

*Special Interest Articles:*

- ❖ Art & Garden.
- ❖ 2009 Gardens Needed.
- ❖ Support Measure D.

*Individual Highlights:*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ..... 1**

**ART & GARDEN.. 2**

**LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ..... 3**

**GARDEN TOUR REVIEW ..... 4**

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS.....5**

**ADVOCATE'S SUCCESS.....5**

**MEASURE D.....6**

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ..... 6**

**EVENTS CALENDAR..... 7**

**SUMMER EVENTS CALENDAR.....7**

**ADVERTISER CORNER...6 & 8**



*Tena Gallagher  
President*



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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that you will join us for our branch installation/awards party on **Tuesday, June 17, at 5:30 PM at Marcia Steinhardt's home**. Many of you have seen her beautiful garden when she opened it for our Educational Foundation (EF) Garden Tour in May. Gloria Taylor, incoming president of AAUW-CA, will be installing us. There will be wine and appetizers and lots of time to meet our new members and renew friendships, too. **RSVP to Marcia at 944-5173** so we'll know how many to expect.

Meet me for coffee at Bagel Street in the Livery on **Friday, June 13 at 9:30 AM** Mark your calendars and come and meet other members and bring potential members too. We will continue these coffees again in September.

Our six tech trekkers will be at Mills College from **June 22-28**. We will meet them at our September brunch. Thanks to **Bev Nidick** for organizing this important opportunity for incoming eighth-grade girls.

There are two activities that you'll need to get on your calendars now: **Mary and Greg Mix** are hosting our next **member social on Friday, August 29**. Spouses/partners/friends are invited to join us. Also, **Sharon Cohune** is busy setting up our **members' brunch at Crow Canyon Country Club on Saturday, September 6**.

Reviewing our branch's accomplishments during the past year makes me SO thankful to our many active members. **Marcia Steinhardt and Gus Slavin** started our year with our **membership brunch** with **Lynn Carey** speaking. **Susan Terzuoli** put on her third very successful **Holiday Home Tour** with 597 tickets sold and **Kathie Hixon, Bev Nidick and Caroline Sanchez's** assistance. Several of the women receiving scholarships from our tour efforts will be at our awards ceremony on June 17. **Roseann Krane and Barbara Nexsen** had many well attended programs this year including our new member, **Barbara Stumph**, with her discussion of Chinese culture and her brush painting in January, our March program on **Understanding Climate Changes** by **Cyndi Atherton** and our May program with member, **Elaine Riesert**, speaking on **Women in the History of Art**.

This year's board have all been outstanding. **Marcia Steinhardt and Gus Slavin** as membership vice presidents, were able to **welcome 34 new members** to our branch. **Mary Mix and Connie Cady**, as Educational Foundation vice presidents, held our most successful **Garden Tour** this May. The gardens were exquisite and everyone comments on the variety of gardens. In March **Dora-Thea Porter and Pat DeRensis** organized our branch to be monitors for **Expanding Your Horizons** for middle school girls throughout the valley. **Marian Bliss**, as secretary, has made sure that there are minutes for all of our meetings and **Jacque Schubert**, as treasurer, has always had our monies accounted for and correct. **Dora-Thea Porter, Marge Christensen and Cheryl Kohleriter** made the transition for *The Advocate* to become mainly an e-mail newsletter. **Debi Zauner** keeps our **database** up to date and **Roseann Krane** has published our member directory besides being our webmaster. **Cynthia Savell** has kept us informed of the many **public policy** issues that needed action through our representatives. **Barbara Critchlow** joined us when

*More from the  
President...*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

our **Women's History** chair, Myrna Adams, moved from our area.

