

the **SHARELINE**

February 2018



www.hcv-ca.aauw.net

A Message from the President

Hello Fellow Branch Members.

Welcome to 2018. There is lots going on this year that AAUW will be a part of, including the women's march, voter registration, building our college partnerships, and working with our community partners. I want to give warm congratulations to Ursula Batz our newest Honorary Life Member. She joined AAUW on July 1, 1965 thus passing the 50-year member milestone. Thanks for your commitment to AAUW Ursula!

Liz Bathgate and I are continuing our work with Chabot College's Gender Equity Task Force. The Task Force wants to work closely with our branch to bring an Equal Pay Day event to the college on April 10, 2018. Our goal is work with student organizations, on campus, to make pay equity a relevant issue for students by showing students that women are still earning 77 cents to every dollar earned by their male counterparts, with all other factors being equal. The task force will recommence meetings in February. If you are interested in working with Liz and I on this important issue, please let me know.



Congratulations to all the members able to participate in the Women's March on January 20th. Women from all six (6) of the Alameda County branches marched this year in a concerted effort to show combined support and encouragement. Themes for 2018 were voter registration and encouraging more women to run for office: local, county, State and Federal. The national voter registration efforts, arising from the March, will target swing states to register voters in impacted communities; and encourage and support women candidates. Here in the Bay Area we will also work for those same goals and initiatives.

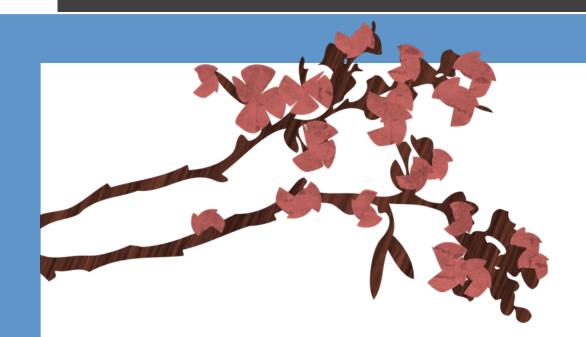
January is also the beginning of tax season - a favorite time for us all! But wait there's relief. The IRS and United Way have partnered, in the Greater Bay

Area, to offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. IRS designed VITA to support free tax preparation service for the underserved through partner organizations. The service helps low to moderate-income families file their taxes. IRS awards matching funds to partner agencies that offer the free service at locations in all 50 States. Please visit EarnIt! KeepIt! SaveIt! to find the nearest free tax service location at http://earnitkeepitsaveit.org/ Remember to give the IRS a little fist bump of appreciation. Pass it on to friends and family.

Your Board meets the first Monday of each month, at 6:30 to ensure that AAUW's mission, fundraising and programming, like Tech Trek, local scholarship, community programs, etc. are successfully enacted. We need YOU - your energy, your talents, and your commitment. Send an email to slaterl@sbcglobal.net if you can help. I look forward to working with you to reach our goals towards AAUW's powerful mission.

Hope to see you at one of the many program events scheduled over the late winter and spring.

Thanks, Linda Slater Administrative Officer AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley Branch



AAUW FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018 - 11:30 AM Aqua e Farina 22622 Main St., Hayward, CA

Our speaker is **Kim Long** who is studying under four AAUW Fellowships including one



sponsored by Elisabeth Bathgate. She is at U.C. Berkeley working toward her Ph.D. in Neuroscience. She is seeking to uncover the biological basis of susceptibility to anxiety after stress, and why women, are twice as likely as men to suffer post-stress anxiety disorders. Her findings show there is a neglected cell type in the brain associated with anxiety. This research could lead to a new understanding of anxiety and new avenues for treatments. She will

show a power point presentation to demonstrate her research.

The cost for the luncheon is \$35.00 and includes everything except wine. Entrée options are Filet of Sole, Veal Marsala, or Pollo Piccata, and all come with Insalata Mista, Linguini Marinara and Tiramisu for dessert.

Mail your reservation check to Liz Bathgate 22112 Queen Street, Castro Valley 94546 made out to AAUW Hayward/Castro Valley; or go to <u>www.hcv-ca.aauw.net</u> and use PayPal to register and pay with a credit card. The deadline for reservations is January 27th.

THE WOMEN'S MARCH OAKLAND

On Saturday January 20th eight members of our branch joined with 50,000 other people at the amphitheater at Lake Merritt to listen to some very inspiring speakers. The sound system was perfect and we were able to hear these women encouraging all of us to run for office and to get people registered to vote. More and more women are thinking of running for office, knowing full well that the days of the "GOOD OLD BOYS" has to come to an end. There are organizations whose main goal is to train women who are interested in public office. Emily's List, Indivisible and Move On are in the forefront of this effort.

We have a woman running for Governor of CA. Delaine Easton has taken up the call and has all the credentials to do a fantastic job as our governor. Go to her website and hear her message. We will team up with the League of Women Voters to continue our voter registration efforts. We have done this at Chabot College in past years and will do it again this spring. Getting young women and men to vote is vital to our democracy.

