

# The Shareline



President  
Linda Slater

Past President  
Helene Carr

President Elect  
OPEN

VP Membership  
Erica Campisi

VP LAF  
Ursula Batz

VP EF  
Bonnie Smith

VP Finance  
Peggy Robinson

Corresponding Secretary  
Barbara Jones

Recording Secretary  
Liz Bathgate

Shareline Editors  
Sara A. Kaplan  
Bonnie Smith

WEB Mistress  
Jackie Wilferd

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

May 02 – Membership meeting 1:30 – 4:00pm  
May 06 – Drama Reading Group: “The Rainmaker” 7:00pm  
May 18 – Book Review Group 2:00 – 4:00pm  
May 26 – Memory Academy – 6:00pm  
June 06 – Seminar on Climate Change – 8:30am-12:00pm  
June 13 – Installation Luncheon  
June 18 – “Murder at the Howard Johnson’s”

## **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Saturday, May 2, 2009**

**1:30 – 4 PM**

**Eden Medical Center  
20103 Lake Chabot Rd.  
Castro Valley, CA  
Conference Center  
Rooms A & B**

## **AGENDA**

1. Election of 2009/10 Branch Board
2. Discussion and Ratification of National AAUW proposed bylaws:  
See insert following page 5.

**Guest presenters:**

**Sandy Kirkpatrick & Jo Harberson**

Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Linda Slater by email at [slaterl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slaterl@sbcglobal.net) or by phone at (510) 481-5304. Ride sharing can be arranged as needed.

## President's Message – Linda Slater

### Hello Fellow Members

I encourage all of you to attend the upcoming **Membership Meeting on Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 1 - 4 PM** to: Elect the Branch officers for 2009/10 and to hear, from guest presenters **Sandy Kirkpatrick and Jo Harberson**, talking about the proposed changes to the AAUW National Bylaws. The changes impact all members. The Board members who will be attending the National Convention in St. Louis are interested in getting your perspective and opinion on the proposed changes. I hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Our **Tech Trek** coordinator, Judy Harrison and her team have chosen four (4) girls to experience the Tech Trek camp at it's new location at Sonoma State. Also, a deserving **Chabot College student going on to four-year university in the fall will be chosen this month to receive the \$2,500 local scholarship award**, and the Board will begin it's strategic planning for the 2009/10 program year. It's going to be a wonderful summer.

### Enjoy!

As our Branch moves forward, I will be stepping down as your President. It has been my pleasure to serve the Branch over the last two years. The Board you will be electing in May brings together accomplished, intelligent and dedicated women all working towards the mission of AAUW: promoting equity and education for all women and girls. The Board works hard to bring programs of interest to the members, while raising funds and spreading information about the many AAUW programs supported by your efforts. Keep up the good work!

**Linda Slater**

---

*I will  
be stepping  
down as your  
President. It has  
been my  
pleasure to serve  
the Branch over  
the last two  
years.*

LAF Update-- Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act Signed Into Law by  
President Obama

Presented by Julia T. Brown, LAF V.P., State LAF Committee member

You all may recall that AAUW-LAF supported Lilly in the lawsuit. Background. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which states that the 180-day statute of limitations for pay discrimination resets with each new discriminatory paycheck, was signed into U.S. law on January 29, 2009, by President Barack Obama.

The law was enacted in response to Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., 550 U.S. 618 (2007), a U.S. Supreme Court decision holding that the statute of limitations for filing an equal-pay lawsuit begins at the date the pay was agreed upon, not at the date of the most recent paycheck, as a lower court had ruled. This precluded lawsuits by plaintiffs who alleged ongoing pay discrimination but who did not discover it until years after the discrimination began.

A bill to amend the statutory limitations period and supersede the Ledbetter decision failed to pass in the 110th Congress, and was re-introduced in the first session of the 111th United States Congress. The bill (H.R. 2831 and S. 1843) was defeated in April 2008 by Republicans in the Senate who cited the possibility of frivolous lawsuits in their opposition of the bill and criticized Democrats for refusing to allow compromises. The bill was reintroduced in the House in January 2009 (as H.R. 11 and S. 181), where it passed with 247 votes in support and 171 against. The Senate voted 72 to 23 to invoke cloture on S. 181, on January 15, 2009. (The vote to invoke cloture ends debate on a bill, and usually leads to a final vote within a few days.)

The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act passed the Senate, 61-36, on January 22, 2009. The votes in favor included every Democratic senator (except Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, who was absent from the vote because of health issues) and all four female Republican senators. Every male Republican voted against it except Pennsylvania's Arlen Specter, who voted for it.

