

Special Interest Articles:

- Great Decisions.
- Travel Group.
- Traveling Gourmets.

Individual Highlights:

GARDEN TOUR..... 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE..... 2

OKTOBERFEST..... 3

MAY BRANCH PROGRAM..... 3

INTERNET LESSONS... 3

TRAVEL GROUP..... 3

SAVE THE DATE..... 3

2009-10 OFFICERS.. 4

GREAT DECISIONS..... 4

JANE TRITTIPO FUND. 4

EF WINNERS..... 5

TECH TREK..... 5

TRAVELING GOURMET 5

DIRC..... 6

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL..... 6

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS..... 7

BRANCH PROGRAMS. 7

CHARTER MEMBER SEARCH 9

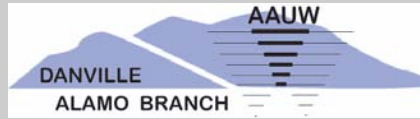
CALIFORNIA SPECIAL ELECTION..... 9

HIKING GROUP..... 9

ART & GARDEN..... 10

PUBLIC POLICY..... 10

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS..... 10



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

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

AAUW GARDEN TOUR 2009

The 2009 AAUW Garden Tour is almost here! Enjoy two days of garden viewing pleasure Friday, May 8, and Saturday, May 9, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. each day.

On the west side of Danville you will enjoy a "Hillside Garden" with two streams and thirteen waterfalls. The "California Working Garden" features 450 grapevines, an extensive fruit orchard, vegetable beds and lavender plants. And the "Mediterranean Villa" is surrounded by hundreds of oak trees with a grand view of Mt. Diablo.

On the east side of Alamo you will experience a "Serene Haven" of interwoven landscape and hardscape; it is tidy, elegant, manicured and yet relaxed and welcoming. The "Rocks in the Redwoods" opens onto a view of a pool with a luxuriant waterfall. And, surprise, there is a slice of tropical splendor lurking behind the "Alamo Jungle" garden.

Horses graze in pastures on surrounding hillsides of the "Park-Like Country Garden" on the east side of Danville. The owners use their garden to produce much of their own fruit and vegetables. And, see a "Colorful Woodland" in north Alamo with a mix of plants of highly vibrant texture and hue.

Tell everyone you know about this opportunity to view eight exceptional gardens in Alamo and Danville. Tickets are only \$30 if postmarked by Saturday, May 2; they are \$35 thereafter. Tickets for seniors aged 65+ are \$25 throughout the tour. Mail a check payable to "Danville-Alamo AAUW EF" with a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to AAUW Garden Tour, 400 Cliffside Dr, Danville, CA 94526.

All proceeds benefit AAUW's Educational Foundation (EF) which supports aspiring female scholars through grants and fellowships. Call your EF Co-Vice-Presidents Mary Mix at 831-1784 or Connie Cady at 743-0517 with any questions. We hope to see you at the tour!

Garden Tour Help Welcomed: Yes! We can use your help staffing our Garden Tour. Can you serve as an attendant at one of the gardens? Can you attend the event with all of your friends?! Your help and participation would be immensely appreciated. Please contact your EF Co-Vice-Presidents, Connie Cady, (925) 743-0517, ccady@nccc.org or Mary Mix, (925) 831-1784, memix@sbcglobal.net with the wonderful news that you can help!

*Connie Cady and Mary Mix
Educational Foundation Co-Vice Presidents*

Refreshments Needed for Garden Tour: We need a lot of donations of bite-sized goodies for the refreshment stop on the Garden Tour! If you have not already volunteered to bring baked goods, fruit or cheese cubes, please get in touch with Kerry Montalvo at: akmontalvo@comcast.net or 406-4071. Choose between bringing your goodies on Friday or Saturday morning of the tour on May 8 or 9. Bring your donation in a disposable container and please have everything cut to finger-food size and ready to go to 22 St. Andrews Place, Alamo. Thank you for helping make the tour such a special event!

