

# THE ADVOCATE



AAUW Advances Equity for Women and Girls Through  
Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research

Issue 5 • January, 2011

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## JANUARY PROGRAM

### SELF-DEFENSE & LIBRARY TOUR



Don't be bullied!

Award winning Renaissance Club Sports trainer, movement coach and community volunteer, Pedro Bernardy, will lead a 90-minute program on Self Defense for Women on Thursday, January 6, in the Oak View Room at the new Walnut Creek Library, 1644 N. Broadway at Civic Drive. Mr. Bernardy will focus on assertiveness, safety and the legalities of protection: Is it safe to carry pepper spray? Be well and stay strong, says Mr. Bernardy. Comfortable attire recommended.

Self-guided tours of the library will showcase this new community facility which opened July 2010, following a brief video of the library by long-term volunteer, Bob Brittain.

Morning refreshments: 9:30 a.m., defense program: 10 a.m., video and self-guided tours of new library, 11:30 a.m. Parking is recommended at the structure on Broadway between Crescent and Duncan. On site and underground parking is available at the library but limited to 2 hours and is strictly enforced. Handicap parking is available.

To reserve, send checks for \$10 payable to Danville-Alamo AAUW to Pat Gross, 606 Bridgewater Circle, Danville, CA 94526. Postmark deadline: January 3; \$12 at the door.

Information: Pat Gross at 831-8518 or Karen Large at [kjlarge@gmail.com](mailto:kjlarge@gmail.com). ❖

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM

### SAVE THE DATE - February 22

**Tuesday, February 22, 5:30 p.m. Annual Educational Foundation dinner and Educational Fellowships speaker at Scott's Walnut Creek co-meeting with DKG Zeta Zeta Women Educators. \$33.50.**

Tam Ma, the daughter of a Vietnamese boat person in 1979, will be the featured speaker at the joint Delta Kappa Gamma-Zeta Zeta-AAUW meeting Tuesday, February 22 at Scott's Seafood, California Blvd., Walnut Creek.

Full details in February Advocate or contact Karen Large at [kjlarge@gmail.com](mailto:kjlarge@gmail.com) or Pat Gross at 831-8518. ❖

## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

BY MARY MIX and MARCIA STEINHARDT  
CO-PRESIDENTS

With the holiday festivities behind us, the month of January provides more quiet time to bask in our memories of another joyous season. We have so much to be thankful for: our successful Holiday Home Tour, our growing membership, and our dynamic and dedicated members. We wish to thank Robin Halloran and Ingrid Lara and their committee for their tireless efforts in maintaining our Holiday Home Tour as a quality and much-anticipated community event. Our thanks are extended to Carol Highton for opening her lovely home to our membership for our annual holiday celebration. It was truly a wonderful finale to many months of planning and hard work.



Marcia Steinhardt  
Co-President



Mary Mix  
Co-President

As we kick off the new year, we hope you will join us at the new Walnut Creek Library on January 6 at 9:30 A.M. for our Women's Self-Defense Program presented by Pedro Bernardy, followed by a mini-tour of the new library.

Our Nominating Committee will be hard at work this month assembling the new board for 2011-12. It takes many willing and able individuals to run a branch as large as ours. We both have received so much gratification through our involvement and have fostered many wonderful friendships. We urge you to contact the Nominating Committee to offer your services.

We hope you enjoy these cold winter evenings curled up with a good book in front of your fireplace.

*Happy 2011!* ❖

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## ADVOCATE LAYOUT EDITOR NEEDED FOR 2011-12

**TRAINING AVAILABLE...NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

The staff of *The Advocate* seeks a layout editor for the 2011-12 year. Have you ever wanted to be a part of an exciting publication? No experience is necessary, but InDesign experience is helpful.

Contact Cheryl Kohleriter at [cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com](mailto:cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com) for further information. ❖

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## LOST & FOUND

**TREASURE FOUND AT HIGHTON HOME**

A small square white plate was left at the Highton home after the Christmas party on Saturday, December 11. If this belongs to you, please call Carol Highton at 837-5836 to make arrangements to pick it up. ❖

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## PUBLIC POLICY

**NEWS FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA**

**BY CYNTHIA SAVELL**

**PUBLIC POLICY**

AAUW California wants you to know that Convention 2011 registration opens January 1, 2011!! Also, they ask you to please take a look at the AAUW California Facebook page where they encourage branches to post their news and activities. Director Carlyne McDonnell adds, "Better yet, why not set up your branch's own page and let AAUW CA know so we can "friend" you. Contact me if you would like assistance."

