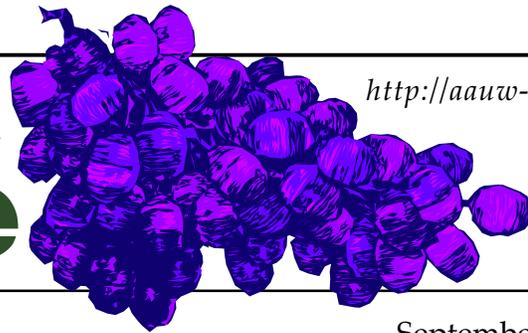


Grapevine



Volume 49, Number 1

September 2016

September 2016 Interest Groups Showcase Check Out this Year's Planned Events!

Tech Trek Campers & Interest Groups



This year's inspiring young women who will be sharing their experiences. (Back row, Left to Right) Chloe Ziegler, Ariyana Caballero, Judi Patel, Saavani Vaidya and Ishani Gupta. (Front row, Left to Right) Sophia Villanueva, Kimiko Milheim and Gemma Corona

Saturday, September 17, 2016

10:00 am-12:00 noon

The Terraces (800 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos)

- Meet our Tech Trek Campers and learn about their week at Stanford
- Talk to interest group leaders
- Sign up for committees and programs
- Purchase jewelry to benefit Homeless Women and Children
- Pick up your 2015-2016 Branch Directory at the meeting.*
- Light Refreshments, Coffee and Tea
- **Bring a prospective member** ~ Membership Information will be available.

* Haven't paid your dues yet, come and pay to renew your membership and get your 2016-17 Directory.

New Directory . . .

Getting Your 2016-17 Directory

Directories can be picked-up at the:

- **Board Meeting** on Monday, September 12, 2016.
- **General Meeting** on Saturday, September 17, 2016.

Paid Members – just sign the checkout sheet for your Directory. (*Save the Branch Money.* Ask a branch friend to pick up your Directory. They can sign the checkout sheet.)

Haven't paid yet – come, pay to renew your membership, and receive your 2016-17 Directory.

Cannot Attend the Meetings – Your 2016-17 Directory will be mailed to you first class.





Leadership Team Message



We're looking forward to another productive year for the Los Gatos-Saratoga branch of AAUW. Over the summer the Board members and **leadership team** reviewed the past year celebrating our 75th anniversary and laid out our overall goals for 2016-2017.

First: We will **raise money** for our three local programs — Local Scholarships, Tech Trek and the Committee on Homeless Women and Children – and for the AAUW Fund which supports several programs nationally. Of course donations are welcome at any time, and we deeply appreciate the generosity of our members who donated with their dues renewal. Watch for an appeal letter in the fall.

Second: We will offer a range of **interesting programs** open to all members and guests.

- September 17 – our traditional **kick-off event** at the Terraces in Los Gatos; see the cover of this *Grapevine* for more details.
- October 19 – **pros and cons** of California ballot initiatives, co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters, at Saratoga Retirement Community.
- January 29, 2017 – “**Women in Leadership**” sponsored by the Interbranch Council of Santa Clara, representing all seven AAUW branches within the County, at San Jose City College.
- February 16, 2017 – **Authors' Lunch** at the Terraces in Los Gatos; this is our annual fundraiser for the association's AAUW Fund supporting fellowships, community action grants and other programs.
- April 1, 2017 – **English Tea** at the Joan Pisani Saratoga Senior Center, our fundraiser for our

Committee on Homeless Women and Children and for our Local Scholarships.

- May 20, 2017 – Our **annual potluck luncheon** at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Saratoga. Our speaker Carla Walter from Chabot College will bring us up to date on what college is like today (*it's changed since we were students*). We'll recognize our 50-year members and Named Gift Honorees.

During the holiday season you can join our Committee on Homeless to wrap gifts for homeless women, or you can help the San Jose branch with Gifts for Teens as they put together backpacks and totes for local teenagers. Some of our many interest groups will also have holiday parties you can attend.

Third: This column will **highlight the many interest sections** which our members enjoy such as book reviews, bridge, hikes and walks, Great Decisions and travel. You should know that prospective members can attend one of these meetings before deciding to join AAUW so feel free to invite them!

Once again we thank our dedicated *Grapevine* editor **Gail Pedersen**, assisted with proofreading from **Ann Griffin**. The newsletter is available by email or regular mail and archived on our branch website at www.aauw-lgs.org. With help from **Barbara Lea**, Gail also produced the branch Directory which you can pick up at the September 17 meeting. Please support the sponsors who helped make the Directory possible.

Thank you for your membership in AAUW. Working together we'll all have another great year!

