

AAUW COASTLINES

Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch, March/April 2023

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



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READERS THEATER PERFORMANCE

at our

March Branch Meeting
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 2:00 pm

Peninsula Center Library

The Select Sorority: Special 20th Anniversary Performance (Act 1)



This is the one that started it all, the first original play written by Readers Theater members Jacqueline Mason and Pam Gershkoff about the First Ladies of the United States, interviewed about their lives and the history they witnessed. It is presented in interview format with lively conversations between the featured First Ladies: Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison, and Sarah Polk. This began a long string of performances highlighting the lives and accomplishments of women who are well known - or ought to be better known - each a powerful force in her own right against the backdrop of history.

Please come and bring a guest, and if you have thought of joining Readers Theater, this would be a great chance to see what we do.

MADRONA MARSH FIELD TRIP

February 28, 10:00 am

3201 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance

Please join us on a special Field Trip to the Madrona Marsh near Del Amo in Torrance. We will have a docent directed tour and the tour will start at 10 am. The Marsh should have water and migrating birds. We will also tour an impressive nature center on the site. We will have lunch afterwards at the Lazy Dog restaurant :

Lazy Dog Restaurant
3525 W. Carson St.
Torrance, CA 90502

Please confirm for tour and lunch.
Myrna Plost, Program Chair, myrnaplost@gmail.com.

Public Policy Update

Nancy Mahr

On December 29, President Biden signed into law the long-awaited Pregnant Workers Fairness Act as an amendment to the omnibus spending package. The law is a momentous victory for pregnant and postpartum workers and their families.

Effective June 27, 2023, employers will be required to provide basic accommodations to pregnant workers, such as carrying a water bottle or taking bathroom breaks. The legislation will enable millions of workers to provide for their families without compromising their health or pregnancies. This is the most significant protection for pregnant workers in decades!

The grass roots effort through the AAUW Two Minute Activist program helped with this effort.

TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST

Send emails and texts to your legislators to fight for equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equality in education and more. Sign up to get regular alerts to be able to take timely action.

When you sign up for the Two Minute Activist, you also are signed up for Action Alerts at the state level.

Sign up now!

[Two-Minute Activist](#)

Gov Trek Update

AAUW's new program Gov Trek is up and running. The goal of Gov Trek is to address the shortage of women in the halls of power by inspiring high school junior and senior girls to consider careers in public service and elected office. During this virtual program, students will interact with women legislators, explore career options, and learn about the inner workings of a political campaign, culminating in a group competition to create a realistic campaign simulation.

105 girls were selected by the January application deadline. From our general area:

- 5 are from Hawthorne
- 2 from Lawndale
- 1 from Inglewood
- 1 from Torrance
- 2 from Long Beach

Most of the girls heard about the program from AAUW, teachers/schools, Tech Trek, and parents.

When the first session is over, we will receive information about how the program progressed.

Contact for questions: Nancy Mahr, nlmahr@verizon.net



March Birthdays

Judy Milestone	03/04
Rowie Wolf	03/05
Dana Gorman	03/06
Jill Wussler	03/08
Shirley Collins	03/11
Lynne Jones	03/23
Marlin More	03/30

April Birthdays

Kaaren Lee	04/02
Maria Ashla	04/10
Karen Gottlieb	04/10
Dayla Sims	04/12
Shirley Kay	04/13
Kathy Bartow	04/21
Nancy Bell	04/21
Eunice McConaughy	04/30

If we missed your birthday or a correction needs to be made, please inform Nancy Rayner at nrayner777@gmail.com.



