

San Jose Branch

BONFIRE  AAUW

“Investing In Girls - Women Leading The Way”

**AAUW Joins Half the Sky Movement: ‘Salon Event’****Saturday, March 23****10 am - noon, Headquarters**Louise Persson

Like thousands around the globe, AAUW has joined the *Half the Sky* movement in support of women and girls. Watch amazing women in action in countries around the world at a ‘salon screening’ of the film *Half the Sky*. The event includes a 40 minute synopsis of the film and guided discussion using materials from halfthesky.org and AAUW.

“Every two minutes a woman loses her life to the linked problems of gender-based violence, sex trafficking, forced prostitution, and maternal mortality. These present to us the single most vital opportunity of our time: the opportunity to make a change. All over the world women are seizing it.”

Join us in watching women and girls rise above their challenges to create opportunity. What will you do with your opportunity to create change?

**AAUW San Jose Branch Annual Luncheon Meeting
Election and Installation of Officers**

Saturday, April 13 11:30 – 2 pm
Sainte Claire Hotel, San Jose

Coming in April**See last page****Guest speaker :****Kathleen Krenek, Executive Director of Next Door Solutions for Domestic Violence.**

Presidential Sparks

Marilyn Jackson

Bylaws Ready For Review

The AAUW San Jose Branch Bylaws are the basic rules of our organization. They determine the responsibility and authority of the branch officers. San Jose Branch Bylaws are reviewed every two years to ensure that they are consistent with organizational rules at the National and State levels. This is no small task, especially this year when changes at National had to be incorporated into our Branch Bylaws. The Bylaws Committee chaired by Gloria Leonard, met multiple times throughout the past year to refine and fine tune the document.

A memo summarizing changes will be sent to every member early in March for your review. Please take the time to understand the changes before we vote at our April General Meeting.

I am very grateful to Gloria Leonard, Edna Robison, Virginia Beck, Mary Barry, Pat Diamond, Geri Madden and Sandra Savage for their professionalism and dedication to this important task.

Board Notes

- Branch Bylaws have been sent to State for review and will be voted on at the April 13 General Meeting.
- The slate of candidates for Branch officers will be sent to every member after the March Board meeting by mail or email
- The effective date for the proposed \$4 increase in State dues has been delayed until June 2014.
- Sports Equity compiled and distributed a *Directory of Title IX Coordinators in Santa Clara County* to all school districts in the county.

NEW LOGO !



February 20, 2013 AAUW introduced a new website, accented by the first new logo in more than 20 years. "These changes, which include an updated tagline and a fresh color palette are designed to place AAUW on the cutting edge of digital communications and to appeal to a broad audience." www.aauw.org

Logo History



1990



1970



1982



1898

Check your mailboxes



Bylaws change summary and slate of Branch officer nominees will be sent to all members in early March.

Open House

Thursday, February 28, 7 pm

Membership Sale!

New members who join between March 16th and June 30th will qualify for a 15-month membership at the one-year price of \$91.

Membership Matters

NEW BRANCH MEMBERS

Claire Campodonico

CHRIS LABAN read the announcement of our Branch Open House in the Rose Garden Resident and eagerly joined that evening. She earned her BS in Chemistry from Trinity College in Connecticut, her MA in Chemical Engineering from University of California Davis, her MA in Management from Golden Gate University, and, most recently, her AA in Interior Design at West Valley College. Her most recent position was in the Interior Design field. Previously Chris worked in the technical field at Olin Corporation and IBM. Contact: Chris Laban or 408-244-1295,

ODILA NIELSEN was born and educated in the United Kingdom. She attended the University of Manchester in England where she obtained her BS, with honors, in Civil Engineering. Continuing her studies at the University of Toronto in Canada, she earned her MA in Engineering. Settling in San Jose in 1980, she was instrumental in the extension of Caltrain service to Gilroy. She is now retired from her position as Supervising Engineer and Manager of Rail Design for VTA. Having also been a member of AAUW in Santa Cruz, she was referred to our Branch by member Harriet Tower. Contact: Odila Nielsen or 831-325-3722,

KATIE GALLANT was invited to our Open House by member Peggy Maibaum. Recently retired, she joined that evening. Katie earned her BA in Art from UC Santa Barbara. Continuing her studies there, she obtained her teaching credential in grades K through 8. Katie taught in the Milpitas Unified School District for nearly 40 years. She lives in Los Gatos and is active in community affairs there. Contact: Katie Gallant or 408-395-7467.

