

The SPOKESWOMAN

September 2011

Volume 47, No. 9

Mission Statement: AAUW promotes equity for women, education and self-development over the life span, and positive societal change.

CALENDAR

September 20- Celebrate the 19th by relaxing while playing Mexican Dominoes with friends at Marj's. Light snacks will be available, but bring your own beverage. The time is 7 pm. If you don't wish to play, come anyway and watch and talk with others. Please RSVP to Marj by the 18th.

September 26- Welcome new members and bring a prospective member for a potluck at Chithra's. It will start at 5:30 pm on Monday. Check with Chithra regarding what kind of dish to bring.

September 27- Board meeting at Chithra's at 7:15 pm.

October 9- Hope Walk with Sahaya International. Time and start info TBA. (See Support Article).

October 13- We are co-sponsoring a powerpoint presentation for California Women's Suffrage Centennial celebration in the Blanchard room at the Yolo Library on 14th St.. Watch for articles in the Enterprise in the next weeks. The time is from 7pm to 9. Thank you, Dorothy.

October 18- Celebrate the 19th is hosted by Chithra on the 18th at a restaurant. Details later.

October 23- We are co-sponsoring UN Day at International House with UN speaker Jane Roberts, co-founder of 34 Million Friends of UNICEF. Details later.

February 25, 2012- the Fund Luncheon (EF) will be at Il Fornaio at the Galleria in Roseville. \$25. Carpooling will be available.

While information is not complete, the dates are there for you to mark your calendar well in advance. We appreciate your support by your attending as many of our planned events as you can.

REPORTS

Shirley's Celebrate the 19th was a small, but pleasant gathering. We had snacks and a delicious punch. Marti, Sherri, Marj, Eleanor, Juliana and Shirley discussed the quilt raffle possibilities and locations as well as some politics. Later, some of us played Mexican Dominoes, a relaxing game. Thank you, Shirley.

See CALENDAR for next Celebrates schedule.

Several members met at Barbara's on August 18 for a special Tech Trek meeting with Carol Holzgrafe (TT State Director) and Martha Rees (dorm mom and future curriculum staff). They asked for feedback from Gail, who informed schools, interviewed, and procured supplies needed by teachers. She will be financial director for the camp next year.

Leslie, camp nurse, told us some of the nursing and feeding impromptu situations which she and others handled. She will be camp nurse again next summer.

Marti brought her king-sized beautiful quilt and gave ideas about how to use her donation to raise money for TT through a raffle.

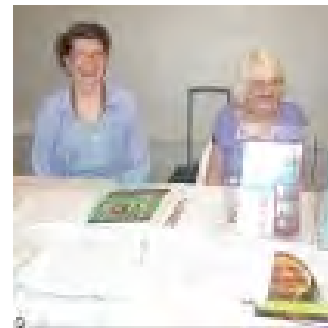
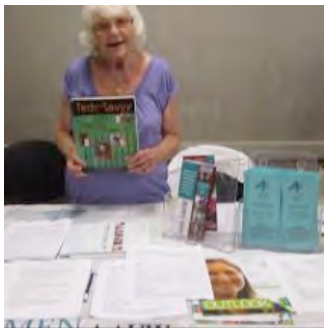
Rhonda talked about the Tea for Teachers, and how it will be improved for next year since it had such a positive outcome this year.

Carol gave us information about next year's possibilities regarding which weeks were available, possible dorms to be used, the need for mothers and junior counselors, the equipment loan opportunities for robotics from Stanford. The positives and negatives about scheduling and rainy day situations were also discussed.

We are looking for a camp director plus people who would be willing to help get supplies, work on committees, and be on call for short errands.

At the Older Adult Community Fair, AAUW-Davis was represented by Chithra, Eleanor, and Elaine. They participated at an information table which had many visitors. Many other groups were present, such as Yolo Wildlife Area, Friends of Mondavi, Citizens Who Care, League of Women Voters, International House, Yolo Hospice, Davis Senior center, Osher Lifelong Learning, and Davis musical Theater Company.

It was a great get-together showcasing community, creativity, lifelong learning, financial security, health, caring for an elderly family member, productive living, volunteerism and community resources. Our Tech Trek program and Tea for Teachers were greatly appreciated. Two people were interested in joining and will hopefully contact Chithra. The Davis Musical Theater Company took brochures to display in their foyer during events.



BEST WISHES

We send our good thoughts to Dorothy who has injured her back, and to Gail for a successful recovery from her hip surgery.

AAUW-DAVIS SUPPORTS:

Each year, AAUW-Davis supports the **Sahaya Foundation** with a donation of \$75. In addition, several members pay a \$10 fee to participate in the Hope Walk (Oct. 9). The Sahaya Fdn. gives counseling, support, and school supplies to women and children in India who have HIV Aids. It helps children get an education and counsels affected families.

Yolo County Backpacks for Kids provides children with a backpack with school supplies. Each year we donate \$50 to them.

We support with pride and with money, the **ISIS program** developed by board member, Parto. She teaches technology/computer skills to young girls so that they continue to be interested in and learning about technology. We provided funding for one of her laptops and will consider seriously her other requests for support.

