



# theShareline

HAYWARD/CASTRO VALLEY

August 2009

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### August

- 1 Job training
- 13 Board meeting
- 22 Dessert Social

### September

- 19 Membership  
Pot Luck

### November

- 14 Holiday Boutique

## PLUS

Tech Trek at CSUS  
National Confab  
Membership Report  
Member News  
Ads & Publicity  
Special Thanks  
LAF Report

*LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS*

## Tech Trek at Sonoma State a Big Success

*By Judy Harrison*



*Keishae Vann (Canyon M.S.),  
Astrid Iñiguez (Edendal M.S.),  
Emahalani Tavake (Bret Harte  
M.S.)*

Tech Trek Science Camp for Girls, June 21 to June 27, was at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park this year. Ninety seventh graders from northern California attended. The middle schoolers received intensive math and science training each morning and participated in workshops and P.E. in the afternoon. Evenings were filled with social activities, including making a patch for our Mars Mission at the

Chabot Science and Space Center, meeting with professional women, playing games, acting out charades, and writing and performing a skit about a famous woman in science or math.

Highlights of the week included three field trips. The girls "flew" a mission to Mars at the Challenger Learning Center at Chabot that was designed to complete the ill-fated Challenger mission. They assembled and launched the Mars probe that was the objective of the Challenger. They learned about the tides and shoreline flora and fauna in a kayak trip and hike at Tomales Bay. We had some clear nights so the girls also got to make a late night visit to the Sonoma State Observatory and under the direction of an astronomer find Saturn and several other stars and planets.

The new venue for Tech Trek leant itself beautifully to the goals and objective of the camp. The campus is fairly new and very modern. All of the dorm rooms were wired (but not connected for our girls as a safety issue). The girls were in suites for either four or eight girls with their own bathrooms and small refrigerators. This helped alleviate homesickness and encouraged a lot of teamwork within each group. The girls were so good at looking after one another. They were complete strangers on day one and best friends at the end of camp.

Stay tuned for more notes from a Dorm Mom.

## 2009 AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

*By Liz Bathgate*

The Convention took place in St. Louis, June 26 - 28. Over 900 women and some male members from all over the country represented their branches. Our branch was represented by Linda Slater, Nancy Turner, Liz Bathgate and Helene Carr.

The important business for discussion and vote was the new National Bylaws. They contained a recommendation to open up AAUW membership to anyone who supports our Mission regardless of college experience. This produced some heated words from the collective body; in the end that clause was taken out, leaving membership open only to members with at least an associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution. The rest of the Bylaws passed, including one-member-one-vote. The intention is to bring the open membership issue back up at the 2011 convention when each member will have a vote.

Another vote was for a new Board. New President Carolyn Garfein now lives in Georgia, but many of us know her well from her years in California. She has a background in marketing as well as many years on the Educational Foundation Board. We also elected Directors-at-Large, including Kathleen Cha, a former CA President, Alicia Hetman, a former CA Regional Director, and Krys Wulff, another former CA President. Our state is well represented with two of them living in our area.

A highlight of the convention was the speech by Keynote Speaker Lilly Ledbetter. She spent 18 years of her career working in a management job for Goodyear Tire. When she was near retirement she learned that she was being paid less than her male

colleagues. She took the company to court and won for back pay and compensation. When Goodyear took the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, they overturned her settlement, saying that she had no case because she did not contest her pay discrepancy within 180 days of her knowledge of the discrepancy. Congress took up this case and, with the urging of AAUW members, passed the Lilly Ledbetter Act; President Obama signed it into law as his first bill. Lilly stayed at the convention the entire weekend and signed her name over 360 times at \$20 each, which went to the Legal Advocacy Fund.

Also speaking was Rep. Rosa DeLauro, Connecticut, who spoke about the Pay Check Fairness Act, which had just passed the House by a very slim majority, and Rep. Jackie Spier, who represents San Francisco and San Mateo. Both of them and AAUW Lobbyist Lisa Maatz urged us to get Sen. Diane Feinstein to sign on to the Act as a co-sponsor. Sen. Barbara Boxer has already signed on, but we need more Senators on board if we are to see equity in pay for women in the near future.

At the Banquet AAUW CA was honored for our collective contributions to EF and LAF. Our Branch was on the honor roll for our LAF contributions as well as our giving to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

The website AAUW.org is going high tech. They have a spot on Face book, an AAUW Blog-dialog, and coming soon a Virtual AAUW Community. It's hoped that all of this will encourage younger women in our communities to become members and support our Mission.



