



Alhambra-San Gabriel (CA) Branch Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel and Surrounding Communities

# The Mission Gateway

## President's Message



Elena Velarde

### CHOOSE CIVILITY

Have you ever wondered over the past year what "civility" means? The dictionary defines it as "formal politeness and courtesy in behavior or speech," as in "I hope we can treat each other with civility and respect" and "I hope we can work together." Results from a national survey (December 2016) showed three-quarters of Americans believe that incivility has risen to crisis levels.

The same proportion felt that the U.S. is losing stature as a civil nation (73%). Incivility inhibits civic engagement. Will this be our fate as a nation? Is this an issue that interests and concerns you as a AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch member?

The term *civility* has changed with the times. It now transcends politeness and encompasses *pursuing shared ideas to reach common ground*. An expanded definition states that "Civility entails honoring one's personal values while simultaneously listening to disparate points of views," according to Psychology Today researchers Nadine J. Kaslow, PhD and Natalie N. Watson, PhD. They further ask: *Is civility a core component of professionalism?* They also show "Civility may manifest differently across cultural groups and contexts."

In this era of COVID and Election 2020, I'm thinking a lot about civility and/or the lack of it. As news

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## Holiday Program on Zoom!



Are you holding your breath until 2020 is over? Are you having trouble getting into the holiday spirit? Well, members and friends, we have an answer for you:

## Holiday Fun and Games!

Join us at 7 PM Monday evening, December 6, 2020 for an evening of holiday stories and poems interspersed with some holiday brain teasers.

Although the Gabrielino Singers, who have been our traditional December program, are on hold because of COVID, your program committee has been working hard to find an alternative that promises to get you into the holiday spirit. Invite your friends! The Zoom link will be sent out the week before the meeting as well as being placed on the branch calendar on our website. "See" you December 6<sup>th</sup>!

*Kathleen & Janice*

Elena Velarde, President • Joe Des Barres, President Elect • Betty Morin, Secretary • Cheryl Plotkin, Treasurer • Jim Doty, Newsletter Editor • Deanna Arthur, AAUW Fund VP • Leticia Peralta, Membership VP • Janice Lee & Kathleen Doty, Program VPs

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.

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## President's Message

and media events happen constantly, we are assailed by rapid-fire data and sound bites. In an instant, pundits and public are at work interpreting and processing the daily news—I know I try to make sense of it—trying to maintain my equilibrium. We used to be able to say, “Keep calm and carry on,” but more and more, partisanship, social media and even debates effectively divert and divide us. Our stress levels won’t dissipate until we consciously do some internal work. And we each have to discover our own way because our personal emotions, beliefs, thoughts and values are on the line.

Living in the New Normal has compelled me to look for the origins of civility. What historical markers have guided and grounded humanity in similar eras of stark differences in thought, opinion and action? My search for information begins in 1595 when French Jesuits wrote manuscripts that detailed what we have come to know as the original “rules of civility.” In the 1640’s Jesuit Francis Hawkins translated them into English and published his *Decency in Conversation Amongst Men*. At that time the rules were acknowledged to be the fundamental tenets of a youth’s education—to copy, recite and live by.

In 1746, a then teen-aged George Washington memorialized the rules in his school penmanship exercises. They shaped his strong sense of self-discipline. Later as President, he published them as his 110 *Rules of Civility and Decent Behaviour in Company and Conversation*. Washington took these maxims to heart. From 1789 through 1797, he led our new country using them as his guidestar. His quintessential first rule was: “Every Action done in Company, ought to be with Some Sign of Respect, to those that are Present.”

For us in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, civility is more important than ever. Concerned community members continue to champion rules of considerate conduct because productive communication demands it. In Dr. P.M. Forni’s book “*Choosing Civility*” (2002) he indicates *Twenty-Five Rules of Considerate Conduct*. His first six rules are: *Pay attention; Acknowledge others; Think the best; Listen; Be inclusive; Speak kindly*. In general, civility remains the best policy. But what if civility fails? Then we get back up, persevere and lead by example. Ruth Bader Ginsburg did so throughout her life. Civility is still the wisest response to incivility.

