



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

July 2015

President’s Message

On June 6, we had our annual meeting and installation lunch at the Gold Mirror Restaurant. Andrea Laudate and Barbara Spencer are the new co-presidents, and the rest of the 2015-1016 board is listed at the back of the Avanti. We awarded Cathy Corcoran her past president’s pin in recognition of her three years of outstanding service as our branch president. Under Cathy’s leadership, we expanded our visibility in San Francisco and entered into a number of partnerships with other like-minded organizations. We plan to continue and possibly expand these efforts during our term.

Because of our partnerships, we receive a large number of invitations to attend events and meetings. We hope to include more members in attending some of these events. Barbara and Andrea attended the Inter Branch Council (IBC) meeting with representatives from the Half Moon Bay, Pacifica, San Carlos, San Mateo, and North Peninsula branches to plan our schedule of meetings for the year and to discuss possibilities for a joint meeting to be held in March, which is Women’s History Month. We hope to come up with a program involving the latest AAUW research study “Solving the Equation” that might piggy-back on what Marie Wolbach started with Tech Trek and tie in with the “Solving the Equation” research.

In connection with the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in San Francisco, Barbara and Andrea attended a Mayors Roundtable and Reception sponsored by the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women and the It’s Time Network. A few mayors spoke about gender issues in their

jurisdictions, including efforts to adopt ordinances reflecting the principles of CEDAW (United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women). San Francisco was the first city in the world to enact an ordinance in 1998 reflecting the principles of CEDAW. The group broke into roundtables to discuss and suggest policies and programs to the mayors on a number of issues such as economic security, workplace policies, ending violence against women, an homelessness. We joined the group discussing workplace policies and reminded them of AAUW’s continuing research on equal pay and the gender gap. It was inspiring to be with so many like-minded activist women (and a few men).

July 18th is our annual planning meeting that will be held at Barbara Spencer’s house. We will meet at 10am to plan the year’s programs and budget. If you have an idea for a program, would like to help on a committee, meet more of the officers up close and personally, please come. We would like to schedule events that matter to all of you, so your input would be helpful. Feel free to call or email any of the officers listed in the Avanti. We hope to have a productive and enjoyable year.

Mark your calendars for our first general meeting on August 30 at the Exploratorium to welcome back the Tech Trek campers and all of our members. Details will follow.

Andrea Laudate and Barbara Spencer, Co-Presidents

AAUWSF Board Meeting

Our annual planning meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 18 at 10 AM at Barbara Spencer’s.**

Afternoons With Books

Date: Friday, July 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Book/Author: The Custom of the Country, by Edith Wharton

Hostess: Anni Puckett, 22 Hancock St.
Please RSVP to Anni at 415-255-8702 or markstroh@att.net

International Book Group

We are taking the summer off. See you in September!

Tech Trek



Girls send-off to camp: 2015

All Branch members are given the opportunity to visit one of our camps at Stanford. Please see below the information from Camp Directors for this week of camp. Please contact Elaine Butler to RSVP as soon as possible at 415-305-2220 or elainebutler124@comcast.net

We are located at the Eucalipto Dorm in the Lagunita Court Complex at 326 Santa Teresa Street. Pasted below is a blow-up of the campus map for just around our dorm area. All the labeled parking lots that are near the dorm are closed for construction. There is no available handicap drop off yet. We are trying to figure out some accommodations.

The information we do know is:

- Visitation is Wednesday, July 8, 12:30-3:00
- Please arrive at the dorm no later than 12:30
- our suggestion is that you have lunch prior to coming. If anyone really wants to experience a meal in dorm cafeteria chaos with 1400 campers, you would be welcome to join us but would need to be at the dorm by 12:00. We would need an absolute count for guest passes.
- At the dorm, there will be two afternoon classes that you can observe – a Veterinarian presentation and an Engineering activity of spaghetti bridge building. If you wish to observe the Pixar presentation, we leave the dorm about 1:00 and walk to the Hewlett Teaching Center, which is a long 6-8 block walk.
- Your ending time can be flexible depending on how much you wish to see and the timing for your commute.

PLEASE, respond ASAP with a count of how many branch members plan on attending.

**June Donors,
Thank you
Michelle Maminni**

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

Silver Jubilee Scholarship Recipients

We announce with pleasure the three Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund recipients. These winners will receive their checks at the SF AAUW Lunch Installation on Saturday, June 6.

