

AAUW

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BRANCH
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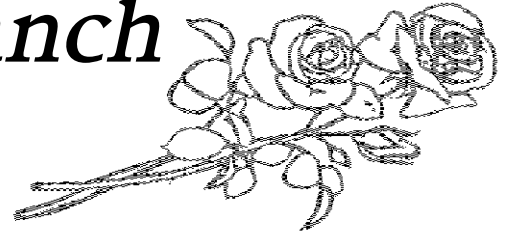
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The Rose Branch



The American Association of University Women, Santa Rosa
November 2004 Volume 40, Issue 3

GENERAL MEETING

November 9

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. **

Rincon Valley Library
6959 Montecito Blvd.

Topic: Gender and the Navajo Culture

Speaker: Carolyn Epple, Ph.D.

Carolyn Epple, Ph.D., AAUW Educational Foundation Fellow and Professor of Anthropology at Sonoma State University, will begin her presentation promptly at 7:30 at our General Meeting on Tuesday, November 9 at the Rincon Valley Library. She will discuss her postdoctoral research at the University of Arizona as a visiting scholar where she explored the universal balance of male and female gender in the Navajo culture and how theories and categories, especially dominant cultures, get imposed on other people. She will also tell us how her EF fellowship has affected her professional development, especially as it applies to the university classroom.

We are very fortunate to have this opportunity to learn firsthand about the work of the Educational Foundation, one of the major philanthropic arms of AAUW. Founded in 1958, this program provides funds to advance education, research and self development so women can pursue their personal and professional goals.

** Please note that the General Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will allow time to participate in a dialogue on proposed changes to AAUW membership requirements which have become a really hot topic again due to the growing loss in AAUW membership. All branches throughout the United States have been asked to conduct dialogues about this recurring topic and to report the results back to AAUW. Please see the article on page two by Marianne Holt, our new Membership VP, and the insert for more information on this topic.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a most interesting program.

Refreshments will be served.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You will see in our newsletter that several changes are being proposed at the Association level. The first one is the proposed change in membership requirements. Take note of Marianne Holt's article explaining the proposed changes, along with a series of small meetings we have arranged to give you an opportunity to give us your input. Information about these meetings is given on the flyer insert. Please check the times to see when you might be able to participate in one of these meetings.

The second issue is the AAUW commitment to IFUW, (the International Federation of University Women). AAUW has been a member of this world organization for many years, but has found that we can no longer contribute at the level we have in the past. Please read Pat Oberg's article on this important issue.

Our recent participation in the Voter Forums held in the City Council Chambers were very informative. It was good to see democracy in action at the local level.

I want to thank LaRue LaMar and Dotty Zeiber in advance for all their work to make our October 30 Bridge Event a big success and making it possible to send middle school girls to Tech Trek and to support women at SSU. If you don't make it to the bridge event, Margery Cahn and Carol Dean are always taking contributions.

Colleen Wilson, along with her committee, are planning our programs for the coming year. The first program will be Tuesday, November 9. Please see the front page for complete details.

Hope to see you at one of the small group meetings on proposed changes in AAUW membership requirement - a most important topic!!!!

Sharon

**AAUW MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT
-- DIALOGUE FORUMS --**

THE MEMBERSHIP OF AAUW IS IN CRISIS AND DWINDLING, NOT ONLY IN OUR SANTA ROSA BRANCH, BUT ALSO NATIONALLY. FOR MANY YEARS AAUW HAS DEBATED THE ORGANIZATION'S REQUIREMENT THAT MEMBERSHIP SHOULD ONLY BE OPEN TO PEOPLE WITH FOUR YEAR OR HIGHER DEGREES. THE ASSOCIATION IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING AN OPEN DIALOGUE WITH ALL MEMBERS CONCERNING CURRENT MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS. YOUR **INPUT IS VITAL** TO THIS DISCUSSION.

