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AAUW

AAUW Marin Newsletter

February 2010

Publication of the Marin Branch of the American Association of University Women. AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Mossteller
and Georgia Schall



Happy New Year everyone! As we start 2010, we begin with gratitude for the generosity of our members who supported our college scholarships and Tech Trek. Thanks to your energy, time and financial support, AAUW Marin has done an outstanding job of surpassing our fundraising goals! **Marguerite Couvillion and Pat Hager** led the Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble while **Linda Noel, Joyce Erlenbach and Chris O'Neill** led our Silent Auction and Gift Baskets (and **Chris** earlier headed up the fundraising appeal letter)! We applaud your fine leadership and all your superb efforts! Thank You!

Also thanks to **Susan Kemper** who led the successful collection of donations for the Women's Homeless Project and **Katherine Brinnier** for collecting all the toiletry items! You and all who donated have made a difference in the lives of women who have come upon hard times!

So what's in store for us in the New Year? As you may know, our membership has been declining over the last several

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AAUW Holiday Events

Top left, auction organizers at the popular gift basket table at the December 5 holiday luncheon. Top right, carolers at the luncheon. Right, Marin Branch gift wrappers at Barnes & Noble (see p. 3 for report on holiday fundraising).

Events Coming up!

Saturday, February 20, 2010

Tri-branch brunch. The annual brunch and speaker event for members of Marin, Novato and Petaluma and their guests will be at the Club Restaurant at McInnis Park in San Rafael. College of Marin president Francis White will share her thoughts on the *Education Equity Gap in California*. (See flyer inside)

Thursday, March 4, 2010

Celebrate International Women's Day and stand in solidarity with women and girls all over the world by attending *Half the Sky Live*, a **nation-wide** broadcast from New York featuring music, film, and celebrity commentary, 4:30 P.M. at the Embarcadero Center Theater. Presented by AAUW partner CARE, a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty, *Half the Sky Live* is inspired by *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunnis. Details on our website ASAP.

Branch Calendar/Interest Groups: February 2010

- Feb 1 Mon** **READING ARTS AM.** 10 AM. Read *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Steig Larsson. Leader is Joan Hersko, 100 Thorndale Drive, Apt. 305, San Rafael, 492-2656.
BOARD MEETING. 6 PM, place to be determined.
- Feb 2 Tues** **BRIDGE AM.** Leader Bonnie Casassa, 457-6501.
- Feb 3 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Group Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
- Feb 4 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
HIKING ADVENTURES. 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Section Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm.
BEHIND THE HEADLINES. 6 PM at home of Pat Mahoney, 22 Broadview Drive, San Rafael, 456-6758. Group is studying health care legislation and differences between various proposed bills. Members research information for discussion. Call Jean Cox-Treverton, 492-8035, for details.
- Feb 8 Mon** **BRIDGE PM.** Ladies Duplicate. Leader is Pat Zentner, 453-5769.
- Feb 9 Tues** **CRAFTS.** Members work on personal craft projects including knitting, quilting, needlepoint, scrap booking, card-making, crocheting. Meets 1 to 4 PM. Group Leaders: Judy Ryan, 883-1028, and Mary Mossteller, 924-3096.
- Feb 10 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
LUNCH BUNCH. Meets for lunch at a different restaurant each month (members chose the restaurants). Leaders are Diana Brown, 453-3569, and Libby Byers, 453-2148.
- Feb 11 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Group Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
HIKING ADVENTURES. 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Call Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm..
- Feb 12 Fri** **PLAY READING.** 9:30 AM. Please call Chair Florence Garvie at 388-6825 if you would like to be a substitute for one of the ten members.
FRIDAY FRIENDS. 7:30 PM. Pot luck dinner at members' homes.
- Feb 16 Tues** **DAY BOOKS.** 10 AM. Meet at home of Diana Martinetto, 120 Gilmartin Drive, Tiburon, 789-9082. Diana will be the reviewer. Leader is Natalie Whittlesey, 383-8638.
- Feb 17 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
JOAN B SINNA GROUP. 9:30 AM. Reach *Shosha* by Isaac Singer. Leader is Dorothy Kilian, 924-2648.
FUTURES OF WOMEN. 7 PM. Home of Mary Mossteller, 130 Acacia Avenue, Larkspur, 924-3096. Read *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Leader is Kathy McCaffrey, 492-1727.
- Feb 18 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Group Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
HIKING ADVENTURES. 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Call Section Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm.
BRIDGE AM. Leader Betty Jennings, 472-0359.
- Feb 19 Fri** **BOARD GAMES.** 7:00 PM, home of Mary Mossteller, 130 Acacia Avenue, Larkspur, 924-3096. Social evening of games like Trivial Pursuit, Balderdash and Scrabble. Leader is Ann Thomas, 924-9559.
- Feb. 20 Sat** **TRI-BRANCH BRUNCH.** 10 AM to 1 PM. The Club at McInnis Restaurant. (See enclosed flyer)
- Feb 23 Tues** **MEET ME AT THE MOVIES.** Movie followed by critique & social time over coffee, wine, dessert or whatever at a nearby location. SLs are Susan Gilardi, 924-1793, and Mary Mossteller, 924-3096.
- Feb 24 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
READING ARTS PM. 7 PM. Read *Divisadero* by Michael Ondaatje. Group Leaders are Ann Jessup, 461-6078, and Judy Ryan, 883-1028.
- Feb 25 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Group Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
EVENING BOOKS. 7:30 PM. Home of Sharon Levien, 801 Everest Court, Mill Valley, 383-2135. Read *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Please call if you need transportation or have an inquiry. Leader is Sharon Levien, 383-2135 or SLevien@aol.com.
HIKING ADVENTURES. 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Call Section Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm.
- Feb 26 Fri** **POKER.** 7:30. Location to be decided. Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072.
BRIDGE. Evening Couples Duplicate. Section Leader Terry Gordon, 897-7692.



Occasional Sections (call for information on next meeting)

BEHIND THE HEADLINES. Contact Jean Cox-Treverton at 492-8035 for information.

WEEKENDERS. Saturday or Sunday hiking any weekend. Section Leader is Dee Skore, 472-1072.

ART INTEREST GROUP. This group plans visits to museums or art galleries, for example a special exhibit at the de Young or Legion of Arts. Members carpool and pay for own admission and may have no host lunches at a nearby café. Call Section Leader Gerrie Young, 461-3222, to get on her email list for events.

Fundraising Wrap-up and Thank You

By Chris O'Neill

A huge thank you to all Marin AAUW members for their generosity, in both funds and time, in making our fall fundraising endeavors so successful. We set a goal of raising \$10,000 to send middle school girls to Tech Trek and award college scholarships to Dominican University and College of Marin women in 2010 – and we've collected more than \$12,000! Your incredible financial support in these sobering economic times shows that you take AAUW's mission to heart.

Our fundraising appeal letter that was sent out in October resulted in donations from 54 members and two former members totaling \$6,045 through December 31. The amount of the donations ranged from \$20 to \$1,000, all of which were greatly appreciated. This far exceeded last year's total of \$5,115. While we are earning less interest now on our college endowment fund, this increased principal allows us to meet our goal of increasing each of our annual college scholarships to \$1,200 in 2010. We will also be able to increase, from four to five, the number of scholarships the branch gives for middle school girls to attend Tech Trek math-science camp at Stanford University in July 2010.

Those of you who attended our holiday luncheon on December 5th - and there were almost 70 of you - will agree that there was great camaraderie, food, and holiday cheer in abundance. Much fun was had bidding on all the wonderful items available at our silent auction. The net proceeds from the auction brought in another \$3,983 for the AAUW Marin Scholarship Fund, up from \$3,003 last year. Almost all interest groups donated a basket and many individuals did so too, giving us 28 varied baskets to choose from. While Joyce Erlenbach headed up the organization

of the baskets, she also made several herself. Thanks so much Joyce! And Susan Gilardi made 15 movie baskets – way to go Susan! To all of you who bought the items – well, we couldn't have done it without you. It further proves that our members are committed, generous people. So put December 4, 2010, on your calendar now and save the date to join in the fun.

