




Upcoming Branch Events

Join us for our in-person events through July, including a newly added Summer Social in Barbara's Garden!

Most events are held on the **second Saturday of the month from 10 am- Noon**. Locations not stated will be announced later.

Date	Location	Event
March 16, 1-3 pm	HCC	Musical Tea & Fashion Show. Joint event with Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista Branch (COV)
April 13, 2024	ECC	Sapiens: All-Branch Book Discussion
May 11, 2024	ECC	Tech Trek Celebration
June 8, 2024		Installation & Awards Celebration
July 13, 2024		 Summer Social in Barbara's Garden

HCC = Harding Community Center, 3096 Harding St, Carlsbad
ECC = Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive, Encinitas



AAUW-COV

Musical Tea

Saturday, March 16th, 2024 from 1:00–3:00pm
Harding Community Center
3096 Harding St, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Join us for a high tea, fashion show, jewelry sale, baskets,
and more! Special musical guests: Bach-N-All &
WINDSPRING Woodwind Quintet.

\$40 per adult

**ALL funds raised will send campers to
Tech Trek. To reserve a seat: mail your
\$40 check, payable to AAUW-COV,
by March 10th to Dennis Capps
7111 El Fuerte St., Carlsbad, CA 92009.**



A Sneak Peak: Our Branch Silent Auction Items

(Proceeds from our items support our College Scholarships.)

Musical Tea Saturday, March 16th

Have you sent in your reservation yet?

*Bid on the fine items below plus:
Gift cards from restaurants and Starbucks
A basket of Luxetique spa products
And more to come.*



Fine Wine Basket
Chaplin Zinfandel
Vina Robles Cabernet Sauvignon



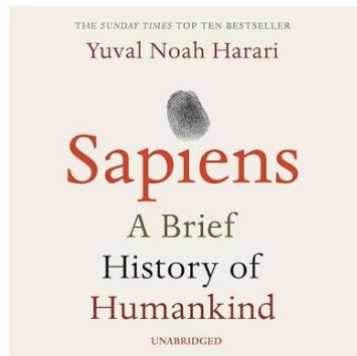
Gardening Fun
3 \$25 Armstrong gift cards and
many gardening supplies

A Chocolate Tasting for 8

Unwrap the science behind chocolate while tasting samples that have been prepared in various ways, including unfermented, single source, and double-fermented gourmet treats. Dr. Jackie Trischman, natural products chemist and Dean of STEM at Cal State San Marcos, will take you on this tasting journey while sharing interesting cultural history of the cacao fruit, as she has in her college course “Chocolate: A Chemical Investigation.”

Dr. Trischman will bring the chocolates and you can be the host.

JOIN US FOR A FASCINATING BOOK DISCUSSION!



Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind

By Yuval Noah Harari

Who are we? How did we become the unrivaled, preeminent, dominant earthly species? The preoccupation with the Homo sapiens species by the Homo sapiens species spans Homo sapiens existence, starting with prehistoric mythologies and sprinting into modern DNA modifications.

The author invites the reader to consider how culture gets created; how writing changed the way humans think; how the Scientific Revolution was a revolution of ignorance; how a theory that enables us to do new things becomes and constitutes knowledge.

This is a unique opportunity to explore the complicated continuum from mythology to reality. As AAUW members, we support the education and development of women. This April event is designed to support our own personal development and is open to all – members and friends.

April 13, 2024, Branch Event

**Branch-wide, in-person
book discussion**

Place: Encinitas Community Center

Time: 10:00-12:00

Facilitator: Carol Pletcher

TESTIMONIALS

“I am truly enjoying this book. The author has a wonderful, readable way of describing how Homo sapiens became the dominant species and exploring fascinating implications on how to view ourselves and the cultures of today.”

Linda Q

“As an active fiction reader, I was hesitant to read this non-fiction book. At a branch gathering, Carol Pletcher excitedly talked about this book, so I started reading it.

Oh my, the author gets us the facts, but in such an interesting way, and with humor. Not boring!! This will be an interesting and fun discussion led by Carol Pletcher.”

Karen V.

Tech Trek Meeting - May 11th



The Soup that Blue Up Twitter

Topic at Tech Trek Celebration

May 11, 2024 10:00 - 12:00

Encinitas Community Center

Featured speaker

Dr. Elinne Becket

Associate Professor of Biological Sciences

College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

California State University San Marcos (CSUSM)

The beauty of doing science is the shared curiosity and collaboration among people working towards answering important questions about the world around us. In this presentation, Dr. Becket will talk about building this community, the importance of open science, and how soup forgotten in the back of the fridge led to scientists from across the globe coming together in a joyous exploration of scientific discovery.