Hayward/Castro Branch

2008-09 Board

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OPEN

Past President  
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President Elect  
OPEN

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VP LAF  
Ursula Batz

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Nominating Committee  
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Liz Bathgate  
Helene Carr  
Ruth Leth  
Barbara Jones

AAUW California Branch Liaison Committee  
Alameda IBC and Contra Costa IBC

## Branch Leadership Workshop

August 1 -- 11 AM to 2 PM

Eden Valley Medical Center  
Rooms B and C  
20103 Lake Chabot Road, CV

*Beyond Job-Alike: Everything You Ever Wanted  
to Know About Being a Leader*

Potluck Lunch -- \$10 Donation requested

RSVP:

Debbie Cummings (925) 439-7665 [debbie94565@yahoo.com](mailto:debbie94565@yahoo.com)

or

Linda Slater (510) 435-6150 [slaterl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slaterl@sbcglobal.net)

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 13 – 6:30 PM

Creekwood Apartments  
22294 City Center Dr, H

All members are welcome to attend

## *Dessert Social*

Saturday, August 22 – 7:00 PM

18174 East Cavendish, C.V.  
(Off of Cull Canyon just beyond Canyon Junior High School)

We are planning a fun evening of dessert at Dick Johnson's home. He is a back yard railway buff and has a 1931 Model A Coupé, which he loves to show. Each of us is asked to bring a small dessert to share. It will be a great time to get acquainted with new friends and renew our old friendships. Please feel free to ask friends to come and spend an evening socializing and viewing Dick's memorabilia. If you are interested in going out to eat locally first, please call Liz Bathgate and we will set something up.

Contact Liz at 581-0461



## Membership Pot Luck Luncheon

Saturday, **September 19**, 11:30 AM

Sulphur Creek Nature Center  
1801 D Street, Hayward

Each attendee is being asked to bring a dish to share and the branch will provide the paper goods and drinks. We will be meeting on the grass at the far end of the park with ample shade and picnic tables. If you have a hard time walking that far, they have a golf cart for use; no cars allowed below the parking lot level.

In addition to the picnic, we will be honored to hear from the Tech Trek campers about their experience at Sonoma State in June. We will also have a raptor presented to us by a naturalist from the park. The main thing we ask all of you to do is bring a friend who might be interested in joining our wonderful group. There are special deals for people who join at gatherings such as this.

Membership is our most important asset. As we all get older, we need to replenish our rolls with the younger generation. That can only be done by all of us contacting friends and co-workers who have the same interest in equity and education for women and girls.

At this meeting, which is really a social gathering of friends, we will be presented with the calendar for the programs planned thus far. Helene Carr is our Program Chair and she also is serving on the state Program committee. She has some great ideas for programs which are very relevant to our times.

Please RSVP so that we can plan how many tables and paper supplies we will need to accommodate all of you: Liz Bathgate 581-0461

*The Branch is sponsoring a new fundraiser for our Local Scholarship Program.  
Mark your calendar!*

**A Holiday Boutique**  
Saturday, November 14  
*Venue to be determined*



Our goal is to invite 25 home party programs like Pampered Chef, Cookie Lee, Princess House, Discovery Toys and Party Lite (to name a few) to set up booths and sell their wares, and then agree to donate 10-15% of their proceeds as a tax-deductible contribution to our Branch's Local Scholarship.

Our committee is looking for home party programs to invite. If you are or know of any home party programs, please email me their name, email, and telephone number. My committee will follow up. We are also inviting talented branch members who make/sell their own wares to have a booth. We may need to ask for a nominal setup fee from each vendor to defray venue cost.

Please submit the home party program name(s) as soon as possible by email or call me at [slaterl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slaterl@sbcglobal.net) or (510) 435-6150. If you would like to work on our committee I can always use some more hands.

Linda Slater, Local Scholarship Chair

We're on the Web



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

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

[www.aauw-hcv.org](http://www.aauw-hcv.org)  
branch

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

The Shareline is the news-  
letter of the Hayward/  
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Please submit material to  
Editor Bonnie Smith at  
[mzzboo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mzzboo@sbcglobal.net)

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## Membership Report –Liz Bathgate

As of the middle of July we have a total of 98 paid members. This includes 13 Honorary Life Members who are exempt from paying any dues at all. With this small a number of members, our options are greatly curtailed when it comes to program sites and events. We do not have enough money to pay for a fall membership meeting at an indoor facility, so we will be having a pot luck picnic at a local park.

