



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

[www.aauwsf.org](http://www.aauwsf.org)

January 2013

## President's Message

The AAUW San Francisco annual Holiday luncheon was held at Mescolanza restaurant on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Our event began with heavy hearts as we took a moment of silence to remember the families and friends of the children and school staff who lost their lives in Newtown, Connecticut, a terrible tragedy. I was delighted to introduce three new members that were in attendance: Robin Brasso, Aysha Handley and Marilyn Lindsey. Members and friends in attendance enjoyed great food and company. As we bid farewell to 2012, now is the time to reflect on our achievements as a Branch and to look forward to 2013 as we strive to achieve our goals for AAUW. Before we know it, mission-based efforts, such as Silver Jubilee and Tech Trek scholarships will be kicking into high gear. We have much to look forward to and as a Branch our contributions to continue to make an impact in San Francisco.

Happy New Year!  
Cathy Corcoran  
President



AAUWSF Board Members, Holiday Luncheon, December 2012



## Title IX Event - You're Invited

The Menlo Atherton Branch is hosting an event on Title IX and San Francisco Branch members and their friends are invited to attend.

**What:** Forty Years of Title IX: And There Is More to Do

**Who:** Elizabeth Kristen, SF Attorney and member of AAUW who has done legal work for Title IX

**When:** January 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00am

**Where:** Menlo Park Council Chambers, 701 Laurel Avenue, Menlo Park (note it is Avenue as we also have a Laurel Street), roughly between the City Hall and the Police Station.

There is parking past the driveway for the Police Dept. Arrivals should come at 10 a.m. for coffee, with the speaker at 10:30am for thirty to forty-five minutes, and Q&A to follow. The Branch will be taking the speaker to lunch nearby, at a new restaurant in Menlo Park, Menlo Hub on El Camino, located near Council Chambers. AAUW members and their guests who care to come are welcome. Reservations in advance are recommended.

### Board Meeting

The first meeting of 2013 will be held on Wednesday, January 9th, 6:30 p.m., for potluck, with meeting to start at 7 p.m., at Marilyn's Leal's home, 4325 19th Street. All members are invited. RSVP Marilyn at 626-4110.

### International Book Group

The next International Book Group will be held on Monday, Jan. 21, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sherry Bridygham, 1723 42nd Ave. We will be reading "The Sense of an Ending" by Julian Barnes, the 2011 winner of the Man Booker prize. Please RSVP to Sherry at (415) 665-7761 or [bridy@earthlink.net](mailto:bridy@earthlink.net).

### Afternoon With Books

**January 18 - 1:30 PM (date may change)**  
Hostess: Elaine Butler, 124 Amber Dr.  
Book and Author: The Ryer Avenue Story, by Dorothy Uhnak  
Group discusses the book. Members are encouraged to bring author information and discussion questions.

### Mystery/Adventure

**January 24, 7:30 PM**  
Hostess: Susan Schwartz, 701 Laguna Honda Blvd  
Book and Author: The Gatsby Vineyard, by A. Maxwell  
Reviewer: Susan Peliks  
RSVP: Susan at 661-8038

### Travel Group

**The Travel Group will be meeting on Saturday, January 5, at 11 am at the Walt Disney Family Museum.**

The address is 104 Montgomery Street (on the Presidio, not the Montgomery Street downtown), San Francisco.

If there are 10 or more of us, those under 65 will pay \$15 and those over 65 will pay \$12.

Otherwise, admission is \$20 for those under 65 and \$15 for those over 65.

If you are taking public transportation, the instructions are here:

<http://www.waltdisney.org/transportation>

Join us and be a kid again!



