

Special Interest Articles:

Global Influence of EF Dollars.

Holiday Home Tour Review.

Casting Call.



AAUW ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Published ten times per year by the Danville-Alamo Branch of AAUW

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JANUARY BRANCH PROGRAM

Meet Joan Morris
Contra Costa Times Columnist
January 20 at 7:15 P.M.

Laugh a little, learn something and enjoy the good company! *Contra Costa Times* columnist, Joan Morris, will entertain us with stories from her experiences at the paper. We will provide dessert, coffee, and tea at the Shadow Hills Cabana, at 1001 El Capitan Dr., Danville. Morris writes the column "Joan's World" and the recently ended "Diet Club." Her humor really shines in much of her writing. She has been a reporter and columnist for 30 years, starting with her hometown paper in Albuquerque, New Mexico during her junior and senior years of high school. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of New Mexico.

In the early 1990's she started the column "Joan's World" which appears in Saturday's *Contra Costa Times*. Readers

write in with varied and occasionally bizarre questions. **Four years ago she launched the "Diet Club" which light-heartedly chronicled her struggle to lose weight with tips from readers.** She even started a walking group with her readers and fans. Two years ago she became the Home & Garden Editor. During her career she has reported on a prison riot, the space shuttle, a string of child sexual abuse cases, the Loma Prieta earthquake, the Oakland Hills, the mysterious disappearance of a Concord woman more than 20 years ago, and a serial on hospice.

What a rich career! Morris will both inform us and entertain us. We want to have enough dessert on hand so please RSVP to Nancy Murray at nmurray721@comcast.net or 837-9402.

If you are unable to attend this event, be sure to watch the Presidential Inauguration on your favorite television station or website.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 2009 to you and yours. After our busy December, I can't believe that we have so much going on in January. First, we are planning our March Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) fund-raiser, our first-ever play, and we want you to help make it a success by volunteering to become an actor for a night. We need thirteen actors to complete the cast. **Auditions will be held on January 7, 8 and 10.** It will take a village because we also need stage crew, ticket sales, publicity, and refreshments. Contact Lynn Goodwin or Susan Terzuoli to volunteer. See Page 5 for more information.

Plan to join me and many of your AAUW branch board members for lunch at **Pascal's on Friday, January 9, at noon following our board meeting. This replaces our usual 9:30 A.M. coffee time.** We hope that you will consider joining us.

Joan Morris, *Contra Costa Times* columnist, will be speaking at our Tuesday, January 20 general meeting at 7:15 P.M. at Shadow Hills. Plan to attend and be

- continued -



Tena Gallagher,
President

We have a busy January planned. Be sure to read through this issue of The Advocate so you don't miss out on an event. And, check out the calendar on Page 7 for the many interest group activities. We'd love to see you there!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont'd)

entertained by some of her stories. In the event you are unable to be there, be sure to watch the 2009 presidential inauguration, a very historical moment.

Now, I have to say how proud I am to be a part of our branch. Each one of you helped make our **Holiday Home Tour** a huge success. Kathie Hixon and the head docents made sure everything flowed well. Helen Pearlstein, one of our members, won Mary Mix's beautiful handmade quilt. **Read more details on Page 4** in the newsletter. Kathie and I have already been talking to potential 2009 Holiday Home Tour homeowners so let us know if you have a possible referral. And, I send a big thank you to Asha and Dinesh Bajaj for hosting our branch holiday party where there were about 70 in attendance.

Many of you asked about the garland in the kitchen of the Weatherford home in Diablo. Anna of Sunflower in Walnut Creek made it under the owner's direction.

Sharon Cohune, our membership chair, received three new memberships through our Shape the Future event during the Holiday Home Tour. If you know of **any prospective members**, please call or email her and she will get a packet of information mailed to them to introduce AAUW to them.

I would like to thank all of you who voted in the AAUW Note Card Contest. **Caroline Sanchez's art** was voted one of ten lucky winners out of 200 entries. See Page 6 for details.

I forgot a matter of business at the holiday party. I needed to ask for nominations and a vote on our **nominating committee**. Marian Bliss and Pat DeRensis have been voted to represent the board while Jacque Schubert and Anne Long have agreed to be on the committee. We need one more member. Please contact me or Marion Bliss if you are interested. We will vote on these nominations at our January 20 program meeting.

