

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

November 2014

President's Message

We are hosting a Members and Friends Networking Social on November 6th. Join us at the Historic House of Shields on the Mezzanine level. It is located one block from Montgomery MUNI and BART station, on New Montgomery, between Market and Mission. Our Networking Social is an opportunity for AAUWSF members to mix and mingle, and invite our friends and colleagues to learn more about AAUW and our mission to advance equity for women and girls. Board members will be in attendance to answer questions and share AAUW information and fact sheets.

AAUW-San Francisco Networking Social
Thursday, November 6th, 5-8pm
House of Shields, Mezzanine Level,
39 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco
<http://thehouseofshields.com/>

Invite your friends and help spread the word. New members can take advantage of 50% off AAUW national dues if they join at the event! Remind them about the AAUW Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

To RSVP, visit the event page on Eventbrite:
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/aausf-member-and-new-member-networking-social-tickets-13917392295>

If you have any questions, please contact Programs Director, Noelle Hynes at
noellehynes29@gmail.com

I look forward to seeing you all there!

Cathy Corcoran
President

Join Team Tech Trek



Our Tech Trek program continues to make an impact in the lives of middle school girls in San Francisco. Our branch has committed to sending 15 girls to camp again next year. It is truly a team effort and led with finesse and dedication by Elaine Butler and Nora Lee. For Tech Trek events, branch members' support is needed with set-up, hospitality and refreshments. Time commitments are minimal and flexible. It is a great way to meet Tech Trek students & families and volunteer with other branch members.

If you are interested in supporting this great program, please contact Elaine at elainebutler124@comcast.net or Nora nora.lee28@gmail.com

In the meantime, **mark your calendars** for the following Tech Trek events:

Informational meeting: Sunday, Feb 16th, 1:30 – 3:00

Tech Trek Girl Interviews: Saturday, March 7th/Sunday, March 8th (sign-up for morning or afternoon shift)
 Campers' Send-Off: Saturday, May 16th 2:00 – 4:00
 Welcome Back: Sunday, August 30th 2:00 – 4:00

AAUWSF Board Meeting

This month's board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12th, 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.

Afternoons With Books

Date: Friday, November 21 at 1:30 p.m.
Book/Author: Reading Lolita in Teheran, by Azar Nafisi
Hostess: Pat Spencer, 505 Ortega St.
 Please RSVP to Pat at 661-0347 or email at Cpbus66@gmail.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m.
Book/Author: The King of Cuba, by Christina Garcia
Hostess: Mary Graves, 2901 Broderick St.
 Please RSVP to Mary at 563-3610, or email at marywgraves@comcast.net

Mystery/Adventure

Date: Thursday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m.
Book/Author: Mr. Penumbra's 24 hour BookStore, by Robin Sloan
Reviewer: Barbara Cahrssen
Hostess: Susan Schwartz, 701 Laguna Honda Blvd.
 Please RSVP to Susan at 661-8038

Travel Group

The Travel Groups will not have an event this month. Send suggestions of places you would like to see (within a day's travel) to Elaine Butler, elainebutler124@comcast.net

Public Policy Notes

United Nations 69th Anniversary event

This was a lively, half-day event that featured panelists and "table topic" discussions. Panelists reminded us that communities need to stand up for their rights when issues such as fracking and clean water are being debated; and that governments have a responsibility to protect their citizens.

I led our table topic, *Human Rights and Equality for Women in the U.S. and around the world (Cities for CEDAW* campaign)*, with much input from former AAUW Director Kathleen Cha. Issues our group agreed are vital: getting women elected to office, especially as president; engaging men as allies; making violence against women so abominable that people stop doing it (thank you AAUW SF board member Adrienne Kristine!)

*CEDAW: The UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Equal pay legislation in our own backyard?

Supervisor David Campos has sponsored draft legislation requiring equal pay at companies that have contracts with the city and more than 20 employees. These contractors will be required to submit reports on pay at their firms.

After AAUW SF President, Cathy Corcoran, and Co-chair Public Policy, Sheila Bost, each reviewed the draft legislation, as AAUW SF representative to the legislation I testified in support at the supervisors' October 23 hearing.

It was gratifying to hear one of the supervisors laud AAUW's advocacy on pay equity after he heard my comments and saw me wave AAUW'S booklet, *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* for all to see. After the meeting, people in the audience were eager to get a copy of the pay gap booklet, which I'd brought in quantities.

San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) is holding a special hearing on the equal pay legislation on November 12. This is historic and I hope you'll come to the hearing. See **Meetings** section below for logistics.

San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women (COSW)

Dr. Emily Murase reported that, tragically, the 44-month streak of zero homicides from domestic violence was broken with 4 deaths so far this year. Domestic violence prevention advocates and the women's community are pushing for an in-depth review of these domestic violence-related fatalities.



Sf District Attorney George Gascon, speaking from podium

Heather Marlowe, a rape survivor who wrote and performs the one-woman play, *The Haze*, received special recognition from the commissioners. Marlowe uses the stage as a platform to share the painful experience of the rape in 2010, and the long, two-year wait for the sexual assault evidence kit (rape kit) to be processed. I saw her perform the show a couple of months ago — it was riveting. Marlowe's play

and advocacy resulted in California passing AB-1517, a bill that requires every rape kit be processed in 14 days. To support her work and for more information: www.TheHazePlay.com.

Upcoming Meetings

Special Hearing for proposed Equal Pay legislation

San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women

Wednesday, November 12

4:30-6pm, City Hall, Room TBA

SF Commission on the Status of Women (regular meeting usually on 4th Wednesdays...check online calendar before attending or contact Roberta Guise)

Commission Strategic Planning Session

Friday, November 21

9am-3pm

1 Market Plaza, Suite 2200

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://sfgov.org/dosw/> (or San Francisco Department on the Status of Women, www.sfgov.org/dosw).

Roberta Guise, Co-Chair Public Policy

On A Self Propelled Journey

Pat Camarena

In Northern Ohio there is a small private liberal arts college begun in the early 1800s. This is Oberlin College, known for its highly touted conservatory of music, the oldest continuously operating conservatory in our nation. It is also known for having been the first American

institution to regularly admit women and black students along with white males. Since 1835, Oberlin has had a reputation for its commitment to social justice and service. The town of Oberlin was even a stop on the Underground Railroad during the Civil War. Today the college community is proud of their three Nobel laureates and three Pulitzer Prize recipients. Another notable graduate was Lucy Stone, orator, abolitionist, and suffragist who graduated in 1847 as the first woman from Massachusetts to earn a college degree.

Oberlin has a further claim to fame in the accomplishments of another one of their early graduates - Mary Jane Patterson, the first African American woman to receive a B.A. college degree. Mary Jane's family had moved from the south to Oberlin, Ohio where there was a large community of black families. Some were freed slaves while others were fugitive slaves. The Patterson family boarded many black students in their home. Mary Anne started her college journey in a one year program but after that year, she switched to a four year "gentlemen's course" program of classical studies rather than transition to Oberlin's two year women's program. In 1862 she graduated with high honors and began her life long journey as an successful educator first in Ohio and then in Philadelphia. She was later appointed as principal of the first public high school in Washington, D. C. Her steadfast belief in student learning and teacher development inspired the creation of an early teacher training program in D.C. Her name and legacy lives on today through a fellowship for teachers aspiring to leadership positions in the D.C. school district. Aside from her career as an educator, Mary Jane Patterson also involved herself in civil rights causes, helping to found the Colored Women's League of Washington, D.C. Throughout her life, Mary Jane was a persistent, resilient, and resourceful woman, personifying the motto of Oberlin College..."learning and labor".

Playing Now Paula Campbell

Don't miss Aaron Loeb's **Ideation**, winner of the 2014 Glickman Award for Best New Play, now at the SFPlayhouse. Some of you may have seen Loeb's previous SFPlayhouse productions, **First Person Shooter**, and **Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance party**, which moved to NYC, to the Fringe, where it won Best Original Production, and then to Off-Broadway. Loeb is an important up and coming playwright – **Ideation** is his best work to date.

Ideation raises interesting questions – if a team is given a top secret project, involving the death and disposal of large numbers of people, (ostensibly to save mankind) how can the team guarantee the secrecy of those carrying out the various project phases? Answer – secrecy can't be guaranteed – not unless everyone who participates is also killed. It doesn't take long for the planning team to start to wonder where they stand in this – what might happen to them. Paranoia creeps in, and grows strong – but is it paranoia or just clear logic played to its inevitable conclusion?

Director Jason Costello elicits top notch performances from his cast. Hannah (Carrie Paff) is the team's liaison with headquarters and also the lover of the newest team member Sandeep (Jason Kapoor). Brock (Mark Anderson Philips) is the team leader, with Ted (Michael Ray Wisely) as his second in command. Finally there's the newly hired intern Scooter (Ben Euphrat.) Each of them is perfect for their roles. Hannah is in the uncomfortable position of being the woman in charge of this group of loud and forceful men. She needs to assert herself, control the team, placate headquarters, and keep the project on target. Sandeep is the weakest link, less sure of himself, less certain of the morality of the project. Brock is the alpha male, loud, brutally forceful, unwilling to

admit any ambiguity about the project. Ted has worked with the team for a long time, he too is forceful and sure of himself, but willing to confront Brock physically if he thinks he needs to. Finally Scooter – the intern, pushy and obnoxious, fired by Hannah early on, but brought back by his uncle, a member of the company’s Board of Governors. Is Scooter a spy – a management plant – or something even more sinister?

