



Santa Barbara—Goleta Valley
AAUW

Coast Connections
The SB-GV AAUW Monthly Newsletter

Volume 6
Number 6

February, 2016

Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley (CA) Branch

Celebrating 100 years of empowering women in the Santa Barbara area.

Please come join us for

IBC-Fellows Luncheon

Sponsored by Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo County
Interbranch Councils

AAUW SUPPORTS YOUNG WOMEN

*Come hear from our California Central Coast fellows what your
local support means to them:*

Ashley Greenway, Community Action Grant Recipient

Aurora Ruvalcaba, NCCWSL Recipient

Nicole de la Loza Rivera, Career Development Grant

Also speaking:

Sharon Westafer, CA AAUW Funds Chair

Kathleen Doty, AAUW California, President

Madonna Inn, Garden Room

San Luis Obispo, CA

Saturday, February 27 – 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Enjoy a delicious Italian buffet - \$25

Call Claire at 967-7523 for reservations by Friday, February 12!

*Please send your check, made out to SB-GV AAUW to
PO Box 802, Goleta CA 93116.*

President's Message

January was a busy month for our Branch. We are appreciative of Barbara Levi for suggesting Elizabeth Majestic as our featured guest speaker on Population Health, and Deborah Castorino who organized our fascinating outing to Casa de Maria. Thanks, too, to Jill Kingdon for putting us in touch with Delyla Mayers, UCSB Senior and AAUW Student Advisory Council member. On Delyla's invitation, about a dozen of our branch members attended an International Women's Potluck at UCSB's Student Resource Building and had a marvelous evening interacting with students from other lands or who had studied or travelled in other countries. There is definitely an energy and excitement among these young people!

Another connection with UCSB is our third Tech Savvy Conference for girls from 6th to 9th grades coming up Sunday, February 14. Please see our website under the Tech Savvy tab for more information and a registration link.

And please pass on the information to anyone you know with girls in that age range who might be interested! Space is filling up fast.

We are looking forward to attending two celebratory events this month. Thank you Ginny Capra and your committee for bringing us together for another Branch meet, greet, drink and eat evening for our current and prospective members in the Funk Zone. Bring a friend you would like to introduce to AAUW. We find that face to face conversations (digital devices on silent mode) are the best way to get to know each other better.

We anticipate another outstanding event at the Annual Interbranch Fellows Luncheon in San Luis Obispo. It is always stimulating to hear our Education Fellows speak about their research over a delicious luncheon with members of other branches in the area. Did you know that over the past century, AAUW's fellowships and grants program has provided over

\$100 million to more than 12,000 women and projects serving women and girls from 140 countries? For 2015-16, AAUW awarded a total of 3.7 million in funding for individual women and community projects serving women and girls.

Plans are being finalized for our second Empowered Woman Luncheon, which will be Tuesday March 8, International Women's Day, at the Canary Hotel in downtown Santa Barbara. Be looking for a special email invitation soon!

A special thank you to Ginny Capra who has agreed to serve on the 2016- 2017 Nominating Committee. Our branch is growing and we are looking for future AAUW leaders. There will be exciting opportunities to get involved at both the Steering Committee level or by volunteering to organize an Interest Group.

Claire VanBlaricum 967-7523

Jane Honikman 967-9757

Smart Talk

The Smart Talk meeting on January 25th focused on the role of fear in our lives and how to combat it. Lisa Kelly led off with a short but complete summary of the brain on fear: the fight/flight response with its disconnection from the thinking parts of the brain, and the negative effects of chronic fear on health. The group discussed ways to combat these effects on a personal and societal level. The February meetings will discuss spirituality and climate change. See the calendar for details. As always, all are welcome. Bring your ideas, and any articles which illuminate the topic. Call Elly Rumelt at 563-8040 if you have questions.





Supreme Court's Landmark Decision

On January 22nd 43 years ago, the United States U.S. Supreme Court delivered a landmark decision, holding that a woman's right to terminate her pregnancy was within her constitutional right to privacy. *Roe v. Wade* gave women legal access to medically safe abortions, ending the decades long practice of women being forced to seek out dangerous methods to terminate their unwanted pregnancy, and gave them the right to control their bodies without facing legal ramifications.

The decision in *Roe v. Wade* was monumental, establishing a bedrock principle in American jurisprudence that women had the freedom to make choices about their health and body without undue government interference.

I have been fortunate to grow up in a generation that has never had to question that the government could not intrude on my private decision on when and how I decided to start a family. My sense of freedom is built from the foundation of *Roe v. Wade*, and I am grateful for those that fought to establish reproductive health choices as a cornerstone of women's equality.