For Membership information contact Sharon Bouska.

Public Policy

California State Budget Impacts AAUW Mission

Gloria Leonard, Public Policy Committee Chair

Although there is no specific mention of “budgets” in the AAUW mission statement, budgets at both state and national levels have significant impact on AAUW’s mission. Budgets express our values and priorities as a society, as well as providing the framework and dollars for funding public systems and programs. Decisions made about budget allocations affect all of us, and thus we need to keep informed and be in touch with elected representatives about our priorities. Below is a list of the highlights of the education funding proposals in Governor Brown’s proposed 2013-2014 State budget:

- * Increase funding for K-12 schools and community colleges by \$2.7 billion over last year, to \$53.5 billion.
- * A 5.3 percent increase to \$25.8 billion in total spending over last year for higher education.
- * \$1.9 billion to partially restore deferred payments to schools and community colleges.

AAUW CA will be monitoring the Governor’s plan to change the formula for how funding is directed to school districts. The California Budget Project closely monitors the status of the state budget. You can find more detail on their excellent website www.cbp.org. Our AAUW CA lobbyist will also be following budget developments and advising the State Public Policy committee when it selects legislation on which to take positions in late March. Check our State website at www.aauw-ca.org/publicpolicy.

(Source: Sue Miller, AAUW CA, Vice President, Public Policy Director.)

Fool-Proof Investment Opportunity

Judith Kristofferson

AAUW’s Financially Fit For Life offers you a great investment opportunity. Invest a little of your time and receive in return a high rate of satisfaction, knowing that you have helped support AAUW’s mission of promoting equity for women and girls.

You can help with the presentation of a Money Trek program to show middle school and high school students the basics of budgeting and spending money. To volunteer or for more information, contact Mary Barry or Judy Kristofferson.



Tech Trek at Stanford

Edna Robinson

Our Branch will be sending six girls to Stanford University's Camp Marie Curie on July 7-13. We expect to receive completed applications, essays, teachers' recommendations and parent certifications from John Muir, Peter Burnett and Sylvandale middle schools by the March 1 deadline.

Several Branch volunteers have already signed up to evaluate the students' materials and conduct the interviews. If you are inclined to volunteer in interviewing the girls, please contact me.

A huge "Thank You" to the SDT Foundation, the History Club of Los Gatos, the San Jose Women's Club, our resource speakers, Branch members and non-members who donated money to Tech Excellence/Tech Trek! This year donations amount to a total of \$11,737. Rest assured that all donations are put to good use.

Tech Excellence

2013 Off to a Good Start

Edna Robison

In January, Andrea Connell, a United Airlines pilot, presented the four forces of flight (thrust, drag, gravity, and lift) to the Tech Ex girls, followed by hands-on projects. A field trip to the Hiller Aviation Museum reinforced what the girls learned and enabled them to do flight simulation, while also having fun identifying the different aircraft in the museum.

On February 7, a group of veterinarians led by Dr. Marilyn Pachorek and Branch member Loren Reynolds introduced the seventh-grade girls to veterinary medicine at John Muir Middle School. They taught the girls how to identify X-rays of different animals; perform physical examinations on a dog; wear scrubs, caps, masks and gloves; identify the anatomy of a dog and a cat; and identify animal parasites and diseases. They also gave a bird's-eye view of what courses to expect in college. All girls loved the three dogs that our resource speakers brought to class!

Volunteer Opportunities:

March 7, Thursday – Class: "Nutrition: Exercise Science, Reading Food Labels, Measuring Fat and Sugar Content of Foods."

