



# theShareline

HAYWARD/CASTRO VALLEY February 2010

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### February

- 3 Drama Reading
- 6 Tri-Branch Lunch
- 6 Public Policy Event
- 15 Book Review
- 20 *Experience India*
- 22 Dining Out

### March

- 4 International Women's Day
- 18 Souper Supper

### April-May

- 29-1 State Conference

## PLUS

- LAF Update
- Member News
- Membership
- New Member Bios
- Gender Bias Debate
- National Lab Day
- Campus Action Program

LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS

Hayward/Castro Valley ( ) Fremont ( ) Livermore/Pleasanton/Dublin AAUW

## Tri-Branch Educational Opportunities Luncheon

Saturday, February 6, 2010

11:30 am to 2:30 pm

Sunol Valley Golf Club  
6900 Mission Road, Sunol



Featured Speaker

**Teizeen Mohamedali**  
Stanford University – Civil Engineering  
*Ecosystem Water Needs*

\$30.00 per person (non-tax deductible)

Chicken Piccata, Garlic Grilled Salmon, Tortellini Primavera

There will be an opportunity for "matched giving." Donation envelopes will be available for your use. Only cash and checks accepted.

Send check & reservation form to Anne Les  
1718 Almond Ave  
Livermore 94550-5036

For information, contact Dee Donaldson,  
510-538-3415  
[cydondee@yahoo.com](mailto:cydondee@yahoo.com)

## TRI-BRANCH LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 6, 2009, 11:30 – 2:30

**WHERE:** Sunol Valley Golf Club – Pavilion Room

**COST:** \$30.00 per person

Make checks payable to AAUW (non-tax deductible)

Send to Anne Les, 1718 Almond Ave, Livermore 94550-5036

**ENTRÉE CHOICE** (Check desired entrée(s):

Chicken Piccata     Grilled Salmon     Tortellini Primavera

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BRANCH** \_\_\_\_\_

**GUEST(S):** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Hayward/Castro Branch  
2009-10 Board

President  
OPEN

Past President  
Linda Slater

President Elect  
OPEN

VP Membership  
Liz Bathgate

VP LAF  
OPEN

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## LAF Report Case Updates

from the desk of Ursula Batz

*Schuster v. Berea College* — The Kentucky Supreme Court issued a ruling on August 19, 2009, in favor of Claire Schuster and her pay discrimination case against Berea College, denying the college's motion for discretionary review.

In November 2009, however, the Madison County Court of Appeals ruled on a motion submitted by Berea College, denying Schuster the right to a new trial and remanding the case back to the appeals court for clarification. Currently, Berea College is sending its arguments to the appeals court, and Schuster will respond.

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 11 – 6:30 PM

Liz Bathgate's home  
22112 Queen St, Castro Valley

All members are welcome to attend

## Member News

from the desk of Barbara Jones

Irene Zook is recovering in the Baywood Health Center from a fractured pelvis, sustained in a recent fall. She enjoys seeing and hearing from friends. We wish Irene a speedy and complete recovery so she can get back to her many activities.

In the last Shareline we reported the birth of Linda Slater's new grandson, Ashton Lynn Cassi, born on Thanksgiving day. December 21st brought another new grandchild for Linda, a granddaughter, Cheyane Rose Slater born to her son Brian and partner Christina. Christmas was a very special time in the Slater household with the two new little ones plus her four older grandchildren. Linda has great pictures she enjoys sharing!

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](mailto:bb_jones@pacbell.net). Let's let our friends know we care.

### Susan B. Anthony, b. February 15, 1820

“There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers.”

“Before mothers can be rightly held responsible for the vices and crimes, for the general demoralization of society, they must possess all possible rights and powers to control the conditions and circumstances of their own and their children's lives.”

## New Members We Welcome

### Add to your Directories:

Brenda Sentura: 581-1997, [bbsenturia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bbsenturia@sbcglobal.net), 25424 University Ct, H 94542-1124,

Jennifer Ong: 507-1891, [drjenniferong@gmail.com](mailto:drjenniferong@gmail.com), 2223 Santa Clara, Suite A, Alameda 94501

Connie Rusk: 582-9074, [concon05@comcast.net](mailto:concon05@comcast.net), 20800 Lake Chabot Rd #326, CV 94546

Elizabeth Kristen: 415-864-8848, [elizkristen@gmail.com](mailto:elizkristen@gmail.com), 112 Monte Cresta Ave, Oakland 94611

