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If you attended the April 18th AAUW California Annual Meeting, then you know how smoothly the webinar proceeded. There were 348 participants representing 73% of the branches. That, in itself, must be a record! Sandi Gabe, a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Communication Committee, deserves a huge virtual round of applause for orchestrating this two-hour meeting. The Communication Committee helped, but Sandi did all the research regarding this new technology, built the PowerPoint template, helped with the speakers' content, trained the participants, and scheduled the valuable rehearsals. It all went seamlessly, thanks to her hours and hours of preparation and her skill as the Wizard of Oz behind the curtain.

Thank you, Sandi!!

What Does The Fox Say?...

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

GUESS WHO ORIGINALLY DISCOVERED THE CORONAVIRUS.....A WOMAN!

Scientific pioneer [June Almeida](#) is finally being acknowledged for virology breakthroughs she made a half-century ago. June's work has come roaring back into focus during the present pandemic.

COVID-19 is a new illness but it is caused by a coronavirus of the type first identified by Dr. Almeida in 1964 at her laboratory in St Thomas's Hospital in London. Her paper to a peer-reviewed journal was rejected "because the referees said the images she produced were just bad pictures of influenza virus particles."

June Almeida died in 2007, at the age of 77. Now 13 years after her death she is finally getting the recognition she deserves as a pioneer whose work speeded up an understanding of the virus that is currently spreading throughout the world.

I was alerted to this woman by Maura Jones, a member of AAUW Half Moon Bay. Thanks, Maura!

Perhaps a woman will discover a cure for COVID-19!

What I need to know: COVID-19 is a new illness but it is caused by a coronavirus of the type first identified by Dr. June Almeida.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, please share this interesting fact with your branch.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

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

WHAT IS HAPPENING NEXT YEAR?

I know many of you are wondering what is going to happen beginning July 1st in our COVID-19 California! We have a New Board Retreat planned for June which will be a virtual Zoom “getting to know you” and planning meeting, along with board training.

At the retreat, we will be working on our Strategic Plan and discussing our committee structure. Do we need new committees? Which positions can be contact-only without the need for a standing committee? What new projects do we want to undertake to increase our visibility? How does the AAUW State Board help the branches to further our AAUW mission?

The deadline for applying for a state committee has been postponed to August 15th. The old and new committees and details will be in the July Board to Board! The application will be posted on the website after the June board retreat and planning session.

Mission Statement: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education, and resources.

How can we help you? This question was part of the planned activity for the Convention Leadership Brunch which was cancelled. Send me an email and let me know what you need or would like to see for next year at dianneowens9@gmail.com by June 10th! Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

What I need to know: Information will be available soon regarding the AAUW State Board committee structure and the plans for the coming year.

What I need to do: Apply to participate on a committee and encourage branch members to participate. Send Dianne any ideas or requests that will help your branch next year.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, when more information is available.

AAUW FUND

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

CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU, Catherine M. Foxhoven, Jane J. Niemeier, and Donna Lilly

The Board was proud to announce at the April 18th Annual Meeting that AAUW Honorary Funds have been established for Co-Presidents Cathy Foxhoven Fund # 4484 and Jane Niemeier Fund #4485. These Honorary Funds were established in recognition of their leadership and commitment to AAUW California for the past two years, 2018-2020. Branches and

What I need to know: AAUW Honorary Funds accounts have been established for departing Co-Presidents, Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier. Donna Lilly was honored as the 2019 State Named Gift Honoree.

What I need to do: Send Dianne Owens unique ideas for fundraising.

individuals may contribute to these two funds beginning immediately using the above designation numbers.

Donna Lilly, past AAUW California President and current AAUW California College/University Chair, was named 2019 State Named Gift Honoree at the April 18th Annual Meeting. Donna is a facilitator of both Start Smart and Work Smart and an active member of the San Diego and Del Mar Leucadia Branches.

Do you have a clever plan to raise AAUW Funds during the COVID-19 crisis? Palo Alto Branch celebrated Pi Day, March 14th, and raised over \$1,300. Every member who donated was entered into an opportunity drawing for a real pie of their choice to be delivered to their home. Three delicious pies were delivered! Click [HERE](#) for more on Pi Day.

Send me your clever idea(s) at aauwfund@aauw-ca.org and I will share them in the next Board to Board. Creativity knows no limit with AAUW members!

