



Grapevine

Los Gatos/Saratoga Branch

American Association of University Women

April 2009

Choose your Salad, Sprinkle with Herbs, and Join the Fun of the Educational Foundation Pot Luck Luncheon

Saturday, April 25, 2009

11 am to 1:30 pm

Immanuel Lutheran Church

14103 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga



Bring your favorite Gourmet Salad, Tasty Appetizer, Relish or Interesting Cold Dish

The branch will furnish rolls, coffee, tea, and dessert

We've worked hard all year raising money to provide educational opportunities for women and girls. Now it's time to meet some of the women who benefit from our efforts:

Tech Trek Scholarship Students

Introduced by Nancy Hobbs

Local Scholarship Recipients

Introduced by Virginia Turner

2009 Educational Foundation Named Gift Honorees

Introduced by Louise Quenon

Current EF Career Development Grant recipient, Alison Brovold, will discuss her work at UC Santa Cruz leading to a Master's of Education and Teaching Credential in science education

We will also elect our branch officers for 2009-2010 and announce our 50-Year Members.

For information or a ride, please call Louise Quenon VP-Educational Foundation, at 867-0698.



Message From the President

Your Board spent a lot of time talking about whether or not to raise dues for next year at our March meeting. We've worn ourselves out trying to find more ways to reduce the expenses of running a branch of AAUW in a time of increasingly rising costs – postage being an example. In addition, our reserves, such as they are, are earning less and less interest.

I know I don't have to tell any of you about this squeeze since you're all experiencing the same thing. Increasingly, people who incur expenses on behalf of AAUW do not feel that they can ask for reimbursement, knowing how little money we have to run the branch. Considering this difficulty, I don't think it's any mystery why it's becoming more and more difficult to find people willing to become a part of the Board.

Many of you may feel that our dues are already high, but we compared them to other branches in Santa Clara County and found that we're among the lowest. We are currently running the branch on \$16 per year per member. That money must pay for insurance, printing costs, and postage, as well as sending representatives to state and Association conventions. We are considering converting our *Grapevine* to email or publishing it on the web in order to save printing and postage costs. Some of our members would still want to receive a copy in the regular mail

and that is costly if it is not done by bulk mail.

We finally decided that we need to raise the dues.

We then talked about how to do it. Some thought we should raise them all at once by a sum that would be good for the next ten years. Some thought we should raise the dues by one or two dollars per year for several years – kind of ease the pain but do it every year.

Eventually we settled on a compromise of \$4. We think that will see us through the next few years, so that we will not need another increase next year.

You will be voting on this dues increase at our April meeting. I hope you will approve our decision, knowing how difficult it was for us and knowing how much all the services we need have gone up.

Margaret Bard 408-377-6625
margaret.bard@gmail.com



Rosemary

Slate of Officers

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for the 2009-2010 year to be voted on at the General Meeting in April.

Pres. Elect Yet to be Selected
 Program VP Mary Surginer
 EF VP Geraldine Williams
 LAF VP Betty Maminski
 Finance VP Joan Kjemtrup
 Membership VP Judy Gilchrist
 Membership Treasurer ... Anita Wolf

Save the Date

The annual Games Party to benefit Tech Trek will take place on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 at The Terraces of Los Gatos. Details will be in the June *Grapevine* or contact Louise Quenon at 867- 0698.

Housing Tour

Join us for a tour of innovative housing developed along the new Winchester Light Rail Line between Campbell and the San Jose Diridon station. There has been a lot of development along the light rail that may give you some new ideas of what transit- oriented development can be. We meet in Campbell at 8:30 am Saturday morning May 16. Enjoy a continental breakfast, as well as lunch, with lots of information in between the two! Registration \$10. To register, please call Margaret Bard 408-377-6625 or go to www.svlg.net.

Branch Information

Mission Valley Chorus Scores a Huge Success

We had a sold-out house for the Mission Valley Chorus "Carnegie Hall Performance" on February 24, and we raised over \$2,500 for our local scholarships. Our deepest thanks to Linda King, a member of both AAUW and the Chorus, who suggested the event and then coordinated all the details with the Chorus and with Nordahl Hall. Linda made sure that every item was covered, and she even brought silver platters and candelabras that added a touch of elegance to the setting.