KARINA GARCIA



Cathy Corcoran, Past President AAUW SF with Karina Garcia, Academy of Art University, Bachelor of Fine Arts in School of Fashion

Karina Garcia is at the Academy of Art University completing her Bachelor of Fine Arts in the School of Fashion. Karina came from Mexico over eight years ago and spoke little English. She has pursued her dream of studying fashion design. Karina is passionate about the work she does, and has an artistic vision of what she wants to create through international cultures she has visited. Karina has worked to pay for her tuition as she completes her degree.

MONA GHASEMIAN

Mona Ghasemian is pursuing her PhD at Golden Gate University. She received her degree in law school in Iran and received her Master's degree at Santa Clara Law School. She has volunteered through the years in Human Rights Organizations, UNESCO. International Bar Association Human Rights Institute in London, UK, and The Women's Intercultural Network (WIN). She plans to use her

degree to pursue a career as a legal advocate for domestic violence victims and immigrants. Mona is a SF AAUW member.



Mona Ghasemian, Golden Gate School of Law, PhD in International Law

APRIL DAWN OCHOA-KIM



April Dawn Ochoa-Kim is at the Academy of Art University completing her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Architecture and Design. Her passion is directing her future design career to focus upon ways in which building materials and systems can nurture human vitality without compromising form or function. April plans to get her certification in LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

Annual Meeting and Installation

Luncheon

At the Annual Meeting and Installation Luncheon, Dr. Peg Jackson and Elaine Butler surprised outgoing President Cathy Corcoran with a certificate in recognition for all of her support for the Tech Trek program. Dr. Jackson, AAUWSF member and colleague of Cathy's at Academy of Art University, and her husband Paul Jackson, sponsored a 2016 Tech Trek scholarship recipient in Cathy's name.



Dr. Peg Jackson, Elaine Butler and Cathy Corcoran

A Crack in Baseball's Glass Ceiling?

Pat Camarena

In mid July in Cincinnati, Ohio, we will see the best of the American and National League baseball players squaring off against each other in the annual All Star Game. Thousands of men and women will be watching this popular event, but only men players will take the field that day. Could it be that the first woman to be eligible to play professionally will be watching? Very possibly. Major League Baseball is getting closer than ever to signing its first professional female player. Melissa Mayeux, a sixteen year old French shortstop, just joined MLB's international professional registration list in June, making her eligible to play professional baseballin the United States. It could be awhile in actually happening, but it is exciting news for fans who would love to see a

female, be it Melissa or someone else, come up to bat for a Major League team.

Of course women have been involved in our national pastime since Vassar had its first women's baseball team in 1866. Amanda Clement, the first official woman umpire in men's baseball, designed her own uniform and stored extra baseballs in her blouse. The first woman owner of a major league team was Helene Britton. She owned the St. Louis Cardinals from 1911 to 1917. In the 1930s and 1940s, Effa Manley was co-owner of the Newark Eagles, a Negro League team. In 2006, she became the first woman elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. A 1992 movie, called *A League of Their Own*, tells a fictionalized story of the real-life All-American Girls Professional Baseball League formed during WWII when lots of men were away at war. Also during WWII, Jackie Mitchell became one of the first female pitchers in minor league professional baseball history. In 2009, Justine Siegal became the first coach of a men's professional baseball team. In 2011, during MLB spring training, she was the first woman to throw batting practice for the Cleveland Indians. Not until 2012 was there a female sports analyst doing play by plays for a nationally televised Major League Baseball game. This woman was New Jersey born Michelle Smith who previously was a double Olympic softball Gold Medalist with the U.S. National team.

Women have long been associated with both softball and baseball. In addition there are many organizations in the U.S. and world-wide that are helping build baseball opportunities for women. Women's World Cup baseball events are held regularly, drawing teams from Japan, Pakistan, and Brazil, to name only a few. Times are a-changn'. It is very likely that the first woman ever to play on a future major league team will be watching the Allstar game July 14.

www.aagpbl.org
www.nypost.com.

www.thewalrus.ca
www.gilderlehrman.com

Playing Now Paula Campbell

Tarell Alvin McCraney's **Choir Boy**, now playing at Marin Theatre Company, is a must-see. Beautifully directed by Ken Gash, it's set in an all-black exclusive boy's school in the American South. We meet five of the boys, all choir members, the headmaster, and a new teacher, an older white man who fights to earn the boys' respect. McCraney may be familiar to Bay area audiences, his **Brother/Sister Plays** trilogy played here recently, and this season the Berkeley Rep production of his **Head of Passes**, overlapped the MTC **Choir Boy** production. McCraney has won numerous awards, and is an important up and coming playwright, a name to be reckoned with. I predict we'll hear more and more about him in years to come.

