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the Shareline

August 2013



Hayward/Castro Valley Branch
www.hcv-ca.aauw.net

2013-2014 Board

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 510-886-1640

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 510-435-6150

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Ursula Batz
 510-538-9370

Mark your
 Calendar!



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

HAYWARD/CASTRO VALLEY AAUW MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SUNDAY, September 15, 2013
 2:00pm

FREE ADMISSION

San Lorenzo Village Homes Association
 377 Paseo Grande
 San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Learn about our exciting plans for the coming year.

Our Tech Trek Kids who went to Sonoma State in June will be there to tell us about camp life.

Bring your family and friends who might be interested in joining our branch or learning more about AAUW.

MAGIC SHOW!!!

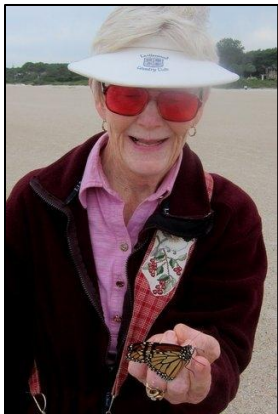
Doug Eakin will wow the audience with some of his favorite magic tricks!

MEMBERSHIP SPECIALS

New members pay only \$55.00 for year if paid by September 15th.

Recent College Grads will receive free membership if in their first two years out of college.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This past June three members of our branch attended the National AAUW Convention in New Orleans. Liz Bathgate, Helene Carr and Linda Myers all were treated to great speakers, fantastic educational workshops and a chance to network with AAUW members from all over the United States.

Because I am also the Membership Chair of our branch, I attended four workshops on the topic. They were conducted by Krys Wulff who is a Californian and is on the National Membership Committee. The highlights of these workshops were about learning to maximize what individuals think about AAUW. One of the tools for this was the survey that was done last spring where we talked about our membership in this organization and what we wanted to receive from our association with so many educated women. It turns out that in our branch as well as nationally, almost every member has a different set of reasons for belonging and a different set of expectations from membership. Some folks have been members for more than 50 years, and would first mention or recall the years of friendship they've enjoyed with the other women in the branch. Others would put a high value on the opportunity to do community service work as part of a respected organization. A few have moved on in the organization to progressively more responsible and demanding leadership roles. Helene Carr is just such a person who now serves on our State AAUW Board. Thankfully, there are always a core group of members who offer to help out with programs, making baskets for raffles, volunteering to be on a committee like Tech Trek and represent the branch in the community.

As our life situations change so do our interest in and ability to take on roles within the organization. Just this year, members of our branch have celebrated the births of grandchildren, milestone anniversaries, marriages of children, baptisms, Graduations, vacations, retirements, relocations, promotions and career moves, awards, community recognitions, life care transitions, and sadly, the passing of loved ones, are among all the challenges and rewards of our busy and diverse lives.

Yet, the one constant thing from month to month is our membership in this vital and ongoing organization that is AAUW. On Capitol Hill (Sacramento and Washington D.C.), AAUW members are speaking to elected representatives on equal pay, lobbying for continued reproductive freedom or writing a letter in support of Title IX. AAUW National has a tool called The Two Minute Activist. They send us information on a bill in congress that is about to be considered and offer us the chance to contact our Senators and Representatives about our ideas on the issue. If you are interested in getting your email address added to this list, go to AAUW.org and look for information about advocacy.

We all look forward to a year full of activities that will pique your curiosity and fulfill our need to have programs based on the AAUW Mission. Everyone is welcome at all events and I look forward to seeing you there.

Liz

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The National AAUW has a special program which allows new members who come to a public event the chance to become a new member for a reduced price. At the Tea in July we used this program to encourage the following women to join us:

Gwenyth Page, Mary Jo Knueven, Dr. Cheryl Carter, Doreen Pryds, Lynne Clifton, and Shari Jacobsen. These new members will be highlighted in future Shareline articles.

Welcome Ladies! We look forward to getting to know you!

DON'T FORGET...

We have another event coming up on September 15th where you as members are encouraged to bring friends who might enjoy learning about AAUW and perhaps will join. Once again the cost to them if they join that day will be \$55.50 instead of \$80.

Please refer to the flyer in this newsletter that highlights this event.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 15 th	Ice Cream Social and Trek kids report
October 8 th	Hayward Volunteer Dinner Judy Harrison to be honored
October 18 th	League of Women Voters/Funding for Hayward Library
October 20 th	Fall Fellows Luncheon at Crow Canyon Country Club
October 29 th	Miss Representation Film with Castro Valley School District
November 16 th	Book to Action Panel Discussion on Homelessness and Hunger
December 8 th	Holiday Party/Funds auction for National AAUW Fellowships

DEADLINE ON MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL!

