



Empowering Women since 1881



The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

April 2017

AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch Local Scholarship Luncheon & Installation of Officers

Meet our scholarship recipients!



Our Annual Scholarship Luncheon
Featuring Scholarship Recipients from
UCSC & Cabrillo College

May 13, 2017

11:30 am—2:00 pm

Seascape Resort

1 Seascape Resort Drive

Aptos, CA 95003

Menu:

_____ Salmon Salad

_____ Vegetarian option: Locally grown baby greens with olives, roasted fingerling potatoes, green beans, & cannellini beans tossed in a lemon vinaigrette dressing

Cost: \$23.00 (includes dessert, rolls & iced tea, coffee)

Name _____ Guest _____

Send your checks payable to **AAUW-SCCo Branch Local Scholarship**

Send reservations to: Jeanne Jorgensen,

270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

RESERVATIONS DUE BY MAY 6TH

Can't attend? Send a contribution to the Local Scholarship fund at the same above address.

AAUW: Empowering Women Since 1881

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held at 10 a.m., on the first Monday of each month. If you wish to be on the agenda, please contact the Secretary in advance. All members are welcome to attend!

Officers and Committees: 2016-2017**President**

Grace Gerbrandt 423-9472
graceger@sbcglobal.net

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lynn.cummins@csun.edu

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louanneec@gmail.com

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gerisjs@aol.com

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locomb@cruzio.com

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jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com

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**President's message:**

A study at UCLA showed another health benefit of female socializing. They documented a radical difference between how men and women react to stress. When stressed, men tend to isolate. Their testosterone and cortisol levels go up, along with their blood pressure and heart rates, eliciting the "fight or flight" response.

Researchers observed that women in stressful situations often do the opposite. Some women isolate, but generally women come together, discuss the situation and address it as a group. This behavior releases the hormone, oxytocin, which produces a calming effect and buffers the stress of flight or fight. Researchers say oxytocin amplifies the "tend and befriend" behavior observed in women. Under duress, women are more likely to gather, take care of each other, tend to the village.

Eighty-one percent of people in the US use social media. It's our new way to connect. But the Mental Health Foundation found that half of the people surveyed said electronic interactions do not feel like genuine connections. The relationships feel superficial.

In AAUW we sponsor membership events, a lunch group, interest groups that are a great way to socialize and develop meaningful friendships with the remarkable women in our Branch. Join our events. Work on one of our committees. In AAUW, we "tend and befriend" while strengthening our global village to advance equity for women. It's an exciting endeavor. And it can be great for your health.

Grace Gerbrandt

President, AAUW Santa Cruz County

Learn more about AAUW's ongoing fight. Become a two-minute activist by clicking [here](#), or sign up for email newsletter Mission & Action [here](#).

Membership News

Additions and Changes to the Directory:

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Carina Hull, 510 Cathedral Drive, Aptos 95003

831 707 4005

ahscarina@yahoo.com

and

Nancy Stephens, 849C Almar Ave. Box 275, Santa Cruz 95060

H 831 423 4164

C 831 588 2200



Contact Louanne Ellison if your information is incorrect in any way at 831 471 8381 leaving a message with corrections if not answered or email louanneec@gmail.com. She will contact Debra Wallace with corrections.

IMPORTANT: Membership renewal information

The 2017-2018 Membership Directory will be distributed during September 2017 to members who have renewed their membership by **August 1st 2017 (no exceptions)**. If membership is not renewed by that date, directories will still be available for late renewing members but without those members names included. National AAUW accepts late renewals until November.

Membership renewal notices with your specific amount owed have been sent to each member during the last week from memberinfo@aauw.org; these messages are not junk mail. Members with no email address on file should have received paper invoices in the mail. No dues are paid by Honorary Life Members; they will not receive invoices.

. Renewal can be done individually on the AAUW.org website or by sending checks to Louanne Ellison at 1421 Chanticleer Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062-3174. Any donations in addition to renewal costs will be used for Local Scholarships or Tech Trek Attendees according to your preference, unless they are specified for National or State missions.

