AAUW

the Shareline

HAYWARD/CASTRO VALLEY

MAY 2011

WHAT'S GOING ON

June 16 - 19 National Convention in Washington DC

July 9

Private Tour of Glass House July 18 Dining Out July 23 Meet the Author July 30 Golden Gate Bridge Walk

August 6 IBC Leadership Training August 13 Danville Walking Tour

LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS

PLUS:

Membership Renewals New Members -Discounts / Sign-ups One Member, One Vote Chabot Scholarships LAF News Tech Trek Picnic Recap Extreme Grandparenting Recap Member News

AAUW -

Advancing equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, research & philanthropy

DUES ARE DUE BY END OF JUNE

As we approach the end of a year and the beginning of next, I would like to encourage all of you to rejoin the branch. AAUW on the National as well as our local level does wonderful things for women and girls and deserves our support.

Last year we implemented the AAUW National site as a way of paying your dues using your credit card. Very few of you tried using this method, but it really is not that daunting.

<u>WEBSITE DUES PAYING INSTRUCTIONS</u>: If you wish to try the AAUW National site dues paying option by credit card, here is what you need to do:

First, login to the AAUW.org website with your ID#. (If you don't know your number call Liz at 581-0461) Once logged in, you will be redirected to the Member Center. Select "Member Services Database (MSD)" from the options running down the left side. **Ignore** the box that is asking you for your password, and instead go two lines up and click on the words "register here" in blue text. On this page you need to fill in the information - be sure to enter the information that AAUW has in your record or it won't allow you to continue. Once you've successfully filled that page in you will be sent an email with a link in it. Follow the link and that is where you can select your password and security question.

Once you are in the MSD, you will see "Membership Payment Program" as one of the last options running along the left-hand side of the screen. You should choose "Personal Membership MPP" and from that page you will be prompted to enter your payment information. Hit submit and then you will be prompted to verify that you want your dues charged.

Dues Due-continued



Hayward/Castro Valley 2010-11 Board

President Helene Carr Recording Secretary Liz Bathgate Finance Linda Slater Corresponding Secretary Barbara Jones Membership Liz Bathgate

Shareline Editor Susan Mahaney

Tech Trek Judy Harrison Local Scholarship Linda Slater

Members-at-Large Sandy Boswell Pat Buchanan Dee Donaldson Evelyn Gertller Ruth Leth Robin Peterson Peggy Robinson Dani Stonelake Pat Sutter

Please submit material to Susan Mahaney at smahaneyslz@aol.com 510.566.2356

Distributed by Susan Mahaney 1633 Via Amigos San Lorenzo, CA 94580 If you would rather **pay by check**, just make it out to AAUW H/CV for \$80.00 (regular membership) then send it to Liz Bathgate 22112 Queen Street, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

If you are a **Life Member**, you need only pay \$31.00, which covers the state and local dues.

If you are an **Honorary Life Member with 50 years** of AAUW, you need only pay the local dues of \$15.00.

Student affiliates pay \$41, which covers all three categories of dues.

If you wish to **donate to our angel fund** which helps pay members dues that are not as fortunate with their finances, you may do so when you send your check. Please indicate on your check that you are paying a certain amount to the angel fund.

If you wish to **donate to the Legal Advocacy Fund or any other AAUW Fund,** you may include <u>a separate check</u> that specifies into which fund you wish to have your donation included.

NEW MEMBERS Sign-up

RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS CANNOT BE A ONE-PERSON JOB!

The new membership year for our branch begins in June 2011.

We should always be looking for women who think and share the same passion for equality for women and girls as AAUW does. All of us need to be asking our friends if they would like to join our branch. Tell them about our mission and the interest groups that we have. Any new members you are able to recruit will bring you recognition in our branch.

In celebration of AAUW's founding in 1881, making this <u>our 130th year</u>, graduate students are eligible to receive a special National membership rate of \$18.81 (a savings of \$30.19). State and branch dues remain at \$31.00.

Do you know a graduate student who could benefit from this discount? **'Give a Grad a Gift'** allows current AAUW members to give a <u>free</u> <u>membership to National</u> to a recent grad within two years of graduation (a \$49.00 value) and then they only need to pay \$31.00 for dues to our branch and the state. Give a gift that makes an impact in their lives.

The **'Shape the Future'** membership campaign continues. At branch programs and events that are <u>open to the public</u>, new members can join for 50% of the current National dues (a \$24.50 value), and branches can earn free National memberships. Invite your potential member friends to our programs and events.