Each of us in AAUW carries a responsibility to maintain and sustain civility in our community. If we do not, recall Ralph Waldo Emerson’s admonition: “Your actions speak so loudly, I cannot hear what you are saying.” Promote our Mission, Vision and Values with decorum. No matter what comes next, lean into the “rules of civility” and remember *The Golden Rule*. Let’s work together as a Branch to strengthen our democracy for the future—and may our voices be heard.

Elena

## AAUW Fund

As we continue down the path of 2020, there are always surprises at every turn. Last Saturday, I tuned into what I thought was going to be the Northern Fellows Luncheon. Surprise, surprise – since it was being held via Zoom there were Fellows from the North and South. There were 8 fellows and all their projects were pretty amazing. They covered everything from “Hidden Roses” to a Polymer Energy Materials Battery. If you are curious, you can find it on the AAUW-CA website.

Hope most of you will be joining us on zoom for the fund luncheon on the 24th with your tea boxes. Thanks to the 31 of you that ordered and the wonderful people who volunteered to make, deliver, or assemble boxes. These wonderful volunteers include (in alphabetical order) Delora Brown, Lyda Chee, Kacy Do, James Doty (whether he wants to be included or not), Kathleen Doty, Gerry Kreger, Janice Lee, Leticia Peralta, and Cheryl Plotkin. Whether they are driving, assembling or baking these ladies and gentleman deserve a pat on the back.

I am asking Jim to include the Legacy Circle article from the AAUW-CA B2B for all of you to read. I know we have a few Legacy Circle members in our branch but would love to see more. It really is heartwarming to see the good work that these graduates are doing and the good work that AAUW continues to do on behalf of women and girls.

Deanna



# Estate Planning and the Legacy Circle

Charmen Goehring, Northern California Legacy Circle Liaison, [charminme@yahoo.com](mailto:charminme@yahoo.com)

Established by Congress in 2008, Estate Planning Awareness Week is observed annually during the third week in October to recognize the need, importance, and benefits of estate planning. This is an important reminder not only to make sure your own estate plan is up to date but also to talk to your family members about your wishes.

In a 2019 survey carried out by [caring.com](http://caring.com), 57% of adults in the United States say that they don't have a will or trust, even though 76% of people surveyed think estate planning is important.

Estate planning is often a difficult subject to broach, as it brings the unpleasant topics of aging and death to the forefront of our minds. Nevertheless, creating an estate plan can provide peace of mind for you and your loved ones by ensuring your life savings are protected, plans are in place in the event of an illness, and property is passed down according to your wishes.

Some members may wish to donate a part of their estate to AAUW to help assure that it can continue its important work. Whether you would like to learn more about estate planning in general or tax-wise ways to include AAUW as a part of your legacy, we are here to help. You may contact Heather Miller, AAUW Advancement Director at [millerh@aauw.org](mailto:millerh@aauw.org).

We would also be delighted to welcome you to the Legacy Circle—AAUW's recognition society for visionary members who are committed to advancing equity for women and girls long into the future by bequeathing some portion of their estate to AAUW. Heather Miller, Judy Horan ([queenjah@pacbell.net](mailto:queenjah@pacbell.net)), and Charmen Goehring ([charminme@yahoo.com](mailto:charminme@yahoo.com)) of the AAUW Legacy Circle team are available to assist you. You can also click [HERE](#) to find information on AAUW's website.

Also, don't forget our state Legacy Circle contest—only two months left to join the fun! The branch with the most new Legacy Circle members will enjoy special recognition as well as a unique and engaging Zoom call with Heather Miller, Dianne Owens, and more!!

