

WEST CONTRA COSTA BRANCH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net

VOLUME XXXX NEWSLETTER 6 MAY-JUNE 2025





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had another successful year with regular in person gatherings (See 2024-2025 Programs and Events Page 4). We continue to use Zoom for our Board meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The first **Board Meeting** after the summer break will be **Tuesday, August 26, at 2:30 pm**. This meeting will start a half hour later so Christine can attend the memorial of a dear friend. It will end no later than 4:30 pm. The agenda will include the 2025-2026 Budget and Program plans. All members are invited to attend.

<u>AAUW Fund Named Gift Honorees:</u> Because of our 2024 donations to AAUW Funds we were able to select two named gift honorees. Maria LaForge and Gloria Merrill were selected for their work as Program Co-Vice Presidents. They will be retiring at the end of the year after more than seven years. They were given their certificates at the End of Year Luncheon on May 17.

Also at the End of Year Luncheon Marilynn Bracelin and Sally Dunham received pins for their more than 50 years of actives service to AAUW. Christine Hills was also given a pin in recognition of her more than 30 years of active service to AAUW.

Continued on Page 2

President Roberta Montgomery (510) 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net	Co-Membership VPs Mimi Fruehan 527-7178 mimifru@aol.com Judy Sam 527-1661 Jssam47@yahoo.com Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com	Tech Trek Co-Chairs Roberta Montgomery (510) 237-5293 rim2343@sbcglobal.net Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 marsha.weintraub@gmail.com	Co-Program VPs Maria LaForge 527-4378 d.laforge@sbcglobal.net Gloria Merrill 527-2681 cudaviol@yahoo.com
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Continued from Page 1

I want to welcome new Member, **Genoveva Calloway**, who attended our October meeting with the League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa. Her contact information is with the Membership Directory Update on Page 3.

<u>Membership Annual Renewal</u>: It's that time again to pay your AAUW dues for this year (**July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026**). National dues has increased \$2 and State dues has increased \$10 this year. The dues for regular members is \$120 (National \$74, State \$30, Branch \$16). Consider giving an extra contribution to Adopt-A-Fund. Our regular expenses far exceed our dues income. Forms are on Pages 7 and 8.

Thanks for all your support. We are very busy people and have many commitments. I appreciate all you do for the Branch. I enjoy working with such special women.

Roberta Montgomery, President



Our **2025 Tech Trek Program** is a success thanks to our team members especially to Christine Hills and Mimi Fruehan who filled in for me doing the follow-up with the school nominees to get their Parent Authorizations and Camper Application into CampDoc. Other Team Members are Judy Sam, Jackie Title and Elaine Yamaguchi who assisted with the interviewing and helped host the reception/orientation.

We are sponsoring five WCCUSD middle school girls to attend the Tech Trek residential Camp at Sonoma State University June 22-28. The selected girls are: Hayden Wright (Mira Vista), and Asha C Grant, Clio Levy-Tongate, Belle Umemoto, and Joanna Wagner-Kinnear (Korematsu). Note that Lia Kim Malloy (Korematsu) was also selected, but family issues that came up prevented her from attending camp. Again this year we were not able to get a contact at any other WCCUSD middle schools.

There was a reception/orientation for the 2025 campers and their parents at the El Cerrito Denny's on Saturday, June 7, from 2:30 to 4:30. The girls will attend our September 20 meeting to talk about their camp experiences.

Tech Trek is a major activity for our branch. In addition to selecting the girls to attend the camp, we must provide the money to pay their camp fees. The 2025 cost per camper at Sonoma State University was \$1,300. We are very fortunate to have generous donors and a good reserve in our account. 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 mail it to AAUW WCC Branch, PO Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Roberta Montgomery, Tech Trek Branch Coordinator



MARIANNE SELPH

I am sorry to report that **Marianne ("M") Selph** passed away on September 9 2024. M was an active member for over 18 years. She is our Public Policy Officer and regularly attended our Zoom Board meetings. She will be missed.

CAROLYN LINNARD

We were notified by **Carolyn Linnard**'s son, Garth Tissot, that she had passed away on September 3, 2023. He said AAUW was very dear to her. Carolyn was an AAUW 50 year member.

