



AAUW

## AAUW Marin Newsletter

December 2008—January 2009

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

### *Coming Up....*

#### **Holiday Party**

Saturday  
December 6, 2008  
11 AM to 3 PM  
The Club Restaurant

Lunch, silent auction, holiday  
music & bridge games

\*\*\*

#### **Tri-Branch Brunch**

Saturday  
February 14, 2009  
10 AM to Noon  
The Club Restaurant

#### **Dr. Chris Andrews Academy of Sciences**

Director of the  
Steinhardt Aquarium

Presentation on  
**"The New Academy"**

\*\*\*

#### **Three Cups of Tea**

Saturday  
March 21, 2009

Julia Bergman  
Central Asia Institute  
Chair, Board of Directors

AAUW program celebrating  
Women's History Month

### **Holiday Party: Music, Auction & a Good Time**

Our Holiday Party is scheduled for December 6 at The Club at McInnis Park and our sections are hard at work, putting together baskets for the silent auction. Last year, all the baskets were purchased for holiday gifts or personal use and we are sure that you will find a wonderful selection for your holiday needs this year.



This year, given the difficult economic climate, we are trying a new idea. In addition to our traditional gift baskets, sections have been asked to prepare a food basket containing non-perishable goods and a Safeway gift card for that holiday turkey. These baskets will also be available at the party for bids by our guests. Obviously, whoever wins the bid may keep it, but we hope that they will consider donating it for delivery to the Marin Food Bank. Our goal is to help needy families as well as

raise funds for our local  
Scholarship Fund.

In addition to our holiday baskets, we have an assortment of items including the popular home in Tahoe/Donner. Come bid on ACT and

Giants tickets, hand-made scarves, artwork, jewelry, decorative items and more.

There will be singing, wonderful food, games, great shopping and the camaraderie of good friends. Our silent auction not only adds to the festivities but raises money for our AAUW Marin Scholarship Fund, which funds our Tech Trek Program and the Dominican University and College of Marin scholarships for re-entry women. This year, we will also have the opportunity to help our community with our food baskets.

Joyce Erlenbach, Tech Trek Chr  
Chris O'Neill. Scholarship Chair

#### **Tri-Branch Brunch Saturday, February 14, 2009**

**Speaker: Dr. Chris Andrews  
California Academy of Sciences  
Director of Steinhardt Aquarium**

**"The New Academy of Sciences"**

*Watch for reservation flyer in early January*

## Section Meetings: December 2008-January 2009

- Dec 1 Mon** **READING ARTS AM.** 10 AM Dec. 1 read *The Gravediggers Daughter* by Joyce Carol Oates. Jan. 5 read *Our Story Begins* by Tobias Wolff. Section Leader is Joan Hersko, 100 Thorndale Drive, Apt. 305, San Rafael, phone 492-2656.  
**BOARD MEETING.** 7 PM Dec 1 and 6 PM Jan 5, San Rafael Corporate Center, San Rafael.
- 
- Dec 2 Tues** **BRIDGE AM.** Leader Bonnie Casassa, 457-6501.
- Jan 6**
- 
- Dec 3 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
- Jan 7**
- 
- Dec 4 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.  
**HIKING ADVENTURES.** 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Section Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm.  
**EVENING BOOKS.** 7:30 PM, annual holiday party (*note date change*). Bring a sweet or savory finger food and book that you would give as a gift to share. RSVP to Pat Ernsberger, 15 Ryan Ave., Mill Valley, 383-3921. Section Leader is Sharon Levien.
- 
- Dec 8 Mon** **BRIDGE PM.** Ladies Duplicate. Leader is Pat Zentner, 453-5769.
- Jan 12**
- 
- Dec 9 Tues** **CRAFTS.** Members work on personal craft projects including knitting, quilting, needlepoint, scrap booking, card-making, crocheting. Meets 1 to 4 PM. Section Leaders: Judy Ryan, 883-1028, and Mary Mossteller, 924-3096.
- Jan 13**
- 
- Dec 10 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.  
**BRIDGE AM.** Leader Rosemary Ring, 461-2511.  
**LUNCH BUNCH.** Meets for lunch at a different restaurant each month (members chose the restaurants). SLs Diana Brown, 453-3569, and Libby Byers, 453-2148.
- Jan 14**
- 
- Dec 11 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.  
**HIKING ADVENTURES.** 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Call SL Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm..
- Jan 8**
- 
- Dec 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 in a member's home. Section Leaders Jillian Robinson, 453-5854, and Pat Williams, 472-0665.
- Jan 9**
- 
- Dec 16 Tues** **DAY BOOKS.** 10 AM. December 16 will meet at home of Fran Hall for round robin discussion of books for holiday giving followed by traditional Christmas pot luck lunch. Call hostess, 435-6989, or Section Leader Natalie Whittlesey, 383-8638.
- Jan 20**
- 
- Dec 17 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.  
**JOAN B SINNA GROUP.** No December meeting. **Jan 21, 2009**, 9:30 AM at home of Ann Thomas. Read *The Four Gated City* by Doris Lessing. Section Leader is Dorothy Kilian, 924-2648.  
**FUTURES OF WOMEN.** 7 PM. Dec. 17 is pot luck party and read *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert. **Jan. 21**, home of Chris O'Neill and read *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Relin. Section Leader Kathy McCaffrey, 492-1727.  
**READING ARTS PM.** 7:30 PM. Dec. 17 read *The Gathering* by Anne Enright. **Jan. 29** read *The Echo Maker* by Richard Powers. Section Leaders are Ann Jessup, 461-6078, and Judy Ryan, 883-1028.
- Jan 21**
- 
- Dec 18 Thurs** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section 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.
- Jan 15**
- 
- Dec 19 Fri** **BOARD GAMES.** No December meeting. **Jan. 15**, 7 PM at home of Pat Beigel. Trivial Pursuit, Quidler, Balderdash, Cranium, and others. Section Leader Ann Thomas, 924-9559.
- Jan 16**
- 
- Dec 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.
- Jan 27**
- 
- Dec 24 Wed** **GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
- Jan 28**
- 
- Dec 26 Fri** **POKER.** No meeting in Dec. Jan. 23 at home of Pat Beigel. Section Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072.  
**BRIDGE.** Evening Couples Duplicate. Section Leader Terry Gordon, 897-7692.
- Jan 23**
- 
- Jan 22 Thurs** **HIKING ADVENTURES.** 9:00 AM. Bring lunch. Call Section Leader Dee Skore, 472-1072, to confirm.
- Jan 29**
- 
- Jan 14 Wed** **AAUW: BEHIND THE HEADLINES.** 6 PM, home of Cherie Sorokin to discuss "How Schools Short-change Girls." Section Leader Georgia Schall, 898-2701.