SOME OF THE ISSUES TO CONSIDER WHEN CONTRIBUTING TO THIS DIALOGUE ARE:

- NO CHANGE TO THE CURRENT REQUIREMENT FOR A BACCALAUREATE OR HIGHER DEGREE.
- ADDING A MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY FOR OTHER DEGREES, (E.G. AA DEGREES OR 3-YEAR RN)
- ADDING A MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS (NO DEGREE, BUT SUPPORT FOR OUR MISSION).
- NO EDUCATIONAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT FOR THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE AAUW MISSION.

AAUW'S SANTA ROSA BRANCH WILL BE CONDUCTING FOUR DIALOGUE FORUMS, AT VARIOUS TIMES AND LOCATIONS, TO DISCUSS THE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND THE ISSUES INVOLVED. YOUR INPUT IS VITAL TO OUR ASSOCIATION AND ITS FUTURE STATUS. PLEASE REFER TO THE ENCLOSED FLYER AND SELECT A DIALOGUE FORUM THAT IS MOST CONVENIENT FOR YOU TO ATTEND.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND ONE OF THE SCHEDULED DIALOGUE FORUMS, PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH YOUR OPINION AND CONCERNS PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 10. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE RESULTS OF THESE DIALOGUES TRULY REFLECT THE OPINIONS OF **ALL** OF OUR MEMBERS.

THANK YOU

MARIANNE HOLT
MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

TEL: 527-6797 E-MAIL: PEPPY@SONIC.NET

Welcome to Our New Members

Karen Contos graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a B.A. in business administration. Upon graduation she worked for the National Association of Securities Dealers, for a savings and loan bank and then for the city of San Jose Budget Office. After her two daughters were born she became a certified financial planner and currently works with an accounting firm, specializing in financial planning. Karen enjoys bicycling and is a member of a book club. She is currently the assistant soccer coach for one of her daughter's teams. She joined AAUW to meet more women in the community and because AAUW promotes education for girls.

Trina Corson Graham graduated from Chico State University with a B.A. and a M.A. in speech pathology and audiology. She worked as a speech therapist in a school district in Pacifica with elementary and junior high school students and, after three years, she became the coordinator for the Pediatric Rehabilitation Team at Mills Peninsula Health Service, a hospital in San Mateo. In 1999 she and her husband moved to Santa Rosa and she worked for the Sonoma County Office of Education in a non-intensive preschool program for speech therapy. Presently she has a private practice and is also busy caring for her two children. Throughout her career Trina has worked mostly with children. She likes to travel, to read and ski and enjoys other outdoor activities. She also enjoys spending time with family and friends. She joined AAUW because it is a good organization that supports education with scholarships for women and because she wants to meet more women in the community. She plans to join a book group and would be interested in helping out in other capacities as well.

Thumbnail Sketches by
Judy Hudson
Membership Assistant

Welcome also to **Gail Lynn**, who recently joined our branch.

THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES ARE WORKING VGIF LAUNCHES WEB SITE

www.ifuwsupport.org

In response to AAUW's decision to eliminate its 2005 financial support of the International Federation of University Women, VGIF has opened a new web site to circulate information about AAUW's historical affiliation with IFUW. Members are urged to use this site to help answer your questions, including the financial facts. VGIF has also formed an IFUW Support Committee which will formulate a resolution by AAUW members directing AAUW to remain an active member of IFUW. This resolution will be presented at the AAUW Convention in June 2005. The new web site will stimulate dialogue, collect ideas and communicate with supporters on the AAUW/IFUW question. Please pull up the web site to see how thoroughly it provides the facts.

In California, we are working to maintain AAUW's 84 year relationship with IFUW and our international sisters. On the web site you will find an article by Kathleen Zamboni, of the Humboldt AAUW Branch which has been shared with many CA members on the background and urgent deadlines we are facing. Kathleen encourages members to talk with each other and with members of other branches to help all members understand this complex problem.

Contact Pat Oberg if you want a copy of the web site pages or contact Lucy Foster or me if you want to discuss the situation. Meanwhile, educate yourself on the new web site.

