

✧ AVANTI ✧

A monthly publication of AAUW, San Francisco, est. in 1886

www.aauw.org

July 2009

President's Message

Greetings from St. Louis!

I'm writing you from the AAUW National convention. I've had the pleasure of meeting and hearing Lilly Ledbetter speak with such passion and purpose. Our work is not done. The Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182) was passed by the House, but not yet by the Senate. Senator Feinstein has not signed on in support of the Act. Call her at (202) 224-3841 and let her know AAUW SF urged her support.

The bylaws are a hot topic! Women with degrees are passionate about our mission. However, are women like Lilly Ledbetter, without a degree, any less passionate? In a very close vote, the proposal to open membership to those who do not have a degree failed. One member one vote passed.

I look forward to sharing the outcome of the votes with you in the July board meeting and in future Avanti's.

Health & Happiness,
Kelly

Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 8th, 6:30 pm potluck dinner, 7:00 meeting starts, at Marilyn Leal's, 4325 19th St. We are seeking new board members for next year. Come meet the board and see what you would like to help us accomplish this coming year. All members are invited to attend.

Travel Club

Saturday, July 11th, 2 pm. a member asked that we attend a free docent lecture. **Women Yesterday: Living in Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome**, by Kay Payne. It is being held in the Koret Auditorium of the De Young museum in Golden Gate Park.

Museum admission is not required. Questions – contact Amanda Olson, 415 750-3638. We are not requiring an RSVP. Meet at the auditorium entrance, Elaine Butler and Adrienne Kristine will be there.

International Book Group

Monday, July 20th, 7pm at Janice Gonsalves' home, 41 Teresita Blvd. The book is **Gardens of Water**, by Alan Drew. The book is about a Kurdish family. RSVP Janice at 218-6627.

Mystery/Adventure

Thursday, July 23rd. 7:30 pm, at the home of Sandra Tye, 2960 21st Ave. The book is **The Story of Edgar Sawtelle**, by David Wroblewski. It is an Oprah Book Club choice and you can watch an interview with the author on her website: www.oprah.com. The reviewer is Elaine Butler. Please RSVP Sandra at 566-0587.

Afternoon with Books

Due to many July vacations there will be no meeting in July. We will resume the group in August. We would like to have additional members. If you are available the 3rd Friday at 1:30, please contact, Elaine Butler, 826-3172 or just come to the August meeting and check us out.

Title IX Anniversary

Title IX, the federal legislation that prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded education programs and activities, has been opening doors for women and girls since it was signed into law by President Nixon on June 23, 1972. AAUW was instrumental in the passage of Title IX, and as we celebrate the 37th anniversary of this landmark legislation

*“Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse
and cool the earth, the air and you.”*

Langston Hughes, American poet

“A smile is a curve that sets everything straight.”

Phyllis Diller

July Birthdays

Suzanne Bushnell July 1st
 Elaine Butler July 19th
 Phylis Johnson-Silk July 20th
 Christine Wildsoet July 26th

Birthday Not Announced?

Remember, we only record the month and day of your birth. If your birthday is not there and you'd like to have it included (or corrected), contact the Membership Co-VPs.

Any 50-Year Members?

Has anyone been an AAUW member for 50 years? Contact one of the Membership Co-VPs to have AAUW national and state give you an honorary life membership.

New Members

Suzanne Bushnell
 Susan Christopher
 Adrienne Kristine
 Sopenia Maxwell
 Trinity Ordon
 Laura Sanders
 Delores (Dee) Schoen

Please contact the Membership Chair to get in touch with the new members and give them a warm welcome.

Membership Updates

If you change your address, kindly notify the Membership Chair.

Quick LAF clicks

Sexual Assault on Campus:
www.aauw.org/laf/library/assault.cfm
Chief Justice John Roberts' effect on Title IX? www.aauw.org/newsroom/news/05LADailyNews_RobertsOPED.cfm

Avanti Articles

Please remember to submit any Avanti articles by the 20th.

AUW Web Pages

News Page & Media Alerts: (use links on page to subscribe)

www.aauw.org/About/newsroom/news/index.cfm

Actions to take: www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/index.cfm

Mission in Action: www.aauw.org/publications/mission/index.cfm

Two Minute Activities:
<http://capwiz.com/aauw/home>.

Voting Record for the 110th Congress, First Session (2007):

www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/voter_ed/upload/votingRecord110.pdf.

Recent Graduation

Our Branch Treasurer, Cathy Corcoran, recently graduated with a doctorate in education (Ed.D) from University of San Francisco. Focusing on organization and leadership, her dissertation was the result of a qualitative study of women college presidents through the lens of authentic leadership theory and development. Cathy is the Vice President of Academic Administration at Academy of Art University, San Francisco.

Tech Trek

Tech Trek Donation Form

I'm interested in sponsoring girls to go to Tech Trek 2009! I pledge the following amount towards sending girls to camp.