March 28, Thursday – Field Trip at Intel Museum, "Circuit Design and Tour."

Education Equity

Alice Lopez

The Project Cornerstone program presented by Education Equity in January was a great success. Forty-five members and community volunteers listened to Linda Silvius share survey results about how Silicon Valley Youth are doing at developing assets for success. She also shared the importance of each of us as role models in this development. For details see www.projectcornerstone.org.

AAUW San Jose Members

Meet Nancy Pelosi

Virginia Beck, AAUW CA Board Director,



On January 29, AAUW San Jose members, Virginia Beck and Louise Persson were part of a 10-person AAUW CA delegation to the Women's Economic Security Event which celebrated the 4th anniversary of the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the 20th anniversary of the Family Medical Leave Act. Hosting the event were Nancy Pelosi, US Congresswoman for the 12th District and George Miller, Congressman for the 11th District. Both Congresswoman Pelosi and Congressman Miller recognized AAUW for their support of these important laws bettering the lives of women and families. Virginia serves as AAUW San Jose Finance Officer and AAUW CA Board Director. Louise Persson is the AAUW San Jose Program Vice President.

Community Action Projects

Local Scholarship

Local Scholarship Applications Available

Brenda Ladewig

Applications for 2013 Local Scholarship awards are available as of March 1 on our Branch website www.aauwsanjose.org or at www.Fastweb.com. AAUW San Jose scholarships are awarded annually to women whose permanent home address is in Campbell, Milpitas, San Jose or Santa Clara; who have completed two full years at an accredited college or university; who have a GPA of 3.0 or higher; and who are enrolled in a four-year institution as an undergraduate.

Grants are based on significance of educational goals, scholastic achievements, merits of the application and an interview with members of the Local Scholarship Committee. The number and dollar amounts of the scholarships awarded depend on the funds available.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Bobbie Baker

The South Bay chapter of Project Linus has been providing security through blankets since 2002. Their mission is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are ill, traumatized or in need. Local recipients include Ronald McDonald House, Sacred Heart, San Jose Family Shelter, and various local hospitals. Neighbors Helping Neighbors has two blanket-making evenings each year. The next one will be on Monday, April 1 at 6:30 pm. Soft, warm fleece and scissors are supplied. You bring your willing hands. Absolutely no sewing skills are required! Come join in the fun and conversation and make a blanket for a needy child.



Looking Back ...Women in Sports

Laura Manthey , Sports Equity Project

It was February 1960. We had a black and white TV in a maple cabinet. The Winter Olympics were in Squaw Valley (oh, so close to home). My family watched as Carol Heiss skated her way to a gold medal, the perfect (if a bit fuzzy) picture of beauty and grace. I was mesmerized. I wanted to be in her skates! I skated at The Winter Club in Palo Alto and found that I would never be even a competent ice skater. But I never forgot Carol Heiss.

It was late summer 1960. In Rome, Wilma Rudolph became "the fastest woman in the world" and the first American woman to win three gold medals in one Olympics. I wanted to be in her shoes! So I ran up and down our long driveway and made my younger brother race me, time after time, year after year. I wanted to win every race I ran. And I did for many years, both at home and at school. And I never forgot Wilma Rudolf.

Who is the first female athlete you remember? Which one made you want to skate or run or shoot or throw? Email me (by clicking on my name) with your early memories of women in sports who inspired you. I'd like to share your memories in the next Bonfire!



AAUW San Jose members join BAWSI girls at a Stanford basketball game.

B In the Seats

March 2, Saturday

1 pm - Santa Clara Women's Basketball vs University of San Diego

7 pm - San Jose State Women's Basketball vs Louisiana Tech

Educational Funds Success Story

Diane Trombetta, EF Vice President

In 2013–14 AAUW will award fellowships and grants to the 125th class of Fellows -- What a milestone! I know you share my pride in this accomplishment and in the fundraising we do each year to support Fellows who continue our investment in women and girls. Thanks to the commitment of branches like ours, in 2012–13 AAUW educational funds awarded \$3.7 million in fellowships and grants to more than 230 outstanding women around the world. There will be several fundraising workshops, events, and tools at the 2013 AAUW National Convention. AAUW is always looking for fundraising ideas that involve members, promote our mission, and increase awareness of AAUW as a major contributor to the empowerment and education of women and girls. If you have any fundraising ideas or suggestions, please contact me.

