

✧ AVANTI ✧

A monthly publication of AAUW, San Francisco, est. in 1886

www.aauw.org

January 2010

Presidents' Messages

Happy New Year!

We had quite a successful holiday luncheon. It was wonderful seeing you and we look forward to making this year the best ever. Make a new year's resolution to become an active member of AAUW, San Francisco. Our board meetings are open to all. Attending is a great way to find out what's going on and to voice your opinion.

Read on to find out other activities happening in our branch.

Wishing you the very best in 2010!!!

Kelly

Ah the January issue of our beloved Avanti. This past year has been a fun one for me. Being a co-president is like having a good friend nearby to bounce ideas off. Kelly and I with the help of AAUW friends have come up with a number of Programs for the coming year. Come to the Memory one so we don't forget one another in the coming year.

Andrea

Travel Club

Sunday, January 3rd, 3 pm, at Elaine Butler's home, 124 Amber Dr. Let's get together and plan some day trips for the year. Please come with ideas! If you are unable to attend, email or phone your ideas to Elaine at 826-3172 or Elaine.butler.sf@sbcglobal.net.

Memory Dynamics at General Meeting

Saturday, January 9th, 2pm, at Barbara Spencer's home, 736 Third Ave. SF. Known to his clients as The Memory Man, David E. Coffill is a firm believer that "People will never forget how you made them feel" and "The greatest discovery we'll ever make is the potential of our own minds." Dave is regarded as

one of America's most entertaining and motivating speakers on the topic of developing an instant recall memory. For the past 26 years, Dave has spoken annually to nearly 200 businesses, corporations and associations and has clients spanning virtually every industry. RSVP Barbara at 221-6690.

Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 13th, 6:00 pm, Pot Luck, 7 Meeting, at Andrea Laudate's home, 243 Missouri St. This will also be a meeting of the Inter-Branch Council. All members are invited to attend. RSVP Andrea at: 864-6789

Afternoon with Books

Friday, January 15th, 1:30 pm, at Joanne Mandel's home, 12 Marne Ave. The book is: **The Elegance of a Hedgehog**, by Muriel Barbery and Alison Anderson. RSVP Joanne at 665-7329.

International Book Group

Monday, January 18th, 7 pm, at Janice Gonsalves' home, 41 Teresita Blvd. The book is **Strength in What Remains**, by Tracy Kidder RSVP Janice at 218-6627.

Mystery/Adventure

Thursday, January 28th, 7:30 pm, at Harriet Sollod's home, 186 Stonecrest Dr. We are asking members to read one of their favorite books by Agatha Christie. The reviewer is Mary Suter. RSVP Harriet at 585-6869.

International Cuisine First Lunch

Friday, January 29th, Noon, Fuji (Japanese) 301 West Portal Ave. We'd like to know the size of the party, if you're coming contact Susan at 828-2082 or CSKwock@yahoo.com.

"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."

Malcolm Forbes

*"Even if you are on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit there."*

Will Rogers

January Birthdays

Susan Kwock Jan 5th
 Melissa Buron Jan 11th
 Angela C. Little Jan 12th
 Marion Colton Jan 19th
 Trinity Ordona Jan 28th

Birthday Not Announced?

If your birthday is not there and you'd like to have it included (or corrected), contact the Membership Co-VPs.

Any 50-Year Members?

If you've been an AAUW member for 50 years, contact one of the Membership VP to have AAUW national and state give you an honorary life membership.

New Members

Deirdre Araujo
 Melissa Buron
 Frances Finney
 Priscilla Kelly
 Susan Kwock
 Deborah Lopez
 Kari Radoff
 Lyudmila Shapovalow
 Sandra Tye
 Marsha Veit
 Jane Wright-Hayes

Contact the Membership Chair to get in touch with the new members and give them a warm welcome.

Avanti Articles
 Please remember to submit any Avanti articles by the 20th.

Membership Updates

If you change your address, kindly notify the Membership Chair.

Quick LAF clicks

Sexual Assault on Campus: www.aauw.org/laf/library/assault.cfm
Chief Justice John Roberts' effect on Title IX? www.aauw.org/newsroom/news/05LADailyNews_RobertsOPED.cfm

AAUW Web Pages

News Page & Media Alerts: (use links on page to subscribe) www.aauw.org/About/newsroom/news/index.cfm
Actions to take: www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/index.cfm
Mission in Action: www.aauw.org/publications/mission/index.cfm
Two Minute Activities: capwiz.com/aauf/home
US Congressional Voting Record aaufaction.org/VoterEd/CVR.htm

Tech Trek

Tech Trek Donation Form

I'm interested in sponsoring girls to go to Tech Trek 2010! I pledge the following amount towards sending girls to camp.