Note the Change of Venue

The Readers Theater performance Tuesday, March 14, 2023 will take place in the Community room at the Peninsula Center Library:

Peninsula Center Library
701 Silver Spur Rd.
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274



Tuesday, May 09, 2023

Branch Meeting

Banned Book Presentation & Election of Officers

Saturday, June 10, 2023

Recognition Luncheon at the Red Onion



The Tech Trek Committee met on February 7 to discuss the Tech Trek timeline and the structure of the committee. The committee members have committed to sustaining a Tech Trek program at PVP so girls at our two schools, Wilmington, and Dana Middle Schools, will continue to have an opportunity to attend Tech Trek. Due to the generosity of our donors, we can send 20 girls to residential camps and 2 to Virtual camp. We received the full allotment of our requested spaces. This is great news. But without volunteers to put in the leadership and work, none of these future campers can attend Tech Trek. It is our volunteers who make this program work, so thanks to all of those on the Tech Trek Committee who have committed their skills and time to make sure PVP continues to send girls to Tech Trek.

Kaaren Lee volunteered to be Branch Coordinator-in-Training when Helen Cannefax could no longer fill this role. Kaaren became a member last year and has many years of experience as a volunteer with youth organizations. She has many creative ideas and tremendous energy to make things happen. What a plus to have her at PVP! Helen is a big supporter of the goals of Tech Trek and will be part of the Dana MS school group.

We now have two school groups with 6 members each who will have the responsibility to:

- assist parents and students with the application process,
- select campers and alternates for camp by reading essays and interviewing applicants,
- assist parents and selected students with the registration process,
- support orientation and celebrate Tech Trek events.

The new CampDoc selection and registration system allows all members of the committee involved in the camper selection process to view parent and student forms and applications. This access enables each of us to see where the parents and students might have problems and to assist them in completing the required documents. Learning the system will be a bit challenging initially, but it will quickly become a very useful tool. I've already sorted incoming forms and applications from our nominated students, viewed the progress of the forms and been able to select the parent email address to immediately send a message on how to complete the form. It was so much more efficient than prior systems since it permits much greater access to information at the branch level.

Since it took longer to get the CampDoc links available to the parents of the nominated parents, we have a tight schedule to read essays, interview and select campers, and assign them to camps. Applications are due by February 28. We will read and score applications the first week of March and interview and select campers March 9 and 16. Camp Directors need to receive our camper names by April 15. It will be a busy couple of months, but I'm excited about the new commitment and leadership of our Tech Trek Committee, and the new tools that will make it easier to help our applicants make it all the way to camp.

Kathy Ford

PVP Tech Trek Branch Coordinator and Treasurer

kjsford@me.com

310-541-3981 310-753-6468 (cell)

March is Women's History Month; a Fitting Time to Observe Transgender Day of Visibility

By Melissa Maceyko, Member AAUW California Public Policy Committee

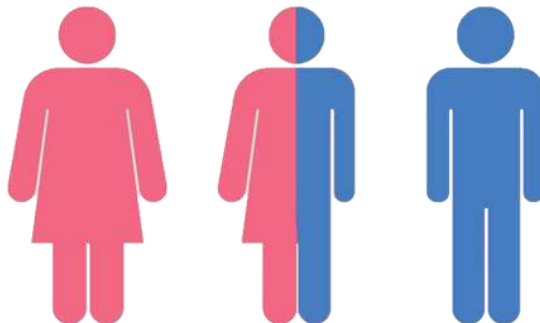
Each year on March 31, the world observes Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) to raise awareness about transgender people. It is a day to celebrate the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the poverty, discrimination, and violence the community faces.

We understand how women's history tells the story of misogyny, which is the systemic mistreatment of women, girls, and feminine peoples through forms of physical and structural violence. But we rarely consider how it is linked to trans misogyny, which focuses on the complex intersections between transphobia and misogyny that are faced by trans women and girls, as well as transfeminine and gender non-conforming peoples. It is a term that attempts to capture multiple layers of gender-based marginalization and systemic mistreatment. If misogyny and trans misogyny are not combatted together, then the root of the problem will never truly be eradicated.

Although the past decade has seen a more vocal public push for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives around gender, the current sociopolitical climate in the United States is not supportive of, and is often openly hostile to, transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. Under this sphere of increased hostility is the explicit targeting of trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples with words, actions, and legislation. It is particularly important for women's organizations who seek to combat gender-based forms of oppression to build coalitions and take a stand against **misogyny and trans misogyny** in all its forms, because misogyny and trans misogyny come from the same place. They both describe gender-based oppression that results from the prioritization of masculinity alongside the degradation of femininity.

Targeted hostility against trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples can be seen not only in the alarming uptick in physical violence against this community, but also in the increasing persistence and intensity of public debates over whether or not trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples are "real women" that belong in "women's spaces," including gender-specific bathrooms, women's sports teams, and locker rooms. These debates prioritize misplaced and misunderstood claims of biological authenticity. They are dehumanizing and cannot be disconnected from other forms of violence as they normalize widespread and explicit marginalization and exclusion.

As a women's organization, the increasingly hostile environment for trans women and girls and transfeminine people should be at the forefront of our collective education and activism - let's help ensure that history doesn't continue to repeat itself. Visit the Public Policy website to learn more.



Donations for Rainbow Services

Think about it. Where would you start if you suddenly had to set up a new household? That's what many Rainbow Services clients are faced with.

Rainbow Services is once again requesting donations of gift cards to help with necessities. Please send or deliver your gift cards to:

Lynne Jones at 31 Seaview Drive, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274 by March 31.

Some types of gift cards that support survivors are:

Gas gift cards help survivors go to and from work, go to court appointments and perform other daily activities. (Arco, 76, Chevron)

Grocery gift cards support survivors and help them save money on basic food needs. (Vons, Ralphs, Sprouts, Trader Joe's, Albertsons, Smart and Final)

Retail gift cards help survivors purchase needed clothing and other necessities left behind. (Target, Ross, Marshall's, Kohl's T.J. Maxx)

Here's another way we can support Rainbow Services and have a pleasant afternoon with views of the San Pedro Harbor.

Rainbow Services

Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show

April 23, 2023 @ 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

San Pedro Elks Lodge

1748 Cumbre Dr.

San Pedro , CA 90732

Purchase Event Tickets:

http://em.networkforgood.com/ls/click?upn=VAGGw4zHikj3d-2F5242H3Zogm5p5wF8nn1xTAejOS-2FB2MBB57IDGktu8xI8TVMCLDldiPAPYHA3y8-2BazCPNr5c9FNNpOTncLB279v4PRSM2PVmflCEBVewQwYgH-2Fq-2BTsNF1htRihURzANDgU-2BL46-2F4jW1hVgRqTFBVF7849asjujyoURsbm7AohoXRGGski9TxioQ_ul



The Status of Women Award

The AAUW Status of Women Award is presented once a year by the branch to a woman who is visible in the community and works to better society. She shows leadership and exhibits professional conduct. She is a role model for other women and girls.

The Branch Leadership team is asking for your suggestions for our 2023 Status of Women Award. A nominee may be a branch member or not; there is no requirement that the award recipient be a member of AAUW.

The Award will be presented at the June Recognition Luncheon at the Red Onion.

Please submit your suggestions to Nancy Mahr at nlmahr@verizon.net or leave a phone message at 310-377-0735. Deadline to submit is March 31, 2023.

Membership Renewal Time

Yes, it's that time again! Your current membership expires June 30, 2023. You will be able to renew your membership online. In April you will receive an email from the National AAUW containing a link for paying renewal fees with a credit card. If you prefer, the email gives you the option to renew by check as we have done in the past. Check your email for a message from membershipinfo@aauw.org. *For new members, this doesn't apply to you. The membership expiration date is determined by your join date.*

Dues Breakdown: ****Note that the national dues are increasing by \$5.00.**

AAUW National - \$72.00. (\$69.00 tax deductible)

AAUW CA - \$20.00

PVP Branch - \$22.00

Total: \$114.00

How much do you pay?

Regular Member	(AAUW + AAUW CA + Branch)	\$114.00
Life Member	(AAUW + Branch)	\$42.00
Dual Member	(Branch dues only)	\$22.00

Additional donations to the Branch would be much appreciated but cannot be made through the National renewal process. If you want to donate to the Branch, please mail a separate check payable to AAUW-PVP, to AAUW-PVP, Box 2443, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274.

It would be helpful if you could complete the renewal process as soon as possible to help the Leadership Council in planning the budget for next year.

The past year and current events have emphasized the importance of the AAUW mission *"To advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy."* We look forward to your continuing support and commitment to AAUW.

Libby Bergen & Jane Harris
Membership Co-Chairs

WINTER SOCIAL

Submitted by Margery Norris

“It was good and pleasant to visit with friends and meet newer and prospective members at our Winter Social. On February 11th JoAnn DeFlon once again was our hostess and the Membership Committee team and others supplied delicious food and drinks. We all agreed that we are good company!”



Margery Norris and hostess JoAnn DeFlon



JoAnn DeFlon, Fran Brown, Jane Harris, Myrna Plost, Deane Hembacker, Margery Norris, Martha Freakins and Libby Bergen



Enjoying a moment in the garden. Joanie Gale and two guests.



AAUW members visiting and enjoying the day.



Elayne Nahman, and Co-chairs Leann Roque and Fran Brown



Heather White (took home applicaion), Dale Richards, Helen Vakil and Jill Wussler (new member)

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS – MARCH/APRIL 2023

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

ART APPRECIATION

Chair: Nancy Rayner
Nrayner777@gmail.com
 1st Wednesday 2pm

March 1– *The Illusion – Getting the Right Perspective*
 April 5 – *Art that Moves Us – Time and Motion*

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS

Chair: Jan Cofer
jancofer@gmail.com
 4th Saturday – 10am

March 25 – Topic TBD
 April 22 – Topic TBD



COOKS' CORNER

Chair: Denise DeVenuto
Dendev88@gmail.com
 3rd Saturday 12N

March 18 – Best Recipes Using Cheese
 April 15 – Eggless Baking Recipes

DAYTIME SCRABBLE

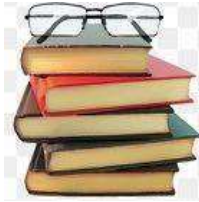
Chair: Libby Bergen
bergenlibby@gmail.com
 2nd & 4th Wednesday 2PM

March 8 and 22
 April 12 and 26

BRIDGETTES

Chair: Margery Norris
mnorris@ca.rr.com
 3rd Tuesday 1PM

March 21 – at Fran Wielin's home
 April 18 – at Joann DeFlon's home



NIGHT BOOKS

Chair: Rowie Wolf
rowiewolf@cox.net
 2nd Monday 7pm via Zoom

March 13 – *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict

April 10 – *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict

4TH MONDAY BOOK GROUP

Chair: Fran Brown
franbrown5@cox.net
 4th Monday 2 – 4pm

March 27 – Spring Luncheon @ Yellow Vase – Malaga Cove
 April 24 – *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult

****THIS GROUP IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS****

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

Chair: JoAnn DeFlon
jjdeflon@gmail.com
 2nd Monday 9:30AM

March 13 – *Oh William!* by Elizabeth Strout
 April 10 – *Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson

****THIS GROUP IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS****

ECLECTIC READERS

Chair: Jan Cofer
jancofer@gmail.com
 3rd Thursday 2pm

March 21 – *True Biz* by Sara Novis
 April 18 – *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post* by Allison Pataki

GREAT DECISIONS

Chair: Kathleen Fitzgerald
kmlfitz@earthlink.net
 3rd Monday 10am

March 20 – *War Crimes: What are they? How can they be prosecuted?*

April 17 – *China & America: Back to the Future?*

WOMEN IN TRANSITION

Chair: Susan Negrete
 (310) 377 - 0642
 PV Liaison: Rowie Wolf
 (310) 373-5970
 1st Wednesday 7PM - 9PM

March 15 – Topic TBD
 April 12– Topic TBD
 (Please note date changes for these two months only)



FIRST FRIDAY TEA & CONVERSATION

Chair: Kathryn Sandow
reinventing@me.com
 1st Friday 2 – 4pm

March 3 – Topic tbd
 April 7 – Topic tbd
****THIS GROUP IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS****


COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

Chairs: Fran Brown –
franbrown5@cox.net
 Leann Roque – leannr@cox.net
 Each Wednesday 10am

Contact Fran Brown or Leann Roque for ZOOM link

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS – MARCH/APRIL 2023

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

<p><u>WOMEN HELPING WOMEN</u> Co-Chair: Jane Harris comp-prin@hotmail.com Co-Chair: Nancy Rayner Nrayner777@gmail.com 1st Thursday 2PM</p> <p>March 2 - Areas of Focus for 2023</p> <p>April 6 - Topic TBD</p>	<p><u>EVENING SCRABBLE</u> Chair: Joanie Gale joaniekgale@gmail.com 4th Monday 7PM</p> <p>March 27 – location TBD</p> <p>April 24 – Location TBD</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p><u>LUNCH BUNCH</u> Chair: Nancy Rayner Nrayner777@gmail.com 1st Tuesday 1PM</p> <p>March 7 – Good Stuff April 4</p> <p>– Kabob Curry</p> <p><u>WOMEN EATING LUNCH LEISURELY (WELL)</u> Chair: Joanie Gale joaniekgale@gmail.com 3rd Wednesday 1PM</p> <p>March 15 - Restaurant TBD April 19 – TBD</p>
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January Branch Meeting Program on Women's Reproductive Rights

by Fran Brown

Our Program Chair, Myrna Plost, arranged for two speakers on the issue of Women's Reproductive Rights.

Jamie Kennerk of Planned Parent Public Affairs spoke on Reproductive Justice: SCOTUS and What's to Come. First, she shared background on Roe vs. Wade 1973, which confirmed the inherent right to privacy that protects the right to abortion. In California, the right to have an abortion was the law in 2002 & is now a constitutional amendment. SOCTUS in the Dobbs v. Jackson's Women's Health Organization, June 2022, announced that Roe was egregiously wrong and should be overturned. Abortion availability is now on a state by state basis.

According to a UCLA study, it is estimated that 10,000 people will come to California for legal abortions, of that number, 6,200 will come to Los Angeles. Since the Dobbs decision, Planned Parenthood has seen an uptick in services and increased security threats. There are Planned Parenthood locations in Lawndale, Carson, Long Beach, Compton and Inglewood.

Sara Deen introduced the second speaker, Dr. DJ Singh, an obstetrician and gynecologist who has practiced in the South Bay for over 20 years. She stated that in Cook County Hospital in Chicago, prior to Roe vs. Wade there was a ward where 1-2 women died per day from abortion complications. Once abortions were legal, this ward was no longer needed and closed down. Since Dobbs, data in Texas shows increased maternal morbidity and mortality. Doctors have to document how severe the situation is before a medical procedure is allowed. They feel their hands are tied. OB/GYN training has become limited in some states. Since 40% of health care in the United States is provided through Catholic services this may now affect availability of certain medical procedures. Dr. Singh advised that the best solution is to vote out male legislators who don't understand science.

BRANCH CALENDAR Mar/Apr 2023

February 28, Tuesday, 10 am	Madrona Marsh field trip
March 14, Tuesday , 2 pm	Readers Theater program at Peninsula Center Library
March 31	Deadline for Rainbow Services donations
March 31	Deadline for submitting names for Status of Women Award
May 09, Tuesday, 2 pm	Branch meeting
June 10, Saturday	Recognition Luncheon at Red Onion
June 30, Friday	Current membership expires, see page 8 for renewal information

Council Co-Chairs: Fran Brown
and Leann Roque

Treasurer: Shera Dolmatz-Finkel

Membership Chairs:
Libby Bergen and Jane Harris

AAUW Mission Statement

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

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

Deadline for May/Jun CoastLines
articles, Apr. 15, 2023

American Association of University Women
Palos Verdes Branch
P.O. Box 2443
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274