And another thank you needs to go out to all of our **section leaders** who make sure we are learning and/or enjoying activities throughout the year: Jacque Schubert, Art and Garden; Mary Kay Anderson, Bobbie Brenner and Barbara Nexsen, Bridge; Jan Knadle and Dianne Tinnis, Film Discussion; Nadine Rosenzweig and Mary Ann Cucchiaro, Golf; Roseann Krane and Barbara Nexsen,

Gourmet; Roseann Krane, Gus Slavin and Joan Ward, Great Decisions; Lynn Heyne and Pat Foster, Literature and Mary Kelly, Quilting.

I hope that I have not forgotten to give credit but it has been a great year and I'm hoping that next year might even be better. I hope that you will help make my prediction come true by becoming more involved and learning more about AAUW.

*Tena Gallagher, President*

**ART & GARDEN JUNE EVENT**



Art & Garden will visit the *Women's Impressionists* Exhibit at the Palace of the Legion of Honor on Friday, June 27. This exhibit brings the works of Berthe Morisot, Mary Cassatt, Eva Gonzales, and Marie Bracquemond together for the first time in the U.S. Many of the works deal with images of women: women at home, women with family; and women at leisure. For more information go to [www.famsf.org](http://www.famsf.org). We will use the Audio Players the museum has developed for this special exhibition. Cost is \$10 per person (\$7.00 for seniors 65+). We'll lunch at the Café at the museum afterwards. Meet at the Sycamore Park n' Ride and the Alamo Safeway at 9:15 AM and carpool to the museum. We need drivers. For more information or to sign up, contact Jacque Schubert, 855-7002, or [jacqueschubert@comcast.net](mailto:jacqueschubert@comcast.net). It will be a fun and interesting day and a day to celebrate our wonderful womanhood!

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## LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2008

Six remarkable applicants will be receiving scholarships of \$1,250 each at the June 17 installation of new board officers. The *Jane Trittipo Memorial Scholarship* will also be presented. The scholarship monies were generated from the Holiday Home Tour in December and, additionally, individuals who have supported Local Scholarship. The scholarship recipients were chosen for their education goals, scholastic achievement, community involvement, financial need and merit of application.

**Rochelle Bantug** is a nursing student at San Francisco State. She will graduate with double majors: Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Health Education with a minor in Holistic Health. She will pursue a Masters degree as a nurse practitioner at San Francisco State. **Rochelle is a 1992 graduate of San Ramon High.**

**Erika Batten** received her Bachelor of Arts in music from Colgate University, Cum Laude in 2007. She is currently working toward a Master's degree in Music Education at the Conservatory of Music at University of the Pacific and a California single subject credential in Music through Pacific's Benerd School of Education. She would like to be a high school band leader. **Erika graduated from Monte Vista High in 2003.**

**Bronwyn Burman** is currently finishing at Diablo Valley College and will enter the University of California, Berkeley in the fall. She aspires to work for a financial non-governmental organization that provides financial services to low-income entrepreneurs in developing nations. **Bronwyn graduated from San Ramon High in 2005.**

**Lauren Ohl-Trlica** graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Science in Psychological Science and a minor in the History of Sciences and Medicine. She is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Engineering Management with a focus in crisis, emergency and risk management at George Washington University in Washington D.C. **Lauren graduated from San Ramon High in 2003.**

**Ashley Williams** is the recipient of the *Jane Trittipo Memorial Scholarship*. She is a nursing student at San Diego State University. Ashley's autistic brother triggered her passion for nursing and the ability to be able to promote acceptance, via legislative measures, through California Nursing Students' Association. **Ashley graduated from California High in 2005.**

**Stephanie Wong** graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles, Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Behavior and Evolution. She will enter Cornell University in the fall and will pursue a degree in veterinary medicine and a Master's in Public Health. Stephanie is interested in zoonotic diseases (diseases transmitted from animals to humans). **Stephanie graduated from California High in 2003.**

As the years pass by, these young women, rooted in the San Ramon Valley, are a leverage to their community. They will ripple locally, nationally and globally. We are honored to award these scholarships.

Thank you to the scholarship selection committee: Tena Gallagher, Maureen Reschke, Elaine Riesert, Caroline Sanchez.

