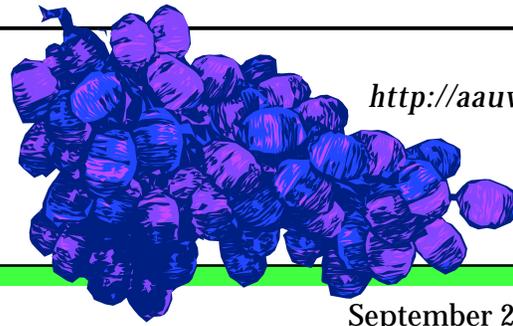


# Grapevine



Volume 42, Number 1

September 2009



## General Showcase

Mary Surginer, Program Vice President, announces the first general “showcase” meeting on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Terraces, 800 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

There will be music throughout the morning, an overview of the interest groups, a light brunch and a choral program by the Zingers. The Zingers are not to be missed. You will be humming for days.

Please plan to attend and bring a friend who might like to join AAUW.

—Mary Surginer, Program Vice President

## Attention All Section Leaders

The General “Showcase” Meeting is Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Please be at The Terraces—Los Gatos at 9:15am to select a table for your “Section Information” display and sign up.

If you need a sign for your table please let me know so it can be made. Contact me at [Marlduffin@aol.com](mailto:Marlduffin@aol.com), 997-7528

—Marlene Duffin, Assistant General Meetings Program

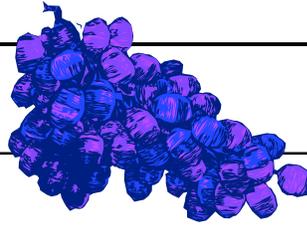
## Tech Trek Summer Camp for Girls

We sent 6 girls to Tech Trek Math & Science Camp at Stanford. They were Sara Sterry and Joan Yun from C.T. English Middle School, Madison Ventura from Rolling Hills Middle School, Sarah Finley from Redwood Middle School, Natasha Noskowski from Fisher Middle School and Betsy Wall from St. Mary’s School. The girls lived on campus in a dorm with a dorm mother, ate in the Lagunita dining room, went to morning classes in the public rooms of the dorm, made new friends, met women with math or science degrees in various professions, and learned from an admission counselor at Stanford about all the programs available to assist them in getting a college education.

We hope to have these girls at our September General Meeting to tell you a little bit of their experiences. They made a video of the camp experience which we hope to show at some time. We want to again thank the Los Gatos History Club for their generous grant for four of the girls. The Tech Trek committee also thanks all the members who have generously contributed to our campership funds.

—Nancy Hobbs, Tech Trek Co-Chair

## Message from the President



The AAUW Los Gatos-Saratoga branch is up and running after considerable efforts to create a smooth transition for 2009-2010. As I reflect on my first few months as president, I am happy to report the following exciting AAUW updates, which I know are important to us all.

### Updates on members and committees in action.

- Our new Grapevine editor is Gail Pedersen and Courtney Duncan is co-editor.
- Jean Wenberg, our historian, graciously agreed to allow us to use her address on the Grapevine.
- Mary Ellen Madden continues to put together the monthly calendar for the Grapevine.
- Lynn Sprague has offered to be in charge of mailing the first Grapevine newsletter.
- Geri Williams, EF VP, and her committee have picked Wed., Jan. 27, 2010 for our Author's Luncheon.

### Please mark your calendar.

- Dianne Priest, Barbara Lea, and I will have our Directory ready for

mailing this month.

- Helen Lemmon has contacted advertisers for the Directory.
- Jean Wenberg is handling the mailing of the Directory.
- Mary Surginer, Program VP, and her committee have been hard at work for us on program logistics.
- Virginia Turner, Chair of the Local Scholarship Committee, and committee members are working hard on a fall program.
- Joan Kjemtrup, Sarah Model, and I have drafted a 2009-2010 budget.
- Nancy Hobbs is responsible for the wonderful picture in the Saratoga News and Los Gatos Weekly of our Tech Trek recipients.
- Louise Quenon is coordinating the Bridge groups to help with refreshments.

