
THE CONCORD COI

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

Volume 2008 Issue #6

What a wonderful morning.....

Six very worthy young women from DVC and LMC were honored at our branch's annual Scholarship and Awards Brunch May 17. Each has worked hard to achieve academic success and has strived to overcome personal and financial challenges. Thanks to your generosity and the hard work of the Ways and Means Committee, we were able to award scholarships of \$1,000 to each of these women. We wish them the best as they transfer to their four year college or university of choice to pursue their goals and dreams.

Esther Kim *Draemel Family Scholarship* UC Berkeley--
Micro Cell Biology

Anne Kobayashi *Grace Cross Scholarship* UC Davis or
Berkeley—Biology

Laura Medina *Concord Education Scholarship* CSU EB
or SF—Nursing

Jennifer Breckel *Concord Education Scholarship* CSU
Humboldt—Wildlife

Karla Lanzas *Concord Education Scholarship* UC
Davis—Math/Education

Crystal Tieu *Concord Education Scholarship* CSU Sac—
Criminal Justice/Psy.



Also attending our May brunch were the three women with whom our committee closely worked at DVC and LMC: Leslie Mills, DVC Scholarship Program Coordinator; Lindy Wille, LMC Foundation Director; and Claudia Azevedo, LMC Scholarship Program Assistant. We appreciate all their help. We were pleased to have the opportunity to introduce them to our wonderful members whose hard work and generous contributions make these scholarships a reality.

(Thank you again, Concord Branch, as well as the Draemel and Grace Cross families.)

Named Gift Honoree

The Named Gift Honoree for 2008 is **Joyce Jacobs**. Joyce was recognized for her years of service on the EF/CEF committee, including being co-VP for two years. Joyce has supported EF/CEF and AAUW through her leadership, her lifetime devotion to education and her generous financial assistance. She is an inspiration to women pursuing their education as well as to her friends and fellow AAUW members. Congratulations, Joyce!

Distinguished Woman 2008

You will be pleased to know that **Andrea Proctor** was awarded the honor of being named Distinguished Woman of the Year for 2008. She received a beautiful bouquet of flowers (which she unknowingly purchased for herself) and a cut glass bowl to remind her of how much we all appreciate her service to our branch and to the projects which make Concord AAUW special! Thanks to Elaine Groen and her committee for confirming our appreciation of Andrea with this very special award.



Concord Branch AAUW

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from your President...

Hi All-

We had a wonderful Scholarship Brunch yesterday and I'm sorry some of you missed it. The EF committee of **Betty Hirsch, Andrea Proctor, Helen Nelson, Elaine Groen, Frede Hammes, Patty Wintroath and Joyce Jacobs** is to be commended for choosing such a bright and articulate group of scholars. I find it extremely uplifting to hear the stories of these young women and hear their heartfelt thanks to AAUW-Concord for their scholarships. Even though \$1000 may not go far these days, it's a generous amount and serves as added incentive for these young women to excel. Of the six chosen, only one couldn't join us yesterday due to a scheduled final exam.

Congratulations to **Andrea Proctor**, Distinguished Woman for 2008 and **Joyce Jacobs**, the Named Gift Honoree. These surprises are always such fun.

The new board for 2008-2009 has been elected!

President: Carol Slatten
VP Program: Lana Hanlon
VP Membership: Joyce Jacobs
VP Educational Foundation: Betty Hirsch and Andrea Proctor
Recording Secretary: Elaine Groen
Treasurer: Jean Simutis.

Those in appointed Positions and Standing Committee Chairs:
Corresponding Sect: VACANT
Membership Treasurer: Celeste Graham
Public Information: Terri Almeida
Public Policy Co-Chairs: Margaret Hackenbracht and Monica Johnston
Legal Advocacy Fund: Celeste Graham
Tech Trek Co-Chairs: Joanne Brown and Jean Warren
49er Chair: Ronni Collmer
Membership Directory: Carol Slatten
Newsletter Editor: Phyllis Nishimori
Newsletter Circulation: Charlene Sorensen
Telephone Chair: Frede Hammes
Nametags: Jeannie Johnson
Webmaster: Beverly Crane

There will be a potluck for all 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 board members on Thursday July 31 at Frede Hammes' home. You will receive further information as the time draws closer but please mark your calendars now.

