



Empowering Women
since 1881

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

November 2014

AAUW Santa Cruz County Presents Our Annual Holiday Local Scholarships Event



*Silent Auction—Christmas
Crafts
Featuring
Fiat Musica*

Saturday, December 6, 2014

11:00am—3:00 pm

Seascape Golf Course

610 Clubhouse Drive

Aptos, CA 95003

Mail this form or a sheet of paper with the relevant information to reserve your lunch for this festive event!

Please reserve _____ @ \$23 each. Total enclosed _____

Menu choices: Pineapple boat with curried chicken salad _____

Grilled Salmon Salad _____

Pasta Primavera with vegetables (lactose free & vegetarian) _____

Rolls, Coffee or tea included.

Member name _____ Guest _____

Included in my check, find \$_____ for raffle tickets. \$1.00 for each or 6 for \$5, 12 for \$10 or 24 for \$20 (the sky's the limit!) Bring your personal postage return label to put on ticket stubs for the drawing.

Please remember small soaps, shampoos for the Women's Center, plus baked goods, food items & Christmas crafts to sell (priced). Also nice items for the White Elephant table. We'll have our usual book sale as well.

RSVP by Nov. 30

Checks made out to: AAUW Local-Scholarships

Send to: Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Non-refundable

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: 2014-2015

President

Judy Cavin Brown 423-2439
jwcavinbrown@comcast.net

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graceger@sbcglobal.net

Vice Presidents

Program *Vacant*

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AAUW Funds

Vacant

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Appointed

Membership Treasurer

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Board News

President's Message

I, along with my husband, worked at a voting precinct during the recent election. It was a long day, beginning with setup at 6:00 in the morning and ending at 9:30 in the evening. A long day, but well worth it. Not so much worth it in the financial sense, as the pay for the required class and working the precinct average out to approximately \$5.43 per hour. However, very well worth it all the same.

Santa Cruz County is nearing the fifty percent mark for registered voters who opt for voting by mail. That said, the precinct we worked had an excellent turn out. One of the largest turnouts in our area.

It was so refreshing to see so many citizens exercising their rights and responsibilities; and doing it so eagerly. In California, no one is turned away from this opportunity. If you are a citizen of our great country, you get to vote. Just one of the many reasons to love living here.

So many parents came with their children in tow. They were very pleased to discover that there was an actual ballot for the children that would be tallied and reported in the paper. There was not one parent who didn't take all the time their child needed to complete their selections. One of the highlights for me was a girl around the age of eight who came through the door stating over and over that she wanted to vote. No matter how many times her parents told her she was too young, she persisted. It was such a pleasure to tell them that everyone gets to vote.

Everyone gets to vote! It has not been so long ago that this was not the case. When people of color were denied this fundamental right. When women were denied this fundamental right. There are people in this great nation who are still working toward the end of denying this right to some.

It is our right and responsibility to make sure not only that we vote, but that no one is denied this right. Never forget how it felt the first time you got to vote.

I look forward to seeing you on 6 December.

Judy Cavin Brown

President, AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch

Membership News



Gala News: Special thanks to **Pamela Peterson** and **Rosemary Anderson** for co-chairing the Gala committee. Stay tuned for more news on this very special event in honor of our merger and combined 156 year history! **SAVE THE DATE: Saturday April 11, 5:00-8:00 pm.** Details to come.

Hospitality:

- Well wishes to **Andrea Losee** as she recuperates from surgery; Andrea is on the mend and doing well.
- Our best wishes to **Mary K. Simpson** who has been dealing with an ongoing illness.

Let **Anne McCallum** know if you hear of anyone who needs a kind thought or some cheering up. Tel. 465-1840.

Directories:

If you haven't received your directory, you can pick it up at the Dec. 6th event or contact Linda Owens if you'd like to receive it beforehand: 408-204-0408, jowens7069@aol.com.

Directory Correction: Kathy Oing's tel# is 831-234-8022. Please make a note of it in your directory.

