

AAUW Marin
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AAUW Marin Newsletter

October 2008

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 Georgia Schall

Our 2008-2009 year began with a well-attended **Open House** September 20! We mingled, mixed and munched! We met new and prospective members and re-connected with our renewing ones! We heard our Tech Trek girls talk about their experiences! We signed up to try new sections and formally launched two new ones, Art Interest and AAUW Issues and Research Sections. Contact Dottie Burk if you would like to try another or new section!

Thanks to: Jean Cox-Treverton who superbly organized the whole event; Dottie Burk who capably handled the section sign-ups; Joyce Erlenbach who spoke about the benefits of Tech Trek to young girls and for arranging for this year's Tech Trek recipients to speak at Open House; to Ann Ocheltree for all you are doing to help us increase membership by 10 - 15%! Thanks to all the Section Leaders who came and all of you who helped set up or stayed to clean up!

Shifting gears, your Board is working diligently to educate themselves about the direction in which our association is moving in the 21st Century and



Thank You to Everyone for a Great Open House



At top left, Ann Jessup handled signups for Reading Arts PM. Top right, Georgia Schall and Jeanne Lese enjoyed a chat while manning the Cooking Light table. At left, Jean Cox-Treverton coordinated the event, attended by more than 40 members and guests.

to share that information with you! We are using the first half-hour of each board meeting to examine various leadership and association issues. A topic at September's meeting was **Value Promise.**

Simply put by Linda Hallman, AAUW's Executive Director, the AAUW Value Promise is our commitment to ourselves about the "value" of our membership. The term "value" has two meanings:

First, we are promising a "value on investment," a return on your investment - financial, intellectual, emotional, and the time and energy you invest in AAUW. You support the organization with your membership, and AAUW pledges to undertake endeavors (educational programs, advocacy, research, etc.) that "break through educational and economic barriers" for women - with you and for you.

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Section Meetings and Special Events: October 2008

- Oct 1 Wed GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
WOMEN'S ISSUES GROUP. New group will have its first meeting Wednesday, October 1 at 6:30 PM. Section Leader is Georgia Schall, 898-2701. Call her for location.
- Oct 2 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
- Oct 6 Mon READING ARTS AM.** 10 AM Read *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson. Section Leader is Joan Hersko, 100 Thorndale Drive, Apt. 305, San Rafael, phone 492-2656.
BOARD MEETING. 6 PM, San Rafael Corporate Center, 750 Lindaro Street, San Rafael.
- Oct 7 Tues BRIDGE AM.** Leader Bonnie Casassa, 457-6501.
- Oct 8 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.
- Oct 9 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..
- Oct 10 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.
- Oct 13 Mon BRIDGE PM.** Ladies Duplicate. Leader is Pat Zentner, 453-5769.
- Oct 14 Tues CRAFTS.** Members work on personal craft projects including knitting, quilting, needlepoint, scrapbooking, card-making, crocheting. Meets 1 to 4 PM. Section Leaders: Judy Ryan, 883-1028, and Mary Mossteller, 924-3096.
- Oct 15 Wed GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
JOAN B SINNA GROUP. 9:30 AM. At Dorothy Kilian's, 508 Corte Madera Ave., Corte Madera. Best to carpool. Read *The Golden Notebook* by Doris Lessing. Section Leader is Dorothy Kilian, 924-2648.
FUTURES OF WOMEN. 7 PM, home of Margaret Wallace, 52 Margarita Terrace, Novato. Read *Short Stories-Beethoven was 1/16 Black* by Nadine Gordimer. Section Leader Kathy McCaffrey, 492-1727.
- Oct 16 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.
- Oct 17 Fri BOARD GAMES.** 7 PM at home of Linda Noel, 1 Saba Lane, Tiburon, 435-6356. Trivial Pursuit, Quidler, Balderdash, Cranium, and others. Section Leader Ann Thomas, 924-9559.
- Oct 18 Sat FALL OPEN HOUSE.** 10 AM to Noon, San Rafael Corporate Center, 750 Lindaro Street, San Rafael.
SUPPER CLUB. Section Leader Jeanette Donovan, 472-2192.
- Oct 21 Tues DAY BOOKS.** 10 AM, at the home of Diana Martinetto, 120 Gilmartin Drive, Tiburon, 789-9082. Diana will give the review. Section Leader is Natalie Whittlesey, 383-8638.
- Oct 22 Wed GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
READING ARTS PM. 7:30 PM. Read *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai. Section Leaders are Ann Jessup, 461-6078, and Judy Ryan, 883-1028.
- Oct 23 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.
EVENING BOOKS. 7:30 PM, at home of Marilyn Filbrun, 542 Browning Street, Mill Valley. RSVP to the hostess, 383-1946. Read *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi. Call Section Leader Sharon Levien, 383-2135 if you need a ride or to carpool (carpooling from the Miller Avenue Safeway).
- Oct 24 Fri POKER.** 7:30 PM. Play Baseball, Seven Card Stud, Criss Cross, No Peekee and other variations on the great American pastime. All levels of play welcome. Section Leader is Dee Skore, 472-1072.
BRIDGE. Evening Couples Duplicate. Section Leader Terry Gordon, 897-7692.
- Oct 28 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.
- Oct 29 Wed GOLF.** 9:00 AM (approx) McInnis Park. Call Section Leader Joyce Erlenbach, 491-1542.
- Oct 30 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.



