



Grapevine

Los Gatos/Saratoga Branch

American Association of University Women

November 2008



Local Gynecologist Discusses the Cervical Cancer Vaccine at the AAUW Meeting

***Saturday, November 15
10 am to 12 pm***

Saratoga Public Library

Dr. Christina Shen Bryant

Cervical cancer is a disease that kills 4,000 women a year in the United States. Now there is a vaccine to prevent it. Many people still have questions about the vaccine so Dr. Christina Shen Bryant will be conducting a question and answer session on the subject on Saturday, November 15, 2008 from 10 am to 12 noon in the Saratoga Library. The meeting is co-sponsored by the Los Gatos/Saratoga branch of AAUW and the Saratoga Library.

Dr. Bryant chose her OB/GYN specialty because "I like to see and treat women at all stages of their lives." She graduated from Saratoga High School where she remembers having "some wonderful teachers in science and mathematics." She graduated from UC San Diego School of Medicine and did her residency at Harbor-UC Los Angeles Medical Center. Currently she works at the Kaiser facility in Campbell.

Bring friends who are interested in this current topic.

Message From the President

At our kickoff meeting September 27th, we were all enthralled with the Tech Trek girls and Marlene Lamb's experience as their Dorm-mother at Stanford. At the beginning of Marlene's talk, she informed us that our girls attended Tech Trek during Grace Hopper Week. She wondered if we knew who Grace Hopper was. In Marlene's story, Grace Hopper was just the designation of the time our girls were at Stanford. However for me, the mention of Grace Hopper reminded me of a woman I had seen on TV in the early 1980's. After seeing the program, I could talk about nothing else for a long time. What a woman!!!

In case you're wondering about Grace Hopper, I would like to tell you a little bit. She retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve a Rear Admiral in 1986 at the age of 80. That was not the first time she retired. She first retired at the then-mandatory retirement age of 60, but was recalled to service. I quote here from the records of the U.S. Navy:

"Hopper retired from the Naval Reserve with the rank of Commander at the end of 1966. She was recalled to active duty in August of 1967 for what was supposed to be a six-month assignment at the request of Norman Ream, then Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy for Automatic Data Processing. After the six months were up, her orders were changed to say her services would be needed indefinitely."

She was the first woman to receive a PhD in Mathematics from Yale University in 1934. She was one of four women in a doc-

toral program of ten students. This was a major accomplishment for the time. She taught at Vassar until 1943 when she joined the U.S. Naval Reserve to help her country in a time of war and immediately became involved with the first computers. She became one of the designers of the precursors of the COBOL language.

"After four decades of pioneering work, Admiral Hopper felt her greatest contribution had been "all the young people I've trained." She was an inspirational professor and a much sought-after speaker, in some years she addressed more than 200 audiences. In her speeches Admiral Hopper often used analogies and examples that have become legendary. Once she presented a piece of wire about a foot long, and explained that it represented a nanosecond, since it was the maximum distance electricity could travel in wire in one-billionth of a second. She often contrasted this nanosecond with a microsecond - a coil of wire nearly a thousand feet long - as she encouraged programmers not to waste even a microsecond."

I got this story on the internet from the **Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing** 1994 conference proceedings. But, in addition, on the TV program I saw, I heard her say it.

The following is from [Source: Dickason, Elizabeth. "Remembering Grace Murray Hopper: A Legend in Her Own Time." *Chips*, 12 no. 2 (April 1992): 4-7.]

"Retirement didn't slow Grace Hopper down. Shortly thereafter, she became a Senior Consultant to Digital Equipment Corporation where she was active until about 18 months before her death. She functioned in much the same capacity she did when she was in the Navy, traveling on lecture tours around the country, speaking at

engineering forums, colleges, universities and computer seminars passing on the message that managers shouldn't be afraid of change. In her opinion, "the most damaging phrase in the language is 'We've always done it this way.'"