National Vote on Open Membership

Linda Quinby, President

AAUW members will soon vote on whether to eliminate the long-standing requirement that members have college degrees. On February 11th, you should have received an email from the AAUW CA State Board, unanimously supporting a “yes” vote on the proposed bylaws change to remove the degree requirement. Their explanation is well reasoned, and I urge you to read it. In addition, key talking points are posted on the state website at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2021/03/open-membership-bylaws-change-talking-points.pdf/>.

I'd like to add my voice to the chorus of AAUW leaders urging a yes vote. I admit that it took time and thoughtful consideration to come around to this position, but I now realize that opening membership to anyone who shares our passion for achieving equity for all women and girls is in the best interest of AAUW and our mission.

Inclusion is a core value of AAUW, and it is time to make our membership requirements match our core values. Voting opens on April 3rd. Please join me in voting yes.

**Voting opens on April 3rd.
Please join in voting yes.**

Membership Updates

Rebecca Hill, Membership Director, and Jess Gadsby, Directory Chair



Welcome to our five recent new members:

Sharon Griggs, Karen Lay, Gloria Robertson, Phyllis Salvage, and Dale Satake! Be on the lookout for an eblast coming soon with their contact information and other directory updates.

The President's Buzz

Linda Quinby



Our 2024 events have delivered fun, friendship, and mission: a field trip to the Museum of Making Music in January, and an outstanding panel on “Censorship and Book Banning” in February, via Zoom. Our Zoom format allowed one speaker to join us from Upstate New York. And in case you missed it, you’ll soon be able to see the video on our YouTube channel. Just click the YouTube button on the branch website.

The San Diego County InterBranch Council (IBC) Luncheon in January featured Parisa Ijadi-Maghsoodi, Esq., Outgoing Chair, San Diego County

Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, which studies and advises the San Diego County Board of Supervisors on areas of concern to women. As chair of the CEDAW Committee, she took the lead on drafting an ordinance to enforce many provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which the Board of Supervisors recently enacted. The U.S. is one of only seven UN-member states – including Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Palau, Tonga, and the Holy See – that have not ratified CEDAW, prompting some local governments in the U.S., like San Diego, to enact local ordinances.

But wait! There’s lots more to come!

March 16th is a Musical Tea and fashion show with Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista (COV) branch.

Each year we have a joint event with COV, alternating who plans and hosts the event. This year COV hosts. Thanks to Patricia Johnson-Khalifa, I’ll be wearing a fascinator, as all us royals do for special occasions. Space is limited, so sign up NOW to enjoy a fun event.

You’ll also want to be there to bid on some great silent auction items put together by Bobbi Karnes – including gift cards to local restaurants and a Chocolate Experience for 8 offered by Jackie Trischman, CSUSM Dean of STEM and an actual chocolate expert (tasting included, of course)! Proceeds from our items will benefit DML college scholarships.

April 13th is our all-branch book discussion of *Sapiens* by Yuval Noah Harari, led by Carol Pletcher. I’ve started the book and find it very readable, interesting, and thought provoking. As our tagline says, this is “a book worthy of serious discussion” – part of our focus on lifelong learning with probing discussions among intelligent women. Yes, YOU!

And May 11th is our annual Tech Trek celebration where we honor our newly selected Tech Trekkers. Keynote speaker Dr. Elinne Becket, CSUSM Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, will be sharing how a forgotten container of soup in the back of the fridge led to a joyous (and international) exploration of scientific discovery. She’s an animated speaker and science ambassador, and I’m sure you (and the girls) will enjoy her story.

Meanwhile, I’m looking for volunteers for our Nominating Committee, to put together a slate of officers for 2024-2025. Many of our current board members will be continuing, but there will be 2 or 3 vacancies to fill. Interested in the committee, or in a board position? Call or email me!

Linda

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Norelynn Pion-Goureau DEI Director & Janice Muller, Public Policy Director

The Role of California School Boards (summary of article written by Seena Trigas in the Public Policy Newsletter): AAUW California is concerned about the censorship of classroom material, the heightened enforcement of school board policies rejecting diversity, and providing discriminatory policies against gay and minority students.

The State Board of Education (SBE) is the controlling structure for K-12 and is the governing and policy-making body of the state for public education. Among its duties is the adoption of statewide academic standards for content and curriculum frameworks. School board members represent districts within the school district boundaries. As the only locally elected officials representing the interests of school children, board members are advocates for students, the district's educational programs and public education.