Our last fun-fundraising event was the staffing of the wrapping desk at Barnes & Noble, headed up by Pat Hager and Marguerite Couvillion. Pat gives you more details about this in another article. With the added days this year, our Scholarship Fund received \$2,339 in donations from the public. My thanks to all the wrappers.

I could not have been so successful as Scholarship Chair without the help of many. For me, the most personally rewarding part of this year's efforts was that so many members, not just Board members, helped out in a variety of ways.

Joyce Erlenbach, Linda Noel, Nancy Greenfield, Virginia Jones, Mary Gomes and Nancy Lubamersky helped me compile, stuff and mail out the fundraising appeal letters and personally acknowledge the donations. Many thanks. The following people responded to the appeal letter and so generously gave donations to the Scholarship Fund:

Sandra Adams, Sondra Adams, Susan Adamson, Katherine Brinnier, Dottie Burk, Patricia Calhoun, Nancy Chiu, Priscilla Christopher, Vicki DeMasi, Lillian Donald, Joyce Erlenbach, Ann Everingham, Joan Flood, Peg Fujimoto, Susan Gilardi, Libby Ginsburg, Mary Gomes, Florence Graybill, Nancy Greenfield, Pat Hager, Joan Hersko, Mary Ellen Irwin, Barbara

Jessen, Ann Jessup, Virginia Jones, Eleanor Kellogg-Smith, Susan Kemper, Dorothy Kilian, Mardi Leland, Jeanne Lese, Pat Mahoney, Jean Marchant, Elaine Marevich, Mary McCluskey, Mary Mossteller, Linda Noel, Charlene Norall, Carol Normandi, Ann Ocheltree, Chris O'Neill, Dorothy Petitt, Donna Poninski, Jean Rhodes, Jillian Robinson, Judy Rodich, Georgia Schall, Barbara Schmidt, Cherie Sorokin, Marilyn South, Robin Sparks, Ann Thomas, Nancy Van Horn, Lorraine Voskian, Nancy White, Patricia Williams and Pamela Womack.

A big thank you goes out to all of the interest groups and individuals who contributed all the wonderful baskets and individual items for the auction. I am especially appreciative of the beautiful handmade items donated by so many of our talented members. In addition to the interest groups, the following people donated individual items or baskets to be auctioned: Sony Adams, Amy Anderson, Pat Beigel, Dottie Burk, Priscilla Christopher, Marguerite Couvillion, Jean Cox-Treverton, Jean Ecker, Joyce Erlenbach, Pat Ernsberger, Susan Gilardi, Mary Gomes, Nancy Greenfield, Pat Hager, Janet Quin-Harkin, Virginia Jones, Maureen Keenan, Susan Kemper, Mardi Leland, Jeanne Lese, Nancy Lubamersky, Jean Marchant, Elaine Marevich, Kathy McCaffrey, Mary Mossteller, Ann Ocheltree, Chris O'Neill, Kristen Sachen, Elizabeth Sather, Georgia Schall, Carin Sinrod, Cherie Sorokin, Ann Thomas, Nancy Van Horn, and Gerrie Young.

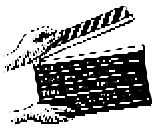
My auction Co-chair, Linda Noel, was unflappable and made it fun and her help was invaluable. The day of the auction had many members helping Joyce,

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Meet Me at the Movies:

movie reviews by members

November's Movie: *The Maid*



by Susan Gilardi

Here's what we thought about this movie: many layered, subtle, best kind of directing for a foreign film, engrossing, intense, very good acting, well done, character study, most original movie in a long time; superb cast, well-drawn characters, funny, tragic, engaging.

