit its board of directors to 12 members, including president, president-elect, secretary, chief financial officer, and directors.

This year we will elect three positions: president-elect (one-year term, 2021-22); chief

financial officer (two-year term, 2021-23); and one director (two-year term, 2021-23). Members running for office are:

- **Sandi Gabe**, president-elect;
- **Roli Wendorf**, CFO; and
- **Carol Holzgrafe** and **Judy Cavin Brown**, director.

Please visit AAUW California's nominations and elections [page](#) to see bios of the candidates.

This year we also will vote to approve the state proposed public policy priorities for 2021-23.

Public policy priorities guide all AAUW California actions that relate to public policy issues, including action on legislation.

Nominations are open until March 16. If you are thinking about joining the state board but are not quite ready to commit, please contact the Nominations and Elections Committee at [nominating@aauw-ca.org](mailto:nominating@aauw-ca.org) so they can give you personal

assistance.

The voting period is from April 16 to May 7. When it begins, each member will receive an email message containing a personal invitation to vote. There will be a link that will take you to your ballot. No password or code needs to be entered. Members who do not have a working email address will be sent information via postal mail with details about how to vote.

National elections will also take place this year from April 7 to May 17. Elimination of the degree requirement for membership will be at stake. We will also vote on national public policy priorities. Visit [AAUW](#) to review the proposed changes.

We have seen what happens when we work together and vote. Please vote in both elections and please consider running for office—whether it is national, state, interbranch council, or your local branch. We need you!

*Janice Lee, Nominations & Elections Chair*

## WANTED

Do you share posts on Facebook with family and friends?

We need two to three volunteers to help us win social media prizes during Coastside Gives.

Details of the prizes will be announced on April 8 and must be completed by May 6.

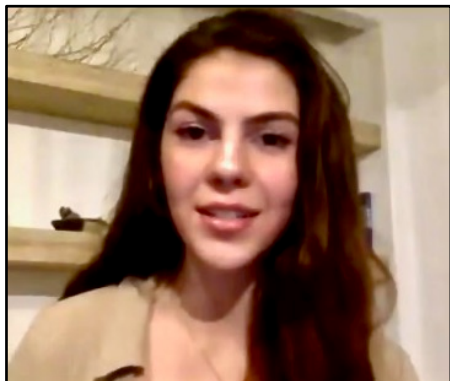
Contact Carol Joyce at [carollanphearjoyce@gmail.com](mailto:carollanphearjoyce@gmail.com) for information.





# Fifth Annual Speech Trek Results

Speech Trek is an AAUW speaking contest open to all California high school students whether from public, private, home, or continuation high schools. The theme this year was "Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?" We held our contest



*Speech Trek winner Conner Black*

by Zoom on Feb. 22. This was the fifth year we have held the competition.

Co-Chairs were **Allene Zanger** and **Mary Vargas**; **Paulette Eisen** was our coach and **Wendy Lamas** our timekeeper. Tech support was provided by **Allene Zanger**, **Peggy Rozhon**, and new member **Chris Ortega**. Judges were community members **Krystlyn Geidt**, **Nancy Magee**, **Cecilia Penaloza**, and **Katherine Eisen**.

There were four students who competed: **Cameron Geronios**, **Brianna Johnson**, and **Conner Black** from Half Moon Bay High School and **Sophia Mateja** from Pacific Collegiate School.

The first place winner was Conner Black, who will receive \$100. The three runners up will receive \$75 each. Conner's speech will be submitted to AAUW California for consideration in the statewide competition in April.

Conner is a 15-year-old sophomore in **Jim Ward's** Advanced English class at HMBHS. She previously attended La Honda Elementary School and Cunha Middle School.

She has an 11-year-old brother who helped her prepare by listening to her speech and giving his input. Her favorite subject is chemistry. She is also interested in astrophysics and biomedical studies. She plans to explore career options in STEM, NASA, or the Peace Corps. Outside of school she enjoys playing volleyball and beach volleyball and writing letters to our firefighters. She belongs to the Red Cross Club and the Female Form Club, where fellow students meet to discuss women's rights and changes needed at HMBHS.

Speech Trek was the first time she has entered a speech contest. At first she was hesitant to enter, but she overcame her fear as she felt she had something to share with other girls. In doing so, she feels that she has learned a lot about herself and her personal growth.

*Mary Vargas,  
Speech Trek Co-Chair*

## Tech Trekker Becomes Speech Trekker

One of the four amazing Speech Trek participants who competed during our February branch meeting via Zoom may have looked a little familiar.

**Brianna Johnson**, Tech Trek 2016 and now a senior at Half Moon Bay High School, was one of the contestants to speak on this year's topic, "Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?"

