



MONTEREY PENINSULA MESSENGER

Volume 56 Issue 5

Monterey Peninsula Branch

May-June 2009

MAY BRANCH MEETING



Speaker: Michael Terhorst

Michael Terhorst will speak on the effect of the fund on Title IX cases. He specializes in federal and state anti-discrimination and civil rights laws, tort claims, contract claims, wage and hour laws and state personnel board hearings. He has spoken at AAUW conventions and other Legal Advocacy Fund branch meetings. Michael and his partner Jeffery Beeson represented two women in the Feather River Community College case in 2007.

Date: Saturday, May 16, 2009

Time: 12:00 noon Potluck Salad Bar Lunch and Dessert

12:45 PM Speaker

Place: Pebble Beach Community Services Boardroom

3101 Forest Lake Road (in the fire station complex, parking is on Lopez)

Reservations: By May 16—Sandy Grimmer, smcdgrim@aol.com or 375-9275

AAUW Potluck Picnic

Date: August 23, 2009

Time: 12:00-2:30 PM

Place: Whispering Pines Park on Pacific St, Monterey, CA

Bring: Friends, family, food to share, your own plates and utensils, and any books you may want to donate to our annual Book Sale.

Contact: Pat Gotch

375-9865 or patgotch@yahoo.com with questions





PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

You should all be quite proud of the role our Association has played in the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter fair paycheck act. Because of the significant support of AAUW, our executive director Linda Hallman was front and center for the signing ceremony with President Obama. Although most of us are retired, our daughters and granddaughters will benefit from our involvement. Even now, over 40 years after the passage of the Equal Pay law, women still earn only 78 cents for every dollar earned by men! How shocking! That is why our Association is also supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act.

A big thank you is due Suzanne Taunt and Phyllis Mosher for their work on our Tech Trek student. They contacted all the middle schools in our service area, but only received applications from Seaside and Pacific Grove. I was privileged to interview several of the candidates, along with Suzanne, and can attest to the quality of our applicants. Our choice is Carol Nader of Pacific Grove, the alternate being Kimberly Bonilla of Seaside. Many thanks to both of you!

Your program committee will be working hard during the summer months to formulate our programming for our next year. Any suggestions that you have for future programs and venues (lunch or dinner places, as well) should be forwarded to Pat Gotch, who has graciously agreed to continue on as our Programming Director. We will have 2 summer events at which you and your spouse, best friend, or potential new member(s) can socialize and get to know your fellow AAUW members in a relaxed setting. The “save the date” particulars are to be found inside The Messenger.

Another note regarding the coming year—please return your dues envelopes promptly as

planning occurs during the summer for several interest groups, and without your dues being paid our by-laws state that you cannot participate. The good news is that national dues will be tax deductible, except for \$3. And, for those who were not aware, our branch is also a non-profit corporation. (Please see membership article on **Page 6**.)

I especially want to thank the Board members who have served so ably this year, and who will not be returning to the Board: Mary Ann Grant, Sandy Grimmer, Lynne Miles and Mez Benton. Without all of your hard work on behalf of our Branch, we all would not have had such a successful year.

THANKS!!! Sharyn



BOARD MEETINGS

May 7, 3 PM

Monterey City Library

please bring your program ideas.

NEW/OLD BOARD MEETING

Potluck dinner, 6 PM

Sharyn Siebert's home

Please RSVP

Changes / Corrections to Directory:

Christa Rutsche (831) 372-7688
(omit 2nd phone number)

Darcie Henning's email is now
tyroniclife@gmail.com

AAUW's Mission

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

AAUW's Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance..

INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Carolyn Bazzani
(bgoodcarolyn@msn.com)

Tuesday, May 12, at 2:00 PM
Revolutionary Road, by Richard Yates
at the home of Judy Ritchie
RSVP: judy_ritchie@comcast.net

Tuesday, June 9, at 2:00 PM
American Bloomsbury, by Susan Cheever
at the home of Elie Skinner
RSVP: patnelie@sbcglobal.net

Tuesday, July 14, at 12 noon
The Uncommon Reader, by Alan Bennett
Potluck luncheon at Judy Cunningham's
RSVP: jrc2900@msn.com
N.B. Members will choose a title from Bennett's book or from *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* and read excerpts for our discussion.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Kathleen Wall
(wallplus@aol.com)

May 21, at 7:00 PM
The Glass Castle, by Jeannette Walls
at the home of Mary Ann Grant, 622-0737

June 18, 6:30 PM
Planning for next year, potluck dinner
at the home of Sharyn Seibert, 622-0425
Book for informal discussion: *The Last Lecture*,
by Randy Pausch

BRIDGE GROUP (NEW)

Coordinator: Ann Donaldson
(anndonaldson@redshift.com)

We continue to meet the 2nd Friday each month. However, we need more members and substitutes if we are to continue in the fall. Call or email Ann, 372-4251 (leave a message).

