

THE ADVOCATE



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

Issue #7 • March, 2011

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MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

"Remember the Ladies!" was the battle cry of California's suffragists, which will be heard again when members of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley re-enact women achieving the right to vote in California 100 years ago. The local 45-minute historical drama will be held during the general membership luncheon Saturday, March 12 from 11-3 p.m. at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville, in the Eugene O'Neill Room.

This centennial program will highlight local women of the San Ramon Valley and early 19th and 20th century suffrage movements, which accomplished this historic feat. California's vote in 1911 pioneered passage of the 19th Amendment on women's voting rights nationwide. AAUW is recognizing this achievement of early California women nationally and statewide.

This local presentation kicks off a *Remember the Ladies* exhibit set to run mid-May to mid-July at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. The program will introduce women's movements in the 19th and 20th centuries and efforts by women to win the franchise in California and nationwide. After this introduction, two women will enact the story of an historic character from the San Ramon Valley in 1900.

Registration and social hour begin at 11 a.m. General Meeting and luncheon start at noon followed at 1:30 p.m. with the "Remember the Ladies!" performance. Local elected women representatives and other AAUW branches have been invited. Sign up early. **Seating is limited to 80. Show your colors! Wear red, white and blue.**

Cost of the luncheon is \$26 in advance (\$30 after the March 4 deadline.) Meal includes choice of entrees:

SUNBURST CHICKEN SALAD

OR

CHICKEN AND PRAWN CHINESE SALAD

ICED TEA, COFFEE, ROLLS AND DESSERT ARE INCLUDED

PLEASE SPECIFY ENTREE CHOICE WITH REGISTRATION

Checks should be mailed by March 4, payable to Danville-Alamo AAUW, 606 Bridgewater Cir., Danville, CA 94526. Remember to designate preferred salad entree.

For questions, contact Karen at 891-4632 or Pat at 831-8518.



PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

BY MARY MIX and MARCIA STEINHARDT
CO-PRESIDENTS

Considering the gorgeous spring-like weather we have been having lately, it is hard to remember that just last month, we were urging all of you to curl up by the fire with a good book. But, a good book is appreciated any time of the year---even on a beautiful spring day. Did you have a chance to think about a recent good read centered around a strong female personality? Check the list at the end of our letter to see what some members have been reading.



Marcia Steinhardt
Co-President



Mary Mix
Co-President

The joint AAUW/Delta Kappa Gamma event at Scott's Seafood Grill and Bar featuring our Education Fund scholarship recipient, Tam Ma, was a great success. We loved hearing about her fascinating history along with her current endeavors in pursuit of her law degree. Tam's story reinforces the importance to us of our continued support of AAUW Funds through our annual Garden Tour.

We hope you have already submitted your reservation for our March 12 program, *Remember the Ladies!* It should be a very informative and fun program as we enjoy the performances of some of our very own AAUW branch members.

Now...the list you've been waiting for:

- Half Broke Horses* by Jeannette Walls
- Someone Knows My Name* by Lawrence Hill
- Anna Karenina* by Tolstoy
- The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
- Prayers for Sale* by Sandra Dallas
- My Name Is Mary Sutter* by Robin Oliveira
- Blue Shoes and Happiness* by Alexander McCall Smith



LEMON BARS -- CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES -- MINI CUPCAKES -- PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES GOOD OLD-FASHIONED FAVORITES --- DON'T THEY SOUND YUMMY?

If you have a favorite recipe for treats that are bite-size and you can bake 3-dozen for the food table at our AAUW FUND Garden Tour, please let us know. The treats we offer at the Garden Tour are popular. We need enough goodies to keep the table full for both Friday and Saturday for our biggest event of the year. No cakes, please, or other items that need to be cut on-site.

We also need cheese platters and other bite-size appetizers.

Contact Gus Slavin at slavinfamily@hotmail.com or 925-736-8399. ❖

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PUBLIC POLICY

IN THE NEWS

BY CYNTHIA SAVELL

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW NATIONAL SPEAKS OUT:

With the House of Representatives poised to pass the Full Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 HR 1, the Senate is all that stands between a sensible budget and House proposed cuts that would hurt ordinary Americans. The House proposed \$100 billion funding cuts would fall unfairly on the backs of students, women and working families by terminating or cutting funding for important programs. Recently, despite a voice vote defeating the amendment the night before, the House passed 240-185, Rep. Mike Pence's (R IN), amendment to prohibit federal funding for Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood treats low and middle-income women for prenatal care, contraception, STD treatment and cancer screening. AAUW opposes any reduction in Title X funding for Planned Parenthood, its clinics or any other programs. The Pence amendment could strike a terrible blow to this integral part of women's health care. Recently, Chris Smith (R NJ), introduced HR 3, which would prohibit the use of federal funds to buy any health insurance that includes abortion coverage, even if those services are paid for with private money. Among its several restrictive provisions, it would ban employers and the self-insured from buying private health insurance that covers abortion. Formerly, women who require abortion services have been denied federal assistance in paying for these services under the Hyde Amendment. However, exceptions were made for women who could die from carrying a fetus to term, or who had been the victims of incest or rape. Smith's bill would narrow the exception to cover only those women who had been forcibly raped, and only minors who had been the victims of incest. After national outrage, Smith said he would correct this disturbing language about so-called forcible rape. To date, this has not been done. The bill carries over 150 co-sponsors.

