

  
**THE CONNECTION**

**WEST CONTRA COSTA BRANCH**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**  
 Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research  
[westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net](http://westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net) <<http://westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net>>

VOLUME XXXVI

NEWSLETTER 3

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

***HEAR BETH GOLDBERG DISCUSS HOW NON-PROFIT YOUTH HOMES HELPS AT-RISK, FOSTER, AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH!***



**Saturday, November 17, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito**

Since 1965, the Youth Homes team has provided services for young people in Contra Costa County who have experienced multiple traumas, abuse and neglect. Their mission is helping young people heal and empowering them to lead lives of meaning. They serve over 200 young people each year. Beth Goldberg graduated from USC with a BA in Psychology and earned her MSW from Columbia University. She stumbled into development work early in her career and unexpectedly fell in love with giving people the opportunity to make a transformative impact in their community. When not at work, she stays active running after and having dance parties with her husband and three young children. She has been working with Youth Homes since 2014.

<b>President</b> Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 <a href="mailto:rjm2343@sbcglobal.net">rjm2343@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Co-Membership VPs</b> Susan Duncan 334-0520 Mimi Fruehan 527-7178 Judy Sam 527-1661 Jackie Title 234-9370	<b>Tech Trek Co-Chairs</b> Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 <a href="mailto:rjm2343@sbcglobal.net">rjm2343@sbcglobal.net</a> Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 <a href="mailto:marsha.weintraub@gmail.com">marsha.weintraub@gmail.com</a> †	<b>Co-Secretaries</b> Marilynn Bracelin 223-4057 <a href="mailto:mbracelin414@gmail.com">mbracelin414@gmail.com</a> (backup): Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 Ida Michael 524-7468
<b>AAUW Funds VP</b> Barbara Vaughan <a href="mailto:barbvaughan@mac.com">barbvaughan@mac.com</a> 548-1942	<b>Co-Program VPs</b> Maria LaForge 527-4378 Gloria Merrill 527-2681 Susan Walenta 526-4383	<b>Treasurer</b> Christine Hills 734-6505 <a href="mailto:chills627@gmail.com">chills627@gmail.com</a> (backup): Roberta Montgomery 237-5293	<b>Sunshine Chair</b> Alas, we have lost our sunshine!
<b>Hospitality Chair</b> Sally Dunham, 758-4094 <a href="mailto:sallydunham1@gmail.com">sallydunham1@gmail.com</a>	<b>Website Manager</b> Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 <a href="mailto:barbvaughan@mac.com">barbvaughan@mac.com</a>	<b>Bylaws, Policies &amp; Procedures</b> Marilynn Bracelin, 223-4057 <a href="mailto:mbracelin414@gmail.com">mbracelin414@gmail.com</a>	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Sue Walenta 526-4383 <a href="mailto:awalenta@comcast.net">awalenta@comcast.net</a> (backup): Barbara Miller 526-4874
<b>Community/Cultural Chair</b> Barbara Miller 526-4874 (backup) Betty Ann Barnett 233-7580	<b>Contra Costa College Relations</b> Joyce Muse, 236-8254 <a href="mailto:museharris@gmail.com">museharris@gmail.com</a>	<b>Publicity Chair</b> Maria LaForge, 527-4378 <a href="mailto:d.laforge@sbcglobal.net">d.laforge@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Public Policy</b> Marianne Selph 526-6631 <a href="mailto:Mselph2@cs.com">Mselph2@cs.com</a>
<b>Newsletter Circulation</b> Marion McIntire, 237-0534	<b>Read Aloud Chair</b> Judy Sam, 527-1661 <a href="mailto:Jssam47@yahoo.com">Jssam47@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Telephone Monitor</b> Janet Mengle 232-2676	<b>Facebook Monitor</b> Christine Hills 734-6505 <a href="mailto:chills627@gmail.com">chills627@gmail.com</a>

# PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!

Saturday, December 15, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
At the home of Susan and Arthur Walenta  
737 Bay Tree Lane, El Cerrito (526-4383)



Please join us at Susan and Arthur's beautiful home in the El Cerrito hills for our annual celebration of the holiday season. We always have a wonderful time enjoying the company of our friends, the splendid views, and the holiday cheer. Please remember to bring a holiday treat of finger food – a plate of cookies or small sandwiches to share. Our host and hostess will provide coffee and tea.

