

Special Interest Articles:

- 4th of July Parade.
- Traveling Gourmet.
- Wednesday Evening Bridge.

Individual Highlights:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE..... 1

GARDEN TOUR REVIEW..... 2

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS3

4TH OF JULY PARADE 3

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS..... 4

PUBLIC POLICY..... 5

ASHA BAJAJ.....5

HIKING GROUP..... 6

TRAVELING GOURMET.....6

OKTOBERFEST / BRANCH'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION..... 6

WEDNESDAY EVENING BRIDGE..... 6

NEW MEMBERS.....6

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS..... 7

BRANCH PROGRAMS. 7

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL..... 8



AAUW ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Published ten times per year by the Danville-Alamo Branch of AAUW

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Come to our branch installation-awards party on Tuesday, June 9, at 5:30 P.M. at Mary Mix's home at 255 Morris Ranch Ct., Danville. There will be wine, appetizers, salads, and desserts as well as a lot of time to meet our new members and renew friendships, too. RSVP to Mary at 831-1784 so we'll know how many to expect.

Our eight tech trekkers will be at Sonoma State University and Fresno State beginning June 21. We will meet them at our September 12 brunch. Thanks to Bev Nidick for organizing this important life changing experience for incoming eighth-grade girls.

Reviewing our branch's accomplishments during the past year makes me SO thankful to our many active members. Sharon Cohune started the year with our membership brunch with Jane Massengill speaking. Susan Rogers organized our November LAF dinner at the Bighorn Grill. Kathie Hixon and I organized our fourth very successful Holiday Home Tour with almost every member's assistance. Several of the women receiving scholarships from this tour's efforts will attend our awards ceremony on June 9. Carole Allen and Nancy Murray had many well attended programs this year. Susan Terzuoli produced and Lynn Goodwin directed our *Women Speak Out*, an evening of monologues. WOW! Such talent. Mary Mix and Connie Cady, as Educational Foundation co-vice presidents, held our most successful Garden Tour last month. The gardens were exquisite and everyone commented about the variety of gardens.

This year's board members have all been outstanding. Sharon Cohune and Pat DeRensis as membership co-vice-presidents, were able to welcome 32 new members to our branch. In March Dora-Thea Porter and Pat DeRensis organized our branch members to be monitors for Expanding Your Horizons for middle-school girls throughout the valley. As branch secretary, Dora-Thea Porter has made sure that there are minutes for all of our meetings and Jacque Schubert, as treasurer, has always had our monies accounted for and correct. Marge Christensen and Cheryl Kohleriter got our Advocate newsletter into your e-mail box each month to keep you informed of all of our activities. Debi Zauner kept our database up-to-date and Roseann Krane published our member directory besides being our webmaster. Cynthia Savell has kept us informed of the many public policy issues that needed action through our representatives. Barbara Critchlow has been our Women's History chair.

And more thanks need to go out to all of our section leaders who make sure we are learning and/or enjoying activities throughout the year: Jacque Schubert, Art and Garden; Mary Kay Anderson, Sandy Hoffman, Roseann Krane and Barbara Nexsen, Bridge; Jan Knadle, Barbara Critchlow and Susan Terzuoli, Film Discussion; Nadine Rosenzweig and Mary Ann Cucchiario, Golf; Roseann Krane and Barbara Nexsen, Gourmet; Roseann Krane, Gus Slavin and Joan Ward, Great Decisions; Kathie Hixon, Hiking; Robin Halloran and Pat Foster, Literature; Mary Kelly, Quilting; Marcia Steinhardt, Travel; Barbara Critchlow and Alicia Jones, Wine Tasting and Barbara Stumph, Writer's Group.

Meet me for my last coffee as president at Bagel Street in the Livery on Friday, June 12, at 9:30 A.M. Mark your calendars and come and meet other members. And, you can bring potential members, too.

(-continued-)



Tena Gallagher, President

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE (cont’d.)

I hope that I have not forgotten to give credit to anyone but it has been a great year. I have tried to always have our branch’s best interests in mind while making decisions and feel I am leaving us in great hands with Marian Bliss and Kathie Hixon, our incoming co-presidents and their outstanding board.

