



American Association of University Women

Alhambra - San Gabriel Branch

alhsangab-ca.aauw.net



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

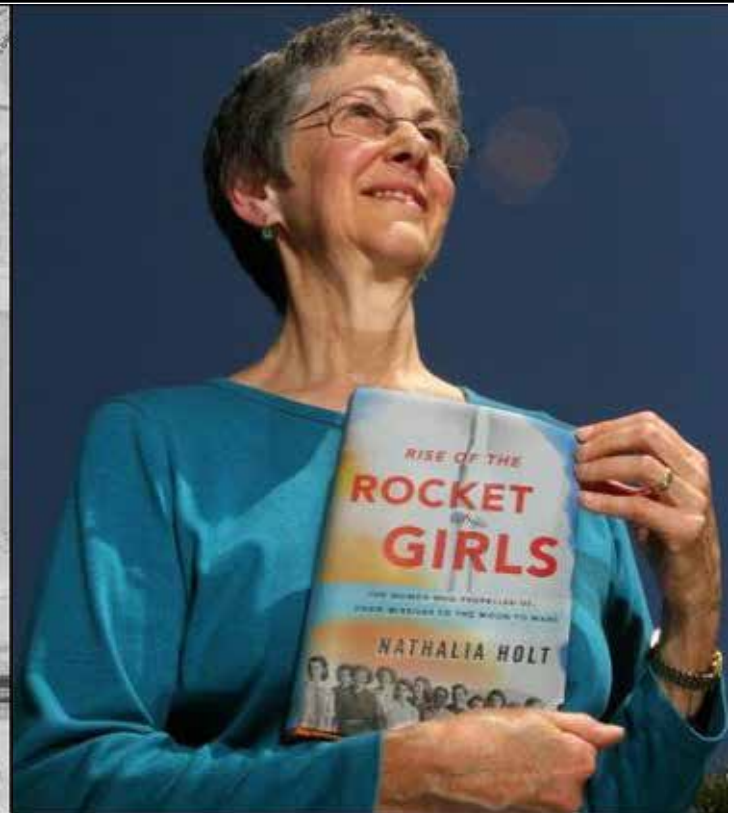
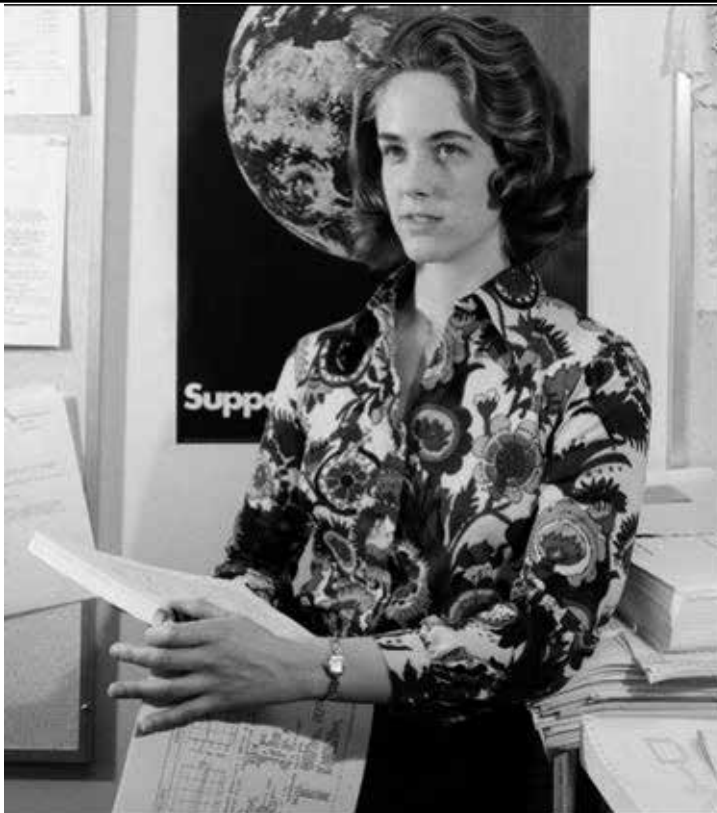
April, 2017

Cheryl Plotkin
President

Virginia Orenos
Program VP

Kathleen & Jim Doty
Newsletter Editors

Delora Brown
Membership VP



Sylvia Miller, pictured on the left in 1973, was one of the last human computers hired by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 1968. She is now one of the female subjects in a newly released book by Nathalia Holt titled *Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us, from Missiles to the Moon to Mars*. Miller went on to have a 40-year career at JPL and retired in 2008. From *Glendale News-Press* April 5, 2016 (Left photo courtesy of Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Right photo by Tim Berger, Staff Photographer).