# Get More Out of Your AAUW Membership

Janice Lee, State Nominations & Elections Chair, [nominating@aauw-ca.org](mailto:nominating@aauw-ca.org)

We are seeking a few leaders to run for the AAUW California Board in April 2021. Serving on the board is a wonderful way to meet new friends, learn more in-depth information about AAUW and AAUW California, and to provide your skills and ideas to our future planning and assistance to branches. It is also fun! The board meets quarterly (currently on Zoom) and committees meet throughout the months as needed. The major qualification is that you believe in the AAUW mission, want to help us move it forward in California, and have a commitment to the responsibility of the office.

You have served on your branch board, now bring your talents to the AAUW California Board!! The application and more information are on the state website.

# Legislative Wrap-Up

Kathleen Harper, State Director, and Sue Miller, State Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org)

This has been one unpredictable legislative season – along with all the other wildness of 2020! We started the season with 34 bills that we selected for support. With COVID-19, racial injustice, and wildfires dominating the political landscape, we lost a lot of them right off the bat, then added several that were introduced in the last month. We ended up with 21, including our signature bill, SB 973, which we have sponsored for two years. With just hours to go before the deadline, it was finally signed into law – YAY!

In summary, SB973 requires a private employer that has 100 or more employees, to submit a yearly pay data report to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) that contains wage information on employees by race, ethnicity, and sex.

Also, 16 of our supported bills were signed, including all five of our racial justice bills. For more information go to [“Capitol Track”](#) on our website.

# The Lasting Legacy of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

## Six Notable Decisions and Dissents

*In her 27 years on the bench, Justice Ginsburg ruled on some of the most important U.S. Supreme Court cases in our nation's history. Her decisions and dissents reflected her deep commitment to gender equity and civil rights. Here's how she weighed in on landmark cases that involved AAUW's priority policy issues.*

### ***United States v. Virginia (1996)***

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down the male-only admissions policy at the Virginia Military Institute, ruling that it violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Writing the majority opinion, Justice Ginsburg said a policy is incompatible with the Equal Protection Clause if it “denies to women, simply because they are women, full citizenship stature — equal opportunity to aspire, achieve, participate in and contribute to society based on their individual talents and capacities.” She wrote that “generalizations about ‘the way women are,’ estimates of what is appropriate for *most women*, no longer justify denying opportunity to women whose talent and capacity place them outside the average description.”

### ***Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. (2007)***

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that Lilly Ledbetter, a female tire-plant employee, waited too long to bring a Title VII pay discrimination claim against her employer, evaluating the case based upon the initial decision to pay Ledbetter less rather than considering each paycheck as its own discriminatory action. Justice Ginsburg wrote the dissent and read it from the bench, a rare practice. She said that the majority's “cramped” interpretation neglected the insidiousness of pay discrimination. At her encouragement, Congress passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which made it easier for women to



"Fearless Girl" draped with a lace collar to honor Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Fearless Girl is a bronze sculpture by Kristen Visbal, commissioned by State Street Global Advisors (SSGA), a large asset management company.

challenge unequal pay.

### ***Gonzales v. Carhart (2007)***

This 5-4 decision upheld the so-called Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003, prohibiting a medical procedure and overturning 30 years of precedent requiring exceptions to such bans when a woman's health is at risk. In her dissent, Justice Ginsburg said, “The solution the Court approves, then, is *not* to require doctors to inform women, accurately and adequately, of the different procedures and their attendant risks. ... Instead the Court deprives women of the right to make an autonomous choice, even at the expense of their safety.”

### ***Shelby County v. Holder (2013)***

The U.S. Supreme Court rolled back a key provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In a 5-4 vote, the court ruled that a section of the act – which created a “coverage formula” to identify states with a history of unlawful, racially discriminatory election laws and practices that needed more focused remedies – was unconstitutional,

allowing states to change voting procedures without any ‘preclearance’ or oversight. In her dissent, Justice Ginsburg wrote that “Throwing out preclearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet.”

### ***Obergefell v. Hodges (2015)***

Justice Ginsburg joined the majority in this historic 5-4 decision establishing that same-sex couples have the right to marry under both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The ruling requires that states recognize the marriages of same-sex couples just as they do the marriages of oppo-

site-sex couples, with all the accompanying rights and responsibilities.