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. Spread the good word about these volunteers and include information for donating to the Honorary Funds.

BRANCH SUPPORT

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

AS WE CONTINUE TO SIP (NOT WINE OR BOOZE)!

As we shelter-in-place to stay safe, I have answered many of your queries on a variety of topics including how to conduct elections when no in-person meetings are being held. I am here for all the branches in my position as an AAUW California director charged with Branch Support. I try to get back to phone calls and emails expeditiously.

Why do we have a state board? We in California represent approximately a quarter of the national membership and encompass 120+ branches. To provide every branch and IBC with cohesive leadership and resources, we on the board instituted quarterly outreach via phone calls and emails. We have specific questions to ask and important information to share. The answers are collated and data given to board members. This helps us to aid all leadership in AAUW California. In most cases, these conversations provide an opportunity for give and take between state and branch leaders. Many times we have been told that you consider these conversations helpful.

We do, however, have a small issue with branches that never respond, and that worries those of us on the board. How can we discover any concerns and provide help? We usually send

What I need to know: State leadership contacts branches quarterly for feedback and information sharing.

What I need to do: Respond to the outreach to help the board work effectively. Pass along this information to your incoming branch leaders.

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

out the questions we will be asking, and the information to be disseminated, via email prior to making the calls.

We send our appreciation for all you have done for AAUW. As you come to the end of your terms, please inform your incoming leadership about these calls and emails, so that we may connect with them this coming fiscal year. Our mission has become even more vital now!

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY (C/U) COMMITTEE

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

SPEND AN HOUR TO GET A RAISE

Learn how to ask for a raise and benefits at your current job or when you interview online for your new position. AAUW created the online Work Smart workshop to help you negotiate your personal value in the community of your current position.

Work Smart will give you confidence with the following:

- Determine your personal value
- Set your target salary and benefits
- Create your strategy to make your pitch
- Help you practice and practice

In-person Work Smart workshops are canceled due to COVID-19 but click [HERE](#) for online Work Smart workshops.

You are not alone during this “stay in place” challenging time. Gain confidence and skills to negotiate your new salary and benefits.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

Part 1:

I DON'T WANT TO BE ZOOMBOMBED!

Now that your branch is using online tools such as Zoom, you're probably more aware of the reports of security issues and zoombombing. Maybe you've even attended a session where an unwelcome person interfered. How do you protect your meeting?

What I need to know: AAUW provides online workshops to help women navigate and advance themselves in the work world.

What I need to do: Encourage your members to take the online course.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes.

What I need to know: Increased use of Zoom has created some security concerns which have been addressed.

What I need to do: Review the suggestions to improve security and implement them.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, many of your Special Interest Groups and committees may be using Zoom.

Zoom has implemented several security features and recommends the use of options to keep your meetings secure. They are summarized below and can be found on the Zoom website by clicking [HERE](#). The security features can be found in your profile. Zoom has also added a security icon at the bottom of the host screen that allows you to control many of these from within the meeting.

1. Use the meeting ID generator vs your personal room ID. If you use your personal room ID routinely, it can be discovered by hackers.
2. Include a password. This is now required by default.
3. Enable the waiting room. This is now the default. This allows you to confirm that you are letting the people that you invited into your meeting.
4. Turn participant videos off. If someone gets past all of your other efforts, they can't share inappropriate images by sharing their screen.
5. Turn annotate off. If someone gets past all of your other efforts, they can't share inappropriate drawings on their background when sharing their screen.
6. Lock the meeting after you have all participants in place.

Oh no! Someone has hijacked my meeting! What do I do?

1. Mute all to prevent audio intrusions.
2. If you know who is causing problems, move them back to the waiting room in the participant window.

Instructions on how to use Zoom and other tech tools can be found on our website [HERE](#).

Part 2:

ANNOUNCEMENT! RECORD YOUR NEWLY ELECTED BRANCH BOARD MEMBERS

Julika Barrett, AAUW California Office Manager, Office@aauw-ca.org

The 2019-2020 AAUW fiscal year is coming to an end. Let AAUW California know who has been selected to lead your branch next year. Your accurate list of officers provides the communication channel from AAUW California to your branch leaders and members. Please note that you will need to update two databases as AAUW National and AAUW California do not currently share this information.

