

AAUW CoastLines

Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch, January/February 2024

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



Inside this issue

Lobby Days 2024	2
AAUWUS Update	
Birthdays	3
AAUW Tri Branch meeting	
Bingo	
Winter Social	
Tech Trek	4
AAIW CA Lobby Days	
Martin Luther King Day	5
Tri-Branch Speaker	
November Branch Meeting	6
Quiz on Branch Meeting	
Quiz cont'd	7
AAUW Holiday Party	8
Women Helping Women	
Interest Group Page	9
Interest Group Page	10
Answers to Quiz	
Branch Calendar	11



Please Join Us at the January Branch Meeting Tuesday, January 9

2:00 p.m.

**Hesse Park Fireside Room
Topic: Sex and the Economy
Speaker: Don Mottinger**

Don Mottinger will be speaking on "Sex and the Economy". Using a PowerPoint presentation, Don will be addressing world-wide population trends, the short and long term economic impacts, and more. According to Wikipedia "The world population was estimated by the United Nations to have exceeded eight billion in mid-November 2022. It took around 300,000 years of human prehistory and history for the human population to reach one billion and only 222 years more to reach 8 billion". Come hear a fascinating overview of the rapid changes affecting our world and that of future generations.

An Interview with Queen Victoria

a play by Jacqueline Mason

Readers Theater invites you to gala presentation of "An Interview with Queen Victoria" at the Chado Tea Room, a fundraiser for Tech Trek . Afternoon tea will be served.



Sunday, January 21, 3:00pm
Chado Tea Room
1303 El Prado Ave., Torrance

Cost will be per person, \$62.50 before January 8, 2024, \$75.00 after that date. Payment is by check, make your check out to AAUW-PVP with "Readers Theater" in the memo. Please mail your check to:

Cecilia Rogers
2347 251st St.
Lomita, CA 90717



Lobby Days 2024 - Save the Date!

Amy Hom, Co-Chair AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Mark your calendars! AAUW California will hold our 2024 Lobby Days event on April 2 and 3, 2024. An interest survey including a registration form will arrive in your inbox mid-January. Please be sure to complete and return the form to be added to the communications list for the event.

We encourage all AAUW California members to participate in this act of advocacy that is essential for achievement of our legislative priorities. In addition to our members, we plan to invite college students to join the event. Their participation will enable us to reach more legislative offices, and we hope that this introduction to our organization will inspire these advocacy-minded young people who share our values to join AAUW.

Starting in January, our committee will evaluate new bills introduced in the state legislature which are aligned with our Public Policy Priorities: Economic Security for All Women, Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society, and Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles. In early March, our committee will meet to discuss our evaluations and select 30-35 bills for our 2024 Legislative Agenda that best represent our priorities. We will also choose the top 3 bills to advocate for during Lobby Days.

Lobby Days 2024 is scheduled to take place when the legislature returns to session after their Easter break, and will span two days to provide flexibility so that we can secure as many meetings as possible. We are planning a hybrid event with meetings scheduled virtually over Zoom as well as in-person at the Capitol. Members who live in and around Sacramento will have the option to participate in person. Legislative offices are equally willing to meet virtually or in person, and the virtual option makes it easier for AAUW members around the state to participate.

Our AAUW California Legislative Advocate will schedule meetings with the legislative offices. The committee will assemble teams of AAUW members and college students, matching them with Assembly and Senate districts. Training materials on the bills and the event will be posted on the state website in mid-March, and a mandatory training webinar will be held on March 25, 2024.

If you have participated in Lobby Days in the past, we would love to hear your feedback on what worked and what didn't. Please send your comments to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org.

Lobby Days is a wonderful opportunity to meet with your legislators and advocate for legislation to promote gender equity and improve the lives of women and girls. We hope that you will join us in this important activity to advance our values.

NOTE: If you are interested in participating on our Branch Lobby Day team in 2024, please contact Nancy Mahr, nlmahr@verizon.net.