### *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores (2014)*

In a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a provision of the Affordable Care Act that required employers to cover FDA-approved contraceptive methods for employees. The ruling exempted certain for-profit companies from the provision if business owners objected on religious grounds. In a passionate dissent, Ginsburg asked if the ruling would be extended “to employers with religiously grounded objections to blood transfusions (Jehovah’s Witnesses); antidepressants (Scientologists); medications derived from pigs, including anesthesia, intravenous fluids, and pills coated with gelatin (certain Muslims, Jews, and Hindus); and vaccinations (Christian Scientists, among others)?” She predicted such claims would come before the courts, which would then lead into the risky business of ruling on the merits of various religious beliefs.



Both Tech Trek North and South are slowly beginning to make plans for a virtual STEM camp this spring. More details will be forthcoming.

One exciting bit of news is Jane and Lilia have joined a “Tech Trek Alumnae Group” [TTAG]. The AAUW Beach Cities Branch has formed a group working with past campers and is in the process of becoming officially recognized entity through AAUW-CA Tech Trek. Our local branch has begun to establish a list of all past participants and then hoping to contact these girls [many are now young women] in the hope that they might like to join our branch. We feel this is the future for AAUW.

*Jane Krause  
& Lilia Hall*

“Don't wait until the fourth Thursday in November, to sit with family and friends to give thanks. Make every day a day of Thanksgiving!”  
– Charmaine J. Forde

# AAUW California Webinars

The following AAUW California online webinars are open to all members simply by registering at [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org).

November 9: **Keeping in Touch With Your Tech Trekkers - and Why You Should.** Many branches keep in touch with their former Tech Trekkers. Some former campers have even built their own "Keep in Touch" groups. In this workshop you will learn how to track down and guide these young women through high school and college and, even, into their careers. The workshop will introduce these ideas - and the people working on them. Keeping your former Tech Trekkers close allows them to help you at branch events, mentor new campers, and keep in the loop about junior and senior counselor positions. You will be surprised how much your branch and these young women can help each other.

November 18: **Work Smarter not Harder.** Quality collaborations will benefit your branch and increase your influence. A collaboration isn't just about sharing work. It's about sharing resources. By investing your branch's time in building good relationships now, you can make them pay off for years to come.

December 12: **How to manage your Speech Trek contest on ZOOM.** Learn how to set up Zoom to support your contest. We'll cover recording, managing contestants and judges for a successful event.

December 14: **Mentoring Women for Career Advancement.** Mentorship program for student members and young women members early on in their career who aspire to advance, and how to advance in their career.

January 11: **Title IX: Breaking Down Barriers 2020.** A branch, college/university and school district perspective on how to be an advocate and activist for Title IX.

January 27: **Take Me to Your Leader.** Building and/or using your team differently.



## Need Zoom Help?

Contact Deanna Arthur, Jim Doty or Kathleen Doty

# The Results Are In!

We are on our way!! Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch started the year with a well-attended virtual meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup>. We found closure for the 2019-2020 year with the introduction and short installation of the 2020-2021 branch officers. We learned of Elena's vision for the year to come. And, we had some fun answering a series of sometimes serious, sometimes silly questions.

Here, for those who did not attend and are curious as well as a reminder for those who did attend, is a list of the questions "polled" and the responses received:

1. The average branch member has been a member for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
 

5.....	0 ( 0%)
11.....	4 (19%)
17.....	10 (48%)
23* .....	6 (29%)
30.....	1 ( 5%)

 \*correct answer
2. Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch was established in \_\_\_\_
 

1891.....	0 ( 0%)
1920.....	4 (19%)
1969.....	5 (24%)
1944* .....	12 (57%)

 \*correct answer
3. Which came first?
 

Chicken .....	10 (53%)
Egg.....	9 (47%)
4. How many videoconferences (meetings, classes, socializing, etc.) have you attended in the past two months?
 

