



THE VIEW FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 29, Number 1

September 2012

Brunch & Member Social

Breaking Through Barriers by Working Together

Saturday, September 8

9:00 AM–12:30 PM

San Ramon Community Center

Fountain Room

Greet Old Friends & Meet New Friends!

Enjoy A Delicious Buffet!

Meet Our Renaissance Scholars!

Meet Our Tech Trek Campers!

(See page 4 for details)

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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, disability or class.

2012–2013 Board

CO-PRESIDENTS

Stella Hadjimarkos
Betsy Hoffmann

IMMEDIATE PAST CO-PRESIDENTS

Stella Hadjimarkos
Nancy Southern

PRESIDENT ELECT

~ OPEN ~

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, PROGRAM

Renaë Buckser
Linda Mendonsa

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, MEMBERSHIP

Margie Goldware
Isabel Lau

VICE PRESIDENT, AAUW FUNDS

Jeanne Benedetti

CO-CHAIRS, LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP

Julie Gin
Susan Walker-Christensen

RECORDING SECRETARY

Millie Kessler

TREASURER

Claire Mailhot

AAUW San Ramon Information

Websites:

Branch Website: <http://www.sanramon-aauw.net>

WebMaster: Isabel Lau

Association website: www.aauw.org

CA website: www.aauw-ca.org

Address:

San Ramon AAUW
P.O. Box 336
San Ramon, CA 94583

E-mail: aauwsr@gmail.com

Facebook: San Ramon University Women/AAUW

Appointed Officers & Standing Committees

ART & WIND FESTIVAL CHAIR

Debra Marconi

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lois Kamoroff

HOSPITALITY

~ OPEN ~

NEWSLETTER

Marsha Froines
Carol Lombardi

PUBLIC POLICY

Susan Beyerle

PUBLICITY

~ OPEN ~

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Sydney Allison
Cindy Alpert
Sally Blackwell
Pat Campbell
Pauline Nolte
Sally Scholl

TECH TREK COORDINATOR

Laurie Dennen

TELEPHONE TREE

Renee Coles
Lois Kamoroff

MORE OPEN POSITIONS:

BYLAWS/BRANCH POLICY
COMMUNITY & INTERNATIONAL
DIVERSITY
EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE

~ (**Contact a co-president for information.**) ~

Presidents' Pen

We hope that all of you had a good and interesting summer and are planning to join us for our annual Membership Social Brunch. Come find out about the exciting programs planned for this year. We know you can join in for one or all of them. See how your donations and your fundraising efforts have made an impact. Let the personal stories of the Renaissance Scholars touch your hearts. Let the Tech Trekkers entertain you as they recount their amazing summer experiences at the math and science camp.

We are fortunate to have a dynamic group of women serving on the board. Take the opportunity to find out who we are, what we do, and how we do it.

Go around the room and sign up for various special Interest Groups such as Book Clubs, Bridge, Cork 'n' Fork, Mah Jong, Travel, Walking, and many, many more. Some new groups are being started—come see what they are.

Susan Beyerle has volunteered to fill the Public Policy position. You probably have read her posts on our Facebook page already. Expect to see great articles in the newsletter, too. This is an important election year, so make sure you are registered to vote and encourage family members and friends to do so.

We thank the many board members who have worked tirelessly to ensure a great brunch. Special thanks to Isabel Lau and Margie Goldware, who have shown great leadership and organization in making this the best brunch ever!

Hope to see you there,

Stella Hadjimarkos and Betsy Hoffmann, Co-Presidents

Happy September Birthdays

Anne Hayden	9/05
Barbara Morrissey	9/06
MaryBeth Hodge	9/15
Ellen Moore	9/26
Lorraine Flynn	9/27
Diane Griffiths	9/27
Arlene Addison	9/28
Millie Kessler	9/30

AAUW San Ramon Is Growing Media-Wise!

New AAUW San Ramon Website

National AAUW is encouraging all branches to start using their host server and template for branch websites. Therefore, over the summer, we embarked on this mission.

Please take a few minutes to peruse our new website at <http://sanramon-ca.aauw.net> (shown below). Let us know what you like, what you want to find more of, and how we can make it more user-friendly. It is a work in progress and will constantly evolve to meet all of our needs.

On our site, you will find links to National and California AAUW websites—both are a great resource for information about the work done by AAUW and ways we can all help.

On the top navigation bar, you will find a “Members Only” page that will require you to enter a password. Please e-mail me for the password.

AAUW San Ramon Is on Facebook

You'll find our branch on Facebook at *San Ramon University Women/AAUW*.