Tena Gallagher, President

GARDEN TOUR GROWS WITH SUCCESS

In its ninth year, our AAUW Garden Tour continues to grow with success! Eight fascinating gardens and perfect weather over Mother’s Day weekend helped us sell over 600 tickets, yielding over \$17,000 toward the AAUW Educational Foundation. Woo hoo!

We are grateful to the homeowners who generously shared their gardens with us and who invested their time, effort and money to have their gardens in tip-top condition: Cathy & Steve Colman, Nancy & Joe Combs, Bette & Jim Felton, Jan Hamby, Sharon & Bruce Hammon, Sue & Terry Healey, Jayne & Ken Lindberg, and Paul Zaentz. We also appreciate the assistance of landscape designers Mary Knowles, Roy Murphy, Bill Williams, and Kristen Yanker-Hansen who were present during much of the tour answering questions.

Stepping forward to serve as Head Docents were: Arlene Barnett, Connie Cady, Gail Clark, Pat DeRensis, Jan Hersh, Kathie Hixon, Bev Nidick and Gus Slavin. It takes a small army of volunteers to staff the gardens and our Head Docents led each platoon!

We enjoyed terrific support from our branch members. Here’s a big “Hurrah!” for our garden docents: Eileen Ackley, Penny Adams, Loretta Altshuler, Jill Birnbaum, Roberta Black, Marian Bliss, Jennifer Brandenburg, Roberta Carter Smith, Cindy Cassady, Karen Campbell, Mary Chisholm, Phyllis Clark, Beth Clark, Bonnie Clyde, Barbara Critchlow, Carmen Curtis, Brenda Davis, Angela Domer, Sarah Eagling, Ilene Ferguson, Helena Flanders, Pat Foster, Karen Fox, Annette Fritz, Marianne Gagen, Tena Gallagher, Marlena Garcelon, Jan Geahry, Lynn Goodwin, Mary Granzotto, Paula Green, Lyn Griffith, Pat Gross, Jo Harberson, Laurie Harken, Dot Healy, Sandy Hoffman, Judy Jacobs, Sally Jess, Mary Kelly, Margaret Knopf, Kathy Knudsen, Jennifer Krommenhoek, Ingrid Lara, Karen Larkin, Harlean L’Engle, Kathleen Larsen, Linda Leck, Ruth Lucey, Pat Madsen, Jeannine Makely, Penny McFarland, Lila McIntire, Barbara Monsler, Susan Morea, Nancy Murray, Mary Lou Peterson, Carolyn Priest, Linda Reeve, Marsha Riley, Jennifer Sanan, Caroline Sanchez, Sonya Seyler, Karen Schlumpp, Jacque Schubert, Kathy Simmons, Gail Smith, Marcia Steinhardt, Kathleen Stevens, Barbara Stumph, Cathy Taughinbaugh, Susan Terzuoli,

(- continued -)



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GARDEN TOUR 2009 (cont'd.)

Barbara Tillinghast, Dianne Tinnis, Leslie Vilhauer, Charlene Vorous, Pat Wheeler, Barbara Wilson, Chris Winter, Karyn Wolff, Marian Worrall and Debi Zauner. A special "thanks!" to Bruce Hixon for his help at the Colman garden. Our sincere apology if we forgot to mention anyone!

We thank JoAnne Dahlin and Kerry Montalvo who served as refreshment coordinators. Again we enjoyed tremendous support from our branch members in the form of refreshment donations.

Tena Gallagher kindly managed the ticket sales, keeping track of transactions, and restocking ticket supplies. Through Tena's publicity efforts we enjoyed extensive coverage in the local newspapers and on the internet which definitely increased our ticket sales and income.

Master gardener, Dianne Tinnis, reviewed the gardens and wrote the poetic garden descriptions for the ticket/brochure. Connie Cady prepared the maps and layout of the ticket/brochure; she also prepared other promotional materials and mailings.