Reminder - 2008-2009 dues are due now - (see article later in this issue).

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard this year for AAUW. We have awarded 6 scholarships to young women going from their 2-year college to university and are sending 3 incoming 8th graders to Tech Trek this summer. All of you are to be commended for your part in this wonderful branch. Thank you so much.

~Carol

Loads of Thank You's....and an address change

From the EF Chairs: Thank you to **Iola O'Grady** and **Elaine Groen** who have both generously donated their 2008-2009 dues amounts to CEF/EF.

Thank you to **Phyllis Nishimori** for designing and printing the scholarship certificates for our six recipients.

And thank you members who so generously gave of your time and \$\$ to allow us to award the scholarships to our six deserving young women this year. A special thanks to the 49er crew whose \$2500 helped increase our scholarship budget!

Thank you to the EF/CEF committee member for 2007-2008: **Patty Wintroath, treasurer; Elaine Groen, secretary; Frede Hammes; Joyce Jacobs; and Helen Nelson.**

Betty Hirsch and Andrea Proctor, co-VPs EF/CEF

from Andrea Proctor: I want to thank the committee and branch so very much for this honor. Concord Branch AAUW means so much to me. I have found that the more active I can be, the more I get in return. I value the friendships as well as the varied opportunities to grow personally. Thank you for the beautiful cut glass bowl--the perfect size to be used and enjoyed often.

Many thanks. Andrea Proctor

Sandy Hartman is in her new home, but will continue with dual membership in Concord AAUW. Please update your directory: 50 Angela Ct., Scotts Valley, CA 95066. Telephone: 831-439-2048

Century Club Members

Concord Branch has three California Century Club members for 2007. Certificates were given to **Joanne Brown, Frede Hammes, and Carol Slatten** in recognition of their \$100 donations to the AAUW Educational Foundation. Congratulations and a big thank you to these three members.

Member notes

Member Tose Grier's husband passed away recently. Please keep her in your thoughts and give her a call to let her know you are thinking of her.

On a happier note, Congrats to Andrea Proctor (again) on her recent retirement and the naming of the Kimball Elementary School library in her honor: the Andrea Proctor Library!

An update from Bethany Lyles, our EF speaker from February

You and the ladies will be pleased to know that I have received the Claire Luce Boothe Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC Berkeley in Nuclear Engineering.

This is a teaching and research position for "promising tenure-track candidates" and begins in September 2008. In addition to this opportunity, I have also been elected to the US delegation to the China-India-US Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Workshop in Bangalore, India this summer.

Further, my husband and I are anxiously awaiting the birth of our first child in October. I am very excited and thankful to AAUW for the financial support during my last year of study.

Bethany Lyles, Selected Professions Recipient 2007-8

from the EF/CEF Committee

Recognition Cards: Do you have a graduate that you would like to congratulate with a donation to EF/CEF? A friend or relative who may have passed whose memory you would like to honor? Give Betty or Andrea a call if you would like one of our EF/CEF Recognition Cards. They will be happy to send a card to the recipient or their family acknowledging your donation.

Would you like to join us in the rewarding work of the EF/CEF committee? There are openings for the 2008-9 year. Just give one of us a call and we'll let you know what is involved.

~Betty Hirsch and Andrea Proctor



These are two very distinguished women: Elaine Groen(2007) presenting her award to Andrea Proctor, Distinguished Woman 2008

Fall FUNdraising

We have been fortunate to have our booth at the 49ers games for many years. The more people we have to represent the Concord branch, the larger share we get to keep. Think about what we could do with a larger share of the funds. We could give more local scholarships. We could send one girl from each of the Concord Middle Schools to Tech Trek every year. We could be honored as one of the top fundraisers for EF or LAF.

