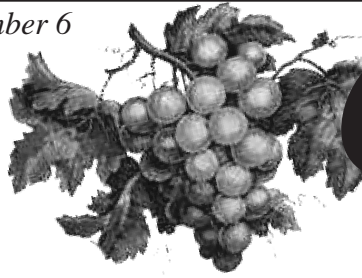


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Grapevine

Los Gatos/Saratoga Branch

American Association of University Women

February, 2008

Support Local Scholarships for Women in Science or Math



Hakone Gardens **2100 Big Basin Way** **Saratoga, CA 95070**

2 pm, Friday, February 22

- Be welcomed by the sound of the Saratoga Taiko Drum Group
- Hear Dr. Phil Hartley, President West Valley College
- Listen to the music of Madame Kazuko Muramoto and her students
- Tour the Gardens

Only \$10 per person

Space is limited, please reserve asap

Reservation form is on page 5 of this *Grapevine* or in the January issue



Message From the President

Our General Meeting this month will be held at Saratoga's Hakone Gardens, one of the most outstanding Japanese Gardens in the western United States. Saratoga's Sister City Taiko Drum Group, will call us to the meeting at the Cultural Exchange Center. Please wear your walking or hiking shoes to visit the garden after the meeting.

Though visiting beautiful Hakone Gardens is a theme in itself, the main theme and purpose of this meeting is to support our local scholarship for women in science or math. The national AAUW, and especially our own branch, supports Tech Trek Science Camps for girls. Many women have chosen this path via the community college system

but need financial help to complete a four-year program. For those of us who have earned our degrees many years ago, the struggle to achieve this goal may seem distant; but we know what it means for the advancement of women in their intellectual and personal lives.

Our speaker, Dr. Phil Hartley, President of West Valley College, will discuss many of the important developments at the college, such as the first major building and renovation project in the college's 45 year history. He may also wish to discuss the outcome of Prop. 92 on the February 5th ballot and what it means for the future funding of California's Community Colleges. I look forward to seeing you there.

Gladys Armstrong

Wanted: Angels and Angels' Helpers



Many of you probably do not know that we are running down our reserves at a rapid clip. Our total reserves at this time are \$6,956.20 and we are using them up at over \$2,500 a year. At this rate of draw down, we will not be able to meet our operating expenses through the end of the year, 2009.

Even though a contribution is not tax-deductible, we require operating funds to keep our organization together. If we are forced to shut down our branch, we will no longer be able to fund the causes which mean so much to our members: the Educational Foundation, the Legal

Advocacy Fund, Homeless Women and Children, and Tech Trek.

Although we live in an affluent community, many of our members are living on fixed incomes and with ever increasing inflation, are worried about outliving their resources. Thus, they will not be able to help us with monetary donations.

However, for those who are able to afford it, we are asking you to please "step up to the plate" and give us a contribution for operating expenses. In doing this, you will be enabling us to continue financing our worthy causes.

If you are not able to contribute financially, we still need your help in running our branch by sharing your expertise. We are asking our membership to call our nominating committee to suggest any talented individuals whom you think might be able to contribute their skills to our organization.

The nominating committee will personally recruit the new officers and those in appointed positions but we need suggestions. We require people who are able to fill large positions, as well as people to help on small jobs and on various other tasks, which need to be accomplished.

If you wish to give a donation, please call our treasurer, Joan Kjemtrup. If you wish to help the nominating committee and donate your time, please call Margaret Bard, Marge Bunyard, Barbara Hawkes, Sharon Kelkenberg, or Jean Wenberg. All of the above phone numbers may be found in your directory.

We need the help of every one of our members to enable our branch to continue.

Thank you for your consideration.
The Board

continued in column 3

BRANCH INFORMATION

Committee on Homeless Women and Children

Remember the 20th Anniversary English Tea – Saturday, March 8, 2008, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, West Valley College Campus Center, 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga. Cost: \$30 – Checks payable to ISPF (Interbranch Special Projects Foundation). Doors open at 1:00 pm for auction viewing. Tea will be served at 2:00 pm.

Please see the full page English Tea ad which was inserted in the January Grapevine. Tickets are available from Homeless Committee members. You can also call Jackie Anderson at (408) 867-0108.

This is our 20th Anniversary English Tea, and we would like to have as many of you participate as possible. The Tea benefits InnVision's Georgia Travis Center, the Villa, the Family Supportive House (formerly the San Jose Family Shelter) and Catholic Charities. The Mission College Hospitality Management will cater the event. Once again there will be a silent auction. JoAn Lambert is asking for *jewelry donations* from Branch members. If you have pieces of jewelry you no longer use, please consider donating them to our English Tea auction. Contact JoAn at (408) 867-6237.

