

# AAUW DANVILLE-ALAMO-WALNUT CREEK



Saturday  
March 24, 2012  
11-am-2pm

Diablo County Club  
1700 Clubhouse Road  
Diablo, CA

Nicknamed “Autumn Gem,” one woman became the Joan of Arc of China, lifting her sisters from subservient roles, by bringing them education and independence in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Celebrate Women’s History month and International month at beautiful and historic Diablo Country Club. A 50- minute video will be followed with a brief talk by producer Rae Chang about this national heroine and Chinese feminist who led the early women’s movement in China.

Lunch includes iced tea and coffee, rolls, choice of Grilled Atlantic salmon with bamboo rice or Chicken Piccata with rice pilaf, or Vegetarian Pasta, including vegetable, organic salad with Jack cheese, and ice cream sundae for dessert.

Members may pay \$27.10 by credit card on the new branch website/Pay Pal Buy Now Button. Individual Pay Pal accounts are not needed. Submit your online order including entrée choice at Buy Now Button on [www.aauw-daw.org](http://www.aauw-daw.org) or send your check with your entrée choice to:

Danville Alamo Walnut Creek AAUW

PO Box 996

Alamo, CA 94507

look for this icon





**April 21, 2012 6PM  
Mercer Building,  
Walnut Creek**

*Join us for a delightful evening inspired by Asian Cultures. Try your hand at brush calligraphy, listen and discuss haiku with Sue Antolin, a local Haiku poet, and sample delicacies from all 3 countries.*

*\$10 per person includes Japanese appetizers & tea, Indian main dishes, and Persian desserts.*

*Brought to you by our branch's International Committee - Spouses and significant others welcome.*

*rsvp: [slavinfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:slavinfamily@hotmail.com) by April 17th.*

Hello Fellow AAUW Members

By now we hope all of your New Year's resolutions are well under way and successful! We, also, hope everyone had a great Valentine's Day. Next up: St. Patrick's Day where everyone is Irish for a day.

We had a wonderful Educational Fellowship dinner at in Walnut Creek along with Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch and Delta Kappa Gamma Key women teachers. Our branch was well represented and, as usual, the speaker was outstanding! Thanks to all who participated.

Please do mark your calendars for the March 24 meeting at Diablo Country Club. Our faithful Programs Committee has worked hard to secure a most interesting speaker along with a delicious lunch prepared by the new chef at Diablo. As a member of Diablo Robin attests to his very tasty dishes. When you submit your reservation, try out our new Pay Pal feature. It is quick, easy and convenient.

April will bring us a fascinating international program put on by Asha Bajaj and Martha Slavin. Come taste food from around the world and listen to a very interesting speaker.

New interest groups keep popping up. This month we have a new book group and a new movie section. If you find your interest group is full, start a new one. If there is something we do not have, start one. It is part of what we are all about. Just contact Holly Sauer.

We are delighted to have a new editor for the Advocate, our newsletter, Soni Leighton.

Thanks Soni for volunteering.

Robin Halloran and Roseann Krane, Co-presidents



## ART CONTEST VOTING

Please go to this website to cast a vote:

<http://www.aauw.org/contests/gallery.cfm>

**Enter your id #(look on back of directory by your mailing label name; Look for: easiest to use find command (control F on pc) and enter the name of the art. Check each one and after you choose 6, submit.**

### Our Branch Members to Vote For:

(Below designs were selected)



Me, My Shadow and Cell Phone  
by Dora-Thea Porter



Butterfly Feeding  
by Dora-Thea Porter



Nesting Bird  
by Martha Slavin



White Flowers  
by Martha Slavin

As we have two past winners of the art contest in our branch, we are pleased to announce that they have been chosen to be judges this year on the association art contest. Congratulations to Jan Hersh and Caroline Sanchez.

A special thank you to FAIRCHILD'S GIFTS for helping us by donating the engraving on the gifts given to each of the Holiday Home Tour homeowners!

