

President's Message

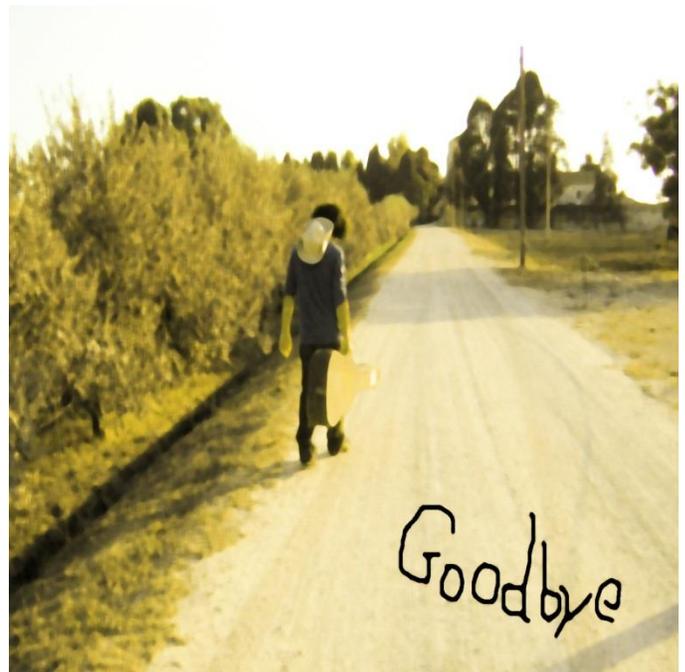
Your Board just had a planning meeting to discuss what to focus on this year. As mentioned before, our AAUW year runs from July 1-June 30, so we are now in a new year. We want to continue partnering with other organizations and have renewed our membership with the Alliance for Girls and Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women. We are still seeking more involvement from our members. Let us hear your desires and concerns.

Our membership renewals are steadily trickling in. Another email invoice has just been sent to those who have not yet renewed. It is very easy to renew online, but please make sure that any Tech Trek donations are separately submitted to me or Elaine Butler.

Our Tech Trek campers enjoyed their experience. An email sent by one of the girls who went to the Fresno camp will appear in Alliance for Girls newsletter! We are grateful to Sarah Bolmer, a member of our branch and chair of the Younger Women's Task Force, for taking care of providing lunch to the Tech Trek staff at Stanford. It is really great to be able to call upon these young women for help.

BIG NEWS from Cathy Corcoran, our former president, treasurer, newsletter editor and loyal member. She and Noelle are moving back to Ireland at the end of the month. They left Ireland when they were young, but they both have strong ties there with family and friends. We will miss their steady support and plan to stay in touch.

Cathy has already renewed her membership for this year!



Our Welcome Back meeting for all members will be held on Saturday, September 9 from 2-4 pm at the Sports Basement, 1590 Bryant St., in the basement. The Tech Trek girls and their families will be coming so that we may hear about their experiences. A good turnout from our members would be terrific!

Barbara Spencer, President

AAUWSF Board Meeting

There will be no meeting in August. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for September 6.

Afternoons With Books

There will be no meeting in August. Our next meeting will be on September 15. We will be choosing which books to read for the year, so start making your lists now!

International Book Group

Date: Monday, August 28 at 7:00 PM
Book/Author: News of the World, by Paulette Jiles
Hostess: Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona Street
 Please RSVP to Sheila at 415-823-0961 or wawonast@earthlink.net

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

Date: August 24 at 7:30 PM
Book/Author: Camp, by Jeffrey Deaver
Location: Mary Suter, 1770 18th Ave.
Reviewer: Beth Wells
 RSVP: Mary at 415-665-1185

Lunch Bunch

Date: Tuesday, August 8 at 12 noon.
Where: Old Jerusalem
 2976 Mission St. (between 25 and 26 St.)

A long time staple in the mission, it serves classic Eastern Mediterranean food at reasonable prices.

RSVP to Mary Suter at marsuter@yahoo.com

Meet new friends and connect with those you already know in during an informal at sites around the city. Try out different cuisines and new dishes as we all get better acquainted.

Tech Trek

The Tech Trek Camps are over for this year. We will be welcoming the campers back in September, for our traditional Welcome Back event. Be sure to **SAVE THE DATE: September 9 2-4pm**. More about the Welcome Back will follow.

This year we sent two girls to Fresno State Tech Trek Camp in June. This was followed by 7 girls to Camp Marie Curie and 7 girls to Camp Grace Hopper (Stanford) in July.