With the recent passage of both the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (H.R. 11) and the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 12), the U.S. House of Representatives demonstrated a firm, bipartisan resolve to attack wage discrimination on all fronts. "This Senate victory on the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act is hard fought and celebrated, but it still falls short of our ultimate goal," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "While passing the Ledbetter bill is an important down payment on an election year promise to address pay equity vigorously, AAUW remains determined to see the Paycheck Fairness Act follow the same path and become law."

The Paycheck Fairness Act would provide additional tools to deter wage discrimination, closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act through stronger penalties for violations; strengthening federal outreach, education, and enforcement efforts; and prohibiting retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices. The Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, will address the U.S. Supreme Court's wrongheaded 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.

## NEWS FROM AAUW IN WASHINGTON DC

By Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director (edited for space by Patty Dilks, Oakland-Piedmont Branch)

As the recession has deepened, we at AAUW have been stepping up our efforts to fight for working women and their families. I wanted to take this moment to fill you in on our latest work, update you on our progress, and keep you informed on where we stand on these critical issues.

For the last several months, AAUW has been lobbying members of Congress on our top priorities for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - the recovery bill -which include investments in higher education, school construction and modernization, affordable healthcare, targeted tax credits, and direct appropriations to states and localities to support critical services. We are pleased to report that AAUW was successful in maintaining most of our key priorities in the compromise measure, including:

- A valuable tax credit to "Make Work Pay" for American families and an expansion of the Child Tax Credit to target more families in need - especially those in poverty.
- The inclusion of an extension and increase of current unemployment benefits, which will help many hurting workers facing an even tougher job market and also represents funds that will quickly go back into the economy.
- Almost \$20 billion in appropriations for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) because, in addition to feeding the hungry, food stamps are dollar for dollar by far the most stimulative provision in the recovery and reinvestment bill.
- The "American Opportunity Tax Credit," a \$2,500 tax credit for college tuition and other expenses, providing a targeted investment that will encourage individuals to retrain and retool through higher education - which will in turn improve their earning potential and career competitiveness. People without college degrees are much more vulnerable to being laid off than those who have this important credential, providing further evidence that the AAUW priority of investing in education is money well spent, period.
- A vital increase in the maximum Pell grant award of \$500 for the 2009-2010 school year, as well as additional funds for workstudy programs, helping millions of students go to college - and stay in college.
- Providing meaningful COBRA subsidies, which will allow more American families to be able to maintain their health insurance and afford valuable preventative care after they've been laid off, which could help to avoid not only heartache but bankruptcies in the future.

While engaging in intense lobbying efforts on the recovery bill, AAUW also took the lead in promoting another form of economic stimulus: pay equity. I was so proud to have a front-row seat at the White House to watch our new president sign the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act fixes the Supreme Court's disastrous 2007 Ledbetter decision, but that's just a down payment on the truly meaningful change needed to end the pernicious wage gap. That's why AAUW hosted and led a key coalition meeting for the Paycheck Fairness Act. This critical legislative update to the 45-year old Equal Pay Act takes a number of steps to deter wage discrimination and to empower women to negotiate for and achieve equal pay in the workplace. There is more in the works, so watch for our next update

**American  
Association of  
University Women**

Hayward/Castro  
Valley Branch

We're on the Web!

See us at:

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

(national site)

<http://aauw-hcv.org>

(local site)



**BOOK REVIEW GROUP**

The last Book Review Group meeting of the year **will be Monday, May 18, 2-4 p.m.** at the home of Dani Stonelake, **19281 Edwin Markham Drive, Castro Valley**. Pat Buchanan will review Sue Monk Kidd's popular 2003 novel, ***The Secret Life of Bees***. All branch members are encouraged to join us for the review and discussion. Refreshments will be served.

If you have questions or need directions, call Dani at 881.4460.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

**DRAMA READING GROUP**

This month the group will meet on **Wednesday May 6th at 7pm** at a **new location**. Liz will be out of town, so Anne Grundler has offered her home for the reading. She lives **at 19066 Gliddon Street. This is just above Heyer and Center Street in Castro Valley**. The play that will be read is "The Rainmaker" by Richard Nash. This play is set in the Midwest of the 30's. It is a warm play about self esteem, beauty and love, all symbolized by a drought and a promise.

