

APRIL 2008

THE ADVOCATE

Special Interest Articles:

- ❖ Northern Italian Cooking.
- ❖ Art & Garden.
- ❖ Garden Tour.



AAUW ADVANCES EQUITY
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS
THROUGH ADVOCACY,
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Published ten times per year by the Danville-Alamo Branch of the
American Association of University Women

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am so proud to be a part of such a supportive and giving group. When I called the January board meeting to order and our branch had just raised \$15,000 through our Holiday Home Tour, I had tears of admiration and thanks in my eyes.

After our March annual meeting, I was once again impressed with each of you. Roseann Krane created the concept of a "stone soup" salad, Barbara Nexsen brought 50 place settings and silverware to keep us "green" and made a great minestrone soup, Helen Miller brought us bouquets of flowers, and everyone contributed and helped with clean up to make our "Global Warming" lesson by Cyndi Atherton a real success. She was part of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Along with Al Gore, they were awarded of the Nobel Peace Prize "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change". Check out their website at www.ipcc.ch. The Working Group Report is very interesting.

Mary Mix and Connie Cady have been working on our Educational Foundation Garden Tour on Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10. They have seven gorgeous gardens for us. I hope that you will say "yes" when they contact you to volunteer or help with refreshments. Our tours have a reputation and a following of attendees from throughout the Bay Area. We have "regulars" who come from Marin County, Los Gatos, etc. Please help spread the word about our tour to your neighbors and friends and maybe attend it with them.

Our branch has also worked with neighboring branches from San Ramon and Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin to host Congressman McNearney this past month. At the state AAUW convention on April 5, we will be hosting a party with the Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette and San Ramon branches celebrating Community Action Grant #4313 opened in Jo Harberson's honor.

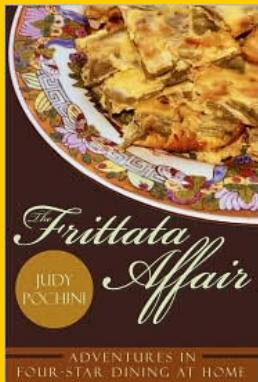
Recently I read the *Cutting Edge Research Reports on Gender Equity* at the Association's website. I discovered that during the past 3 years, AAUW has funded *Behind the Pay Gap* (2007), *Gains in Learning, Gaps in Earnings* (2007), *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus* (2006), *Mom's Retirement Security* (2006) and *Public Perceptions of the Pay Gap* (2005). These reports and more are available for reading under the Education Section's "Related Links" at www.aauw.org.

Finally, I would like to thank the many members who have signed on to receive *The Advocate* electronically. You are supporting our branch's efforts to save time, money and natural resources by going green. And, I also want to thank each of you for bringing your friends in as members. We have added so many creative and enthusiastic members to our branch this year that I know our future is unlimited.



Tena Gallagher,
President

*Tena Gallagher
President*



Former Danville-Alamo Branch member Judy Hay Pochini will present her new memoir/cookbook on Monday, April 14. Judy conceived and began her book *The Frittata Affair/Adventures in Four-Star Dining at Home* while she was a member of our Danville-Alamo Writers Group. Her book presents 20 memoir type stories, 200 recipes and 19 suggested menus. They illustrate the rich legacy of the Northern Italian/North Beach cuisine presented by the family of her late husband Bob Pochini from 1898 to 1934 in Pochini's Italian Restaurant, a North Beach landmark. She will tell the saga of the Pochinis from Genoa who left their known and established life in the "old country" to learn new ways and pursue wealth and accomplishment in a new and relatively untried venue in the "new world."

UNVEILING A FEW SECRETS NORTHERN ITALIAN COOKING

Monday, April 14, 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville

Following her talk, Judy will demonstrate several recipes and cooking methods. Judy is providing a reception following her presentation, and she will have books available for purchase. A portion of proceeds from book sales will go to Educational Foundation. While a member of our branch, Judy served on our board as Co-Vice-President of Newsletter (Content) and chaired the Lunch Bunch. After moving to Santa Barbara, she served as President, as well as Program Vice-President and Newsletter Editor. She now is a dual member of the Palm Springs area branch and spends her winters in La Quinta.

For reservations please call Caroline Sanchez at 925-736-7940 or e-mail her at carolinesanchez@sbcglobal.net.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Margaret Batesole
Jeanne Chiodo
Phyllis Clark
Nancy Combs
Betty Goodrick
Barbara Stumpf
Nancy Trezek
Camille Williams

GARDEN TOUR HELP WELCOMED

Yes! We need help staffing the Garden Tour. Can you serve as an attendant at one of the gardens? Can you bake some cookies or bars or provide other refreshments? Can you attend the event with all of your friends? Your help and participation would be immensely appreciated.

Please contact your EF Co-VPs, Connie Cady, (925)743-0517, ccady@nccc.org or Mary Mix, (925)831-1784, memix@sbcglobal.net with the wonderful news that you can help!



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EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS (EYH) UPDATE



*Diablo Valley College
San Ramon campus.*

Nippy weather, but the sun did shine and the girls were enthusiastic. Almost 300 sixth through ninth graders attended the **Math & Science Conference** at the new Diablo Valley College campus in San Ramon. A dozen workshops covered such diverse topics as dentistry, PC repair, and optics. The Career Fair exhibitors included women from the Oakland Zoo, Behring Auto Museum, veterinary and health care sciences, law enforcement, hazardous materials, archaeology and computer tech fields. Be sure to check out the photos of EYH on our web site at <http://www.aauw-da.org>.

And mega "Thank Yous" to our AAUW Branch members who volunteered their Saturday and helped make this a "Special Day" for the girls.

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Arlene Barnett | Roberta Black | Jennifer Brandenburg | Karen Campbell |
| Beth Clark | Lyn Griffith | Tena Gallagher | Jan Geahry |
| Lynne Heyne | Kathie Hixon | Mavis Hoffman | Cheryl Kohleriter |
| Judy Lauper | Loretta Lewis | Anne Long | Marilyn Milam |
| Nancy Murray | Mary Ann Osborne | Maureen Reschke | Sharon Ritchey |
| Gus Slavin | Linda Taylor | | |

*Dora-Thea Porter & Pat DeRensis
EYH Co-Chairs*



DIABLO INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER
SPRING LECTURE SERIES
TUESDAY EVENINGS, 7:30 pm

| | | |
|---------|----------|---|
| Tuesday | April 8 | <i>Our Elections: Local & World Influence</i> Presented by: Steven Weir - CC County Clerk Recorder. |
| Tuesday | April 15 | <i>Iran: Enemy or Friend</i> Presented by: Franklin T. Burroughs - International Consultant. |
| Tuesday | April 22 | <i>U.S & Global Economy: What Direction?</i> Presented by: Richard Abrams -- Economic Professor, UCB. |
| Tuesday | April 29 | <i>Water Resources: Local & Global</i> Presented by: Mathew Heberger, Exec. Director of Waterplanet Services. |
| Tuesday | May 6 | <i>Immigration: What Direction for USA?</i> Presented by: Mark Silverman, Immigrant Legal Resource Center. |
| Tuesday | May 13 | <i>U.S. Energy Policy</i> Presented by: Dr. Michael Dietrick, Energy Policy Consultant. |



Lectures are held at the Del Valle Library, 1963 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek.
Price: \$36 for the series, or \$8.00 per lecture.

Registration for the lecture series can be done by mail or at first meeting.
For information, contact Acalanes Adult Center: 925-280-3980, ext. 8001.

www.DiabloIRC.org

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES

"Teachers must work harder to inspire young girls to study STEM subjects."



Equal Pay Day



According to Susan Hockfield, the president of MIT, and a biologist, the United States was second in higher education of science in 1995. Today we are fifteenth. Asian countries are now ahead of us in computer science. China has a plan to be first in science by 2020. President Hockfield worries that the U.S. must make a stronger commitment in terms of education and discovery. Our government has pulled back from investment in research. The National Institutes of Health is doing less in expendable research dollars since 2003, at a time when we are on the brink of great biomedical breakthroughs.

In most science departments, women have the numerical edge, and the opportunities to change the world are great. President Hockfield knows that our middle and high school teachers must work harder to inspire young girls to study science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects in college, and make science their careers. These students must engage with countries around the world. We will need to challenge international students in the race to science careers since the U.S. is the great melting pot of educating students around the world.

Molecular biology and neurobiology are great fields for women, says Hockfield. With collaborative thinking in research, people working with problems gain new ideas.

Technology guru and philanthropist Bill Gates testified before the House Science and Technology Committee recently saying that **Congress needs to overhaul the U.S. education system to keep America competitive in technology fields**. When asked by Rep. Laura Richardson (D-CA) about the need to attract more women into STEM education, Gates stressed the need for additional scholarship money and a need to work on the motivation to enter these fields.

AAUW strongly supports promoting and strengthening STEM education, and, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, AAUW is implementing the National Girls Collaborative Project, a program designed to reach girl-serving STEM organizations across the United States. Future programs are being discussed now, with future information in coming Advocate articles.

April 22, 2008, is Equal Pay Day, and is an important time to discuss the disparity of equal pay among women and men with your family, friends and colleagues. AAUW's position paper on pay equity can be found at <http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm>.

