

THE SPOKESWOMAN



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

December 2008

Vol 45, No. 6



AAUW Branch Holiday Party

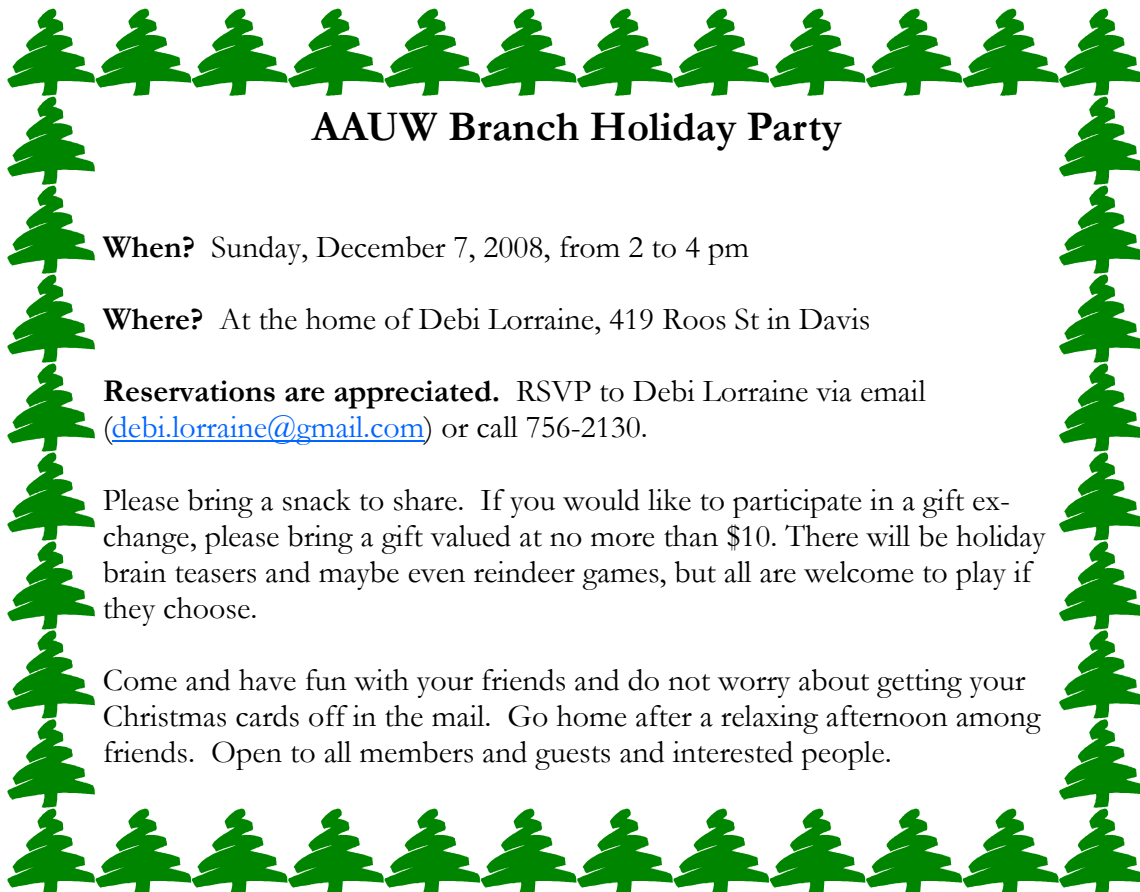
When? Sunday, December 7, 2008, from 2 to 4 pm

Where? At the home of Debi Lorraine, 419 Roos St in Davis

Reservations are appreciated. RSVP to Debi Lorraine via email (debi.lorraine@gmail.com) or call 756-2130.

Please bring a snack to share. If you would like to participate in a gift exchange, please bring a gift valued at no more than \$10. There will be holiday brain teasers and maybe even reindeer games, but all are welcome to play if they choose.

Come and have fun with your friends and do not worry about getting your Christmas cards off in the mail. Go home after a relaxing afternoon among friends. Open to all members and guests and interested people.



Celebrate the 19th of December

AAUW Davis Branch members PAM KRUG, BETTY RUSSELL and BETT MARRIOTT are delighted to host a get-together at their residence, Atria Covell Gardens, 1111 Alvarado Ave, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM to celebrate December 19th.

Coffee will be provided; please bring some snacks to share. Come and enjoy the camaraderie of your AAUW friends.

Calendar of Upcoming Events Davis Branch AAUW December 2008

~~~~~

Sunday, December 7  
**Holiday Party**  
2:00-4:00 pm  
At the home of  
Debi Lorraine  
In Davis  
*See article at left*

~~~~~

Friday, December 19
*(In commemoration
of the 19th Amendment
on the 19th of the month)*
Social Hour
4:00-6:00 pm
At Atria Covell Gardens
1111 Alvarado Av
Davis

~~~~~

**There will be no  
Meeting of Board &  
Officers**  
In the month  
of December

~~~~~

Interest Group News

The Book Group had not met as of the date of publication of the December newsletter. More news will be available in January's issue

President's Message

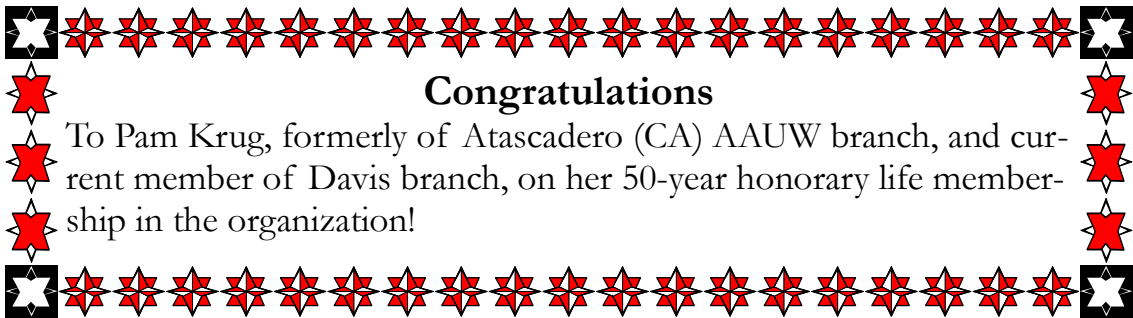


Rhonda Reed
President, AAUW Davis
2007-2008

Well, the 2008 election season is finally over and what an interesting outcome. Our November speaker, Charlotte Newhart, who is our AAUW-CA legislative advocate, shared great insight: while the national vote signaled an interest in change, the local vote did not. There is still much progress to be made (and local decisions) for educated women who are interested in conditions for women and girls. That being said, I for one am ready for a break from the political scene to focus on friends and family during the winter holidays. I am grateful for my AAUW friends and look forward to seeing many of you at our Holiday Celebration, so generously hosted by Debi Lorraine. I hope you will carve some time out of your busy schedules to join us and celebrate.

Cheers! Until next year!

—Rhonda Reed



Congratulations

To Pam Krug, formerly of Atascadero (CA) AAUW branch, and current member of Davis branch, on her 50-year honorary life membership in the organization!

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.

Davis Enterprise Letter to the Editor: Is there "Gender Equity in Education?"

Women and girls all over the world are challenging the age old beliefs —now largely unspoken—that boys and men are better "suited" to intellectual work. Today, few journalists or policy-makers would admit to such a prejudice. Women have worked hard to crack glass ceilings and break barriers to get on par with the intellectual achievements of the opposite sex. Nevertheless, the politics of gender still exists and has taken a new twist—now boys are cast as the disadvantaged gender. Is this true?

AAUW (American Association of University Women) Davis will sponsor a speech contest on "Gender Equity in Education" for High School Students grades 9-12. The contest will be held on January 31, 2009 from 2:30-5:00 p.m. at the Blanchard Room of the Davis Public Library. The three finalists of the contest will receive cash prizes and will have an opportunity to advance to the AAUW California Convention.

