



And what did the hikers do during the summer? They hiked! Here they are next to the lagoon in Redwood Shores.

Journalist to discuss his book on Kamala Harris

Veteran California journalist Dan Morain will discuss his biography of Vice President Kamala Harris at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18, via Zoom.

Published by Simon & Schuster, Morain's biography, *Kamala's Way, An American Life*, details the vice president's rise as the daughter of two immigrants in Oakland and Berkeley to the second highest elective office in the land.

Kamala's Way is the first in-depth biography of Vice President Harris. It has been published in more than 20 other countries and multiple languages, from Japanese to Polish, Spanish, French and Italian.

Californians may think they know Harris, given that she ran and won three



statewide races, twice as California Attorney General and then as U.S. Senator. But Morain adds rich detail to the stories behind her ascent, and the individuals who helped her along the way.

In public, Harris comes off as a tough, savvy and smart politician. She is all that. But Morain reveals a more human side of Harris that comes about when the public is not watching.

From her earliest days in public life, leading Republicans sought to block her rise,



Dan Morain

Los Angeles Times and eight years as a columnist and later as editorial page editor of The Sacramento Bee.

See KAMALA, Page 5

understanding that she is a formidable candidate. That continues to this day, as she is a frequent target of conservative commentators.

To paint a picture of Harris, Morain draws on his experience including 27 years as a reporter for The

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

From the co-presidents



Co-presidents Susanne Burrill and Carole Farina

Mid-Pen to start off on Zoom this year as we stay cautious

By Susanne Burrill and Carole Farina

Welcome back! We have a full year of informative and fun activities ahead of us that you will not want to miss.

Through the wonders of technology and small group gatherings, we have kept going and connected. Did you know that people laugh five times as often when they are with others? Peak happiness lies in collective activity with a shared purpose and that is a definition of our branch.

While Covid-19 and its variants are still an issue, we must remain cautious. Our general meetings that include the public, such as at libraries, will be held instead over Zoom. This year Program VPs Kathy Mountain and Gerhild Klein have teamed with the San Mateo Branch for speakers. Presentations will alternate between Saturdays and Wednesdays. Check the calendar for dates.

Neighborhoods and Interest Sections can decide to use Zoom or meet in person if CDC guidelines for San Mateo are followed. Now is the time to revive a former section,

suggest a new one to Coordinator Lois Monroe or try an ongoing one.

How long since you looked at our website? For upcoming events, interest section information, reimbursement forms, lists of award honorees, links to AAUW issues and more, go [here](#).

Directories and calendars will be available for you to pick up at Burton Park by the bocce lanes, behind the tennis courts, across from 955 Chestnut St., San Carlos, on Friday, Sept. 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please wear a mask and keep some distance; the Covid variants are too easy to catch and spread. Stay awhile and chat with friends, sign up for an interest section, and bring those items you have wanted to give to Hope House. Bench seating nearby is limited so bring a chair if you like.

I am so pleased to have Susanne Burrill share the presidency. She has been an effective and gracious host for Neighborhood 10 and organizer of the popular movie outings. Thank you, Susanne, and thank you to all of our '21-'22 officers and chairs for devoting your time and talent for an exciting

Who? What? When?

Co-Presidents: Carole Farina (cfarina@alumni.stanford.edu) and Susanne Burrill (susanneburrill@hotmail.com)

Membership: Wilma Hoffmann (wilmahoffmann@icloud.com)

Electronic distribution: Cathy Chowenhill (cathychowenhill@comcast.net)

Triad editor: Micki Carter (mickicartr@gmail.com)

Sunshine Lady: Marge Haruff is our Sunshine Lady. Please contact Marge at mharuff@aol.com or (650) 591-9900 if you know anyone who would appreciate a card from Mid-Pen Branch.

Know of a prospective member? Please contact Wilma Hoffmann (wilmahoffmann@icloud.com)

Board Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 11 a.m. via Zoom.

Triad Deadline for October will be Sept. 15. Please send articles in Word format and photos (separately, not embedded in Word) as large-format JPEGs to Micki Carter (mickicartr@gmail.com).

year. — *Carole*

Thank you to Carole for her warm welcome, and I thank the branch for the great honor of electing me to share the presidency with her! The position is sure to provide me with many new and challenging experiences. It does indeed look like a terrific year of activities ahead in many ways! Momentum is increasing in the branch for all of us.

