
THE CONCORD CORRESPONDENT

American Association of University Women Concord, California Branch
Monthly Newsletter for February, 2008

Volume 2008 Issue #2

Educational Foundations: The Heart of AAUW

What: February General Meeting

When: Saturday February 23

Time: 11:00 Social

11:30 Potluck Salad Luncheon

12:30 Program

Where: Brookview Club House

1201 Monument Blvd.

(entrance is just west of Mohr Lane on the north side of Monument Blvd.)

Cost: Your generosity will decide your donation to CEF or EF



Saturday, February 23 is the day we celebrate the "heart" of AAUW with the Clayton Branch. We hope you will join us to meet and greet our guest, AAUW selected professions fellow, Bethany Lyles. Bethany is working on her Ph.D. at UC Berkeley in the field of nuclear engineering. Although her project's name is awe-inspiring, we know you will find Bethany's warmth and congeniality infectious as she shares with us her professional goals and interests. This is our chance to honor a well-deserving recipient of an AAUW Education Fellowship.

As you know, Concord Branch supports both AAUW Education Fellowships (EF) and local scholarships for women transferring from DVC and LMC to a four-year college or university as a junior (CEF).

Our monies come from your generous donations, as well as the branch's Ways and Means. Although we collect donations throughout the year, February is the month when we provide you with an envelope to send your generous gifts directly to Betty Hirsch or to bring to the February EF speaker's meeting. As our thanks to you, a potluck salad and dessert buffet provided by the EF committee members will add to your enjoyment. We do hope that you will be able to come and enjoy this very special event.

Donations: Please make your check(s) out to CEF/EF and indicate on the memo-line either EF or CEF which fund should receive your donation. Your donation is tax deductible. If you wish to support both worthy causes, you need to write two checks.



Concord Branch AAUW

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Concord Branch**

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from your President...

Hi All-

January certainly went by quickly. The Gateway to Senior Services program on January 19th was standing room only (literally). Many non-AAUW women were there and the speakers did not disappoint. Special thanks to Lana for putting together such an informative and important program.

The Concord branch hosted the recent IBC (Interbranch Council) meeting and Luz Argyriou and Helen Nelson prepared fantastic treats - thank you to both of you.

February 2 in Sacramento: the Legal Advocacy Fund Luncheon will feature Coach Michael Burch who will share his compelling story of his fight for the women wrestlers at UC Davis. Several from Concord will be attending and will prepare a report for the March newsletter.

Our next general meeting will be the EF/CEF luncheon with Clayton Branch at Brookview Park in Concord. We look forward to seeing a large group from Concord to hear the fellow and donate to these scholarship funds.

Nadine Seedall has volunteered to take over the nametag box for Mercedes Breaux who can no longer do it. Thank you Mercedes for your past service and thank you in advance to Nadine for your willingness to step in.

Carol

Local AAUW events

DVC presents the *2nd Annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference* for 6th-8th grade young women. Our branch is an official sponsor and acknowledged on the brochures. If you would like to volunteer to help please call Marnie McLeod (925) 685-1230, ext. 2585.

The *Clayton Branch* is hosting a Spaghetti Feed on March 19th at Endeavor Hall in Clayton. Adults: \$10 and Children: 6-12 \$5. This is an AAUW scholarship and Tech Trek fundraiser. For tickets call Mary Ann: 672-4391.

Report card on title IX: playing fair on the sports field? Kudos and controversies around the law that is transforming female athletics and more

Presented by Dena Evans, Program Coordinator, Stanford University Center for Ethics, a former college cross country runner and Stanford women's distance coach. Sponsored by AAUW, Orinda/Moraga/Lafayette Branch. Donations accepted for the Legal Advocacy Fund of the American Association of University Women. February 19, 2008 10:00 am at the Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church, 1700 School Street, Moraga. Check aauwoml.org for further information. Donations accepted for the Legal Advocacy Fund of the American Association of University Women.

Member News...

Please keep Barbara Wigren in your thoughts. Her husband passed away recently. She might appreciate a card or phone call.

Section Meetings

Evening Book: We will have our meeting on February 12 at Helen Nelson's home at 7:30. We will review the book *I Wish You Well* by David Baldacci. See you there...

Helen Nelson, 682-0511

Afternoon Book: Our February meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 11 at 1:00 at the home of Charlene Sorenson. The book to read is *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert.

Street of a Thousand Blossoms by Gail Tsukiyama is the title of another book I want to mention.

Lucille Rudik, 686-9165

BUNCO will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at Betty Hirsch's. Please call Andrea Proctor by Feb. 16 (672-7847) if you would like to join us. Anyone can play and each person donates \$5.

International Networking Week

International Networking Week is a global initiative of BNI International. The focus of the event will be to bring together representatives of businesses and community organizations to network with each other. This event will give you an opportunity to meet and network with people outside of your normal sphere of influence. The purpose of International Networking Week is to raise the profile of networking in the wider community, recognizing it as an essential tool for success in today's business climate. RSVP with your Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, Kiwanis or BNI RSVP Representative.

East Bay Location: Thursday, February 7 at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Dr., San Ramon, CA 94583
Cost is \$20 with RSVP or \$30 at the door. All profits will be going to the Wisconsin Big Cat Rescue. The event is from 7am to 9 am, with continental breakfast served at 6:45 am.