"Hopper enchanted her audiences with tales of the computer evolution and her uncanny ability to predict the trends of the future. Many of her predictions came true right before her eyes as industry built more powerful, more compact machines and developed the operating systems and software that matched her visions. Some of her more innovative ideas include using computers to track the lifecycle of crop eating locusts, building a weather computer, managing water reserves so that everyone would have a fair share and tracking the waves at the bottom of the ocean. She also thought every ship should have a computer that the crew could play with and learn to use it.

"I never met Grace Hopper, but I did see her at Navy Micro '87. She passed by with her entourage, smoking a filterless Lucky Strike cigarette as she often did. You could hear people whispering, "There she is," as she passed by. My first impression of her was that of a friendly, grandmotherly-type woman who looked almost frail. Those words don't exactly describe the public side of Grace Hopper. She was described by one reporter as a "feisty old salt who gave off an aura of power." This held true in her dealings with top brass, subordinates and interviewers - always interested in getting to the bottom line."

Grace Hopper died in 1992. She is remembered as a remarkable woman.

Margaret Bard

Branch Information

Homeless Committee

November will be a landmark month for our committee. We will be handing over the

Memorial funds collected from the passing of three of our members. At the AAUW general meeting, Trish Crowder, Director of the Family Supportive Housing, Inc, will be presented with a check by Sumi Tanabe, our chair, to fund three benches on the outdoor roof terrace of the new housing complex being built by that agency. This complex has received funds from the City of San Jose, the Sobrato Trust, and many other agencies and individuals. It will include a shelter for the homeless, low-income housing and offices for supporting agencies. The three benches will be in honor of Georgia Travis, Bette Pestka, and Anne Dempsey. We invite you to come to the meeting to help us celebrate this historic moment.

Other November activities will include a brunch for the women at the Georgia Travis Center. Normally, three of our members take a lunch to them once a month, but this will be different. As a Thanksgiving special, we will provide hearty and interesting breakfast foods, all with decorated tables and as many of our committee who can attend.

From *The Stanford Studies of Homeless Families, Children and Youth*.

The children were asked, "If you had three wishes, what would they be?"

A 12-year-old boy answered:

- 1) My father having enough to buy food.

- 2) Money to rent an apartment.
- 3) If there was money left over, a bike.

An 8 year old boy answered:

- 1) That I had a big house.
- 2) To never have to move again.
- 3) That I'll always be with my family.

Wonder what our children and grandchildren would wish for?

We invite any AAUIW member to join our committee. For information, please contact

Nancy Anderson at 867-4383 or Dander2567@aol.com.

Nancy Anderson

Independent Women

The topic of our November meeting will be *Beautiful Skin*. Susan Huff, who is a representative for Artistry Time Defiance Skin Care, (one of the top five prestige skin-care lines in the world) will speak to us on how to repair previous skin damage and how to keep our skin from being damaged in the future so that we may stay beautiful. Please join us.

For details as to time and place, please see the November calendar.

Sarah Model

New Focus for the Legal Advocacy Fund

For 26 years, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has offered plaintiff support to people fighting sex discrimination in higher education through financial assistance and outreach for their cases. LAF is shifting away from direct support of plaintiffs after December 31, 2008. Instead, LAF plans to focus its direct case support by strategically seeking cases that have a potential for all women, not just academia.

LAF will continue to direct case funding support for current plaintiffs under the existing procedure through December, 2008. New plaintiff applications will not be accepted after December 31, 2008.

Beginning in January, 2009 AAUW will work closely with other respective organizations that are active in the gender equity arena to identify key cases with significant issues that align with our mission and would benefit from our expertise and credibility.

Betty Maminski
Legal Advocacy Fund VP



Take Our Daughters to the Polls

This may be the most important election of our lives. There are many issues of importance to women and girls and supported by AAUW. So be sure to VOTE and keep in mind that the next President could nominate as many as 3 justices to the Supreme Court, which could completely change things for women and girls-not just Roe vs Wade but Equal Pay and Rights in general.