Please “like” the page to receive valuable information pertaining to the lobbying work that AAUW does across the country and for local opportunities to help push our mission forward. This is an easy way to communicate with our members, and others in the community, about the work we do.

Do You Use Twitter?

Search out AAUW and you'll find dozens of AAUW sites to follow—National, Public Policy, HigherEd, Action Fund, Fellowships, STEM—just to name a few. Again, it's all valuable information that you can use and share with others.

Isabel Lau, Webmaster

Program

Annual Membership Brunch & Social

**Saturday, September 8
9:00 AM–12:30 PM**

**San Ramon Community Center
Fountain Room
11501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon**

Breaking Through Barriers By Working Together

Menu

Coffee, Tea, Juice

Fresh Fruit

Ham

Egg Casserole(s), Quiche, Deviled Eggs

**Muffins, Breakfast Pastries, Tiropitas,
Spanakopitas**

Come greet old friends and make new friends! Sign up for special Interest Groups! Enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet! Listen to the Tech Trek campers we sent to Sonoma State University last summer describe their exciting experiences! Hear our Renaissance Scholars tell about their life dreams and goals! Watch their grateful appreciation when receiving their scholarship awards and gift boxes! Learn about the exciting programs and events planned for this year!

Contact Margie Goldware or Isabel Lau if you want more information or haven't yet turned in your RSVP.

Membership

Membership Matters

Thank you for sending us the names of prospective new members. Please keep them coming all year long!

You still have time to invite friends to the annual Fall Membership Brunch. Simply invite them to come with you (include them in your RSVP) or send us their contact info, and we'll be happy to send them an invitation.

Dues for individuals joining AAUW for the first time are only \$57.50 at the brunch, thanks to the National AAUW *Shape the Future* campaign.

Please take note of our new recruiting incentive program this year, two Regal or Cinemark movie tickets to all current branch members who recruit two new branch members. If you recruit four new members, you will receive four movie tickets!

The AAUW membership year runs from July 1–June 30, so if you haven't yet sent in your membership check, please do so at your earliest convenience to avoid a gap in your membership. Belonging to our branch continues to enrich our lives as well as those of many other women and girls.

Annual dues are \$82 per year (includes national, state, and branch levels). Please mail your check to P.O. Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583.

Watch your e-mail for your branch directory with the names of all current (paid-up) members. It will be out by the end of September.

Gratefully yours,

Margie Goldware and Isabel Lau,
Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Far too many people are LOOKING for the right person instead of trying to BE the right person.

Gloria Steinhem

AAUW Funds

Legal Advocacy Fund

The modern women's movement achieved a historic victory on June 23, 1972, when Title IX was enacted as part of the Education Amendments. Forty years after the passage of Title IX, female athletes have come into their own. The number of medals won by American women at the 2012 Olympics ranked third in total medal count among *nations*. The record books will show that among world-class athletes, this was the Year of the Woman!

Settlement in Tennis Coach's Title IX Case

Earlier this summer, in the LAF-supported Title IX lawsuit *Bull v. Board of Trustees of Ball State University*, Ball State reached a settlement with plaintiff Kathy Bull. Bull was awarded more than \$700,000 in cash and benefits. While she was not reinstated as head tennis coach, she did receive lifetime health benefits. Bull sued the university under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 after Ball State fired her midseason in 2009. Bull argued that her firing from the position she held for 21 years was unlawful retaliation for her advocacy for gender equity in the school's athletic department.

AAUW Member Holds Chico Unified School District Accountable for Equity

In 2008, AAUW member Cindy Wolff noticed that her daughter did not have as many opportunities to play sports as the boys at the local high school in Chico, California. Wolff set up a series of meetings with school officials to bring the inequity to their attention and discuss the potential of noncompliance with Title IX. Her meetings went nowhere, so she worked with the AAUW Chico Branch to file a report with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in 2010. In June 2012, OCR released a report stating that the school district was not compliant with Title IX. The community is working to ensure that the school institute changes and becomes compliant.

Jeanne Benedetti, AAUW Funds Vice-President

**Coming October 5
Save the Date!
LAF Fiesta Party**

**Tickets Available at the Brunch!
Raffle Donations Needed!
Re-gift & Clean Your Cupboards!
Support LAF!**

Glossary

National AAUW Glossary

AAUW Strategic Plan: A national model of goals, indicators of success, and strategies that reflect an integrated approach to fulfilling our mission, vision, and value promise.

AAUW's Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

AAUW Action Fund: A 501(c)(4) organization that supports the Lobby Corps and publication of the Congressional Voting Record. Donations to the Action Fund are not tax-deductible.

