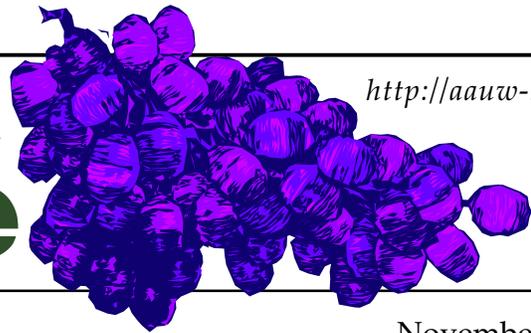


Grapevine



Volume 49, Number 3

November 2016

Great Decisions 2017

It's Time to Sign Up!

Make Your Reservations! The sign-up deadline is November 30, 2016.

Anyone can participate. Come and discuss the eight most critical issues facing America. Organized by the *Foreign Policy Association* (FPA).

- European Union
- Trade
- China
- Gulf Cooperation Council/Saudi Arabia
- Geopolitics of Energy
- Latin America
- Afghanistan/Pakistan
- Nuclear Security



Locally the program is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Southwest Santa Clara Valley, The American Association of University Women Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch, the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council (SASCC) and the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC).

This information is continued on page 4. Read the details about signing up for **Great Decisions 2017**. **Make your reservations as soon as possible.**

For questions please contact program coordinators Terry or Judy Zaccone at (408) 257-6575 or Rosalie Price at (408) 741-7670.

Coming Next Month . . .

Special Armchair Travel Program

Walking with Elephants: *An Elephant Keeper in Thailand*

Friday, December 2, 2016, at 7:30 pm

The Terraces (800 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos).

Carpool and Come Early since Parking is Limited.

Join us for a special presentation by Meggi Raeder, a professional nature photographer, who spent four weeks at an elephant sanctuary in Thailand. Invite your family and friends. Bring someone to see why the travel programs are some of our most popular events.

The branch will have Membership Materials available for prospective members. **Open to the Public.**





Letter from the Leadership Team



AAUW Has Been Working for Women for 135 Years!

This month marks **the 135 anniversary** of AAUW. On November 28, 1881, Marion Talbot and Ellen Richards met in Boston with 15 alumnae representing eight colleges to discuss the needs of college-educated women. In addition to broadening opportunities and assisting other women in higher education, they discussed the formation of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, the predecessor to the American Association of University Women or AAUW.

The first organizational meeting was held on January 14, 1882. At this meeting 65 alumnae of eight colleges drafted the Articles of Incorporation, which outline the purpose of the organization:

“For practical education work, for collection and publication of statistical and other information concerning education, and in general, for the maintenance of high standards of education.”

In 1885 the Association of Collegiate Alumnae issued its **first research**

report in conjunction with the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor. The report, *Health Statistics of Women College Graduates*, established that, contrary to popular belief, women’s health is not adversely affected by attending college.

First fellowship granted

AAUW’s tradition of supporting women’s education began when **Ida Street** received the first fellowship from the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae, one of the predecessor organizations of AAUW, in 1888. Considered a *“woman of rare culture and accomplishments,”* Street studied at the University of Michigan for two years and contributed essays and poems to numerous periodicals, including the *New Englander*.

In 1920 **Marie Curie**, a future Nobel Prize-winning scientist, received contributions from American women, including



ACA members, toward the purchase of one gram of radium in order to continue her research. Curie’s daughter later returned a portion of unused money to AAUW, which used it to create the endowment that funds the Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Today, after 135 years, AAUW has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, 1,000 local branches and over 800 college and university partners.

If you would like to join, please go to www.aauw-lgs.org for the membership information and form or contact Virginia Turner, Membership VP, by calling her at 408-866-4234 or emailing her at vaturner@sbcglobal.net.

Interest Group December Holiday Parties

Wishing to attend a Holiday Party, consider one of these:

- **Thursday, December 8:** Holiday Hike with annual holiday lunch. Starts at 9:00 am. Fall Creek and Hallcrest Winery (Felton) bring holiday “goodies” to share for lunch or at Kay’s house (*at 11:00 am*) if it’s raining hard.
- **Tuesday, December 13:** Holiday Potluck lunch and gift wrapping for homeless women gifts. Starts at 11:00 am at Nancy Anderson’s home.
- **Friday, December 16:** Morning Book Discussion Group. 9:30 am. Holiday Celebration.

