

AAUW Board Meeting — January 11, 2010

The following Board and Appointed members attended:

Kathie Hixon, Co-President	Mary Hanson, Treasurer	Robin Halloran, Program Co-VP
Marian Bliss, Co-President	Dora-Thea Porter, Secretary & EYH	Barbara Welsh, Co-Chair LAF
Marcia Steinhardt, Co-President Elect	Pat DeRensis, Membership Co-VP	Jacque Schubert, EF Co-VP
Tena Gallagher, Parliamentarian	Cynthia Savell, Public Policy	Carla Panchecho, Walnut Creek Liaison
Caroline Sanchez, Women's History	Barbara Critchlow, Mbrship Co-VP	Carol Kennedy, Walnut Creek Liaison

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:15 P.M. by Co-President Kathy Hixon at the Shadow Hills Cabaña, Danville.

Announcements:

- San Ramon AAUW will present a program on women in film, *Dangerous Beauty* on January 23 at 6:30 P.M. in the Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center for the benefit of AAUW's Educational Opportunities Fund.
- The LAF Luncheon will be on Saturday, January 30 at 12:00 at Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville and will feature Michelle Henley, the LAF-supported plaintiff from Feather River Community College. Cost is \$30.00.
- Thanks to Pat DeRensis and Barbara Critchlow for a successful New Members Welcome event last Saturday, January 9. We have 25 new members.
- Jacque Schubert reported that the *Art & Garden* group's January 29 visit will be to the Legion of Honor to view the *Cartier and America* jewel exhibit.
- Caroline Sanchez showed the board a painting she is considering entering in the National's Art Contest.
- Soroptimist International of San Ramon Valley is holding a Girls Conference, *She's All That*, on February 6. Their workshop focuses on self-image and confidence building rather than math and science careers as girls transition into high school. This program is a possible future partnering opportunity for our Branch.
- Beth Clark (Local Scholarship) is ill. Marge Christensen (*Advocate* Editor) is convalescing in Walnut Creek.

Approval of Previous Minutes: The December 14, 2009 board meeting minutes were accepted and approved as e-mailed.

Treasurer's Report (Mary Hanson): Funds total \$39,269.68. This includes \$31,430.96 in checking. The Holiday Home Tour net proceeds are \$19,198.45 which has been equally divided between Tech Trek and Local Scholarships in the past and which the current board has yet to decide. The Treasurer's December report is attached. The 2008-09 audit has been completed and the audit report will be ready at the next board meeting. Some suggestions to be presented include making fund raising activities more transparent now that EF has been restructured under the AAUW Funds umbrella. Jacque Schubert assisted Carole Allen, Shirley Halpenny, and Mary Hanson with the audit. Walnut Creek has not yet received their bank statement. Accounts will be consolidated when it is available.

Membership (Pat DeRensis and Barbara Critchlow): The New Member Tea took place last Saturday, January 9 with 12 new members attending out of the 27 invitations sent. Future planning might consider a more opportune time in late January or early February for the welcoming event.

Branch Programs (Robin Hallorn):

- **Luncheon Meeting:** Publicity for the stem cell program on Tuesday, January 19 at Bridges Restaurant has appeared in the *Danville Express* and is open to the public. We expect a good turn-out.
- **International Program:** Ronni Goldfarb, the CEO of Equal Access International and a new branch member spoke at the New Members Tea. Plans are for a no fee brunch to begin on Saturday, February 13 at 9:30 A.M. at the Shadow Hills Cabaña, followed by the program starting at 10:00 A.M.

- **Wellness Panel:** This March meeting is planned for Tuesday, March 20 at 9:30 A.M. at the Shadow Hills Cabaña. Light refreshments are being considered as well as a \$8.00 cover charge.

Inter-Branch Council Program (Tena Gallagher): This no-charge IBC event is scheduled for Sunday, February 21 from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the new Lafayette Library. Topic is *Roles Women Played in Contra Costa County*. One of the four speakers will be Beverly Lane who will describe the lives of women living in the San Ramon Valley.

Educational Foundation (Jacque Schubert): The annual Funds Dinner will be at Scotts Seafood Restaurant, Walnut Creek on Tuesday, February 16 at 5:30 P.M. Cost is \$33.50. This event is co-hosted with Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG, the Women Educators Honor Society). The keynote speaker is Bethany Goldblum, a current post-doctoral fellow at UC-Berkeley in nuclear engineering.

Jacque stated that it would be helpful if EF were listed as *AAUW Funds/EF* on our web site and publicity for the upcoming Garden Tour. She provided a handout on *AAUW Funds/EF* which describes the various funds. A discussion followed regarding our opening a *Research and Projects Grant* for \$75,000 with a 10-year commitment. While National selects the candidate, we choose the fund. *Fellowships* are \$200,000 and the *Eleanor Roosevelt Fund* is a research only fund. The *Community Action Grants* provide seed money to promote education and equity for women and girls. AAUW branches can apply also for seed money.

Expanding Your Horizons (Dora-Thea Porter): Tri-Valley EYH will meet Tuesday, January 12. Our branch is providing session monitors and we will beginning recruiting volunteers for the February 27 event. We will have an article in the February *Advocate*.

LAF (Barbara Welsh): Susan Terzuoli is out-of-town. The status of the theatrical program is in question according to Barbara, namely because Susan has some doubts about the cost effectiveness of this fund raising activity given the time commitment required of participants. Meanwhile Lynn Goodwin will hold auditions for *Voices Speak Out* beginning February 2. More information is in the January *Advocate*. We will reevaluate this program depending on audition turnout and overall sentiment.

Parliamentarian (Tena Gallagher): Tena and her committee (Robin Halloran, Marion Bliss, Marcia Steinhardt and Carla Pancheo) will be working on job descriptions. As to voting, the vote belongs to the office and not to the individual. Therefore, when an office is held by co-chairs, they have only one vote. Potentially co-chairs may disagree on issues, but they need to arrive at a consensus.

Public Policy (Cynthia Savell): Cynthia called our attention to an article in the December 30 issue of *The Economist* on the "biggest social change of our time," i.e. women in the work force. Nevertheless, pay inequity, under representation in occupations and professions, and health care gender discrimination continue.

Tech Trek Update (Kathie Hixon): Bev Nidick is out-of-town. The deadline for SRVSD teachers to nominate candidates is February 1.

New Business: AAUW-CA convention will be at Marriott Hotel, San Ramon, April 30-May2.

Old Business: Nominating Committee (Marcia Steinhardt): The slate for 2010-11 is almost ready.

Adjournment: Caroline Sanchez moved we adjourn. It was seconded and passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, February 8 at 7:00 P.M. at the Shadow Hills Cabaña.

Respectfully submitted by

Dora-Thea Porter, Secretary