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### Danville Community Band

*Our 10th Anniversary season  
bringing musical entertainment  
to the greater Danville area.*

Look online for info about the  
**Danville Community Band**  
[www.danvilleband.org](http://www.danvilleband.org)

### Upcoming Concerts

**February 12, 2012; 5PM**  
A Musical Potpourri Dinner Concert  
Diablo Country Club  
1700 Clubhouse Rd., Diablo  
Call 925.837.4221 for reservations

**April 1, 2012; 2PM**  
An Instrumental Road Trip  
Blackhawk Museum  
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., Danville

**June 17, 2012; 3PM**  
10th Anniversary Season Finale  
Community Presbyterian Church  
222 W. El Pintado Rd., Danville



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FALAKI**

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JOAN  
BUCHANAN,  
Assemblywoman

---

By Caroline Sanchez, History Chair

I sat across the mahogany table from Joan Buchanan in her San Ramon office and I thought to myself, “She’s come a long way from meetings with other young AAUW members in our Danville Alamo Branch back in 1989.” They were discussing the San Ramon Valley School Board crisis.

Her California roots began in San Francisco where she was born in 1952. Her grandparents came from Croatia to Minnesota where her father, a first generation American, grew up then moved to San Francisco. Her mother came from a small town in Idaho with her six siblings. Her parents never graduated from high school, her father was a bartender and her mother was a waitress. Her parents felt two things were important for their family, to have food on the table and to get a good education for Joan, her twin sister, younger sister, and brother. Her parents separated when the children were young, leaving her mother with most of the responsibility for the children.

Joan graduated from the public school system then went to UC Santa Barbara. She worked at numerous jobs while taking 20 units a quarter. In 1973, she graduated with a degree in Economics and the same month she married her high school sweetheart. She enrolled in graduate school at San Francisco State, hoping to get a masters degree, however she took a separate path and got a job with Delta Dental. She eventually became Director of Commercial Operations before the age of 30.

Joan and her husband moved to Alamo in 1982, with their three children. Joan continued to work and the Contra Costa Child Care Council was there to provide great references. “There is nothing more important for a working mother than to have the peace of mind, knowing your children have quality childcare.” In 1983 Joan had twins, five children in five years!. Joan and Phil divorced in 1993 and she became a single parent.

With Joan’s primary interest in education she served as president of the Alamo Elementary PTA. Joining the Danville Alamo AAUW in 1988-89, she was the Education Representative. Joan was also Vice-President of the San Ramon Valley School Age Child Care Alliance which helped bring childcare services to the Elementary Schools.

In 1990 the School Board of San Ramon Valley was going bankrupt and was in crisis. AAUW members, Marianne Gagen, and Stuart Goldware decided to run with Joan for the Board. The three won and the district began a positive journey of change. Joan served 18 years on the San Ramon Valley School Board. During this period the district ranked among the top 5% of all school districts in California.

In 2008 Joan decided to run for election to the State Assembly of the 15<sup>th</sup> Assembly District in California. Joan is a member of the Assembly Budget Committee and chairs the budget subcommittee on State Administration and Information Technology. She also serves on several other committees. She says, “My talent is finance, but my passion is public education.”

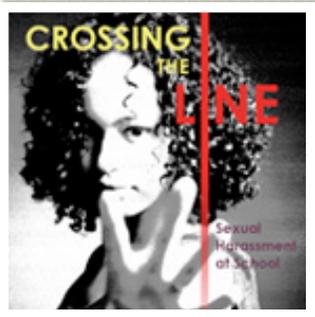
In 2009, Joan lost a campaign against John Garamendi for a position in Congress. It was a tough loss, but with women only being 17% of members of Congress, Joan believes that women have to have the courage to take chances. In 2010 she was reelected for her position in the 15<sup>th</sup> District and with reelection every two years she is running again this November.

Joan’s biggest concern is for the education of our children and how can it be fixed. “In the past 40 years our population has doubled and we’ve only added one UC campus. Our K-12 schools are funded \$2500 per student below the national average, yet our prisons are to capacity. Of those in the prisons 90% never graduated from high school, 60% can’t read and once released, 70% return. We must break the cycle. In the past four years, we have cut funding to our schools over 20% and California now ranks 47<sup>th</sup> in education in the U. S. It has to stop.”

**A Discussion of AAUW's Newest Research**  
***Crossing the Line – Sexual Harassment at School***

***Roseann has the book, if anyone wants to read it, contact [rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com)***  
or to download report go to <http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/crossingtheline>

Holly Kearl, co-author of Crossing the Line will be in California to lead  
Workshops and Discussions:



Based on findings from a nationally representative survey conducted in May and June, 2011, this report presents the most comprehensive research to date on sexual harassment in grades 7-12 and reveals some sobering statistics about the prevalence of sexual harassment and the negative impact it has on students' education.