Those of you who have not yet renewed, please get your checks in the mail!!!

RENEWAL FEES

Regular Membership: \$80*

Newcomer: \$55

*Remember that \$46 is tax-deductible

Please make checks payable to AAUW, mail to:

Liz Bathgate
22112 Queen Street
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Questions?

Contact Liz Bathgate at 510-581-0461 or e-mail lbbathgate@att.net

AFTERNOON TEA AND FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP IS A HUGE SUCCESS, *by Linda Slater, Local Scholarship Chair*

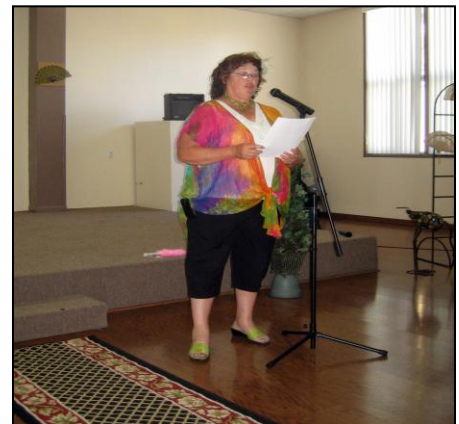
Who would have thought that a summer time event would be such a huge success? When I first presented the idea, the Board of the Hayward-Castro Branch of AAUW was a little skeptical that enough members would be in town to turn out in the summer, but that is exactly what happened when we hosted an Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show fundraiser on Sunday, July 28th at the San Lorenzo Homes Association Community Hall themed "Be a Fan of Local Scholarship".

The Hayward-Castro Valley Branch of AAUW Local Scholarship program has been in existence for over 20 years and traditionally provides a \$1,000 annual scholarship to a deserving female student to attend or finish their schooling at one of our Eden Area campuses: Cal State University of the East Bay or Chabot College.

I am extremely happy to report that we had 61 attendees and raised a substantial \$1,666.67 through reservations and donation drawings. Add to that another generous donation of \$4,000 from the estate of former member, Bonnie Smith, brought the grand total to \$5,666.67 enough to fund scholarships for several years.

However, the event was not only a financial success, the branch gained six (6) new members that day! Tea table hosts and branch member attendees invited family, friends, and co-workers to join them for the fun and informative afternoon. Nancy Turner read the History of AAUW, authored by longtime AAUW member Jo Harberson, that highlight all AAUW has done to support equity for women and girls through education, advocacy, philanthropy and research. The reading definitely helped inspire attendees to join our branch.

Planning began in 2012 when I met with Yolanda Shelton, owner of Norma Jeans Boutique & Consignment in Castro Valley. The idea was simple, they would provide clothing and accessories for models, branch and family members, to wear in the fashion show. I gathered lots of willing volunteers to host tea tables, make sandwiches and prepare donation drawing gifts, and in addition to Norma Jeans, brought in the Eco Thrift store in Hayward to provide clothing for our younger models. Both businesses graciously donated casual and dressy outfits for six (6) models ranging in age from 11 to 60+.



Nancy Turner reads History of AAUW

As you can imagine events like this do not come together without a lot of enthusiastic support. I would especially like to thank:

Tea Table Hostesses: Ursula Batz, Judy Harrison, Patrise Diaz, Connie Rusk, Nancy Turner (my sister), Jean Turner (my mom) and Emily Cassi (my daughter) who brought their beautiful china tea services to share.

Sandwich Makers: Ursula Batz's cream cheese & cucumber on rye, Nancy Turner's peanut butter & orange marmalade on wheat, Elaine Wong-Eakin's ham, apricot jam & cream cheese, Sara Lamnin's artichoke & cheese, my shrimp & garlic cream cheese, and Jean Turner's chicken pinwheel (she also brought the cookies).



John Hendry provides musical entertainment

Models: Elaine Wong-Eakin, Gail Lundholm, her granddaughter Mackenzie Hearon, Lorelei Self (daughter of Lorelei Self), Emily Cassi, and a staff member from Norma Jeans who all modeled beautifully in the outfits chosen during special group trips to the stores.

Musical Entertainment and MC: John Hendry (my brother-in-law) who provided lyrical guitar music to welcome us, and fun pitter-patter between model changes as our Fashion Show MC.

