

the TIDINGS

News of AAUW-Half Moon Bay

Volume 54, Issue 4

December 2020

Zoom Holiday Party & Car Parade



*AAUW-HMB requests the honor of your screen presence
for the Zoom Virtual Holiday Party
With the Always-Popular White Elephant Gift Exchange
Followed by Car Parade Gift Swap
While You Eat Your Own Cookies*

**Monday, Dec. 7, 2020 • 7 p.m.
and Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020 • 10 a.m.**

Ho, ho, ho! Let's try for a belly laugh-filled holiday get-together.

On Monday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m., set your computer "dial" to AAUW HMB. Contact Peggy Rozhon at prozhon@gmail.com for your Zoom invitation.

Bring good cheer and a gift to exchange. No need for shopping, just offer something you have handy around the house. The more eccentric, the better.

We will draw names out of a gift box and those two people will exchange with each other. Sounds

pretty easy. And everyone gets to share a minute or two about why and what you have brought to exchange. Make your story sweet and awe-inspiring.

And now the car parade. On Saturday, Dec. 12, we will rendezvous at 10 a.m. at the big parking lot near Caffé Mezza Luna in El Granada. As you enter the street toward the harbor, turn right toward Caffé Mezza Luna and just keep going straight (north). At the far north end of the parking lot, we will set up two tables for people to

drop off their exchange gift. It's kind of like book pickup at the library. Or you can arrange with your partner and drop off at a more convenient time and place. Remember 10 a.m. – all of this should be over by 10:15 a.m.

Blast holiday music on your car radio and bring a cup of joe or hot chocolate.

Horns blaring and lights flashing, let's let off a little steam and be a bit silly.

Forward into 2021!

Peggy Rozhon, VP Programs



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

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

The TIDINGS is published 10 times a year, September to June, by AAUW-HMB. Email submissions to aauw.hmb.newsletter@gmail.com

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 Change Is in the Air

The weather has changed. The red berries on the coast are vibrant, and the leaves of the plants also are turning red. The election is over. But COVID-19 is making us stay close to home. Hopefully the vaccine will be made available and life will get closer to normal.

A sad thing has happened. **Chris Green** became ill and had to give up the job of treasurer for AAUW-HMB. **Allene Zanger** has volunteered to be the treasurer with assistance from **Vivian Costello**. Thank you, ladies, for helping AAUW-HMB.

There are two open positions

that need to be filled by someone who wants to get more involved in AAUW. **Carol Forster** would like someone to take over the job of interest group coordinator. This position makes sure the groups list their monthly activities in *Tidings*. The other position is the branch historian. The historian is responsible for taking pictures and maintaining them in binders and possibly updating Facebook. If you would like more information about either of these positions, please call me.

Stay healthy and safe.

Suzanne Mau, President

Celebrating Newly Elected Women

The nation's voters have spoken, and a historic election is over: Despite the challenges of a global pandemic, Americans cast their ballots in record numbers and elected **Joe Biden** and **Kamala Harris** to lead our nation forward. All of us at AAUW are honored to have witnessed — and participated in — the power of our democracy, with impressive numbers of women, people of color and young Americans joining in with their voices and their votes.

AAUW is particularly heartened and inspired by the election of so many women to positions of power. Most notably, we celebrate the fact that Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris has shattered barriers, becoming the first Black American, Indian and South Asian American to assume the second-highest office in

the land. The daughter of immigrants and a graduate of Howard University, she gives us hope for a future where women can reach the highest heights.

We are also encouraged by President-Elect Biden's promise to unite our sorely divided country and to find common ground and common good. Yet we are mindful of the challenges and the work that lie ahead. In 2021, AAUW will turn 140 years old, and as we have in every year prior, we will work tirelessly on behalf of women and girls to advance laws, policies and practices that ensure equity in education, employment and economic security — and equal justice for all.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Kimberly Churches, CEO

Zoomtique Thank You

Zoomtique – the branch’s first virtual auction – was a resounding success! We raised \$2,250 while enjoying a morning of fun with some fast and furious bidding; **Mary “Ringmaster” Sheridan’s** definitive cane tapping; multiplying baskets of Michigan cherries and upbeat, fun presentations of the auction items. The \$2,250 will be split according to the following formula: 45% to AAUW Funds; 40% to local scholarships; 3% to STEM; 2% to Speech Trek and 10% as seed money to new branch projects.