Roberta Montgomery, President

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATES

The Board decided that we would not print a new Directory. We will continue to use the **2019-2020 Directory with gold cover** that Ellen Mills and her husband Paul printed. Member information updates will be published in the Newsletter. I have extra copies of the 2019-2020 Directory. Let me know if you need one. **New member, Genoveva Calloway's contact information is listed below.**

All changes to date:

CORBIN, ROSEMARY **474 Western Drive**, Richmond 94801, **(510) 520-0404**

CALLOWAY, GENOVEVA (510) 384-6555 1529 Costa Ave., San Pablo 94806 genovevacalloway68@gmail.com

DADZIE, MEIGAN PO Box 7273, Berkeley 94707, greenledger@gmail.com

ICHIYASU, DIANE 2100 San Pablo Ave Apt 416, Berkeley 94702

PLAYER, PATRICIA (707) 603-8518 (new landline phone number)

SOUTO-MARTINEZ, MARTHA (Marty) marthasoutomartinez@gmail.com (not marty)

WALENTA, SUSAN 1100 San Pablo Ave #306, Albany 94706

WEINTRAUB, MARSHA marsha.weintraub@gmail.com (email in the directory has an extra "e" at the end of her last name)

Roberta Montgomery. President

2024-2025 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

All meetings are at 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church, 780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito. The talk starts at 10:30 am.

<u>September 21, 2024</u>

Our six WCCUSD middle school girls who attended the Tech Trek STEM residential Camp at Sonoma State University June 23-29, shared their camp experiences.

October 19, 2024

The League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa presented the California November 5 Election Propositions Pros and Cons.

November 16, 2024

Sisters in Crime mystery writer Ellen Kirschman talked about her new book and shared her unique and fascinating path to writing mysteries.

December 14, 2024 2-4 pm

Holiday Party at the home of Judy and Floyd Sam. Books and donations were collected for the Read-Aloud Volunteer Program and the Grant Birthday Book Project.

January 18, 2025

Emily Corwin spoke on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) in Richmond.

February 15, 2025

Crystal Merrill, Executive Director of the Read-Aloud Volunteer Program, explored how the joy and love of learning is fostered in children through the Program's reading and storytelling.

March 15, 2025

*Bonnie Cherry, an AAUW Fund Scholar, is researching law, organizations and security in Indian Country as a UC Berkeley PhD Candidate in Law.

April 26, 2025

*Tess Taylor, El Cerrito's current Poet Laureate, will discuss the Poetry Program she has developed at El Cerrito High School and a Community Literary Series as well as her poetry.

May 17, 2025 11:30 am

End-of-Year Luncheon Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza.

Unfortunately *Bonnie Cherry developed COVID and wasn't able to speak March 15. And *Tess Taylor had to cancel her April 26 talk because of a family emergency. We hope to reschedule both talks.



CALENDAR - MONTHLY EVENTS

MAY 2025:

<u>CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting:</u> Saturday, May 10, at 11:00 am Natalie McClure's talk: "From the Laboratory to the Market Place: The Development of a New Drug". See write-up Page 6.

End-of-Year Luncheon: Saturday, May 17 11:30 Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza

JUNE 2025:

Tech Trek Reception/Orientation: Saturday, June 7 2:30-4:30 El Cerrito Denny's

End-of-Year Luncheon Saturday, May 17th, 2025, 11:30 am Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza

Our End-of-Year Luncheon is Saturday, May 17th, at 11:30 a.m. at Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza. Come renew friendships and celebrate our accomplishments. Family and friends are welcome to attend. The luncheon menu includes Caesar salad, choice of five entrees (Fettuccine Alfredo w/Chicken, Mom's Ricotta Meatballs + Spaghetti, Pasta Milano, Chicken Parmesan, and Signature Truffle Mac & Cheese) and dessert (Premium Vanilla Bean Ice Cream). Beverages included are soda, iced tea, lemonade, drip coffee, and hot tea. The cost per person is \$30 which includes tax and gratuity. You can pay at the luncheon (cash or check payable to AAUW WCC). Thanks to Sandy for coordinating this event with Romano's Macaroni Grill.

HEAR NATALIE McCLURE'S TALK

From the Laboratory to the Market Place: The Development of a New Drug

The California Section American Chemical Society
Women Chemists Committee

Virtual Meeting
Saturday, May 10, 2025
10:30 am Chatting
11:00 am Talk and Discussion

Our member Elaine Yamaguchi has invited us to attend this CalACS-WCC virtual meeting. Information about Natalie McClure, PhD and her talk is below. All are welcome! Please visit the CalACS website www.calacs.org to register for this meeting. **Register before Thursday, May 8, 12 noon.** The ZOOM link will be sent out by Brown Paper Tickets on or before the day of the event.

About the Speaker

Natalie McClure is a regulatory affairs consultant with extensive experience in drug development, regulatory affairs and quality assurance. She obtained a BS in Chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1974 followed by a PhD in Organic Chemistry from Stanford University in 1979. She started her career at Syntex Research, working in the process development laboratories on new synthetic approaches to prostaglandin and large-scale peptide synthesis and then changed career direction to drug regulatory affairs.

Over the past 40 years, she has worked at several different companies, big and small, as an individual contributor and executive, and helped get over 6 drugs approved for marketing. She has filed more than 50 INDs (Investigational New Drugs), orphan drug applications and conducted many pre-IND meetings with the FDA. Natalie is an instructor at St Mary's University and the UC Berkeley Extension program offering several courses in drug development and regulatory affairs. Natalie is also very active in the American Chemical Society serving as chair and councilor of the Silicon Valley local section.