And most importantly, Mary Mix, cultivated our relationships with the homeowners, and oversaw the entire event and has been busily scouting gardens for next year! We are in good hands! To view a slideshow of the garden tour, visit:

<http://home.comcast.net/~dsporter/AAUW/09GardenTour.pdf>

Connie Cady

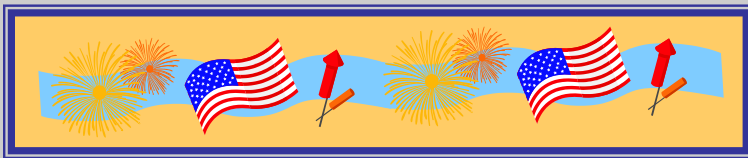
"Eight fascinating gardens and perfect weather over Mother's Day weekend helped us sell over 600 tickets, yielding over \$17,000 toward the AAUW Educational Foundation."

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AWARDING OF LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECOGNITION AWARDS JUNE 9, 5:30 P.M.

You are all invited to the 2009 Installation of Officers and awarding of Local Scholarships and Recognition Awards. Join us at the home of Mary Mix at 255 Morris Ranch Court, Danville (Westside), on June 9 at 5:30 P.M. The evening features social time, salad dinner and presentation of awards. Please bring a finger-food, appetizer or dessert. Please RSVP to Mary at 831-1784 or memix@sbcglobal.net.

We will be awarding over \$11,000 in scholarships. The scholarship funds are the proceeds from our successful Holiday Home Tour last December.

Kathie Hixon, Co-President-Elect



AAUW JOINS THE DANVILLE 4TH OF JULY PARADE

We will begin celebrating our branch's 40th anniversary as we drive the parade route in a 1964 midnight blue Mercedes Benz convertible. Tech Trekkers will share in this celebration as they ride along in the car wearing their Tech Trek t-shirts illustrating just one of the many ways Danville-Alamo AAUW supports the community. Look for us at the 4th of July Parade as we celebrate 40 years of service to the community. See you at the parade!

*Kathie Hixon
Co-President-Elect*

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LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Nine outstanding applicants will be receiving scholarships of \$1,250 each at the June 9 installation of new board officers. The scholarship monies were generated from the Holiday Home Tour in December and, additionally, from individuals who supported this effort.

Kirsten Brown has earned her Master's Degree in Counseling from Santa Clara University and her B.A. from Sonoma State University with a major in English and a minor in psychology. Her goal is to practice as a school psychologist, conducting academic research and teaching. Kirsten is a 1999 graduate of Monte Vista High School.

Sarah Brunskill currently attends San Francisco State University and is seeking a Master's Degree in Developmental Psychology with an emphasis in research. She plans to apply to PhD programs in Developmental Psychology with the goal of becoming a professor at a university. Sarah is a 2004 graduate of San Ramon Valley High School.

Katie Gallagher is a recent graduate of California State University, Long Beach, with a degree in Biology/Botany and a minor in Chemistry. She would like to enter botany as a life-long profession by earning a Master's Degree beginning in the Fall of 2009. Katie is a 2001 graduate of San Ramon Valley High School.

Allison Gervis earned her B. A. degree from Cal Poly, and has a strong background in business. She spent nine months caring for her gravely ill mother, which influenced her decision to pursue a career in nursing and contribute in a meaningful way to her community. Because of her strong desire to help treat and care for sick people in her community, Allison is also the recipient of AAUW's Jane Trittipio Award. Allison is a 1990 graduate of California High School.

Lyda Ghambari is currently enrolled in New York University pursuing a double major in Economics and Psychology with a minor in Business. She hopes to enter the field of microfinance, which is where a company supplies small business loans to less well-off people in developing countries. Lyda is a 2006 graduate of San Ramon Valley High School.

Kellie Langewisch is currently a third year Art major at UCLA. Her goal is to earn a Master's in Fine Art from a graduate school in another country and sell her own artwork, eventually owning her own art gallery. Kellie is a 2006 graduate of California High School.

Sandy Lin is pursuing a B.S. in Business from UC Berkeley. She is on the Finance Committee for the Haas Business School Association and is cofounder of Project Reuse at UC Berkeley. She has chosen Accounting as the career she will pursue. Sandy is a 2006 graduate of California High School.