This is the first.....	0 (0%)
2-3 .....	1 (5%)
4-5 .....	2 (10%)
More than 5 .....	18 (86%)
5. During the past two months have you (select all applicable):
 

Dined away from your home? .....	13 (23%)
Entertained guests in your home? .....	13 (23%)
Gone shopping? .....	17 (30%)
Exercised or recreated away from your home? .....	14 (25%)
6. Which direction do you hang the toilet tissue?
 

Over the front .....	14 (74%)
Down the back.....	5 (26%)

7. How many protective masks do you own?
 

1.....	0 ( 0%)
2.....	0 ( 0%)
3.....	0 ( 0%)
More than 3 .....	21 (100%)
8. Have you been tested for COVID-19?
 

Yes.....	2 (11%)
No.....	17 (89%)
9. How many branch members are your personal friends?
 

1-9 .....	11 (55%)
10-19 .....	6 (30%)
20-29 .....	3 (15%)
30 or more .....	0 ( 0%)
10. Would you participate in branch projects that increase our involvement and visibility in the community?
 

Yes.....	20 (100%)
No.....	0 ( 0%)
11. The most important thing our branch does is:
 

Provide interesting programs .....	3 (14%)
Advocate political action .....	3 (14%)
Donate to AAUW Fund.....	0 ( 0%)
Speech Trek .....	1 ( 5%)
Tech Trek .....	14 (67%)
12. The most important thing our branch should do is:
 

Provide interesting programs .....	7 (35%)
Advocate political action .....	3 (15%)
Donate to AAUW Fund.....	1 ( 5%)
Speech Trek .....	1 ( 5%)
Tech Trek .....	8 (40%)
13. In how many organizations, other than AAUW, do you participate?
 

None.....	2 (10%)
1.....	3 (15%)
2.....	5 (25%)
3+.....	10 (50%)
14. How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?
 

1 log.....	5 (28%)
10 logs.....	1 ( 6%)
1 cord.....	3 (17%)
10 cords .....	9 (50%)

Janice and I continue to adapt our programs to the virtual approach. "See" you all at the next one!!

*Kathleen*

# Public Policy: Our Personal Responsibility

Upon reading this issue of the Mission Gateway, we will be but a few days from Election Day, November 3, 2020 and this year's presidential, congressional, state and local elections. Perhaps you've already voted by mail, dropped off your ballot at an early vote center or within a drop off box. Or maybe you are awaiting your opportunity to vote in person. The key metric is that you VOTE!

Voting is fundamental to a participative-citizen republic. Active participation in civic life is what's best for the country and our own communities. The "voice of the people" is heard loudest and with the most impact at election times. It is our opportunity to determine those individuals who will lead our country and our communities over the next 2, 4, or 6 years in the case of the U.S. Senate. It's that time when comments, complaints, suggestions, wants, needs, letters to our representatives and the like, coalesce into one action: **VOTING!**

Once all the votes are counted, we will have time to reflect and rest. The bombardment of election-related digital and print media will have concluded, but probably only to some lesser extent. We will see how well the USPS handled so many millions more vote-by-mail ballots. We will see how many voters voted in-person. And we will finally know the outcome of elections: nationally, statewide and locally, though perhaps not as quickly as we've known in past elections because of the large vote by mail influx.

Your Public Policy activity ought not end on November 3. Visit the AAUW national website [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and sign up for alerts that will keep you informed of the need for ongoing activism. Visit the AAUW CA website, [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org) (see your branch directory for password for members-only areas) for a State of California perspective on the fight for gender equity and financial security. Remember also that your AAUW California Connection is now coming to you every month.