It's always so delightful to see how the young women we supported as eighth-graders at math and science camp have matured over five years and how their interests have evolved.

Brianna is eagerly awaiting college acceptances from a host of CSU and UC campuses. What is she interested in studying? Marine biology!

She says, "I'm super passionate about marine conservation as well as environmental science. It's pretty funny, seeing as how back at Tech Trek I took the marine bio classes. My interests have definitely shifted a lot over the years, but they ended up circling right back around to my original passion."

Can't wait to see what happens next.

*Julie Gerth, Tech Trek Chair*



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## WANTED

Looking for a volunteer with YouTube editing experience.

Help AAUW Half Moon Bay win a Coastsides Gives prize by editing and posting a video on our new YouTube channel.

Details of the prizes will be announced on April 8 and must be completed by May 6.

Contact Carol Joyce at [carollanphearjoyce@gmail.com](mailto:carollanphearjoyce@gmail.com) for information.



## Here Comes Coastsides Gives 2021

For the fifth year in a row, AAUW-HMB will join the Coastsides Gives annual online fundraiser. Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 6. Since our first effort in 2017, we have raised \$29,530 through generous donations from branch members, family and friends near and far, and prizes put up by sponsors and the Mavericks Foundation.

Funds raised support AAUW's mission-driven programs through the national AAUW Fund as well as local projects including mid-college scholarships for Coastsides women graduates of area high schools, the high school Speech Trek contest, Tech Trek for middle schoolers and our local STEM day camp.

2020 was our most successful Coastsides Gives fundraiser to date, but we can't rest on our laurels. The Coastsides Gives virtual fundraiser is our best opportunity to ensure we have the funds to support our mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls.

Watch your email and April and May *Tidings* for details about how to donate and strategies to help us win bonus prize dollars.

**Important:** We need members willing to help us reach our \$10,000 goal. Check out short-term volunteer opportunities elsewhere in this newsletter.

*Carol Joyce, Coastsides Gives Lead*

## Some Interest Groups Still Active

**Evening Book Group:** Whether it goes out like a lion or lamb we will meet March 30 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

**Katie Murdock** will facilitate the discussion of *Fly Girls*, a study of five women who made aviation history and helped pave the way for the audacious female pilots of WWII. The April meeting will feature an Erik Larson book, *The Splendid and the Vile*. To join this vibrant group, email **Nancy Evans** at [egnancy@comcast.net](mailto:egnancy@comcast.net).



**Gourmet:** It's time to start thinking ahead to the revival of this tasteful group. With the advent of warmer weather *outside* eating is

possible and welcoming. If you agree let's get a planning meeting together, outside and masked, to kickstart its revival. Email **Katie Murdock** at [ktgm4@aol.com](mailto:ktgm4@aol.com) if you're interested.



**Great Decisions:** In February we discussed artificial intelligence. The global supply chain will be our topic on March 16 at 5:30 p.m. Please contact **Barbara Von Glahn** if you'd like the Zoom link.



**Writing Group:** I have heard from several people expressing interest in the revival of this interest group. I have a proposal for a slightly

different format that I call "The Archaeology of Your Life." This would encompass not only writing but photos, genealogy, and memories that would lead to other writing – initially a journal that could lead to memoirs, fiction, and nonfiction. This would be akin to an archaeology "dig" in that it will enable one to look at the many layers of your life and writing, the life of your family and, like a dig, unearth many surprises. This is fun whether your prime interest is memoir, fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or genealogy. For more information email **Katie Murdock** at [ktgm4@aol.com](mailto:ktgm4@aol.com).



# March 2021

Calendar

*pedia*

Your source for calendars

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	General Meeting 7 p.m.	Great Decisions 5:30 p.m.				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	AAUW California Lobby Day Training		AAUW California Lobby Day  Women's Equal Pay Day			
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
		Evening Book Group 7 p.m.				

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# AAUW Alumnae Make Black History Every Month

Women's History Month is a good time to reflect on the AAUW fellows and grantees who make Black history all the time. From 1978-79 American Fellow **Barbara Smith**, a founder of the Black feminist Combahee River Collective, to 2016-17 American Fellow **Keisha Blain**, who edited a new book with **Ibram X. Kendi** chronicling 400 years of Black history, these remarkable women span decades and fields. Sometimes they even interview each other!

AAUW alumnae are true trailblazers: There is the first African woman to lead the World Trade Organization (International Fellow **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**, 1977-78 ), the first African American female



chemical oceanographer (American Fellow Dr. **Ashanti Johnson**, 2000-01), and the first woman of color elected district attorney in Massachusetts (Selected Professions Fellow **Rachael Rollins**, 1996-97).

*Photo: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, director general of WTO and 1977-78 AAUW International Fellow. Photo courtesy of WTO.*



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In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barrier to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.