

✧ AVANTI ✧

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

www.aauwsf.org

February 2010

Presidents' Messages

February is Matters of the heart month. What do you love to do? Let us know. If you haven't been to the Exploratorium in a while come and say hello in February. Read a book and come to one of our many clubs. Let me know what your feelings are about a Health column. Our longtime friend Angie Durso has fallen and is in the hospital even as I write this. I am visiting another longtime friend Barbara Wood tomorrow – also under the weather. I am bringing her some soup. If you are hospital bound or coming home from one and would like some homemade soup – e-mail me and we will connect.

**Much Karma,
Andrea**

Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 10th, 6:00 pm, Pot Luck, 7 Meeting, at Marilyn Leal's home, 4325 19th St. This will also be a meeting of the Inter-Branch Council. All members are invited to attend. RSVP Marilyn at: 626-4110

Travel Club

Sunday, February 14th, 1 pm, bring your Valentine and meet at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., between Guerrero and Valencia. Public transportation: Muni lines 14, 39, 49 and 16th St. BART Station. We will be exploring the Murals and the Multi-Ethnic Mission With the City Guides. RSVP Elaine at 826-3172 or ElaineButler124@comcast.net.

International Book Group

Monday, February 15th, 7 pm, at Sheila Bost's home, 19 Wawona St. We are reading **Finding Nouf**, by Zoe Ferraris. RSVP Sheila at 664-4985.

Afternoon with Books

Friday, February 19th, 1:30 pm, at Jane Williams' home at 4022 21st St. We are reading, **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** by William Steig Larsson. RSVP Jane at 826-1158.

Exploratorium General Meeting

Sunday, February 21st, 3 pm, the [Exploratorium](#) museum of science, art and human perception is celebrating its [40th anniversary!](#) Join SF Branch member Deirdre Araujo, Manager Volunteer Services in McBean Theater for an overview of the museum's history and philosophy, then choose from one of several activities: exhibit demonstrations led by our [High School Explainers](#), a behind the scenes tour with Deirdre, or a Palace Grounds tour with one of our outstanding volunteers.

Each AAUW member participant in Sunday's meeting will receive one free pass to return to the Exploratorium. Click here for information about the [Pi Day](#) program in March and April's adult-oriented program "Risk Everything" [After Dark](#) .

RSVP to Deirdre Araujo daraujo@exploratorium.edu by February 17th, 2010. Questions? Contact Deirdre at 415 353-0464. All registered participants' names will be at the door at 10 am, in case you'd like to enjoy the museum on your own before the 3pm program begins!

Exploratorium at the Palace of Fine Arts
3601 Lyon Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

Mystery/Adventure

Thursday, February 25th, 7:30 pm, at Joanne Bellan's home, 2466 23rd Ave. We are reading **Up in Smoke**, by Charlene Weir. No reviewer chosen, please do a little on your own. RSVP Joanne at 664-2366.

International Cuisine First Lunch

Our first lunch was at Fuji Japanese restaurant, everyone enjoyed their prix fix lunch. Next outing will be in March, if you have restaurant suggestions (or just want to come) contact Susan at 828-2082 or CSKwock@yahoo.com.

“Employ thy time well if thou meanest to gain leisure.”

Benjamin Franklin

February Birthdays

Barbara Bressen Wood Feb 4th
 Margel Kaufman Feb 8th
 Corrine Sacks Feb 25th

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/aauw/home
US Congressional Voting Record aauwaction.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

Harley Goat Farm
City College Murals &
Conservatory
Filoli Home & Gardens
– Apple Festival;
Marine Mammal Ctr
Tour de Fleurs

Tech Trek

The timeline is speeding up as the teachers return their nominations. If anyone would like to participate by sending the Applications to the nominated students, please let me know. I can be reached at 826-3172, or ElaineButler124@Comcast.net.

Support for Families (my wonderful employer) is again donating space for the Committee interviews. The dates for interviews of the girls and their families are **March 20 & 21 from 10-4** each day. Please let me know if you would like to help with the interviews. Two people interview each girl and we have shifts. You will use a set of predetermined questions.

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

Mardi Kildebeck

Cathy Corcoran

Elaine & Steve Butler

The Mary Wolford Foundation

Sheila Bost

Playing Now

Paula Campbell

The current revival of the 1964 Broadway musical Fiddler on the Roof, now playing at the Golden Gate Theatre, is a heartbreaker – but for all the wrong reasons. Anyone who, like me, saw and loved the original production might not recognize this as the same show. To be sure, the music is the same, the book is the same, the set vaguely reminiscent of the original (which was meant to resemble a Marc Chagall painting) but there the comparison ends.

The heart of Fiddler is Tevye the milkman, the main character. A man much put upon by fate, Tevye is, nonetheless, a man of enormous

dignity and strength. His simple wisdom and faith in his God makes him a wise father and respected citizen of Anatevka, his small village in 1905 Russia. Zero Mostel, the original Tevye, created a sympathetic character, who touched the audience's heart and won both its admiration and respect.