News from Tech Trek:



Tech Trek fund raising is an on-going process and we encourage our members to keep this fine program high on their giving list. As you know a week of science/technology/engineering/mathematics can make a great difference in the life of a young girl, but the camp is a serious expense. It costs \$900 to send a girl for a week to Tech Trek at Stanford.

Please send any donations to AAUW-CA-SPF & mail to Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

Local Scholarship News



Each year our Local Scholarship group gives money to re-entry women at UCSC and Cabrillo. Here is a little of the history about our funds.

About 15 years ago an anonymous donor at Cabrillo offered \$1500 in matching funds for scholarships. At that time the Santa Cruz Branch had such an amount available and thus established a scholarship presence at Cabrillo. Subsequently the husband of Carol M. Symonds, a deceased member, donated a significant amount to the scholarship and the name of our Cabrillo Scholarship became the Carol M. Symonds endowed scholarship. Currently the principal is \$15,000 and our return each year is approximately 4%. This year we have \$715 to add to what we receive in donations.

The scholarship at UCSC is called the Helen Sigismund Gibson Scholarship Endowment Award. It was started in May of 2000 and the current balance is \$43,592. The payout for this spring is \$1,369.67.

Throughout the year we build the local monies through donations and fund raisers. **Don't miss out on our Holiday luncheon, December 6th at Seascape Golf Course.** Raffle tickets, white elephants, food and book sales will help to fund next spring's scholarships.

Also, **save the date, February 10th, for Shadowbrook event.** Details to come.

-Submitted by Jeanne Jorgensen, Scholarship Chair

Our support via Local Scholarships CAN make a difference!

AAUW Watsonville Branch Cabrillo Endowment:

Total Endowment Amount --- \$21,472
Amount available for 2015: \$1,031.87

AAUW Watsonville Branch Maybelle M. Congdon endowment :

Total Endowment Amount ---\$20,000
Amount available for 2015: \$1,523.41

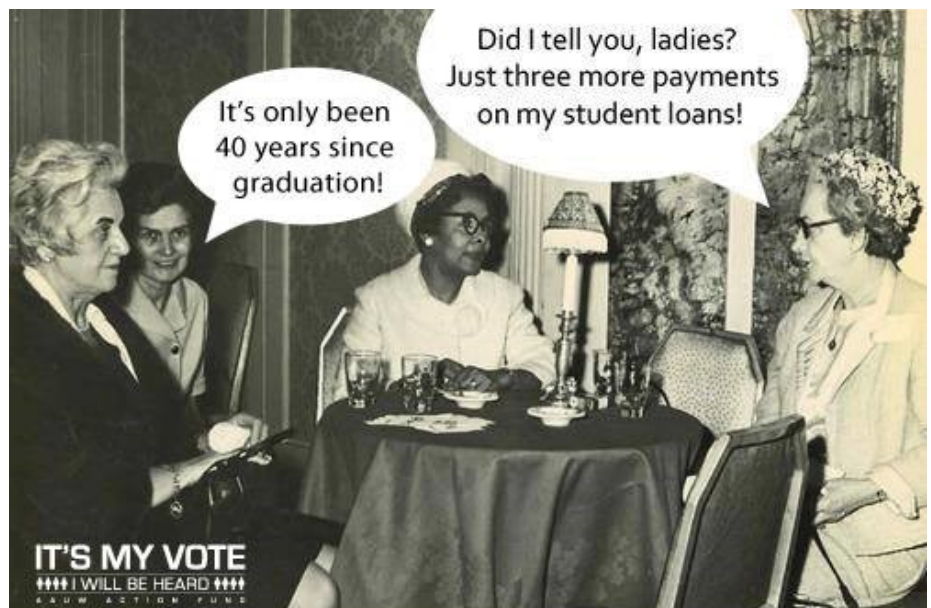
The Cabrillo endowment is an ongoing one and is added to by branch members, family members or the branch itself.

The Maybelle M. Congdon endowment was a one time gift in memory of Maybelle's friends, Clara Dickson and Grace Dickson Smith, for which the endowment is named.

We have traditionally given one re-entry scholarship and one Pajaro Valley Unified School District graduate who is attending Cabrillo and will continue on the following fall at a four year College or University.