The Chorus gave exactly the same outstanding performance – including full stage makeup and false eyelashes, glittering costumes and sparkling jewelry – that had brought the crowd to its feet in a standing ovation at Carnegie Hall earlier in the month. Ranging in age from 10 to "somewhat older," the Chorus offered a variety of musical styles sung in the barber-shop tradition. We were amazed and delighted with the choreography for each number, including the Snoopy Dance from the Peanuts television specials.

Chorus director, Angela Suraci, has obviously guided the Mission Valley Chorus to a level of excellence that earned them their success at Carnegie Hall.

Many thanks to the Local Scholarship Committee composed of our AAUW members Gladys Armstrong, Margaret Bard, Donette Dake, Sumi Tanabe, and Geri Williams, and the West Valley College representatives, Ginny Aragon and Susan Folmer; they provided refreshments and an appreciative audience. Special

thanks to our hospitality chair, Judy Zaccone, who brought all the fixings for coffee and tea.

Now that the funds are available, the next task for the Local Scholarship Committee will be reviewing the scholarship applications and selecting the recipients. The winners will be invited to our EF Potluck Luncheon on Saturday, April 25th, so that everyone can meet them and get better acquainted. We hope you can attend that meeting and see for yourselves what dedicated, talented, and energetic students they are!

If you would like to join the Committee for next year, please call me at (408) 866-4234.

Virginia Turner

Committee on Homeless Women and Children

Once again, our Committee has had a successful tea, thanks to the continuing support of our regular guests and the attendance by new-to-the-scene AAUW members. The money we raise from this, our only fundraiser, is used in so many ways, and now, with this economy, desperately needed by the agencies we support.

The Committee will turn our attention to allocating that money, hearing speakers to keep us informed of the current homeless picture, and having some fun before the summer break. Our June meeting is a potluck lunch at Nancy Anderson's, if anyone would like to join us, please get in touch with her. (Please see the information at the end of this article.)

This will be the last year that Sumi Tanabe will fill the Chair position. For those of us who were on the Committee before she joined us, it was with a great sigh of relief to have this whirlwind of energy breeze through. She is not very big in size, but what she accomplishes is. Her liaison with West Valley College, along with some of our other members, has allowed us to use that wonderfully local and spacious venue for our tea. Not only has she fulfilled the tasks for the Chair but has been the Co-Chair of the tea, doing most of the work. Sumi is constantly on the phone or Email to the shelters, to our partners in this project and to us, all the while caring for her family and welcoming the newly-arrived grandchildren. We have been indeed fortunate to have had her as part of our group and would like to take this avenue to thank her for all she has done for us.

ALERT: The April 14 meeting will **NOT** be at Nancy Anderson's. It will be at the home of Nancy Christensen, 16230 Azalea Way, Los Gatos. 356-1181.

For information - contact Nancy Anderson Dander2567@aol.com or call 967-4383.



Basil

Report From the Choice Chair

I am a member of the Pro Choice Coalition of Santa Clara County, although of late my reports sound as if I represent Planned Parenthood. This is because right now Planned Parenthood is the most active organization protecting women's reproductive health. When other groups have actions or events for choice, I will let you know. Please contact me if you have an issue that should be included in this column.

Planned Parenthood is having their annual Capitol Day on Wednesday, April 22. This is an amazing opportunity to join hundreds of other supporters of women's reproductive freedom in Sacramento for a day of education and networking. You will meet with elected officials, attend workshops, and learn about plans for taking action for a healthy California.

This event is free, and includes lunch and a t-shirt. How can you lose! To register or to learn more about the event and about carpooling or group transportation, please contact Christina at sanjosepa@ppmarmonte.org. See you there.
Joycelawyer@earthlink.net.



Parsley

Public Policy

Even if you were closely watching President Obama's recent address to Congress last week, you may have missed seeing Lilly Ledbetter seated behind First Lady Michelle Obama. Lilly was there because she, along with AAUW and the Obama administration, knows that the fight for pay equity is a long way from finished. Please urge the Senate to take the next critical step in this fight by quickly passing the Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182).

As Lilly said, passing the Ledbetter bill without passing the Paycheck Fairness Act is like giving someone a nail but not a hammer. The Ledbetter law preserves the right to seek legal redress, and the Paycheck Fairness Act provides the tools necessary to give new teeth to the law and provide incentives for businesses to follow the law in the first place.

The Paycheck Fairness Act, a much needed updated of the 45-year-old Equal Pay Act, is a comprehensive bill that would create stronger incentives for employers to follow the law, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and strengthen federal outreach, education and enforcement efforts. The bill would also deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages. In short, the bill updates the law to reflect the practices and processes under more recent civil rights laws.