1. AAUW National - Enter information into the Members Services Database (MSD)
2. AAUW California - Enter information into Branch Officer Report (BOR). Each current branch president and president-elect will receive an email with a link, login information, and instructions about how to enter their

What I need to know: Record your newly elected branch board members as appropriate into two databases.

What I need to do: For AAUW National, enter the information into the Members Services Database (MSD). For AAUW California, enter the information into the Branch Officer Report (BOR).

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

branch officer information. The information you enter about your officers is used

- Maintain accurate mailing lists for state and branch-specific positions allowing us to contact you with information related to your branch role.
- Maintain the state directory which includes branch and state leaders.

Remember to:

REVIEW

UPDATE

VERIFY

Your actions mean that branch leaders will receive timely and pertinent information. Keep your membership in the know.

Updates are due July 1, 2020.

FINANCE

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

CONVENTION FINANCE WORKSHOP TO BE PRESENTED AS WEBINAR

Remember the finance workshop we were going to present at the Convention, “A Roadmap for Branch Financial Management: All Your Questions Answered?” Mark your calendars! It will be presented as a webinar on Tuesday, May 19th from 3:00 – 4:30 pm.

Registration is required. Register [HERE](#). Registration information will also be sent to all presidents, finance officers, and membership chairs by email. Be sure to pass the information on to incoming officers and other interested members of your branch as well.

The workshop covers a broad range of finance-related topics useful for branch finance officers and other current or potential leaders such as:

- Keeping track of income and expenses, what tool to use, budgets, and reviews
- Taxes and insurance
- Special Projects Fund and fundraising for Tech Trek, branch projects and scholarships

What I need to know: A comprehensive and helpful webinar on branch finance will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, May 19th from 3:00 - 4:30 pm.

What I need to do: Register in advance using the link provided. Submit any questions ahead of time to Roli Wendorf.

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

- Membership types, dues collection with MPP, payment of dues to State and National, dual membership payments

I will be moderating a great panel consisting of experts from a number of branches:

- Christine Ritter, President-Elect and Past Finance Officer for Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch
- Patricia Ferrer, Incoming Finance Officer for Long Beach Branch, Past AAUW California CFO
- Barbara Spencer, President and Past Treasurer of San Francisco Branch
- Deanna Arthur, AAUW California Board Director for Membership
- Sue Cochran, President of AAUW California Special Projects Fund, Past President of AAUW California

You will learn from panelists how other branches handle a variety of finance issues, and take solutions back to your branches. You will also receive valuable references to relevant material and contact information for future interactions. If you have questions you would like answered at the workshop, please email them to me at cfo@aauw-ca.org.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Elaine Johnson, Director, Leadership Development Committee Chair, leaderdev@aauw-ca.org

TV: TRANSITION TO VIRTUAL

Our Leadership Development Committee is responding to the shift from face-to face to virtual meetings and familiarizing members with online resources. This is a good time to explore the [AAUW California website](#) and to delve into the very exciting and totally updated [national website](#). This takes some patience and time, but it also can be fun and very productive for your branch. Remembering that we are all volunteers, it is important that we engage with each other and provide feedback that will help each of us learn how to best use Zoom and other online tools.

A very effective way of engaging all of the members of your branch is to conduct a SWOT analysis. SWOT stands for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, and is a technique used in industry and academic settings to help guide strategic planning to increase the sustainability of organizations. This would be a good time to check with your members and ask each member to provide one response to a strength of your branch, a weakness of your branch, coupled with opportunities, and threats.

What I need to know: Although branches are transitioning to more online meetings, there are activities such as SWOT that can keep them engaged.

What I need to do: Review the materials on how to use online meetings on the state and national websites.

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

An example might be:

Strength: Our branch has some incredibly talented members.

Weakness: Many of our branch members are not used to using Zoom online meetings.

Opportunities: Our members have the chance to learn new computer skills with training being provided online.

Threats: We may lose members or be limited in our outreach to include new prospective members.

If you try this out in your branch, please send your results to me at leaderdev@aauw-ca.org. The Leadership Development Committee wants to hear from you.

As we transition from face-to-face meetings to virtual meetings, we look forward to engaging with you and expect that all of us will become more comfortable with our online tools and expect that will help us transition back to having our wonderful face-to-face meetings again.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

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

ELECTION RESULTS FOR AAUW-CALIFORNIA BOARD ARE IN!