*Kathie Hixon, Local Scholarship Co-Chair*

*Local Scholarship Winners benefit from the Holiday Home Tour proceeds.*



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## Garden Tour Grows With Success!

In its eighth year, our AAUW Garden Tour continues to grow with success! Seven fascinating gardens and perfect weather over Mother's Day weekend helped us sell over 550 tickets, yielding well over \$14,000 toward the AAUW Educational Foundation.

We are grateful to the homeowners who generously shared their gardens with us and who invested their time, effort and money to have their gardens in tip-top condition: Heidi & Jeff Abramson, Julie & Bill Dormandy, Suzanne & Sid Goldstein, Janet & Tim Howes, Marcia & Herb Steinhardt, Laurie & Pat Stroud, and Gerry & John Washalaski. We also appreciate the assistance of landscapers Jeff Bush, Anita McCarty and Bill Williams who were present during much of the tour answering questions.

It takes a small army of volunteers to staff the gardens. We enjoyed terrific support from our branch members. Here's a big "hurrah!" for our garden attendants: Carole Allen, Arlene Barnett, Betty Barrett, Roberta Black, Jennifer Brandenburg, Karen Campbell, Jeanne Chiodo, Beth Clark, Gail Clark, Sharon Cohune, Barbara Critchlow, Carmen Curtis, Angela Domer, Ilene Ferguson, Helena Flanders, Pat Foster, Marianne Gagen, Tena Gallagher, Marlena Garcelon, Lynn Goodwin, Mary Granzotto, Lyn Griffith, Mary Hanson, Jo Harberson, Kathy Harkins, Clarice Hart, Dot Healy, Jan Hersh, Kathie Hixon, Sandy Hoffman, Sally Jess, Alicia Jones, Monica Johnston, Laura Kapp, Mary Kelly, Roseann Krane, Olivia Larson, Anne Long, Jeannine Makely, Marilyn Milam, Laurie Miller, Mary Ann Osborne, Bev Nidick, Helen Pearlstein, Dora-Thea Porter, Hellena Postrk, Doris Rice, Marsha Riley, Caroline Sanchez, Cynthia Savell, Sonya Seyler, Gus Slavin, Cathy Taughinbaugh, Susan Terzuoli, Dianne Tinnes, Anne Tompkins, Pat Torchiana, Karen Turner, Pat Wheeler, Camille Williams, Chris Winter and Debi Zauner. Our sincere apology if we forgot to mention anyone!

Again we enjoyed tremendous support from our branch members in the form of refreshment donations from: Carole Allen, Arlene Barnett, Margaret Batesol, Cindy Cassady, Jeanne Chiodo, Gail Clark, Phyllis Clark, Nancy Combs, Marianne Cucchiaro, Jennifer Enzminger, Pat Foster, Helga Glasson, Lynn Goodwin, Kathie Hixon, Linda Jimerson, Pat Kenber, Karen Larkin, Diane Larson, Olivia Larson, Laurie Miller, Kim Nelson, Kitt Newman, Bev Nidick, Helen Pearlstein, Nadine Rosenzweig, Judy Simkin, Marcia Steinhardt, Barbara Wilson and Debi Zauner. Our sincere apology if we forgot to mention anyone!

We thank Pat DeRensis and Helen Miller who served as refreshment coordinators. Anne Long kindly managed the ticket sales, keeping track of transactions, and restocking ticket supplies.

Through Tena Gallagher's publicity efforts we enjoyed extensive coverage in the local newspapers and on the internet which definitely increased our ticket sales and income. We also relied on Tena's past experience and sage advice to secure gardens for this tour and upcoming tours.

Master Gardener, Dianne Tinnes, reviewed the gardens and wrote the poetic garden descriptions for the ticket/brochure. Connie Cady prepared the maps and layout of the ticket/brochure; she also prepared other promotional materials and mailings. Dianne and Connie have worked together on all eight garden tours!