AAUWUS Update

- AAUW has taken no position in relation to the Israel/Hamas conflict. National has stated that AAUW is a domestic organization and this is an international conflict.
- National is working in coalition with various organizations to address priority issues:
 - Student debt relief
 - Older worker protection
 - Revision of Title IX guidelines to expand gender coverage
 - Ratification of the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution)



January & February Birthdays

<i>Rosalie Abelson</i>	<i>01/02</i>
<i>Ruth Bloland</i>	<i>01/03</i>
<i>Delia Gasco</i>	<i>01/04</i>
<i>Heather White</i>	<i>01/08</i>
<i>Donna Day</i>	<i>01/14</i>
<i>Judy Alexandre</i>	<i>01/15</i>
<i>Judith Rook</i>	<i>01/25</i>
<i>Libby Bergen</i>	<i>01/30</i>
<i>Carol Hook</i>	<i>01/30</i>
<i>Jacki Bacharach</i>	<i>02/08</i>
<i>Nancy Rayner</i>	<i>02/12</i>
<i>Elissa Hoxie</i>	<i>02/15</i>
<i>Irene Gasco</i>	<i>02/16</i>
<i>Dianne Bear</i>	<i>02/21</i>

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



Please Join Our Tri-Branch Meeting

on

Saturday, February 24, 2024

at

Torrance Airport, 3301 Airport Drive

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Social

10:00 a.m. Program

Speaker: Monica Cho

Topic: Combating Online Harassment
and its Harm to Youth & Teens

**Please see p. 5 to learn more about
the speaker**



Instead of going outside to look for our shadows,
Let's have fun at our Bingo game on Groundhog Day!

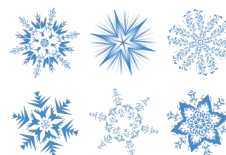
Join us on

Friday, February 2, 2024

7:00 PM

RSVP to Jane Harris at
comprrin@hotmail.com

A Bingo card and ZOOM link will be sent to you.



Join Us for our Winter Social

Saturday, February 10

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

At JoAnn DeFlon's Home
2128 Via Pacheco, Palos Verdes Estates

Consider inviting potential members
Contributions of food will be appreciated
Please contact Libby Bergen for more details

RSVP bergenlibby@gmail.com



Tech Trek is in contact with our two usual schools, Richard Henry Dana Middle School, and Wilmington Middle School. Prior to COVID, Kathy Ford had reached out to two other local schools, but we will not be pursuing that for 2024. There have been a lot of changes, including the use of Camp Docs and juggling appropriate and effective communication between all parties involved. We will be giving AAUW CA our preliminary estimate of campers, will seek nominations from the two schools, review the applications and consider interviews in the coming weeks.

Some of our goals for the year are as follows:

- Encourage more independence from the girls themselves. As is typical for their age, there was a poor response rate to emails and texts last year, requiring significant and repeated attempts to get them to respond. We intend to emphasize that turning things in on time is a great way to show your interest and enthusiasm, along with providing support for this process.
- We are going to create a “continuity binder” so that the committee has a recipe for executing Tech Trek for PVP, including job descriptions, expense records, talking points, supplies, and suggestions. We would benefit from clarifying and detailing committee responsibilities so that the workload is spread out a bit more, making sustainability of Tech Trek PVP more likely.
- We are focusing on quality not quantity, doing what we do well, without a heavy fundraising demand. We do not raise funds in a similar manner to other branches, though we do quite well with the funds from donations and programs such as Readers Theatre. We will likely send less campers this year but anticipate it will be a fantastic experience for those that attend.

As always, we happily accept donations or even leads for sources of funding for this worthy project.

Kaaren Lee
PVP Tech Trek Branch Coordinator
Lee.family90274@verizon.net

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AAUW California Lobby Days

The Lobby Day program will continue this year. The dates are April 2 and 3. AAUW members statewide speak with their state legislators on priority legislative issues. The AAUWCA Public Policy Committee organizes the zoom appointments with legislators and provides talking points for the AAUW members on 3 priority issues. There will be a training session in advance of the actual Lobby Days.