2016-17 Branch Leadership Team

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Judy Borlase, AAUW Funds V.P. (& Author's Luncheon Chair)

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

OPEN President – **Your Name Here**

OPEN President Elect – **Your Name Here**

OPEN Legal Advocacy Fund VP – **Your Name Here**

OPEN Program VP – **Your Name Here**

**AAUW-Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch
Proposed Budget
2016-2017**

Proposed Income

Branch Dues	2,400.00
Directory Ads	400.00
Miscellaneous Donations	1,000.00
Paid Newsletter Subscrip.	450.00
Total Income	\$4,250.00

Proposed Expenses

Bank Fees	65.00
Board Meeting Room	180.00
Branch Supplies	250.00
Convention (National)	300.00
Directory Mailing	110.00
Directory Printing	300.00
General Meeting Refresh.	150.00
Historian’s Expenses	15.00
Insurance CA AAUW	675.00
Installation of New Bd.	20.00
Interbranch Council Dues	50.00
Leadership Training	60.00
Meeting Facility Rental	75.00
Membership Renewal	250.00
Newsletter Postage	100.00
Newsletter Production	750.00
President’s Expenses	75.00
Sunshine Comm. Expenses	15.00
Treasurer’s Expenses	25.00
Web Site Maintenance	500.00
Web Site Domain	120.00
Total Expenses	\$4,085.00
Net Income	\$165.00

Prepared by Louise Quenon, Finance VP, August 1, 2016

**Coming next month:
Pros and Cons of
the California Ballot
Initiatives**



Pros & Cons



Wednesday, October 19, 2016

3:30 pm

Saratoga Retirement Community
(14500 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga)

Be informed before you decide how to vote on the many initiatives on the November 8 ballot this year. The League of Women Voters will present the initiatives “Pros and Cons” in a clear and even manner.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Parking Is Limited ~ Please Carpool

For additional information, please contact

Virginia Turner ~ (408) 866-4234

vturner@sbcglobal.net



Spotlight On: Morning Book Discussion

The **Morning Book Discussion** group is for readers of all types. We like History, Non-fiction, Literary Fiction, Frivolous Fiction, Biographies, Memoirs, Mysteries and anything at all in book form. All of us bring a book to talk about, any book. We might talk about how much we loved it when we were in high school, or maybe yesterday or last year. Then again we might warn everybody that it's a terrible book and not to waste their money. We might explain that the book would have been good if only...

I make a list of all the books discussed and send it out to our members after every meeting. Many like to take the list with them to the library and check out the books they thought sounded interesting.

A book several of us have read after hearing it reviewed is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Some of us raved about it and thought it the best book we had read in ages. On the other hand some of us thought it was over-rated and boring. All opinions are interesting and part of what makes discussing what we read so much fun.

- We had a lot of variation in opinions about Harper Lee's new book *Go Set a Watchman*.
- *Maman's Homesick Pie* by Donia Bijan (one of the authors who spoke at last year's Author's Lunch) caused two different members, unbeknownst to

the other, to bake a batch of cookies from the book for all of us to enjoy!

- *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson was well received by all reviewers.
- There were a variety of reactions voiced to *Orphan Train* by Christine Bake Cline.
- Two other books – (1) *1932: The Rise of Hitler and FDR* proved discussion worthy, as did (2) *Saving Capitalism* by Robert Reich.

Quotes about how AM Book Reviewers feel about our discussions:

"For me an intellectual 'life saver'! Interesting subjects, intelligent people, stimulating conversation, but, alas, running out of time to read all those wonderful books."

"What better way to spend a morning than with a group of smart, thoughtful and knowledgeable women discussing books they have read..."

"Our book group is a wonderfully diverse group of women who share a great love of books. I always leave our meetings delighted from the company and a list of new books I want to read. Great fun!"

Los Gatos-Saratoga AAUW

BOARD NOTES

On July 12th Board Members had a no-host luncheon meeting to plan and coordinate the events for the AAUW year. A "thank you" to our Board Members for their continuing efforts and dedication to keep the branch running smoothly.

- The majority of the events for this coming year were set. Many interesting programs and fundraisers will be coming up.
- The Proposed Budget for 2016-2017 was reviewed and is in good shape. (Members will vote to approve the Proposed Budget at the September 17th General Meeting.)
- Membership (open to both men and women) and gifts of membership have increased.

- A "Thank You Note" was received from AAUW National for our contribution to *Tech Trek – Stanford* and was read at the board meeting.
- The new Membership Directory 2016-2017 will be available for you to pick up at the September meeting. (Help "Save Us Money" by picking up your directory. See the bottom of the front page for details.)

The monthly *Grapevine* will be featuring our programs and interest group activities. Authors' Lunch and English Tea fundraisers will be back! **More than ever these fundraisers need your volunteer help.**

READ YOUR *Grapevine*! or 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.