Occasional Sections

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

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 Yong 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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Second, the term "value" identifies a principle, an ethical position, understood as a shared commitment of AAUW members that springs from an understanding of and belief in the importance of a "fair chance for women".

In the end, everything we do should be measured against the Value Promise to see if we are actually fulfilling the "obligation" that is implied by joining.

If this seems like too much information, I would almost have to concur, but now that I have been living with this through our summer/fall board meetings, I am more and more appreciating "**Value Promise**". I look at the wonderful commitment of our Marin members to the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund at Association level, Tech Trek at the state level and our own AAUW Marin Scholarship Fund for two local college scholarships and I know we are, as a community, contributing to the "Value Promise"! Oh yes, there is more we can be doing. Your board is taking on more responsibilities this year by sharing the President's position and by educating ourselves about the new direction for AAUW.

All AAUW members are welcome at sections (a couple are limited). Call the section leader first to verify place and time. Please also call section leaders for information on any group in which you are interested.

Many sections do not meet in the summer but will resume in September or October. Check with the section leader!

AAUW California

Biennial Public Policy Action Priorities: 2007 – 2009

Legislative activism has a long history in AAUW. Members first lobbied for women's suffrage in 1892 and have continued to be responsive to the critical issues of the times.

The AAUW Public Policy program supports its mission to advance equity for women and girls, through advocacy, education and research and complements the Association Public Policy program. AAUW California's priorities for action are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, and strong member support.

Equity:

Recognizing that equity for all women and girls requires an application of legal definition, AAUW California supports:

- Constitutional protection for civil rights of all individuals
- Legislation that addresses current inequities in compensation and benefits for all working women
- Vigorous enforcement of California Title V and Federal Title IX regulations on gender equity

Education:

Believing that public education and lifelong learning are the foundations of a democratic society, AAUW California supports:

- Equitable funding for quality public education in preschool through secondary schools that supports all students of any culture, race, special needs or sexual orientation.
- Opposition to the use of public funds for school vouchers
- Continuing educational research and reform that improves student achievement
- Programs that provide women with education, training, and support for long-term success in the work force and the community
- Medically accurate health curriculum, including comprehensive sex education

Societal Change:

Promoting the social, economic, and physical well-being of all individuals, AAUW California supports:

- Right to determine one's reproductive life, including the right to and access to quality planning services
- Access to health care and the expansion of patient rights
- Greater availability and access to high quality, affordable family giving services, including rigorous oversight
- Respect for diversity and the rejection of all forms of discrimination
- Access to decent, affordable housing
- Promotion of safe, healthy work environments free from sexual harassment and intimidation
- Freedom from violence and fear in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities

Silent Auction Needs Your Donations!!!