**Brenda Sentura:** Brenda was born in Buffalo, NY and attended Radcliffe College, graduating in 1958 in Medieval History. She moved to California and spent the next 7 years raising two daughters. Then she attended Merritt College to get an AA in Nursing and worked at Alta Bates Hospital for many years, the last 5 in ER. During the early 80s she commuted to Sonoma State for a Bachelor of Arts in Nursing, then taught nursing at Merritt College. In 1984 she moved to Seattle for a Masters in Nursing at University of Washington and then taught Nursing at Seattle Central Community College for 4 years, before retiring. Then back to school - University of Washington for an Environmental Studies degree, with emphasis on Puget Sound ecology. Subsequently she became active with Seattle Audubon leading birding field trips and serving as Vice Chair of Science Committee. Brenda moved back to the Bay Area in 2005 and in 2006 became a docent at Tilden Park Botanic garden. She is a member of Ohlone Audubon Society and leads birding field trips. She has for more than 15 years, surveyed bird routes for the USGS Breeding Bird Survey. She and her husband travel a couple of times a year bird watching - Africa, Australia, and South America. She has played piano since elementary school, and has always been a hiker and camper. She reads a lot and has been active in a book group for many years. She now spends quite a lot of time in her extensive native plant garden. She also is an opera/symphony fan.

**Jennifer Ong:** Jennifer was born in Quezon City, Philippines and moved with her family at 11 y.o. to San Leandro, Ca. A product of the California public school system, Jennifer attended Bancroft Junior High School and San Leandro High School. She then acquired her Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science from California State University East Bay. She attained her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of California Berkeley School of Optometry. Dr. Ong is currently the owner and sole practitioner of her Alameda optometric practice. She resides in Hayward, California.

Her passion is community service benefiting women and children's issues, the environment and protection of wildlife as well as programs that help promote the safety and healthy sustainable progress of her community. Jennifer also enjoys learning new languages. She is fluent in Tagalog and converses in Spanish, Romanian, and a Filipino dialect called Ilocano. In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys reading and learning about a variety of topics and spending time with fun loving friends and family. Whenever time allows, she

makes an effort to also return to other passions such as spelunking, horseback riding, cross country skiing, fly fishing, indoor climbing, weight training and watching movies.

**Connie Rusk:** A lifelong East Bay resident, Connie left only for some time at UC Davis, followed by UC Berkeley where she earned a BA in journalism. Many years later, she went to USF for a master's in writing. After some years of happy stay-at-home mothering, she was a staff writer at the Daily Review in the 1970s and 1980s, covering beats as various as San Leandro government, police and crime, and colleges. Then came 12 years at Saint Mary's College of California doing public relations, including writing for and editing the alumni magazine, cultivating the media, and community involvement in Moraga. "I loved both jobs," she reports. She was widowed after 33 years of happy marriage (previously super-healthy husband Bob died of the same brain cancer that killed Ted Kennedy). Retirement brought travel, including volunteer teaching in Poland, and community involvement. Her favorite destination these days is Chattanooga, where granddaughter Mallory, 1 year, is a powerful magnet. Her other grandchildren, 19 (twins) and 22, live in Maine. "I was in AAUW for a few years, but dropped out when I went back to full-time work," she said. The book group was her favorite activity, but with the late Marilyn Shea she did ecology presentations at local schools, and worked on the sign ordinance for Hayward. Now two antiquing clubs, League of Women Voters, and the Eden Garden Club compete for her time. She tutors adults through Literacy Plus at the Hayward Library.

**Elizabeth Kristen:** Elizabeth grew up in the mid west and attended Miami University where she earned a degree in Economic Political Science. She then moved to the bay area and attended the University of California at Berkeley School of Law where she graduated in 2001. She was such an outstanding student; she was selected for the Order of the Coif and was Editor for the California Law Review. Upon graduation, she served as a law clerk for the Honorable James R. Browning on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. She is now the Director of the Gender Equity program and Senior Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society - Employment Law Center. She has litigated numerous cases involving issues of disability, family medical leave rights, and Title IX. She will be a speaker at our AAUW State Convention on issues dealing with Title IX. When she is not at work (fewer and fewer hours every day) she loves to walk her dog, read fiction and go Zumba dancing with her spouse.

