

2008-2009 promises to be an exciting year for AAUW/Monterey Bay. Our first Branch meeting is China!

Looking at China from Here and There

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 7:00 PM

Canterbury Woods Auditorium
651 Sinex Ave, Pacific Grove

There is a saying that everything that can be said about China is true. That is, the endless contradictions that make up the nation that calls itself the 'Middle Kingdom' make China thoroughly fascinating and perhaps ultimately unknowable to non-Chinese.

Even for those who are not very interested in China there is much to consider, in terms of China's growing importance in the world and impact on America. On Sept.17, we will look at China not only as a fascinating destination, but as an example for considering travel to any 'foreign' destination. Increasingly, Americans are using vacations as ways to not only tour exotic cultures, but to learn and volunteer their service in some way — hence the term 'service learning'.

Catherine Coleman will facilitate a discussion by those who have visited China, those who are interested in going, and those who have an interest in serving in China or elsewhere as volunteers. Everyone has something to contribute, and 'armchair travelers' will come away with a sound impression of China!

Catherine has traveled widely in China, and enjoyed four summers of teaching English there. She will lead a service learning trip in 2009 to Malaysia. Catherine is a trained community organizer, and serves on the boards of directors of the CA Council of Churches, UC Berkeley's Westminster House, and the Pacific Network for Mission Education. Come and join us for a fascinating evening.

Our October Branch meeting will be at Asilomar Conference Grounds.

Encounters with Asilomar

Friday, Oct. 17, 11:00 AM

Meet at the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Social Hall (Guest Registration).

Take a tour of the grounds with a park ranger. Learn about the history of Asilomar with an emphasis on the women involved. We will also learn about the flora and fauna of the area.

Bring a picnic lunch, and we will conclude the tour by eating together at picnic tables along the Boardwalk facing the ocean. For questions and an RSVP, please call or e-mail Pat Gotch at 375-9865, or patgotch@yahoo.com



Come to the August 24 Picnic — See page 6.



The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

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The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

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The AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

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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.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Dear Fellow AAUW-MPB Members,

It is with great pride that I take the helm of our vibrant branch, started in 1926! No wonder our older scrapbooks are archived in the Monterey Library in a place of great honor. This year's programs are shaping up to be totally engaging, covering a wide range of areas. Our first meeting with its international scope will be a great lead-in to a repeat of the very successful Great Decisions interest group so ably chaired by Kathleen Stacey and Janet Mooers last year. Get ready for sign-ups for that soon!

Many thanks for Susan and Alan Murphy for graciously donating the "Dennis the Menace" home for our Legal Advocacy Fund's TGIF fundraiser. We look forward to repeating this type of event in the future also, a nice way for us to socialize with our AAUW friends. This year one of our members has generously offered to fund our Tech Trek participant, so we will be holding an appropriate contest to find our next lucky young woman to attend. Given that in the AAUW association's most recent issue of its national magazine highlighted a program to interest young women in scientific careers, this is most timely. Anyone wanting to be involved in the selection process, please let me know.

As an interviewer of some of our scholarship awardees, I can assure you it makes one proud of our branch for sponsoring such outstanding candidates, and making such a difference in their lives! Our huge thank you to our Local Scholarship Director, Ruthann Donahue, for the untold hours she has devoted to making this such a successful aspect of our branch! And at our May meeting we were very lucky to have the successful candidate for Supervisor, Jane Parker speak and even become member!

With your board having worked throughout the summer to provide both enlightening and fun events in which to participate for all of our members, I hope you share my enthusiasm to begin our 2008-09 season.

Sharyn

Welcome New Members

Please welcome new members **Judy Lund-ing, Carol Kahn, Joan Kiliany, Nancy Lee York, Jane Parker and Sherry Morse.** Look for them at meetings and interest groups and make a new friend. We also have a number of prospective members we hope will join us.

We are inviting new and prospective members to an orientation on **Tuesday evening, October 7th at 7:30** at Susan Murphy's 3278 Camino del Monte in Carmel Woods. The board, interest group chairwomen and members and guests are also welcome. Come for coffee, dessert and to share what AAUW is all about. Bring a friend who might like to join us.

Please **RSVP** 622-9289 or murphfam@redshift.com.

Board Meetings

Sept. 4, Oct 7

3:00 PM

Monterey Public Library

INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Carolyn Bazzani
(bgoodcarolyn@msn.com)

Tuesday, Sept 9, at 2:00 PM
Guns, Germs and Steel, by Jared Diamond, Part I
at the home of Sally Hekkers
RSVP: swhekkers@sbcglobal.net

Tuesday, Oct 14, at 2:00 PM
Guns, Germs and Steel, by Jared Diamond, Part II
at the home of Carolyn Bazzani
RSVP: bgoodcarolyn@msn.com

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Kathleen Wall
(wallplus@aol.com)

Sept 18, 7:00 PM
Charlie Wilson's War, by George Crile
Leader: Christy Yarr
Hostess: Mary Ann Grant, 622-0737

Oct 16, 7:00 PM
Girls Like Us, by Sheila Weller
Leader: Jacqui Davis
Hostess: Rose Mary Ullman, 626-3710



BRIDGE GROUP

Interest has been expressed in a new interest group — Bridge — and we are asking if there is anyone interested in coordinating such a group. I know there are many bridge players in our branch, at many different levels. Anyone??? Please let me know.

Sharyn
sharynsiebert@comcast.net

ROMANCING THE COAST

Coordinator: Jan Smyth
(janzeek@hotmail.com)

The group meets to explore some event or place on the Peninsula, usually the fourth or last Friday of the month. Lunch at a nearby restaurant precedes or follows the meeting. All members and friends are welcome to attend the events. If you'd like to be on the e-mail contact list for additions or last minute changes and reminders, e-mail janzeek@hotmail.com.

Planning Meeting
Friday, September 26, 11:45
Pacific Grove Golf Links Restaurant

Come join others to plan our events for the coming year while we enjoy the good food and view. RSVP janzeek@comcast.net.

October 10, Wilder Ranch State Park

This 7,000 acre park includes trails, coastal terraces and valleys and several restored buildings, including Victorian homes. On the way there we'll stop for lunch in Santa Cruz. (The Ranch is about two miles north.)

We'll meet and carpool at the front of the **Home Depot** parking lot, near the highway 1 on ramp. Lunch will be at **Ristorante Avanti**, 1711 Mission Street, Santa Cruz at **11:30 a.m.** Arrival at the **Wilder Ranch will be at 1:00 p.m.** Reservations are a must! Contact Kathleen in August or October. Please no September e-mails as she'll be out of the country. E-mail is yecats123@aol.com. Kathleen will let you know about the carpool time and any other last minute arrangements.

COUPLES GOURMET GROUP

There has been a recent and unexpected slot for the couples gourmet group. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact Karen Snow at karensnowpb@aol.com



PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW Urges Lawmakers to Move the Paycheck Fairness Act Forward

WASHINGTON - On June 10th, the 45th anniversary of the signing of the Equal Pay Act, AAUW urged lawmakers to make real progress on closing the wage gap between men and women. AAUW reiterated that it strongly supports passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 1338), strengthening the Equal Pay Act signed into law by President Kennedy on June 10, 1963.

"The Paycheck Fairness Act has 228 co-sponsors, and AAUW is urging the House to take action on this bill - a bill that a majority of the chamber already supports," said Lisa Maatz, AAUW director of public policy and government relations.

Sponsored by Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), the Paycheck Fairness Act would take meaningful steps to empower women to negotiate for equal pay, to create strong incentives for employers to follow the law, and to strengthen federal outreach and enforcement efforts.

