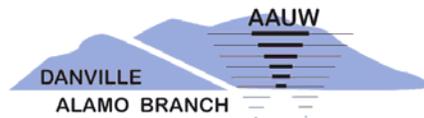


Special Interest Articles:

- ❖ Baby Quilt Section.
- ❖ DIRC Lecture Series.
- ❖ Art & Garden.
- ❖ Hiking.
- ❖ Cinema 1.

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

Published ten times per year by the Danville-Alamo Branch of AAUW

**NOVEMBER BRANCH PROGRAM
LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND BENEFIT DINNER
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 6:30 P.M.**

It is with pleasure that we announce that Attorney Dan M. Siegel will be the featured speaker at Danville-Alamo Branch's fundraising dinner for Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) on Tuesday, November 18. Mr. Siegel's Oakland law firm, Siegel and Yee, is representing the three litigants fired by Feather River Community College. He will brief us on the very latest details of the suits and the litigants themselves.

Michelle Jaureguito, former Director of the Upward Bound/Talent Search Program at Feather River Community College, sued the college for retaliation for complaining of sex discrimination in violation of the California Fair Housing and Employment Act.

Laurel Wartluft, former Head Coach and Faculty Member at Feather River Community College, sued the college for sex discrimination and retaliation for complaining of sex discrimination in violation of the California Fair Housing and Employment Act, and failure to pay agreed compensation in violation of California Labor Codes.

Paul Thein, former Vice President of Student Services, Athletic Director, and Dean of Students at Feather River Community College, sued the college for retaliation for complaining of sex discrimination in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

Dan Siegel is a trial and appellate attorney, and is nationally known as an expert in employment and labor law, particularly in cases involving colleges and universities. He has tried over 125 cases to jury verdict. Mr. Siegel is a graduate of Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley. Mr. Siegel writes and lectures frequently on trial

practice, labor and education law. He teaches education law at Mills College and is a former member of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District.

Bighorn Grill, located near the corner of Crow Canyon Road and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 2410 San Ramon Valley Blvd, San Ramon, will serve the **LAF dinner at 6:30 P.M., Tuesday, November 18, in the Grill's private dining room.** The cost is \$35, and \$8 of that amount is tax deductible, and goes directly to support the litigants. Phone Bighorn Grill at (925) 838-5678.

DINNER MENU

- Salad of Mixed Organic Greens, Honey Orange Vinaigrette
- PLEASE CHOOSE ENTREE FROM ONE OF THESE THREE:
- "Bricked" Chicken:**
Roasted Boneless Breast, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Braised Leeks, Red Pepper Relish
- Zebra on the Rocks:**
Striped Ravioli, Rock Shrimp & Roma Tomato, Chardonnay Butter Sauce
- Pommorola Spinachi:**
Corkscrew Pasta, Fresh Roma Tomato, Roasted Garlic & Olive Oil Sauce tossed with Fresh Spinach

Please send your checks, with entree choices to: AAUW/LAF Dinner, Post Office Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507. The reservation deadline is November 13.

*Susan Rogers and
Cynthia Savell
LAF Co-Vice-Presidents*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Tena
Gallagher,
President*

November is an important month from several perspectives. It is the month where we have the opportunity to **vote** in local, state and national elections and to make our voice heard on issues that affect us as women. It is also the month we celebrate Thanksgiving and is a wonderful time to reflect on your life and your blessings. All of us have so many things to be **thankful** for. I am very thankful for the amazing people that I work with on our AAUW board. They are all so dedicated. Roseann Krane got our **branch directory** out to each of us so that we can easily connect with other members. Cynthia Savell and Susan Rogers have worked hard on our **Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) benefit dinner on Tuesday, November 18**, at the Big Horn Grill. Consider bringing a friend but get your reservations in since space is limited. We had several members who were not able to attend our October League of Women Voters program because of late reservations. And our speaker, Dan Siegel, is a legend in discrimination law suits. After you hear the three litigants' stories from Feather River Community College, you can easily understand why you are a member of AAUW.

