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the Shareline

October 2015



Hayward/Castro Valley Branch

www.hcv-ca.aauw.net

ANNUAL HAYWARD VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION & AWARDS DINNER

Tuesday October 6, 2015

**Honoring Outstanding Volunteer Helene Victor,
of our AAUW Branch**

**St Rose Hospital's Grand White Tent
27200 Calaroga Ave, Hayward**

Our branch has reserved a table for 10. If you want to join us at our table, send a check for \$40/person to Helene Carr at P.O. Box 642 Hayward, Ca 94543-7505. Make your checks out to HCV AAUW.

DEADLINE: September 25, 2015. We can get an additional table, if necessary.

This is a wonderful event where volunteers from all of Hayward's organizations are honored for their fine work each year.

Helene Carr, our AAUW treasurer, will receive the award from the Friends of the Library this year.

HELENE VICTOR, our nominee has been a member since 2010 and has been on the board for a number of years. She took over the Program Committee last year and single handedly put on both the Human Trafficking Programs last spring. We had over 90 people from our branch and the community at those events.

This year she is working with a committee on showing the brand new film "It Happened Here" at Cal State East Bay and at Chabot. This film deals with Campus Sexual Assault and is high as a priority for AAUW.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 24th

8am-10am at

Knudsen's Ice Creamery

3323 Castro Valley Blvd., in Castro Valley

The Hayward/Castro Valley AAUW branch is having a special fundraiser benefitting Tech Trek.

The cost is \$10 per person to enjoy a generous breakfast of pancakes, bacon, orange juice and coffee or tea. Bring your family, your neighbors, all who would enjoy a Saturday morning sharing a good meal and helping the branch raise money to send girls to Tech Trek camp next June.

Those who joined us for this event last year will remember what a delightful time was had by one and all!

You can purchase tickets from any board member or contact Barbara Jones at bb_jones@pacbell.net or 538-0516. See you there!

FELLOWS FUND LUNCHEON

October 25th at 11:30am

at Crow Canyon Country Club

Liz Bathgate is on the State Funds Committee and its her responsibility is to get volunteers who are going to the luncheon to help with registration and greeting. Anyone who wishes to do that, needs to be at Crow Canyon Country Club by 11am.

The information on the luncheon is online at AAUW-CA.org. Go to that website to sign up and then let me know if you can help either before the luncheon or afterwards collecting name tags. If you have an early volunteer time, we will carpool from my home at 10:30am.

Kristin de Nesnera is one of the Fellows who will be there. She received funds from 3 Fellowships, Ann Les, Marie Wolbach and mine. She is at UC Santa Cruz and is getting a PHD in Biology. Her studies concern the recovery and restoration of Rocky Intertidal Mussel Beds.

The PRESIDENT's MESSAGE

Dear Members:

A couple of significant issues are on my mind this month. First, the Republican debates marked the entry into our national, state and local election cycles, and whether you cheer on a candidate or tune in to find out what the "other side" is up to, it is critically important for everyone to vote. September 22nd was National Voter Registration Day — a single day of coordinated events to help Americans register to vote. Unfortunately, statistics show that though women make up over half of the U.S. population, in 2014 less than half of eligible women voters reported voting. Off-year elections, including the 2015 election season, are a time when young women are even less likely to vote. Women fought long and hard for our right to vote. It's time we use it! AAUW National, through #SheVotes, Twitter gives women a place to find resources, learn about [voter discrimination laws](#), and discuss the wide range of policy issues that mobilize women to go to the polls.

Second, October is the beginning of fall and the month of harvest. Sukkot, a Jewish agricultural festival, originally considered a Thanksgiving for fruit, requires the construction of a three-sided structure representing how the Jewish people lived during their 40 years of exile in the wilderness. The festival represents the fact that all existence is fragile, and therefore a time should be set aside to appreciate the shelter of our homes and our bodies. This month our Branch is setting aside time to honor Helene Victor, at the annual City of Hayward Volunteer Dinner in the White Tent at St. Rose Hospital for her planning, preparation and implementation of two highly successful events on Human Trafficking. Human Trafficking is a horrendous practice, locally and internationally, that robs individuals of their personal freedoms and deprives them of the shelter and safety of home and body. We appreciate the programs that brought this issue to our attention and hope you can join us in honoring Helene.

