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2007-2008 Board**

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Board Meeting
Thursday, Oct 4
(Please note change of day)
1:00 p.m.
Contact Lillian Shelan
laf@aauwsantarosa.org
for address.

The Rose Branch



The American Association of University Women
October 2007
Volume 43, Issue 2



Come learn about our

**Mentoring Partnership
for**

Reentry Women at SRJC!

**Speaker: LUZ NAVARETTE
SRJC Counselor, Reentry Program**

**And join us for the reception for our
Sonoma State University Scholarship Recipients**

- **7:00 pm**
- **Monday, October 15**
- **Knox Presbyterian Church**
- **1650 W. Third Street (Third & Stony Point)**
- **Santa Rosa**
- **RSVP: Lucy Foster**

NOVEMBER - GENERAL - MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8 - 7:00 P.M.

SPEAKER - TOM ARENS
TOPIC: WORLD NEIGHBORS: INSPIRING PEOPLE,
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 1550 PACIFIC
AVE.
SANTA ROSA

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President's Message

"The Power of One"

This is our 72nd year as an AAUW branch and we are off to a great start for another year. For those that were unable to attend our Kick Off Meeting on September 8th, it was one of our most inspiring and exhilarating events. The room was filled with energy and enthusiasm that was created by the great attendance of 49 individuals. With the combined efforts of many individual member volunteers and our most interesting speaker, the event sparked a fire within us all. With each of us contributing a small part, the sum was greater than the individual parts. That is the principle of "The Power of One! It took many individual hands cooperating and working together to develop one terrific event.

I would like to thank and recognize all those who made this inspiring event so meaningful. First, very special thanks go to Colleen Wilson and Carole Keiner for their splendid planning and organizing the meeting. Especially, for making their magic by securing a phenomenal speaker at the last minute. Additionally, it was most gracious of the Hospitality Committee to prepare the delicious continental breakfast that was enjoyed by all.

Special thanks goes out to Linda Hungerford for organizing the interest groups, and the chair representatives that were on-hand to help review and explain each group. The room was excited to see so many opportunities for community and friendship. In addition to our traditional interest groups, the membership had an opportunity to review and join three new interest groups being developed this year: On the Town (theatre, musical event, etc. - followed by dessert & coffee) Let's Dine In (an evening potluck), and a Working Women's Evening Group. More information about these three new interest groups will be published in our newsletter.

The audience was most interested and impressed by the experiences of the four Tech Trek girls who were most gracious to attend with their family members. They shared their unique experiences at both Mills and Stanford. Thank you to Melinda Moir, Tech Trek coordinator and the committee, for continuing to make this one of our branch's most successful mission focused programs.

I must mention how much the audience enjoyed the interesting and outstanding keynote speaker, Linda Rose McRoy, FEMA inspector. Linda Rose presented, in an animated and theatrical style, her personal experiences as an inspector in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The audience was mesmerized by her experiences. Linda Rose was the recipient of a year's free membership to AAUW that was graciously given to her by Lillian Shelan who won the FREE membership raffle. Thank you Lillian!

This is just a partial recognition of the many hands that went into making our Kick Off Meeting so successful and how collectively we made a big difference. Thank you to all!

I would like to turn, now, to another example of the "The Power of One" principle. It is through our collective power that we can make major changes in the lives of women and girls. During the meeting, I reviewed how powerful our branch was last year in our philanthropy efforts to meet our mission by advancing the equity for women and girls. Through our collective fundraising events, we raised almost \$11,000 to help support EF, LAF, Tech Trek, SSU Scholarships and Girls Softball Team! WOW! – quite an accomplishment for a small branch of about one-hundred plus members. All the volunteers involved in meeting these goals are to be congratulated!

It was also my message to ask all members to take some responsibility to help keep the momentum going and to keep our branch strong and vital. The only way we can do this is by believing in the power of committed volunteers. Working one at a time we can continue to make a big difference in the lives of women and girls. We are anticipating bringing back the, ever so popular, Crab Feed. We had a wonderful response by members who have volunteered to help plan and host this event for the coming year. We also had a very good response to our call for help to host the upcoming CA AAUW Convention to be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Rohnert Park, April 4-6, 2008. If you are interested in helping with these events, or with our many other committees, please contact one of the committee chairs.

I look forward to seeing you at our October 15th event, a reception to meet the SSU scholarship recipients and an opportunity to hear firsthand about our new program, Mentoring Reentry Students at SRJC. Again, I wish you a very successful year ahead and if you have any suggestions on how we can make your AAUW membership more meaningful, please let me know. Remember: **THE POWER IS IN OUR HANDS!**

Most Sincerely,
Marianne Holt, President



Membership Matters

On September 8th, we had a wonderful time at our annual Kick off meeting. We had three new members join, and two members who had not had a chance yet to renew were able to do so. This brings our membership to 107 members. If you have not taken the time to renew, the time is now, as we have another exciting program lined up for October.

In addition, the *Working Members Interest Group* has some new members and all current members are welcome to join. Gathering times will be arranged to accommodate full time work schedules.

Our first meeting will be at the **John Ash Restaurant** in the front room for Happy Hour on **Wednesday, Sept. 19th (please see p. 7 for complete info.)** Do try and come, if you possibly can.

We will plan future events as we get to know one another, our interests, and schedules.

See you in October,
Trina Corson Graham, Membership VP
membership@aausantarosa.org

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Welcome to Our New Members:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Claudette Bailey | Beth Bowman (Returning) |
| Antoinette Hoffman | Arlene Mandell |
| Linda Rose McRoy | Jean Schettler |
| Carole Sunlight | JoAnn Wilson |

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GETTING TO KNOW OUR NEW MEMBERS

Joyce Adams graduated from Napa Community College. After raising a family she returned to Sonoma State University the year her oldest son graduated from high school. She received a B.A. in history and then an elementary teaching certificate and certification as a resource specialist. She continued her schooling at Purdue University in Indiana where she earned an M.S.Ed., specializing in learning disabilities and a Ph.D. in educational administration.

While at Purdue she received an AAUW Project Renew grant. Over the years, Joyce taught at Northern State College in Aberdeen, South Dakota; worked as an elementary school principal in Nevada; as director of special education; and as a school principal in Lake County, California. After retiring she taught as a resource specialist at an international

school in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and then spent two years in Athens, Greece as principal of the American Community School. When she returned to northern California, she worked part-time in the Cotati-Rohnert Park schools as a full inclusion case manager and currently works part-time as administrative assistant for disaster services for the local American Red Cross.

Joyce is a great reader and she loves to travel. Her 94 year-old mother lives in Santa Rosa and Joyce spends time with her as well. She belonged to AAUW some years ago and has rejoined because she supports the AAUW educational programs and would like to get involved in our local projects.

Barbara Biebush graduated from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in general social sciences. She then earned a M.S. in library science at the University of California, Berkeley. She worked as a librarian for San Francisco State University at the Santa Rosa off-campus center for a few years and then worked for the U.S. Army in Germany as a civilian librarian for 2 years. Back in the United States she worked briefly at March Air Force Base and then came to Sonoma State University where she worked in the library until she retired. After retirement she was very active with the Friends of the Sonoma State Library until last year when it disbanded. She volunteers weekly at Kaiser in their Health Education Center. Barbara likes to hike, loves traveling and does yoga. Last May she was hiking with Phyllis Lowe and the conversation turned to the AAUW luncheon that day so she joined Phyllis at the meeting. She was an AAUW member for some years and has rejoined because she supports the organizational goals.

