AAUW Santa Cruz County Vol. 82, Issue 7 February 2018



Empowering Women since 1881



The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

February 2018

REMINDER: ANNUAL INTERBRANCH COUNCIL LUNCHEON

When: Saturday, February 24, 2018 @ 11:30 a.m.

Where: Bayonet & Blackhorse Golf Club Grill, 1 McClure Way, Seaside

Speaker: Maha Elgenaidi, founder & exec. director, Islamic Networks Group

Topic: "A Muslim Woman in America Today"

For help in car-pooling, contact Jane Amaral 359-3357 or

lvswamp@charter.net

RSVP by February 20						
Please reserve@ \$26 each. Total enclosed						
Menu: Please mark your CHOICE of Stuffed Chicken Breast w/Roma tomatoes, jack cheese & basil in a whole grained mustard sauce OR Grilled Portabella Sandwich						
All lunches include organic green salad w/candied walnuts, goat cheese & balsamic rinaigrette, served w/garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables & dinner rolls; chocolate cake w/raspberry sauce; iced tea & lemonade.						
Member name						
Guest						
Phone#						
Checks made out to: AAUW-MPB Mail to: Nancy Soule, 504 Larkin St., Monterey, CA 93940						
Reservations need to include your phone number on your check, MADE OUT to <u>AAUW MPB</u> ALL RESERVATIONS ARE PRE-PAID AND NON-REFUNDABLE						
Contact Sharyn Siebert with any questions: 831-622–0425						

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, APRIL 21, 2018



Our annual business meeting will be held on April 21st at the Museum of Art & History on Front Street in Santa Cruz.

Museum of Art & History Lunch and a guided tour of the museum will be included. Low cost parking garages are available. We will be voting on our officers and budget for 2018-2019 and a possible increase in dues and changes to our by-laws.

If you're interested in serving on the 2018-2019 Board (and please say "YES"!), contact Lois Holcomb locomb@cruzio.com 688-0541 or offer to help with even one small event, like greeting people at one of our Membership Luncheons. It's fun, it's easy, it feels good to get involved. Ask Lois about one-time opportunities.

Event details and reservation form to follow in the March Beacon.

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 President in advance. All members are welcome to attend!

Officers and Committees: 2017-2018

President Grace Gerbrandt	423-9472
graceger@sbcglobal.net	,
President-Elect	open
Branch Treasurer Darby Kremers	206-3623
dkrem19260@aol.com	
Secretary Kit Hein	854-2165
bythebeach15@gmail.com	
Vice Presidents	
Legal Advocacy	open
Membership Louanne Ellison-Cole louanneec@gmail.com	471-8381
AAUW Fund	
Geri Williams	708-4133
gerisjs@aol.com	
Program	
Trudie Fator	662-8960
trudelaf@aol.com	
Appointed	
By-Laws & IBC Liaison Lois Holcomb locomb@cruzio.com	688-0541
Local Scholarships / Publicity Jeanne Jorgensen	477-7025
jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com	
Tech Trek	
Kris Sheehan	915-3630
krissheehan@gmail.com	
Co-Chair:	
Geri Williams	708-4133
gerijs@aol.com	
Hospitality	open
Historian	
Nancy Stephens nstephensjd@gmail.com	423-4164
Communications Debra Wallace dwallace@karonproperties.com	325-9948
Beacon Mailing (Postal) Liz Thorington	408-353-3185



President's message:

AAUW is a strong advocate for electing women to government positions. In the House of Representatives seven AAUW members were early achievers of this goal:

