

San Jose Branch

BONFIRE



“Investing In Girls - Women Leading The Way”

Coming Up



Election Day

November 6, Tuesday

Holiday Boutique

November 10
10 am to 3 pm

Membership Open House

November 29, Thursday
7 pm - 8:30
Headquarters

Holiday Social/ Holiday Goodies

Saturday, December 8
2 - 4 pm
Headquarters

Eleventh Annual Holiday Boutique

Saturday November 10

10 am to 3 pm

AAUW Headquarters

1165 Minnesota Ave (next to the Willow Glen Library)

Benefiting Local Scholarship Community Action Project, the dollars you spend go directly to scholarships for local college students who are finishing their bachelor's degrees.



Thematic baskets from wine to gourmet treats to gifts for pets to gardening to babies will be on sale – wrapped and ready to be given as gifts.

Handmade jewelry, scarves, needlework, dolls, wreaths, soup and dip mixes, baked goods, small gifts and holiday décor will be for sale.

Plan to shop on November 10. Family, friends and the public are welcome, too! Contact Brenda Ladewig, 408-723-1953, for information.

Presidential Sparks

Marilyn Jackson

This is the time of year when our AAUW San Jose Mission is at the forefront. Throughout the year our members are very generous with their financial support of Branch projects. However, for the next couple months it is our TIME that is needed. Look below for a few ways to help.

Eleventh Annual Local Scholarship Boutique - Saturday November 10. Items are needed. Work days are November 2 and 9, and help is needed during the day of the Boutique. Can you help? Contact Brenda Ladewig. See the front page article.

Gifts For Teens - There are 1350 bags to fill! How to help? Volunteer to organize donated gifts and pack gift duffel bags from December 5 through December 13. Schedule a date for a morning or afternoon shift with Kathy@gifts4teens.org. Gather a group of friends and contact Cheryl@gifts4teens.org.

Warm Hearts - sponsored by Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN), one of our Community Action Projects. Clean and gently used and/or new warm jackets, coats, blankets, sleeping bags, socks, hats, and gloves are needed for all ages to be distributed to the working poor clients of Santa Maria Urban Ministry. Bring your donations to headquarters and put them in the parlor marked "NHN - Warm Hearts".

Next Door Solutions To Domestic Violence - another NHN project. Support Next Door's Holiday Boutique in December. Go to nextdoor.org to see what is needed and then volunteer your time for boutique set-up and assisting with shopping, decorating, organizing and wrapping gifts. This boutique gives mothers an opportunity to shop for their children and the children an opportunity to find a special gift for their mothers.

October Board Notes

*Starting time of the Board meeting was delayed to allow members to watch the first Presidential debate.

*The Board approved the appointment of Risé Berry to the position of Membership Co-VP.

*The Board approved a request by the Long Range Planning Committee to begin a campaign to raise funds that are needed to increase reserves for the maintenance of Headquarters.

*Edna Robison and her husband were thanked for the donation of the new refrigerator.

Need to schedule a meeting? Reminder: Unless it is a regularly scheduled interest group or similar meeting, any member who needs to use space at Headquarters needs to check with Judy Ohland first. Judy is the "Keys & Calendar" coordinator for the Building Committee. She will confirm there is a room at Headquarters on the day and time requested. Related calendar items should be sent to Judy Kristofferson.



We are pleased to announce that San Jose State University and Evergreen Valley College have informed us that they will join AAUW through the AAUW College/University Partnership program. Thank you to AAUW San Jose members Helen Stevens, Diane Trombetta and Geri Madden for taking the lead in making this happen. We all look forward to working with SJSU and Evergreen Valley College in the many new ways that this formal partnership will make possible. Stay tuned!

On October 24, 2012, AAUW released ***Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation.***

The study explores the earnings difference between male and female college graduates working full time, one year after graduation using the latest nationally representative data available. The report compares "apples" to "apples" by looking at the pay gap after controlling for various factors known to affect earnings, such as occupation, college major, and hours worked. The report also looks at one immediate effect of the pay gap for many women, high student loan debt burden.

Fair Pay Act Champion Cites AAUW Support

Louise Persson, louisepersson1@gmail.com



Lilly Ledbetter surrounded by AAUW San Jose Branch members.

Lilly Ledbetter, whose lawsuit against the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company was the basis for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, addressed the American Federation of State and County Municipal Employees (AFSCME) convention in San Jose September 21. President Marilyn Jackson, LAF VP Mary Barry and eight other AAUW San Jose members attended the event as guests of AFSCME. The Fair Pay Act was the first piece of legislation President Obama signed as President.