See next month’s calendar for more details and any additional Holiday Parties.

Events are sponsored by the LG-S AAUW interest groups listed.



Humanitarian and Guiding Light to the Homeless Committee Members

Remembering Georgia Travis

I was privileged to speak at the renaming of the "Commercial Street Inn", the overnight shelter for women and children. Now under the Life Moves agency, the shelter will be known as the **Georgia Travis House**. On August 24, 2016 the ribbon-cutting ceremony was held; many community dignitaries and politicians attended. I was asked to speak about Georgia since many long-time Committee on Homeless Women & Children members knew her well.

A favorite "Georgia story" took place during her student years at the University of Chicago. She had very little money and depended on a small stipend for food. One semester the stipend didn't arrive so for four days she went hungry. She wrote that she had to sleep on her stomach at night to lessen the pangs. Her bus to class stopped in front of a restaurant and she had to wait. Looking in the window and seeing everyone eating, she wrote, "I thought they were pigs and I hated them all and I hated the whole world. I never forgot what it was like to be hungry."

In the middle of the great depression, she began her medical social work in 1932 Chicago. For over forty years she worked in federal, state, and local public welfare and health agencies. She spent a year teaching at the University of Sydney, Australia as a Fulbright scholar. Until retirement she was a professor of graduate level social work at San Diego State. She authored journal articles, textbooks and her biography, "**Round Peg, Round Hole**".

Georgia had a knack for spotting a problem and setting about solving it, no matter how complex it might be, making her unique. She was a master at enlisting people around her – many of whom never thought to become



Members of Committee on Homeless Women and Children with picture of Georgia. (Left to right) Pat Khan, Nancy Anderson, Marlene Lamb

involved. As JoAn Lambert said, "It was not a good idea to introduce a new problem as you would find yourself chairman of a committee to solve it!"

Georgia initiated an important program while working as a medical social worker in Seattle, Washington. She learned that sick Eskimo children were flown from Alaska to the hospital for surgery with, no family member, only a medical attendant. Going to a local Congressman, she received funding for flights and housing so that a family member could come along.

Georgia viewed anyone working in the U.S. Congress and in any state or local legislature as being there to provide financing for needed programs. She boldly approached them and was unrelenting. She would attend every one of their at home "Town Meetings". Looking out in the audience they saw her sitting there, and were reminded the homeless needed their help.

For those of us on the Committee she was a driving force. At one meeting I asked for a show of

hands "how many of us received regular phone calls from her to do some task she had thought of". We all raised our hands. One of our Committee members joked, "Thank goodness she didn't have a cell phone."

Three days before Georgia died I sat with her for a while. She decried her approaching death as she still had so much yet to do. To lighten her mood I asked if Heaven was warned of her coming. I mused about the number of "heavenly" committees she could convene. We named off some fine members she could enroll. She put her head back and laughed and laughed at this delightful prospect. But I think Heaven has found out it was no laughing matter.

Our Committee has done more for this community than any of us ever thought we could. Georgia Travis never had a doubt.

–Nancy Anderson
Chair, Committee on Homeless Women and Children

See the next Grapevine for additional photos of the "**Georgia Travis House**" dedication.

Single-payer Health Care, What Do You Know?

This is a second in a series of articles on Myths & Lies about Single-Payer Health Care

- **Myth** – Single payer leads to rationing, like in Canada.
Wrong – Right now in the United States, the private health insurance companies ration care. If you don't have health insurance, you don't get health care. More than 30 million Americans currently lack health insurance. That is why 120 Americans die every day from lack of health care. There are some problems in the Canadian system, but most of what you hear about long lines is health insurance industry propaganda. Zero people die every day in Canada due to lack of health insurance.
- **Myth** – Costs will skyrocket under single payer.
Wrong – Single payer is the only health care reform that will save

enough money to insure everyone. By eliminating the health insurance industry we would save \$350 + billion a year in administrative costs and profits. We could use that money to insure those who lack insurance and fully cover those who are under-insured. Yes, more people will be seeking health care because they will now have insurance. But they will be taking care of medical problems early, thus preventing more costly treatment later.

