

January 2011 Author's Luncheon



Annick O. Shinn



Jean Lin



Ginger Summit

Join Us at the Annual Author's Luncheon AAUW Funds Fundraiser

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

La Rinconada Country Club, 14587 Clearview 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**

Fundraiser will benefit the AAUW Funds.

Wonderful and Diverse Group of Authors This Year!

There is still time to come and hear this year's Authors. See the flyer in this issue and make your Reservations by January 12, 2011. Read more about our three authors (Annick Shinn, Jean Lin, and Ginger Summit) who will speak at the Author's Luncheon this year (*see pages 2 and 3*).

Coming Next Month . . .

February 2011 General Meeting

When & Where: To Be Announced

Los Gatos Trail Clean-Up (Hikes & Walks)

Clean up plus short hike, coffee or lunch:

Thursday, February 3. Meet promptly at 9 am at Los Gatos Park & Ride lot. (*see the February calendar next month for details*).

*See the Author's Luncheon 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 February book to read is:

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot. Reviewer Linda Hagelin. Meets on Third Tuesday at 7:30 pm (*see the February 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 February calendar next month for details*).

Presidential Message

We are approaching the New Year which is a time to start a fresh working towards our goals and dreams. We start 2011 with the exciting and elegant Author's Luncheon at the La Rinconada Country Club. This year the authors look especially interesting and engaging. I hope to see you there with a friend or neighbor. There is still time to make your reservations because the deadline is January 12, 2011. (See the Author's Luncheon flyer in this Grapevine issue.)

Our annual Holiday Party was a colossal success. With Nick and Lavonne Marafino, Anita and Don Wolfe, Barbara Oggerino and myself working on the decorating and set up and the same crew (plus Gail Pedersen) doing the clean up. We had our largest turn out with over 55 people . . . delicious food and fine company. (If you left your umbrella Anita Wolfe has it.)

The date and place of our February General Meeting has been changed and will be announced at the luncheon and in the next issue of the Grapevine.

The homeless committee graciously included me in their Christmas luncheon and gift wrapping event. I



experienced again the humble feeling that what we as a group do to help women is so vital to the well being of not only the women we help but the community as a whole. The pleasure we all felt as gifts were wrapped and the Holiday luncheon planned for these homeless women was the Christmas spirit Dickens wrote about a century ago. Thank you Nancy Anderson and your committee for the good and meaningful work you do.

I hope each of you have a joyful holiday and are ready to start the New Year with renewed energy and commitment to our work with the homeless, tech trek, and our scholarship program.

—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.

A 2011 Author's Luncheon Speaker

(See the next page for more information about the other two authors.)

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*.

In 1990 I became intrigued with the idea of decorating gourds. However, in pursuing this interest, I became quite frustrated trying to find instructional books—there were very few available.

What began as a craft interest quickly became a passion as I discovered unusual uses of gourds in marketplaces and museums around the world. Extensive contacts with craftspeople and artists in this country revealed a vital interest in gourds as a new medium for expression.

For the past several years I have explored the history and cultural uses of gourds around the world. As a retired teacher, I wanted to share this new found knowledge with others hoping to provide the long needed resources, by writing books and articles on gourds.



Ginger Summit

More Details About the 2011 Author's Luncheon Speakers

Benefiting AAUW Funds

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

Jean Lin was born in Pennsylvania and grew up in Florida. She graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in education and received her MS in education from Northern Illinois. She taught pre-school in Saratoga for ten years. Following that much loved career she was a reading teacher at San Jose Public Library, College of San Mateo and San Jose State University.

In 2008 her poetry memoir, *Breathing Rice – An East West Love Story*, was published by Fithian Press. A series of narrative and lyric poems tell the story of her marriage to her husband Peter who is from China. They met as students in the early 1970s, and married at a time when cross-cultural marriages were far less common than today. These poems deal with all the obvious differences, but the poems also show how similar families can be, on either continent. It was nominated for a Pushcart Prize which honors the best of small presses published each year. This marked her second nomination.

One reviewer said, "*Breathing Rice is a delightful tale that spans decades of romance and laughter as they get sprinkled upon the nuanced architecture of a cross-cultural family.*"

Her first Pushcart nomination was for the poem, *An Excuse for Rushing Headlong into the Chagall Museum Without a Ticket*, which was printed in the *DMQ Review*. She is currently working on a second poetry memoir and several children's stories.



Jean Lin

Annick Shinn, author of *Pierre's War*

Annick Shinn was born in France two years before the declaration of World War II. So she spent her childhood years in a war-torn country. She grew up in a village on the outskirts of Orleans. In school she studied French, English, Latin, and Greek.

