

AAUW Board Meeting — June 25, 2011

The following Board, Appointed and Administrative members attended:

Roseann Krane, Co-Pres., Web Mstr., E Mail Mgr.	Robin Halloran, Co-Pres.	Holly Sauer, Pres. Elect, Holiday Home Tour
Norma Spencer, Program Co-VP	Karen Large, Program Co-VP	Judith Finch, AAUW Funds VP
Angela Domer, Sec'y	Marian Bliss, Directory Mgr.	Joan Conley, Public Policy
Barbara Critchlow, Local Scholarships	Mary Hanson, Local Scholarships	Cheryl Kohleriter, Advocate Co Editor, Expanding Your Horizons
Kerry Montalvo, Data Base Mgr	Linda Reeve, Garden Tour Chair	Cynthia Savell, Public Policy
Mary Mix, Parliamentarian	Marcia Steinhart, Parliamentarian	Liz Williams, Tech Trek Co Chair
Chris Winter		

Call to Order and Announcements: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Co-President Robin Halloran at the home of Co-President Roseann Krane, 1923 Green Valley Road, Alamo. Our meetings will begin on time, so please be prompt. Robin thanked everyone for being on the Board. Roseann distributed the book marks she and Robin had made for the Board depicting our commitment to the Danville-Alamo-WC group and our community which is to: "**Bridge Friendships.**" In that light, we went around the room introducing ourselves with a short personal background. Marian Bliss had her camera available to take pictures for the directory. General announcements included the following:

- **Robin:** To avoid lengthy board meetings, please submit comments ahead of time, so we will be ready to vote with a minimum of questions.
- **Joan Conley:** Distributed handouts from the Contra Costa County Commission for Women announcing their Women's Hall of Fame nominations and timeline. Included was a nomination form which must be received by Oct. 31, 2011. If you know of someone you might want to nominate, please contact Joan. Members of the Commission and the Bd. of Supervisors are not eligible. Nominees must be women who live and work in Contra Costa County or have played an integral part in the development/implementation of projects that have benefited the County. Reminder handouts were distributed for the Reception for Elected Women of CC Cnty on June 26th from 2 to 6 p.m. and to view the new exhibit REMEMBER THE LADIES at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley in Danville. Joan also received an award from the CC Cnty Retired Teachers Association.
- **Roseann:** Showed us the book she received from Association as a thank you for working on the Association Grants Committee. She chose 6 people who received \$12,000 each in grants. She informed us about her goals for the branch this year: She would like to change our procedure for voting. As of now, only certain members of the Board can vote, but she feels as long as you do the work, you should be entitled to a vote. We will deal with this at a later time when both of our Parliamentarians are available. She does agree that if there are two people holding one position, there should be one vote per position. Her other goal regards funds allocation. The goal of AAUW is to advance women's education,. The further women advance, the more they can influence the next generation. Therefore, we should give more for higher education at the Association level and less at the local level. Robin stated that this would likely stir up a lot of e mails and we should set aside extra time at a later board meeting for this discussion. Right now we

are not quite 50-50. A little less than half goes to local and slightly more than half at Association level. We will schedule a study group to discuss at a board meeting in Sept. or Oct. It was suggested that a Facebook page would be very useful. Roseann said she wanted to do this last year, but was told not to do it. She called for a consensus to set up a Facebook page that would have the proper security measures since that was the concern about setting it up last year. She would lock it up so it would be safe. We would have to see who we could recruit to "monitor" the website. We can see how many people participate and draw from that. It requires someone who is knowledgeable. Robin: We need a few people who would be on a Facebook committee to look into these safety issues and make a recommendation to the Board. If anyone is interested, please inform Robin or Roseann.

Approval of Minutes (Loretta Altshuler(outgoing)/Angela Domer(incoming): There were no changes to the May minutes, therefore there was no need for a motion and the minutes were approved as e-mailed.

Treasurer's Report (Mary Hanson(outgoing)Melissa Walsh(incoming): In the absence of Melissa Walsh, Mary gave the report.

- Treasurer Transition: Mary will be closing out the "old" checking account (Danville/Alamo), so please submit any reimbursements due from the previous fiscal year to her asap. Melissa has the "new" checking account (Danville/Alamo/Walnut Creek) ready to go for this year.
- Recruiting for the Budget Committee: Budget meeting is Wednesday, July 27th. If a second meeting is needed, it will be before Aug. 8th (next board meeting date). Positions that need to be represented (co's can decide which person will be responsible): Co Presidents (Roseann and Robin will both be there), Programs (Karen Large), Membership (Tena will want to be involved), Treasurer (Melissa will be chairing and Mary will be there as outgoing), Advocate (since Cheryl will be away, she will submit her needs to Melissa beforehand...since advertising in the Advocate brings income, it is important this is addressed too), Hospitality (none of this year's hospitality members were present, so as outgoing Hospitality board member, Holly Sauer will submit the needs of Hospitality). All others are welcome. Input from Holiday Home Tour/Garden Tour and Parliamentarian would be particularly useful.
- Mary did not send out the final financial numbers because they are still preliminary, but if anyone wants them on e-mail, please let her know. We will be starting the new year with approximately \$21,000 in equity.
- Last year we operated on less than \$5,000 . . . we should come in under budget. Community Focus: Took in \$23,500 in fund raising (Holiday Home Tour), \$1500 in fund raising (checks people wrote), Of that, about 9% (\$2000) went for expenses. The \$23,000 remaining was given to girls/young women through Tech Trek and local scholarships. When you add the garden tour half of our fund raising income, \$50,000+ passes through us to worthy girls and women. Our hard work pays off.