- **Myth** – Drugs will be more difficult to get under single payer.
Wrong – The drug industry would have you believe that there will be less research and development under a single payer system. In fact, much

medical research is currently funded by the National Institutes of Health. Under single payer, this would grow. Also, drugs will be cheaper under single payer. When all patients are under one system, the payer wields a lot of clout. An example, the Veterans Administration gets a 40% discount on drugs because of its buying power. Single payer buying power is the main reason why other countries' drug prices are lower than ours. Now you know why the drug industry is so opposed to single payer.

–Barbara Lea, Southwest Santa Clara Valley LWV, Health Care & VP Administration [Barbara Lea is also a LG-S AAUW member.] (Reprinted)

Source: Public Citizen, Washington, DC, www.citizen.org

Anyone Can Sign Up for Great Decisions 2017!

(Continued from front page)

Organized by the *Foreign Policy Association* (FPA), read further details at www.fpa.org/great_decisions.

The 2017 program is expected to function with two groups, as it did in previous years. For **Group One** only, Course Materials will be distributed at a planning session beginning at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 26, 2017, in the SASCC Oak Room.

Group One is expecting to enroll about forty members. As in past, **Group One** will meet from 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. on the first and third Thursdays of each month; the first study session will be Thursday, February 2, 2017. **Group One** sessions will begin in the SASCC's Oak Room, which is a modular classroom. The initial assembly is to view a DVD, provided by the FPA, pertaining to each session's topic. Half of **Group One** then moves to the Magnolia room. (Dividing into two subgroups facilitates greater individual participation in discussions.)

Group Two, which meets in Barnes Hall, at the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC), is expected to attract about 20 participants. **Group Two's** participants will meet for their first study session also on Thursday,



February 2, 2017 from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M. and will meet for the next eight weeks at the same place and time.

The **cost of Great Decisions 2017 is \$35 for an individual and \$45 for a couple sharing a workbook.** The absolute **sign-up deadline is November 30, 2016.** This is so that course materials can be received in time for the first session. Everyone wanting to participate is urged to sign up quickly.

Make check out to Rosalie Price and Mailed to: 14500 Fruitvale Ave, Cottage #6610, Saratoga, CA 95070.
NOTE – It is important for those wanting to participate in **Group One** to **write "Group One" on their checks.**

For questions please contact program coordinators Terry or Judy Zaccone at (408) 257-6575 or Rosalie Price at (408) 741-7670.

–Terry Zaccone, Facilitator

July 2016 Tech Trek Campers – Part 1 (see next month for Part 2)

1

Stanford University
July 8, 2016

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. This week was such a great experience. I met so many new people and had so much fun.

My core class was Marine Biology. We dissected squid and fish. Dissecting things was really fun. It didn't smell good, but was fun. My favorite presentation was PIXAR. It was very interesting. We learned a lot about an upcoming movie, "Coco". There is so much more that I loved about attending Tech Trek.

This week was so much fun. Thank you for sending me here. I have learned many new things.

–Gemma Corona

4

Stanford University
July 8, 2016

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. I have had the most amazing experience. My week has been one of the most memorable yet.

I am taking the Forensics class. The first two days, we did finger and lip printing; we used 3 techniques to see fingerprints (*direct, fume and latent*). The second day we also did lip-printing and extracted DNA from a strawberry. The third day, we used micropipettes to measure amounts of liquid in pm units. Our forensics class finished the week by setting up a "secret" murder mystery revealed on Friday. We came up with a story, suspects, murder weapons, etc. It was so much fun.

This experience has changed me. I will forever be grateful for this experience and will always remember my time spent here at Tech Trek.

–Chloe Ziegler

2

Stanford University
July 8, 2016

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

I was, and am, greatly honored to be chosen to go to Tech Trek. It was a truly wonderful experience and opened my mind to the existence of many job possibilities.

It's a challenge to choose only one exciting event. However, I enjoyed the "star party" and spending time with astronomers and other Tech Trek classes. It was rather emotional to get see beyond our earth.

I love the memorable time that I've spent here at Tech Trek. It has changed how I view things and has left me with the need to know more.

–Sofia Villanueva

3

Stanford University
July 8, 2016

Dear Saratoga/Los Gatos AAUW,

Thank you for sending me to Tech Trek! I had an amazing time! I did lots of walking and made lots of new friends that I will keep in touch with this summer.

My week was kind of scary to start with because I only had one friend here. I was scared about making new friends, my roommate, and my classes. But I did make more friends than I thought that I would. I am also now very good friends with my roommate. The classes were all great and I learn a lot.