"We're 45 years overdue in making pay discrimination history," said Linda D. Hallman, CAE, AAUW Executive Director. "AAUW is working to make progress on the issue of pay equity so that women everywhere will have not only a level playing field but also a level paying field." With a record 70.2 million women in the work force, wage discrimination hurts the majority of American families. Women earn only 77 cents on the dollar compared to their male counterparts, and the numbers are worse for women of color.

"In this economy, most women see equal pay as a priority this election year," said Maatz. "The House has a chance to take action on a bill that could really move the ball forward on pay equity for women - something I think they'll remember as they go to the polls in November."

AAUW has been fighting to end wage discrimination since 1922, when AAUW's legislative program called for a reclassification of the U.S. Civil Service and for a repeal of salary restrictions in the Women's Bureau. In 1955, AAUW supported a bill requiring "equal pay for work of comparable value requiring comparable skills."

This April, for Equal Pay Day, AAUW released new state-by-state data showing the effect of a college degree on women's earnings. The data suggest that educational achievement alone will not close the pay gap.

"AAUW continues to lobby the Senate for the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which would correct the U.S. Supreme Court's wrongheaded decision last May," said Hallman. "AAUW applauds the House for passing their own Ledbetter bill last year, but urges them to move forward with the Paycheck Fairness Act - and make real progress on closing the wage gap."

Submitted by: Mez Benton

Public Policy Chair

Thanks to Team for Democracy

Many thanks for the volunteers on our AAUW Team for Democracy. Collectively, we raised nearly \$1000 in June. If you want to help for the BIG one in November, contact Ruthann Donahue, ruthann@sbcglobal.net or 373-4197.

A+ to these June volunteers: Suzanne Taunt, Manus Donahue, Sharon Hallgrimson, Phyllis Mosher, Sally Hekkers, Joann Branson, Margaret Smith, Christy Yarr, Sharyn Siebert, Judy Ritchie and Walt Ritchie.

The Friends of The Monterey Public Library sponsored tour will be Sunday, October 19th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. \$20 donation per ticket. Fabulous homes and landmark sites including Doc Ricketts' Pacific Biological Lab and the renovated Marshes Orientation building. Tickets available in advance from any Friends Board Members or call Joan Kiliyan at 644-9344 for additional information.

Community Events

SEPTEMBER

Aug. 31 – Sept. 2 Greek Festival, food, dancing, arts and crafts, Custom House Plaza, Monterey. 424-4434

Sept. 5 - 7 Cherries Jubilee, pre-1972 cars on display with food and entertainment, Laugna Seca. 759-1836

Sept. 5 – 7 Festa Italia/Santa Rosalia Festival, Custom House Plaza. 625-9623

Sept 20 – 21 Otter Days at the Aquarium, up-close celebration of everything otter. 648-4929

Sept 19 - 21 Monterey Jazz Festival, Monterey Fairgrounds. 373-3366

OCTOBER

Oct. 2 Taste of Carmel, Carmel restaurants and wineries show their wares, with auctions, and entertainment. 624-2522

Oct. 10 – 12 Robinson Jeffers Festival, readings, theater and music pay tribute to the poet. 624-1813

Oct. 11 – 12 Columbus Day on the Bay, arts and crafts, food and music at Custom House Plaza. 655-8070

Oct 12 Aquarium's annual celebration of Latin American culture and ocean conservation. 648-4984

Oct. 16 Back to the aquarium for more wine tasting (over 300 local wines are showcased). (800) 422-0251

Oct. 25 Carmel's 92nd Birthday Party, parade, BBQ and live music at Sunset Theater. Costumes welcomed. 620-2020

Oct 31 Pumpkin Pandemonium, arts and crafts, plus trick-or-treat throughout the 85 shops, Del Monte Center. 373-2705



AAUW/MPB Awards Five Local Scholarships

The volunteer efforts of members who worked at the polls, contributed to the rummage sale and donated generously were rewarded as we provided scholarships that assist five young women in pursuing their education. We awarded scholarships to two graduating MPC students, two continuing CSUMB students and one girls, inc. "graduate." The local committee reviewed about sixty applications and interviewed twelve finalists for these scholarships.

