

December General Meeting



Join Us at the Annual AAUW Holiday Gala

Sunday, December 12, 2010, between 2:00 and 4:00 pm
at the Vasona Terraces, Clubhouse (15400 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos)

Good Food! Good Company! Good Conversation!

All members and their guest are invited to join the celebration at our Holiday Gala! Meet new members and renew friendships at this relaxed and festive party. Father Christmas will be checking who “has been naughty and nice” again this year (Nick Marafino, Lavonne’s husband, will again attend in costume – the highlight of last year’s party).

The clubhouse is on Winchester in the front of the complex. Parking is available along Winchester Blvd. The board is bringing savory finger-foods, dessert treats and wine (*a nonalcoholic punch will be provided*).

You are welcome to bring a plate of your favorite holiday goodies or a bottle of wine. The most important thing is that you come and have fun with your fellow AAUW friends.

New Members are especially invited! We look forward to meeting you and “*putting names to faces*” at the Holiday Gala.

Coming Next Month . . .

January 2011 Benefiting AAUW Funds

Author’s Luncheon 2011

Chair: Geri Williams

When: Wednesday, January 26, Lunch served 11:45 am

Where: La Rinconada Country Club, Los Gatos

See the flyer inserted in this Grapevine Issue (for those who receive mailed copies). For our digital PDF Grapevine users check out page 9 for the flyer.

Book Club – PM

The January book to read is:

Detective Inspector Huss, by Helene Tursten

Meets on Third Tuesday at 7:30 pm (*see the January calendar next month for details*).

Travel “Armchair” Adventures

The travel slide presentation will be:

“*Close-up Encounters with Mountain Gorillas – and More.*” Meets the First Friday at 8:00 pm (*see the January calendar next month for details*).

Wine Tasting Raises Money for Local Scholarships

The setting for Black Ridge Vineyards was spectacular, the refreshments were wonderful, and our guests enjoyed the variety of wines which the staff described and poured – viognier, pinot noir, and San Andreas red, named for the San Andreas fault which runs through the vineyards. All are made from 100% estate-grown grapes. With plenty of time for socializing and sipping, it was truly a memorable afternoon!

We were so pleased that the president of West Valley College, Dr. Lori Gaskin, was able to join us, along with several members of the West Valley College staff. With college costs increasing and funding hard to find, we will be able to offer 3 scholarships of \$1,000 each to women who are transferring to a four-year institution to complete their degrees in a math or science related field. Our generous donors and guests deserve a round of applause for helping make that funding possible.

Many thanks to the terrific committee who provided delicious food and nonalcoholic beverages: Gladys Armstrong, Margaret Bard, Donette Dake, Lavonne Marafino, Sumi Tanabe, and Ginny Aragon, our representative from West Valley College. I appreciate all your help and support.

Our committee will be reviewing the scholarship applications in the spring and will introduce our winners at the EF Potluck Luncheon on Saturday, April 30. We encourage you to come and meet them; they are always a very inspiring group of women. If you would like to join the committee, call me at (408) 866-4234 or email vturner@sbcglobal.net.

–Virginia Turner, Local Scholarship Committee Chair

Presidential Message

We have just finished the midterm election and it called to mind the “90th anniversary of women’s winning the vote.” It was brought to my attention that the California branch of AAUW played a major role in making this happen. It seems that the national organization was cautious about going too radical or should we say maverick and the California AAUW members stepped in and brought the message to the forefront until at last women were given the vote.

The suffragettes were jailed for picketing the white house, beaten, fed worm ridden slop and a variety of cruel and humiliating actions were taken against them under the presidency of Woodrow Wilson. The film *‘Iron Jawed Angels’* is a realist telling of the fight these women waged so that each of us can exercise our right to vote. This time voting was made even more meaningful having these facts brought to my attention by Gladys Bernyk and Pat Khan.

On a lighter note our Holiday Party is coming up Sunday, December 12 at



the Vasona Terraces Clubhouse This is a lovely space in which to spend an afternoon. It was a spectacular, gala event last year with good food, good friends and plenty of liquid refreshments. We want you to attend with your spouse or friends and enjoy the fire, the season, and the conversant company.

Our branch is always looking for new members. The Holiday Party is an excellent time to invite a friend, a neighbor or relative who might enjoy joining our group. See you there.

