



MORGAN HILL
(CA) BRANCH

The Wildflower



Summer 2018

Volume XXXVI, Issue 5

SAVE THE DATE: July 21, 2018, Morgan Hill Board of Directors Retreat



A retreat is an effective tool for AAUW leadership to revisit its mission, vision and values, and strategize and plan for the future. Members are welcome to attend as observers to gain more insight into Branch operations and activities.

Send agenda items to Peggy Martin and Maggie Leininger

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS

Morgan Hill's famous 4th of July Parade is coming right up and AAUW will, once again, be represented. We are planning a format similar to last year with two vintage decorated cars with branch members and representatives of various youth groups associated with AAUW riding or marching along side. If you are interested in participating, please contact [Margaret McCann](#).



Stay tuned for specific space and time in the weekly updates.

SUMMER BBQ

Saturday, August 4, 2018, 5–8 pm
Villa del Lago, home of Mary & Mike Cox
405 Atherton Way, Morgan Hill

- Enjoy a fine meal of salmon and beef filet with your AAUW friends.
- \$20 per person. Checks only please, made out to AAUW MH (write BBQ on memo line). NO CASH. (Your spouse or a guest is invited.)
- Please RSVP [HERE](#), and indicate if you will bring an appetizer, salad, dessert, or wine.
- **RSVP deadline is Wednesday, August 1.** NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Checks may be brought to the event or mailed in advance to Carol O'Hare, 461 Rio Oro Ct, MH 95037. Questions about signups, contact [Carol O'Hare](#). Coordinated by [Margo Hinnenkamp](#), assisted by past presidents.



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AAUW Calendar



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Peggy Martin

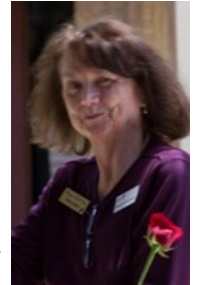
It has been very rewarding being AAUW Morgan Hill's President for the 2017-2018 year. I am exceedingly grateful for the opportunity to serve and thank all board members and branch members. I look forward to being Co-President with Maggie Leininger for the 2018-2019 year and to working with our board members, an exceptionally dedicated group of women.



Morgan Hill Cellars most graciously offered to host our Spring Brunch again this year for which we are thankful to **Maryclaire Sampognaro**. Thanks go to Margo Hinnenkamp, Elaine Reimer, Karen MacDonald and Jenny Redfern for organizing the event. It was a beautiful venue to install our 2018-2019 officers and to recognize our scholarship recipients and AAUW Honorees.

Maggie and I will be facilitating our annual Board Retreat on Saturday, July 21. Our focus and program theme will continue to be about our community and the leadership role AAUW Morgan Hill has. All members are encouraged to participate. Details will be coming soon.

Again, this year, I am excited to participate in this journey with all AAUW Morgan Hill members. Wishing you the happiest of summers.



CO -PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maggie Leininger



I am so excited and proud to be serving alongside Peggy Martin as 2018-2019 Co-President of AAUW Morgan Hill. Over this next year Peggy and I are continuing the theme of community and how we as members of AAUW can help our community of Morgan Hill.

I know that over the last few years it seems like there's been a steady increase in craziness in the world, and I'm finding that I'm getting more and more frustrated watching the news. For me that's where AAUW comes in. AAUW allows me to contribute positively both locally and to the wider community. It allows me to make a difference, and we all should feel proud of what we accomplish each year as a group. I look forward to seeing you throughout this next year at our events, programs and activities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ELECTED OFFICERS FOR THE 2018-2019 YEAR



L-R: Coleen Colwell (Secretary), Maggie Leininger (Co-President), Peggy Martin (Co-President), Katie Scanlon (Treasurer), Margie Snively (VP-Programs), Janet Wright (AAUW Fund), Jenny Redfern (VP Membership)

AAUW HONOREES 2018

Donna Dicker

Each year our branch honors members who have consistently shared their time and talent to accomplish our mission. This year we recognize Maggie Leininger, Mary Cox, Pat Toombs, and Joy Safakish.



AAUW Honorees 2018 (L-R) Maggie Leininger, Mary Cox and Pat Toombs

Mary Cox has supported our branch in a multitude of ways since she joined in 2002. She has been president and co-president and membership co-vp. She and her husband Mike graciously host community and branch events at their home, the most popular being our annual summer BBQ. She also established the Lauren Jenkins STEM workshop, which was held at Anaerobe Systems, the Cox business.

Maggie Leininger currently is president elect and has served as membership co-vp for three years in the past. She heads up the T-shirt committee for the Wildflower Run. She is known for her positive approach to any problem or project, for example, getting rid of an overstock of old run t-shirts this year.

Pat Toombs has taken on the responsibilities of Wildflower Run director for two years, successfully handling all the details that job entails. Previously she served as committee chair for several Run committees, including goodie bags. She also serves on the branch Leadership Development Team.



As head of the Tech Trek committee, **Joy Safakish** coordinates the entire process of selecting the girls who will attend Camp Currie at Stanford in the summer. She also plans and volunteers at the ice cream social for regional campers and their parents. At camp she runs the annual members visitation day. Tech Trek has prospered in Joy's capable hands.

AAUW MORGAN HILL THANKS

All of our 2017-2018 elected and appointed board members, those who served in advisory positions, and as committee chairs.

Elected Board Officers

President, Peggy Martin; President Elect, Maggie Leininger; Membership VP, Jenny Redfern; Programs Co- VPs, Margie Snively and Margaret McCann; AAUW Fund VP, Janet Wright; CFO, Katie Scanlon; and Secretary, Joanne Rooney.



Appointed Board Members

Bylaws, Judy Kinker and Carol O'Hare; GEMS, Susan Oldham-Fritts; Leadership Development, Janet McElroy; Legal Advocacy Fund, Janet Wright; Newsletter Layout Editor, Suman Ganapathy & Chris Hopwood; Newsletter Copy Editor, Carol O'Hare & Suman Ganapathy; Public Policy, Janet Wright; Publicity, Gretchen Merrick; Scholarships, Donna Dicker; Tech Trek, Joy Safakish; Wildflower Run, Pat Toombs; and Wildflower Run Corporate Sponsors, Barbara Palmer.

And More!

We're grateful to the many members who have additional responsibilities. For information about Interest Groups and their chairs, go to the [Branch website](#). For lists of committees and chairs, check out the Members area of the website and look under [Branch Leadership](#).



www.aauwmh.org.

Send suggestions & updates to [Sandy Stooob](#)



MEMBERSHIP

Jenny Redfern. Membership VP

With enthusiastic members encouraging their friends, and with wonderfully engaging monthly programs at the library, we continue to attract new members. Please welcome:



- Gautam Ganapathy, husband of member Suman Ganapathy and Sr. Director, Operations, Kloves, Inc.
- Misao Kusuda, MD, a self-employed psychiatrist, and a friend of Suman Ganapathy.
- Mary Patterson, 1985 Stanford graduate, health educator, and member of the MHUSD School Board.
- Noemi Schambach...details coming soon!

Join or Renew Your Membership

Renewing your membership is so easy to do online that 110 of our 175 members have already renewed for 2018-19, ahead of the June 30 deadline. Thank you! Our fiscal year begins on July 1, and it would be terrific to have even more of our renewals by then. Dues for 2018-19 are \$104, which includes \$59 National (\$56 is tax-deductible), \$20 State, and \$25 Branch. **Dues assistance is available.**

Join or Renew
your membership

To Renew, either:

- Look for an email from memberinfo@aauw.org in your inbox or junk folder. No login or instructions will be needed; just click and renew online. or
- Print the [Member Renewal Form](#) and mail it with a personal check for \$104, payable to AAUW Morgan Hill, to: Jenny Redfern AAUW MH Membership VP, [14721 Excaliber Drive](#), MH, 95037

And, consider adding a contribution to the AAUW Fund while you are renewing.

Save the Date: Sunday, September 16, 11 - 2 pm, Fall Membership Brunch (potluck), Morgan Hill Cellars. Invite your friends!

2018 WILDFLOWER RUN AND WILDFLOWER FUND

Carol O'Hare

More than \$49,000 was raised this year from the Wildflower Run and the Wildflower Fund campaign. This will support all the branch's philanthropic activities over the next year: local scholarships and grants, Tech Trek, and national AAUW programs and priorities.



Gross income from Wildflower Run registrations and sale of t-shirts was \$24,617. Corporate sponsorships added \$28,850. Member donations to the Wildflower Fund totaled \$12,181, an all-time high. (60.6% of members made a gift to the Fund, another record.) Expenses were \$16,189. Thus, the final amount raised this year is \$49,459, a little less than in 2017, due to fewer run participants.

In July the Allocations Committee, chaired by Elizabeth Mandel, will meet to determine how these funds should be distributed among all our projects.

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NATIONAL BYLAWS

AAUW Bylaws Voting Results

For more information: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>



<u>Proposal Topic</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Percent Affirmative</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Did Not Vote</u>
Proposal 1. re: Staggered Terms	Yes	92.97%	13584	477	550	113
Proposal 2. re: non-AAUW Members on Board	No	48.67%	7110	6188	1310	116
Proposal 3. re: Degree Requirement	No	44.48%	6503	7121	997	103

AAUW CALIFORNIA STATE CONVENTION

Peggy Martin, President

AAUW California's Convention was held on April 27 - 29th, 2018, at the Irvine Marriott. The theme for the convention was '**Educated, Reasoned & Active**'. Four of our members were in attendance: Joy Safakish, Carol Holzgrafe, Joanne Rife and Peggy Martin.



I found the convention rewarding, inspiring, educational, and a great place to network with other AAUW members in California.

To learn more about what was discussed at the AAUW California Convention, click [here](#). A review of what took place at the convention will be discussed at our Board Retreat on Saturday, July 21, 2018.

Convention Highlights

- A talk on AAUW Public Policy priorities from Lisa Maatz, former AAUW National Vice President of Government Relationships and Advocacy. As stated in the convention brochure: "Public Policy is a vital part of our AAUW membership. We are passionate in advocating for women and girls so that they can break through social and economic barriers."
- A talk by Kim Churches, CEO for AAUW National, about her goals for AAUW.
- Meeting the top three Eleanor Stem-Allen Memorial Speech Trek contestants and hearing their speeches on "How We Can Stand Up to Sexism."
- The Tech Trek luncheon and 20th Reunion Celebration.

AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Janet Wright, *Legal Advocacy Fund Chair*

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) is helping fund the case of **Zoe Spencer**, a professor of sociology at Virginia State University (VSU). She is suing VSU alleging wage discrimination and retaliation under the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In 2014 two male administrators were appointed to faculty positions as associate professors at vastly higher salaries than those of female professors at all ranks and \$35,000-\$49,500 higher than Spencer's salary. She requested a salary adjustment but was denied and alleges that she faced retaliation, including delays in processing her pay.



Spencer originally filed her case in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. VSU moved for summary judgment and the court dismissed her case with prejudice. The court reasoned that because the two male associate professors were affiliated with different departments than Spencer, they were not appropriate comparators. In April 2018, she filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

In the absence of comprehensive federal equal pay legislation or strong state pay equity law in Virginia, litigation is the primary remedy for women such as Spencer.

AAUW FUND

Janet Wright *AAUW Fund VP*



The AAUW Fund finances groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace. This work influences the national discussion on topics like the pay gap between women and men, sexual harassment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. Through new and traditional media, targeted outreach to policymakers, and member efforts, AAUW research serves as a catalyst for action.

Two research projects were completed or updated in 2017. "**The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap**" is a common sense guide updated twice a year that provides key facts about the current state of the gender pay gap in the United States, with explanations and links to additional resources that can help women effectively advocate for pay equity.

"**Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans (2017)**" takes a close look at the issue. Women's success in post-secondary education is shrinking the gender pay gap and opening up new opportunities, but at what price? Women not only take on more student debt than men do, but women also pay back their loans more slowly because of the gender pay gap.



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FRIENDSHIP

Donna Dicker



Congratulations to **Gretchen Merrick** who was added to the Intero real estate firm's President's Circle. The Circle is for the top 5% of the agents.



In April **Coleen Colwell** appeared in the South Bay Singers performance of "The Music Man" as Winthrop, the brother of Marian (the librarian). Also in the cast were branch members Nancy Foster and Peter Anderson.

Jean Pinard who turned 90 and **Joan Stempel** who turned 80 this year hosted a party for the Friday Writers group at Jean's beautiful backyard. Jean also celebrated her landmark birthday by visiting Santa Fe, New Mexico, for a week and at a gathering of 50 AAUW members and friends at her home. Photo credit Sue Brazelton.



Congratulations also to **Bob Foster**, husband of member **Nancy Foster**, who will be honored by Leadership Morgan Hill with its Excellence Award on July 21 at Guglielmo Winery.

Elaine Reimer and her family welcomed a handsome new grandson in April.

Margo and Rich Hinnenkamp celebrated their 50th anniversary by taking a river cruise with stops in Vienna, Prague and Budapest.

Carol O'Hare hosted a farewell party for **Gisela Steffe**, who moved to Iowa in May. She will be missed.

FAREWELL & GOOD LUCK TO GISELA STEFFE

Christine Hopwood



Gisela Steffe joined the Morgan Hill Branch of AAUW January 1992 after she moved here with her husband, Will. After joining she wholeheartedly became involved in Branch activities, particularly supporting its mission to advocate for fair pay and economic security for women. In 2006 Gisela was named an AAUW Honoree and the following write-up accompanied the announcement in the September 2006 issue of The Wildflower.

"Gisela Steffe is one of those quiet, behind-the-scenes workers. She serves as Neighborhood Chair and organizes the Annual Neighborhood Dinner. She also coordinates Afternoon Book Group. Her artistic talent is evident in the Women's History exhibits and Wildflower Run displays she creates each year."



Gisela has loved every minute living in Morgan Hill and cherishes the friends she has made in AAUW and the South Valley Symphony where she played violin since 1992. After losing her husband, Will, in late 2016 she finally decided to move closer to her daughter in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She is now a National AAUW Member. A more detailed article may be found [HERE](#).

AAUW MEMBER BECOMES POWERFUL ADVOCATE TO DISRUPT DEMENTIA

Robin Shepherd



After being diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia (LBD), AAUW member Sue Berghoff made a brave choice. She decided to go public about her dementia to shed light on this fatal disease, remove its social stigma, and advocate for research funding to find a cure. As a fellow AAUW member and a journalist, I wanted to write about Sue's journey with dementia, and she was all for it. After the story was published she asked, "What's next?" Sue wants to share her story far and wide, so we decided to create a documentary film, and SUE'S STORY was born. With help from AAUW members, Sue and her husband hosted a fundraiser and awareness-building event, and filming began. In April, SUE'S STORY debuted at the Poppy Jasper Int'l Film Festival and won Audience Choice for Best Documentary. In case you missed it, SUE'S STORY returns to Morgan Hill in October.

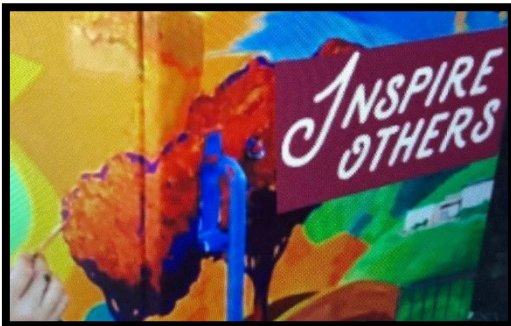


Get the details and learn more about Sue's mission [HERE](#).

LEADERSHIP MORGAN HILL (LMH) 2018 CLASS PROJECT 'ART & INSPIRATION'

Suman Ganapathy, AAUW Representative for LMH 2018

The [Leadership Morgan Hill](#) program was designed to inspire future city leaders to community service. As part of the program, participants work on a community enhancing project, conceived, planned, funded and executed by the class. This "experiential" learning elicits critical-analysis, initiative and risk-taking, decision-making and accountability.



