

the TIDINGS

News of AAUW-Half Moon Bay

Volume 55, Issue 2

October 2021



By Phil Roeder - Flickr: Supreme Court of the United States, CC BY 2.0

Understanding the Work of the Supreme Court Saturday, October 16, 2021 • 1 to 3 p.m.

Our branch is teaming up with San Mateo County Libraries to bring you a discussion on the work of the Supreme Court. Through her popular interactive discussion about important cases pending before the Supreme Court, retired lawyer **Barbara Creed** will help us gain an understanding of how the Court does its work and an appreciation for the complexities of the cases the Court handles.

Barbara will present three cases the Court will consider this term. These are not front-page news cases, but they involve important and discussable issues. She'll brief us on

the facts and issues involved in each case and lead a discussion of them. Afterward, we'll vote on how we believe the Court should decide each case. When the Court has issued its rulings in all three cases (usually at the end of June) Barbara will inform us what the Court decided and how the Court's decisions compare with our votes.

We hope you will join us in learning more about SCOTUS – the Supreme Court of the United States.

We are very excited that the Half Moon Bay Library has agreed to handle the Zoom registration and advertising for us.

Join Us

Barbara Cohen, VP Programs invites you to learn more about the Supreme Court.

When: Saturday, Oct. 16, 1 to 3 p.m.

Where: Online event

For more information: [San Mateo County Libraries](#)

Register: [Here](#). You will be sent a reminder email with details about how to join at least two hours prior to the event.



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

P.O. 1414

El Granada, CA 94018

halfmoonbay-ca.aauw.net



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

They Can't Take That Away From Me

Recent reporting from Afghanistan makes me cringe. How can this area of the world – the cradle of civilization – regress to this barbarism? How can women in 2021 be relegated to second-class stature, with no means of redress?

Shabana Basij-Rasikh, 31, is the co-founder of the Afghani school for girls known as SOLA – School of Leadership, Afghanistan (wikipedia.org/wiki/Shabana_Basij-Rasikh). She started SOLA while still a teenager. With the evacuation of Kabul, Shabana and all of her students, teachers, and their families fled in a chartered plane, finding a safe harbor in Rwanda.

“My father would say, ‘You can lose everything you own in your life. Your money can be stolen. But the one thing that will always remain with you is what is in here.’ And he would point to his head. ‘Your education is the biggest investment in your life,’ he would say. ‘Don't ever regret it.’” Shabana’s family defied the Taliban and had her educated in secret.

We see how parts of the world demean women’s talents. Maybe because of this current overload of serious national and world events we sometimes forget that not everyone has the education options that we enjoy here in the United States. However, some of our fellow citizens, young girls, and women, don’t always have an easy path to higher learning. It’s all about education, and alluding to the clever and lush Ella Fitzgerald song, “No, no, they can’t take that away from *me – us – girls – women.*”

Here is to making a difference in all we do, with local programs and scholarships, AAUW Fund support for national projects, and research grants. Here is to all the times our members have helped at either the library or local schools with mentoring children and adults. Here is to continued focus on women’s issues, especially job equity. Here is to continuing education and the impact we have on women’s lives with our ongoing mission. Always onward.

Peggy Rozhon, President

Speech Trek 2021-22

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” – Declaration of Independence, 1776

July 4, 2026, will mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. As this milestone anniversary

approaches, the conversation around diversity, equity, and inclusion appears to be intensifying throughout society.

Has the U.S. lived up to its pledge of “liberty and justice for all”? Would requiring the study of diversity, equity and inclusion in a high school setting help ensure liberty and justice for all?

Attend this year’s Speech Trek to find out. Details to come.

2021-22 AAUW-HMB Budget

The budget for 2021-22 was passed at the September board meeting. It is printed here for your information.