My core class is Marine Biology. It's a very fun class. Robotics was also amazing; we build a working robot. The astronomy was cool! College finance was interesting. In chemistry we made some yummy ice cream; it was fabulous. The marshlands field trip was amazing.

My week at Tech Trek was one of the best experiences I will ever have. I hope to come back as a Junior Counselor. Thank you for raising so much money to send me to Tech Trek. Tech Trek has changed my life.

–Ariyana Caballero

Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW

BOARD NOTES

At the October 3rd Board Meeting topics discussed were:

- The annual *Appeal Letter* was sent to members in mid-October by Louise Quenon. (*The generous assistance from our members help the branch make our local projects successful and donations going to AAUW Funds/LAF help fund the AAUW Mission.*)
- The **Author's Luncheon** is being held on Tuesday, February 16, 2017. Judy Borlase & committee have the plans on track to organized this event. The catered luncheon is going to be at The Terraces of Los Gatos this year. (*See the **Save the Date** notice below for more details.*)
- The *English Tea and Silent Auction* is on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at the Joan Pisani Community Center, Saratoga (*again this year*). (*The committee needs help with small and short-term, and single-task assistance to help make this year's event successful. We need to get the word out to members that will volunteer to help with a single item!*)
- The branch sent the collected \$300 to the *Legal Advocacy Fund*.

READ YOUR Grapevine! Go to our website at www.aauw-lgs.org for the listings of branch activities – these include interest group meeting schedules and the monthly meetings. Our webmaster has updated all of the listings on the site.

Authors' Luncheon and English Tea fundraisers are rapidly coming up! *More than ever these fundraisers need your volunteer help.*



The Reads for PM Book Group!

7:30 pm, Saratoga Retirement Community

November's Book

Book: *"The Nightingale"*

Author: Kristen Hannah

Reviewer: Blenda Mariani, with assistance by Jean Wenberg



Kristen Hannah

December 20, 2016

Holiday Party Potluck, also bring a poem, or story to share!

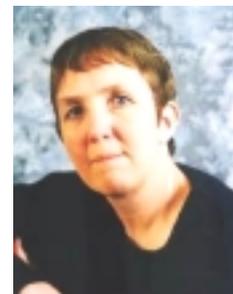
Place: Marilyn Lenormand's home, at the Saratoga Retirement Center.

January's Book

Book: *"Raven Black"*

Author: Ann Cleeves

Reviewer: Marlene Lamb



Ann Cleeves

Author's Luncheon 2017

SAVE THE DATE – The annual Authors' Luncheon is coming soon!

Thursday, February 16, 2017 from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm - at the Terrace of Los Gatos. The cost is \$55.00 per person, (\$24.00 is tax deductible). The flyer to reserve your place for this popular event will be in the December 2016 *Grapevine*. *The next two Grapevine issues, December 2016 and January 2017, will have information about our three local authors and their books. Stay tuned for more details!*