**Member News**

If you have news about a member who should be congratulated on a special occasion or accomplishment, who needs encouragement during illness or a difficult time, or reminded that we are here for her/him, please contact **your corresponding secretary at 538.0516** or by email at **bb\_jones@pacbell.net** Let's show our friends we care.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EDEN AREA**  
**and**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

**CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION SEMINAR**

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2009

8:30 a.m. to noon

Chabot Community College – Little Theater

Look for more information on this seminar including the names of panelists, partners and parking in the VOTER, by email if LWV has your address, in the newspapers and on the website - [LWVEA.org](http://LWVEA.org).

**Funded by a grant from OxFam**

---

**Murder at the Howard Johnson's**

Get your calendar out now and mark **Thursday, June 18th, at 8 p.m.** for an evening of hilarious comedy at the California Conservatory Theatre in San Leandro. Proceeds from the event go to our local scholarship fund.

The comedy, **Murder at the Howard Johnson's** by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick, has had popular runs at countless community theatres around the country. The story involves a husband, his wife and their dentist who are involved in a dramatic love triangle. The wife and dentist are madly in love and plot to murder the husband because "he loves her too much to divorce her." Reviews of the play are delightful; sight gags and creative attempts by the couple to accomplish the murder make for an evening of laughter and fun. Plan to join us for what promises to be a delightful evening. Tickets are \$20 and can be bought from **Peggy Robinson. For information and tickets call Peggy at 728.0450.**

### Highlights of Proposed AAUW Bylaws

by Sandy Kirkpatrick, AAUW-CA Parliamentarian & AAUW Bylaws Committee Member  
AAUW's strategic planning process began in 2005, with a restructuring approved unanimously at the 2007 AAUW Convention. To complete this restructuring, newly revised bylaws will be presented for approval at the 2009 AAUW Convention at St. Louis.

These bylaws:

- streamline the current bylaws and move administrative details to policies and procedures;
- provide more flexibility on all levels (branch, state, and national); and
- provide more avenues for all members to participate in the organization, in particular giving every member a vote on national business.

What will NOT change:

- mission-based activities and programming, including the work of the Educational Foundation, Legal Advocacy Fund, and Leadership Training Institute;
- public policy advocacy through the newly named "AAUW Action Fund;" and
- the unique mission and grassroots strength of AAUW.

Summary of Major Changes:

1. ONE MEMBER-ONE VOTE. Instead of using a delegate system, every member will have a vote. Members who cannot attend meetings and vote in person will be able to vote by all methods approved by the corporate code of the District of Columbia and the Board (i.e., mail, phone, FAX or electronically).
2. ONE BOARD. AAUW and EF boards are merged into one board with authority over all aspects of AAUW activity, including:
  - delivery of the mission through programs and policies;
  - setting membership dues (part of financial administration oversight);
  - appointment of the directors of the AAUW Action Fund, for voter education and related political activities; and
  - appointment and oversight of AAUW committees and task forces, including determining the process for the awarding of fellowships and grants.
3. MEMBERSHIP OPEN. Membership is open to any individual supportive of the mission, without regard to college degree status, and to partner members. Partner membership broadens the current college/university membership category to include the possibility of other institutions or organizations that meet the criteria. Open individual membership provides an equal opportunity for all to join, in recognition that one does not need to have educational credentials to work for women's education.
4. STRUCTURAL FLEXIBILITY. Branches and states will not be required to make any changes if their current structure works well for them. However, the new bylaws mandate only an administrative and financial contact person from each branch/state, allowing the branches and states to create the structure and leadership positions that make the best use of their resources to fulfill AAUW mission. The full bylaws, with rationale for each article is published on the AAUW website, along with a detailed list of frequently asked questions, visit:

[http://aa.uw.org/About/bylaws/index.cfm?cs\\_LoginTime=225332](http://aa.uw.org/About/bylaws/index.cfm?cs_LoginTime=225332)

(Membership number is required to login to this webpage)

For more information about the structural changes to AAUW, read the AAUW Briefing #18:

[http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/briefings/briefingRestructure\\_0210\\_09.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/briefings/briefingRestructure_0210_09.cfm)



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Another year has gone by and again we are asking members to renew their membership in AAUW. This year you have an opportunity to renew your membership by either mailing your check to me, **Erica Campisi**, at **841 Hampton Road, Hayward 94541**, or using the electronic method after May 1st. After that date you can send your money electronically to Washington (the full \$80) and they will process your dues check. State offices and branches will be reimbursed monthly. This new way of payment is optional. National has worked on this for quite some time and they hope that this new way of membership dues payment will eliminate some of the paperwork and increase efficiency.