Amanda Grier is a first generation college student who followed a vocational training course in high school and then completed an Associate of Science degree at Hartnell College. However, she discovered that "my new age science skills were required less than I had hoped" and she is now pursuing a biology degree at CSUMB and a career as a Physicians Assistant.

Belen Rosales is dedicated to becoming an elementary school teacher as she manages her two school-age children and works with her husband to build a solid family and community role models. She writes, "My faith in God evokes in me the desire to serve others in my community," and she teaches Bible study as well as tutoring non-readers. She will complete her studies at CSUMB in 2009.

Erica Freestone is a Pacific Grove resident who discovered a passion for dance at MPC. She writes, "I wanted to go to school for something that would express every inch of my soul, not just something I was mildly interested in. Dancing is my language and my art." Her career goal is to own a dance studio dedicated to modern dance and she will pursue dance and business in her studies at UC Berkeley. She has taught modern dance to middle school girls at dance camps and has been inspired to continue her outreach to the creativity of young girls.

Sally Yousif left medical school in Iraq in 2005, spent a year improving her language skills and then enrolled in MPC, pursuing a rigorous curriculum including physics for engineers, calculus and organic chemistry. She will continue her studies in medical research at UC Davis, with the career goal of "inventing novel approaches for the prevention, treatment and cure of diseases."

Marlene Hurtado is definitely a star CSUMB student. At Soledad High School she was president of the Physics Club, an Upward Bound leader, and a peer leader for girls, inc. She has extended her leadership role at CSUMB where she is a summer

(see Scholarships, page 7)

Mark your calendar now...**Nov. 7 at 7:30 PM**

The Circle Theater, "Curtain Call"

Winner of the Hyperion Project Playwriting Competition World Premier

Directed by Dan Gotch.

"Curtain Call," by Los Angeles writer Gary Goldstein, is a drama (with humor) about a woman who comes out of a coma only to learn she has a limited amount of time to put her life — and her family — in order. "Curtain Call" is a touching, bittersweet story about the choices we make in life, and the ways we define happiness.

Pacific Rep has reserved 20 seats for AAUW on preview night, Nov. 7 at a bargain price of \$10 per ticket! It will be first come, first serve, as there are a limited number of tickets. Please make your checks out to Pat Gotch at 1114 Kenet Pl., Pacific Grove, 93950. Don't delay if you are interested! Seats will fill quickly.

December — **Holiday Gala, TBA** ***Would anyone be willing to host this event in your home? Please call Marge Simmons, 622-9640.

Saturday, Feb. 21 Interbranch Luncheon Meeting at the National Steinbeck Center. Speaker will be Steven Hoffman, President and CEO of the National Steinbeck Center.

August Picnic

Date: August 24

Time: 12:00 – 2:30 PM

Place: Whispering Pines Park on Pacific St in Monterey

Bring a dish to share and books to donate to the book sale if you so desire. You may sign up for interest groups at the picnic, as well as buy books. Friends and family welcome!

Contact person: Pat Gotch, 375-9865
or patgotch@yahoo.com

LET'S GO SHOPPING

Be prepared for the holidays AND support AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

We will be selling a \$10 ticket to Macy's Community Shopping Day to be held November 22. LAF gets the \$10 and a portion of tickets sold at the event. The ticket is treated as money on the sale day. In addition you will get an entry for a \$500 shopping spree and further discounts on merchandise.

Tickets will be available at Branch meetings and from Sandy or Lynne (please include LAF in subject line for easy identification.)

Sandy Grimmer
1247 Surf, PG, 93950
375-9275

Lynne Miles
milesmail@aol.com

CONGRATULATIONS

Peggy Bates, recipient of first President's Award, Monterey Peninsula College.