If you are interested in being part of the PV Branch Lobby Day team, please contact Nancy Mahr at nlmahr@verizon.net.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day – January 15, 2024

Martin Luther King day is a federal holiday in the United States that honors the civil rights leader and activist, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is observed on the third Monday of January each year.

Martin Luther King Day commemorates the birthday of American civil rights leader Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and celebrates his life, achievements and legacy. King was hugely influential in the American Civil Rights Movement and was the chief spokesperson of non-violent activism in the struggle for the end of racial discrimination under US law.

Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968. The federal holiday in King's honor was created in 1983, during the presidency of Ronald Reagan, and first observed in January 1986.

In recent years it is increasingly seen to be a 'Day of Service' when Americans are encouraged to volunteer to help others less fortunate than themselves. The 2024 MLK Day theme is "Living the Dream: It Starts With Me - Spreading Hope, Courage and Unity".

Tri-Branch Speaker

by Shera Dolmatz-Finkel

Our February 24, 2024 Tri Branch Meeting with the Beach Cities and Torrance chapters will feature speaker Mona Cho.

Ms. Cho is a sophomore at Mira Costa High School in Redondo Beach, a member of the Youth Advisory Council at the Beach Cities Health District (BCHD), and the lead of BCHD's Youth Health and Safety Committee. The Committee's mandate is to spread awareness of social media safety.

Ms. Cho was honored at the first Girl's Leading Change celebration at the White House hosted by First Lady Jill Biden on the 2023 International Day of the Girl. She is one of 13 young women from across the nation to receive this honor.

Our speaker will discuss her work which focuses on combatting online harassment and abuse and the harm it poses to youth and teens. In conjunction with her talk, she will present a documentary that she produced about the issue of online harassment and mental health.

Mona Cho opts to use her film as a tool to promote online safety and is a call for change.

This meeting should be of particular interest to our TTAG students and we welcome their attendance.

Please, join us on Saturday February 24, 2024 from 9:30-11:30 at the Torrance Airport Community Room to hear Ms. Cho's remarks and view her film

After the lecture and video there will be time for questions and answers followed by refreshments.

November 14 Branch Meeting

Admittedly, our branch meetings are quite appealing...homemade goodies, interesting topics, a door prize, and the chance to talk with some awesome women. There may be a certain thrill to making a motion, some competition as to who gets to second it, maybe a bit of spirited discussion, these are the typical aspects.

On November 14, the meeting was conducted swiftly. Fran Brown welcomed newer members and visiting guests, Jane Harris shared the joy of being a membership co-chair and offered to mentor her successor, Joanie Gale invited everyone to her house for the AAUW Holiday Happy Hour on Dec. 1. Then, Readers Theater took the stage for The Select Sorority – Act Two! Four former first ladies were portrayed by Martha Feakins, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Cecilia Rogers, and Carol Torelli; Leslie Criswell was the Narrator/Interviewer. Kendal Cornwell bravely acted as understudy for all roles; Donna Tucker (from AAUW San Gabriel) handled all the behind-the-scenes stage management.

The show shared the experiences of Lucy Webb Hayes, Frances Cleveland, Helen Herron Taft and Edith Wilson. In period costumes, the actors portrayed these women who helped shape America post-Civil War, a time when the issues of suffrage and prohibition were paramount.



Kathleen Fitzgerald, Martha Feakins,
Carol Torelli, Cecilia Rogers and
Leslie Criswell



Carol Torelli, Cecilia Rogers,
Leslie Criswell



Martha Feakins, Kathleen
Fitzgerald, Carol Torelli

The following quiz comes from the show...answers are on page 10

1. "Lemonade Lucy" Hayes refused to allow the following in the White House:
 - A. Dancing
 - B. Smoking
 - C. Card playing
 - D. Parties later than 10am
 - E. All of the above
2. Grover Cleveland wasn't married when he became President; he told the press he was "waiting for his bride to grow up." He eventually married his ward. What was the age difference between Grover and Frances Cleveland?
 - A. 15 years
 - B. 23 years
 - C. 27 years
 - D. 30 years

Continued on next page....