We're on the Web



[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)  
national

[www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)  
state

AAUW –  
Advancing equality  
for women and girls  
through advocacy,  
education, and  
research

The Shareline is the news-  
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[mzzboo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mzzboo@sbcglobal.net)

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## Membership

from the desk of Liz Bathgate

In the past month we have added four new members to our branch. You can read their bio's in this issue of the Shareline. Our branch membership is slowly rising, but we need all of you to bring friends to the meetings and events so that they can see what wonderful things we do in our community as well as in the state and nation! Here is some relevant information that you might use to encourage your friends. AAUW is a trusted source of timely and important information. Our award-winning magazine, *AAUW Outlook*, highlights issues and individuals affecting women and girls today. Action Network briefs alert you to congressional actions on issues that can change your life. State Public Policy information about our CA legislation keeps us informed about statewide issues. The Branches publish newsletters about local activities and interests. The AAUW Mission & Action e-newsletter regularly updates members about the work of AAUW and provides information on today's hot issues and opportunities for activism.

If you or someone you know has been waiting until January to pay the **half yearly** national dues, now is the time to join. The total dues owed from now until June are \$55.50.

Beginning with the 2009-10 Membership Year, \$46 of your Full Membership or \$16 of your Affiliate Membership is tax deductible as a contribution to AAUW's 501 (c)3 educational/charitable funds.

## Drama Reading Group

On **February 3rd** we will meet at Liz Bathgate's home to read *The Amen Corner* by James Baldwin. This is a serious drama written in the 50's about an African-American family, the complex relationship between religion and earthly love, and the effect of a poverty born of racial prejudice on their community.

Everyone is welcome to come to my house, read the play, partake in good munchies, and enjoy the community of like-minded women of AAUW. Liz Bathgate 581-0461

## Book Review Group

The next meeting of the Book Review Group will be Monday afternoon, **February 15th**, from 2-4 at Baywood Court, 21966 Dolores St. in Castro Valley.

Our hosts will be Carol Lauritzen and Irene Zook. Olive Riley-Steward will review the #1 best selling novel, *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. Refreshments will be served and a good discussion will be enjoyed by one and all.

If you have questions or need directions, please call Carol Lauritzen at 581.2684. All are welcome. See you there.

## AAUW-CA INTERBRANCH COUNCIL OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Presents

Charlotte Newhart, Public Policy Advocate

Saturday, February 6 > 9:30 am to 12:00 noon

Camden Community Center  
3369 Union Ave, San Jose 95124

Public Input – Better Output

Legislation You Can Support for CA Women and Families

All are welcome – free and open to the public

# EXPERIENCE india

art - literature - food - music - dance



Salma Arastu  
Artist & Poet



Suruchi Mohan  
Author of  
*Divine Music*



Priya Banerjee  
Indian Dancer

Free event

Hayward Public Library is pleased to present an afternoon festival of events highlighting the talents of three Bay Area women. Immerse yourself in the culture and traditions of India and sample Indian cuisine. The authors will be available to sign purchased copies of their books, custom cards, and other items.

Sponsored by Friends of the Hayward Public Library, AAUW-Hayward/Castro Valley Branch, and Favorite Indian Restaurant of Hayward.

For information, call 510-881-7980

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20 . NOON TO 4:00**

**HAYWARD MAIN LIBRARY . 835 C STREET**

Noon

Meet Artist & Poet Salma Arastu

She is the author of *The Lyrical Line: All Embracing and Flowing*, featuring her art and poetry. Salma's work conveys peace, unity, spirituality, and diversity.

1:30

Meet Novelist Suruchi Mohan

Her debut novel, *Divine Music*, tells the story of Sarika, A talented student at a renowned music college in Northern India whose love affair with her music Instructor threatens to derail her success as a professional musician.

3:00

Meet Performer Priya Banerjee

Priya, now 17, has been studying Indian dance since The age of four and graduated from the Shri Krupa Dance Foundation at nine. She has won numerous Awards II over the world for her performances.

Once again, the Hayward/Castro Valley branch is co-sponsoring a literary program at the Hayward Library as noted above. Although Favorite India Restaurant of Hayward is providing food, we have been asked to bring desserts. Cookies, brownies, other sweets, as well as fresh fruit will be good to supplement the Indian food and provide snacks during the 4-hour program. Please contact Barbara Jones at 538-0516 or [bb\\_jones@pacbell.net](mailto:bb_jones@pacbell.net), if you will bring treats. Thank you.

## Rekindling the gender-bias debate

*Bias may not be the only reason behind women's under-representation in science, maths and engineering.*

By Karen Kaplan

Published in *Nature* 462, 947 (16 December 2009)

It is almost five years since Harvard University's then-president Lawrence Summers made his controversial remarks about the innate differences between men's and women's skills in science and maths. Now, a book is reigniting the debate with equally contentious views about why female scientists have problems advancing in academia. *The Science on Women in Science* (AEI Press; 2009) is a collection of nine essays assembled and edited by former philosophy professor Christina Hoff Sommers. The book's aim, says Sommers, is to convince policy-

makers and others that gender bias may not be the primary cause of the under-representation of women in science.