Jane Parker, newly-elected County Supervisor.



June 4, 2008

Dear AAUW Members,

The Grant family wants to thank all of you for your support and concern after Ken's death. The cards, flowers and donations to EF in Ken's memory are much appreciated. Thank you to so many of you who attended his memorial service on such short notice.

AAUW was the first group I joined after we moved to Carmel ten years ago. Ken, especially, always looked forward to the Gourmet Couples Group planning party at the Snows'.

Such nice memories!

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Grant
Karen Grant
Dan, Jennifer and Baby
Vivian Grant

DO NOT DISCARD!!!!

AAUW Outlook...and more.

Every year you receive five editions of our branch *Messenger* and three national *Outlook* publications. Before you recycle these, think about this. The *Messenger* alerts us to local actions and activities. In the last year our monthly programs have been outstanding, offering diverse and compelling programs and an opportunity to communicate with each other. Before you recycle, check out how our branch can enrich your life monthly. The national *Outlook* can be great bedtime reading, so here is my distillation of news (in no particular order) that you might find interesting:

Are we an anachronism? Considering the US college graduation rate still hovers around 15%, we have plenty to do and the 100,000 AAUW members are remarkably active in promoting our primary goal of facilitating higher education.

Where do all those national \$\$\$ go? If you really are a financially gifted, go to www.aauw.org for the fiscal report, but for the rest of us, in the last year, we lobbied in D.C. for support of minimum wage increases, support for science and technology training, pay equity for women, and reduction of college costs bills. Voting records for our senators and representative, as well as the presidential candidates, can be reviewed at VoterEd@aauw.org. In addition, we funded scholarships (see below), supported research on girls' education, and defended important Title IX challenges in the courts.

How does our Local Scholarships program fit into national goals? Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director writes, "We are the leading nonprofit association supporting graduate education for women, providing more than

\$4 million in fellowships and grants annually. At the local level, we give easily that much for undergraduate scholarships each year as well. Imagine, locally our branches are as effective as national in supporting women's education!

Does AAUW still contribute academically to women's education? Yes, we are still on the edge. In the 1990's, AAUW monographs were cited as among the foremost scholarly treatises on the status of women's and girls' education. In the latest *Outlook*, the results of current research on *Where the Girls Are*, originally reported in 1992, indicate that educational success is increasing for all ethnic/race and gender demographics and girls are slightly outperforming boys in both high school and college graduation rates. However, although reading skills measured by SAT means scores are equivalent for both genders, girls still significantly lag boys in mathematics scores.

Does AAUW need my contribution? In addition to dues, donations for national programs are always welcome, BUT there are opportunities to contribute locally that are far more enriching than writing an extra check (not that this is discouraged!). Help at the polls where we contribute to our community and earn about \$1000 per election for Local Scholarships. Attend a monthly meeting, a book group or Great Decisions for some mental exercise. Take advantage of the community of women who share your dedication to education.

There's lots more, but I suggest that next time either *The Messenger* or *Outlook* appears in your mailbox, give it a few nights on the bedside table before you recycle.

Ruthann Donahue

(Scholarships, cont.)

tutor for Upward Bound, a College Advisor at Soledad High School and a Residential Advisor. She writes, "I am making a difference in the world as a low-income, first generation Chicana." With respect to her goal of becoming an architect, she writes, "A home is not merely a structure where a family rests; it is an art form of endless possibili-

ties where a family stays safe and nourishes their desires for a happy life."

To all our members who have contributed to the Local Scholarship fund, these women say thank you. If you have an interest in working on these projects, contact Ruthann Donahue, ruthann@sbcglobal.net or 373-4197.

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

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or e-mail: helpline@auw.org

We're on the Web:

www.aauwmpb.org

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E-mail articles to Ann Donaldson
at anndonaldson@redshift.com

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