### In other news.

AAUW applauds the Senate Confirmation and swearing in our new Supreme Court Justice, Judge Sotomayor.

"Today is a proud day for those of us who fight for gender equity and judges

who uphold the rights of all Americans," said Linda Maatz, AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations. "We hope that all Americans will join us in celebrating this historic achievement for all women."

I regretfully had to accept Judy Gilchrist's resignation as Membership VP due to unexpected surgery.

### Important reminders.

Dues: If you have not paid your dues, please do so now. National will drop you from their membership if they do not receive your dues by October 15, 2009.

### Volunteers welcome.

Please consider joining our leadership by filling one of the following positions:

- President-elect
- Publicity
- Membership VP
- Grapevine Mailing (*after the September issue*)

I am looking forward to the coming year.

—Lavonne Marafino

## New Grapevine Editor

As both a new AAUW member and the new Grapevine editor, I have a lot to learn. I want to thank the members for extending a warm welcome and for their help and advice.

I have a background in business and design. I earned a BS in Interior Design from SJSU. I am also a grateful student of Donette Dake in the Desktop Publishing program at West Valley College. As a Senior Administrative Coordinator, I have developed strong graphic design and marketing-communications skills by producing newsletters, training materials, website content and promotional flyers.

I would like to propose that each month an Interest Group share a website or link that they have found fun, interesting or helpful. (Such as "Hikes and Walks," a link to county parks with walking trails or "Independent Women," a link for changing recipes to 1 serving).

As a new member, I am eager to learn more about the AAUW and the Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch in particular.

—Gail Pedersen, Grapevine Editor  
gail\_pedersen@yahoo.com

## Donations to ISPF–AAUW

When donating to the Interbranch Special Projects Fund–AAUW of Santa Clara County (ISPF) it matters how the check is made out. This affects not only Tech Trek, but also the Homeless Committee and the West Valley College Scholarship Funds. The bank handling the AAUW–ISPF funds has tightened up enforcement of regulations and will hold up deposited checks improperly made out.

Make check out to ISPF–AAUW of Santa Clara County. On the memo line at the bottom of the check, write Tech Trek, Homeless Committee or West Valley College Scholarship.

—Nancy Hobbs



## Tax Deduction Facts

What are the facts regarding tax deductibility of AAUW national dues?

AAUW is restructuring and our IRS Section 501(c)(3) charitable entity, to be called AAUW, will house our membership. Most of our national dues for FY 2010 will be considered to be a charitable deduction by the IRS.

Effective April 1, 2009:

- You may send one check to include branch dues and national dues.
- AAUW National Individual Membership dues for fiscal year 2010 are \$49.
- \$46 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution but \$3 is not (because it supports AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corp. and "Get Out the Vote" activities).

## Spread the Word About the AAUW Public Policy Program!

The recent priorities for action were supporting Judge Sotomayor for the Supreme Court and supporting the Hate Crime Bill. Those votes have taken place. The convention this year drew up the Biennial priorities through 2011 for Federal action. They are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership.

AAUW's Public Policy Program establishes the federal action priorities on which AAUW members across the country will focus their advocacy efforts and guides the work of the national staff.

To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, AAUW advocates:

- Adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students
- Opposition to the use of public funds for non-public elementary and secondary education
- Protection of programs that meet the needs of girls and women in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education, including vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education
- Increased support for and access to higher education for women and disadvantaged populations
- Increased support for programs that break through barriers for women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields

To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women, AAUW advocates:

- Pay equity and fairness in compensation
- Equitable access and advancement in employment, including vigorous enforcement of employment antidiscrimination statutes
- Greater availability of and access to benefits and policies that promote work-life balance
- Programs that provide women with education, training, and support for success in the workforce, including nontraditional occupations and women's entrepreneurship
- Strengthening programs, including welfare and vocational education, to improve postsecondary education access, career development, and earning potential
- Strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements and protecting Social Security from privatization

To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW advocates:

- Vigorous protection of and full access to civil and constitutional rights
- Choice in the determination of one's reproductive life
- Freedom from violence and fear of violence in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities
- Increased access to quality, affordable health care and family planning services, including expansion of patients' rights
- Support for U.N. programs that address human rights and women's and girls' concerns
- Freedom in definition of family and guarantee of civil rights in all family structures.

—Gladys Bernyk

## Our Very Own Nancy Anderson

### Saratoga Chamber of Commerce 2008 Citizen of the Year Award

One cannot belong to the Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of AAUW very long without realizing the incredible amount of time and energy Nancy Anderson devotes to helping others. However, only a very few of us realized the extent of her endeavors until she was awarded the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce 2008 Citizen of the Year Award on June 19, 2009. The Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of AAUW nominated Nancy for this event.

From 1960 to 1974, Nancy worked in the Saratoga orchards helping out the migrant farm workers under the auspices of the Santa Clara County Council of Churches Migrant Ministry Program. She interviewed the families

to see what medical needs they might have and arranged transportation for them to the Santa Clara County Public Health Clinic in Almaden.

She initiated a tutoring program for the migrant children at the Federated Church and did what was general social work for the families—finding doctors, helping with food, etc. With this experience, she helped coordinate the Mustard Faire to focus attention on the preservation of Saratoga's city orchards.

Nancy has been an active member in many other organizations that include: the Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission, Good Government Group, Saratoga Pan American Round

Table, Saratoga Drama Group, Saratoga Senior Center, Saratoga Foothill Club, Saratoga Historical Foundation, and one of her favorites, the John Stowell Dahlia Society.

In our branch she has served as President, Membership Chair, and Public Policy Chair. She joined the Committee for Homeless Women and Children soon after its founding and has been involved with the following functions: Committee Chair, Fund-raising Co-chair with JoAn Lambert—for 16 years, and Public Policy Chair.

She was a Money Management and Self Esteem trainer at the Georgia Travis Center and a public speaker for InnVision, a homeless agency, to promote interest and raise money. She is next year's Chair of the English Tea.

One of Nancy's proudest achievements was her appointment by Supervisor, Diane McKenna to the Social Services Advisory Commission to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors from 1990–1996. For two of those years she was the Chairman.

Nancy started her higher education at USC and later received a B.A. in Anthropology from San Jose State University and a MSW in Social Work from the same university, as well as completing 30 graduate units in Mexican-American Studies. She was employed from 1974–1984 by the Santa Clara County Department of Social Services, Children's Protective Services Unit.

Her husband is Doug Anderson. She has three daughters, five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

You may read a great deal more about Nancy in the June 30, 2009 edition of the *Saratoga News*, where Brian Babcock wrote a very fine article.

—Sarah Model



## Vanilla Essence

The Vanilla Essence is a richly flavored version of the best quality vanilla extract. Use as you would any vanilla extract. A wonderful gift for anyone who loves to bake. Make it now for yourself and to give as a great Holiday gift. The longer it infuses the richer the vanilla flavor.

3 vanilla beans, cut into small shreds  
2 cups brandy (any house brand is fine)

1. Put the vanilla shreds into a bottle; add the brandy and screw on the lid. Shake the bottle occasionally, and in the course of three or four months time the Vanilla Essence will be ready.
2. Strain the finished Vanilla Essence into a small bottle. Use in all recipes calling for vanilla extract.
 

**Hint:** Strain & bottle only what you need. The Vanilla Essence continues to improve as you let it stand with the vanilla shreds. Continue to shake it every few weeks. (I have let it infuse for up to 12 months.)
3. I pour the Vanilla Essence through a tea strainer or a strainer lined with a coffee filter into a 2-cup measuring cup and then pour into a small bottle to use or give as a gift.

—Gail Pedersen, Grapevine Editor

These recollections were taken from a book of remembrances from past presidents and scrapbooks in the hope not all will be forgotten as time marches on.

## Recollections of the 1940's

The Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of the American Association of University Women started as a "chapter" and grew into a "branch." Initiation fees were \$1.00 and dues were \$3.00.

In April 1941, three women met to discuss the formation of a Los Gatos Branch of AAUW. They were Miss Oliver, (California Membership Chair) and Miss Anderson (California Social Studies Chair) from the Santa Cruz Branch and Miss Beckwith of Los Gatos. Armed with a list of 75 university graduate names, they drove through the hills of Los Gatos and Saratoga hunting for the addresses. Steps were taken to organize the Los Gatos-Saratoga "chapter" of AAUW at a May 17th luncheon, sponsored by the San Jose Branch.

June 7, 1941, California's 48<sup>th</sup> Branch met to adopt the AAUW constitution and bye-laws and to elect officers. Mrs. Kennedy was elected the first president. There were 31 members.

The Branch members interviewed town and county officials to find out the needs and problems of Saratoga and Los

Gatos. The eight interests were: the plight of the farmer, liquor control, nutrition, degrading literature in popular magazines and movies, cooperatives, homes for girls, migrants in our locality, race problems in our neighborhoods and labor problems.

The Branch sold cookbooks for the Fellowship Fund. The National Fellowship Fund was investing in defense bonds. The Branch was growing and nametags were instituted so members "can become acquainted." San Jose State was finally accredited, meaning that it had women on the faculty. School supplies were collected for China and Ethiopia, clothing sent to women in Europe and magazines to a college in Japan.

Our Branch had a circulating library, book review section, and political study group. Meetings were held at the Foothill Club, Little Village, Los Gatos History Club, Saratoga Federated Church, or in private homes. After May 1948, meetings were mostly held at Villa Montalvo. The Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch was the first community organization to meet at Montalvo.

—Jean Wenberg, Historian

## 2009 AAUW Convention

The 2009 AAUW Convention was one of the most exciting conventions I have attended. The speakers were outstanding: Lilly Ledbetter, a nationally recognized pay equity advocate, Rep. Rosa Delauro (D-CT) who lauded AAUW members for their support in Congress for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and also declared that AAUW must continue to urge the Senate to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, and Rep. Jackie Speier (D-Ca), who is a member of AAUW, was the keynote speaker at the Saturday Night Banquet. She is an advocate for women and said the barriers for women are still daunting and the fight is not over yet.

The Business Meetings were animated. Open membership did not pass, however, it was close. There were 863 votes against open membership and

564 for open membership. The next time this is voted on every member will have a vote as AAUW now has the "one member one vote" rule. For more information about the convention and to hear some of the speeches, go to the AAUW website at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

One of the wonderful things about the convention is renewing old friendships. I was very happy to see Eileen Hartmann again. Eileen was a member of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch from 1995-98. She was branch Educational Foundation VP and began the Author's Luncheon at the Saratoga Country Club. She also introduced the Career Shadowing Program to the branch that was very successful in introducing girls from Los Gatos and Saratoga High Schools to different occupations. Eileen now lives in New York and in

2008 she was elected State President of AAUW-New York. She said to send her best wishes to all Los Gatos-Saratoga members who remember her. Eileen's can be reached at her email: [eshartmann5@gmail.com](mailto:eshartmann5@gmail.com).

—Mary Ellen Madden



*Eileen Hartmann and Mary Ellen Madden (on the right).*

## Local Scholarship Fundraiser is Moving to October!

Our committee is working on the details of an exciting October program to raise money for our Local Scholarships. We are waiting to hear back from a couple of key people and will let you know the final details soon. Thank you for your support, we know that our members enjoy top-notch programs like our evening with the Mission Valley Chorus last February and the traditional Japanese music at Hakone Gardens the year before, and this year we have another great event in store for you and your friends.

Some members were concerned that we had too many fundraisers in a three month period. In January, the Authors' Lunch; in February, Local Scholarships; in March, the English Tea. So we've spread them out a bit this year, knowing that our members have always been very generous toward the activities that advance women in their educational pursuits and long-term success.

Local scholarships are awarded to women transferring from West Valley College to a four-year college or university to complete their bachelor's degree in a science or mathematics-related fields. Because of the cutbacks in state spending for higher education, many of these women are struggling to meet the costs of tuition, fees, books, and living expenses while they complete their degrees. Without support from people like AAUW they might not be able to finish their education and become self-supporting.

Of course you can make a donation at any time to the Local Scholarship Program. Make your check payable to ISPF-AAUW and send it to Virginia Turner, 14415 Evans Lane, Saratoga, CA 95070. If you would like to help with the scholarship application process, you are welcome to join the committee. For information, call Virginia, 408-866-4234.

—Virginia Turner, Local Scholarship Committee Chair

## Message from the Homeless Committee

Here we are, back after a summer hiatus, ready to get to work.

As usual, we will provide a lunch each month for the women and children at the Georgia Travis Center, as well as the fancy Thanksgiving brunch and Christmas gift-giving brunch. Thanks to your support, we will spend some of our meeting times disbursing the funds we have received from either donations to the Homeless Committee or from the English Tea and Silent Auction proceeds. This year's English Tea is scheduled for Saturday, April 10, 2010. The new location, with easy parking, is the Saratoga Community Center, within the Senior Center complex!

In June, Sumi Tanabe and Nancy Anderson represented the Homeless Committee at the brunch given by the Family Supportive Housing (formerly the San Jose Family Shelter) to celebrate their twenty-first anniversary and to honor all the volunteers that have given so much to their enterprise.

At the brunch we heard two stories worth repeating. They are reminders

that homelessness can happen to anyone, at any time.

One was about a young couple, both college-educated, who had thriving home businesses, but with the economic downturn, they became homeless because their clients could no longer afford to hire or pay them. The Family Shelter came to their rescue. They were living in one small room with their three children, but they were grateful and hopeful about their future.

The other delightful tale was told by Sister Margaret Gregg, one of the first directors of the shelter. A couple showed up at the shelter door with their newborn baby one cold and stormy night. A newly initiated policy stated that if there was no room people just had to be turned away. Her co-worker was adamant and ready to shut the door when Sister Margaret said, "They can stay in my office tonight, we'll find cots, and deal with this in the morning."

When the worker protested, Sister Margaret said, "Are you kidding

me? Think about it. It is Christmas Eve, we have a father, we have a mother, and we have a baby. How could I go meet my "Maker" if we had not found room for them?"

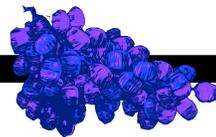
Our committee has not only donated money, but also time. Soon after the shelter first opened, Georgia Travis, Elizabeth Moran and Nancy Anderson started a program named, "*The Mother's Club*," where the preschool children were placed in YWCA-run daycare at the shelter site, and their mothers were given life-skills instruction by AAUW women and a myriad of experts from community organizations. Last year we donated funds to their "*Camper Ship Program*," children sign up for general camping and are completely outfitted with clothing and supplies so that none of the other children know they are homeless or that their family is needy.

We welcome visitors and prospective members at our meetings. Contact Nancy Anderson, 867-4383 or Dander2567@aol.com

—Nancy Anderson

## September 2009 AAUW Calendar

- 8 Tuesday **Board Meeting**, 3:30pm at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave and Saratoga–Los Gatos Road.
- 8 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children**, Potluck Dinner at 5:30pm\* (*\*Note Time Change*) at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Court, Saratoga. RSVP to Nancy Anderson, 867-4383. Chair: Pat Khan, 741-1616.
- 9 Wednesday **Let's Do Lunch**, 11:30am at Los Gatos Gourmet Shop, 109 West Main Street, Los Gatos. Hostess: Catherine Reinhardt. Call Catherine for reservations, 867-0607. Chair: Clare Baker, 867-2295. Visitors and guests are welcome.
- 10 Thursday **Hikes and Walks**, meet promptly at 9:00am in the *Los Gatos Park and Ride* lot. Canada Del Oro Open Space Preserve—explore the new trail (*not difficult*)—in this lovely park south of Almaden. Questions? Call Kay Duffy, 867-0508 or Jane Bishop, 356-7796.
- 12 Saturday **General "Showcase" Meeting**, 10:00am – 12 noon at the Terraces of Los Gatos, 800 Blossom Hill Road. (*See the front page for details.*)
- 12 Saturday **Gourmet Supper Club**. If interested, call Doris or Gladys. Chairs: Doris Agee, 257-9428 and Gladys Bernyk, 867-2348.
- 15 Tuesday **Conversation in Spanish**, Potluck Luncheon at 1:00pm at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Court, Saratoga. Please RSVP to Nancy at 867-4383 and let her know what you would like to bring for lunch. Any one who speaks a little Spanish is welcome. Contacts: Sharon Kelkenberg, 867-0588 or Helen Lemmon, 867-0575.
- 15 Tuesday **PM Book Review**, 7:30pm Saratoga Retirement Center, Licia Thomson, 741-7611. Book: *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*, by Kim Edwards. Reviewer: Roberta London. For information call—Co-Chairs: Pat Khan 741-1616 and Marlene Lamb 356-8441
- 18 Friday **AM Book Review**, 9:30am at the home of Sandra Rappaport, 23484 Sunset Drive, Los Gatos. RSVP to Sandra, 353-1253. For information call— Co-Chairs: Barbara Oggerino, 354-5394 or Kathy Cusick, 356-2213.
- 24 Thursday **"Back By Noon" Hike**, meet promptly at 9:00am at the *Los Gatos Park and Ride* lot.
- 30 Wednesday **Film Buffs**, Potluck Luncheon at 12:30 – 3:00pm,\* (*\*Note Time Change*), at the home of Lita Askanas, 13460 Saraview Drive, Saratoga. RSVP to Lita, 867-2543. Bring your favorite salad. Dessert and drinks will be provided. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.



Helen Kummere, a former longtime AAUW member, died on July 15, 2009. Her memorial service was held at The Meadows on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30pm.

Helen was a very active member of the Committee on Homeless Women and Children for many years, and, at the Meadows, she encouraged other residents to join AAUW.

For those of you who wish to send a donation, please send to: United Methodist Women, 111 Church Street, Los Gatos, CA 95030.

Martha Beverett, a longtime AAUW member, passed away.

Services for Martha Beverett were held on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00pm in the Chapel of the Villages, Cribari Center, The Villages, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, California.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a college scholarship fund for women in Martha's name, which will be administered by the Los Gatos-Saratoga branch of the AAUW. To donate to the scholarship fund, please make checks payable to the Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW and send to Faye Beverett, 204 Ramona Ave., Piedmont, CA 94611.

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

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 2)

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The next two pages are a “Supplemental Insert” to be printed on pale blue paper and inserted into the center of the Grapevine–September 2009 issue.

## AAUW Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch **PROPOSED BUDGET 2009-2010**

### Income

Branch Dues	4,500.00
Directory Advertising	800.00
Dividends – American Century (Reserves)	25.00
Transfer from Reserves	1,000.00
Miscellaneous Income (Angels)	<u>500.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 6,825.00</b>

### Expenses

Appreciation Fund	50.00
Branch Supplies	20.00
Convention-Association**	—
Convention - Northern California	1,000.00
Directory Mailing Presorted Standard	50.00
Directory Postal Permit Presorted Standard	180.00
Directory Printing/Expense***	950.00
Facility Rental or Donation	250.00
General Meeting Program	100.00
General Meeting Refreshments	150.00
Historian	15.00
Holiday Party	150.00
Insurance (California AAUW)***	800.00
Interbranch Council Dues	20.00
Leadership Training	50.00
Math/Science Network Membership & Hospitality	35.00
Membership Recruitment/Renewal	300.00
Miscellaneous/Bank Fees	25.00
Newsletter Postage	400.00
Newsletter Production	1,200.00
President's Expenses	75.00
Publicity/L.G. & Saratoga Chambers of Commerce	315.00
Recording Secretary	15.00
Secretary of State Calif. Filing Fee	20.00
Sunshine Committee	20.00
Treasurer's Expenses	10.00
Web Master	500.00
Website	100.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>6,800.00</u></b>
<b>Net Income/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 25.00</b>

### Assets

<b>Branch Assets</b>	<b>38,532.00****</b>
Checking Account	5,366.05
Educational Foundation Account	2,005.70
Reserves - American Century	<u>4,102.61</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,474.36</b>
Less Accounts Payable to ISPF:	<u>(1,830.00)</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 9,644.36</b>

#### **Notes:**

\*\*Every two years. 2011 is next National Convention

\*\*\*From Reserves

\*\*\*\*Joan Kjemtrup announced this correction at September 8, 2009 Board Meeting.