Pat Oberg
VGIF CA Liaison for Global Network

Report from AAUW/CA Public Policy

After an interesting and challenging two-year legislative session, our bill package went to Governor Schwarzenegger's desk. Now September 30 has come and gone and the governor has acted on thousands of bills. By reviewing the following we can judge where the governor stands on some of our most important public policy principles.

VETOED

AB 358 (Jackson) State to implement the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

AB 2317 (Orpeza) Gender pay equity

SB 1386 (Vasconcellos) Eliminating random drug tests at schools

SB 1475 (Vasconcellos) Elder/dependent adult abuse coordinating council

SB 1525 (Spier) Consolidation breast cancer screening in Family Pact

SIGNED

AB 1825 (Reyes) Sexual harassment training in the work place

AB 1925 (Haynes) Sexual health & HIV/AIDS instruction notification of speakers to parents - existing law

AB 2066 (Steinberg) Assistance to under-performing schools

AB 2404 (Steinberg) Title IX requirements extended to Parks/Recreation Programs (first in nation)

AB 3042 (Yee) Increased penalties for child prostitution

AJR 53 (Reyes) Breast cancer research stamp

AJR 57 (Jackson) Uphold Roe v. Wade (Chapter 50 - 204)

SB 1161 (Alpert) Library bond expansion/update

SB 1358 (Burton) Allow women convicted of killing partners prior to the acceptance of the "battered women syndrome" to use the syndrome to ask for renewal of their cases and to use the syndrome in their defense

PUBLIC POLICY

Proposition 72

SB2 was passed with AAUW-CA's support, the bill was signed by Governor Gray Davis. It was scheduled to begin on Jan 1, 2005. However, the same self-serving interests that destroyed the Hillary Clinton effort at health care have qualified Prop 72 for the ballot. These interests are urging NO with a deceptive and confusing advertising campaign.

Prop 72/SB2 is a law that requires employers of at least 50 workers to help pay for health insurance for their employees. It was and is supported by 100+ organizations representing health care consumers and providers, including doctors, nurses, seniors, patients and working families. Supporting organizations include: the American Lung Association; California Nurses Association; California Medical Association; California Alliance of Retired Americans Consumer Union; AARP of California and many unions representing California working families.

It is important for us to remember this is already the law. Prop 72 is an initiative to repeal, to stop a law that would have put California at the forefront of Health Care Reform in the United States.

CA-AAUW worked hard for its passage, let us keep it from being destroyed.

VOTE YES ON PROP 72 !!

If you want more information on this, or other bills which AAUW-CA supports, call me.

Join us at our branch Public Policy meeting on November 11 (see branch calendar for details) and learn more about AAUW Public Policy.

Janet Siela
Public Policy Chair
Tel: 833-1261

Check out the latest news concerning AAUW-CA Public Policy and other AAUW topics:

www.aauw-ca.org

Org. Name: **American Association of
University Women**
Org. Add.: **4752 Stonehedge Dr.
Santa Rosa 95405**

Pub. Title: **The Rose Branch**
Frequency: **Monthly, except Jul & Aug**

Web Site:
www.aauwsantarosa.org

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong learning and positive societal change.

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks 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.

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL WOMEN GRADUATES OF A 4 YEAR COLLEGE

AAUW HOLIDAY WASSAIL PARTY

Sunday, December 12 from 2-4 p.m.

**at the home of Gerry Carleton
409 Oak Brook Place, Oakmont**

**You and your spouse are invited to join in the fun
to benefit the Legal Advocacy Fund**

Delicious Food Music Raffle Gifts

**Raffle Gift sponsors include Macy' Santa Rosa Plaza,
Cattlemen's Restaurant, Luther Burbank Center for the Arts,
Timeless Beauty, Mac's Delicatessen, McCormick & Kuleto's-
San Francisco, St. Francis Cleaners, The Home Depot, The
Olive Garden---and many others....**