Joining AAUW as an intern has allowed me to continue that fight, and ensure that the choice to terminate a pregnancy is a constitutional guarantee for future generations. AAUW has opposed federal and state legislation that would end all abortion after 20 weeks, opposed congressional funding cuts to Planned Parenthood to ensure access to affordable reproductive health care (remember, federal funds may not be used pay for abortion), and defeated anti-choice ballot initiatives in several states.

AAUW is continuing this fight in 2016 as the U.S. Supreme Court takes up its first case on abortion since 2007, a case that has the potential to affect millions of women's access to reproductive health services. AAUW joined 47 other organizations in an [amicus brief](#) to the U.S. Supreme Court on *Whole Women's Health v. Cole*. Texas passed legislation that prevents reproductive health clinics from performing abortions unless doctors have admitting privileges at hospitals no further than 30 miles away. This amounts to shutting down all but 10 clinics in the second largest state in the country, imposing substantial burdens and costs on women, and making it nearly impossible for women to freely exercise their reproductive rights. I can think of no better way to celebrate the historic decision in *Roe v. Wade* than standing up for reproductive rights today, ensuring that future generations of women can exercise their constitutional right to make their own reproductive health choices while protecting their economic security, equality, and opportunity.

Sincerely,

Abigail Shirley
Public Policy and Government Relations Intern

tech trek



Just a reminder that donations are due by March 1, 2016. The check should be made payable to AAUW and sent to me at 462 S. San Marcos Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93111. Any amount to support this worthwhile project is very much appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity in the past.

Beverly Kowalsky Ching

Tech Trek Fund Raising Chair

TechSavvy by AAUW

The Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley AAUW branch in collaboration with the University of California, Santa Barbara's Women's Center (UCSB) are pleased to bring Tech Savvy, a one-day STEM conference to UCSB on Sunday, February 14, 2016. This inaugural one-day conference will bring junior-high-aged young women to the UCSB campus to experience the collegiate environment and engage in hands-on activities in a variety of STEM fields.

The Women's Center and AAUW SB-GV are partnering with the UCSB student chapter Women in Science and Engineering (WISE), to facilitate sessions, speakers, scholars, and events for the visiting young women. We are excited to be able to provide local junior high girls with the chance to explore their community in addition to the vast array of opportunities available to them in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Collectively we can make a difference in the academic and career trajectories of our local girls.

Pat Jones—Member Since 1971



Patricia Ann Avera Jones (Pat) was born on November 10th in Florence, South Carolina. She also lived in Hartsville and Sumter, SC. When she was 16 years old she moved to Orlando, Florida.

Pat went to college in North Carolina and lived in Atlanta, Georgia for 3 years before moving to Stephens Point, Wisconsin with her new husband. They transferred to Santa Barbara in 1970.

Pat has no childhood recollection of wanting a specific career but more a desire to be a mature, educated **SOMEBODY**, not just a housewife.

Pat has been married to the same man for many years. They have two adult educated boys. One is a mechanical engineer who graduated from UCSB and the other is a building contractor who graduated from Berkeley. They have 5 grandchildren. The girls are 19, 17 and 15 years of age and the boys are 9 and 6 years old.

Pat graduated from Duke University with an AB degree in accounting. Her favorite subject was business law, but she also enjoyed waterskiing! Pat became a CPA two years out of college and worked in the public sector in Atlanta and Santa Barbara. She worked for a title insurance company in Atlanta and in the Santa Barbara County Auditor's Office. She also taught fund accounting at UCSB for 6 years.

Pat and her husband travel often, going on one big and usually one smaller trip every year to Europe and Asia. Her favorite places are Hong Kong, Kowloon, Beijing and Xian, China. They like to plan their own trips and have never been on a cruise and have taken only one tour. Her favorite type of food is seafood and her favorite book is *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. Pat says she likes this book because it beautifully exemplifies the indomitable human spirit as Ivan struggled to maintain his dignity, outsmart his captors and remain hopeful in spite of the intense oppression in the Gulag. Solzhenitsyn won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1970.

Pat's favorite type of music is classical, especially classical guitar. She also enjoys The Light Classical TV Channel. Pat lists reading, cooking, knitting and volunteering as her hobbies. Her favorite color is pink.

Pat joined AAUW for the book group and to meet and interact with educated women. She hopes AAUW will provide her with lifelong learning, friendships, and opportunities to be a role model and to serve the world, enabling all people to be all they can be.



