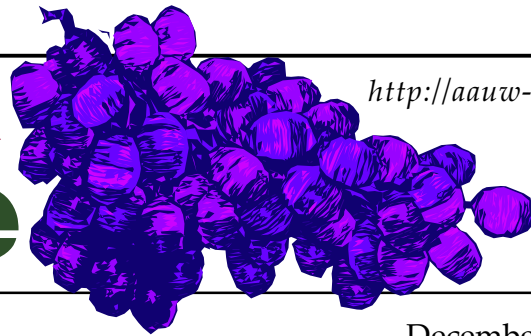


Grapevine



Volume 48, Number 4

December 2015

Attend Any of These December Parties!

Deck the Hall at these Interest Group Holiday Parties

*Wishing You a Happy
and Joyful Holiday
Season!*



Feeling the Holiday Party spirit, consider attending any of these:

- **Tuesday, December 8:** Homeless Committee's Holiday Potluck lunch and gift wrapping for homeless women gifts. Starts at 11:00 am at Nancy Anderson's home.
- **Thursday, December 10:** Holiday Hike with annual holiday lunch. Starts at 9:00 am. Fall Creek and Hallcrest Winery (in Felton) or at Kay's house if it's raining hard.
- **Tuesday, December 15:** PM Book Group with the December Potluck. Starts at 6:00 pm.
- **Friday, December 18:** AM Book Discussion Group. Holiday Celebration. Starts at 9:30 am.

See December calendar, page 7, for details about these Holiday Parties and RSVP / contact information.

Coming Next Month . . .

Author's Luncheon 2016

AAUW Funds Fundraiser. | Reservations are required.

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 - at the California Café in Old Town Los Gatos.

This Grapevine issue has more information about our three authors on page 4. To make your reservations for this popular annual event see the enclosed flyer.

-Judy Borlase (408) 358-2262 | judith@borlase.com





Letter from the Leadership Team



Looking for a Few Good Leaders

California AAUW is looking for enthusiastic, committed and proven leaders to serve at the state level. This year we are seeking candidates for Secretary and for 6 Directors who will serve for a term of two years (2016-2018). Job descriptions and duties may be found in the AAUW CA Business section of the California AAUW website www.aauw-ca.org under the heading Policy & Procedures. The deadline for nominations is December 10, 2015.

Candidates can find the required forms and instructions in the Elections and Nominations section of the state website. The three week voting period will begin April 16 and end May 6.

Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW is looking for people to serve on its Nominating Committee which will recruit members for our own Board. The strength of our organization depends on the leadership of our members. Please consider how you may be able to help, either as an elected or appointed officer or as the leader of a committee or interest section.

The Nominating Committee will hold its first meeting in January; please contact Past President Virginia Turner at (408) 866-4234 or vturner@sbcglobal.net to volunteer for this important job or to get additional information about what is expected.



"Service to youth is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on earth."

–Jane Deeter Rippin

"Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something."

–Unknown



Meet the Branch Leadership Team

Kay Duffy. I am a native of Long Island, New York and have a chemistry degree from Syracuse University. My husband is a retired physics professor from Santa Clara University. We have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

A resident of Saratoga for over fifty years, I have been active in community affairs with a particular interest in parks and the preservation of open space. I helped create and served for 20 years as an elected Director of the *Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District* representing this area. Thanks to my friends in AAUW and LWV for all their help!

As an avid hiker, I have been an AAUW hikes leader for over 30 years! Join us!

In recent years, I have been devoting more and more of my time to my watercolor painting and currently display in Aegis Gallery, Saratoga, and Los Gatos Museums Gallery. I also teach watercolor and

collage at Hakone Gardens. The City of Saratoga presented one of my paintings to Saratoga's Sister City of Muko-shi, Japan. To see what I do, check out my virtual gallery at www.kayduffywatercolors.com

My husband's sabbatical in 1993, took us to Lyon, France for 6 months, where I studied and painted. *(In the 1960's we lived for one year in The Netherlands, where our second daughter was born.)*

I also love to garden (*pray for rain!*), and I can lots of fruit and jam.

Having been "*roped in*", I am currently secretary to our branch. I am really in awe of all the great activities that our organization carries out.



(pictured left to right) Kay Duffy & Jane Bishop, co-chairs of Hikes and Walks.

Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW: The 1960s

Our skirts were shorter and our hair was longer. The branch was incorporated September 22, 1960 as a non-profit organization. Our interests grew, and our membership expanded up to 350. We studied the gifted child throughout 1960 and 1961, water conservation in 1962, and new teacher credential qualifications. A Gourmet Group began and took responsibility for the April tea. We sponsored a Children's Art Fair for several years. The play reading group entertained us at general meetings. There were three book review sections: morning, afternoon, and couples.

