

San Diego Branch

May 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

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

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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

AAUW FUNDS MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW VISION STATEMENT

By joining AAUW we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers, so all women have a fair chance.

AAUW SAN DIEGO BRANCH

P.O. Box 262012

San Diego, CA 92196

<https://sandiego-ca.aauw.net/>

AAUW San Diego is a tax-exempt not-for-profit 501(C)3 organization.



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881



THE SPHERE

President's Message

by Jane Niemeier

TIME TO STEP UP!!

Dear Branch Members,

Our branch is in trouble. I have served as branch president for two years, and Cathy Burciaga has served as finance officer for three years. We both are unable to serve next year. To be able to keep the branch running, we are required to have at minimum, a president, and a finance officer. If we have neither, we won't have a branch. We will either have to disband or merge with another branch.

Please let me know if you can help.

Lobby Week

by Jane Niemeier

During the week of April 11th, Charlotte Germundson from the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch and I and some members of the Cabrillo-Diego Branch participated in Lobby Week. It started with a training session on the evening of April 7th, during which we learned how to lobby our California state senators and assembly people. On Monday, April 11th, we spoke with an aide to our State Senator Toni Atkins, and on Thursday, April 14th, we lobbied our State Assemblyman, Chris Ward. The three bills that we spoke about were as follows (Information on the bills was provided by the Public Policy Committee of AAUW California.):

AB 92 – This is a two-year bill which seeks to waive family fees for childcare through September 30, 2024. By increasing the affordability of childcare for working families, this bill will both help working families use their income to cover basic necessities and benefit the economic recovery of the state by keeping working parents in the workforce.

AB 1666 – This bill was written in response to the anti-abortion bills passed in other states. It prohibits a resident of another state from bringing suit in a California court and would prohibit the satisfaction of a judgment rendered in another state under that state's law. The law also protects providers of telehealth services in the state of California.

AB 1968 – This bill requires the CSU system and requests the UC system to create a website that standardizes and clarifies the steps that a survivor should take immediately following a sexual assault. Right now, there is not a standardized system.

It was a rewarding experience being able to exercise our right to voice our opinions to our elected officials.

Officers

President

Jane Niemeier

Finance VP / Treasurer

Cathy Burciaga

Funds VP

Donna Lilly

Membership VP

Lynne Batchelor

Public Policy VP

Shauna Ruyle

Recording Secretary

Sherry Eberling

Committee Chairs

Branch Historian

Rosemarie Mallory

Communications

Shauna Ruyle

College & University

Donna Lilly

Scholarships

Lillian Payn

Tech Trek

Gillian Simcox

Technology Outreach

Shauna Ruyle

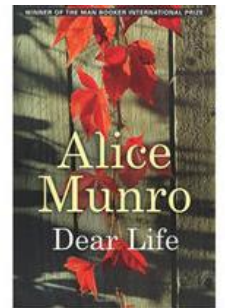


AAUW Book Club meets on the second Wednesday morning of each month. We read one book a month, a mix of fiction and nonfiction. We read current books and classics! We are currently meeting via Zoom. We hope to eventually return to meeting in our members' homes.

May's book is **Dear Life** by Alice Munro.

Dear Life by Alice Munro, Raymond Verdager (Illustrator), Mónica Naranjo Uribe (Illustrator)

Suffused with Munro's clarity of vision and her unparalleled gift for storytelling, these tales about departures and beginnings, accidents and dangers, and outgoings and homecomings both imagined and real, paint a radiant, indelible portrait of how strange, perilous, and extraordinary ordinary life can be.



Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind. Dr. Seuss
Marie Skillman marie@theskillmans.com

Racial and Gender Equity in a Recovering Economy

Recommended by Lily Payn

I am on a Dept of Labor Listserv and I recommend this presentation. Wendy Chun-Hoon discusses economic and racial equality for women as we come out of the pandemic. Click this [LINK](#) to watch the recording (1 hour long).