Harvey Fierstein, playing Tevye in this production, doesn't have any idea who Tevye is. He seems to think he's appearing in a different show. His Tevya mugs, makes faces, makes noises – yes that's right – he makes noises – and in short is a clown. Gone is the simple wisdom, replaced by broadly played buffoonery. Now let me say at once that I love Harvey Fierstein's work. I have been an ardent admirer for many years. So I was really looking forward to seeing his Tevye. By intermission I was disappointed and confused – how could he so completely misinterpret the character. By the final curtain I was in a state of shock. Even in the last moments of the show, when Tevye and the other villagers have been forced out of their beloved Anatevka and are scattering to the winds, even as Tevye realizes he may never see his three elder daughters again, even in the face of life as these people have always known it ending forever – Fierstein clowned and mugged. It was appalling to see.

Perhaps for an audience that's never seen Fiddler before the show might seem entertaining, but the meaning and purpose are lost, and for audiences who know the show this production is a travesty.

The production is directed by Sammy Dallas Bayes, who either failed to control his leading man, or worse, deliberately directed him to create this disaster. Bayes also attempted to "reproduce" Jerome Robbins original choreography. The attempt failed.

Enough said.

Fiddler on the Roof, Golden Gate Theatre, corner Golden Gate and Taylor, San Francisco, to Feb 21, Tues-Sat 8pm, Wed, Sat, Sun 2pm. 415-512-7770, or www.shnsf.com or www.ticketmaster.com

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.

Lydia's Farewell Song

Pat Camarena

Lydia grew up as one of many children in a busy royal Hawaiian household in the early 1800s. From an early age she studied music and played quite a few musical instruments such as the zither, piano, guitar, ukulele, and organ. She sang and composed lyrics to more than 160 poetic melodies and chants over her long lifetime. One of her songs became the Hawaiian national anthem for many years. Through her music and lyrics she expressed her feelings about Hawaii and its people. Due to the deaths of her two brothers, she found herself elevated to Queen. Lots of political infighting and disputes over succession and royal power sharing made her reign difficult. Attempts to overthrow her reign followed. The growing influence of American interests and anxiety over having a female ruler led to calls for Hawaiian annexation. Lydia later abdicated her throne and spent time under house arrest. During this time she composed much music. Her musical efforts helped to preserve key elements of Hawaiian traditional poetry mixing in western harmonies. Queen Lydia also promoted and supported the development of Buddhism and Shintoism, which helped these religions gain acceptance in Hawaiian society as Asian immigrants were arriving in greater numbers. Hawaii soon was annexed by the United States. Lydia is best known as Queen Lili'uokalani. However, one little known fact is that she was the composer of a very popular Hawaiian farewell song universally recognized. Known to most visitors today as "Aloha Oe", Lydia originally intended the song to be a love song. After seeing two lovers sharing a fond farewell as she was riding her horse back over the mountains to Honolulu, she was inspired to write the lyrics. Twenty years later, she completed this song as a

farewell to her native land as Hawaii lost its independence. Queen Lili'uokalani was the last Hawaiian monarch. The traditional melodies live on in her timeless music. www.pbs.org, www.uic.edu, www.archives.starbulletin.com

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.

Directory Updates

Please make changes in your directory.

- First page in board members: It is Kelly Joseph not Joseph Kelly.
- Pat Camarena's biography is misplaced in Melissa Buron's biography.
- Jane Williams' biography is misplaced in Christina Wildsoet's biography.
- Andrea Laudate had her biography taken out. It was: President of the branch now and president in 2002-2004. Written two cookbooks and working on the third book. Received **Heroes in Education Award** for the branch.
- Delores Schoen should be Delores C. Schoen, Ph.D

If anyone wants to update or change the directory, let Mary Suter know.

AAUW News You Can Use

AAUW's [reaction to President Barack Obama's state of the union address](#) was posted on AAUW Dialog. Here is a [great example of how a branch](#) has used the video to amplify the message.

Access Services of the San Francisco Public Library in partnership
with Older Adults Department of City College presents

Mental Aerobics



A free class offered to adults 55 and older. Exercise your brain in fun and creative ways to maintain and improve cognitive vitality and memory.

Attend one or all of the classes.
Register in class.

Mondays, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
January 25–May 24, 2010

No class February 15 or March 29.

Main Library, Lower Level
Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room



All programs at the Library are free.
Supported by City College of San Francisco (CCSF)



San Francisco Public Library

1123-24284

Main Library 100 Larkin St. (at Grove) (415) 557-4277 sfpl.org

AAUW Action Network

Friday, Jan. 29 marks the one-year anniversary of the enactment of the **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act**. As the first piece of legislation signed into law by the new president, it was a proud moment for AAUW Action Network members – a reward for all the emails sent, calls made, and visits paid to your members of Congress. Together with the House passage of the **Paycheck Fairness Act**, we felt we were on the road to fair pay.