Lastly, thankfulness is the watchword for me. As I mentioned in my last message I am thankful for all my blessings, health, family and friends. It reminds me to give back and be of service. I hope each of you will find an interest, an event, or a program that you will join and support this coming year. Your Board and committees are working diligently for you and hope you will respond in the affirmative when the call goes out for volunteers. Together we can make this branch work! Mark your calendars for all our upcoming branch events, check your Yahoo! Groups regularly for reminders and partner events, and please come out to support the important programs based on the mission of AAUW to provide equity and education to women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Yours in service,

Linda Slater, Branch President

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR !**

EVERY THURSDAY
Walking Group

October 5
Board Meeting

October 6
Volunteer Awards &
Recognition Dinner

October 7
Drama Reading

October 19
Book Group

October 24
Tech Trek Pancake
Fundraiser

October 25
Fellows Fund
Luncheon

November 2
Board Meeting

November 4
Drama Reading

November 6
Bunco

November 16
Book Group

***LOOK INSIDE FOR
DETAILS***

Hiking/Walking Group

Meet at Lake Chabot near the café **EVERY THURSDAY** at 8:15 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

October 5th, 6:30 pm
at Liz Bathgate's home.

DRAMA READING

Wednesday, October 7th
At 7 pm

This group meets at Liz Bathgate's home.

***Gem of the Ocean*, written by August Wilson is the play that we will read. The play is set in 1904 in Pittsburgh's Hill District. Aunt Ester, the drama's 285 year old fiery matriarch, welcomes into her home Solly Two Kings, who was born into slavery and scouted for the Union Army, and Citizen Barlow, a young man from Alabama searching for a new life and in search of redemption. Aunt Ester is not too old to practice healing; she guides him on a soaring, lyrical journey of spiritual awakening to the City of Bones. This play should be really interesting to say the least.**

During intermission we enjoy some dessert and great conversation.

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

2015-2016 Board

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Evelyn Gertler 510-538-0122

BOOK GROUP MEETING

Monday, October 19th

2pm to 4 pm

The next meeting of the branch book group will be at the Castro Valley home of Dee Butner, 4789 Rollinghills Way. Ruth Rymer will review *No Ordinary Time* by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Written in 1995, the book recounts the years and accomplishments of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt during the turbulent years of World War II. Refreshments will be served.

All members of the branch are invited to join the always delightful afternoon of special friends, good books, and pleasant conversation. If you have questions or need directions, call Dee.

If you are new to the group, if you are bringing a guest, or if you are a regular member and cannot make the meeting, please call Dee at 537-8541 or by email at Kinder55@aol.com. Please show this courtesy to our hostess so she can plan the refreshments. Thank you.

For our November 16th meeting, our Special Guest will be Nancy Schluntz. She will be talking about her book *Hand in Paw: A Journey of Trust and Discovery*.

Hope to see you there!



Friday, November 6th – 6:30pm to 9:00pm

Hostess: Mary Graw, 4859 Beacon Drive, Castro Valley
Driving instructions in next Shareline

Please call Dee Donaldson (510-538-3415) or Dee Butner (510-537-8541) to sign up for the game. We will help you decide what food item to bring too.

MEMBER NEWS

Evelyn Gertler's many AAUW friends extend their condolences on the passing of Al, her husband of 68 years. Al was a special friend, delightful conversationalist who reveled in his wonderful family, his busy life and so many activities and interests. How he will be missed by all who were lucky to be a part of his life!

Jane Arndt recently seriously injured her arm when she had an accidental fall in her backyard. We wish her a smooth and speedy recovery so she can return to her many favorite activities.

Mary Krieg is at home recovering from gall bladder surgery after 43 days in the hospital and rehab. We'll be glad to see her back in the swing of branch activities soon.

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.

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## LAF EXPRESS

### Victories at the Supreme Court! Listen to Our Wrap-Up Call

The U.S. Supreme Court just ended its term, and the cases it decided this year will significantly affect the rights of women and girls across the country. Marriage equality, pregnancy discrimination, voting rights, and other important issues hung in the balance this year. More than 150 members from across the country tuned in on July 23 to hear us analyze the results. Couldn't make the call? Listen to a [recording](#), and take a look at

our [wrap-up blog](#). Stay tuned for information on our next Supreme Court preview call in October!