Thanks to all of the members and friends who came to support our member, Paula Boswell, during her **book signing** last month. Paula spoke about her book, *Not an Ordinary Life*, and the struggles and joys that she and her husband triumphed over.

It's also a time to **be thankful for our health**. I only know the circumstances in some of our members' lives but this is a time for us to keep our friends in our thoughts. Several of our members are having health issues or surgery.

Each of our four new interest groups: **Travel** (Marcia Steinhardt and Elaine Riesert), **Hiking** (Kathie Hixon), **Writers** (Barbara Stumph) and **Wine Tasting** (Barbara Critchlow and Alicia Jones) had their first meetings with great attendance. I'd like to thank them for taking leadership positions to make these happen. If you are interested in any of these, check your new directory and contact them to get included in future activities.

As we look toward to the final month of the year, Kathie Hixon and I are finalizing the homes for the **Holiday Home Tour on Friday, December 12, and Saturday, December 13**. The entire committee is working to get the flyers out, tickets printed, volunteers scheduled, goodies made, tickets mailed to purchasers, homeowners are getting ready, head docents having their shifts all covered and note to Mother Nature that we would love to have great fall weather those days! And remember our **entire branch holiday party on Saturday, December 13, at 6:30 P.M.** at Asha and Dinash Bajaj's home. **Happy Thanksgiving.**

Tena Gallagher, President

BABY QUILT SECTION

The Danville and Alamo seamstresses continue to be responsive to requests from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Children's Hospital, Oakland. The quilts we make brighten and delight the staff and parents. Many of the quilts are offered to families and become treasured gifts that are meaningful to each family who receives one. One new project for us has been making scent dolls so that the babies can become aware of and identify with their mother's scent. Another project is making swaddling cloths to wrap around the fragile babies of the NICU as they are bathed. Please contact Mary Kelly at 837-2493, if you are interested in helping.

Diane Larson

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PUBLIC POLICY

California's financial woes will not end soon. Yes, we have a diverse economy, and our people are hesitant but hopeful, and our governor will borrow federal money to get our state back on track. He intends to issue four billion dollars of short-term notes. He also hopes that some of the high-cost ballot initiatives this November will pass, as he recently told the Commonwealth Club. He would like to see measures such as Proposition 1A, the high speed rail link between Los Angeles and San Francisco, completed to keep California a forward-looking state. He brings the same enthusiasm to keeping the state ahead in health and education issues as well as transportation. So many of these issues sound wildly unattainable in an economy such as we face here and in the rest of our country. We have massive problems with credit and liquidity to overcome before our California and U.S. banks and commerce can energize.

One of the hot-button issues is Proposition 4. Abortion opponents have put the issue of parental notification on the ballot for the third time in four years. Proponents of Proposition 4 say mandating notification is necessary to safeguard underage girls. But most girls under 18 who find themselves pregnant turn to a parent for support and guidance. Far from protecting vulnerable teens,

Proposition 4 would make it difficult for young women caught in abusive situations to obtain an abortion without notifying their parents, even in cases where a father or stepfather is responsible for the pregnancy. If approved, this proposition might drive some to attempt a self-induced abortion or even to seek one later in their pregnancies, California voters rejected this damaging approach on the first two attempts. Hopefully they will do it again.

AAUW opposes this proposition having made reproductive rights a policy principle since 1977. Every woman should make her own informed choices about her reproductive life within her own religious, moral and cultural beliefs, and they ought to be made without government interference.

Proposition 8 is a ban on same-sex marriage. The proposition is a constitutional amendment rather than a statute. The proponents want to use the state constitution to redefine marriage and discriminate legally against the lesbian and gay community by denying the right to marry. These words should not be in our constitution.

AAUW supports constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals, including the right to privacy. No single group within society should dictate what civil rights others may enjoy. When anyone is denied rights we are all at risk.