With unemployment rates rising, an unprecedented number of women are now the family breadwinners - making fair pay even more critical, not simply to family economic security, but also to the

nation's economic recovery. The Paycheck Fairness Act can help to create a climate where wage discrimination is not tolerated, and give the administration the enforcement tools it needs to make real progress on pay equity.

When the House passed both the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (H.R. 11) and the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 12) earlier this year, they demonstrated a firm, bipartisan resolve to attack wage discrimination on all fronts. Please urge your senators to do the same.

Gladys Bernyk

Independent Women

Our next guest speaker for Independent Women will be Filiep Sackx. Filiep was born and raised in Belgium and holds an MBA from the University of Brussels. He is an independent financial advisor and is the sole owner of Kensington Securities, LLC, a Registered Investment Advisor.

He specializes working with people age 60 and better in the areas of tax planning, asset protection, and wealth preservation. He is very knowledgeable about IRA distribution rules and helps his clients avoid making costly mistakes.

Filiep will speak to us on these subjects as well as covering the subject of annuities in depth. Please join us for a very informative meeting. (Details are in the April calendar).

Our last meeting featured Selma Opie, one of our members who is a gerontologist. She gave a very interesting presentation and we had 16 attendees.

Sarah Model

Tech Trek

The Tech Trek program uses many volunteer groups and specialists to give the girls a varied program. This is a report from one volunteer presenter. The women in the Santa Clara Valley Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) prepared and conducted two experiments for over 160 girls. They determined the acid-base nature of several common household chemicals using an indicator made from red cabbage. They then tested their observations by measuring the pH of the household chemical solutions.

The girls also got a hands-on demonstration of freezing point depression by making ice cream in two Ziploc bags. The girls enjoyed the acid-base experiments, particularly the color changes, and went wild making ice cream.

The ACS experiments were rated at an 8.5 out of 10 by the girls, one of the highest ratings they gave. The ice cream was a huge hit, even if a little bit salty.

Tech Trek Funding

The weekend before our deadline for sending in the scholarship funds, we received a wonderful surprise. The History Club of Los Gatos sent us checks totaling \$3,200, enough to send four girls to the Stanford camp. We now will be able to send the six girls we had planned. The History Club, not only sent us our check, but also sent enough to the San Jose Branch to send three girls and one girl from the Gilroy Branch. This came about after the fund raiser- chair saw the picture of last year's girls and read the story in our local weekly.

The History Club of Los Gatos is a local not-for-profit group dedi-

cated to serving the needs of women and children in our community. Their membership is primarily in Santa Clara County. The club was established in 1898 and has created a good track record of donating to the community. They recently discovered quite a few of their members are also members of AAUW. Our Branch has used their clubhouse for meetings in past years.

In November they held a fashion show, raffle and silent auction to benefit Tech Trek scholarships. They raised a net of \$6,285. And with a last minute donation of \$115 to bring it to eight scholarships, distributed the money to the three branches.

We plan to have the girls tell them about Tech Trek as they have done for us in the past.

Lets hope that AAUW members who are also History Club members, will tell them how very much we appreciate their support.

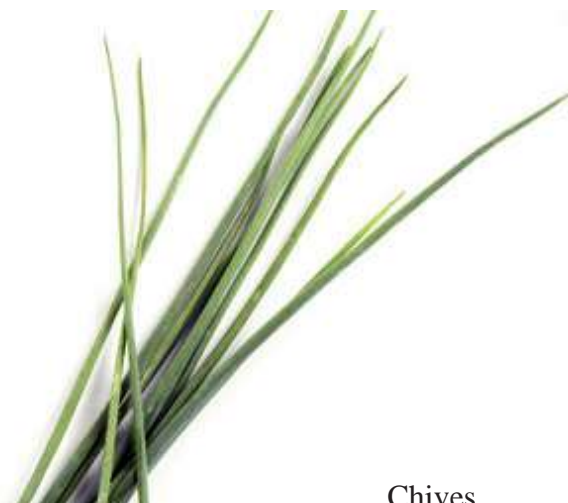
Nancy Hobt
Tech Trek Co-Cha



Dill



Watercress



Chives

Please Make These Changes to the Directory

Email addresses:

johnandmarypastrone@pastrone.net

judy.rossman@comcast.net

Telephone change:

Doris Agee' (408) 257-9428

Proposed Dues Increase 2009-2010

The Board published an article in the February, 2008 Grapevine entitled "Wanted: Angels and Angels' Helpers". At that time our financial reserves were \$6,952.20 and we were depleting them at a rate of \$2,500 a year. The stated reserves in our February, 2009 financial report had dropped to \$6,100.76 – a drop of \$851.44 in one year.