Director Shelley Mitchell tells us, "AAUW California is one of several states that will follow the lead of National and give every member the opportunity to vote whether she or he is at convention or not. One member/one vote is more complicated than many members realize. Will CA members be voting on amendments and resolutions as well as leadership candidates? Will we vote by mail or electronic vote or both? Is there also a provision to vote in person at our state convention? Is there any provision for discussion of the proposed business by everyone before the vote, or will it be strictly a yes or no vote? What quorum will we use? We need to make all of these decisions. Our presidents have asked me to recruit and chair a task force to discuss these and other issues and come up with a plan to present to the board for approval. If you would like to join the task force and be a part of this discussion, please contact me."

Director Sherry Ludwig tells us, "The International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act (S 987) passed unanimously in the Senate on December 1st. By the time you read this, we will know if it passed in the House. S 987 ensures that child marriage is recognized as a human rights violation and develops a comprehensive strategy to prevent child marriage and empower young girls. This strategy will include child marriage prevention approaches in existing U.S. foreign assistance programs and scale-up proven approaches to end the practice. Let's hope that this piece of legislation promoting women's empowerment proves to be successful as we move toward increasing international women's rights, beginning with protecting girls." ❖

## NEW MEMBER WELCOME TEA

**SAVE THE DATE**

**BY KAREN SCHLUMPP**

**MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT**

Please Save The Date! *Saturday, January 22 from 1 P.M. - 3 P.M.* at the home of Sharon Cohune, 9 MacPherson Pl., Danville. RSVP by January 15 to [karenschlumpp@hotmail.com](mailto:karenschlumpp@hotmail.com) or call (925) 899-6741. More details to come! We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Danville-Alamo AAUW**

#### **GOOD DEEDS**

to benefit and support those so deserving

#### **BETTER PROGRAMS**

to bolster our interest and raise our awareness

#### **BEST MEMBERS**

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## LEGAL ADVOCACY FUNDS

### Updates and Congratulations

by Barbara Welch

Co-Vice President, Legal Advocacy Funds

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BRANCH

The Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch closed out 2010 by donating a total of \$2,970 to the national Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). Thank you for your generosity which supports woman's equality advocacy.

#### UPDATE OF LAF CASE SUPPORT

- The AAUW Board of Directors voted to approve \$3,000 in funding to Lulu Sun v. University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Lulu Sun has alleged sex and race discrimination in the promotion process at U. of Mass, Dartmouth throughout the institution.
- On December 6, the U.S. **Supreme Court** agreed to decide whether 1.5 million female employees of Wal-Mart can pursue job discrimination claims in one suit or whether they'll have to split up and file against individual stores. The case—the largest employment class-action suit in the nation's history—will be argued in early 2011 and will set an important precedent. For this reason, AAUW is in communication with the case's lead lawyers about opportunities to offer financial support to the plaintiffs and to sign an amicus brief to put our organizational support behind them.

#### CASE SUPPORT TRAVEL GRANTS

The AAUW LAF awarded **Case Support Travel Grants** to AAUW of Florida, AAUW of Kentucky, and AAUW of Minnesota so that LAF-supported plaintiffs or their lawyers can attend spring state conventions to talk about their cases.

#### TITLE IX COMPLIANCE

Recently a dozen **Title IX complaints** were filed against high schools across the country, alleging that the schools aren't providing equal opportunities to girls and are violating Title IX. AAUW is very involved in the effort to help high schools reach the goal of Title IX compliance in athletics through community activism. LAF's **Title IX Compliance: Know the Score** program provides members with materials about Title IX, high school athletics, and resources to help members find out if schools in their community are in compliance with the law.

#### SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday, April 2, at 4 P.M. we will present an LAF program featuring Leslie Levy of the five-women law firm, Dickson Levy Vinick Burrell Hyams LLP. Ms. Levy's address will focus on LAF issues. ❖



#### Danville Community Band

Join us for our 10th season of bringing musical entertainment to the greater Danville area.

#### Upcoming Concerts

**October 17, 2010; 3PM**  
A Concert for Rossmoor Residents

**December 12, 2010; 3PM**  
East Bay Fellowship  
2615 Camino Tassajara, Danville

**March 6, 2011; 2PM**  
Blackhawk Museum  
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., Danville

Look for the **Danville Community Band** on Facebook, [www.danvilleband.org](http://www.danvilleband.org), or [www.instantencore.com](http://www.instantencore.com).

*Spirit Space*  
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## ART & GARDEN - February 4 Danville Role Players Ensemble *The Lion in Winter*

On Friday, February 4, Art & Garden will attend the Danville Role Players Ensemble production of *The Lion in Winter* by James Goldma at 8 P.M. at the Village Theater, 233 Front St. in Danville. Prior to the play, we'll dine in Danville.

Group Ticket Rate is \$15 per person. Tickets are non-refundable and non-exchangeable with **January 17 the deadline for booking your seat at the group rate.** After January 17, adult tickets are \$25 per person and Senior tickets are \$22 per person.

Please contact Bev Nidick at 828-6993 or [bev2ern@comcast.net](mailto:bev2ern@comcast.net) for more information or to book your seat. ❖

## TRAVEL GROUP - January 21

Friday, January 21, 7:30 P.M.: We are delighted to have Jacque and Jeff Schubert talk about their bicycling vacations both in the U.S. and Europe. Topics include: why choose a bicycling holiday, how to select and prepare for a trip, format for a bicycling vacation, how do they work, and what does one bring. You may want to check out these tour companies prior to the meeting, Backroads, Bike Vermont, VBT, and Ciclismo Classico, plus there will be catalogs at the meeting. This event is open to all members; limited seating. Please RSVP to Karen Larkin at [aauw.da.travgrp2@att.net](mailto:aauw.da.travgrp2@att.net).

## 2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE FORMED Seeking Volunteers for next year's Board

The Nominating Committee, elected at the Holiday Party in mid-December, has begun work to find candidates for office in 2011-2012. All the positions on the Board of Directors are listed on the fifth page of this year's directory. Our Branch has achieved great momentum, and with a membership of over 250, we know there is abundant talent and intelligence among our members to sustain its strength. If you enjoy working with a group of dynamic individuals, we would like to talk to you about a position. Perhaps you have strong administrative skills, or you're a good communicator. Maybe you like to plan events or keep the books. Please consider contacting a committee member if you are interested in being a part of our Branch Board of Directors. We would really appreciate hearing from you.

Karen Abu-Hamdeh, [kabuham@gmail.com](mailto:kabuham@gmail.com), 933-8588

Gail Clark, [gpc627@aol.com](mailto:gpc627@aol.com), 831-0782

Kathie Hixon, [kathiehixon@comcast.net](mailto:kathiehixon@comcast.net), 804-6948

Kerry Montalvo, [akmontalvo@comcast.net](mailto:akmontalvo@comcast.net), 406-4071

Caroline Sanchez, [carolinesanchez@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolinesanchez@sbcglobal.net), 736-7940



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Fax: (707) 963-5527

## HOLIDAY HOME TOUR 2010

### Another Successful Fundraiser Thanks to YOU!

by Robin halloran and Ingrid Lara

Co-Chairs, AAUW Holiday Home Tour 2010

We would like to thank all of you who made the AAUW Holiday Home Tour 2010 so successful, as your time and effort is valued, and without all of you, there would be no Holiday Home Tour.

The following shared their expertise, and we would like to acknowledge them:

Kathie Hixon and the head docents—Marilyn Bressler, Cheryl Kohleriter, Maureen Reschke, Gus Slavin and Cathy Taughinbaugh, for arranging docents; Tena Gallagher, for outstanding publicity and sign placement for directions; Mary Mix, for mailed ticket sales and arranging for the many sold at East Bay Flower Company, database work and making the wonderful quilt that got raffled at our holiday party Saturday night; Barbara Welch, for restaurant contacts; Christy Campbell and Pat DeRensis for coordinating the Food Bank (we collected 200 lbs of food !! our first year !!); Connie Cady, for another year of GREAT directions on the tickets and their layout (many ticket holders compliment our tickets) and also placing signs with Tena; Jennifer Krommerhoek, for articulate descriptions of “Holiday Homes;” Helga Glasson, for refreshments; Marian Bliss, for being the Photographer; Susan Terzouli, for name tags and bootie bag; Karen Schlumpp, for membership signage; and each and every one of you who volunteered to be a docent at the homes and to all who baked such wonderful holiday cookies, as many ticket holders ask, “can we get recipes?” Thanks also to all of you who bought tickets and attended with your friends.

We would not be able to have a Holiday Home Tour without generous Home Owners who share their homes with AAUW. A Special thanks goes to:

Bodner Family, DeShane Family, Devere Family, Highton Family, and Keaton Family.

Local Scholarships will be awarded at our branch installation in June. Please come to meet these outstanding recipients of this year’s Holiday Home Tour fund-raising event. Our Tech Trek nomination process begins this month.

We are looking at homes for next year’s tour NOW. Please let us know if you know anyone who is willing to open their home for our 2011 Holiday Home Tour. Please contact either of us with your suggestions. ❖

## 2010-11 BRANCH PROGRAMS

|               |                         |   |
|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| 01/06         | 9:30 A.M.               | <b>Program.</b> Mini-tour of the new Walnut Creek Library and special guest speaker, Pedro Bernardy, a women’s self-defense expert highlight this month’s program. Walnut Creek Library, 1644 North Broadway, Walnut Creek. |
| 02/22         | 5:30 P.M.               | <b>Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG)/AAUW Combined Program.</b> Featured speaker will be Tam Ma, daughter of a 1979 Vietnamese boat person. Scotts Seafood Restaurant, Walnut Creek.  |
| 03/12         | 11:00 A.M.              | <b>Luncheon Program.</b> Museum of San Ramon Valley presents <i>Remember the Ladies</i> honoring 100 years of Women’s Right to Vote in CA. Crow Canyon Country Club.  |
| 04/02         | 4:00 P.M.               | <b>LAF Program.</b> Keynote Speaker: Leslie Levy of the five woman lawfirm of Dickson Levy Vinick Burrell Hyams LLP. She will discuss issues related to LAF.  |
| 04/08 - 04/10 | ---                     | <b>State Convention.</b> Irvine. 90 Years AAUW-CA, 1921-2011.   |
| 05/06 - 05/07 | 10:00 A.M., - 4:00 P.M. | <b>11<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Tour.</b> An Educational Foundation benefit.   |
| 06/16 - 06/19 | ---                     | <b>AAUW National Convention.</b> Washington, DC.  |
| June          | TBA                     | <b>Installation and Awards Presentation.</b> Location to be determined.   |

## DECEMBER CALENDAR: SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

|                                  |            |   |
|----------------------------------|------------|---|
| 01/04<br>01/11<br>01/18<br>01/25 | 10:00 A.M. | <b>Mah Jongg.</b> Weekly meetings at various locations. Contact Paula Weintraub at pauladuck@yahoo.com  |
| 01/05                            | 1:00 P.M.  | <b>Beads2Jewelry.</b> Hosting: Roseann Krane. RSVP at <a href="mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com">rkrane@yahoo.com</a> .  |
| 01/07                            | 11:30 A.M. | <b>Adventurous Chefs.</b> Contact Phyllis Sheller at 280-0437. [WAIT LIST]  |
| 01/07                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>First Friday Films.</b> <i>Fair Game</i> and <i>The King's Speech</i> . Hosting: Kathy Harkins at 736-9022 or <a href="mailto:dharkins@pacbell.net">dharkins@pacbell.net</a> .                                       |
| 01/08                            | ---        | <b>Golf.</b> TBA. Contact Marian Bliss at 820-4709.   |
| 01/11                            | 11:30 A.M. | <b>Movies 'n Lunch.</b> <i>Black Swan</i> , <i>The Fighter</i> and <i>The King's Speech</i> . Dining: Modern China Cafe, 1525 No. Main St., Walnut Creek.   |
| 01/12                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>Evening Bridge.</b> For details, contact Barbara Nexson at 837-9625.   |
| 01/14                            | 9:00 A.M.  | <b>Board Meeting.</b> Mary Mix and Marcia Steinhardt, Co-Presidents. Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.  |
| 01/14                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>Oscar 1.</b> For details, contact Sharon Cohune at 648-5153.   |
| 01/14                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>Cinema 1.</b> <i>The King's Speech</i> and <i>Black Swan</i> . Hosting: Anne Long at 831-8649 or <a href="mailto:Along1024@sbcglobal.net">Along1024@sbcglobal.net</a> .  |
| 01/15                            | ---        | <b>ADVOCATE DEADLINE.</b> E-mail your articles to Cheryl Kohleriter and Cindy Cassady by Noon today.  |
| 01/17                            | ---        | <b>Art &amp; Garden Deadline.</b> February event to Danville Role Players Ensemble production of <i>The Lion in Winter</i> has a January RSVP deadline. See Page 5 for details.   |
| 01/17                            | 9:30 A.M.  | <b>Daytime Party Bridge.</b> Hosting: Kathy Marke at 837-2057.  |
| 01/20                            | 8:30 A.M.  | <b>Hiking Group.</b> Little Yosemite Falls Trail in Sunol. Meet at Sycamore Park n' Ride. For details, contact Kathie Hixon at <a href="mailto:kathiehixon@comcast.net">kathiehixon@comcast.net</a> .                   |
| 01/20                            | 10:30 A.M. | <b>Books II.</b> <i>Let the Great World Spin</i> by Colum McCann. Hosting: Phyllis Duggan at 933-2615.  |
| 01/20                            | 1:00 P.M.  | <b>Writer's Group.</b> Hosting: Gail Kamerer at <a href="mailto:gailkamerer@aol.com">gailkamerer@aol.com</a>  |
| 01/21                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>Travel Group.</b> Bicycling trips in Europe and USA. Hosting: Jacque Schubert at <a href="mailto:jacqueschubert@comcast.net">jacqueschubert@comcast.net</a> or 855-7002. See Page 5 for details.                     |
| 01/21                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>Epicureans.</b> Contact Judy Finch at 946-0249. [WAIT LIST]  |
| 01/22                            | 1:00 P.M.  | <b>New Member Tea.</b> Hosting: Sharon Cohune. For details, contact Karen Schlumpp at <a href="mailto:karenschlumpp@hotmail.com">karenschlumpp@hotmail.com</a> or 899-6741. RSVP by January 15. See Page 3 for details. |
| 01/24                            | 9:30 A.M.  | <b>Daytime Duplicate Bridge.</b> For details, contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.  |
| 01/25                            | 7:30 P.M.  | <b>Evening Literature.</b> <i>Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet</i> by Jamie Ford. Hosting: Pat Foster at 736-132.  |
| 01/26                            | 9:30 A.M.  | <b>Contemporary Books.</b> <i>Little Bee</i> by Chris Cleave. Hosting: Diane Stangel at 939-0373 or <a href="mailto:lstangel@astound.net">lstangel@astound.net</a> .  |
| 01/27                            | 9:30 A.M.  | <b>Daytime Literature.</b> For details, contact Pat Madsen at <a href="mailto:patrmads@hotmail.com">patrmads@hotmail.com</a> .  |

### CO-PRESIDENTS

Mary Mix  
Marcia Steinhardt

### PROGRAM CO-VPs

Pat Gross  
Karen Large

### MEMBERSHIP VP

Karen Schlumpp

### AAUW FUNDS CO-VPs

Jacque Schubert  
Dianne Tinnes

### LAF CO-VPs

Susan Terzuoli  
Barbara Welch

### SECRETARY

Loretta Altshuler

### TREASURER

Mary Hanson

### PARLIAMENTARIAN

Marian Bliss

#### ADVOCATE STAFF:

Cindy Cassady      Cheryl Kohleriter

#### WEBMASTERS:

Roseann Krane      Dora-Thea Porter



P. O. Box 996  
Alamo, CA 94507

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## **FEBRUARY PROGRAM**

### ***ANNUAL EF-DKG ZETA-ZETA MEETING***

***5:30 P.M.***

***SCOTT'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT***

**SPEAKER:**

**Tam Ma**

**2010-11 AAUW Selected Professions  
Fellows Recipient**

**See Page 1 for details.**

For details and updates on upcoming Branch Programs, see our website at  
<http://www.aauw-da/org/program.html>