Our class project, "**Art and Inspiration**", comprises both city-beautification and community engagement. Traffic and electric boxes transformed into beautiful works of public art by local artists also feature positive social messages showcasing Morgan Hill's unique character. The layered, brief and uplifting phrases can be interpreted individually and have been designed to make readers reflect long after they have read it. We aim to engage the community and connect with everyone - prospective, new and long-time residents, young and old, tourists and visitors – and focus on things we care about and have in common. Support the project and watch for artists painting around town in July and August.

Impelling, educational, and motivational, I feel privileged to represent AAUW in the [Leadership Morgan Hill Class of 2018](#). Learning about Morgan Hill's administration, programs and needs makes me so proud of our singular city, chockful of impressive programs and good intentions in our march towards equity and dignity for all.

AAUW MH sponsors a branch member to attend LMH thanks to the Wildflower Fund.



SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Donna Dicker, Scholarship Coordinator

In Addition to the NCCWSL and high schools scholarship recipients that were announced in the Spring newsletter, the following awards were made to these deserving students.

Lauren Jenkins Healthcare Professons Scholarship (Chair John Jenkins):

Rebecca Ayala, Paulina Beltran, Maria Navarrete and Rosemary Sanchez, all from Gavilan College will receive \$500 each to continue their nursing studies.

Scholarships for College Re-Entry Women (Chair Kathy Hansell):

Anita Alvarez, Michelle Castro and Diane Zapata are recipients of \$1000 awards to pursue their educational goals.

Keeping in Touch (KIT) grants (Chair Katie Howard): These grants are awarded to previous scholarship winners to continue their education.

Tiffany Ziegelman, CSU San Diego
Jacquelyn Cook, Gavilan College nursing
Shelby McDonald, CA Baptist University
Mortela, CSU Monterey Bay
Michaela Austin, UC Santa Barbara
Jordan Atkins, West Valley College

Lindsay Baker, Gavilan College
Raya Kavosh, UC San Diego
Diana Fuentes, CSU San Jose
Melissa Vasquez, CSU San Jose
Lydia Riojas, CSU San Jose
Lifen Shi, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo



Kathy Hansell with Re-Entry winners

All scholarships and grants are financed by the Wildflower Fund.

FUTURE WOMEN LEADERS CONFERENCE REPORT

By Sofia Ruster

(Youth Program Supported by AAUWMH mentors and funds)

The first annual Future Women Leaders Conference got off to a great start on Saturday, April 14th, 2018, as over 75 students showed up, eager to participate, defying the assumption that teenagers use weekends to sleep in and slack off.

The vision for the conference was clear and straightforward: to motivate, inspire, and educate young future leaders in our community by giving them a voice that will empower them and allow them to stand up to challenge the social disparities in our world today.

Read the full conference report [HERE](#). The event was funded in part by AAUW MH Wildflower Funds. Margaret McCann and Margie Snively served as mentors with the student planners.



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The Wildflower is published digitally from September until June by the Morgan Hill branch of AAUW.

President: Peggy Martin

VP Membership: Jenny Redfern

Copy Editor: Suman Ganapathy

Layout Editor: Chris Hopwood

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Morgan Hill Historical Society, Villa Mira Monte

July 7, History Conversation: San Martin Historical and Personal Perspective with Steve Ludewig and Donna Brodsky, 10-11:30 am

July 14, and August 11, Downtown Historic Walking Tour. Meet at Coffee Guys on 3rd St, 10 am.

South Valley Civic Theater, MH Community Playhouse

June 15- July 7, "Guys and Dolls," \$16-\$25

Leadership Morgan Hill

July 21, Leadership Excellence Award honoring Bob Foster, 5 pm, Guglielmo Winery, \$125

South County Lifelong Learning, Community and Cultural Center, 10 am – 12 noon, \$10

June 27, Southern Ice & Northern Lights with Laura Perry

July 14 (Sat), Meat-Eating Plants with Chuck Rambo

July 18, Amah Mutsun Tribe with anthropologist Robyn Houts

July 25, Trucking through Nepal with Kathy Irvine

Edward Boss Prado Foundation

July 28, An Evening At The Ranch—Coyote Ranch 6:00-10:00 \$125.00

Friends of the Library, MH Library

September 11, Performance by Mariachi Academy's Los Toritos, 7 pm



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