Those of you who receive the Shareline by mail need to realize that the cost of sending it by email is \$10.00/person/year. Your local dues are only \$15.00, so this is a big chunk out of our expendable monies. With printing costs rising and the mail costs going up by 2cents, this is an expensive proposition. If you have a computer, please consider receiving the Shareline by email. If you receive the Shareline by both snail mail and email, please consider printing it out yourself so you can cancel the snail mail version. I will be having our editor send it out directly so perhaps there will be no more problems for you to receive it on time and in a format you can read and download easily.

The Directory will be updated with a printed page with all the additions and changes. This will be available at the Membership event at Sulphur Creek. If you cannot be there, we will get the information to you by mail at a much smaller cost than reprinting the whole book. That again is a cost that we cannot afford.

The key to all of this is Membership. All of us have to become ambassadors for our organization and become a part of the membership committee. I have many informational brochures from National that can be reproduced and sent to anyone who is interested in helping in this vein. Please contact Liz Bathgate (581-0461) if you would like to share a brochure with a friend.

Very special thanks to Erica Campisi and Sara Kaplan who have stepped down from their positions of Membership Chair and Shareline Editor, respectively. We all greatly appreciate their dedication to the AAUW mission and all their wonderful work on our behalf. Fortunately, Erica and Sara remain members of our Branch, so we'll be able to continue to enjoy their company and benefit from their expertise.

## Member News – Barbara Jones

Holland Jordan, 2002 branch scholarship recipient and member, completed her master's degree in social work at Cal State East Bay in June. She plans to take a little time off her studies, but hopes to continue on for her Ph.D. Her daughter is currently a college student as well. Our congratulations, Holland.

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.

## Matters of Publicity & Advertising

This year the Board wants to do a lot more advertising of our programs, events, fundraisers, and member and family businesses.

Do you have a background in publicity or advertising? If so, are you willing to provide advice and expertise to the Board? The reward of publicizing our events is that more of the contributions to support our programs can come from donors and businesses outside our branch. Please email or call Linda Slater (435-6150 or [slaterl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slaterl@sbcglobal.net)) or Helene Carr (538-3743 or [helenecarr@comcast.net](mailto:helenecarr@comcast.net)). We would love to hear from you.

Do you, or a family member, own your own business or provide a service? Would you like to advertise your business/service in the Shareline for a nominal fee of \$45 per year, just \$5.00 a copy? If so, please send by August 20<sup>th</sup> your business card and a check for \$45 to Bonnie Smith, Shareline Editor, 571 Blue Jay Dr, Hayward, 94544, for inclusion in the October Shareline. Give your fellow members an opportunity to patronize your business or service.

## Special Thanks

A very special thanks to the Danville-Alamo Branch for donating \$2000 to our Branch EF Fund from the proceeds of their spring garden tour. Tena Gallagher, Danville-Alamo president wrote, "Many of your members have supported our branch by attending our Holiday Home Tours and our Garden Tours and we thank each of your members for their ticket purchases." The funds will be designated towards the completion of the Barbara Reimer Research and Projects Educational Foundation grant.

## LAF Report – Ursula Batz

### Amicus Briefs

**New Ruling:** On June 29, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a 5–4 opinion in favor of the firefighters in *Ricci v. DeStefano*. AAUW joined the National Women's Law Center, in conjunction with the National Partnership for Women and Families, in signing an amicus brief in support of the city of New Haven, Connecticut. The case involved a firefighter promotion test that the city feared had a disparate impact on minority firefighters, so no promotions were made. A group of 20 white firefighters and one Hispanic firefighter sued New Haven for violating their Title VII employment rights. Read more on [AAUW Dialog](#).

**New Case:** Also on June 29, AAUW joined the National Partnership for Women and Families and the National Employment Lawyer's Association on an amicus brief for *Reeves v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.*, in support of plaintiff Ingrid Reeves. Reeves experienced daily instances of sexual harassment at C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., where she was only one of two female employees at a branch in Birmingham, Alabama. Reeves complained several times about the harassment, but her grievances were ignored. She filed suit against her employer for hostile work environment sexual harassment under Title VII. The district court granted summary judgment to the employer, but the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals will rehear the case following a panel decision that reversed summary judgment.