In 2023 AB1078 was passed, which requires the California State Department of Education to assess if school boards are in compliance with state laws requiring public schools to provide diverse and comprehensive education. It requires local school districts with insufficient instructional materials to correct this and authorizes the department to purchase (at district expense) adequate curricula if the district restricts students from learning about important topics like racism, sexism, and gender-based marginalization.

AAUW branch members play a critical role in ensuring all California school boards are governed by board members who will follow AB 1078, and who oppose policies that infringe on the civil rights of LGBTQ+ students. All our members are encouraged to become vigilant observers of their local districts, and to contact your assigned liaison if members are not meeting their obligations under the guidelines outlined above. You can find the reporting form [here](#) and the contact info for your liaison [here](#).

AAUW DML ADDITION: Locally, the Temecula School Board was targeted by a local Christian conservative political action committee, which supported a trio of candidates--Komrosky, Gonzalez and Wiersma--who campaigned to rid the schools of what they considered left-wing indoctrination and pornographic material, particularly banning what they considered to be the teaching of critical race theory. They also banned new cell towers on school property over fears of radiation.

Currently a backlash against their extremist views and actions has resulted in an effort to recall all three members. Seena Trigas of AAUW California's School Boards Committee spoke of her experience with this group during the February 10, 2024 event on "Censorship and Book Banning." The meeting has been recorded and is available for viewing on our YouTube channel through the DML Website.

DEI/Public Policy

From AAUW California Connections, February 2024



Apparently bragging is not an admirable thing to do. But we'll do it anyway. Because we are contrarian. Our state Public Policy team's School Board Project to combat regressive school board policies, such as book banning, is so impressive that they were asked to share it with other states. Project chair Kathi Harper presented a nationwide webinar: School Boards: The Battleground for the Education Culture Wars. Nationwide! That's like going to the Super Bowl. Except for the cleats.

AAU  **California**
Connection



Resources on Censorship and Book Banning

Norelynn Pion-Goureau

AAUW members and guests were treated to an excellent panel discussion on Book Banning and Censorship at our Zoom event on February 10. Our panelists were kind enough to give us extensive links to further pursue the subjects they talked about, so we are including them for those of you who were able to participate and for our members who may access the presentation on our website.

From Adrienne Peterson, Branch Manager at Rancho Peñasquitos library, here are some resources regarding book banning -

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/book-ban-data>

<https://pen.org/2023-banned-book-list> <https://www.npr.org/2023/09/20/1200647985/book-bans-libraries-schools>

<https://www.nypl.org/spotlight/banned-books>

<https://www.nypl.org/blog/2023/09/25/banned-books-week-reading-list>

and the remarkable American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights:

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>

From Alana Byrd of People for the American Way, her contact information and websites detailing how to become a member and continue the work of Grandparents for Truth in combatting the right-wing Moms for Liberty groups active locally in attempting to ban books and elect supporters to local school boards to censor curriculum:

abyrd@pfaw.org

pfaw.org

pfaw.org/truth/grandparents-for-truth/

act.pfaw.org/sign/grandparents-for-truth/

pfaw.org/bannedbooks23

peoplefor.shop/collections/grandparents-for-truth

Additionally, Seena Trigas of AAUW California's School Board Committee presented AAUW's position and CA state regulations on school boards. You can see more about AAUW CA's School Board Project and a webinar on the topic at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/category/public-policy/special-projects/>.

College Scholarships

Jane Sanders

I am proud to announce that we have awarded 2 local scholarships so far this year.

The first recipient, a student at Cal State San Marcos, received \$2,000 from the Fran Miller Memorial Fund. She is a first-generation student, completing her teaching credential and hopes to be an elementary school teacher.

Our second recipient, who also received \$2,000, is at MiraCosta College, working on her degree in Biomanufacturing with a goal to complete her Bachelor's degree and get a PhD in Biomedical Sciences. She is the oldest child in her family and the first of her family to go to college in the U.S.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our branch's year-end giving letter. There is still time to send a donation to our scholarship funds. We are reaching out to women students at MiraCosta and Cal State San Marcos via the financial aid departments and clubs on campus which bring like-minded students together in fields of education, science and technology.

Please join me in this gratifying work by our branch.

Jane Sanders, jsanders1107@gmail.com, 760-505-0185

Year-End Fundraising Drive

Judy Foland, Treasurer

All our philanthropies – Tech Trek, local college scholarships, and AAUW Fund for national programs like NCCWSL and Start Smart – rely on your support.

