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Grapevine

Los Gatos/Saratoga Branch

American Association of University Women

October, 2007



Hear the October speaker

Joyce Ferris-Metcalf

**Attorney and Former
Homicide Prosecutor**

on the topic of

***Women and the Law:
Then and Now***

Friday, October 19

10:00 am

Saratoga Library

Joyce recently retired from the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office where she spent the last fourteen years trying homicide cases. She previously served as Deputy Attorney General for both Kentucky and California. She will share with us and comment on some of her funny, sad, and outrageous experiences while practicing law. She and her husband Charles live in Monte Sereno with the youngest of their six children. She has been a member of our branch for almost 30 years.

Message From the President

Many of you picked up our 2007- 2008 Directory at the September 29 General Meeting at the Terraces. Others will receive it in the mail. A big "thank you" goes to Frank and Helen Lemmon for their work as Director Editor and Director of Advertising. Other members who spent this summer on the Directory project are Database Manager, Corinne Rathjens, Membership Chair, Sue Boyd, Treasurer, Joan Kjemtrup, and Sarah Model. It is truly a labor of love and much appreciated.

Recently I read an article in *The Wall Street Journal*, "What Women Want" by Kimberly A. Strassel, subtitle, "How the GOP can win the ladies". It made me think about our goals and objectives. The following was printed in "California Perspectives," June, 2007.

In principle and in 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, disability or class.

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization of women offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendships.

The picture shown here was taken at the AAUW National Convention, 1975, given to me by then President, Phyllis Marangoni. It is amazing that this many women are still active in our branch, a testimony to the strength of the goals and objectives of AAUW.

Gladys Armstrong

Los Gatos Saratoga Branch History

Los Gatos Saratoga Branch history begins in 1941 when the San Jose Branch sponsored the organizing of our Branch. The initial members met several times and found that they had enough interested college graduates to become a Branch. A number of these women were also very active in the community.

This information, and much more, may now be found at the Saratoga Historical Foundation at the Saratoga Museum, 20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road, Saratoga.

Four big boxes had been stored in members' basements and garages for many years. Some scrapbooks were given back to past presidents who were still around. Some were eager to get theirs, others did not care and Martha Beverett said "no, I don't have room." We talked a little as to what should be done with them and after talking to Dolly at the Saratoga library, she suggested the Saratoga Historical Foundation. April Halberstadt, an historian, was most pleased to receive them. She was interested in

all the community-oriented activities that we were involved in starting or continuing. She will soon have the material organized so anyone can use it. Those presidents that have their scrapbooks who would like to give it to the Museum for everyone's enjoyment, may take it to the Museum.

Nancy Hobbs
Past President, Twice



Top row (from left): Helen Lathrup; Peggy Johnson; Lela Aurtri; Mary, Ethlylyn Jackson
Bottom Row, Phyll, Maranzoni, President; Gladys Armstrong; Jean Foss; Alice Miller

BRANCH COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Great Decisions

It's back-to-school time and that means that those of our membership who are interested in participating in Great Decisions, 2008, must also be preparing for their new studies. Although the Great Decisions study groups will not begin meeting until February 7, 2008, all those who want to participate must sign up before November 30, 2007, so that the study books and DVDs/videotapes may be ordered and thus be available before the beginning 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, Cottage 6110, Saratoga, CA 95070. It is important that you note on your check which of the three groups listed below you wish to participate.

Great Decisions is sponsored locally by the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council (SASCC), and the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC).

Three separate groupings will be formed and will meet as follows: (Group 1) of eight bi-weekly sessions will be held on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the SASCC; (Group 2) of weekly sessions for eight consecutive weeks from 9:30 to 11:30 am will be held at the SRC; and (Group 3) of weekly sessions for eight consecutive weeks will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. at the SRC. The first session for each group will begin on February 7, 2008.

Great Decisions is a creation of the Foreign Policy Association (FPA), a "national, non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization" founded to educate

Americans about significant international issues that influence our lives," according to a League of Women Voters press release. Each year the FPA produces an objective Great Decisions publication covering eight topics with an associated videotape/DVD segment for each topic. These materials provide a common background of knowledge to facilitate each participant's involvement in group discussions. This year's topics will be announced through your organization's newsletters after the FPA releases them in November.

Homeless Committee

The first meeting of the new year of the Committee for Homeless Women and Children was held on August 14th. Gladys Armstrong, Branch President, was a guest and stated that she and her husband will pay for an English Tea flyer in the Los Gatos and Saratoga Chamber of Commerce February newsletters. The committee welcomed new member, Dianne McKay.

