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the Shareline

March 2016



Hayward/Castro Valley Branch

www.hcv-ca.aauw.net

ALAMEDA COUNTY WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME TO INDUCT 12 OUTSTANDING WOMEN AT 2016 CELEBRATION

Saturday, March 19th

12:30 pm

Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 4700 Lincoln Ave, Oakland

The event will be hosted by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Alameda County commission on the Status of Women.

Suzanne Barba, a member of our AAUW Branch will be one of the 12 inductees and will receive the Community Service Award. She is a long time board member with the League of Women Voters, Eden Area, whose activism has spread to important causes including good schools, healthy neighborhoods and first-rate health care in the Eden community. Suzanne has been the editor of the League's newsletter for 15 years and served on the Eden Hospital Board for 16 years which included awarding grants to community based organizations. She has been on the board of the Hispanic Community Affairs Council (HCAC) for over 30 years. HCAC awards hundreds of scholarships to worthy, low income students. She attributes the start of her activism to the PTA when she took her oldest of three young children to her first kindergarten class. Two months later she was president of that PTA and on her way to her 45 years of lifelong commitment to community service.

This year's Women's Hall of Fame Luncheon and awards ceremony is set.

Tickets to the luncheon and awards ceremony are \$85.

For ticket information and on-line purchase, visit <http://whof.acgov.org>.

The PRESIDENT's MESSAGE

Hello Branch Members

I have to admit I've been pretty busy these past few weeks due to retiring from my job of 37 years on January 29, 2016, tying up loose ends of my retirement benefits, planning a retirement party to thank all my old co-workers for their contribution to my long and successful career, and working part-time as a tax adviser for HR Block and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. It's an exciting new chapter for me that will continue to include the presidency of our wonderful AAUW branch.

Your AAUW Board has exciting things planned for 2016. This year marks our branch's 75th anniversary, a milestone worthy of a celebration. Plans for a future exhibit at the Hayward Historical Society Museum are in the works. If you'd like to assist with preparations please send an email to slaterl@sbcglobal.net. We have lots of boxes of paperwork, photos, and information to go through to make our exhibit an exceptional event.

Tech Trek is gearing up for summer at Sonoma State. The committee, led by Judy Harrison is currently collecting applications and preparing for interviews as I write this. Now that the Tech Trek program is nationwide, all eyes are on California to lead the way to summer STEM adventures for girls across the country. We're proud of the fact that our branch can again support 5-6 girls to attend this year. Thanks for all your support.

The State convention is coming up across the Bay at the San Mateo Marriott at the San Francisco Airport the weekend of April 15th - 17th. Most of you have received your AAUW California Perspective which has all of the details including the fact that if you register by 2/26 you can save \$100. Registration is also available online at aauw-ca.org Since it's so close my hope is that our Branch will make a good showing of support.

Checkout our Branch Facebook page that provides lots of news, events, and updates? Please "like" our Facebook Page to help spread the word about the good works of our Branch. Questions? Email Nancy Turner at hendry-turner@sbcglobal.net.

NOTE: Be sure to let me know if you have an idea for a program or fundraiser to support the AAUW mission to promote equity and education for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Thanks and see you all soon, I hope.

Linda Slater, Branch President

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR !**

EVERY THURSDAY
Walking Group

March 7
Board Meeting

March 9
Drama Reading

March 19
Hall of Fame
Luncheon

March 21
Book Group

April 5
Voter Reg. At
Cal State-EB

April 15-17
State
Convention

April 11, 12, 20
Movie on
Sexual
Assault

May 13
Souper
Supper

***LOOK INSIDE
FOR
DETAILS***

Hiking/Walking Group

Meet at Lake Chabot near the café **EVERY THURSDAY** at 8:30 AM, or contact Ruth Rymer ruthrymer@sbcglobal.net, or call Ruth at 317-2010.

Everyone is welcome and more members/friends are coming each week.

Remember: exercise is the best medicine as we get older!

BOARD MEETING

March 7th
6:30 pm
at Liz Bathgate's home

DRAMA READING

Wednesday, March 9th
At 7 pm

We will meet the second Wed. evening in March since I will be out of town early in the month.

We will be reading AS IS, a play by William Hoffman. It focuses on the effect AIDS, then a fairly new pandemic, had on the LGBT community. It was performed on Broadway in 1985.

We will read this very short play and have lots of time for dessert and conversation. All are welcome!!

If you are a new member and need more information, call Liz at 581-0461.

BOOK GROUP MEETING

Monday, March 21st

2pm to 4 pm

The branch book group will be on Monday afternoon, March 21, from 2-4 at the home of Margaret Hankle, 2244 Heathrow Pl., San Leandro. This will be our third group read of the year, Geraldine Brooks' outstanding new novel, *The Secret Chord*. The novel explores the life of King David, from childhood, through his rise to power as king of the Israelites, to his death in old age and the rise of his son Solomon. Carol Jarvis will facilitate what promises to be a rewarding and exciting discussion. Refreshments will be served.

If you are a regular member of the group who cannot come, or if you are bringing a guest, please contact Margaret at 667-9556 or by email at MJL61HANKLE@sbcglobal.net and let her know. Your hostess appreciates knowing how many are coming so she can plan the refreshments and seating. If you are new to the group, please let Margaret know. Thanks for your cooperation and courtesy.

Directions to Margaret's home will be sent out with the meeting reminder the week before the meeting. If you need additional directions, please contact Margaret.

Our next meeting is on Monday, April 18th at Berna Neumiller's Castro Valley home where Pat Buchanan will review *Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt* by Chris Hedges. Our final meeting of the year will be on Monday, May 16th, at Helene Victor's home in Castro Valley. This will be the fourth and final group read of the year, Annie Barrows' new novel *The Truth According to Us*. Margaret Hankle will be facilitator.

All members of the branch are invited to join these afternoons of special friends, fine books, and delightful discussions.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Tuesday April 5th

Cal State East Bay

The students will be having a drive to get their students and faculty registered to vote by having a special event on campus. They will have all sorts of groups represented with tables and we are looking for some of our members who would be willing to go to the campus and be there to represent AAUW and help register people to vote. Their plans are to do it electronically using the Secretary of State's website. How this works is new to me, but it should streamline the process not having to use the long paper application. I have recommended that they get the email of the people that they register so that they can be contacted about the June and November elections as they approach. AAUW research has found that the success of getting new voters to the poles really depends on their being reminded of the date and place where they need to vote more than once. Let me know if you would like to help. Liz Bathgate

“IT HAPPENED HERE”

Movie On Sexual Assault

We have ordered from its producer. The movie costs \$500.00 for five showings on five different college campuses. AAUW offered a grant to cover this cost and we have received it. Helene Victor is spearheading this program.

At present we have met with Chabot College, Cal State East Bay and Alameda College. We are in ongoing discussion with U.C. Berkeley and Las Positas College.

The first showing will be at Cal State on **April 11th at 7pm**. The venue is still not decided, but it will be on campus in a large room where many students and members of the community can come to view it. During the day on the 11th the District Attorney of Alameda County will have members of her staff on campus with a panel discussion of these issues.

April 12th at 1pm, it will be shown in the Little Theater on the Chabot College campus. It will be open to the students and the public.

April 20th it will be shown on the Alameda College Campus. This showing was arranged by the President of AAUW Alameda.

The committee working with Helene Victor is Liz Bathgate, Ursula Batz, Evelyn Gertler and Helene Carr.

Souper Supper

We will once again be having our *Souper Supper on May 13th* at the First Baptist Church, at the corner of Redwood Road and 7 Hills.

We will once again present our new Trek Tech campers and have a chance to meet their families.

The money made from this program will go toward our sending a Chabot College student leader to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland-College Park in early June.



Tech Trek News

Tech Trek has gone national with a new logo and lots of new guidelines and rules. Our committee, Dee Butner, Sylvia Ginwright, Linda Hendley and I have been busy getting the nomination information out to the 11 middle schools in the four districts we cover. It's a more lengthy process but we are pleased with the results. The applications are due March 4 and we will read them on March 8 to select the finalists to be interviewed on March 19. Our 6 campers will be selected on that date.

This year's camp at Sonoma State will be from June 19 to June 25. There are openings for dorm moms. For more information contact Rory Keller, camp co-director: 210 West Street, Petaluma, CA 94952, phone: 707-763-2072, TT@rorymail.com. Being a dorm mom is lots of work, but an extremely rewarding job that renews your faith in our young people.

