

✧ AVANTI ✧

A monthly publication of AAUW, San Francisco, est. in 1886

www.aauw.org

September 2007

President's Message

Marilyn Smith

Welcome new and continuing members! Recently I've received several notes or calls from people coming to San Francisco who wish to renew or continue their AAUW membership. A good way to get involved is to attend our Fall Brunch, September 15, 10:30am.

October 6, we are co-hosting Lisa Maatz, AAUW national Director of Public Policy and Government Relations. Her job's focus is to advance AAUW's priority issues on Capitol Hill. Lisa's area of expertise include gender equity in education, Title IX, retirement security, pay equity, and other civil rights issues related to women and girls. She's a dynamic speaker and we hope to see you there!

Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 5th, 6:30 pm, potluck-7, meeting, at Marilyn Leal's, 4325 19th Street. All members are invited to attend. RSVP 626-4110.

Fall Welcome Brunch

Saturday, September 15th, 10:30 am. Meet some new members. Renew acquaintances. Meet and greet Tech Trek girls we sponsored for a week at the AAUW-CA Math and Science Camp. 10:30am at Barbara Spencer's - 736 Third Avenue, near Fulton. Phone 415-221-6690 for information.

International Book Group

Monday, September 17th, 7 pm, at Barbara Spencer's home, 736 3rd Ave., SF. We are reading: **A Thousand Splendid Suns** by Khaled Hosseini. RSVP 221-6690.

Afternoons with Books

Friday, September 21st, 1:30 pm, we will be reading the book **God is Not Great**, by Christopher Hitchens, a lively discussion is anticipated. We will meet at Elaine Butler's home, 124 Amber Dr. SF. RSVP Elaine at 826-3172.

Mystery/Adventure

Thursday, September 27th, 7:30 pm, at Angie Durso's, 2 Parkridge Dr, SF. Annual planning meeting bring some books to recommend. RSVP 826-5941.

International Cuisine

Friday, September 28th, 12:30 pm, at **Thepin Thai**, 298 Gough St. SF see www.thepinThai.yppguide.net. Contact Marilyn Leal at 626-4110

Travel Club

Saturday, September 29th, BarLew Boer Goat Ranch & Rivertown Avian Sanctuary, 711 Middle Two Rock Rd, Petaluma, 9:15 AM, We would like to see the canine presentation on Saturday at 10:30 AM. There are also tours of the goat farm and bird specialists and tractor rides. Checkout the Festival at www.farmtrails.org/weekend-farms.html. Admission is Free. RSVP Elaine 826-3172.

Public Policy

No meeting this month. October 22nd there will be a meeting to discuss the ballot issues

Dues Reminder

Please remember your annual dues were due on June 30th. Full membership is \$76; Life Membership \$29; Student Affiliates \$17; and dual members (paid in full at another branch) only pay our branch's dues of \$13.

Give a Grad a Gift

If you know someone who's just graduated, they can have a year's membership to the AAUW for FREE. Details are online svc.aauw.org/join/gradgift.cfml. Joining the San Francisco branch is just an additional \$13.

Online AAUW Branch

For anyone interested, there is an online AAUW Branch at www.AAUWCaOnline.org. Their dues are \$10 if you're already a member elsewhere.

"Never be afraid to sit awhile and think."

Lorraine Hansberry, writer and playwright



Birthdays

Nada Dimitrijevic	September 2 nd
Ann M. Thornton	September 8 th
Barbara C. Spencer	September 11 th
Ekaterina Smith	September 13 th
Julia Kraft	September 15 th
Farnoush Saffarpour	September 15 th
Linda Chapman	September 16 th
Ruth Vida Gordon	September 19 th
Jill Fenton	September 20 th
Stephen Butler	September 22 nd
Teodora Strackova	September 23 rd
Dawn Wilkes	September 23 rd
Janice Gonsalves	September 24 th
Mardi Kildebeck	September 25 th
Jane Hansen	September 30 th
Carolyn Withstandley	September 30 th

Birthday Not Announced?

If your birthday is not there and you'd like to have it included (or corrected), contact the Membership Co-VPs. Only month and day are printed.

Any 50-Year Members?

Has anyone been an AAUW member for 50 years? Contact one of the Membership Co-VPs to have AAUW national and state give you an honorary life membership.

Welcome new San Francisco branch AAUW members!

Cecilia Brown
 Jill Fenton
 Susan Jane Fisher
 Michelle Joseph
 Mardi Kildebeck
 Kathleen Lucas
 Norma Schlesinger
 Rita Tamerius
 Carolyn Withstandley

Ask membership Co-VPs for their contact information.

Quick LAF clicks

Learn more about sexual assault on campus:

www.aauw.org/laf/library/assault.cfm

View the full case summary of Doe v. Berry College: www.aauw.org/laf/cases/doeberry.cfm

What effect will Chief Justice John Roberts have on Title IX? www.aauw.org/newsroom/news/05LADailyNews_RobertsOPED.cfm

Sister 2 Sister Program

Dr. Renee Golanty-Koel

Volunteers are needed to work with 7th and 8th graders. Skills: Those with some art background; cooking; or who have a desire to teach some topic of interest. Please look at our web page for topics.

Phone Renee at 415 661-6276. We now meet each Tuesday from 3:30 to 5:00, and usually leave by 5:15. Thanks for supporting Sister 2 Sister

AAUW Web Pages

Visit the following links for:

news pages www.aauw.org/newsroom/pressReleases/050113_california.cfm
www.aauw.org/newsroom/index.cfm;

Actions to take www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/index.cfm

Mission in Action www.aauw.org/ebulletin/mission/Sep05/index.cfm

and two minute activities

<http://capwiz.com/aauw/home>.

Subscribe to receive AAUW Media Alerts and Press Releases! Visit www.aauw.org/newsroom/index2.cfm

Web Manager needed!

If you would like to help with our web site (www.aauwsf.org) please contact Marilyn Smith (415) 543-5307 or SmithMZ@hotmail.com

**2007-
AAUW-**

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Avanti Articles

Please remember to submit Avanti articles by the 20th.

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Web Mistress
open

Get the *Avanti* Faster

If you'd like to receive the *Avanti* via email or the web, please tell one of the Membership VPs, so that a printed copy will not be sent to you. If you prefer, we can continue to print and mail you the *Avanti*.

Members: if you change your address, kindly notify Nancy Shapiro or Mary Suter.

Tech Trek Elaine Butler

The camps are finished for 2007. The girls will be invited to talk about their experiences at the Welcome Back Brunch. We will be showing a short DVD of the girls participating in their CORE Classes at Stanford.

Welcome Back Brunch

Please come to our first general membership meeting of the new AAUW year. **Saturday, September 15, 2007, 10:30 am** at the home of Barbara Spencer, 736 Third Avenue (between Fulton and Cabrillo), San Francisco. We hope to get all of our new and old members to come, as well as any guests who might be interested. Come find out what is planned for the year, what our interest groups our doing, and whether there is something else people want to do. We will have a light brunch. Our special guests will be the middle school girls our branch sent to Tech Trek (science and math camp) this summer.

Questions? Call Barbara Spencer at 221-6690 or one our program co-chairs: Marian Casey at 409-1144, Jane Hansen at 8856985, Joanne Mandel 665-7329.

Mark your calendars now!

Who was Lou?
**(or: all this I learned while
waiting for an elevator)**
Pat Camarena

Born into a family who encouraged not only a love of the outdoors but also of art and music, Lou grew up to become a woman of varied interests. She was undaunted by the prospect of being the sole woman geology student at Stanford in the 1890s. After marrying a fellow Stanford graduate, she became a world traveler. Her husband's engineering projects took

them worldwide. Her older son had been around the world three times before he was four. Her husband's postings to Asia and Europe in the early 1900s gave her many opportunities to pitch in and devote her life to public service. Becoming president of the Girl Scouts of the USA gave this quiet activist a chance to promote her love of the outdoors. In 1921, her family moved to Washington when her husband, Herbert, became Secretary of Commerce. In 1929, he became president of the United States. Lou was a true innovator, social activist, and a worthy prelude to the far better known Eleanor Roosevelt. First Ladies would never be viewed the same. Wrongly remembered as a standpatter, the philanthropic Lou was the first to speak on the radio and gave regular interviews. All this I learned by waiting for the elevator in the Hoover Tower at Stanford University. There are two small rooms adjacent to the elevator. One is devoted to Lou Henry and the other to her better-known husband, Herbert Hoover. Some of her Chinese Ch'iang porcelains and her rock pick reside there. Give them a visit sometime.

For more information on Lou Henry Hoover try these websites: www.nps.gov, www.whitehouse.gov, or www.hoover.archives.gov.

Women's Equality Day Barbara Spencer

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote was added to the U.S. Constitution. And look at us today! We have a female Speaker of the House, a very serious female candidate for President of the United States, not to mention two female Senators for California. We've come a long way, but there are still many challenges to women's equality.

**AAUW National Convention
Phoenix Arizona
June 29 – July 2, 2007
Cathy Corcoran**

849 Attendees

Elected Directors at Large:

Kathleen Cha	CA
Anthony J. Hill	VA
Jackie Littleton	TX
Ronni Nivala	WI
Thomasyne H. Williams	AL

EF Development VP:

Jennifer Wilken	IL
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Elected EF Directors at Large:

Jeanne Clark	AZ
Faye Dykstra	KY
Alicia Hetman	CA

Proposed Bylaws Amendments and Restructuring Proposals

Section A – Restructure AAUW

- Unanimous decision to adopt restructuring

Report of Resolutions Committee – Resolution to propose that committee review and propose revisions to the Bylaws for 2009

- Resolution was adopted

Provide for a transitional Board of Directors

Article 7 amended by adding section 7

- Unanimous decision to adopt amendment

Create the Composition of the Board of Directors (effective July 1, 2009). Composition of officers 9 elected and 6 appointed based on expertise and skills.

- Amendment changing Section 1b appointees by the board from shall to may be external to the organization adopted.

Section B #7 Fill Regional Director Vacancy on the Board of Directors

- Unanimous decision to adopt amendment

#8 Restructure nominating committee

- Amendment on composition and alternates adopted

#9 Fill Elected Chair Vacancy

Add section 13c vacancies filled by Association

- Adopted

#10 Article 13 section 4 amended audit committee

- Amendment adopted

#11 provide for voting between conventions

Add article 17 – member voting between conventions takes majority vote.

- Amendment to the proposal was adopted to include info.
- Amendment for 10% instead of 2,500 ballots was defeated.

#12 Status of AAUW with IFUW

Strike article 19

- Adopted

Proposed public policy program was adopted with some amendments:

Public Policy Principles for Action:

- We support international family planning programs that are consistent with AAUW policy – amendment adopted
- We support international family planning programs that are federally funded – amendment defeated

Biennial Action Priorities

To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women, AAUW advocates:

- Pay Equity and Fairness in compensation – amendment adopted

To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW advocates:

- Increased access to health care, family planning services, and expansion of patients' rights – amendment adopted

– this whole section voted back in (removal from Action Priorities reversed)

2009 Natl. Convention in St. Louis? – board will decide by end of summer 2007

Lisa Maatz Discusses How Recent Actions in D.C. Affect You and Your Family

October 6, 10:15 am at The San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin St., (at Grove).

Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room, on the Library's lower level, (Enter 30 Grove St., proceed down stairs).

Lisa is the AAUW's Director of Public Policy and Government Relations – the organization's top policy adviser. She will share her experiences as a lobbyist and will discuss critical women's public policy issues:

- What's at stake for women in the 2008 election

- The Supreme Court and the Federal ban on abortion
- Pay equity in jobs
- Title IX and how it affects our girls and women

Maatz has done similar work for the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Older Women's League, and was a legislative aide to U.S. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY).