Philanthropic donations from our year-end solicitation were **\$24,214**. Two donations were from families of members who have passed: \$10,000 in memory of Doris Adrian for Tech Trek, and \$3,000 in memory of Fran Miller for the Fran Miller Memorial Scholarship. Just over \$11,000 was donated by members to be divided among branch philanthropies.

AAUW Tech Trek 2024

Judy Verbanets, Branch Tech Trek Director



Yes, you Can Go to Tech Trek Camp!

Tech Trek, a residential STEM camp for girls completing 7th grade, will be sponsored by AAUW and held at UCSD in San Diego June 23-27, 2024.

The success of the camp relies upon volunteers... which is where YOU come in.

Daily volunteers are needed to supervise campers during their core classes and/or during afternoon workshop sessions. This would be up to a 4-hour commitment. If you can spare 4 hours to enjoy the curiosity of a group of 20 seventh graders and learn some science, too, then VOLUNTEER. The process is easy.

Simply complete the Volunteer Code of Conduct agreement found at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/tech-trek-volunteer/>. If a password is needed it is aauwca. Then, email the camp director, Dr. Mimi Isaac, at mbonkisaac@gmail.com and clarify what you can contribute to the camp. For example, which hours and days. Any time that you can commit would be a valuable help for the Dorm Moms who are on duty 24 hours a day. This would give them a welcome break during the day.

Volunteers are also needed as Dorm Moms, Workshop presenters, and Core Teachers. Dorm Mom/Monitors are 18+ years and live in the dorm for the week, providing a role model for and supervision of 10-12 campers. Core Teachers develop and deliver 15 hours of STEM content to 20 girls and act as Mandated Reporters. This requires MR training and a background check. Workshop presenters deliver hands-on or interactive workshops of 90 minutes or more. Background checks are not required if the individual is not in residence at the camp overnight. Core teachers and workshop presenters are professionals with experience in teaching.

All volunteers must complete the Volunteer Code of Conduct Agreement found at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/tech-trek-volunteer/>. Only Dorm Mom/Monitors, Core Teachers in residence, and Workshop Presenters in residence will complete the Volunteer Application found in Campdoc at Campdoc.com.

Camp specific questions should be directed to techtrek-sandiego@aauw-ca.org
Campdoc specific questions should be directed to techtrek-campdoc@aauw-ca.org

New Tech Trek Camp Locations for 2024

Do you know these great women of Science?



Good things come in pairs. Like shoes, contact lenses and pieces of bacon. That's true with Tech Trek too. We're excited to have two new camps for the 2024 season: Camp Carson at California State University, Monterey Bay, and Camp Hopper at Santa Clara University. That means STEM-loving girls will be attending eight residential and virtual camps. The new camps are named after famous women scientists. Who are they?

March is Women's History Month



March is Women's History Month – time to celebrate the achievements of our foremothers and focus on the work yet to be done.

The National Women's History Alliance is recognizing women who speak up and are leading change in their fields with a theme of "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion."

<https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/2024-whm-theme/>

March 8th is International Women's Day (IWD). The official IWD organization has chosen a theme of "Inspire Inclusion." <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Theme>
UN Women, the United Nations organization focused on women's human rights, has chosen a theme of "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress."

<https://www.unwomen.org/en>

New highlights from the Board

Linda Quinby

Two *ad hoc* teams were recently appointed by President Linda Quinby and approved by the board to meet specific branch needs.

DML-COV Collaboration Team

COV Branch Co-President Seena Trigas and DML President Linda Quinby recently discussed the possibility of closer collaboration between the two branches. Given our overlapping service areas and membership, it makes sense to look at ways we might collaborate to benefit both branches.

Board members appointed to serve as DML representatives are Linda Quinby, Judy Howarter, Judy Verbanets, and Bobbi Karnes. COV representatives are Seena Trigas, Joyce King, Ele Lavender, and Faye Capps.

First meeting is scheduled for February 26.

Philanthropy Strategic Planning Team

Based on a proposal by Carol Pletcher, a strategic planning team was appointed to review our philanthropies, with a goal of creating a sustainable 5-year plan for funding and approach. The team consists of Carol Pletcher (chair), Judy Verbanets (Tech Trek), Jane Sanders (College Scholarships), Carol Waltz (VP & former grant writer), Bobbi Karnes (Communications & fundraising), Elaine Dodge (former MiraCosta Associate Director of Development), and Linda Quinby (*ex officio*). First meeting was held on February 12.

And Thanks for Your Year-End Donations!