For the 2020-2022 term, the AAUW California Board had seven directors and one secretary position to be filled. After the nominating period, we had enough candidates to fill each board position. Since there were no contested elected positions, we were not required to have an election.

Congratulations to the following candidates who were duly elected by acclamation at the end of our virtual AAUW California Annual Meeting on April 18th:

Director:

1. Michelle Miller-Galaz
2. Crystal Stebbins
3. Kathi Harper
4. Sharyn Siebert
5. Elaine A. Johnson
6. Tracey Clark
7. Jim Doty

Secretary: Lynne Batchelor

What I need to know: The Board of Directors for AAUW California for 2020-2022 has been duly elected.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, branch members should be encouraged to know more about AAUW California.

President-Elect: Dianne Owens will become President of AAUW California for 2020-2022

Thank you all for volunteering your time and leadership. Click [HERE](#) for more information on our new board members for the coming term. Any other questions, email us: nominating@aauw-ca.org.

PROGRAMS

Lynne Batchelor and Judy Cavin Brown, Program Co-Chairs, program@aauw-ca.org

HONORING BRANCHES AT THE VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING

I hope you all attended our first-ever virtual Annual Meeting! For those of you who were not able to attend and have not had an opportunity to check out our website, we awarded branch [program recognition awards](#) in the areas of human trafficking, mentoring, pay equity, STEAM & STEM, suffrage, Title IX, and women's history. Congratulations to our winners:

- Long Beach
- Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley
- Santa Cruz County
- Stockton
- Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista
- Monterey Peninsula
- Ventura County IBC
- Tehachapi Mountain
- Humboldt
- San Mateo
- San Diego

AAUW National recognized six of our branches as winning a Five Star Award (Mid-Peninsula, Beach Cities, Napa County, Petaluma, Healdsburg), with a special shout out to Marin who won in all five categories (only one of two in the entire country). Congratulations to all branches.

PUBLIC POLICY

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

COVID-19 TOTALLY DISRUPTS THE 2020 CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE SESSION (Submitted by Sue Miller)

What I need to know: Many branches were recognized for their mission-based programs at the virtual Annual Meeting.

What I need to do: Find more information on the winning programs on the AAUW California website.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Only if your branch was one of the winners!

What I need to know: The 2020 legislative session has been disrupted. They will be reconvening in May with a limited schedule and it is unlikely that AAUW-supported legislation will be considered.

With legislators and staff working remotely from the Capitol, it has been impossible to hold committee hearings on bills and move through the usual processes that lead to action. The Assembly reconvenes May 4th and the Senate on May 11th, with a very limited schedule.

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

The focus will be on virus-related bills and the state budget, which has a June 15th approval date. Most of the bills AAUW California is supporting will see no action this session, including SB 973, requiring employers to report pay data, which we are co-sponsoring. Continuing areas of interest for AAUW are funding Child Care for essential workers and a Domestic Worker Safety bill to give low paid domestic workers protections against virus exposure, which are expected to have the attention of legislators.

You can click [HERE](#) to follow the work of the Legislature online.

MEMBERSHIP

Deanna Arthur, Director, Membership Committee Chair, membership@aauw-ca.org

NOT MISS INFORMATION BUT THE REAL SKINNY

AAUW California's first Finance Zoom workshop is coming May 19, 2020, to a computer near you. There will be a lot of compelling information on many subjects, including the MSD (Member Services Database), different types of AAUW membership, and how to navigate the world of dollars and cents.

What I need to know: Several branches were honored for membership growth at the April 18th Annual Meeting

What I need to do: Register to attend the webinar on membership and finance-related topics for branches.

For those of you who missed the Zoom Annual Meeting, there were three awards given to branches with the most new members. These were Healdsburg, Atascadero, and San Diego, and the awards given to three branches with the largest % growth went to Brandman University Virtual, San Diego, and last, but far from least, San Fernando Valley. Upon hearing their branch was first in % membership increase, Don Scott (Brandman University Virtual) told us: "This was truly a team effort this year and your support was truly the game changer!"

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Your members might be interested in knowing which branches were honored.

Don't forget to register for the Finance Workshop, Tuesday, May 19th at 3 pm. Come learn things. Hope to see you there.