AAUW CA Glossary

Leader on Loan Program: An AAUW California service to branches wherein current or past state leaders travel to states to speak, lead workshops, and assist in solving problems at the branch level or state level.

Public Policy

Take Action in the 2012 Election

In terms of women's equity issues and policies, the upcoming election is one of the most pivotal we've seen in decades, impacting everything from college affordability to access to birth control. Before you vote, make sure you learn the candidates' stated positions on the crucial issues. You may be surprised by what you discover.

Go to www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/congressional-voting-record/ and download the AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record to learn how current and past members of Congress voted on key legislation. This web page is also filled with other information about registering to vote, becoming informed, and getting involved in election 2012. **And, don't forget to share this page with your Facebook friends, personal contacts, and potential AAUW members.**

It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard

It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard is AAUW's national non-partisan campaign to educate and mobilize young women. The AAUW Action Fund is making an unprecedented effort to catalyze this largely untapped and potentially influential bloc of voters and to amplify the collective voice of women in the 2012 elections and beyond. Look for ads on TV, learn more about this campaign, and get involved in it by going to www.aauwaction.org/my-vote/

How Are We Represented?

With so much crucial women's equity policy at stake this election cycle, some encouraging news is that it's a record-breaking year for women candidates. In addition to an increase in female Senate candidates, 296 women are running for the House of Representatives this year, shattering the 2010 record. With primaries in 19 states still to come—plus a few runoffs—113 women have already won their party's nomination and advanced to the November election. There are currently 75 women serving in the House, but 6 of them aren't running for reelection and another 9 are considered to be in some degree of electoral peril. So, although the numbers are improving, they are still far from ideal.

While on track to increase representation in Congress, women's prospects are less certain in state legislatures. Forty-four states have a total of 6,012 state legislative seats up for grabs in 2012. At this writing, a record 1,078 women have won their primaries for state legislative seats in the 2012 cycle. However, those numbers reflect only 23 states and represent far less than half the total.

Also discouraging is the fact that there are fewer women candidates running for governor this election cycle than in 2010.

What all this data means is that we in AAUW, through our votes and actions, need to continue to push for better representation in Congress. Becoming involved in the AAUW Action Network as a Two-Minute Activist at (www.capwiz.com/aauw/home/) is an easy and effective way to make our voices heard, both individually and as part of an influential group.

Connect with the AAUW Action Fund

I will continue to post and update breaking policy news and issues of local interest on our San Ramon AAUW Facebook page. Another key resource available to all of us is the national website's AAUW Action Fund, where you'll find a timely, informative reporting of public policy-based information and initiatives: <http://www.aauwaction.org/>.

Susan Beyerle, Public Policy Chairwoman

Tech Trek Coordinator Job Description

No experience needed to apply! Laurie Dennen, who wants to lead the way and train other members to take it over, currently holds this position. This is another perfect job to share between members and spread the duties out.

The Tech Trek Coordinator works with San Ramon middle-school science and math teachers to gather student nominations; notifies the nominees and forwards applications/requirements to them for completion; assembles an essay reading committee and distributes submitted applications/essays to them for evaluation; tallies the committee scores and notifies the applicants as to which ones move forward in the selection process; assembles an interview panel and schedules interviews with the finalists; participates in the interview process; notifies all students as to whether they were selected as a camp participant, an alternate, or not selected for camp; prepares certificates for each selected student and alternate, and forwards same to their respective schools for presentation; gathers parental consents and other required documentation from campers and submits same to the camp director; assists with the pre-camp social; communicates with campers and parents prior to camp and coordinates attendance at the AAUW San Ramon annual brunch; spearheads fundraising efforts, including grant writing; prepares a budget and submits same to the branch board annually; maintains records of donations and expenses; forwards tax-deductible contributions and donations to the camp treasurer; writes thank-you notes to all contributors; attends and speaks about the Tech Trek program at events when accepting donations; interfaces with the AAUW-CA Tech Trek directors; prepares reports and submits same to our board of directors periodically and as requested; and writes articles for our newsletter.

If you're interested in sharing these duties, contact Laurie Dennen or one of our co-presidents.

Local Scholarship

2011–2012: A Successful Year!

Welcome back to a new and exciting year of AAUW! Due to our successful fundraisers and generous donations from our members this past year, we awarded three \$1,000 scholarships to Cal High seniors and one \$1,000 scholarship to a Dougherty High senior. The remaining scholarships will be presented to the Renaissance Scholar students at the brunch on September 8. Please join us and learn more about the Renaissance Scholar program.

2012–2013 Plans

Our goal for this year is to raise \$6,000 for scholarships to be awarded to local high school seniors and to the Renaissance Scholar students at CSU East Bay.