Please also bring a book for a young child or a donation to be used to buy children's books. We are collecting books and donations to support two programs: Read Aloud for children at kindergarten through third grade levels, and the Grant Birthday Book Project for first and second grade students. Your generosity in the past has been wonderful. Our contributions are greatly appreciated by the children who benefit as they enjoy the stories while improving their knowledge and skills.

**Directions:** To get to the Valentas' home at 737 Bay Tree Lane, from I-80 (in either direction): Take the **Central Avenue exit** in El Cerrito. Turn east on Central Ave. Proceed a few blocks, past the traffic lights at Pierce St. and Carlson Blvd. to San Pablo Ave, which is another light. **Turn left (north) on San Pablo.** Proceed north a few blocks, past the light at Stockton Ave. to the next light at Moeser Lane. **Turn right (east) on Moeser** and proceed up the hill almost to The Arlington. When you come to Terrace Drive on the right, **make a sharp right turn** (almost a "V") **onto Terrace.** Avoid the easy right turn at the corner, which is Bates. Proceed southwest down the hill at an angle for one long block. **Make a left turn off of Terrace onto Gelston Place.** (A sign on the corner says "Not a Through Street.") Proceed one block on Gelston, until you come to a "Y" intersection. **Take the right arm of the "Y"** onto Bay Tree Lane—a one-block street which goes downhill and ends in a cul-de-sac. The Valentas' house is a redwood house on the right, the third house from the far end of the street. The top of the garage is covered with trumpet vines. See photo above. If you get lost, call Sue at 526-4383.

## The Editor

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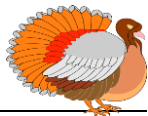


**Marty Takimoto** sends news of our fellow member and good friend, **Mollie Hazen**, who remains in good spirits while fighting cancer. Marty sends thanks on behalf of Mollie "to everyone who offered up CD and/or DVD players for Mollie's use. We had a number of offers from people and were able to borrow a player from Marilyn H." Mollie gives a weekly update on her mood and thoughts in a YouTube video. You can see her latest, where she discusses her pain, her challenges with eating, and her gratitude for your thoughts and cards, at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPKWQRYIALY&feature=youtu.be>

A **Memorial Service** for our beloved **Winnie Sayre** will be held on December 22 from 2:00-5:00pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road in Kensington.

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## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ACTIVITIES



**Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at 2:00 PM**, at the home of **Sue Duncan** (334-0520), 1202 King Dr., El Cerrito. Sue requests that people park in the court across the street for safety. Call **President Roberta Montgomery** (237-5293) for more information.

**Afternoon Books:** The group usually meets on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **1:30 PM**. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, November 26**, at the home of **Maria LaForge** (527-4378), 240 Columbia Avenue, Kensington, where we will discuss *The Woman Next Door* by Yewande Omotoso. Like our previous book, this one is set in South Africa. All are welcome; please join us!

**Daytime Bridge:** We are starting up the Bridge Group again. As in the past, this group will include all levels of players and will meet at **1:00pm** on the **third Friday** of the month. **Connie Miller**, 7300 Pomona Court, El Cerrito, will host the first meeting on **Friday, November 16, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**. Her house is at the corner of Pomona Ave. and Pomona Court. Note there is an uphill slope on the court to her house plus 7 steps (2 stone and 5 wooden steps). Parking generally is difficult on the court, but is usually available on Pomona Avenue. Please **contact Connie (510-526-1249; [cjm7300@hotmail.com](mailto:cjm7300@hotmail.com)) to reserve a space**. Also contact her if you can't attend the November 16 meeting, but are interested in being part of the Bridge Group. The group will most likely not meet in December, but will need to determine who will host the January 18, February 15 and future meetings.

