



March 2025

Number 07-24

Joint Meeting with AAUW Del Mar-Leucadia
Saturday, March 15th - 10:00 am
Encinitas Senior Center
FLYER ON PAGE 8

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH:

The origins of Women's History Month date back to 1978 in Santa Rosa, California, when the Education Task Force of Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women planned a "Women's History Week" celebration during the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. Led by Molly Murphy McGregor, a local teacher in Santa Rosa, the weeklong celebration highlighted women's contributions to American history, culture, and society through presentations at dozens of schools throughout Sonoma County, California. Additionally, hundreds of students participated in an essay contest honoring local women, and the organization hosted a parade in downtown Santa Rosa.

Although the 1978 event was not intended to become an annual celebration, the following year, communities across the country organized their own women's history celebrations. In July of the same year, historian Gerda Lerner chaired a 15-day conference on women's history at Sarah Lawrence College, which was co-sponsored by the Women's Action Alliance and the Smithsonian Institution. After the conference, historians and women's activist groups began working together to lobby for a National Women's History Week.

Their efforts proved successful when, in February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 2-8, 1980, as National Women's History Week.

Co-Presidents' Message



Kudos to Mardi and her scholarship committee for not only raising funds for our scholarship recipients, but also providing a delightful Saturday morning listening to music and then “lunching” on salads and sandwiches. The performances varied with string musicale performances from the “Irish Duo”, “Now and Then” and “Mandobasso”.

AAUW-COV and Del Mar-Leucadia will be continuing a theme of music and its role in society with our joint meeting in March. “Music, the Brain and Spycraft” presented by Professor Goldberg, Cal State San Marcos, will take us into music’s multifaceted uses, with a focus on memory and even spying!!! Please join us March 15th at the Encinitas Community Center. Information is provided in the newsletter (page 8).

Belle and Seena would like to thank the board and our committees for their commitment to AAUW-COV. We are approaching the election of a board for 2025-26 and we invite anyone wanting to get more involved in our organization to please contact Belle or Seena. Positions needing to be filled: Co-Fund Chair and Tech Trek Alumnae Chair. We also need the nomination of 3 non-board members to fill the Nominating Committee for 2026-27. Working together, we can make a difference providing support for our future generation of young women, while enjoying social activities for our members.

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT:

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

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT: In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

CARLSBAD-OCEANSIDE-VISTA BRANCH

Elected Officers:

Co-Presidents 2024-25: BELLE JOHNSON BOHN/SEENA TRIGAS

President Elect: VACANT

Program VPs: ELEANORE LAVENDER/JOANNA MURPHY

Membership VPs: JANET BRYANT/ELLIE BURTON

AAUW Fund VPs: SHARLENE BERGART/SALLY CUMMINS

Co-Secretary: JOYCE KING/MARDI MUSICK

Financial Officer: DENNIS CAPPS

Appointed Officers:

Communications: NANCY HACKERT

Public Policy: VACANT

Membership Treasurer: FAYE CAPPS

Parliamentarian: NELLE HEFNER

Appointed Committee Chairs:

Auditor: MARTHA FRAZIER

Governance: NELLE HEFNER

Historian: ELE LAVENDER

Scholarship: MARDI MUSICK

Sunshine: DEBORAH PARKS

Tech Trek: FAYE CAPPS

Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG): ELE LAVENDER

COV Website: cov-ca.aauw.net

COV E-mail: aauw.cov@gmail.com

COV FACEBOOK: AAUW-COV

State Website: aauw-ca.org

National Website: aauw.org

Just a brief note on the actions taken by your AAUW-California and its Public Policy Committee. We are in the midst of getting input on any changes or additions through a survey sent out to the entire membership. Seena will be joining other branch members in Sacramento in April, lobbying our State Legislators on specific pieces of legislation aligning with our Public Policy objectives. If you have any input you want to give on State matters, please text her and she will get back to you.

Belle & Seena

Interest Groups

MARCH



CRUNCH BUNCH – Will meet Wednesday, March 19th at 9:30 am at the home of Edith Richman. It is a Vegan Cooking Class. Notify Edith Richman if you have questions: 760-855-1660 or email edithrichman2@gmail.com.