ONE MEMBER, ONE VOTE

National AAUW **online** ballots are due by June 17th and we are asking you to vote on a number of issues as well as a new board of directors.

We are fortunate to have two women from the Oakland-Piedmont Branch running for the board: **Julia Brown** and **Kathleen Cha** are running and we encourage you to vote for both of them. They are highly intelligent women who are truly dedicated to AAUW and the betterment of women and girls.

The ballot will display your member number and a separate personal identification (PIN) for voting.

To vote online, simply go to http://www.aauw.org/ and follow the voting instructions on the home page. You will be prompted for your member number and your voter PIN. Online voting will be open from May 1 through June 17th.

Mail-in paper ballot were due by May 31, 2011.

All the pertinent information concerning the candidates and bylaws amendments is in the OUTLOOK Magazine dated winter 2010 (it has a woman with a green shirt on the cover) at the back of this issue.

NO BOARD MEETING IN JUNE

PRIVATE TOUR

HISTORIC GLASS HOUSE, SAN RAMON 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon

Saturday, July 9th

@10:20 am for carpooling

We can meet at Liz Bathgate's home for carpooling. Call Liz at 581-0461 if you want to go.

You should plan to arrive around 10:45am on the Farm property. The tour begins at 11:00am, and will last approximately one hour.

We need 10 participants to receive a private tour. Cost is \$5.00 person. <u>Please bring cash</u>. Maximum 14.

Once we have 14 we have to cut it off, so call early to make your reservation.

You are invited to take a private tour of the David and Eliza Glass House. A Victorian home built in 1877 and situated at Forest Home Farms, a Historic Park in San Ramon. We have arranged for one of our branch members, Pat Macsata, a docent on the property, to lead us back in time as we tour the beautifully furnished rooms in the two-story home. The house is representative of valley life from the era 1875 – 1910, and has many valuable artifacts from the Glass family as well as other pioneers who settled in the rich agricultural valley.

<u>After the tour</u>, we can meet for lunch at a local and very good Italian restaurant called "Giuseppe's" in San Ramon.

AAUW DINING OUT

Monday, July 18th @ 6:00 pm

Top Thai Cuisine

3837 Castro Valley Blvd. @ Norbridge Avenue (near the Castro Valley Library)

We will skip Dining Out in June since the third Monday in June is the day after Father's Day.

We will gather for dinner on Monday, July 18. A few people have recommended Top Thai Cuisine in Castro Valley. The restaurant advertises a senior (55 and over) discount on Mondays so that might bring a few more diners to our group. There is an extensive menu and the prices look reasonable.

For more information, or to let me know you are coming, please email me: sandyboswell@rocketmail.com or call my cell (510) 909-5466.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Book-to-Action

Saturday, July 23rd

@ 1:30 PM

Hayward Main Library 835 C Street

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, July 23rd, to hear <u>In Defense of Food</u> author Janet Fletcher and local CSA Farmers at the Hayward Library. As Michael Pollan notes in In Defense of Food, research suggests that people who cook are more likely to eat a more healthful diet. So let's get cooking! Meet Janet Fletcher, a certified Master Gardner, San Francisco Chronicle columnist, and author of the cookbooks *Fresh from the Farmers Market* and *Eating Local*. She will talk about Community Supported Agriculture and the advantages of shopping at your local farmers' market. Get inspiration and ideas for shopping, preparing and cooking with seasonal produce. Some local growers who will talk about their farms and the benefits of buying fresh and locally grown food will join her.

Once again the branch will co-sponsor the event and we were asked to bring refreshments to the meeting. If you can do so, please contact Barbara Jones at 538-0516 or by email at bb_jones@pacbell.net. This will be a special program to look forward to during the summer.

This event is supported in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum & Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services & Technology Act administered in California by the State Librarian.

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE WALK Saturday, July 30TH

Recently Liz and Bob Bathgate walked halfway across the bridge and enjoyed all the sights of the bay and the city. Our AAUW group did this walk 10 years ago and a number of you suggested that we do a repeat.

Since the weather would most probably be better in the early afternoon, let's plan to picnic in the Presidio and then walk the bridge around 1:30pm.

Call Liz if you are interested and we will set up carpools.

IBC LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Saturday, August 6, 2011

Time and venue to be determined

Joint Alameda County and Contra County Inter-Branch Council Leadership Training, Is open to All Members, but especially designed for Branch Leaders.