But a year later, the Paycheck Fairness Act, the essential companion legislation to the Ledbetter bill, remains stalled in the Senate. **And your senator, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, still hasn't signed on as a cosponsor or put any pressure on the Senate leadership to move the bill.** What a difference a year *almost* made for women and their families in

California. But there is good news: thanks to your efforts, **the Senate leadership just announced that a Senate committee hearing on the Paycheck Fairness Act will be scheduled in the next few months!** This is the next critical step toward getting the bill to the floor for a vote. Even if you have taken action on this issue before, **Sen. Feinstein needs to hear from you now! Urge her to cosponsor and move to quickly pass the Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182).**

As **Lilly said** a year ago, passing the **Ledbetter bill** without passing the Paycheck Fairness Act is like giving someone a nail but not a hammer. And data released by U.S. Census Bureau showed that, in 2008, women continued to earn just 77 cents for each dollar earned by her male counterpart.

The **Paycheck Fairness Act**, a much needed update of the 46-year-old Equal Pay Act, is a comprehensive bill that would create stronger incentives for employers to follow the law, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and strengthen federal outreach, education and enforcement efforts. The bill would also deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages-provisions that would have helped Lilly. In short, the bill updates the law to reflect the practices and processes under more recent civil rights laws.

When the House passed both the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act a year ago, they demonstrated a firm, bipartisan resolve to attack wage discrimination on all fronts. Now, a year later, it's past time the Senate does the same.

Take Action!

To urge Sen. Feinstein to support and quickly pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, simply click on link below or copy and paste the URL into your browser. Then follow the instructions to compose and send **y o u r m e s s a g e .**
www.capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=14602201

[See what the wage gap is in your state.](#) Learn more about the **[Paycheck Fairness Act](#)**, and read **[Lilly Ledbetter's letter](#)** supporting the bill. Find out more

about what you can do to mark [Equal Pay Day](#) on April 20.

The grassroots liaisons in AAUW's new [Leadership Corps](#) program will be reaching out to AAUW branch leaders to provide mentoring and assistance. Whether you are a member of an AAUW branch (an officer or not) or a member-at-large interested in becoming involved with other AAUW members, please fill out the [online form here](#) to indicate areas of branch programming or administration for which you would like assistance.

Help Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

On Nov. 23, President Barack Obama announced the establishment of [National Lab Day](#), an effort supported by AAUW and more than 200 other organizations representing over 6.5 million science, technology, engineering and math professionals and teachers. Now is the time to get involved!

Are you a math, science, or engineering teacher? Are you a professional scientist, engineer, college student, or professor? If so, National Lab Day is for you. Visit the National Lab Day website at www.nationallabday.org/groups/aauw to join in this exciting new initiative.

While National Lab Day is tentatively scheduled for early May 2010, it is more than just a day. It's a nationwide movement to bring together science, technology, engineering, and math professionals and teachers to provide high quality, hands-on, lab experiences for students. It's about all of us working together to give children access to well-equipped labs and to the professionals who can inspire them.

AAUW members and supporters are critical to the success of National Lab Day. These projects will be teacher driven. Teachers can partner with outside experts to work to assess current labs, update or refurbish lab equipment, conduct equipment and materials inventory, or clean and repair equipment. Or you can elect to have professionals work with you to:

- implement hands-on projects
- start a fundraising effort to buy needed supplies
- help with science fairs
- mentor a student

- coordinate and host field trips
- provide internship opportunities
- donate materials
- assist with lesson plans

Projects can also center on computer or outdoor labs-anywhere where hands-on lessons in these subjects can come alive. These are just a few of the suggestions, and many more can be found at www.nationallabday.org/projects/all.

In addition, we will need the help of professional scientists, engineers, and college students and professors. These volunteers will engage in activities with teachers. There are many ways for professionals to be involved such as:

- find, donate, or repair equipment
- implement hands-on projects
- help with science fairs
- mentor a student
- chaperone field trips
- provide internship opportunities
- donate materials
- help with lesson plans
- be an advisor for an after-school program

To participate, simply visit www.nationallabday.org/groups/aauw and click on "teachers" or "scientists and engineers." Then fill out the form. Please select American Association of University Women (AAUW) as the professional organization. You can also see what projects have already been entered at www.nationallabday.org/projects/all. If you are a volunteer, this is a great way to sign up for already existing projects. If you are a teacher, click on [projects](#) to get ideas about the types of projects teachers are doing.

Attracting women and girls to these fields is critical to U.S. competitiveness.

If women and members of other traditionally underrepresented groups joined the science, engineering, technology, and math workforce in proportion to their representation in the overall labor force, the shortage of these professionals would disappear. Although women make up half of the workforce, they only comprise 25 percent of the labor force in science, engineering and technology fields.

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 6:30 pm Board Meeting	11	12	13
14 1 pm Travel Club	15 7 pm Internationa l Book Group	16	17	18	19 1:30pm Afternoon with Books	20
21 3 pm Exploratorium	22	23	24	25 7:30 pm Mystery/ Adventure	26	27
28						

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Avanti Editor

AAUW
 San Francisco Branch
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 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.