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# THE CONCORD CORRESPONDENT

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

Volume 2008 Issue #3

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## *March is Women in History Month!!*

*Come meet real day modern heroes that travel to Afghanistan to help educate teachers after the fall of the Taliban.*

**What:** March General Meeting:  
Afghan Friends Network

**When:** Saturday, March 8

**Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 pm

**Where:** Kensington Place  
1580 Geary Rd.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
925-943-1121

The March Program will be a discussion from the experiences of Elise Delaere and Mary Ann O'Grady from Amnesty International. These women are teachers who pilgrimage to Afghanistan yearly to teach students how to become teachers for Afghan children post Taliban.

During their last trip, the ladies trained 130 teachers in their quest to educate this third world country. Please join us this March afternoon as we celebrate Women in History month.

We will be celebrating this event with the Walnut Creek Branch!!

**Directions:**

680 North: Exit the 680 at the Treat Exit turn left on Treat which becomes Geary.  
Kensington Place is on the right after Main Street.

680 South: Exit the 680 at Treat turn left on Main Street and right on Geary Rd.





## Concord Branch AAUW

The *Concord Correspondent* is published monthly by  
**American Association of University Women  
Concord Branch**

Permit #166  
PO Box 434  
Concord, CA 94522

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## *from your President...*

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Hi All-

I'm writing this just before our EF luncheon but I know that will have proved to be a wonderful event. I always enjoy hearing the bright, young fellows talk about their projects. Our March meeting will be very early in the month - March 8th. Please plan to attend this informative program given by two women who travel yearly to Afghanistan to teach. There is more information in this newsletter - hope to see you there.

I'm pleased to announce that Celeste Graham has consented to fill the board position of LAF chair.

Our December Barnes and Noble bookfair was so successful in raising Tech Trek money, the board has decided to try a bookfair on May 2nd to raise LAF funds and awareness. (We have already reserved December 8th for the 2008 Tech Trek bookfair.) Your willingness to represent AAUW-Concord and pass out flyers is greatly appreciated.

The state convention will be held this year in Rhonert Park, a very close venue for us. Jean Simutis and Elaine Groen will be representing Concord and attending the entire convention. Since it is so close it would be nice if others in our branch could attend, even for one day. The registration deadline is March 8th. Call Jean Simutis if you have questions.

Carol

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## *Local AAUW events*

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DVC presents the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference** for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

**18th Annual Healdsburg Walking Tour of Historic Homes:** From squatters' settlement to luxury wine country destination, 150 years of California architectural history will be open to the public Sunday, May 4, 1-4:30pm. Six vintage homes and gardens within walking distance of the downtown plaza will showcase distinctive architectural styles, including 1915 Craftsman, 1915 Mission, 1885 Queen Anne, and 1913 Bungalow. The afternoon self-guided tour features docents at each home. Guests will check in at the Healdsburg Museum, 221 Matheson at Fitch Street from 1:00-4:30 pm. Tickets are \$30.00 in advance and \$35.00 day of the tour. Proceeds help fund individual scholarships and help support Healdsburg area public schools. For more information and questions call 707-474-0313 or visit the website at [www.healdsburgaauw.com](http://www.healdsburgaauw.com). Ticket purchase is available online after March 15, 2008. Please make checks payable to AAUW and send to P.O. Box 1064, Healdsburg, CA 95448

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## ***Member News...***

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Hooray.....The Nishimori family has a new addition....the first grandchild, Luca, entered their world on Lincoln's Bday!

Sandy Hartman has left the area. Her new address (temporary) is #111 Bean Creek Rd. #105, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 Telephone # 831-439-2048. Hope she stays in touch!!!

Barbara Hooy's husband has had surgery. Give her a call and see how she is doing.

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## ***Section Meetings***

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***Evening Book:*** Our book this month is *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson. We will meet on Tuesday, March 11 at 7:30 at the home of Helen Nelson. Join us!

Helen Nelson, 682-0511

***Afternoon Book:*** We will meet on Monday, March 10 at 1:00 at the home of Marianne Lowe. The book to review is *Suit Francaise*, by Irene Nemirovsky. If you wish to join us, please call.

Lucille Rudik, 686-9165

***BUNCO:*** No Bunco this month....stay tuned for April.

***Whine and Wine:*** The next Wine and Whine is scheduled for Friday, March 28. Call Ronni 366-3823 or Lana 363-4438 for location.

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## ***Get Involved!***

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Have you always wanted to help someone one-to-one? The Diablo Valley Literacy Council is looking for volunteers to help non-English speaking adults to read, write and speak English well enough to function in our society. No prior experience or credential is required. The Laubach method is used - "Each one teach one."

They will teach you to be a tutor. Three tutor-training workshops will be held on Saturday, March 1, 9-1:30, Tuesday, March 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Saturday March 8 9-1:30 at Diablo Valley Literacy Council, 4000 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521. There is a \$15 non-refundable registration fee. For more information or to register, please call Shirley Mattes at 925-685-3881.

After they match the tutor with the learner they ask a minimum of 1 hour per week. The arrangements for meetings are made between the tutor and learner at their convenience.

The next tutor training will be held October 4, 7 and 11, 2008.

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## ***Next Board Meeting***

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The next board meeting will be March 3. Interested in coming? Give Carol a call for location.

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## ***Nominations for 2008-09 Board***

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The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers for the Concord Branch for 2008-09:

President	Carol Slatten
President-Elect	Vacant
VP Program	Lana Hanlon
VP Membership	Joyce Jacobs
VP Ed. Fdn.	Betty Hirsch & Andrea Proctor
Treasurer	Jean Simutis
Recording Sec.	Elaine Groen

Thank you to our nominating committee :

Joanne Brown, Chair, Luz Argyriou, Maile Collmer, Monica Johnston, Linda Smith

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## ***Save the date! April General Meeting***

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Save the date: April 19

We will be heading for the DeYoung Museum around 9:30am and then stopping for some lunch. More to come on this day of Art and fun.

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## ***Thanks from the EF/CEF Committee***

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We hope that those of you who attended the February EF Luncheon meeting were as inspired as we with the AAUW Selected Professions Fellowship recipient, Bethany Lyles. How gratifying to see a young woman pursuing an advanced degree in nuclear engineering! Bethany awed us with her accomplishments while touching us with her sense of humor and the story of her journey.

It is with your continued generosity that Concord Branch has been able to support both AAUW's Educational Foundation and Concord Branch's own Concord Education Foundation. We thank each of you so very much for helping to fund these foundations. If you missed the meeting and still wish to send a contribution to EF or CEF, you may continue to send your donations to Betty Hirsch at 707 Citrus Ave., Concord 94518.

Betty Hirsch, Andrea Proctor, Co-VP's, EF

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## *Public Policy ~ California*

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### Upcoming Events

April 5: Public Policy Breakfast at the California AAUW Convention. Please see the *California Perspective* for registration details!

April 22: Equal Pay Day 2008. Check the next newsletter for specific events.

### Special Reports

March: Women's History Month

In the U.S., March is known as Women's History Month. March 8 is recognized as International Women's Day. In some countries, such as Armenia, Russia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam, March 8 is an official holiday. Other countries, such as Canada, celebrate with a week's worth of events. Below is a sampling of the 169 celebrations occurring in 24 countries<sup>1</sup>.

#### CANADA

**Date:** 07 March 2008

**Event:** International Women's Week Cabaret of Monologues: Something Old and Something New  
**About:** This year's monologues deal with a range of themes including breast cancer, women and crime, dating, youth at risk, confessions and menstruation. The mix also features laugh out loud comedy and thought provoking issue oriented work from playwrights across Canada. The cost of admission is \$5.00.

**Org'n:** Sarasvati Productions: Sarasvati Dramatic Theatre Productions and Repertory Inc. seeks to inspire artists and audiences through the use of theatre and to provide a place where artists can develop and showcase their skills, and celebrate their creativity.

**Date:** 08 March 2008

**Event:** Superwomen United

**About:** The event is to bring modern professional women together. To put an end on competition between professional women and celebrate closeness. At around 2am on March 9th we will head to Gorge O Mish for a wild after party.

**Org'n:** Aleksandra Rea: I am an actress, a leader of numerous support groups for women in Vancouver and a new writer in the field of contemporary sexism.

**Date:** 08 March 2008

**Event:** Bryony House Annual International Women's Day Dinner and Silent Auction

**About:** Join us for an evening of delicious food from

Windows, one of Halifax's finest restaurants and enjoy live local entertainment, warm company, and a rich selection of silent auction items in support of Bryony House. The cash bar and silent auction will open at 18:00 with dinner and entertainment commencing at 19:00. Admission is \$60 per person.

**Venue:** The World Trade and Convention Centre, 1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia

**Org'n:** Bryony House: Bryony House is a 24 bed shelter for abused women and their children. Established in 1978 by the Halifax Transition House Association, it is Nova Scotia's first transition house.

#### KENYA

**Date:** 07 March 2008

**Event:** SPIRIT OF AFRICAN WOMEN AWARDS - SHANGILIA FEST 2008

**About:** The Spirit of African Women Awards (SAWA) has been created to celebrate, educate, entertain, inspire and activate women. SAWA awards seeks to successfully make a powerful difference in the lives of Kenyan women, so that they can impact the lives of women and children globally.

**Org'n:** The Event Factory: a leading event management and marketing communication agency. Through our expertise and passion for creativity we promise to inspire businesses and bring brands to life by transforming them into unforgettable experiences!

#### REPUBLIC OF KOREA

**Date:** 05 March 2008

**Event:** The Wednesday Demonstration/International Women's Day

**About:** In solidarity with women's organizations in Korea and around the world, the Korean Council will hold its weekly demonstration in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul. Join us as we continue to call for the resolution of issues related to Japanese military sexual slavery and commemorate International Women's Day.

**Org'n:** The Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan: An organization established in 1990 committed to the resolution of the issue of Japanese military sexual slavery, care for survivors, the prevention of sexual violence against women in armed conflicts, and world peace.

#### UNITED STATES (San Francisco, CA area)

**Date:** March 7 & 8, 2008

**Summary of type of events:** gala, dinner, activism training workshop (details below)  
International Museum of Women Annual Gala 2008

**Date:** Saturday March 8th 2008

**Where:** The Westin St. Francis Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 335 Powell St, San Francisco, CA

**Time:** 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Cost: 250.00

*continue...*

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## *...more Public Policy*

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**Event Description:** You are invited to join the International Museum of Women's Annual Gala 2008 and launch celebration for the global online exhibition, Women, Power and Politics, on Saturday, March 8, International Women's Day, at the Westin St. Francis Hotel. This diverse gathering will include esteemed civic leaders, leading philanthropists and political and cultural leaders.

Proceeds from this spirited and highly entertaining evening will help support I.M.O.W.'s exhibitions and programs for the upcoming year. Event co-chairs are Layne Gray and Gabriel Jackson Renstrom. Honorary co-chairs are Judy Jorgensen and Sallie Huntting. The evening's Featured Speaker is Hafsat Abiola, Founder and Executive Director of Nigeria's Kudirat Initiative for Democracy (KIND) and Founding Member of the State of the World Forum's Emerging Leaders Program and Global Youth Connect.

### **Saturday, March 8th**

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. - Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres, 7:15 p.m. - Dinner and Program, 9:00 p.m. - Entertainment

**About:** International Museum of Women. The mission of the International Museum of Women (I.M.O.W.) is to value the lives of women around the world. I.M.O.W amplifies the voices of women worldwide through history, the arts and cultural programs that educate, create dialogue, build community and inspire action. Learn more at [www.imow.org](http://www.imow.org).