Abstract

Drug development requires a delicate balance between innovation, efficacy, safety, and regulatory compliance. This talk will explore the multifaceted process of bringing a new drug from the laboratory to the market, focusing on the critical role of regulatory affairs in ensuring patient safety and product quality. We will examine the key stages of drug development, including preclinical studies, clinical trials, and risk-benefit analysis. We will also discuss how to interpret the package insert. We will discuss how drug developers can work with the FDA to bring the new drug to the market.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2025-2026

National dues has increased \$2 and State dues has increased \$10 this year.

Regular members: \$120 (AAUW National \$74*, State \$30, Branch \$16);

DUAL members: \$16 (Branch only)

50-year members pay NO dues

*Note all National Dues is tax deductible

THANKS FOR THE CONTRIBUTION!

Thanks to all members who made an extra contribution to supplement our Branch dues for 2024-2025. These contributions helped us meet our regular expenses (including meeting room rental, speaker honorarium, newsletter printing, insurance, post office box rental, website support and Tech Trek) that are not covered by our branch dues. **Note: contributions to operating expenses are NOT tax deductible.**

HOW TO PAY:

Make your **check** payable to **AAUW WCC**, and mail it to: AAUW WCC, PO BOX 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530, with the form below. (You can also renew your membership **online** through the AAUW Community Hub (my.aauw.org). Note: Branch contributions cannot be made online.)

Name					
Street/Apt					
City/State	Zip Code				
Phone/Home/Cell_	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Email					
□ I have CHANGES to personal information above. All members with email addresses will receive the newsletter via email.					
□ Check here if you wish to receive a hard cop	by of the newsletter by US mail				
□ In addition to my dues, I am enclosing a corthe expenses our annual dues no longer cover Please see the list of "adopt-a-fund" choices	r and further the good work of our Branch.				

ADOPT- A-FUND FUNDRAISER

In lieu of holding a garage sale, which is time consuming and produces small rewards, we continue to ask members to make a donation to their favorite Fund (Budget item). Feel free to donate to an entire Fund or partial Fund or no Fund at all, as you are able. **The Funds support Branch operating expenses, and these additional contributions are not tax deductible.** Please note, if the budget item you select is over-subscribed, your donation will go to the Most-Needed bucket.

Budget Item	Budget	Your Contribution
Insurance Assessment – Required for all AAUW	\$175	
branches		
Printing, Postage Labels – printing and mailing		
newsletters and chapter business		
Directory Printing	\$150	
Hospitality – Coffee, creamer, napkins, etc.	\$ 75	
Rental – Christ Lutheran Church monthly rental @ \$80	\$560	
PO Box Rental – 1 year	\$245	
Website fee paid yearly	\$120	
Speakers' Honorariums – monthly speakers' fees @	\$600	
\$100 per speaker.		
Tech Trek Recruitment, Reception, Printing & Postage	\$400	
Most Needed		

BRANCH 2025-2026 OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICERS

At our May 17 Luncheon members approved the slate of officers and agreed to actively support them. Christine and I continue to share treasurer responsibilities with Christine being the Treasurer of record since the President and Treasurer cannot be the same person. Marsha will continue as the Secretary with Marilynn as her back-up. Note that Maria and Gloria will retire as the Program Co-Vice Presidents the end of the year.

*President: Roberta Montgomery

Program Co-Vice Presidents: Maria LaForge and Gloria Merrill

Membership Co-Vice Presidents: Mimi Fruehan, Christine Hills, and Judy Sam

AAUW Fund Vice President: Barbara Vaughan

*Treasurer: Christine Hills (back-up, Roberta Montgomery)
*Secretary: Marsha Weintraub (back-up, Marilynn Bracelin)

*required

OTHER OFFICERS

Bylaws/Policies and Procedures (Governance): Marilynn Bracelin

Community/Cultural: Barbara Miller

Contra Costa College Relations:

Directory:

Hospitality: Sally Dunham (co-hosts volunteer at each meeting)

Newsletter Circulation:

Newsletter Editor:
Public Policy:

Publicity: Maria LaForge

Read-Aloud Project: Judy Sam

Sunshine: Sally Dunham

Tech Trek Coordinators: Roberta Montgomery and Marsha Weintraub

Website Manager: Barbara Vaughan

Zoom Host: Christine Hills (back-up, Elaine Yamaguchi)

Facebook Monitor: Christine Hills

Roberta Montgomery, President

SUNSHINE

Know someone who needs a note? Sally Dunham is our Sunshine Chair and will send cards on behalf of our branch. If you know of a member in need of a get well, condolence or congratulations card, contact Sally at (510) 758-4094 or sallydunham1@gmail.com.

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