Stephanie Varvitsiotes is a graduate of the University of Arizona with a degree in Psychology. She has been accepted at Boston College School of Social Work for the fall of 2009 where she will pursue a Master's Degree. Stephanie is a 2005 graduate of Monte Vista High School.

Shannon Wagner currently attends California State University, Chico, where she hopes to earn a Master's Degree in Speech Pathology and Communication Disorders. She hopes to become a speech pathologist. Shannon is a 2004 graduate of Monte Vista High school.

Thank you to the selection committee members: **Margaret Batesole, Jeanne Chiodo, Phyllis Clark, Kathie Hixon and Barbara Welch.**

*Phyllis Clark and Margaret Batesole
Local Scholarship Co-Chairs*



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PUBLIC POLICY

The recently-signed **Ledbetter Law** will be applied to a tenure discrimination suit. A female professor is suing Jackson State University in Mississippi for sex discrimination under the new time limits established by the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. According to court documents, male professors had been given tenure and promotions without being published, but LaVerne Gentry, who was reviewed for tenure in 2006 after working for the University since 1994, was denied on those grounds. While the facts of the case have yet to be evaluated by the US District Court, the Ledbetter law, which extended the time allowed for plaintiffs to file suit from 180 days after the first discriminatory paycheck to 180 days after any such paycheck is received, will allow Gentry's suit, not filed until 2007, to be evaluated based on its merit rather than the date it was filed.

The **Healthy Families Act** was introduced to both chambers of Congress in May. The bills would mandate that all employers with 15 or more employees allow a minimum of seven paid sick days for full-time employees and a prorated number for part-time workers. The leave could be used for the medical needs of employees or their families, increasing the ability of working women to attend to their medical needs and the needs of their families without facing termination. While the act has been introduced in previous sessions, it has a new provision allowing leave to be used to recover from or seek help for domestic violence or sexual assault related trauma.

AAUW strongly supports congressional efforts to keep workers and their families healthy and employed. Please urge your senators to support working women through the Healthy Families Act.

Cynthia Savell, Public Policy

Dr. ASHA BAJAJ PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Prior to beginning her doctorate studies in 2005, Asha Bajaj owned and operated a successful physical therapy practice near John Muir Hospital in Walnut Creek. She sold her practice in 2004 to return to India and help her ailing father. Once he was stabilized, she volunteered with Health Volunteers Overseas in Bhutan. The four-month assignment involved teaching physical therapy students and serving as a clinical resource specialist in their hospital clinics. It was a very simple lifestyle in a country that believes in measuring progress not from the "gross national product" but from the "gross national happiness."

Upon her return in February 2005, Asha was accepted at Boston University to begin a doctorate program in physical therapy. The online courses she started in 2006 gave her the flexibility she needed at this stage of her life. Her first two semesters were humbling because of the level of technology required with the online format! One challenge was doing group assignments that required flexibility and collaboration with the online team!

Asha's target date for graduation was 2008, but as she puts it with "interruptions of two weddings and a funeral along with nursing her mother with a hip replacement" and a home remodel, she graduated in May, 2009. Her doctoral project topic was entitled *Osteoporosis and Bone Health: An Educational and Health Promotion Program*.

Asha will continue her involvement in community projects but feels that at this stage of her life, for the first time, there is no need to have a defined plan. She will explore consulting opportunities in the health promotion area and continue to work with patients.

Asha is a past president of our branch and has served in many capacities. I am sure that AAUW will be the beneficiary of her expertise. We are all so proud of her and wish her the best. Congratulations Asha!

Caroline Sanchez



Asha Bajaj

HIKING GROUP

The hiking group will continue their hikes through the summer months. We will communicate via e-mail over the summer. Our next hike will be on **June 26 at 8:45 A.M.** Stay tuned for details.

Questions: e-mail kathiehixon@comcast.net. Happy Trails!