Ms. Ledbetter spoke about her days as a youngster picking cotton, and her determination to achieve financial success for herself and her family. After nineteen years as a manager at Goodyear, she learned that she was being paid 40% less than her male colleagues. Her determination to seek redress resulted in support from the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund for the lengthy legal process that culminated at the Supreme Court. During her address in San Jose, Ms. Ledbetter repeatedly thanked AAUW for its support over the years. AAUW provided financial support for the lawsuit, filed an Amicus brief with the Supreme Court, and sent members to attend the legal proceedings. Ms. Ledbetter's courage and determination have changed history—and AAUW and our Legal Advocacy Funds have been partners in this momentous work.

99% of All AAUW Members Vote

Gloria Leonard, Public Policy Chair,
glorialnrd@gmail.com

November 6 is election day. I am fairly certain that you will be voting because 99% of all AAUW members do vote. But this would be a good time to remind your friends and family to get their votes in. It is especially important to urge your millennial daughters, sons, relatives and friends to vote. In the 2010 election, only 20% of eligible voters in that group (ages 18 to 31) voted.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our San Jose Branch Public Policy members who worked tirelessly over the last few months to register and educate potential voters. We registered voters at San Jose State, local high schools, downtown on National Voter Registration Day, at sports clubs, and farmers markets. We went into the classroom at Evergreen Valley College to talk about why women in particular should vote. We mentored young activists on college campuses on how to get out the vote. And we handed out and mailed out numerous "remember to vote" post cards.

We did it for AAUW's mission and our public policy priorities and we did it for all of our members. You can do it too. Get out the vote!



Members Susan Dietz and Geri Madden registering voters at San Jose State

Poor San Jose Teens Need You

Elaine Benoit, elaine@gifts4teens.org,
www.gifts4teens.org



Make no mistake; teenagers live a life of extreme poverty in downtown San Jose! Service agencies estimate that 400 to 450 local homeless teenagers are street kids, couch surf, or live in shrubbery under bridges and in makeshift shelters under freeways. Families with teens are in trouble too. For economic reasons two or three families share a house or apartment, taking turns with a single bath and kitchen. These teens, our neighbors, fall way below the poverty level, yet most do have small jobs. Help Gifts for Teens make their holidays brighter and add a holiday sparkle of hope.

How to help? Your gift will buy warm sweatshirts for the winter. Contribute to Gifts for Teens, ISPF-AAUW, mailed to 1165 Minnesota Ave., San Jose, Ca 95125.

How to help? Volunteer to organize donated gifts and pack gift duffel bags from December 5 through December 13. Schedule a date for a morning or afternoon shift with Kathy@gifts4teens.org. We would love your help. The work is a feel-good, fun activity.

Financially Fit For Life



Members attending Financially Fit For Life's October 13 program on Wise Giving learned how to make sure their charitable contributions create the maximum impact for good. And they also heard from a guest speaker, an accountant, about how doing this will let them receive a reward with tax time benefits.

Sports Equity

Do America's Girls Need Sports?

Laura Manthey, Sports Equity, ismant@aol.com

Kathryn Olson, CEO of the Women's Sport Foundation, shares her opinion that sports can be "girls' toolkit for success". She writes: "Despite the ever-expanding body of research on the many emotional, physical and social benefits from participation of girls and women in sport and physical activity, in general girls are still not afforded the degree of encouragement or opportunity extended to boys to participate in sports and physical activities."

Read the full article at <http://www.womensmediacenter.com/feature/entry/americas-girls-need-sports>

Tech Trek/Tech Excellence

Engaging our Tech Trek/Tech Excellence Girls

Edna Robison, e29.robison@yahoo.com

Career women immersed in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) serve as the bridge between our 32 Tech Excellence girls at John Muir Middle School and "real world" of problem solving. They model what it is like to be a career woman and introduce concepts for improving our quality of life.

On October 17, Julie Kahrnoff, Living Wetlands Program Coordinator of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Center talked to the girls about how everyone contributes to the pollution of our waterways. Working in small groups, the girls developed a parcel of land with a "million dollar budget". They learned how each building affects its neighbor downstream. Lesson: Every individual impacts our watershed! The next week the girls travelled to the Seymour Marine Discovery Center (SMDC) at Long Marine Laboratory (LML) in Santa Cruz, to explore how marine research helps conserve the ocean.

The next class is on November 1, "Green Technology – Your home: The cost of plugging in!" followed by a field trip on November 15 to the Tech Museum-Solar Circuits and Alternative Energy Lab. Volunteers are welcome!

Educational Funds Report and Coming Events

Diane Trombetta tdtaug@yahoo.com

Money matters. Game Day was a great success again this year. Thanks to those of you who attended, EF raised a net \$2514 -- funds that will help enable a worthy international candidate to complete her graduate studies or original research here in the United States. In October you received a letter from the EF Committee asking you to make a special yearly donation to AAUW Educational Funds. Please give as generously as you can to support women's efforts to become the next leaders, inventors, producers, helpers and doers. The world needs them!