JoAnne Dahlin and Kerry Montalvo



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Tena Gallagher,
President*

So much is happening or has happened recently, my head is spinning. Our **annual meeting** was a luncheon held on April 21 where 40 attended this successful event. After the election of officers (see Page 4), endorsement of School District Measure C, and a short discussion on the proposed AAUW bylaws change making anyone eligible to become a member of AAUW, Penny Warner thoroughly entertained us with her stories. Thanks goes to Barbara Critchlow for allowing us to use the community room in The Mercer.

Our **May 28 evening program** will feature **Budd MacKenzie, founder of Trust in Education (TIE)**, a grass-root, non-profit organization founded in May, 2003, to provide health care, education and economic development programs in Afghanistan. This meeting is open to the public so bring your friends while we hear about what one organization is doing to help the fifth poorest country in the world.

Our **local scholarship committee**, including **Margaret Batesole, Jeanne Chiodo, Phyllis Clark, Kathie Hixon and Barbara Welch**, has reviewed the applications and awarded scholarships to nine women. We hope to see them at our **installation party on Tuesday, June 9**. Funds for Local Scholarship were raised at our Holiday Home Tour in December where we all worked so hard.

Speaking of working hard, I hope that each one of you has called Connie Cady at 743-0517 to volunteer for one of the shifts on **Friday, May 8, or Saturday, May 9, for our ninth Garden Tour**. Mary Mix has found eight gorgeous gardens for us to roam through and be inspired. Each one of them shines! Invite your friends to join you for the day that you are not volunteering and make it a real treat.

Tickets are available at East Bay Flower Company at 206 Sycamore Rd. in the Livery.

With our Garden Tour being on the second Friday, my **monthly coffee is changed for May to May 15**. Join me and other members at Basil Street Café in the Livery. This is my last coffee as president so come and share.

Marian Bliss and Kathie Hixon, incoming co-presidents and Mary Mix, incoming co-president-elect, attended the state convention this past weekend in San Diego. Going to a convention makes you very aware of all of the various endeavors that AAUW does. The **2010 state convention** will be in **San Ramon** at the Marriott so many of us will be able to attend it without having transportation or hotel costs. Mark your calendars for April, 2010.

One of my top privileges during my two years as branch president was when we received the award for being the **eighth highest branch contributor to the Educational Foundation (EF) nationally out of 1000 branches**. EF provided \$4.5 million in funding in more than 250 fellowships, grants, and special awards to outstanding women during this past academic year. Due to the generous contributions of AAUW members across the U.S., a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities so that all women have a fair chance. Pat yourself on your shoulder!!!

*Tena Gallagher
President*

San Ramon, California

OMNIBUS ORGANIZING

RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS MOVING

Simplify your life!

Providing organizing solutions for busy people.

NAPO Member
National Association of Professional Organizers
The Organizing Authority™

Joy Perkins, Owner PHONE: 925-216-9883
E-MAIL: OmnibusOrganizing@comcast.net
WEB: www.OmnibusOrganizing.com

Writer Advice presents
You Want Me to Do What?

Journaling for Caregivers
book & workshops available

B. Lynn Goodwin, facilitator
Lgood67334@comcast.net

925-324-0143

Visit www.writeradvice.com
Click on Journaling for Caregivers

OKTOBERFEST COMMITTEES FORMING

This coming season marks the 40th anniversary of Danville-Alamo AAUW. We will celebrate this momentous event at an **Oktoberfest on October 10, 2009**. We have the location, we have the date, and we have selected the time. Now we need you! Do you have a special talent you would like to share? Are you a new member and would like to meet others? Will you have summer withdrawals from AAUW activities? Then, we have something for you. Committees are forming and we are recruiting! We need people to help with decorations, set-up and take-down, advertising, ticket sales, and more. Please contact your Oktoberfest co-chairs, Kathie Hixon at 838-8632 or kathiehixon@comcast.net, or Cheryl Kohleriter at 820-6158 or cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com with the good news that you will be able to help.