Costello’s direction brings out the humor, lots of it, inherent in the situation and the excellent writing. Early on the team outlines its basic rules – one rule is “No N word.” The audience is puzzled, not till the project is fully limned do we realize the “N word” in this case is Nazi.

Bill English’s unit set – the company boardroom with its huge table, curved room length whiteboard wall, overhead glass brick windows – is powerful, almost overwhelms the people in it – the set clearly demonstrates the company’s power over its people. Abra Berman deserves special mention for he costumes. Talk about dressing for success – these characters are power players, and that’s reflected in the clothing they choose – each actor’s costume is designed to show both personal and professional aspects of the character.

Ideation is suspenseful, hilarious, thrilling, and most of all, thought provoking. It is particularly relevant right now with the Ebola epidemic in the news every day.

This is really a do not miss show. When I talked to the theatre I was told that although due at the time of this writing to close Nov 8, the play may be extended, or moved to another venue. Don’t take a chance of missing it – see it NOW!

Ideation, through Nov. 8. SFPlayhouse 450 Post Street (2nd Floor of Kensington Park Hotel) between Mason and Powell. Tickets: Box Office 415-677-9596 Fax: 415-677-9597

Online:

<https://sfplayhouse.vbotickets.com/selectevent/Ideation/4717>

Tues-Wed-Thurs 7pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, Sat 3pm, (some) Suns 2pm.

Lunching out and Loving it

We are enjoying the lovely fall weather in San Francisco, and eating out with a view. We ventured out to the Embarcadero to try **Coqueta**, for Spanish tapas (small plates and nibbles). Sangria, bits of fish, sausage, salad and more, along with bay views. Everthing was fresh and each bite a special experience. Not for the budget conscious!

Zazie, in Cole Valley was easy on the budget. They serve breakfast until 2 as well as lunch. Tables outside, and a patio in the back lets you eat out in this lovely weather. Everything is prepared with love and served with care. Interesting twists on all the standard fare, whether it’s eggs, pancakes or salads. And great big bowls of Café au Lait! Go early or late, as it is a neighborhood favorite.

Coqueta: Pier 5, The Embarcadero, Tel: 704-8866

Zazie: 941 Cole Street (no reservations)

New Members

Pat Metzgar
Wendy Riedel

Member News

Congratulations to Patricia Moran whose third short-story collection, ***Confetti, A Collection of Cozy Crimes***, recently received a five star review from San Francisco Book Review and a very favorable review from Mill Valley Literary Review.

You can purchase the book on Amazon. The Kindle version is now on sale for \$.99!

Manya:**The Living History of MARIE CURIE****When: Saturday, November 15 at 7:30 pm****Sunday, November 16 at 2:00 pm****Where: Victoria Theatre: 2961 16 St. SF, CA**

Travel through time to 1915 and meet one of the world's greatest scientists!

An inspiring living history of this remarkable woman's journey, this production explores the tenacity of the human spirit and the enduring allure of the scientific discovery.

Masterfully portrayed by acclaimed living history scholar & playwright, Susan Marie Frontczak, and performed at the historic Victoria Theatre, now restored to its original splendor, this is sure to be a unique experience!

For additional information or to support Indiegogo check the website at:

www.mariecurielivinghistory.com

Tickets are **\$30**

Tech Trek Donations

Our branch has, once again, contracted to send 15 girls to one of the Tech Trek camps in the summer of 2015!

To honor that commitment, we again are asking help from every member and friend of the Program to continue to provide this opportunity for girls in

San Francisco. Remember, it takes \$900 to send one girl to camp!

Please continue your generous support by donating in either of the following ways:

Through our website : <http://www.aauwsf.org/> and click on the yellow PAYPAL tab on the left side of the screen, then choose your payment option!

By check: payable to AAUW-CA SPF, with Tech Trek SF in the memo line.

Mail your donation to:

Elaine Butler & Michelle Mammini 124 Amber Dr.
SF, CA 94131-1626

November Birthdays

Adrienne Kristine	November 3
Sandra Martino	November 5
Alicia Hetman	November 7
Sherry Bridygham	November 8
Efren Cruz	November 17
Anna Yang	November 19
Eileen Level	November 20
Kathleen Cha	November 22
Andrea Laudate	November 26
Giselle Parry	November 27
Marian Casey	November 28
Mary Ann Ellison	November 29
Kelly Joseph	November 29
Beth Wells	November 30

Birthday Not Announced?

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

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November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Netwkg social 5-8 PM	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Int'l Book 7 PM	18	19	20 Myst/Adv 7:30 PM	21 Aft w/Books 1:30 PM	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Man who says 'It cannot be done,' should not interrupt woman who is doing it.
Chinese Proverb



Avanti Editor

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 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.