AAUW 2021 - 2022 Budget

Budget Category	2021-2022
Members	120
Revenue:	
Dues Income	\$8,004.00
Fundraising	\$12,000.00
Membership donations	\$250.00
Tech Trek Family Fees (\$50/student)	\$250.00
Tiding Ad Income	\$260.00
Transfer from 2020 general funds	\$7,500.00
Transfers from RF (dues support)	\$300.00
Total General Fund Revenue minus transfers	\$28,564.00
Expenses:	
AAUW Funds	\$300.00
Chamber/Commerce (Community Ed.)	\$300.00
Directory	\$500.00
Fundraising Expenses & Transfers to RF	\$12,000.00
General Program	\$2,808.00
Hospitality	\$200.00
Insurance	\$750.00
Misc. expenses/ officers	\$500.00
National and State dues	\$4,756.00
Printing (all branch activities)	\$2,000.00
Publicity	\$1,000.00
Sunshine	\$100.00
Tax/Bank fees/PO Box	\$300.00
Tech Trek	\$300.00
Tiding	\$325.00
Web site/Social Media/Zoom	\$425.00
Conventions and Meetings	\$2,000.00
Member Donations transfers to RF	
Total Expenses	\$28,564.00
Net funds	--

AAUW Fund Renames Luncheons

The AAUW Fund Luncheons have been renamed the AAUW Fund Events.

Black holes. Rural women's health. Social classification. These are among the 37(!) incredible topics that AAUW-funded fellowship and grant recipients are studying. Attend these live virtual events showcasing their personal stories and fascinating studies to learn more.

You may attend any or all three events listed below, but you must register in advance. Although the events are free, please consider making a [donation](#) to the AAUW Fund to support these fantastic programs. You are especially invited to contribute to the Greatest Need Fund, which enables your donation to be prioritized to meet AAUW obligations.

Register using the links below for your selected event(s).

Saturday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m. to noon:
[webinar registration](#)

Saturday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m. to noon:
[webinar registration](#)

Sunday, Nov. 7, 1 to 3 p.m.:
[webinar registration](#)

Mary Sheridan, VP AAUW Fund

In Memory of Sheila Cresson

May 31, 1939 – September 21, 2021

The service for Sheila will be Wednesday, Oct. 6, at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of the Pillar, 400 Church St. in Half Moon Bay.

Sheila Cresson, a life-force that drew you in and embraced you with her wit, charm, and decisiveness. Sheila showered boundless love on family and friends. Those who knew her were blessed. Sheila was an ardent supporter of our AAUW branch and always said, “Let me know what you need.” That offer was given and accepted graciously many, many times. A member since 1974, she masterfully handled the position of president four times: 1977-78, 1989-90, 2009-10, and 2017-18. She was a Named Gift Honoree twice: 1980-81 and 1999-2000.

In the past few months, Sheila enthusiastically offered to be our branch historian. It was her idea, no coercion needed. Read her beautiful article that ran in the September *Tidings*. What a light to all and what a firecracker of a lady.

Peggy Rozhon, President

I’m shocked and so sad to hear about Sheila’s passing. Many years ago, when I first joined AAUW, Sheila was going to be president. She asked me (a brand new member) if I would be on her board. I was so flattered. This was Sheila – persuasive, encouraging, inclusive, and very kind. She knew how to get people involved in AAUW and how to make you feel special. She had the very best intentions for the success of our branch. We will all miss



Sheila.

Nancy Evans

Sheila’s kindness and compassion for everyone will be missed.

Susan Perls

Oh, how sad. There was no one who could call a meeting to order like Sheila. She was tiny and Oh-So-Big!!!

Diane Baker

I always remember Sheila with just this big smile lots of energy and used to always chuckle at our height comparisons. I love the times I’d spend in her place up on the hill and the beautiful view and wondering how she traveled that for so long while working down on the lower lands. I’ve not seen her for a long time nor do I know the circumstances of her death but please pass on sympathy to her family or others close to her that were deeply affected by her passing.

Nancy Struck

I am so sorry that Sheila has

passed away! She was a mentor to me in so many ways. In addition to our AAUW-HMB membership, Sheila and I shared teaching in CUSD schools. After she retired, Sheila volunteered weekly to help my struggling fourth-grade students read. Her positive spirit was always inspirational. No matter how much time passed between our in-person meetups, there was instant connection. Her laughter and sense of the absurd gave light to some very grey days.

Mardee Schweikert

Thank you for informing us of Sheila’s death. I was shocked. I have known Sheila for about 40 years. She sang in the church choir when I directed it. The last time I saw her was when I was making final decisions on the flowers for my granddaughter’s wedding. She was ordering flowers for her hair for a Hispanic-themed occasion. She exclaimed, “Joan McBride, are you still alive?” I assured her that I was.

Joan McBride

Continued on page 5

Above: Sheila Cresson presides over the Sept. 9, 2017, membership luncheon during her fourth term as president.

Remembering Sheila Cresson

Continued from page 4

Sheila, my friend, my sister.

