

# AAUW CoastLines

Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch, January/February 2022

<http://palosverdes-ca.aauw.net> | <http://www.facebook.com/groups/aaupvp>



Nov, Dec 2022

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## JANUARY BRANCH MEETING

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 2 pm  
(A Zoom link will be sent via e-blast)

### EXPLORING DEI

What is DEI? Join the January meeting and learn more about it.

The January branch meeting will be the first of our branch meetings to focus on DEI - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. These are concepts that are often used interchangeably but mean quite different things. At our January program, we will work to understand the difference and the unique importance of each.

AAUW has adopted DEI as an on-going policy. Across the country, AAUW branches are exploring DEI and working to incorporate these concepts into branch activities and individual commitment. Many organizations are embracing the DEI concepts as they move forward.

Join us at the January meeting as we begin to think about how to create a DEI environment.



# Women's Reproductive Rights - Where Are We Now?

by Claire Noonan, AAUW CA Public Policy

By January 22, 2022, the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision, SCOTUS (the Supreme Court of the United States) will have heard arguments on Texas SB 8 legislation banning pregnancy termination after six (6) weeks and Mississippi's legislation (Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization) to ban abortion after fifteen (15) weeks.

What are the issues? For Texas, it isn't about the constitutionality of the legislation, i.e. the fundamental right decided by Roe v Wade. Instead, a decision will be made on the tactics used by the Texas legislature - delegating their enforcement duties to citizens - to preclude lawsuits against the State.

The decision on the Mississippi legislation will be straightforward. One, SCOTUS could overturn Roe v Wade. Two, the court could limit legal standing to challenges on state law, e.g. doctors wouldn't be able to challenge on behalf of patients. Three, new legal standards for the evaluation of abortion regulations may be created so states aren't required to show that the benefits of an abortion ban outweigh the undue burden to patients – reversing Planned Parenthood v Casey. (*Women's Health Policy*, 11/21/2021)

One hundred six (106) state laws have been passed to restrict abortion in 2021. Activists, like AAUW, are bringing lawsuits before the Supreme Court. AAUW has submitted an amicus brief for Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization as to the constitutionality of the Mississippi law.

In addition, the ACLU and others have brought lawsuits against other Mississippi abortion-related legislation like regulations for informed consent, a waiting period before the procedure, and ban on telemedicine visits.

Surveys show that 60-70% of Americans approve of abortion in all or most circumstances. Only 20% think abortion should be illegal in all circumstances. (*New York Times, Upshot* (5/19/2021). AAUW and AAUW California stand with the majority, and the time to act is now. We must pressure the Senate to pass the Women's Health Protection Act. The legislation must become law in this session. Unfair changes in representation have occurred with redistricting. Votes in the 2022 mid-term elections that would elect representatives who would vote for this bill could be suppressed.

Detailed information on the current position for women's reproductive health is available from the Guttmacher Institute.

## Authors Event

Our Branch has been invited to participate in an



**Annual Authors Event presented by the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch of AAUW**

**Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 11:00 AM via Zoom**

The speaker is **Lisa Napoli** who has a long career in journalism, including staff reporting jobs at public radio, the New York Times Cybertimes, and as a columnist/correspondent at MSNBC.

In her 2021 book, ***susan, lina, nina and cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR***, she takes us on a compelling journey with Susan Strasberg, Linda Wertheimer, Nina Totenberg and Cokie Roberts. Ms. Napoli's book recounts the struggles women faced not only in journalism but in our lifetime, when women were truly "second class citizens."