I am proud of the membership for adapting to the challenges of the last year plus, and for developing new skills to make this possible. Surely none of us could have imagined that our “further education” would go so far in in these directions that we would be Zooming everywhere!

Reviving the movie group has been requested, and I am interested in doing so. At the moment because of the upswing of the delta variant, I feel that temporary hesitation is advisable. Please feel free to email or call me with your thoughts.

In the meantime, I am looking forward to helping distribute the new directories in Burton Park in September. I look forward to seeing you all then! — *Susanne*

Mid-Pen Directory Pick-up Day

Friday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Burton Park, San Carlos

(near the bocce ball courts, across from 960 Chestnut St.)

Peruse, pick up, sign up and say hello!

Take home your 2021-2022 directory and calendar;
sign up for interest sections and suggest new ones!

Any directories not picked up will be available from your Neighborhood Contact.

Please wear a mask!

2021-2023 Public Policy priorities of AAUW

Public Policy Priorities

For full transcript of 2021-2023 Priorities, download the [PDF](#).

The biennial proposed edits make the following changes to National Priorities based on member feedback;

- Refinement and added specificity regarding AAUW's commitment to addressing systemic racism
- Refinement of our commitment to equitable access to higher education for all
- Emphasis on the importance of high-quality data collection

Public Policy Priorities 2021-2023

AAUW California advocates policies that promote, enhance and ensure:

Economic security for all women

- Equity in the workplace
- Enforcement of anti-discrimination statutes
- Security in retirement
- Access to job training for career development
- Work-life balance, including access to quality affordable childcare and paid sick and care-giving leave

Equal access to quality public education for all students

- Vigorous enforcement of Title IX

- Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including pre-school and post-secondary

- Instruction in STEM fields
- Opposition to the use of public funds for schools that do not meet public school civil rights and accountability standards

Social and racial justice for all

- Self-determination in reproductive health
- Equal access to quality affordable health care, housing and a healthy environment
- Freedom from violence in all its forms and wherever it occurs, including racially-motivated violence

- Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of identity and expression, and all family structures

- Protection and expansion of voting rights

- Support for United Nations sustainable development goals which address human rights and women's and girls' concerns.

California legislation

- AB92 — a bill related to preschool and childcare services and fees that we are co-sponsoring, is now in Senate Appropriations.

- AAUW California is co-sponsoring or watching 39 bills. Eighteen are still active;

one dealing with childcare and education has been signed.

For the California bills that AAUW is sponsoring or watching, click [here](#) for the PDF.

The 117th Congress

Mid-Peninsula AAUW Public Policy section took on voter suppression with a letter writing campaign to representatives for passage of SB 1 For the People Act. (See June 2021 Triad). Contact Yvonne Bergero (ybergero@mac.com) for more information on writing letters in support of voter rights.

For the People Act, which the House passed on May 11, is in the Senate in the Committee on Rules and Administration. It has yet to be brought to the floor to be voted on. It's the boldest pro-democracy reform package introduced in Congress since the Watergate era.

The John Lewis Voting Rights Act has not yet been introduced in the 117th Congress. It would restore the full protections of the original, bipartisan Voting Rights Act of 1965, which was last reauthorized by Congress in 2006, but gutted by the Supreme Court in 2013.

Both need to be passed to ensure unimpeded citizen enfranchisement.

Section schedules

So what new interest section would you like?

Mid-Pen would like to spruce up its list of interest sections to reflect topics that are of particular interest to you. Carole Farina suggested All About Food (see details below).

What are your ideas? Drop by the Directory Pick Up Day Sept 10 and share your ideas with Lois Monroe or email her at loiswmonroe@gmail.com.

All About Food

Let's explore the history, uses and benefits of different foods and share recipes too. We will take turns monthly on a day and time to be decided. I'll chair and start with cocoa; this one will be by Zoom. To sign up, send your best days and times to Carole at cfarina@alumni.stanford.edu.

Book Bunch

We meet the fourth Friday of each month. We will resume again Sept. 27 at the home of Carolyn Miller, 4 Goodwin Ct., Redwood City, at 1 p.m.. The book we have chosen is *Fifth Business* by Robertson Davies. All are welcome to join us for some interesting and fun talk about our chosen book. So please join us by calling 365-0209 or email Carolyn at mfmiller34@aol.com.

Public Policy

Our meeting will take place via Zoom due to the delta variant. The date is Tuesday, Sept. 28 from 3-5 p.m. Watch for an email from Yvonne Bergero (ybergero@mac.com) which will contain the Zoom link to join in on the conversation. Any interested member can contact Yvonne to be included in the email list for the Zoom link. Input for discussion topics will be solicited from members. Now's your chance to be heard. We'll listen!

Spanish Conversation

We will restart in September at 2:30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month via Zoom. We would love to get new members to practice their Spanish. Contact Teddy Heinrich (teddyhei@aol.com) for details.



Those hikers again! This time they're admiring a plant in Hillsborough.

French Conversation

New members welcome! We're a friendly group of members who love speaking and reading French and talking about "things French." Our September meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. For more information about our group and to learn the meeting location this month, please contact Laverne Rabinowitz at Lrainbow24@yahoo.com.

Hiking

The group continues to meet on Thursday mornings. Members of the group suggest walks, hikes, routes and the time and place to meet, and then someone leads and does the emails for that week. Stephanie Katz is the contact (stk4@lehigh.edu).

Climate Change

The Climate Change interest group meets via Zoom at 3:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month; the next meeting is Sept. 20. A Zoom link will be sent to members prior to the meeting. In September we will do some planning for future meetings and will read (before the meeting) a portion of the IPCC Report (International Panel on Climate Change 9, a UN-sponsored global research report). The reading is Chapters 2 and 5 of IPCC report, "Global Warming of

1.5 degrees Centigrade" at this [link](#). If you wish to join this group, please email Sherry Booth at boothsherry1@gmail.com and she will add you to the list.

Historic Preservation

Victorian Days at the San Mateo County Historical Museum (Virtual) will be on Sept. 21. Activities for children; Etiquette of the Tea (fashions) with stories about Victorian millionaires of the Peninsula, and recipes! Also walking tours in various towns, both in-person and virtual; (San Carlos is featured online on Saturday, Aug. 28, at 10 a.m.). Register [here](#) or call the museum at 650-299-0104.

Rancho Day Fiesta at Sanchez Adobe, a living history event, will be Saturday, Sept. 18, from noon-4 p.m. The Grand Opening Program for the new Interpretive Center. is set for 12:30 p.m.

Contact Nancy Oliver for details.

Gamesters

Contact Nancy Oliver at nancy1oliver@earthlink.net.

Women in Literature

Contact Nancy Oliver at nancy1oliver@earthlink.net.



Stephanie Katz photographs one of the cacti that dominate the Arizona Garden on the campus of Stanford University, the site of one of the hikes of the past summer.

Kamala

Continued from Page One

He first wrote about Harris in 1994, and got to know her during the 2008 presidential campaign when he was part of the Los Angeles Times team that covered the 2008 presidential campaign when she was chief surrogate in Northern California for her friend, Barack Obama.

Later, he covered Harris's runs for attorney general and U.S. Senate.

Morain, a native Northern Californian, grew up in San Mateo and Foster City, graduated from Burlingame High School (1973), attended the College of San Mateo, and graduated from Humboldt State University (1977).

Interested in joining a committee on diversity?

Mid-Pen is forming a Diversity committee to enhance diversity, equity and inclusivity within our branch.

Culture, socio-economic status, handicaps, gender, ethnicity, education, experience, age and more will be considered and actions recommended.

Diversity, equity and inclusion are primary topics for AAUW this year,

Help us broaden our views. Contact Carole Farina (cfarina@alumni.stanford.edu) or Susanne Burrill (susanneburrill@hotmail.com) if you would like to be part of this endeavor.

Dates to keep in mind

Sept. 8 — International

Literacy Day

Established by the UN, this day is intended to raise awareness of and concern for literacy issues in the world.