**Napa - Saturday, March 10, 2012**

From 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 pm  
@The Napa General Store  
540 Main St. Napa  
Charge: \$28 Brunch

**San Jose - Sunday, March 11, 2012**

From Noon - 2:00 pm  
@AAUW - San Jose Headquarters  
1165 Minnesota Ave. San Jose  
charge: Free

**Berkeley - Sunday March 11, 2012**

From 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
@AAUW - Berkeley Office  
@Northbrae Community Church  
941 The Alameda Berkeley  
Charge: Free

Contact: Lorelei Self State AAUW Funds Director:  
[aauwfundsdir@aauw-ca.org](mailto:aauwfundsdir@aauw-ca.org)

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# EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GREAT DECISIONS 2012



Middle East realignment  
Promoting democracy  
Mexico  
Cybersecurity  
Exit from Afghanistan & Iraq  
State of the oceans  
Indonesia  
Energy geopolitics

## DVD AND BRIEFING BOOK NOW SHIPPING



## NEW EVENING BOOK & MOVIE GROUPS FORMING

If you are interested in joining an evening book group, please contact: Kathy Harkins and Holly Sauer /

If you are interested in joining an evening movie group, please contact Holly Sauer.

GREAT DECISIONS 2012:AAUW members feel free to attend any session. Just RSVP hostess

MARCH 13 - Beverly Nidick, [Bev2Ern@comcast.net](mailto:Bev2Ern@comcast.net)  
Mexico:Transborder Crime & Governance

MARCH 27 - Tena Gallagher [tena@aol.com](mailto:tena@aol.com)  
Cybersecurity:The New Frontier

APRIL 10 - Gus Slavin, [slavinfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:slavinfamily@hotmail.com)  
Exit from Afghanistan & Iraq: Right Time, Right Place?



## ART & GARDEN INTEREST GROUP



MARCH 14 - Wednesday  
St. Mary's College - Newly refurbished  
Museum of Art - "The Veil:Visible and  
Invisible Spaces"

Thirty-six works of art, each of which considers the Veil, its many manifestations

and interpretations and puts veils into context.Works by thirty contemporary international women artists are divided into three categories:The Sacred Veil,The Sensuous Veil, and The Sociopolitical Veil.The broad range of media includes paintings, sculpture, video, textiles, installation photography, tableaus and new media.

Cost \$5 per person.We will meet at 10:15 a.m. at either Sycamore Park n'Ride or Alamo Safeway Plaza to carpool to Moraga. We'll lunch at Yankee Pier in Lafayette after the Museum.

Contact Jacque Schubert [jacqueschubert@comcast.net](mailto:jacqueschubert@comcast.net)



## HIKING THE RIM TRAIL

March 17 - 8:45 a.m.

We are hiking the rim trail at Lafayette Reservoir. Cindy Cassidy will lead this hike. Questions: contact Kathie Hixon [kathiehixon@comcast.net](mailto:kathiehixon@comcast.net)



## BEADS2JEWELRY - Thursday - MARCH 12- 1:00PM

We have a guest speaker who will show us more details on wire wrapping. Bring your favorite stone and wire.

Meeting is at the home of the Krane's.

Please RSVP [rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com) to participate.

## INTERNATIONAL GOURMET

MARCH 10 - Saturday

Open for New Participants

We will be dining on Hungarian cuisine. Join us in the experience of preparing foods, discussing the country and dining. First call receives first choice of item to prepare. We share the cost of the food. Go to [www.aauw-daw.org/gourmet/hungarian](http://www.aauw-daw.org/gourmet/hungarian) and choose the item you want to prepare.

Email your choice to Roseann at [rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com) to participate.

## NEW MEMBER BRUNCH - Saturday - March 3 - 10:00 a.m.



All members who would like to learn more about the many facets of AAUW, please plan to come to our New Members brunch at Carol Highton's home in Alamo. AAUW has our own language; EF, LAF, Tech Trek, Expanding Your Horizons, Great Decisions, IBC, AAUW Funds, etc. If you are interested in learning about these programs and becoming more involved, please plan to join us even if you have been a member for several years. Many members of our board of directors will be there to meet you and answer any questions that you may have.