A big Thank You to members and friends of the branch for your generous donations to our branch philanthropies. As treasurer Judy Foland reported, our year-end philanthropic donations totaled \$24,214. These donations are the main source of funding for our branch philanthropies including Tech Trek and college scholarships.

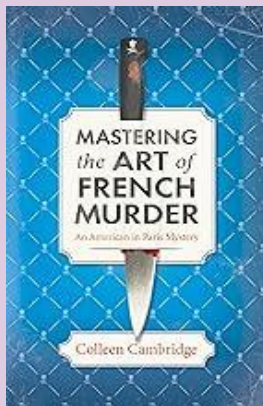
Through your donations, we can help more women and girls achieve their educational goals.

Special Interest Groups ...cont.

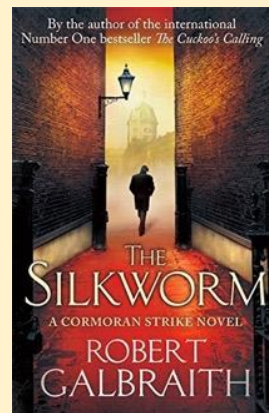
Cloak and Dagger Mystery Book Group

Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Members with "mystery on the mind," select books from lists that include the New York Times, British Literature, Best Sellers, and literature prize winners. If you are intrigued by mystery and suspense and like a lively discussion, join us.

March 5 – Mastering the Art of French Murder
by Colleen Cambridge



April 2 – Silkworm by Robert Galbraith



New members welcome. Contact: Marlene Gerber Gale, mgerbm@aol.com, 858-775-4722

Morning Literature:

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Meetings are in person. Books discussed alternate between a selection of a Great Books series, novels and short stories.

Contact Arlene Lighthall at alight23@gmail.com.

March	Hejda - Anais Nin
April	Fire Next Time - James Baldwin
May	The Young Man Who Lived Alone - Mohammed Mrabet and New Life at Kyerefaso - E.F. Sutherland
June	The Stranger - Albert Camus
July	Poetry – Members' choice
August	SOCIAL

Special Interest Groups ...cont.

Great Decisions

We just completed another successful year, learning about 8 global current events in our amazing interest group Great Decisions.

March 7th	Climate Technology
April 4th	Science Across Borders
May 2nd	U.S. China Trade Rivalry

Anyone is invited to attend since we are very open to new members.



2024 Topics for Great Decisions

- **Mideast Realignment**
- **Pandemic preparation**
- **NATO**
- **Climate technology and competition**
- **Indonesia**
- **US and China investment strategies**
- **Science across borders (cooperation & regulation)**
- **High Seas Treaty**

We plan to do in person meetings, with a zoom option. We read a short article on each topic, and then meet for a 1.5 hour discussion the first Thursday of most months. No previous knowledge of the subjects is necessary. Our goal is to learn in a relaxed, friendly setting with a minimal time commitment.

Contact Kathy Adams, bri2kath@gmail.com, 281 704 1495.

Museum of Making Music Excursion

Nancy Telford

On Saturday January 13 twenty-eight of our members gathered at the NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Museum of Making Music (MoMM) in Carlsbad. Executive Director Carolyn Grant shared a presentation entitled "Behind the Scenes at a One-of-a-Kind Museum".

Founded in 1998, opening to the public in March 2000, the Museum celebrates music and the people and products that bring music to our world. The core exhibits explore the making, selling, and using of musical instruments and products with over 500 instruments on display complemented by touchscreen learning stations and interactive hands-on areas. A number of our members volunteer at the Museum on a regular basis.

Carolyn and her staff advocate for active music making – and listening – at all stages of life. Among many memorable and entertaining comments, Carolyn's very engaging presentation included telling us about the Museum's Core Beliefs and how these beliefs are the basis of the staff and large volunteer group's inspiration.

- Music and music making are essential elements of the full human experience
- Providing equal access to museum exhibits and programs is central to our work
- Exploring connections between people, instruments and the music we make is an important message
- The story of the music products industry is an essential part of the overall cycle of music making
- Exposure to musicians and live music is important to one's understanding of music making.

Additionally, Carolyn told the group about the Museum's K-12 Field Trip Program. Field trips are open to students of all ages and can be customized for grade level and group needs.

The group then toured the Museum under the guidance of the very knowledgeable and engaging Special Docents. Group members were encouraged to try out the instruments and interactive exhibits. Many of the attendees expressed excitement about bringing family members and friends to visit the Museum as well as attend concerts and other Museum events in the future.