Save the date: August 22nd is the date for our third annual Tips For Change Dinner at Gianni's Italian Bistro in San Ramon. Think about being one of our fantastic servers for the evening. I will be sending out more information as the date gets closer. This is always a fun-filled evening with lots of good food, good fun, good company and great raffle items. If you have any questions e-mail me at jharrison663@comcast.net and I'll try to answer them.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Suzanne Barba who will be inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame at their 23rd Anniversary Luncheon at the Greek Orthodox Church in Oakland on March 19. Suzanne is being honored for her many years in community service.

If you have news about a member who needs to be congratulated on a special occasion or accomplishment, who needs to be encouraged during illness or difficult time, or to be reminded we are here for him/her, please contact your corresponding secretary Barbara Jones at 538.0516 or by email at bb_jones@pacbell.net. Let's let our friends know we care.

AAUW WASHINGTON UPDATE

February 12, 2016

On Wednesday, AAUW celebrated the release of the *AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record (CVR)* for the first session of the 114th Congress. This voting record provides information about elected federal legislators on the priorities that are critical to the Action Fund's mission.

This year's CVR marks the 35th year AAUW Action Fund has scored members of Congress based on their record on AAUW priorities. Our first CVR came out in 1982 when we scored the 97th Congress on such issues as social security, abortion funding, food stamps, and voting rights. For the 114th Congress, we scored congressional members on legislative priorities based on AAUW's Public Policy program adopted by AAUW members in areas such as equal pay, education, campus sexual assault, campaign finance, human trafficking, and reproductive rights.

Senate members were scored on five key pieces of legislation including their co-sponsorship of the Paycheck Fairness Act which would strengthen federal outreach and enforcement efforts, the Survivor Outreach and Support (SOS) Campus Act which would develop steps to end sexual assault on college campuses, and the Democracy for All constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United. A total of seven Senate members received a 100 percent rating from AAUW Action Fund.

The House of Representatives were scored on similar legislation including co-sponsoring the Paycheck Fairness Act and Democracy for All constitutional amendment. House members were scored on seven legislative actions including opposition to the Student Succeeds Act which fails to hold states accountable for closing achievement gaps, the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Reauthorization (SOAR) Act which would expand school vouchers in Washington D.C. and give public funds to private institutions that do not have to follow Title IX requirements, and the Defund Planned Parenthood Act which would limit women's access to health care. 59 members of the House of Representatives received a 100 percent rating from AAUW Action Fund.

We encourage you to check out the *AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record* at <https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/congressional-voting-record/> and see how your senators and representatives scored on issues impacting women and families. The CVR is one of the many ways that AAUW holds legislators accountable for how they vote and is an important tool to advocate for our priorities. Here's to another 35 years and even more 100 percent scores in the second session of the 114th Congress!

Sincerely,

Lisa Maatz
Vice President of Government Relations

Top Stories

Obama announces \$4.15 trillion budget proposal

President Barack Obama sent his final [budget proposal](#) to Congress on Tuesday. The budget increases spending by almost five percent with the funding of mandatory programs such as Social Security. Obama's budget also includes many proposals that support AAUW's policy priorities including increasing funds for computer science education, Title X family planning, eliminating abstinence-only education, increasing the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights' budget by \$30 million to help it oversee Title IX compliance, and continued support for the Women's Bureau at the Department of Labor.



February 19, 2016

Top Stories

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia Passes Away at Age 79

Justice Antonin Scalia [passed away](#) on Saturday at a ranch in Texas. Scalia was nominated by President Ronald Reagan in 1986, and became a champion of a strict constructionist interpretation of the Constitution. He was known for his sharp wit and aggressive style, both on and off the bench, in advocating for "originalism," the idea that judges should only interpret meanings of the Constitution from the time it was written and not treat it as a "living" or "evolving" document. Upon his passing, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) announced that the Senate would not confirm a new justice until after the 2016 election. President Obama has announced that he plans to fulfill his constitutional responsibility to nominate Scalia's replacement. To find out more about the ongoing nomination process, upcoming cases, and AAUW's response, [register for our all-member SCOTUS conference call here](#).

Women May Not Be Earning Enough to Get the Credit Score They Deserve

A new study from the credit analysis service Credit Sesame [found](#) that women have lower credit scores than men, despite the fact that women carry less overall debt and have lower credit card balances than men do. Credit Sesame's chief strategic officer says he believes that income disparity between men and women may be a factor in credit scores. Women typically earn just 79 cents for every dollar a man earns, which means women are not being paid enough to fully pay off their debt. Furthermore, [recent research from AAUW](#) found that men were paid 18 percent more than women a year after graduating college. A larger paycheck for men results in a lower debt-to-income ratio, a measure that lenders consider when evaluating a borrower's loan.

Supreme Court Report

Supreme Court Report is a new section in Washington Update to provide you with the most recent news about the U.S. Supreme Court over the next few months. This section will keep you up-to-date on the process to nominate and confirm a new justice, as well as highlight stories about critical upcoming cases that the court will hear.

(Click to enlarge infographic)

Procedural Possibilities for Nominating a SCOTUS Justice



Option 1: Obstructing a Judiciary Confirmation Hearing

Republican Senate leadership has staked out the position that no Obama nominee will move forward. Because the GOP holds a Senate majority, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has the power to refuse to hold a confirmation hearing.

Likelihood: Possible

There is no apparent precedent for the Senate to refuse to even hear from a Supreme Court nominee because of an impending election. Doing so would open Republicans to claims of obstructionism.



Option 2: Hearing is Held, but Nominee is Blocked

The Senate Judiciary committee can hold a nomination hearing and use the information gathered to find a reason to ultimately vote against the nominee. Even if a nominee makes it through the committee, any potential Supreme Court appointment requires the consent of 60 senators to avoid a filibuster and move forward.

Likelihood: Probable

A hearing would allow Republicans to argue that they at least gave the nominee a chance. Even if a nominee receives a floor vote, it is unlikely that 14 Republicans would vote to end a filibuster.



Option 3: The "Nuclear" Option

If the Democrats win back the Senate majority, but lose the White House, there would be a 17-day window during which Democrats control both branches of government. This would leave time for the president to submit a nominee and for Democrats to apply the "nuclear option," which would eliminate a filibuster and allow them to vote in a nominee by a simple majority.

Likelihood: Last resort for Dems

In 2013, Senate Democrats already used the "nuclear option" to eliminate filibusters for most judicial appointments. This is not the White House's preferred option and would incense Republicans.

AAUW Cheer of the Week

The first Native American woman was confirmed as a judge in a [U.S. District Court](#). Diane Humetewa, a member of the Hopi tribe, was one of six judges to be confirmed to the federal court in Arizona on Monday. She is just the third Native American individual to be named to the federal bench.



LAF EXPRESS



February 2016

Victory for 2 LAF-Supported Plaintiffs in Sex Discrimination Suit

After a decade of litigation, educators [Michelle \(Jaureguito\) Henley](#) and [Laurel Wartluft](#) have successfully settled their cases against Feather River Community College in California. Along with another LAF-supported plaintiff, Paul Thein, they filed whistleblower lawsuits in 2006 against Feather River. They alleged that the college violated Title IX by retaliating against them for complaining about sex discrimination, among other claims. All three cases were eventually referred to California's State Personnel Board. In August 2009, a California State Personnel Board judge issued a decision in favor of all three plaintiffs, ordering their reinstatement and awarding them back pay and damages. Feather River appealed the judge's decision. After a lengthy appeal, the full State Personnel Board upheld the judge's 2009 decision in the plaintiffs' favor. Their cases highlighted Title IX's important role in protecting faculty and staff who advocate for gender equity.

AAUW is thrilled for the plaintiffs and proud to have supported their cases. Thein is still pursuing his case.

Looking for a Quick Update on an LAF-Supported Case or Program?

Visit the [LAF Case Support page](#), which includes a brief summary and current case status for each active LAF-supported lawsuit. We'll add updates as we hear about them. Are your branch members looking for more ways to keep up with LAF news? Encourage them to e-mail laf@aauw.org to join the *LAF Express* mailing list.

Please consider making a [tax-deductible donation](#) to help balance the scales of justice.