English Tea Date – Please save the date of Saturday, **March 8, 2008**, for the 20th annual English Tea. It will be held again at the West Valley College Campus Center.

Lunches at the Georgia Travis Center – Volunteers from the committee will prepare and serve lunches once a month during this year beginning in October. Nancy Anderson, Pat Khan and Sumi Tanabe will serve lunch on October 16.

Quiet Room Funds – Nancy Anderson is heading a committee on ideas and suggestions for utilizing the Georgia Travis, Bette Pestka and Anne Dempsey Memo-

rial Funds. These ideas will be presented at the September meeting.

New Clothing Donations – JoAn Lambert reported that she has new clothing which needed to be inventoried and distributed. Pat Khan, Patty Weber, Marlene Lamb and Sumi Tanabe helped JoAn with the inventory, and the following organizations received the donations:

San Jose Family Shelter – 2 boxes of clothing as well as 2 boxes of Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations

Career Closet – 2 boxes
Bill Wilson Center – 4 boxes
Ballet San Jose – 15 leotards
Georgia Travis Center – 2 boxes

Other clothing will be given to GTC during the holiday brunch.

There was about \$12,000 of new clothing given to these various agencies, courtesy of DRJ, LLC of Petaluma (the sister-in-law of JoAn Lambert).

Thanksgiving and Holiday Brunches at the Georgia Travis Center – The Thanksgiving Brunch will be held on Thursday, November 15th. The Holiday Brunch will be held on Thursday, December 13th and will be chaired by Nancy Anderson.

The committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month. We cordially invite you to join us.

Sumi Tanabe, Chair
Committee on Homeless
Women and Children



FIRST SATURDAY MORNING

From your Co-Presidents Elect

Judy Pfeil and Gloria Taylor

Communication
Collaboration
Connection

Attention all AAUW California Members!

Watch for your copy of “First Saturday Morning” every first Saturday of each month, coming to you from your Co-Presidents Elect—Judy Pfeil and Gloria Taylor.

This exciting short email will be sent on the AAUW CA listserves, bringing you current events and dates, a short guest spot from different AAUW CA committees, new by-laws information, membership tidbits, as well

as other information. Our goals are Communication, Collaboration, and Connection. Watch for the 3Cs every month. We want to keep you informed and connected.

If any member is not on a listserv, and wants to get this newsletter, just contact Judy Pfeil and Gloria Taylor at presidentelect@aauw-ca.org and we will make sure you are on our list.

Meet our local EF Recipients

Once again, California was #1 in donations to EF! These donations go to support women who are completing advanced degrees and this year there are 40 women studying in California who have received funding from the Educational Foundation. Each of these ladies has an awesome and exciting topic of study and many will be speaking about their work at the annual Northern California EF luncheon on Sunday, October 21st, at 12 noon.

This year’s luncheon will be held at Michael’s at Shoreline in Mountain View, a lovely location overlooking Shoreline Golf Links and a small lake. The luncheon costs \$30 per person, which includes non-alcoholic beverage and dessert. Free parking and a no-host bar will be available.

Our President, Gladys Armstrong, and I plan to attend the lunch and hope to select one of these women to speak at our branch EF Potluck in April 2008. If you would like to join us for this luncheon, please call me at 867-0698; reservations are required by October 6th.

Louise Quenon
VP – Educational Foundation



Gifts for Teens

As Fall is nipping in the air (OK, so it's still pretty warm to be thinking of autumn and winter), it's time to start thinking of the Holidays (and I'm not thinking of Halloween)! The *Gifts for Teens* committee has been thinking about this since January!! *Gifts for Teens* members and a host of other volunteers fill tote bags for girls and duffle bags for boys with teen-appropriate gifts. These are then distributed to low-income teenage clients of Sacred Heart Community Service and homeless teenagers served by the Bill Wilson Center. In addition, this year we will provide gifts to the disadvantaged teen clients of the Life Builders – Emergency Housing Consortium as well. Unfortunately, the need remains strong.

Fortunately, so does the support of AAUW members and the community. In 2005 and 2006, the *Gifts for Teens* project helped make the holidays happier for 1,100 low-income teens. This year our goal is to provide 1,300 gift bags. We can do it with your donations of gifts, cash, and time.