**Global Interests Group:** The group meets on the **second Monday of each month from 1:30 to 3:00 pm** at the home of **Ellen Mills** (526-5815), 1648 Oak View Avenue, Kensington, near Colusa Circle. The group's next meeting will be on **Monday, November 12**. This meeting will feature all of us! Each member is asked to prepare a short (10-minute) presentation on the most interesting trip she has taken or destination she has visited. Our traditional holiday get-together will be on **Monday, December 10**. Feel free to bring guests, but please call Ellen or Marty in advance so they will know how many people to expect. Members who wish to join the group are very welcome and should call **Ellen** or **Marty** to let them know that you are coming. For most meetings, all those attending are asked to come with a four- or five-minute presentation on some recent global event to share with other attendees during the first part of the meeting. For further information, if you have any questions, or if you wish to bring a guest, please contact the group's coordinator, **Marty Souto-Martinez** at 925-304-2022 or [josemarty@yahoo.com](mailto:josemarty@yahoo.com).

**Get Together for Lunch Group:** The next meeting of this group will be on **Monday, Nov. 19, at 12:00 Noon**, at **Kim's Café**, at 1309 Solano Avenue, Berkeley. Kim's is a Vietnamese restaurant that serves regular and Vietnamese sandwiches, salads, noodle dishes, vermicelli buns, spring rolls, salad rolls and rice bowls. If you are able to join us, please contact **Maria LaForge** (527-4378) or email her at [d.laforge@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.laforge@sbcglobal.net) so we can get an appropriate count for our lunch reservation.



There are 11 measures on the November ballot. They cover a variety of issues. The AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee reviewed the ballot measures and determined that most do not address issues in our Public Policy Priorities. We have classified these as "No Position." Propositions 1, 4, and 5 have a bearing on our principles, but they include elements that undermine some of our priorities, along with elements that support our priorities. The Committee adopted a **"NEUTRAL"** position on Propositions 1, 4, and 5. **Proposition 2: Homeless Housing Bond: SUPPORT No Place Like Home Act of 2018.** A great number of our homeless population suffers from mental illness. Prop. 2 allows previously allocated unspent money to be used to provide permanent supportive housing for people who need mental health service and are either currently homeless or at risk of becoming so. Women comprise a significant percentage of the homeless. This measure does not involve a new state bond. The Committee is **NEUTRAL** on Prop.1 (Veterans and Affordable Housing Bonds), Prop. 4 (Children's Hospital Bond), and Prop. 5 (Property Tax). It takes no position on Prop. 3 (Water Bond), Prop. 6 (Gas Tax Repeal), Prop. 7 (Daylight Saving Time), Prop. 8 (Dialysis), Prop. 10 (Repeal Costa Hawkins/Rent Control), Prop. 11 (Ambulance Drivers), and Prop. 12 (Farm Animals). For additional information on ballot measures, go to the website for Ballotpedia: [https://ballotpedia.org/California\\_2018\\_ballot\\_propositions](https://ballotpedia.org/California_2018_ballot_propositions)

**AAUW CA Perspective**  
**Marianne Selph, Public Policy Chair**

## NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL AAUW

### Encourage Organizations & Women Scholars in Your Community to Apply for Funding!

AAUW has a wide range of fellowships and grants for community projects and women pursuing research, certificates, or advanced degrees. Could someone you know be in next year's class of AAUW fellows? Encourage them to apply now — most deadlines are in November! Find more information at this website: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>



### AAUW MOBILIZATION INITIATIVE: WORK SMART!



Last month we told you about AAUW's strategic plan, of which one goal to achieve pay equity by 2030. This month we are introducing steps you can take to advance this goal.

**Work Smart** is a program for empowering women across the country to negotiate for a raise, promotion, or a new job. It is now available online—for free. AAUW is asking every member to take the course now. Work Smart will teach you essential negotiation skills and important facts about the status of the gender pay gap. And it will prepare you to be an ambassador for AAUW's efforts.

You can take the course online or join your fellow members at a workshop in San Francisco. To register, go to the Work Smart San Francisco web page at: <https://salary.aauw.org/sanfrancisco/>. Upcoming workshops are:

- Nov. 8, 4:00-6:00pm. Morgan Stanley, 555 California Street, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor
- Dec. 13, 6:00-8:00pm. Google Community Space, 188 The Embarcadero (entrance on Stuart Street)

**Please share Work Smart Online on social media!** <https://salary.aauw.org>

AAUW is also asking every member to share the course with 20 of your friends, family members and wider network. Join AAUW in the **Members Mobilize a Million** challenge. Working together, our powerful 170,000 members and supporters—each sharing with 20 of their contacts—can help us reach our first phase goal of training **1 million women**. By 2022, we aim to train 10 million women through Start Smart and Work Smart. Think of the impact: We can pay our knowledge forward to benefit 1 million women and engage our networks and new generations in AAUW's work.

AAUW's renowned [\*The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap\*](#) report finds women are *still* paid just 80 cents for every dollar paid to a man! We can change that with AAUW's multipronged economy security initiative: by changing laws, encouraging employers to improve workplace cultures and practices, and empowering women to negotiate to their financial futures by making our [\*\*Work Smart\*\*](#) program available nationwide. And send an email to your friends, family and followers to let them know that one hour of online learning can lead to a lifetime of higher earnings.

**Improve workplace culture to advance women.** Our forthcoming report examines how sexual harassment disrupts women's career paths and affects women of all ages but in particular toward the end of their careers. As part of that study, we hope you will respond to [our survey](#) regarding sexual harassment over the course of your career. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAUWShSurvey>



This year we are having a one time **AAUW Funds** request for the **Vivian Lamont Coe American Fellowship**, part of the California Unfinished Endowments. Vivian's Fellowship is three-fourths on the way to completion. Please send your checks made out to **AAUW Funds** with the fund number, **4046**, on the memo line to **Barbara Vaughan**, 970 Wildcat Canyon Road, Berkeley, California 94708. Contributions can also be made on line: Google **AAUW CA**, select **Support Us**, go to **Donate Now**, then **Search for a Specific Program**, go to **Fellowships**, and select **Vivian Lamont Coe**. Enter the dollar amount and complete the remainder of the page. Let's complete Vivian's Fellowship soon! It would be wonderful if all members of the Branch would donate as they are able. Many thanks, Barb.

**Barbara Vaughan, AAUW Funds VP**



## CULTURE CORNER for NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2018

**Richmond Art Center**, 2540 Barrett, Richmond. 620-6772. <http://www.richmondartcenter.org>

- Through Nov. 16: **Califas: Art of the US-Mexico Borderlands**. This exhibition “explores representations of the US-Mexico ‘borderlands’ in contemporary art, w/ special emphasis on the Bay Area”. Main and West Galleries. Curated by Michael Dear.
- Saturday, Nov. 3, 11:00am-12:30pm: **What is Border Art?** Panel discussion in conjunction with the Califas exhibition. Michael Dear in conversation with panelists Ronald Rael, Richard Candida Smith, and Norma Iglesias. Free.
- Through Nov. 16: **Lia Cook: Inner Traces**. Recent jacquard loom pieces by Lia Cook, a Bay Area artist who combines weaving with self-portraiture, photography, digital technology and neuroscience.
- Through Nov. 16: **What Knot?** Contemporary art by California artists working with fiber and textile construction techniques, offering new twists on traditional processes, materials and concepts.
- Sunday, December 2: 11:00am-5:00pm. **Holiday Arts Festival**. 50 local artists and artisan collectives, RAC’s famous ceramics sale, and gourmet food trucks. Nonprofit partners include Rosie the Riveter Trust, Girls, Inc. of West Contra Costa, NIAD Art Center, The Latina Center and RYSE Youth Center. Special members preview hour: 10:00am-11:00am. To learn more about the exhibitors, go to the festival web site, <http://richmondartcenter.org/holiday-arts-festival/>

