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Summer is coming to an end and we're looking forward to seeing our AAUW friends in the various activities that we enjoy in our branches. Share the news with your members and take advantage of the many resources in this Board to Board. Don't just skip over those blue, underlined links! Remember to click on them to learn more about each topic and how your branch might benefit.

What Does The Fox Say?...

Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier, Co-Presidents, AAUW California, statepresident@aauw-ca.org

KIM CHURCHES VISITS THE BAY AREA!

Kim Churches, national AAUW CEO, visited the Bay Area last week for a seminar on Pay Equity. She also met with about 40 Bay Area branch presidents at a luncheon in Tiburon at Cheryl Sorokin's home. FYI, Cheryl is one of three California members who are national directors.

Kim talked about the need to continue donations to ["Greatest Needs"](#), illustrated with Lego models of AAUW Fund (two tall towers) strongly funded for many years to come. The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund is dwarfed in comparison.

We are all still asked to continue with [Work Smart](#) programs in our communities. At the time of our meeting, we were close to educating 100,000 women, giving AAUW the \$500,000 Coca Cola grant.

A new project – Equity Network – will be tested this fall to encourage new and younger members to join AAUW. More information will be forthcoming.

Finally, Kim is urging all branches to participate in the new 5-Star Recognition Program focusing on our mission and National's strategic plan. Click [HERE](#) to get more information.

Plan on attending [Convention 2020](#). You'll be able to experience more of the dynamic, energetic Kim Churches.

What I need to know: Kim Churches, national AAUW CEO, has requested that we continue donating to AAUW Fund's Greatest Needs Fund, continue encouraging our communities to enroll in the Work Smart program and participate in National's new 5-Star Recognition Program.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, once your board has determined ways your members can get involved with any of these three initiatives.

AAUW FUND

Dianne Owens, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aaufund@aauw-ca.org

AAUW FUND LUNCHEON DEADLINE APPROACHING...

The deadline for the two Northern California AAUW Fund luncheons is Friday, September 20. Don't miss your chance to meet six to eight of our 32 Fellows & Grant recipients in South San Francisco (October 5) and Danville (October 6)!

The deadline for registering for our Southern California AAUW Fund luncheon is Friday, October 11. You will hear from six to eight of our Fellows & Grant recipients in Seal Beach (October 27).

Click [HERE](#) for more details and make your reservation today! The ticket price is still \$45 per person! Don't miss out!

Updated AAUW California Fund information is coming soon to the AAUW California website. Stay tuned for the October Board to Board!

What I need to know: The deadlines for the Northern CA and Southern CA Fund luncheons are September 20 and October 11 respectively.

What I need to do: Encourage members to attend a Fund luncheon.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. Explain the luncheons and provide a link to the registration form.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY (C/U) COMMITTEE

Donna Lilly, C/U Committee Chair, cu@aauw-ca.org

RENEW OR RECRUIT PARTNER CAMPUSES

Fabulous news that 89 college and university campuses in California are AAUW partner campuses! Of the 89 C/U partners, 64 paid \$175 to renew their partner membership with national AAUW. However, 25 C/U partners have lapsed in renewing their dues. Call or email your local campus reps to remind them to renew their AAUW partner membership. If your local campus has renewed their partnership, thank them. If your local campus is not an AAUW partner, now is a good time to recruit the campus as a partner. Expand your branch membership and influence your community by personally asking campus faculty and administrators to become a member of your branch.

What I need to know: Some College/University partnerships still need to be renewed for next year.

What I need to do: If you don't know whether or not the C/U partner has renewed their membership email Donna Lilly at cu@aauw-ca.org including the name of the C/U partner.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this is for branch leaders only.

COMMUNICATIONS

Sandi Gabe, Director, Communications Committee Chair, Communications@aauw-ca.org

IT'S ALL IN THE MENU

Have you looked for information on the AAUW California website and were unable to find it? Check again! Based on your feedback, we recently expanded our website menu structure so that it's easier to find items by adding submenus. When you hover over a menu item a list of available submenus will display.

What I need to know: Facebook is an excellent tool to promote your branch and its events.

What I need to do: Set up a Facebook page. Instructions are on the AAUW California website. If you have a page, use it to "like" the AAUW California page.

CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY!

Are you having challenges getting the word out about your events? Are you looking for new members?