And most importantly, Mary Mix cultivated our relationships with the homeowners, and oversaw the entire event and has busily been scouting gardens for next year! We are in good hands!

*Connie Cady*  
Educational Foundation Co-Vice President

*"Seven fascinating gardens and perfect weather...helped us sell over 550 tickets."*



*Peony in garden*

*Photo by Dora-Thea Porter*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are growing!! Our branch added 34 new members last year, bringing our total membership to 192 members! Membership has just mailed out your yearly membership renewal packets. Please send your profile along with your check to Marcia Steinhardt, 3216 Stonegate Lane, Alamo, CA 94507 by JUNE 15TH. If you moved this year and/or did not receive your membership renewal packet, please contact Marcia at 925-944-5173.

Also, please "SAVE THE DATE" for our annual Membership Brunch. It will be held at the Crow Canyon Country Club at 9:30 AM on Saturday, September 6.

*Marcia Steinhardt*  
*Membership Co-Vice-President*



SAVE THE DATE  
for  
Annual Membership Brunch

## GARDENS NEEDED FOR 2009 TOUR

Our Garden Tour was a great success this year but in order to maintain our excellent value for the ticket price, we need to continue to provide exceptional gardens for our tour guests. I'm already working on securing gardens for our 2009 tour which will take place on May 8 and 9. If any of you can recommend some gardens for next year, please contact Mary Mix at 831-1784 or memix@sbcglobal.net. Thank you all for your incredible support of this function.

## THE ADVOCATE - NOTEWORTHY NOTES

Year 2007-2008 has been a banner year and a year of transition for *The Advocate*.

- *The Advocate* is now produced electronically and e-mailed directly to branch members, with a few copies still printed and mailed to members upon request. Going electronic has resulted in more timely articles, the more liberal use of color, photos, art and the ability to update information and make corrections when needed. Web Master Roseann Krane reports that everyone should be receiving a notice of the monthly newsletter by the first of the month. If you have not received an e-mail notice of *The Advocate* by the first, please go to the web site at [www.aauw-da.org](http://www.aauw-da.org) and click on newsletter. You should also contact the web master (Roseann Krane) at [rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com) to fix the omission.
- Branch Treasurer Jacque Schubert reports our electronic newsletter will save about \$1,300 per year (as opposed to our former print version). The \$1,300 consists of savings for printing, paper and postage.
- *The Advocate* staff welcomed Cheryl Kohleriter as our new Design and Layout Editor as former Design and Layout Editor Dora-Thea Porter left to assume new responsibilities for our branch. Dora-Thea served several years in this post and did wonderful work and we say THANK YOU!

*Marjorie Christensen, Editor*  
*Cheryl Kohleriter, Design & Layout*



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### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Judith (Judy) Jacobs

Correction: In the May 2008 *Advocate*, Patricia (Pat) Hacker was inadvertently identified as Pat Hatcher! We extend our apologies for this error and welcome Pat as a new member.



*Jennifer Krommenhoek,  
Realtor Associate*

## JENNIFER KROMMENHOEK

My commitment to the real estate community spans over 20 years. Inspired by an older sister who was an agent, I started my career in the Kansas City area in 1979. My husband, Paul, accepted a transfer with his company to the Danville-Alamo area in 1986. So, my career also made a move. It couldn't have been to a better place!

Real estate has changed over the years, but what has stayed the same is the hands-on touch needed to be successful in real estate. Everyone is different and desires different environments. Finding just the right property for each individual client is the goal when working with buyers. Putting their property on the market can be overwhelming to a seller. Working with just the right resources is the key, so my relationships with vendors to prepare the property and other agents to sell it are of utmost importance. I'm always right there to guide and assist through all phases of a purchase or sale.

Best of all working with a client, whether to buy or sell a home, involves a close, trusting relationship. Business relationships can become friendships that last a lifetime! The highest compliment a client can give their real estate agent is referring them to friends and family. I'm fortunate to work with so many referrals.