Donation Drawing and Registration: Michelle Brooks, who managed the ticket sales, drawing, and made a basket, Sara Lamnin who donated a lovely handmade beaded bracelet, Dee Butner who made a basket from the Bunco group, and Pat Buchanan and Ruth Leth who kept track of attendees, registration funds and totaled up the proceeds.

Servers: Teenagers Angelica Slater (my granddaughter), Danny Arias and friend Emily who made sure all attendees had plenty of tea, sandwiches and cookies.

Setup and Cleanup: Helene Victor, Dave Butner, Liz Bathgate, Dee Butner, and all who came early and pitched in to setup tables, decorate the room and ensure we were set to go promptly at 4 PM.

Decorations: Nancy Turner whose varied fan collection graced the walls and Judy Harrison who trimmed the roses for all of the bud vases.

Thank you everyone! After the tea I got lots of wonderful notes and emails from members thanking the Branch for the event. I would like to share just one from Bonnie Guinee, AAUW member:

“What an inspired idea to have a tea as a fund raiser! My sisters, Pat and Margo, and I thoroughly enjoyed the event. The guitarist was very good. The kitchen volunteers kept the tea and food coming. The models were delightful. It all went so well, it made for a fine afternoon. So thank you very much and thanks for the pretty fan.”

For all who came, thank you for making the event so much fun and profitable for Local Scholarship. Hope to see you all at the next event.

See all of the pictures from the Tea & Fashion Show at our Branch website at <http://hcv-ca.aauw.net/>



Tech Trek 2013 Camp News, by Judy Harrison

Camp was held at Sonoma State from June 23 to 29. Over 90 girls attended where they participated in classes and workshops that included making lip gloss, engineering, digital video creating, PE, kayaking and much more.

Some comments from our girls: I had lots of fun. I enjoyed meeting new friends. Kayaking was our favorite activity (even in the rain). I enjoyed listening to engineers, they had great stories. All of the activities were great. Taking and making videos was fun. Thank you for letting me go on this trip...it was great fun and a learning experience. I had a great time at Tech Trek...I'm glad I had a chance to attend Tech Trek.

We are already planning for Tech Trek, 2014 and plan to send 5 girls again. Thanks to the Bonnie Smith Trust we will be able to do it again this year. However, this is the last year of her trust so we must start planning for future scholarship as we raise funds for 2015 and beyond.

LAF Plaintiff on Bringing about Positive Change, *contributed by Ursula Batz*

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund recently adopted the pay discrimination lawsuit *LeBlanc v. Trustees of Indiana University*, and LAF Program Manager Holly Kearl interviewed plaintiff Virginia LeBlanc to learn more about her quest for justice.

Q: When you felt you were being discriminated against at work, you tried various internal processes to fix it. At what point did you decide your best option was the legal system?

A: I decided to turn to the legal system when all internal measures were exhausted, and it became obvious that trying to work within a system that was put in place to maintain the status quo was hopeless. I was actually advised of my rights by more than one of those internal processors and led in that direction. Many other women, in and outside of Indiana University, Bloomington, knew my situation and shared their thoughts, experiences, and reasons for leaving the university, speaking out, or not. After much prayer, I realized that, for me, continued oppression and workplace abuse were not options.

Q: How has the process of standing up for your rights affected your life?

A: It has been challenging, tedious, frustrating, yet invigorating. I have had to completely change and rearrange my entire life, reinvent myself, if you will, but I have emerged stronger and better for it. I have found the positives, and I have set on a course to help and effectuate positive change in the lives of others. The sky is the limit, and only I can choose to be limited.

Q: What do you hope to achieve with your lawsuits?

A: I hope to see policy and practice changes in the way we value, respect, and treat women in the workplace, especially in such an important and influential training ground as higher education. The perpetual demeriting and debasing of women's qualifications does not serve us well as a nation and certainly not as a moral conscience.

I could not have put it better than former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton did in her Newsweek interview:

"I believe that the rights of women and girls is the unfinished business of the 21st century."

I am looking for a civil rights outcry, which leads to sweeping change and legislation addressing equal pay and employer accountability. In addition, it is my hope that I will vindicate and restore my name, reputation, and integrity.

Q: What advice would you give to other women who feel they are being paid less than their male peers or otherwise being discriminated against at work?

A: Maintain your peace, health, and integrity. Listen to your gut and fortify yourself with colleagues and mentors, women and men, who have integrity and a moral center. Do your research, keep meticulous records, and utilize your reporting options to neutralize or rectify the issue. We all have a purpose to fulfill, whether it is where you currently are or elsewhere. Find the positives and be constructive. You will know what you have to do when it is time to do it. The biggest obstacles are fear and yourself, but you are wonderfully made, so take courage!

If You Could Re-design Medicare, What Would You Change?

contributed by Elaine Wong-Eakin

“MedCHAT” is a stimulating group discussion process that uses computers to help people make decisions about aspects of health care that are most important to them. The purpose is to learn if, how and why Californians would change Medicare coverage if they could, exposing participants to the attributes and drawbacks of today’s Medicare. MedCHAT is a lively and engaging way to think about what we as citizens want from this national insurance program.

This project is led by the Center for Healthcare Decisions, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that brings health policy issues to the public at large; and LeadingAge California, a state association serving non-profit aging and long-term care communities. With the help of 20 other senior services organizations, they will be conducting 80 discussion groups throughout the state. The results of this project will be shared with state and national leaders.

Each MedCHAT session lasts 3 hours, includes 9-12 individuals and is led by skilled facilitators. Knowledge about Medicare is not necessary, but participants should be familiar with using a computer and be able to stay for the entire session.

Here are some comments from MedCHAT participants when asked what surprised them about their MedCHAT experience:

- That talking about Medicare could be so much fun
- My views changed as I went through the exercises
- I learned a lot that I was not aware of before
- How informative and easy this entire workshop was utilizing computers
- How to determine what is not only a good plan for me, but for all recipients

If you are interested in participating in a MedCHAT session, please contact AAUW member Elaine Wong Eakin at elainewongsw@gmail.com by September 15, 2013.

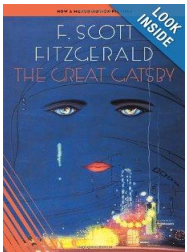


MedCHAT participants enjoying discussions and brainstorming.

Happy Reading...

Amazing to realize the summer is quickly waning and with autumn on its way that another AAUW year will soon be upon us! I hope everyone had a delightful summer and is ready for another rewarding year of special friends and great books!

The first meeting of the branch book group will be on Monday afternoon, September 16, at the Castro Valley home of Dani Stonelake, 19281 Edwin Markham Drive, from 2-4. Refreshments will be served. The program is our annual "Summer Summary". Each member will talk about a book she has read and would like to share with the group. Each presentation should last about 3-5 minutes. We will also decide the additional three books for the year's group reads. Please bring your suggestions. Call Dani at 881-4460 if you have any questions or need directions.



Looking ahead, the second meeting of the year will be on Monday afternoon, October 21, at Dee Butner's home, 4789 Rollinghills Way, Castro Valley, from 2-4. This will be our first group read of the year. We selected F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel of the flapper era, *The Great Gatsby*. Ruth Kuffin will facilitate our discussion. Refreshments will be served. Contact Dee at 537-8541 if you need directions or have any questions.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at these brings. Please encourage your friends to join us!

CHANNEL YOUR INNER OHM....

Laurie Rodney would like to offer a yoga class series for our members. A trained yoga instructor and Yoga Therapy trainee, Laurie's vision is providing quality of life skills for everyone through body movement, breath work, and meditation skills. She currently teaches a healing yoga class at [Niroga Institute](#) in Berkeley on Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:15 to which all are welcome to attend.

Niroga uniquely trains teachers to "change the zipcode of yoga." Through classes for at-risk youth, seniors, cancer patients and others with chronic health conditions, Niroga brings the essence of yoga which means "union" in Sanskrit, the union of body, mind, and spirit.

If there is sufficient interest to find a space, Laurie can be available on a Thursday evening any time after 6:00. We have some yoga mats available or bring your own (\$15 or so at Target).

The goal is a series of teaching the core concepts of yoga and basic asanas (poses) that you can incorporate into a personal daily practice for strength, flexibility, and balance. You are never too old or young! Laurie's 4 yr old granddaughter loves her yoga mat, and one of our Saturday students at Niroga started yoga at 83.

To Be or not to Be...DRAMA READING: First Meeting October 2nd

Each month on the first Wednesday starting in October we meet to read a play. We meet at Liz Bathgate's home at 22112 Queen Street, Castro Valley at 7pm. We are each assigned a part to read and we go through the play stopping for refreshments after the second act. It is an entertaining evening and a great place for new members to become better acquainted with more branch members. The cost is \$1.00 which pays for mailing the plays to the next branch. Everyone is welcome.