Sylvia Miller

7:00 p.m. Monday, April 17
First United Methodist Church San Gabriel
201 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel

AND: meet our Tech Trekkers (see article on page 2).
Drawing for Dining with the Dotys
The Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch annual meeting will follow Ms. Miller's talk.

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

President's Message

As our Gold medal year comes toward an end, I want to thank everyone who has participated in the various meetings and programs.

Here are some of our highlights:

- September our Tech Trek girls won the day with their stories about camp.
- October we scored with an excellent presentation on the Ballot Measures.
- The Holiday meeting hit a high point with the wonderful performance by the Gabrielino chorus.
- Sheri Fink was golden with her story about becoming an author in January.
- The Tea in the back yard of the Doty's was pure gold.
- The Alhambra-San Gabriel Speech Trek winner is a state finalist.
- The nominating committee has scored with finding a great line up for next year's Board.



Cheryl Plotkin

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Annual Meeting April 17 and at the May 15 Installation.

Cheryl

Meet Our 2017 Tech Trek Campers

Thanks to the Tech Trek Selection Committees. Their job was difficult since we have many more applicants than our scholarships could support and all of the candidates were outstanding. The committees worked hard to read through each applicant's essay and then to interview the girls at each of the seven schools participating this year.

The Tech Trek North Committee, headed by Sue Carr, includes Jane Anderson, Virginia Orenos and Rozanne Child. The girls they selected (and their schools) are:

- Gabriella Estrada (Emery Park),
- Isabella Corona (Park),
- Ashlynn Le Kyaw (Ramona),

Kyla San Andres (Garfield),
Isela Aparicio (Jefferson), and
Emily Casciani (Jefferson).

Tech Trek South Committee members are: Joe Desbarres, Elaine Dong, Jackie Fisher, Marian Hallin, Betty Morin, Dolores Seidman, Lovey Sherman and Elena Velarde. They were assisted by friends Melinda Arbuthnot, Tilda De Wolf, Pat Naritomi and Kiem Tjong.

The Tech Trek South Committee selected:

- Adrienne Lim (Brightwood),
- Tere Ceseñas (Macy),
- Jeslyn Lee (Repetto),
- Katie To (Ynez),
- Jocelyn Rico (Eastmont),
- Giselle Borja (Montebello), and
- Elizabeth Breton (La Merced).

You will get to meet this year's Tech Trekkers at our Monday, April 17th, general meeting. Please plan to attend. They will be representing our Branch at the Whit-tier Tech Trek Camps in June.

We would also like to thank our members and their families and friends for supporting our Tech Trek fundraisers which allow us to send these girls to camp.

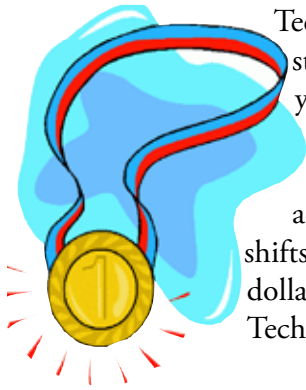
Lilia, Sue
& Jackie

Our April Program

Rocket Girl

Our April guest speaker is retired JPL engineer Sylvia Miller. Sylvia Miller received her B.A. in mathematics from Douglass College of Rutgers University in 1968 and began a 40-year career at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. Initially she worked as a "human computer" in an all-female group, supporting the engineers in her section with hand calculations, plotting, and computer programming. She worked on feasibility studies for NASA, including what later became known as Voyager, the first mission to the outer planets. She, along with several other women from the same group, were featured in the 2016 book, *Rise of the Rocket Girls*, by Nathalia Holt. In 1971, Sylvia received her M.S. in systems engineering from West Coast University. She went on to be a mission design engineer for the first infrared telescope in Earth orbit, a manager for planning a mission to a comet, a supervisor of a trajectory group, and a manager in the Mars Program office. She retired in 2008.

Tech Trek Fundraiser Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts



Tech Trek's major fundraiser is staffing the Showcase House each year. We would like to thank Bonnie Gonzalez for all her hard work securing members and their friends to fill 30 4-hour shifts this year. We will receive \$40 dollars per shift to send our girls to Tech Trek camp.