To attend, each person must submit their email address & name to the President of the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch, Joe Des Barres: [Mailto:joedesbarres@gmail.com](mailto:joedesbarres@gmail.com)



## JANUARY

<i>Ruth Bloland</i>	01/03
<i>Audrey Asher</i>	01/10
<i>Ginny Nagy</i>	01/12
<i>Donna Day</i>	01/14
<i>Judy Alexandre</i>	01/15
<i>Sharon Andrade</i>	01/24
<i>Libby Bergen</i>	01/30
<i>Carol Hook</i>	01/30

## FEBRUARY

<i>Jacki Bacharach</i>	02/08
<i>Faith Morrow</i>	02/12
<i>Nancy Rayner</i>	02/12
<i>Elissa Hoxie</i>	02/14

If we missed your birthday or a correction needs to be made, please inform Nancy Rayner at [nrayner777@gmail.com](mailto:nrayner777@gmail.com).



"Roses are red, Violets are blue,  
Valentine's night is Bingo for you!"

Friday, February, 11, 2022 at 7 PM

Zoom link to follow.

RSVP to Jane Harris at:  
[compprin@hotmail.com](mailto:compprin@hotmail.com).



## AAUW PVP 2021 ZOOM HOLIDAY PARTY



## News from the November 2021 Branch Meeting

At our November Branch Meeting, Nancy Mahr introduced Nancy Wilcox, our 2020 Status of Women Awardee. Ms. Wilcox presentation provided an overview of South Bay Homelessness Services Programs, including:

1. General understanding of homelessness in the South Bay
2. Fact-based reality checks debunk commonly held homeless stereotypes
3. LA County H services and funding
4. Engagement Suggestions

Los Angeles County coordinates homeless services through the Coordinated Entry System (CES). In the South Bay Harbor Interfaith Services is the lead CES agency. CES is the entryway for Homelessness Prevention, Street Outreach, Shelter Housing, and Case Management. She provided an update on Measure H housing placements.

In the South Bay homelessness has been increasing. If you want to refer homeless people to services, contact [la.hop.org](http://la.hop.org) or call “211” to connect to the street outreach staff.

Kathy Ford provided an update on Tech Trek which is hoping for on-campus programs this coming summer.

Nancy Mahr discussed AAUW’s Action Alert Network. She recommended that members sign up for the two-minute activist network addressing state and national grassroots action to promote priorities associated with AAUW. Members of AAUW’s action network receive urgent email notices when their advocacy is needed on state and national legislation.

To view Nancy Wilcox’s presentation and the Branch Meeting minutes, go to our Branch website <http://palosverdes-ca.aauw.net>

### AAUW Palos Verdes Peninsula Website

by Jan Cofer

If you haven’t visited the AAUW Palos Verdes Peninsula website at [palosverdes-ca.aauw.net](http://palosverdes-ca.aauw.net), please do so. If you are not a frequent visitor to our website, then it might be time to check it out again. New information is being added on a regular basis. You can click on the link to the website in this article or on the link on the first page of CoastLines, or you can search for AAUW PVP on Google or other search engines. Then remember to bookmark our website for convenient access.

On the branch website you will find information about upcoming branch activities, information about interest groups along with the interest groups calendars, information about our branch projects and much more. Be sure to explore the menus near the top of the page and the sub-menus for many of the menus. If you need the password for members only pages, please contact me at [jancofer@gmail.com](mailto:jancofer@gmail.com). The sidebar on the right side of each page has links to important information about our branch as well as links to the state and national organizations. Please take some time to explore our website as it is the place to find almost everything you need to know about AAUW.

If you are encouraging anyone to join our branch, you should refer them to our website to show them the breadth of our activities and projects. There is also information about membership and a conveniently located membership application.

## City of RPV 2021 Mayor's Honorees Luncheon

Two Celebratory Days!



The Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch of the American Association of University Women was one of the organizations and individuals that were celebrated for their inspiring work at the annual Mayor's Honorees Luncheon held November 19 at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center in Rancho Palos Verdes. Pictured from left with RPV Mayor Eric Alegria, are Branch members Dale Richards, Nancy Rayner and Fran Brown, Council Co-Chair.



Additionally, at the City Council's October 19 meeting, the Branch received a Mayor's Honoree Proclamation in recognition of its National Five Star Program Badge. Pictured from left, Councilmember John Cruikshank, Council member Barbara Ferraro, Publicity Chair Kathy Berg, Council Co-Chair Leann Roque, Nancy Mahr, Branch Public Policy Chair, RPV Mayor Eric Alegria, Councilmember Ken Dyda and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Bradley.





## PVP Tech Trek Status Update

By Kathy Ford, AAUW PVP Tech Trek Branch Coordinator & Treasurer

Celebrate Tech Trek was held virtually on October 24 and while it would have been great to have all 18 girls attend, it was wonderful to hear from those who were able to share their camp experience with all of us.

Fran Brown, our current Co-Chair for the PVP Branch and a School Coordinator for Wilmington MS, started things off by telling us what Tech Trek meant to her. Other Tech Trek Committee members joined and participated in planning and creating our celebration:

Denise DeVenuto – past Tech Trek Coordinator and current Chair for Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG),

Dale Richards – past Co-Chair of PVP and Past Tech Trek Coordinator and Treasurer,

Lynne Jones – School Coordinator for Wilmington MS,

Dana Gorman – School Coordinator for Dana MS,

Ruth Boland, Susan Gates, Shera Dolmatz, Libby Bergen – read essays, did interviews, many follow-ups calls to the girls and so much more.

Leslie Criswell was not able to attend but provided much support as a School Coordinator for Dana MS and a Social Coach for the virtual camp.

Thanks to Willis Bernard, Muriel Blatt, Martha Feakins, Susan Grimshaw, Marlin More, Faith Morrow, Mary Watson, Jeanne Wilson, and Rowie Wolf for their support of Tech Trek for all their efforts to make Tech Trek happen.

Mrs. Rodriguez, our long-time major support for Tech Trek at Wilmington MS, also attended. Mrs. Traylor is our Tech Trek teacher contact at Dana MS. Both dedicated teachers were very helpful in making our first time ever virtual selection process work.

Our girls shared what the Tech Trek experience meant to them, and parents talked about how Tech Trek helped their daughters. Audience members also had a chance to ask the girls about camp.

Denise DeVenuto and Margarita Alejandre Navarro talked about TTAG and the importance of staying in touch to learn more about Junior Coaching opportunities and how to prepare for college.

Margarita Alejandre Navarro, a former Tech Trek camper and a 2021 Virtual Tech Trek Camp Junior Coach, talked about her experience as a Junior Coach. Margarita also read a letter from Sabrina Alvarez who could not attend but wanted to tell the 2021 campers and their families how much Tech Trek and TTAG helped her set her goals on a STEM career and become a student at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York, studying computer system engineering.

Thanks to all the Tech Trek Committee and PVP members who joined us to celebrate another year of Tech Trek campers. Your support has been so important to keep the program going though the pandemic.

We are currently well-funded to send even more girls to residential camps in 2022, if that is possible. I still do not know the final decision, but Tech Trek may be virtual again in 2022. That is the recommendation from AAUW National, but what our Tech Trek campuses decide will have an impact on the AAUW California decision. As soon as I know which direction we will be taking, I will contact the Tech Trek Committee and we can begin the process. We now have both residential and virtual under our belts!

As always, let me know if you have any questions or want to learn more about joining the Tech Trek Committee.

Kathy Ford

[kjsford@me.com](mailto:kjsford@me.com), 310-541-3981, (cell) 310-753-6458

## INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2022

Some groups meet in person: some meet on Zoom.

Space constraints or other factors may result in need for a waitlist for new members.

