



# DIRECTIONS

[novatoaauw.org](http://novatoaauw.org)

November, 2020

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we head into the holiday season I hope that you all can stay safe and stay strong. No matter what politics, health, the environment, or social justice throws our way, enjoy time with friends and family.

I hope this finds you all well. Our lives were all poised to change last Tuesday or in the next few weeks if election results were delayed or are disputed. I hope the change is for the better. This fall.. (ok, yeah, the whole year) has been a roller coaster ride, but I feel a glimmer of optimism. Getting out the vote messages were everywhere for this election -- there were little rocks painted with "vote" in random places around town and a hand lettered sign that says "vote" down the street. I saw "vote" painted on an NFL field. I saw tons of ads from corporations telling us to "vote". And, [actor Paul Rudd](#) (Antman, Clueless, etc.) was seen handing out thank you cookies to voters in line at a Brooklyn polling place. Given all that, I think many of us were ready for a change in our lives.

Please join the next monthly board meeting Tuesday, December 1, at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6849736775>

Or type in 684 973 6775. And reconnect with your Novato AAUW family.

Cheers and take care,

Cindy Demchuk [ckbarr66@hotmail.com](mailto:ckbarr66@hotmail.com) 415-519-2032  
Novato Branch President

PS Hopefully you all remembered to Fall Back on Sunday morning, November 1<sup>st</sup> ;)



## MEMBERSHIP

Our current membership stands at 52 and at our last board meeting we discussed additional ways to keep in touch with all 52 of you! So, each of you will be receiving a phone call from one of the board members to say “hello, we’re thinking of you” and to catch up on any news (or the weather) you may wish to share. (And since this newsletter is again late, some of you may have already received a call!)

By now you should have all received your Novato Branch Directory 2020-2021 and hopefully have checked that your entry is correct. If your directory is missing or something needs changing, please contact Kathleen Gallivan, [krqallivan@hotmail.com](mailto:krqallivan@hotmail.com).

## THE SEE'S CANDY SALE IS UNDER WAY

You will have received your See's order form along with your Directory, so you know that we are going to keep on with this fundraiser this year. Already, more than half a dozen proactive members have already sent in their orders! Do not fear though, the rest of you have plenty of time to make up your list.

Many of you have been used to ordering gift certificates and you may have noticed that they are absent from the form this year. This is perhaps due to the way they are altering the procedures because of the pandemic. We're sorry to see this option become unavailable but hope it will return in the future and that in the meantime you will find another way to gift those people on your list.

Do keep See's Candy in mind as we head into the holiday season. Of course, we will remind you from time to time. 😊

## HALLOWEEN HAS PASSED BUT AAUW TRICK-OR-TREAT GOES ON!

Novato AAUW Halloween Trick-or-Treat is upon us! It's not too late to send your donation for AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (formerly the AAUW Fund). Halloween has come and gone (did any goblins come to your door?). Many members have generously sent checks but we're far short of last year's total. Please examine the flyer on the next page to remind yourself of the good work that the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund underwrites, and send in whatever you can spare.

For tax-deductibility, make your check out to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund [ 501(c)3 nonprofit]. Mail your donation to: Kathleen Gallivan, 20 Lotus Ct., 94945.

If you prefer to donate online – there’s a big “DONATE” button on AAUW’s home page -- please enter your membership number in the appropriate field so that Novato Branch will be recognized for your contribution. If you don’t know your number, email [krqallivan@hotmail.com](mailto:krqallivan@hotmail.com) to request that information.

# Novato AAUW Halloween Trick or Treat

## Gathering funds to support the AAUW mission

AAUW Funds are intended to advance AAUW's mission by sustaining all our programs and activities. Your unrestricted gift to the AAUW Fund helps incubate and disseminate programs that above all, advance equity for women and girls, strengthen AAUW's role in the global community, respond to and eradicate the persistent challenges facing women and girls, and leverage new opportunities and attract new audiences to our mission.



### Novato supports The AAUW Funds

Our Halloween Trick or Treat supports the following national, state and local goals. These gifts support:

- Advocacy
- Student Advisory Council
- Member Leadership Programs
  - √ Elect Her
- Fellowships and Grants:
  - American Fellowships
  - Career Development Grants
  - Community Action Grants
  - International Fellowships
  - International Project Grants
  - Research Publication Grants in Engineering, Medicine, and Science
  - Selected Professional Fellowships
- Tech Savvy
- Outlook Magazine
- Start Smart and Work Smart – salary negotiation learning for students and women and girls
- Cap Grants – up to \$5000 to support activism projects in colleges and universities that employ women and girls

*Because of Covid 19 restrictions this year, Novato AAUW requests that you mail your donations. We miss our annual Halloween gathering, the visits to your homes, our companionship, and the celebration of our shared belief in a worthy cause. We hope that we will be back to our gatherings soon and recalling our restrictions as merely an uncomfortable episode in our lives.*

***Make your check out to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund [ 501(c)3 nonprofit] for tax-deductibility, and mail your donation to: Kathleen Gallivan, 20 Lotus Court, 94945.***

## NOVATO BRANCH BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be December 1, 5:00 p.m. The meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. (January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, and May 4). At this time, we expect these to be Zoom meetings. You should contact branch president Cindy if you wish to attend – use number 6849736775 with Zoom to enter the waiting room – Cindy will attach you to the actual meeting.

## CALIFORNIA AND NATIONAL AAUW

- **WEBINARS** – After offering weekly webinars for many months, we’ve now built up an impressive library of content for members to explore at any time. Head over to the [2020 Convenings Page](#) to find recordings for “Managing Burnout Through Self-Compassion,” “Justice Ginsburg’s Legacy and the Future of the Court,” and “AAUW Virtual Board Town Hall: Dues and Education Requirement.” Also be sure to watch “Programming During a Pandemic” to hear from fellow AAUW branch and state leaders. For more virtual fundraising ideas, take a look at [5 Ideas for Virtual Fundraising](#). Thanks to all who give feedback on our post-webinar surveys. Have ideas for a webinar topic? Let us know by reaching out to [Equity@aauw.org](mailto:Equity@aauw.org).

- **AAUW CALIFORNIA DIRECTORY** - the Communications team has been hard at work finalizing and publishing the [2020-2021 AAUW California Directory](#) . The password (aauwca) is required to access the California Directory. It is posted on the AAUW California website. The Directory contains the listings of state committee members, the AAUW California calendar, the webinar schedule, and more.

- **NOTICE OF DUES CHANGE** – The AAUW Board sent the following notice:

At its October 16, 2020, meeting, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to increase Individual Member dues for the next three years. The dues will rise by \$3 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, \$5 for FY 2023 and \$5 for FY 2024, making the total dues amount for those years \$62, \$67 and \$72, respectively. All but \$3 of your annual dues remains tax deductible.

This decision wasn’t made lightly. The board members couldn’t be more grateful for our members — or prouder of the work you’ve done this year. We also recognize that all of us are navigating numerous challenges in these uncertain times. However, in order to preserve the viability of this organization we all love, the board needed to take action. Simply put, this measure is essential for AAUW to continue our mission to achieve gender equity.

Most nonprofits adjust their dues annually or every other year to keep pace with inflation and rising expenses. However, due to prudent budgetary management, AAUW has been able to keep its dues flat since July 2018. That means that, by the time the first scheduled increase takes effect, we will have maintained three years of dues stability.

Moreover, in recognition of the difficult economy we're in, the board planned for the initial adjustment to be the most modest. Over the course of the year, it works out to be only an additional 25 cents per month — what we hope is a small price to pay for maintaining our important work and community.

Current life members will not be affected by this change. New life memberships acquired after July 1, 2021, will reflect the higher dues' amounts. College and university membership fees will remain unchanged.

Please contact us with any feedback or concerns.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to AAUW and our mission. On behalf of the AAUW Board, we are grateful for your understanding and look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,

Julia T. Brown, Esq.  
Board Chair

## NOTES FROM OUR MEMBERS

In both the September and October newsletters, we published several notes and pictures from some of our members that were in response to an e-mail that your newsletter editor sent asking that you send her a note with something that you would like to share – or what have you been doing as we all sheltered in place? Many enjoyed the notes that were published, and we have a few more to include in this newsletter. But there are many of you that we would love to hear from, so if you have some news, please send it to your editor.

### Halloween Happenings



We're not sure how trick or treating works with Zoom (or with other digital apps) but it didn't stop kids from getting in costume for the occasion.

On the left, Sue Potter's grandkids Grace and Levi.

On the right, Eileen Hutchinson's grandson William.



**From Roberta Di Prete**

Here's how I refresh. Beth is a childhood friend from RI and we are reliving the joy of riding with a monthly canter on Salmon Creek Beach in Bodega.



**From your newsletter editor** – I hope that we will hear from more of you and that we'll continue sharing these brief looks at what you have all been doing. We'll continue this section in the next newsletter – if you missed sending something for this month, please send it for next month – we would love to hear from you! By the way, you can send updates every month if you would like!

I wish all of you continued good health and the delight of keeping in touch with all of the wonderful Novato branch members. And Happy Thanksgiving!

Eileen Hutchinson, *Newsletter Editor*  
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*Submissions for articles written by members or news articles of interest are always welcome. Feel free to email me if you have something interesting you would like to share and it may be added to the newsletter.*