- 1) Jeannette Rankin (R-Montana) was the first woman ever elected to Congress. And this was four years before the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote! Elected 1917-19 and again 1941-43.
- 2). Florence Prag Kahn (R-CA), 1925-37, the first Jewish woman to serve in Congress. She won a special election after the death of her husband and five subsequent elections on her own.
- 3) Willa McCord Blake Eslick (D-TN), 1932-33, helped relieve the disastrous effects of the Great Depression with her measure to reduce farm foreclosures.
- 4) Kathryn O'Loughlin McCarthy (D-KS), 1933-35 was predicted to lose a single woman, a New Deal Democrat in a Republican district, Catholic in a Protestant district. But she defeated her opponent by a large margin. "I knew what I was talking about and people gradually dropped their prejudices."
- 5) Chase G. Woodhouse (D-CT) 1945-47; 1949-51. AAUW board member and head of AAUW's Institute for Women's Professional Relations. Woodhouse introduced the first federal pay equity legislation into Congress in 1945.
- 6) Martha Griffiths (D-MI), 1955-74, called the "Mother of the Equal Rights Amendment" for her strong sponsorship. The first woman to serve on the House Committee on Ways and Means.
- 7) Edith Green (D-OR), 1955-74, the "Mother of Title IX," served Congress for 20 years. Educator by profession, she worked to ensure the inclusion of Title IX in the Education Re-authorization Bill of 1972.

Currently the House has 435 members with 84 women. To date, 390 women have applied to run for Congress in 2018. AAUW has led the nation in promoting gender equality and women from AAUW paved the way. Let's make it happen.

Grace Gerbrandt President, AAUW Santa Cruz County

Learn more about AAUW's ongoing fight. Become a twominute activist by clicking <u>here</u>, or sign up for email newsletter Mission & Action here.

elizabeththorington@yahoo.com

Membership News

Directory Correction: Audie Henry's new address—

Audie Henry

3400 Paul Sweet Road # B321

Santa Cruz, CA 95065

phone: 831-600-8329 <u>audiehenry@gmail.com</u>

Please make a note of the information above in your directory.

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.



AAUW will sponsor an event with the League of Women Voter's on **April 14:** "A Voter's Guide to News Sources", at the downtown Library upstairs meeting room from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



End **Human Trafficking** Committee is moving forward. Mark your October calendar for an event on October 20th. Shared Hope, a national organization, will provide a speaker, member of DA office, Santa Cruz County Board of Education and child welfare will comprise a panel to address local concerns. A film "Chosen: The True Story of America's Teen Trafficking" will be shown. Information on prevention will be the focus.

An ongoing project for the committee is posting the hotline number required by California law in the appropriate locations. We are joined by a group from Faith Community Church. This project requires many volunteers and footwork. We welcome help. Please join us at monthly meeting, 201 Prospect Hts, 1PM, 1st Saturday of month, March 3rd.

An event that may be of interest:

2018 UCSC Maitra Lecture
Friday, February 23, 7:30 p.m.
Diplomacy and the Feminist Voice

Featuring: Nirupama Menon Rao, Ambassador, Foreign Secretary, Scholar, Poet, Musician

Ambassador Rao will examine the history of women in diplomacy, the idea of feminist foreign policy as an approach to global affairs, and how public diplomacy through social media transcends gender in foreign affairs.

College 9/10 Multipurpose Room, UC Santa Cruz Dessert reception following the lecture

REGISTER

Free and open to the public. Because seating is limited, we ask that you register. Complimentary parking will be provided in the Core West parking garage.

Questions? Please contact the Special Events Office at 831.459.5003 or email specialevents@ucsc.edu.

The Maitra Lecture Series was established by UC Santa Cruz Foundation Trustee Anuradha Luther Maitra in memory of her husband, Sidhartha—a scientist, entrepreneur, and admirer of humanist, rationalist, modernist thinkers. The lecture is a signature campus gathering, and integral to the intellectual life of the campus.

Local Scholarship News

Save the date, April 10 when we have our dining out night at Shadowbrook. This fine local restaurant generously donates 1/3 of the dining tab to Local Scholarships; bar eats count as well (just not specials that are already discounted).

Make up a table and phone the restaurant for reservations, 831-475-1511. Or let us find you a group to join for this fun event. Call Jeanne Jorgensen, 477-7025 or jeannejorgensen@hotmail.com

Thanks to **Nicci Winner** and **Lois Holcomb** for making donations to this fine cause this past month.

If would like to make a contribution to this wonderful fund, make out a check to AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch - Local Scholarships & send to: Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

Tech Trek News

Over the years many girls have benefitted from AAUW Santa Cruz County Tech Trek experience. I know many of you will be interested in the following update sent to Jane Amaral (long time Tech Trek Chair) from a grateful parent.