EXPLORING CALIFORNIA – Will meet Monday, March 17th at 9:30 am at TBD Any questions: Contact Debby Parks at bridgebud2@yahoo.com or 760-505-0384.

LET'S WALK – Will not meet in March. Any questions: Belle Johnson Bohn - bjbohn1@mac.com or Ele Lavender - eleruthlav@gmail.com

LUNCH BUNCH – Will meet Friday March 14th at 11:45 am at *The Yellow Deli*, 315 E. Broadway, Vista. Questions: Erica Heisler: ericasheisler@gmail.com or 760-271-0612

MOSTLY BOOKS – Will meet Tuesday, March 25 at 1:00 pm at the home of Martha Frazier. We will discuss *The Girl You Left Behind* by JoJo Moyes, a novel in Paris during World War I and a painting. A German commandant develops an obsession with the painting. A century later in London, Sophie's portrait hangs in the home of Liv Halston. A legal battle ensues over it's possession. New members and guests are always welcome. Please contact Leslie Clark at fltc6585@gmail.com

MYSTERY BOOKS – Will meet Monday, March 3rd at 1:00 pm at Ella Jarf's home. We will be discussing *Murder in Florence* by T.A. Williams. For information contact Sing Baker: 760-644-4732 or singb@roadrunner.com.

MEXICAN EXCURSION

- Take a scenic and fun trip down the Baja coast!
- Day Tripper Mexico: Rosarito & Puerto Nuevo with a delicious Lobster Lunch
- Saturday, April 26, 2025, \$185 p/p
- Call 619-334-3394, and mention The Four Seasons and AAUW COV groups.
- Bus pick up point is University City, 6245 Kantor St. Let Belle know if you want to carpool. You will need your passport in hand to make a reservation.

NEW EVENT!!!! What: A play - *Singin' in the Rain*
 When: March 9th 2:00 pm Matinee Where: Mira Costa College
 Cost: \$18 Deadline: March 1st
 Call Belle Bohn for reservations: 619-895-7678

Photos of our events & happenings are all posted on Facebook account. "AAUW-COV"



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

**Happy
Birthday!!**

Jackie Russell – 1st
Susan Howe – 8th
Annemarie Whalen – 13th
Karen Frisch – 14th
Marci Stafford – 21st
Leslie Clark – 29th

March



PROPOSED 2025-2026 SLATE OF ELECTED OFFICERS:

Co-Presidents: BELLE JOHNSON BOHN/SEENA TRIGAS President Elect: VACANT
Program VPs: ELEANORE LAVENDER/JOANNA MURPHY
Membership VPs: JANET BRYANT/ELLIE BURTON
AAUW Fund VPs: SHARLENE BERGART/**VACANT**
Co-Secretary: JOYCE KING/MARDI MUSICK
Financial Officer: DENNIS CAPPS

COMMUNICATIONS

TIPS FOR AVOIDING EMAIL SCAMS THAT APPEAR TO COME FROM FRIENDS OR FAMILY
Email scams don't always pretend to be large corporations; sometimes they impersonate people you know - family, friends, or even colleagues. These scams can be especially dangerous because they are working to exploit established trust.

Here are four tips to recognizing and avoiding email scams.

1. Be suspicious of unusual requests. If a friend or family member suddenly emails you asking for money, gift cards, or sensitive information, be skeptical.
2. Look at the writing style. Proceed with caution if you encounter unusual wording, spelling or grammatical errors, or phrasing that just doesn't "sound like" the person.
3. Stay calm. Scammers frequently rely on urgent language to drive immediate action. Do not rush to respond to the request until you determine its validity.
4. Look carefully at the sender's email address. Many email systems just show you the sender's display name, which is easy to manipulate. The email address itself must be inspected. In most systems you can hover your mouse over the sender's name to reveal their email address. Check the email address carefully. Frequently, the email address is entirely wrong and easy to dismiss as fraudulent. In more sophisticated scams, the email address may be only slightly different.

If you have identified the email address as incorrect, then delete the message (optionally, report as spam). However, if after reviewing an email message, you still have some doubts, how do you proceed? First, it is very important to NOT reply to the message and do NOT click on any links or attachments. Then, reach out to the purported sender directly, such as by a phone call or text, to validate whether the message is authentic.