Thanks to the Zoomtique committee members – **Paulette Eisen, Patti Landry and Nina Nelson** – for all their hard work and numerous practice sessions. Special mention to **Carol Joyce**, who hosted the event on Zoom and lent her technical expertise,

especially needed when Mary’s screen went dark! I also want to thank all the branch members who generously donated items for the auction – **Vivian Costello, Alma Fletcher, Anne Grauzlis, Jan Grierson, Sue Hatfield,** Patti Landry and Nina Nelson. Of course, we could not have done so well without our enthusiastic branch and guest bidders.

It was so gratifying to see the branch support this effort. As one bidder noted in her thank you note, “never underestimate a group of intelligent women to get the job done – even in a global pandemic!” When you consider that the 2019 live auction raised \$2,394, we truly exceeded expectations.

Thanks again everyone.

*Mary Sheridan, Zoomtique
Committee Chair*

Big Lift Collaborative


The focus for Big Lift for 2020-21 is family engagement for preschool programs, elementary programs and professional development.

Research has shown that during the pandemic, the most successful communities are creating a network of support for families. The suggestion for future Big Lift collaborative activities is to build a resource list of support agencies on the coast and share successful strategies for engaging families during times when families and children are struggling with school and childcare issues.

The Half Moon Bay Library is providing various workshops for adults. Other options to build a resource network were discussed. It appears that during this time when families must shelter in place, providing the support that is needed by families is the great challenge to be met even as children begin to return to classrooms in January.

Nothing is easy, but education is essential.

*Sue Hatfield, AAUW
Representative*



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Save the Date

Monday, Dec. 7

Holiday Party via Zoom
7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12

Gift Exchange
& Car Parade
10 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 25, 2021

General Monthly Meeting
via Zoom
7 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 22, 2021

General Monthly Meeting
via Zoom
7 p.m.

Monday, Mar. 15, 2021

General Monthly Meeting
via Zoom
7 p.m.

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

Speech Trek Competition Gearing Up

I have spoken to 10 English classes at Half Moon Bay High School via Zoom (John Carey and Jim Ward's junior and senior classes). I explained the contest and the theme this year: "Has Social Media Helped or Hindered the Breaking Down of Barriers for Women and Girls?" and the prize money of \$100 for first place and \$75 for the runner-up.

Both teachers will also give extra credit to those students who participate. There are several interested students and **Paulette Eisen** has begun tutoring, which

includes very specific techniques to create a good presentation on Zoom.

At the beginning of February, **Allene Zanger** (co-chair) will arrange a date for the speeches to be judged on Zoom by three judges. The winner's speech will be sent to AAUW California by YouTube for judging in the statewide contest. Our members will see a video of all our contestants at our Monday, Feb. 22, general meeting.

Mary Vargas, Speech Trek Co-chair

First Virtual AAUW CA Lobby Day

On March 24, 2021, AAUW California in conjunction with our new advocacy firm, MVM Strategy Group, will be conducting a virtual lobby day with our legislators in Sacramento. This is a terrific opportunity for branch members to get involved in the public policy process by helping the state public policy committee advance our legislative goals for 2021-22. It's also a great way to meet your local legislators and let them know how you, through AAUW, are helping their constituents in your communities.

We are asking branch public policy chairs (or presidents, if your branch doesn't have a policy chair) to help us

recruit participants. Please have interested branch members register [here](#) by Jan. 8, 2021.

Finally, all participants will be given full training in a Zoom webinar on March 22, 2021, at 7 p.m. Click [here](#) to register for "How to Talk to Your Legislators."

Important dates:

Jan. 8, 2021 – Last day to register to participate in Lobby Day

March 22, 2021 – Lobby Day training webinar

March 24, 2021 – Lobby Day

*Kathleen Harper, Director, and
Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee
Co-Chairs*

What Is the Electoral College?

The Electoral College is a group chosen to elect the president of the United States every four years. The current system was adopted in 1804. Every state has as many votes in the Electoral College as the total number of its senators and representatives. The District of Columbia has three; California has 55.

Candidates needed at least 270 votes this election to win the Electoral College. State committees or conventions of each political party usually select the presidential electors. Proposals have been offered frequently to abolish the Electoral College and to establish

direct election of the president by the popular vote of the people. It is said that this would reduce the importance of the states in the federal system of government. It has been claimed that direct election would encourage third- and fourth-party candidates.

The winner of the popular vote has lost two of the past five presidential elections, until this one (**Al Gore/George W. Bush** and **Hillary Clinton/ Donald Trump**). As a result, the decision on a leader shrinks to a competition for a handful of "battleground" states, which this year were Pennsylvania, Arizona, Georgia and Nevada. The

National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would like to change what they see as an antiquated system, but it would take a constitutional amendment requiring approval from two-thirds vote of the House and Senate and ratification by 38 states to change it.