### Occasional Sections

**AAUW: Behind the Headlines:** Contact Georgia Schall at 898-2701 for information.

**COOKING LIGHT.** Informal pot lucks emphasizing light cuisine, quarterly at members' homes. Section Leader is Jeanne Lese, 492-8424.

---

## Hiking Section on the Move

by Section Leader Dee Skore

In late September a group of the Marin Branch hikers rented a house in Sedona, Arizona in the oak creek area. We had a lovely location next to beautiful red rock mountains and several golf courses. The hikes were hot but beautiful and it was quite a surprise to see so many wild flowers. We did not take long hikes, just three miles due to the temperature and altitude. But the three miles were just beautiful in the wilderness of Sedona.



### **Three Cups of Tea Program in March**

On March 21, 2009, in celebration of Women's History Month, Julia Bergman will give a presentation on the book *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace, One School At A Time*, by Greg Mortenson and David Relin.

Julia is chair of the Board of Directors of the Central Asia Institute, a non-profit organization which promotes and supports community-based education, especially for girls, in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. The Central Asia Institute Board of Directors, which includes Greg Mortenson, are all educators, have all traveled or lived in Pakistan and/or Afghanistan, and are committed to the promotion of education and literacy. Julia is also the library system administrator for City College of San Francisco. Details on time and location will be in the next newsletter

The six that went were Pat Beigel, Leslie Betts, Cecile Cutter, Maxine Everest, Janet Quin/Harkin and Dee Skore. We celebrated Janet Quin-Harkin's birthday there and Pat Beigel fixed Janet's salmon birthday dinner - it was delicious. We had a wonderful evening opening the funny gifts that Noreen Hook gave to each of us before we left with strict rules not to open until Sedona. Sorry she could not join us. We had a bit of excitement during our stay: a large spider we thought was a brown recluse or a tarantula on our kitchen ceiling. Leslie Betts saved the day when she climbed up and placed a cup over it then inserted a cardboard between the ceiling and the cup. We kept the cardboard over the cup as no one wanted it killed so Dee Skore took it out and threw it in a canyon area next to the house. Our last night there we had a snake in one bathroom.

The snake went somewhere else in the house and that evening we all walked about cautiously.

At night we could hear the coyotes, sometimes far off and other times close by. We picnicked, swam, hiked and took a jeep trip. We also went to an old mining town in the mountains outside Sedona. We met Cecile Cutter's daughter, and saw Janet's second home in Arizona. Leslie and Janet did much of the driving and did a great job finding trailheads, etc.

Maxine Everest was the only one to go down the slide rock. It is a beautiful area with cold, cold canyon water. Our swim was abbreviated.

The Hiking Section takes one or two trips per year and we have a lot of fun traveling together. I don't think we will be doing any overseas travel in the future. We have done European trips in the past; however there is much to do in the U.S.

### **Wrap Gifts for Scholarship Fund!!**

Volunteers are needed once again to wrap gifts for donations during the holidays at Barnes & Noble bookstore in the Town Center in Corte Madera. Donations go to the AAUW Marin Scholarship Fund, which supports our Tech Trek and scholarship programs.

The Branch has been assigned four busy days and two people are needed on each shift. Days and shift times follow.

**Thursday, Dec. 18:** 10:45 AM to 2 PM, 2 to 5 PM and 5 to 8 PM

**Friday, Dec. 19:** 10:45 AM to 2 PM, 2 to 5 PM and 5 to 8 PM

**Saturday, Dec. 20:** 10:45 AM to 2 PM, 2 to 5 PM, 5 to 8 PM and 8 to 10 PM

**Sunday, Dec 21:** 10:45 AM to 2 PM, 2 to 5 PM, 5 to 8 PM and 8 to 10 PM

Volunteers working 5 to 8 PM on Thursday and Friday may be asked to stay a bit later if there is business to justify doing so.

Call either Pat Hager (388-6872 or hager4@pacbell.net) or Mardi Leland (891-8883 or Llela@comcast.net) to fill a slot or to let them know you would be available as a backup. You can also ask a friend who is not a branch member to work with you.

## Marin Branch Notes

Marin Branch member **Margie Couvillion** has entered two photos in the AAUW note-card competition. Competition is stiff but we can help her by voting for one of her entries - "Rain on a succulent" and "Roses from Jackie's garden".

Margie's photos are among more than 200 entries in the contest. You may have received information about the context in an email from AAUW, or it can be accessed on the [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) website. You can vote once every seven days from November 10 to December 12 for your three favorite designs.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks to **Julia Geist**, **Susan Gilardi** and **Libby Byers** for their donations to the Mary Licht Fund.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to **Beatrice Tocher** whose name was pulled from a hat at Open House to win a free branch (local dues) membership this year. To qualify for the drawing members had to mail in renewal dues by June 30, 2008.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mary Mossteller** won the \$50 gift certificate to Book Passages for recommending names of potential members.

### Who to Call

**VP Membership:** Ann Ocheltree, 479-3876

**Membership Treasurer:** Nancy Van Horn, 482-8304

**VP Sections:** Dottie Burk, 383-4823

**AAUW Scholarship Fund:** Chris O'Neill, 457-0862

**Newsletter:** Ann Thomas, 924-9559



## Ed Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund Corner Your Education Foundation (EF) Dollars at Work

*by Mary Mossteller, Education Foundation Co-Vice President*

The EF Luncheon, which showcased the Northern California EF Fellows, took place October 26 and four of us attended from Marin: Susan Kemper, Pat Ernsberger Dottie Burk and Mary Gomes went with me to Danville to hear the speakers. The EF Fellows' research and projects and their personal stories made us feel proud that our branch donates generously to the Educational Foundation. While listening to the Fellows' stories, we heard how much they truly appreciate the fellowships and grants and how it has made a difference in their lives. We will be asking one of the Northern California Fellows to speak to us at our May scholarship luncheon.

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the AAUW Educational Foundation provided a total of \$4,452,200 to 271 recipients. AAUW is one of the largest sources of funding exclusively for graduate women. You can be proud that California continues to be the top contributor to EF. The **American Fellowships** support women completing doctoral dissertations and conducting postdoctoral research or finishing research for publication. The **International Fellowships** support full time study or research to graduate or postgraduate women. **Research and Projects** grants fund Career Development Grants, which support women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance their careers, change careers, or re-enter the work force. Research and Projects grants also fund Community Action grants, which provide funds for innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls.

### Welcome New Members!

Welcome to new member, **Rita Lakin**, 35 Baypoint, San Rafael, 94901, 415/485-5228, email: [rlakejojo@aol.com](mailto:rlakejojo@aol.com). Rita has an MA in psychology, BA in Education/literature and lists her occupation as an author. She mentors writers and travels mentoring writers and teaching at writers conventions. She indicates an interest in the Fall Open House, Spring Scholarship lunch, Futures of Women, Play Reading, the Marin County school volunteers, Meet me at the Movies, Lunch Bunch, Board Games and Art Interest Group.

Also welcome to **Lilia Redding**, at [nicasiomom1@aol.com](mailto:nicasiomom1@aol.com), 2049 Nicasio Valley Road, Nicasio 94946. Telephone is 415/662-9114.

### Silver Jubilee Scholarships

The San Francisco AAUW branch offers two scholarships of \$2,000 each to help upper division and graduate school women complete their final year of study in an accredited college or university for the school year 2009-2010. Candidates must live, or be attending a university or college, within a 100-mile distance of San Francisco and be on track to complete their course of study by June 2010. There is no restriction on use of funds. Completed applications are due by February 28, 2009. If you are interested for yourself or a friend or relative, please check the Silver Jubilee information on the AAUW San Francisco website at [www.aauwssf.org](http://www.aauwssf.org).