ROMANCING THE COAST

Coordinator: Jan Smyth
(janzeek@hotmail.com)

May 29

We'll travel to Carmel Valley on **Friday, May 29th for lunch at Café Rustica at 11:30**. Following lunch we'll visit Parsonage Village Vineyard and Winery to look at the award winning quilts and other artwork, and possibly taste a few wines. For those who wish there are other wineries close by or instead check out the pottery in two very special local spots. To reserve a spot, phone Remy Ryan, 659-2122 or e-mail jansmyth@hotmail.com. Some of us may car-pool, so call or e-mail early to sign up.

COUPLES GOURMET

All members, substitutes, and prospective members are invited to our yearly planning party at the home of Wayne and Karen Snow, 1141 Mestres Dr., Pebble Beach, on **Friday, June 5** at 6 PM. Please bring an appetizer (a hearty one please and this ends up being dinner), a bottle to share, and ideas for the four dinners set for our next rotation. For existing members — please bring your dues envelopes and checks, or let me know any changes before I work on the spread sheet. For further information, please call Karen at 375-5220 or email karensnowpb@aol.com. New members are especially encouraged to come to the party and check us out as to joining up with this great group of people.



PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW Releases Data to Show How the Wage Gap Varies

WASHINGTON - To commemorate [Equal Pay Day, April 28, 2009](#), AAUW has released a new [state-by-state earnings comparison](#) by gender that shows that the wage gap is stubbornly in place despite the overall positive effect a college degree has on women workers. Observing Equal Pay Day reminds the nation of the gross inequities facing women, who must work from January 2008 through April 2009 to earn what their male counterparts received in 2008 alone.

Using data from the U.S. Census Bureau, AAUW finds that women earn 78 percent as much as men earn, and the numbers are even worse for women of color. Compared with white male workers, African American women earn about 67 cents on the dollar (African American men make 78 cents); Hispanic women make about 58 cents (Hispanic men make almost 66 cents).

The new AAUW comparison looks at women's and men's earnings in 50 states and the nation's capital for the college-educated population and the workforce as a whole using the most recent data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (2007).

The pay gap varies significantly from state to state. For the entire full-time workforce, the narrowest wage gaps exist in the District of Columbia, Vermont, and California - where female, full-time workers make 85 percent as much as their male counterparts. At the other end of the rankings are Wyoming, West Virginia, and North Dakota, where women earn 62 percent, 65 percent, and 66 percent, respectively, of what men make.

For the college-educated, year-round workforce, the narrowest wage gap exists in Vermont, where female full-time workers make 87 percent as much as their male counterparts. Hawaii follows at 83 percent, then Delaware at 80 percent. Louisiana - where female full-time workers make 65 percent of what their male counterparts earn - and West Virginia and Mississippi, both at 67 percent, are emerging as the states with the largest pay differences between male and female college-educated workers. "Our analysis is quite disturbing,

especially when you consider how more and more families are depending on a woman's paycheck as the primary source of income in these tough economic times. Consequently, the issue of pay equity takes on an added sense of urgency. This is just one of the reasons why we're urging the Senate to join the House and pass the Paycheck Fairness Act," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE.

The [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) would provide additional tools to deter wage discrimination by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act.

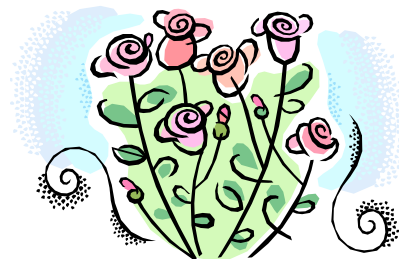
Over a 40-year career, women could lose between \$500,000 and \$1 million. In higher-paying fields, such as law, the wage gap can result in even greater lifetime losses. For all women, the disparity is further compounded by losses in retirement and Social Security income that depend on wage-based contributions. Nationwide, working families lose \$200 billion of income annually to the gender wage gap.