3. "The Speedway" was a derelict part of Washington, described as "a mosquito-infested swamp". Helen Taft spearheaded its renovation to a park with cherry trees donated by the mayor of Tokyo. How many trees did the mayor send?
- A. 200
 - B. 1000
 - C. 1500
 - D. Over 3000
4. Edith Wilson allowed sheep to graze on the White House lawn during WW1. Why?
- A. To free the gardeners to serve in the military
 - B. As a sleeping aid
 - C. To conserve fuel from lawn mowers
5. Edith Wilson went with her husband to Europe for the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. Which of the following really happened?
- A. Declined to curtsy to the Queen of England
 - B. Hid in a closet to listen to her husband's "14 Points" speech
 - C. Was cheered as the "Yankee Queen"
 - D. All of the above
6. Prior to being President, William Taft was appointed Governor of the Philippines. While living in the Philippines, Helen Taft accomplished the following:
- A. Started medical clinics for mothers and children
 - B. Initiated a "Drop of Milk" program, distributing sterilized milk
 - C. Mastered a native dance, the Rigadon
 - D. All of the above
7. Grover Cleveland needed to appear strong in spite of being diagnosed with cancer. Where did he secretly have surgery?
- A. In Europe
 - B. On a friend's yacht
 - C. At his summer home in Cape Cod
 - D. In the White House basement
8. Lucy Hayes was the first of the First Ladies to earn a college degree. In a paper she wrote that instead of being considered "the slave of a man, a woman should be considered his equal in all things and his superior in some." However, during her tenure as First Lady she shied away from the political controversy of the Suffrage Movement. Rutherford Hayes signed a law for the which of the following:
- A. Giving women the right to vote
 - B. Promoting paid maternity leave
 - C. Admitting women as members of the Supreme Court bar, allowing them to argue cases
 - D. Granting a charter to the AAUW



AAUW PVP HOLIDAY PARTY

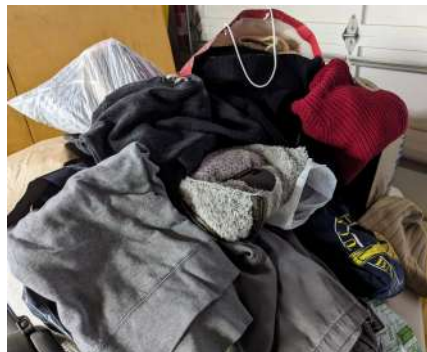
On December 1, we kicked off the season with Holiday Happy Hour! Approximately 30 people gathered at Joanie Gale's festive home. With delicious contributions of sweets and savories, the table was a sight to behold! Did I mention the beverages...there were both non-alcoholic and wine – red, white and bubbly! Unfortunately, without our designated photographer, no one captured the event for posterity!

Attendees brought an impressive collection of coats for Women Helping Women – coordinated by Shera Dolmatz, they will be donated to Toberman House.

Guests conversed with old friends and new, nibbled on treats, and enjoyed the afternoon. A special shout-out goes to Marty Plost, the lone man who made it to the party! Many thanks to Libby Bergen for her coordination of the RSVPs, food and drink. A good time was had by all!

Women Helping Women

by Libby Bergen



This Fall our Women Helping Women interest group spearheaded a Coat Drive for our chapter. Over 100 gently used and new coats, jackets, sweaters and sweatshirts were donated to the Toberman Neighborhood Center in San Pedro in early December.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity. We have ensured that members of our community who might have been cold this winter will be warmer due to your kindness.