*by Chris O'Neill,
Scholarship Fund*

The Halloween decorations and candy are in the stores, which means that Thanksgiving will be around the corner, which means that ... the AAUW Marin Holiday Party and AAUW Marin Scholarship Fund Silent Auction on December 6 will be here before you know it! We need your help as in past years with donations to the auction in order to make it a success.

All your Board members will be contributing items as will interest sections with those ever-popular baskets put together by the interest sections. We need your individual contributions of all kinds. Gently used or new items such as jewelry, art work, decorative items, or household items are always a hit. Look in your closets and see what you can discover. Use of vacation homes, rounds of golf, tickets to such things as sporting events, opera, theater, ballet or symphony are great. How about asking your favorite hair stylist, manicurist, or restaurant for a gift certificate? We are asking for the value of the donation to be in excess of \$10. You will receive a receipt for your donation and all donations are tax-deductible. Please remember that you must fix the value of any donated item or service at the time of donation.

Please call Chris O'Neill at 457-0862 to arrange bringing the items/service descriptions to her home at 186 Riviera Drive, San Rafael, **by November 22**. If you don't drive or can't get to Chris' house, give her a call and she'll make arrangements to have it picked up or for you to deliver to another's home. Joyce Erlenbach will be contacting section leaders and coordinate the section baskets. Those will be delivered to her

Ed Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund Corner

by Mary Mossteller, Education Foundation Co-Vice President

Hello, I'm Mary Mossteller, and am pleased to be sharing the EF/LAF Vice Presidency this year with Georgia Schall.

There are three items of particular interest this month. First, special congratulations goes out to the AAUW Educational Foundation (EF) on its 50th anniversary year. And thanks to many of you in our branch who have generously contributed each year, AAUW's national Educational Foundation has continued to break through barriers for women. In 1958, EF was established to administer AAUW's fellowship and grant programs, advancing educational and professional opportunities for women around the globe. EF continues to be one of the world's largest funding sources for graduate women.

The California EF committee is sponsoring its annual celebration luncheon honoring the 2008-2009 EF Fellows and Grant recipients who are studying in California. The luncheon showcases speakers from this group and will be held at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville on Sunday, October 26, 2008 from noon-3pm. I will be attending and you are also invited to attend to hear from these inspiring young women AAUW is supporting. The luncheon costs \$30 and the RSVP deadline is October 13, so please let me know by October 9 if you would like to join me.

The Legal Advocacy Foundation (LAF), in place now for 26 years, currently offers plaintiff support to people fighting sex discrimination in higher education. The big news on the LAF front is that starting in 2009, the foundation is changing its focus and will be seeking cases to support that have a potential to help all women not just women in academia.

home. If you would like to help either Chris or Joyce with the donations or help at the auction, call Chris at 457-0862 or Joyce at 491-1542.

Remember that 100% of proceeds from the auction will be used to build the endowment fund and grant scholarships to college women at Dominican University and College of Marin and to send local middle school girls to math-science Tech Trek summer camp. Be sure the luncheon on December 6 is on your calendar and plan on attending and doing holiday shopping at the silent auction.

Holiday Party

Mark your calendar: Saturday, December 6, the Club Restaurant at McInnis, San Rafael.

Art Talk

Art Group members and others are invited for an informative talk by branch member and art docent Julia Geist on Thursday, November 6 at 7 PM in the Larkspur Library. Julia will give an insider's perspective on the upcoming Yves Saint Laurent exhibit at the de Young Museum that runs November 1, 2008 to March 1, 2009. This exhibition contains more than 100 accessorized garments and sketches illustrating the lines, colors, and fundamentals of Saint Laurent's work.

Scholarship Letter

Watch for the direct appeal for donations to the AAUW Marin Scholarship Fund, coming sometime in October. Please donate generously.