A new campaign has been launched to call on all parents to take their daughters to the polls when they vote on Election Day. The Take Our Daughters to the Polls campaign encourages adults to speak with their daughters about the importance of voting and to show them how to participate in the electoral process. The campaign was created by the White House Project, a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing women's leadership in the United States, and supported by numerous national organizations, including AAUW. You can participate by signing the pledge to take a young girl to the polls on Nov. 4 and by spreading the word.

In order to not be sexist, it might be equally important to take a young boy to the polls with you. Most of us do not have young children but talking to our grandchildren about the important civic duty of voting would help shine a light on the importance of participation in our government.

Philosopher, poet Georges Santanya said, "Those who do not study history are doomed to repeat it". That may be as important now as it was before the Vietnam War. And a good lesson to impart to our young people in this conflicted world we live in.

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving, or Thanksgiving Day, is a traditional North American holiday, which is a form of harvest festival. The date and whereabouts of the first Thanksgiving celebration is a topic of modest contention, though the earliest attested Thanksgiving celebration was on September 8, 1565 in what is now Saint Augustine, Florida. Despite scholarly research to the contrary, the traditional "first Thanksgiving" is venerated as having occurred at the site of Plymouth Plantation, in 1621.

In the United States, Thanksgiving or Thanksgiving Day is an annual one-day legal holiday to express gratitude for the things one has at the end of the harvest season. It is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. The period from Thanksgiving Day to New Year's Day is often collectively referred to as the "holiday season." Thanksgiving is generally considered a secular holiday, and is not directly based in religious canon or dogma.

The holiday's origins trace to harvest festivals that have been celebrated in many cultures since ancient times, and most people celebrate by gathering at home with family or friends for a holiday feast. A tradition also exists to share the fruits of the harvest with those who are less fortunate.

From Wikipedia

Thank You for your thoughtfulness

To the cookie bakers for the Lisa Maatz event

Gladys Armstrong

Peggy Corr

Pat Dalcher

Pat Khan

Linda King

Sarah Model

Louise Quenon

Terri Raynaud

Sumi Tanabe

Pat Weber

Jean Wenberg

Your help and expertise is mightily appreciated!

Margaret Bard



Remembering Frank Lemmon

We have lost one of our AAUW's greatest worker assets—Frank Lemmon, who died the morning of October 5th. Back in 2000, Frank rescued AAUW's database of members, transferring it from a Mac to a PC. He kept it and began his year-after-year preparation of our annual membership directory. Even though he began to weaken from his leukemia, he still managed to begin this year's directory, including wife Helen's ads which she had sold to help pay for the directory. Helen said he regretted being unable to finish it this year-apologizing for weakness.

Long a member of the local Masons, Frank's fellow members are deeply saddened by his loss.

Frank was also an important member of Saratoga Lions Club, recruited in 1994 by AAUW's Marlene Duffin. He was a most responsible service club member: Club President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Chairman of Lions Charitable Board. His most valuable accomplishment among many was his organization and management of the Club's annual mail campaign to solicit donations for charitable activities from Saratoga residents. From 2004 through 2007, the campaigns raised over \$75,000 in donations, far more than all of their other charitable efforts combined! Frank created the solicitation letters, acquired lists of over 2000 likely donors, and made sure the drives were sponsored by leading Saratoga citizens.

The President of Saratoga Lions Club in 1995 wrote a letter

to Frank which said, in part, "I am convinced that your management of our Middle School Award Program is a perfect example of Lions' Project Management...if I were starting a new company today, you would be one of the first people that I would call."

Frank also served the City of Saratoga as a Safety Commissioner for many years, during all the other activities listed above.

This is only a partial list of his work done with skill, dedication, and integrity. People in Saratoga who have worked with him have praised his "wonderful patience and cooperative spirit." This pleasure in working with this "nice, helpful man," Frank, for AAUW has been repeatedly mentioned by members. We all will miss him very much.

