



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

www.aauwsf.org

September 2013

President's Message

On August 16th, I had the pleasure of meeting Congresswoman Annie Kuster of New Hampshire's 2nd District at a Women Activist's Policy Discussion held at the Offices of Equal Rights Advocates. Congresswoman Kuster addressed timely issues such as ending sexual assault in the military, fighting to protect women's rights to reproductive health, and equal pay, all issues central to AAUW's mission. The Congresswoman also took the opportunity to encourage women to seek elected office. The more we are represented in office the more we can affect change – having a seat at the table is a great place to start. We need an additional 28 women elected to the CA legislature to hit parity. Do you (or someone you know) want to run for office? Talented Women Wanted! To learn more visit <http://closethegapca.org/>

The conversation continued at the *Women's Equality Day Event – Call to Action: Defining the Issues Impacting Women and Girls in the Bay Area and California*. Organized by the Women's Intercultural Network (WIN) the event brought women leaders together to discuss priority issues as we continue to advance equality for women.



Helen Pellegrin, Kathleen Cha, Cathy Corcoran and Kelly Joseph at the Women's Equality Day event on August 16th.

AAUW-SF has been active at the forefront of empowering women and girls for 130 years and taking action in partnership with like organizations. Our task is not complete as we seek gender pay equity, an end to violence against women, and access

to education for all - key issues that will inform our programs this year. Watch out for our programs brochure in the coming weeks which members will receive along with their 2013-2014 membership card. In addition, we will launch our programs for the year at our Welcome Back brunch, on September 21, at Sports Basement. Don't miss this opportunity to meet many of our Tech Trek girls who will share their experiences from Math and Science Camp this summer. Don't forget to bring along your checkbook for the silent auction, organized by member Nora Lee, to raise funds for next year's Tech Trek scholarship fund. It promises to be a very fun event.



AAUW-SF Table at the WIN Women's Equality Day Event on August 16th.

Mark your calendars now for our 130th Anniversary Celebration on March 22nd, 2014, during Women's History Month. We are excited about marking in style this amazing milestone for AAUW – San Francisco, the oldest branch in California.

Cathy Corcoran
President

Board Meeting/Board Retreat

This month's board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11th, 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: call Marilyn at 415-626-4110.

Travel Group



Save the Date!!

The AAUW Travel Group will meet at **11 am on Saturday, October 5** at the Conservatory of Flowers, 100 John F. Kennedy Drive in Golden Gate Park.

Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors over 65 (San Francisco residents can show proof of residency for reduced admission). There are docent tours at 11 and 12:30 if we wish.

More information can be found here:

<http://www.conservatoryofflowers.org/special-events/butterflies-blooms>.

After our visit, we are planning lunch at the De Young Museum Café a short distance away.

To RSVP, please contact Elaine Butler elainebutler124@comcast.net 415-826-3172 or Adrienne Kristine at Adrienne.kristine@gmail.com 415-359-0356.

International Dinners

Our next international dinner will take place on **Friday, September 27**, at 6:00 p.m., at **Alice's Restaurant**, a Noe Valley favorite for Chinese and Asian fusion cuisine (no MSG). We will have a family-style dinner with a variety of Alice's favorite dishes.

The price is \$21.00, including tax and tip. Details and menu will follow by e-mail.

Save the date for a special dinner at this popular neighborhood spot.

Afternoons With Books

The afternoon book group will meet on **Friday, September 20, 1:30-3** at Michelle Mammini's, 2520 Greenwich Street, 346-9114.

We will discuss the book *People Who Eat Darkness* by Richard Lloyd Perry. It was scheduled for the July meeting which was cancelled.

We will also be choosing the books for the coming year. Please come with suggestions of books which you know to be interesting.

International Book Group

Monday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Book/Author: "The Zookeeper's Wife," by Diane Ackerman

Hostess: Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona Street

Please RSVP to Sheila at (415) 664-4985 or email wawonast@earthlink.net

Mystery/Adventure

Thursday, September 26, 7:30

Here is your chance to help decide what we will read this year.

Bring your suggestions.

Hostess: Barbara Powell, 2970 Pine St. SF

Carpools, and parking arrangements to be made with Barbara.