Tena Gallagher, President

MEMBERSHIP

Happy New Year from your membership chair! I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. In the hopes of growing our very vibrant and active organization in the new year, I want to let you know that I have packets of information ready to be sent to anyone you may think is interested in becoming a member. Please give me a phone call at 648-5153 or an e-mail note at SFCohune@comcast.net with the perspective member's information and I will send the packet to them.

We will be having a gathering of our current new members and our board members sometime in the near future. As a new member, **this is a great**

opportunity to meet the decision-makers and ask any questions of them that you would like to gain a greater understanding of our organization. Keep watching the newsletter for more information as to the date and place! I hope to see as many of you as possible!

The best way for us to grow and stay as vibrant as we are is to gain new members. Let me know of anyone you may like to invite to take a closer look at AAUW! See the list of new members on Page 6.

*Sharon Cohune
Vice President,
Membership*



SAVE THE DATE to celebrate!

Mark your calendar for October 10, 2009, when we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Danville-Alamo branch of AAUW. Watch for details in future publications of *The Advocate*.

GLOBAL INFLUENCE OF EF DOLLARS

In 2008-2009, AAUW Educational Foundation (EF) awarded 75 International Fellowships totaling \$1,486,000. Applications were received from 122 countries.

International Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents and support graduate or postgraduate studies at accredited institutions. Recipients are selected for academic achievement and demonstrated commitment to women and girls. The overwhelming majority return to their home countries to become leaders in their fields as heads of state, university professors, community activists, world-renowned artists, and scientists. Four International Fellows are studying in California this year:

Thang Dao is from Vietnam and has a Ph.D. in Humanities from USC. Her project, "The Invisible Marks of Exile: Vietnamese Writers Overseas," examines works by female writers of Vietnamese origin from all over the world to highlight a forgotten intersection of gender and displacement and to demonstrate the woman as both a victim and an agent in a changing global political/economic system.

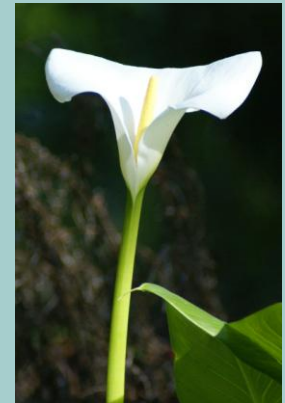
Aoife O'Donovan is from Ireland and has a Ph.D. in Psychology from UCSF. Her project, "Social Support and Biological Risk Factors for Disease in Caregiving Women," examines social resources available to women caring for a relative with dementia and elucidates the biological pathways by which aspects of social relationships influence health outcomes in women.

Andrea Thring is from Canada and has an M.A. in Counseling Psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies. Her project, "Counseling and Educating Women and Young Girls Dealing with a Range of Different Issues," examines using drama therapy as a means of healing and bringing together communities with a primary focus on the rights of women.

Patience Tusingwire is from Uganda and has an LL.M. in Law from USF. Her project, "International Transactions and Comparative Law," will provide her with the skills to formulate and implement legal policies to economically empower women in her home country.

We appreciate your continued support of the AAUW Educational Foundation. Please help us with a contribution of your time and talents toward the ninth annual AAUW Garden Tour to be held May 8 and 9. We will need attendants, refreshments and tour participants! A few hours of your time yields many dollars toward EF. Please contact your EF co-vice presidents, Connie Cady at 743-0517 or Mary Mix at 831-1784 with the fabulous news that you'd like to help. Thank you!

Connie Cady, EF Co-Vice-President



AAUW Garden Tour funds the Educational Foundation. Consider volunteering your time on May 8 and 9 to make our ninth annual garden tour a continued success.

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SAVE THE DATE: 5th Annual HHT

Mark your calendar for **December 11 & 12, 2009**, and be prepared to enjoy our 5th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Details will be posted in future editions of *The Advocate*.