Elaine Butler and Adrienne Kristine

### Music Personified Pat Camarena

Emma was a little girl with a big voice. She grew up living in mining camps in the California foothills and in Nevada where everyone loved to hear her sing. Her physician father encouraged his only child. Small dark haired Emma made her singing debut at the age of five. Even as an untrained child, her voice attracted considerable attention. She graduated from Mills College studying languages and music while there. Emma also mastered sign language and several Native American languages. Soon she was off to Europe where she was to spend most of her adult life. She studied in Paris and at La Scala in Milan. Her wonderful soprano voice made her world famous. Mostly touring in Europe, she sang for many heads of state in private concerts. Emma did tour the United States on a few occasions. For her San Francisco concert, she wore a flowering robe of white camel hair and Japanese silk trimmed with gold bullion. On her head was a golden wreath of laurel leaves. In the audience

were many of her childhood friends cheering her on as she sang many old American favorites. Pablo Casals was one of her accompanists. Emma sang seemingly effortlessly but of course, years of preparation preceded her successful operatic career. "Music personified" was the description of her performance voiced by one newspaper. Emma Wixom is better known to us today by her stage name of Emma Nevada by which she paid homage to the home of her youth.

[Www.msu.edu](http://Www.msu.edu)

[Www.unr.edu](http://Www.unr.edu)

#### Avanti Articles

Please remember to submit Avanti articles to Corrine Sacks by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month via email to: [cpsacks@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsacks@yahoo.com)

#### Get the *Avanti* Faster

If you'd like to receive the Avanti via email notice rather than US mail, please tell the Membership VP, and then a printed copy will not be sent to you. If you prefer, we will continue to print and mail the Avanti to you.

### Playing Now Paula Campbell

Two shows to talk about today, the first at a theatre I haven't discussed before.

**The Marvelous Wonderettes**, at the New Conservatory Theatre is a charming, delightful musical, and rather a stretch for the NCT. NCT is a gay theatre, and most of its shows focus on gay characters and issues. **The Marvelous Wonderettes** is the first show I've seen there, in the many years I've subscribed, that's all about girls – real girls. Written and created by Roger Bean, the show originated in New York, at the Off Broadway

Westside Theatre. We're at the Springfield High School Senior Prom, it's 1958, and the entertainment is a singing quartet, the Marvelous Wonderettes, four girls in their fanciest hairdos, swinging crinolines, and the kind of angst only teen age girls experience. We learn about their hopes, dreams, heart throbs and heartaches, and listen to them sing the popular songs of the 50's (and 60's) that take us on a trip down nostalgia lane. Act II is set in 1968, the class ten year reunion. The girls sing and talk about all that's happened; what's become of their dreams and aspirations. They are older and wiser, but even better able to belt out their songs with enough force and feeling to carry the audience away. Directed by Ed Decker, the NCT's Artistic Director, it's a great show for the new year, it's a great show for women, and it's just one heck of a lot of fun. Don't miss it – see it soon and discover a whole new San Francisco theatre you might otherwise have never known about.

**The Marvelous Wonderettes**, through Jan 13. NCTC The New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave at Market St. Wed – Sat 8pm, Sun 2 pm. Box office 861-8972, online [nctcs.org](http://nctcs.org) (click Buy Tickets).

Our old favorite, the San Francisco Playhouse, in their sparkling new home, has another hit with this season's second show, John Van Druten's **Bell, Book and Candle**. It's a light hearted, touching play, about a witch who falls in love with a human and loses her powers. Don't groan – this is NOT a rehash of the old TV series *Bewitched* – but quite the opposite. **Bell, Book, and Candle** opened on Broadway in 1950, with Lili Palmer and Rex Harrison in the leading roles. In 1958 it was made into what is now a film classic, with Kim Novak and Jimmy Stewart (supported by Jack Lemmon, Elsa Lancaster, Ernie Kovacks, and Hermione Gingold.) I only mention this to make clear what a great show this is – power house stars such as the above listed don't make B movies. The Playhouse production sparkles with wit, charm, and -- how else can I say it – magic. The show is directed by the brilliant Bill English, San Francisco Playhouse co-founder. He also designed the set, a gorgeous New York apartment, through whose huge windows we watch the sky, as Gillian, the witchy main character, causes lightening to flash and thunder to rumble before our very eyes and ears. Gillian is

played to perfection by Lauren English, back from her graduate studies at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, MFA in Acting firmly in hand. This is the SF Playhouse's tenth season. I've subscribed from the beginning, and have watched the talented Lauren English grow and mature into the amazingly excellent actor she is today. **Bell, Book, and Candle** is one of my favorite films -- I approached this production with trepidation that it wouldn't live up to my expectations -- how wrong I was! The production is all I hoped and more -- it's meaningful, moving, and yes, I have to say it again, magical! It's definitely a go see!