Cynthia Savell
Public Policy



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ART & GARDEN

The next AAUW Art & Garden outing is to the Asian Art Museum on Friday, November 21, 2008, to see "Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul." In 1978, on windswept plains of northern Afghanistan, archeologists unearthed tombs of ancient nomads that had been sealed for two thousand years and discovered an extraordinary trove: some 22,000 individual pieces of gold buried with the remains of six Bactrian Central Asian nomads. Within months of this discovery, the country descended into war, and the so-called Bactrian Hoard disappeared into legend once more. Twenty-five years later, in 2003, Afghanistan surprised the world by announcing that the priceless artifacts had been located intact in the presidential palace bank vault in Kabul. They had been rescued, along with other masterpieces of the National Museum, Kabul, and protected in the intervening years of turmoil by a group of selfless Afghan heroes who have come to be known as "the key holders".



Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul

Strategically located on the commercial routes between China and India in the east and Europe in the west, Afghanistan was at the crossroads of civilizations in Central Asia. This exhibit explores the rich cultural heritage of ancient Afghanistan from the Bronze Age (2500 BCE) through the rise of trade along the Silk Road in the first century CE. This exhibition features nearly 230 artworks, including gold objects from the famed Bactrian Hoard, bronze and stone sculptures, ivories, painted glassware, and other ancient Afghan works of art. This exhibition will only be shown in Houston, New York City, and San Francisco.

We will have a private docent tour. Cost for the tour and admission is \$20 per person (\$17 for seniors 65+). We'll lunch after the tour. Meet at 9:30 A.M. at either the Danville Park n Ride or the Alamo Safeway. For more information, contact Jacque Schubert at (925) 855-7002 or jacqueschubert@comcast.net. The *New York Times* called this exhibit "at once revelatory and heart rending." I hope you'll join us.

*Jacque Schubert
Section Leader*

VOTE-BY-MAIL POSTAGE REQUIREMENTS



Voting by mail? Remember to put 59 cents postage on the envelope and mail it early. Your ballot must be received by Tuesday, November 4. Forgot to mail it? Drop it off at your voting site on election day.



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EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

AAUW Educational Foundation Marks 50 Years! Congratulations to the AAUW Educational Foundation (EF) as we celebrate its 50th Anniversary. In 1958, the EF was officially established to administer AAUW's fellowship and grant programs, advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. Thanks to the generous contributions of AAUW members across the nation, the Foundation remains one of the world's largest funding sources for graduate women. Adding to this distinguished legacy, the Foundation also became the source for AAUW's landmark research reports and more recently, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund program.

Local American Fellowship Recipients. The AAUW Educational Foundation (EF) awards several types of fellowships and grants. American Fellowships support women doctoral candidates completing dissertations and scholars seeking funds for postdoctoral research leave or for preparing completed research for publication. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The women described below are a few of the American Fellowship recipients studying in the San Francisco Bay Area this year.

Sarah Richardson has a Ph.D. in Gender Studies and is studying at Stanford University. Her project is called "Gendering the Genome: Sex Chromosomes and Biological Theories of Sex Difference." Dr. Richardson studies gender in the biological sciences. Working at the nexus of history, philosophy, and social studies of biology, Richardson documents the role of gender beliefs in the development of human genetics. Richardson coordinated a workshop, "Revisiting Race in a Genomic Age," and is co-editing a book by the same title. In 2009, she will join the Department of Women's Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Valerie Jones has a Ph.D. in Social Psychology and is studying at Stanford University. Her project is called "The Pressure to Work Harder: When Increased Academic Motivation Leads to Negative Outcomes." Dr. Jones investigates how the underrepresentation of women in certain settings, e.g., math and science fields, may cause women to feel pressure to work harder than their male counterparts. Her work suggests that this pressure may negatively impact motivation, performance, and physiological health outcomes, though this pressure is greatly alleviated as the numerical representation of women increases in a setting.