Jennifer may be reached at 791-4236 direct, 989-1817 cell or [jenniferjk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jenniferjk@sbcglobal.net).

### MY THOUGHTS ON DANVILLE-ALAMO AAUW

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**Best Members** anywhere!

*Jennifer Krommenhoek, Realtor Associate*

Jennifer Krommenhoek is an *ADVOCATE* advertiser.

## Measure D Endorsed by Danville-Alamo Branch of AAUW

The Danville-Alamo Branch of AAUW endorsed Measure D, a renewal of the Excellence in Education Act that is on the June 3 ballot, at our general meeting, Wednesday, May 21. Please vote for it on June 3.

Voters of the San Ramon Valley Unified School District overwhelmingly approved the Excellence in Education Act in April 2004 to support specific classroom programs and student services. Measure D continues funding of these programs and services, and addresses the impact of State budget cuts. It

also addresses the impact of inflation since 2004, and strengthens the district's math and science programs. Specifically, Measure D will keep class sizes small in kindergarten through third grade, reduce class sizes in middle and high school English and math classes, keep middle and high school libraries open, and maintain counseling services at our middle schools and high schools.

Our branch joins numerous community political and education leaders in supporting this nonpartisan measure, and encouraging our members to support it. The cost will be an annual tax of \$166 per taxable parcel, an increase of only \$76 over the current cost of \$90, or less than \$7 per month. Those who are 65 or older and who own and occupy a home in the district may apply for a complete exemption, and they will automatically be exempt if they already have an exemption. The campaign points out that investing in good schools protects the value of every home and business in the district. School bonds, it should be noted, have been used to renovate and modernize the district's older schools, but cannot be used for classroom programs and services.

We agree that approval of Measure D renews an investment of local, reliable funds in a school district with a proven record of high student achievement. Compared to the other 362 unified school districts in California, our district's Academic Performance Index rating is the 8<sup>th</sup> highest, while receiving the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest level of per-pupil funding from the State. Proposed reductions in the State budget for education are anticipated to result in nearly \$7 million less funding for our district.

The campaign to pass Measure D needs donations, as it has to be privately funded, and needs volunteers to help with phone banking and *Get Out the Vote* activities. Also, the campaign welcomes endorsements from individual citizens. To find out more, call (925) 328-1918, or go to the Web site: [www.CitizensForQualitySchools.net](http://www.CitizensForQualitySchools.net).

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## JUNE CALENDAR

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- 6/06 9:15 *Board Meeting.* Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
- 6/11 7:30 *Evening Bridge.* Hosting—Billye Chilcott at 820-0621.
- 6/13 9:30 *Monthly Coffee Get-Together.* Bagel St. Café, Livery.
- 6/13 7:30 *Cinema 1. The Bourne Ultimatum and Hairspray* Hosting—Anne Long at 831-8649.
- 6/14 ——— *Golf.* For time and place, Contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiari at 785-4915.
- 6/16 10:00 *Daytime Bridge.* Contact Mary Kay Anderson.
- 6/19 6:30 *Evening Literature. Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirovsky. *Potluck.* Hosting—Alicia Jones at 838-0422.
- 6/23 9:30 *Daytime Duplicate Bridge.* Contact Roberta Brenner.
- 6/26 9:30 *Daytime Literature. Absurdistan* by Gary Shteyngart. Hosting—Barbara Critchlow at 968-0621.
- 6/27 9:15 *Art & Garden. Women's Impressionists* Exhibit at the Palace of the Legion of Honor. See Page 2 for details.

### 2007-08 BRANCH PROGRAMS

- 6/17 5:30 *Installation & Awards Presentations.* Hosting: Marcia Steinhardt at 944-5173.

### SAVE THE DATE

- 8/29 ----- *Member Social.* Hosting: Mary Mix at 831-1784.
- 9/06 9:30 *Membership Brunch.* Crow Canyon Country Club.

