



December 2022

Don't burn your tongue!

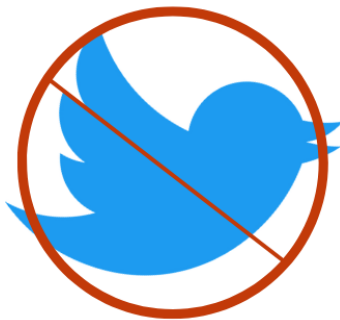


Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the *California Connection*, the monthly missive sent to every member from your state organization for a quick read of things to know and do in AAUW!

Things to Know

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Winter temperatures are upon us and so we turned a cold shoulder to Elon Musk. Immediately following his purchase of Twitter, the incidence of hate speech, disinformation, discriminatory, and misogynistic rhetoric increased demonstrably. The AAUW California Board of Directors voted to become a Twitter Quitter and canceled our account effective November 9th. We're pretty sure he didn't notice, but it was the right thing to do. Obviously, we were unable to tweet this message.

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Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night will stop the mail from coming. That's a good thing because we have changed our address. Due to the closure of our local UPS facility, we have moved our mailing address to:

AAUW California
PO Box 160067
Sacramento, California 95816-0067

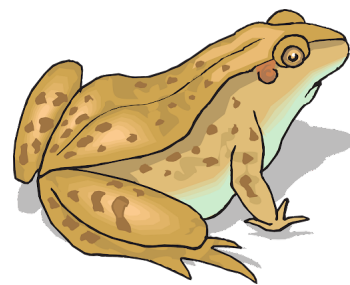
We just hope the drivers remember how to turn on their windshield wipers.



You're craving iced gingerbread cookies, but those 30-year-old galoshes you're pulling on to drive to Trader Joe's make your feet look big. And they're hard to put on over Jimmy Choo heels. We thought our old Tech Trek logo was ill-fitting too. So we asked people in our Tech Trek community to help us design this new one. We think it's nice and STEM-y and emphasizes our mission to empower girls. We hope it's around for as long as your galoshes. Now, go play in the puddles.

Things to Do

This is a season filled with traditions. So, we thought we'd break one. AAUW is so rebellious! Instead of telling you something to DO in this section, we're suggesting something NOT to do. Ready for it? Do NOT lick toads. The National Park Service has warned against licking the Sonoran Desert Toad, even though it has a sultry croak, temptingly glistening skin, and, mainly, the promise of a psychedelic experience. You might die. But you will NOT die if you instead volunteer to facilitate a breakout session with promising and enthusiastic high school girls in the new and incredibly relevant state program, [Gov Trek](#). Learn about volunteering [HERE](#). And tell a high school junior or senior girl you know to register [HERE](#). You'll get a high of a different kind.



Yes, that peculiar stuff falling from the sky is called rain. Google it if you don't remember what that is. And rain makes us think of flooding. And flooding makes us think of women flooding the halls of power. Oh, wouldn't that be lovely? So how did women do after the November election? Pretty well! Watch Public Policy chair Kathi Harper's presentation, "How'd We Do in '22," [HERE](#). It's like a ray of sunshine.



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That long pointy thing in your closet is called an umbrella. You may have forgotten how to use it. You may have also forgotten that AAUW members get all sorts of perks. You can get discounts on cruises, cars, and cat insurance. Check out the bucketfuls of deals on the national website [HERE](#). And whenever you take advantage of these benefits, AAUW receives royalties to support its work. When it rains, it pours.

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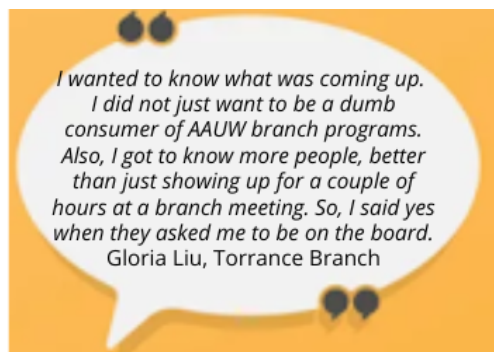


Leaning into Leadership

We have been asking you to tell us why you became a leader in your branch (or anywhere).

And some of you did!

Here's another one:



Feel free to send one or two (no more!) sentences to cc@aauw-ca.org and answer the question:

Becoming a leader: why'd ya do it?



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.
[AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org)

AAUW California's mission: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education and resources.
www.aauw-ca.org



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