Many of you belong to other organizations such as the League of Women Voters, [lww-pa.org](http://lww-pa.org), and the NAACP, [naacpasadena.org](http://naacpasadena.org), each of which is fighting for equity and participation in its own way. Your continued involvement in their arenas is critical as well. *The fight for equity and financial security for women and girls cuts across all segments of society and all organizations*

*fighting for EQUITY FOR ALL!*

As the pioneering women who fought for the vote said, "We do this not for ourselves but for those who come after us." It's an earlier version of *leave this world better than you found it*. We follow in their footsteps by continuing to be active participants in public policy. The fight, *and it is a fight*, for gender equity and financial security for women never ceases. As the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg said upon being asked how many women on the Supreme Court would be enough: *NINE!*

*In the final analysis, our personal and collective efforts to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy to achieve our vision of equity for all (AAUW Mission and Vision) will be evaluated not by whether we were always successful, BUT whether or not we stayed the course.*

As Margaret Mead reminds us: "Never doubt that a **small group** of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Please note that all emphasis-added is mine.

Joe

## Membership News

The 2020-21 Branch Directory has been mailed to all members. Contact Letty if yours hasn't arrived.

## Directory Updates

Please add Diane Askew and correct Donna Tucker's email address.

Letty

Askew, Diane 289 N El Molino Ave #106 Pasadena, CA 91101 UCI, Calif. Sch. Prof. Psych., San Diego Ph.D. Clin. Psych. AAUW member since 2020	(949) 463-1380  drdianeaskew@gmail.com
Tucker, Donna 1720 Huntington Dr Apt 5 South Pasadena, CA 91030-4840 BA Loyola Marymount U, MA USC AAUW member since 2014	626-799-8408* *messages only dhctucker@gmail.com

# November Fun Quiz

1. The name November means the ninth month in Latin.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. Which of the following historical events happened in November, 1848?
  - a. Writer, Margaret Mitchell publishes Gone With the Wind.
  - b. Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organize the Seneca Falls Convention.
  - c. The first medical school for women opened in Boston.
3. What is the November flower?
  - a. Poppy
  - b. Chrysanthemum
  - c. Marigold
4. Which of the following is celebrated in November?
  - a. Raisin Bread Month
  - b. Native American Heritage Month
  - c. Both of the above
5. Veterans Day was first known as \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. Armistice Day
  - b. Veteran of Foreign Wars Day
  - c. Remembrance Day

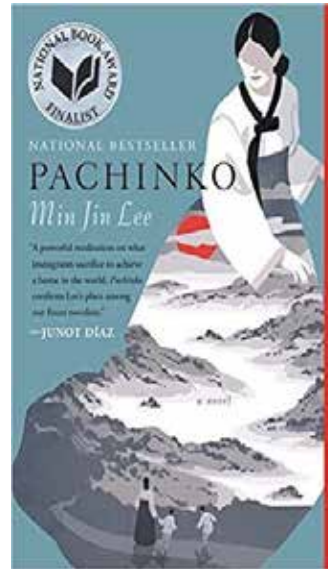
The answers are on the last page.

## Public Policy Survey Extended!

AAUW California Public Policy Priorities Survey has been extended to November 1, 2020. The survey will help the state Public Policy Committee to update AAUW California Public Policy Priorities that will guide our advocacy in 2021-2023. Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W6T9ZXZ> to take the survey.

If you've already submitted a response there is no need to fill out the survey again -- we got it!

## November 18 and ?? Book Group<sup>1</sup>



### *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

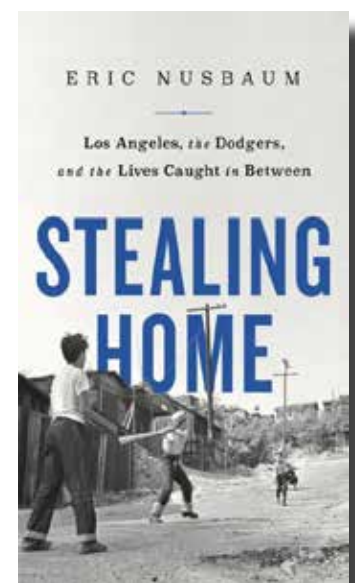
In the early 1900s, teenaged Sunja, the adored daughter of a crippled fisherman, falls for a wealthy stranger at the seashore near her home in Korea. He promises her the world, but when she discovers she is pregnant--and that her lover is married--she refuses to be bought. Instead, she accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister passing through on his way to Japan. But her decision to abandon her home, and to reject her son's powerful father, sets off a dramatic saga that will echo down through the generations.