This is a Chilean film about a maid, of course, but different from many sociological studies or political films that scream about social inequities and/or rebellious servants. The main character is a delight to watch with her grim, set mouth and blank expression. This feature is deliberate. The director, Silva, forces the viewer to provide the interpretation which will vary with each viewer. Is Raquel beloved by the family or poorly treated or a little of both? Is she content with her position or not? Why is she so threatened by the new maids? Her reaction is both humorous and sad. But what about what happens with the third new maid? There were many points of discussion, many interpretations to this film, but the consensus was that we really enjoyed it and gave it, overall, a 4+ out of 5 stars.

Welcome New Member

Welcome to **Leitha Wyant**, 53 Holliday Drive, Novato 94949. Her phone is 382-8293 and email leithawyant@yahoo.com. Leitha, who graduated from San Francisco State with a major in the social sciences, previously belonged to AAUW in Orange County. She is retired from investment counseling, already enjoying Board Games and Meet Me at the Movies and is interested in Reading Arts, the school volunteers, Weekenders and Museum tours.

Thank You to Our Great Gift Wrappers!

Pat Hager and Marguerite Couvillon, co chairs for the gift wrapping fundraiser at Barnes & Noble, send a big thank you to all the volunteers who contributed their time this past holiday season. Their efforts raised \$2,371 - double what was raised last year! Many thanks to Amy Anderson, Martina Austin, Dottie Burk, Pat Calhoon, Nancy Carroll, Bonnie Casassa, Leona George Davidson, Vicki Demasi, Lillian Donald, Joyce Erlenbach, Pat Ernsberger, Marilyn Filbrun, Nancy Finston, Libby Ginsburg, Maria Gramajo, Nancy Greenfield, Jessa & Alexis Hager, Noreen Hook, Virginia Jones, Jeanne Lese, Nancy Lubamersky, Mary Fran McCluskey, Mary Mossteller, Marian Moynihan, Ann Ocheltree, Chris O'Neill, Jillian Robinson, Judy Ryan, Hugh & Georgia Schall, Heidi Scott, Cherie Sorokin, Marilyn South, Ann & Wendy Thomas, Nancy Van Horn, Sondra Adams Walczak, Margaret Wallace, Natalie Whittlesey, Leitha Wyant, and Gerrie Young. THANK YOU all and see you next year!

Pat Hager and Marguerite Couvillon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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years. Your board has come to the decision to request a Leader on Loan from AAUW CA. This is a program established by the state level of AAUW to send an experienced leader to help assist branches who feel they need some direction for improvement. Your board has targeted the issue of Membership Recruitment and Retention. We are pleased to announce that **Jo Harberson** will be our Leader on Loan and we are looking forward to her workshops! Jo was our wonderful speaker at our Open House who was enjoyed by all who came. **All members are invited to participate in these workshops!** We have set a date for the first workshop; it is January 31, from 2:00 to 4:30. We hope you can join the Board as we take some steps to Revitalize our Branch. We would love to have as many members as possible come! If you are interested, call Mary Mossteller, 924-3096, or e-mail mcmossteller@mac.com to let her know of your interest.



AAUW newsletter:
contact
Ann Thomas
924-9559

Fundraising Wrap-up

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Linda and me to set up, display items beautifully, answer questions, help with the Direct Buy table, organize bid sheets, cashier and the thankless task of cleaning up. Thanks to the following people who did all this: Ed O'Neill, Jerry Erlenbach, Jean Cox-Treverton, Dottie Burk, Marilyn South, Amy Anderson, Mary Gomes, Nancy Greenfield, Susan Gilardi, Pat Ernsberger, Elaine Marevich, Virginia Jones, Susan Kemper, Kathy McCaffrey, Pat Mahoney, Ann Ocheltree, Margaret Wallace, Cherie Sorokin, Pat Beigel, Katherine Brinnier, and SONDY ADAMS The auction wouldn't have been such a success if Mardi Leland and Fran Hall had not worked so hard to make the party a fun-filled event. Thank you all.

Health Study

AAUW members are invited to participate in a baseline study related to an campaign for women in the Baby Boomer age group (ages 45-64) on the need to plan for future long-term cadre resources. At least 250 AAUW members nationwide are needed. For information: Cordy Galligan at galliganc@aauw.org or at 202-785- 7735.