The Bridge Program run by Janet Boulware serves low income and migrant children by mentoring, after school tutoring, and family help with understanding guidelines for accessing programs available to them. We have donated to that program.

Speech Trek is a continuing AAUW project, but after trying it one year here and providing prize money, the Davis branch is no longer offering it.

Tech Trek is a science camp for 7th grade girls entering 8th grade. They spend a week on a college campus (UCD) during summer living in a dorm and attending hands-on classes. They hear professional women speakers and go on field trips. This costs us (AAUW-Davis) \$850 per girl. Tech Trek needs fund-raising and donations. **We need** volunteers to speak to Rotary, Soroptimist, Oddfellows, and businesses to donate part or full sponsorship for a student. Do you have business connections? Would you be willing to volunteer?

SOME ABC'S (Awareness Bits to Contemplate)

See aauw-ca.org

>**Mini grants of \$250** are now available for mission-based programs or projects. Each must support the mission, involve the community, build or connect with diverse groups, promote AAUW visibility, and attract new members.

>October 23 is the Bay Area Funds luncheon and the 29th is the Northern & Southern Funds luncheon.

>Tech Trek funding ideas and info can be found at aauw-techtrek.org under branch coordinators and forms.

>Early October, a short video for Tech Trek should be available.

>You've seen that you can donate to AAUW Funds with the memo designations, EF, LAF, or Eleanor Roosevelt. There is a new fund to which you can donate: **Research Grant Fund 4360**.

>If you wish to donate to **Tech Trek**, write the check to AAUW CA SPF, memo Tech Trek. If anyone is interested in participating more fully in Tech Trek, please notify Juliana and she will send you a committee job list with requirements. We are hoping for June 24-30 as our week at UCD, but it's not final as yet. We will also need persons who are willing to be **on call** for a day or more to do quick errand running.

>AAUW has some good news and we have some bad news. The good news is the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is considering adopting the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) recommendations that women's preventive health care be completely covered by any new health insurance plans under the new health care reform law!

The bad news, unfortunately, is that efforts are underway to expand "religious refusal" exemptions. If expanded, certain employers would be exempt from having to provide coverage for contraceptive services to their female employees if the employer is opposed to contraception.

An expanded exemption would allow an employer to deny their employees access to care that doctors, medical associations, and the IOM consider necessary. Besides, with or without an employer exemption, if an *employee* is opposed to contraception on religious grounds, she's unlikely to fill a prescription for birth control. But these exemptions are also a little sinister.

Religious refusal provisions allow the decision makers at “religious employers” to determine what sort of contraception, if any, their female employees will have access to. If the existing religious refusal exemption is expanded, it would create a broad definition for “religious employers,” and could impact all employees at some schools, hospitals, charities, and elsewhere – even if the employee does not share the faith of their employer.

>*New Information from LAF* s a victory in Tenure Discrimination Case.

Lulu Sun, an English professor who alleged sex and race discrimination in the promotion process at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, won her case against the school. In the June 1 decision, the hearing officer ordered the promotion of Sun to full professor and awarded her lost wages of about \$154,500, as well as \$200,000 in emotional distress damages. The university will also be charged a civil penalty of \$10,000, and its administrators will be required to attend a training session on employment discrimination law. The university plans to appeal the decision.

>*U.S. District Court Says UC Davis Violated Title IX*

In early August, a U.S. District Court delivered a mixed decision in the AAUW-supported case *Mansourian v. Regents of the University of California*. The court found that the University of California, Davis, failed to comply with Title IX during the time that plaintiffs were students and ineffectively accommodated female student athletes by not expanding the athletic program. The judge also ruled, however, that the defendants’ actions relating to the wrestling team were meritless, saying that “plaintiffs have not prevailed on any other theories of Title IX liability. Moreover, plaintiffs have not prevailed on their claims for Equal Protection Clause violations against any of the individual defendants.”

AAUW applauds the long-awaited partial victory but is also extremely disappointed that the judge did not hold the university officials responsible for the violations and awaits further developments in the case. AAUW provided nearly \$100,000 to the plaintiffs over the last six years. We are proud that many Sacramento-area AAUW

members attended the district court trial in June to support the plaintiffs.

FUNDRAISER

Woodland's fundraiser for Tech Trek is a picnic at the Gibson House grounds in Woodland on September 25 from 4pm-7. See the flyer below.

For discount tickets, call Juliana.



"Picnic on the Lawns"
(aka Annual AAUW BBQ)

Yolo County Historical Museum Gibson House
512 Gibson Road
Woodland, CA

Sunday, September 25, 2011
4:00 - 7:00 pm

Festivities Include:
Silent Auction, Drawings, Museum Tours, and
Live Music by Tony Needes
(music donated by Rau Financial Strategies)

AAUW provides the picnic (hotdogs and fixings), including non-alcoholic beverages. You are welcome to bring other BBQ items for your own enjoyment. Wine and Beer available for purchase.

Suggested Donation
\$25/adult \$10/child (6 - 10 years old)

All proceeds to fund education/scholarship programs.
All donations are tax-deductible.

RSVP Kate Barichievich @ kbarichi@sbcglobal.net or 662-2170 by September 21