Beginning in 2014, the choosing of the recipients was turned over to the Cabrillo Scholarship Selection Committee.

-Submitted by Jane Amaral, Scholarship Chair



AAUW Funds Luncheon

On November 2, three branch members attended a luncheon in Danville to introduce women who have received fellowships or grants under the AAUW Funds programs. Although 25 recipients live in California, only 5 are working in the Northern California area; after lunch, each of them spoke about her background and field of study.

The money for the grants is generated by endowments honoring past and present AAUW members or branches. At lunch, most of the fellows were seated with the person whose endowment paid for her grant. I don't know who was more excited to meet face to face, the AAUW member meeting the fellow studying in her name, or the fellow meeting the mysterious person named on her grant! Our branch members got there early enough to sit at tables where this meeting and getting acquainted took place.

Any one of the Fellows would make an excellent presentation for a branch or inter-branch event! American Fellow Jane McAlevey - City University of New York, Graduate Center is majoring in Sociology where she aspires to rebuild the civic sector, healthcare and education through grass roots female power and progressive smart trade unions. American Fellow Kim Tran of UC Berkeley is doing her dissertation on Ethnic Studies/Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies. She specifically studied the Vietnamese (her family and friends) in San Jose and how they mobilize race, gender and class to successfully critique and resist oppression.

Selected Professions Fellow Elizabeth Manzi of Stanford is majoring in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in hydrology, sustainable design, construction and urban development. Professional Fellow Crystal Owney (orphan from Milwaukee) of Mills College is majoring in Finance and wishes to use her newly-learned Mandarin language to gain financial expertise in China prior to returning to America. Her goal is to set up a venture capitalist firm helping women in need by allowing them to show their creativity and grow their ideas.

Community Action Grant recipient Jane Winter is working with the YWCA in San Francisco and Marin's Fifty Plus Employment Support Program in San Rafael. She is facilitating women's empowerment through technical skill building, self confidence and elimination of racism. 87% of her women are in poverty and she has been able to put them back to work in 23 weeks compared to the average of 57 weeks. 51% are making a greater salary than prior to unemployment.

The drive was almost 2 hours each way, but we talked about some of the branch activities that are coming up, and our reactions to the speakers, and hardly noticed the time. Other branches reported driving as much as 3 hours, and a few dignitaries (including the State President) even flew. Two managers of the AAUW Funds, responsible for research and donations, attended from Washington DC. We would love to have a few more members join the carpool next year--several branches had 5 or 6 members in attendance and one had 9. Watch for an announcement in September.

-Lynn Cummins



Public Policy News

Election 2014: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Posted: 11/07/2014 4:02 pm EST Updated: 11/07/2014 4:59 pm ES / Huffington Post
[Lisa Maatz](#), Vice President of Government Relations at the AAUW



The midterm election results produced some good, bad and truly ugly news for women and families. For better or for worse, women voters (and the women who stayed home) were instrumental in all three outcomes.

In good news, voters passed state ballot initiatives to raise the minimum wage -- and by healthy majorities, too. One might even say it was a wave election of sorts for raising the minimum wage, since it won wherever it was put on the ballot. Workers in Alaska, Arkansas, Nebraska and South Dakota will [receive](#) a much-needed raise, and voters in Illinois told us they'd like a wage hike, too, in a nonbinding statewide advisory question.

Voters also rejected extreme personhood amendments that would have curbed access to birth control as well as abortion. Women in Colorado and North Dakota will continue making the best health care decisions for themselves and their families following the solid [defeats](#) of these anti-choice amendments. Oregon voters passed an Equal Rights for Women amendment with very little controversy (Why oh why can't we do that nationwide?). And the state of Massachusetts and three municipalities passed paid sick days legislation -- a paid sick pays mini-wave -- bringing these commonsense measures to a total of three states and 16 cities.

Considering there were so many important initiatives on the ballot -- not to mention the balance of power in the Senate -- it was seriously disappointing that a record number of voters chose not to show up at all, though I recognize there's a message in there, too.

And that's the bad news: Those who came to the polls this year didn't look anything like the U.S. population overall. In fact, it would be fair to say that this election's voters were overwhelmingly white, older, male and wealthy. On the up side, this painfully homogeneous group of voters made great choices on ballot initiatives, but then they happily contradicted themselves by electing candidates who actively opposed those same issues.

Young people and people of color, Latinos in particular, were missing in action, and too many women stayed home as well. Hispanics' share of voters this year [remained](#) stagnant from four years ago, despite growth in their share of eligible voters. The electorate overall this year was three-fourths white, according to [exit polls](#). We know that [voter ID laws](#) caused problems in some states and were more likely to adversely affect young people and minorities, but that wasn't the only factor at play in this year's [poor turnout](#).

The gender gap in elections has long been a factor, and this year Democrats again won [female voters](#)--Republicans just won male voters by a larger margin. In fact, in Colorado, women voters strongly favored Sen. Mark Udall, with exit polls [showing](#) a 12-point gender gap, but that fact didn't lead him to victory because young women [didn't](#) turn out in big enough numbers.

Women [historically vote](#) in higher numbers and at higher rates than men, including midterm elections. But the gap narrows tremendously during midterm elections, despite 81.7 million women being [registered](#) to vote in 2012 compared to 71.4 million men. We can make this disparity work in our favor, but not if we take it for granted.

Perhaps most frustrating is this statistic: Americans younger than 30 and those older than 65 make up an equal percentage of the electorate (each about one-fifth), yet those older than 65 were more than [two times as likely](#) to vote in 2014. The data also show that young people are more progressive. No wonder, then, that Republicans virtually ran the table in the Senate and won most gubernatorial races.

Speaking of the Senate, that's where things get ugly. Some of the senators-elect support personhood measures like those defeated in Colorado and North Dakota. And many of them don't support raising the minimum wage -- although voters in their states clearly do. Surveys of Senate battleground states showed [strong support](#) for tougher equal pay laws, but voters chose candidates who want anything but.

These contradictions seem painfully obvious, so what's going on? It's simple: The general electorate is discontented with partisan politics and mind-numbing gridlock and, by voting in new candidates and a different party, is pleading for sanity and function. But voters also aren't giving Congress any incentive to compromise. Control of Congress has switched so frequently in recent years that there's little time for actual legislating. In fact, this constant pendulum-swinging pretty much ensures politicians won't play Let's Make a Deal -- why bother when your party stands a good chance to take control in a year or two?

In all likelihood, even less will be accomplished in the next two years while both parties position themselves for 2016 and presidential wannabes grandstand for their base. Meanwhile, the American voter will become more and more disillusioned with the entire process. We know we've got major issues facing the nation, yet we continually kick the can down the road because we can't get our act together beyond prepping for the next election. There is something dreadfully wrong with this picture.

President Barack Obama and the newly-minted GOP leadership duo of Mitch McConnell and John Boehner are making appropriate noises about collaboration and compromise. We've heard this all before. Still, I (naively perhaps) want to believe there's some sincerity in their mutual song of Kumbaya. McConnell and Boehner are both dyed-in-the-wool institutionalists, and they want to legislate -- they are, in fact, desperate to show that the GOP can govern. But the reality is that, despite the power these three men hold, they have less control than you might think. The president is entering his self-described "fourth quarter" and stiff-arming lame duck status for all he's worth, while McConnell and Boehner face a fired-up Tea Party faction, pushing for ideological purity with little respect for their party's leadership. This all makes for an unpredictable alchemy of personalities, politics and policy that could prove either combustible or productive. Only time will tell, and voters and non-voters alike will be watching.

Follow Lisa Maatz on Twitter: www.twitter.com/LisaMaatz





November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9	10 1-3pm Reader's Theater*	11	12	13 12pm Thurs. Books Sec. 1*	14 10am AM Great Decisions planning meeting*	15
16	17	18	19 6pm Dining Out*	20 1pm Books Sec. 2*	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30						

December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10am Board Meeting 7pm PM Great Decisions*	2 7pm Evening Books*	3	4	5	6 Local scholarships Holiday Luncheon
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16  Hannukah begins	17	18 1pm Books Sec. 2*	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31	Jan. 1		



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 Linda Owens, 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 luncheons/meetings are open to the public as is the Evening Great Decisions group. Spouses, partners and guests are welcome to attend the Dining Out and Evening Gourmet groups. Check your new Directory for phone numbers and email addresses.