Special Report: Chris Winter - National Convention/Washington D.C.

- This is the first year we've had one member/one vote; therefore, campaigning was quite different causing a feeling of disconnect. There was less interaction. Of our total 80,000-100,000 membership, there were about 10,000 votes cast. We need to participate more . . .
- We elected two Californians to the Board.
- Highlight of the Convention was the Branch awards. We were the recipient of 4 awards:
 - 2nd place for combined giving (coming in behind Santa Maria that had a large bequest from a deceased member),

- 1st place for total branch giving to the Eleanor Roosevelt fund (thanks to Jo Harberson who sells the Eleanor Roosevelt pins and then matches the amount (however, she has changed to the Leadership fund for next year),
 - 5th place for Leadership fund,
 - 3rd place for Educational Opportunities Fund.
- The new redistricting lines have us in George Miller's district.
 - We lobbied on campus violence against women, social security, and for the women's historical museum.
 - Membership campaign will be continued for another year.
 - A new study will be released this fall on sexual harassment in schools (including bullying and cyber-bullying).
 - All of the latest brochures will be sent to the Branch in the late fall. Copies given to Roseann/Robin.
 - Next Nat'l Association Convention: New Orleans in two years. Members were encouraged to participate.

Audit Report: Carol Kennedy(absent): She called Roseann with the following:

- The meeting will be the evening of Aug. 18th and the members are: Marian Bliss, Carol Kennedy, Nancy Powers, and the two ex officio members will be the treasurers Mary Hanson and Melissa Walsh. The meeting is open to anyone else who would like to participate.
- Updating our branch inventory is part of the audit. Mary Mix told Roseann to change the name on the inventory sheet from Mary to Roseann and just update. The inventory sheet is on the CD given to Roseann.

President Elect: (Holly Sauer): Is working with special interest chair people to be sure information is correct. Please send her any changes. She is passing information on to Roseann and Roseann is putting it on our website. So far she has published only through the summer. She will send out quarterly calendars.

Programs: (Norma Spencer, Karen Large, Tena Gallagher (absent), Pat Gross (absent):

- Copies of the State Newsletter were distributed. Our branch won free convention registration through our submission of our REMEMBER THE LADIES program. Norma Spencer was introduced and thanked for stepping in early to help the committee.
- **Upcoming Programs:**

Sept. 10 (Saturday) - Membership Kickoff Brunch, Crow Canyon Country Club

Oct. 23 (Sunday) - Northern California Fellows Lunch, Crow Canyon Country Club. Our branch is not putting on this event, but Mary Mix encouraged our participation. It allows us to see the fruits of our labors.

Nov. 5 (Saturday) - Director/Producer of the video "Seneca Falls" will speak to us and we will screen the video. It is about a local Bay Area acting group and has won a number of documentary awards. We will try to get participation from other branches. Crow Canyon Country Club.

Dec -- Holiday Home Tour

Jan. 29 (Sunday) IBC program on human trafficking

Feb. 21 Combined program with Delta Kappa Gamma and AAUW Pleasant Hill

March 24 (Saturday) - speaker will be local author Amanda Adams (spoke to our Concord branch last year) who wrote the book LADIES OF THE FIELD about 7 turn-of-the-century female archeologists, including Agatha Christie. This coincides with Women's History Month.

mid April - State Convention

- We do not know about a date for LAF or International and will have to coordinate dates. Roseann is going to recommend to Gus and Asha they go with January for their International Relations program. LAF date will be up to Judith Finch. We need to get the word out that LAF supports women/girls legally in all areas, not just in education. Programs is going to ask for more money (which will get paid back from the luncheons) because we have to raise our honorarium for speakers as a cushion. Mary Hanson pointed out that we did have money left over from last year, but the money does not roll over to the next year. We start fresh every year.
- We need to work on keeping our events affordable and within reach for everyone in our group. We will work on suggestions such as a basket at tables for extra donations. We discussed shopping around for other venues, e.g. Roundhill Cntry Club and Diablo Cntry Club. and compare to the costs at Crow Canyon. Robin will check with Diablo.