**NIAD Art Center**, 551 23rd Avenue, Richmond, 620-0290. <http://niadart.org/exhibits/>

- Nov. 3-21: Monday-Friday: 10:00am-4:00pm. Saturday: 12:00pm-4:00pm.
  - **It’s Complicated**. Organized by Kathleen King, one of the founders of Mercury 20 Gallery in Oakland. Work by artists who perceive, visualize and represent the expansion of complexity in contemporary life.
  - **Some Like it Darker** by Janell Moon. Mixed media collages in miniature, sourced from dreams or waking liminal states. Moon was Emeryville’s first Poet Laureate.
  - **Dreams of the Precariat** by Kathleen King. Sculptures that explore states of coexistence and contexts informed by construction, arrangement, and contrast. Building connections to counteract the abuse of power that breaks down human compassion and solidarity.
  - **Exquisite Corpse: Creative Growth x Creativity Explored x NIAD**. The result of a collective game of assemblage where a single page is folded in three and one artist is asked to draw a “head”, another a “middle”, and a third the “feet”, without seeing what the others have drawn. The images that resulted were truly surprising always unexpected, and usually quite strange.
- Saturday, Nov. 10: 1:00-4:00pm: Opening reception for the above exhibits. With a DJ set from John Everett.

**San Pablo Art Gallery**, Maple Hall, 13831 San Pablo Ave., Bldg. 4, San Pablo. 882-8673. Hours: Noon to 4:00 pm on Saturday. and Sunday. Closed holiday weekends.

<http://www.ci.san-pablo.ca.us/1237/Art-Gallery>

- Nov. 3-Nov. 25, **Close Inspection**. Paintings and mixed media by Audy Oregon and Simone Sheridan.
- Nov. 3, 1:00-3:00pm: Reception for *Close Inspection*.
- Dec. 1 – Jan. 13, **CCC Captures**. Photography by Lisa Lacabanne, Elmarise Owens, and Mitzi Yamamoto from the Contra Costa Community College.
- Dec. 1, 1:00-3:00pm: Reception for *CCC Captures*.

**Kensington Symphony Orchestra**. All concerts are at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. <https://www.kensingtonsymphonyorchestra.org/2016-17-programs>

- Nov. 10, 7:30pm. **Great Anniversaries**. In commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Leonard Bernstein, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Claude Debussy, and the 175<sup>th</sup> birthday of Edvard Grieg, the orchestra will play the overture to Bernstein’s operetta *Candide*; Debussy’s *Nocturnes* (with the Voci Women’s Vocal Ensemble); and Grieg’s *Piano Concerto in A minor*, Op. 16 (with Daniel Glover at the piano.)
- Dec. 15, 7:30pm. **Basically Baroque**. Great masterworks of the Baroque period and periods close to that in time. The program includes antiphonal brass music by Andrea and Giovanni Gabrielli, featuring the KSO Brass; Antonio Vivaldi’s Winter Concerto (from “Four Seasons”), featuring John Totzke on the violin; and two pieces by Handel—Royal Fireworks Music Suite and Water Music Suite.

**West County Winds.** Dec. 16, 3:00-4:30pm. John and Jean Knox Center for the Performing Arts on the Contra Costa College campus. West County Winds is a non-profit wind ensemble that performs music in a variety of styles from classical to pop. The concert is free.

<http://westcountywinds.org/events/december-concert-2018/>

**Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley.** 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. 525-0302. <https://uucb.org>. In addition to the concerts by the Kensington Symphony Orchestra, UUCB will host the following musical events:

- Nov. 17, 5:30-10:30pm and Nov. 18, 4:00pm. **Berkeley Broadway Singers Fall Concert: Looking Back Gliding Forward.** Songs from Broadway shows and movies. Family friendly.
- Dec. 1, 5:00-10:00pm. **Contra Costa Chorale Fall Concert**
- Dec. 9, 7:00-9:00pm. **Community Sing with Ysaye Barnwell**
- Dec. 16, 6:00-10:00pm. **Messiah Sing-Along**

**El Cerrito Out Loud.** Nov. 7, 5:00-8:00pm. The public is invited to join featured poets at an open mic event hosted by Dani Gabriel, Poet Laureate for the City of El Cerrito. At *Off The Grid* on Fairmont Ave. between San Pablo Ave. and Carlson Blvd. Food trucks and poetry and creative writing workshops.