**About Women, Power and Politics.** The International Museum of Women's global online exhibition Women, Power and Politics will use inspiring stories of women claiming and exercising their power to raise awareness, connect women from across the globe, spark conversations, and inspire women to take action in their own communities as well as participate in broader political arenas. The exhibition will be showcased in four languages—Arabic, English, French and Spanish—on [www.imow.org](http://www.imow.org) from March 8 to December 31, 2008, just as the spotlight intensifies on groundbreaking campaigns, elections and leadership of women from Liberia to Argentina to the United States.

From [www.socialdomain.com/info.php3?id=28476](http://www.socialdomain.com/info.php3?id=28476),  
[www.imow.org/exhibits/events\\_special.php](http://www.imow.org/exhibits/events_special.php)

**Date:** 07 March 2008

**Time:** 19:00 - 23:00 (7 - 11 p.m.)

**Event:** Celebracion de Dia Internacional de la Mujer (International Woman's Day Celebration)

**About:** This event includes dinner and will be

recognizing business women and community leaders from San Francisco and the Bay Area. Admission to the event is \$20.00.

**Venue:** State Room, 306 Baden Avenue, South San Francisco., South San Francisco, CA 94080

**Org'n:** Nicaraguan American Chamber of Commerce of Northern California: The Nicaraguan American Chamber of Commerce of Northern California (NICAMERCCNC) is a US non profit organization established by businesspeople and corporations in California, USA. As a Multi national Chamber of Commerce they provide an excellent forum to interact with other businesses and professionals. As a dynamic and pro-active organization, they support the advancement in education, culture and business. They support the principle of free enterprise and will act as liaison between the California and Nicaraguan business community and the rest of the world. In general, they will promote and strive to enhance the quality of life of our community in California.

### **CODEPINK International Women's Day Weekend Activist Training Camp!**

CODEPINK is planning an exciting weekend of workshops, inspiring speakers, group activities, a pink slumber party and campfire, and a march across the Golden Gate Bridge! Learning activities focus on organizing creative peace actions!

**Where:** Our Activist Training Camp will be held at the YMCA Point Bonita in the Marin Headlands in Sausalito, CA. Just ten minutes west of the Golden Gate Bridge, the YMCA Point Bonita Outdoor and Conference Center is surrounded by ocean beaches, rolling hills, and incomparable views of San Francisco, the Golden Gate Bridge, and that famous rugged northern coastline! The location is ideal because of its proximity to the Golden Gate Bridge, where we will march on Sunday.

**Cost:** \$80 per activist, includes overnight lodging, 3 meals, and outstanding activist trainings. \$40 per activist day rate, includes one meal and trainings.

**Register:** <http://www.codepinkalert.org/index.php>. If you have questions, would like to offer to lead a training, would like to be considered for a scholarship, or would like to pay by check, please contact Rae at [locals@codepinkalert.org](mailto:locals@codepinkalert.org) or (415) 575-5555.

~ **Monica Johnston**

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.internationalwomensday.com/about.asp>

## *Your Senator deserves your thanks for past support!*

One or both of your U.S. senators received a 100 percent score in this year's AAUW Congressional Voting Record. While the voting record is neither an endorsement nor a condemnation of any member of Congress, AAUW does encourage you to use this as a tool to hold your legislators accountable for their votes.

AAUW members have a long history of lobbying Congress and holding their legislators accountable for how they vote on AAUW priority issues. AAUW annually publishes a Congressional Voting Record as a way to hold members of Congress accountable. The AAUW Congressional Voting Record for the 110th Congress, First Session (2007) has been published on the AAUW website.

The AAUW Congressional Voting Record provides information about elected federal legislators through the votes they cast on critical issues. Legislation was selected on the basis of the AAUW Public Policy Program adopted by AAUW convention delegates in July 2007. These priorities include education, economic security, and civil rights.



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### *Set Aside These Dates...*

March 3	Board Meeting	March 15	Healdsburg Walking Tour
March 8	GENERAL MEETING	March 19	Clayton Branch Spaghetti Feed
March 10	Afternoon Book	March 28	Whine and Wine
March 11	Evening Book	April 19	GENERAL MEETING

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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  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

Concord AAUW  
PO Box 434  
Concord, CA 94522

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**