Six of the nine essays, including Sommers's own contribution, contend that innate gender differences, not bias, prompt men to be more interested than women in science, maths and engineering. Published by the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI), a right-leaning think tank based in Washington DC, the book is Sommers's rejoinder to *Beyond Bias and Barriers*, a 2007 report by the US National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. That study found that under-representation of women in high-level academic posts is caused largely by bias and by an institutional framework

## Help Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

On Nov. 23, President Barack Obama announced the establishment of National Lab Day, an effort supported by AAUW and more than 200 other organizations representing over 6.5 million science, technology, engineering and math professionals and teachers. Now is the time to get involved! Are you a math, science, or engineering teacher? Are you a professional scientist, engineer, college student, or professor? If so, National Lab Day is for you. Visit the National Lab Day website at [www.nationallabday.org/groups/aauw](http://www.nationallabday.org/groups/aauw) to join in this exciting new initiative. It is tentatively scheduled for early May.

that hinders women's advancement.

**AAUW Awards Campus Action Project  
Grants to 12 Institutions  
Projects Aim to Increase Women's  
Representation in Science and Math**

WASHINGTON — AAUW has awarded \$50,000 in Campus Action Project (CAP) grants to 12 institutions across the country for the 2009–10 academic year. These projects will target some of the barriers to entering and staying in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields faced by women and girls.

Each year, AAUW selects a project topic based on our mission statement. The 2009–10 CAP teams will focus on the issues raised by AAUW's upcoming 2010 research report, which will highlight key findings from recent research on women and girls in S/T/E/M in three areas: middle and high school, college and university, and the workplace.

AAUW picked 12 CAP teams from around the country to implement projects. The selected projects focus on mentoring and on exposing some of the barriers that girls experience in math and science, as well as on networking and professional development to retain college women in S/T/E/M fields. Projects also aim to raise awareness about women in these fields through initiatives such as documentary filmmaking and a poster contest. The projects will help to increase the number of young women entering and pursuing these fields of study.

The lack of women in the typically higher-wage math and science-related fields has significant implications for women's economic security as well as for the overall economy and our nation's global competitiveness. More women in these high-paying fields would help close the gender wage gap and would eliminate the U.S. shortage of workers in math, science, technology, and engineering fields .

“AAUW is breaking through educational barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance, and that is exactly what the CAP teams selected this year are doing in their communities. Our teams are increasing the number of young women entering and staying in science and math-related fields by addressing the barriers they face in school, college, and the workplace,” said Kate C. Farrar, director of AAUW's leadership programs.

AAUW will pay for one member of each team to present on her or his team's project at the 2010 AAUW/NASPA National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington, D.C. The conference helps students connect with other students and with successful women while honing leadership skills for their work on campus and in their communities. For more information about the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, visit [www.nccwsl.org](http://www.nccwsl.org).

For more information on Campus Action Projects, visit [www.aauw.org/education/cap/breakingbarriersSTEM.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/education/cap/breakingbarriersSTEM.cfm).

**SOUPER SUPPER FUNDRAISER FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**MARCH 18 at 6:00 pm**

*More information & reservation form in next Shareline*

**A Local Scholarship Fundraiser**

**AAUW Branches Encouraged to Take Part  
in *Half the Sky* LIVE  
Celebrate International Women's Day**

On March 4, 2010, CARE will present *Half the Sky* LIVE in movie theaters nationwide. Inspired by the best-selling book, *Half the Sky* LIVE will celebrate International Women's Day with musical performances, celebrity commentary, and the world premiere of *Woineshet*, a powerful short film directed by Academy Award® Winner Marisa Tomei. *Half the Sky* LIVE is

the perfect way for AAUW branches and members across the country to celebrate International Women's Day and stand in solidarity with women and girls all over the world. Order *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* from Barnes and Noble to read the inspirational stories of the extraordinary women struggling under dire circumstances. *Half the Sky* is described as essential reading for every global citizen. AAUW partner, CARE, is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty.

**Dining Out Group**

**Monday, February 22 at 6:00 pm  
Fiesta Mexicana, 225 W Winton, Ste 100, Hayward**

For more information. call Nancy Turner at 732-9098