*Kathie Hixon and Cheryl Kohleriter
Oktoberfest Co-Chairs*

INSPIRING AND VERY TIMELY: HOW ONE MAN MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Lafayette resident **Budd MacKenzie** founded the non-profit **Trust in Education (TIE)** to deliver aid to Afghanistan and fund schools for girls. Learn what inspired him to embark on a mission to help people in a war zone and use his own money to fly to Afghanistan to deliver aid. The news keeps coming from Afghanistan and much of it is bad. Learn what a difference one man can make. A primary goal of Trust in Education (TIE) is to enable villagers to support themselves without depending on others.

Budd is an excellent speaker and has many photos to show us. I still remember the photos showing a stunning change in body language after the girls had been in school for a while. He will be bringing photos and stories from his April trip to help distribute donated rice.

Note the special date and time! Dessert, coffee and tea will be served

Date: Thursday, May 28, at 7:15 P.M.

Place: Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Dr., Danville

Nancy Murray, Program Co-Vice-President

FREE INTERNET

LESSONS

INTERNET & E-MAIL LESSONS

Would you like to learn how to send and receive e-mails or use the internet? Free instruction is available for Danville-Alamo AAUW members. Contact Cheryl Kohleriter at 820-6158 for private or group lessons in her home. Group size is limited to 3.

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group's May meeting will be a pot-luck beginning at 6:30 P.M. at the Danville home of Loretta Altshuler on Friday, May 15. Details will be sent to all Travel Group members. Those interested can contact Loretta Altshuler at her e-mail address roxylfa6@yahoo.com.

Marcia Steinhardt, Section Leader

SAVE THE DATE

Branch Installation and Scholarship Awards will be held on **June 9, 5:30 P.M.**, at the home of **Mary Mix** at 255 Morris Ranch Court, Danville. Please bring a finger-food appetizer or dessert. Any questions, contact Kathie Hixon at 838-8632.

Spirit Space

Bill Williams PhD

925-413-8828

jpbillwilliams@juno.com

www.spirit-space.com

Landscape and Fine Garden Design

ANNOUNCING THE 2009-10 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED POSITIONS

Branch elections were held on **April 21** at the Annual Meeting. Elected officers are:

Co-Presidents: Marian Bliss and Kathie Hixon.

Co-Presidents-Elect: Mary Mix and Marcia Steinhardt.

Program Co-Vice-Presidents: Loretta Altshuler and Robin Halloron.

Membership Co-Vice-Presidents: Pat DeRensis and Barbara Critchlow.

EF Co-Vice-Presidents: Mary Mix and Jacque Schubert.

LAF Vice-President: To be determined.

Treasurer: Mary Hanson.

Secretary: Dora-Thea Porter.

GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions book group will continue the exploration of foreign affairs for the rest of the year. In April we read articles from *Foreign Affairs* magazine and an article entitled *Challenges for the New President* from the Foreign Policy Association (creator of Great Decisions).

Future Meetings: Wednesday, June 10, at 1 P.M. at the home of Karen Campbell. We will discuss the *Post-American World* by Fareed Zakaria. Please RSVP to Karen at kaycee605@aol.com or 736-6727.

August 19. Immigration discussion. We are looking for a book and/or a series of articles that will provide balanced viewpoints of this on-going issue. Contact Gus Slavin at slavinfamily@hotmail.com if you have any suggestions.

Our discussions are always lively. Come join us to discuss pressing issues of the day. Contact Gus Slavin at slavinfamily@hotmail.com or 736-8399 for more information.

Gus Slavin and Roseann Krane

Great Decisions will meet throughout the summer to continue discussion of foreign affairs topics.