The *necklace for the benefit drawing* has been purchased. It is a beautiful three-diamond pendant necklace, a 14K yellow gold-tiered pendant with .50 ct.tw. diamonds and is valued at \$1,395 from Macy's. Donation: \$5 each or, 3 for \$10 and 7 for \$20. The tax deductible donation should be made to: ISPF (Interbranch Special Projects Foundation). Tickets

are available from any Homeless Committee members or you can call Nancy Anderson at (408) 867-4383. The drawing will be done at the English Tea on March 8, and you need not be present to win.

The "Duet Duet" of Sweet Adelines will perform. There will be door prizes. Please mark March 8th on your calendar and purchase your ticket soon. Thank you very much.

Meeting on January 8, 2008 – Nancy Fash McHenry spoke at our meeting. She is new to InnVision, and she is the InnVision Director of Marketing and Communication. Her main goal is to provide a different direction on InnVision's public relation activities. Although InnVision is the largest homeless provider with 20 sites in Santa Clara County and South San Mateo County, many people are unaware of their services.

Members of the Homeless Committee have been preparing and serving lunches at the Georgia Travis Center on the third Tuesday of each month. These hot and nutritious lunches are welcomed by the clients of the GTC.

Sumi Tanabe, Chairperson
Committee on Homeless Women
and Children

Profiles of New Members

Please welcome the following new members to our Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of AAUW:

Michelle Annette received her B.S. degree in Behavioral Science from SJSU. Her minor was in Art. She is now a retired teacher. Her interests are Travel and maybe Film Buffs, Friday Matinee, and Hikes & Walks. She is interested in helping out with Member Recruitment. Topics that she would like to hear about at our General Meetings are: Environmental Issues, Personal Development, Health Care Reform, Creative Arts, Women's Health, Choice, and Education Issues. She could help our Branch by greeting and giving out name tags to our members at General Meetings, providing refreshments for one meeting, and assembling *Grapevines*. The best time for her to participate would be Saturdays. She is interested in finding travel companions for possible cruises. She can be reached at 438-3969 and her e-mail address is: artlovers65@wmconnect.com.

Amy Meier received her B.A. degree from Roosevelt University in English Literature and her M.A. degree in Counseling from North Western University. The Interest Sections she might be interested in if she has time are Being on Our Own, Gourmet, Film Buffs, and Sights & Sounds. The committees that she might participate in are Local Scholarships and Legal Advocacy. Topics that she would like to hear about at our General Meetings are: Legal Advocacy Fund and Workplace Issues. The best times for her to participate would be after 7 pm. or Saturdays. She can be reached at 354-5260.



Firefighter demonstrates the fire engine to members of Being on Your Own

Being on Your Own

December Meeting—Although our December meeting was very close to the Christmas holiday, thirteen people came to Joan Kjemtrup's home to hear Christie Moore, Public Education Officer from the Santa Clara Fire Department, speak.

Ms. Moore gave us tips on how to prevent fires, how to act in case of a fire, and how to prevent common household accidents which cause injuries.

She passed out several useful information sheets such as: Emergency Supplies Checklist; Carbon Monoxide, the Silent Killer; Fire Extinguisher Tips for the Physically Challenged; and a Fire Safety Checklist.

She told us the *Council on Aging* provides a list of services to seniors. Their phone number is 800-510-2020 and, for a small fee, they will send you a Senior Service Directory.

The *United Way* will also help you fill needs for children, youth, and families and may be reached at 211 or www.211scc.org.

One of the crews from Santa Clara County brought their fire engine to the meeting and explained how all the equipment worked. The firefighter showed us where all the equipment is stowed in the truck. Each fire engine costs approximately \$400,000. The fire truck demonstration was the high point of our meeting.

Mrs. Moore was a very effective speaker, and we all left the meeting knowing a whole lot more about protecting ourselves than we knew before.

Sarah Model

Profiles of Women

March is Women's History Month, and our Branch would like to continue presenting famous women to middle school girls and organizations.

Would you like to meet Sandra Day O'Conner, Dolores Huerta, maybe even Susan B. Anthony? Let me know if you would like to

become one of these impressive ladies or know of an organization that would enjoy learning about their lives. I will be away in March but there should be volunteers from our group who will fill in.

Please email Marlene Duffin, marlduffin@aol.com, or call 997-7528.

**EF Fellow Makes
Smithsonian Magazine**

Check out the November 2007 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine. On page 14 under the title, “Wild Things: Life As We Know It,” is a short article about how moray eels swallow their prey. What the brief note fails to mention is that the research was conducted by **Rita Mehta, an AAUW – EF 2006 Fellow** working as a Post Doc in physiology at U.C. Davis. Her research has shown that the eels have a second set of jaws behind the first set and these second jaws are launched to pull the prey into the esophagus. Most fish use suction to gulp down their prey, but since eels live in narrow crevices they can’t expand sufficiently to generate suction.