RSVP Barbara 775-0632 or ceindhyg@mcm.org

If you are unable to attend, please email your suggestions to : elainebutler124@comcast.net

Welcome Back Tech Trek Fundraiser

Michelle and I have signed up to send 15 girls again for the summer of 2014. We will need help from every member and friend of the Program to achieve this milestone again.

Please plan to attend the Welcome Back and Tech Trek Fundraiser on Saturday, September 21, 1-3 PM. at the Sports Basement on Bryant St.

Elaine Butler & Michelle Mammini Tech Trek Co-Coordinators

We are inaugurating a Silent Auction:

Here's a Preview:

A pair of Beach Blanket Babylon show tickets,
 1 hour of Bowling (& Shoe Rental),
 San Francisco 49ers 2012 NFC Championship Football (limited edition),
 2 One-Day Pass for:
 Great America Parkway,
 Exploratorium,
 San Francisco Zoo,
 2 Movie Tickets,
 5 Passes for Oakland Museum,
 2 Tickets for New Century Chamber Orchestra,
 2 Framed Artwork includes Certificate of Authenticity
 (By: Linda LeKinff: *Afternoon With Polly II* 8 5/8" x 7" and
 By: Hua Chen: *Sweet Scent* 8 3/4" x 7"),
 Autographed Kent Bazemore (Golden State Warriors) Photo,
 gift baskets for doggies and more to come

****Remember to bring your checkbook or cash and be ready to bid****

(all proceeds will benefit 2014 Tech Trek Camp Program)

It is not too late to donate an item for the Silent Auction.

We are seeking Auction Items: (restaurant certificates, event tickets, gift baskets, gift certificates, destinations, collectibles, one-of-a kind experiences, handicrafts : like knitted items - scarves, hats).

For more info: please contact Andrea Laudate at mamlaudate@gmail.com (415) 864-6789 or Nora Lee at nora.lee28@gmail.com (415) 584-1810

Manny Catania will be on hand to sing some songs as you arrive and encouraging you to bid high and often to help us send our 15 girls next summer.

Public Policy Notes

The California Legislature is holding numerous committee hearings in preparation for the final votes in the Assembly and Senate on 2013 bills.

Bills that have passed both houses go Governor Brown for action, so you can expect Action Alerts to be forthcoming soon. National AAUW has changed providers for this service so we are working to assure a smooth transition. Anyone experiencing difficulty can contact **Sue Miller**, *Public Policy Chair* smiller@aauw-ca.org

Click [HERE](#) to get the 2013-2015 AAUW CA Public Policy Priorities, in brochure form.

Chewing Her Way to Fame Pat Camarena

Forty-seven year old Sonya Thomas considers herself to be an athlete in her very unusual sport. In the last ten years, this diminutive Korean born woman has risen to the top of her field of competitive eating. She holds competitive speed eating records in close to thirty contests swallowing such foods as chicken wings, kimchi, pizza, fruitcakes, tacos, crab cakes, tater tots, turducken meat, oysters, and of course.....hot dogs in record time astounding her mostly male competitors.

Three years ago Nathan's Hot Dogs instituted a women's division in their annual summer competitive hot dog eating at Coney Island. Sonya has walked away as the women's champ ever since! This year she ate 36 3/4 hot dogs and buns in ten minutes! Sonya only weighs about 105 pounds and stands about five feet tall. Unencumbered by a surrounding layer of fat, her stomach can expand more readily. When not traveling to contests, her daytime job is managing a fast food restaurant in Washington, D.C. She claims that she eats plenty

of green vegetables and fresh fruit and normally avoids junk food. She spends two hours daily on a tread mill after her long work days. She credits her success to good eye-hand coordination and very strong flexible jaws. She does not train for contests by over eating regularly, but does fast the night before to put an edge on her appetite. This coming Labor Day she is planning to enter a buffalo wing eating contest in Buffalo, NY, where else! She is very competitive and loves what she does. Sonya says that she plans to continue entering such contests as long as it is fun. All fans of competitive eating contests will get their money's worth when Sonya steps up to the plate! Next time you sit down to a dish of oysters, think of Sonya. She has swallowed 46 dozen Acme oysters in ten minutes!