Jane Trittipio Scholarship Fund. If you would like to make a donation to the Jane Trittipio Scholarship Fund please send a check, made payable to Danville-Alamo AAUW, to Jacque Schubert at 108 Lackland Ct., Alamo, 94507. The third annual Jane Trittipio Scholarship will be awarded at our scholarship evening on June 9. Jane, a former branch president (1996-97), community activist for outreach in health and science achievements, and author, is honored for her role model to other women in similar fields of study. So far we have given scholarships in Jane's name to a medical student and a nursing student.



Gagen, McCoy, McMahon, Koss, Markowitz & Raines
A Professional Corporation

www.gagenmccoy.com

Danville Office
279 Front Street
P.O. Box 218
Danville, CA 94526
Tele: (925) 837-0585
Fax: (925) 838-5985

Napa Valley Office
1030 Main Street, Suite 212
St. Helena, CA 94574
Tele: (707) 963-0909
Fax: (707) 963-5527

AAUW ANNOUNCES 2009-10 FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS AWARD WINNERS

AAUW is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009-10 fellowships and grants. One of the world's largest sources of funding exclusively for graduate women, **AAUW Educational Foundation supports women breaking through educational and economic barriers** as aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers, and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented. Northern California recipients are Heather Hebard, Stanford University, and Rachel Giraudo, UC Berkeley. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to this year's highly qualified and strong field of fellowship and grant applicants. For a complete list of winners, go to

http://www.aauw.org/education/fga/fellowships_grants/upload/FG2009-10_FellowsListingForWebsite.pdf

TRAVELING GOURMET

Mexican gourmet travelers are going to Mexico in spirit with a dinner on May 16, at 7 P.M. Come join us as we celebrate Cinco De Mayo. We are looking for a hostess.

You will find the menu and recipes at <http://www.aauw-da.org/gourmet/Mexican/>.
Make a choice for preparation and email rkrane@yahoo.com.

Roseann Krane, Section Leader



TECH TREK

Eight seventh-grade girls were selected from 39 middle school nominees to attend this summer's Tech Trek camp held June 21-27 at Sonoma State University and CSU, Fresno. Tech Trek coordinators, LaVonne Lynch and Beverley Nidick interviewed the girls and read their essays and, with careful consideration, chose the following to attend:

Maryn Martens and Morganne Whaley from Charlotte Wood
Ashley Tringali from Los Cerros
Gretchen Mendel, Haley Watson and Regan Curtis from Stone Valley
Lily Wissinger and Alex Greb from Diablo Vista

Tech Trek Science Camp for Girls began in 1998 at the Stanford University campus with additional camps opening in subsequent years on college campuses in Fresno, San Diego, Oakland, Santa Barbara and Whittier. Each one-week camp enrolls 75-130 girls entering 8th grade providing them with the opportunity to explore science, math, technology topics in a positive and encouraging environment.

Funds for this program were raised by December's Holiday Home Tour.

*Beverley Nidick
Tech Trek Coordinator*

DIABLO INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

Diablo International Resource Center is offering its Spring Lecture Series at the Fireside Room on Golden Rain in Rossmoor. Let the people at the visitor's gate know that you are going to the DIRC lecture. They can provide directions. Cost is \$8 per lecture.

Tuesday, April 28: **GLOBAL WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Speaker: Ananda Lee Tan, Berkeley No-Burn Organization

Tuesday, May 5: **IMMIGRATION - A VITAL ISSUE**

Speaker: Susan Bowyer, International Institute of the Bay Area

Tuesday, May 12: **PAKISTAN-KEY TO PEACE**

Speakers: Pietro Calogero, UC Berkeley, and Frank Burroughs, UC Berkeley

Lectures are from 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. with discussion and a question-and-answer following the speaker's presentation. This is a wonderful follow-up to Great Decisions. Sal Campagno is moderator. For further information call 280-3980 ext. 8001 or Sue DeVoe 837-9634 or (devoetahoe@yahoo.com).