We would like to thank these members and their friends (*) for making this commitment:

Rozanne Child	Janice Lee	Sue Carr
Delora Brown	Virginia Orenos	Lilia Hall
Janice Mangerino	Nicole Rivera	Kacy Do
Bonnie Gonzalez	Sylvia Chau*	Sue Smith*
Yvonne Hasegawa*	Ralph Haber*	

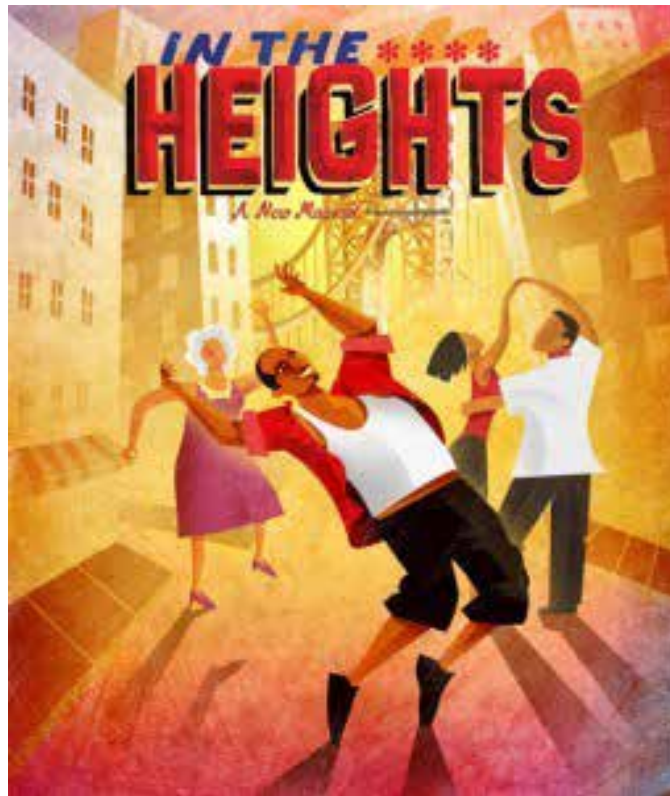
Much thanks for all your support!

*Bonnie
& Lilia*

RSVP DEADLINE extended to APRIL 5th ♦ New location is SEXSON AUDITORIUM ♦ COME and BRING GUESTS!

JOIN US

Universal story of a vibrant community (Dominican-American) in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood --coffee, open windows & music of 3 generations. Community on brink of change, hopes, dreams & pressures. 2008 Tony Award winner for Best Musical, Best Score, Best Choreography, & Best Orchestration. **LIVE ORCHESTRA!**



Benefits Tech Trek, AAUW Alhambra- San Gabriel

Lin-Manuel Miranda is an American actor, playwright, composer, rapper, and writer, best known for creating and starring in the Broadway musicals *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*. He has won a Pulitzer Prize, two Grammys, an Emmy, a MacArthur Fellowship, and three Tony Awards, among others.

The closest parking is in Student Parking Lot Garage No. 5, south of Colorado on Bonnie Ave. You must purchase and display a \$2 parking ticket, available from a machine in garage.

Saturday, April 8, 2:00 PM Matinee
Pasadena City College,
SEXSON AUDITORIUM
1570 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91106

Adults \$30, Seniors/Students \$20

Checks written to: "American Association of University Women"
RSVP by **April 5** to Bonnie at bonmago@att.net or (626) 446-8714

Mail checks to:

Bonnie Gonzalez
2601 Warren Way
Arcadia CA 91007



Our AAUW Fund tea featured good food, good company and a very interesting program about YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley's STEM programs for girls, including Tech Gyrls which is partially funded by AAUW.



Alhambra--San Gabriel Branch Fundraiser

Who will Dine?

There are 38 ticket holders, who altogether have donated \$1,650 to the AAUW Fund! Who will be dining with the Dotys? The winning ticket will be drawn at the April 17 branch meeting. Ticket holders do not need to be present at the drawing to win.

AAUW Fund

Thank you to all who participated in the March AAUW Fund Tea! The tables were lovely, the food was delicious and the company was delightful. While we (Kathleen and Deanna) were pleased to see our efforts succeed, special thanks go to those whose contributions also helped to make it a success: Jessica Arthur, Lyda Chee, Rozanne Child, Jim Doty, Virginia Orenos and Cheryl Plotkin. The speaker, Community Action Grant recipient Jessica Kubel, Executive Director of YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley, showed us once again the wonderful outcomes of our philanthropic efforts.