We are happy to have friends and relatives help. You don't need to be an AAUW member. The only requirement is that volunteers have a large block of time and can stand for most of that time.

Here's the 49ers schedule for 2008. Pick one game. Pick 10 games. Ronni and Jean would love to have lots of company. We need to have a minimum of 7 workers at each game. If you didn't work in 2007 but are thinking about volunteering in 2008, please let Ronni (925-890-0319) or Jean(925-682-3195) know.

Preseason

Sat Aug 16 Green Bay 6:00 PM
Fri Aug 29 San Diego 7:00 PM

Regular Season home games

7-Sep Arizona 1:15
21-Sep Detroit 1:05
5-Oct New England 1:15
12-Oct Philadelphia 1:15
26-Oct Seattle 1:15
16-Nov St. Louis 1:05 *
7-Dec NY Jets 1:05 *
28-Dec Washington 1:15 *

** The game times may be changed by the league depending on Sunday night football game*



Do you shop online????

Remember to shop through iGive. This is an easy way to give money to the Concord Branch Tech Trek Fund without writing a check.

Register at iGive.com and ask that your donations go to AAUW Concord Branch. Then, just remember to go through iGive when you shop.

There are over 680 participating websites. You can buy just about anything. A few of the store websites include

ABT Electronics	FAO Schwartz	Macy's
Ann Taylor	FTD.com	MLB.com
Apple Store	Harry & David	Office Depot
Barnes & Noble	Hotels.com	Oriental Trading
Blockbuster Online	Hotwire	TimeLife.com
Buy.com	JCPenney	ValueMags
Coldwater Creek,	JCWhitney	Travelocity.com
Cooking.com	Lands' End	United Airlines
Drugstore.com	LEGO	

If you want a guided tour, call Jean Simutis. She'll come over and help you sign up.

Dues Renewal Time!!!

It's spring again and annual AAUW dues are due. As in the past, we will have the drawing at the May meeting and if your check is in the basket you might win a free year of membership. You can't beat that deal. We really appreciate it if you pay your dues before June 30th as our paperwork is reduced. The Dues for 2008-2009 are: Association \$49, California \$16 and Branch \$13

Regular Members pay \$78

Life Members pay \$29

Dual Members pay \$13

Honorary Life Members pay \$0 because they paid dues for 50 years. If you joined AAUW in 1958 or earlier, and you have maintained your membership, please let us know. We will apply for Honorary Life Membership for you.

If you would like to become a paid Life Member of the Association, the amount is 20 times the association dues, plus annual state and branch dues. This comes to: (20 x 49) +16 + 13 or \$1009. In future years you only pay state and branch dues and avoid association increases. This is a very good deal if you plan to stay in AAUW more than 20 years.

If the \$78 payment doesn't fit your budget right now, contact the membership treasurer (Celeste Graham, 676-7525). It's easy to set up a partial payment plan.

Celeste Graham, 1201 Monument Blvd. #32 Concord, 94520
email: cqgraham@yahoo.com

Spring Book Fair a Success

Thanks to our fabulous volunteers we made \$489.52 for LAF and Tech Trek at our Barnes and Noble Book Fair on May 5th. Many thanks to Helen Nelson, Bea Cortes, Lucille Rudik, Doris Maguire, Nadine Seedall, Frede Hammes, Andrea Proctor, Betty Hirsch, Norma Griddin, Monica Johnston, Maile Collmer, Franki Collmer and Carol Slatten who manned the table. We will be doing this again on December 5th and our vouchers will again be valid for that entire weekend. Please plan to do some Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and birthday shopping on those dates. When there is a high volume we make 15% so every little bit counts. All proceeds to Tech Trek this time.