Barbara Haya has a Ph.D. through the Interdisciplinary Program at UC Berkeley. Her area of study is called "The Design of International Institutions to Support Climate Change Mitigation in the South: Insights from Wind and Biomass Power Development in India." Dr. Haya is studying the effects of carbon trading on renewable energy development in India. Her goal is to inform negotiations on the post-Kyoto Protocol climate change agreement, specifically regarding how to better support low-carbon development in developing countries. She has been an observer at the international climate change negotiations and has worked for environmental and governmental organizations on climate change policy.

Our Danville-Alamo branch of AAUW has long been a generous supporter of the Educational Foundation. In more recent years, the proceeds generated from our highly successful annual AAUW Garden Tour have gone toward EF. Many branch members also make individual contributions to EF throughout the year. We applaud your generosity and are grateful for your support!

*Connie Cady and Mary Mix
EF Co-Vice-Presidents*



ADVOCATE DEADLINE

Deadline for submission of articles to be published in the December newsletter is **November 15**. E-mail your articles, announcements or notices to Marge Christensen at christensendan5@aol.com and Cheryl Kohleriter at cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com.

HIKING GROUP

The next scheduled hike will be on Saturday, November 8. We will meet at the Sycamore Park 'N Ride at 8:30 A.M. to carpool. We will be hiking the Garden of the Jungle Gods Trail on Mt. Diablo. This loop is about 3½ miles long, with an elevation gain of 650 feet. This moderate hike will take about 2½ to 3 hours. Please bring water and a trail snack. Dress comfortably. Hiking sticks encouraged. Any questions please contact Kathie Hixon at kathiehixon@comcast.net. In October six fledging hikers hiked the Lone Oak Trail in Tilden. We didn't see mountain lions and we didn't get lost but we did have a great time!

Kathie Hixon, Section Leader

CINEMA 1

Kudos go out to Sally Jess for stepping up to lead our discussions at last month's meeting with *Burn After Reading* receiving a rating of 6.2 and *Appaloosa* receiving 6.125. Thanks also to Tena Gallagher and Helen Miller for their food contributions and to our hosts, the Healys. November's meeting will be held on Friday, November 14, at the home of Iris Stone. Movie selections are *Duchess* and *The Secret Life of Bees*. RSVP Iris at Iris.Stone@bankofamerica.com or 831-8731. We are still in need of a host for the January 9 meeting - if you can accommodate us, please contact Anne Long at along1024@sbcglobal.net.



DIRC LECTURE SERIES

Acalanes Adult Education Center
1963 Tice Valley Boulevard, Walnut Creek 94595
(925) 944-0311

DIRC will have its final fall lecture on Tuesday, November 4. The Spring Lecture Series will begin in April. The November 4 lecture will be "Possible World Recession" by Professor Richard Abrams of UC Berkeley, plus ongoing election updates. Doors open at 7:00 P.M. Cost is \$8. For information, phone Sue DeVoe (925) 837-9634. DIRC website is www.diabloirc.org.

Sue DeVoe

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- 11/04 7:00 P.M. *DIRC Lecture Series.* Acalanes Adult Education Center, 1963 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek. 944-0311.
- 11/07 9:15 A.M. *Board Meeting.* Tena Gallagher, President. The Shadows Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
- 11/08 ——— *Golf.* For time and place, Contact Nadine Rosenzweig at 487-1774 or Maryanne Cucchiaro at 785-4915.
- 11/08 8:30 A.M. *Hiking.* Hike Mt. Diablo. Leader: Kathie Hixon at kathiehixon@comcast.net. Details on Page 6.
- 11/12 7:30 P.M. *Evening Bridge.* Hosting: Marian Bliss at 820-4709.
- 11/14 9:30 P.M. *Month Coffee Get-Together.* Bagel St. Café, Livery
- 11/14 7:30 P.M. *Cinema 1.* *Duchess* and *The Secret Life of Bees*. Hosting: Iris Stone at 837-8731. Details on Page 6.
- 11/14 7:30 P.M. *Oscar 1.* Contact Susan Terzuoli at 820-9071.
- 11/17 10:00 A.M. *Daytime Bridge.* Contact Mary Kay Anderson.
- 11/18 6:30 P.M. *Legal Advocacy Fund Benefit Dinner.* Bighorn Grill, 2410 San Ramon Valley Blvd, San Ramon. Details on Page 1.
- 11/20 9:30 A.M. *Daytime Literature.* *Nefertiti* by Michelle Moran. Hosting: Clarice Hart at 743-9245.
- 11/21 9:30 A.M. *Art & Garden.* Asian Art Museum, San Francisco. Leader: Jacque Schubert at 855-7002. Details on Page 4.
- 11/21 7:30 P.M. *Travel Group.* Visiting Iceland and Greenland. Hosting: Roberta Carter-Smith at 837-3946.
- 11/23 5:00 P.M. *Wine Group.* Taste champagne and sparkling wine. Hosting: Barbara Critchlow at 287-1543 or Alicia Jones at 838-0422. Details to follow.
- 11/24 9:30 A.M. *Daytime Duplicate Bridge.* Contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.

