

# THE SPOKES-WOMAN



June 2009

Vol 45, No. 11



## Join Us for 2009-2010 Installation of Board & Officers

- On **Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**, the annual luncheon and installation of 2009-10 officers will be held at **Seasons** restaurant on the corner of 1st and F (street address is 102 F St) in downtown Davis at **noon**.
- President Rhonda Reed promises a “surprise” installation
- The fee for the luncheon is \$22 per person

Please contact Marj Sorenson by **Thursday, June 18** to make your reservation. Payment will be accepted at the door.

## Celebrate the 19th of June

In June we are 'celebrating the 19th', participating in a pot luck dinner at the Dixon residence of AAUW member Patricia Yokom.

Patricia is an active member of a sub-committee group of the Soroptomist Club in Dixon to promote breast cancer awareness. She will give a short presentation regarding this worthy cause to our group.

We are planning a carpool for Davis members to ride to Dixon. Our Secretary Nan Yates has kindly agreed to be the contact person for arranging the car pool .

Patricia Yokom's address and contact information:

Patricia Yokom

E-mail: patyokom@earthlink.net

### Calendar of Upcoming Events Davis Branch AAUW June 2009

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Tuesday, June 9

#### Book Group

10 AM

At Peet's Coffee  
MarketPlace Shopping  
Center, Sycamore Lane &  
Covell Blvd

*See accompanying article*

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Friday, June 19

*In commemoration  
of the 19th Amendment  
on the 19th of the month)*

#### Celebrate the 19th

5:30 PM

At the home of  
Pat Yokom

*See accompanying article*

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Saturday, June 20

#### Installation Luncheon

Noon

Seasons Restaurant  
102 F St, Davis

*See article at left*

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Wednesday, June 24

#### Membership Tabling &

#### Dinner Out

aka Picnic in the Park

At the Davis Farmers'

#### Market

5:30 PM

Community Park, Davis  
(Between B & C Sts, and 3rd  
and Russell)

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Thursday, June 25

#### Meeting of Board

#### & Officers

7:15 PM

At the home of  
Barbara Bower

# President's Message



Rhonda Reed  
President, AAUW Davis  
2008-2009

It is with great hope that I write this, my last message as President of the Davis Branch of AAUW. I am encouraged by the interest from the Branch members to come together on July 25 and set our path for the future. We have accomplished much in the last 2 plus 2 years that I have served as the figurehead for this Branch, during my own terms and during the months that I was acting President while Chithra was in India doing her good work. We have hosted many interesting programs, we have launched Speech Trek – a speech contest for high school students, our members are generous contributors to EF and LAF, and we continued to enjoy each other's company and our uppity women's philosophy on the 19<sup>th</sup> of every month.

Organizations of all types are trying to find ways to connect with and maintain their membership, given how busy our lives have become.

We need to both expand our communication tools and maintain that closeness that face to face contact brings. We need to be relevant and true to our mission to support equity for women and girls, through education, advocacy, and research.

I will remain active with the Board as past-President this coming year, so I do look forward to working with all of you to set our future path on the 25<sup>th</sup> and for another progressive year in 2009-10. Barbara Bower will take the helm, and with her own style. I will be there to support her and our Branch leadership. I also encourage any member to step forward and take active ownership in your Branch – by helping set up a Program, by serving as the editor of the Spokeswoman, by offering a venue for our gatherings, or by stuffing membership renewal envelopes. Many hands to a task make light work. Volunteer!

I hope to see you all at our installation luncheon on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

~ Rhonda

## 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.

*Rhonda says:* Please save the date of July 11 for AAUW Leadership Development which will be from 10 AM-3 PM in Marysville. These workshops are geared to prepare incoming branch officers for their new roles, but are also intended to provide updates and information on what is happening with AAUW - in other branches, at the State level and nationally. I have always come away with good ideas from these sessions, and I'm a long-time AAUWer. If you have never been to one of these, please prioritize it in your summers' planning. Plan that we will have a carpool opportunity also. More at the next Board meeting.

## July BBQ

The annual barbeque at Juliana and Char's home will be held on Saturday, July 18, beginning at 2 pm. Please bring a beverage and your potluck contribution of salad, vegetable, hors d'oeuvres, or dessert by 3 pm.

Hot dogs, chicken, hamburger, and turkey burgers with their buns will be provided. Ribs will also be available. Consider this a fun, social event, and in place of the usual 19<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Special friends, children, and spouses are welcome. It's great to bring a potential member also. Call Juliana with questions.

## Update by Dorothy Brazelton

On a very warm Saturday in May a large number of Davis school board, city and county, Calif. legislative Representatives and interested citizens met at UCD for an all day workshop to discuss "How to Save California Communities."

Bob Herzog, former Assembly speaker, enlivened the group with the message: the need to change Prop. 13 property taxes, the 2/3rds self-defeating majority vote and a return to more local control for cities and counties.

Fundamental change could be achieved with a Constitutional Convention (this would take many years to do) and there were several suggestions for a right-now change in the 2/3rd majority to even a majority plus 5 or 10.

Upcoming meetings are planned. Please call Dorothy Brazelton, if you are interested, for information on future meetings and events.

## Book Group News

by Betty Jane Polk

For the June meeting the Book Group is trying something different. They will meet at Peet's Coffee, Market Place shopping center in North Davis, 10 am, June 9. We will be reading any book by May Sarton. She was a novelist, poet and memoirist who was born in Belgium but came to the New England area as a child. Some of her books reflect her short lesbian life style. I really like The Fur Person, a book she wrote about her cat. Now I am reading The Bridge of Years. There are lots of books in the library so check out one and join us for coffee.

## Report from AAUW-California Outgoing Co-Presidents

By Judy Pfeil and Gloria Taylor

We are winding down this term and getting ready for our next year in AAUW CA. At this time we are meeting in Rocklin, CA (near Sacramento) with the 2009-2010 board planning how best to serve our membership for the coming year. We are also getting ready to attend the Association convention the last weekend of this month. Be assured that you will be well represented there with many members of the CA board of directors and branch delegates. Look forward to a full report when we return.

### COMMUNICATION:

Given the state of national and California economy, AAUW California members have expressed interest in the financial state of our organization. We in California are fortunate to be financially healthy. Much of this is due to the works of the finance committee who works diligently to fund state priorities while holding tight reins on state spending. We have made changes in our use of organizational spending that reflects our desire to maintain a financially healthy organization within existing resources. We are aware that this is a membership organization and as such we are affected by what our members are experiencing.

We finished the year 2008-2009 within our budget and we are currently developing the budget for 2009-2010. This will include continuing the state programs such as Tech Trek, Speech Trek, Financial Literacy, and of course continued support of Branches and holding the Annual Meeting in April 2010. Tech Trek will expand its camps in 2010 by adding two additional camps. This expansion was necessary because we could not accommodate Branches' request for camp slots for their girls. We were also able to obtain funding from a number of sources to support this expansion.

This is an opportune time for each member to support their Branch activities and to in turn provide supportive programs to their communities. With the shortfall in the California Budget and continued unemployment of 11% in California, the mission of this organization becomes vital in its efforts to support women and girls.

We encourage you, our members, to use this summer as an opportunity to expand your membership and involve more and more potential members in the goals of AAUW.



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

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**AAUW Davis Branch Officers**

*fiscal year July 2008-June 2009*

|                                                   |                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President                                         |                                                                          |
| Rhonda Reed                                       | <a href="mailto:salmonlady@sbcglobal.net">salmonlady@sbcglobal.net</a>   |
| Program Vice Presidents                           |                                                                          |
| Chithra Lakshmanan                                | <a href="mailto:chithralux@hotmail.com">chithralux@hotmail.com</a>       |
| Marjorie Sorenson                                 |                                                                          |
| Parto Aram                                        | <a href="mailto:parto@sbcglobal.net">parto@sbcglobal.net</a>             |
| Treasurer                                         |                                                                          |
| Gail Johnson                                      | <a href="mailto:gejohnson08@comcast.net">gejohnson08@comcast.net</a>     |
| Secretary                                         |                                                                          |
| Nan Yates                                         | <a href="mailto:nsyates@ucdavis.edu">nsyates@ucdavis.edu</a>             |
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| Barbara Bower                                     | <a href="mailto:bebower@ucdavis.edu">bebower@ucdavis.edu</a>             |
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| Harwant Khush                                     | <a href="mailto:harwant@khush.org">harwant@khush.org</a>                 |
| Educational Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund Chairs |                                                                          |
| Eleanor Lake                                      | <a href="mailto:eleanorlake@sbcglobal.net">eleanorlake@sbcglobal.net</a> |
| Parto Aram                                        | <a href="mailto:parto@sbcglobal.net">parto@sbcglobal.net</a>             |

*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

**Welcome New Member**

Please add this information to your rosters. It will not be posted on  
our website.

Susan Challen  
[susanbelasco@hotmail.com](mailto:susanbelasco@hotmail.com)