



DIRECTIONS

novatoaauw.org

September, 2021



Membership Meet-Up

Friday, September 17th

El Rey - 940 Seventh Street

4:00 to 6:00 pm

Meet on the Patio to enjoy the company, a selection of Mexican small plates provided by the branch and no-host beverages.

Bring stories of your activities over the last year plus, any highlights for this last summer and perhaps bring some new people who are interested in joining our branch. And bring your mask.

\$5 cover charge for all the hors d'oeuvres you can eat!

RSVP: Kathleen Gallivan - kgallivan@hotmail.com - so we will know how many to expect

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all, thank you for being a steadfast group! As I write this the skies are smoggy, the temperature is high, there is chaos in Afghanistan, and we are still wearing masks 😊 because COVID is our new normal. We need to stay connected to each other, one way or another. If you

want to start a section up again and can see a way to do that in our new pandemic-paradigm, please do it! Let us know what we can do as a group to support any idea you have.

And we hope to see everyone on September 17 at El Rey between 4-6 🍷 to get a start to this unusual year. Stay safe and stay in touch. 🧑🏻🤝🧑🏻❤️

Kind regards,

Cindy Demchuk
Novato Branch President

BRANCH BOARD 2021 – 2022

The election of the Board for the upcoming year did take place as part of the Spring Tea agenda on May 1st (reported in the May 2021 newsletter). The slate of candidates was unanimously elected to serve another term. Your elected officers for 2021-2022 are as follows:

President:	Cindy Demchuk
President-Elect:	Linnea Leroux
Secretary:	Barbara Granicher
Finance VP:	Kathleen Gallivan

All other Board positions are appointed and volunteers are always most welcome. The other board positions that have been filled for 2021 – 2022 are the following:

Recording Secretary – Barbara Ganicher
Membership VP – Kathleen Gallivan
Tech Trek Chair – Myrna Stevenot, Lucy Stevenot
Newsletter Editor – Eileen Hutchinson
Program VP – open

In our June 2021 newsletter Cindy asked “Want to be our branch program VP? Please email me!” We are still looking for the program chair – if interested please contact Cindy!

PROGRAM NOTES

The board has discussed some of the fall activities that we normally support and how we will (or not) support them this fall – particularly with the once again Covid restrictions in place for some types of gatherings and venues.

Board meetings – by Zoom (initially).

Trick or Treat – usually held on October 31, this is the branch’s major fundraiser for AAUW Fund. We’re contemplating in-person collection this year. Stay tuned.

See’s holiday candy sale – this is usually done by e-mail and US mail – that will be the same this year.

Winter Party – to be determined

Occasional Zoom meetings (keep in touch ❤️ meetings) with a discussion topic – e.g., books, community outreach opportunities, current travel experiences, etc.

TRASH TO TREASURES OR OTHER YARD SALES



The last Trash to Treasures sale held at Margaret Todd Senior Center was early March 2020. Items not sold at that sale were carefully boxed to be held for the next sale. And they are still waiting that next sale! And, we have added to those boxes with many worthy sale items that have come our way over the last year and a half.

The Senior Center after a very long closure just reopened in early August 2021. Though their calendar lists the restart dates of several activities, Trash to Treasures is listed but with a TBA date. It seems unlikely that there will be a sale this fall, but we are certainly hopeful for next spring .



We suspect that many of you have been doing some deep cleaning during our stay at home days and we do hope that if you have found any small, saleable items that you will save them for a hoped for sale next spring. If storage is an issue, email or call Eileen Hutchinson for possible storage suggestions.

DATES TO REMEMBER

At a recent planning meeting, dates were set for several branch events. In addition, there are several CA AAUW events of note that may be of interest to you. Details for the CA AAUW events can usually be found in the issues of the state's newsletter -- *California Perspective*. Details and additional information for the branch events will be in future issues of the branch newsletter, but do mark your calendars for the following:

September 17 Membership Meet-up (see page 1 of this newsletter for details)

October 23, 30 & Nov 7 These dates have been set for meeting the 37 Fund awardees in California. Members can 'meet' these awardees virtually this year by registering for these three events (or about 1/3 of the scholars at each event). Details for registering will be presented later this month. (In past years, the Fund awardees were presented at Fund luncheons.)

October 31 Annual Trick or Treat event for AAUW Fund donations

STATE COMMITTEE OPENINGS

There are several state committees with openings that are looking for interested branch members who would like to participate. Recent e-mails mentioned the Communication Committee and several openings in Tech Trek committees. If you are interested in details about these committee openings, see the California AAUW website.

TECH TREK

The Tech Trek State Co-Coordinator recently sent the following news about this summer's virtual camps.

TECH TREK'S VIRTUAL SEASON SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED!

- **Three Camps Served 2020 & 2021 Selected Campers** - 600+ campers completed the program and 76 branches participated.
- **So Many Heroes: Volunteer Support Was Incredible! Many thanks to the 250+ branch** members and prior campers who volunteered to be technical or social coaches, 'adults in the room', and logistics coordinators – the virtual camp season couldn't have happened without you!
- **Qualcomm Partner Brings AAUW Virtual Camps to the Media** – The Technology education publication THEJournal.com was impressed with the Qualcomm-AAUW partnership for the robotics core class and the Virtual Camp program design! Representatives visited the Camp #3 Showcase to view camper presentations.
- **Virtual Camper & Counselor Quotes**
"I was so disappointed that I couldn't go to camp in 2020 – I'm so happy I came to this camp!"
"I haven't had this much fun in forever!"
"Thanks for pulling me out of my pandemic bubble!"
"I wasn't into STEM before this camp, and I've learned so much that now I'll keep at it!"
"Like the title, the Inspiration Hour women were really inspiring!"
"It's been an honor to be here and so fun – thank you!"

The Virtual Camp Leadership Team sends thanks to the many branch members who stepped up to ensure California's Tech Trek program did NOT go dark in 2021!

NOVATO BRANCH BOARD MEETINGS

The board meeting schedule and format (zoom/in person) will be presented in the next newsletter.

SECTION NEWS

One section has been operating through much of the summer and one section has been operating informally and would love to have a section leader.

WEDNESDAY WALKERS – This section has been in operation for several months with two chances to hike each month. The hike on the second Wednesday of the month is generally a shorter, gentler stroll; the hike on the fourth Wednesday of the month can involve some hills and/or a longer route. (continued on next page)

Hikes are scheduled for September 8 – Bahia Lagoons in Novato and for September 22 – Terra Linda/Sleepy Hollow Divide. Details on start time and where to meet were not available in time for this newsletter publication so please contact Gail Jackson, 415-897-7696 for details.

WINE DOWN – This section has been meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at the Trek Winery, though now somewhat unofficially as the section does not have a leader. If you want this section to continue and have it appear in the monthly newsletter, please consider being the leader and contact Cindy Demchuk . Your editor is not aware of the arrangement with the Trek Winery and it may be that meeting date and time may need to be renegotiated.

MEMBER NEWS



Barbara Granicher welcomed her first great-grandchild Luke Skrocki. This was his picture at 3 months.



Sue Potter visiting her sister on the big island of Hawaii. They did lots of gardening and landscaping.



Sue about to head home to California after 3 weeks in Hawaii



A walk to the paper box.



The Wednesday Walkers



Your editor's grandson William - 2 years old

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.