- \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200
- \$800 (1 girl) \$ _____

Make checks payable to AAUW-CA SPF with Tech Trek SF in the memo line.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail your donation addressed to:

Elaine Butler
 124 Amber Dr
 San Francisco, CA 94131-1626

2009-AAUW-

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Get the Avanti Faster

If you'd like to receive the Avanti via email not US mail, please tell one of the Membership VPs, so that a printed copy will not be sent to you. If you prefer, we will continue to print and mail the Avanti to you.

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**Why are Some Non-
Titles Underlined?**

Read the Avanti at our website and click on the underlined phrase, it opens a browser on a more complete article or an email to the member's address.

**Online AAUW
Branch**

There is an online AAUW California Branch at www.AAUWCaOnline.org. Their dues are \$10 if you're already a member.

Future Travel Club

Filoli Home & Gardens;
Pardee House

Tech Trek

December ends with sending nomination forms and criteria to science teachers at SFUSD. If anyone would like to participate by sending the 2010 information and forms to math and science teachers, please let me know. I can be reached at 826-3172, or ElaineButler124@Comcast.net

We are also collecting pledges for 2010 (see form). The pledges are not due until March 1, 2010. Several members made donations at the Holiday Luncheon. The Tech Trek Committee thanks the following:

Melly Metcalf**Pat Camarena****Jane Williams****Catherine Hsuan****Corrine Sacks****Kathleen Cha****Playing Now****Paula Campbell**

What a mind blowing, gender-bending treat is David Greenspan's *She Stoops to Comedy*, now playing at the SF Playhouse. In the opposite tradition of women playing breeches roles (men's roles), the male actor Liam Vincent plays lesbian actress Alexandra, the main female character, to perfection. And does so without drag – in men's clothing, sans female makeup. When Alexandra's lover, Alison, played with appropriate wide eyed innocence by Sally Clawson, goes out of town to perform in *Twelfth Night* (a Shakespearean gender bender) Alexandra, who fears Alison is tiring of her and plans to break up, follows her in disguise as a man, gets a part in the play and woos her back. So let's get this straight – pun intended – we have a woman character, played by a man, disguising herself as a man, in order to woo a woman.

To compound the confusion, the same actress, the redoubtable Amy Resnick,

plays two women friends of Alexandra and Alison. The two characters appear together in an amazing scene in which they end up on a bed, making love. Imagine the scene if you will, two people passionately going at it – but they are both played by the same person – now she's on top, now on the bottom. Mark Rucker's skillful direction brings out every possible laugh. It's probably one of the funniest scenes presented on any stage this year.

Top all this off with an assortment of zany supporting characters, beautifully played by Cole Alexander Smith, Carly Cioffi, and most particularly Scott Capurro, whose monologue on being gay leaves the audience in tears, and you're in for a theatrical tour de force.

The set, by Bill English, is yet another example of his design creativity. What Bill English can create in a confined space is mind-boggling and never ceases to amaze and delight this reviewer.

She Stoops to Comedy, San Francisco Playhouse, 533 Sutter St. To Jan 9, Tues. 7pm, Wed-Sat 8pm, Sat and Sun 3pm. 415- 677-9596

Housebound Member

Anahit Shaterian is housebound and needs a ride to various events. She lives on Chestnut St. in North Beach and would like to attend events. Her funds are low and taxis are expensive. Her phone number is 415 346-6324.

Scandalous?

Pat Camarena

Vanessa Redgrave played her character on film. The medical community uses her name to illustrate an injury syndrome. Angela was thought by some of her critics to be a libertine and by some of her admirers to be a liberator. This San Francisco native is often considered to be the mother of modern dance. She grew up in straight-laced Victorian times in a cultured family that had fallen on hard economic times. A school dropout, she and her sisters taught dancing to make ends meet. Though she had Bay Area roots, Angela lived most of her life in Europe dancing professionally to great acclaim and opening many dance academies introducing interested students to the modern dance styles she advocated. She eschewed tightly corseted clothing and conventional ballet moves, favoring instead natural movement using swirly loose free flowing costumes. Angela further antagonized and scandalized early 20th century society in her personal life, having many liaisons, male and female. She became a Soviet citizen and an ardent supporter of the Russian Revolution. To the medical profession her name became synonymous with the "long scarf syndrome" describing accidents, often fatal, caused by long flowing clothing getting entangled in machinery. This kind of accident was indeed what caused Angel's demise in the Roaring Twenties. While in Nice, riding with a French playboy in a sports car, her long free flowing neck scarf became entangled in a rear wheel. Angela is better known to us today as (Angela) Isadora Duncan, perhaps both as a liberator and a libertine.