Catherine Zhou, Samantha Fisher (AAUW student member and Camp Counselor), and Lourdes Sanchez, at Fresno

Another highlight was working with Sarah Bolmer, AAUW member and President of the Younger Women's Task Force, in providing Sunday lunch to the Camp Curie Staff. Sara purchased and served the suggested food and learned about the Tech Trek program from the staff. It was wonderful to have her help. It enabled me to stay close to my phone to answer the questions from our campers.



Lunch with the Camp Curie Staff

Thank you to everyone who made the Tech Trek experience available to our 16 fortunate campers. We can't wait to hear of their experiences in September.

July Tech Trek Donors

Sandra Tye

Peggy Kavounas

Thank you so much for your support of this wonderful program!

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

Get Involved

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Saturday, August 26, is Women's Equality Day. The date commemorates the passage of the [Nineteenth Amendment](#), which secured women's right to vote, on August 26, 1920. It is also a time to acknowledge that [the Nineteenth Amendment didn't include all women](#) and that 97 years later the fight for gender equality is still far from over. In San Francisco, you can make your voice heard!

When: Saturday, August 26, 2017 4 PM

Where: African American Art & Culture Complex
762 Fulton Street

Call to Action to:

REUNITE, REBOOT, RESIST
HONOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTIVISTS
CELEBRATE OUR SUCCESSES
JOIN CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER
ENGAGE WITH THE CITIES FOR CEDAW CAMPAIGN
SHAPE THE 2018 CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S AGENDA

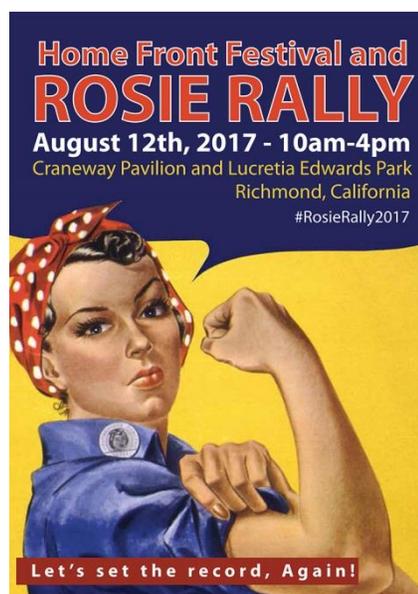
WIN invites you - teachers, NGOs, legislators, medias, rural, suburban, old, young, male, female, trans, everyday people in all cultures to join us for our annual Women's Equality Day CALL to ACTION - with Conversations on the Critical Concerns of California women and girls. Let's talk about how WIN and the California Women's Agenda are responding to these concerns and hear how you are responding.

Get your tickets by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3040472>

Save the Date

**3rd Annual Home Front Festival and Rosie Rally:
Saturday, August 12th, 2017 10 -4**



Here is the opportunity to relive the era of women who were being recruited to work during the second world war. Enjoy food, and 40's music in Lucretia Edwards Park, Richmond, CA. dressed as Rosie the Riveter!
(and a chance to visit the Rosie the Riveter Museum as well)

For more information go to:
www.rosietheriveter.org

Angel of Death Pat Camarena



To many of the convicted murderers in Virginia's prisons waiting for their death sentences to be carried out, Marie Deans was known as the "angel of death". She considered herself rather to be a "courageous fool". In a variety of ways, for over three decades, she advocated for the repeal of capital punishment. She worked diligently to persuade lawyers to provide pro bono services to prisoners who could not afford post-conviction appeals. She made hundreds of visits to inmates and courthouses seeking previously undisclosed or overlooked information to help in appeals cases. Besides spending countless hours visiting death row inmates, she often accepted invitations

to be with them for their final hours before the sentences were carried out. After years of work poring over trial transcripts and police reports, she succeeded in helping to free some falsely accused prisoners. Some were people who had been bullied into false confessions, people of limited intelligence, or people who did not have complete understanding of the legal system. The arrival on the scene of DNA evidence helped exonerate some people just within days of their execution dates. Marie brought hope and humanity to death-row inmates living under what many capital punishment critics considered to be barbaric conditions.

A personal tragedy brought Marie to her life's work. She became involved in the world of criminal punishment in the 1970s after her mother-in-law Penny Deans was murdered by an escaped convict. At the scene of the crime, she was told by a police officer not to worry, that the guilty person would be found and dispatched. "Capture him," she said, "but do not kill him for me."