Sheila was a 1960s hippie, a daughter of a newspaper woman. An adventurous woman, off teaching school in Australia for five years.

Sheila loved her family deeply and was fiercely devoted to David as he was to her. She told David that I was family, which made me feel special.

Sheila championed the AAUW and the HMB History Association and worked to her ability and always gave her all. She stood for women's rights and cared for her fellow countrymen and women.

She was always delightful company, so many meals together filled with laughter. A wonderful friend to many of us.

I will always miss my Sunshine partner.

Evie Tutorow



How sad. I did not have the pleasure of really knowing her personally but definitely by reputation for the things she did for AAUW and HMB. I did have one phone conversation with her and it was memorable.

Kathleen Freitas



Sheila truly was a firecracker and

a fun lady to work with. I didn't know her well, but remember how active and committed she was.

Helen Paul



Sheila had contacted me about taking over the historian position. She was enthusiastic and a bit puzzled about it so we chatted and we came up with the idea of writing a column for the *Tidings* divided into decades giving each some weight. She was willing and had energy for this project. Bless you, Sheila.

Anne Grauzlis



Sheila and our Half Moon Bay branch just went together. She was an ardent supporter in deed as well as financial. Whenever there was a need, she was there – including being branch president four times.

Barbara Von Glahn



Sheila was a positive force in our branch; I will always remember her tenacity, creativity, and spontaneity. She will be missed.

June Baxter



My heartfelt condolences to David Cresson and to Sheila's family and friends.

Half Moon Bay will be a little less bright without her.

Judy Halsey



What a sweet person. Sorry to hear this news.

Mary Wynne



I was shocked and profoundly saddened to hear of Sheila Cresson's passing. Her husband David called me this morning to tell me the very sad news. Sheila and I have been best friends ever since I moved to Half Moon Bay 45 years ago and we met through AAUW. We were still keeping in touch mostly by phone through the pandemic and were happy to be able to have Easter brunch together last April when the restrictions eased a bit for a while. I will miss her so very much. Safe journey, Sheila!

Kit Bunnell



Sheila and I spoke a few times over the summer. She was so excited to plan her upcoming history columns for *Tidings* as branch historian. She had so many ideas and even more enthusiasm for her new "gig." We'll never know what magic those columns would've taught us. You are well and truly missed, Sheila!

Sara Hayden



Dates to Save & Remember

October 4, 1993

Ruth Bader Ginsburg joins U.S. Supreme Court as second woman Justice

October 8, 1993

Toni Morrison becomes first Black woman to win Nobel Prize for Literature

Saturday, October 16

Branch Meeting
1 p.m.

October 16, 1916

Margaret Sanger opens the first U.S. birth control clinic in Brooklyn

Thursday, October 21

Latina Equal Pay Day

Saturday, October 23

AAUW Fund Event

Saturday, October 30

AAUW Fund Event

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

Magical, Marvelous, Mist-ical Event

Merci beaucoup to **Kathleen Freitas, Lee Ellis, and Barbara Cohen** for a Magnificent, Marvelous Afternoon Delite on Sept. 18. Our first in-person gathering since shelter-in-place restrictions of March 2020, they planned for everything! Or so they thought!

The scene at the Colony Club was inviting, welcoming, and riotous with color; there were scrumptious foods and flavorful beverages.

They followed COVID-19 guidelines to the letter. And the letter for the day was “M” – milestones, memories, marketing, and membership.

Months of time and effort and nail biting were spent. They bowed us over in awe with this marvelous spectacle. Weather was always a factor. There was even a basket of blankets should any guests get chilled.

But PG&E had a surprise for all of us. No power! No electricity. No working oven. No working PA system. Need I go on? And then the mist came! And came some more!

Again, thanks to the “PerSISTERS” Kathleen, Lee, Barbara, and crew, the event was fantastic and no one missed that cup of coffee.

The event moved from the water soaked patio into the main room with nary a hitch. One of our guests, **Mimi Hills**, summed it up ever so nicely:

“Thanks so much for the wonderful AAUW tea yesterday. I appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the organization. One of the things that struck me, looking back over the day, is how resourceful the team putting on the tea was.

In the midst of the power outage, they moved with grace and caring, welcoming all, making everything happen without exposing any drama to the attendees. That’s resilience!”

To our brilliant, resilient Kathleen, Lee, and Barbara, thanks for everything. It was a great memory for our branch. And what a memory!