Choir Boy, as its title suggests, contains a good deal of singing. The music alone makes seeing the play worthwhile. The choir is wonderful -- beautiful voices, singing a variety of musical styles, with a clear focus on spirituality. The play has two main themes -- the issues young black men face learning to be good men in our culture, and needless to say, homosexuality and its evil cousin, homophobia. After all, it's an all boy's school -- any of my readers ever see a play set in an all male school in which homosexuality was not an issue -- I doubt it.

What sets **Choir Boy** apart are the sensitively constructed characters, who never cease to surprise us, and the amazing acting. Each boy and adult is distinct, his character well limned, and each actor inhabits his role as if it is his real life. Headmaster Marrow (Ken Robinson) is a man torn

between his personal values and the duties of his job, Mr. Pendleton (Charles Robinson Shaw) the older teacher called back from retirement brings to the job years of civil rights beliefs and activism, only to discover that most if it is no longer pertinent to the world of the boys, today's world. The boys themselves, Rotimi Agbabiaka, Jeleni Alladin, Forest Van Dyke, Dimitri Woods, and Jaysen Wright are each outstanding in their individual roles, and work together superbly as ensemble company. Special attention must be paid to Jeleni Alladin, playing Pharus, the main character. He is amazing -- onstage almost all the time, breaking our hearts with his beautiful singing, breaking our hearts with his strained relationship with his mother, breaking our hearts with his struggle to be accepted by the boys and by himself, for the man he is. It's a marvelous role, a tour de force for the actor, and also a tremendous line burden -- with many long speeches, fast dialogue, and what amounts to unending self torment, covered by layers of smiling protective disguise. I couldn't help thinking of Hamlet, the role with the most lines in all of Shakespeare's plays. **Hamlet** is a five act play, **Choir Boy** a long (one hour, forty minutes) one act play, yet the parallels are obvious. But no one ends up dead at the end of **Choir Boy**, unlike **Hamlet** which ends with a stage full of corpses. Instead, the human spirit counters adversity, and adjusts and adapts. If anything, the play is a tribute to individual strength of character, and the mutability of human hearts.

The production has been extended, so there's still time for you to see it. It's really an amazing piece of theatre, not to be missed.

Choir Boy, Marin Theatre Company, 397 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, through July 5.
 Tickets: Box Office 415-388-5209 Online:
<https://tickets.marintheatre.org>
 Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8pm, Wed 7:30pm, Sun 7pm, some Wed,
 Thur, Sat, Sun 2pm.

New Members

Sandra Chaves
Heather Otte
Verna Joanne Bellan

Lunching Out and Loving It

A friend recently took me to Lovejoy's Tea Room, a place that I had visited before, but had forgotten about! It is really the perfect place for lunch, or afternoon tea. It is a cozy room, as you would find in any small town in England, with crocheted doilies, flowered tablecloths, mismatched china, and a varied assortment of furniture.

They make the most delicious English scones, a large assortment of tea sandwiches (both white and brown bread, with the crusts cut off, of course!), as well as hot crumpets with lemon curd, and scones with devon cream. You can choose from different combinations of these, but for a first time visit, try the Queen's Tea, which offers 2 different sandwiches, green salad, cabbage slaw, a crumpet and a scone, fresh fruit and a bottomless pot of tea. They have a great selection of teas, from English breakfast to Earl Grey to a variety of scented tea. We were three at tea, and each ordered a different kind of tea. We tried two of them with our savory food, and the third, a vanilla scented black tea, with our sweets.

Everything was fresh, attractively presented, and our tea pots were constantly replenished.

They serve tea from 11 to 6 on Wednesday through Sunday (be sure to have a reservation during the weekend hours!)

Lovejoy's Tea Room: 1351 Church St. (at Clipper)
415-648-5895

July Birthdays

Sheila Bost	July 14
Elaine Butler	July 19

Birthday Not Announced?

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

AAUW Web Pages

News Page & Media Alerts:

<http://www.aauw.org/press/>

Actions to take: <http://bit.ly/1wQ0GbL>

Mission in Action: www.aauwaction.org/

US Congressional Voting Record:

<http://bit.ly/1jKYsjJ>

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.

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July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Aft w/Books 1:30 PM	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated.
Maya Angelou



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



San Francisco Inc. (CA) Branch

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.