

Special Interest Articles:

- ❖ Tech Trek.
- ❖ Chinese Brush Painting.
- ❖ Garden Tour.

Individual Highlights:

BRANCH PROGRAM 1

SCHOLARSHIP SELECTIONS 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2

TECH TREK 3

DIABLO SPRING LECTURE SERIES . 4

SPEAKER SERIES. . . 4

EF AWARD. 4

PUBLIC POLICY. . . . 5

GARDEN TOUR 6

ADVERTISER'S CORNER 6

EVENTS CALENDAR 7

NEW MEMBERS 8



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THROUGH ADVOCACY,
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

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MAY BRANCH PROGRAM

DANVILLE-ALAMO AAUW GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 21, 12:00 Noon

Our May general meeting will focus on "Women in the History of Art." Our speaker is Elaine Reisert, a long-time member of Danville-Alamo AAUW.

Lunch Meeting: Wednesday, May 21, 12:00 Noon
 Crow Canyon Country Club
 711 Silver Lake Drive
 Danville, CA 94526

RSVP: Please send an \$18 check (includes tip) made out to Danville-Alamo AAUW to Danville-Alamo AAUW, P.O. Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507 by May 14.



Our lunch will consist of Spinach and Romaine Salad with chicken, tomatoes, avocado, goat cheese, bacon and parsley dressing. Bread and iced tea or coffee will also be served.

Elaine's interest in art has been ongoing from childhood; she majored in art history in college. She studied at the Family of Museums in San Francisco and has been a docent for ten years. Acclaimed as a speaker, you will enjoy her art slide show, descriptions and talk.

For more information, call Roseann at 925-552-9799.

*Roseann Krane,
Program Co-Vice President*



SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Selection Committee is reviewing applications for our Local Scholarship recipients.

The deadline for applications was April 1. The scholarship recipients will be announced in the June ADVOCATE. Please save June 17 for our installation and scholarship awards. Come and meet these outstanding students!

The 2008 Scholarship Committee members are Tena Gallagher, Kathie Hixon, Maureen Reschke, Elaine Riesert, Caroline Sanchez; Pat Wheeler, alternate.

Kathie Hixon





Tena
Gallagher,
President

"Our branch was recognized as having donated the second largest contribution to Educational Foundation (EF)."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Marian Bliss and Kathie Hixon, our incoming Presidents-Elect, Cynthia Savell, our Public Policy Chair and I had the pleasure of attending the **AAUW California convention April 4-6 in Rohnert Park**. As you may know, the state officer configuration is changing. We now vote for a 16-member board of directors. The names that are most familiar with our East Bay area are Leticia Corum, Jo Harberson, and Gloria Taylor, who will be co-president. The convention speakers were varied and accomplished. They included Ruth Sweetwater, AAUW President, Linda Hillman, AAUW Executive Director, and Catherine Hill, Ph.D., AAUW Director of Research. Other speakers included Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) litigant Paul Thein and his attorney Michael Terhost. Their stories were quite compelling.

At the convention, our branch was recognized as having donated the second largest contribution to Educational Foundation (EF) out of 155 branches in California. So it's time to help with our **EF Garden Tour on May 9 and 10**. We need docents, refreshments and all of your friends attending so please spread the word. Read more about the tour on **Page 6**.

I am amazed at how many members have not watched the six-minute video about AAUW and its Mission. If you haven't watched, please go to: <http://www.aauw.org/About/aauwVideo.cfm>. If you have any potential friends interested in joining us, send the link to them. Then send our branch link to them so they can fill out an application form: www.aauw-da.org.

We are currently working with members who have **employers that have a matching gifts program**. Even if you are retired, many companies continue the matching gift program for their retired employees. EF and LAF are both 501(c)3 non-profit who qualify for these matching gifts. Please let our EF or LAF officers know when you are making a donation so that we can double your money.

This month's coffee at **Bagel Street in the Livery** will be on **Friday, May 16**, at 9:30 A.M. since our Garden Tour is on the second Friday this month. Be sure to mark your calendars and come and meet other members. And you can bring potential members, too.

Also mark your calendar for our **installation party** to be at **Marcia Steinhardt's home on Tuesday, June 17**. I hope to see you there

Tena Gallagher, President

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TECH TREK

Based on a highly successful Holiday Home Tour last December, our **Danville-Alamo branch will be able to send six seventh-grade girls to Mills College June 22 to 28** for an intensive hands-on experience of math and science. Twenty-five applications were sent to girls nominated by their math/science teachers at the four local middle schools. Tech/Trek coordinators, Cheryl Kohleriter, Bev Nidick and Jacque Schubert interviewed the girls and with careful consideration chose the following to attend Tech/Trek camp:

Allison Bayliss and *Sydnee Corey* from Charlotte Wood, *Torrey Blake Busboom* and *Denisa Vlasache* from Los Cerros, *Claire Glowniak* from Stone Valley and *Ashlynn Goerz* from Diablo Vista.

Tech Trek Science Camp for Girls began on the Stanford University campus in 1998. In subsequent years, additional camps opened on other California campuses (CSU Fresno, UC San Diego, Mills College, UC Santa Barbara and Whittier College). Each of the one-week camps enrolls 75 to 130 girls entering eighth grade providing them with the opportunity to explore science, mathematics and technology topics in a positive and encouraging environment.

In a recent AAUW study entitled "The Impact of the AAUW California Tech Trek Science Camp for Girls" students who attended the camp during its first four years, 1998-2001, were surveyed. Forty-eight percent of Tech Trek survey respondents agreed that the camp was the most influential personal experience they had in middle school, while 54% cited it as the

most influential academic experience as well. Twenty-seven percent went so far as to say that it was the most influential experience they had while in middle or high school.

Survey respondents credited Tech Trek with helping them to get excited about math and science. Tech Trek students took a much larger percentage of high-level math and science classes, such as chemistry, biology, physics, trigonometry and calculus in high school than did the national average. (e.g. 57% of Tech Trek students took calculus compared with a 13% national average for both males and females).

Of the 226 survey respondents, 96% were currently enrolled in college, and many credited their Tech Trek experience with expanding their educational choices and giving them a better sense of their options for pursuing further education and careers in math- and science-related fields.

In answer to the question "Did Tech Trek change my life?" one responded replied, "**Absolutely!** One of the girls funded through this program could find the cure for cancer, save people from AIDS, become president, or save the world. And she will need all the help and encouragement she can get."

Bev Nidick
Tech Trek Co-Chair

Tech Trekkers Rock!
Girls who participate in Tech Trek enroll in high-level math and science classes at a rate that exceeds the national average!



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**DIABLO INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER
SPRING LECTURE SERIES
TUESDAY EVENINGS, 7:30 P.M.**

- Tuesday May 6 *Immigration: What Direction for USA?*
Presented by: Mark Silverman, Immigrant Legal Resource Center
- Tuesday May 13 *U.S. Energy Policy*
Presented by: Dr. Michael Dietrick, Energy Policy Consultant

Lectures are held at the Del Valle Library, 1963 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek.
Price: \$36 for the series, or \$8.00 per lecture.

Registration for the lecture series can be done by mail.

For information, contact Acalanes Adult Center: 925-280-3980, ext. 8001.

www.DiabloIRC.org

**SPEAKER SERIES
INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF
WOMEN**



Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga

The next speaker series program for the International Museum of Women will be on Wednesday, May 14, at the Omni San Francisco Hotel, starting at 5:00 P.M.

Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga, President of Latvia from 1999 to July 2007, will be the featured speaker. As president, she secured Latvia as a member of NATO and the European Union, increased its standing as a dedicated democracy in the world, and demonstrated that women in leadership positions can be both tough and compassionate.

Tena Gallagher

**INDEPENDENT CHARITIES OF
AMERICA AWARD**

The AAUW Educational Foundation received the **Independent Charities of America** award. It was recognized as one of the best non-profit organizations in America by meeting the highest standards of public accountability and program effectiveness. It was a very rigorous independent review of over 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States. It is estimated that fewer than 5% of these charities meet the standards.

Submitted by Tena Gallagher

CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING

Come for an **Introduction to Chinese Brush Painting** with new member, Barbara Bornett Stumph, our January program speaker. She has graciously offered to teach this free class on Thursday, May 15, from 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. at Shadow Hills Cabana located at 1001 El Capitan Dr., Danville.

Gain the freedom of brush strokes that give excitement to art work. We will relax and paint with quiet music. Barbara will provide paper and brushes for this first time. If students want to continue, she will plan for further classes.

Contact Barbara at bbornets@yahoo.com or 933-8578 to let her know that you are interested.

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES

Tuesday, April 22, was Equal Pay Day, the annual symbolic day on which women's average wages catch up to men's from the previous year. For the average woman's salary to equal that of a man in 2007, she would have had to work from January 1, 2007, until April 22, 2008.

AAUW events across America marked Equal Pay Day to educate others about pay discrimination. AAUW, the National Committee on Pay Equity, and our coalition partners held a national press conference April 23, urging our senators to take action to reverse the Ledbetter v. Goodyear Supreme Court decision. Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Representatives Rosa De Lauro (D-CT), George Miller (D-CA), and Tom Allen (D-ME) addressed the press conference. AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations Lisa Maatz spoke as well.

Under heavy pressure from AAUW members and our coalition partners, the Senate narrowly failed to pass a vote to move forward with the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (HR 2831). While the vote on the measure was 57 - 41, Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) changed his vote in a procedural move that will allow him to bring the bill up again at a later date.