## **Appeals Court Blocks Unconstitutional Abortion Restriction in North Dakota**

In late July, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit struck down a North Dakota law that would have banned all abortions after approximately six weeks of pregnancy — arguably the most severe abortion restriction in the country. The 8th Circuit ruled that the law was unconstitutional under [Roe v. Wade](#). Although the court's ruling means that the law will not go into effect for now, North Dakota may appeal the court's decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. Even if the state doesn't do so, challenges to similar early bans look likely to reach the Supreme Court next term. Keep an eye on *LAF Express* for more information as the cases move forward.

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

# **PUBLIC POLICY**

## **States Still Working to Pass Equal Pay Legislation This Year**

California and Massachusetts have longer legislative sessions, and several equal pay bills are still in play in these states.

If passed, these bills could help close the gender pay gap in new and useful ways.

California has a trio of equal pay bills moving through the legislature. All three have passed the first chamber as well as committee in the second chamber. [Assembly Bill 1017](#) would prohibit employers from asking about a potential hire's prior salary history. If enacted, it would be the first state law of its kind. [Assembly Bill 1354](#) would require contractors working in the state to comply with a pay nondiscrimination program. Finally, [Senate Bill 358](#) would clarify employer defenses to pay discrimination claims and prohibit employers from discriminating or retaliating against employees who are involved in proceedings to enforce these protections.

Meanwhile, [Massachusetts](#) has two identical equal pay bills pending, both of which have passed committee in the first chamber. Massachusetts [House Bill 1733](#) and [Senate Bill 983](#) have many provisions similar to the bills pending in California, including prohibiting employers from discriminating against employees who are involved in proceedings to enforce equal pay protections and barring employers from asking about a potential hire's prior salary history. The Massachusetts bills would also require pay regulations to be posted in public work spaces and clarify employer defenses to claims. One unique feature of the Massachusetts bills is the establishment of a "rebuttable presumption" of innocence — meaning that if the employer has taken certain defined steps toward eliminating wage differentials based on gender, courts will presume that the employer is innocent unless contrary evidence is supplied. This provision would act as a carrot to incentivize employers to curb wage discrimination and close the pay gap in return for minimizing their potential for liability.

# AAUW WASHINGTON UPDATE

September 11, 2015

This was an exciting week for AAUW! On Thursday, I testified at a hearing entitled “Preventing and Responding to Sexual Assault on College Campuses” before the House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. It was an honor to be invited and to represent AAUW, and it was satisfying to see the issue taken seriously. Though the opposition and I had varying ideas on solutions for the problem, there was no question that campus sexual assault was definitely a problem that must be addressed. Prevention, in fact, was the common thread of the hearing.

That kind of cooperative, rather than adversarial, atmosphere is what is needed to make progress in creating effective policies for this nationwide problem. AAUW continues to support the HALT act (H.R. 2680) which would require campuses to do climate surveys to get a better handle on the dynamics of sexual harassment and violence in their communities. We also support the SOS Campus Act (H.R. 1490), which would ensure survivors have access to advocates to help them understand their rights and get the support they need.

My participation in this hearing was a team effort and for that I’d like to thank Erin Prangle and Anne Hedgepeth for their expertise and support in preparing me for this challenge. I’d also like to thank all of you who have sent in countless emails and tweets of support before, during, and after the hearing! The AAUW community always rallies when we need you!

If you’d like to see the hearing, please visit  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPy3YVgIZrM>

Thank you again and stay tuned as we continue the push for meaningful legislation to make college campuses safe across the country.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Maatz  
Vice President of Government Relations

## *Top Stories*

### **Department of Labor Announces Rule Prohibiting Pay Secrecy**

On Thursday the Department of Labor [announced](#) a final rule that would prohibit federal contractors from retaliating against employees who wish to discuss and share information about salaries. This rule serves to implement President Obama’s 2014 executive order promoting pay transparency and openness. Federal contracts will now include an equal opportunity clause that prohibits federal contractors from firing or discriminating against employees who discuss compensation. In addition, employees will be made aware of this new transparency because contractors must include a nondiscrimination clause in employee handbooks. The final rule will take effect on January 11, 2016.

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