



Torrance Telegram

NOVEMBER 2022

AAUW TORRANCE BRANCH
CHARTERED IN 1968
PO Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505 |

<http://torrance-ca.aauw.net> | aauwtorrance@gmail.com

Beach Cities November Program Wednesday, November 9 at 7 p.m.

The Beach Cities branch has invited us to a very timely look at the election results - and the effects on women and girls.



A Post-Election Conversation

Wednesday, November 9th - Zoom Program Meeting

Leslie S. Kapner, Ed. D. is a USC alumnae with a Masters in Social Work from Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Brandeis University. A past guest speaker for our branch, Leslie returns this month with a thought-provoking program to review the results of the recent election and how it will effect the next generation of girls and young women with whom we live and work.

Come prepared to talk about local, state, and federal midterm elections beyond Democrats vs Republicans, and walk away from this conversation with at least one action you can take.

Wednesday, November 9th, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Visit our website for this and other upcoming events: <https://beachcities-ca.aauw.net/>



If you would like to attend and receive the Zoom link contact aauwbeachcities@gmail.com.



President's Message

Hello Torrance Branch!

As we enter the holiday season with the arrival of Thanksgiving, it is a good time to reflect on all the things we have to be thankful for. For me, I am thankful to all of the members who have helped so much these past few months helping me learn my role since I became president. From making sure we have all of our official tasks done, to organizing and setting up our programs, I am so appreciative of all of the help and support that everyone has shown me. And, I want to give a special thanks to Gloria Liu for her hard work on our Directory. Not only did she put it together, but she got it printed, and delivered and mailed it out for us.

I want to thank Pat Arnett for stepping up to host our Holiday party, coming up on December 7 at her home. Watch for updates in the next newsletter and in your email box soon.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving! Judi Gerber



2022-2023 Branch Leadership

BOARD MEMBERS:

Judi Gerber, President

Gloria Liu, Finance

Lydia McCarver, Secretary

Cami Hamilton & Ann DuPuy, Program Co-VPs

Nancy Kenney & Alice Matthews, Membership Co-VPs

Additional Leadership Roles

Peggy Monga & Margot Sullivan, EPC

Keri Gilbert, Digital Communications

Indrani Chatterjee, AAUW Fund

Isabel Rodriguez, Public Policy

Gloria Liu & Alice Matthews, TTAG Advisors

AAUW Mission Statement

The purpose of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

Membership

AAUW offers membership to all graduates who hold an associates or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Student affiliate status in AAUW is available for anyone now studying for a degree at a qualified institution. Until graduating with that degree, a student affiliate may participate in all AAUW activities except for holding office or voting.



Membership Alice Matthews and Nancy Kenney – Co-VP Membership

Our newest student member is **Kennedy Hayashi**, a college student at El Camino College and former Tech Trekker selected by our Branch in 2017. She has already been of great value to the Torrance Branch by creating the Tech Trek Celebration announcement and helping at the event - announcing the girls for their presentations and handing out their certificates. Welcome to Kennedy - We are so happy to have you as part of our branch.



Member's Corner

This is a new feature where we will share news and information about members. Have news to share? An event coming up? Need help, support or information? Contact Alice, Nancy Kenney or Judi to have it put in the newsletter.

New Future Tech Trekker - **Evelyn Kathleen Yip**, one of our "New" returning members this year just gave birth to Evelyn on October 10, 2022 (5 lbs. /15 oz.).

Evelyn came a little early and with the triple threat of Covid, RSV, and Flu - she won't be receiving any visitors for a while. Congratulations to Kathleen and family on Evelyn's birth!



Travelers this past month

International:

- Isabel Rodriquez just returned from Italy/France
- Ann DuPuy spent time in Italy
- Nancy Kenney flew to France to spend time with top Chefs
- Jann Segal - extensive travel with OAT Travel - Tanzania, Serengeti National Park, Kenya, and Zanzibar

Domestic:

- Alice Matthews did an American History Vacation in Washington, DC and Philadelphia
- Judi Gerber visited Alabama/Georgia for the first time.