Another news item that came from National is that effective April 1, 2009, of the \$49 AAUW National individual member dues - \$46 is tax deductible, (payable to "AAUW", 501© 3) charitable organization. Three dollars goes to support AAUW's Lobby Corps and election-related activities and are not tax deductible. You still need to pay the full \$49.00 to AAUW-National – Students Affiliate dues will continue to be \$17, \$16 of which will be tax deductible for the same reason. Member-at-Large will remain at \$49.00.

AAUW is giving you a choice of either using the self-addressed stamped envelope that was mailed to you to for your membership dues renewal, or wait until May 1st to use the new method of sending your check electronically to AAUW National. As soon as more information becomes available I will update you via the newsletter

Also, if you are unable to pay the full membership amount, \$80.00, please remember that we have an Angel fund – which can be used to make up any shortage.

Please call if you have any questions. You can reach me at 510-278-5836.

**Erica Campisi**

**Membership Chair**

INSTALLATION LUNCHEON IS ON JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> – at Dinos Restaurant in Castro Valley.  
See announcement on page 11.

## FLOWERS UPDATE

If you were one of the lucky ones that received flower bulbs last year (fund raiser) and planted the tulip mix (for example) you already know what a fabulous show they put on. I received many compliments about the tulips I planted at the Meek Estate on Hampton Road as well as in my front yard.

If you ordered flowers bulbs this year, I know some of them are a little slow showing the "pips" (e.g. the Dahlias), but just hang in there. The weather has been a little cold and that always takes longer for the bulbs/tubers to take off.

**We are now off the water rationing that was in place, so you can go ahead and give them a good shot of water.** Don't forget to fertilize your bulbs - they will thank you with a bountiful of beautiful flowers.

**Happy Gardening!!!**

Erica Campisi





*"Novelty, variety, and challenge  
Keep your brain cells growing"*

## Memory Academy

With Diana Nohr

Tuesday, May 26

6:00 p.m.

Hayward Public Library  
835 C Street

Improve your memory by using word and number games, as well as strength and balancing exercises at Diana Nohr's Memory Academy, a free event.

Diana Nohr has been a teacher of Older Adults in Hayward, San Leandro, and Castro Valley Adult Schools for over 28 years; she has worked with Alzheimer's patients. She was honored as a Teacher of Excellence by the California Counsel on Adult Education Bay Section for 2009. With a Masters in Counseling Education and a passion to understand her own memory problems after turning 50, The Memory Academy was developed over the last 5 years to share the exciting research that revolutionized what we know about the aging brain and information on all aspects of brain health. The Memory Academy was awarded the 2009 Mind Alert award from the American Society on Aging for the innovative mental fitness program.

The event is presented by AAUW Hayward/Castro Valley and co-sponsored by The Friends of the Hayward Public Library.

For more information, please call Helene Carr at 510-538-3743.

Refreshments will be served.

## **Tech Trek Campers Selected**

We are sending four outstanding girls to camp this summer. Astrid Iniguez is a student at Edendale Middle School in San Lorenzo; Tara Kreiselmeyer attends Kipp Summit Academy in San Lorenzo; Emahalani Tavake, is a student at Bret Harte Middle School in Hayward; and Keishae Vann attends Canyon Middle School in Castro Valley.

Tech Trek Science Camp for 2009 is at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park. It is a mid-sized college that is one of the most requested campuses in the CSU system and is one of the most green and wired universities in the country. It also owns and operates two nature preserves that provide excellent nature study opportunities for students. It is a beautiful campus with lots of facilities for our future scientists, engineers, doctors, environmentalists, and techies. If you want more information, check out its web site:

<http://www.sonoma.edu/university/>

**INSTALLATION LUNCHEON**  
**AAUW HAYWARD-CASTRO VALLEY**

**JUNE 13, 2009**

**11:30 TO 2 PM.**

***DINO'S RESTAURANT***

3600 CASTRO VALLEY BLVD.  
CASTRO VALLEY 94546

***MENU***

VEGETARIAN – PASTA PRIMAVERA	\$18.50
VEAL PARMIGIANA WITH PASTA	\$20.00
FILET OF TILAPIA FISH	\$21.00

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

INCLUDES TOSSED GREEN SALAD WITH ITALIAN DRESSING/  
VEGETABLES/ ROLLS/COFFEE AND TEA

PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE AND SEND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO AAUW  
HAYWARD/CASTRO VALLEY TO ERICA CAMPISI, 841 HAMPTON ROAD, HAYWARD 94541

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>**