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



November 2016 AAUW Calendar

- 1 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:30-3:00 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga). Join us to develop, maintain, or improve your conversational skills. RSVP : Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **Visitors are Welcome.**
- 4 Friday **Armchair Travel Adventures.** Meets 7:30 pm at The Terraces (800 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos). **"Morocco"** – presented by photographers George and Tamar Mednick. Morocco, an enchanted land, is for the intrepid traveler an exotic destination. See the reality not portrayed in film or song of the legendary cities of Marrakech, Fez, Meknes and Casablanca. Morocco is steeped in Islamic and Berber culture, with ancient madrasas and mosques, chaotic bazaars, elaborate triad hotels, and ornate Moorish architecture. See the natural wonders of the high Atlas Mountains, the expansive sand dunes of Erg Chebbi and the mystical blue city of Chefchaouen. Chair: JoAn Lambert, (408) 867-6237. **Open to the Public!**
- 7 Monday **Board Meeting.** Meets 3:00 pm at the Saratoga Fire Station, Community Room (corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Rd.) **All Members are Welcome!**
- 8 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children. (New Time)** Meets 3:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga). RSVP: Chair, Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. **Help Us!**
- 10 Thursday **Scenic Hikes and Walks – Forest Of Nisene Marks State Park** Hike 5-6 miles in redwood forest along Aptos Creek above Soquel. The route contains the epicenter of 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Meet promptly! 9:00 am in Los Gatos at Northside Lot "Free Limited Parking" (way behind the Starbucks & PetCo). Questions? Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796; Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508.
- 15 Tuesday **PM Book Group.** Meets 7:30 pm at Saratoga Retirement Community (14500 Fruitvale Ave, Saratoga). **Book: "The Nightingale"** by Kristen Hannah. Reviewer: Blenda Mariani. RSVP: Marilyn Lenormand, (408) 741-7820. Chair: Marlene Lamb, (408) 497-1555. **Join Us for a Book Discussion.**
- 16 Wednesday **Let's Do Lunch.** Meet 12:30 pm at *La Mere Michelle* (14467 Big Basin Way, Saratoga). RSVP to Barbara Allen (408) 354-8208. Chair Joanna Yates, (408) 395-2950. **Join the Conversation & Fun.**
- 18 Friday **AM Book Review.** Meets at 9:30 am. Bring a book (*good or bad*) you would like to talk about. For meeting location, contact chair Margaret Bard (408) 377-6625 or margaretbard@gmail.com. **Come and Find Your Next Great Read!**
- 22 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:30-3:00 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. **Visitors are Welcome.**
- 25 Friday **Back-by-Noon Hike *** AFTER THANKSGIVING.** Walk off some of that huge turkey dinner together with the "Friday Hikers"! Meet promptly! 9:00 am in Saratoga at Argonaut Shopping Center on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd (1.5 miles north of the Village. Way out front of CVS Pharmacy.) Questions? Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796; Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508. **Seeking New Hikers!**
- 29 Tuesday **Film Buffs. (Change of Date & Time)** Meet at 1:30 pm at the home of Vicki Feigelson (20075 Seagull Way, Saratoga) RSVP to Vicki, (408) 255-8822. Co-Chair: Marlene Lamb, (408) 497-1555, Co-chair: Mary Ellen Madden, (408) 264-4488. **All Movie Lovers Welcome!**

December 2016

- 1 Thursday **Trail Cleanup for Hikes and Walks – on the AAUW adopted trail.** Back-by-Noon + coffee or lunch. Bring gloves & clippers, if you have them. 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!**
- 2 Friday **Armchair Travel Adventures.** Meets 7:30 pm at The Terraces (800 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos). **Walking with Elephants** – Working as an Elephant Keeper in Thailand, see the bottom of the front page for more details. **Open to the Public.**
- 5 Monday **Board Meeting.** Meets 3:00 pm at the Saratoga Fire Station, Community Room (corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Rd.)
- 6 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:30-3:00 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. **Visitors are Welcome.**



November 2016

Periodical
US Postage
Paid
Saratoga, CA
USPS 061-770

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

Return Service Requested



Grapevine Newsletter Editor, Gail Pedersen; Proofreader, Ann Griffin; Calendar Editor, Ann Griffin; **The final deadline is the 10th of the month.** Email to anngriffin107@gmail.com and gail_pedersen@yahoo.com

Grapevine (USPS 061-770) Published monthly, except July and August, by Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch of American Association of University Women. Periodical postage paid at Saratoga, CA 95070-9998. **POSTMASTER:** send address changes to *Grapevine*, 14415 Evans Lane, Saratoga, CA 95070



Alice (Licia) Thomson

April 5, 1923 – March 19, 2016.

Licia Thomson, 92, passed away March 19, 2016, in Saratoga with family members by her side. Alice was a strong, educated and determined woman, ahead of her time. With her husband, Rod Thomson, she raised four children, while following her love of music.

She retired from Good Samaritan Hospital. Licia's husband preceded her in death. She is survived by her 4 children, Steve Thomson (*Karen*), Karen Harmon, Marta Hansen (*Peer*), and Cindi Thomson, 3 sisters, 6 grandchildren, and 9 great grandchildren.

Licia, a longtime Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW member, was active in various Interest Groups (*many at the Saratoga Retirement Center where she lived*) and will be missed. In 1993, she was a *Named Gift Honoree*.

Know of a Member in Need of a Little Sunshine!

Do you know anyone who is ill or in need of support? Did a member receive recognition?

Please send her information to Lavonne Marafino, our Sunshine Chair.

Contact Lavonne, (408) 867-1964; lnmarafino@att.net