For further details, check out www.internationalnetworkingweek.com. You can also contact Aaron Slinker at (925) 497-8295

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be February 4 at Betty Hirsch's home with goodies provided by Elaine Groen.

Great Decisions for 2008

The first meeting of the Great Decisions group will be Monday, February 4th, 3:15 pm at the home of Joanne Brown, 4125 Sacramento Street, Concord.

"Iraq: Endgame" will be the first topic. We will have eight sessions that meet weekly in February and March to discuss the topics chosen by the Foreign Policy Association for this year. The sessions are designed to give a better understanding of global topics that affect America's role in the world.

You are invited to attend whether or not you have the briefing book. You are promised a good discussion and sharing of points of view on world affairs today. Please contact Joanne at 676-9048 if you wish to attend and are not currently on the list.



Highlights: January Board Meeting

Jean Simutis distributed the final accounting of 49er money for 2007. A total of \$5748.72 was earned by Concord with an additional \$782.67 in tips. Jean moved that the board direct the Budget Committee to calculate a revised budget with 3 girls attending Tech Trek in 2008. Betty seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Jean lead a discussion on the \$1000 bonus received from the 49ers for working all 10 games. Only Jean and Ronni worked every game and the board suggested that the bonus be distributed based on the number of games each organization worked with Concord getting \$500. Jean will see that this is done.

March 8th from 2 - 3:30 p.m. a joint presentation of Clayton and Walnut Creek AAUWs will feature an Afghan friends program. Place: YV Library on Oak Grove. The April meeting will feature artists and a video.

We have two new members: Teri Almeida and Beverly Murray.

Joanne announced that Clayton Valley Sunrise Rotary is sending \$200 to the branch toward Tech Trek. The board thanked Joanne for her efforts.

The board considered nominees for the Nominating Committee (already staffed by Joanne Brown, Monica Johnston and Maile Collmer). Two more members and an alternate need to be appointed. Carol will make phone calls soon.

Jean announced that she has received a check for \$1431 from Barnes and Noble. Betty reported that two families (8 children) were adopted for Christmas. A total Of \$1000 plus food was received from the generous members of Concord branch and the children were thrilled to receive quality toys including a bicycle and scooters.

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AAUW'S Action Network

As representatives and senators have returned to Washington for the second session of the 110th Congress, it's important that women's priorities are on the forefront of their minds. Critical issues- educational equity, retirement security, a fair and balanced judiciary, equal pay, workplace equity, and reproductive rights-are at stake, and your input is crucial in determining how decisions are made.

As a member of Action Network, AAUW's nationwide network of e-activists, your advocacy and that of tens of thousands of others in the Network has helped AAUW make a significant impact on public policy issues over the years. AAUW's Two-Minute Activist system makes it easy for Action Network advocates to make their voices heard and influence Congress to act on issues critical for equity for women and girls.

AAUW urges you to resolve in the New Year to help others speak their mind, too! Help Action Network grow and be even more of a force in our nation's capital. Urge your friends and family to join AAUW's Action Network today! Action Network is free to anyone who has an e-mail address-not just AAUW members. It's perfect for anyone who wants to know what's going on in Washington, D.C. and needs a simple and easy way to affect the outcome on issues they care about. It's also a great way to introduce your friends and family to AAUW and our advocacy efforts.

Take Action! Encourage your friends and family to sign-up for the AAUW Action Network, because equity is still an issue. Just visit the "Tell A Friend" page where you can enter their e-mail addresses to send them an invitation to join, or simply let them know they can join online at <http://capwiz.com/aauw/mlm/signup>.

Urge the Senate to Enforce Title IX in our High Schools

Title IX's impact on women's athletic participation is one of the country's greatest success stories. In the past three decades, Title IX's fight against sex discrimination in federally-funded schools and educational programs in the U.S. has led to a 400 percent increase in the rate of female participation in college sports and a more than 800 percent increase in participation at the high school level.

Despite the significant gains girls and women have made since the enactment of Title IX, a significant drawback to the law's enforcement at the high school level involves the lack of data reporting. The U.S. Department of Education has not required these schools to report athletic opportunity, participation, and funding statistics to any higher authority. Colleges are required to report this data, it's time our high schools are too.

AAUW strongly supports the High School Sports Information Collection Act (S. 518), which would require high schools to report basic information on the number of female and male students in their athletic programs and the expenditures made for their sports teams. Sadly, this bill only has five cosponsors. The Senate is currently working on adding provisions of this bill in the No Child Left Behind Act. An increase in the number of cosponsors will demonstrate support for including the provisions in NCLB.

Now is a great time to make your support for this bill known to your senators and their offices, even if you have already done so in the past.

Set Aside These Dates...

February 4	Board Meeting
February 11	Afternoon Book
February 12	Evening Book
February 19:	Title IX program presented by Moraga Branch

Feb. 20	Bunco
February 23	GENERAL MEETING
March 8	GENERAL MEETING
March 19	Clayton Branch Spaghetti Feed

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering: action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendships.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. Membership is open to all college or university graduates) and to students enrolled in college or university. 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.



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AMERICAN
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UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED