

The Rose Branch

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EDITOR
HEATHER DAWN



AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

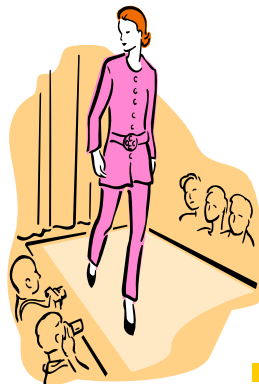
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH.

AAUW VISION STATEMENT

AAUW WILL BE A POWERFUL ADVOCATE AND VISIBLE LEADER IN EQUITY AND EDUCATION THROUGH RESEARCH, PHILANTHROPY AND MEASURABLE CHANGE IN CRITICAL AREAS IMPACTING THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

AAUW 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.



POMP AND PERFECT PANTS



THE GRADS AND GLAD RAGS CELEBRATION!

- Come meet our SSU Scholarship Recipients
- School yourself by learning from Coldwater Creek and
- Ace every clothing occasion!
- Graduate into a new YOU!

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RSVP
by Thurs Oct. 30
Colleen
566-0514
cawilson@sonic.net

7:00 pm
Monday Nov. 3
Coldwater Creek
Montgomery Village
720 Farmers Lane
Santa Rosa

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP: AN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA) DEGREE OR ITS EQUIVALENT.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TAKE ACTION!

With Election Day, November 4, fast approaching, I encourage everyone to Take Action and exercise their right and privilege to vote, and to encourage friends and neighbors to do the same. We are witnessing one of the most important election years in history. To assist members in making these important decisions, AAUW is making available to every AAUW member a copy of the newly released Congressional Voting Record of the 110th Congress. AAUW wants to ensure that women's voices are heard at the polls. These booklets will be dispensed to members at our scheduled programs, at the Election Forums, and through the branch's interest groups. If you do not receive a booklet, please contact Marianne Holt, 527 6797 or peppy@sonic.net

The legislative victories AAUW supported are discussed in the booklet, as well as instructions on how to read and interpret AAUW's position for each legislator's record. Of special note, there are several passed bills that have directly impacted our progress towards AAUW's Mission - *Equity for all Women and Girls through Advocacy, Education, and Research*.

I would like to highlight a few bills that I have brought us closer to fulfilling our Mission. In addition to the House passing the *Pay Equity Bill* (H.R. 1338) that I mentioned last month, AAUW applauds Congress and the President for signing into law the *Higher Education Reauthorization Bill* (H.R. 4137) on August 19, 2008. This bill updates existing progress and provides new ways to make college more accessible and affordable to all. It will better serve the growing number of nontraditional students - the majority of whom are women with work or family responsibilities. The bill also includes provisions to increase women's representation in science, technology, engineering, and math. Also *The America COMPETES Act* (H.R. 2272) invests in American innovation and science, technology, engineering and math education.

During this election season, our branch partnered with the League of Women Voters to help sponsor the Santa Rosa Election Forums. I want to thank our Public Policy Co-chairs, Liz Sasek and Ginny Benson, for their hard work to help coordinate the Election Forums and for making them available to our members and the community. If you happened to miss the forums, they are being re-broadcasted on Comcast, Channel 69.

I also invite you to *Take Action* and help shape AAUW's Public Policy Agenda by participating in the "Every Member Survey" that is included in your *California Perspective*, September, 2008 issue. The survey is asking for each member's input on the Public Policy Action Priorities for 2009-2011. This is an excellent opportunity for us to help shape the direction of our Association. Please complete the survey and return it by the suggested deadline, December 1, 2008.

Please plan on attending the "Pomp and PerfectPants" event on November 3rd at Coldwater Creek in Montgomery Village. You will have an opportunity to meet the two SSU Scholarship recipients that our branch has supported this year and be treated to a stylish fashion show with our very own members as models. Thank you to Linda Trodden, SSU Scholarship Chair, and the Program Co-chairs, Colleen Wilson and Sue Finan, for helping to bring this event to our members.

I also want to wish each member and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving Holiday,

Most Sincerely,
Marianne Holt, President



Crowd of women, led by Mrs. Ida Harris, president of the Woman's Vigilance League, at the city hall to protest the soaring cost of food. (Source: Independent, March 12, 1917; International Socialist Review, April 1917)



LAF WINTER WONDERLAND POTLUCK DINNER & SILENT AUCTION
 Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue

Friday, December 12, 2008, 5:30 – 8:30 PM

\$25.00 per person
 FRIENDS & FAMILY WELCOME
FESTIVE MUSIC
 COMPLIMENTARY WINE & BEVERAGES
 DELICIOUS FOOD WITH TURKEY, HAM, OR ROAST BEEF

The event will benefit The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), a program of the AAUW Educational Foundation. LAF supports strategic litigation that affects women in higher education and all workplaces and helps to educate the public about the barriers faced by women.

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RESERVATIONS FOR LAF WINTER WONDERLAND POTLUCK AND SILENT AUCTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 5:30 PM

Names of Attendees: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of reservations: _____ Seating request: _____

Amount enclosed @ \$25.00 per person X number _____ attending = \$ _____

Potluck item (check one): Salad _____ Potato or Vegetable Casserole _____ Dessert _____
 (Serving 8 - 10 people)

Please make your check out to AAUW Santa Rosa and mail to: (Deadline December 5, 2008)

Lillian Shelan
 1250 Wikiup Drive
 Santa Rosa, CA 95404

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

JUDY CREEK

SONDRA BEYMER

Judy Creek, a native Californian, has been living in Occidental with her husband Dave for the past 18 months. She has a B.A. in history from the University of California at Berkeley, and is a retired business information software executive. She and Dave lived in Belgium, England, and Bombay, India, for a total of six years while working for a multinational company. They enjoy traveling and just returned from Acadia National Park in Maine. Years ago Judy was a member of AAUW in Auburn. She joined our Santa Rosa chapter to get more involved in education issues and to meet new people. She is already a member of the International Affairs, Working Women's and Book Groups and would like to learn more about the Hiking Group.

Sondra Beymer has been a Santa Rosa resident since 1971. She earned a B.S. in communications from the University of Florida, and 20 years later, an M.A. from Sonoma State in psychology with a focus in gerontology. She worked mainly with women's and children's groups and in assisted living facilities. She and her husband Jack operate Coddington Coin Shop and travel to coin conventions throughout the country. Fifteen years ago, she co-founded Women in Numismatics, a national group that offers scholarships for young women to learn about the field. She also founded the Santa Rosa mystery book club which has been meeting at Copperfields since 1991. She has joined Romancing the Vine and plans to join a Book Club and the proposed Writers' Circle and Hiking groups. Her hobbies include watercolor, raku pottery, charcoal sketching and collage.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

On September 20th Santa Rosa's AAUW branch participated in the Sonoma County Book Festival. We were able to raise funds through our used book sale to partially cover costs and we spoke to hundreds of individuals and increased our visibility in the community. In addition, we supported the library and literacy in Sonoma County. I want to thank everyone for generously donating books and valuable time for this exciting event. Special thanks to: Jo Schultz, Pat Driscoll, Hale Darby, Phyllis Lowe, Linda Trodden, Marianne Holt, Carole Keiner, Kathy Frishberg, Marie McKinney, Lillian Shelan, Suzanne Bonnet, Dottie Zieber and Sue Finan. We intend to do this again next year, so hang on to those books for this great event.

October's new and prospective tea was a great success, as a result, please welcome our newest member: Sondra Beymer. We also had two more new members, Phyllis Fitzgerald and Willadean Hart attend and three prospective members who are very interested in joining AAUW. It was a very interesting and dynamic group. New and prospective member tea had an opportunity to meet each other and learn about AAUW's mission through our board members: Marianne Holt, Sue Finan, Harriet Palk and myself. A new Wellbeing and Health interest group was discussed. How exciting! Thank you to everyone who attended, it was a lot of fun.

Trina Corson Graham, Membership VP

FRIDA KAHLO (JULY 6, 1907 – JULY 13, 1954)

Mexican painter, who has achieved great international popularity. She painted using vibrant colors in a style that was influenced by indigenous cultures of Mexico as well as by European influences that include Realism, Symbolism, and Surrealism. Many of her works are self-portraits that symbolically express her own pain and sexuality.

In 1929 Kahlo married the Mexican muralist Diego Rivera. They shared political views, and he encouraged her artistic endeavors. Although she has long been recognized as an important painter, public awareness of her work has become more widespread since the 1970s. Her "Blue" house in Coyoacán, Mexico City is a museum, donated by Diego Rivera upon his death in 1957.



PUBLIC POLICY ANOTHER STOLEN ELECTION?

Investigative reporters for the New York Times are reporting massive purging of eligible voters from the rolls, particularly in swing states. Voter disenfranchisement, voter suppression and the undercounting of votes were rampant in the last two Presidential elections. Areas populated by minorities and the poor were the main targets. It is not surprising that people whose homes have been foreclosed are now being targeted for disenfranchisement because they no longer live at the address under which they were registered to vote. Bobby Kennedy, Greg Palast and Mark Crispin Miller have reported in great detail on what happened in 2000 and in 2004. And yet, here we go again! What does this mean for our Democracy and what can be done about it? Bobby Kennedy and Greg Palast have prepared a guide for voters entitled "Steal Back Your Vote". It is in comic form and is available online. It is non-partisan. A distinction needs to be made between election fraud and voter fraud. Voter fraud is a myth that is being promoted at present in order to deflect from the real problem of Election fraud. The emphasis on the huge problems with voting machines has overshadowed even larger problems. We all need to pay attention. Read the next issue of *Rolling Stone* for more on this subject!