So, Senator Reid has said that the bill will be brought back to the floor for another vote. If you haven't already done so, please write and thank our senators Boxer and Feinstein who supported the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, and urge them to continue to push for another vote on the bill, and other pay equity legislation in the future.

U. S. Department of Education Secretary Margaret Spellings announced 4/22/08 that states will now be required to use one federal formula to calculate graduation and dropout rates. A number of other administrative changes were also announced affecting No Child Left Behind. The move to a standard graduation rate formula would address a weakness of the Bush administration's signature education plan, which requires states to report high school graduation rates but lets each state set its own formula for calculation of the rates.

In addition to other recommendations for reforming the No Child Left Behind Act, AAUW supports the inclusion of science as a required area of assessment under the No Child Left Behind Act's measurement of adequate yearly progress. AAUW believes that this change will provide valuable data about student aptitude in science and will help identify opportunities to improve student achievement in this critical area. Please urge your Representative to support the inclusion of science in NCLB assessments.

Cynthia Savell, Public Policy

"AAUW supports the inclusion of science as a required area of assessment under the No Child Left Behind Act's measurement of adequate yearly progress."

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Garden Tour:

Friday, May 9
Saturday, May 10

Advertiser's
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GARDEN TOUR

AAUW Garden Tour tickets are selling fast and we need your help more than ever! Attendants are needed to staff our seven beautiful gardens. No special gardening knowledge is required. We have two shifts each day of the tour: Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10. The morning shift runs from 9:45 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and the afternoon shift runs from 12:45 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. At this point, we especially need help on Saturday afternoon. Donating a few hours of your time yields many dollars toward the AAUW Educational Foundation.

We are also in need of treats (hopefully, something homemade) for the refreshment table. Helen Miller and Pat DeRensis are coordinating this effort and are asking for either a SWEET or SAVORY item. Because the weather could be warm, they are asking for items that do NOT need refrigeration, for example, no dips or items with mayo. No need to worry about presentation, they will do that...just bring the item in something you do NOT need returned. You can drop off your item either Friday or Saturday at Laurie Stroud's home at 4460 Deer Ridge Dr, Blackhawk (East Gate). Mention you are with AAUW at the gate. If this is not possible, contact Pat DeRensis at 837-5044, paderensis@comcast.net or Helen Miller at 389-8359, Helen@frap.net for other arrangements. Please be sure to let Pat or Helen know what day you plan to bring something, and what it is. Many thanks!!

*Connie Cady and Mary Mix
Educational Foundation Co-Vice Presidents*

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Bill Gagen's wife, Marianne, is a member of our branch and a past president.

Gagen McCoy is an *ADVOCATE* advertiser. *The ADVOCATE* plans to feature articles from our advertisers when possible.

MAY CALENDAR

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- 5/02 9:15 *Board Meeting.* Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
- 5/09 7:30 *Cinema 1.* Contact Jan Knadle at 648-1445.
- 5/10 ——— *Golf.* For time and place, Contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiaro at 785-4915.
- 5/14 7:30 *Evening Bridge.* Hosting—Dot Healy at 743-0877.
- 5/16 9:30 *Month Coffee Get-Together.* Bagel St. Café, Livery
- 5/16 7:30 *Oscar 1. Flawless.* Hosting—Dianne Tinnes at 820-8611.
- 5/19 10:00 *Daytime Bridge.* Contact Mary Kay Anderson.
- 5/22 9:30 *Daytime Literature. All Over But the Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg. Hos Hosting—Dianne Tinnes at 820-8611.
- 5/26 9:30 *Daytime Duplicate Bridge.* Contact Roberta Brenner.
- 5/27 7:30 *Evening Literature. Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean. Hosting—Barbara Critchlow at 968-0621.

2007-08 BRANCH PROGRAMS

- 5/9 & 10 ——— Annual Garden Tour (Educational Foundation Benefit)
- 5/21 Noon Culture—Art Program—Elaine Reisert
- 6/17 5:30 Installation & Awards Presentations

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Helga Glasson
 Laurel Harken
 Patricia (Pat) Hatcher
 Jennifer Sanan
 Joan Trezek

Correction: In the April, 2008 *Advocate*, Joan Trezek was inadvertently identified as Nancy! We extend our apologies for this error and welcome Joan as a new member.

For details and updates on the 2007-08 Branch Programs,
 see our web site at:

<http://www.aauw-da.org/program.html>

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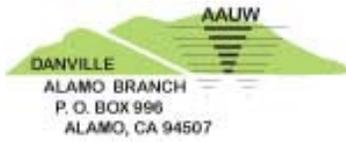
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MAY						
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8th Annual AAUW Garden Tour



An Educational Foundation
Benefit



*Friday, May 9
and
Saturday, May 10*

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.