Wendy Chun-Hoon serves as the 20th director of the Women's Bureau, appointed by President Biden on February 1, 2021. Wendy is skilled at coalition building, bridging strategy across grassroots community organizing, and public sector policy making at state and national levels. She has held senior positions in Maryland state government and private philanthropy, overseeing large-scale, results-driven initiatives for worker and family economic justice.

**AAUW San Diego Presents
A virtual Event
Local Author: Patricia Watts
Saturday, May 14, 2022, 10:30 am.**

Patricia will talk about her latest novel a tale of rage and friendship, in a virtual interview by Anne Hoiberg.

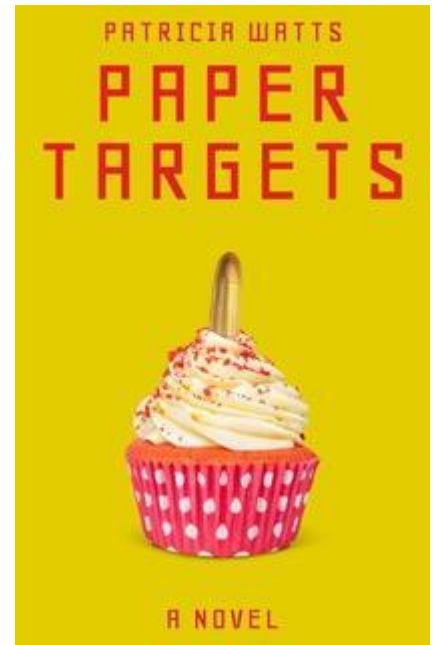
SYNOPSIS:

Everyone knew that Roanne never got angry—until the night she killed her ex-husband and herself.

Roanne, a nice, suburban lady in her sixties who works at a Hallmark shop and volunteers at the Food Bank in Round Rock, Texas, calls her lifelong friend, Connie, confesses to murder, then puts the gun to her own head. Connie, spurred by Roanne's last words about a lifetime of unspoken rage, sets aside her work as a cozy mystery writer and cupcake shop owner to confront the men who have stolen her dignity while she remained silent, including a bully brother, a rapist, and an ex-spouse. On a journey to reclaim her inner power and to make peace with the loss of her treasured friend, Connie's mission is to avoid the same tragic path as Roanne, but she takes along a gun, just in case.

With pathos and humor, *Paper Targets*, by Patricia Watts, calls us to speak our own narratives, even when it is uncomfortable or risky, and shows us the magnificence of a friendship that transcends time.

Paper Targets is available through the Amazon button on my website <https://patriciawattsauthor.com>, or the direct Amazon link <https://www.amazon.com/dp/163988291X>. Kindle format will be available in May, and I am in the process of setting up a couple of local book events.



BIO:

Patricia Watts worked as a journalist for more than 20 years for newspapers in Texas, Hawaii, and Alaska. Following her news career, she tried her skill as a paralegal and then spent ten years investigating discrimination cases for the Alaska Human Rights Commission. Her novels include *Paper Targets*; *Ghost Light* and *The Big Empty*, crime mysteries co-written with Alaska author Stan Jones; *The Frayer*, suspense noir; and *Watchdogs*, a steamy thriller. Her home base is San Diego. She earned her B.A. in journalism at Humboldt State in California. She is the mother of a son and daughter and has eight grandchildren.

AAUW is a warm and welcoming group that I am glad to be part of.

—Patricia Watts

AAUW Fund

Lynne Batchelor, Secretary, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aauwfund@aauw-ca.org



Thank you to everyone for your tremendous efforts this year to raise money for AAUW Fund and congratulations on the wonderful results of just over \$494,000 contributed by California individuals and branches. The Top Ten branches in total contributions, the Top Ten branches in per capita contributions, and our State Named Gift Honoree will be revealed at the Annual Event, so be sure to register and get in on the excitement!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER START SMART OR WORK SMART FACILITATOR

MARKETING - UNIVERSITY AND ORGANIZATION COLLABORATION

Michelle Miller-Galaz, Director, and Donna Lilly, University and Organization Collaboration Co-Chairs mktguoc@aauw-ca.org

Are you committed to pay equity? Become a certified AAUW salary negotiation volunteer facilitator!