Time is running out on your opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for Dining with the Dotys! The big drawing will be held at the Annual Meeting, April 17th. You can't win if you don't buy a ticket. Contact Jim or Kathleen, 626-284-0763, to make that just-under-the-wire purchase. We have raised \$1,650.00 to date, but would love to have more!

*Kathleen
& Deanna*

Nominating Committee Report

2017-18 Branch Leadership Candidates

The nominating committee consisting of Kathleen Doty, Bonnie Gonzalez, Janice Lee, Deanna Arthur and Jane Anderson, met on February 8, 2017. Contacts were made during and following the meeting, resulting in the following proposed slate for the 2017-2018 year:

President - Kathleen Doty

President-elect - Open

Program Vice President (Co) - Elena Velarde and Joe des Barres

Membership Vice President - Open

(Delora will continue as Membership Treasurer)

Fund Vice President (Co) - Janice Lee and Kacy Do

Secretary (Co) - Betty Morin and Jackie Fisher

Treasurer - Cheryl Plotkin

Kathleen

Speech Trek

Those who heard Sabrina Sy's winning speech, "Is it Time to Pass the Equal Rights Amendment?", at our branch's February 11 meeting will not be too surprised to learn that she has been selected to compete in the state final, which will be on April 22 at the San Mateo Marriott. Sabrina, a student at Mark Keppel High School, will be competing with Roseville-South Placer Branch's Sarah Murphy and Morgan Hill Branch's Nikhita Gopisetty. All three branches have sponsored strong advocates in the past. The final competition will be worth the trip.



Public Policy

Would you like to work at least 15 months for the same paycheck your male coworker received in just 12 months? Well, if you're a woman odds are you already do.

Equal Pay Day, which takes place Tuesday, **April 4**, this year, is the symbolic day when women's pay finally "catches up" to the wages that men took home the previous year. The date represents the fact that women working full time, year-round in the United States typically are paid just 80 percent of what men are paid, or a gap of 20 percent. (AAUW also observes the equal pay days in March for Asian American women, in August for African American women, in September for Native American women, and in October for Latina women.)

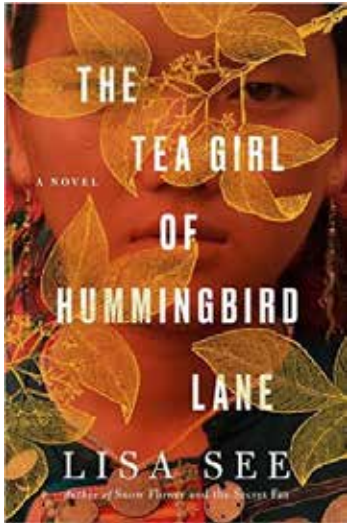
Missing 20 percent or more of a paycheck is a hard hit. Think about how that loss of wages adds up over a lifetime, and we're talking about losing a substantial chunk of change — change that could have greatly aided women and their families. The pay gap is closing but at a glacial pace. At the current rate, women won't achieve equal pay until 2152. Women and families can't afford to wait that long, nor can we risk rolling back the progress that has been made on equal pay.

Never underestimate the power of your voice. Not only is civic engagement essential to a healthy democracy, but that interaction between constituents and elected representatives can also change minds, policies, and laws. AAUW is working to advance equal pay legislation in Congress and in statehouses around the country. It's crucial that your elected officials understand the effect of the gender pay gap on women and families in your state, and it's up to you to deliver that message! Send a message to Congress urging action to close loopholes in existing federal law and strengthen protections for working women. Your daughters, granddaughters, and great-granddaughters will thank you.

Kathleen

**Our Alhambra-San Gabriel
Branch website is
ahsangab-ca.aauw.net**

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane



A thrilling new novel from #1 New York Times bestselling author Lisa See explores the lives of a Chinese mother and her daughter who has been adopted by an American couple.

Li-yan and her family align their lives around the seasons and the farming of tea. There is ritual and routine, and it has been ever thus for generations. Then one day a jeep

appears at the village gate—the first automobile any of them have seen—and a stranger arrives.

In this remote Yunnan village, the stranger finds the rare tea he has been seeking and a reticent Akha people. In her biggest seller, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, See introduced the Yao people to her readers. Here she shares the customs of another Chinese ethnic minority, the Akha, whose world will soon change. Li-yan, one of the few educated girls on her mountain, translates for the stranger and is among the first to reject the rules that have shaped her existence. When she has a baby outside of wedlock, rather than stand by tradition, she wraps her daughter in a blanket, with a tea cake hidden in her swaddling, and abandons her in the nearest city.