The AAUW Investment Section made money playing the stock market on paper while studying and doing research on stocks, mutual funds, and estate planning. Our Occident and Orient Section presented a program on the history, culture and religion of Tibet.

Mrs. James Richards was honored in 1961 for her 70 year membership in AAUW with a Life Membership.

Both **Ruth Cannon** and **Louise Cooper**, AAUW members, filed for candidates as trustees at Los Gatos High School District. In 1964-65 **Mary Drake** represented AAUW on the State Committee to redefine and organize higher



education in California by defining the role of community and state colleges and the university system.

A new travel section began with **Isobel Darrow** and **Bette Sample** as co-chairs; **Cathy Foscatto** carried on as Chair when they retired. Many AAUW meetings took place at West Valley College. **Gladys Armstrong** opened her home for the early Yuletide Open House, as did **Betty Hall**.

In 1969 a study program was started on Testing Values in a Changing Society; **Martha Beverett** and **Lucia Callis** were co-chairs. Among the topics studied were young people of today, prejudice, drugs and minorities. **Louise Webb** submitted the committee report to the Association Program Development Chair in Washington, D.C., and received a letter calling it "Well done ... a good job."

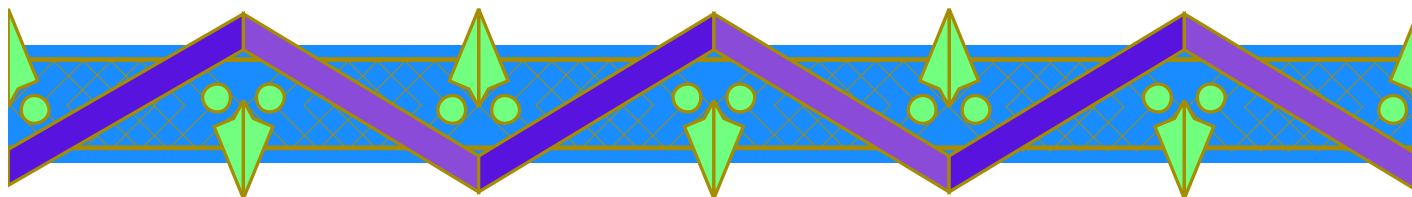
Memories of the 1960's

- California population in 1960 - 15.7 million
- First man on the moon
- Civil Rights movement
- Vietnam war and protests
- Medicare enacted
- Psychedelic Summer of Love
- Pantyhose introduced
- Swanson chicken TV dinner - 49¢
- Gallon of gas - 25¢
- Brick ranch-style home - \$22,800

Popular Culture

- Best-selling books: *Catch-22*, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Valley of the Dolls*, and *The Godfather*
- Oscar-winning movies: "Lawrence of Arabia", "The Sound of Music", "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner", and "The Graduate"
- On Broadway: "The Miracle Worker", "Becket", and "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"
- Emmy Awards: The Dick Van Dyke Show, The Fugitive, Mission Impossible, Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In
- Popular songs: "Moon River", "I Left My Heart in San Francisco", "Michelle", and "Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini"

See next month's January 2016 *Grapevine* for the Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW branch in the 1970s.



Preview of the 2016 Author's Luncheon Speakers

Benefiting AAUW Funds

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

California Café (Old Town), 50 University Av, Los Gatos

11:00 am No-host Wine Bar | 11:45 am Lunch

\$55 (\$23 tax deductible) / Make Your Reservations by January 13, 2016.



About the Authors . . .



Donia Bijan



Keith Raffel



Pamela Spahr

Donia Bijan is a San Francisco Bay Area chef who left Iran in 1978 when her parents' lives were threatened by the Islamic Revolution. Her family settled in the Bay Area and was advised not to return to Iran.

After graduating from UC Berkeley in 1984, Donia went to Paris to attend the Cordon Bleu. Determined to pursue a culinary career, she secured apprenticeships in France's three star kitchens before returning to San Francisco to preside over many of the city's acclaimed restaurants and earning awards for her French inspired cuisine. In 1994 she realized her dream of opening of her own restaurant, L'Amie Donia, a celebrated French bistro in Palo Alto.

Since closing her restaurant in 2004, Ms. Bijan has divided her days between raising her son, catering, and writing a memoir. In her memoir she draws from her Persian, French, and American pantry to thread ties between cultures.