Liz Sasek

Co-Chair Public Policy

**SPECIAL INTEREST
GROUPS BRANCH
CALENDAR**

NOVEMBER: NORTH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Native American Heritage Month presents a great opportunity to learn more about the different indigenous peoples in our country. There are many different Native American populations from whom to learn. An interesting idea would be to have a program with a professor of Native American studies from your local college and history. Or have a member learn about a particular culture to talk about while the branch cooks a specific meal. A fun and different way to explore Native American heritage is to attend a Pow-Wow. Powerful lessons can be learned from Native American history. Historical comparisons of discrimination in the country would be very enlightening.

DATE	TIME	NOVEMBER 2008
Nov. 3	7:00 PM	“Pomp and PerfectPants” event at Coldwater Creek, Montgomery Village, reception for SSU Scholarship recipients and fashion show, please contact Colleen Wilson for reservations and information, 566-0514 or cawilson@sonic.net
Nov. 5	1:00 PM	The Board will meet at the home of Marianne Holt, 1775 Brandee Court. All members are invited. Please call for additional information or directions, 527-6797.
Nov. 10	1:30 PM	The Second Monday Book Group will meet at the home of Phyllis Lowe, 2006 Bracken Ct., 573-1125, plowe2@juno.com, to discuss <i>Bleeding Kansas</i> by Sara Pratsky.
Nov. 10	10:30 AM	Liz Sasek is reserving a tour of Sterling Vineyards in Calistoga for members and guests of Romancing the Vine. A \$20 fee includes an aerial tram ride, self-paced, self guided tour, and complimentary tasting of five wines served by professional staff while we are seated at our own table. Then we will go to Cindy’s Backstreet Kitchen for lunch. Contact Liz 570-1564 to reserve your place.
Nov. 12	7:30 PM	Second Wednesday Evening Book Group will meet at the Home of Phyllis Lowe, 2006 Bracken Ct. 573-1125, plowe2@juno.com, to discuss <i>The Crimson Petal and the White</i> by Michael Faber.
Nov. 18	9:30 AM	Third Tuesday Morning Book Group will meet at the home of Lois Patterson, Spring Lake Village, 5555 Montgomery Drive, 579-6884, to discuss <i>Three Cups of Tea</i> by Greg Mortenson. Ruth Hucklebridge will moderate.
Nov. 20	12 noon	The Gourmet Luncheon Group meets on the third Thursday of the month. The hostess and co-hostess plan the menu and each member selects an item to bring. The meeting will be held at the home of Phyllis Lowe, 2006 Bracken Ct. For reservations call co-host Delia Nistler 538-2965.

HELP SUPPORT THE LIVING ROOM’S HOLIDAY NEEDS

The general membership is invited to help support the Living Room’s needs for 2008 Christmas gift bags for women and teen girls. Donations may be given in any amount. Label your donation bag or box with “Women and Teen Gift Bags”. The following items are needed:

Socks of any color	Purse-size make-up bags	Flashlights	Your donations, due by Friday, December 12th, may be left at the Living Room, 626 Cherry Street, Santa Rosa on weekdays from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, or at Carole Keiner’s home at 3805 Sedgemoore Drive, Santa Rosa. We will also have boxes to collect donated items at the November 3rd general meeting and at the November interest group meetings. If you have any questions, please call Carole Keiner at 546-7745 or email her at ckeiner@att.net.
Gloves	Chapstick	School Supplies	
Hats or Caps	Make-up	Playing Cards	
Scarves	Lipstick	Gum	
Wallets	Nail Polish	Energy Bars	
Umbrellas	Combs and Hairbrushes	Movie gift cards	



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Guerneville, CA 95446

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Branch Web Site:
www.aauwsantarosa.org

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HELP MAKE LAF WINTER WONDERLAND A SUCCESS!

DECEMBER 12, 2008

DONATIONS FOR THE LAF WINTER WONDERLAND POTLUCK DINNER
& SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER
ARE WELCOMED AND GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED FOR:

~ Wine ~ New Silent Auction Items of Value ~ Gift Baskets ~ Culinary Delights ~ Fun Theme Dinners

ITEMS HAPPILY PICKED UP OR CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE HOME OF:

Sally Fee (Oakmont area)
539-7348
7561 Oak Leaf Drove

Joyce Adams,
(General Santa Rosa area)
588-8393 (pick up only)

Marianne Holt
(North Santa Rosa area)
527-6797
1775 Brandee Ct

HELP DECORATE THE LAF “WOMEN’S EQUITY HOLIDAY TREE”

Help decorate the “Holiday Women’s Equity Tree” at the LAF Winter Wonderland Potluck Dinner & Silent Auction fundraiser on December 12th. Star ornament patterns will be available at the November 3rd event at Coldwater Creek in Montgomery Village, or one can be emailed to you by contacting Joyce Adams at jambomama@comcast.net or Marianne Holt at peppy@sonic.net. Select a woman you most admire for her contribution towards equity for women and girls, then place a picture or the name of the woman you most admire in the center of the star with her attributes or contributions towards equality on the tips of the star ornament. If you wish, you can also use your creativity and make an ornament of your own. Don’t forget to bring your star to the festive LAF event on December 12th and hang it on the Equity Tree.