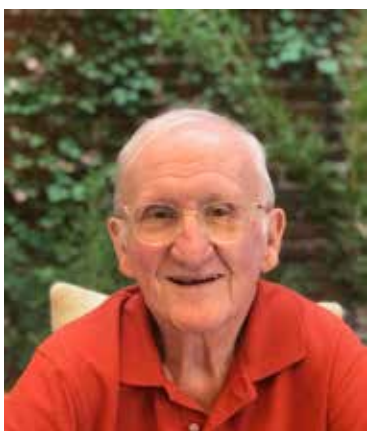




Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Montebello, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Temple City, Arcadia and Surrounding Communities

The Mission Gateway

PRESIDENT’S PUSH



Joe DesBarres

Ah, March has arrived—Letting us experience whether it’s “in like a lamb, out like a lion” or some variation thereof...

Our California Primary Election occurs on March 5th. As everyone receives a ballot in the mail with a no postage necessary return envelope, shouldn’t we see an exceptional voter turnout?

Please encourage family and friends, as voting is one of the things that responsible citizens do.

March is also our traditional AAUW FUND MEETING. Look elsewhere in this issue for all the details. Mark your calendar and participate.

April will see three (3) important events:

1. Our Branch Annual Meeting

Look for an Email Blast to provide information on this meeting. This is the time at which we elect the Board Officers to lead us in the coming program year (July 2024 to June 2025).

Your vote is essential in this election of Branch Officers.



Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch AAUW

Invites you to an afternoon of

Learning, Comradery and Food

Saturday, March 16, 2024

1 p.m.

First United Methodist Church of San Gabriel
201 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel, CA 91775
(Parking is available in the parking lot across the street.)

Cost: \$15.00 Donation to The AAUW Fund

We will have a speaker about The Fund,
plus Prizes and Fun!

There will also be “Mocktails” and light nibbles.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

In the mood to dress up??? Come as your favorite leprechaun, Irish dancer or even St. Patrick, himself! Everyone in attendance will receive a ticket for a door prize. The first **10** people to make reservations receive a special “gift”

See reservation form on page 5.

continued on Page 2

Joe Des Barres, President • Marilee Wood, Secretary • Tiffany White, Treasurer • Kathleen Doty, Newsletter Editor
Jackie Fisher and Lavonne Sherman, Co-Program VP • Deanna Arthur, AAUW Fund VP • Veronica Alvarez, Membership VP

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.

continued from Page 1

The President's PUSH...

2. AAUW CA Annual Meeting

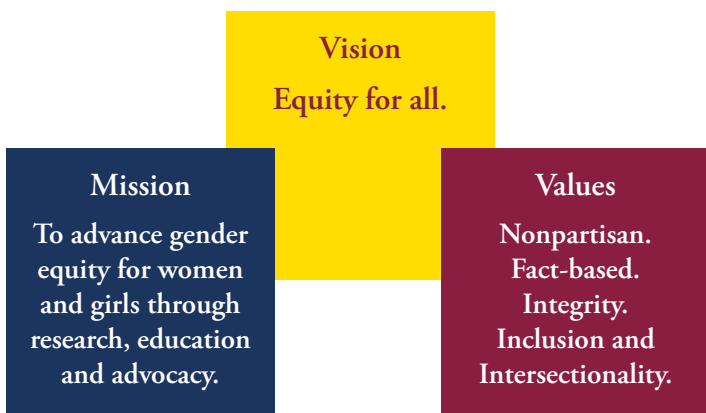
Find out how our Branch Speech Trek Winner fared in the competition around the state. Find out which Branch received special projects awards. Brave Resilient Women is an entry!

3. Cast Your Ballot to Remove or Maintain the AAUW degree requirement for membership

Your AAUW CA Board of Directors has voted to support removing the degree requirement. If this bylaw change passes, AAUW can state that it truly advocates for ALL WOMEN.

Always Advancing Our Vision of Equity for ALL!

Joe



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 15th of the month prior to the intended month of publication.

Author's Luncheon a Success

Dr. Gary Scott captivated more than forty branch members and their guests with his outstanding presentation of Isabel Piczek, famed artist and physicist at the annual Author's Luncheon held at the First United Methodist Church of San Gabriel on Saturday, January 27. Members of the board and volunteers served a delicious Italian buffet before the program.

Dr. Scott and his wife Mary became friends with Ms. Piczek in 2013. When Isabel passed in 2016, the Scotts took up the task of completing *The Universe Speaks: The Monumental Sacred Arts of Isabel and Edith Piczek*. They photographed Isabel and her sister's works in stained-glass, mosaic and mural forms. These masterpieces beautify churches and public buildings in seven countries on three continents. The stained-glass windows as well as two large murals on each side of the alter at Saint Anthony's Catholic Church nearby on San Gabriel Blvd. are examples of the Piczek sisters' artistry.

Heartfelt thanks to Delora Brown, the first member to arrive to set-up and the last to leave after clean-up. Co-Chair Deanna Arthur ordered the delectable Italian dishes and kept the luncheon's finances in order. With Co-Chair Lovey Sherman's artistic eye, beautiful floral arrangements graced every table. Kudos to Joe Des Barres, Elena Velarde, Rozanne Child, Marilee Wood, Peggy Neiman, and many other volunteers Extraordinaires. Their willing hands made the event memorable and enjoyable. Our gratitude goes to Dr. Scott and his wife, Mary, for giving of their time and sharing their talents and knowledge of Isabel Piczek, a wonderful artist.

Note: If you are interested in purchasing *The Universe Speaks: The Monumental Sacred Arts of Isabel and Edith Piczek* by Isabel Helen Piczek, contact Mary Scott (818) 400-9830.



Mary Scott, Dr. Gary Scott, Isabel Piczek

Membership Corner

AAUW expands over many generations. I normally spotlight new members, but those new members are here because of the generations of women, like our very own Delora Brown, who have contributed to the growth of our membership.

Delora Brown has been a member since 1963. Delora followed her sister's footsteps who had been invited to join in 1949. Delora was invited by a school nurse friend to an AAUW meeting. She was so impressed and found AAUW to be an honorable organization that she immediately joined the Arcadia branch. Delora eventually came to find her home in the Alhambra-San Gabriel branch in 1986 and has been with us ever since. She took on the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and has been President at least twice.

Delora graduated from Stanford University with a BS (Bachelor of Science) degree in nursing. She held a position as a psychiatric nurse for 5 years in San Francisco and New York. She returned home to California in 1959 and became a school nurse for the Alhambra Unified School District until she retired in 1993.

Delora continues to be active as a volunteer at the First United Methodist Church. She continues to attend AAUW meetings but wants "us" newer members to take a more active role.

Delora always has a story to tell. Come meet her over a mocktail and learn more about her life and those of other members and what they have done to keep our branch alive and vibrant.

Meetup is also a great way to meet people in a relaxed atmosphere. Come and meet us or suggest your favorite watering hole that includes coffee and mocktails.

Veronica

AAUW Fund

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Fund meeting on March 16th. The meeting is being held at the San Gabriel First United Methodist Church in the early afternoon. Be ready with your St. Patrick's Day finery (or not).

At the meeting, we will announce the branch named gift honoree(s). Each year we try to honor someone different who has done outstanding work for the branch not just written a check to the Fund.

The meeting will feature a Fund speaker and have a "mocktail" and yummy nibbles for you to enjoy. There will be surprises as well; all for the low price of \$15.00 per person! This is the one of ONLY two fundraisers we do all year. (See the Gourmet Gala "ad" below for the second one.) Thanks for your support.

Deanna

Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and Her Sister



Let us prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of your friends at Kathleen's home in Alhambra on May 11th (or as arranged). Raffle tickets are \$10 each – 3 for \$25. Please make checks payable to "AAUW Fund."

Contact Kathleen at: Kathleen Doty, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra, CA 91801 or 626-284-0763 or dotyk@sbc-global.net.

All money and ticket stubs must be returned by the drawing on April 27, 2024. Ticket holders do not need to be present at the drawing to win. One hundred percent of ticket proceeds will be donated to AAUW Fund to help complete unfinished AAUW California endowments.

Risk Averse?

We also will prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of your friends if you donate \$500 or more to AAUW Fund through Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her sister.





AAUW California Family,

This April, we will have the opportunity to practice the inclusion that we value by voting to welcome any person who is passionate about equity for women into AAUW, whether they have a degree or not.

AAUW National is proposing a bylaws amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership. On January 20th, the AAUW California Board of Directors unanimously approved a statement of support for the bylaws change.

We'd like to share our reasoning with you.

Our organization was founded in 1881 to advance opportunities for women and to work toward equal treatment with men. While the early members focused on increasing the number of women going to college, they also worked to make employment of women and children safer and began the fight for pay equity. As AAUW evolved to meet women's needs, the organization and its impact grew. Our focus expanded to include advocating for the needs of people of color and individuals/communities in poverty. The efforts of AAUW earned us permanent United Nations (U.N.) observer status which in turn led to AAUW members expanding the fight for civil rights and an overall deeper understanding and appreciation of those who are marginalized.

Throughout the past 143 years, AAUW members never stopped advocating for education while expanding our focus to ensuring policies around maternity leave, reproduction rights, equal pay, and policies against sexual harassment and violence against women. Welcoming those without a degree will not change who we are and what we are working towards- it will enhance our efforts by including anyone who is as passionate as we are about equity for women and girls. AAUW and its eligibility requirements have changed substantially over the years and yet, we still work together and strive to make women's lives better and we will continue to do so for years to come. Treating each other fairly and supporting one another with compassion is the foundation of AAUW and serves as the catalyst for current and future efforts. As we enter a time of uncertainty in our nation, we need to band together and continue to advocate for a better future.

We encourage you to practice the inclusion our founding members worked for and vote "yes" - watch for your ballot in April.

Together in equity,

Sandi Gabe, President
AAUW California State Board

Elena

Tech Trek Update March 2024



Tech Trek Recruitment for 2024 is underway. Both Jane and I have contacted the schools in TT North and TT South. We asked each school to submit two recommendations from their school. The parents must agree to let their daughter be nominated. After Jane and I have received the school nominations we notify the parents and the school liaison that they need to register with CAMPDOC. We provide the link to CAMPDOC so the parents can begin the online registration. Once the parents have sent in the Instructions to Allow Your Child to Apply, they will be in the system and may begin the camp registration process. Jane and I log into CAMPDOC weekly or sooner if necessary to monitor their progress.

Branch members can volunteer to help at Whittier camp during one or both sessions. Whittier Session 1 June 16-22 or Whittier Session 2 June 23-29. Contact Camp Director Jonae Fedor, for available volunteering opportunities at techtrek-whittier@aauw-ca.org. You will need to sign the Volunteer Code of Conduct. Here is the link: (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdCGJ_OzTT2w9RFcLucUBFWSQ7U0PWijqeAMDu7M9SLrFtvmA/viewform) Thank you.

I've signed up the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch to work at Showcase House of Design from April 21st-May 19th. This is a fundraiser for Tech Trek North to raise money to send girls to camp. Everyone is invited to participate if you wish to support Tech Trek North. Showcase pays TechTrek \$50.00 for a four-hour shift and if you work two four shifts you earn one free ticket to tour the house. You may also split the four-hour shift with a friend and each work two hours. You might want to ask your friends, family and neighbors to see if they are interested. Showcase is a 501(c)3 and they are happy to support Tech Trek. If you are interested, please contact me as soon as possible. Thank you.

Rozanne Child
Tech Trek North Branch Coordinator
rchild44@gmail.com
626-429-0404

Fund Event Reservation Form

Count me in! I do not want to miss out on the Fund Event!!

My name: _____

My Guest's Names: _____

Enclosed is \$ \$15 x _____ (for myself and guests) for a total of \$ _____.

Please make checks payable to the AAUW Fund and send to:

Deanna Arthur, 1608 S. Atlantic Blvd. Alhambra, CA 91803
Text or voicemail: 6262-818-6536 or email: deannaauw@gmail.com

March Branch Nominating Committee Report

We Have a Nominating Committee!!!

It's a pleasure to announce the 2023-24 Nominating Committee was elected by our Branch Membership at the January 27th Authors Luncheon. Thank You, Members!!!

The Nominating Committee is honored to welcome aboard the following volunteers:

Deanna Arthur, Rozanne Child, Gerry Kreger, Cyndy Ramos, and Elena Velarde, immediate past president. Our first meeting was held Monday, February 19th via Zoom.

The Charge of the Nominating Committee is to deliver the 2024-25 slate of candidates who aspire to serve on the Branch Board of Directors. Members will have the opportunity to meet the candidates and vote to approve the slate at the Annual Meeting.

We thank each committee member for stepping up and wish her all great success in the weeks ahead. Their efforts will set the stage for our Branch Annual Meeting & Election of New Officers in April.

Please Mark Your Calendars!

Elena

DRAMA

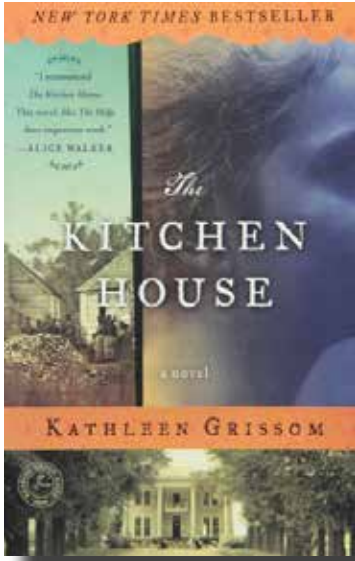
Drama group will choose a different date than the 2nd Monday in March due to a schedule conflict. Contact Kathleen Doty for mor information. The play for March is The Little Foxes by Lillian Hellman.