Wednesday Evening Bridge continues their program throughout the summer.

7/09	7:30	Hosting: Anne Long at 831-8649.
8/13	7:30	Hosting: Arlene Barnett at 947-6122.
9/10	7:30	Hosting: Mary Kay Anderson at 837-6902.



Daytime Literature continues their program throughout the summer.

6/26	9:30	<i>Daytime Literature. Absurdistan</i> by Gary Shteyngart. Hosting: Barbara Critchlow at 968-0621.
7/24	10:00	<i>Daytime Literature. Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears</i> by Dinaw Mengestu. Bagel Street Café, Danville Livery.
8/26	10:00	<i>Daytime Literature. March</i> by Geraldine Brooks. Bagel Street Café, Danville Livery.

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

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

### PRESIDENT

Tena Gallagher  
(925) 837-0826  
[tena@aol.com](mailto:tena@aol.com)

### PROGRAM VPS

Roseann Krane  
[rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com)  
Barbara Nexsen  
(925) 837-9625  
[williamnexas@comcast.net](mailto:williamnexas@comcast.net)

### MEMBERSHIP VPS

Marcia Steinhardt  
(925) 944-5173  
[herbertt@yahoo.com](mailto:herbertt@yahoo.com)  
Gus Slavin  
(925) 736-8399  
[slavinfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:slavinfamily@hotmail.com)

### LAF VPS

Cheryl Kohleriter  
(925) 820-6158  
[cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com](mailto:cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com)  
Loretta Lewis  
(925) 820-5752  
[lewislml@yahoo.com](mailto:lewislml@yahoo.com)

### EF VPS

Connie Cady  
(925) 743-0517  
[ccady@nccc.org](mailto:ccady@nccc.org)  
Mary Mix  
(925) 831-1784  
[memix@sbcglobal.net](mailto:memix@sbcglobal.net)

### SECRETARY

Marian Bliss  
(925) 820-4709  
[mbliss@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mbliss@sbcglobal.net)

### TREASURER

Jacque Schubert  
(925) 855-7002  
[jacqueschubert@comcast.net](mailto:jacqueschubert@comcast.net)

### WEB MASTER

Roseann Krane  
[rkrane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkrane@yahoo.com)

### ADVOCATE STAFF

Editor  
Marjorie Christensen  
(925) 820-1853  
[christensendan5@aol.com](mailto:christensendan5@aol.com)

Design & Layout  
Cheryl Kohleriter  
[cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com](mailto:cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com)



JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30					

## CLAUDIA EDWARDS



A local realtor with accolades nationwide, Claudia has been recognized by Coldwell Banker as the #1 Sales Associate company wide for four years, the #1 Sales Associate for Northern California for three years, and the Previews Elite designation since its inception. These are just a few of the many awards she has received in her long real estate career.

Claudia comes from a real estate family. She holds a B.S. Degree and is a real estate broker, a financial consultant and a stock broker who compares real estate to securities as an investment. She has worked in the industry for 32 years in various capacities including:

- Creating and implementing Department of Real Estate approved continuing education real estate classes
- Publishing and speaking locally and nationally
- Teaching real estate courses

Claudia's experience enables her to accommodate just about every type of real estate market including that of the highly variable present market. Her first concern always is to provide a joyous and successful experience for her buyers and sellers. Ninety-five percent of Claudia's business comes from referrals and past clients. She welcomes all referrals. Her major areas of influence include Orinda, Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Alamo, Blackhawk, Danville, San Ramon, Pleasanton, and Livermore.

Claudia's passion is her family, her real estate business and, as a breast cancer survivor, she is board member for UCSF who raises money so that this terrible disease may be eradicated.

Claudia may be reached at 925-683-9653 or [claudiaedwards@comcast.net](mailto:claudiaedwards@comcast.net).

Claudia Edwards is an *ADVOCATE* advertiser.