www.sonyatheblackwidow.com

Avanti Articles

Please remember to submit Avanti articles to Corrine Sacks by the 25th of each month via email to: cpsacks@yahoo.com

Playing Now Paula Campbell

The unique storytelling theatre, Word for Word Performing Arts Company, has another big hit on its hands. **In Friendship**, their twentieth anniversary production, is a smash. Set in a small town, Friendship, at the turn of the last century, the production tells the story of a group of denizens of Friendship; their loves, hates, successes, failures, relationships -- the simple stuff of our everyday lives. Based on stories by Zona Gale, the first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for Drama (1921) this touching, humorous, happy, sad, always engaging production is not to be missed.

The original charter group of Word for Word, Sheila Balter, JeriLynn Cohen, Susan Harloe, Stephanie Hunt, Amy Kossow, Delia MacDougall, Nancy Shelby, Patricia Silver, and JoAnne Winter, along with Paul Finocchiaro and Joel Mullennix

comprise the stunning cast, ably directed by Delia MacDougall and Joel Mullennix.

For those who've never seen a Word for Word performance, the experience is unique. Word for Word is a storytelling company – their mission is telling stories. To this end, they act out ALL the words in the story they're telling, not just the dialogue. A character might say, "She cocked her head angrily, stamped her foot, and shouted "No" as the character referred to actually does cock her head, stamp her foot, and shout "No". In brief, the entire story is told, both dialogue and narrative. Until I saw my first Word for Word show I couldn't imagine how this would work – I expected it to be forced and artificial. It's anything but that – it's actually the opposite -- telling the story in this way makes it even more engrossing, moving, genuine. Somehow using all the author's words makes the stories even more compelling, captivating, and real. Suffice it to say that at the end of the last act, I was quietly weeping, moved to tears by the emotions stirred up by the reality of the performance.

Z Space, the group that is home to Word for Word, is now located in a permanent home at 470 Florida Street, the former home of Theatre Artaud. Downstairs was the Traveling Jewish Theatre, which closed its doors at the end of its 2011-12 season. That space is now Z Below, which is where Word for Word is housed.

Because the theatre is small and the play is such a hit, the production has been extended two weeks to Sept. 13. I urge you to get your tickets now, while seats are still available. Word for Words' **In Friendship** is a must see production.

In Friendship, through Sept. 13. Wed -Thurs 7pm, Fri - Sat, 8pm, Sun at 3.
Below Z, 470 Florida Street (between 17-18 St.), San Francisco. Tickets online <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/923077>, by phone 866.811.4111, and limited discount availability at <http://www.goldstar.com/events/san-francisco-ca/in-friendship>

Member News

IAFFE Global Conference

At the global conference of the International Association for Feminist Economics (held at Stanford, where I presented a paper on how to develop and spread ideas in order to be known as a leading authority), the theme was on understanding and framing economics, both in the U.S. and around the world, through a gendered lens.



During her IAFFE presentation, Roberta Guise holds Saru Jayaraman's book as an example of a woman advancing important ideas about restaurant workers (video/Roberta Guise)

Topics ranged from rethinking public transportation routes and schedules to accommodate mothers and their children, to creating fair pay policies for restaurant workers, most of whom are women and whose federal tipped minimum wage has been stuck at \$2.13 for more than 20 years. (See *Behind the Kitchen Door* by Saru Jayaraman.)

We also learned how climate change affects genders differently. Examples: in poor nations where women are responsible for collecting water, scarce water resources make it precarious for women who must travel through areas that are unsafe. Around the world, after natural disasters more women perish than men, because they're more likely to be caring for children and the elderly and are therefore less able to move quickly to safety.

Membership Updates

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

September Birthdays

Danielle Joseph	September 3
Barbara Spencer	September 11
Robin Brasso	September 13
Nora Lee	September 18
Mary Worth	September 18
Jill Fenton	September 20
Anahil Shaterian	September 21
Dawn Wilkes	September 23
Janice Gonsalves	September 24
Kathy Traynor	September 24
Mardi Kildebeck	September 25
Helen Prince	September 28
Jane Hansen	September 30

Birthday Not Announced?