For up-to-date information on the Paycheck Fairness Act (HR 1338) go to <http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/bills/?bill=9509686>, and urge your representative to cosponsor this bill. The Senate version of the Paycheck Fairness (S 766) is at <http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/bills/?bill=9852851>. We need to contact local Senate offices to learn details of action relating to this senate bill. The bill has enough co-sponsors at this point.

The Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (HR 2831) information can be found directly at http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/votes/?votenum_=768&chamber=H&congress=1101. Ledbetter began this legal chronology when she discovered a memo showing the unequal salaries between herself and male workers doing similar work which was forbidden to be discussed by this company's employees. What followed was a series of suits denying her challenge because the 180 days in which to file had passed. AAUW is following this very closely because of its maximum precedent value in future cases. The 23% pay parity between males and females doing similar work is a real year-round-problem and a family issue affecting retirement, economic security, college costs, home purchase, and other situations. For other ideas to educate the public, and draw maximum attention to this need, please contact cynthia_savell@yahoo.com.

Cynthia Savell, Public Policy

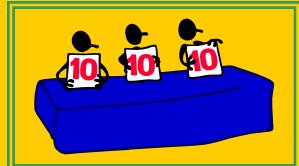
SPEECH CONTEST JUDGES NEEDED SAN RAMON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S 33RD ANNUAL SPEECH CONTEST

The 33rd Annual SRVUSD Speech Contest will be held at Windemere Middle School, Saturday, May 17, 2008, with 29 elementary and middle schools participating. More judges are needed for this year's contest.

Judges will be asked to report to Windemere Middle School at 8:00 A.M. on May 17 for a continental breakfast and a judges training session before student speakers arrive. If you wish to judge on the first three rounds, your time commitment will be from 8:00 A.M. to approximately 12:15 P.M. If you are able to remain to judge the final round, you will need to stay until approximately 1:45 P.M.

Please contact Sue Beck, 2008 SRVUSD Speech Contest Coordinator at 925-216-0832 (cell) or sellwithsue@comcast.net if you would be willing to give your time and assistance in making this year's Speech Contest a huge success. Also, if you are able to judge, please indicate if you would be able to judge the final round.

Thank you for considering serving as a judge. Do not hesitate to contact Sue with any concerns or questions. This highly successful event was started by one of our branch members, Jan Gearhy, many years ago.



Submitted by Connie Cady

ART & GARDEN EVENT

On Saturday, April 26, we'll tour the Hakone Japanese Gardens in Saratoga. We'll carpool, leaving at 9:30 A.M. for an 11:00 A.M. docent tour of the four Japanese Gardens (Hill and Pond Garden, Zen Garden, Tea Garden, and Bamboo Garden) and several historic buildings. Hakone is the oldest residential Japanese-style garden in the Western Hemisphere. We should see azaleas, wisteria, rhododendron, and maybe camellias, iris, peonies, and water lilies. More information on the gardens is available at www.hakone.us. Cost is \$8.00 per person, including admission and parking. We'll lunch in Saratoga after our tour. Contact **Jacque Schubert**, 855-7002, or jacqueschubert@comcast.net for more information or to register.

*Jacque Schubert
Section Leader*



A LETTER OF THANKS

Dear Connie and Mary,

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for the branch designation to the new R&P Community Action Grant #4313 in my name. I'm honored that you chose to contribute to completing a grant that will make a California community a better place to live. I'm hoping for a project that will benefit underserved girls.

I hope that you will continue to designate #4313 until it is fully funded and becomes stipend-producing. Then it can go to work!

Sincerely,

Jo Harberson



Capital Market Funding
185 Railroad Ave.
Danville CA. 94526



Lucrezia Mota
Mortgage Consultant



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Ilene Ferguson

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Sneak Preview, AAUW Garden Tour 2008

Grab your sunglasses and don your hat, the 2008 AAUW Garden Tour is almost here! Enjoy two days of garden viewing pleasure on Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. each day.

In the Stonegate neighborhood of Alamo, you will enjoy an elegant retreat with grand views from both front and back. The garden beds burst with color and the Asian pottery and Asian art pieces further the overall feeling of harmony. On the west side of Alamo you will find a creative contemporary house and strictly organic garden. The long lines of the iridescent lap pool beautifully echo the architectural lines of the home.

In Danville we've found an eclectic cottage garden with wildflowers sown throughout providing a cozy, mellow environment in which to enjoy life. On the west side of Danville you will enjoy the color and variety of a garden with many hanging baskets, potted flowers and self-made trellises.