Silver Jubilee Scholarships

Barbara Spencer (bcspencer@comcast.net)

Silver Jubilee Scholarship Chair

The San Francisco AAUW branch will offer scholarships of \$2,000 each to help upper division and graduate school women complete their final year of study in an accredited college or university for the school year 2010-2011. Candidates must live or be attending a university or college within a 100-mile distance of San Francisco and be on track to complete their course of study by June 2011. There is no restriction on the use of the funds. Completed applications are due by March 1st, 2010.

If you are interested, or have friends or relatives who may benefit from the scholarship, please check the Silver Jubilee Fund information on the AAUW San Francisco website at www.aauwsf.org.

Protect Reproductive Health Care Coverage

On Christmas Eve, the Senate passed (60-39) the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ([H.R. 3590](#)), its health care reform bill. The bill includes many of AAUW's key priorities, including coverage for maternity care, preventive care, an end to gender rating, and other protections for women. It's a victory for millions of Americans who are one step closer to quality, affordable health care.

Select members of both chambers of Congress will soon be tasked with combining this bill with the House-passed Affordable Health Care for America Act ([H.R. 3962](#)). One of the key differences between the two bills lies in the area of reproductive health care coverage.

While the Senate defeated the Nelson amendment, its version of the House-passed Stupak amendment, the Senate bill requires women to purchase what amounts to a rider policy to cover abortion services. In addition, as the two bills are merged into one, language similar to the Stupak amendment could still be included in the final version of the health care reform bill. Clearly, the battle isn't over yet. [Contact your members of Congress now](#) to remind them that health care reform should not come at the cost of women's reproductive health.

Current law, reinforced in both bills, already dictates that federal taxpayer dollars cannot be used to pay for abortion. However, as you know, the Stupak amendment would eliminate private insurance coverage for abortion services under health plans offered in a government-run exchange system, effectively instituting a domestic gag rule. If language similar to the Stupak amendment is included in the final health care reform bill, millions of women, including those in private plans who paid premiums with their own money, would lose the coverage they currently have. We need to continue to fight to ensure that measures like the Stupak amendment, and any other attempts to weaken women's access to complete reproductive health care coverage that go beyond current law, stay

out of the bill that ultimately reaches the president's desk.

[Take Action!](#)

Write your members of Congress and ask them to urge their colleagues tasked with merging the two bills to oppose any attempts to jeopardize women's access to complete reproductive health care coverage as the bills are combined. Simply click on the "Take Action" link in the upper right corner or copy and paste the following URL into your Internet browser. Then follow the instructions to compose and send your message.

<http://www.capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=14502871>

In addition, AAUW invites you to join us and coalition partners in Washington, DC on Wednesday, Jan. 20th to lobby Congress and rally on Capitol Hill to protect women's reproductive rights as negotiations over health care coverage move forward. If you can participate, please [fill out our online form](#) and let us know you'll be joining us. AAUW will assist you in setting up meetings with your members of Congress. If you're not able to make it to D.C. but are interested in participating in a local event, [let us know](#); we'll do our best to inform you of events in your area. You can also use our [Stop Stupak twibbon](#) and the hashtag #StopStupak on Twitter to help spread the word.

AAUW has long believed that politicians should not insert themselves into the decision-making process when it comes to reproductive health care, which is a basic element of women's overall health care. AAUW is part of the [Stop Stupak Coalition](#), a broad group of advocacy organizations working for final passage of a health care reform bill that provides comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion. Read more about AAUW's position on [health care reform](#) and [reproductive rights](#).

[Help turn AAUW research into action!](#)

We have a pivotal new research report coming out – ***Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*** - but we need \$52,043.35 to get it into the right hands.

This study shows that negative stereotypes about women's and girls' abilities in science and math are still alive and well. We know that these gender biases damage our daughters, sisters, friends, and others throughout their lives. Women are being excluded

from many well-paying jobs and discouraged in the classroom and the workplace. Subtle and overt biases steer women away from mathematically demanding jobs. *Girls are being robbed of their dreams and diverted from science and math classes and activities.*

If gender barriers that prevent women from being part of the explosion of mathematically and scientifically demanding jobs remain in place, generations of women will continue to think that they cannot attain success in these rewarding occupations. [Help us break through these barriers now!](#)

This research report not only exposes the biases against women and girls in math and science, it highlights simple, proven solutions that will level the playing field.

[Your secure, tax-deductible online gift via our Eleanor Roosevelt Fund is needed right now to help us counter the outrageous stereotypes and biases against women and girls who love math and science.](#)

Please help us get *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics* into the hands of the educators, lawmakers, and community leaders who can help us change the way math and science are taught.

As AAUW members and friends, we know that women and girls can succeed in math and science, but most people still regard math and science jobs as "male" occupations. We are in the position to change this backward thinking and discriminatory treatment of women and girls. We need your help to level the playing field. [Please donate today.](#)

Sincerely,

Catherine Hill, Ph.D.

AAUW Director of Research

P.S. [Make a tax-deductible donation via our Eleanor Roosevelt Fund today to help us break through the barriers of gender stereotypes and biases](#) - by getting AAUW's crucial new research and recommendations into the hands of those who can give women and girls a fair chance to achieve their dreams.



CCSF English 48B

This spring—**Thursdays 7:00-10:00 PM**

Creative Arts Building 314

(Phelan/Ocean Campus)

(Bart: Balboa)

Starts January 19th—Come join us as we read crime and mystery novels that take place in San Francisco! We'll also view and use films and television (classic and current) in our studies and discussion.

Taught by mystery author Seth Harwood (**Jack Wakes Up** - 2009). Other notable SF authors will stop by to talk about their novels as we read them.

Course can be taken for credit, graded, un-graded, or audited to just join the discussion. Credits transferable to CSU and UC.

For more info: email sharwood@ccsf.edu; call 206-350-4998; or show up for first class on January 19th to register.

Seth has been a speaker at the Mystery Book club and Pat Camarena & Andrea have taken some of his other classes and recommend them. City College is canceling classes that have too few students, please consider signing up to ensure continuation of such courses.

“...it changed some of my opinions about my future careers. I also found out about if I try, there will be many opportunities to chase my dreams.”

Jesse – Tech Trek 2009

“I cannot explain in words how grateful I am for being sent to Tech Trek. It gave me the opportunity to actually see Stanford the way students see it. I got to live in the same dorms and eat the same food as Stanford students.”

Hannah – Tech Trek 2009

“Thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to Tech Trek. I have enjoyed many of my classes such as math, my core class, robotics and professional women’s night.”

Adair – Tech Trek 2009

“I truly appreciate all the time and effort you put into raising money to us to attend. I really enjoyed learning all about the Complexity of animation. That presentation shined a new light on movies that I will think about the next time I watch an animated movie.”

Riley – Tech Trek 2009

“Thanks for everything and for electing me to go to Tech Trek. I got to use a Nintendo DS. My core class was Math. I got to meet new people ...I ended up having fun!”

Edith – Tech Trek 2009

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Happy New Year!					1	2
3 3pm Travel Club	4	5	6	7	8	9 2pm Memory Dynamics
10	11	12	13 6:30 pm Board Meeting	14	15 1:30pm Afternoon with Books	16
17	18 7 pm International Book Group	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 7:30 pm Mystery/Adventure	29 Noon International Cuisine	30
31						

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Avanti Editor

AAUW
 San Francisco Branch
 P.O. Box 31405
 San Francisco, CA 94131-0405
 Address Correction Requested

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation’s leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. Its national membership of 100,000 seeks to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. It remains the state’s most active and diverse organization for women with 14,000 members in more than 150 branches, plus 6,000 members-at-large.



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Marie Curie & AAUW

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. Even one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her ground-breaking research had reached a virtual standstill. Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

Educational Foundation

In 1873, a prominent Boston physician, Dr. E.H. Clarke, wrote a book arguing that too much study would give women brain fever and render their children sickly, if they were to have them at all.

The Association of Collegiate Alumnae (AAUW’s chief predecessor) fought this contention in 1885 and won, by gathering data from its members to show that they had suffered no ill health from their college and postgraduate education. In 1888, the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae (founded here in San Francisco) made educational history by establishing the first graduate fellowship for women (given to Vassar graduate Ida Street).

California is still the largest contributor, enabling the Educational Foundation to award nearly \$3 million in grants to women at the dissertation or doctoral level, and to those pursuing career-related or community-based projects.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing inDecative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund’s annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes inDecative and replicable college and university programs.