4th ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOME TOUR: A HUGE SUCCESS

WOW! What a great turn out for our 4th Annual Holiday Home Tour (HHT). We sold 549 tickets for the two-day event and raised over \$15,000 for Local Scholarship and Tech Trek camperships. Mary Mix's beautiful quilt raised an additional \$425.00! So many helping hands contributed to this exciting success. THANK YOU to the following.

Head Docents: **Arlene Barnett, Sally Jess, LaVonne Lynch, Bev Nidick, Caroline Sanchez, Gus Slavin and Marcia Steinhardt** recruited and organized their crews into shifts: selling tickets, distributing booties and providing informative descriptions of the five beautifully decorated homes. Marcia's culinary crew creatively presented yummy goodies and warm cider in the fabulous outdoor kitchen at the Van Poppel home.

Connie Cady: Who for four years, has designed the ticket layout, and handled our publicity printing needs. It's not easy doing the ticket map. Connie is also the person who places all the directional signs for the two-day event and runs around Danville/Alamo/Diablo taking them down at the conclusion of the tour!

Mary Mix: Our talented quilter, ticket sales, database expert and keeper of the HHT monies. To date, Mary has a database of over 1,500 names who receive mailings for the HHT and the AAUW Garden Tour.

Marian Bliss: Our in-house creative photographer, and **Susan Terzuoli** our name tagger and bootie provider AND the creator of the HHT, now in its fourth year.

Charlene Vorous, Laurel Harken, Debi Zauner: Our informative script writers for the HHT tickets.

Cheryl Kohleriter: Multi-purpose trouble shooter.

A very special thanks to **all** who helped make this another successful year. We had 110 docents from our branch participate and many more who contributed tasty treats for the refreshment house. Many thanks to spouses for their support and **Bruce Hixon** for shuttling docents.

Thanks to **Asha and Dinesh Bajaj** for hosting our festive branch Holiday Party at their lovely home. There were approximately 70 who attended. Additional appreciation to them for opening their home to the HHT!

We thank **Esin, Pascal's, Peasant & the Pear, and Piatti's** restaurants for generously contributing goodies and gift certificates for our event. Let these restaurants know you appreciate their support for AAUW.

We also thank **Danville Weekly, Leku Eder and Design Concepts** for their generous support towards this local fundraiser.

Many of you supported the HHT by taking friends on the tour. **AND, of course, there would be no HHT without the generous homeowners opening their doors to our event.** We are so appreciative of their hospitality.

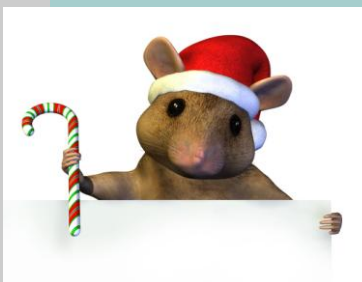
Local Scholarships will be awarded at the spring installation in June. Please come to meet the outstanding recipients of this year's HHT fund-raising event. And, the Tech Trek nomination process begins this month. Contact Bev Nidick to volunteer your time.

Mark your calendars for next year's 2009 HHT on Dec. 11 and 12.

Kathie Hixon & Tena Gallagher
Co-Chairs
2008 Holiday Home Tour

2009 RESOLUTION

Begin thinking about how you would like to contribute/participate in our branch by taking on one of the positions. It is another way to get to know more members and have a deeper understanding of the wealth of information and enthusiasm and change that 100,000 women in over 1,000 branches throughout the United States can make. Marian Bliss is the chair of our nominating committee. Please call her at 820-4709 to talk about some of the positions.



"We sold 549 tickets for the two-day event and raised over \$15,000 for Local Scholarship and Tech Trek camperships."

TWELVE ANGRY WOMEN --- AUDITIONS



Ready to strut your stuff? Auditions for AAUW’s production of *Twelve Angry Women*, a tense, jury-room thriller, will be held on January 7 and 8 at 7:00 P.M. and again on January 10 at 10:00 A.M. Auditions will be cold readings. No singing or dancing required.

Rehearsals will run from mid-January through March 6. We’ll perform on March 7 in Danville. Be sure to get tickets. The show is a fund-raiser for the Legal Advocacy Fund.