Using social media tools to engage your community can result in an active membership and is a great recruitment tool. Many branches are unable to get articles in their local newspapers because they are competing with other groups. Using Facebook to connect might be just the ticket!

If you're one of the 64 branches that have a Facebook account, you know the power of the tool. The AAUW California page recently "liked" all existing branch pages. Please do us a favor in return and have your branch "like" the AAUW California Facebook page from your branch page. Remember to "share" and "like" posts on your personal page so that your network of friends sees the posts in their timeline.

If you haven't explored using Facebook, check out the simple instructions on our website for how to get started by clicking [HERE](#).

FINANCE

Roli Wendorf, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Committee Chair, cfo@aauw-ca.org

A NEW INSURANCE BROKER...AGAIN!

Insurance brokers have been changing quickly! Last year, we started with Stratton Agency, but now they have been acquired by PCF Insurance Services, Woodland Hills, CA who will be our new broker. Our accounts are now being handled by Anita Zaccaro. Click [HERE](#) for the UPDATED REQUEST FOR A CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE as needed for your branch events.

All branches and branch boards are covered by insurance purchased by AAUW California and then remitted by branches on a sliding scale based on membership size. There is a great [Q&A document](#) on the website that describes how our insurance program works. Do check it out.

The insurance and AAUW Fund assessment bills for 2019-2020 were sent out in the past couple of weeks through QuickBooks. If you have not received yours by now, please send an email to office@aauw-ca.org or cfo@aauw-ca.org. Please reimburse us ASAP or NO LATER THAN THE DUE DATE: November 15, 2019.

Some of you have had trouble finding the detailed invoice with the breakdown of insurance and funds assessments attached in the bill sent. The message has a button "Print or save". Click on this to reveal a page which shows the address part of the invoice. If you hover on this area with your cursor you will see options to view, print or save your invoice.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? You might advertise for a volunteer to set up your Facebook page with the instructions provided. Let your members know that by hovering over the menu items it is now easier to find information on the California AAUW website.

What I need to know: AAUW California has a new insurance broker.

What I need to do: Use the new form on the website to request a certificate of insurance. Inform your branch activity chairs as needed.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this is for branch leaders only.

Remember to inform your branch members about the updated Certificate of Insurance form!

PROGRAM

Lynne Batchelor, Secretary, and **Kim Hernandez**, Director, Program Committee Co-Chairs, program@aauw-ca.org

THANKS, BRANCHES!

Thank you to all of the AAUW California branches who have been working diligently to promote our mission. At the branch level, this usually is accomplished on three levels.

- One is philanthropy as our branches raise money for local scholarships, Tech Trek, NCCWHS and AAUW Fund.
- Another level is community action as our members register voters, table at university/community events, sponsor Speech Trek participants, participate in Women's Suffrage Marches, lobby legislators, etc. and
- The final level is education as our branches provide Work Smart and Start Smart sessions, hold pay equity events, organize leadership days for young women, sponsor candidate's forums and many other learning experiences for both the branch and the community.

We need your help! Please take a few minutes to tell us about your successful events/programs so that we may spread our mission in ever-expanding circles. Just email a brief description of your events/programs to program@aauw-ca.org.

The AAUW Program Committee invites your participation in the work of our committee which includes the convention. Click [HERE](#) to complete the application form online. All are welcome.

PROJECT OVERSIGHT

Carol Holzgrafe, Project Oversight Committee Chair, oc@aauw-ca.org

WHAT IS THE PROJECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE?

- The Project Oversight Committee includes project leaders for Tech Trek and Speech Trek, plus specific POC members. Together we will work to help Speech Trek continue to run smoothly and to make the Tech Trek camper selection process and the camps themselves as fair and risk-free as possible.

Because this is such a litigious era, it is of extreme importance that all branches participating in Tech Trek follow the rules for selecting campers as described in the Tech Trek Policies and Procedures. Besides, treating all girls fairly and considerately is what AAUW members try to do naturally.

What I need to know: The Program Committee would like a brief description of successful events/programs also this committee is in need of additional members.

What I need to do: Identify any successful branch programs/events and send a brief description to the Program Committee.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this is for branch leaders only.

What I need to now: Determine if your branch would like to apply for a State Project Grant.