At seventeen, to become fluent in English, she went to England for a few months, not realizing that it would shape the rest of her life.

In the 1950's and 1960's the American army remained in France with their headquarters in Orleans. Bilingual people were in great demand to fill office positions and Annick applied for a job with the intention of working only for the summer. In the meantime she had met and fallen in love with a young American soldier, who became her husband. They were married for thirty-four years before he died.

The couple arrived in America in 1958, settled in California where they raised three children. Over the years, she worked in accounting firms. However, writing remained her favorite hobby. She joined a writing class in the late 70's and soon saw her bylines to articles in newspapers and magazines. In 1978, the Santa Clara County Branch of the National League of American Pen Women recognized her.

After retirement she decided to write a novel based on memories of her youth. That is how *Pierre's War* came to life. She is actually working on the last chapter of her second book, a mystery. It proves that it is never too late to pursue a dream.



Annick O. Shinn

The Needs of the Homeless Continues to be Great this Year!

At this writing it is cold, it is wet. What must it be like for the woman wrapped in a sleeping bag under a bridge. That was what Georgia Travis discovered. In 1987 she announced at our committee meeting that we would build a drop-in center to take care of these women during the day, and to help them find the resources to get their life back on track. Our reaction was the same that Noah must have had when he heard about the ark. Well, our ark is in place and has served many of those cold, wet, lost women.

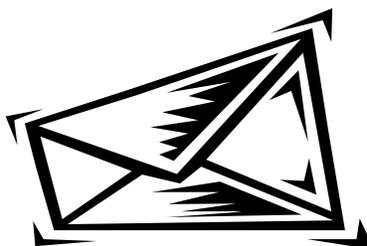
Our committee, again, did our holiday best, taking a scrumptious dinner, many gifts, and five pounds of See's Candy to the women at the overnight shelter, Commercial Street Inn. The candy came from the Irmalyn Benkert Memorial Fund, many of the gifts came from our former member, Anne Dempsey's golf group. Both these women have passed on, but their influence remains.

For information about joining our committee or any of our activities, please contact Nancy Anderson at 867-4383 or Dander2567@aol.com.



2011 AAUW Art Contest

Calling all AAUW artists! The third annual AAUW Art Contest will begin in January, with winning entries appearing on note cards that will be mailed to all members this spring. Keep checking the AAUW Art Contest page for contest rules and entry information.



Recipe

Bacardi Rum Bundt Cake

This is a wonderful cake for the New Year's. It is very popular but easy to make. *If you use a brand of cake mix with pudding in the mix (such as Betty Crocker or Pillsbury), leave out the package of instant vanilla pudding mix.

Makes: 12 – 16 servings

1/2 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
 1 package yellow cake mix*
 1 package vanilla instant pudding mix
 1/2 tsp ground allspice
 1/4 tsp ground clove
 4 eggs
 1/2 cup cold water
 1/2 cup cooking oil
 1/2 cup amber rum
 (or 2 Tblsp. Rum Extract)

Glaze

1/2 cup butter
 1/4 cup water
 1 cup sugar
 1/2 cup amber rum
 (or 2 Tblsp. Rum Extract)

1. Sprinkle nuts over bottom of greased 12 cup bundt pan. Stir together cake mix, pudding mix, allspice, cloves, eggs, water, oil and rum (or extract). Pour batter over nuts.
2. Bake in a presheat at 325°F. oven for 1 hour. Cool 10 minutes in pan. Invert onto serving plate and prick top.

For glaze:

1. Melt butter in saucepan. Stir in water and sugar. Boil 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in rum.
2. Brush glaze evenly over top and sides of cake. Allow cake to absorb glaze. Repeat until glaze is used up.

–Gail Pedersen, Grapevine editor

AAUW Urges Repeal of the Armed Services “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Policy

According to a recent Department of Defense study, 70 percent of the troops believe that lifting the ban on openly gay and lesbian service members would have little or no effect of unit cohesion. AAUW believes that no Americans should be denied the opportunity to serve their country because of their sexual orientation. This repeal has already passed in the House, call or email you senators and urge them to repeal “*Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.*”

Registration Now for The 2011 Convention

The Convention’s Best-Value Registration for the AAUW members is only \$399 and is being offered until **January 21**. For more information and to register, visit the convention website.

Theme: “*Breaking Through Barriers – Advocating for Change;*” When: June 16-19, 2011; Where: Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel

Information: www.aauw.org/convention



Kahlua Chocolate Bundt Cake

Chocolate and Kahlua make a tasty combination. Try this easy and delicious cake. *If you use a brand of cake mix with pudding in the mix (such as Betty Crocker or Pillsbury), leave out the package of instant vanilla pudding mix.