EMPOWERED WOMAN

LUNCHEON

with

CARLYNNE MCDONNELL

Celebrating International Women's Day

MARCH 8, 2016 • 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

\$75 • Canary Hotel

31 W Carrillo Street • Santa Barbara



The Empowered Woman Luncheon celebrates strong independent women of integrity who can serve as role models for all women in our society. It is hosted by the Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley branch of AAUW, which is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls.

Carlynnne McDonnell, author of *The Every Woman's Guide To Equality* and founder and CEO of Change in Our Lifetime, Inc., has been a passionate and outspoken proponent of social justice and equality for over 25 years.

Reservations must be received by February 29!

Please fill out the form below and send it with a check payable to SB-GV AAUW.

Mail to: SB-GV AAUW, P.O. Box 802, Goleta, CA 93116

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Number of Tickets: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Number of Regular Meals: _____ Number of Vegetarian Meals: _____

Website: sbgv-ca.aauw.net • Email: sbgv.aauw@gmail.com

February, 2016 Calendar



"Winter is in my head, but eternal spring is in my heart."

~ Victor Hugo

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|---|
| February 8 | Monday
7:00 pm | Smart Talk Discussion Group - The group will meet at the home of Jan Cooper, 400 E. Pedregosa #C. The topic will be spirituality. |
| February 9 | Tuesday
11:30 a.m. | Lunch Bunch (Please note earlier time than usual!) Lure Fish House, 3815 State Street in La Cumbre Plaza shopping center. Please call Claire (967-7523) by Monday afternoon for a reservation. |
| February 11 | Thursday
5:30-7:30 p.m. | Fall in Love with AAUW! - Wine Tasting at Oreana Winery
Have a glass of wine and light hors d'oeuvres while enjoying an evening with friends and prospective members. |
| February 14 | Sunday | Tech Savvy Conference - Held at UCSB for girls from 6th to 9th grades. More information on page 4. |
| February 15 | Monday
10:00-12:00 | Craft Group - The group meets the third Monday of every month at Beverly Kowalsky-Ching's home, 462 S. San Marcos Rd., Santa Barbara. Call Beverly at 964-5411 for more information. |
| February 16 | Tuesday
7:00 p.m. | Book Ends - We have chosen <i>The Secret History of Wonder Woman</i> by Jill Lepore for our meeting at the home of Joanie Jones, 1035 May Ct., Santa Barbara. Our selection for March will be <i>Salmon Fishing in the Yemen</i> by Paul Torday. |
| February 18 | Thursday
4:00 p.m. | Steering Committee Meeting - The meeting will be held at the home of Jane Honikman, 927 N. Kellogg Ave. The time may be subject to change and will be confirmed by e-mail. |
| February 22 | Monday
7:00 p.m. | Smart Talk Discussion Group - The meeting will be held at the home of Elly Rumelt, 205 E. Calle Laureles. The topic will be climate change. |
| February 23 | Tuesday | Movie Night - Please watch for an email the weekend before for information on the film, time and theater location. |
| February 27 | Saturday
11:00-2:00 | IBC-Fellows Luncheon, San Luis Obispo - The annual Interbranch council luncheon will be held at the Madonna Inn. See page 1 for details. |

Save the Date

Tuesday, March 8 📅 **Empowered Woman Luncheon** at the Canary Hotel

See details on page 6.

Santa Barbara -
Goleta Valley AAUW

P.O. Box 802
Goleta, CA 93116-0802
<http://sbgv-ca.aauw.net/>

2014-2015 OFFICERS

Co-presidents:

Claire VanBlaricum

Jane Honikman

Secretary:

Diane Green

Treasurer:

Carol Thompson

Asst. Treasurer:

Irene Stone

Steering Committee:

Ginny Capra

Jill Kingdon

Diane Green

Beverly Kowalsky-Ching

Barbara Levi

Elly Rumelt

Newsletter Editor:

Susan Engles

Scholarship Chair:

Ann Lippincott

Directory:

Ginny Capra

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

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Membership in AAUW is open to people who hold an associate degree or higher. Branch membership offers friendship with like-minded people and an arena for making a positive contribution to your community. Benefits include a subscription to **California PERSPECTIVE**, our quarterly publication. You can join our e-mail lists and attend our annual convention. Membership dues at the branch level include California and National dues.

If you know of someone who you believe would appreciate the opportunity to join our branch, please send them the link to our website (<http://sbgv-ca.aauw.net/>) and give their name and contact information to Ginny Capra at ginnycapra@cox.net.



Members enjoyed a tour of the lovely facilities and gardens of La Casa de Maria, an interfaith retreat and conference center. For those who missed the event or would like to visit again (hopefully on a dry and sunny day!), arrangements will be made for a future tour of this 26-acre gem.