Several branch members heard Rita give her very enthusiastic and animated presentation at the fall EF- Fellows’ luncheon. This luncheon is open to all members – consider going next year to hear the dynamic Fellows report on their projects. And remember that proceeds from the Authors’ Luncheon go to EF – see you at this year’s luncheon on, January 23rd!

Louise Quenon
EF - VP

Help for Membership

If you know of any baby boomers who are retiring and are interested in joining AAUW, please let me know. The same is true for recent graduates. I will be happy to send them information about joining our wonderful Branch.

Sue Boyd, Membership VP, 354-9083

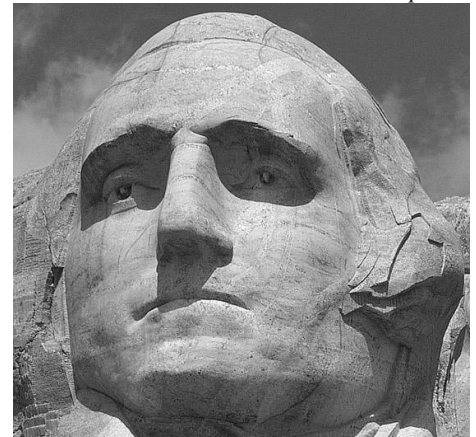
**Presidents Day
February 18, 2008**

Also spelled Presidents’ Day, is the common name for the federal holiday officially designated as Washington’s Birthday. It is celebrated on the third Monday of February.

As the official title of the federal holiday, Washington’s Birthday was originally implemented by the federal government of the United States in 1880 in the District of Columbia and expanded in 1885 to include all federal offices. As the first federal holiday to honor an American citizen, the holiday was celebrated on Washington’s actual birthday, February 22. On January 1, 1971, the federal holiday was shifted to the third Monday in February by the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. A draft of the Uniform Holidays Bill of 1968 would have renamed the holiday to Presidents’ Day to honor both Washington and Lincoln, but when signed into law on June 28, 1968, it simply moved Washington’s Birthday.

In the late 1980s, the term Presidents Day began its public appearance. The theme has expanded the focus of the holiday to also honor Abraham Lincoln, and often other Presidents of the United States. Although Lincoln’s birthday, February 12, was never a federal holiday, approximately a dozen state governments have officially renamed their Washington’s Birthday observances as “Presidents Day,” “Washington and Lincoln Day,” or other such designations. It is also interesting to note that “Presidents Day” is not always an all-inclusive term. In Massachusetts, while the state officially celebrates “Washington’s Birthday,” state law also prescribes that the governor issue an annual Presidents Day proclamation honoring the presidents that have come from Massachusetts. In Washington’s home state of Virginia the holiday is legally known as “George Washington Day.”

From Wikipedia



Hakone Gardens, February 22 at 2 pm, Reservation Form

Name(s): _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number attending _____ x \$10 = \$ _____ + Optional Donation \$ _____ = \$ _____
of people Subtotal Donation Amount Total Enclosed

I cannot attend, but a donation in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Mail this form with your check payable to **ISPF – AAUW of SCCO** to Virginia Turner, 14415 Evans Lane, Saratoga, CA 95070.

More States Refusing Federal Abstinence-Only Funding

The number of states opting out of federal funding for abstinence-only education has jumped from four to at least 15, the *Washington Post* reported. The number of states that have either already notified the federal government that they will no longer be requesting funds, or are not expected to apply, adds up to foregoing more than \$15 million of the \$50 million available. Two other states have applied but stipulated that they would use the money for comprehensive sex education, making themselves ineligible for the funds, and other states are said to be still considering withdrawing as well. New Mexico added themselves to the list of those states opting out as recently as Wednesday.

ACTION: AAUW believes individuals should have complete and accurate information about their reproductive health and family planning options. Only with complete reproductive health information can young people make informed and appropriate decisions. If you haven't yet done so, please use AAUW's Two-Minute Activist online to urge your representative to get REAL about sex education by cosponsoring and supporting the **Responsible Education About Life Act (H.R. 1653)**. This bill would authorize federal funds for states to offer comprehensive and medically accurate sexual education in their schools. The REAL Act is a comprehensive approach to sex education—education that promotes abstinence but includes information about contraception.

I have been participating in these Action calls when the subject is of

interest to me and have discovered something that I want to share. If you email your ideas through AAUW or the World Wildlife Fund, or any other organization, it will be returned as neither Senator nor our Representative will accept those emails. If you copy whatever the message is and send it through their web site, you get a response from someone in the legislator's office. It is time consuming the first time because you have to enter all your information but after that, it will remember you.

