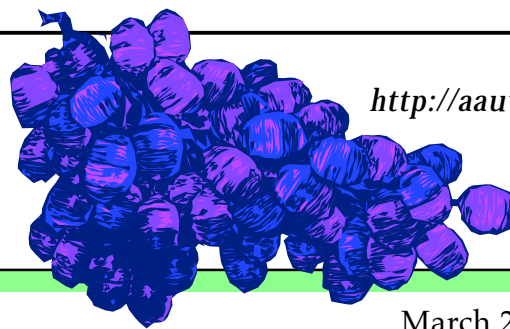


Grapevine



Volume 42, Number 7

March 2010

Charter Schools

March General Meeting

Speaker: Susan Hammer, former San Jose mayor

When: Saturday, March 27, 2010

9:15 – 10:00am New Member Outreach

10am – 12noon Guest Speaker

Where: Saratoga Library, Community Room

13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga

Susan Hammer will speak about *Charter Schools*. Susan was instrumental in forming the ACE Charter School in San Jose. She has recently turned her attention to education and has served on the State Board of Education. At present Susan is the Parliamentarian on UC Santa Cruz Foundation Board.

Susan Hammer was born in Altadena, California and is a UC Berkeley graduate. After serving on the City Council of San Jose, Susan was elected and served two terms as San Jose mayor. While she was Mayor, San Jose enjoyed being one of the US's safest cities. She started many programs for San Jose including the Gang Task Force, Recycling Plus and the Greenline Initiative.

Susan served on the President's Committee on Trade Policy, under President Clinton, and was the first woman to chair the panel. She has also served on the Lucille Salter Packard Board of Directors, the Smithsonian Institute's Board of Trustees and was the CEO of the Synopsys Outreach Foundation.



Seeking New Members

Bring someone or come yourself. Explore the many benefits of AAUW membership on Saturday, March 27 from 9:15am to 12noon in the Community Room at the Saratoga Library. Susan Hammer, former San Jose mayor, will speak about "*Charter Schools*." Our program from 10am to 12noon is always open to the general public.

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization, offering: Action for Equity, Personal and Professional Growth, Community Leadership and Friendship.

Take this opportunity from 9:15 to 10am to meet current members and learn about the many interest and advocacy groups that are a major part of the Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW chapter.

These groups range from sending 7th grade girls to Stanford science camp (Tech Trek) to our popular bridge groups, day and evening book clubs, and

support for independent women. We have a dedicated group that supports the homeless women's shelter in San Jose and we gather for dinner, wine and lunch groups regularly.

Scholarship funds that support education for women is a vital part of our branch endeavors.

Membership is open to anyone holding an associate, baccalaureate, graduate degree or the equivalent, or nursing school diploma or business school degree from an accredited institute. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

Learn about the benefits of membership, contact Terri Raynaud, 356-0075 or Margaret Bard, 377-6625.





Message from the President

I am pleased to announce that Susan Hammer is our guest speaker on Saturday morning, March 27, 2010. I thought I would share a little more about Susan that I did not include on the first page of the Grapevine. Susan and I share a connection in that my daughter and Susan's son married in 1981. We share two wonderful grandsons of whom we are both very proud. Although we each have other grandchildren, these two were our first grandsons. You will want to hear Susan, who has been a living example of a woman of note during *Women's National History Month*, speak about Charter Schools. Susan was instrumental in the forming of ACE Charter School in San Jose.