Please send a RSVP to Linda Slater, IBC Liaison, if you are planning to attend. <u>slaterl@sbcglobal.net</u> or 510.481.5304

DANVILLE WALKING TOUR

Saturday, August 13th

@ 10:00 am in Danville

You are invited to join Liz Bathgate on a walking tour of Danville.

The walk begins at 10am and we will plan to have lunch in Danville following the tour.

If you are interested in joining us for this event, please call Liz at 581-0461 so we can set-up carpools.

CHABOT SCHOLARSHIPS

We will be giving two Scholarships at Chabot College this year. Each one will be for \$1,000 and Evelyn Gertler has been working with the Chabot Foundation in this endeavor. She was given only two applications so we don't know how many girls applied for the money.

The committee will get together with the two women chosen and then will award them their certificate at the college awards banquet. Linda Slater will help make the certificates.

The two women are Okpara Nkechi and Victoria Servin.

LAF NEWS

May 2011

New Information

Mansourian Case Goes to Trial

In their lawsuit, Mansourian v. Regents of the University of California, Arezou Mansourian and other former members of the University of California, Davis's women's wrestling team say that the university discriminated against them in violation of Title IX. Over the last decade, their case has gone through different courts to determine whether or not there was sufficient notice of the discrimination, not whether or not discrimination occurred. On May 23 they will at last have a hearing on the merits of the case. The case never would have reached this point without AAUW's support.

The trial will be held in federal court at 501 I St., Sacramento, California. It starts at 1:30 p.m. on May 23 in the courtroom of Judge Damrell and will continue beginning at 9 a.m. May 24–26, May 30–June 2, and June 6–9. Local AAUW members are encouraged to attend.

Wal-Mart v. Dukes

A decision from the U.S. Supreme Court on this LAF-supported case is expected in June.

LAF-continued

Decision in Harris v. Baltimore

In early May, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit issued a ruling in the case of Lynette Harris, an electrician with the city of Baltimore who had sued for sexual harassment after being subjected to a work environment with sexually explicit pictures and language. AAUW signed onto an amicus brief supporting Harris's case. The circuit court found that there was sufficient evidence of harassment, but it still affirmed the granting of summary judgment for the city on Harris's failure to promote her claim.

LAF Conference Call

The LAF conference call held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, was a great success. LAF Program Manager Holly Kearl and Regulatory Affairs Manager Beth Scott provided case support updates and information about new gender violence and harassment guidance from the Obama administration and related AAUW programs and activities, the successes of the LAF Campus Outreach Fund, and LAF fundraising news. To request a transcript of the call, contact laf@aauw.org.

Yale Fraternity Punished For Sexually Harassing Chant

Yale University finally confirmed punishment for a school fraternity that shouted misogynistic chants at a school rally. According to the university, the fraternity members involved in the incident have been suspended from the Yale campus and the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity has been banned from operating, recruiting, or communicating with Yale's student body for five years.

Yale is currently under investigation for violating Title IX, a law that ensures equal access to education for women. The investigation stemmed from a student complaint that the university's failure to address sexual harassment on campus has created an inhospitable environment for women.

AAUW has been following the Yale case closely, and AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relation's Lisa Maatz provided expert commentary on the controversy to Good Morning America. AAUW believes that increasing and ensuring access to educational opportunities for all women and girls is a critical step towards financial security and economic independence. One pervasive problem that continues to hinder equity in education at every level of our nation's schools is sexual harassment.

TECH TREK Picnic Recap

On May 14th we had a potluck picnic at Sulphur Creek Nature Center for the girls who have been awarded our scholarships to go to camp at Sonoma State. Three of the girls and their families were able to attend and had a chance to get to know one another. They had not met each other as they all attend different middle schools.

One of the recipients from last year was also able to attend and fill in the new girls about her experiences at camp.

Sam, a Naturalist at Sulphur Creek came out with a Great Horned Owl and talked to us about this wonderful bird. Many questions were asked about how this bird feeds and sees in the dark. It was a wonderful experience for all to see this grand bird up close.

Many members attended and brought their wonderful home cooked delicacies for a very tasty lunch, which everyone enjoyed.

Sulphur Creek is a very special place and many of our members volunteer at the park taking care of the animals and three of our members are in charge of doing all the garden work to make the native garden bloom without any weeds. Whew, that is a real job.

Wendy Winsted is a member and is in charge of overseeing the running of the park and Rose Britton is in charge of the hospital where right now they are busy with baby birds that have fallen out of their nests. They are cared for and then released back into the wild by the volunteers.