Peggy Rozhon, President

Turn to pages 8 and 9 for photos of the big day.



Door prize winner Maggie Rodriguez with Kathleen Freitas, VP Membership.

2020-21 Legislative Session Winding Down

How did AAUW California-sponsored bills fare? Not particularly well, as it turns out! We started the year with 39 bills we selected for varying degrees of support. We chose to co-sponsor AB 92 (establishing a sliding scale for family fees for child care through 2023); we designated four additional bills for top-priority attention (A level), five bills for important status (B level), 22 bills for low-level attention (C level), and seven bills to watch.

Overall, 28 of our 39 bills have been designated “two-year” bills, which means they are dead for this year and likely will be taken up again in 2022. Our advocate, **Kathy Van Osten**, has explained that this is because Senate and Assembly leadership set a limit of 12 bills that a member could move to the second house.

Some of our bills did not make the cut. Four of our five A bills, our co-sponsored bill, and four of our five B bills did not make it through. These include AB 22, AB 92, AB 737, AB 966, AB 1361 (all promoting varied preschool and transitional kindergarten issues), and SB 245 (no cost-sharing for abortion services). However, several were converted into the budget and budget trailer bills,

which will provide funding for childcare. (In the jargon of the Capitol, trailer bills are measures that accompany the annual state budget, in theory making the changes of law necessary to implement the budget’s fiscal policies.) Although we were not successful getting our top bill – AB 92 – passed, the state budget includes \$60 million for one year of relief for all families using subsidized child care, increased reimbursement rates for child care providers, and funding for 206,000 new child care slots.

Several bills passed and have been sent to the governor. We are working hard to secure his signature on these bills: AB 62 (upgrade garment worker wages) and AB 367 (free menstrual products), as well as three of our C-level bills: AB 123 (paid family leave), AB 1074 (rehire displaced workers), and AB 1461 (health services for non-citizens).

Thanks again to all our members who participated in Lobby Day and/or weighed in at critical junctures on social media. For descriptions and status of each of these bills, visit our bill tracker at [public policy/legislative advocacy/bill tracking](#).

Kathi Harper, Co-Chair Public Policy, AAUW California

Big Lift

The Big Lift Collaborative met Sept. 16. The participants reported that programs have all opened for students, pre-school through middle school. Staffing shortages are a major problem and have limited the number of children who have been accepted into pre-school programs and after-school child care.

The Big Lift summer school program was limited to one location at Hatch. However, the program was free of COVID-19 and very successful. Transitional kindergarten students through rising third graders demonstrated three months of growth in reading and one month of growth in math.

The Half Moon Bay Library provided local students with supplemental STEAM classes for first through fourth graders as well as access to books for summer reading.

The collaborative continues to develop programs to provide rich learning experiences for coastal children.

Sue Hatfield, AAUW Representative

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SMALL TOWN SWEETS

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Welcome Back: Finally – in Person with Food, Fun, and Friends!



Vivian Costello, Barbara Lambert, and Nancy Evans



Barb Nielsen, Gladys Picht, Mary Wynne, and Patti Landry



Sandi Winter, Paulette Eisen, Carol Joyce, and Mary Alice Pearce



Mary Wynne and Barbara Cohen



Carolyn Valoria and Sue Hatfield

Welcome Back: Finally – in Person with Food, Fun, and Friends!



Juliet Bolding



Peggy Rozhon



Maggie Rodriguez, Julissa Acosta, and Lisa Lopez (Photobomber: Carlos Vargas)



Mary Vargas, Chris Ortega, and Carlos Vargas



October 2021

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

Interest Groups Carrying On

Curiosity Club (formerly STEM interest group): We encourage young women to explore STEM fields in education and strive for STEM careers. In 2019, we decided to explore what we're asking them to do and find out more about STEM fields ourselves. If you're curious and enjoy learning new things, we can help. And we have a great time together! So far we have had a lot of fun visiting the San Jose Tech Museum, looking at the chemistry behind polishing silver, discussing cyber security, and deconstructing computers to learn about their parts.

We want to start again, making sure we are COVID-aware. We have some ideas, but we're looking for more and would love to hear yours. If you can teach us something – even better! Those interested will decide meeting dates and trips. Contact **Juliet Bolding** or **Barbara Von Glahn**, co-chairs of the group.



Evening Book Club: All meetings are the last Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Our Zoom meetings begin at 7 p.m. Members will be included in all discussions and decisions to change to in-person gatherings.