Throughout the year, you can stop by Headquarters and buy a paperback or hardback book from the shelf on the back porch for \$.50 and \$1.00 respectively. All proceeds go to EF. Check out the bulletin board while you're there to see the pictures and inspiring mini-biographies of some of the Fellows studying and working today thanks to AAUW Educational Funds. In October San Jose Branch members met several Fellows at the AAUW-CA EF luncheon. We were inspired by their determination and enthusiasm in describing their research and project to us.

Golden Gate Heights

Jane Guinther for Weekend Walkers,
JSGuinther@sbcglobal.net



Join us on Saturday November 17 for a hike looking Westward from the Sunset District. The 670 stairways throughout San Francisco link neighborhoods, people and their cultures. This "Stairway Walk" climbs through the diverse neighborhoods of Grand View Park to Golden Gate Heights Park. From atop the Moraga mosaic tile stairway views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the Farallon Islands appear. This stairway is a brilliant masterpiece telling a story of sky, water, birds, fish, flowers and frogs, commissioned by a united community.

We'll meet at Headquarters at 9 am and carpool to San Francisco. Pack a bag lunch for a picnic with a 1000 views. We will return around 3 pm. Please RSVP to Jane Guinther by email or call 408-995-0500.

A **Beginning Bridge** group is being formed. If you are interested in learning to play bridge or refresh your memories from college days contact Nancy Valby @ 408-259-2534. For now we will meet at my home. Initial sessions have been scheduled for the following Wednesdays: October 17, November 14 and 21.

Meetings and Special Events

All members are welcome at meetings.

November 5, 6:30 pm Project Linus
Business meeting 7:30 pm

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Bobbie Baker
rcbaker@sbcglobal.net

November 6, Tuesday

Election Day



November 7, Wednesday 7 pm

Board Meeting

Marilyn Jackson
marjack44@sbcglobal.net

November 10, Saturday

10 am - 3 pm

Annual Holiday Boutique

Brenda Ladewig
bladewig@sbcglobal.net

November 20, Tuesday 6 pm

Public Policy Committee

Gloria Leonard
glorialnrd25@gmail.com

November 22, Thursday

Thanksgiving Day

November 29, Thursday 7 - 8:30 pm

Membership Open House

See article
Peggy Maibaum,
Peggyapcm@gmail.com

November 26, Monday 9:30 am

Building Committee

Pat Diamond
pat.diamond@patdiamond.com



Plan in November for Lunch in December

Diana Taylor Dgtaylor40@comcast.net

Lunch Bunch will meet for our annual Holiday Luncheon on December 4 at 11:30 at the Almaden Country Club, 6663 Hampton Drive, San Jose 95120. All Branch members are welcome. RSVP by November 29 to Diana Taylor by email or call 408-268-2593.

Membership Matters

NEW BRANCH MEMBERS

Claire Campodonico, clairecamp@comcast.net

MARILYN MILLER joined our Branch at Fall Event. After earning her BA in Liberal Arts from Raymond College at the University of the Pacific and her Elementary Teaching Credential from Chico State University, Marilyn taught K through 5th grades for more than 36 years in the Franklin-McKinley School District. She then taught in a private school. After 40 years as a teacher, Marilyn now has time to enjoy her retirement. Member Nan Caldwell referred her. Marilyn has already joined our Family History group. Contact: 408-204-4177, mmiller369@comcast.net

TERRI RUBIN also joined at Fall Event. Graduating with her BA in Psychology from Wellesley College, Terri continued her studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill earning a MA in Education. She is now retired from her position as Middle School Language Arts Curriculum Specialist in Fairfax County, Virginia. Terri is enjoying her retirement in California. She was referred by member Harriet Tower. Contact: 408-239-0834, terubin16@gmail.com

DIANA PIRES obtained her BA in Social Science and her Lifetime Elementary Teaching Credential from Chico State University. She taught K through 6th grades for 37 years in the Franklin-McKinley School District. She also was their Project Specialist, managing state and federal monies as well as monitoring testing. Having retired just 2 years ago, Diana keeps busy with her participation in many groups besides AAUW. She was referred by members Louise Persson and Nan Caldwell. Contact: 408-267-6749, dianapires@comcast.net

JANICE ROBBINS earned her BA in Education from Los Angeles State College and her MA in Administrative Supervision from SJSU. She taught Special Education in the Cupertino Union School District for 30 years as well as being their Interim Coordinator of Special Education. In the Burlingame School District, she was the Director of Special Education/Categorical Programs. After 42 years in education, Janice retired in 2004. She was referred by member Barbara Bettencourt. Contact: 408-269-4620, janicemrobbins@yahoo.com