Picture a charming home in the South. Into this peaceful scene put the prosperous, despotic Hubbard family - Ben, possessive and scheming; Oscar, cruel and arrogant; Ben's dupe, Leo, weak and unprincipled; Regina wickedly clever - each trying to outwit the other. In this melodrama, only Regina wins.

BOOKS

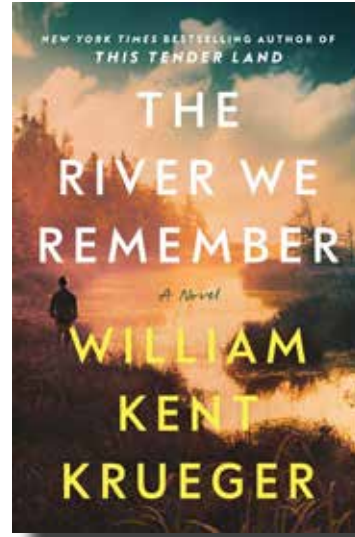
Day Books will meet Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. The book to be reviewed is The Kitchen House by Kathleen Grissom.



When a white servant girl violates the order of plantation society, she unleashes a tragedy that exposes the worst and best in the people she has come to call her family. Orphaned while onboard ship from Ireland, seven-year-old Lavinia arrives on the steps of a tobacco plantation where she is to live and work with the slaves of the kitchen house. Under the care of Belle, the master's illegitimate daughter, Lavinia becomes deeply bonded to her adopted family, though she is set apart from them by her white skin.

Eventually, Lavinia is accepted into the world of the big house, where the master is absent and the mistress battles opium addiction. Lavinia finds herself perilously straddling two very different worlds. When she is forced to make a choice, loyalties are brought into question, dangerous truths are laid bare, and lives are put at risk.

Evening Books will meet March 25, 2024 at 7:00 pm.. The book for review is The River We Remember by William Kent Krueger.



On Memorial Day in Jewel, Minnesota, the body of wealthy landowner Jimmy Quinn is found floating in the Alabaster River, dead from a shotgun blast. The investigation falls to Sheriff Brody Dern, a highly decorated war hero who still carries the physical and emotional scars from his military service. Even before Dern has the results of the autopsy, vicious rumors begin to circulate that the killer must be Noah Blue-

stone, a Native American WWII veteran who has recently returned to Jewel with a Japanese wife. As suspicions and accusations mount and the town teeters on the edge of more violence, Dern struggles not only to find the truth of Quinn's murder but also put to rest the demons from his own past.

Caught up in the torrent of anger that sweeps through Jewel are a war widow and her adolescent son, the intrepid publisher of the local newspaper, an aging deputy, and a crusading female lawyer, all of whom struggle with their own tragic histories and harbor secrets that Quinn's death threatens to expose.

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

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

Board Meeting - Next Board meeting March 2, 2024, 10:00-11:30 AM, in person. Open to all members. Contact Joe DesBarres for more information.

Meetup - Call Veronica or Deanna for more information.



Day Books will meet Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 1:00 PM. Book info on page 7. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.

Evening Books will meet Monday, March 25th at 7:00 PM. Book info on page 7. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



Every Member Event: March 16, 2024. Details on page 1.

Scattergories! 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 Kathleen Doty for access code.



Drama: Join us for a cold reading of the play of the month. Play info on page 7. For more information, on day and time (March change only), contact Kathleen Doty.



Professional Women Gourmets will gather March 10, 2024. Hostess is Lilia Hall.

Restaurant Gourmets will meet Saturday, March 30th at Gaucho Grill, 455 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Please RSVP to Deanna Arthur.



Creative Crafters will gather via Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Upcoming dates are: March 6th and April 3rd. Would you like to join us? For more information contact Jane Krause – jkbigdog517@gmail.com. Jane will be sending the Zoom link the day before the scheduled meeting.



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#.XzMUWd-Vc6bo) (https://my.lwv.org/california/pasadena/article/zoom-tips#.XzMUWd-Vc6bo.gmail)

Any branch member may bring a proposal in writing [including email] to the board for discussion and action at its regular meeting by requesting the president to include the proposal as an agenda item at least seven days before agenda is published or may request to speak to the proposal at board meeting.

Our branch email address is

alhsangab44@gmail.com

Our branch website is

alhsangab-ca.aauw.net

Our MeetUp.com page is

[Am. Assoc. Univ. Women -- Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Pk](https://www.meetup.com/Am-Assoc-Univ-Women--Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Monterey-Pk)

Our Facebook page is

[AAUW-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Branch](https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Branch)