



# Grapevine

Los Gatos/Saratoga Branch

American Association of University Women

February 2009

**Support Local Scholarships for Women in Science or Math  
and  
Join for an Evening of Entertainment by the  
Mission Valley Chorus, Classic Barbershop Harmony**



**A Gala Carnegie Hall Performance in  
full stage costume**

**Tuesday, February 24  
7 to 8:30 pm**

**Nordahl Hall, 580 West Parr Avenue, Los Gatos**

**Light Refreshments**

**Reserve by Friday, February 20  
only \$15 per person (tax deductible)**

**(Use Form on page 2 for reservations)**



# Message From the President

In December I took the opportunity to attend some of the interest groups I was unfamiliar with. The Committee for Homeless Women and Children kindly invited me to their Holiday Potluck where they all wrapped the multitude of gifts they were taking to the Holiday Party at the Georgia Travis Center. This group of women, many of whom have served on this committee for decades, do an astounding amount of work for the benefit of women who desperately need help. I was thrilled to be a small part of the work they do and am very proud of them.

Next, I decided to join the hikers on the banks of Fall Creek under the redwoods. That's

when I found out we have some serious athletes in our group who enjoy hiking! Wow! I would challenge a lot of teenagers to keep up with these women! What an experience! I had a lot of fun, and I certainly got a good night's sleep afterwards.

The Gifts for Teens project was also a joyful experience – helping to pack the bags full of gifts for homeless teens and teen clients of Sacred Heart Community Services. The women on this committee are admirable and awe inspiring, too.

It's a joy to see and experience some of the friendship networks and generous work of our membership. I am very proud to be a part of such an organization.

Margaret Bard

# Wanted: AAUW Women to Serve on the Board

Feel free to let one of the committee members listed below know if you wish to get to know the members of our AAUW better by serving on our board. We're a Great Group!

Nominating Committee members:

- Lavonne Marafino, Chair
- Joan Kjemtrup
- Mary Pastrone
- Kathy Cusick
- Pat Dalcher

We will be having our first meeting on January 26. If you are unable to get information to us before that meeting, please look in the Directory and call any one of us to let us know of your interest. There are so many different ways in which you can help. The Elected Officers are listed on page 13 of the Directory, and you could express your interest in any of those jobs. If those don't appeal to you, there are many appointed positions and it would be helpful to the next President, to let the Nominating Committee know of that interest as well.

Editors Note: Your interest in editing the Grapevine would be most welcome news! There are 10 issues per year, and the members write the articles for you.



## Women in Lincoln's Life

Our Program Vice President, **Audry Lynch**, has contributed an article to **Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln: A commemorative Collage** assembled by the National League of American Pen Women.

Her article describes the women in Lincoln's life – his wife and other women whose friendship and support helped Lincoln during his darkest hours. Interesting reading.

Sarah Model

To reserve space at the Carnegie Hall Performance, Send the following to Virginia Turner, 14415 Evans Lane, Saratoga, CA 95070. Make checks payable to ISPF-AAUW of SCCO.

Name _____	Phone _____	
Number attending _____ # of people	x \$15.00 = _____ Subtotal	
I cannot attend but a donation is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____		

## Branch Information

### Homeless Women and Children

Alert! Alert! The correct date for our English Tea is Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>. Please see the enclosed flyer for further details. If you have any jewelry to donate, please call JoAn Lambert at 867-6237.

Our Tea began in modest circumstances in 1987. One of our members had an "in" at the mobile home park next door to the Winchester Mystery House. We were able to use their "rec" room for the one hundred attendees. Because we had to turn so many away, we realized we needed a larger space and moved to St. Andrews Church. With the difficulty of many of our guests trying to manipulate the very steep stairs, and an increase in rental cost, another move was necessary. Thanks to Pat Mahler, we were allowed to use the gymnasium at Sacred Heart Church. Having two nuns on our committee and a large dish of tea goodies for the priest helped the acquisition! For all those fifteen years our committee prepared the food ourselves.

Our next move, thanks to a group of new committee members, was to West Valley College where they had been employed. Along with the lovely room came our caterer, Scott, maker of delicious sandwiches and desserts. Some of us could finally relax and enjoy the day! We hope to see you all there for this year's Springtime Tea.

Our committee is saddened with the passing of one of our long-time members, Irmalynn Benkert. She was known, not only for her teaching ability but also for her interest in music and astronomy. She gave

her helping hands to everyone of our Thanksgiving and holiday brunches at the Georgia Travis Center, as well as donating her time to work with the women there. She had a true concern for the underprivileged. We will miss her engaging company and her friendly companionship.

For further information, contact Nancy Anderson - 867-4383 or email [Dander2567@aol.com](mailto:Dander2567@aol.com).