After mother and daughter have gone their separate ways, Li-yan slowly emerges from the security and insularity of her village to encounter modern life while Haley grows up a privileged and well-loved California girl. Despite Haley's happy home life, she wonders about her origins; and Li-yan longs for her lost daughter. They both search for and find answers in the tea that has shaped their family's destiny for generations.

A powerful story about a family, separated by circumstances, culture, and distance, *Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* paints an unforgettable portrait of a little known region and its people and celebrates the bond that connects mothers and daughters.



Agatha Christie
WITNESS
FOR THE
PROSECUTION

1920s London. A murder, brutal and bloodthirsty, has stained the plush carpets of a handsome London townhouse. The victim is the glamorous and enormously rich Emily French. All the evidence points to Leonard Vole, a young chancer to whom the heiress left her vast fortune and who ruthlessly took her life. At least, this is the story that Emily's dedicated housekeeper Janet Mackenzie stands by in court. Leonard however, is adamant that his partner, the enigmatic chorus girl Romaine, can prove his innocence.

Not previously known for her courtroom dramas, *Witness for the Prosecution* has become one of Agatha Christie most adapted and best known stories. It was first published in 1925 in the USA under the title *Traitor Hands* in Flynn's Weekly. Since its publication as a short story, it has been adapted for stage, radio, film and TV.

The play includes 30 characters. Luckily for us, Agatha Christie suggested a few means of reducing the cast. "I have great faith in the ingenuity of amateurs and repertory companies to devise means of reducing the very large cast of *Witness for the Prosecution* in order to make it possible to perform...."

Our drama group will adopt Agatha Christie's suggestions gratefully. However, there still will be 10 major roles and 8 minor roles to fill. This is your opportunity! Or, put another way, HELP!

There will be treats.

ACTIVITIES

Where the Fun will be in April

Join Us! New faces--even used ones--are always welcomed!

Professional Women Gourmets are gathering at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 1st at Casa Calderon, 622 W Las Tunas Dr., San Gabriel. Hostessed by Bill Ferry.



Restaurant Gourmets will be going to Trattoria Allegria on April 1st at 6:30 p.m., 3600 Ocean View #12, Glendale.



Always looking for ideas and always happy to set up additional times. For information, contact Deanna Arthur.

Walkettes meets every Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. We walk for approximately one hour and have breakfast at approximately 8:30 a.m. In case of rainy or doubtful weather we meet at the restaurant at 8:00 a.m. For further information or directions, please call Mary Smeritschnig.



Board Meeting will be meeting on Monday, April 3rd, at 7:30 p.m. (socializing starts at 7:00 p.m.) in Cheryl Plotkin's home, 201 S. Golden West Ave., Arcadia.

Tech Trek fundraiser: the 2008 Tony Award Best Musical "In the Heights". Saturday, April 8th at 2:00 p.m. Matinee at Pasadena City College.

IN THE HEIGHTS

Drama will read *Witness for the Prosecution* a play in three acts by Agatha Christie, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 10th in the Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra.



General Meeting: Sylvia Miller, former JPL mathematician and engineer, will speak at 7:00 p.m. Monday, April 17th, at the First United Methodist Church San Gabriel, 201 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel. See page 1 for details.

AAUW California Annual Meeting will be on April 22nd at 8:00 a.m. at the Marriott San Francisco Airport Hotel, 1770 S Amphlett Blvd., San Mateo. Table Talk, Speech Trek competition, branch program recognition, introduction of candidates for state board.

Evening Books will get together at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 24th to discuss *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See in Deanna's home, 1608 S. Atlantic Blvd., Alhambra.



MAKING CONNECTIONS
2017 AAUW CALIFORNIA ANNUAL MEETING
SAN MATEO MARRIOTT
April 22, 2017

- 8:00 – 8:45 Registration
Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 – 9:15 Annual Meeting
- 9:15 – 12:00 Table Talk – What's on Your Plate?
- 12:00 – 12:30 Break
- 12:30 – 2:30 Luncheon

Speech Trek Competition!

- Branch Program Recognition
- Introduction of Candidates for State Board
- 2:30 – 3:00 Closing Remarks

Register by April 14

online at aauw-ca.org (recommended)

or

complete the form in the winter issue of the *California Perspective* and send it along with \$50 per attendee to: AAUW California • 1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833 or fax to: (916) 448-1729