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, Leader Dorothy Foglia, dorothyfoglia@yahoo.com. The December book will be Empty Mansions by Bill Dedman and Paul Newell at the home of Jill Freybourg on December 2nd.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One, Contact leader Carole Beckett, phone 457-2992, email cabeckett@sbcglobal.net for December book information, meeting date, time and place.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section Two, leader Dottie Smith, beechbyte@sbcglobal.net. This group reads one book each month. On November 20 we meet at 1:00 at Jane Eckman's home to read Me Before You by Jojo Moyes. RSVP to 687-0923.

The December meeting will be on Thursday, December 18 at 1:00 at the home of Karen Green. The book is Someone by Alice McDermott. Please RSVP to Karen Green, 688-7520.

Reader's Theater

The Readers Theater interest group meets for socializing and play reading. For further information contact Barbara Lewis, 335-7816.

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch meets on the first Thursday of the month. All AAUW members are invited. Please contact Andrea Losee at 502-554-7572 or alosee@cruzio.com for more information or to make a reservation.

Gourmet Group—SAVE THE DATE: February 15, Scotts Valley Senior Center

Bridge

Bridge is coordinated by Marline Bushey. Contact her for details mbushey1@yahoo.com, 425-1491. We are looking for NEW MEMBERS!

Mahjong!

Originating in China, mahjong is a game of skill and strategy, calculation and luck. Janet Bostrom coordinates this delightful game. bozobostrom@gmail.com on the first and third Thursdays at 2pm, recommencing in January.

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

Our November dinner will be on November 19 at Assembly downtown. Please call Linda Owens at 408-204-0408 to reserve your space by Saturday Nov. 15th.

Walking Group

Our walks are about 60 to 90 minutes on easy to moderate trails. For more information, contact Andrea Losee at 502-554-7572 or alosee@cruzio.com

Great Decisions

Beginning in October, The Evening Great Decisions will meet on the 1st Mon. eve. of each month from 7-8:30 pm. at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Aptos. Dr. Laina Farhat-Holzman is the lecturer. The public is welcome. For more information call Lois Holcomb at 688-0541.

Morning Great Decisions

Our lively, diverse group will have its first meeting January 23, 2015 at 10 am. New members and visitors are welcome. Contact Grace, graceger@sbcglobal.net.



Branch Schedule

2014-2015



December	1	Board Meeting	CFSCC
	6	Luncheon Meeting (Holiday)	Seascope Golf Course
.....			
January	5	Board Meeting	TBD
.....			
February	2	Board Meeting	TBD
	28	Luncheon Meeting (IBC)	Blackhorse & Bayonet Golf Course, Marina
.....			
March	2	Board Meeting	TBD
	14	Annual Business (LAF)	TBD
	21	Nor Cal Leadership Development	TBD
.....			
April	6	Board Meeting	TBD
	11	Gala Celebration	TBD
	18	State Meeting	So Cal
.....			
May	4	Board Meeting	TBD
	16	Luncheon Meeting (Local Scholarships)	Seascope Resort
.....			
June	1	Board Brunch Meeting	TBD
	18-21	National Convention	San Diego
	28	Annual BBQ / Picnic	TBD





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.*

A card or letter announcing your gift will be sent to the person you name.

Educational Foundation / AAUW Funds

Make checks payable to
 AAUW FUNDS
position vacant

Legal Advocacy Fund / AAUW Funds

Make checks payable to
 AAUW FUNDS and send to
Rosemary Anderson
 14 Parkwood Drive
 Watsonville, CA 95076

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-CA SPF and send to
Jeanne Jorgensen
 270 19th Avenue
 Santa Cruz, CA 95062

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

Our Vision is Simple

We bring people together for the common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls.

Our Mission is Sound

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.