## California & National AAUW Watch

### **Legal case update**

In the spring of 2008, the lawyers for the three Legal Advocacy Fund-supported Feather River Community College cases submitted closing and reply briefs from their November 2007 trial to the California State Personnel Board. The key issue in all three cases is retaliation for complaints of sex discrimination in violation of Title IX.

After more than a year, in July 2009 the judge in the state board hearings submitted a decision in favor of all three plaintiffs. The California State Personnel Board rejected the ruling, however, and said it will decide the case itself after further written or oral arguments.

*More to come...*

### **AAUW attends White House briefing on women and health reform**

At the invitation of the White House, AAUW attended a briefing to discuss women and health reform, hosted by the Obama administration.

AAUW believes that any health reform legislation must end the practice of gender rating, the process by which insurance companies charge men and women different premiums for individually-purchased health care plans. A recent Kansas City infoZine's story called gender rating "a form of sex discrimination because it treats women as a class, rather than as individuals."

To learn more about AAUW's position on health care, visit the National AAUW website:  
[http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue\\_advocacy/actionpages/upload/Healthcare111.pdf](http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/actionpages/upload/Healthcare111.pdf)

## 2009 AAUW National Convention—Breaking Through the Barriers

AAUW's 2009 National Convention opening session started out with a video welcoming message from White House applauding AAUW's commitment to gender equity, work-life balance, and education.

Highlight Speaker Lilly Ledbetter took the stage and received a standing ovation. Ledbetter began her career in 1979 at GoodYear. After 19 years, she was given anonymous information that she was paid less than her male co-workers for virtually her entire career. She filed suit with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and her case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court where it failed. January 2009, Lilly Ledbetter was vindicated when she stood in the White House as President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

The business sessions followed. The rules were stated, allowing little time for discussion. The Articles of the newly formed By-Laws moved rather swiftly as we passed most of them, some with a small modification.

However, when Article IV Section 1A was read, it did not pass swiftly and a voice vote, a standing vote and finally a card vote was taken resulting in the section being voted down. *We will, therefore, continue on with the membership requirement as a college degree!* Many of us wore a red lei indicating our displeasure in having this even come up for a vote. It definitely was effective.

On Sunday, the final day, in the afternoon, another motion was made that would reintroduce the membership requirement in 2011 and change the wording to read "mission-based membership". It did not meet the level of support to pass. However, it is our opinion that it will come up again in 2011.

I would not have missed this exciting and important convention for the world. I am very grateful to Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch for allowing me to represent them at this important event.

—Barbara Shandera

## Participation in Great Decisions 2010 Program

School bells are starting to ring and it is time to mark your calendars for Great Decisions 2010. Great Decisions is a program created by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA) and sponsored locally by the League of Women Voters (LWV), the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council (SASCC), and the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC). Sign-ups for the coming season's program will not begin until the receipt of new program pricing and related information from the FPA. Assuming that the information arrives in time for publishing in your November newsletters you will then be provided specific topics, program fees, etc., and instructions for signing up. Meetings are planned to be in the same time periods and locations as in past years. Three separate groupings will be formed and meet:

- (Group 1) eight bi-weekly sessions held on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 1:00 to 3:00pm at the Saratoga Senior Center (SASCC's Senior Center Modular Classrooms);
- (Group 2) weekly sessions for eight consecutive weeks from 9:30 to 11:30am at the SRC; and
- (Group 3) weekly sessions for eight consecutive weeks from 2:00 to 4:00pm at the SRC. The first session for each group will begin on February 4, 2010.

For Group 1 participants only, there will be an organizing meeting on January 28, 2010, at which time course materials will be distributed and volunteers identified to serve as individual topic leaders. Program leaders are Al and Anne Stewart who also lead Group 1. Sharon Kelkenberg will serve as their backup leader. Group 2 will be led by Jeff Nierenberg



and Group 3 by Rosalie Price, who also serves as program coordinator for the two groups at the SRC.

Those of you who are planning to enroll in Great Decisions 2010 should mark next year's calendar now using the above listing of dates and times for the group in which you desire to participate.

—Al Stewart