"Women with college degrees earn considerably more than women with less education, but they earn considerably less than men with college degrees. As we know from our research for *Behind the Pay Gap*, these differences start right out of college. Achieving full equity for women workers will require more than individual women making educational achievements," said Catherine Hill, PhD, AAUW director of research.

Mez Benton

Public Policy Chair

NOTE: Mez has been our Public Policy Chair since the mid-nineties, when she started with our child care project. She is stepping down now and we will miss her happy smile at board meetings and all the hard work she has put into this position. Thank you, Mez!



Community Events

Always check the Weekly, Go and Pine Cone for interesting activities.

May

May 15-17 Festival of Speed – 1-800-327-SECA & www.laguna-seca.com This year's event will include both the sports car series and Champ Cars.

May 3 Robinson Jeffers Tor House Garden Party, afternoon tea, silent auction, gifts and live music. 624-1813

May 9-10 Marina Festival of the Winds – kite flying and hang gliding as well as kite-making workshops. 384-9155

May 14-17 Carmel Art Festival – Outdoor art show in Devendorf Park, gallery events, lectures and demonstrations. 624-2503

May 16 Hidden Gardens Tour – Explore many gardens throughout the Big Sur area. Musicians and artists are featured as well. 677-1530

May 16-18 Castroville Artichoke Festival – many flavors of the thistle in an atmosphere of fun. 633-2465

Cinco de Mayo Festival – Seaside celebrates the day with Latin bands, folkloric dances and a wide range of activities for children. 899-6805

May – June

Hot Cars/Cool Nites – 4th Friday of each month, antique and classic cars plus great music of the 50's. Seaside. 899-6801

June

June 7 Cannery Row Block Party, an annual crowd pleaser for young and old, 649-6690

June 26–28 Monterey Blues Festival, www.montereyblues.com or 394-2652

Films in the Forest, weeknight screenings of favorite films. Complete schedule on their web site: www.foresttheaterguild.org or call 626-1681

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Dear Macy's shoppers and Community Shopping Day ticket purchasers,

Over 9 million dollars was raised by the 2008 Macy's event last November that supported local organizations. Our MPB of AAUW LAF has received \$527.00 as our share of the total campaign. Congratulations and thank you from your LAF vice presidents.

Lynne Miles

Sandy Grimmer

"Save the Date"

TGIF

July 31, 6:30-9:00 PM
(7:20 PM Tower Music)

Sharyn Siebert's home

See an historic Carmel cottage that has been completely renovated and enjoy the company of your fellow AAUW members, spouses, friends and prospective members.

Bring a heavy appetizer and a bottle of something to share, plus \$5 as a fundraiser for our branch, a non-profit corporation.

We will walk up from Sharyn's to the Sunset Center (1 1/2 blocks) to hear the Tower Music concert — a free 15-20 minute outdoor opening of the Bach Festival. Then back to Sharyn's to continue partying.

RSVP sharynsiebert@comcast.net or 622-0425, by July 29, please. Ask for directions.

Membership Notes:

- * Good news! AAUW membership dues for 2009-2010 will remain at \$81 (\$49 national, \$16 state, and \$16 local branch). Renewal letters and envelopes were mailed to our members in May. We are respectfully requesting that the dues be submitted to us by June 15.
- * Many thanks to our April coffee hostesses — Cathy Rossing, Kathleen Stacey and Susan Murphy. They so graciously opened their homes so we could get to know our new members and discuss the importance of AAUW's mission and goals. These informal gatherings provide a chance to one and all to talk about how we can continue to impact our community and to meet the needs of our members.
- * If you have friends or acquaintances who want to become AAUW members, please contact Membership Vice Presidents Sally Hekkers, 455-2852, or Susan Murphy, 622-9289. We'll be glad to send them the Messenger newsletter and answer any questions they may have about AAUW.
- * Please remember to send any corrections to your AAUW Directory listing to Sally Hekkers, swhekkers@sbcglobal.net.

Monterey Peninsula Messenger is the bi-monthly publication of the Monterey Peninsula Branch of the American Association of University Women.

President: SHARYN SIEBERT
Finance VP: JUDY RITCHIE
Secretaries: PAT DEGE
 JOAN KILIANY

Branch Membership & Information: 622-9289
 or 455-2852
Association Helpline No: 1-800-326-AAUW
 or email: helpline@aauw.org

Newsletter Deadline: 8/15/09
 Email articles to Ann Donaldson at
anndonaldson@redshift.com



American Association of University Women
Monterey Peninsula Branch
P. O. Box 1786
Monterey, CA 93942-1786