Since the Angels' article was published, we have received total contributions of \$1,429 as a response to the article and from donations included in the 2008-2009-renewal period.

Therefore, in the past year, we have spent a total of \$2,280.44 that has not been provided for in our operating budget.

Over the past two years, we have been rigorously reducing our costs. We have stopped contributing to Tech Trek out of our operating budget. Our major expense is the printing and mailing of the Grapevine. We are studying the possible delivery of the Grapevine electronically to those who have computers. For those who do not, they will receive a hard copy. We are also reducing costs for our Website.

Many of our members have not been requesting reimbursement for their miscellaneous expenses such as copying, postage and the like. We think they should ask for reimbursement so we can accurately determine our costs.

Our dues of \$81 include mandatory dues of \$49 to the national organization and \$16 to the state, leaving us only \$16 per person to run our branch. However, beginning April 1, 2009, AAUW national dues will be \$49 of which \$46 will be tax deductible by the individual member. That should help mitigate our proposed dues increase.

The following amounts are used by other AAUW groups to run their branches: Sunnyvale-Cupertino - \$21, San Jose - \$26, Morgan Hill \$16, Gilroy - \$14, Half-Moon Bay - \$23, and San Francisco, \$15.

The Board proposes an increase in dues of \$4.00 which will bring the total amount of dues to \$85 for the year 2009-2010. This will bring the contribution to running the club to \$20 for each member. You will be asked to vote on this increase at the April general meeting.

We know this will be a hardship for some but at the rate we are running down our reserves and contributions, it is possible we will not have enough money to operate for more than two years.

The Board

Editor's Note: I joined the AAUW organization because of all the support that it gives to deserving women in the form of housing assistance, science scholarships for local students in Tech Trek and transfer scholarships for students from West Valley College. I know, that the comrades of the women of this organization is very special and the many interest groups available to join through the branch bring additional opportunities for friendships and continued learning. The general meetings have speakers of interest to women, and they are offered at no additional charge. I mention these things because I believe that for \$20 per year, I am getting a bargain in information, entertainment, and friendship, and I hope you do as well so that you can vote in favor of the \$4 yearly dues increase.

Donette Dake, Grapevine Editor

April 2009 AAUW Calendar

- | | | |
|----------|-----------------|--|
| 2 | Thursday | Trail Clean Up, meet promptly at 9:00 am in the Los Gatos Park and Ride. |
| 3 | Friday | Travel, 7:30 pm at The Terraces of Los Gatos in the Main Hall. "On Safari in Botswana & South Africa" Travel with photographer Uwe Schmalenbach and his wife as they visit beautiful Victoria Falls and then head into animal-rich Chobe Park in Botswana. From there, visit the unique Okavangu Delta, which has water only half the year. Uwe then takes us on a flight into South Africa where we visit three private game reserves with him that are near Kruger National Park and where animals abound. This will be your ultimate Africa fix!! Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Margaret McCartney, 741-0652. |