- \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200
- \$800 (1 girl) \$ _____

Make checks payable to AAUW-CA SPF with Tech Trek SF in the memo line.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail your donation addressed to:

Elaine Butler
 124 Amber Dr
 San Francisco, CA 94131-1626

2008-AAUW-

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Get the Avanti Faster

If you'd like to receive the Avanti via email or the web, please tell one of the Membership VPs, so that a printed copy will not be sent to you. If you prefer, we can continue to print and mail you the Avanti.

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**Why are Some Non-
Titles Underlined?**

Read the Avanti at our website and click on the underlined phrase, it opens a browser on a more complete article or an email to the member's address.

**Online AAUW
Branch**

There is an online AAUW California Branch at www.AAUWCaOnline.org.

Their dues are \$10 if you're already a member.

Future Travel Club

Sept. 20th Jewish

Museum

Filoli Home &

Gardens

Pardee House

Tech Trek

Thank you Deirdre Araujo for providing our semifinalists with a day at the Exploratorium. Also thanks go to Andrea Laudate for the tasty food and Michelle Mammini for helping with the communications and logistics and for attending the event. Two of the girls had never been to the Exploratorium so their experience was extra special. We have been invited to return again next year.

The 13 finalists are preparing to attend Tech Trek Math/Science Camp at Stanford. Three girls needed transportation to and from the camp. Thanks go to our three volunteer drivers, Peggy Kavounas, Barbara Spencer and Andrea Laudate and John de Castro.

I will be continuing as coordinator for the 2010 program. I think the member participation was wonderful this year and hope you will each of you will assist me again as our year starts in September. New members are both needed and welcomed too.

Elaine Butler

Situation Wanted

A mature, responsible, long-time AAUW-SF member is looking for house sitting/caretaking position in San Francisco or the peninsula. Have recent clean background check and Live Scan. Am allergic to cats (like them, however). Will care for your pets, plants, property and possessions. Multiple excellent references provid-

ed. I work on the Internet so connectivity is important. Please contact Adrienne Kristine: adrienne.kristine@gmail.com. 415) 717-4521

Playing Now

Paula Campbell

At Home At The Zoo, the new Edward Albee play at ACT is marvelous – griping, intense, and haunting. I heartily recommend it. But to understand it, one needs a bit of background.

Edward Albee's startling one act play **Zoo Story**, opened in New York in 1960. I was one of the fortunate audience members who saw it shortly after it opened. **Zoo Story** was something new in American theatre – not quite theatre of the absurd, not quite realism either. It's the story of two men, Peter and Jerry, who meet near the zoo in Central Park. Peter's sitting on his favorite bench reading, when Jerry enters and starts talking to him. The play is Jerry's – he has most of the lines – is a fully developed character – and is the axis around which all action develops. Peter has few lines, is poorly developed as a character, and is passive even at the play's violent conclusion. Eventually **Zoo Story** caught on and over the years was performed frequently, with critics variously attempting to interpret its enigmatic characters. Were the men Peter and Jesus (mostly based simply on their initials, P and J)? – Were they two sides of the same person? – Were they Freud's id and super ego? – ad nauseum. And over the years, Albee's acclaim as a playwright grew as well; he has to date received three Tony's and three Pulitzers.

In 2004, Albee was commissioned by the Hartford Stage Company to write a prequel to **Zoo Story**, to be presented with it as a first act, in order to turn it into a full-length two-act play, now

titled **At Home At The Zoo**. He wrote **Homelife** for Act I. It is Peter's story. It gives us a look at Peter's life with his wife, and is set in time immediately before Peter goes out to read his book on his bench in the park, so it meshes perfectly with what happens in Act II (**Zoo Story**). We learn why Peter behaves the way he does, who Peter is, what makes him tick. The beauty of **Homelife** is that it enables the audience to see **Zoo Story** as a play in which both characters are fully realized. Albee didn't rewrite **Zoo Story** but he did update it – Peter's 1960 impressive salary of \$18,000. is now \$200,000., the popular author he mentions is Stephen King, not J. Marquand. (I actually checked my old copy of the script to find the updates.)

At Home At The Zoo is a wonderful production, beautifully directed by Rebecca Bayla Taichman, and brilliantly performed by Manoel Felciano (Jerry), Anthony Fusco (Peter), and Rene Augesen (Ann, Peter's wife.)

At Home At The Zoo, through June 5. ACT, 415 Geary St. Box Office 749-2228 Tues. – Sat. 8pm, and Wed, Sat, & Sun at 2pm.

Urge Congress to Enforce Title IX in Our High Schools

Title IX, the federal legislation that prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded education programs and activities, has been opening doors for women and girls since it was signed into law by President Nixon on June 23, 1972. AAUW was instrumental in the passage of Title IX, and as we celebrate the 37th anniversary of this landmark legislation, [we continue to advocate for strengthening its protections](#).