PLEASE URGE YOUR SENATORS TO VOTE NO ON THESE BILLS, BILLS THAT WOULD FURTHER STRIP AWAY WOMEN'S ACCESS TO NECESSARY HEALTH CARE.

AAUW is seeking successful programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects for women at community college, and has announced a new research project to examine best practices in STEM education for women. AAUW will analyze existing research literature on women in community colleges in STEM subjects, and produce case studies of 5 - 7 programs that have been successful in recruiting, retaining and helping women complete STEM programs. AAUW is committed to expanding women's opportunities in STEM programs through research and advocacy.

FROM HARRIET TOWER, AAUW CA COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR:

"I personally want to say thank you to all branch newsletter editors and website managers I know from personal experience how hard you work at your jobs and how you can sometimes feel unappreciated. We on the state board are grateful to receive the news you provide – it is our best way to know about the work done and activities carried out in the branches. Congratulations to all for the good job!"

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

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360 Diablo Road
Danville, CA 94526

People &
Properties

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

After observation of Black History Month, AAUW CA Co-President Gloria Taylor sends this link:

http://www.nwhp.org/news/black_whc.php

(National Women's History Project) where you'll find a test of your knowledge of African American Women's history. Please share it with your branch members. ❖

RUTH BANCROFT

A PIONEER IN LOCAL DROUGHT-TOLERANT GARDENING

CAROLINE SANCHEZ

WOMEN'S HISTORY CHAIR

When I visited The Ruth Bancroft Garden, I reminisced about when I lived near the corner of Treat Blvd. and Bancroft Road for 25 years. One day I called Ruth Bancroft and offered her a large blue agave and a striped agave that had outgrown our backyard. She came with her gardener for them. This was in the 70s when Ruth was expanding her garden at 1552 Bancroft Road in Walnut Creek.



Ruth Petersson was born Sept. 2, 1908, and grew up in Berkeley where her father was a professor at the University of California. She was one of three women majoring in architecture until 1929, when the Great Depression put a halt to her studies. She later returned to study to be a teacher. In 1939, she married Phillip Bancroft Jr., son of Phillip Sr. and grandson of Hubert H. Bancroft. Her husband worked on the farm while Ruth raised their three children; Peter now lives in Idaho, daughter Nina is on the Board of Directors of the Ruth Bancroft Garden, and Kathy is a neighbor nearby.

In 1880, Hubert Howe Bancroft owned 400 acres that he turned into walnut and pear orchards in the Ygnacio Valley. H. H. Bancroft was a publisher and well-known historian of the American West. He sold his extensive collection to the University of California, which is housed in the Bancroft Library. Locally, the Bancroft Elementary School was built on land donated by the family 40 years ago near Bancroft Road. While I was involved in the school, I gold-leafed a large plaster bust of Mr. Bancroft that is still in the school library, so this history is dear to me.

I remember the long palm tree-lined dirt road leading to their home off of Bancroft Road before the front was fenced. Ruth's garden was a hobby that became a lifelong project as she converted her four acres from perennials to succulents in the 1950s, when she collected, potted and studied drought tolerant plants. The land was rezoned and sold to developers in the late 1960s, and the last orchard was cut in 1971. Then Ruth's husband gave her the front four acres to expand her large succulent collection. In her 60s, with the help of only two gardeners, Ruth worked daily in her garden and continued until age 97. She propagated her plants and protected them from cold weather, especially after the freezes of 1972 and 1990.

In 1988, Frank and Ann Cabot visited Ruth, then 80, and found she had no plans for the preservation of her garden. They formed the Garden Conservancy, a nonprofit organization, and The Ruth Bancroft Garden became the first project of the new organization in North America. It was opened to the public in 1991. Ruth continued to be active until 1997 as garden manager.