From: Sally & Jeff Hancock

Date: January 18, 2018 at 6:40:50 PM PST

Hello Jane,

Happy New Year. I hope you are well. I walked into Sarah's empty room today and saw her Tech Trek Bear sitting there and I wanted to give you a quick update. Sarah ended up choosing Columbia University and is thriving there and plans to major in applied math in their school of applied science and engineering. She made the Dean's List her first semester, yay! She had 5 challenging classes including Physics, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science and required University Writing Class.

Over winter break, Sarah travelled to Ghana, Africa as part of a small team of Columbia's Engineers Without Borders where she is working on a project to bring clean water to a remote village. She spent most of winter break there and then flew directly back to New York and just started her second semester of classes on Tuesday. I realized that not only did Tech Trek shape who Sarah will become but it helped me learn to "let her fly" early on when she went to stay at Stanford and I was such a nervous mom. It's exciting to see her grow and explore and keep the vision of making the world a better place for others.

As always, I am thankful to you and your group for selecting Sarah for Tech Trek all those years ago. Good luck to you as the interview season approaches once again.

Sincerely, Sally Hancock

We would love to continue encouraging girls in Santa Cruz County to pursue their STEM dreams. Please consider a donation to help us meet our 2018 goal to send six girls from the County to Stanford to Tech Trek's Camp Hopper. We are still short by about \$1800. We need to send our 2018 contribution to the Camp by March 15.

You may make your tax deductible donation by writing a check to AAUW CA SPF. It is a 501 3c fully deductible charity. Tax ID 68-0463071.

Checks should be written to AAUW CA SPF (Tech Trek on the memo line) and sent to Kris Sheehan, 215 Brodin La, Corralitos, CA 95076.

The girls who may become future math, science or computer science successes will appreciate your help.

We are very grateful to Lois Holcomb, Trisha Kett and Anonymous who made generous donations this month.

Tech Trek Committee is currently working with teachers in the County to reach those interested and motivated 7th grade girls who will most benefit from the Tech Trek Camp Hopper 2018. -Kris Sheehan, Tech Trek Chair



AAUW Fund News

Geri Williams, branch VP of AAUW Funds, wishes to thank all of you for your very generous donations to the various areas under the "Funds" umbrella! During the last quarter of 2017 these members contributed:

Carole Beckett, Patricia Clark, Lynn Cummins, Grace Gerbrandt, Sandra Haas (for Anne McCallum), Audie Henry, Jeanne Jorgensen, Martha Mangan, Lorraine Margon, Anne Sherwood, Mary Kay Simpson, Phyllis Taylor

Thank you!

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) supports choice in the determination of one's reproductive life and increased access to health care and family planning services.

Public Policy News

AAUW trusts that every woman has the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own moral and religious beliefs. Further, AAUW believes that these deeply personal decisions should be made without government interference. AAUW members have made the protection of reproductive rights a policy principle since 1977. Family planning fosters self-sufficiency, promotes preventive health care, and educates people on ways to protect themselves and their families from the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 ruling in *Roe v. Wade* legalized abortion for all women and found abortion to be a constitutionally protected, fundamental right. Unfortunately, lawmakers have limited vulnerable women's fundamental power to control their own reproductive lives. For example, this has come in the form of legislation like the Hyde and Helms Amendments, blocking federal funding from family planning services in domestic and international realms. Serious limitations remain for those who need to access the full range of health services.

Additional AAUW Resources

"Laws Affecting Reproductive Health and Rights: 2015 State Policy Review" Guttmacher Institute "The Facts on Birth Control Coverage for Women" Planned Parenthood

<u>Download Printable Quick Facts on Reproductive</u> Rights

The lack of comprehensive support for reproductive health has resulted in dire outcomes. With many schools exclusively providing abstinence-only sex education and contraceptive care historically expensive to access, Americans' reproductive health has suffered. For instance, half of all pregnancies in the United States are unintended, and the United States continues to have one of the highest rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in the industrialized world.

Attacks on Reproductive Rights

Reproductive rights have been under attack for decades—even before *Roe v. Wade*—and advocates are facing grave challenges and attacks both at the federal and state levels.