You won't want to miss our three gardens in Blackhawk. Enjoy one of the most majestic views in all of Blackhawk resplendent with Japanese maples and lots of white roses. We have a hillside haven with a seasonally colorful display of California native and Mediterranean drought-tolerant plants. And see the plant and animal kingdoms unite in an incredible display of bronze animal forms, topiary and copious additional art treasures in an extensively terraced garden.

Tell your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and everyone you know about this opportunity to view seven exceptional gardens in Alamo, Blackhawk and Danville. Tickets are only \$25 if postmarked by Saturday, May 3; they are \$30 thereafter. Mail a check payable to "Danville-Alamo AAUW EF" with a business size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to: AAUW Garden Tour, PO Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507. Tickets will also be available for sale at Leku Eder at 172 E. Prospect Ave. Danville.

All proceeds benefit AAUW's Educational Foundation which supports aspiring female scholars through grants and fellowships. Call your EF Co-VP's Mary Mix, (925) 831-1784 or Connie Cady, (925) 743-0517 with any questions. We hope to see you at the tour!



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**APRIL CALENDAR
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

- | | | |
|------|-------|--|
| 4/04 | 9:15 | <i>Board Meeting.</i> Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville. |
| 4/09 | 7:30 | <i>Evening Bridge.</i> Hosting: Nancy Murray at 837-9402. |
| 4/11 | 9:30 | <i>Month Coffee Get-Together.</i> Bagel St. Café, Livery. |
| 4/11 | 7:30 | <i>Cinema 1. The Band's Visit</i> and <i>La Vie en Rose.</i> Hosting: Bev Nidick at 828-6993. |
| 4/11 | 7:30 | <i>Oscar 1.</i> Movie: 21. Hosting: Marian Bliss at 820-4709. |
| 4/12 | ----- | <i>Golf.</i> For time and place, Contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiaro at 785-4915. |
| 4/14 | 2:00 | <i>Northern Italian Cooking Lecture.</i> Shadow Hills Cabana, Danville. Contact: Caroline Sanchez at 736-7940. |
| 4/21 | 10:00 | <i>Daytime Bridge.</i> Contact Mary Kay Anderson. |
| 4/22 | 7:30 | <i>Evening Literature. Omnivore's Dilemma</i> by Michael Pollan. Hosting: Bev Nidick at 828-6993. |
| 4/24 | 9:30 | <i>Daytime Literature. The Gilded Age</i> by Samuel Langhorne Clemens. Hosting: Marianne Gagen at 837-3603. |
| 4/26 | 9:30 | <i>Art & Garden. Hakone Japanese Gardens</i> in Saratoga. See Page 5 for details. |
| 4/28 | 9:30 | <i>Daytime Duplicate Bridge.</i> Contact Roberta Brenner. |

2007-08 BRANCH PROGRAMS

- | | | |
|----------|-------|---|
| 4/4 to 6 | ----- | 87 th AAUW-CA Convention, Rohnert Park |
| 5/9 & 10 | ----- | Annual Garden Tour (Educational Foundation Benefit) |
| 5/21 | ----- | Culture-Art Program—Elaine Reisert |
| 6/18 | 5:30 | Installation & Awards Presentations |



Kathy Hixon and Camera Obscura Optics Workshop at 2008 EYH

For details and updates on the 2007-08 Branch Programs,
see our web site at:

<http://www.aauw-da.org/program.html>

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| MONTH | | | | | | |
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LUCREZIA MOTA



Mortgage consulting is Lucrezia Mota's latest successful business venture in her lifelong career as an entrepreneur. Her business ventures began with running a daycare center for ten years. At the same time, she obtained her real estate license to assist her family and friends become home owners. In 1988, she started-up four cellular phone companies down the Peninsula which she sold in 1995 to move to the San Ramon Valley with her husband, Tommy, and they began their family.

Lucrezia's sense of adventure is a trait inherited from her immigrant parents. Her parents moved to California from Calabria, Italy and immediately began their quest to fulfill the American dream of home ownership. It was this quest of home ownership that her parents instilled in her. And, it was their journey that she recalled after moving into the historic Jones Ranch House in Alamo that she and her husband purchased in 2003. Lucrezia also credits this early lesson in the importance of home ownership with her seven years of success as a mortgage consultant.

Today Lucrezia stays busy working with Capital Market Funding as well as raising her three children. She also maintains the *grand ole homestead* which has been featured in our 2006 AAUW Holiday Home Tour and our 2007 Garden Tour. She has graciously offered to donate \$500 to AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund when fellow AAUW members, their family members or friends close escrow through her. Contact her at 925-389-0989 when buying a home or refinancing your loan.

Lucrezia Mota

Lucrezia Mota is an *ADVOCATE* advertiser. *The ADVOCATE* plans to feature articles from our advertisers when possible.