The Torrance branch is mourning the death of former President Carol Dean, who as a life member served as president of the Torrance branch from 1986-88. She also was treasurer of the branch and a member of the investment club. Carol graduated from SUNY-Buffalo and was an ardent Dodgers fan, to the point of traveling to spring training. She had various careers, ranging from Mattel to Knott's Berry Farm to a marketing company that engaged AAUW members' kids for new toy testing. At the time of her death, she was a much sought-after tax consultant/preparer. She loved Gaetano's restaurant, elephant figures and depictions, and her dear Khloe, a Chihuahua mix. The branch recognized Carol in 2003 as a named gift honoree for the Educational Foundation/AAUW Fund.



Our thoughts go out to her family.



Torrance Branch Directories are Ready!

The long-awaited AAUW Torrance Branch directories are ready! If you did not pick up your copy at a meeting or have one delivered to you, **and** you don't receive it in the US mail by November 15, please contact Gloria Liu. The 2022-23 directory covers are green.

AAUW Fund Indrani Chatterjee

What kind of programs and events are you interested in for our annual fundraising event in April 2023? Here's your chance to make your voice heard. Please help us pick a program that will not only be a successful fundraiser, but will be fun to attend. Please send Indrani your input by the end of December.

Vote on these proposed fundraising program ideas:

Possible Outdoor Activities:

Cooking Corner/Culinary Arts – (led by a branch member with expertise)

Interested _____ Not Interested _____

Gardening Corner/ Succulent & Herb Design Art (led by a branch member with expertise)

Interested _____ Not Interested _____

Possible Indoor Events:

With a Featured Speaker(s)? Yes _____ No _____

Or, open discussion among members? Yes _____ No _____

Topics: Women's Issues _____ Social issues _____ Education _____

With or without a Silent Auction: With a Silent Auction _____ Without a Silent Auction _____

What you would be willing to pay for a Program Fee for one of these events:

\$45 _____ \$55 _____ \$65 _____

Public Policy

AAUW California wants to hear from you! AAUW California Public Policy Committee will draft new priorities which will be adopted by a vote of AAUW California members in the spring of 2023.

Our priorities are member-driven and we welcome your input by completing this survey by November 11, 2022:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc7mbNLHK7gqFmqHf3pMJnHz9SqiTDe97sNtufIcwysJzH5A/viewform>



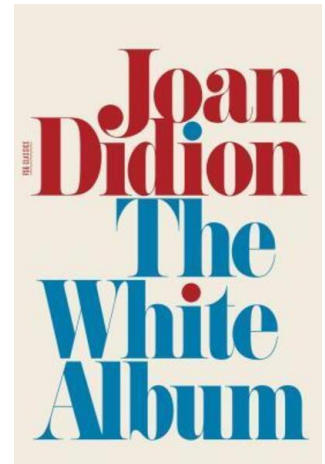
Diversity Book Group

Friday, November 18 @6:30 p.m. Meeting Location: Judy Hill's Home. RSVP to Lydia McCarver lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com

The Diversity Book Group WILL NOT meet in December.

The White Album by Joan Didion. In this landmark essay collection, Joan Didion brilliantly interweaves her own “bad dreams” with those of a nation confronting the dark underside of 1960s counterculture.

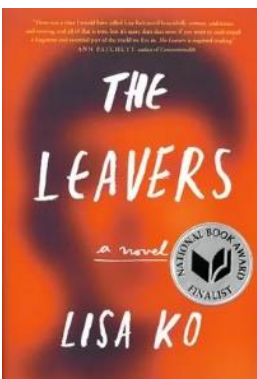
From a jailhouse visit to Black Panther Party cofounder Huey Newton to witnessing First Lady of California Nancy Reagan pretend to pick flowers for the benefit of news cameras, Didion captures the paranoia and absurdity of the era with her signature blend of irony and insight. She takes readers to the “giddily splendid” Getty Museum in Los Angeles, the cool mountains of Bogotá, and the Jordanian Desert, where Bishop James Pike went to walk in Jesus’s footsteps—and died not far from his rented Ford. She anatomizes the culture of shopping malls - “toy garden cities in which no one lives but everyone consumes”—and exposes the contradictions and compromises of the women’s movement. In the iconic title essay, she documents her uneasy state of mind during the years leading up to and following the Manson murders—a terrifying crime that, in her memory, surprised no one.



Afternoon Literature

Meets fourth Monday of each month, Monday, November 28 @ 2:00 p.m. Meeting Location: Alice Matthew’s Home, contact Betsy Adams if interested in attending at seamath@cox.net.

Coming December 12 - Potluck, Poetry and Book exchange



The Leavers: A novel, by Lisa Ko One morning, Deming Guo's mother, an undocumented Chinese immigrant named Polly, goes to her job at the nail salon and never comes home. With his mother gone, eleven-year-old Deming is left with no one to care for him. He is eventually adopted by two white college professors who move him from the Bronx to a small town upstate. Set in New York and China, the Leavers is the story of how one boy comes into his own when everything he's loved has been taken away--and how a mother learns to live with the mistakes of her past.

Told from the perspective of both Daniel--as he grows into a directionless young man--and Polly, Ko's novel gives us one of fiction's most singular mothers. Loving and selfish, determined and frightened, Polly is forced to make one heart wrenching choice after another.

Set in New York and China, The Leavers is a vivid examination of borders and belonging. It's a moving story of how a boy comes into his own when everything he loves is taken away, and how a mother learns to live with the mistakes of the past.



Film Group

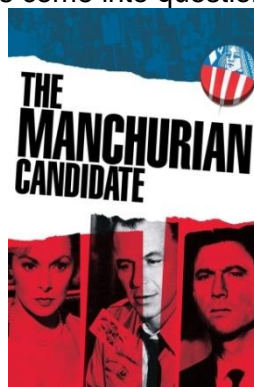
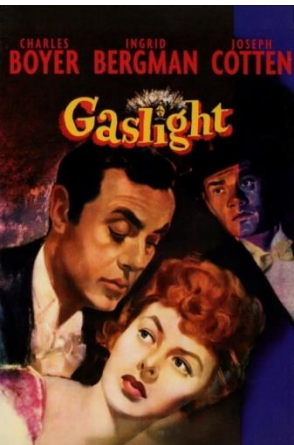
Meets second Tuesday of each month, Tuesday, November 8 @4:00 p.m.

Watch the movies in the comfort of your home and then gather for discussion and light refreshments at our Film Group meeting. Location: Rachel Ambrose's home. If you plan to attend, RSVP to Susanfhelm@gmail.com

The two movies, which we will watch and discuss, feature the recently departed Angela Lansbury ...her first, *Gaslight*, for which she won an Oscar at age 17, and the 1962 version of *Manchurian Candidate*.

After the death of her famous opera-singing aunt, Paula (Ingrid Bergman) is sent to study in Italy to become a great opera singer as well. While there, she falls in love with the charming Gregory Anton (Charles Boyer). The two return to London, and Paula begins to notice strange goings-on: missing pictures, strange footsteps in the night and gaslights that dim without being touched. As she fights to retain her sanity, her new husband's intentions come into question. (This film can be viewed in HBO Max)

Near the end of the Korean War, a platoon of U.S. soldiers is captured by communists and brainwashed. Following the war, the platoon is returned home, and Sergeant Raymond Shaw (Laurence Harvey) is lauded as a hero by the rest of his platoon. However, the platoon commander, Captain Bennett Marco (Frank Sinatra), finds himself plagued by strange nightmares and, together with fellow soldier Allen Melvin (James Edwards), races to uncover a terrible plot. (This film can be viewed Free on TUBI & rental with Apple or Amazon Prime)



Educational Partnership Committee



Thursday, November 10 @6:30 p.m. - Hybrid meeting - In person at Kabita Kumar's home at with a ZOOM option. Please RSVP to Karen Hassen or Alice Matthews and your option on how to attend the meeting. This will be a chance to debrief on the Tech Trek Celebration and find out what is coming next!

Peggy Monga has been actively involved in Tech Trek since 2004 and the EPC/Tech Trek Director since 2017 (co-director in 2016). She has been an integral part of the Branch's success in creating opportunities for as many as 36 girls prior to Covid (16 thirteen years olds in 2022) with the unique opportunity to spend a week on a college campus engaging in STEM activities. Our 2022 Tech Trek Celebration was the final activity for Peggy as the Director. **Karen Hassen and Alice Matthews** will be taking over as Co-Directors.



The Celebration was a huge success with all 16 Tech Trek Girls attending the program and presenting to the audience. We had teachers, principals, parents, siblings, sponsors, TTAG girls, and Torrance Branch members in attendance. The points that all the girls shared in their presentations were how grateful they were for the opportunity and that it was literally life changing for them.



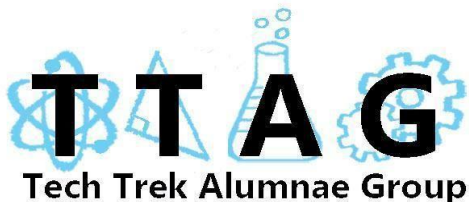
Pictures: 1. All 16 Campers with Certificates 2. Peggy Monga, Michele Freck, Alice Matthews, Karen Hassen, with Margot Sullivan presenting flowers to Peggy 3. Carol Bauer Recipient 4. Audience

Thank you to all our members that helped with the logistics for this event: helping with the girls' presentations (**Pat Arnett, Elle Oliver, Margot Sullivan, and Alice Matthews**); creating the certificates (**Gloria Liu**); creating the PowerPoint of pictures from the three camps (**Michele Freck**); creating the agenda and signs for the girls (**Karen Hassen**); and to the many members who brought refreshments. Apologies if we left anyone out. It truly does take a village!

Needless to say, the program cannot continue without a lot of help from our members. Karen and Alice will be reaching out to you in the near future asking for your help to kick off the process for 2023.



Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) Gloria Liu & Alice Matthews



TTAG had a great ZOOM event on October 8 “College Prep 101” featuring a college Advisor, through USC. **Susana Barrera** was the speaker. Susana attended UCSD in 2012 as a Tech Trekker and was a student at Lawndale High School. She supports DACA (first-generation and low-income students). The event was well attended by close to 20 girls and many adults.

ZOOM meetings are on the second Saturday at 9 a.m. each month. If interested in attending, contact Gloria Liu or Alice Matthews for ZOOM information.

Two of our TTAG officers, **Margarita Navarro and Chloe Huang**, were a huge help at our Tech Trek Celebration. They manned a TTAG table with applications, spoke on the benefits of TTAG, and discussed the role of a Junior Counselor at camp.



Pictures: 1. Margarita Navarro 2. Chloe Huang 3. TTAG 2202 Summer Picnic

Richa Thakre (2019) and **Sarah Solares** (2019), two of Torrance Branch Tech Trek Alumnae, were selected to be part of the State Committee to establish a TTAG Community. This will provide an opportunity for all branches to become a part of the State TTAG. Congratulations to Richa and Sarah on being part of this important initiative!



November Calendar

Tuesday, November 8 @ 4:00 p.m. Film Group

Thursday, November 10 @ 6:30 p.m. Tech Trek

Saturday, November 12 @ 9 a.m. TTAG

Friday, November 18 @6:30 p.m. Diversity Literature

Monday, November 28 @ 2 p.m. Afternoon Literature

Wednesday, December 7 @ 7 p.m. WIT

Monthly Programs in Progress for 2022-2023

The programs will be a mix of in-person and Zoom gatherings. ALL MEMBERS are warmly encouraged to attend and invite guests.

Thurs. 11/8/22 - 2 p.m.

PVP Branch Understanding Dobbs v Women’s Health & Its Aftermath

Weds. 12/07/22- 5 p.m.

Holiday Party hosted by Pat Arnett

Sat. 01/07/2023 – 10 a.m.

Music Heals Minds

November Birthdays

Gloria Liu - November 4

Sheila Brewster – November 12



Find Out More

<https://torrance-ca.aauw.net/calendar/> • www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy/

www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/ • www.aauw.org/resources/programs/tech-trek/

Cultivate and Grow

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