INTEREST GROUP CALENDER – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

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

ART APPRECIATION

Leader: Nancy Rayner
Nrayner777@gmail.com 1st

Wednesday 2pm

January 3 – *Subject Matters*
 February 7 – *Signs – Symbols, Icons, and Indexes in Art*



COOKS' CORNER

Leader: Denise DeVenuto
Dendev88@gmail.com

3rd Saturday 12N

January 20 – topic tbd
 February 17 – topic tbd

DAYTIME SCRABBLE

Leader: Libby Bergen
bergenlibby@gmail.com

2nd & 4th Wednesday 2PM

January 10 & 24
 February 14 & 28

EVENING SCRABBLE

Leader: Mary Ann Donahue
ma.donahue45@gmail.com

4th Monday 7PM

January 22 – meetings held at member homes
 February 26

THIS GROUP MEETS IN THE EVENING AND IS ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

NIGHT BOOKS

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

January 8 – *Goodnight, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea
 February 12 – *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett

4TH MONDAY BOOK GROUP

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

January 22 – *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See
 February 26 – *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride



CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

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

January 8 – *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride
 February 12 – *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

ECLECTIC READERS

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

January 18 – New Year Luncheon
 February 15 – *The Latecomer* by Jean Hanff Korelitz

WOMEN IN TRANSITION

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

January 10 – Annual Business Mtg.
 February 7 – Topic tbd

FIRST FRIDAY TEA & CONVERSATION

Leader: Helen Vakil
helenvakil@yahoo.com
 1st Friday 2 – 4pm

January 5 - If money wasn't an issue, what would be one of your goals in life?
 February 2 - What topic could you give a 30 min. presentation without any preparation?

THIS GROUP IS OPEN AND WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

Leaders: Fran Brown – franbrown5@cox.net
 Leann Roque – leannr@cox.net
 Each Wednesday 10am
 Contact Fran Brown or Leann Roque for ZOOM link

BRIDGETTES


Leader: Margery Norris
mnorris@ca.rr.comx
 3rd Tuesday 1PM

January 16
 February 20



INTEREST GROUP CALENDER – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

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

<p><u>WOMEN HELPING WOMEN</u> Co-Leader: Jane Harris compprin@hotmail.com Co-Leader: Nancy Rayner Nrayner777@gmail.com 1st Thursday 2PM</p> <p>January 4 – on Zoom February 1 – on Zoom</p> <p><u>HANDICRAFTS</u> Leader: Joanie Gale joaniekgale@gmail.com 2nd Saturday 3PM-5PM</p> <p>January 13 – location tbd February 10 – location tbd</p>	<p><u>FUN AT THE MOVIES</u> Leader: Myrna Plost mplost@verizon.net 4th Thursday 2PM</p> <p>January 25 – <i>Oppenheimer</i> – at Myrna Plost's home February 15 - tbd</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p><u>READERS THEATER</u> Leader: Cecilia Rogers fafnyr@mac.com 2nd Tuesday 6PM</p> <p>January 9 February 13</p>	<p><u>LUNCH BUNCH</u> Leader: Nancy Rayner Nrayner777@gmail.com 1st Tuesday 1PM</p> <p>January 2 – El Pollo Inka February 6 – Di Roma</p> <p><u>WOMEN EATING LUNCH LEISURELY (WELL)</u> Leader: Joanie Gale joaniekgale@gmail.com 3rd Wednesday 1PM</p> <p>January 17 – Misto Cafe February 21 – Bites & Bashes</p>
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Thank you to Fran Brown and Shera Domatz Finkel for the photography in this issue.

Answers to The Select Sorority—Act Two Quiz: 1-E, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A, 5-D, 6-D, 7-B, 8-C

BRANCH CALENDAR January/February 2024

January 09, Tuesday 2pm	Branch Meeting, "Sex and the Economy", Hesse Park
January 21, Sunday 3pm	Readers Theater "An Interview with Queen Victoria", Chado Tea Room , RSVP required (see front page)
February 02, Friday 7pm	Ground Hog Day Bingo, ZOOM, RSVP to Jane Harris to get card
February 10, Saturday 2-4pm	Winter Social Jo Ann DeFlon's home, RSVP required
February 24, Saturday, 9:30am social, 10am program.	Tri-Branch meeting, Torrance airport
April 2 and 3	AAUW California Lobby Days

Council Co-Chairs: Fran Brown and Joanie Gale

Treasurer: Dale Richards and Leann Roque

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 Mar/Apr CoastLines articles, February 15, 2024

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