For more information or to sign up for an audition, please e-mail director Lynn Goodwin Lgood67334@comcast.net or producer Susan Terzuoli at susanterz@hotmail.com. You can also call Lynn at 925-324-0143 or Susan at 588-5693.

B. Lynn Goodwin



**SAVE THE DATE --- EYH IS ON THE WAY!
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE, SAN RAMON CAMPUS**

Just a quick “heads up” as the date for *Expanding Your Horizons*, the Science and Math Conference for Girls, will be arriving sooooooon!!!! Pat DeRensis and I will be attending the next planning meeting shortly and we will be contacting you within the next few weeks, hoping you will be able to volunteer as a workshop monitor. This is also a great opportunity for all you new members to participate in a 1/2 day program for our future women scientists. You can always reach me at 837-8064 or dtporter@comcast.net or Pat at 837-5044 or paderensis@comcast.net. We look forward to hearing from you.



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NEW MEMBERS:

Eleanor Parker

Connie Tuft

Dennis Byas

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following members into our branch when you meet them, if you have not had an opportunity to be introduced to them yet.

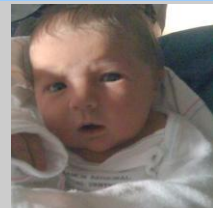
Eleanor Parker, B.A., UC Berkeley; M.B.A., Public Administration, CSU Hayward.

Connie Tuft, B.S., Social Sciences, University of Oregon, Eugene; Graduate School at USC; Teaching Credential in History and English.

Dennis Byas, M.B.A., Claremont Graduate University; Ph.D., Education, USC.

*Sharon Cohune
Vice President, Membership*

Congratulations to member, Kim Nelson, on the birth of her son, Harley Owen Nelson Gorda on December 11.



NOTE CARD CONTEST

On December 25 I received a nice surprise letter from the AAUW in Washington, DC I was delighted to be one of the ten lucky winners in the AAUW note card voting contest with my "Sedona in Autumn" painting. Out of the ten the top six will be featured on the note cards, I was not one of the six but I received a \$25 gift certificate for ShopAAUW. So one out of 10 of 200 is very exciting. I want to especially thank Dora Thea Porter for taking the picture and sending it to the contest for me. Secondly, I want to thank all of the members who voted for me. To see the winning designs, visit www.aauw.org/contests/gallery.cfm.

I want to quote from their letter: "The contest was a tremendous success with more than 200 note card entries. Equally appreciated were the members, such as you, who cast thousands of votes for their favorites and allowed us to assemble a truly lovely collection of which we can all be proud. The winning designs will be featured on note cards and available to fellow AAUW members this spring."

Thanks again, *Caroline Sanchez*



*Sedona in Autumn
By Caroline Sanchez*

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- 1/07-08 & 1/10* 7:00 p.m. **Auditions. *Twelve Angry Women*.** An LAF fund raising event. Contact Lynn Goodwin at 324-0143 or Susan Terzuoli at 588-5693. See Details on Page 5. (Note: Auditions will be at 10:00 a.m. on 1/10.)
- 1/08 1:00 p.m. **Writing Group.** Hosting: Caroline Sanchez at 736-7940.
- 1/09 9:15 a.m. **Board Meeting.** Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadows Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville. Lunch following with AAUW board at Pascal's, 155 Railroad Ave., Danville, at Noon.
- 1/09 7:30 p.m. **Oscar 1. *Frost/Nixon*.** Hosting: Diane Tinnes at 820-8611.
- 1/09 7:30 p.m. **Cinema 1. *Doubt* and *Slumdog Millionaire*.** Hosting: Judy Lauper at 831-0156.
- 1/10 --- **Golf.** For time and place, Contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiari at 785-4915.
- 1/10 TBA **Gourmet Travelers.** Turkish Theme. Contact Roseann Krane at 552-9799. See Page 8 for details.
- 1/14 7:30 p.m. **Evening Bridge.** Contact Barbara Nexsen.
- 1/15 8:45 a.m. **Hiking Group.** Meet at Sycamore Park 'n Ride to carpool. Hike location to be determined. Leader: Kathie Hixon at 838-8632.
- 1/16 7:30 p.m. **Travel Group.** Travel destination TBA. Hosting: Bev Nidick at 828-6993. Please RSVP as we will sample a regional dessert and wine.
- 1/17 7:30 p.m. **New Movie Group.** Contact Susan Terzuoli at 820-9071 for details.
- 1/19 10:00 a.m. **Daytime Bridge.** Contact Mary Kay Anderson.
- 1/20 7:15 p.m. **General Meeting.** Guest Speaker: *Contra Costa Times* columnist, Joan Morris. Shadow Hills Cabana. See Page 1 for details.
- 1/22 9:30 a.m. **Daytime Literature. *Middlemarch*** by George Eliot, et al. Hosting: Robin Halloran at 743-8262.
- 1/25 5:00 p.m. **Wine Tasting Group.** A Merlot tasting. RSVP by 01/19 to Alicia Jones at 838-0422.
- 1/26 9:30 a.m. **Daytime Duplicate Bridge.** Contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.
- 1/27 7:30 p.m. **Evening Literature. *Zoo Keeper's Wife*** by Diane Ackerman. Hosting:

UPCOMING BRANCH PROGRAMS

- 1/20 7:15 Guest speaker: Joan Morris, *Contra Costa Times* columnist. Shadow Hills.
- 2/17 6:00 Educational Fellow Speaker—Dinner Meeting, Scott's. Joint meeting with DKG and Pleasant Hill.
- 2/28 9—3 EYH Expand Your Horizons—DVC-San Ramon Campus, San Ramon.
- 3/07 TBA *Twelve Angry Women* (LAF benefit).
- 4/21 TBA Guest speaker: Loy Volkman. Shadow Hills.
- 4/24 - 4/26 --- 88th AAUW—CA Convention, San Diego.
- 5/8 & 5/9 10—4 Annual Garden Tour (EF benefit).
- 5/19 7:30 Dessert with Budd MacKenzie, Trust in Education (TIE).
- 6/16 6:30 Installation & Awards Presentations.
- 6/26 to 6/28 --- National AAUW Convention, St. Louis, MO.

PRESIDENT

Tena Gallagher
(925) 837-0826
tena@aol.com

CO-PRESIDENTS ELECT

Marian Bliss
(925) 820-4709
mbliss@sbcglobal.net

Kathie Hixon
(925) 838-8632
kathiehixon@comcast.net

PROGRAM VPS

Carole Allen
(925) 837-8407
allen7480@sbcglobal.net

Nancy Murray
(925) 837-9402
nmurray721@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP VP

Sharon Cohune
(925) 648-5153
sfcohune@comcast.net

LAF VPS

Susan Rogers
(925) 838-5968

Cynthia Savell
(925) 838-3002
cynthia_savell@yahoo.com

EF VPS

Connie Cady
(925) 743-0517
ccady@nccc.org

Mary Mix
(925) 831-1784
memix@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY

Dora-Thea Porter
(925) 838-3002
dtporter@comcast.net

TREASURER

Jacque Schubert
(925) 855-7002
jacqueschubert@comcast.net

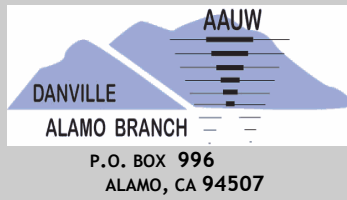
WEB MASTER

Roseann Krane
rkrane@yahoo.com

ADVOCATE STAFF

Editor
Marjorie Christensen
(925) 820-1853
christensendan5@aol.com

Design & Layout
Cheryl Kohleriter
(925) 820-6158
cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com



JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

HEAD TO TURKEY WITH THE GOURMET TRAVELERS GROUP



Join us as we sample another international culinary feast. This month, we will sample Turkish cuisine.

The menu has been selected, recipes are provided and you can enjoy preparing one of the courses for your fellow diners on Saturday, January 10.

View the menu and recipes at
<http://www.aauw-da.org/gourmet/Turkey>

If you are interested, please e-mail rkrane@yahoo.com or call 552-9799.

Roseann Rayes Krane

For details and updates on upcoming Branch Programs, see our web site at
<http://www.aauw-da.org/program.html>