Ann Carranza is one of this year's SSU scholarship winners. She is an older reentry student and is enrolled in Sonoma State's Liberal Arts Degree Completion Program, an alternative extended education program. This program, which meets Saturdays during the semester, involves a great deal of reading, writing, and online work. This results in much less driving than would be required by attending all classes on campus, and Ann, who is an ardent environmentalist, chose it in order to minimize her carbon footprint. Ann graduated from Geyserville High School in 1972 and worked at a winery, a plywood mill and in home child care until she developed a degenerative spinal disease. She later decided to go back to school and attended Santa Rosa Junior College, graduating this past June with A.A. and A.S. degrees, at the same time her younger son graduated. Ann's major interests are environmental education, education for women and she would like to foster international dialog on immigration and the environment. She would like to become a writer, creating consensus among people who might not understand how their choices create an environmental impact on the globe.

Thumbnail Sketches Contributed by
Judy Hudson, Branch Membership Assistant

PUBLIC POLICY**AAUW's Legislative Agenda for the 110th Congress**

As the opening of the 110th Congress coincided with the Santa Rosa AAUW Branch's 2007-2008 kick off, it seemed like an excellent time to share with the membership a summary of AAUW's legislative agenda for the 110th Congress. The summary is based entirely on information obtained from a link to "*Washington Update – News from the American Association of University Women*" and was prepared by Lisa Maatz and Tracy Sherman of AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations Department.

"A new Congress brings with it new opportunities. In the 110th Congress, AAUW will work to:

I. Expand Educational Opportunities for Women and Girls**A. No Child Left Behind Reauthorization****B. Higher Education Act Reauthorization**

Creating programs to help nontraditional students

C. Oppose Voucher Programs**D. Preserve and Enforce Title IX****II. Promote Women's Economic Security****A. Equity in the Workplace**

Pay Equity, Paid Sick Days, Family and Medical Leave

B. Preserving the Integrity of Social Security

Through reform, not privatization

III. Promote and Defend Civil Rights**A. A Fair and Balanced Judiciary****B. Improving Hate Crimes Laws**

Passage of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act

C. Protecting Reproductive Rights

Passage of the Prevention First Act, Fund Comprehensive Sex Education, Fund International Family Planning"

JoAnn Wilson

Branch Public Policy Officer

publicpolicy@aauwsantarosa.org

TECH TREK NEWS

Thank you for such a warm reception for the Tech Trek girls at the Kick Off meeting on September 8. They get very nervous and sometimes this is their very first public speaking event.

Many of you asked what criteria we use to select the girls.

- First we contact the math and science teachers at each Santa Rosa City Middle School and ask them to nominate no more than four girls who are talented in math or science.
- We meet and read their applications and essays to a specific prompt.
- Our committee interviews them using the same exact six questions for all applicants.
- We then have a lengthy session to decide which students should attend. All are great candidates, but we try to select some girls who maybe disadvantaged and who would be most likely to benefit from a week on a college campus with other girls and dynamic women professionals. Not all schools select disadvantaged girls for us to interview, but a blend of girls with various life experiences adds to the rich environment of their week at Tech Trek.

The Santa Rosa Branch of AAUW really has supported this program more than most branches in the State. You are awesome – **THANK YOU!**

Due to the fact that the AAUW-CA Special Projects Fund is the fund that actually holds total tax exempt status, any future donations for Tech Trek that you would want to be tax deductible must be made out to:

AAUW-CA, SPF and please put *Santa Rosa Tech Trek* on the memo line of your check.

Send your check to me and it will be forwarded to the correct AAUW-CA office handling the Tech Trek funds.

Melinda Moir
Tech Trek Coordinator

Mark your calendars now!

January 7 & January 14

Our branch is planning to cosponsor with the League of Women Voters a discussion of some of the ballot propositions.

This discussion will take place in the Santa Rosa City Council Chamber in the evening.

More information on this meeting as it becomes available.

Two New Committees Forming

Can you help with either of these committees?