Makes: 12 - 16 servings

4 large eggs
2 packages vanilla instant pudding
1 box devil’s food cake mix*
1 container (16 oz.) sour cream
3/4 cup Kahlua liqueur
1/4 cup canola oil
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Topping to serve with cake:

4 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 container (8oz.) whipped topping, thawed (Cool Whip)
2 packages vanilla instant pudding
1 cup whole milk

1. Preheat oven to 350. Spray a 12 cup Bundt pan with nonstick cooking spray; dust pan with flour and set aside.
2. In large bowl, lightly beat eggs. Stir in 1 pkg. pudding, cake mix, sour cream, Kahlua and oil. Add chocolate chips and stir just until blended. Spread batter evenly into prepared pan. Bake 50-60 minutes or until top springs back when lightly pressed.
3. Cool cake in pan on wire rack for 10 minutes, then invert onto cake plate to serve warm, or cool completely on wire rack.

Meanwhile, prepare vanilla topping:

1. In medium bowl, stir cream cheese until smooth; fold in whipped topping.
2. In small bowl, with whisk, stir remaining pkg. of pudding with milk. Stir pudding mixture into cream cheese mixture until well blended.

Serve warm cake with vanilla topping.

–Gail Pedersen, Grapevine editor

Take a Stand for Girls: Fight Child Marriage

Worldwide, 60 million girls aged 15 to 19 are married and if present trends continue, 100 million more girls will be married before the age of 18 in the next decade. Child marriage is a devastating problem with terrible consequences. In fact, it is both a cause and effect of educational, health, and economic gender disparities across the globe. We must act to prevent child marriage and support educational and economic opportunities for girls and women.

The International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act (H.R. 2103), already passed by unanimous consent in the Senate, would identify child marriage as a human rights violation, direct the Administration to create an action plan to reduce child marriage, and integrate child marriage prevention into existing United States development efforts. The bill would invest in girls, providing them greater options and access to better futures.

It is crucial that the United States take the lead in combatting child marriage and eliminating the cycles of poverty and instability it perpetuates. This legislation will have a real impact on the lives of millions of girls and women around the globe.

Take Action!



Don't Give Up — AAUW Still Working to Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act

In the months leading up to the vote on the Paycheck Fairness Act, American Association of University Women (AAUW) staff from every department and members across the country enthusiastically came together for a common purpose. AAUW's leadership and work on this critical bill has always been a genuine team effort. Although the Senate failed to act, we **didn't**.

AAUW underscored our collective commitment to pay equity with every action we took, every letter we wrote, every call we made. Your AAUW staff shares your disappointment, and thought we'd take a moment reflect on the big vote — and our optimism about the ongoing fight for fair pay.

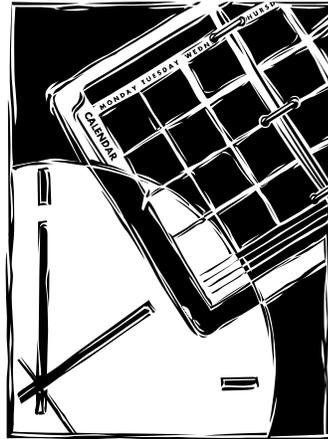
"We were only two votes short; you can look at this negatively or positively. We were so close, which is a hard pill to swallow. But on the other hand, we were SO close that the next time we will already be so close to it passing. We aren't giving up!"

—**Tracy Sherman**, Associate Director of Government Relations

"I think it's a travesty our elected officials didn't pass this bill. Equal pay for equal work shouldn't be seen as a privilege, it is the right of every American worker."

—**Donnae N. Wahl**, Fellow, Leadership Programs

"When calling members to urge them to contact their Senators to support the



Paycheck Fairness Act, I was amazed by the level of enthusiasm and passion that I heard on the other end of the line. It's that level of energy that will carry us through to the next legislative battle, and the next, until we finally make this basic right a reality."

—**Emily Pfefer**, Fellow, Public Policy and Government Relations

"The recent work of our public policy team on The Paycheck Fairness Act made me especially proud to be a part of AAUW. I am confident that when the opportunity comes again, we will be ready."

—**Catherine Hill**, Director of Research

"This was a missed opportunity to make history and jump start real economic change for American women and their families. While the Senate's action is difficult to comprehend given the stark reality that most families depend on the paychecks of women, our effort to close the pay gap is far from over."

—**Linda D. Hallman**, CAE, Executive Director

Support the DREAM Act (S. 3992)

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has placed the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act (S. 3992) on the Senate calendar.

Under the DREAM Act, undocumented students who were brought into the U.S. before they were 16 and have lived here for at least five years could gain permanent legal status and eventually citizenship if they attend college or join the military for at least two years and display good moral character. These students, who frequently had no say in their parents' decision to enter the U.S., would also be eligible to apply for federal student loans.