What I need to do: If so complete and submit the application.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this is for branch leaders only.

Branches will receive the updated Tech Trek Policies and Procedures before camper selection begins.

- One more thing: the POC encourages branches with individual projects to apply for AAUW California State Project grants. We can help you get your project up and running. Click [HERE](#) for directions and application forms.
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NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Janice Lee, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.o

LOOKING FOR LEADERSHIP TALENT...HOW ABOUT YOU?

Part of our role as California leaders is to ensure the continuity of our state board of directors in their efforts to support the mission and our branches.

In the coming months, IBC and branch leaders will be contacted by the Nominations & Elections Committee to ask for nominations from your regions or branches. It's not too early to start thinking about nominating individuals with leadership talent and skills who will contribute to our state board. In fact, we know you have it! Please consider yourself as a candidate.

The AAUW California 2020 election will be held at the State Convention next April. The open board positions are:

- Seven Directors (2020-2022)
- One Secretary (2020-2022)

Candidate Nominations are due December 1, 2019. Need more info? Click [HERE](#) or contact nominating@aauw-ca.org.

The Nominations & Elections Committee is also looking for one more member to join the committee. How About You? Click [HERE](#) to complete the application form online.

PUBLIC POLICY

Kathleen Harper, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

AAUW CALIFORNIA PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES ARE HELPFUL TO BRANCHES

AAUW California members voted to approve the 2019-2021 California Public Policy Priorities in May. These guide our Public Policy program which supports AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy. Our Public Policy Committee uses these in selecting

What I need to know: The state Nominations and Elections Committee is looking for candidates for the board of directors and for committee members.

What I need to do: Recruit individuals to serve on the state board or to join the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, and direct members to the website to submit a nomination form.

What I need to know: The state Public Policy Committee had identified which legislative bills it will support.

What I need to do: Get a copy of the 2019-2021 Public Policy Priorities on the state website. Share with members and community.

legislative bills on which we take positions in March each year. You can use them in branch activities too:

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes.

- Use as a guide as you plan your programs for the year.
- If issues arise in your community, the priorities can be a guide in deciding whether to take positions.
- Use them as an educational tool to acquaint elected officials or potential new members about AAUW's mission.

You can contact the AAUW California office to obtain a small number of copies. Better yet, go to the website and print your own. Every member of your board should have a copy! Click [HERE](#) for the 2019-2021 AAUW California Public Policy Priorities including a copy of the AAUW Public Policy brochure.

BRANCH SUPPORT

Sharyn Siebert, Director, Branch Support Committee Chair, branch@aauw-ca.org

"FINAL ANSWER"

Since the beginning of our new fiscal year, I have received several unusual phone calls from branch leaders asking questions that gave me a chance to do some interesting and helpful research.

I am happy to answer your questions, no matter how arcane or unusual, or refer you to places to find answers. As chair of the Branch Support Committee on the AAUW California Board, that is part of my charge.

You don't need to be a branch leader to contact me, or any other AAUW California Board member. Speaking to both leaders and members around the state keeps us in touch. Remember, we are members, just like you.

What I need to know: The Branch Support Committee Chair is available to answer questions from both branch leaders and members.

What I need to do: Contact the Branch Support Chair if you cannot find answers to your questions easily.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this information is for branch leaders only.

SPECIAL PROJECT FUND (SPF)

Shelley Mitchell, SPF President, spfund@aauw-ca.org

SPF HAS A NEW WEBSITE

Visit the new SPF website to get all of the information you need to create a branch project or scholarship fund with nonprofit status, which makes all donations fully tax-deductible or to get more information on your branch's contributions to state projects like Tech Trek or Speech Trek! Click [HERE](#) to find the new website.

Launched in August, the website contains everything you need to know about SPF and how to use it! All SPF forms and documents are there. If you have questions about SPF, you can email the appropriate board

What I need to know: Special Project Fund (SPF) has a new website.

What I need to do: Consult the new website exclusively for all the information regarding making donations tax-deductible and to contact SPF board members.

member(s) directly from the website. Please use the new emails when contacting SPF for all correspondence.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members should be aware of the SPF entity and how it works.

It is not too early to make annual RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) donations to projects and scholarships! You should do it no later than Dec. 1 so it can be processed properly AND designate exactly where it is supposed to be credited. We will have more detailed information next month, but meanwhile, click [HERE](#) if you need more information.