Prior to Susan's presentation, we will host a New Members Recruitment Program. Please consider each of your friends until you find one or two who are not yet members of AAUW. Please bring these potential new members to the Saratoga Library Community Room at 9:15 am to learn about the benefits of membership in AAUW. Many of our Interest Group Leaders will be there to explain their group to perspective members. I

would like to thank Terri Raynaud for accepting the responsibility of organizing this event. I would also like to thank Margaret Bard for all that she has done and will do to make it successful. *We need you to do your part to make it work.*

Highlights of other news:

- Gladys Bernyk, our Public Policy Chair, recently represented us at the organization of the Charlotte Newhart Event sponsored by the Inter-Branch-Council. Thank you Gladys, for all of your hard work.
- Many thanks to Pat Kahn for taking over the upcoming General Meeting and introduction of our guest speaker, Kimberly Connors from the D.A.'s Office. She has a fascinating background and will be very interesting. The time is from 1:00pm to 3:00pm on Thursday, February 25 at the Saratoga Library Community Room.
- Please, please send in your recipes for our cookbook *Beginnings and Endings*. Gail and I need many more appetizer and dessert recipes, and we know there are

some great ones among our group that we would love to include. This is a fundraiser that we want to complete before summer.

- Our thanks to Marge Bunyard and Sharon Kelkenberg for their presentation at the Board meeting on the Policies for the Branch. We will be presenting them to the General Membership soon.
- We are very sorry that the misinformation about Betty Hunter having passed away was reported. She is quite well in Southern California.
- The Executive Board met on Finances again and reported to the Board at the last meeting. It was agreed that I should write a letter to all the membership, explaining the situation with a few ideas for solutions. If you have email, the letter will be arriving in that manner, and if you do not, it will arrive in the U. S. mail.

The Board was reminded that the next Board meeting has moved from the 1st of March to a week later on the 8th of March at the Saratoga Fire Station. Please feel free to attend, but I would appreciate a call.

–Lavonne Marafino

Seeking Recipe Submissions

Fundraising Cookbook

Do you have any delicious, easy, and cost effective recipes to share? These are the "Winners" that we make for family, friends & take to potlucks. "I know that I want to share a recipe when it disappears whenever I take it to a function." –Lavonne Marafino.

Email or send the recipe(s) to Lavonne Marafino and Gail Pedersen for inclusion in *Beginning and Ending Cookbook* that we are putting together.



Just A Reminder

A Letter From AAUW Executive Director

Dear AAUW Friends:

Today I was honored to attend the national ceremony celebrating President Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday. As you can imagine, it was a wonderful event - held in the grandeur of the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, but tempered by the real challenges before us. The crisis facing America today is very different from the one that faced President Lincoln, but as President Obama stated this morning, *"We are once again debating the critical issues of our time. Let us remember that we are doing so as servants to the same flag, as representatives of the same people, and as stakeholders in a common future."* Those words get to the heart of AAUW's mission, and specifically what AAUW has been doing to get our nation back to work and our economy moving again.

As the recession has deepened, we at AAUW have been stepping up our efforts to fight for working women and their families. I wanted to take this moment to fill you in on our latest work, update you on our progress, and keep you informed on where we stand on these critical issues.

For the last several months, AAUW has been lobbying members of Congress on our top priorities for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - the recovery bill - which include investments in higher education, school construction and modernization, affordable healthcare, targeted tax credits, and direct appropriations to states and localities to support critical services. The recovery package, a version of which has been passed by both chambers, has now been reconciled and is set for a final vote. This week, AAUW sent a letter to conferees urging them to include our most important priorities in the

final bill. We are pleased to report that AAUW was successful in maintaining most of our key priorities in the compromise measure, including:

- A valuable tax credit to "Make Work Pay" for American families and an expansion of the Child Tax Credit to target more families in need - especially those in poverty.
- The inclusion of an extension and increase of current unemployment benefits, which will help many hurting workers facing an even tougher job market and also represents funds that will quickly go back into the economy.
- Almost \$20 billion in appropriations for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) because, in addition to feeding the hungry, food stamps are dollar for dollar by far the most stimulative provision in the recovery and reinvestment bill.
- \$53.6 billion in State Fiscal Stabilization Funds to help schools maintain their education budgets and initiate critical renovation and construction projects. This education funds will save jobs as well as create them.
- The "American Opportunity Tax Credit," a \$2,500 tax credit for college tuition and other expenses, providing a targeted investment that will encourage individuals to retrain and retool through higher education - which will in turn improve their earning potential and career competitiveness. People without college degrees are much more vulnerable to being laid off than those who have this important credential, providing further evidence that the AAUW priority of investing in education is money well spent, period.
- A vital increase in the maximum



Pell grant award of \$500 for the 2009-2010 school year, as well as additional funds for work-study programs, helping millions of students go to college - and stay in college.