Keith Raffel has watched over the CIA, supported himself at the racetrack, founded a software company, taught writing to college freshmen, run for Congress, and sold DNA sequencing.

Specifically, Raffel served as counsel to the Senate Intelligence Committee overseeing the secret world of the CIA, NSA, and other clandestine three-lettered agencies. He also worked on legislation with Senators Biden (*as he was then*), Kennedy, Goldwater, and Bayh.

In these varied pursuits, Raffel came across enough ambition, envy, and lucre here in Silicon Valley to convince him it was a terrific place to set a crime novel.

He became a published author in 2006 with *Dot Dead*. His latest book, *Temple Mount*, has been called "*tightly woven, lightning-paced, and touching the heart*", by San Francisco author Cara Black

He can be found on his laptop and power-drinking green tea at a café near his home in Palo Alto.

Pamela Spahr promoted product understanding by defining and integrating high quality, user-centric information. A former high-tech executive from the San Francisco Bay area, Spahr was not prepared to assume responsibility for managing her husband who suffered from series of strokes and was subsequently diagnosed with dementia.

Eventually, she discovered techniques that became her survival toolkit and lead to the writing of an eBook, "*Caregiver's Survival Toolkit*", released in April, 2014.

Now she teaches those techniques to other caregivers. Spahr speaks nationally on caregiving, writes on aging nationally, and teaches groups on everything from introductory caring to expert level problem solving for healthcare professionals.

Spahr is the founder of Inspired Caregivers, the business she launched in September 2013 .

Visit her website at www.inspiredcaregivers.com



Catherine "Kay" Ruf

August 5, 1936 – October 21, 2015
Resident of Saratoga

Kay was born in Willimantic, Connecticut, the eldest of five children, to Dorothy Ashe, a nurse, and John Francis "Fran" Dillon, an insurance agent. As a straight "A" student at Windham High School, she earned the Philip Lauter Scholarship to the University of Connecticut and she graduated with high honors in 1957.

She met the love of her life, Egon T. Ruf, at Univ. of Conn and they shared a fifty-two year marriage before Egon's death in 2012. In 1975, they started E&K Scientific Products, Inc., a pioneer Silicon Valley business, selling to the Bay Area medical research and biotech industries. E&K continues to thrive under their youngest son, Brian.

Kay loved music and singing. She was an avid shell and rock collector, and loved beachcombing. She was a long-time member of the Sacred Heart Church parish in Saratoga (where she sang in the choir and served as a lector), the American Association of University Women and the Foothill Club.

She is survived by her sons Mike of Wisconsin, Kevin (Asli) of Ojai, CA and Brian (Marnie) of Santa Cruz, CA, her brothers John Dillon (Marilyn) of Maryland, and Michael Dillon (Meridith) of North Carolina, her sister Maureen Dillon of Connecticut, and her nine beloved grandchildren. She was also predeceased by her sister, Dorothy Dillon Chase, of Gainesville, Florida.

Meet Your Local . . .

Elected Officials Address the AAUW and LWV

Our first co-sponsored program for the year on November 7 was quite successful as our branch and the League of Women Voters heard nine different elected officials explain what they see as the major concerns for both the state of California and local governments.

While there were some differences from one jurisdiction to another, there was a common understanding that Silicon Valley is facing serious transportation issues, a lack of affordable housing, and the consequences of the historic drought. To some extent these problems are related to the strong employment picture in the Valley with people commuting to work and bidding up the cost of local housing, but many people are being priced out of the housing market and everyone is affected by the drought. All the jurisdictions have a role to play in addressing the needs of their residents, and all the speakers truly appreciate the citizen involvement that this kind of meeting demonstrates.

The audience was quick to ask several questions of their elected representatives, then had an opportunity to meet them one-on-one both before and after the formal presentation.

Our thanks to **Ann Suyeyasu**, our official greeter; to **Gail Pedersen** for bringing membership materials; and to **Judy Borlase, Marilyn Fuller, Ann Griffin, and Joyce Sogg**, who provided refreshments. Joyce also acted as the timer for the opening statements and follow-up questions. **Virginia Turner** was our liaison with the League.



From left to right: **Rob Rennie**, Los Gatos Town Council; **Manny Cappello**, Saratoga Vice-Mayor; **Kieran Kelly**, representing Santa Clara County Supervisor Ken Yeager; **Evan Low**, Assembly member, District 28; **Jim Beall**, State Senator, District 15; **Joe Simitian**, Santa Clara County Supervisor; **Liz Gibbons**, Campbell City Council; **Barbara Spector**, Los Gatos Town Council; and **Marico Sayoc**, Los Gatos Town Council.