Richly told and profoundly moving, *Pachinko* is a story of love, sacrifice, ambition, and loyalty. From bustling street markets to the halls of Japan's finest universities to the pachinko parlors of the criminal underworld, Lee's complex and passionate characters--strong, stubborn women, devoted sisters and sons, fathers shaken by moral crisis--survive and thrive against the indifferent arc of history.

### *Stealing Home* by Eric Nusbaum

A story about baseball, family, the American Dream, and the fight to turn Los Angeles into a big league city.

Dodger Stadium is an American icon. But the story of how it came to be goes far beyond baseball. The hills that cradle the stadium were once home to three vibrant Mexican American communities. In the early 1950s, those communities were condemned to make way for a utopian public housing project. Book Group members can purchase books on the group's reading list at Vroman's Books in Pasadena.





ing project. Then, in a remarkable turn, public housing in the city was defeated amidst a Red Scare conspiracy.

Instead of getting their homes back, the remaining residents saw the city sell their land to Walter O'Malley, the owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Now LA would be getting a different sort of utopian fantasy — a glittering, ultra-modern stadium.

But before Dodger Stadium could be built, the city would have to face down the neighborhood's families — including one, the Aréchigas, who refused to yield their home. The ensuing confrontation captivated the nation - and the divisive outcome still echoes through Los Angeles today.

## November 9 and December 14 Drama Group



*Silent Sky* is a play written by Lauren Gunderson. Cast: 4 women, 1 man.

When Henrietta Leavitt begins work at the Harvard Observatory in the early 1900s, she isn't allowed to touch a telescope or express an original idea. Instead, she joins a group of women "computers," charting the stars for a renowned astronomer

who calculates projects in "girl hours" and has no time for the women's probing theories. As Henrietta, in her free time, attempts to measure the light and distance of stars, she must also take measure of her life on Earth, trying to balance her dedication to science with family obligations and the possibility of love. The true story of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt explores a woman's place in society during a time of immense scientific discoveries, when women's ideas were dismissed until men claimed credit for them. Social progress, like scientific progress, can be hard to see when one is trapped among earthly complications; Henrietta Leavitt and her female peers believe in both, and their dedication changed the way we understand both the heavens and Earth.

"...sheer magic [is] in Lauren Gunderson's SILENT SKY...Gunderson [writes] economically and with bursts of smart, infectious humor." —San Francisco Chronicle. "...It's a lively, funny, accessible play that's alive with

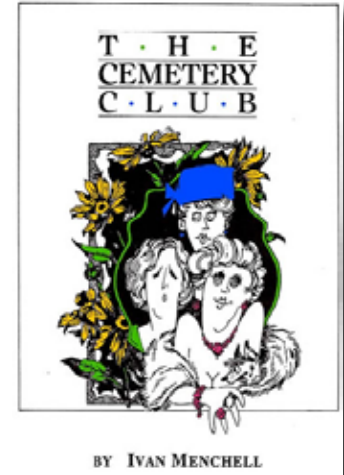
interesting ideas." —ArtsAtl.com. "[SILENT SKY] is a startling, entertaining true story of a brilliant, history-making woman—hitherto unknown to many of us." —AtlantaInTown.com. "Lauren Gunderson's luminously beautiful play SILENT SKY is an intellectual epic told on an intimate scale. Bottom line: Heavenly." —Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

*Cemetery Club* is a play written by Ivan Menchell. Cast: 4 women, 1 man.

Three Jewish widows meet once a month for tea before going to visit their husbands' graves. Ida is sweet tempered and ready to begin a new life; Lucille is a feisty embodiment of the girl who just wants to have fun; and Doris is priggish and judgmental, particularly when Sam the butcher enters the scene. He meets the widows while visiting his wife's grave. Doris and Lucille squash the budding romance between Sam and Ida. They are guilt-stricken when this nearly breaks Ida's heart.