- Providing meaningful COBRA subsidies, which will allow more American families to be able to maintain their health insurance and afford valuable preventative care after they've been laid off, which could help to avoid not only heartache but bankruptcies in the future.

I wanted to give you a complete update on our economic recovery efforts, and that can't be done in a short note. But since I know that our members expect and deserve an AAUW that fights the good fight on multiple fronts, never resting until the job is done, I thought I would use the auspicious occasion of Lincoln's birthday to illuminate our efforts. AAUW is steadfastly working towards a more perfect Union, and your support and participation is what makes this success possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Linda D. Hallman, CAE
AAUW Executive Director

Interest Group Focus: Conversations in Spanish

A group of 8 to 10 women who want to polish their Spanish speaking skills meet twice a month, the first and third Tuesdays at 1:30pm, to talk to each other in Spanish. Everybody has their own version of an English/Spanish dictionary. I was thrilled to see how well they do in expressing themselves. The day I was there, Nancy Anderson, who has a higher skill level, assisted people to use the appropriate words or helped with pronunciation. It's nice to have someone who can figure out what people are struggling to say and give them reassurance and help.

Although she wasn't there that day, I was told that Helen Lemmon's Spanish skills are even better than Nancy's. Helen and Sharon Kelkenberg started this group only a couple years ago and have gradually doubled its size.

The group is preparing themselves to have lunch at a Mexican restaurant by practicing ordering in Spanish, asking questions in Spanish, and generally getting ready to speak Spanish in public. Sharon Kelkenberg acted as the waiter taking the orders. Even I was able to order in Spanish although my Spanish skills are very limited.

Bernie Fawley related an anecdote from the holidays, entirely in Spanish. I was very impressed. Several other women were able to speak about topics other than food, too. If you would like to improve your Spanish, this is the group for you. Sharon Kelkenberg or Helen Lemmon can give you more information. They are very forgiving, but insistent on speaking Spanish so it is a great opportunity to learn.

—Margaret Bard

Interest Group Focus: Film Buffs

These women know where all the cheap movie seats are in the South Bay Area! They don't necessarily go to see the movies together, but they do agree at each meeting which movies they will see before the next meeting, usually two or three. All the members help to choose which movies to see by researching what is coming out, reading reviews of Filmfests and talking to film buffs in other areas to learn what is going to be released in the near future.

The meetings are held the last Tuesday of the month at 1:30 in members' homes. They started 15 or 20 years ago. I've only attended two of their meetings, but that was enough to convince me of their passionate enthusiasm for movies. Each member reports on the movies previously agreed upon and the reports vary widely from "I loved this movie and want to see it again" to "This movie was so disgusting I want to warn people to avoid it." But they have a marvelous time discussing the good, the bad, the ugly and the silly in the movies they see.

When it's Academy Awards time, all the members that want to participate fill out a ballot prepared by Marlene Lamb. They choose not only their choice of the winner will be in all the main categories, but in a second column on the ballot they get to say who the winner *should* be! Whoever selects the most winners that The Academy picks wins the prize — a reduced size Oscar, as well as bragging rights, of course. But everybody's a winner in this contest - bags of popcorn go to all.

To join or to learn more about the group, phone Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.

—Margaret Bard

MORGAN HILL AAUW 27th ANNUAL WILDFLOWER RUN

Sunday, March 28, 2010

Fundraiser for AAUW Funds, Tech Trek and local scholarships

10K run, 5K fun walk and run, 2K run for children 12 and under

Special rate for families and groups of 10

Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill

Free Jamba Juice Smoothies and T-shirts Door prizes, displays and more!

Details and registration at www.aauw-morganhill.org

Register online at www.active.com.

Contact Wendy, 408-778-3924, for special rate registration.

Come run with us!



Health Care Legislation Report from the Independent Women

One of our members, Barbara Lea, spoke to us on "Health Care Legislation in California and the Nation." Barbara has served on the League of Women Voters State Health Committee for the last five years.

She began our meeting by stating that the United States is the only developed country that does not have a universal health care plan. Over one-half of the bankruptcies in this country are caused by out-of-control medical bills.

Barbara favors a single-payer medical plan similar to Medicare where we have controlled billing but are able to choose our own doctors.

Currently there are two bills – one in the House and one in the Senate. In these two bills there are several proposals to control medical costs. Following is a composite list of proposed reform in the two bills. They are not necessarily in both bills – some are in one or the other.

- Introduce new technology and new ways to organize work
- Simplify medical forms.
- Provide electronic medical records.
- Prevent medical errors and duplicate testing.
- Pay doctors for the quality of services rather than the quantity.
- Increase oversight against fraud.
- Set up an independent commis-

sion to expand new ideas and drop bad ones.

- Establish a public option.
- Compare treatments to see which are most effective.
- Negotiate drug prices.

Neither bill has a provision for malpractice reform. The Senate bill provides no public option, but the House bill does.

The AARP has thrown its full weight on supporting health care reform.

Barbara has a link, which compares the major provisions for each bill. Please email her to send it to you if you are interested.

California

Previously, the Legislature in California twice passed a single-payer bill, HR840, which was vetoed by the Governor.

Mark Leno has introduced a similar bill, HR810, which has passed the Senate and is winding through the legislative process. It is scheduled to be voted upon by the assembly by August 31st.

Health Trust of Silicon Valley

The intent of the above organization is to make Silicon Valley the healthiest region in America. They are putting a strong emphasis on healthy living, healthy aging, and healthy communities.

–Sarah Model

Springtime Tea Cups

Saturday, April 10, 2010, 2 – 4pm
Saratoga Community Center (*New Venue*)
19665 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga

Tickets are \$35 (*Tax Deductible*) – Call Patty Weber, 264-2601 Make check payable to ISPF (Interbranch Special Projects Foundations)

Benefit for Homeless Women and Children at InnVision's Georgia Travis Center & the Villa; San Jose Family Shelter; and Catholic Charities.

Annual Tea Time is Fast Approaching!

Tickets for this year's English Tea on Saturday, April 10th are now available by calling Patty Weber at 264-2601.

We have moved to a new venue: the bright, easy-to-get-to Saratoga Community Center. Parking will be available around the City Hall and Theater as well as the front lot of Redwood School. The drop-off area has easy access to the building. From Fruitvale Avenue, turn right on Allendale Avenue. Drive past the Post Office - you can pull up to the curb at the entrance to the Community Center on your right.

We are delighted to have Lee Toney and Norma Hughes, both with many stage performances behind them, as our entertainment this year. We think you will enjoy their humor and their music.

As many of you know, we present a necklace and ask for donations to have a chance to be selected to receive it. This year it is a rectangular slide pendant with green Tsavorite garnets in the center surrounded by diamonds on all sides on a gold chain.

For further information about the tea and the necklace please call Nancy Anderson 867-4383.

–Nancy Anderson



Annual Authors' Luncheon a Success!

Thank you to the following people who worked many hours on this event:

- Patty Weber contacted the authors and made arrangements with Hicklebee's to have books available for purchase.
- Virginia Turner handled reservations.
- Margaret Bard helped with the registration table, logistics.
- Carol Howard brought in and arranged the centerpieces donated by Southwind Nurseries.
- Mary Jeanne Fenn prepared the name badges and place cards.
- Gail Pedersen placed the flyer and reminder in the Grapevine.
- Kathy Cusick assisted as right-hand person.
- Richelle Skillicorn of the Rinconada Country Club worked with us in staging the event.
- A special thank you to Hicklebee's Book Store. They are donating part of the proceeds from the book sales on that day back to the AAUW Funds.

This is the first year of our collaboration with Hicklebee's – here's hoping it is the first of many!

With your support and generosity, we raised a generous amount of money for the AAUW Funds, which provides educational opportunities and equity for women and girls through research and support of fellowship and grants programs, including International Fellowships, American Fellowships, Selected Professions Fellowships, and Research and Projects Grants.

We'd love to invite you to join us in planning next year's luncheon/fundraiser — we can always use more help. It will most likely be the fourth Wednesday of January, 2011, the 26th. Please call me at -642-5042 or email me at gerisjs@aol.com if you would be willing to assist — thanks!

Save the Date! And be sure to mark your calendar for the AAUW Funds Potluck luncheon on Saturday, April 24, 2010, when we will have one of the current AAUW Funds recipients, Paula Goldman will be our guest speaker. Look for more details in the April Grapevine issue and on our website. Kathy Cusick will be chair of this event — Thank you, Kathy.

—Geraldine Williams, VP AAUW Funds (*formerly EF Foundation*)

Can We Save Our Oceans?

Public Lecture Series sponsored by the Saratoga Foothill Club
Tuesday, March 23, at 7:30 pm

Julie Packard, Executive Director of the Monterey Aquarium and Meg Caldwell, Executive Director of the Center for Ocean Solutions will address the challenging question "*Can We Save Our Oceans?*"

Julie has overseen the growth of the Aquarium's conservation, education and inspiring mission since 1984. She serves on many boards that promote conservation as well as being part of the Pew and Joint Oceans Commission. Meg directs the Environmental and Natural Resources Law and Policy Program at Stanford University and serves on the California Coastal Commission.

General Admission: \$10

Location: 20399 Park Place, Saratoga, behind the Saratoga Fire Station off Saratoga Avenue.

Information, contact Marlene Duffin, Marlduffin@aol.com

Founding American Association of University Women

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is one of the oldest women's organizations in the country. AAUW was founded on Nov. 28, 1881 in Boston, Massachusetts by 17 female college graduates who wanted to open the doors of higher education to all women and girls.

Marion Talbot (right) and Ellen H. Richards orchestrated the first meeting and both of these "*founding mothers*" went on to accomplish great things — Talbot became Dean of Women at the University of Chicago; and Richards was the first female student and instructor at

the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the first woman in America to earn a chemistry degree.

For 125 years, AAUW has shaped the social, political, and economic scene for women, including the fight for pay equity; a woman's right to vote; and legislation that protects women at home, in schools, and in the workplace. AAUW continues to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

Marion Talbot in 1880



March 2010 AAUW Calendar

- 2 Tuesday **Conversation in Spanish**, 1:15pm, at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga. Contacts: Sharon Kelkenberg, 867-0588 or Helen Lemmon, 867-0575.
- 3 Wednesday **Independent Women**, 1:00-3:00pm, at the home of Joan Kjemtrup, 15950 Rochin Terrace, Los Gatos. We will have a speaker from the Los Gatos Branch of the Bank of America who will speak on the topic, “*Why Banks are Still Your Friend.*” Please RSVP to Joan Kjemtrup, 356-6016, Sarah Model, 354-7819, or Barbara Hawkes, 395-4397.
- 5 Friday **Travel**, 7:30pm at The Terraces of Los Gatos in the Main Hall. “*A Trip To The Land Down Under*” – Join photographer Gordon Jalkemo and wife, Terri, as they revisit this magnificent country. You will take a cruise in Sydney harbor, the largest harbor in the world with ships from all countries coming and going. Go snorkeling at some of the many fine beaches and then drive into outback. Visit Perth, then Canberra, center of Australia’s government, and while there, stop by the once-a-year huge flower show that draws entries from all over the country. Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Corinne Rathjens, 867-2445.
- 8 Monday **Board Meeting**, 3:30pm, at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road. **Date Change ~~D~~ Board Meeting has moved to second Monday of March.**
- 9 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children**, 7:00pm at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga. RSVP: Nancy Anderson, 867-4383. Chair: Pat Khan, 741-1616.
- 10 Wednesday **Let’s Do Lunch** 11:30am at California Café, in “*Old Town*,” next to Borders Books, 50 University Ave, Los Gatos. For reservations call Hostess: Lydia Mednick, 356-3996 or Chair: Clare Baker, 867-2295. Guests and members welcome!
- 11 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walks**, meet promptly at 9:00am at Los Gatos Park and Ride lot. Coe Park – with, we hope, lots of wildflowers. Five to six miles with ups and downs. Bring your wildflower books. Questions? Call Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.
- 13 Saturday **Gourmet Supper Club**. For information call: Doris Agee, 992-4918 or Gladys Bernyk, 440-1080.
- 16 Tuesday **Conversation in Spanish**, 1:30-2:30pm, at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga. Contacts: Sharon Kelkenberg, 867-0588 or Helen Lemmon, 867-0575.
- 16 Tuesday **PM Book Review**, 7:30pm, at The Terraces. RSVP to Margaret Ford, 356-5028. Book: *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. Reviewer: Liz Brownwell. For information call Co-chairs: Pat Khan 741-1616 or Marlene Lamb 356-8441
- 19 Friday **AM Book Review** at 9:30am at the home Kathy Cusick, 800 Blossom Hill Rd. Q267, Los Gatos. RSVP to Kathy, 356-2213. For information please call Co-chairs: Barbara Oggerino, 354-5394 or Kathy Cusick, 356-2213.
- 23 Tuesday **Can We Save Our Oceans?** 7:30pm. Public Lecture Series, sponsored by Saratoga Foothill Club. Cost \$10. *See page 6 for details.*
- 25 Thursday **Back-By-Noon Hike**, meet promptly at 9:00am at Argonaut Center, Saratoga by CVS Drug Store.
- 27 Saturday **March General Meeting**. *See front page for details.*
- 30 Tuesday **Film Buffs**, 1:30 to 3:00pm, at the home of Barbara Shandera, 1646 Canna Ln., San Jose. RSVP to Barbara, 978-0192. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.



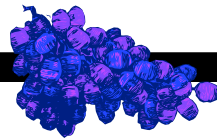


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 American Association of University Women
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March 2010



Grapevine Newsletter Editor, Gail Pedersen; Co-Editor, Courtney Duncan. Calendar Editor, Mary Ellen Madden. Distribution: Lynn Sprague **Final deadline for copy is on the 10th of the month.** Copy to both gail_pedersen@yahoo.com and cduncan447@gmail.com

Published monthly except July and August by Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of American Association of University Women. Periodical postage paid at Saratoga, CA 95070-9998.

Notes & Notices



Save the Date

The Education Foundation Awards Luncheon will be Saturday, April 24, 11:00 to 1:30pm at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, 14103 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga. It will be a potluck - salads and dessert.

See next month's Grapevine for details.

Lost & Found Notice

Does your black jacket with beige accents and hood no longer fit you? If so, perhaps you ended up with my jacket when you left the Author's Lunch on Wednesday, January 27 at Rinconada Hills Country Club. My size is large, and the jacket I took home is size petite medium. To arrange an exchange, call Mette Leuthold at 408-866-1939.

Please send any corrections or changes in the Directory Information to Barbara Lea, Database Manager at barbara.lea@comcast.net

Memorial Notice

CORRECTION: Elizabeth Hunter, a past AAUW Los Gatos-Saratoga branch member, has moved away but it very much alive and well.

Email Change

Anita Hendrickson has a new email address: anita.hendrickson@gmail.com