SPECIAL PROJECT FUND (SPF)

Sue Cochran, SPF President, spf-ca.president@aauw.net

TECH TREK 2020 MONIES --- WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE CAMP SUSPENSIONS

With the suspension of the 2020 Tech Trek Camps due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the AAUW California Special Projects Fund has taken the following steps to assist the program in the management of the funds raised for the 2020 camp season. These funds will be deposited into an interest-bearing account until such time as they are needed to fund a future camp season. Interest earned will be allocated per SPF policy with AAUW California determining the distribution of the Tech Trek Camp interest. Tech Trek is an AAUW California state project which is administered by the AAUW California Board of Directors.

Deposits that have been made to the camp locations and are refunded to the Tech Trek Camp Program are being clearly earmarked as refunds and NO SPF administrative fee will be assessed to these funds when they are re-deposited into the Tech Trek program account with SPF.

While Tech Trek is the largest client of SPF, we also serve as a non-profit fiduciary entity for Speech Trek and twelve branch projects and local scholarships.

Click [HERE](#) for more detailed information about the AAUW California Special Projects Fund.

What I need to know: Any funds raised for the 2020 Tech Trek camp will be deposited into a special interest-bearing account until such time as they are needed to fund a future camp season.

What I need to do: Learn more about the services of SPF on the website.

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

TECH TREK

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

CALIFORNIA TECH TREK: CONTINUING THE YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

The results of the two surveys of the branch Tech Trek Coordinators and the camp directors disappointed many. However, the votes reflected the voice of the program's stakeholders.

- SurveyMonkey Results: Identical surveys were sent to the two sets of California Tech Trek stakeholders: branches and camp directors. The branches tied (50/50) in voting whether to send 2020 selected students to a 2021 camp. Camp directors voted 89% not to send 2020 campers to a 2021 camp. The combined branch and camp director votes decided NO – 2020 selected campers will not attend a 2021 camp. The California Board unanimously voted to accept the surveys' results as representing the voice of the majority.
- Still Have 2020 Camp Donations?

What I need to know: The AAUW California Board of Directors upheld the results of two surveys and voted that students chosen for 2020 camp will not attend the 2021 camp.

What I need to do: Review the list of tasks outlined above with your Tech Trek Coordinator(s).

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, the members need to know that the girls selected for the 2020 Tech Trek will not be attending Tech Trek, but the branches will decide how to honor the selected girls.

Please send them to Camp Treasurers, who will forward the deposits to AAUW-SPF. See the SPF section in this Board to Board!

- Selected Camper Spreadsheets:

If your spreadsheets have not been submitted to camp directors – please send them to the California Co-Coordinators at techtrek@aauw-ca.org

- Honoring Selected Campers: Tech Trek leaders and branches continue to discuss ways to honor selected 7th-grade girls. Watch the Board to Board for upcoming information and ideas.
- Plan for Fall Fundraising: In this economic year like no other, nonprofits are likely to see reduced donations. When branch strategic meetings are held, continue to plan 2021 fundraising activities. Refer potential donors to [Tech Trek online](#).

Branch Tech Trek Teams: Got Questions? Contact both Tech Trek Co-Coordinators at one email address: Alice Hill & Susan Negrete: techtrek@aauw-ca.org

SPEECH TREK

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

COMING TO A BRANCH NEAR YOU: 2021 SPEECH TREK!

It's official! Congratulations were extended at the virtual Annual Meeting to the following branches and contestants who placed in the 2020 Speech Trek state finals:

Morgan Hill - Gelasia Tiwana, 5th PI

California Online - Namita Shyam, 4th PI

Foothills of El Dorado County - Carter Hill, 3rd PI

Stockton - Jackson Patten, 2nd PI

Lompoc-Vandenberg - Olivia Berman, 1st PI.

Click [HERE](#) to enjoy their speeches on the AAUW California website.

The topic for 2020-2021 is: "Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?"

The 2020-2021 Branch Tool Kit and the 2020-2021 Student Tool Kit will be available late spring/early summer and will contain

What I need to know: The top five Speech Trek State finalists were awarded cash prizes. Their speeches are available on the AAUW California website.

What I need to do: Share the 2020-2021 Speech Trek topic with your branch.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Share the 2020-2021 Speech Trek topic with your branch.

additional information on this topic, the 2020-2021 MOU (required in order for your branch to participate), and Policy and Procedures updates. The deadline to submit the MOU is Nov. 1, 2020.