Donations of small new items for teen girls and boys will be used to fill the bags to overflowing. Cosmetics, toiletries, t-shirts, gift certificates, toys and games, scarves, mittens and caps, etc. are welcome. Businesses often donate surplus promotional items which are included in the bags. Items should be left at AAUW, 1165 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose. Please label them with "Gifts for Teens," and please include your name and the estimated value of the donation.

Cash donations are used to purchase the totes and duffle bags and other items at volume discounts. Some companies offer matching funds, so if you know of any, please ask them to help as

Preamble to Statement of Principle on Health Care

AAUW California promotes the economic, social and physical well being of all persons, including access to quality affordable health care as stated in the AAUW California Public Policy Principles for Action. A 2007 study by UCLA's Center for Health Policy Research reported that less than half of California workers receive health insurance through their jobs, and 2 million working Californians have no health insurance. To address these and other health care concerns, the governor and the state legislature are debating proposals for health care reform. It is important that AAUW California has a clear statement of principle regarding basic health care for California residents that can be used (1) to evaluate proposals before the legislature, (2) to inform legislators of our position and concerns, and (3) to assist AAUW members in understanding actions relating to health care issues and in participating in advocacy activities on these issues.

Gifts for Teens continued:

well. Checks should be made payable to ISPF-AAUW and mailed to Janet Fant, GFT Treasurer, 6001 Burchell Court, San Jose, CA 95120 or left on the desk at Headquarters.

Many hands make light work. It's always a fun time helping to fill the bags. Assembly will take place the week of December 10 at Sacred Heart Community Service, San Jose. We'll be scheduling specific dates soon. Contact Cheryl Markman, (408) 578-8315 or cherylmarkman@hotmail.com.

Please do not hesitate to contact Elaine Benoit, (408) 268-9654 or ebenoit@pacbell.net if you have any questions about this most worthwhile project.

A Statement of AAUW CA Principles Regarding Healthcare Reform in California

The mission of The American Association of University Women, advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research, speaks to women's needs, aspirations and concerns across the life span. The work of AAUW builds upon a century of responsible public participation at the local, state, national and international levels.

Access to quality healthcare over the life span is a priority of our California members. As the legislature and citizens discuss and debate changes to the delivery of healthcare within our state, AAUW California joins the debate with this statement of principles.

We urge our legislators and Governor to consider the following as they create a new healthcare system.

The members of the American Association of University Women of California believe healthcare is a human right. Every person must have access to healthcare for societal well being and survival. Successful reform measures must be dedicated to:

- Universal access
- Reasonable costs maintained by a strong cost containment provision
- Protection of patient rights by advocacy for education of patients
- High quality and a consistent administration of care

August, 2007

BE AN ARMCHAIR ADVENTURE TRAVELER!

Join the LOS GATOS-SARATOGA AAUW TRAVEL SECTION'S

2007-2008 Travel Series of Exciting Trips Around the World!

- October 5, 2007** ***"AFRICA"*** – Join photographer Richard Casserley as he visits Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana. Richard combines images from two trips and seven weeks in Africa photographing animals, birds and people. Meet some lions and elephants up close, canoe down the Zambezi River and go hunting with Richard and the Bushmen.
- November 2, 2007** ***"THE ANTARCTIC & THE CHILEAN FJORDS"*** – Join Pat Khan as she sails to the exciting ice & snow-bound areas of the Antarctic. Enjoy the penguins and predatory birds, and close-ups of huge icebergs. Then sail to Buenos Aires and up the constantly changing west coast of South America to Santiago, Chili, visiting fjords, glaciers and volcanoes.
- January 4, 2008** ***"MEXICO'S COLONIAL HEARTLAND"*** – Walk with fine arts photographer, Susanne Karlak, through the streets of Guanajuato and San Miguel de Allende. Through her lens, experience the daily life of these two delightful Mexican towns. You'll experience the cobbled streets with their colorful architecture, the charming parks with lush gardens and flowers, and see a bit of the friendliness of the people enjoying music and dance.
- February 1, 2008** ***"JAPAN THEN & 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. Miki visits Japan several times a year and has both lived and worked there at various times. He has seen ancient Japan become modern Japan and old customs changed with new technology.
- March 7, 2008** ***"CRUISING ALONG THE DANUBE"*** – Join Fred Armstrong and his wife, Gladys, as they leisurely sail along the Danube from Budapest, Hungary, to the Black Sea, passing through five countries along the way. Starting in Hungary, they sail through Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania spending extra time in Romania at the end of the trip. Highlights of the trip? Budapest and Romania!!
- April 4, 2008** ***"BIRDS IN NATURE"*** – Share with award-winning photographer Claudia Peterson some of her many stunning images showing the great variety of birds within the boundaries of San Jose. With great patience, she has managed to record many exciting and active images of birds throughout the area, many of which are never seen in everyday life.
- May 2, 2008** *To be announced*



**WHEN & WHERE: First Friday Nights at 7:30 pm (Excluding December)
Main Hall at The Terraces of Los Gatos (800 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos)**

COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME!

Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237

Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Carol McFarlin, 867-2557

October 2007 AAUW Calendar

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

- 1 Monday** **Board meeting 4-6 pm** at the Saratoga Fire Station, Corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road.
- 4 Thursday** **Trail Clean-Up, meet promptly at 9:00 am** in the *Los Gatos Park and Ride*.
- 5 Friday** **Travel at 7:30 pm** at The Terraces. "Africa"-Join photographer Richard Casserley as he visits Kenya, Tanzania Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana. Richard combines images from two trips and seven weeks in Africa photographing animals, birds and people. Meet some lions and elephants up close, canoe down the Zambezi River and go hunting with Richard and Bushmen. Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 & Carol McFarlin, 867-2557.
- 6 Saturday** **AAUW Interbranch Council presents Lisa Maatz 2 pm** at NASA Ames Research Center, 1 NASA Parkway, Bldg 943, Moffett Field. Tickets are \$5. Call Margaret Bard for tickets.
- 9 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.
- 9 Tuesday** **Committee on 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.
- 10 Wednesday** **Let's Do Lunch at 11:30 am** at Crimson, 15466 Los Gatos Blvd. Hostess: Jean Power, 356-5122. Please call for reservations. Visitors are welcome.
- 11 Thursday** **Hikes and Walks, meet promptly at 9:00 am** at *Argonaut Shopping*, way out in front of Long's. San Francisco Bay Walk along the beautiful SF bay waterfront – Fabulous views, tourists and other funny people, art, boats, migrating birds, food court at the ferry building and possible air activities because of "Fleet Week." Questions? Call Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.
- 16 Tuesday** **PM Book Review 7:30 pm** at the Saratoga Retirement Community. Book: "The World is Flat" by Thomas Friedman. Reviewer: JoAn Lambert. RSVP: Licia Thomson, 741-7611. Co-Chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Marlene lamb 356-8441.
- 17 Wednesday** **Being On Your Own Kickoff Meeting** at the home of Joan Kjemtrup, 15950 Rochin Terrace, Los Gatos. Co-chairs: Barbara Hawkes, 395-4397, Joan Kjemtrup, 356-6016, and Sarah Model, 354-7819.
- 19 Friday** **AM Book Review 9:30 am** at the home of Kathy Cusick, 163 Eastridge Drive, Los Gatos 95032. RSVP 356-2213. Information: Geri Williams, 296-1939. *gerisjs@aol.com*.
- 19 Friday** **General Meeting, Women and the Law: Then and Now** with Joyce Ferris-Metcalf, 10 am at the Saratoga Library.
- 23 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.
- 25 Thursday** **Back By Noon Hike, meet promptly at 9:00 am** in the Los Gatos Park and Ride lot.
- 30 Tuesday** **Film Buffs 7 pm** at the home of Mary Ellen Madden, 1616 Inglis Lane, San Jose. Please RSVP to Mary Ellen, 264-4488. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.

Responsible Education About Life Act (H.R. 1653).

Urge your representatives to get REAL about sex education by cosponsoring and supporting the Responsible Education About Life Act (H.R. 1653).

Take Action!

Important legislation.

We ask you to urge your representative to support this young people across the country head back to school, people make informed and appropriate decisions. As

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. As

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

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Get REAL About Comprehensive Sex Education

AAUW supports the right of every woman to obtain medically accurate information about, and access to, safe and comprehensive reproductive health services. Because the United States has one of the highest rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection in the developed world, AAUW supports comprehensive sexuality education programs that include information about both abstinence and contraception. Such programs are critical to help combat teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

In March, Reps. Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Christopher Shays (R-CT), along with Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), introduced the Responsible Education About Life (REAL) Act (H.R. 1653/S. 972). This bill would authorize federal funds for states to offer comprehensive and medically accurate sexual education in their schools. Currently, there are three separate federal programs that fund abstinence-only-until-marriage programs, but no federal funding exists specifically for comprehensive sex education. States can only receive

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