****Note from Member Martha Mangan:** Pick up a Good Times for April 5th. It has a comprehensive article on Rising International, a bit about trafficking and the date for showing of "I am Jane Doe":

<http://goodtimes.sc/cover-stories/rising-international-helps-women/>

Be sure to Like our AAUW Santa Cruz County page on Facebook for updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/scaauw/> (Thank you Lorraine Margon!)



Tech Trek News



The whirlwind of interviewing is over, and the Tech Trek team has selected five awesome girls. They attend five different schools, which are: Aptos Jr. High, New Brighton Middle (Capitola), Mission Hill (Santa Cruz) Lakeview Middle (Watsonville) San Lorenzo Middle (Felton). Twenty-seven girls, out of 38 nominated by teachers, actually submitted applications and essays. We chose fourteen of them to interview.

The TT committee has been diligent and put much time and thought into our selection of students, correspondence with teachers, and meetings. They deserve a standing ovation and a big thank you from our members. It really is a team effort. The ladies are **Kit Hein, Kris Sheehan, Geri Williams, Joan Rider and Jane Amaral**—with preliminary help from **Kathy Oing**.

Thank you, too, all you donors who made it possible again this year. I trust you received your donation tax exemption letter from AAUW. If you have questions or comments, contact me at jm41amaral@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Jane



Local Scholarship News

SAVE THE DATE: May 13th is our annual Local Scholarship Fund Raiser at Seascap Resort. We will be honoring women from UCSC and Cabrillo College, many of whom will join us and tell us their stories. We will also be installing our new officers for the upcoming year. Make your reservations as soon as possible by using the form on page 1 or calling Jeanne Jorgensen, 477-7025.

Donations (tax-exempt!) can be sent to Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz 95062.

Two-Minute Activist – AAUW.org

Take Action: Protect the hard-earned retirement savings of retirees!

AAUW strongly supports strengthening retirement benefits and programs. That's why we celebrated when, in April 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) issued its final rule to strengthen protections for retirement savers by requiring financial advisers to provide retirement investment advice that is in their clients' best interests.

But with this commonsense rule scheduled to go into effect next month, Congress and the Administration are seeking to delay and ultimately eliminate it. DOL is currently accepting comments to examine the impacts of this rule and it's critical that they hear our message:

[Click here to tell the Department of Labor the fiduciary rule is a necessary tool in the fight to improve our nation's retirement income security and it should be supported.](#)

Women who work full time take home just 80 cents on average for every dollar men earn. Continuing pay inequity results in women having fewer savings, lower Social Security benefits, and lower pension benefits - leaving them on an unequal retirement footing. This is why it is even more imperative that when women trust their retirement savings to an adviser, that the adviser puts their best interests ahead of profits.

DOL's fiduciary rule has the potential to save women and their families billions of dollars in fees every year. That's money that can now stay and compound in their retirement nest eggs.

The deadline for submitting comments is **Monday, April 17**, so we've made it easy to do. Simply [click here](#) and enter your contact information. Then, submit your comments in support of this commonsense and long-overdue rule to protect hardworking Americans!



April 2017

2017 Equal Pay Days

March 7, 2017
Asian American Women's Equal Pay Day

April 4, 2017
All women's Equal Pay Day

May 23, 2017
Mothers' Equal Pay Day

July 31, 2017
Black Women's Equal Pay Day

September 25, 2017
Native American Women's Equal Pay Day

November 2, 2017
Latinas' Equal Pay Day

9	10 PASSOVER 12pm Bridge*	11 LS Fundraiser, Shadowbrook	12	13	14	15
16 EASTER	17 1pm Reader's Theater*	18	19	20	21 10am Great Decisions*	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	28	29

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10am Board Meeting	2 7pm Evening Books*	3	4 11:45 Lunch Bunch*	5	6
7	8 12pm Bridge*	9	10	11	12 10am Great Decisions*	13 LS Luncheon, Seascape
14	15 1pm Reader's Theater*	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	26 TBD: 10am Great Decisions*	27
28	29	30	31			



AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch Interest Groups

All work and no play will make you dull--and to counteract that we have a variety of interest groups enjoyed by many of our members. Some have gone on for years!