Celeste

Tech Trek Campers Selected

Jean Warren and I are happy to report that, for the first time, we will be able to send 3 girls to the Tech Trek Camp at Mills College, June 22-28th. They are from the 7th grade at Oak Grove Middle School and include Shuk Wai Lau, Shannon Barbour, and Nanise Ma'ake.

Their week long camp will include hands-on classes and off-campus field trips using math, technology and science. They will have the opportunity to interact with women who work in these fields. They will also learn firsthand about campus living including living with someone other than a sibling or relative, eating dorm food, and learning about campus opportunities.

All of this is due to the fundraising of Concord members and the donation from the Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise Rotary Club. Our thanks to you who have contributed through fundraising activities or personal donation - every penny has been put to good use to cover each camper's \$800 tuition. The 3 young women will be invited to share their camp experience at a fall meeting.

Joanne Brown

Proposal for an AAUW Voter Registration Campaign

Monica Johnston has put together a voter registration campaign for our branch to implement this summer/fall..and it has been approved by the board. Sounds exciting! Would you like to participate? Give her a call.

1. By June 30: The Concord Public Policy Co-Chair(s) will organize the AAUW-Concord Public Policy Committee (goal: 7 people, including the Concord Public Policy Co-Chair(s)).
2. By July 15: The Public Policy Co-Chair(s) will attempt to build effective coalitions with local groups involved in voter registration campaigns to pool resources and avoid duplicating efforts (Recommended by AAUW-CA).
3. By July 30: Each committee member will review the PowerPoint presentation on Women-to Women Voter Turnout and the accompanying manual http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/voter_ed/Woman-to-WomanVoterTurnout.cfm
4. By Aug 30: The committee and collaborators will meet to discuss the many aspects of implementing a voter registration campaign (target dates, target cities/locations, voter registration goals, table/chair set-up details, logistics, day of event troubleshooting, etc.
5. By Sept 30: The voter registration campaign will be implemented, and completed registration forms will be submitted to the proper government agency.
6. October 10: Public Policy Co-Chair(s) will submit a report for the November newsletter to update the membership on the outcome of the voter registration campaign.

Section Meetings

Evening Book: Evening Book will meet on Tuesday, June 10 for reading recommendations at a local book store. Call Helen for more info....we'd love to have you join us!

Helen Nelson, 682-0511

Afternoon Book: We will meet on Monday, June 9 at 1:00 at the home of Ellen Hague. The book to read is *The Friday Night Knitting Club* K. Jacobs. Our summer reading will be *World Without End* by Ken Follett. He is also the author of *Pillars of the Earth*, a favorite 5 years ago.

Lucille Rudik, 686-9165

Bunco will meet again in September 2008. Hope you can join us then.

Public Policy--California

Updates

06/01/08: Voter Registration Committee.

The Concord Branch's Board of Directors is supporting a voter registration campaign and it will occur during the summer or early autumn. In June a voter registration committee will be formed to discuss various issues related to voter registration campaigns. One pressing issue will be to decide where we should set voter registration stands. We will be reviewing voter registration statistics for Contra Costa County to help us make our decision. If you'd like to be on the committee and/or can participate in registering people to vote, please contact me at mjaauw@aol.com by June 5.

ACTION Items

Summer 2008: Please continue to check the AAUW-CA web site or better yet, sign up for Action Alerts. Remember, even if you've missed the opportunity to participate in an Action Alerts, you can still send a follow-up note: a "Thank You" note to your California legislators who voted in a way that supports AAUW and its mission or a note expressing your disappointment if your legislator did not vote in a way that supports the AAUW and its mission. Look for specific ways to do this in the opening newsletter for 2008-09.

Oh, and by the way, if you'd like to be updated about events related to AAUW's mission and/or events organized by our coalition partners, please send your e-mail address to me at mjaauw@aol.com.