A Message from Chair Nancy Anderson

AAUW Homeless Committee Preparing for December's Holiday Party at the Homeless Shelter

The Homeless Committee is one of the most active groups in our Branch. We continue to support the *Women's Gathering Place*, a place of respite for homeless women. We provide a hearty meal once a month for the women and have purchased a dishwasher and large refrigerator to support to lunch program. In addition to the lunches, there are craft projects, speakers, a washer and dryer, and soon a shower, all this in a safe and warm environment. If you would like to participate in the lunch program, contact Joyce Sogg at joycelawyer@verizon.net or (408) 354-5122.

We are now preparing for our annual holiday dinner, with special gifts for women at the *Commercial Street Inn*. We prepare dinner and share dinner and then we give out the wrapped gifts. We try to have at least 3 gifts for each women. You can help with this project by donating new gift items or making a donation so we can buy gifts. The women appreciate warm sweaters

HELP THE HOMELESS

and capes, socks, gloves, and caps, and cosmetics. For clothing, we especially need large sizes.

If you would like to donate items, leave them on Nancy Anderson's porch at 13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga. If you prefer to make a donation, you can send a check payable to ISPF, a 501(c)3 entity, and mail to the Homeless Committee treasurer, JoAn Lambert, 14030 Elvira Street, Saratoga, CA 95070. Do make your donation soon; the holidays are upon us and the women are so delighted and appreciative.



The Reads for PM Book Group!

7:30 pm, Saratoga Retirement Community

December 15, 2015

Holiday Party, bring a poem, or story to share

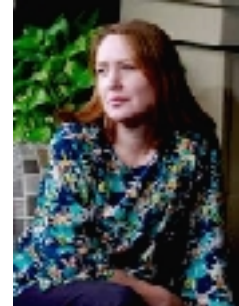
Place: *see next month's calendar*

January's Book

Book: *"The Girl on the Train"*

Author: Paula Hawkins

Reviewer: Marlene Lamb



Paula Hawkins

Save the Date . . . Step Up for Pro-Choice!



Friday, January 22, 2016 from 12:00 Noon – 1:15 pm

Los Altos Youth Center, 1 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos
\$2 Registration at the door.

Celebrating the 43rd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

Join **Los Altos-Mountain View AAUW**
And the **Santa Clara County Pro-Choice Community**

December 2015 AAUW Calendar

- 1 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:00-2:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga). Join us to develop, maintain, or improve your conversational skills. RSVP to Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **New Members and Visitors are Welcome.**
- 3 Thursday **Trail Cleanup for Hikes and Walks** – on the AAUW adopted trail. Back-by-Noon + coffee or lunch. Meet promptly! 9:00 am in Los Gatos "Free Parking - Northside Lot" behind Starbucks. Questions? Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796; Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508. **Seeking New Hikers!**
- 7 Monday **Board Meeting.** Meets 3:00 pm (*Permanent Time Change*) Saratoga Fire Station, Community Room (corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Rd.)
- 8 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children.** (*Time Change – This Month Only*) Meet at 11:00 am gift wrapping, 12:00 Noon potluck lunch, 1:00 pm more gift wrapping; at Nancy Anderson's home, (13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga). Bring wrapping paper, gift bags, ribbon, bows, tape, and scissors. RSVP to Chair Nancy, (408) 867-4383, by Dec. 15. **All are Welcome!**
- 9 Wednesday **Let's Do Lunch.** Meet 12:30 pm at *La Mere Michelle* (14467 Big Basin Way, Saratoga). RSVP to Linda King, (408) 354-54105; or Chair Joanna Yates, (408) 395-2950. **Everyone is Welcome.**
- 10 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walks – Holiday Hike and Party.** One of our favorite hikes (5-7 miles) along the banks of the beautiful *Fall Creek near Felton*, followed by our annual holiday lunch on the deck of the friendly Hallcrest Winery. Bring holiday "goodies" to share for lunch. Kay will provide drinks, plates and utensils. Meet promptly! 9:00 am at the Los Gatos "Free Parking - Northside Lot" behind Starbucks. Questions? Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796; Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508. **If the weather is really poor, we will party at Kay's house at 11:30 am. Call if question.**
- 15 Tuesday **PM Book Group – Annual December Potluck.** Meet at 6:00 pm at Saratoga to share and join in the fun. RSVP to Marilyn Lenormand, (408) 741-7820. Co-Chairs: Marlene Lamb, (408) 497-1555; Pat Khan, (408) 741-1616. **Guests Welcome!**
- 18 Friday **AM Book Review – Holiday Party.** Meets at 9:30 am. Bring a book (*good or bad*) you would like to talk about. Call Margaret Bard, (408) 377-6625, or margaretbard@gmail.com for more information and meeting location. **New Participants Welcome!**
- 22 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:00-2:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga). Join us to develop, maintain, or improve your conversational skills. RSVP to Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **New members and Visitors are Welcome.**
- 24 Thursday **Back by Noon Hike – Day Before Christmas Hike,** 5 miles. Get some exercise before all that holiday food by walking and talking with friends (*Families welcome, too.*) Meet promptly! 9:00 am in Saratoga at Argonaut Center, (*way out in front of CVS*). Questions? Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796; Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508. **New Hikers Welcome!**