Kathie Hixon, Section Leader

TRAVELING GOURMET

Traveling Gourmets will hold a Mexican dinner on Sunday, July 19, at 4:00 P.M. at the Simkin's. Everyone and their guest is invited to attend. It will be outdoors. Just look at www.aauw-da.org/gourmet/Mexican, choose what you want to prepare, and email rkrane@yahoo.com/. Join us for a relaxed, fun afternoon.

Roseann Krane, Section Leader

OKTOBERFEST/BRANCH'S 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Announcing the Branch's 40th Anniversary (Oktoberfest) Committee
 Celebrating 40 years of community service to Danville/Alamo and women around the world
Save the Date: October 10 at 6:00 P.M. Danville Community Center

Chairpersons: Cheryl Kohleriter & Kathie Hixon
 Invitations: Mary Mix
 Tickets: Jacque Schubert
 History PPP: Dora-Thea Porter, Marian Bliss,
 Sue DeVoe, Bethany Hall Metcalf

Charter & Fifty Year Members: Marian Worrall
 VIP Guests: Tena Gallagher
 Decorations: Ingrid Lara
 Past Presidents' Presentation: Merilyn Milam
 Consultants: Paula Boswell & Chris Winter

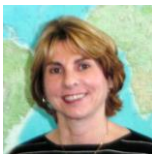
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

*Sharon Brechtel
 Diane Fogarty
 Verna Kershaw
 Clara King
 Marilyn Lawyer
 Carolyn Winton*

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BRIDGE
 SUMMER SCHEDULE**

Wednesday evening bridge group will continue play throughout the summer. Meetings are at 7:30 P.M. Locations are:
 06/10 - Hosting: Mary Kay Anderson at 837-6902.
 07/08 - Hosting: Roseann Krane at 552-9799.
 08/12 - Hosting: Dot Healy at 743-0877.
 09/09 - Hosting: Sara Eagling at 837-2228.

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MARCH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS CALENDAR

- 06/05 9:15 A.M. **Board Meeting.** Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
- 06/10 1:00 P.M. **Great Decisions. Post-American World** by Fareed Zakaria. Hosting: Karen Campbell at 736-6727.
- 06/10 7:30 P.M. **Evening Bridge.** Contact Barbara Nexson.
- 06/11 1:00 P.M. **Writer's Workshop.**
- 06/12 9:30 A.M. **Monthly Coffee Get-Together.** Bagel St. Café, Livery. Contact Tena Gallagher at 837-0826.
- 06/12 7:30 P.M. **Cinema 1. Angels and Demons** and **Star Trek.** Hosting: Anne Long at 831-8649.
- 06/12 7:30 P.M. **Oscar 1. TBA.** Hosting: Diane Tinnes at 820-8611.
- 06/13 --- **Golf.** For time and place, contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiaro at 785-4915.
- 06/15 9:30 P.M. **Daytime Bridge.** Contact Mary Kay Anderson.
- 06/22 9:30 A.M. **Daytime Duplicate Bridge.** Contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.
- 06/23 7:30 P.M. **Evening Literature. The Kitchen Boy** by Robert Alexander. Hosting: Barbara Critchlow at 287-1543.
- 06/25 9:30 A.M. **Daytime Literature. Possession.** Hosting: Barbara Critchlow at 287-1543.
- 06/26 TBA **Hiking Group.** Details to be announced. For information contact Kathie Hixon at 838-8632.

2008-09 BRANCH PROGRAMS

- 6/09 5:30 P.M. Installation & Awards Presentations at the home of Mary Mix.
- 6/26 to 6/28 --- National AAUW Convention, St. Louis, MO.
- 7/04 Morning 4th of July Parade. Look for the AAUW car in the Danville 4th of July Parade. For information or to participate, contact Kathie Hixon at 838-8632.

SAVE THE DATE

- 09/12: Membership Brunch. 10/10: Oktoberfest/Branch' 40th Anniversary Celebration.

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JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

BE SURE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY
JUNE 30.
MAIL YOUR RENEWAL TO
PAT DERENSIS.

For details and updates on the 2008-09 Branch Programs, see our web site at
<http://www.aauw-da.org/program.html>