ADVOCATE: (Cheryl Kohleriter, Cindy Cassady(absent)):

- Cheryl reminded us that the ADVOCATE will be published 4x/yr. The 4th issue (June) will give the results of the Garden tour and what is coming up in the summer, so will likely be a short issue. Months of issue: mid August, mid November, late March, and June and will be supplemented monthly by information sent out by Roseann. Cheryl will send e-mail with guidelines for submissions and suggestions as to what we should cover in each issue. All committee chairs will have to plan these submissions far in advance of the dates. Since this is the first year and it is a test it will require careful evaluation. We must adhere to deadlines.
- If one of us has a problem, rather than an extra e-mail blast, the hospitality group can contact the members who live close to provide any support needed.
- We have to consider the advertising revenue for THE ADVOCATE. We give two free ads: one in THE ADVOCATE for East Bay Floral (they sell our tickets for our tours) and the other in the Directory for the printing company that gives us discounts. We have approximately 10-20 people who do not have e-mail and will not be getting the monthly blasts. There is a need to set up a task force to address the issues created by having a quarterly ADVOCATE. Cheryl and Carole Allen will do this.

Garden Tour: (Linda Reeve, Pat DeRensis(absent)): Present co chairs will be meeting with last year's group Tuesday night at 6:30 to exchange material and ideas

Holiday Home Tour: (Holly Sauer, Mary Ellen Blake(absent)): They have received the turnover information from Robin and the former committee. Mary Ellen is working on finding the homes and working with the homeowners and Holly will work on other parts of the tour. Holly asked that anyone let her know if they have any ideas for homes.

Hospitality: (Marilyn Bressler(absent), Judy Lauper(absent), AnJenette Afridi(absent)): They had a meeting with Holly. Holly reported that Marilyn is contacting present neighborhood hosts to see if they would like to continue, Judy will do documentation and background work keeping the spreadsheets and displays up to date, A.J. will help with coordination. Please contact one of the new co-chairs if you have any changes.

Public Policy: (Cynthia Savell, Joan Conley):

- Cynthia told us that after the Supreme Court ruling on the Wal-Mart case, this is a ripe area for both LAF and Public Policy.

- Gov. Brown has an option to have an "all cuts" budget, which would be horrid for all the entitlement programs. A professor from so CA is working on a bill to have some of the big oil subsidies monies directed toward education and not to the general fund.
- Cynthia would like to have another meeting with Joan Buchannan with a larger percentage of membership present (we had 26 at the last meeting). and include Jerry Mc Nerney. If with the redistricting, he is no longer going to be our Congressman, however, he may not be interested.
- Joan Conley will be very involved with public policy this year and she has been very concerned about the problem of bullying. She agreed to share her information in the ADVOCATE and at our board meetings. Cyber-bullying is the worst of all, particularly at middle school ages and particularly involving girls.
- Also lying in repose is the Single Payer Health Bill. Because it is in "suspense," it will have to be redone and voted on again by both the Assembly and the Senate. They are already gearing up to do an initiative and have people sign petitions to get it on the ballot.

Tech Trek: (Liz Williams, Helga Glasson(absent)): Liz and Helga were unable to go to Sonoma State this week. There was a very successful and jam-packed session with all the award winners and their family members at the Walnut Creek Library. Helga and others did a wonderful job setting up this meeting. Liz will be assisting Helga this year. The girls are at Tech Trek camp now. We hope to have them come to a meeting. Mary Mix told us we got an e-mail back from the IBC congratulating the Tech Trek committee.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Roseann:

- There will be an IBC training meeting Aug. 6th. They specifically would like Programs and Membership, but will have others. More details will be forthcoming when they find a place and Roseann will e-mail us with the information. All members are invited.
- Tena still doesn't have a speaker for our Sept. meeting. Please think about a possible speaker. Joe Obik, Superintendent of Contra Costa Education was suggested. However, Tena does not want a newsperson and does not want a male speaker. Both Roseann and Marian suggested Joan Buchannan, but she has recently spoken. Roseann would like to get a group -- Joan Buchannan, George Miller, and a few others as a group, especially since George Miller is going to be our Representative. Roseann will talk with Tena. A woman in the Science field from the Lawrence Livermore Lab would be a good possibility (especially serving as a role model to our Tech Trek girls). We have several members from our Branch who work/worked there: Luisa Hansen, Cindy Cassady, and Carol Gerich. Women's Health is another topic of interest. Roseann will send the names to Tena.

Robin: For future board meetings an e-mail will be sent out asking who would like time on the agenda.

Roseann: A short vote was taken as to whether to start our board meetings at 9:00 or 9:30 and 9:30 won out. Meetings will be the second Monday of each month. At the meeting at the Club House, everyone will have "table" names. You will have a labeled folder in a box and your materials and table name signs will be in that folder. Pick these up as you enter and replace your table names when you leave. If you can't make a meeting, just tell Roseann when she sends out the notice for the meeting what you would like to have said "for"you.

Call for comments or suggestions:

- There is only one Board meeting before our Sept. kick-off luncheon, We have a board meeting right **after** the kick-off luncheon. This will be an agenda item for the August meeting when Tena will be here.
- We need to be flexible with meetings this year. If they are held at night, someone will be pick up Roseann.

- Please e-mail Roseann and Robin with any further comments or suggestions.
- Roseann would like a list of all the groups by neighborhood. Holly will provide.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, August 8, 9:30 - 11:30, Shadow Hills Club House, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Angela Domer, Recording Secretary