Editors Note: I personally worked with Frank on matters related to the *Directory* and the *Grapevine*. He was extremely helpful and always willing to share information., and I sincerely appreciate his caring about our organization and his expertise. I will miss him as well.

Donette Dake

LWV of Santa Clara County

On Monday, November 17th 7:30 PM, Professor Pamela Karlan of the Stanford University, School of Law, will speak at our county-wide LWV meeting. Her title is: "The Supreme Court: Political and Voting Regulations: How Might a National Popular Vote Affect the Country?" The meeting will be held at the Mountain View Council Chambers, 600 Castro Street, Mountain View.

Pamela Karlan, Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Professor of Public Interest Law, Stanford University, School of Law is an award-winning teacher. She is the founding director of the school's successful Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. She is one of the leading experts on voting and the political process. She has served as a commissioner on the California Fair Political Practices Commission and an assistant counsel and cooperating attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Professor Karlan, is co-author of three leading casebooks on constitutional law and related subjects, as well as more than four dozen scholarly articles. She is a widely recognized commentator on legal issues and is frequently featured on programs such as the News Hour with Jim Lehrer.

Before joining the Stanford Law School faculty in 1998, she was a professor of law at the University of Virginia School of Law and served as a law clerk to Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the Supreme Court of the United States and Judge Abraham D. Sofaer of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

For more information, contact Shirley Hill 356-4460 or shillca@aol.com

Great Decisions

Those of you who are interested in participating in Great Decisions, 2009 must sign up not later than the end of November. Although the Great Decisions study groups will not start meeting until February 5, 2009, all those who want to participate must sign up and pay the registration fee not later than November 30, 2008, so that the study books and DVDs can be ordered and be available before the start of the first class. The registration fee is \$25 per individual and \$35 for couples who share a workbook. Checks should be made payable to Rosalie Price and mailed to her at 14500 Fruitvale Avenue, Apartment # 6110, Saratoga, CA 95070. It is important that you note on your check in which of the three groups listed below you wish to participate.

Great Decisions is sponsored locally by the League of Women Voters (LWV), the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council (SASCC), and the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC). Three separate groupings will again be formed and meet as follows: (Group 1) eight bi-weekly sessions held on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the SASCC; (Group 2) weekly sessions for eight consecutive weeks from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the SRC; and (Group 3) weekly sessions for eight consecutive weeks from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the SRC. The first study session for each group will begin on February 5, 2009. An administrative meeting, for Group 1 participants only, will be held on January 29, in the SASCC classroom as in previous years.

Great Decisions is a creation of the FPA and has been described in a LWV press release as a "national, non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization founded to educate Americans about significant international issues that influence our lives,". Each year the FPA produces an objective Great Decisions publication covering eight topics with an associated DVD segment for each topic. These materials provide a common background of knowledge to facilitate each participant's involvement in group discussions. The topics for 2009 are expected to be: Afghanistan; Human Rights; The United States and Egypt; Global Food Supply; Cuba after Castro; The United States and Rising Global Powers; Energy and the Global Economy; and, The Arctic.

(This article is a repeat from the October issue for those who might have missed it.)

Daylight Savings Time

Starting in 2007, daylight time begins in the United States on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November. On the second Sunday in March, clocks are set ahead one hour at 2:00 a.m. local standard time, which becomes 3:00 a.m. local daylight time. On the first Sunday in November, clocks are set back one hour at 2:00 a.m. local daylight time, which becomes 1:00 a.m. local standard time.

Although standard time in time zones was instituted in the U.S. and Canada by the railroads in 1883, it was not established in U.S. law until the Act of March 19, 1918, sometimes called the Standard Time Act. The act also established daylight saving time, a contentious

idea then. Daylight saving time was repealed in 1919, but standard time in time zones remained in law. Daylight time became a local matter. It was re-established nationally early in World War II, and was continuously observed from 9 February 1942 to 30 September 1945. After the war its use varied among states and localities. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 provided standardization in the dates of beginning and end of daylight time in the U.S. but allowed for local exemptions from its observance. The act provided that daylight time begin on the last Sunday in April and end on the last Sunday in October, with the changeover to occur at 2 a.m. local time.