–Mary Surginer



Seeking Recipe Submissions

Fundraising Cookbook

Do you have any delicious, easy, and cost effective recipes to share? We are seeking recipes for appetizers and desserts for our fundraising Cookbook. These recipes are the “Winners” that we make for family, friends & take to potlucks. *“I know that I want to share a recipe when it disappears whenever I take it to a function.”* –Lavonne Marafino.

Email or send the recipe(s) to Lavonne Marafino and Gail Pedersen for inclusion in *Beginning and Ending Cookbook* that we are putting together.

Preview of the 2011 Author's Luncheon Speakers

Benefiting AAUW Funds

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

La Rinconada Country Club, 14587 Chearview Dr., Los Gatos

11:15 am No-host Wine Bar | 11:45 am Lunch

\$55 (\$25 tax deductible) / Make Your Reservations by January 12, 2011



Jean Lin, poet and author of *Breathing Rice* – an East-West Love Story

In a series of narrative and lyric poems, Saratoga resident Jean Lin tells the story of her marriage to a Chinese man.

They met as students in the early 1970s, and married at a time when cross-cultural marriages were far less common than they are today. They raised a biracial family, encountering joy and love along the way, along with the inevitable community bias and subtle (or not) racism. They built a life in the United States, but also traveled to China to meet extended family members and to celebrate their own ethnic diversity.

Her poems deal with all the obvious differences: physical characteristics, food, music, language, attitudes. But the poems also show how similar families can be, on either continent. And throughout there is love: for her husband and children, for her first family, and for her in-laws.

Annick Shinn, author of *Pierre's War*

Annick O. Shinn was born in France shortly before World War II broke out. She still has vivid memories of her childhood under German occupation, and based on those memories, weaved a novel depicting the living conditions during that period. She immigrated to the United States in the late 1950's and settled in California.

Pierre's War is a novel of events occurring after German troops invaded France in 1940. Overnight, ten-year old Pierre's life is turned upside down. Optimistic by nature, he believes the occupation of his country won't last. However, as time goes by and the situation worsens, he must adjust to reality. With resilience, he learns to live as normally as possible within his close-knit family, surrounded by the havoc of war. In difficult times, people show their best or worst behavior. Friendships are made, strained, or lost. Pierre experiences all these, but never loses hope during the four long years separating the first day of invasion to the day of liberation.

Ginger Summit, author of the *Complete Book of Gourd Craft* (Lark Books), *Gourds In Your Garden: A Guidebook for the Home Gardener* and *Making Gourd Musical Instruments*.

Ginger has been involved with handicrafts and textile arts for over 30 years, and in 1988 became aware of the use of gourds as a medium for creative expression. While gourds have been used by humans for well over ten thousand years, they have only recently been rediscovered by the art and craft community.

Her projects have included utilitarian projects for daily use in the home, as well as decorative items using many different media for embellishment. For the past several years she has explored the history and cultural uses of gourds around the world. Museums and private collections reveal a fascinating but largely unexplored use of gourds by every culture in the temperate and tropical zones of the world throughout history. Gourd Art is quickly becoming a recognized art form by collectors around the world.

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Recipe

Honey-Glazed Mixed Nuts

Makes: 1 1/2 cups or 12 servings

1 can (11.5oz.) Mixed Nuts
2 Tblesp. honey
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper

1. In a skillet, combine all the ingredients in a skillet over medium-high heat. Cook for 2 to 3 minutes or until glaze starts to simmer and turn foamy.
2. Immediately spread onto a lightly greased baking sheet, separating with a fork. Cool completely. Store in an air-tight container.

–Gail Pedersen, Grapevine editor

Help Families in Great Need This Holiday Season!

A recent email from Christine Burroughs, CEO of InnVision, the organization that includes the Georgia Travis Center gives us the following information:

It is an unfortunate fact that families with young children are the fastest growing segment of our local homeless population, we see this at all our housing programs. Each and every day, we provide assistance to over 1,400 residents at 26 locations. Many of our clients are children who would otherwise be without a safe haven, were it not for the 500,000 meals and 195,000 nights of shelter we offer each year.

Many factors put people at risk of homelessness. Unemployment, low wages, lack of affordable housing and healthcare are contributors, often along with personal issues. Individuals and families struggling with lack of income, a serious illness, or the stress of coping with a barely manageable situation can start a downward spiral. They are left with few options and little or no resources on which to rely. Some families lose their housing completely; others still have shelter but must rely on drop-in services for food, healthcare, job training, and physical and emotional support.