Susan DeVoe

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Be on the lookout in May for your membership renewal form. We like to encourage you to return it in a timely manner to reduce our follow up and to ensure that you are in the Directory. Also, if you are still receiving a hard copy of the Advocate, please consider switching to e-mail. It's the "green" thing to do, and it saves our Branch considerable money. Do you need help learning how to use the internet or send and receive e-mails? Do you need an e-mail account? Would you like to learn how to access our website? Cheryl Kohleriter has offered to teach our members these computer skills. See Page 3 for details.

Pat DeRensis



Check out our website for full-text articles on Pages 9 and 10 of *The Advocate* on the following:

- Charter Member Search, Page 9.
- California Special Election, Page 9.
- Hiking Group, Page 9.s
- Art & Garden, Page 10.
- Public Policy, Page 10.
- Local Scholarship Winners, Page 10.

Alamo World Travel & Tours
3201 Danville Blvd., Suite 255
Alamo, CA 94507



Ilene Ferguson

*"Why Go Elsewhere?
Ask Us, We've Been There."*

**Guaranteed
Lowest Cruise Prices**

925.837.8742
www.alamoworld.com

Danville-Alamo AAUW...

GOOD DEEDS

to benefit and support those so deserving

BETTER PROGRAMS

to bolster our interest and raise our awareness

BEST MEMBERS

anywhere!

Also, EXCEPTIONAL

real estate service from...



Jennifer Krommenhoek
Realtor-Associate
17-year member

**925-791-4236 Direct
925-989-1817 Cell
925-837-8569 Fax**



E-mail
jenniferjk@sbcglobal.net
360 Diablo Road
Danville, CA 94526

MARCH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS CALENDAR

- 05/01 9:15 A.M. **Board Meeting.** Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
- 05/08 7:30 P.M. **Cinema 1.** *State of Play* and *Is Anybody There?* Hosting: Sara Eagling at 837-2228.
- 05/08 7:30 P.M. **Oscar 1.** For details, contact Susan Terzuoli at 820-9071.
- 05/16 7:00 P.M. **Traveling Gourmet.** Location TBA. Contact Roseann Krane at rkrane@yahoo.com. See Page 5 for details.
- 05/13 7:30 P.M. **Evening Bridge.** Hosting: Carole Allen at 837-8407.
- 05/15 9:30 A.M. **Monthly Coffee Get-Together.** Bagel St. Café, Livery. Contact Tena Gallagher at 837-0826.
- 05/15 6:30 P.M. **Travel Group.** Hosting: Loretta Altshuler at roxylfa6@yahoo.com. See page 3 for details.
- 05/17 --- **Golf.** For time and place, contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiario at 785-4915.
- 05/17 --- **Wine Tasters.** Visit of two Livermore wineries is scheduled. For details, contact Barbara Critchlow at 287-1543.
- 05/18 9:30 A.M. **Daytime Bridge.** Contact Mary Kay Anderson.
- 05/22 9:30 A.M. **Art & Garden.** City Guide Walking Tour of Nob Hill. Leader: Jacque Schubert at 855-7002. See Page 10 for details.
- 05/25 9:30 A.M. **Daytime Duplicate Bridge.** Contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.
- 05/26 7:30 P.M. **Evening Literature.** *Bridges of Sighs* by Richard Russo. Hosting: Karen Campbell at 736-6727.
- 05/28 9:30 A.M. **Daytime Literature.** *Bridges of Sighs* by Richard Russo. Hosting: Carmen Curtis.
- 05/30 8:30 A.M. **Hiking Group.** Meet at Sycamore Park and Ride to carpool to Inspiration Point in Tilden Park. Leader: Kathie Hixon at 838-8632. See Page 10 for details.

2008-09 BRANCH PROGRAMS

- 5/8 & 10:00 A.M. Annual Garden Tour (EF benefit). See Page 1 for details.
5/9 — 4:00 P.M.
- 5/28 7:15 P.M. Dessert with Budd MacKenzie, Trust in Education (TIE), Shadow Hills Cabana.
- 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.

SAVE THE DATE

09/12: Membership Brunch. 10/10: Oktoberfest.

PRESIDENT

Tena Gallagher
(925) 837-0826
tena@aol.com

CO-PRESIDENTS ELECT

Marian Bliss
(925) 820-4709
mbliss@sbcglobal.net

Kathie Hixon
(925) 838-8632
kathiehixon@comcast.net

PROGRAM VPS

Carole Allen
(925) 837-8407
allen7480@sbcglobal.net

Nancy Murray
(925) 837-9402
nmurray721@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP CO-VPS

Sharon Cohune
(925) 648-5153
sfcohune@comcast.net

Pat DeRensis
(925) 837-5044
paderensis@comcast.net

LAF VPS

Susan Rogers
(925) 838-5968

Cynthia Savell
(925) 838-3002
cynthia_savell@yahoo.com

EF VPS

Connie Cady
(925) 743-0517
ccady@nccc.org

Mary Mix
(925) 831-1784
memix@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY

Dora-Thea Porter
(925) 838-3002
dtporster@comcast.net

TREASURER

Jacque Schubert
(925) 855-7002
jacqueschubert@comcast.net

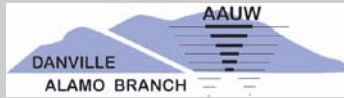
WEB MASTER

Roseann Krane
rkrane@yahoo.com

ADVOCATE STAFF

Editor
Marjorie Christensen
(925) 820-1853
christensendan5@aol.com

Design & Layout
Cheryl Kohleriter
(925) 820-6158



P.O. BOX 996
ALAMO, CA 94507

MAY						
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
31						

The Mediterranean Villa is surrounded by hundreds of oak trees and has a grand view of Mt. Diablo.

The Alamo Jungle garden is a slice of tropical splendor.



Horses graze in pastures on the surrounding hillsides of the Park-Like Country Garden.



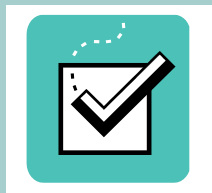
The California Working Garden features 450 grapevines, an extensive fruit orchard, vegetable beds and lavender plants.



The Hillside Garden has two streams and thirteen waterfalls.

The Rocks in the Redwoods garden opens onto a view of a pool with a luxuriant waterfall.

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



SEARCH FOR CHARTER MEMBERS

We have been unable to locate the following charter members of the Danville-Alamo branch of AAUW. Please review the names and let us know if you have a contact number, e-mail address or any other information about one or more of them.

Arlene Baker	Linda Greene	Dona Morris
Carol Carney	Carol Ham	Claire Schlaman
Joanne Casper	Mary Jane Hughes	Nancy Rodekohr
Elizabeth Cramer	Helen Harvey	Sharon Strong
Judy Edwards	Helen Johnston	Elizabeth Feed
Joan Enos	Nancy Lundin	Elain Triemer
Carole Foster	Kay Madsen	Sandy Welke

If you have any information about these original members, please contact Marian Worrall at 837-3103 or 41 Liberta Ct., Danville, CA 94526.

NOTICE FROM THE AAUW CA PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MARCH 30, 2009

Regarding the May 19, 2009, California Special Election. The State of California just dealt with a deficit of \$40 billion.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has been a staunch supporter of education and public health measures for 126 years. **Our nearly 14,000 members in California sympathize with those who protest proposed cuts.** The budget reductions spared few, if any, departments, programs or services. At the same time the budget also depends on significant tax increases.

The March 2008 AAUW CA statement regarding the budget deficit battle urged "a balanced approach of revenue increase and expenditure reduction geared to maintaining a safety net of vital government services". We wanted to:

- Protect the basic education and human services infrastructure.
- Maintain all health and safety standards.
- Equitably distribute funding cuts.
- Seriously assess the options for tax and fee increases.

We believe the budget proposals are the best we can expect in this difficult time. AAUW members are asked to take a deep breath and vote yes for the budget items 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, 1-D, 1-E, and 1-F on the May 19 special election ballot. To read the ballot measures, go to www.sos.ca.gov and click on ballot measures.

HIKING GROUP

On May 30 the hiking group will hike to Inspiration Point in Tilden Park. We will meet at the Sycamore Park and Ride @ 8:30 for carpooling. Bring water, trail snack and \$ for carpool driver. This is a flat, very moderate hike. It is about 3 miles round trip. You can bring a walking stick, wear comfortable shoes and bring sun screen. We should see some late Spring flowers. The views of the City are spectacular. We will be back in Danville by 12:00. Please let Kathie Hixon know if you will be joining the group. kathiehixon@comcast.net



ART AND GARDEN

Art & Garden Interest Group will be taking a **City Guides Walking Tour of Nob Hill** on Friday, May 22. We'll hear architectural tidbits and anecdotes about a great cathedral, four prestigious hotels, and a most exclusive men's club - elegance, urbanity, and fabulous views. We'll also learn the history of the pre-earthquake rococo palaces and mansions of the old railroad and silver kings. After the tour, we can take some additional time exploring Grace Cathedral and then have lunch nearby. We can either take the cable car up to Nob Hill or walk up, as the tour starts at the top of the hill at the Stanford Court Hotel. We'll meet at 9:30 A.M. at either the Sycamore Park and Ride or the Alamo Safeway Plaza and BART into the city. The tour costs \$10.00/person and is non-refundable. Also, space is limited. Please contact Jacquie Schubert, at 855-7002, or jacqueschubert@comcast.net for further information.

Jacquie Schubert, Section Leader

PUBLIC POLICY

The Obama administration announced guidelines for government sponsored embryonic stem cell research but would limit federal funding of work on human embryos donated at fertility clinics. Guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health create opportunities for an expansion of research but forbid scientists to create human embryos for research or the pursuit of cloning techniques. **The new regulations are the result of President Obama's lifting restrictions that had limited federal research to a few embryonic stem cell lines.** New money will pay for hundreds of such stem cell lines that had been unavailable for the past eight years. Researchers have praised the potential of embryonic stem cells in treating illnesses because of their ability to morph into any tissue in the body. Such stem cells could potentially lead to treatments for spinal cord injuries, Diabetes and Parkinson's disease. What is not clear from research so far is whether adult stem cells will ever have the same transformative capabilities as the embryonic cells. The guidelines also detail how scientists must secure written permission from embryo donors because donation is only permitted if made voluntarily, and without compensation.

The Associated Press announced that the Michigan High School Athletic Association agreed to pay the Group Communities for Equity up to \$6 million in legal fees after the latter won a landmark case for girls' sports calendars in the state. The case began in 1998 when parents filed a lawsuit arguing girls' unusual sports schedule violated state and federal law. In 2001, a US district court judge ruled MSSHA practice discriminated against girls in violation of Title IX, the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, and a Michigan civil rights act because the girls' season was two to three weeks shorter than those of girls everywhere else in the country, and of boys' seasons. AAUW supports gender equality compliance in public school athletic programs. Title IX's impact on women's sports is one of the country's greatest success stories.

Once again, please urge your senators to support the Paycheck Fairness Act (S 182), a much needed update of the 45- year-old Equal Pay Act. This will be a perfect complement to the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act signed into law this year.

Cynthia Savell, Public Policy



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Nine outstanding applicants will be receiving local scholarships of \$1250 each. They are: Kirsten Brown, Sarah Brunskill, Katie Gallagher, Allison Gervis, Lyda Ghambari, Kellie Langewisch, Sandy Lin, Stephanie Varvitsiotes, and Shannon Wagner. Look for a discussion of these outstanding winners in the June issue of The Advocate.