JESSICA LOPEZ also joined at Fall Event. She was referred by her mother, member Alice Lopez. After completing her BA in Child and Adolescent Development, she is continuing at SJSU to earn her K-8th Teaching Credential. She will graduate in December. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority. Heavily involved in volunteer work throughout high school and college, Jessica is currently devoting her energy into planning her wedding. Contact: 408-204-4041, j.lopez814@yahoo.com

Membership Open House November 29

Peggy Maibaum, Membership VP,
Peggyapcm@gmail.com

Come and join us at Headquarters on November 29 from 7 to 8:30 pm for dessert and hear what AAUW has to offer. Prospective members and current members are welcome! Get acquainted and learn about various AAUW programs such as Public Policy, Legal Advocacy, Tech Excellence, Tech Trek, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, book and dinner groups, bridge, plus more. For more information, please email Peggy Maibaum or call 408-358-2913.



For Membership information contact Sharon Bouska, sharonbouska@gmail.com



November Interest Group Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, events are held at Headquarters.

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 jjkreed@comcast.net

November 5, Monday 10 am
Bridge
Mary Clare Hopkins
maryclarehopkins@sbcglobal.net

Dienstag 6 November um 11 Uhr
GERMAN CONVERSATION
bei Barbara Snyder
RSVP an
SnyderDonB@hotmail.com

November 8, Thursday 10 am
Family History
Barbara Van Arsdale
barbaravanarsdale@yahoo.com

November 8, Thursday 7:15 pm
Bridge
Bobbie Eckerman
eckshome1@aol.com

November 9, Friday 10 am
Bridge
Lida Kluzek
lidakluzek@att.net

November 9, Friday 7pm
Be in the Seats!
SJSU Basketball vs SF State
SJSU Event Center
LSMant@aol.com

November 10, Saturday
Gourmet Couples
Contact for time & location:
Margaret Bard
MargaetBard@gmail.com

November 11, Sunday
Film Fans
Contact for time & location:
Linda Snashall
lsnashall@comcast.net

November 12, Monday 10 am
Bridge
Rosemary Bush
chezburo@juno.com

November 12, Monday 6 pm
Gourmet Light
Cheryl Markman
cherylmarkman@hotmail.com
Barbara Bettencourt
twoworldtrvrs@aol.com

November 13, Tuesday 10 am
Morning Book Discussion
Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver
Joyce Baker
259-8343

November 14, Wednesday 8:45 am
Art Appreciation
Meet at Headquarters
Trip to deYoung Museum
W.S. Paley Collections "A Taste of Modernism"
Rudolf Nureyev "A Life in Dance"
Diana Taylor
Dgtaylor40@gmail.com

November 14, Wednesday 7 pm
Evening Book Discussion
Strength in What Remains
by Tracy Kidder
Led by Mary Ann Hudson
Laura Manthey
LSMant@aol.com

November 15, Thursday 7 pm
Mystery Lovers Group
The Taint of Midas by Anne Zouroudi
Diane Canby and Gay Gale,
Co-chairs
dacanby@comcast.net,
gaygale@comcast.net

November 16, Friday 10 am
Bridge
Lida Kluzek
lidakluzek@att.net

November 16, Friday 6:30 pm
AAUW Singles
Jean Wyatt
wjeanwyatt@aol.com

November 19, Monday 9:30 am
Exploring World Literature
When I Was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Santiago
Led by Lucy Poindexter
Marcia Capella
marciacapella@sbcglobal.net

Mardi 20 novembre à 11 heures
French Conversation
chez Loan Anh
RSVP à LV42@sbcglobal.net

November 20 Tuesday 7:15 pm
Bridge
Bobbie Eckerman
eckshome1@aol.com

November 26, Monday 6:30 pm
Gourmet Vegetarian
Jean Wyatt
wjeanwyatt@aol.com

November 28, Wednesday 10 am
FRIENDS
Marilyn Jackson
marjack44@sbcglobal.net

November 29 reservation deadline:
Lunch Bunch Holiday Luncheon
December 4, Thursday 11:30 am
Almaden Country Club
RSVP: Dgtaylor40@comcast.net

BITS means "Be In The Seats".
Attending women's sporting events is a visible way to show your support for opportunities for women to succeed through athletics. It's fun, too!

*For information about Interest Groups, contact Coordinator Elaine McMahon, ElaineCMcMahon@yahoo.com.

*Members interested in Bridge should call the contact person to see if a substitute is needed on a specific date.

Coming Up.....



Holiday Social/Holiday Goodies
Just for Fun



Saturday, December 8
2 - 4 pm

AAUW San Jose Branch Headquarters

All members are encouraged to come and celebrate the holiday season with AAUW friends.
Celebrate the holidays and bring your favorite dessert to share.

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/2012)" in the subject line. Send calendar items to doinel@earthlink.net.

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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.