Nancy Anderson

### Independent Women

Our topic this month will be "Quest for Identity". Selma Opie, a gerontologist and one of our members, will be our speaker this month.

She is going to give us a participatory exercise in which we discuss the ever-changing roles we have had in life and how they relate to the changes in our society.

This should be a very interesting topic and we hope you will join us. Information as to the date and time can be found in the Calendar.

Sarah Model

### Legal Advocacy Fund

For 26 years, the Legal Advocacy Fund has offered case support to plaintiffs fighting sex discrimination in higher education through financial assistance and outreach. Now LAF is expanding support to include cases that address discrimination in the wider workplace as well. LAF will be even more closely aligned with the promise to ensure that "all women have a fair chance". Your continued financial support is needed now more than ever. As the economy wavers, women are likely to feel the disproportionate brunt of the financial crisis – a situation that creates even greater potential for discrimination. Supporting LAF is our way to show where we stand and to help make the workplace a fairer place for all women. Contributions to AAUW-LAF may be sent to Betty Maminski, 576 W. Parr #12, Los Gatos, CA 95032.

Betty Maminski

*President's Day, February 16*



## State Information

### EF Fellowships

International Fellowships are awarded for full-time graduate or postgraduate study or research to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Supplemental grants may be given to support community-based projects in the Fellow's home country.

**Patience Tusingwire** is an International Fellowship recipient from Uganda. She was the eldest in a family of four children who were orphaned when Patience was twelve years old. As the eldest, she became responsible for her siblings and their education. At times, the family missed school because they didn't have money to both eat and attend school. In 2004, Patience earned her law degree at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. In 2005, she passed the equivalent of the Bar Exam and practiced law in Kampala before receiving her AAUW grant and coming to the University of San Francisco in 2008.

Patience is studying for a Master's Degree with a focus on International Business Transactions and International Human Rights. This spring, one of her classes will be on human rights and she will be writing a paper focusing on the rights of women and the girl child and their responsibilities in the community at all levels. She will be presenting the paper at the UN headquarters in New York in March when the commission on the Status of Women is meeting.

Patience truly appreciates her AAUW Fellowship and is grateful for the opportunity it affords her to pursue her interest in human rights, especially for women and girls.

She believes that for women to be independent and productive, they must enjoy their right to education and economic empowerment. Her master's program will provide her with the skills to formulate and implement legal policies to economically empower women in her home country.

Sharon Westafer  
Fellow's Scheduler

### Research and Projects Grants

include both Career Development Grants, which help women who seek to achieve upward mobility within their present careers or are trying to change careers, and Community Action Grants, which support individual, branch and state projects that further the mission of AAUW by promoting education and equity for women and girls in local communities and schools.

One recipient of a Community Action Grant in 2008-2009 is **Iridescent**, a non-profit organization that trains engineers and scientists to bring cutting-edge research to girls and underserved communities. Hands-on science courses are conducted in Los Angeles public schools to inspire girls and minority communities to pursue a career in science and engineering.

Tara Chklovski, Project Director, is very excited about the grant the program received from AAUW. She says, "We want to get girls excited about science, success, and self-confidence. We focus on long-term impact by educating the parents, bringing powerful role models to the courses, encouraging girls to go to college, and encouraging the community to take

ownership of the program." The AAUW grant money will be used to develop and conduct four hands-on science courses for fifth grade girls and their parents. Topics will range from the Physics of Taekwondo to Renewable Energy.

More information about Iridescent can be found at [www.IridescentLearning.org](http://www.IridescentLearning.org) and their blog: <http://Iridescentlearning.blogspot.com>

Rozanne Child  
EF/LAF Director AAUW California

### Standing Up For What's Right

As the New Year begins AAUW is always on our mind. Thanks to all the Branches who donated so generously to the Legal Advocacy Fund this year. Association is working hard on finishing final reports for this year's donations.

During its first 26 years, the Legal Advocacy Fund offered case support to plaintiffs fighting sex discrimination in higher education through financial assistance and outreach. Now, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. LAF does this through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, and various research reports. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department LAF seeks amicus curiae opportunities in cases of discrimination that disadvantage women in the workplace. For more information on these changes read Linda Hallman's Revised Briefing # 13 on the Association Website.

*continued on page 5*

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Click on Advocacy, then Legal Advocacy Fund (on the left), finally Updated LAF Briefing (in the paragraph in the center).

LAF is a program under the Educational Foundation and therefore fundraises separately from EF. LAF donations are 501c3 and are totally tax deductible. Take a look at one of LAF's successes.

