

A A U W

HAYWARD/CASTRO VALLEY

FEBRUARY 2009

The Shareline



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DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 3 Author event – Gail Tsukiyama -- FREE
- 4 Drama Reading Group
- 7 Tri-Branch Educational Foundation Luncheon
- 11 Monthly Board meeting
- 16 Book Review Group
- 21 Spaghetti Feed for the Scholarship Fund

June 18 Tech Trek benefit. *Murder at the Howard Johnson's*

**In person at the Hayward Main Library
bestselling author and
master storyteller
Gail Tsukiyama**

**Tuesday
Feb. 3, 2009
6 - 8:00 p.m.
Hayward Main Library
835 C Street**

Sponsored by the Hayward Library, Friends of the Hayward Library, and the American Association of University Women Hayward/Castro Valley Branch.

Gail Tsukiyama is the author of six novels. She was born in San Francisco of Chinese and Japanese parentage. She attended SF State University where she received both a Bachelor and Master's degrees. And she is the recipient of the Academy of American Poets Award and the PEN Oakland/Josephine Miles Literary Award.

At the event Ms Tsukiyama will speak about her most recently published novel, *The Street of a Thousand Blossoms*, about two Japanese brothers during WW II; their destinies are intertwined with those of a sumo master and a master maker of Noh masks.

Ms Tsukiyama's books will be on sale, and the author will be available to sign copies.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER
FEBRUARY 21, 2009
11:30 - 2:00



SPAGHETTI FEED

Hill and Valley Club
1808 B Street, Hayward

\$15 Adults, \$2 Kids

Buon appetito – Come share a delicious home cooked meal with our fellow Hayward/ Castro Valley members. We are gathering together to help raise money so we can give one \$2,500 scholarship to a deserving Chabot College student this year.

The menu includes spaghetti and lasagna; vegetarian dishes will be available. Garlic bread and wine and sparkling cider will also be provided. We do ask all attendees to bring a salad or dessert to compliment the repast.

Please send this reservation form and your check (made out to AAUW H/ CV) to Barbara Jones, 3595 Oakes Dr, Hayward 94542.

SPAGHETTI FEED RESERVATION FORM

Name(s): _____

Meal preference(s): Regular Vegetarian

I will bring: Salad Dessert

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____



Education for Change

We have a new and easy way for Branch members to help fund Local Scholarships. "Education for Change" has already collected over \$60.00 -- just by dropping the change from our pocketbooks each day into the convenient carton.



You can do it too! Get your friends and family involved in this worthwhile opportunity for even greater success!

Every time your coin purse collects excess change, simply drop it into the "Education for Change" carton. When the carton is full bring it to the next AAUW Branch event and empty it out.

We will track individual contributions and provide a donation receipt in March 2009 to each contributing member. Every penny will be used to fund a \$2,500 local scholarship for a Chabot College graduate transitioning to a 4-year university.

Help out! Contact Linda Slater at (510) 259-3802 or slaterl@sbcglobal.net for a carton.

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

TRI-BRANCH EDUCATION FOUNDATION LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2008

11:30 AM TO 2:30 PM

SUNOL VALLEY GOLF CLUB

6900 Mission Road, Sunol

\$32.00 PER PERSON (non-tax deductible)

Rosemary Garlic Chicken, Grilled Salmon, or Tortellini Primavera

Featured Speaker

2007-08 COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTEE

SISTER PAT DAVIS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEARNING & LOVING EDUCATION CENTER

To arrange carpooling, call Liz Bathgate at 581-0461

Send check & reservation form to Carolyn Hedgecock,

4677 Sterling Ct, Fremont 94536,

phone: 510-792-2260



TRI-BRANCH EF LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

WHEN: Saturday, February 7, 2008, 11:30 – 2:30

WHERE: Sunol Valley Golf Club – Pavilion Room

COST: \$32.00 per person (non-tax deductible)

Make checks payable to AAUW Fremont

Send to Carolyn Hedgecock,

4677 Sterling Ct, Fremont, CA 94536

ENTRÉE CHOICE (Check desired entrée(s)):

Rosemary Garlic Chicken

Grilled Salmon

Tortellini Primavera

NAME: _____ **BRANCH** _____

GUEST(S): _____

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

We're on the Web:

www.aauw.org
national

www.aauw-ca.org
state

<http://aauw-hcv.org>
branch

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, Branch members, here we are in 2009! The year is destined to be full of changes globally, nationally, and locally. Beginning, of course, with the inauguration of the first African American President. He will have lots to do to offset the downturn in our national economy. I wish him the best of luck!

National labor statistics show that women tend to be hurt first and worst during economic downturns. Promoting the economic security of all Americans is critical, especially in these tough times we're all facing. Equal pay for equal work is a necessary step toward achieving this goal. That's why AAUW is telling Congress that passing the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act is an urgent priority, and that they should "Keep the Change until Women have Real Change".¹ See the Equal Pay article later on in this Shareline.