**Bell, Book, and Candle**, through Jan 19. Tues-Wed-Thurs 7pm Fri/Sat 8pm, Sat 3pm, and Sun 2pm. 450 Post Street (2nd Floor of Kensington Park Hotel) between Mason and Powell, Box Office 415.677.9596 fax: 415.677.9597 online [sfplayhouse.org](http://sfplayhouse.org) (click BUY)

## January Birthdays

Fan Kong	January 3
Susan Kwock	January 5
Pat Morin	January 15
Marion Colton	January 19
Ramona Muniz	January 24
Terese Terry	January 27
Aysha Handley	January 31

### Birthday Not Announced?

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

## Welcome New Members

Norma Lee  
Camille Harris

## Public Policy Notes

### (SF Commission on the Status of Women DOSW)

On 5 December the Commission held a joint meeting with the Police Commission.

The focus was on San Francisco's response to domestic and family violence. DOSW commissioners and members of the domestic violence prevention services community such as Kathy Black and Beverly Upton, noted that we can't take a cookie-cutter approach to domestic violence; that domestic violence is the most reported crime, with a 202% increase in reporting 2010-2011; that victims and families now have access 24/7/365 to support services, in over 60 languages.

Domestic violence prosecutions are complicated by such challenges as the high percentage of victims recanting, and language barriers. Noted was that in 2012 there had been zero (0) homicides due to family violence, a remarkable achievement attributed to a focus on prevention, seeing it as a family rather than "women's" issue, and extensive trust and cooperation including education and data sharing, between the domestic violence prevention community and police. "We're not operating in silos any more," said Commissioner Andrea Shorter.

Child abuse and elder abuse are considered part of family violence rather than treated as separate or disparate issues. The Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect and nonprofit Institute on Aging, along with colleagues in law enforcement, civil law and medicine, developed a special mobile app, "368+" for California law enforcement, as a guide for elder and dependent adult abuse. Most elder abuse cases are committed by a family member.

The commissions jointly supported reauthorizing the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and recognized the 10 year anniversary of the Justice & Courage Project on Domestic Violence Policy.

**Tech Trek Report**

Police Chief Greg Suhr reiterated that victims in the U.S. illegally, are in a sanctuary city and will not under any circumstance be reported.

**Women’s Conference Steering Committee**  
(formerly 5th World Conference on Women/5WCW)

The new working title is the *National Women’s Conference*. Dr. Emily Murase proposed that our focus be on building a movement that includes a conference and other components that would keep the issues alive.

I will be a WIN (Women’s Intercultural Network) delegate early March to the UN’s 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Our own SF Department on the Status of Women will be holding a panel to showcase the advances made towards improving the condition of the City’s families, women and children. WIN is a consultative NGO to the UN.

**Gender Equity Principles Initiative (GEP)**

The committee created new GEP standards for GEP companies to make public their commitment to gender equity principles. Public Policy Director Ann Lehman has been working with Deloitte Consulting to develop a marketing plan for the GEP.

**Stay informed!**

To stay abreast of meetings around women’s, girls’ and families issues, and for reports from the Department on the Status of Women: sign up at <http://bit.ly/YfmkYf> (or San Francisco Department on the Status of Women, [www.sfgov.org/dosw](http://www.sfgov.org/dosw)).