Con't next page

Letter to the Editor, con't

AAUW's landmark study, "**How Schools Shortchange Girls**" in 1992 sparked a national debate on gender equity in education. Building on the success of that report, AAUW developed a multi-year research agenda on gender equity in education. Research reports released since 1992 have focused on school climate, sexual harassment, girls in science and technology, race and gender on campuses and other topics. By sponsoring debates for high school students, AAUW generates awareness in the public on these vital issues.

Participating students are invited to read AAUW research reports and other sources of their choosing and express their opinion in a 5-minute speech. Research articles and related resources for the speech can be found at <http://www.aauw-ca.org>. Information about the speech contest deadlines and application form can be downloaded from <http://www.aauwdavis.org/speechtrek.html>.

Harwant Khush
Chairperson—Speech Trek Committee
AAUW Davis
Tel.: (530) 750-2440

LAF/EF Luncheon Report By Juliana Wells

At the LAF luncheon on November 8 at Ding How, President Rhonda Reed welcomed 13 Davis AAUW members and 2 prospective members, Diane Swann and Eleanor Lake's granddaughter, Heather.

Rhonda gave us a handout about the 1943 Guide to Hiring Women for male supervisors of women in the work force of World War II. She explained that LAF had been dealing with individual women who were passed over for promotions or underpaid.

Now, LAF is working on larger profile class action suits like the Ledbetter decision. But it's very difficult to find discrimination and file within 180 days. Another suit is against ATT over pregnancy questions asked on job applications. Yet the Pregnancy Discrimination Act passed 30 years ago. We're still fighting those battles.

We then ate the multi-coursed, very tasty food.
Con't below



Charlotte Newhart, lobbyist, was then introduced. She spoke of the political excitement of election week and some of the gains in seats with women in the legislature. She works with CAL PAC, a successful family planning program. She worked on children's and women's issues and urged us to be active.

Legislation will be affecting women directly in areas of health, education, and living wages for home social services. It is important for women to exert power by working as a group. Pick a project you are passionate about and get involved.

Ms. Newhart spoke about the initiative process, which has become a huge business, as well as compounding the budget deficit. California is the 7th largest economy in the world.

After applause for Charlotte, Rhonda exhorted us to donate to LAF as an important way to help women, because equity is still an issue.

Parto Aram, Charlotte Newhart, and Eleanor Lake





DAVIS BRANCH
P.O. BOX 4165
DAVIS, CA 95617
www.aauwdavis.org

AAUW Davis Branch Officers

fiscal year July 2008-June 2009

President	Rhonda Reed	salmonlady@sbcglobal.net
Program Vice Presidents	Chithra Lakshmanan	chithralux@hotmail.com
	Marjorie Sorenson	758-4164
	Parto Aram	parto@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Gail Johnson	gejohnson08@comcast.net
Secretary	Nan Yates	nnyates@ucdavis.edu
Spokeswoman Editor	Barbara Bower	bebower@ucdavis.edu
Media Relations	Harwant Khush	harwant@khush.org
Educational Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund Chairs	Eleanor Lake	eleanorlake@sbcglobal.net
	Parto Aram	parto@sbcglobal.net

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:

December 7, 2008--Holiday Party at Debi Lorraine's, 2-4 PM
January 31, 2009--Speech Trek competition, Blanchard Room, Yolo Co Public Library, 315 E. 14th St, 2-5:30 PM
February 21, 2009--Bob Sommer, speaking on "Emergence of Farmers' Markets" in the Blanchard Room, Yolo Co Public Library, 2-5:30 PM Also: Feminist film festival at UCD
March 21, 2009 (confirmed)--EF Luncheon & Silent Auction (organized by IBC)
April--AAUW Annual meeting at University Retirement Community
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)

Please note! New email addresses:

Chithra Lakshmanan	chithralux@hotmail.com
Gail Johnson	gejohnson08@comcast.net