AAUW National will continue to be at the forefront for equity and education for women and girls in 2009. At the State level, our AAUW co-Presidents are pushing to attract new members in the under 50-age group to keep the organization strong and viable into the 22nd century. Locally, our Branch is collaborating with like-minded organizations to support the AAUW Mission, education and life-long learning for all women and girls in our communities.

As our Branch looks forward to 2009 for both personal and branch goals, they are pretty similar: maintain friendships, continue to do good in the community, pursue our interests in lifelong learning, encourage achievement and commitment at all levels, and think globally while acting locally. Our branch is strong, and in a good position to expand our roles as good and productive citizens of our communities. I am grateful to have you as part of AAUW, and as friends, and look forward to 2009 with anticipation!

Linda Slater

DRAMA READING GROUP

This month we will meet at Liz Bathgate's home at 7:00pm on February 4th to read *Night Watch*. It is an ingeniously devised thriller that builds steadily in menace and suspense until the final breath-stopping moment of its unexpected twist ending. It was written by Lucille Fletcher and has a 9 member cast.

Come enjoy reading and a wonderful social gathering. For more information please call Liz at 581-0461

BOOK REVIEW GROUP

The next meeting of the Book Review group will be on Monday, February 16, from 2-4 p.m. at the home of Berna Neumiller, 21407 Tanglewood Drive, Castro Valley. Mathilde Schmidt will review Geraldine Brooks' 2006 novel *March*. For those of us who grew up reading and loving Louisa May Alcott's classic *Little Women*, this novel about the March family and the Civil War from the perspective of Mr. March, will bring new insights to the lives and times of familiar people.

We encourage all branch members who are interested in books and would enjoy an afternoon of ideas and discussion to join us. Refreshments will be served. If you have questions or need directions, contact Berna at 538.6650.

TECH TREK 2009: ALIVE AND WELL IN ROHNERT PARK



Thanks to a generous donation by Bob Bathgate, your Hayward/Castro Valley Branch will be sending four lucky seventh graders to Tech Trek Science Camp this June. The girls will represent each district in our area: Hayward, Castro Valley, San Lorenzo and San Leandro.

Camp will be at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park this summer. It has been named one of the most wired campuses by Forbes magazine and the greenest college by the Princeton Review. It contains state-of-the-art engineering and environmental science labs as well as one of the biggest libraries in the CSU system and the state of California with more than 400,000 volumes. The girls will have the opportunity of a lifetime living in the modern dorms, attending classes, and participating in exciting field trips for the week.

Your support is always needed for this exciting project. Save June 18 for a special benefit performance at the California Conservatory Theatre of "Murder at the Howard Johnson's". Watch your Shareline for other fun opportunities to help send a girl to camp in 2010.



Help a Good Cause and Beautify your Neighborhood

Once again, our Branch is sponsoring Van Bourgondien Dutch Bulbs and Perennials for spring to support our Local Scholarship Fund. Van Bourgondien is one of the largest and most reputable flower bulb and perennial suppliers in the country. All of their bulbs and perennials are top quality, an excellent value and guaranteed to grow.

The link below will take you to the Spring Brochure where you can choose from twelve (12) types of bulbs or perennials to spruce up your garden, window box, or patio. Each item is only \$10.00 a piece, of which Local Scholarship will get 50%. It's an easy and beautiful way to support a local female student going on to a 4-year university.

<http://www.dutchbulbs.com/images/articles/fundraisers/spring-2009/VB%20Spring%20Fundraising%202009.pdf>¹¹

For many years our Branch has supported local female students moving on from junior college to a 4-year university. This year we have budgeted a \$2,500 scholarship to cover tuition and books for a deserving student. Please consider purchasing flower bulbs and perennials to support this cause.

Pass this on to your family, friends and neighbors. The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, February 10, 2009. Please call or email your orders to Erica Campisi at (510) 278-5836 or Ercampi@aol.com

Thank you for generously supporting the Local Scholarship Fund.

MEMBER NEWS

The following are updates for your Directory of Members:

New branch member is Lisa Kran. Her husband's name is Walt, their address is 2695 Lake View Dr., San Leandro 94577, and phone number is 357.5836. Email address is lisandwalkran@sbcglobal.net. Lisa got her BA at Ohio University and MS at the University of Pittsburgh. Lisa joined after enjoying our December Holiday Party. We look forward to getting further acquainted with her at our future meetings.

Barbara Tracey has a new email address: Barbara.tracey@aol.com. Her cell phone number is 925.580.8736.

Mary Graw's new email address is herbgraw@yahoo.com.

If you have news about a member who has a change for the directory, or who should be congratulated on a special accomplishment, or needs encouragement during a time of need, please contact your corresponding secretary, Barbara Jones, at 538.0516 or by email at bb_jones@pacbell.net.

Let's show our friends how much we care.