January 2016

- 4 Monday **Board Meeting.** Meets 3:00 pm (*Permanent Time Change*) Saratoga Fire Station, Community Room (corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Rd.)
- 5 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:00-2:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga). Join us to develop, maintain, or improve your conversational skills. RSVP to Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **New Members and Visitors are Welcome.**
- 8 Friday **Armchair Travel Adventures.** Meets 7:30 pm at The Terraces (800 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos). **Ethiopia: Abyssinia Today.** Join photographer Alan Levenson as he traveled to Ethiopia for three weeks in 2015. He spent two weeks in the Northern part of the country, focusing on historical towns, sites and architecture. He spent the final week of the trip in the South, visiting the tribes who live today much as they have for thousands of years. Chair: JoAn Lambert, (408) 867-6237. Co-chair: Pat Khan. **Members and Guests Welcome!**

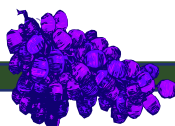


December 2015

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch
American Association of University Women
14415 Evans Lane
Saratoga, CA 95070

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Grapevine Newsletter Editor, Gail Pedersen; Proofreader, Joyce Sogg; Calendar Editor, Joyce Sogg; **The final deadline for copy is the 10th of the month.** Copy to gail_pedersen@yahoo.com

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Gifts for Teens-Nickels and Helping Hands Benefit Needy Teens

Get your holiday spirit in high gear by helping fill holiday gift bags. Volunteers are needed from December 3 to 9 to fill 1,300 bags for distribution to local agencies.

Our new site at 2455 Masonic Drive is centrally located just off Hwy 87, Curtner and Canoas Gardens. Come check out the new site and be a part of the fun. To volunteer contact Kathy@gifts4teens.org

The *Nickels for Non Profits* at Whole Foods Market Blossom Hill is continuing through January 17, 2016 benefiting **Gifts for Teens**. Bring your own reusable bag and Whole Foods Blossom Hill will donate 5 cents towards **Gifts for Teens**. Every nickel counts. Happy holiday shopping.

-Jan Giroux, jgiroux603@aol.com



Blossom Hill

1146 BLOSSOM HILL RD • SAN JOSE • CA 95118
408 • 266 • 3700

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch AAUW

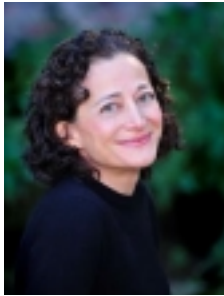
Authors' Luncheon 2016

Benefiting AAUW Funds

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

California Café (Old Town), 50 University Ave, Los Gatos

~ Meet our three authors and have them autograph their books ~



Donia Bijan



Keith Raffel



Pamela Spahr

Donia Bijan, author of *Maman's Homesick Pie: Persian Heart in an American Kitchen*

Keith Raffel, author of *Temple Mount!*

Pamela Spahr, author of *Caregiver's Survival Toolkit: Go from Surviving to Thriving*

~ Invite your guests and AAUW friends to a delicious luncheon and an irresistible dessert ~

~ (1) Ravioli – Vegetarian Choice, (2) Chinese Chicken Salad, and (3) Beef Au Jus ~

\$55 per person (\$23 tax deductible)

Reservations with payment must be received by January 13, 2016

No-host wine bar opens at 11:00 am | Lunch served at 11:45 am

Open Seating Tables of 8 — Arrive Early to Select Your Seat

For additional information please call Judy Borlase, (408) 358-2262.

-----cut here-----

Number attending _____ x \$55 each = \$_____ (*Total Enclosed*) **Meal Choice?** _____

NAMES as you would like them on badge(s): _____ PHONE _____

Mail the completed form and check made payable to AAUW FUNDS (*to be received by January 13, 2016*)
to Eleanor Yick, 105 Stacia St, Los Gatos, CA 95030 (*Your check is your receipt.*)