Our Committee members are heading out with our home-cooked food. First, to the Georgia Travis Center as we provide a Thanksgiving Brunch to the homeless women and children and many of the workers in the programs housed in the building. In December we provide a Holiday Dinner at the overnight shelter, The Commercial Street Inn, for the women and children housed there. We take a yummy dinner and presents for the ladies. (The children will get their presents

through the Santa's Cupboard Program).

InnVision runs an Adopt-A-Family program for the holidays. The adopting giver provides gifts for the parents, children and a tree. If anyone is interested in this or in our Committee please contact Nancy Anderson at Dander2567@aol.com, or 867-4383.



Stanford University
July 22, 2010

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you so much for choosing me to go to Tech Trek. I have had a great time. When the "Bat" lady came, I learned that bats are really cute and no one should be scared of them. The "Pixel" lady has an amazing job. It would be so cool to have that job, but it sounds like a lot of work. I went to the San Francisco Exploratorium and had so much fun putting my hands in science.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I really appreciate coming. Sincerely,

–Jennifer Miller

Stanford University
July 22, 2010

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you so much for giving me the amazing experience of going to Stanford to expand my knowledge in math and science. The class that I attended was Marine Biology. It is my passion and it is great to know that other people think that I should continue to going into it.

In Tech Trek I was able to meet new friends that share the same passion in science and math as me. There were many new things that I took out of this experience. I am very happy to say that this camp will stay in memory as enjoyable and I will be cheering for the girls that will get into the program in future generations.

Thank you again and let me just say that Tech Trek ROCKS!

–Becky Hoag

Stanford University
July 22, 2010

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

I very much appreciate you letting me go to Stanford for Tech Trek. I have made soooo many friends and made lots of memories because of you. This week has been so incredible. The Junior Counselors and everyone was right, this was the greatest experience.

I love the responsibility of going to breakfast without a “dorm mom” and when I can call my 206 “my dorm.” I have learned a lot about nutrition and have discovered many new species in the world of water. I also enjoy being able to be someone different in a new place. Tech Trek Rules!

–Elle Rogers

Stanford University
July 22, 2010

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you so much for sponsoring my trip to Tech Trek. Words cannot describe to you how life-changing my experience has been. My days have been completely packed, and everyday I woke up to a new adventure. My core class is “chemistry of food.” I am learning so much, even if some of it is kinda gross. For instance, yesterday we made a McDonald’s Happy Meal Smoothie. Some other fun things have been our field trip to San Francisco Bay and building our own robots.

Tech Trek has also given me insight into how to prepare for my future. In “Magical Finances,” we learned how to get in, pay for, and survive college. Also we had many successful women come and talk to us, many of whom were Tech Trek alumni themselves.

Just think, maybe one day I’ll be standing with them, sharing stories with bright young minds like myself and I would have you, the wonderful people who gave me this opportunity, to thank. Sincerely,

–Tara Nicole Gomes

Stanford University
July 22, 2010

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you so much for raising enough money to send me to Tech Trek. Like the JC’s (Junior Counselor) said at the beginning of the week, this will be the best experience of your life.

The great thing is, they were right! I will never forget this experience in my whole lifetime. Tech Trek Rocks!!! Thanks again,

–Hannah Eberle

You Can Help Send Girls to Tech Trek

We are working to raise money to send girls to the “Tech Trek” camp this next summer. It costs \$800 for us to send a single girl to the Stanford Camp. **Can you help with a donation?**

Two ways to help are:

- make a tax deductible contribution (in any amount) made out to “ISPF — AAUW” with a note on the memo line “for Tech Trek — LG Saratoga Branch”
- encourage your service club scholarship program to support our Tech Trek effort by sending one or two girls.

At our September General Meeting, this year’s recipients shared their rich camp memories. Please read about their experiences and the memories of the week at Tech Trek on these two pages. All of our attendees had a deep and memorable experience at camp.

I also have a seven minute DVD on last years’ Tech Trek made by a girl who was a previous camper and has come back as a junior counselor. I have a copy for anyone to borrow.

Contact by phone or mail: Nancy Hobbs, 408-395-4045; 15604 Kavin Lane, Monte Sereno, 95030. Questions? Send email to nfhobbs@verizon.net

–Nancy Hobbs



Help to Assemble Bags for Gifts for Teens Program

San Jose Branch Seeking Volunteers!