The following is our reading list for 2021-22.

Oct. 26: *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell. Facilitator: **Antoinette Wrubel**.

November: no meeting.

Dec. 7: (holiday potluck) *Fresh Water for Flowers* by Valerie Perrin. Facilitator: **Nancy Evans**.

Jan. 25, 2022: *Neither Wolf nor*

Dog: On Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder by Kent Nerburn. Facilitator: **Marilyn Garrison**.

Feb. 22, 2022: *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel. Facilitator: **Lee Ellis**.

March 29, 2022: *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. Facilitator: **Linda Lowens**.

April 26, 2022: *Spirits of San Francisco: Voyages through the Unknown City* by Barry Kamiya. Facilitator: **Antoinette Wrubel**.

May 31, 2022: *The Soul of an Octopus* by Sy Montgomery. Facilitator: **Judy Buckland**.

June 28, 2022: *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. Facilitator: **Sue Perls**.

July 26, 2022: book nominations for 2022-23 books.

Aug. 30, 2022: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. Facilitator: **Janie Keeler**.

For more information, contact **Nancy Evans** at egnancy@comcast.net.



Great Decisions: We're Zooming the third Tuesday of the month, Oct. 19, at 5:30 p.m. on the topic of "The End of Globalization?" This material is in chapter 8 of the 2021 Great Decisions booklet and on YouTube **Great Decisions 2021**. This will be the last meeting until we resume in February 2022.

This interest group purchases booklets annually from the **Foreign**

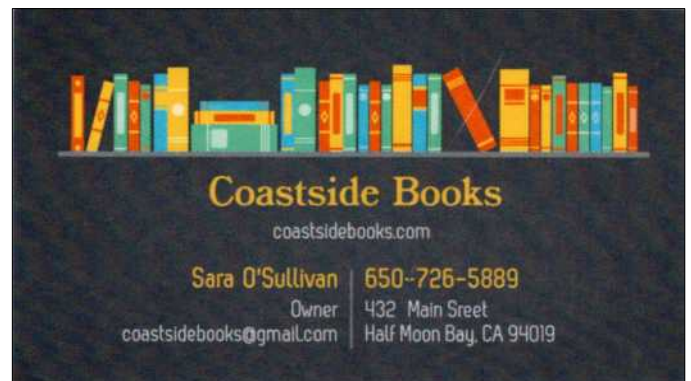
Policy Association, which costs about \$35. The mission of FPA today, as it has been throughout its 113-year history, is to serve as a catalyst for developing awareness, understanding, and informed opinion on U.S. foreign policy and global issues. Through its balanced, nonpartisan programs and publications, FPA encourages citizens to participate in the foreign policy process. Each booklet contains eight topics that we read and discuss monthly.

Thank you to those loyal members who continued meeting during these COVID times! It kept us a little saner and definitely more educated! See you in February.

Contact **Barbara Von Glahn** if you have any questions.



Janus: Weather permitting, we'll meet on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at noon at the home of **Mary Alice Pearce**. Bring a potluck dish to serve eight and \$3 for the hostess to defray costs. All members and occasional guests are welcome. If you wish to be on the contact list, or have any questions or suggestions, please contact Mary Alice Pearce at maalice_hmb@comcast.net or 650-863-1094.



News from AAUW California

Stay Tuned!

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and websites – these are some of the tools we'll explore in our quest to expand the visibility of AAUW California. Since each platform attracts a different demographic, we'll create messages tailored to each audience. Facebook has universal appeal and is most popular among middle-aged (in internet terms) users. Twitter's audience skews younger and is primarily a news source. Instagram's users tend to be in their teens and 20s — and very active and loyal.

Want to get involved? Contact **Sandi Gabe** at mkt-sm@aauw-ca.org for more information.

Sandi Gabe, Marketing Project Manager and President-Elect, Chair
What? Another Election?

Well, not quite yet, but consider

this your first notice about the upcoming AAUW California election in April 2022. This year we have a huge slate to fill as we are working to balance the board.

Because the president-elect position is a one-year term and directors are two-year terms, the board became lopsided. To solve this, we will elect three one-year term directors, four two-year term directors, and a secretary (two-year term).

O u r committee will reach out to each

branch president to talk about the benefits of serving on the board, the time commitment required, and our search for diversity. More information will be available next month.

Charmen Goehring, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.org



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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.