Please RSVP to Membership Chair, Tena Gallagher, at [tena@aol.com](mailto:tena@aol.com) or 925-837-0826



### INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN AAUW

Do you have a good friend that you think might enjoy our Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch of AAUW? If so, please forward his/her name, email address and telephone number to Tena Gallagher. She has materials that can easily be emailed to your friend explaining who we are, some of the many ways that we enjoy each other's friendship and support, including through our interest groups and how we work to accomplish our mission statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Call Tena at 925-837-0826 or email [Tena@aol.com](mailto:Tena@aol.com) or [membershipvp@aauw-daw.org](mailto:membershipvp@aauw-daw.org).

Also remember to invite them to our march general meeting at Diablo Country Club for the Autumn Gem luncheon, Sat. March 24.

## PAY PAL NOW AN ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT METHOD FOR OUR BRANCH

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Using PayPal as an alternative method of payment was recommended by the Alternative Pay Committee and approved by the Board. We are excited about the ease and convenience for members and our branch.

Some of the reasons we chose Pay Pal:

- \* No annual or monthly fee; no contract or term commitment
- \* Low rate - we're hoping for 2.2% as a non-profit (may go as high as 2.9%) plus 30 cents @ transaction
- \* We can add a fee to the transactions to cover our costs so only those who use PayPal will pay an extra fee
- \* Members don't need a PayPal account and can use a credit or debit card
- \* No financial responsibilities or insurance required because we don't see the credit card
- \* Funds transfer to our checking account with no charge
- \* Checks by mail or cash payment are still payment options
- \* if you have questions about PayPal or need help contact Roseann Krane at [rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com)

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**

# THE 12th ANNUAL AAUW GARDEN

MAY 11 & 12 - Save the Date



## A Wonderful Tour of 6 Superb Gardens in Alamo and Danville

This is the major fund raiser of the year for the Educational Foundation, which benefits aspiring women scholars. Last Year was extremely successful, due to the efforts of our members. This year we will also need your help!

Please bring your friends, family and neighbors on a tour. Or consider buying a ticket as a gift to someone special.

We will also need docents for each lovely garden and help to provide treats for the refreshment table. Our head docents will be calling soon to schedule the docent shifts so please make their job easier by saying yes! Or, contact one of us now, and we will pass your name along.

### Garden Co-chairs:

Linda Reeve  
925-286-4410

Pat DeRensis  
925-837-5044

# March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Feb	27	28	29	1 Mar	2	3
	9:30a Duplicate Bridge 12:00p Hooked On Books 7:30p -9:30p Great Decisions	10:00a Mah Jongg 1:30p -3:30p Great Decisions 7:30p Evening Lit	9:30a Contemporary Books		11:30a Adventurous Chefs 7:30p First Friday Film	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		10:00a Mah Jongg		Beads2Jewelry Moved in March to the 12th		6:30p International Gourmet: Hungarian
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	9:30a Board Meets 1:00p Beads2Jewelry  7:30p -9:30p Great Decisions Monday Movie Mates(TBA)	10:00a Mah Jongg 11:30a Movies & Lunch 1:30p -3:30p Great Decisions	10:15a Art & Garden - "The Veil: Visible & Invisible Spaces" at St. Mary's College Museum of Art, Moraga. 7:30p Evening Bridge	10:30a Books II	7:30 Travel Group	6:30p Epicureans Hiking Group - 8:45 am - Lafayette Rim Trail
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	10:00a Daytime Party Bridge	10:00a Mah Jongg		9:30a Daytime Literature 1:00p -3:00p Writer's Workshop		11:00a Member Event: "Autumn Gem", a documentary on China's first feminist (click event for more info)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	9:30a Duplicate Bridge 12:00p Hooked On Books 7:30p -9:30p Great Decisions	10:00a Mah Jongg 1:30p -3:30p Great Decisions 7:30p Evening Lit	9:30a Contemporary Books			

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MARCH 2012 MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

[WWW.AAUW-DAW.ORG](http://WWW.AAUW-DAW.ORG)

EDITOR: SONI LEIGHTON

## THE ADVOCATE

For all articles and announcements for the Newsletter please contact Soni Leighton  
at [soni@sbcglobal.net](mailto:soni@sbcglobal.net) or  
Roseann Krane at [rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com)

submission deadline for April is Mar. 21

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