**El Cerrito Library**, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. 526-7512. <http://ccclib.org/locations/elcerrito.html>

- Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 4:30-6:00pm: **National Novel Writing Month Meet Up.** If you have ever thought about writing a novel, "We'll provide writing prompts, a quiet writing space, and friendly support to see you through. And we'll walk you through the NaNoWriMo website so you can login, get professional writing tips, and track your writing."
- Nov. 26 and Dec. 31, 6:30-8:30pm. **Mystery Book Club.** This group meets the last Monday of each month. The book for November is *The Last Place You Look* by Kristen Lepionka. "We're a fun group and welcome new members." For more information, contact Allison Peters, [apeters@ccclib.org](mailto:apeters@ccclib.org).

**Contra Costa Civic Theater**, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. <https://ccct.org/shows/>

- Nov. 16 through Dec. 9: Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm; Sundays at 2:00pm: **Ripcord.** A bright new comedy by David Lindsay-Abaire.
- Dec. 14-22. Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm; Sundays at 2:00pm: **All is Calm.** A musical by Eric Lichte and Timothy C. Takach. Directed by Marilyn Langbehn. Musical director: Scarlett Hepworth. The story of the Christmas Truce of 1914. Based on a true story. Presented in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I.

**Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas)**, 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 273-9102. El Cerrito's own restored art deco theater. Have a drink and/or dine-in during the film, or visit "The Scene" wine bar next to the lobby before or after the show. <http://www.rialtocinemas.com/cerrito>

- **National Theatre Live.** Purchase subscriptions for the 2018 season, or tickets for individual shows. All shows are at 7:00pm. Hurry! Tickets are selling out fast.
  - Nov. 7. **King Lear** by William Shakespeare. With Ian McKellen.
  - Nov. 26 and 28, Dec. 3 and 12. **The Madness of George III** by Alan Bennett. Starring Mark Gatiss as King George.
  - Dec 17, Jan. 9 and 14 and 23. **Antony & Cleopatra** by William Shakespeare. Starring Ralph Fiennes and Sophie Okonedo.
  - Feb. 4 and 20 and 25, Mar. 8. **I'm Not Running**, by David Hare. Starring Siân Brooke and Alex Hassell.
- Nov. 13, **Funny Girl.** A revised version of the Streisand classic inspired by the life and career of Fanny Brice. Music by Jule Styne, lyrics by Bob Merrill, book by Isobel Lennart. Directed by Michael Mayer. Starring Sheridan Smith and Darius Campbell. From London's West End. Songs featured include "People".
- Nov. 15 and Dec. 20, 7:00pm. **Exhibition – Degas – Passion for Perfection.** A sample of Degas' works from the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, England, whose collection is considered the most representative of Degas' work in Britain. "This film tells the fascinating story of Degas' pursuit for perfection through both experimentation with new techniques and lessons learnt from...old masters."
- Nov. 20, 7:00pm. **RED.** Winner of 6 Tony awards, written by John Logan, starring Alfred Molina and Alfred Enoch, directed by Michael Grandage. From London's West End.
- Nov. 29 and Dec. 4, 7:00pm. **The King and I.** Lincoln Center's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical is directed by Bartlett Sher, choreographed by Christopher Gattelli, and stars Kelli O'Hara, Ken Watanabe and Ruthie Ann Miles, who won a Tony award for her portrayal of Lady Thiang on Broadway. This musical features the timeless songs, "Getting to Know You", "Whistle a Happy Tune" and "Shall We Dance".

**Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park**, 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond. 232-5050. Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Visitor Center and are free. NOTE: If you have stories to share, call 510-232-5050 ext. 6643. The December calendar has not yet been published. To see what's happening, go to the web site: <https://www.nps.gov/rovi/planyourvisit/calendar.htm>

- Thursdays at 2:00pm: **Blossoms and Thorns**. A documentary about Richmond's pre- and post-war community of Japanese flower growers, followed by a docent's personal story of experiences in a WWII incarceration camp. *No showing on Thursday, Nov. 22*
- Tuesdays at 2:00pm, Thursdays at 11:00am, Saturdays at 2:00pm: **Of Lost Conversations**. 97-year-old Ranger Betty Soskin\* shares her experiences as a young African American woman during WWII. *Reservations required—call (510) 232-5050 X0. NOTE: There will not be a showing on Thurs., Nov. 22.*
- Saturday, Nov. 3 at 3:30pm; Wednesday Nov. 7 & Saturday Nov. 10 at 2:00pm, and Sunday, Nov. 18, at 1:00pm: **The Double V Campaign: Fighting for Civil Rights during WWII**. A discussion about the fight by African Americans "for democracy on two fronts: ending fascism overseas and racism at home."
- Monday, Nov. 5 at 2:00pm: **The Port Chicago Disaster and Aftermath**. "What kinds of questions were sailors and civilians asking after ten million pounds of explosives blew up in Concord in 1944?"
- Sunday, Nov. 25, 2:00-3:00pm: **A Second Gold Rush: Migration to California, 1940-1945**. "Join UC Berkeley Professor of History Emeritus Thomas Metcalf for a presentation about how the unprecedented migration during WWII created the California we know today."

\*NOTE: 97-year-old Ranger Betty Soskin will be speaking at the Pleasant Hill/Martinez AAUW branch on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 2pm. They meet at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill. Copies of Betty's autobiography, *Sign My Name to Freedom* will be available for purchase and signing.

**EC Trail Trekkers**. Nov. 23, 2:00pm-4:00pmL Native Plant Hike at Kennedy Grove in El Sobrante. For more information and directions, and to learn about more hikes, go to the website, <http://www.ectrailtrekkers.org>

### City of El Cerrito.

- Dec. 8, 9:00am-11:00am: **Annual Pancake Breakfast and Toy Drive**. El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Santa will visit, and there will be a special performance by Living Dream Arts. Proceeds go to the David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund. You are encouraged to drop off gifts for the El Cerrito Fire Department holiday toy drive. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy or book to donate to our local children. You can purchase tickets at the Community Center or email [recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us).

### **Barbara Miller**

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### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

We continue with our exciting Program. We had a lively discussion at our **October 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting** with the Sisters in Crime mystery writers. On **November 17<sup>th</sup>** you don't want to miss hearing Beth Goldberg, from non-profit Youth Homes, describe how they serve the needs of our 200 at-risk, foster and former foster youth in Contra Costa County each year. Then we close the year on **December 15<sup>th</sup>** from 2-4 PM, with the annual **Holiday Gathering** this year at the Walenta's.

Invite family and friends to these events. Guests are always welcome. Note that new members who join AAUW, get a reduced rate (\$65.50 vs \$95).

At the October 2 meeting, the **CCC IBC** decided not to renew their three-year contract (\$1,500 divided among all the branches) for Start Smart workshops. There had been limited continuing success among the Community Colleges, and it would have to be limited to only one school in the future. Also there is now a free **Work Smart Online** salary negotiation course available. Comments on its use have been very positive. You are urged to try it out and then share it with daughters, granddaughters and friends to help facilitate AAUW's goal to train 1 million women and help reduce the pay gap. See page 5 for more details.

Two of our Tech Trek girls and their moms attended the **No Belles** production on October 13 at Mills College as our guests.

As always, I thank you for your support. I appreciate all you do for the Branch, considering your busy lives and other commitments. I enjoy working with such special women.

**Roberta Montgomery, President**

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## **2019 TECH TREK**

Plans for the 2019 Tech Trek program are starting. This year, we have requested eight positions (one for each WCCUSD Middle School) at the Sonoma State University camp. In January we will start working with the schools on the nomination and selection of our Tech Trek campers. Donations to our Tech Trek Program of any amount are always welcome and fully tax-deductible. **Make your check payable to AAUW-CA SPF with Tech Trek in the memo line** and then either mail it to AAUW WCC Branch, PO Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530 or bring it to our November 17 meeting.

**Roberta Montgomery and Marsha Weintraub**  
**Tech Trek Co-Coordinator**