Becky Harrington, Executive Director, says she consults with the founder, 102-year-old Ruth, weekly for advice and advises her of the progress of The Ruth Bancroft Garden. On Father's Day weekend, they kick off a month-long Sculpture in the Garden Show, which includes artwork by 50 local sculptors and a Marketplace Section with craft vendors. A portion of the sales goes to support the non-profit garden. They are grateful to the volunteers who help them. An oral history of Ruth Bancroft was compiled in 1991-92 and is in the Bancroft Library. Ruth Bancroft will be one of the local women that will remain in women's history, leaving an extraordinary legacy for the public to enjoy. ❖



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, or www.instantencore.com.

Spirit Space Bill Williams PhD
925-413-8828
jpbillwilliams@juno.com
www.spirit-space.com

Landscape and Fine Garden Design

TRAVEL GROUP - March 18

KAREN LARKIN

Friday, March 18 at 7:30 P.M. We are delighted to have Marcia and Herb Steinhardt present "Tulips, Windmills, Cheese, Chocolates and Bicycles" from their trip to Holland. This event is open to all members; seating is limited. Please RSVP to Karen Larkin at aauw.da.travgrp2@att.net. ❖

ART & GARDEN - March 18


JACQUE SCHUBERT

On Friday, March 18, we will visit the Asian Art Museum to see "Bali: Art, Ritual, Performance". In Bali, art lives in unexpected places and beauty dwells in the everyday. It is also one of the world's most vibrant centers of visual and performing arts; where art, performance and rituals are integral to daily life. See not only artworks, but explore the context in which they were made and used. The 131 artworks on view range from simple, yet deftly woven images of the rice goddesses to elaborately carved and gilded chairs. "Bali: Art, Ritual, Performance" is the first major exhibition of the arts of Bali in the United States and the Asian Art Museum is the exclusive venue for this exhibition.

We will meet at 9:30 A.M. at either the Sycamore Park n' Ride or Alamo Safeway Plaza to carpool to Walnut Creek and the 10:05 A.M. BART. Prior to the free Noon docent presentation, we can see a related video, checkout the exhibit or peruse the gift shop. We'll lunch before taking BART home. Adults are \$17 and Seniors \$13, with group (10 or more) pricing of \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors. For more information or to sign up, contact Jacque Schubert at 925-855-7002 or jacqueschubert@comcast.net. ❖

BEADS 2 JEWELRY - March 3

Beads2Jewelry will meet on Thursday, March 3 at 1:00 P.M. at the home of Roseann Krane. We have an expert wire wrapper who will be demonstrating and helping us do our own wire wrap. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP to rkrane@yahoo.com to attend. ❖



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HIKING GROUP - March 19

TENA GALLAGHER

We will meet at the Sycamore Park and Ride at 9:45 A.M. on Saturday, March 19th (note change of day) and go to Sycamore Grove Park at 1051 Wetmore Road in Livermore. We will walk 2.5 miles, lunch at Wente Restaurant, and then walk back to the cars and work off the calories. The paths are mainly flat. There is a \$5 per vehicle daily fee for parking. We will return around 2:30 p.m. Tena Gallagher will be leading the hike. RSVP to Tena at tena@aol.com by March 16 so reservations can be made at Wente. ❖

MOVIES n' LUNCH - March 8

Movies n' Lunch will meet on March 8 at 11:30 A.M. at The Door, 1448 South Main St. The movies we will discuss this month are *Beautiful* and *Animal Kingdom* (the latter is on DVD.) For details, contact Diane Stangel at lstangel@astound.net. ❖

NEW FILM GROUP - March 14

MARILYN MC CURDY

The first meeting of the new film group will be Monday, March 14 at 4:00 p.m. at the Century 14 in downtown Walnut Creek. Immediately following the film, we will discuss it during dinner at The Cheesecake Factory across the street from the theater. For further information, please contact Soni Leighton at soni@sbcglobal.net. ❖

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THE 11TH ANNUAL
AAUW Garden Tour
 Friday, May 6 & Saturday, May 7
 10:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.
Seven Superb Gardens
Danville, Alamo & Walnut Creek

Adults \$30 Seniors 65+ \$25
 \$35 after April 30 \$30 after April 30



TICKETS & MAP

Mail check by *April 30* payable to
 AAUW Funds* with a business size,
 self-addressed stamped envelope to:
 AAUW Garden Tour
 400 Cliffside Drive
 Danville, CA 94526
 *501c3 tax deductible charity

Tickets (cash or check only) are also
 available M-F 9-6 & Sat 9-5 *after 4/1* at:
 East Bay Flower Company
 206 Sycamore Valley Road West
 (Danville Livery)

FURTHER INFORMATION

gardentour@aauw.daw.org
 Tena: (925) 837-0826
 No children under 12 please

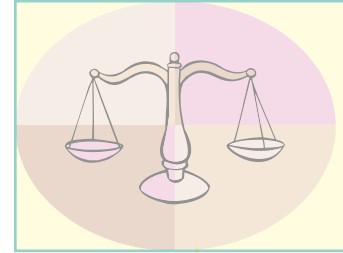
Light Refreshments

Proceeds benefit aspiring women scholars
 AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