2008-09 BRANCH PROGRAMS

- 11/18 6:30 Dan M. Siegel, Legal Advocacy Foundation (LAF) speaker.
- 12/12 & 13 10–4 Annual Holiday Home Tour. (Local Scholarship & Tech Trek benefit).
- 12/13 6:30 Holiday Party.
- 1/20 TBA Guest speaker: Joan Morris, Contra Costa Times columnist. Shadow Hills.
- 2/17 6:00 Educational Fellow Speaker—Dinner Meeting, Scott's. Joint meeting with DKG and Pleasant Hill.
- 2/28 9–3 EYH Expand Your Horizons— DVC-San Ramon Campus, San Ramon.
- March TBA *Twelve Angry Women* (LAF benefit).
- 4/21 TBA Guest speaker: Loy Volkman. Shadow Hills.
- 4/24 - 4/26 ——— 88th AAUW—CA Convention, San Diego.
- 5/8 & 5/9 10–4 Annual Garden Tour (EF benefit).
- 5/19 7:30 Dessert with Budd MacKenzie, Trust in Education (TIE).
- 6/16 6:30 Installation & Awards Presentations.
- 6/26 to 6/28 ——— National AAUW Convention, St. Louis, MO.

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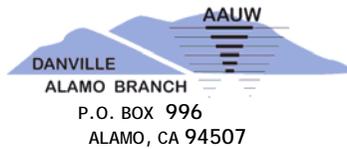
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NOVEMBER						
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4th ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

Join our **4th Annual Holiday Home Tour** on Friday, December 12 and Saturday, December 13, from 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. Tickets are \$30 per person if postmarked by December 5 and \$35 thereafter or day of tour. **We are offering a senior (65+) ticket price of \$25 prior to the event or day of.** Tickets can be purchased by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope, along with a check payable to Danville-Alamo AAUW and mailed to Danville-Alamo AAUW, 255 Morris Ranch Ct., Danville, CA 94526. Tickets may also be purchased at Leku Eder, 177 E. Prospect Ave., Danville, during their regular hours and on the days of the tour. For questions, contact Mary at memix@sbcglobal.net or (925) 831-1784. Proceeds from the Holiday Home Tour support Local Scholarship and Tech Trek.

BRANCH HOLIDAY PARTY

Please join us for our **Branch Holiday Party** which follows the Tour at the home of Asha and Dinesh Bajaj on **Saturday, December 13, at 6:30 P.M.** Please bring a **finger food appetizer or dessert on a tray to share.** There will be a small fee for beverages. Come and celebrate the holidays and hear the results of our 2008 HHT! Spouses and significant others are included. The Bajaj's are at 3575 Country Club Terrace, Danville (Blackhawk East Entrance). For questions, contact Kathie Hixon at kathiehixon@comcast.net or Tena Gallagher at Tena@aol.com.

For details and updates on the 2008-09 Branch Programs, see our web site at:
<http://www.aauw-da.org/program.html>