Questions: contact smithmz@hotmail.com

Silver Jubilee Scholarship Committee Connie Armitage

I received the following note from one of our Silver Jubilee Scholarship recipients:

Dear Connie & SF AAUW,

I just wanted to thank all of you for offering & selecting me as a recipient of the Silver Jubilee Scholarship. The funds are greatly appreciated & helped pay for my professional responsibility class's tuition this summer. Additionally, I wanted to thank you for allowing my mother to attend the luncheon with me. I know that she enjoyed attending & meeting many of you.

Sincerely,
Carrie Drouin



Above the World

Presidio Officer's Club is offering a display of aerial photographs by Robert Cameron. It's called Environmental Journeys He is the photographer of the **Above San Francisco** and many more books in the series. The exhibit ends September 16th so hurry to 50 Moraga, Wednesdays through Sundays, 11:30 am-5:00 pm. The photographer, age 96, is often present on weekend afternoons.

Big Book Sale

It is time to help the SF Public Library and add to your personal book collection. The Big Book Sale is Thursday through Sunday, September 27th – 30th. The location is Fort Mason, Festival Pavilion. The time is 10AM until 8PM except on Sunday, 10-6.

“In the Flow: Embracing the Cycles of Womanhood”

September 29 at the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, the Red Web Foundation will hold “In the Flow: Embracing the Cycles of Womanhood”, the first cross-cultural, inter-generational, first bleeding through last, “red tent” educational day.

It is a day for girls, teen, moms, women and grandmothers who want to enrich, enhance, transform their period or peri-menopausal experience, or want to inspire new family traditions.

The keynote speaker is Carol Lee Flinders, critically acclaimed author of **At the Root of This Longing: Reconciling a Spiritual Hunger and a Feminist Thirst**. Flinders finds that part of this conflict can be reconciled through celebrating rites of passage, and honoring the menstrual cycle.

There are 18 workshops with 6 focus tracks: Mother/Daughter, Observing Cycles—Yours and Nature's, Menopause, Cultural Experiences, and Celebrate Your Body. To register or for more information please see www.RedWebFoundation.org/27.html

The importance of this day is underscored by the present pharmaceutical advancement of menstrual suppression pills currently on the market. Doctors are now willing to prescribe the suppression pills to healthy young women due to the current erroneous belief that women in the past had fewer menstrual cycles per year so women and girls of today should as well.

Anna Yang, AAUW-SF member and former director of the Sister to Sister After School Program, is now the executive director of The Red Web Foundation, a 501-c-3 organization. Yang continues to focus on education through the foundation.

If you would like to know more about the foundation or make a donation to support this event, please contact her at A.Yang@RedWebFoundation.org.

"People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you.

Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight.

Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow.

Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. Give the world the best you've got anyway. You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway."

Mother Teresa

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."

Robert Frost

September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 6:30 pm Board Meeting	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 10:30 am Welcome Brunch
16	17 7 pm International Book Club	18	19	20	21 1:30 pm Afternoon with Books	22
23	24	25	26	27 7:30 pm Mystery/ Adventure	28 12:30 pm International Cuisine	29 Travel Club
30						



Avanti Editor

AAUW

San Francisco Branch

P.O. Box 31405

San Francisco, CA 94131-0405

Address Correction Requested

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership and friendship.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.



American Association of University Women

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. Even one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her groundbreaking research had reached a virtual standstill. Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

Educational Foundation

In 1873, a prominent Boston physician, Dr. E.H. Clarke, wrote a book arguing that too much study would give women brain fever and render their children sickly, if they were to have them at all.

The Association of Collegiate Alumnae (AAUW's chief predecessor) fought this contention in 1885 and won, by gathering data from its members to show that they had suffered no ill health from their college and postgraduate education. In 1888, the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae (founded here in San Francisco) made educational history by establishing the first graduate fellowship for women (given to Vassar graduate Ida Street).

California is still the largest contributor, enabling the Educational Foundation to award nearly \$3 million in grants to women at the dissertation or doctoral level, and to those pursuing career-related or community-based projects.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing innovative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund's annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes innovative and replicable college and university programs.