SAVE THE DATE

LAF PROGRAM AND SOCIAL

Saturday, April 2, 4:00 P.M. – 6 P.M.
 The Mercer
 1655 N California Blvd, Walnut Creek



Leslie Levy brings a lifelong passion for social justice to her employment discrimination law practice. Leslie has been recognized as one of Northern California's SUPER LAWYERS, employed since 1995 to the present by *San Francisco Magazine*. She is the recipient of the Hastings College of the Law's Clara Foltz Award for distinguished service to women. She is a graduate of Hasting College of the Law, and also has a degree in philosophy from the University of California at Berkeley.

2010-11 BRANCH PROGRAMS

03/12	11:00 A.M.	Luncheon Program. 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.	LAF Program. Keynote Speaker: Leslie Levy of the five woman law firm of Dickson Levy Vinick Burrell Hyams LLP. She will discuss issues related to LAF.
04/08 - 04/10	---	State Convention. Irvine. 90 Years AAUW-CA, 1921-2011.
05/06 - 05/07	10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	11th Annual Garden Tour. An Educational Foundation benefit.
06/16 - 06/19	---	AAUW National Convention. Washington, DC.
June	TBA	Installation and Awards Presentation. Location to be determined.

MARCH CALENDAR: SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

03/01 03/08 03/15 03/22 03/29	10:00 A.M.	Mah Jongg. Weekly meetings at various locations. Contact Paula Weintraub at pauladuck@yahoo.com
03/03	1:00 P.M.	Beads2Jewelry. Hosting: Roseann Krane. RSVP at rkrane@yahoo.com . See Page 5 for details.
03/04	11:30 A.M.	Adventurous Chefs. Contact Phyllis Sheller at 280-0437. [WAIT LIST]
03/04	7:30 P.M.	First Friday Films. For details, contact Judy Halden at 735-8832.
03/08	11:30 A.M.	Movies 'n Lunch. <i>Biutiful</i> and <i>Animal Kingdom</i> (latter on DVD). Lunch at The Door, 1448 S. Main St., Walnut Creek. See Page 5.
03/09	7:30 P.M.	Evening Bridge. For details, contact Barbara Nexson at 837-9625.
03/11	9:00 A.M.	Board Meeting. Mary Mix and Marcia Steinhardt, Co-Presidents. Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
03/11	7:30 P.M.	Cinema I. For details, contact Jan Knadle at 287-1543.
03/11	7:30 P.M.	Oscar I. Unknown. For details, contact Sharon Cohune at 648-5153.
03/12	---	Golf. TBA. Contact Marian Bliss at 820-4709.
03/14	4:00 P.M.	New Film Group. Movie and dinner. See Page 5 for details or contact Soni Leighton at soni@sbcglobal.net .
03/15	---	ADVOCATE DEADLINE. E-mail your articles to Cheryl Kohleriter and Cindy Cassady by Noon today.
03/17	10:30 A.M.	Books II. Contact Doris Ringot at 934-8199 for information on book selection and location.
03/18	9:30 A.M.	Art & Garden. Asian Art Museum, SF, to see "Bali: Art, Ritual, Performance." See Page 5 for details or contact Jacque Schubert at 855-7002.
03/18	7:30 P.M.	Travel Group. Discover Holland. Hosting: Marcia Steinhardt. RSVP to Karen Larkin at aauw.da.travgrp2@att.net . See Page 5 for details.
03/19	9:45 A.M.	Hiking Group. Livermore hike and Wente lunch. RSVP to Tena Gallagher at tena@aol.com . See Page 5 for details.
03/19	10:30 A.M.	Epicureans. Contact Judy Finch at 946-0249. [WAIT LIST]
03/21	9:30 A.M.	Daytime Party Bridge. Hosting: Anne Long at 831-8649.
03/22	7:30 P.M.	Evening Literature. <i>Little Bee</i> by Chris Cleave. Hosting: Linda Jimerison at 736-4299.
03/23	7:30 P.M.	Contemporary Books. Contact Diane Stangel at 939-0373 or lstangel@astound.net .
03/24	9:30 A.M.	Daytime Literature. <i>Zeitoun</i> by Dave Eggers. Hosting: Susan Christoffersen..
03/28	9:30 A.M.	Daytime Duplicate Bridge. For details, contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.

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P. O. BOX 996
ALAMO, CA 94507

APRIL PROGRAM

LAF PROGRAM & SOCIAL

Saturday, April 2
4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

THE MERCER
1655 N. CALIFORNIA BLVD.
WALNUT CREEK

See Page 6 for details.

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