Join AAUW to Advance Equity for Women and Girls

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

Educational Funding and Awards:

AAUW has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW will provide more than \$3.7 million in funding for more than 230 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2016–17 academic year. Several of the current recipients will speak at a luncheon on Saturday, October 29, at Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville; check your California "Perspective" for details.

Research That Matters in the Lives of Women and Girls:

AAUW conducts groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace. Our work influences the national discussion on topics like the pay gap between women and men, sexual harass-

ment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. Through new and traditional media, targeted outreach to policymakers, and member efforts, AAUW research serves as a catalyst for action.

Public Policy:

Since AAUW's founding our members and supporters have spoken out about policies important to women and girls. Without their voices, invaluable legislation would have never been passed. In recent years, such legislation included the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to advance our work to empower women and girls. With the member-endorsed **Public Policy Program** as our guide, AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women. AAUW members across the country who give their time, energy, and voice to AAUW issues deserve the credit for truly advancing women.



Legal Advocacy Fund:

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Our resources range from community outreach programs to backing of major cases. Sex discrimination today takes a variety of forms: unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and violations of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 can affect both women and men. LAF addresses these barriers by informing people of their rights and using the legal system to seek justice and change.

AAUW membership is open to anyone holding an associate, baccalaureate, graduate degree or the equivalent. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. For membership forms and more information, contact Virginia Turner at (408) 866-4234 or by email at vaturner@sbcglobal.net or visit our branch website at www.aauw-lgs.org

–Virginia Turner
Membership V.P.

Get Ready! Gifts for Teens Needs Volunteers!

Our annual **Gifts for Teens** holiday gift bag assembly will be the first two weeks in December. Sign up early as shifts fill up quickly. Group and individual volunteers are welcome.

For further information, or to sign up now! Contact:

–Cheryl Markman, cherylmarkman@hotmail.com, for group volunteers

–Kathy Heihn, heihnbk@comcast.net, for individual volunteers



2015-16 Scorecard: Three Supreme Court Cases

August 04, 2016

This summer, the U.S. Supreme Court decided several landmark cases that will impact the rights of women and girls across the country for years to come and will profoundly affect gender equity.

Contraceptive Access Still Threatened (Left Undecided)

Following the disastrous *Hobby Lobby* decision, women's access to contraceptive care was under threat. When the Affordable Care Act regulations were created, the government built in an accommodation for religious nonprofits that objected to contraception on religious grounds. Most nonprofits accepted the accommodation (simply notify insurers or the government of objections to paying for their employees' contraceptive care), a small group argued that the accommodation didn't go far enough to protect their religious beliefs. The Supreme Court agreed to hear several of the cases, consolidated under the case name *Zubik v. Burwell* since the circuit courts disagreed over whether the accommodation was sufficient.

The court sent all of the cases back to the lower courts for reconsideration. The Supreme Court's decision not only delays any resolution of the issues but also creates more possibility for confusion and competing interpretations of federal law.

Affirmative Action Carries the Day (Decided)

Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin was the court's first race-conscious admissions case since 2003. After several rounds of appeals, the high court finally heard arguments this term. In *Fisher*, a white student sued the University of Texas, claiming that the university's admissions

policy violated her rights by taking race into account.

Thankfully, the court adhered to its earlier decisions and reaffirmed the constitutionality of race-conscious admissions. Writing for the four-justice majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy emphasized the university's efforts to ensure that its admissions program was aimed at achieving diversity and providing fair opportunity without unfairly advantaging any students. AAUW joined an amicus brief urging the court to uphold the policy.

Reproductive Rights Vindicated (Decided)

It was the court's decision in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* that will have the most profound effects on the rights of women and girls across the country. In *Whole Woman's Health*, the court clearly and unambiguously affirmed the constitutional right of all women to make decisions about their health, family, and future without needless barriers.

In recent years, a number of states across the country have passed so-called TRAP (targeted regulation of abortion providers) laws in an attempt to restrict and even eliminate women's access to legal abortion. TRAP laws are designed to prevent doctors from being able to perform abortions. They are typically passed under the guise of protecting women's health, even though the provisions generally do nothing to increase the standard of care. *Hellerstedt* challenged two TRAP law provisions in Texas, one requiring all doctors providing abortion care to have admitting privileges at a local hospital and one that required all clinics providing abortion care to meet the same standards as ambulatory surgical centers.

The court soundly rejected both TRAP provisions and emphasized that Texas had not offered any evidence that either provision did anything to protect women's health. In fact, medical evidence showed that the requirements did nothing to make patients safer. And the court also emphasized that the burden on abortion access was severe—allowing the two requirements to remain in place would have closed the majority of clinics in Texas.

The Reads for PM Book Group!