**Upcoming Meetings**

SF Commission on the Status of Women  
Wednesday, January 23  
5-7pm  
City Hall, Room 408

Human Trafficking Awareness Day event Thursday, January 10 (details TBA, see DOSW website)

**Roberta Guise**  
**Co-chair, AAUW-SF Public Policy Committee**

The teacher nomination forms have been emailed by Deb Farkas, the middle school science director. We expect the nominations to begin arriving before you receive this AVANTI. Fundraising will begin in earnest. We are signed up for 15 girls and currently have monies for 6 girls. Anyone with foundation connections, other women's groups, donation matching employers and just a few extra dollars for a good cause or some time to give, we want you! Pledges are accepted and no amount is too small. Checks made out to AAUW-CA SPF with Tech Trek in the memo are due March 15, 2013. (Include donation form)

**December Donors are:**

**Andrea Laudate and Joan Walton**  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**  
**Happy New Year Everyone!**

**Michelle Mammini and Elaine Butler, Tech Trek San Francisco Branch Co-coordinators.**

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**2012-13 Tech Trek Donation Form**

I’m interested in sponsoring girls to go to Tech Trek 2012! I pledge the following amount towards sending girls to camp.

\$25    \$50    \$100    \$900 (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 & Michelle Mammini 124 Amber Dr., SF, CA 94131-1626;

[Elainebutler124@comcast.net](mailto:Elainebutler124@comcast.net)

## Membership Updates

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

## Seeking Co-Treasurer for San Francisco Chapter

Do you like working with numbers? I do, but am having difficulty finding the time to do all of the reporting that is needed to keep the SF chapter of AAUW in good financial order. I am looking for someone to co-chair the Treasurer's position with me, with the idea of possibly becoming Treasurer in the future. (Or if you don't wish the position, just to have the assistance would be wonderful.) The main duties would be to research the forms needed for each required report. I can provide you with the data and one of us can submit the report.

If you might be interested please contact me at: [ktraynor@aol.com](mailto:ktraynor@aol.com) or 415.665.3212. Thanks!

## State Directory

AAUW CA Directory is posted in searchable PDF format. Both documents can be found in the Forms & Documents section, under Branch Administration, [HERE](#). Hard copies of the directory are available for purchase. Send your request, with a \$10 check to AAUW CA Office, 1331 Garden Hwy, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833.

## Online AAUW Branch

There is an online AAUW California Branch at [www.AAUWCaOnline.org](http://www.AAUWCaOnline.org). Their dues are \$10 if you're already a member.

## AAUW Web Pages

**News Page & Media Alerts:** (use links on page to subscribe) [www.aauw.org/](http://www.aauw.org/)

[About/newsroom/news/index.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/About/newsroom/news/index.cfm)

**Actions to take:** [www.aauw.org/issue\\_advocacy/actionpages/index.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/index.cfm) **Mission in**

**Action:** [www.aauw.org/publications/mission/index.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/publications/mission/index.cfm)

**Two Minute Activities:** [capwiz.com/aauw/home](http://capwiz.com/aauw/home).

**US Congressional Voting Record**

[aauwaction.org/VoterEd/CVR.htm](http://aauwaction.org/VoterEd/CVR.htm)

## Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund

AAUW-SF has scholarship funds available in the amount of \$2,000 to upper division and graduate women who are entering the final year of a designated study program in 2013. These scholarships are competitive.

Additional information, qualifying information, and links for applications can be obtained on the AAUWSF website

[http://www.aauwsf.org/silver\\_jubilee.htm](http://www.aauwsf.org/silver_jubilee.htm)

## THE DEADLINE FOR 2013 SCHOLARSHIPS IS APRIL 30, 2013.

All applications must be mailed to:

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

## International Dinner

The next dinner is in the planning stage. Please check your mail (email or snail mail) for updates as to time and place.

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**Marilyn Leal**  
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**January 2013**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 <b>Travel Group</b> 11 AM
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 <b>Afternoon</b> <b>With Books</b> 1:30 PM	19
20	21 <b>Internat'l</b> <b>Book Group</b> 7:00 PM	22	23	24 <b>Mystery/</b> <b>Adventure</b> 6:30 PM	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

*To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.*  
**Sir Winston Churchill**



**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, philanthropy, 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. This was true even for one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her groundbreaking 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 indicative 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 indicative and replicable college and university programs.