During the "energy crisis" years, Congress enacted earlier starting dates for daylight time. In 1974, daylight time began on 6 January and in 1975 it began on 23 February. After those two years the starting date reverted back to the last Sunday in April. In 1986, a law was passed that shifted the starting date of daylight time to the first Sunday in April, beginning in 1987.

From the Internet on a US Navy web site.

**Fall Back one hour at 2 am,
Sunday, November 2.**



November 2008 AAUW Calendar

- 3 Monday Board Meeting, 3:30 pm**, at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/ Los Gatos Road.
- 4 Tuesday VOTE**
- 4 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.
- 7 Friday Travel, 7:30 pm** at The Terraces of Los Gatos in the Main Hall. "The Sweden I Know" Join Photographer Gordon Jalkemo as he takes us on a tour of his favorite parts of Sweden where he grew up. We will visit not only the usual places that tourists see, but will travel to those hidden spots known only to those who live there. Gordon will also take us on a visit to Norway. Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Margaret McCartney, 741-0652.
- 8 Saturday The Gourmet Supper Club.** Co chairs: Doris Agee and Gladys Bernyk. If interested phone Gladys at 408-440-1080 or Doris at 408-257-9428.
- 11 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.
- 12 Wednesday Let's Do Lunch, 11:30 am** at The Elephant Bar in Campbell at 499 E. Hamilton Ave (across from Fry's). Hostess and Chair: Jean Power at 356-5122. Visitors and guests are welcome.
- 13 Thursday Hikes and Walks, meet promptly at 9:00 am** at Argonaut Shopping, way out front of Longs, Saratoga. China Grade – Big Basin Park. A vigorous hike, great views. Questions? Call Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.
- 15 Saturday General meeting 10am-12 pm** at The Saratoga Library, Subject: Shall We Vaccinate Our Girls For Cervical Cancer. See front page for details.
- 18 Tuesday Film Buffs, 1:00 to 3:00 pm**, at the home of Vicki Feigelson, 20075 Seagull Way, Saratoga. RSVP to Vicki, 255-8822. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.
- 18 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.
- 18 Tuesday PM Book Review, 7:30 pm** Saratoga Retirement Center, RSVP to Licia Thomson, 741-7611. Book: "Widow of the South" by Robert Hicks. Reviewer: Linda Hagelin. For information call - Co- chairs: Pat Khan 741-1616 and Marlene Lamb 356-8441.
- 19 Wednesday Independent Women, 1:00-3:00 pm** at the home of Sarah Model, 19445 Mountain Way, Los Gatos, 354-7819. Sarah lives in the mountains so she will drive you up to her home. Please call her to arrange for pickup. Subject: Beautiful Skin. For information, call Joan Kjemtrup at 356-6016, or Barbara Hawkes at 395-4397, or Sarah Model at 354-7819.
- 21 Friday AM Book Review at 9:30 am**, at the home of Pat Dalcher, 118 Belridge Dr., Los Gatos. RSVP to Pat, 358-1071. For information: Call Margo Restruck at 741-5087 margrest@gmail.com, or Barbara Oggerino, 354-5394, oggerinobarb@aol.com.
- 28 Friday Back By Noon Hike, the day after Thanksgiving! meet promptly at 9:00 am** at the Los Gatos *Park and Ride* lot.

Save the Dates

Support Our Local Scholarships

Mission Valley Chorus
in full stage costume
Fresh from performing at Carnegie Hall!
Tuesday evening, February 24, 2009
Nordhal, Los Gatos

Look for details in the Grapevine
or call Virginia Turner (408) 866-4234

The annual **Authors' Luncheon**
benefiting EF will be held at La
Rinconada Country Club in Los Gatos on
Wednesday, Jan 21, 2009 Details and
sign-ups in next month's Grapevine

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