~ *Monica Johnston*

Board Meeting highlights.... 5/5/08

Treasurer's Report Jean reported that each of the Tech Trek parents had sent in their \$50.00 which were deposited. Checks for \$382 specified for Tech Trek were received from the CEF account. The budget is in better shape. Patty has not yet cashed checks for expenses. The budget stands at \$7445.

The board decided to reimburse Elaine for her Convention registration of \$160.00. Carol suggested that we consider upping the Convention budget for next year.

Tech Trek We will be sending three girls to Tech Trek this year. The girls have been selected by the committee.

EF/CEF Concord Branch does not give enough to be recognized in the CA/AAUW as a "Top Branch". Jean and Monica reported that those receiving this honor provide around \$75.00 per member and our branch averages about \$35.00 per member.

Fundraising Jean reported that the funds from our Friday prior to Mother's Day Barnes and Noble book sales have not yet been calculated. We will only receive 10% because our total sales will be under \$9000.00. After our Christmas sale, we made 15% because total sales were over \$9000.00.

Public Policy Monica, as Co-Chair, has submitted a public policy proposal to implement AAUW's Voter Registration Campaign. Carol asked if we could obtain other interested members to serve on this committee. She suggested this would be a great way to introduce new members! Monica asked for comments on how to improve accessibility to potential voters. Some suggestions included tables at grocery stores or church, Bart stations, CSUEB, other schools and the Farmers' Market at Todos Santos.

Co-Chair, Margaret Hackenbracht, who has been out due to her husband's death, has sent a lovely note to the group—and has been added to email. Her email address is mh1667@gmail.com.

New Business

Carol reminded us that this is our 60th Anniversary. She will email all members to gather an interested group to plan an Anniversary party. Andrea suggested that some older members might like to reminisce. Several names of people to contact were suggested.

49ers Jean reported that Ronni hosts a party annually for those who have worked and those who might be interested in working the games. Jean is looking for people to help put on this party. Ronni shared that she is hiring Frankie to do the food. After reviewing the June calendar, Sunday, June 7 was selected for this event.

The next meeting will be a summer planning potluck, Thursday, July 31st at the home of Frede Hammes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m

Elaine Groen, Recording Secretary

Take the "Ask A Working Woman" Survey

What do you do if you have to take time off work to care for a sick child or parent? Does having children put you on the mommy track?

Unequal pay. Family and medical leave. Spiraling health care costs. Juggling family and children plus a full-time career.

Hardworking Americans face these issues every day. But all too often, women especially don't have the resources or support to help meet these challenges.

That's why AAUW has joined with Working America, the community affiliate of the AFL-CIO, to conduct a nationwide survey of what it's like to be a working woman. If you're a working woman, that means YOU. And if you're not a working woman, forward this email to your sister, your mother, your coworkers, and your friends to make sure their voice is heard.

The results from this survey have never been more important. Women's rights and labor organizations will use the results from this survey to advocate for women across the country over the next two years. Your voice matters. We want to hear from you (or the women in your life).

Take Action!

Your opinion matters! Please take a moment to complete the "Ask A Working Woman" survey and share your thoughts and experiences:

<http://www.questionpro.com/akira/TakeSurvey?id=900153>

Visit the web address below to tell your friends about the Working Woman Survey.

http://www.unionvoice.org/wa/join-forward.html?domain=wa&r=lp_CciKqGuSf&

AAUW members recognize and are proud of the important gains women have made and remain steadfast in the commitment to creating a level playing field for all women and girls. For more information, see AAUW's position papers on [pay equity](#), [family friendly workplaces](#), [women and Social Security](#), and [affirmative action](#).

Thanks for helping lead the way for women in the workplace. Together we can make lasting change.

Set Aside These Dates...

NOW	Dues are Due
June 9	Afternoon Book
June 10	Evening Book
July 31	New/Old Board Potluck
August 16	49ers first preseason game--Green Bay!
August 29	49ers....and San Diego



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.



Concord AAUW
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AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
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WOMEN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED