

## Presidents' Message

Margo King & Annette Delaney

As the calendar year 2015 nears an end, your Board is making resolutions that we hope will strengthen our Branch in 2016 and beyond.

At the core of our plans will be our resolve to increase our efforts to reach out to our members in a variety of ways.

-Already launched is a Facebook site that you have read about in the Bay Leaves. We hope you are all using and sharing information with your list of friends about AAUW and its important work for women and girls.

-We are adding more photographs of you and your groups "in action" to both Bay Leaves and our website so that we can all enjoy the varied programs presented. The October equal rights talk was an example of this. Look for another, with details in Bay Leaves in advance, regarding a joint program to be offered on Feb. 20, 2016 with San Carlos and on March 12, 2016, with the Inter Branch Council (IBC).

-Soon you will be contacted by a Board member about the development of a "neighborhood" program that will inform you of coming programs, coordinate rides to these events should you need them, and perhaps create a chance for you to meet other women in your area that you may not yet know.

We hope that some or all of these outreach efforts will be of interest to you. All of us would like to know all of you! If you have other ideas about how to make that happen in interesting, enjoyable ways, please let us know.

We wish you all Happy Holidays and good health now and in the New Year.

## UPCOMING BRANCH EVENTS

*Please save the dates*

- Jan. 9 Art Lecture - Kay Payne, Docent, CSM Board Room
- Feb. 20 "What to do with Your Stuff" Joint program with San Carlos
- March 12 Women's History Month Lunch Joint meeting with IBC, Basque Cultural Center, SSF

## October Champagne Brunch



NCCWSL scholarship recipients' presentation

At AAUW's annual Tech Trek Brunch we heard from our National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) scholarship recipients. Dhvani Patel & Chloe Frederick spoke of the opportunities to meet other women student leaders from across the country; hear from powerful women leaders from all industries; as well as meeting with various major corporations about positions within their companies. Dhvani & Chloe will be completing their studies at UC, Berkeley with both majoring in mechanical engineering. They had not met before the conference but will now be roommates at Berkeley.

## Public Policy/Current Events



Therapy dog, Curry, demonstrating her tricks

Participants in our Public Policy discussion group shared the wide variety of volunteer activities they do to benefit their communities and themselves at our October meeting.

The star of the meeting was hostess Lyn Haithcox and her talented therapy dog, Curry. She demonstrated how they cheer up elderly patients in nursing homes and assist special needs children with their reading.

Several members spoke of their pleasure in tutoring children in local schools. Pat Fuetsch suggested members might enjoy participating in an after school program for at-risk students in grades 3-5, called *Homework Central*, where tutors provide assistance with homework and mentoring at four San Mateo locations.

Anne Horgan serves as a cuddler for newborns in hospital neonatal units helping both the baby and the nursing staff. Shirley Roberson described the pleasure she and friends receive from performing hula dances at senior centers and nursing homes.

Shirley, Gayle Hardt and Betty Bernstein related their positive experiences volunteering in the Choices program for women in the county jail in Redwood City. Gayle also explained how serving on the San Mateo Civil Grand Jury benefits the community through their investigations into the workings of local and county government.

Bobbi Benson told how she had initiated a local Master Gardener program and others described the wide variety of volunteer opportunities available at Filoli. Thank you to everyone who participated in this interesting discussion.

## Public Policy (continued) Struggles for Voting Rights

The Public Policy group will view videos highlighting struggles for voting rights on Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 at the home of Shirley Roberson.

This year San Mateo County officials spent a lot of time and energy urging residents to exercise their right to vote in a special all mail-in election. The meager voter turnout in recent elections has prompted this effort.

Most Americans fail to realize the long and difficult struggles that women and African Americans endured to gain the right to vote and are apathetic about their own responsibilities as citizens to exercise their right to vote—especially in non-presidential election years.

All AAUW members and guests are welcome to attend the meeting to discuss the issues regarding voter apathy and the endangered state of voting rights in many areas of the United States. Call Betty Bernstein, if you need a ride or directions.



### 50-year Member Tea a Great Success!

Close to 40 members attended the celebration of our 50-year and New Members' tea held on Nov. 7, at the beautiful home of Paula Gleason. Ten of the 50-year members were able to attend: Zelta Adams, Carol Goodwin, Lois Hand, Thelma Kromhout, Vera Pitts, Nancy Rubenstein, Barbara Schotzko, Marietta Spencer, Gloria Sweatt, and May-Blossom Wilkinson.

We would like to thank our Hospitality Committee who made this lovely tea possible including Maureen Buchner, Helen Hatchett, Elissa James, Billie Lou Sands, Annette Delaney, Kathy Wiblin, and especially Susan Cioni & Mikki Coffino who worked so hard in the kitchen!

## MEMBERSHIP

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

#### Joanne Chee

Joanne received a BS in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1989. She has been busy volunteering at her children's schools. Her daughter, Sarah, was one of our recent Tech Trek scholarship recipients. Joanne looks forward to helping on the Tech Trek Committee, including online paperwork.

#### Judy Winkelstein

Judy received an AB from Barnard College in Sociology in 1963; a MA from NYU in 1964 and a MS from SF State in 1987. She has recently retired from San Mateo County where she was a psychiatric social worker in senior mental health. She continues to be active by providing training and supervision to senior peer counselors at Peninsula Family Services. Judy has 3 daughters and 6 grandchildren who keep her busy. She enjoys Mah Jongg, book club and hiking.

### IN MEMORIUM

Elizabeth Daniel, long time member, passed away on Monday, Nov. 2, 2015. Originally from France, Elizabeth attended SF State after her children started school. She then pursued a Master's in 1975 and was awarded a PhD from UCSF in 1984.

Elizabeth served on the Board of Directors as Education Funds V P and was an avid supporter of the Educational Foundation which funds graduate school programs for women in the United States and overseas. She was active in Book Group I for over 20 years. Her family is planning a memorial service at a later date.

## AAUW California – Stronger California 2015 Legislative Update

In 2015, AAUW CA began participating in a new, exciting coalition -- Stronger California Advocates Network. This coalition, organized by the Women's Policy Institute, was made up of two dozen groups, some with Capitol credentials and many with vast experience in working with communities affected by the four pillars of the California women's economic agenda. These four pillars were established to categorize two dozen bills of interest to our coalition.

- Pillar One - Fair Pay and Job Opportunities
- Pillar Two - Access to Childcare
- Pillar Three - Family Friendly Workplace
- Pillar Four - Eradicating Poverty

AAUW CA agenda primarily focused on Pillar One - Fair Pay and Job Opportunities and supported many of the Stronger California bills with a very deliberate focus on *Fair Pay*. We sponsored an Assembly Resolution 50 to bring attention to Equal Pay Day and cosponsored a bill, [AB 1017](#)(Campos) on closing the gender wage gap which would have prohibited employers from using prior salary history to establish new pay. Unfortunately, this bill was vetoed along with bill [AB 1354](#) (Dodd) that attacked the gender wage gap with state contractors.

However, our biggest victory of the year, [SB 358](#) (Jackson), is a much needed update to California's Fair Pay Act. Not only does it prohibit retaliation for disclosing wages among coworkers, but closes a huge loophole used by employers when employees sue for wage discrimination based on gender. Despite our disappointment with the vetoes, we know from the [AAUW Analysis of Gender Pay Laws by State](#) that many avenues of addressing this problem are needed.

We'll be back, sooner rather than later. Part of what would be helpful is YOUR STORIES. In talking with people we learned there was an amazing number who'd either been personally affected or know someone who had been affected by having to disclose their prior salary history. Please, submit your stories to [legislativeadvocate@aauw-ca.org](mailto:legislativeadvocate@aauw-ca.org). Also include contact information if you are willing to go public with your stories.

Meanwhile, we hope to have Aileen Rizo-Acosta at our 2016 California meeting to speak of her experiences.

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## AAUW California – Stronger California 2015 Legislative Update (Continued)

Aileen and her family traveled to Sacramento frequently to testify on both SB 358 and AB 1017. Her lawsuit against her employer for paying her \$20,000 less than a less-qualified male colleague because of her prior salary should be heard in early 2016. We'll be sure to update you.

See our entire legislative agenda and results at [AAUW-ca.org](http://AAUW-ca.org), Public Policy link. Please like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter using @aauwcalobbyist and @aauw\_ca.

## Tech Trek



Marine Biology class at Tech Trek, Stanford, July 2015

We have sent out our annual postcards to remind our members to support our local girls at the 2016 Tech Trek Camp. We have reserved 8 spaces at Camp Grace Hopper held in July at Stanford. That means our branch needs to have \$7,200.00 to pay for the STEM camp which is entering its 16<sup>th</sup> year.

As you noted at the Tech Trek Brunch, our scholarship recipients return home energized, exhausted and ready for any challenge! The price goes up every year at Stanford, but the money and the volunteer efforts that enable us to offer this fabulous week at STEM camp are worth it! Some of our girls will be the first in their families to graduate from college. They inspire us!

Everybody's donation, from \$25 to \$900, is important. With your continued support, our local girls will remain excited about STEM education and careers. They'll be our future engineers, computer scientists, mathematicians, etc. They will show the way for other women to "solve the equation" as to why so few women opt to work in these fields.

Please send checks, payable to AAUW, to Maureen Buchner, who will forward them to the Camp Treasurer. Thank you so much for your generosity!

## AAUW MEMBERS HELP CHILDREN WORLDWIDE- GLOBAL GRANDMOTHERS

By Kate Parnes

In 2010, San Mateo AAUW member, Diana McDonough, reflected on the disparity between her grandchildren and other children around the world. Through an accident of birth, her grandchildren enjoy a life of plenty while millions of children live in poverty and war zones.

This thought created *Global Grandmothers*, (GG) a non-profit, 501(c)3, whose mission is to "build a movement of caring adults committed to acting as Global Grandmothers by supporting children in need; having grandchildren or even being female is not a requirement for membership. GG researches and recommends child-centered charities and offers tools to expand awareness (Kid's Page, recommended books for children and adults).

GG promotes charitable giving on its website, [www.globalgrandmothers.org](http://www.globalgrandmothers.org). The concept is to encourage "linked giving" by giving to a child in need when you give to someone you love.

Currently, GG recommends these charities:

- Half the Sky,
- Nepal Youth Foundation,
- Partners in Health,
- Polaris,
- Room to Read,
- Save the Children

Kate Parnes, a San Mateo Branch member, has worked with Diana on GG from its inception. She explains, "Our purpose is to create a global community in support of children around the world. Joining GG is free with no solicitation of its members. Within minutes, you can review our recommended charities, donate and know you have supported a child in need. How easy is that?" To learn more about this organization and contribute to children in need, please go to [www.globalgrandmothers.org](http://www.globalgrandmothers.org).

## NEW MOVIE GROUP

Mary Ann McKay would like to start a Movie Group meeting on the afternoons of the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday. We will meet mostly at San Mateo Century 12 Theater but we may take in another cultural event such as at the Hillbarn Theatre. If you are interested please email Mary Ann.

## December 2015 Interest Sections

Elissa James, 650-579-2901

### Boggle

Judy Steele,

Wed. Dec 16 at 1:00

Call Judy Steele for location,

### Book Discussion I

Elissa James,

Thurs. Dec 17, 10:00 am

Elissa James,

*Orphan Train*, by Christian Baker Kline

### Book Discussion II

Julia Pitcher

Thurs, Dec 3, 12:00 Noon Note Change of Date

Host Ramona Raybin

*Boys in the Boat*, by Daniel James Brown

### Book Discussion III (closed)

Sherrean Rundberg

### No Meeting In December

### Book Discussion IV

Mikki Coffino,

Friday, Dec 18, 10:00 am

Host, Elissa James,

*The Invention of Wings*, By Sue Monk Kidd

### Bridge

Elissa James

Monday, Dec. 21, 1:00 pm

Host, Elissa James,

### California Fact & Legend

Helen Hatchett

Sat, Dec 5, Note Change of Date

Ainsley House Tour & Holiday Tea, Campbell, CA

(Reservations are closed)

### Dining Out

Jane Bradley

Wed, Dec. 9, 6:00 pm (Note new time & date)

Voignier, 222 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave San Mateo 94401

RSVP to Melly Metcalf, hostess,

Carpools available- Helen Hatchett

### Drama Reading

Marjorie Kobe

Wed. Dec 2, 9:00 am

Host, Mary Faber

### Ethnic Dining

Mary Faber

Wed. Dec 9, 6:30 pm

Call or email Mary for more information

### Ethnic Lunch (Holiday High Tea Reminder)

Annette Delaney

Mon, Nov 30, 11:30 am Note Change of Date

Lovey's Tea Shoppe

4430 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacifica

(Reservations are closed)

### Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions

Carol Way

### No Meeting in December

**Hiking** Always 10 AM year round

Bobbi Benson

Mon. Dec. 14, Hike & annual picnic

Baylands Nature Preserve, Palo Alto

To join us anytime, contact Bobbi Benson

### Mah Jongg

Helen Hatchett,

Thursday, Dec. 10, 1:30 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1:30 pm

For more info, contact Helen Hatchett

### Membership: New and Prospective

Maureen Buchner

### No meeting in December

Contact Maureen Buchner about new members

### Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Friday Dec 11, 1:30

Specialty's Café & Bakery on Norfolk in SM

*Death at La Fenice*, by Donna Leon

### Public Policy/Current Events

Betty Bernstein

Diane Silven

Tuesday, Dec 15, 10:30 am - 12 Noon

*Right to Vote Struggles in the past 75 years*

Shirley Roberson,

American Association of University Women  
P.O. Box 1465  
San Mateo, CA 94401-0816

**AAUW advances for women and girls through advocacy, education philanthropy and research.**  
*By joining AAUW you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.*

### December 2015 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Drama Reading	3 Board Meeting CSM Book II	4	5 CA Fact & Legend
6	7	8	9 Ethnic Dining Dining Out	10 Foreign Affairs Mah Jongg	11 Mystery Book Group	12
13	14 Hiking	15 Public Policy	16 Boggle Dining Out	17 Book I	18 Book IV	19
20	21 Bridge	22 Mah Jongg	23	24	25	26
27	28 Ethnic Lunch	29	30	31		