AAUW depends on people like you to help empower thousands of women annually to negotiate their salaries and benefits. Join the AAUW team of skilled volunteer facilitators to further your leadership development, gain public speaking experience, and sharpen your own negotiation skills and expertise.

AAUW National provides the tools, resources, and materials to help you become a successful facilitator.

Email Salary@aauw.org to determine if you are eligible for this training. If so, you will receive an access code to register online. If you are a licensed AAUW campus or Work Smart partner, please provide the name(s) and email addresses of prospective volunteer facilitator(s) to the AAUW National office at connect@aauw.org.

Once you have registered for the Volunteer Facilitator Training, allow up to seven business days for enrollment.

The interactive training gives a deeper understanding of the workshop curricula and bolsters facilitation skills.

Participants have 60 days from the enrollment date to complete the training. When the training is complete, AAUW and the licensed partners will reach out to you when there are upcoming volunteer opportunities in your area and provide access to the workshop materials upon confirmation of your volunteer schedule.

For questions on renewing your facilitator certification, contact AAUW National via email at Salary@aauw.org.



PUBLIC POLICY

Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

AAUW CA SPONSORS CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION

Guided by our member-approved Public Policy Priorities for 2021-2023, the AAUW California Public Policy Committee has selected the bills that we will be supporting as they move through the 2022 Session of the California Legislature. Here are the six highest priority bills:

- AB 92—creates an equitable sliding scale for family fees to alleviate the burden on working families struggling to pay for childcare and early childhood education services. Cosponsor
- AB 1666—enables persons to come from outside California for abortions and not be impacted by laws of other states. Co-sponsor
- AB 1968—mandates the creation of websites at CSU/UC campuses to assist sexual assault survivors.
- AB 2881—Student parents get priority enrollment, registration, and access to basic needs centers, enabling them to remain in California colleges.
- SB 523—Expands contraceptive coverage by requiring health plans to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing.
- SB 1375—updates statutes relating to abortion care to allow nurse practitioners to practice under standard protocols to provide firsttrimester abortion care.

Within our Public Policy Priorities, six bills are related to Economic Security for All Women, seven are related to Equal Access to Public Education, and 18 are related to Social and Racial Justice for all Members of Society. AAUW California is experiencing greater visibility among elected legislators by sponsoring/co-sponsoring bills.



NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Charmen Goehring, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.org

WE HAVE A FULL SLATE—AND THEN SOME! The Nominations and Elections Committee is excited to announce that we have candidates for each of the seven open director positions as well as the secretary position, and we will have a contested election for the director slots. We thank everyone who stepped up to serve on the State Board and wish them all well. Nominations are now closed. The voting period runs April 23-May 15 and all members will receive an email with their ballots. Members may also request a paper ballot. You can click [HERE](#) to read most of the candidates' bios on the state website. Check back for additional bios to be posted soon.



Vote for our own Shauna Ruyle!



And vote for our own Stormy Miller Sabia!

Go to www.aauw-ca.org, and read about the candidates. Shauna and Stormy are running for a one-year position as director for AAUW California. They will do a great job representing us. Three positions are open, so you can vote for both of them. The voting period is from April 23 to May 14th. Be sure and vote!!



I have also served on the board with both Shawna and Stormy and would be happy to add my Support for them as well.

Lynne Batchelor

Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates, locations, and times are subject to change

Date	Time	Location	Topics
Saturday, May 14	10 am – 10:30	Virtual	Branch meeting on the future of the branch, Officers
Saturday, May 14	10:30	Virtual	Patricia will talk about her latest novel a tale of rage and friendship, in a virtual interview by Anne Hoiberg.
		TBA	Anne Hoiberg launches her new book!
Saturday, June 4	11:30 am	Fiesta de Reyes	Luncheon and Installation - Scholarship winners will speak.
Saturday, June 25			rescheduled IBC Luncheon

May



Beth Coleman
Eileen Lussier
Rachel McDonald Hernandez
Pat Stilwell