Some of these groups are close to capacity (limited by how much room people have in their homes) but it's always possible to start a new section. If you're interested in starting a new group, check with Louanne Ellison, she will be able to give you some pointers.

Membership in these interest groups is a privilege of AAUW membership; you may bring a non-member guest three times but then we ask that they join AAUW if they wish to continue to attend. In order to attract new members and make AAUW's aims and goals more visible to the public, our lunches/meetings are open to the public.

Book Groups

Our book groups have become extremely popular. Numbers in the groups fluctuate, and if you're interested contact the leaders to see if there's an opening at your preferred time. A new group is not difficult to establish, that's how we ended up with three!

Tuesday Evening Books, The Tuesday night Book Group will meet on May 2, 2017. This month's

book is MARRIAGE OF OPPOSITES, by Alice Hoffman. Our reviewer is Joyce Hopkins and we will meet at Vickie Birdsall's home. Call 440-0128 for directions and further information. All are welcome to join this lively group. Get in touch with Joan Schwimmer, joanschwimmer@hotmail.com for further information.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One, Leader Carole Beckett, phone 457-2992, email cabeckett@sbcglobal.net; We will meet on April 27th and May 25th. Contact Carole for details.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section Two, Leader, Susan Elgin, phone (831) 335-7288, email elgin@cruzio.com. This group reads one book each month.

We'll discuss *Tulip Fever* by Debra Moggach on April 27th and *Jaybar Crow* by Wendell Barry on May 25th.

Reader's Theater

To join and for further information, contact Barbara Lewis, chairperson of this interest group, by telephone at 335-7816 or by email at bobbii44@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch meets on the first Thursday of the month. All AAUW members are welcome to join us. Contact Kathy Oing irishpml@yahoo.com for more information.

Bridge

Bridge is coordinated by Jeanne Jorgensen. Contact her for details at Jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com, 831-477-7025.

Dining Out—Seeking a new leader This is a lot like Lunch Bunch except it's in the evening and spouses/partners are included. If you are interested in leading the group in trying different restaurants around town, contact former leader Linda Owens, 408-204-0408, jowens7069@aol.com.

Great Decisions

Great Decisions' eight week series began Jan. 27, now it continues:

April 28 TOPIC: U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND PETROLEUM

Discussion Leader: Carol Horner and Darby Kremers

Hostess: Grace Gerbrandt

May 12 TOPIC: SAUDI ARABIA IN TRANSITION

Discussion Leader: Sara Howell

Hostess: Linda Owens

May 26 OR June 2 (Monday May 29 is Memorial Day)

TOPIC: Direction of the Trump Administration / Ten Best Countries for Ex-Patriots

Hostess: NEEDED New members and interested visitors are welcome. Contact Vickie Birdsall vickiebirdsall@yahoo.com or Grace Gerbrandt graceger@sbcglobal.net.



Branch Schedule



2017

April 11 Local Scholarships Fundraiser Shadowbrook

May 1 Board Meeting CFSCC

13 Local Scholarship Luncheon Seascape Resort

June **Summer events TBA...stay tuned**



Help Us to Help Others

Our philanthropic projects benefit women of all ages,
both here at home and across the nation.



Make a donation to remember a family member, friend or colleague, or to honor a birthday, anniversary, graduation or other special occasion.

AAUW Fund

Make checks payable to
AAUW FUND and send to
Geraldine Williams
412 Rio Del Mar Blvd.
Aptos, CA 95003

*for AAUW Funds contributions,
you may mail your check or do
it online on the AAUW Web-
site (at aauw.org- click on Ed-
ucational Funding)*

Local Scholarships

Make checks payable to
AAUW-LS and send to
Jeanne Jorgensen
270 19th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Tech Trek

(Girls Science Scholarships)
Make checks payable to
AAUW with Tech Trek on the
memo line
and send to
Jane Amaral
409 Larkin Valley Road
Watsonville, CA 95076

In Memory of/In Honor of _____
Send announcement to _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____