April 2009 AAUW Calendar Continued

- 6 Monday Board Meeting, 3:30 pm**, at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road.
- 7 Tuesday Conversation in Spanish 1:30-2:30 pm** at the Saratoga Senior Center, Fireside Room. Anyone who speaks a little Spanish is welcome. Contacts: Sharon Kelkenberg, 867-0588 or Helen Lemmon, 867-0575.
- 8 Wednesday Let's Do Lunch, 11:30 am** at Effie's, 331 Hacienda Ave. (cross street, Winchester) Campbell. Please call Hostess: Roberta London at 741-7645 for reservations. Temporary Chair: Nancy Christensen at 356-1181. Visitors and guests are welcome.
- 9 Thursday Hikes and Walks, meet promptly at 9:00 am** in the Los Gatos Park and Ride. Fortini Trail-Santa Teresa Park. Great wildflowers! Climb to the ridge and loop down. Questions? Call Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.
- 14 Tuesday Committee for Homeless Women and Children, 7:00-9:00 pm** at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga. For information call Sumi Tanabe, 253-6191
- 15 Wednesday Independent Women, 1:00-3:00 pm** at the home of Sarah Model, 19445 Mountain Way, Los Gatos. Filep Sackx, a local investment advisor representative will speak to us. For more information, please see the *Grapevine* article. Sarah lives in the mountains so she will drive you up to her home. Please RSVP to Sarah Model at 354-7819, Joan Kjemtrup at 356-6016, or Barbara Hawkes at 395-4397.
- 17 Friday AM Book Review at 9:30 am**, at the home Terri Raynaud, 138 Fairmead Ln., Los Gatos. Please RSVP to Terri at 356-0075. For information: Call Margo Restruck at 741-5087, or Barbara Oggerino, 354-5394.
- 21 Tuesday Conversation in Spanish 1:30-2:30 pm** at the Saratoga Senior Center, Fireside Room. Any one who speaks a little Spanish is welcome. Contacts: Sharon Kelkenberg, 867-0588 or Helen Lemmon, 867-0575.
- 21 Tuesday PM Book Review, 7:30 pm** Saratoga Retirement Community. RSVP: Licia Thomson, 741-7611. Book: "The Light House" by P.D. James. Reviewer: Marlene Lamb. For information call Co-Chairs: Pat Khan 741-1616 and Marlene Lamb 356-8441.
- 23 Thursday Back By Noon Hike, meet promptly at 9:00 am** at Argonaut Center, Saratoga by Longs.
- 25 Saturday Educational Foundation Potluck Luncheon, 11:00 am to 1:30 pm**, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Saratoga Ave. Check front page for details.
- 28 Tuesday Film Buffs, 1:00 to 3:00 pm**, at the home Mary Ellen Madden, 1616 Inglis Lane, San Jose. RSVP to Mary Ellen at 264-4488. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch
American Association of University Women
20462 Chalet Lane
Saratoga, CA 95070

Periodical
US Postage
Paid
Saratoga, CA
USPS 061-770



**April
2009**

In COLOR on the web! <http://aauw-lgs.org>

Grapevine Newsletter Editor, Donette Dake (353-2342), Co-Editor, Sarah Model
Distribution: Judy Zaccone. **Final deadline for copy is on the 10th of the month.** Copy to dcdake@yahoo.com
Published monthly except July and August by Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of the American Association of University Women.
Periodical postage paid at Saratoga, CA 95070-9998.

Letitia Corum Memorial Fund

Letitia Corum passed away January 3, 2009 in Martinez where she lived and worked for many years. She was both active in her Martinez Branch and on the state level. She has held District Director, Finance Vice President and many other positions, as well as, President of her branch twice, along with many other jobs in the branch. She was a very neat person to work with. With the loss of Letitia, the Martinez Branch, and AAUW California loses a valued and experienced member and friend. This is why the Letitia Corum Memorial Fund was started.

The Martinez Branch is working with AAUW to establish a Letitia Corum Memorial Fund to be used for printing and distributing the next AAUW research report about women and girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) to be published next January.

Tax deductible contributions to the fund should be made payable to AAUW EF and mailed to AAUW CA, PO Box 160067, Sacramento CA 95816 - 0067. Please write Letitia Corum Memorial Fund #4329 in the memo line of your check and be sure to note your branch so it will receive credit for EF contributions.

Nancy Hobbs

In Memoriam—Grace Nameny

Grace Nameny, a member of the local AAUW for a number of years, died of congestive heart failure on January 20 at the age of 87.

Grace was involved in the founding of the Cooperative Nursery School at the Federated Church, in the 50s, and later St. Andrew's School. She touched many lives. People remember her for her fine mind, her optimism, her ready smile, her generosity, her understanding of children and their needs, and her love for all living creatures.

Kim Nameny, her daughter, k_nameny@yahoo.com

In Memoriam—Jean Power

Jean Power, a long time member of this Branch, died February 28th. She fell and hit her head on a Sunday evening two weeks before and never recovered. She leaves four adult children, six grandchildren and four adopted grandchildren.

Jean lived at The Terraces and coordinated their many bridge groups; she was an excellent bridge player. Jean was the chair of Let's Do Lunch, President of University Investments, and a long-time member of the Gourmet Dinner group. She had been a Friend of Bacchus (a wine tasting group) and, when her children were young, she was active with PTA and Girl Scouts.

Jean and Nancy Hobbs coached their girls' softball team. She was a Friday cashier at Village House in Los Gatos for many years and has been active in the Los Gatos Presbyterian Church.

Nancy Hobbs