The DREAM Act benefits not only these students, but the well-being of our nation as well. On average, a worker's earnings double with a college degree compared to a high school degree. Increased education and earnings lead to increased tax revenue, decreased reliance on public assistance programs, lower unemployment rates, and increased voting, volunteering, and other civic activities.

A well-educated society is a stronger society.

AAUW is committed to making the dream of higher education a reality for all students. Without the DREAM Act, hard-working students who consider the United States their home and had no say in the decision to come here in the first place will continue to be punished, and the cycle of poverty will continue to be propagated by condemning these students to low-wage jobs.

January 2011 AAUW Calendar

- 3 Monday **Board Meeting**, 3:30 pm, in the Community Room at the Saratoga Fire Station, corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Road.
- 4 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
- 5 Wednesday **Current Interests Blog**, 12:30 pm at Florentine Trattoria restaurant on Big Basin Way in Saratoga. Cost \$12 for meal and beverage. Chair: Shirley Cancellieri, 741-5586, Co-chairs: Joan Kjemtrup, 356-6016; and Barbara Hawkes, 395-4397.
- 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.*” Visit families of the endangered mountain gorillas with photographer Jeff Katz and wife, Rudi, as they take the trip of a lifetime to the mountains of Rwanda. Then travel with them over the years to Botswana, Manibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Uganda and Kenya for images of wildlife, local people and great scenery. Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616; Corinne Rathjens, 867-2445.
- 11 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children**, 7:00 pm at the home of Nancy Anderson, 13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga. Chair: Nancy Anderson, 867-4383
- 12 Wednesday **Let’s Do Lunch**, 11:30 am at Crepe Daniel, 12100 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road, Saratoga. All members and friends welcome. Reservations to hostess Roberta London, 725-8554. Chair, Catherine Reinhardt, 867-0607.
- 13 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walk**, meet promptly at 9:00 am in the Los Gatos Park & Ride lot behind Starbucks. Explore Old Town New Almaden and a loop trail in the Quicksilver Park. After viewing the charming old settlement, we will climb the hill to picnic in English Camp, 5-6 miles. Dress warmly. Bring lunch. Back by 4pm. Questions? Kay Duffy, 867-0508; or Jane Bishop, 356-7796.
- 18 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
- 18 Tuesday **PM Book Review**, 7:30 pm *Detective Inspector Huss* by Helene Tursten, Reviewer: Margaret Bard. The Terraces of Los Gatos, 800 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos, RSVP to Margaret Ford, 356-5028. Co-chairs; Pat Khan, 741-1616; and Marlene Lamb, 356-8441
- 21 Friday **AM Book Review**, 9:30 am at the home of Pat Dalcher, 118 Belridge Drive, Los Gatos, 356-1071. Chair: Margaret Bard, 377-6625
- 25 Tuesday **Film Buffs**, 1:30–3:00 pm, at the home of Barbara Shandera, 1646 Canna Lane, San Jose. RSVP to Barbara, 978-0192. Chair: Mary Ellen Madden, 264-4488.
- 26 Wednesday **General Meeting/EF Fundraiser Author’s Luncheon**, 11:30 am–2:30 pm La Rinconada Country Club, Los Gatos. Cost is \$55 per person. **Make your reservations by January 12, 2011.** Chair: Geri Williams. (*See article on front page for details and flyer in this issue for making reservations.*)
- 27 Thursday **Back-by-Noon Hike**, 9:00 am. 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.

February 2011

- 4 Friday **Travel “Armchair” Adventures**, 7:30 pm, at The Terraces of Los Gatos, 800 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos. Program: “*Hikes and Walks in France.*” Chair: JoAn Lambert, 867-6237. Co-chairs: Pat Khan, 741-1616; Corinne Rathjens, 867-2445.

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch
American Association of University Women
18951 Easton Place
Saratoga, CA 95070

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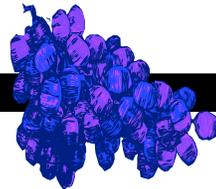
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Please make this change in your directory.

Louise Benjamin (New)

800 Blossom Hill Rd, #M355, Los Gatos, CA 95032
Tel 354-1978; Email Charles355@comcast.net

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.

Recruiting New Members

If you want to have a printed copy of the Grapevine and a membership packet sent to a prospective NEW member, contact Gail Pedersen, Grapevine editor, at 377-6895 or gail_pedersen@yahoo.com.

Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch AAUW
Authors' Luncheon 2011

Benefiting AAUW Educational Foundation



Jean Lin



Annick O. Shinn



Ginger Summit

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.)