Headquarters Needs Our Help

Our beloved Headquarters (HQ) has served us well for many years. The expenses have always been paid from a combination of rent and funds set aside for support of the building. However, the funds reserved for its care have been greatly reduced. It is not too late to make a donation to replenish the Branch HQ Reserve Funds. Make your check to AAUW San Jose and mail to 1165 Minnesota, San Jose 95125 or drop it off at Headquarters in the in-box on the desk in the office. Our house thanks you!!

30th Annual Wildflower Run

AAUW Morgan Hill Branch fundraiser for
AAUW Funds, Tech Trek and Local Scholarship

Sunday, April 14, 2013

10K Run, 5K Walk and Run

2K Run for kids 10 and under

New! 5K stroller/baby jogger

Family and Group rates, discount registration rates through April 4
Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill

Free Jamba Juice Smoothies, T-shirts, and goodie bags for all

Details and registration at www.wildflowererrun.org

Register online at racemine.com or active.com

Contact: Linda Withrow, lwithrow78@gmail.com

Come run with us!



January 2013 AAUW Bridge Winners

Bobbie Eckerman,

First Monday: Pat Mikolic, Margery Epperson, Barbara Shandera

Second Monday: Rosemary Busch, Sue Dietz, Margery Epperson

Second Thursday: Sue Dietz, Gay Gale, Virginia Beck

Second Friday (Duplicate): Mary Ellen Heising, Bobbie Eckerman,
Judy Kumagai

Third Friday: Lida Kluzek, Mary Clare Hopkins, Mary Fitzgerald

Fourth Tuesday: Darline Wilson, Gay Gale

Meetings and Special Events

March 4, Monday

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Survival Backpack Project, 6:30 pm

Meeting, 7pm

Bobbie Baker

March 6, Wednesday 7pm

Board Meeting

Marilyn Jackson

March 11, Monday 1:30 pm

Financially Fit For Life

Mary Barry

March 15, Friday 1:30 pm

Local Scholarship

Grace O'Leary

March 16, Saturday 12-3 pm

Northern CA LAF Luncheon

Embassy Suites, 150 Anza Blvd,
Burlingame

\$40 Reserve by March 5 at

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/>

March 19, Tuesday 6:30 pm

Public Policy Committee

Gloria Leonard

March 23, Saturday 10 am

Half the Sky Program

Branch Program (see front page)

Louise Persson

Sharon Bouska

March 25, Monday 9:30 am

Building Committee

Pat Diamond



March Interest Group Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all events are held at Headquarters.

Click on the underlined name of the Interest Group contact and the email address should be revealed. If not, consult your Branch Directory for information. For general information about Interest Groups, contact [Elaine McMahon](#).

Weekend Walkers meets most Saturdays and Sundays at 8 am for an hour-long walk on the Los Gatos Creek Trail. To receive weekly emails about walks, contact [Jean Reed](#)

March 4, Monday 10 am
Bridge
[Mary Clare Hopkins](#)

Dienstag 5 Marz 11 Uhr
German Conversation
bei Barbara Snyder
RSVP an Barbara Snyder

March 8, Friday 10 am
Duplicate Bridge
[Lida Kluzek](#)

March 9, Saturday
Gourmet Couples
For time and location contact:
[Margaret Bard](#)

March 10, Sunday
Film Fans
For time and location contact:
[Linda Snashall](#)

March 11, Monday 10 am
Bridge
[Rosemary Bush](#)

March 11, Monday 6 pm
Gourmet Light
[Cheryl Markman](#)
[Barbara Bettencourt](#)

March 12, Tuesday 10 am
Morning Book Discussion
Madonnas of Leningrad
by Debra Dean
Joyce Baker, 408-259-8343

March 13, Wednesday
Art Appreciation
Oakland Museum of Art
Studio Glass: Playing with Fire
[Lida Kluzek](#)

March 13, Wednesday 7 pm
Evening Book Discussion
Margaret Sanger: a life of Passion
by Jean H. Baker
Led by Harriet Tower
[Laura Manthey](#)

March 14 Thursday 9:30 am
Great Decisions/NATO
Joan Benedetti, Marie Arnold
[Maureen Curulla](#)

March 14, Thursday 7:15 pm
Bridge
[Bobbie Eckerman](#)

March 15, Friday 10 am
Bridge
[Lida Kluzek](#)

March 15, Friday 6:30 pm
AAUW Singles
[Jean Wyatt](#)

March 16, Saturday 9 – 11 am
Willow Glen Walk
Weekend Walkers
[Linda Guyer](#)

March 18, Monday 6:30 pm
Gourmet International
Dinner out at Sweet Mango
1040 Willow St., San Jose
[Arline Veteskla](#)

March 18, Monday 9:30 am
Exploring World Literature
100 Years of Solitude
By Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Presenter Marcia Capella
[Marcia Capella](#)

mardi 19 mars à 11 heures
French Conversation
chez Lois Ario, RSVP à Lois Ario
[Lois Ario](#)

March 21, Thursday 10 am
Family History
[Barbara Van Arsdale](#)

March 21, Thursday 7pm
Mystery Lovers Group
The Cold Dish
by Craig Johnson
[Diane Canby](#)
[Gay Gale](#)

March 25, Monday 6:30 pm
Gourmet Vegetarian
[Jean Wyatt](#)

March 26, Tuesday 11:30 am
Lunch Bunch
Lou's Village
Corner of Willow & Lincoln
RSVP: [Diana Taylor](#)

March 26, Tuesday 7-8:30 pm
Great Decisions
[Jan Palajac](#)

March 26, Tuesday 7:15 pm
Bridge
[Bobbie Eckerman](#)

March 27, Wednesday 10-12 am
Friends
[Marilyn Jackson](#)

March 28, Thursday 9:30 am
Great Decisions/Iran
Lucy Poindexter, Odile Nielsen
[Maureen Curulla](#)

March 28, Thursday 7-8:30 pm
Game Night
Sandee Plymire, 408-280-5799

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**PERIODICALS
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BONFIRE ARTICLE SUBMITTAL RULES:

The sole purpose of this publication is to convey the association's business to its membership. Only articles and announcements related to Branch business will be considered for inclusion.

AAUW San Jose Branch Bonfire

**AAUW San Jose Branch Annual Luncheon Meeting
Election and Installation of Officers**

**Saturday, April 13 11:30 – 2 pm
Sainte Claire Hotel, San Jose**

Vote on Bylaws revision

Honor current board members

Elect and install new and returning officers for 2013-2014

Guest speaker: Kathleen Krenek, Executive Director of Next Door Solutions for Domestic Violence

Entrée choices:

Eggplant Parmesan with marinara sauce

Pasta with bacon and vodka-cream tomato sauce

Petto diPollo alla Ducale (breast of chicken with artichoke hearts and sundried tomatoes)

Salad, rolls, coffee and tea and a dessert of Tiramisu are included

Send your check of \$29, which includes tax and tip, to Cheryl Markman,
4982 Collomia Court 95111-3801 by Saturday, April 6.

Please indicate your entrée choice on your check.

Deadline: Articles and calendar items must be submitted to the Editor for review by the first Wednesday of the month before publication. To submit items, send an email to jjkreed@comcast.net with a Microsoft WORD (.doc or .docx) attachment. Please include "AAUW Bonfire (month/2013)" in the subject line. Send calendar items to doinel@earthlink.net.

AAUW advances equity for all women and girls, through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

See the San Jose Branch Website at www.aauwsanjose.org for more information.