Sept. 21 — International Day of Peace

Hundreds of students take part in an annual observance of Peace Day at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

Meet some of the new members of Mid-Pen

Jeanne George
2941 Chabot Dr,
San Bruno
Home: 650 588 5299
Cell: 650 576 2963

Jhg108@sanbrunocable.com
Bucknell BA (English and French)
SF State (graduate degrees)

Introduced to our branch by Madeline Mindek, Jeanne is already walking with the Hiking group. This lady jumps right in! Originally from New Jersey, she did a BA in English and French at Bucknell University.



Jeanne George

She left her first job at MacGraw Hill in New York after deciding she didn't like big cities and spent an exciting four and a half years as a Pan Am steward and purser. Like many of us, marriage and two children interrupted that early career, and

she spent several years being a mom before deciding to do a graduate degree in Marriage and Family Therapy and School Counseling at San Francisco State.

Director of School Counseling at Pyramid Alternatives followed before she fell into a unique job as school therapist at South San Francisco High School for her last 10 years before retiring. Jeanne feels that everything she did all along led her to what she really wanted to do, work with children.

She is passionate about music, played the violin, sang in many choirs, and currently sings with the Skyline Concert Choir. She is good at organization, and interested in learning more about Book Bunch, French Conversation, Bridge, Movies and Public Policy, especially at the national level.

New address for Joan Peceimer

Longtime member Joan Peceimer just sent her new address:
1600 Trousdale, Room 401
Burlingame CA 94101

Gail Langskusch
644 Prospect St
San Carlos 94070
(650) 868-9019

glangskusch@gmail.com
SJ State BA 1973 (Home ec)
Hayward State BA 1990 (English)

Gail is a rare breed, a fifth-generation Californian on her Irish grandparent side. Apparently, the Irish were so badly treated in New York that the first of the line packed up his family and homesteaded in what is now Half Moon Bay. Gail herself was born



Gail Langskusch

in San Francisco but came to San Carlos when she was only one. She has two daughters and twin 8-year-old grandchildren, a boy and a girl.

She did a BA in Home Ec at San Jose State in 1973, not even bothering to get a teaching credential

because the San Jose District, where she lived, was not hiring anyone who was not bilingual in Spanish and bi-cultural. Assorted jobs, a marriage and children later, in 1990 she went to Hayward State to get another BA, this time in English, and a teaching credential in English with a supplemental in Home Ec. From 1993 until she retired 18 years later, Gail taught English and Living Skills at Carlmont High School, moving full circle back to San Carlos in 2003. She enjoyed leading student trips to France and Europe.

Interested in women's rights, civil rights, climate change and human rights in general, Gail is also interested in joining our Movie Section and has already started hiking with us.

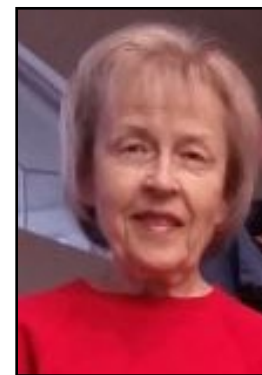
When you get a chance to meet her, welcome her and ask how she ended up with a free trip to China in 2009!

Susan Hall
422 Quadrant Lane
Foster City CA 94404
Cell: (916) 835-1370

susancecil4289@comcast.net
San Jose State BA (English)
San Jose State MA (English)

Susan Hall has deep roots in the education community of San Mateo County.

She taught English in the San Mateo Union High School District from 1965-1997 at both Burlingame and Aragon High Schools. She served as English Department chair at both schools during part of that time.



Susan Hall

Susan and her late husband Cecil, another local high school teacher, retired to Roseville. Susan joined the Roseville-South Placer Branch in 2005 and was very active in AAUW until moving back to

the Bay Area in the fall of 2020. In Roseville-South Placer Branch, she was involved in Great Decisions and Speech Trek, Couple's Gourmet and Wine interest groups.

Susan has traveled extensively and now lives in Foster City near her son. "I thoroughly enjoyed the Hiking Group that walked here in Foster City and met a new member who was once Cecil's student at San Carlos High School and then joined the English department when he was at Carlmont. Small world, right?"

Micki Carter lured her to Mid-Pen. They met while editing the Little League yearbooks back in the day when her son Philip and Micki's son David played for San Mateo National. Susan also served as an early reader for Micki's last book.

Please take time to say hello when we have the chance to be together again.