PUBLIC POLICY

We Didn't Start the Fire.

The LA Fires are a tragedy. DEI is the solution, not the problem.

by Missy Maceyko, Co-Director, CA State Public Policy Committee

It is January 2025. Populous, beloved, and well-known neighborhoods in Los Angeles, one of the biggest metropolitan areas in the world, are on fire. For days, residents have been evacuating, firefighters have been going without sleep, and homes and iconic landmarks have been burning. Even those that are not in immediate danger are breathing in toxic air that can create diseases for generations. It seems like everyone in the city is grieving something or someone.

And yet, as the disaster unfolds, people in LA are engaging in a massive outpouring of collective mutual aid and community support for the people and animals who are displaced and suffering. On the other hand, as Angelinos are left to cope with displacement, property damage, and loss, leading figures in national politics have seized the moment, not to offer support, but to immediately go on the attack. They are placing blame on who they felt was the most likely culprit for these horrific fires and their aftermath: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

These accusations about DEI would be laughable were they not so problematic. Blaming DEI shows a lack of understanding of what DEI is and does while also simplifying a large and complex problem related to a multitude of factors such as weather, infrastructure, and climate change.

In sum, DEI experts say that diversity is valuable for many reasons—for addressing historical marginalization, yes, but also for increasing our problem-solving capacity and leading to innovation. Both inside and outside of the business world, diversity is associated with higher engagement, reduced turnover, and improved, and more objective, decision-making and problem-solving. Diversity of thought in inclusive teams has been found to lead to more innovation and better, higher-impact ideas. Indeed, as University of Michigan professor of Complexity, Social Science, and Management, Scott Brown notes, to solve complex problems in the 21st century, like climate change, we need diverse teams who can communicate across difference: “groups of experts, at least as we’re accustomed to thinking about them, are going to have a hard time competing with talented teams of people with relevant diverse perspectives.”

We need to truly understand this problem in order to prevent future loss. Rather than vilifying DEI, we need to acknowledge that DEI is one of the best tools that we have to solve such a problem. We need to come together to leverage a diversity of experiences and perspectives.

In the case of the LA fires, DEI has also been singled out as the primary culprit due to the assumption that “DEI hiring” impacts competent leadership. Certain leaders have been targeted for what was labeled as inadequate planning, resourcing, and response, such as Mayor Karen Bass and Fire Chief Kristin Crowley. These leaders have not only been labeled as incompetent, but also as “DEI hires.”

The labeling of these leaders as “DEI hires” is likely because they are a woman of color and a woman who is a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, respectively. They are holding positions that have historically been held by, and associated with, cisgender and heterosexual (cis-het) white men. Given the leadership positions that they hold, alongside their gender, sexuality, and race, any potential fallibility in their decision-making is not only labeled as incompetence, but is also tacitly attributed to their “DEI” status.

PUBLIC POLICY continued...

As in this case, any association of DEI with hiring is assumed to be the antithesis of meritocracy. In other words, DEI considerations in hiring are assumed to unfairly divert jobs and benefits to “minority” candidates, who are positioned as an undeserving majority that get an opportunity because of who they are instead of being considered for their skill sets, experiences, and past accomplishments. This narrative about “DEI” and hiring clearly overlooks the fact that women like Mayor Karen Bass and Fire Chief Kristin Crowley are hired based on merit, regardless of their identity, even as they often have to overcome additional hurdles to enter into historically masculine fields and gain the qualifications and experiences to succeed.

Accusations about the harms of DEI proliferate in the current political environment, rife with threats of increased regulation and retribution. It is absolutely necessary to scrutinize the policy and planning of all leaders and decision-makers in LA in order to fully answer questions about fire mitigation and response. However, to pin the blame on DEI is to tacitly pin the blame on only those decision makers who are not cis-het white men and/or on those who are supportive of the kind of work that is needed to engage a range of perspectives.

Over the last few years, and accelerating after January 20, 2025, state and federal level policy changes and pronouncements in the United States have not only (seemingly) forced DEI from federally funded programs, but also created a chilling effect, leading some large corporations and public universities to (seemingly) pull back from DEI initiatives. However, given the well-known benefits of business-integrated DEI strategies in a globalized economy, DEI work will—and must—continue in order to solve big problems.