The play was made into a film, starring Ellen Burstyn, Dianne Ladd, and Olympia Dukkakis.

"Funny, sweet tempered, moving." - The Boston Globe  
"Very touching and humorous. An evening of pure pleasure that will make you glad you went to the theatre." - Washington Journal Newspapers



"Remember this December, that love weighs more than gold!"

— Josephine Dodge Daskam Bacon

## How to Zoom

Any device connected to the internet can be used to join a Zoom meeting, but you must have the Zoom application on that device. The basic version is free and can be installed from [Zoom](https://zoom.us) (zoom.us) or by clicking on the meeting link provided by the meeting host and following the prompts. Installation will take a few minutes, so if Zoom hasn't already been installed, link early. The Pasadena League of Women Voters has tips for mastering Zoom on their [website](https://my.lwv.org/california/pasadena/article/zoom-tips#.XzMUWdVc6bo.gmail) (https://my.lwv.org/california/pasadena/article/zoom-tips#.XzMUWdVc6bo.gmail)

# ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.  
Join In!

**Branch Board of Directors** will meet via Zoom on November 2<sup>nd</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Monday) at 7:15 PM. The host will open Zoom at 7:00 PM. Open to all members. Contact Elena Velarde.

**Scattergories:** (every Thursday) at 3:00 PM via Zoom. How many "Things you can do online" beginning with the letter "S" can you list in 2 1/2 minutes? Scattergories meets for about an hour via Zoom at 3:00 PM every Thursday. Silly, serious, intellectually challenging. Contact Deanna Arthur.

**Professional Women Gourmets** will gather November 7<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday) at 6:00 PM for an Oktoberfest feast with prudent distancing in the Dotys' back yard. Contact Kathleen Doty.



**Drama** will meet via Zoom on November 9<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday) at 7:00 PM to read *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson, and on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM to read *Cemetery Club* by Ivan Menchell. Contact Kathleen Doty.



**Day Books:** November 18<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday) at 2:00 PM will discuss *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee via Zoom. Their next book will be *Stealing Home* by Eric Nusbaum, although they might not meet in December. Contact Kathleen Doty.



**Meetup:** November 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM (no meet-up on Thanksgiving). Get your favorite beverage and munchie and call into Zoom for quality bonding time. Reservations are necessary - please call Deanna Arthur so a code can be sent for joining the meeting.

## Mission Gateway

Articles relating to AAUW's mission or Branch activities are gladly accepted. Material for the *Mission Gateway* must be received no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the intended month of publication.

**Restaurant Gourmets:** November 21<sup>st</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Saturday) via Zoom. Pick up from Limerick's Tavern at 300 W Main St. in Alhambra and dine on line with your friends. For details contact Deanna Arthur.



**Night Books** will meet via Zoom on November 23<sup>rd</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Monday) at 7:00 PM to discuss *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee via Zoom. A December book has not been selected. Contact Deanna Arthur.

**Every Member Event:** December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Holiday Program on Zoom! Join us for an evening of holiday stories and poems interspersed with some holiday brain teasers. Details on page 1. (There will be no event in November.)

# new!

**Crafters!** Would anyone be interested in starting a monthly gathering of "crafters"? This would be a way to get to know

branch members. I am a knitter, but some of you might be into beading, crocheting, painting, etc.

Of course, the gathering would be via Zoom.

If you have a desire to join a group please send an email to Jane Krause, jkbigdog517@gmail.com and tell her whether you would like to meet during the day or evening.

## Here are the Answers to November's Fun Quiz on Page 8

(1) a, (2) c, (3) b, (4) c, (5) Armistice Day

Our branch email address is

[alhsangab44@gmail.com](mailto:alhsangab44@gmail.com)

Our branch website is

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

Our MeetUp.com page is

[Am. Assoc. Univ. Women -- Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Pk](#)

Our Facebook page is

[AAUW-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Branch](#)