SUNSHINE: Remember members with a card if they are experiencing an illness, a challenging situation or one of celebration such as a birthday or a special anniversary. Cards provided.

HISTORIAN: Take photographs as special meetings and events. Arrange in photo albums to preserve our branch history and to share with the membership.

If interested in either of these committees please contact Marianne Holt.
president@aauwsantarosa.org

You are Invited
to one of the most interesting events
Sponsored by AAUW in Northern California!

The Educational Foundation Celebration Luncheon
 Honoring the 2007-2008 EF Fellows and Grant Recipients
 from Northern California

Sunday, October 21, 2007 -- 12:00-3:00 p.m.
 Michael's at Shoreline -- \$30
 2960 Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View 94043

RSVP deadline: October 9
 Select one of the following entrees and send your check
 payable to AAUW-SA along with the information requested
 below to:

P.O. Box 160067, Sacramento, CA 95816

Entrees (choose 1): Papaya with chicken salad
 Shrimp Louis salad
 Pasta Primavera on greens
 Include your: Name; Branch; Branch Position; # of
 Reservations; Amount of Check.
 (Please contact Sharon Wright or
 Terry Howell: education@aauwsantarosa.org
 for car pool information.)

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, December 2
for our Annual
HOLIDAY WASSAIL PARTY
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
at the home of Harriet and Bernie Palk

Raffle Prizes! Silent Auction! Delicious Refreshments! Holiday Music

to benefit the
Educational Foundation (EF)
and Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)

Please come and bring your spouse or friend!

(Cut out and keep handy for reference.)

HOW TO MAKE OUT YOUR PERSONAL DONATION CHECKS

- For EF: To: Educational Foundation
Memo Line: AAUW Santa Rosa
- For LAF: To: Legal Advocacy Fund
Memo Line: AAUW Santa Rosa
- For Tech Trek To: AAUW-CA, SPF Santa Rosa
Memo Line: Tech Trek
- For SSU Scholarship: To: SSU Scholarship Foundation
Memo Line: AAUW Santa Rosa
(All of the above are tax deductible funds.)

Donations to the branch for its special local projects should
 be made out to: AAUW Santa Rosa
 (Donations to the branch are not tax deductible.)

EF Celebration Luncheon on October 21

Alice Crouch mentioned at our Kick Off on September 8, that last year's EF luncheon, also held in Mountain View, was one of the best AAUW events she has ever attended, especially because there was an opportunity to hear about a dozen EF Fellows and EF Grant Recipients briefly describe their research, projects, and doctoral dissertations.

Among those who spoke last year was Rita Mehta who is doing postdoctoral research at UC Davis. Her research on moray eels was featured in the September 15 San Francisco Chronicle under the headline: "UC Davis: Eel's Secret Weapon--An Extra Set of Jaws." The headline about the continuing story on the next page said: "Discovery Explains Why Moray Can Eat Prey Larger Than Itself. And there was also a headlined quote above the article from John McCosker of the California Academy of Sciences: "It took Mehta's curiosity and persistence with the tools she used to answer a question we've all wondered about."

THE LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND (LAF)

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is the nation's largest legal fund focused solely on sex discrimination in higher education. The Fund provides financial and other support for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Since 1981 the Legal Advocacy Fund (which is now part of AAUW's Educational Fund) has helped students, faculty, staff and administrators in higher education challenge discriminatory practices such as sexual harassment, denial of tenure or promotion, pay inequity and inequality in women's athletic programs. (For more information: www.aauw.org/laf)

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
 THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (EF)**

EF is the largest source of funding for women pursuing postgraduate studies in the world. It supports scholars around the world, teachers and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers (often assisting them with funds as they write their doctoral dissertations) and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented. The Foundation funds:

- Groundbreaking research**
- Fellowships and Grants**
- Vital Community Action Projects**
- Symposia, roundtables and forums**
- AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund**

The Foundation depends on the contributions and fundraising efforts of AAUW members, other individuals, corporations and foundations. (For more information: www.aauw.org/ef)

*Santa Rosa Branch will support both of these programs this year through our annual Holiday Wassail Party to be held on Sunday, December 2 .
 (Details in announcement also on this page.)*

IFUW (International Federation of University Women and AAUW

Association has removed all references to links with IFUW from our by laws and are thus in breach of IFUW rules regarding IFUW members' constitutions. Therefore, we are no longer a member of IFUW, an organization started with AAUW members closely involved, and which gave us international connections around the world - and a triennial meeting where we could interface with college graduate women worldwide.

This was basically an economic issue. AAUW had said a part of our yearly dues would be allocated to IFUW membership. They were unable to properly handle the dues for IFUW. AAUW was paying the largest proportion of its members' dues to the IFUW, but there was no rival for the number of AAUW members we had, nor for the wealth of our nation. (I do not feel, [personally] that Association has ever given a proper explanation as to why this fiscal problem became the issue.)

We have lost an international connection. There have been several plans that branch members throughout the U.S. have suggested to allow some of us who are interested to remain members of this organization. IFUW put out a request in 2007 for scholarship money to be offered to needy applicants. Where is our scholarship money going which is turned over annually to the Educational Foundation? We have been asked to keep giving to Educational Foundation, but rarely see who receives these scholarships.

Contact people, who are members of AAUW, in the United States, and who are still interested in being members of IFUW, are Louise McLeod, Sara Harder and Kathleen Laurilla.

Many delegates to the 2007 Triennial Conference recently held in Manchester, England were from the United States. They were there to visibly show their objections to our Association's actions with IFUW.

The next conference will be held in Mexico (perhaps Cancun???) in 2010. I hope we can find a way to attend. I believe Association must answer some questions and explain why it is against a membership in an established organization like IFUW.

I have available conference programs, documentation papers, workshops and seminars, and a Directory of Enrolled Members. You are most welcome to borrow any of these. As many of you know, I was in hospital in Manchester with pneumonia for the days of the conference, so must depend on friends' reports of activities.

GERRY CARLETON
Branch International Interests Representative
September 2007



TAKE NOTE

*Some New Interest Groups are Starting Up!
Are You Interested?*

If you missed the Kick Off on September 8, here is the info:

Let's Dine "In"

Join us for four dinners a year where we will gather with spouses, significant others and friends in each other's homes to share delicious potluck meals.

On the Town

Join us for an evening out once a month with spouses, significant others and friends to attend movies, plays, concerts, symphonies and other cultural events. We will then end the evening at one of our homes for dessert and coffee.

If you are interested in joining either or both of these groups call or e-mail

Colleen Wilson, program@aauwsantarosa.org

BOTH OF THESE GROUPS WILL NEED ORGANIZERS OR CHAIRS - CAN YOU HELP?

UPDATE ON SENDING/RECEIVING YOUR BRANCH NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL TRANSMISSION

We are still collecting names of members who are willing to receive their branch newsletter via e-mail. So far, 27 members have said they would like to do so. Over time this changeover could result in a considerable savings for our branch. Currently, the minimum cost of printing and mailing via post to each member is approximately \$10 per member per year. Because our overall branch membership has dropped to about 110 members, we no longer qualify for the bulk mail rates offered by the post office. (Minimum to qualify: 200 pieces of mail.)

We are hoping to begin electronic transmission with the November issue of The Rose Branch.

If you have not already sent me your name and would be willing to receive your newsletter via e-mail, let Ann Horne know aphorne@sonic.net. Those of you who prefer not to sign on will continue to receive their newsletter via postal service.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS WEB SITE COPY OF THE BRANCH NEWSLETTER. THIS HAS BEEN DONE TO PROTECT MEMBERS' PRIVACY AND TO PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT.