Through the Legal Advocacy Fund, we have provided case support to protect the rights of those who have experienced injustice, and campus outreach programs to protect students and employees from future injustices. One case involved Lisa Simpson from the University of Colorado who was sexually assaulted and harassed by university football players and recruits. The Legal Advocacy Fund supported Lisa's successful lawsuit against the university for failing to repair the sexually hostile environment on campus. Reinforcing our victory, the university has now hired an on-campus adviser to make the campus environment safer, protecting all students. Your contribution to the Legal Advocacy Fund supports this important work.

LAF already notified current plaintiffs that their funding would terminate on December 31, 2008, and that the new LAF criteria would take effect January 2009. Our California plaintiffs are welcome to apply for support under the new LAF criteria, and further support decisions will be made through the processes described in the criteria. For more information the new LAF Criteria is available on the Association Website at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) Click on Advocacy, then Legal Advocacy Fund, finally Case Support.

Good news! The House passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act

and the Paycheck Fairness Act on January 9, 2009. Now is the time to contact your senators and urge them to vote yes on these critical pieces of legislation.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at [rchild44@msn.com](mailto:rchild44@msn.com).

Rozanne Child  
EF/LAF Director AAUW California

## Choice and Reproductive Rights

I am Joyce Sogg, the new Choice Chair for our AAUW Branch. I see my role as keeping our membership informed about challenges to our abortion and reproductive rights. From this information we can develop actions and activities to protect our rights. Please email me ([joycelawyer@earthlink.net](mailto:joycelawyer@earthlink.net)) or telephone me at (408) 354-5122 if you have any questions or suggestions.

President Bush has put new Health and Human Services regulations on a fast track so they will go into effect January 18, 2009. These regulations, among other things, will allow most healthcare providers, including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, hospitals, and even insurance plans to deny women access to abortion, sterilization, and most forms of birth control. This is Bush's cynical parting shot at women.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America is asking people to sign an online petition asking the Obama administration to reverse these regulations. Go to [www.ppaction.org](http://www.ppaction.org) and click on Take Action under the heading "Bush's Attack on Women's Health."

Joyce Sogg

## The History of Valentine's Day

The history of Valentine's Day — and its patron saint — is shrouded in mystery. But we do know that February has long been a month of romance. St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite? Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men — his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons where they were often beaten and tortured.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl, who may have been his jailor's daughter, who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed 'From your Valentine,' although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky. .

<http://www.history.com/content/valentine/history-of-valentine-s-day>

## House Passes Vital Pay Equity Bills - Now On to the Senate!

Thanks to the hard work of AAUW Action Network members and our coalition partners, the House passed both the **Ledbetter Fair Pay Act** and the **Paycheck Fairness Act** on Friday, January 9, 2009. The Senate is expected to take up these bills as soon as next week, which means your action is needed now. As you may remember, the Senate narrowly failed to pass a vote to move forward with Ledbetter bill last year. The good news is that it's a new Congress, and new administration who will sign the bills should change the outcome. According to new data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2007 the ratio of women's and men's median annual earnings reached almost 78 cents on the dollar for full-time year-round workers, up from just under 77 cents in 2006. This is the narrowest the wage gap has ever been, but it's only an additional one cent on the dollar. One cent is chump change. It isn't real change. **"Keep the Change until Women Have Real Change."**

I am going out on a limb but I am fairly sure Senator Diane Feinstein and Senator Barbara Boxer will vote for both these bills. We are fortunate to have women Senators who understand women's issues. Go to their websites or call their offices: Senator Feinstein (415) 393-0707 and Senator Boxer (415) 403-0100 and say, "Thanks for your support for all women."

Gladys Bernyk

## Member Profile, Nancy Anderson

The following information was excerpted from the Saratoga Historical Foundation Newsletter and is a tribute to our member, Nancy Anderson, a treasured contributor to our Branch.

Nancy has contributed much to other organizations, especially the Saratoga Historical Foundation. For their organization, she comes up with green beer for the St. Patrick's day potluck, and used her sense of humor to prepare chipped beef on a cracker and toasted gourmet Span for the World War II Veteran's Panel event held at the Museum. She has also tidied the front of the museum, putting her gardening skill to work.

Anderson has been in the SHF for 10 years and has served all that time on their Board. She is also co-chair for the third time for the Committee on Homeless Women and Children for our Branch of AAUW. She was co-chair for 15 years for the fund-raising English Tea. She is also on the Foothill Club House and Grounds committee and is the liaison between the Club and the Men's Club. She worked the Mustard Walk/Faire for four years.

When asked why she volunteers, Anderson says, "I enjoy meeting new people and working with them for the organization." She has worked for so many organizations, helping many people along the way, like the Migrant farm workers in our valley. As a volunteer for the Council of Churches for their Migrant Ministry program in 1961,



she would go to the orchards in Saratoga and ask if the children had their inoculations and inquire as to any other of their health problems. She would then get help and transportation for them and would even translate for the doctors. She also went to the school storage building at Blue Hills to get left over or outdated textbooks and along with some other books, she had a lending library from the back of her station wagon. At the Federated Church on Thursday afternoons, she would work one on one to tutor the junior high aged migrant children. She says that she loved walking into those orchards, especially in the spring when they were all in blossom. This she did for 15 years.

As if all this hasn't been enough, Nancy also served a term on the Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission and was chair of the Social Services Advisory Commission to the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors. And what does she do with any other spare time she might have? She seems to be interested in finding antiques. AAUW salutes such a devoted member of the Valley and is glad she volunteers for our Branch as well.

Excerpted by Donette Dake

## February 2009 AAUW Calendar

- 2 Monday Board Meeting, 3:30 pm**, at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road.
- 3 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.
- 6 Friday Travel, 7:30 pm** at The Terraces of Los Gatos in the Main Hall. “Mexico – Up the Mountains and Down again”. Presented by photographer Betty Toepfer who had the opportunity this past year for a home-stay in the small mountain village of Tetoztlan in the State of Morale, north of Mexico City, while studying at a local language school. Join Betty as she and her landlady visit a number of markets in small villages, going up and down the mountains, traveling here and there, in some very unique busses. Travel with them also as they visit the historic archeological sites at the pyramids at Xochicalco and silver mines at Taxco. Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Margaret McCartney, 741-0652.
- 10 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.
- 11 Wednesday Let’s Do Lunch, 11:30 am** at Twist Bistro, 247 E. Campbell, Campbell. RSVP to Hostess: Jacqui Smith at 292-2412. Chair: Jean Power at 356-5122. Visitors and guests are welcome.
- 12 Thursday Hikes and Walks Valentine Hike, meet promptly at 9:00 am** at Argonaut Shopping, Saratoga – way out front of Longs. Montebello Ridge to Black Mountain. Bring your lover or best friend. Not difficult. Wonderful views of the valley. Questions? Call Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.
- 17 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
- 17 Tuesday PM Book Review, 7:30 pm** The Terraces. RSVP: Margaret Ford, 356-5028. Book: “The Infidel” by Ayann Hirsi Ali. Reviewer: Pat Khan. For information call Co-chairs: Pat Khan 741-1616 or Marlene Lamb 356-8441.
- 18 Wednesday Independent Women, 1:00-3:00 pm** at the home of Joan Kjemtrup, 15950 Rochin Terrace, Los Gatos. Our topic will be “Quest for Identity” and our speaker will be Selma Opie, a Gerontologist. Please RSVP to Joan Kjemtrup at 356-6016, or Barbara Hawkes at 395-4397, or Sarah Model at 354-7819.
- 20 Friday AM Book Review at 9:30 am**, at the home of Margaret Bard, 4130 Ashbrook Circle, San Jose. RSVP to Margaret at 377-6625. For information: Call Margo Restruck at 741-5087 *margrest@gmail.com*, or Barbara Oggerino, 354-5394, *oggerinobarb@aol.com*.
- 24 Tuesday Film Buffs, 1:00 to 3:00 pm**, at the home of Barbara Shandera, 1646 Canna Lane, San Jose. RSVP to Barbara at 978-0192. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.
- 24 Tuesday Local Scholarship Fund Raiser “A Carnegie Hall Performance” 7-8:30 pm.** See front page for details.
- 26 Thursday Back By Noon Hike - meet promptly at 9:00 am** at Argonaut Center, Saratoga by Longs.

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

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**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](mailto:dcdake@yahoo.com)  
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## Welcome New Members

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San Jose State Univ, BA Journalism, 1959

Rene Welter (Dual Member – San Jose)  
5032 Maitland Drive  
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408-723-2173  
[renewelter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:renewelter@sbcglobal.net)  
San Jose State Univ, BA Advertising, 1980

## Spice Cookies for Valentine's Day

Valentines cookies are a nice way to start your valentines day with those you love.

Here is a recipe for Spice Cookies and you can cut them out into shapes of hearts. You can use any cookie recipe you like and then use your own special cookie cutters for your special day.

Very quick and easy to do so you are not spending all day baking. You can also freeze them so they will only have to defrost on the day you want them.

Ingredients ...

3 eggs  
1 tsp vanilla - you can make them without the vanilla  
1 3/4 cups flour  
1 tsp baking soda  
2 tsp allspice  
2 tsp clove  
Mix all your ingredients together and cut out into shapes. Bake at 375 for 7 minutes. Take out and allow to cool and then frost your cookies.