Please inform your members about the new website, BOOKMARK it, add it to your branch directory & newsletter.

SPEECH TREK

Marlene Cain, AAUW California Speech Trek Coordinator, spechtrek@aauw-ca.org

SHINE A SPOTLIGHT WITH SPEECH TREK!

- Have you been looking for a cost-effective way to increase your branch's visibility?
- Do you see a need to showcase democratic values by encouraging meaningful public discourse?
- Would you welcome an opportunity to introduce your branch to the next generation?

If so, look no further than Speech Trek! Click [HERE](#) for all the details and spotlight your branch with Speech Trek!

What I need to know: The Speech Trek topic is related to the anniversary of women's suffrage. The deadline to submit an MOU to participate is November 1, 2019.

What is the cost? A \$25 entry fee, which accompanies the branch's notification of its 1st place winner. Additional costs are at the discretion of the branch.

What I need to do: Consult the Speech Trek toolkit on the website for details on participating.

Don't be left behind! 2019-2020 is the year to host a Speech Trek contest. The 2019-2020 topic dovetails with the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote, and asks: "Are Men and Women Truly Equal Today, or Are the Suffragists of 1920 Still Suffering in 2020?"

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, share the topic with members.

Kudos to branches Del Mar-Leucadia, Napa and Big Bear Valley, who have already submitted their intent to participate (aka Memo of Understanding (MOU) in the 2019-2020 Speech Trek contest. Deadline for branches to submit their MOU (found in the Branch Tool Kit) is November 1, 2019.

The top three finalists will compete on April 18, 2020, during the AAUW California Convention in Northern California.

AAUW CALIFORNIA CONVENTION 2020

Virginia Beck, Convention Committee Chair, convention@aauw-ca.org

REMEMBERING THE PAST, ROCKIN' THE FUTURE APRIL 17-19, 2020

The AAUW California board and committees are working hard to bring you a convention that will energize you and your branch members. We will be celebrating the past as we look back at our fight for the vote and the legislation we helped pass, and then we will look to the future and the work still to be done.

We are all working on planning a wide cross-section of workshops, plenaries and speakers which may include:

- an update on AAUW Fund,
- membership diversity (whether it be by age, ethnicity or sexual orientation),
- civil conversations with others towards effective government,
- maximizing social media,
- fundraising,
- ADA requirements,
- partnering with young women in AAUW initiatives,
- encouraging young women to run for office, and
- registering youth to vote and participate in government.

Do you or your branch have an idea for a workshop, plenary or speaker? Click [HERE](#) to submit your idea using the workshop application form or email us at convention@aauw-ca.org.

You will also have the opportunity to complete the Work Smart program with an experienced facilitator.

There will be a chance to meet the candidates for the AAUW California Board of Directors. Directors and staff of AAUW California will be available to answer your questions. Several directors and staff of AAUW National will be there too.

Convention details and registration information will be in the winter issue of the California Perspective and on the AAUW California website.

SEE YOU AT THE CONVENTION.

TECH TREK

Susan Negrete, and Alice Hill, Tech Trek State Co-Coordinators, techtrek@aauw-ca.org

IT'S TECH TREK TIME: 2020 CAMP PLANNING IS ALREADY UNDERWAY!

Summer's over and as we move into fall, a great number of AAUW branches turn their attention to Tech Trek. We know you're getting busy!

- The California Tech Trek Committee will be working with the branch coordinators & treasurers and camp directors to assist in supporting the upcoming 2020 camp season.

What I need to know: Planning for the state convention is well underway to celebrate the theme "Remembering the Past; Rockin' the Future."

What I need to do: Add the convention dates to your branch calendar. Submit any ideas for a workshop, plenary or speaker.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, provide members the convention dates and the link to submit ideas.

What I need to know: Tech Trek planning is underway and packets will be distributed to branches soon.

What I need to do: Contact the state Tech Trek Committee Co-Chairs with the names of any new branch coordinators.

- Branch packets are being finalized and will be distributed as soon as AAUW California's updates are authorized.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this is for branch leaders only.

Got new Branch Tech Trek Coordinators? Send updates to either Tech Trek Co-Coordinator by emailing techtrek@aauw-ca.org.

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