In 1976, Marie formed Murder Victims' Families Against the Death Penalty. She also founded the Virginia Coalition on Jails and Prisons, a public interest group that specialized in providing pro bono legal assistance from the time of arrest to eventual executions, stays, or exonerations. Marie assisted in over 200 capital trials and only two of the defendants were sent to death row. Once she was asked why she involved herself in a field that attracts so few. Marie replied that she needed to understand why we are so good at passing on violence but so poor at passing on love.

Now there is a recently published book about the complete life of Marie Deans including her complicated childhood. Originally meant to be a memoir, in her own words she told the complete stories of numerous death-row inmates in whose cases she became involved. Todd C. Peppers is the

author. The title of this book is "A Courageous Fool".

www.journeyoflove.com

www.richmond.com

www.deathpenaltyinfo.com

Playing Now Paula Campbell

La Cage Aux Folles, my favorite Broadway musical of all time, is now on the boards at the SFPlayhouse. What could be better than a show with music and lyrics by the multiple award winning duo of Jerry Herman and Harvey Fierstein. And a plot about love – young love, older love, family love, spiced by taking place in the setting of a gay night club in St. Tropez. Suffice to say that when I saw this production last week, it was the fifth time I'd seen the show since seeing it first in 1984 on Broadway. The show won the Tony for Best Musical, the Tony for Best Original Score the year it opened, and for Best Revival of a Musical twice (each time it was reprised.) I can't begin to tell you how much I love this show.

The production is beautifully directed by Bill English, co-founder and artistic director of the SFPlayhouse. Kimberly Richards' choreography and Dave Dobrusky's musical direction are spot on – perfect for the venue size, never flagging, and full of exuberant energy. The cast of 16 – yes that's right – 16, doesn't miss a beat, a note or a step.

What struck me was that the script was tweaked just enough to ring true for 2017. The story is about a nightclub owner and his drag queen lover, who bring up the owner's son. When the son falls in love with the daughter of a gay-hating politician and brings the girl and her family home to dinner,

the stage is set for a comedy of errors, which could easily seem dated since social mores have changed so much since 1983. But nothing seems dated in this production. Some lines are changed, some set design is modified, but overall the show is about love, and that is timeless.

When Albin, as Zaza, the drag queen sang "I am What I am, and What I am Needs no Excuses" the audience cheered. When the cast sang "The Best of Times is Now – is Now – is Now" it was electrifying. The older men's love ballad, "Song on the Sand", and the young couples' ballad "With Ann on Arm" reprised by the older couple as "With You on my Arm", and the ballad of a parent's love for a child "Look Over There" brought tears of joy to my normally jaded eyes.

The cast is wonderful, more than wonderful. After auditioning many actors for the role of Albin/Zaza but finding no one quite what he was looking for, Director English went to New York and held auditions there, where he found the perfect Albin, John Treacy Egan. Egan is marvelous – well worth the cost of bringing him, along with everything he needed to live here, from NY, and housing him (and his dog) for the run of the show. I've seen several different Albin(s), Gene Barry on Broadway, Harvey Fierstein in the first Broadway revival and Douglas Hodge in the second one. Egan ranks right up there with them – he fills Albin's shoes and Zaza's gowns as if he was born wearing them.

This is more than a must see show – it's see it, see it again if it grabs you as it does me, then buy the CD and listen to it every day. I've listened to the CD so much that I had to control myself from singing along with the cat, since I seem to know all the lyrics to all the songs.

La Cage Aux Folles, through sept. 16. 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://www.sfplayhouse.org/sfph/get-tickets/> Tues-Wed-Thurs 7pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, Sat 3pm, Sun 2pm.

Birthday Not Announced?

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



MAKE A LIFETIME GIFT TO AAUW

Have you considered making a legacy gift to AAUW? Your gift will help ensure that the work of AAUW continues long into the future. By providing for AAUW in your estate plans, 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 Toni Johnson at the AAUW Planned Giving Office at 202-785-7706 or email her at johnson@aauw.org.

August Birthdays

Peg Jackson	August 10
Elizabeth Ray	August 15
Yvonne Steffen	August 19
Persis Ainey	August 23
Nancy Shapiro	August 25
Laurel Lyman	August 29

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August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Lunch Bunch 12N	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Mystery Adventure Book Club 7:30 pm	25	26
27	28 Internat'l Books 7 pm	29	30	31		

I would like to be known as a person who is concerned about freedom and equality and justice and prosperity for all people

Rosa Parks



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.