AAUW has formulated their priorities for the New Year. They are as follows:

To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, AAUW advocates

- Adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students.
- Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education.
- Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education.
- Protection of programs that meet the needs of girls in elementary and secondary education.
- Increased support for, and access to, higher education for women and other disadvantaged populations.

To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women, AAUW advocates

- Pay equity and fairness in compensation.
- Equitable access and advancement in employment.

- Vigorous enforcement of employment anti-discrimination statutes.
- Greater availability of and access to benefits and policies that create a family-friendly workplace environment.
- Programs that provide women with education, training, and support for success in the workforce, including non-traditional occupations.
- Strengthening programs, including welfare and vocational education, to improve postsecondary education access, career development, and earning potential.
- Protection of the social insurance nature of Social Security.

To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW advocates

- Vigorous protection of and full access to civil and constitutional rights.
- Choice in the determination of one's reproductive life.
- Freedom from violence and fear of violence in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities.
- Increased access to health care and family planning services, and expansion of patients' rights.
- Support for U.N. programs that address human rights and women's and girls' concerns.

Gladys Bernyk, Public Policy

February 2008 AAUW Calendar

(Calendar items due on the 8th of the month to Mary Ellen Madden @ Lipetska@aol.com)

- 1 Friday Travel, 7:30 pm** at The Terraces of Los Gatos in the Main Hall. “Japan Then and Now” Presented by Miki Kamimura. Take a very personal look at Japan through the eyes of one who was born there and who has lived in the U.S. for 50 years. Learn where the Japanese came from and where they are today. Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Carol McFarlin, 867-2557.
- 4 Monday Board Meeting, 4-6 pm** at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road.
- 7 Thursday Great Decisions, (Group 2), 9:30-11:30 am** at the Saratoga Retirement Community in Barnes Hall. For information call: Rosalie Price at 741-7670.
- 7 Thursday Great Decisions (Group 1), 1-3 pm** at the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Center. For information call Anne or Al Stewart at 358-3177.
- 7 Thursday Great Decisions (Group 3), 2-4 pm** at the Saratoga Retirement Community in Barnes Hall. For information call: Rosalie Price at 741-7670.
- 12 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.
- 12 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.
- 13 Wednesday Let’s Do Lunch, 11:30 am** at Saratoga Retirement Community, 14500 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga. Hostess Roberta London at 741-7645. Please call her for reservations. Chair: Jean Power, 356-5122. Guests and Visitors most welcome.
- 14 Thursday Hikes and Walks, meet promptly at 9:00 am** in the *Los Gatos Park and Ride*. Valentines Day – Livermore Ramble. Bring your lover or best friend. We will hike some local creek-side trails and picnic at a winery. Questions? Call Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.
- 15 Friday AM Book Review, 9:30 am** at the home of Margo Restrict, 15725 Peach Hill Rd., Saratoga. RSVP: 741-5087. Information: Geri Williams, 296-1939. *gerisjs. @aol.com*.
- 19 Tuesday PM Book Review, 7:30 pm** at The Terraces. Book: “Martha Washington” by Patricia Brady. Reviewer; Liz Brownwell. Co chairs: Pat Khan 741-1616 and Marlene Lamb 356-8441.
- 21 Thursday Great Decisions (Group 1), 1-3 pm** at the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Center. For information call Anne or Al Stewart at 358-3177.
- 22 Friday Fundraiser for Local Scholarships for Women in Science or Math, 2 pm** at Hakone Gardens. See front page for details.
- 26 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.
- 26 Tuesday Film Buffs, (NEW TIME) 1:00 to 3:00 pm**, at the home of Mary Ellen Madden, 1616 Inglis Lane, San Jose. Please RSVP to Mary Ellen. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.
- 28 Thursday Back By Noon Hike, meet promptly at 9:00 am** at Argonaut Center, Saratoga by Longs.



If you send roses, the color delivers
 the following message:
Red - true love
White - I love you not
Yellow - jealousy
Pink - innocent love and happiness
Orange - I love you vigorously
Purple - I will love you forever

The flowers you send your
 Valentine can carry a meaning. If
 you send the following blooms in
 your bouquet, some feel you will
 be sending the the following
 messages:
Anemone - a dying love
Daisy - innocence
Forget-me-not - true love
Fuchsia - elegance
Lily - purity
Pansy - loving thoughts
Periwinkle - early friendship
Poppy - consolation
Snowdrop - hope
Sunflower - warmth of feeling
Tulip - hopeless love (yellow)

Flower Language for Valentine's Day

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch
 American Association of University Women
 14014 Pierce Road
 Saratoga, CA 95070

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**February
 2008**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering: action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendships.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

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