Theoni Pappas
PO Box 476,
San Carlos
(650) 207-3350
UC Berkeley, BA 1966 (Math)
Stanford, MA 1967 (Math)

Elvira Monroe introduced Theo to our branch. She is a native Californian who is passionate about mathematics, teaching, the outdoors, and the arts.

Her photo sums it up: That piece of concrete is a tetrapod, used by coastal engineers to create breakwaters since the water flows around them instead of crashing against them.



ANGELA MOGIN
10 9th Avenue, Apt 201
San Mateo, 94401

amogin45@gmail.com
Cell: (650) 868-5701
Hood College BA (History)
New York University JD (Law)

Angela is an extremely interesting and talented woman. She completed a BA in History at Hood College, choosing an all-girls college so that there would be other women in her math class. However, she went to an all-boys college nearby to do her LSATs, where the natives were not too friendly toward the only woman. There

were nine women in the intake class of 300 at NYU, and she remembers one of the professors had Ladies Days with lectures on sexual assault ... as if the male students would not be interested.

After completing her JD, for the very first time the administration was worried about bathrooms being nearby and clumped the women with consecutive numbers for the Bar Exam, in the process ensuring that their results would not be anonymous. Not surprisingly, the women sued the university!

Angela is new to our branch, but was active both in Stanford, Conn., and with the Menlo Atherton Branch. She has done a lot of volunteer work including teaching reading to underachieving high school

students in East Palo Alto, a result of her interest in education.

Book Bunch, Public Policy, Climate Change and doing flat hikes with the Hiking Section all interest her, as well as raising money for Tech Trek.

Please welcome Angela when you meet her. She is full of fascinating stories, and definitely shares our branch values.

Let your friends in on a great deal for joining AAUW

By Wilma Hoffmann

This year National is offering 50 percent off National dues for any new member who signs up on the spot at any of our general meetings designed to further the goals of AAUW.

For right now, that means if you have friends who would like to join us, give them the link for our Zoom General Meeting on Sept. 18 at 10 a.m. As soon as they decide to join, send me (wilmahoffmann@icloud.com) a note with contact info for them so she can get them a membership application.

They should send a check made out to Mid-Pen AAUW for \$72 instead of the usual \$103, to cover State dues, our Mid Pen-Branch dues and half the National dues to Mary Spring, Membership Treasurer, 2707 Monserat Ave., Belmont, CA 94002.

This is time-sensitive, so get the ball rolling as fast as you can to save your friends/neighbors some money.

Wish list of needs from Hope House

By Teddy Heinrich

We have received the following Wish List from Hope House and are asking all of you, who can, to bring any of these items you could donate to Burton Park to Directory Pick-Up Day Sept. 10.

Needless to say, they would also appreciate checks, which actually work better than any of us having to go and purchase any of these items new.

New items

Sports bras, panties, socks all sizes.

New or Used

Towels, twin sheets and pillow cases, Bathroom rugs

Brooms, Silverware

“Please thank everybody for us in advance and let them know that we are hoping that they stay safe, are well and happy,” the staff at Hope House writes.

Hope House for Women is a six-month residential alcohol and drug treatment program with mental health services for women who are released from the San Mateo County Women’s Correctional Center or California Department of Corrections, or are homeless. It provides a supportive and structured environment to prepare women to return to the community as healthy and productive members, free of alcohol and other drug use.

Mid-Pen has been a supporter of Hope House for many years.



For more about the League and its activities, see our [website](#).

General Meeting
Local Redistricting: Building Communities of Interest

Monday, September 13, 2021
12:00 Noon – 1:30 pm

Speaker: Jonathan Mehta Stein
Executive Director, [California Common Cause](#)

Creating Communities of Interest is foundational to determining voting districts and ensuring fair representation. How do we establish communities of interest? Who does the work? What is the result?

Jonathan Mehta Stein, Executive Director of California Common Cause, will provide insight into the current redistricting process. At the end of our time together, you will understand how redistricting happens, and why getting it done well matters so much.

Join the League of Women Voters of North and Central San Mateo County on Sept 13 from noon-1:30 p.m. via zoom.

[Register for this Zoom meeting](#)

Everyone is welcome...share this announcement!

650-342-5853 | lwnccsmc@sbcglobal.net | www.lwnccsmc.org

Connect with us

--