March Monday: Thank You and Looking Ahead!

Thank you for joining us Saturday at #WMOakland2018! We anticipated that 30,000 people would attend and have heard reports that between 50,000 and 70,000 friends and neighbors were there with us. Wow, what an amazing day in Oakland!

We heard from <u>empowering speakers</u> on issues ranging from immigrant rights, youth empowerment, ending violence against women and women-identified people, and civic engagement. Then, we marched to the <u>Call to Action Alley</u> where we shopped local, learned about great organizations doing powerful work in Oakland, and registered to vote.

California Controller Betty Yee summed up the overarching theme of this year when she proclaimed:

We march because marching propels us forward, not back. We march because it is not enough to insist that our voices be heard. Hear our vote!

Our first 2018 call to action is to make sure you register to vote.

REGISTER HERE

Women's March Oakland is not just about getting involved for one day. 2018 is a midterm election year and we have the power to create real change together. As our Co-Chair Ivy Quiroz reminded us on Saturday: **"Today is not the end, it is the beginning. Tomorrow we rest and on Monday we get to work."**

From all of us at Women's March Oakland, thank you for marching with us and for believing in the power of Oakland. Stay tuned for exciting updates on how we are continuing the momentum on this movement!

Women's March Oakland team

PS. It's not too late to donate to support the costs of the march and continuing efforts of Women's March Oakland. Make a tax-deductible gift today!



Legal Advocacy Fund Update on AAUW [Supported Cases Fighting Discrimination]

Rizo v. Fresno County Office of Education, Adopted 2015

Aileen Rizo is a math consultant for the Fresno County Office of Education (FCOE) in Fresno, California. She filed suit against the FCOE under equal pay and gender discrimination laws after discovering she was paid less than her male colleague who had less experience and seniority. Knowing that the use of salary history is one underlying factor of the gender wage gap, Rizo challenged the FCOE's practice of basing pay exclusively on an employee's salary history. On April 27, 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit handed down an unfavorable decision in Rizo's case. AAUW joined an amicus brief in support of Rizo's petition for rehearing en banc — in front of all the judges of a court rather than only a selected panel — and urged the Ninth Circuit to reconsider, and on August 29 the Ninth Circuit Court granted a petition for rehearing en banc.

Thein v. Feather River Community College, Adopted 2007

Paul Thein, Laurel Wartluft, and Michelle Henley (previously known as Michelle Jaureguito) are former employees of Feather River Community College in California. In 2006, they filed whistle-blower lawsuits against Feather River, alleging that the college violated Title IX by retaliating against them for complaining about sex discrimination, among other claims. The plaintiffs won an important victory in 2014 when a California State Personnel Board judgment in their favor was upheld. Henley and Wartluft settled their lawsuits in fall 2015. Thein settled in May 2017 for \$2 million.

Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California: A Sexual Harassment Case, Adopted September 2016

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects employees from sexual harassment and forbids employers from retaliating against their employees for filing a charge of harassment or speaking out against harassment. Nathalie Gosset, the plaintiff in *Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California,* alleges that she experienced sexual harassment by her employer and was terminated after she reported the behavior. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII, and retaliation against employees who report harassment is alarmingly widespread.

Now's the time to speak up for gender equity.

It's a busy week in Washington! Our federal lawmakers are scheduled to take up a number of issues that impact women and families, and that means they need to hear from YOU. With so many priority issues on the table, it can be tough to keep track — but we know AAUW activists are up to the challenge.

Here's what to expect and how to act:

- <u>Urge your Senators to vote NO on a dangerous effort to restrict women's access to reproductive health care.</u>The Senate will vote TONIGHT on a bill that would ban abortion after 20 weeks. Bills like this one are part of a dangerous, out-of-touch, and coordinated effort to chip away at abortion access, and we must be vocal in our opposition.
- <u>Take action with AAUW during the State of the Union</u>. Tomorrow night at 9 p.m. ET, President Donald Trump will
 deliver his first State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress. Real progress requires action, not just lip
 service. Tune in with us and click to take action each time the president mentions one of our buzzwords, then share
 your participation on Twitter using the prompts provided.

Stand up for civil rights by opposing Kenneth Marcus' nomination for Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the Department of Education. Marcus has a history of supporting sex segregation in public schools and did not agree to fully support and protect Title IX and other civil rights laws during his recent Senate hearing. This is unacceptable. A Senate committee recently advanced his nomination, so be sure to make your voice heard before the full chamber votes on confirmation.



DRAMA READING:

We will meet on Wednesday February 14th at 1:30pm at Liz Bathgate's home to read "The Clean House" by Sarah Ruhl. This play is a comic drama that mixes fantasy and reality as it tells the story of five disparate characters. Throughout the play, characters address the audience to talk about themselves or imagine situations involving the other characters.

All are welcome and refreshments will be served between acts.

AAUW California Convention 2018 April 27th-29th in Irvine

Educated. Reasoned. Active.

On January 16th you all received the OUTLOOK MAGAZINE from our state AAUW. The entire convention is listed and the applications to attend are included. There are a number of us who will be going, so join us and celebrate our great passion for women's rights!!