Gifts for Teens is looking for numerous volunteers to prepare items and assemble bags for December 8 – 16. Schedule your day, either morning or afternoon shift, by contacting Cheryl at cherylmarkman@hotmail.com, 578-8315. Preparing the bags is fun and stimulating while offering a local impoverished youth a fun gift and a brighter holiday. Come help, include friends and enjoy the AAUW holiday spirit!

We assemble the bags and totes at 4555 Great America Parkway, cross street Patrick Henry, through the generosity of Citrix. **Note the New Location!** This centrally located modern office building is just two stop lights (2 short blocks) off Hwy. 101, exit Great American Parkway, in Santa Clara. We will have ample room to work, elevators, and even some covered parking! Citrix employees are excited about supporting Gifts for Teen, offering the new site and volunteering assembly time. The change of location was necessitated by our need to have more work space, as success has vastly enlarged the project.



Each and every teen will have a gift certificate for new shoes in their bag! This is truly an exciting gift to give the youth! Thank you to all who donated funds for this shoe effort, especially AAUW members, Sharks and Mellanox Technologies. Knit scarves, cosmetics, and other fun teen gifts are still being collected. Leave items, clearly marked for Gifts for Teens, including your name, at AAUW 1165 Minnesota Ave., San Jose, 95125. Cash donations are made to ISPF-AAUW, GFT and mailed to the above address. Check out the new website, www.gifts4teens.org. It sports a colorful AAUW signature teal background!

–Elaine Benoit, ebenoit@pacbell.net



What Does “One Person, One Vote” Mean?

AAUW has developed a program that is encouraging all members to become involved in the decision making process along with the officers of AAUW. They have redesigned their website to make it more user friendly and want to encourage members to visit and take a tour. They want input on the revision of the Public Policy Program with November 15 as a deadline. I apologize for my late reporting on this issue but we will know for future reference.

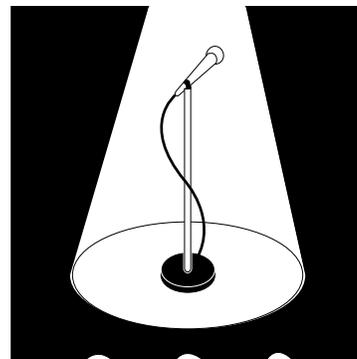
–Gladys Bernyk, Public Policy Chair

As part of AAUW’s new “One member, One vote” process, AAUW members have the opportunity to make comments and offer amendments to the Public Policy Program. The system for accepting recommendations was available until November 15, 2010, at which point no more proposals or comments were accepted. The AAUW Public Policy Committee will then finalize the proposed Public Policy Program that will go before the membership for a vote in 2011. AAUW Public Policy Committee Chair Nancy Mion has submitted the committee’s recommended amendments, which you can see on Public Policy Proposal Amendments page of the website.

To access the One Member, One Vote online system, log in to the AAUW Member Center using your AAUW member ID and then select One Member, One Vote from the left navigation menu. To review, propose amendments, and discuss AAUW Public Policy Program online, select Public Policy Program from the left navigation menu.

–Mr. Seth A. Chase, Field Director AAUW

Questions or Comments: Contact Seth at 1111 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20036; Tel. 202.785.7786 | fax 202.466.7637



December 2010 AAUW Calendar

- 1 Wednesday **Current Interests Blog** (*formerly Independent Women*), 12:30 pm at Florentine Trattoria restaurant on Big Basin Way in Saratoga. Chair: Shirley Cancellieri, 741-5586; Co-chairs: Joan Kjemtrup, 356-6016 and Barbara Hawkes, 395-4397.
- 2 Thursday **Los Gatos Trail Cleanup (Scenic Hikes and Walks)**, 9:00 am Cleanup will be followed by a short hike, coffee or lunch. Remember to bring gloves and clippers. Meet promptly at 9:00 am in the Los Gatos Park & Ride lot behind Starbucks. Chair: Kay Duffy, 867-0508.
- 6 Monday **Board Meeting**, 3:30 pm in the Community Room at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road.
- 7 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish**, 1:30-2:30 pm at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Court, Saratoga, 867-4383. Contact either: Sharon Kelkenberg 650.962.1656 or Helen Lemmon 408.867.0575
- 8 Wednesday **Let's Do Lunch**, 11:30 am at La Rinconada Country Club, 14595 Clearview Drive, Los Gatos. Reservations to hostess Nancy Christiansen, 356-1181. Chair: Catherine Reinhardt, 867-0607.
- 8-16 **Gifts for Teens, Bag Assembly** at Citrix on 4555 Great America Pkwy (see article in this issue for directions). Choose either 9:00 am or 1:00 pm work shifts to help from Wednesday, December 8 through Thursday, December 16. Contact Cheryl Markman, (*San Jose Branch AAUW*) cherylmarkman@hotmail.com for signing up or for information.
- 9 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walks Holiday Hike and Party**. Meet promptly at 9:00 am in the Los Gatos Park & Ride lot behind Starbucks. One of our favorite hikes—along the banks of Fall Creek under redwoods with lunch at the Hallcrest Winery. 5-6 miles. Bring holiday lunch “goodies” to share. Kay provides drinks, plates, and utensils. Back by 4:00 pm. Note: if weather is really poor, we will party at Kay's at 11:30 am. Call Kay at 867-0508 if you can come.
- 12 Sunday **Holiday Party**, 2:00-4:00 pm, at Vasona Terraces Clubhouse, Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos. Bring your spouse or a friend and come to our AAUW Annual Holiday Party. (*See the front page for details.*)
- 14 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children**, 11:00 am (*note change of time*) at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga. This is our annual potluck and gift wrapping meeting. RSVP to Chair: Nancy Anderson, 867-4383.
- 21 Tuesday **PM Book Review**, 6:30 pm (*note change of time*) Holiday Potluck. Bring a poem or story to share. Saratoga Retirement Community, RSVP to Licia Thomson 741-7611. Co-chairs; Pat Khan, 741-1616 and Marlene Lamb 356-8441
- 23 Thursday **Back-by-Noon Hike**, 9:00 am Take a break from holiday chores. Meet promptly at 9:00 am at Argonaut Shopping Center, way out in front of CVS. Questions? Kay Duffy 867-0508 or Jane Bishop 356-7796.

January 2011

- 7 Friday **Travel “Armchair” Adventures**, 7:30 pm, at The Terraces of Los Gatos, 800 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos. Program: “*Close-up Encounters with Mountain Gorillas – and More.*” Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616; Corinne Rathjens, 867-2445.



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

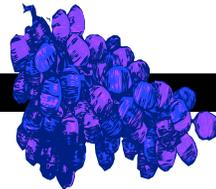
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December 2010



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Please make these changes in your directory.

Jo Harriman (Rejoined)

16030 Rose Ave, Monte Sereno, CA 95030;
Tel 354-1978; Email jo.harriman@comcast.net

Virginia Ann (Jan) Schmidek (New Address & Tel.)

200 Winchester Circle, B-306; Los Gatos, CA 95032;
Tel 796-7535 (Email address is the same.)

Please send any additions, corrections or changes in the Directory Information to Patty Weber, Database Manager, xaviercugat@comcast.net



Qualification of Membership

Anyone holding an associate, baccalaureate, graduate degree or the equivalent, or nursing school diploma or business school associate degree from an accredited institution is eligible for membership. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch AAUW
Authors' Luncheon 2011
Benefiting AAUW Educational Foundation



Wednesday, January 26, 2011
La Rinconada Country Club, 14597 Clearview Drive, Los Gatos
\$55 per person (\$25 tax deductible)

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

Jean Lin, author of *“Breathing Rice”*, a series of narrative and lyric poems telling the story of her marriage to a Chinese man

Annick Shinn, author of *“Pierre’s War”*, a novel based on her experiences growing up in France during World War II

Ginger Summit, master craftsman and author of *“Complete Book of Gourdcraft, Making Gourd Musical Instruments, Weekend Crafter”*

~ Invite your guests and AAUW friends to a delicious luncheon of Oven Roasted Chicken and Butter Lettuce Salad and a special Dessert Trilogy ~

\$55 (\$25 tax deductible) per person

Reservations with payment must be received by January 15, 2011

No-host wine bar opens at 11:00 a.m. | Lunch served at 11:45 a.m.

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

DIRECTIONS to La Rinconada Country Club: From Winchester Blvd. take Wimbledon Drive and turn left onto Clearview Drive; club entry is between two houses. Parking in front of the clubhouse.

For additional information please call Geri Williams, (408) 642-5042.

—cut here—

Number attending _____ x \$55 each = \$_____ (Total Enclosed)

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 15*)
to Virginia Turner, 14415 Evans Lane, Saratoga, CA 95070 (*Your check is your receipt.*)