**Lobby Days 2025 will be held on April 8-9, 2025.
If you have not yet registered, there is still time.**

Step 1 - Register for the Lobby Days event [HERE](#).

Step 2 - Register for the mandatory training which will be held on Monday, March 31st, 7-8 pm Pacific. Register for the training webinar [HERE](#).

SCHOLARSHIP

Thank you to everyone who contributed to *Scholarship* by donating to the February 15th concert event. It was a great success! We have reached our goal of providing four \$2,000 scholarships this year. Many thanks to the Scholarship and Program committees for providing the food and for setting up and cleaning up the venue!

TECH TREK

Our state website has a new look for Tech Trek. Please take a look. [Tech Trek website](#) Also, volunteer positions for the camp are available. Please look for the link to apply on the website. We also could use a few more helpers with the interviews of our 7th grade girls. Please let me know if you would like to help. All interviews will need to be completed in March so check your calendar. We have enough funds to send 13 girls this year. Thank you, Faye Capps

AAUW FUND

IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

AAUW Fund collected \$475,275.15 in 2024 in California.

We fell short of our \$500,000 goal, but in these difficult times it was a valiant attempt. It is extremely important in these uncertain times that we support each other.

All the branches should have received their initial fourth quarter 2024 Fund report. Please check the report against your records. Remember that you can nominate a Branch Named Gift Honoree for each \$750 donated by your branch or branch members. For more information, including the link for submitting a nominee, click [HERE](#). These must be submitted by March 31st.

The deadline for submitting an application for the State Named Gift Honoree is March 1st. This award is given to a person who has given outstanding service to the AAUW Fund and/ or California. Nominees should have proven leadership beyond their local branches at the inter-branch council and/or state levels. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Don't miss this opportunity to honor your members.

Thanks for all your hard work and donations.

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

MARCH 15 th	JOINT MEETING WITH Del Mar-Leucadia Encinitas Senior Center FLYER ON PAGE 8	
APRIL 19 th	AAUW FUND SPEAKER: TBA Harding Center	FOOD: Book Clubs
MAY 17 th	PANEL OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN Harding Center	FOOD: Lunch Bunch & Walkers
JUNE 14 th	INDUCTION LUNCHEON Fish House Vera Cruz, San Marcos	NO HOST

ALL TIMES TO BE ANNOUNCED PRIOR TO EVENT.



Open to the Public!
Bring friends & students!

*American Association of University Women
Del Mar-Leucadia and Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista Branches
Present a joint Women's History Month Event*

Music, the Brain, and Spycraft

A Learning Experience by Merryl Goldberg, Ed.D.
Professor of Music & Arts Integration, California State University San Marcos

Saturday, March 15, 2025, 10 am-Noon
10-10:30 Social, refreshments, & raffle/silent auction
10:30-Noon Program
Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive, Encinitas

Professor Goldberg teaches classes on learning through the arts, where students create songs for math problems, use puppet shows for literature, rap for events in history, and learn how memory and learning are affected by music. She will also share how she wrote secret information into a music score for a trip to the Soviet Union.

Raffle and silent auction items available! Bring cash or checks.
Proceeds benefit local college scholarships.

For more information, contact Jane Sanders, programs@aauwdml.org



“I revel in playing a role in education so that all kids have a chance to have arts fused into their daily lives.”

Deadline for reservations: March 5, 2025

Name _____ Organization (circle) DML COV Other _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of tickets _____ X \$25 per ticket = Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to **AAUW Del Mar-Leucadia**. Send this reservation form and check to:

AAUW Del Mar-Leucadia, P.O. Box 543, Solana Beach, CA 92075



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Email: aauw.cov@gmail.com

MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Mystery Books 1:00 pm @ Ella Jarf's	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Lunch Bunch 11:45 am @ <i>The Yellow Deli</i>	15 Joint Meeting/DM-L 10:00 am @ Encinitas Senior Center
16	17 Exploring California 9:30 am @ TBD	18	19 Crunch Brunch 9:30 am @ Edith Richman's	20	14	22
23	24	25 Mostly Books 1:00 pm @ Martha Frazier's	26	27	28	