### ART APPRECIATION

**Chair: Nancy Rayner**

**Nrayner777@gmail.com**

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 2-3 pm**

January 5-From Paris to the East  
and American Romantic Realism

January 19-Fin de Siecle European  
Art Movements

February 2-Asia & Africa in the  
Western Mind

February 16-They All Came to Paris

### READERS THEATER

**Chair: Cecilia Rogers**

**fafnyr@mac.com**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 7 pm**

Contact Cecilia for information

January 10

February 14

### ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS

**Chair: Jan Cofer**

**jancofer@gmail.com**

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday — 10 am**

January 22-Travel Insurance

February 26-Ocean Cruises

### COOK'S CORNER

**Chair: Denise DeVeneto**

**Dendev88@gmail.com**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 12pm**

January 15-Quickbreads-Loaves,  
Muffins & Biscuits

February 19-Fish

### DAYTIME SCRABBLE

**Chair: Libby Bergen**

**bergenlibby@gmail.com**

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2 pm**

January 12 & 26

February 9 & 23

### NIGHT BOOKS

**Chair: Rowie Wolf**

**rowiewolf@cox.net**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 7 pm**

January 10-*The Night Portrait* by  
Laura Morelli

February 14-*Harlem Shuffle* by  
Colson Whitehead

### 4<sup>th</sup> MONDAY BOOK GROUP

**Chair: Fran Brown**

**franbrown5@cox.net**

**4<sup>th</sup> Monday 2 — 4 pm**

January 24-*The Things We Cannot  
See* by Kelly Rimmer

February 28-*The Personal  
Librarian* by Marie Benedict

### CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

**Chair: JoAnn DeFlon**

**jj.deflon@gmail.com**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 9:30 am**

January 10-*Transit of Venus* by  
Shirley Hazzard

February 14-*Beautiful World  
Where Are You* by Sally Rooney

### ECLECTIC READERS

**Chair: Jan Cofer**

**jancofer@gmail.com**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 2 pm**

January 20-New Year Celebration  
Luncheon!

February 17-*Klara and The Sun* by  
Kazuo Ishiguro

### BRIDGETTES

**Chair: Margery Norris**

**mnorris@ca.rr.com**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 1 pm**

January 18 at Jan Cofer's home

February 15 at Fran Wielin's home

### GREAT DECISIONS

**Chair: Sharon Andrade**

**sharonandrade@cox.net**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 10 am**

January 17-Changing  
Demographics  
February 21-Outer Space

### GREAT DECISIONS

**Chair: Kathleen Fitzgerald**

**KMLFitz@earthlink.net**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 10 am**

January 17-The End of  
Globalization?  
February 21-Changing  
Demographics

### WOMEN IN TRANSITION

**Chair: Susan Negrete**

**susimone@aol.com**

**PV liaison: Rowie Wolf**

**rowiewolf@cox.net**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 3 pm**

**Meetings held outdoors**

January 5-Annual Business Mtg.

February 2-Topic TBD

### FIRST FRIDAY TEA & CONVERSATION

**Chair: Kathryn Sandow**

**reinventingme@me.com**

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday 2 — 4 pm**

January 7-Topic tbd

February 4-Topic tbd

### COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

**Chairs: Fran Brown**

**franbrown5@cox.net**

**Leann Roque**

**leannr@cox.net**

**Each Wednesday 10 am**

Contact Fran Brown or Leann  
Roque for ZOOM link.

## BRANCH CALENDAR January, February 2022

### MEETINGS HELD VIA ZOOM

January 11, Tue	Branch Meeting, 2:00 pm
January 22, Sat.	Authors Event, 11 am
February 11, Fri.	Valentine's Party, 7 pm

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

**Council Co-chairs:** Fran Brown  
and Leann Roque

**Treasurer:** Faith Morrow,  
**Co-Treasurer:**  
Shera Dolmatz-Finkel

**Membership Chairs:**  
Libby Bergen and Jane Harris

**Editor:** Eunice McConaughy  
310-530-5847  
eunicemc771@gmail.com

Deadline for Mar/Apr  
CoastLines articles,  
Feb. 15, 2022

### AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls  
through advocacy, education, philanthropy  
and research.

American Association of University Women  
Palos Verdes Branch  
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Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

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