States continue to advance anti-abortion legislation. In the last four years, states have enacted a total of 288 abortion restrictions, and more than half of U.S. women of reproductive age currently live in states that are hostile or extremely hostile to abortion rights. But the Supreme Court recently affirmed in Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt that where state restrictions on abortion care infringe on women's access to these services—for example in the form of requiring hospital-grade standards or admitting privileges—those restrictions are against the law.

The Supreme Court allows limits on contraceptive coverage. Unfortunately, two recent Supreme Court rulings have also created roadblocks in women's access to contraception. Burwell v. Hobby Lobby allowed closely held corporations to deny contraceptive coverage on the grounds of religious freedom, while Zubik v. Burwell resulted in ambiguity over contraceptive coverage in religious nonprofit organizations. The Hobby Lobby decision is a misunderstanding of the role employers should play in private, medical decisions women make every day. AAUW supports efforts asking Congress to fix this decision through legislation.

Federal lawmakers propose and advance attacks on women's health care. Federal lawmakers continue to attempt to restrict access to abortion care under federal law, including introducing AAUW-opposed legislation that would end access to abortion after 20 weeks. This is an unconstitutional attack that diminishes the important role that doctors play in helping women make decisions about their reproductive health.

In addition, in the past the Global Gag Rule, also known as the Mexico City Policy, has limited women's access to care globally. This executive action prohibits organizations using international family planning funds from providing abortion-related services, even with their private money. AAUW supported its rescission in 2009 and opposes its reinstatement moving forward.

Failed abstinence-only sex education continues. The United States continues to have a relatively high rate of teen pregnancy and STIs. This shows a dire need for comprehensive sex education in schools. Unfortunately, medically inaccurate and misleading sex education programs are still prevalent in many states across the country, and there remains some federal support for the programs' continuation. AAUW supports comprehensive sex education that includes information on things like healthy relationships, abstinence, and contraception.

Lawmakers propose cuts to Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood provides affordable, critically needed, and quality preventive health care to 2.7 million women and men across the country. The health centers provide routine checkups, cancer screenings, contraceptive services, and HIV and STI testing. And for many low-income women and women of color, Planned Parenthood is their main health care provider. During the 114th Congress, lawmakers attempted to remove or limit federal funding for the health care provider. AAUW opposes attacks on Planned Parenthood's federal funding sources.

Opportunities to Improve Reproductive Health

Though we face many potential threats to reproductive rights, AAUW will continue to pursue opportunities to improve access to care by working with Congress and the relevant federal agencies on the following initiatives.

Improve public funding for reproductive health. Congress continues to cut federal funding for Title X, funds that are critical in providing reproductive services to low-income women. The threat of cuts remains despite the fact that for every government dollar spent on contraceptive services, an average of \$7.09 is saved in Medicaid costs for newborn and pregnancy-related care. AAUW opposes any attempt to limit access to Title X programs and supports increasing Title X funding.

Put prevention first. The law of the land is currently the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which has made a positive impact on women's health. Unintended pregnancies have dropped from 51 percent to 45 percent, the first decline in decades. This is due in part to the increase in contraceptive coverage provided by the ACA. We must uphold effective health care laws that empower women to make their own positive health care decisions.

In addition, AAUW supports a comprehensive legislative package of preventive health and education measures designed to help reduce unintended pregnancy and to support reproductive health. These proposals would ensure that all women have access to comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services. AAUW also supports proposals—like the Women's Health Protection Act—that improve access to abortion care. AAUW will continue to advocate for bills like this that tear down restrictions to reproductive rights.

Ensure access to legally prescribed or available contraception. Reports of pharmacist refusals to fill prescriptions for emergency contraception and all forms of birth control continue. Currently, six states permit pharmacist refusals without critical protections for patients, such as requirements to refer or transfer prescriptions. AAUW believes pharmacies should be required to fill women's prescriptions for contraception as well as sell legal emergency contraception.

AAUW believes that access to complete reproductive health services enhances women's reproductive choices, which leads to improvements in women's health care in the United States and around the world. Strong opponents of contraception and choice continue to encroach upon women's access to reproductive health services. We will continue to ensure that government policies respect and respond to the needs and priorities of a diverse range of individuals, families, and communities, especially those who face barriers to access. We will also work to ensure that appointees, nominees, and elected officials uphold our nation's laws, affirm protections for individuals, and work to improve overall health and well-being in the United States and around the world. AAUW's advocacy of a woman's right to safe, accessible, and comprehensive reproductive health care will stand at the forefront of our efforts to gain equity and justice for all women.



February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11	12 12pm Bridge*	13	14	15 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	16	17
18	19 Reader's Theater*	20	21	22	Great Decisions*	24 IBC Event, see pg. 1
25	26	27	28			

March 2018



S	un Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11:30 Lunch Bunch *	9:30 Easy Walking Group*	3 1pm Human Trafficking committee*
4	5 10am Board Meeting	6 7pm Evening Books*	7	8	9 Adventure Group* Great Decisions*	10
11	12 12pm Bridge*	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Reader's Theater*	20	21	22 1pm Books Sec. 1&2*	Great Decisions*	24
25	26	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 luncheons/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 March 6, 2018 at Jeanne Jorgensen's house, 270 19th Ave., SC. We will be discussing TEA GIRL OF HUMMINGBIRD LANE by Lisa See. Our discussion leader will be Carol De Lauder. For directions, call 477-7025. All are welcome to join this lively group. Get in touch with Joan Schwimmer, joanschwimmer@hotmail.com for further information.

<u>Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One</u>, Leader Carole Beckett, phone 457-2992, email <u>cabeckett@sbcglobal.net</u>; We will meet on February 15 and March 22. 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. Our upcoming meetings are on February 15 and March 22. Contact Susan for details.

Reader's Theater

Our next meetings will be on February 19 and March 19. To join and for further information, contact Barbara Lewis, chairperson of this interest group, by telephone at 335-7816 or by email at bobbi44@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

February 23 TOPIC: TURKEY: A PARTNER IN CRISIS Discussion Leader: Melisa Walker

Hostess: Melisa Walker

For information, contact graceger@sbcglobal.net, vickiebird-sall@yahoo.com

Adventure Group

DATE: Friday MARCH 9th

PLACES and TIMES: Lunch at Ella's at the Airport, 100 Aviation Way, Watsonville—11:45 a.m. (optional)
Annieglass Studio Tour— 310 Harvest Way, Watsonville—
1:30 p.m. (30 minute tour)

Martinelli's is across from Annie's. We can go over and do sparkling cider tasting. They have lots of flavors that are not available in the stores.

Directions: HYW. 1 Ella's—Exit Airport Blvd, turn left. Turn left at Aviation Way.

Annieglass—Exit Riverside Dr., turn left. Turn left at Harvest Dr.

Let me know by Monday MARCH 5th. I can send the names out to everyone going and you can possibly do carpooling.

CALL OR TEXT JANE at 359-3357 OR email at lvswamp@charter.net

Human Trafficking Committee

The Human Trafficking Committee meets the first Saturday of every month, 1PM, 201 Prospect Hts. Contact Martha Mangan, tel # 425-1306, for more details.

Easy Walking Group

Next month March 2 @9:30 Walkers will meet at parking lot across from Hawaiian surfer statue on Westcliff-near bathrooms-and walk out on Santa Cruz Wharf.
Rain cancels--

Contact info same--Audrey or Louanne. Notify Louanne Ellison- louanneec@gmail.com -471-8381 or Audrey Strayer molliej6@cruzio.com --475-9073 if you will be there.



Branch Schedule 2018



February	24	Interbranch Council Luncheon	Bayonet and Blackhorse Golf Club Grill
March	5	Board Meeting	CFSCC—Couch room
April	2 14 10 21 27-29	Board Meeting Voter's Guide Event with LWV Local Scholarships Dinner Annual Gen. Membership Business Meeting State Convention	CFSCC—Couch room SC Library, upstairs Shadowbrook Museum of Natural History Irvine
May	7 19	Board Meeting Local Scholarship Luncheon, Installation of Of	CFSCC—Couch room ficers Seascape Resort



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 Website (at aauw.org- click on Educational 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 CA SPF, with Santa Cruz County Tech Trek, Camp Hopper on the memo line

and send to

Kris Sheehan

Ki is Sileeliali

215 Brodin Lane Corralitos, CA 95076

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