Another item being discussed, especially after this year's election, is making the voting process for president standardized throughout the U. S., e.g. deadline to register, methods of voting available and deadlines to receive and count ballots.

Mary Vargas, Public Policy Chair

Thank a Woman for Windshield Wipers

In 1903, **Mary Anderson** was a rancher and real estate developer who invented the first manually operated windshield wipers. On Nov. 10, 1903, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued U.S. Patent No. 743,801 to Mary for a "Window-Cleaning Device."

Cadillac was the first car

manufacturer to include windshield wipers on all of their vehicles, and other companies soon followed suit. Another female inventor, **Charlotte Bridgwood**, invented an "electrically powered windshield wiper" using an electric roller. She was granted a patent on Aug. 6, 1918.



Mary Anderson

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Our Moonlight Pendant

Please Let Us Know ...

Evie Tutorow and **Sheila Cresson** are serving as this year's Branch Outreach Committee.

You may be the key to their success. From time to time, members experience important events (new babies, family graduations), good news (job promotions, public recognitions) or bad (illnesses, deaths in the family).

Receiving a personal note from the Outreach Committee may make members feel better just knowing that AAUW is aware.

If you think AAUW should reach out to a member you know with support or congratulations, please tell Evie or Sheila about it. They believe that our whole AAUW community is better when its members know that AAUW is thinking of them.

They will be pleased to write a

note of support, sympathy, praise or congratulations to any member whose day might be brightened knowing that AAUW cares.

Please help them. It is the rank-and-file of our members who know what is happening around our membership.

When you hear about a member to whom such a note should be sent, please remember that the branch Outreach Committee is here. Let them know to whom and why to send a note and they will be pleased to do so on behalf of the branch.

If privacy is an issue in any of these matters, they certainly will honor that concern.



Evie Tutorow



Sheila Cresson

Email Sheila Cresson at sheilacresson@gmail.com.

Email Evie Tutorow at tutorowevelyn@gmail.com.

They are looking forward to hearing from each of you.

Evie Tutorow and Sheila Cresson, Outreach Committee

Bet You Know Someone ...

... who is bold, brave and brilliant.

These are the leadership traits we are looking for in candidates to fill three open positions on the 2021 AAUW California Board of Directors: President-Elect, Chief Financial Officer and Director.

If you have been thinking about getting more involved with AAUW at the state level, then contact the Nominations & Elections Committee. **Deanna Arthur**, **Charmen Goehring**, and **Janice Lee** are here to cheer you on and to answer your questions at nominating@aauw-ca.org.

It's a collaborative, fun, action-oriented time to be part of AAUW California's leadership team.

Click [here](#) for details on how to proceed, but we are also happy to guide you through the process personally and to give you the inside scoop!

Janice Lee, AAUW California Nominations & Elections Chair



516 MAIN STREET · HALF MOON BAY

December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Holiday Party via Zoom 7 p.m.			Hanukkah begins		Gift Exchange & Car Parade 10 a.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					Christmas Day	Kwanzaa begins
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
					New Year's Day	

Title IX: Breaking Down Barriers 2020

On Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at 7 p.m., AAUW California will present this important educational webinar for our members to bring Title IX/Gender Equity back to a level where our members are "keeping their eyes on equity." Members will learn all about Title IX and how to exercise their voices to "see something and say

something" so that they will become more effective as advocates for protecting our students. Click [here](#) to register for the webinar.

The speakers include:

- **Kiki Williams**, Executive Director of Student Experience and Equity Compliance at San Francisco Unified School District.

- **Kim Turner**, Senior Staff Attorney for Legal Aid at Work. She works with the gender equity and LGBT rights program.

- **Jean Reed**, Co-President of Petaluma AAUW branch. She will discuss the AAUW San Jose Sports Equity Community Project.

Alicia Hetman, AAUW California Title IX Consultant

Looking for the Next Great Project

We have had word of several project ideas under development and eagerly anticipate further word. Do you have an idea for a project that could enhance the mission of AAUW in 2021-22? Perhaps you are already developing one. Could you use a little financial help? Applications

for state funding, up to \$500, are due on March 1, 2021. Any member, branch or AAUW affiliate may apply. Click [here](#) for directions and application forms.

Did your branch receive a state grant funding prior to 2015? The Project Oversight Committee would like to hear from you. What

was the project? Is the project still ongoing? If not, why not?

Write to **Jim Doty** at oc@aauw-ca.org.

There has never been a time when adaptation and innovation have been needed more. Start now.

Jim Doty, Director, Project Oversight Committee Chair



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