7:30 pm, Saratoga Retirement Community, Saratoga

September's Book

Book: "*Orphan Train*"

Author: Christina Baker Cline

Reviewer: Margaret McCartney



Christina Baker Cline

October's Book

Book: "*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*"

Author: Betty Smith

Reviewer: Pat Khan



Betty Smith

September 2016 AAUW Calendar

- 6 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:00-2:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct, Saratoga). RSVP: Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **Attend & Improve or Maintain Conversational Skills.**
- 8 Thursday **Scenic – Hikes and Walks. Pescadero Park – Tarwater Trail** – hike 5-7 miles through lovely redwoods, ocean views and along a creek with unusual tar balls, off Alpine Road toward the cool coast. Bring Lunch. Meet promptly at 9:00 am at Argonaut Center, Saratoga (*way out in front of CVS Drugs*). Questions? Call chairs, Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508; Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796. **Start Hiking!** For 2016-17 schedule contact Kay or Jane.
- 12 Monday **Board Meeting. (Second Monday due to Labor Day holiday)** Meets 3:00 pm in the Community Room at the Saratoga Fire Station (*corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Rd*). **All Branch Leaders should Attend. Open to All Members!**
- 13 Tuesday **Committee for Homeless Women and Children. (Note time change)** Meets 3:30 pm at the home of Nancy Anderson (13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga). RSVP to Chair: Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. **Seeking New Members!**
- 16 Friday **AM Book Group.** Meets 9:30 am. Bring a book (*good or bad*) you would like to talk about. For more information and meeting location, contact Margaret Bard at (408) 377-6625; margaretbard@gmail.com. **Find Your Next Great Read!**
- 17 Saturday **General Meeting.** Annual fun *Interest Group Preview* featuring this July's *Tech Trek Campers*. Meets 10:00 am at The Terraces, (800 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos). AAUW Interest Groups and Committees will describe their activities and give a preview of their upcoming year. **Open to All Members and Guests.**
- 20 Tuesday **PM Book Group.** Meets 7:30 pm at Saratoga Retirement Community, (14500 Fruitvale Ave, Saratoga). Book: *"Orphan Train"* by Christina Baker Cline. Reviewer: Margaret McCartney. RSVP: Marilyn Lenormand, (408) 741-7820. Chair: Marlene Lamb, (408) 497-1555. See this year's reading schedule in this *Grapevine* issue. **Come and Meet the Group.**
- 21 Wednesday **Let's Do Lunch.** Meets 12:30 pm at *Aldo's Ristorante*, (14109 Winchester Blvd, Los Gatos). RSVP to Chair: Joanna Yates, (408) 395-2950. **Open to Everyone, Guests Welcome.**
- 22 Thursday **Back-By-Noon Hike.** Exercise 5 miles on nearby trails + coffee or lunch. Meet promptly! 9:00 am in Los Gatos *"Free Parking – Northside Lot"* behind Starbucks. Questions? Call chairs, Kay Duffy, (408) 867-0508; Jane Bishop, (408) 356-7796. **Start Walking with Us!**
- 27 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:00-2:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga). RSVP: Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **Attend & Improve or Maintain Conversational Skills.**
- 27 Tuesday **Film Buffs. Annual Fall Potluck.** Meet at 12:00 noon (18327 Lexington Dr, Monte Sereno) RSVP to Cathy Foscatto, (408) 354-7159. Chairs: Marlene Lamb, (408) 497-1555; Mary Ellen Madden, (408) 264-4488; **Movie Lovers Welcome!**
- 29 Thursday **Trail Clean-Up Day (Hikes and Walks)** on AAUW adopted trail + back by noon hike + coffee or lunch. Meet promptly 9:00 am Los Gatos *"Free Parking – Northside Lot"* behind Starbucks. Bring gloves and clippers, if you have them. Bags and grabbers will be provided. Questions? Jane Bishop, 356-7796; Kay Duffy, 867-0508. **Help Maintain Our Adopted Trail.**

October 2016

- 3 Monday **Board Meeting.** Meets 3:00 pm Community Room at the Saratoga Fire Station (*corner of Saratoga Ave & Saratoga/Los Gatos Rd*). **Branch Leaders should Attend.**
- 4 Tuesday **Conversations in Spanish.** Meets 1:00-2:30 pm at Nancy Anderson's home (13561 Lomond Ct., Saratoga). RSVP: Nancy Anderson, (408) 867-4383. Chair: Sharon Kelkenberg, (650) 962-1656. **Attend & Improve or Maintain Conversational Skills.**
- 7 Friday **Armchair "Adventures" Travel.** Meets 7:30 pm at The Terraces (800 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos). Program: *Touring Alsace and Black Forest by Bike* – presented by artist Kay Duffy. Chair: JoAn Lambert, (408) 867-6237. **Open to Public!**



September 2016

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

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