If you have never visited the park, make sure you do so as there are many birds, mammals and reptiles to see. If you have small children in your family be sure and bring them.

The park is open daily from 10am-4pm at no cost and is located at 1801 'D' Street, Hayward, phone# 881-6747.

SPECIAL NOTE:

The Board was treated to a power point presentation of camp at Sonoma State and Mills, pictures that Judy Harrison has taken in her years as a Dorm Mom. All instructors at Tech Trek Camp are women professionals and the campers work in teams with these teachers to create science projects.

The program was so well done that Judy has been asked to show it at two separate Rotary luncheons and perhaps she will be able to secure a donation to Tech Trek.

We need to find companies willing to donate to our Tech Trek fund.

EXTREME GRANDPARENTING Recap

On May 17th many members had the chance to hear from two of our members who are either raising or helping to raise their grandchildren.

<u>Sylvia Ginwright</u> received a call from her daughter in the middle of the night telling her that she could no longer care for her children, a girl 5 and a boy 8. They lived in Florida and Sylvia had to move them across country to care for them here in Castro Valley. It was a very traumatic experience for both of the children, but more so for the young girl. It was a time of hysterics and fearfulness that finally were alleviated when they understood that Sylvia was not going to send them back and their home was with her forever.

Sylvia had a full career as a teacher and administrator in Southern California and Hayward Unified School District before retiring. She now found herself back in the role of parent and had to instill in these youngsters that school was of paramount importance along with their athletic teams. She now finds herself in the role of parent/driver/encourager/and enforcer of the rules. This has worked very well over the last 6 years and the girl finds herself to be a scholar and a fast runner on "Castro Valley Track Team". The young boy is now in high school where he has participated in many athletic teams and knows that he is headed for college.

<u>Marilyn Baker-Madsen</u> has a bit of a different story. Her daughter and son-in-law fostered then adopted two sisters (same mother, different fathers) who were born to parents on drugs or alcohol. They were taken away from their mother when she fell from a second story balcony with the older of the two (she was fifteen months old at the time) and her sister but a few months old. The oldest child suffered a skull fracture in the fall. Both sisters were placed in a foster home. When the girls came to live with Marilyn's daughter and son-in-law, they were 28 and 15 months old respectively and this was their fifth placement. The adoption process took a year and during that first year the girls exhibited much anxiety and were fearful of "the man" coming back to hurt them.

Marilyn and her husband began helping care for the girls and initially took them one day a week. These days started at 6:30am when mommy dropped them off on her way to work and ended at 6:00pm when she picked them up on her way home. One day grew to two and included taking the girls to the library for Lapsit Programs and then graduated to participating in "parent assisted" preschool. During this time it became apparent that both girl's had multiple issues. The oldest, a meth baby, was diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder and the youngest, with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, manifested with physical disabilities that included muscular weakness and lack of coordination. The bipolar child, even with medication, is inflexible and oppositional, extraordinarily irritable and has periods of explosive rage that last for hours at a time. The youngest has anxiety attacks that result in crying jags. Marilyn and her daughter have done much research and meet with the girl's counselors in an effort to help the girls through these periods.

Marilyn Baker-Madsen -continued

For the past several years, Marilyn has had the girls four days a week. She gets them breakfast and ready for school, she takes them to school and picks them up, she shuttles them to counseling appointments and swimming lessons weekly. She sees that each girl completes homework assignments. The younger girl's disorders have not affected her scholastic ability and, at the end of first grade, she is reading at a 3rd grade level. The older girl, who is strong in math, has difficulty with reading and comprehension and will attend summer school to address this deficit and prepare for the more rigorous program of studies she will encounter in the 3rd grade.

Although Marilyn's retirement from her position of Hayward Public Library Director has not been a real retirement, she has found her role as an "Extreme Grandparent" one that has changed her life in many unexpected and wonderful ways. Growing with her two granddaughters is an experience she wouldn't trade!

MEMBER NEWS

Our congratulations to branch president Helene Carr for her appointment to the State Board!

Liz Bathgate and husband Bob were recently recognized in the League of Women Voters' June Newsletter for their volunteer work helping local artist Jean Bidwell complete her Grand Terrace Mural along the BART tracks between the Hayward and South Hayward stations. On many non-rainy weekends you can find them busy at work with paintbrushes in hand.

We're on the Web:

Branch www.aauw-hcv.org

State www.aauw-ca.org

National <u>www.aauw.org</u>