Last week, AAUW and coalition partners hosted a briefing on Capitol Hill to discuss the need for legislation to require high schools to report gender equity data. Two bills, **the High School Athletics Accountability Act (H.R. 2882)** and **the High School Information Collection Act (S. 471)**, would do just that. These bills would make participation rates and expenditures for high school athletes available to the public, helping communities better enforce Title IX. [Join AAUW in urging your elected officials to support these important bills now](#).

Title IX's impact on women's athletic participation is one of the country's greatest success stories. Despite the significant gains girls and women have made

since the enactment of Title IX, a significant drawback to the law's enforcement at the high school level involves the lack of data reporting. While it is estimated that female students receive 1.3 million fewer opportunities to play high school sports than do male students, the U.S. Department of Education has not required these schools to report athletic opportunity, participation, and funding statistics to any higher authority. Colleges are required to report this data, it's time our high schools are too.

It's time we know the status of Title IX in America's high schools. To urge your representative to cosponsor the **High School Athletics Accountability Act**, just click on the "Take Action" link in the upper right corner or copy and paste the following URL into your Internet browser. Then follow the instructions to compose and send your message. <http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=13572986&type=CO>

After you've sent your message to your representative, take another minute to send a similar message urging your senators to support the [High School Sports Information Collection Act](#).

For more information, read AAUW's [press release](#) on the anniversary of Title IX and our position paper on [equity in school athletics](#).

Mouse Eyebrows Anyone?

Pat Camarena

Imagine that your morning routine goes something like this: You put on your many layers of clothes over your nightgown. No opportunity to shower or take a bath...too unhealthy! You decide not to brush your teeth, as the few that remain are not yet black and fuzzy. You have closely shaved your eyebrows after taking off your tightly wound wrinkle band from around your forehead. Then you apply your gummed mouse skin eyebrows and inserted cheek plumpers made of rounded cork to replace your lost teeth and give your cheeks a proper contour. Then you apply heavy lead based white powder followed by cheek rouge made from red cochineal beetles. Face patches come next, which are currently the rage to advertise your social or political mood but also to conceal blemishes. Being a "straight laced" lady you have already donned your French corset to give the illusion of a tiny waist and good breeding. You straighten your hot uncomfortable wool wig to cover your partly shaved head. Instead of trying to look

slender you might slip on your false hips to accent your “small” waist. You might layer them under your taffeta dress liner, which helps to fend off fleas or lice. Prior to leaving the house you choose a face-mask that would be held in your teeth, if you still have any left, or in your hand. What!!...no blow dryers, no sunscreen, no sports bras? Welcome to the 18th century and the life of a colonial woman. Life was even more of an adventure after you got dressed. As in England, women in the original thirteen U.S. colonies were in part viewed as chattel and often had no individual legal rights. It is said however in contrast, that early feminism began in the American colonies. In many instances, women had opportunities to fill roles normally reserved for men. Quaker women had almost all of the same rights as Quaker men. The lack of established social and religious institutions and the physical demands of the Colonial

lifestyle accounted for these opportunities. Some Colonial women owned property in their own right and acted as lawyers in courts. Especially in small towns, women of the 18th century served as teachers, doctors, ministers, innkeepers, singers, seamstresses, and writers. Two examples are Anne Dudley Bradstreet; the first published female American poet and Anne Marbury Hutchinson who fought for freedom of religion.

In closing, take your unshaved head and your non-plumped cheeks out to enjoy a wonderful 4th of July. Don't forget the sunscreen and your electric toothbrush. Colonial women were part of the process moving all of us to where we are today.

For more information on the lives and lifestyles of Colonial women, see these websites: www.hoover.archives.gov or www.history.org.

July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 6:30 pm Board Meeting	9	10	11 2 pm Lecture at De Young
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 7pm International Book Group	21	22	23 7:30 pm Mystery/Adventure	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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Avanti Editor

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 Address Correction Requested

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation's leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. Its national membership of 100,000 seeks to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. It remains the state's most active and diverse organization for women with 14,000 members in more than 150 branches, plus 6,000 members-at-large.



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Marie Curie & AAUW

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. Even one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her ground-breaking research had reached a virtual standstill. Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

Educational Foundation

In 1873, a prominent Boston physician, Dr. E.H. Clarke, wrote a book arguing that too much study would give women brain fever and render their children sickly, if they were to have them at all.

The Association of Collegiate Alumnae (AAUW's chief predecessor) fought this contention in 1885 and won, by gathering data from its members to show that they had suffered no ill health from their college and postgraduate education. In 1888, the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae (founded here in San Francisco) made educational history by establishing the first graduate fellowship for women (given to Vassar graduate Ida Street).

California is still the largest contributor, enabling the Educational Foundation to award nearly \$3 million in grants to women at the dissertation or doctoral level, and to those pursuing career-related or community-based projects.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing innovative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund's annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes innovative and replicable college and university programs.