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

Member-Get-A-Member Campaign

AAUW branch members can introduce friends, family, colleagues, and acquaintances to AAUW and receive recognition for their recruitment efforts through the AAUW Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-a-Member Campaign. **Connect** with someone and tell her about AAUW and what makes you so passionate about it. Tell him about the mission, the research, the advocacy, the philanthropy, and why you are a member. **Ask** that person to become a part of this organization that means so much to you. Invite her or him to join as a branch member or as a national member. **Give the gift of membership.** What better way to show your passion about

AAUW than to share membership in the organization with someone you care about.

LA Sparks Game and Title IX Event

Great news--Secretary of State, Debra Bowen and CA Commission on the Status of Women's Geena Davis have been personally invited to join us at the LA Sparks game on September 15. Other Title IX supporters also invited to attend the game, include Assemblywomen Holly Mitchell and Hannah Beth Jackson.

In addition, other women's organizations are sharing our game info on their Facebook pages and by other electronic means. We don't want AAUW CA members who can be in the LA area on September 15th to miss out on this new and exciting opportunity to **Stand Up for Title IX!**

Encourage everyone to read about it on our website and Click [HERE](#) to get tickets.

AAUW Web Pages

News Page & Media Alerts: (use links on page to subscribe) 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 **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

MAKE A LIFETIME GIFT TO AAUW

Your gift will help ensure that the work of AAUW continues long into the future. You can become part of the distinguished AAUW Legacy Circle.

The simplest form of a legacy gift is a bequest, or a gift left to a charity in your will. Bequests often can allow donors to make a sizable gift to a charity that may not have been possible during their lifetime

You can also name AAUW as the beneficiary of your life insurance, bank account, stock account, or retirement plan. In addition to bequests in your will or living trust, charitable gift annuities are available that can provide you with tax savings and income during your lifetime.

For more information, call Catherine Heffernan at the AAUW Planned Giving Office at 877.357.5587 or email her at heffernanc@aauw.org.

Online AAUW Branch

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

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.

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.

AAUWSF Board

President

Cathy F. Corcoran, Ed.D.

CorcoranCF@gmail.com

415) 341-0206

Secretary

Kelly Joseph

kelly.wysinger@sbcglobal.net

Legal Advocacy VP &

Education Fund VP

Mary Suter

marSuter@yahoo.com

415) 665-1185

Program VP

Andrea Laudate

mamalaudate@yahoo.com

415) 864-6789

Co-Chief Financial Officers

Kathe Traynor

ktraynor@aol.com

415) 665-3212

Barbara Spencer

barbaraspencer@gmail.com

415) 221-6690

Avanti Editor

Corrine Sacks

cpsacks@yahoo.com

415)292-4130

Co-Public Policy

Sheila Bost

wawonast@earthlink.net

415)664-4985

Roberta Guise

415) 420-6276

roberta@guisemarketing.com

Membership VP and Webmaster

Nancy Shapiro

nancy.shapiro@comcast.net

415) 731-2654

Silver Jubilee Fund Chair

Pat Camarena

tapPat157@aol.com

415) 285-7589

Tech Trek

Elaine Butler

ElaineButler124@Comcast.net

415) 826-3172

Michelle Mammini

415)346-9114

mmammini@pacbell.net

Hospitality

Marilyn Leal

415) 285-7589

September 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Internat'l Book Club 7 pm	17	18	19	20 Afternoon with Books 1 pm	21 Tech Trek Fundraiser 1 pm
22	23	24	25	26 Mystery/ Adventure 7:30pm	27 Internt'l Dinner 6 pm	28
29	30					

You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try.
Beverly Sills, American Opera Singer and Opera Manager



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. It has a national membership of 150,000. 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. Check out our website www.aauwsf.org



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, 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.

Pay Equity

AAUW has been on the front lines fighting for Pay Equity for over a hundred years.

AAUW was there in the Oval Office in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.

AAUW was there in 2009 when President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

AAUW continues the fight for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act to ensure women have further equal pay protections. The pay gap is real.

AAUW will continue the fight to achieve pay equity; the economic security of American families depends on it.

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.