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| * ***Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and dvocacy*****Marin Branch AAUW August 2019 Newsletter**

**Relaxing at Summer Fling**Marin Branch members and guests relaxed, socialized, and enjoyed a summer lunch buffet at the annual mid-summer gathering, held this year at Beverly Roberts' Novato home. At left the talented chefs**Katherine Brinnier** and **Beverly Roberts** kept busy in the kitchen. In photo at right, **Nancy Greenfield** and **Joan Ablon** enjoyed the sunny patio before the buffet luncheon was ready. **Barbara Thomas** manned the check-in table, and **Cherie Sorokin** supervised an icebreaker to test everyone's knowledge of AAUW**Summer Activities Ahead****Theater and The Bard.** Theater-goers plan outings this summer to Marin Shakespeare's outdoor amphitheater at Dominican University in San Rafael: **Sunday, August 11**matinee of *Spamalot*, and the **Sunday, September 8**matinee of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. The group also has plans to see *Bull in China Shop* at  Aurora Theatre in Berkeley in November. To be on the email list for notices about  theater outings, contact Nancy Van Horn, nancyvh021@gmail.com, and ask her to add you to the list.**Sip and Sup, Thursday, August 22.**This summer's end social gathering before the branch activity year gets underway will be**August 22 at Jason's in Greenbrae**, with wine and pizza social time from 4 to 6, followed by an optional Dutch treat dinner for those who wish to stay. Special guest at this year's Sip and Sup, Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW, will be attending. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and chat with Kim about the future of AAUW.  Watch for the Paperless Post.**2019-20 Branch Year Kickoff September 14****Branch Kickoff Meeting Saturday, September 14**. Come meet our Tech Trek girls, socialize with friends, and hear a talk by **Barbara Bailus**, a post-doctoral researcher at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging. Program 10 a.m. to Noon at the BioMarin community room in San Rafael. Watch for Paperless Post.**Also Coming in September****Branch Kickoff Meeting Saturday, September 14**. Come meet our Tech Trek girls, socialize with friends, and hear a talk by **Barbara Bailus**, a post-doctoral researcher at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging. Program 10 a.m. to Noon at the BioMarin community room in San Rafael.**Next Art Tour September 18.**  Art Tours does not have an August outing but will visit the deYoung Museum, on Wednesday, September 18 to view *Ed Hardy: Deeper than Skin,*first museum retrospective of the renowned tattoo artist and California native Ed Hardy. The exhibit examines the origins and history of tattooing. If you have a tattoo you get a discounted entrance fee! Questions: Gerrie Young, 415-4971247 or gerrieyoung0@gmail.com.**New Book Groups Underway**Two new book groups will begin in September, and branch members are welcome. Call or email the groups facilitators listed for more information.**Book Lovers Group**.  Will meet on the third Tuesday, 10 a.m. to Noon at the facilitators’ homes. Members will choose popular contemporary books to read and review. Facilitators are **Carol Hoffman**, carolhoffman713@gmail.com and**Barbara Armington**, barmington@gmail.com.https://ci3.googleusercontent.com/proxy/LuKE-RfMOE8N_rh1er1WwflZa5Fgw0srLOvXbQe9g9_d3Vd0yy66dFmPJVN46x8LM6TNwM_2Kf5PJCF_hG0KQvRJFuZIgizRhZTOTcD4AKVIirTYUmMoU6MSORoSBfGSns5TL2DUEzAi-8MI1526VHX4QkzP-CKGfIw=s0-d-e1-ft#https://gallery.mailchimp.com/4b24a71c0299a293f9a1d07f8/images/181320fe-ba10-4584-9f88-d47513262f71.jpg**Non-fiction Book Group**. This group will meet on the fourth Monday, 2 to 4 p.m. in members’ homes. Members will choose books from non-fiction categories such as biography, science, nature, economics, etc. Facilitators: **Olivia Ruel** oliviacelello@icloud.com and **Phyllis Kuehn** phyllisk@sonic.net.**Current Book Clubs Still Available**. Marin Branch has three existing book groups which are continuing and which also welcome members: Day Books, LitWits, and Reading Arts PM.**Possible new groups**. 1) Vicarious Travel. For branch members to exchange travel notes over late afternoon wine and cheese. 2) Chinese MahJongg. Stay tuned for information and contact **Olivia Ruel** at oliviacelello@icloud.com, or 603-762-1016 if interested. Also, any member with an idea for a new interest group, please contact **Olivia**.**More Fall Programs: Mark Your Calendar****Saturday, October 19.**Women and Music. Speaker will be **Jenny Douglass**, First Chair Violinist with the Marin Symphony, 10 to 12 at Town Center Community Room, Corte Madera.**Saturday, November 9.**10 to 12 at Book Passage's**Elaine Petrocelli** will discuss her Best Books of the Season, Book Passage, Corte Madera.**Saturday, December 7.**Branch Holiday Luncheon and Silent Auction for local scholarships and Tech Trek. A truly special event!  11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Club Restaurant, McInnis Park, San Rafael.**WorkSmart/Start Smart**Branch board members continue to grow partnerships with county groups interested in taking advantage of AAUW programs **WorkSmart** and **StartSmart**, aimed at advancing women's economic security. Dominican and College of Marin are promoting the programs through their electronic communications and a Marin City group is exploring use of the program.**Branch Board Strategy and Outreach Planning**At the branch board’s July strategy session board members discussed AAUW’s national goals and vision and what that looks like for our branch. A new **Five Star Recognition Program** provides an opportunity for AAUW affiliates to be nationally recognized for proven levels of achievement in implementing the AAUW national strategic plan goals. Marin Branch is already on its way with a new focus on national goals and new communications strategy. The **Five Star National Recognition Program** rewards affiliates (states, branches, other organizations) for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization’s mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. The program is designed to promote cohesion between AAUW national and affiliates and increase understanding and implementation of the strategic plan goals. More information is at the national website: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/five-star-national-recognition-program>A member survey will be sent out this fall to learn more about members' interests, and a new branch communications plan is being developed. |

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