CONSULT YOUR BRANCH TELEPHONE DIRECTORY FOR PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS BRANCH CALENDAR - OCTOBER - 2007

Date	Time	
6	12:30 p.m.	Romancing the Vine Group will meet at the Sonoma County Fair Harvest (Saturday - by the wine tasting ticket booth.) Admission: Adults, \$6 plus \$7 (includes a souvenir glass and two taste tickets.) Additional tastes are four for \$6, or \$2 for a single taste ticket. Wines poured by maker. Vintners and makers will be on hand to answer your questions. You do not have to be an "official" member of this group to join us! No contact for this event, just be at the ticket booth at 12:30.
7	9:30-11:30 a.m.	The Global Issues Group meets at the home of Alice Crouch, to discuss Great Decisions Topic 3: <i>Mexico: neighbor in turmoil.</i>
8	1:30 p.m.	Monday Afternoon Book Group meets at home of Liz Martin, to discuss <i>Saturday</i> by Ian McEwan. Liz will lead the discussion.
10	7:30-9:00	Second Wednesday Book Group meets at home of Marg Byrd, to discuss <i>The Winter Queen</i> by Boris Akunin. Marg will present.
16	9:30 am	Tuesday Morning Book Group meets at home of Delia Nistler, to discuss <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> , by Khaled Hosseini. Ruth Hucklebridge will moderate the discussion.
18	12 noon	Gourmet Luncheon Group dines at home of Geri Clark. Contact co-hostess for menu information if you plan to attend.
19	10:00 am	Romancing the Vine Group will travel to Napa to visit the Artesa Vineyards and Winery. See next page for all the details.

Deadline for **November 2007** issue of the Rose Branch is **October 10.**

Please send any changes to your 2007-2008 schedule to Editor Ann Horne, aphorne@sonic.net or 2424 Compadre Drive, SR 95405

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SOME CHANGES, CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS:

The meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) announced in the September newsletter has been postponed. When a new date is set the info will be passed along.

The 2007-2008 Program Schedule given in September newsletter gave Feb 8 as the date for the Authors' Event. It should be Saturday, Feb 9. All other info is OK.

The play selected for our Theater Night fundraiser is "The Leading Ladies" and will be the Northern California premier of this comedy.

Working Women's Group

The **Working Members Interest Group** has some new members and all current members are welcome to join. Gathering times will be arranged to accommodate full time work schedules.

Our first meeting, at the **John Ash Restaurant** (in the front room) for Happy Hour, (is/was) on **Wednesday September 19th**, from **5:30-6:30 pm**

(If you missed this one, call me for the next meeting of the group.)

Contact **Trina Corson-Graham**
membership@aauwsantarosa.org



Pub. Title: **The Rose Branch**
Frequency: **Monthly except for
July-August**

Branch Web Site:
www.aauwsantarosa.org

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW 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.

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

ROMANCING THE VINE

October 19, 2007

**Artesa Vineyards & Winery
1345 Henry Road
Napa, CA 94559**

**We will meet in the Safeway parking lot along
Calistoga Road at 10:00 in time for a complimentary
half-hour tour of the winery at 11:00. We will then
have time to visit the museum and do a round of
tasting (\$10) before going for lunch at Zinsvalley Inn.
Menu can be viewed at:**

<http://www.zinsvalley.com/cuisine.html>

**Please RSVP to Harriet Palk
finance@aauwsantarosa.org**

AAUW CALIFORNIA CONVENTION

**Doubletree Hotel, Rohnert Park
April 4-6, 2008**

Yes, right in our own neighborhood!

**Plans are in the making right now. All branches in the
Northeast Coast District, and particularly those of us in
Sonoma & Napa Counties are being asked to help out.**

**Details will be announced as soon as they
develop and are known.**

**If you are interested in helping out as a volunteer at the
convention - or if you just want to attend, let our branch
president know.**

**Please contact Marianne Holt.
president@aauwsantarosa.org**

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YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ANY EVENT ANNOUNCED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**