This year our major fundraiser will be a Holiday Silent Auction Gala. This event will be held on Thursday, November 29 in the Terrace Room at the San Ramon Community Center from 7–8:30 PM. We will also raffle beautiful theme baskets that evening. Light appetizers and desserts will be served with coffee, tea, and sparkling cider. Wine will be available for purchase. Save the date for a fun evening!

To make this a successful evening, we will need the help of our AAUW membership. Could you help by donating an item for the auction or for one of the raffle baskets? Items donated can be a gift certificate, a dinner, a bottle of wine, dessert for a year, candy, clothing, jewelry, wine glasses, cookies, current books, etc. Some items will be put together to make gift baskets. So please use your imagination to help us get some interesting items to bid on! Perhaps you have a friend or know of a business that might consider donating an item. You may contact any of our committee members to pick up a donation.

Please sign up to help during the auction. We'll need volunteers to donate appetizers and desserts. We have several jobs that we need help with, from setting up, supervising the appetizer/dessert table, collecting money after the auction, and cleaning up after the auction.

Our second fundraiser will be selling delicious frozen portioned cookie dough, which you can order at the brunch. These cookies come in a box of 40 that you can bake at any time. They make a great snack when you feel like having a cookie. They're also a nice gift for the holidays. Stop by the Local Scholarship table for a free sample.

Thank you to our members who have made generous donations to support Local Scholarship. We have received over \$500.

Remember to stop by the Local Scholarship table to sample the cookies, order cookies, and sign up to donate an item or help at the auction.

Julie Gin, Local Scholarship Co-Chair with Susan Walker-Christensen

Committee Members: Sydney Allison, Cindy Alpert, Sally Blackwell, Pat Campbell, Pauline Nolte, and Sally Scholl

San Ramon Branch Open Position Job Descriptions

Would you like to help our branch by donating a couple of hours of your time and volunteering for one of these jobs? Both positions are very vital to our branch and both can be easily shared with another member so that your personal time commitment would be even shorter.

Hospitality/Fellowship Coordinator: Duties include managing the budget for refreshments and helping to make program meetings friendly and hospitable.

Publicity Chair: This job involves helping the branch gain visibility in the community and notifying community members of our programs and events that are open to the public by submitting press releases and calendar listings. The chair develops and maintains a list of media contacts and their deadlines, including local columnists, reporters covering the San Ramon area, education reporters, public service announcements, and calendar listings. She writes the press releases and public service announcements, distributes them to the media, and completes the online form for calendar listings, meeting the various deadlines for timely publication.

If you think you might be able to help or would like more detailed information about the job duties, contact one of our co-presidents.

Stella Hadjimarkos and Betsy Hoffmann

Interest Groups

GAME NIGHT
First Saturday
September 1, 7:30 PM
Hostess: Mary Venkat

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

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DAYTIMERS
Two Events
Sunday, September 9; 1:00–4:00 PM
Victorian Tea at San Ramon Community Center
Reservations required.
Coordinator: Pat Barley

Saturday & Sunday, September 22–23
Quilting in the Garden, Alden Lane Nursery, Livermore
10:00 AM–4:00 PM both days. Free.
Event Coordinator Chris White

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CHINESE MAH JONG
First Tuesday and Third Thursday
Tuesday, September 4; 7:00 PM
Hostess: Chris White

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Thursday, September 20; 7:00 PM
Hostess: Julie Gin
Please RSVP to the hostess.

If you have questions about this group, contact
Beth Allen

Interest Groups

WALKING GROUP
Second Saturday

We will not have a walk in September because of the annual brunch! You can get a copy of this year's walking schedule then or have it e-mailed to you. If you have been on the list, you will receive an e-mailed copy of the new walks. We meet once a month for a local, easy-to-moderate walk. Pets and friends are welcome. See you at the brunch!
Diane Griffiths
Lois Kamoroff

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READING SOCIETY
Third Monday
Monday, September 17; 7:30 PM
Cheri Ng will review *Unbroken*, by Laura Hildebrand.
Hostess: Laurie Dennen

RSVP to Laurie. If you have questions, contact
Cheri Ng

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TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE
Third Tuesday
Tuesday, September 18; 7:00 PM
Hostess: Mercedes Daggett
RSVP required by Friday, September 14.
Questions? Contact Chris White

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****FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS****
A New Interest Group!
Friday, September 28
Flick and Location TBA via email
On the fourth Friday of each month, we'll meet at a theater—location and time to be announced via email—to enjoy a movie picked by the monthly organizer. This group will be very email-dependent, because last-minute changes in location and time may frequently occur. The organizer will change monthly, rotating through members of the group.
September Organizer: Mary Venkat

Chris White will be the overall coordinator.
If you would like to receive these e-mails, please contact
Chris White.

Interest Groups

****LUNCH BUNCH****

A New Interest Group!

First Meeting: Second Tuesday
Tuesday, October 9; 11:30 AM

Join us for a relaxing lunch!

Imperial Delight Chinese Restaurant 867-2888
290 Market Place, San Ramon

This new group plans to eat lunch at local restaurants. We will determine our desires and tentative availability at our first outing. Come enjoy a tasty lunch and chat with fellow members. Friends who you think might be interested in AAUW are welcome! Please RSVP to Marsha by Sunday, October 7 so she can make a reservation. If you would like to be a part of this group but are unable to attend the brunch on September 8, contact
Marsha Froines
Linda Mendonsa

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CORK & FORK

If you missed our summer BBQ, you missed a fun afternoon! Linda Mendonsa hosted the event, and more than 35 members and guests wined, dined, and enjoyed the fabulous hospitality and views!

Cork & Fork will organize three or four dining events during the year: Plans include the Holiday Brunch, an Academy Awards party, and hopefully either a mystery dinner or a progressive dinner.

As always, spouses and significant others are welcome to join in these events. It's an excellent time to meet and get to know other members!

If you'd like to help plan one of these events, call me!
Janice Colby

Interest Groups

TRAVEL GROUP

We will have a table at the September Brunch. Please stop by to get the complete details about the wonderful programs we've planned for the year. We'll look forward to seeing you there.

Coming Saturday, October 13; 7:30 PM
Rome and Switzerland
Hostess: Anne Hayden

Travel Group programs are open to AAUW members, their spouses, friends and significant others. We'd love to see you are our events this year! Because refreshments are served at our events, please respond positively to our event's hostess if you will be attending.

Rena Buckser
Anne Hayden

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****WANNA GO (BUT NOT BY YOURSELF?)****

A New Interest Group!

This will operate primarily by e-mail and on the spur of the moment (or sporadically) for members who would like to do something and would like someone to do it with. Want to see a "chick flick" matinee or go to a ceramics show, on a garden tour, or to something else that is not a planned AAUW activity? Email me and I will let the group know. Interested group members will contact you to schedule your excursion!

Marsha Froines

Celia Mason, JD, CSA
Long-Term Care Insurance Specialist
Reverse Mortgage Consultant

(925) 998-4678 Work
cmason@celiamason.com

BWC Mortgage Services
3130 Crow Canyon Place #170
San Ramon, CA 94583

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E-MAIL sgoldware@danvilleclaw.com

SEPTEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:30 PM Game Night Mary Venkat
2	3	4 7:00 PM Mah Jong Chris White	5	6 7:00 PM Board Meeting Stella Hadjimarkos	7	8 9:00 AM Brunch Isabel Lau
9 1:00 PM Daytimers Victorian Tea Pat Barley	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>
16	17 7:30 PM Reading Society Laurie Dennen	18 7:00 PM Bridge Mercedes Daggett	19	20 7:00 PM Mah Jong Julie Gin	21	22 10:00-4:00 Daytimers Alden Lane Quilting Demo Chris White
23 10:00-4:00 Daytimers Alden Lane Quilting Demo Chris White	24	25	26	27	28 Fourth Friday Flicks Mary Venkat	29
30						

SNIPPETS

Kim Giuliano's brother, Neil Giuliano, wrote *The Campaign Within: My Private Journey to Public Leadership*. It is available at Amazon.com.

We offer our condolences to Lucy Weed, whose father, T. Y. Lou, M.D., passed away last week from cancer.

Cheri Ng is sorry that she'll miss the brunch. She and husband Gerry will be in the L.A. area for granddaughter Emma Mai's baptism.

Pat and Barry Campbell welcomed their first grandson into their family on March 26, 2012. Jack Nicholas Campbell weighed in at a healthy 11 pounds for proud parents Christopher and Amy Campbell, joining older sisters Emma, six, and Lauren, four. Pat visited them in Minnesota in May and helped out for a couple of weeks. She says Jack is big and smiles a lot!

If you have a Snippet item (family events, career changes, etc.) that you would like to share with branch members, please contact Marsha Froines. **This column depends on member contributions.**

Save the Dates

Friday, October 5: San Ramon AAUW LAF Fiesta Party

Thursday, October 25: Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette AAUW Program showing the documentary *Miss Representation* at The Rheem Theater, Moraga

Thursday, November 8: San Ramon AAUW Potluck at Bollinger Hills Cabana

Thursday, November 29: San Ramon AAUW Local Scholarship Silent Auction Gala