**A Celebration of Her Life
In Memory of Lois Mahaney**

Friday, January 30, 2009

11:30 to 2:00pm

**San Lorenzo Village Homes Association Community Hall
377 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo**

Potluck Lunch:

A through I - bring an entrée; J through R - bring a side dish/salad;
S through Z - bring a dessert; or, donate \$10 towards drinks/setup

RSVP: Suzanne Barba at 510-538-9678 or lwvea@aol.com

Lois Mahaney passed away on October 7, 2008, after suffering a heart attack. She was very active in the League of Women Voters, where she was the editor of their newsletter for many years; she gave many hours registering people to vote and getting the information out about ballot measures. Her other volunteer responsibilities included editor of the California Retired Teachers newsletter and newsletter mailer for our Shareline. Lois was a very positive person who never was judgmental. All who were fortunate to have known her will miss her.

**AAUW Celebrates House Passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act,
Paycheck Fairness Act**

Urges Swift Action on Both Measures by Senate, President-elect Obama

AAUW applauds the House of Representatives for today's passage of two pieces of legislation that will provide a powerful one-two punch in the fight for pay equity. Legislators approved the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (H.R. 11) by a 247-171 vote and the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 12) by a 256-163 margin. "The House sent an important message to the hardworking women of America—that pay equity is a priority," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "It has taken us a long time to get here—too long. But now, we have not only tremendous public support behind the issue but also leaders with the courage of their convictions, who have shown that they are willing to stand up and make a real difference."

AAUW now urges the Senate to quickly pass these vital bills. Both measures passed the House in the 110th Congress but stalled in the Senate. With the new 111th Congress and a new president, AAUW expects the bills to fare much better. The Ledbetter Fair Pay Act would address the U.S. Supreme Court's problematic decision in *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.*, restoring the long-standing interpretation of civil rights laws and EEOC policies that allowed employees to challenge any discriminatory paycheck they received. The Paycheck Fairness Act would provide additional tools to deter wage discrimination by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act.

"Taking strong steps toward pay equity could also play a critical role in any effort to stimulate the economy and ensure self-sufficiency for women, who tend to be hurt first and worst during economic downturns," said Lisa Maatz, AAUW director of public policy and government relations. "It's crucial that the Senate step up to the plate and swiftly pass both

bills—this is the time to send a clear message that pay discrimination will not be tolerated and to give a new administration critical enforcement tools to make real progress on pay equity.”

AAUW has helped keep pay equity on the nation’s radar. AAUW’s 2007 *Behind the Pay Gap* report redefined the debate on pay equity and reenergized the drive to pass needed pay equity legislation. In fact, AAUW was asked to showcase the report at the first House hearing on pay equity in a decade.

Currently, women working full time earn, on average, about 78 cents for every dollar their male counterparts earn. The 78 cents represents the “raise” women received in 2007 when the wage gap narrowed by one cent.

“This is the narrowest the wage gap has ever been, but it’s only an additional one cent on the dollar,” said Hallman. “One cent is chump change. It isn’t real change.” To highlight that figure and the need for serious action on pay equity, AAUW kicked off a new pay equity campaign this week called “Keep the Change until Women Have Real Change.” For more information visit www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm

“AAUW has long been a leader in the pay equity fight,” Maatz said. “We have been instrumental in leading the charge for the women’s rights, labor, and civil rights communities, and our coordinated grassroots and lobbying efforts are paying off.”

Women's Jobs Represented in Stimulus Package

From the Online Washington Update newsletter, January 16, 2009

A [POLITICO](#) article published earlier this week announced that President-elect Obama's stimulus plan will not just create jobs for "burly men," but that approximately 42 percent of the 3,675,000 jobs that the stimulus will create will be occupied by women. Christina Romer, Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors, said that creating employment opportunities in education, health care, and retail trade, where women populate a majority of the jobs, will spread the benefits of the stimulus to more Americans. Romer, one of Obama's top economic advisors, said she was influenced in her crusade to ensure that women's jobs were represented in the stimulus by a [letter sent to her by AAUW and our coalition partners](#).

AAUW strongly supports a stimulus package that serves the entirety of the American workforce, women and men. It is critical that attention be paid to jobs that women hold in large numbers, such as schoolteachers, librarians, social workers, and child care workers. AAUW looks forward to working with the Obama administration and the new Congress on these important economic initiatives. For more information on documents AAUW has submitted to the transition team, visit AAUW's [presidential transition page](#).

From Carlyne McDonnell - AAUW CA Diversity Chair

October has been designated as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. AAUW-CA has embraced physical challenges as one of our diversity classes. We hope that you will use this month as an opportunity to be more aware and more educated about the challenges facing people with disabilities. Ask your selves these questions - if I was restricted to the use of wheelchair, or a needed a walker or cane for my movements - would I be able to shop at my local grocery store? Dine at my favorite restaurant? Attend a branch meeting with ease? If I had limited or no eyesight is the environment in which you live conducive to movement with ease? What about limited or no hearing? Firsthand learning is very valuable for greater understanding.

The first step to embracing diversity is to understand more about the characteristics of that particular diverse group. The branch could look at the ease in the community for people with disabilities or partner with other groups to encourage accessibility within your community. For sources of information please go to www.ada.gov (Americans with Disability Act) or <http://www.disabilityresources.org/CALIFORNIA.html> for information on California disability resources.

This article was inadvertently left out of the last issues of the Shareline,