At the convention we will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of Tech Trek. Former Tech Trek campers who have gone on to careers in STEM will be the panel at a luncheon on Sunday the April 29th. If you know of any campers who are living and working in Southern CA, please let Judy Harrison know so that she can see that they receive an invitation to the luncheon and the reunion to follow. They do not need to be signed up for the convention to attend the luncheon.





There are some changes in Tech Trek for 2018. We have a new national logo. California will be in charge of our state's Tech Trek program. And all donation checks should be made out to: "AAUW-CA SPF" and send directly to Helene Carr, P.O. Box 642, Hayward, CA 94543.

The dates for our 2018 camp at Sonoma State are June 24 to June 30. Our branch has been allotted 7 campers. Camp co-directors Rory Keller and Jeanne Benedetti are busy recruiting teachers, dorm mothers (monitors) and class monitors for the week. Camp fees have not gone up for this year and remain at \$1,000 per girl. This may go up next year, as the colleges will be charging more and supplies, etc. cost more.

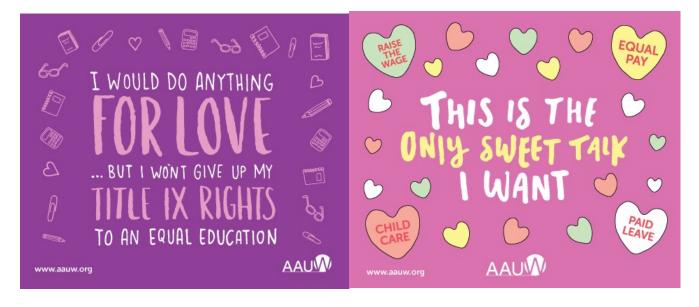
If you are interested in becoming a dorm mother, contact Rory Keller at: <u>rory@sonic.net</u>. You have to be available June 24 to June 30. It is a fantastically rewarding job—I have done it 6 times and am always amazed and thrilled to see what these 12-13 year old girls can do. It gives you a sense that we will be in good hands when they grow up. You will monitor 10 girls and also attend some of the classes and field trips. You need to be flexible, responsible, patient, like working with middle school girls, able to handle emotional situations such as homesickness, camper conflict and stress and be interested in STEM education. You may contact me for a first hand account and a job description at <u>jharrison663@comcast.net</u>. Dorm moms receive a small stipend of \$100 and payment for your mileage to and from camp.

We also need class monitors to provide another adult in each class throughout the day. There is a 3-hour Core class in the morning and 2 hands-on classes in the afternoon. The day usually runs from 9:00 to 4:00 with an hour for lunch. Lunch in the college dining hall will be provided. Two all day field trips are also planned that will need adult supervision.

Our committee has already given all of the information for recruiting campers to the 11 middle schools in our four districts: Castro Valley, Hayward, San Lorenzo and San Leandro. Applications are due to the committee by March 2 and interviews of the finalists will take place on March 17 after which we will select our 7 campers.

Save the date!!! Our annual Tips for Change event at Gianni's will be August 20!

Judy Harrison, Tech Trek Chair



MEMBER NEWS

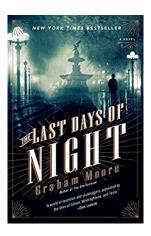
Longtime branch member Peggy Robinson has sold her Hayward home mad moved up to Bend, Oregon to live with her daughter Roberta. Peggy was on the branch board for many years and was active in many interest groups, including play reading and the book group.

Her new address is: Peggy Robinson, 19123 Pumice Butte, Bend, OR 97702



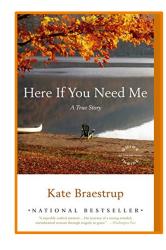
We received the sad news that Carol Lauritzen passed away during the holidays in the skilled nursing center and Bayview Court. Carol joined the branch in 1993 and enjoyed many friends and activities. Always a lively, friendly, warm friend and will be very missed.

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 atbb_jones@pacbell.net. Let's let our friends know we care.



The February meeting of the branch book club will be on Monday afternoon, February 19th, from 2-4pm at the home of Margaret Hankle: 2244 Heathrow Place, San Leandro. This is our second group read of the year, Graham Moore's fascinating novel, *The Last Days of Night*. Published in 2016, this is the story of a lawsuit filed by Thomas Edison against George Westinghouse over who invented the light bub and held the right to power of the country. Berna Neumiller will facilitate our discussion. Refreshments will be served.

Our March meeting will be our third group read of the year: Kate Braestrup's, *Here if You Need Me.*





The Oakland Magic Circle



Meriam Al Sultan

Heather Rogers

Dagmar Theison

Where are the women magicians?

Join us as four magicians share their experiences in a maledominated profession and amaze us with their magical art.

AAUW's mission is advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.



BJØRNSON HALL 2258 MacArthur Blvd. Oakland, CA March 6, 2018, 7-9 pm The public is welcome Admission is free Register at Eventbrite https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-inmagic-tickets-42656594021