

THE SPOKES-WOMAN



April 2009

Vol 45, No. 9



Please Join Us for Our Annual Meeting and Nominations of Board & Officers, 2009-10 At

University Retirement Community
1515 Shasta Drive
Davis, CA 95616
Saturday April 4 @ 9am

Come join AAUW-Davis at the Annual Meeting Breakfast on Saturday, April 12, 9 AM. We will once again be meeting in the Main Dining Room on the 3rd floor of the University Retirement Community for a buffet breakfast. You may park in any numbered space that is not marked "reserved". Guests are welcome.

There is no charge for this breakfast for either members or guests. However, reservations are required. **Please phone Gail Johnson if you have not already done so.** The deadline is Tuesday evening, March 31.

Election of officers for the 2009-2010 AAUW-Davis will be held. The nominating committee led by Rhonda Reed announces the following slate of officers (see below). Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

AAUW Davis Branch Board & Officers Nominations for 2009-2010

The following nominations are accepted:
President: Barbara Bower
President-Elect: open
Treasurer: Gail Johnson

con't on page

Calendar of Upcoming Events Davis Branch AAUW April 2009

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Saturday, April 4  
**Annual Meeting of  
AAUW Davis Branch**  
9 am-11 am  
At URC, 1515 Shasta Dr  
*See article at left*

~~~~~  
Wednesday, April 14
Book Group
noon
At the home of
Betty Jane Polk
39861 Barry Road, Davis
See accompanying article

~~~~~  
Sunday, April 19  
*(In commemoration  
of the 19th Amendment  
on the 19th of the month)*  
**Celebrate the 19th**  
4:30 pm  
At the home of  
Rhonda Reed  
320 I St, Davis  
*See accompanying article*

~~~~~  
Monday, April 20
**Meeting of Board
& Officers**
7:15 PM
At the home of
Juliana Wells
1102 Eureka, Davis

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# President's Message



*Rhonda Reed*  
President, AAUW Davis  
2008-2009

April is the month of our annual meeting. At this meeting we set the path for where our organization should go for the next year and beyond. Last month I asked you all to consider what your vision for AAUW Davis is and to share any thoughts or questions you might have with me. I'm sad to say that I have received very little feedback to my request. I hope that means that you are still thinking and will have thoughts to share at our annual meeting. To help that thought process, I have some questions at the end of this message that I would like you to consider.

I went to our March EF luncheon and had the privilege of providing our speaker a ride to the event. It gave me the opportunity to get to know Winnie a little better and to see the high quality of scholar that we are funding, right here in our community, as a result of our contributions to EF. I also got to network with AAUW members from other branches in the area and got re-energized by the range of women who make AAUW the organi-

organization that it is.

AAUW Davis does great work fundraising for EF and we should be very proud of that contribution. Many of our members contribute to our annual appeal, and others go that extra step to help organize a fundraising event, like the silent auction at the EF luncheon, and others contribute items to be auctioned. It all helps. It makes me wonder if there are ways that we could encourage existing or new members to take a more active role in running the Branch.

Often I find that the combined annual dues for National, State and Davis AAUW seem to be a barrier to getting new members to commit. I have had better luck getting friends to help with Branch activities, than getting them to join. I wonder if it would make a difference if we offered to waive the local Davis dues, or reduced them to \$2 for insurance purposes if new or current members agreed to take an active role as a Board member or on a committee effort like Speech Trek, and if they agreed to receive the newsletter and communications by the Web or e-mail? What do you think?

Another question: We have reduced costs substantially this year by switching to a web-based newsletter and direct e-mails to most members. Do you like this new communication method?

Do you feel AAUW is sufficiently visible in our Davis community? What more or less should we do?

Do you feel that Speech Trek is a good program to continue?

Do you think that we should have a monthly program? Should we have 3 to 5 programs per year and continue to get together monthly on the 19<sup>th</sup>?

## **American Association of University Women Mission Statement:**

AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

## **California AAUW Vision Statement:**

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls

## **AAUW's Value Promise:**

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

If AAUW Davis organized a 3 meeting workshop on financial literacy for these economic times, involving guest presenters would you attend? Would you bring a friend? Should we charge \$85.00 for the workshop and include a membership in the fee?

At the holidays, many local charities will supply a wish-list of goods that are needed for their program, such as food and coats for a homeless shelter. If the Board picked a local charity to sponsor for the year, would you contribute?

Please ponder these questions and think of your own for consideration at our April meeting. See you then.

*-Rhonda*

## **Celebrate the 19th of April**

Rhonda is finally starting her home renovation project and will offer a tour of the inner workings of a 19<sup>th</sup> century house on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6 and a sparkling beverage toast! Address: 320 I Street and parking will be relaxed.

Con't from front page  
Nominations of 2009-2010 Board & Officers

Secretary: Nan Yates  
Program: Chithra Lakshmanan and open  
Membership: open  
EF: Eleanor Lake, Juliana Wells  
LAF: Parto Aram, Juliana Wells  
Media: Harwant Khush  
Spokeswoman Editor: open

## Book Group News....by Betty Jane Polk

We met in the month of March and had a delightful time discussing "The Story of Edgar Sawtelle" without telling the ending as one member had not read the whole book. Please join our group as with three regular people coming together once a month we are developing a deep companionship. In April each member will select a non-fiction book to read and describe to the group. We will meet Wednesday noon April 14, Betty Jane Polk's, 39861 Barry Road, Call Betty Jane if you can come. Date has been changed to second Wednesday as one member has a conflict.

## Announcement from Parto Aram

The fourth annual **Davis Feminist Film Festival**, is a 2-night grassroots festival of short films featuring local, national, and international filmmakers side by side. Mixing narrative, documentary, and experimental styles, the films highlight perspectives and issues that are too often missing from mainstream media. The fourth annual festival will be held April 16 & 17, 2009 at the Veteran's Memorial Theater on 14th St. in Davis, CA. Doors open at 7pm and films begin at 8pm. There is also space at the event to learn about local feminist activist groups and volunteer opportunities in the area. **The web site for the film festival is <http://femfilmfest.ucdavis.edu/index.php?>**

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH

Reception at 7pm, show at 8pm

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH

Reception at 7pm, show at 8pm

### Presale Locations

#### DAVIS

Armadillo Records

Davis Farmers Market

(Saturdays, 8-1pm and Wednesdays, 2-6, select days)

Memorial Union on the UC Davis Campus

(Monday-Friday, 11am-1pm on select days)

### Ticket Prices

**STUDENTS** (Available to all students with a valid ID)

\$10 single night\*

\$15 two night special\*

### GENERAL ADMISSION

\$15 single night\*

\$25 two night special\*

\*presale ticket price only. Tickets are available at the door, prices are \$12/\$20 for students and \$18/\$30 for general admission

## March 21 EF Luncheon

By Juliana Wells

On March 21, the annual EF luncheon was held at Zigato's in Sacramento. The setting was comfortable with Chinese table decorations provided by the Woodland Branch. Two walls of tables were filled with the silent auction items. For Davis, we thank Barbara, Gail, Eleanor, Parto and Juliana for their donation.

Our speaker, Winnie Tam Hung, an EF fellow at UC Davis, described her research regarding the Fujin immigrant group in New York City. She explained how (whether legal or illegal) these immigrants came with 30-60,000 dollars worth of debt, which had to be repaid. The youngsters worked in their relatives' or sponsors' restaurants and households for years and years. Unless they were educated in China, college in America was a rare occurrence.

The way out of debt for most of the young women was to find a well-off man to marry. Weddings in this culture became a show of wealth and gift giving. Industries arose from these weddings.

After 9/11, the area was essentially sealed off with ID checks everywhere. The area became more like a prison. Ms Hung was well spoken and knowledgeable. The audience of more than 60 women reluctantly had to stop asking her questions due to time restraints. The auction was well received. We listened and learned from the speaker and the food was good.

## Amador County Annual Home Tour April 18

Expansive views of vineyards, wildflowers and soft greens of spring enhance the Shenandoah Valley and Fiddletown settings of AAUW Amador County's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Tour – "Vineyards and Views." Held April 18, 2009 from 11AM to 4PM, the popular tour celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Amador Branch and features gracious homes and estates, each designed by the owners to express their personal styles. A variety of luncheon venues (offering discounts to Tour participants) and more than 30 wine tasting rooms are available.

Set amid vineyards, several of the homes belong to grape growers and wine-makers, with the owners' additional artistic pursuits in evidence throughout the homes. One Mediterranean home will feature complimentary tea and homemade cookies and an art show of local and AAUW-member works.

In Fiddletown the Chew Kee Store, a rammed earth building dating from 1855, is one of the two rare and unique buildings associated with Fiddletown's Chinese community. They are part of the largest grouping of early Chinese buildings (1855-1865) remaining from a Gold Rush mining town. Docent-led tours of the Store are part of the Tour.

Tickets are \$22 and \$25 on the day of the Tour. They may be purchased by mail order March 13 through April 10: AAUW Home Tour, 21210 Ostrom Rd., Fiddletown, CA 95629. Tickets are also available on the day of the Tour at ~~Pokerville Market Drugs in Plymouth from 10AM to 2PM and at the Amador Flower Farm in Shenandoah Valley from 10:30AM to 2PM.~~

The raffle of a beautiful quilt is part of the Tour with tickets at \$1, or 6 for \$5. An intricately pieced and appliquéd work of art created from over 800 individual pieces, the quilt pictures houses with features such as windows with real objects in them, shutters, a mini quilt, and dimensional flowers. Raffle tickets for the Quilt may be purchased by sending a check to AAUW Quilt, 26317 Meadow Drive, Pioneer, 95666. The funds raised from ticket sales will go directly into the branch scholarship fund and are therefore 100% tax deductible as a contribution.

For more information about the Tour and the Quilt, contact Lani Chapman at 209-245-6052, [chapman@volcano.net](mailto:chapman@volcano.net) or consult the website: [www.aauwamador.org](http://www.aauwamador.org).

**Nevada County Branch  
American Association of University Women  
*Presents an*  
**ANTIQUÉ APPRAISAL FAIRE****

**Saturday, April 18, 2009 9 am – 3 pm**

**Banner Grange  
12629 McCourtney Road, Grass Valley**

**Benefit for the AAUW Educational Foundation**

The Nevada County Branch of AAUW is pleased to announce their ninth annual Antique Appraisal Faire to benefit the AAUW Educational Foundation.

The event will be held Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Banner Grange, 12629 McCourtney Road, Grass Valley. The Grange is easily reached from Hwy 20 or 49. Follow signs to the fairgrounds. The Grange is 1 ½ miles past the fairgrounds on McCourtney Road. Follow our signs and balloons.

We will have over 14 local antique dealers as our appraisers. Appraisals are one item for \$12, with additional items \$8 each. Home-made soup, coffee, tea and cookies will be available. You can bid on colorful raffle baskets and specialty items.

We hope you can join us that day, bring your special treasures for evaluation, see what others are having appraised, and join in the fun. It will be a local version of Antiques Roadshow!

# Equal Pay Day is April 18

By  
AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations

Thanks to the hard work of AAUW Action Network members and our coalition partners, President Obama signed the [Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act](#) into law on Jan. 29. Now, join AAUW in urging the Senate to continue the fight against wage discrimination by acting swiftly on the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) as well to ensure the change hard working Americans need to receive equal pay.

According to new data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2007 the ratio of women's and men's median annual earnings reached almost 78 cents on the dollar for full-time year-round workers, up from just under 77 cents in 2006. This is the narrowest the wage gap has ever been, but it's only an additional one cent on the dollar. One cent is chump change. It isn't real change.

While women have been hard at work to earn their extra penny, Congress has failed to pass legislation that would give women effective equal pay protections.

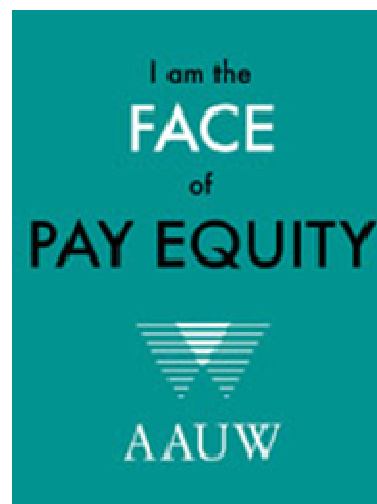
In light of this development, [join AAUW in telling Congress](#):

**"Keep the Change until Women Have Real Change."**

AAUW has **Keep the Change posters and lapel stickers** available for use at AAUW events, meetings, programs, even protests that bear the slogan "Keep the Change until Women Have Real Change," and the penny graphic featured above. These are available at no charge, while supplies last, by filling out the [online request form](#). Spread the word and get others involved by sending a [Keep the Change e-card](#) to friends.

[Behind the Pay Gap](#), research released in April 2007 by AAUW, shows that just one year out of college, women working full time already earn less than their male colleagues, even when they work in the same field. Ten years after graduation, the pay gap widens.

To match men's earnings for 2008, women have to work from January 2008 to April 2009 — an extra four months. In recognition of this inequity, **Equal Pay Day will be celebrated on April 28, 2009**. AAUW presents the following resources to help you prepare for Equal Pay Day 2009 and for the continued fight for pay equity:



- [AAUW's Pay Equity Resource Kit](#) (PDF). This resource kit contains a variety of useful resources to help you take action on Equal Pay Day and beyond. We've included information about state and federal legislation, and step-by-step suggestions to help you pursue pay equity projects.
- [Share your plans for Equal Pay Day](#). Tell AAUW what your branch or group is doing to mark the day so we can track the fight for equal pay all across America and help spread the word of your events before they happen.
- Show your Senators the Face of Pay Equity! Upload a picture of yourself to send with your message to show your senators that you are the face of pay equity. Visit AAUW's [Activist Photo Album](#) to see other AAUW activists who have already shown the face of pay equity to their senators. AAUW also has [posters and lapel stickers](#) bearing the slogans "I am the Face of Pay Equity" or "The Power of One Vote" for use at AAUW events.
- [More Equal Pay Day activities](#).
- Read AAUW's [Behind the Pay Gap](#) research. Just one year after college graduation, women earn only 80 percent of what their male counterparts earn. Ten years after graduation, women fall further behind, earning only 69 percent of what men earn. Even after controlling for hours, occupation, parenthood, and other factors known to affect earnings, the research indicates that one-quarter of the pay gap remains unexplained and is likely due to sex discrimination. Over time, the unexplained portion of the pay gap grows.
- Read AAUW's [Public Perception of the Pay Gap](#) research. Eighty-one (81) percent of women and 69 percent of men agree that there is a difference between the wages of male and female full-time workers.

Use AAUW's [Gains in Learning, Gaps in Earning](#) research to find out the pay gap is between college-educated men and women in your state.

For more information, call 202/785-7793 or e-mail [VoterEd@aauw.org](mailto:VoterEd@aauw.org).



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

DAVIS BRANCH  
P.O. BOX 4165  
DAVIS, CA 95617  
[www.aauwdavis.org](http://www.aauwdavis.org)

**AAUW Davis Branch Officers**

*fiscal year July 2008-June 2009*

|                                                   |                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President                                         |                                                                          |
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*Newsletter patrons 2008-2009:*

Jan Bridge, Adam Bridge, Doris Hass, Bett Marriott, Shirley Rolewicz, Pat Yokom, Juliana Wells, Karen Manelis, Dorothy Brazelton, Debbie Nichols Poulos, Rhonda Reed, Gail Johnson

**Look Forward to These Events  
In the Upcoming Months:**

**April 4--AAUW Annual meeting at University Retirement Community**

**April 16 & 17—UCD Feminist Film Festival, Veteran's Memorial Center**

**May 9, 2009--author Liberty Kovacs, Blanchard Room, Yolo Co Public Library, 2 to 5 PM**

**June--Installation of Board & Officers**

**July--BBQ (Juliana & Char's home)**

*We wish Juliana Wells  
a speedy recovery from  
her recent successful  
surgery*