



Santa Barbara—Goleta Valley (CA) Branch

Santa Barbara—Goleta Valley  
AAUW

Coast Connections  
The SB-GV AAUW Monthly Newsletter

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

## President's Message

It is the Holiday Season already and we're looking forward to welcoming you to our party at Susan and Steve Engles' lovely home on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are grateful to Jill Kingdon for preparing and sending the evite for the party, which has made it so much easier for people to respond. We expect a very good turnout!

We are well on our way towards achieving our GOAL of 100 members for this year. Thank you, Ginny and Jill, for organizing our first membership gathering called Women, Words and Wine. Three new members joined that evening. Look for another similar event coming in the next few months!

Thanks to the leadership of Pamela Perkins-Dwyer, the president of the Camarillo Branch, we had a creative, delicious, and collaborative fundraiser for Tech Trek at the

Santa Barbara Symphony.

She arranged a surprise visit by the Symphony's conductor and music director Maestro Nir Kabaretti and his wife during lunch. It was great to meet and visit with them as well as the members of the Camarillo branch. We see some further collaboration in our future!

In keeping with our AAUW mission, we have some very exciting programs coming in 2016. In January we will sponsor a public meeting featuring Elizabeth Majestic, the new Vice President of Population Health at Cottage Health Systems. On February 27 we will join with our fellow AAUW members from Lompoc, Santa Maria, and San Luis Obispo County for the Central Coast Fellows Luncheon which will feature women who have received grants from AAUW Funds who are studying in our area. And on Tuesday, March 8,

our second Empowered Woman Luncheon will welcome Carlynne McDonnell, Huffington Post contributor and author of "Every Woman's Guide to Equality".

Our special interest groups are active and we appreciate those who volunteer their homes and host each event. If you have not participated yet, please consider joining a book discussion, movie night, lunch on the town, craft time with friends or a stimulating conversation on a variety of topics. New outings are being organized for the new year. We welcome you with out-stretched arms.

As always, thank you for being a part of the Santa Barbara – Goleta Valley AAUW.

*Claire VanBlaricum 967-7523*

*Jane Honikman 967-9757*

## Meet Our New Member—Deborah McGuire Castorino



Deborah was born on December 21<sup>st</sup> in France but was raised in California. She has lived in the San Fernando Valley, Modesto for three years, and San Diego for 37 years. As a child, Deborah wanted to be a teacher. She would pretend to have a classroom of kids where she would use discarded supplies from her salesman father. She also wanted to write and started journaling in primary school. She created play books from other people's materials. For example, she would cut out the Sunday funnies and create her own script for cards. She remembers creating a book of Walter de la Mare poems. Deborah is engaged to be married before the end of the year. She has a daughter and son and will gain three more sons and two grandchildren after her marriage. Deborah attended UC San Diego and received her B.A. in soc-psy and philosophy. She also attended ASU and received an M.A. in educational psychology. She says, "Human beings are her favorite subject!"

Her early interest in teaching and writing brought her to a career in instructional design/development, creating custom training programs for business. After leaving an instructional consulting firm to raise her children, she provided instructional services for the next 25 years. She enjoyed critiquing manuscripts, helping authors generate their manuscripts and authored papers/books. At UCSD extended studies, she provided instructor development through workshops and coaching. She says, "At an early retirement, my philosophical quest landed me as a resident in service at a spiritual retreat center." She briefly operated a small tea business in order to pursue her passion to learn and share all about tea. She currently joined La Casa de Maria and will be assisting the directors.

Deborah has traveled both domestically and internationally, but she says her favorite trips were cycling through the Loire Valley and a Mediterranean cruise. Her late husband was a world traveler and they experienced many memorable adventures together. They met on a 500-mile ride through Great Britain and ended road touring trips on a 600-mile climb through the Colorado Rockies.

Deborah says, "I'm an imperfect vegetarian; I enjoy mostly produce and begin every day with a power drink." She and her fiancé enjoy fine dining especially Bouchon and The Stone House. Deborah says that she primarily reads non-fiction but sometimes will "surrender my sleep to a great novel!" Some influential books were *The Prophet* and Sartre's *Being and Nothingness*, which took her into another spatial dimension. *The Good Earth* and James' *Portrait of a Lady* took her into another time. Easwaran's *Take Your Time* and *Tao De Ching* challenged her lifestyle and purpose. She says, "The teaching of Buddha are the most influential now." She enjoyed the poetry as an inspirational and less cognitive experience during an intense grieving period in 2013. She is now enjoying a variety of fiction after joining the AAUW book group.

As for her favorite movies, she says, "Movies vary and stick less, I prefer great writing." Her favorite types of music are cool jazz, classical guitar, 50's and 60's rock n roll and some new age. Deborah enjoys reading, bicycling, correspondence, meditation and pursuing wisdom. Her favorite color is purple.

Deborah has been a member of various branches of AAUW. In her early 30's she joined the Poway/Rancho Pensaquitos branch as she was looking for intellectual and social connection. Twenty years later she joined the San Diego Cabrillo branch. In 2013, a move to Orange County led her to join the Long Beach branch and recently she moved to Carpinteria and joined us. She is hoping to find "friendship and sharing with like-minded, caring, aware, intelligent, resourceful and cultured women."

**Welcome Deborah!**

## Karl Storz Hosts Tech Trek Campers



tech  
trek

To get a taste of industrial STEM careers, thirteen of last summer's Tech Trek campers recently toured the local facilities at Karl Storz Imaging, an international company that makes endoscopes and related equipment for medical imaging. The girls needed to wear lab coats and safety glasses for a tour of the factory floor, where Karl Storz makes some of its imaging devices. They also watched a 3-D printer create a prototype part that was demonstrated for them on the CAD software by one of the many female engineers at Karl Storz.

### Where It All Started

AAUW of California member Marie Wolbach founded Tech Trek in 1998 with the help of an AAUW Community Action Grant. Since then, AAUW of California has grown Tech Trek to ten camps on eight college campuses across the state. A 2013 survey of Tech Trek alumnae who attended the camp in California between 2006 and 2009 demonstrates the program's lasting effects on many levels, including interest and confidence in STEM fields, decision to pursue STEM curricula, and future career plans.



## Ending Sexual Violence on Campus

As you know, AAUW is deeply engaged in the conversations here in Washington about the best way to end sexual violence on campus. We led the charge to pass new provisions in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act in 2013, which are now supported by regulations that went into effect in July. Schools are making important strides to improve their response to incidents of rape, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Over the past few weeks we've seen some major policy shifts from groups who were supporting the Safe Campus Act, a bill AAUW opposes. The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) and the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), national organizations representing some fraternities and sororities, withdrew their support for the Safe Campus Act, a troubling bill that would have made it more difficult for survivors to seek support and justice following an incident of campus sexual violence. AAUW led the development of a coalition letter to Congress, signed by 220 other organizations, in opposition to the Safe Campus Act. We understand that schools must have a role in responding to sexual violence because they are the only ones who can provide interim measures and accommodations for survivors, such as class schedule or housing changes. Furthermore, forcing a victim to pursue a criminal investigation before accessing the disciplinary processes on their campus – a requirement of the proposed Safe Campus Act, -- makes it more difficult for them to seek justice and conflates the goals of these two parallel paths.

AAUW applauds student fraternity and sorority members for speaking up and urging NPC and NIC to listen to survivors' concerns. Unfortunately, they have indicated they will continue to support the Fair Campus Act, another bill AAUW opposes that we believe will undermine the protections that Title IX provides to ensure every student receives an education free from sexual harassment and violence. We all need to work together to develop policies that will help end sexual violence on college campuses, provide the best tools for schools to respond, and help survivors to seek the justice they deserve. I know AAUW members are up to the challenge.

Sincerely,

Anne Hedgepeth  
Government Relations Manager

*Goleta Sanitary District's Open House and Fall Fest October 24th*

**GOLETA SANITARY DISTRICT**

*"Protecting Public Health and the Environment"*



*Women, Words & Wine!  
Oreana Winery  
October 22nd*



*Tour of La Casa de María on January 17th*

# December 2015 Calendar



"December, being the last month of the year, cannot help but make us think of what is to come." ~ Fennel Hudson

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|-------------|---------------------|---|
| December 3  | Thursday<br>6:00 pm | <b>Holiday Party</b> - Celebrate the holidays with good friends and good food at Susan Engles', 1245 San Antonio Creek Rd., Santa Barbara   |
| December 8  | Tuesday<br>12:00 pm | <b>Lunch Bunch</b> - Enjoy a festive lunch at the Wine Cask, 813 Anacapa St., El Paseo. Please call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 by the prior Saturday, December 5, for a reservation.  |
| December 14 | Monday<br>7:00 pm   | <b>Smart Talk Discussion Group</b> - Claire VanBlaricum's, 5026 Yaple Ave. The topic will be "Digital Devices: their impact on our lives for good and ill."   |
| December 15 | Tuesday<br>7:00 pm  | <b>Book Ends</b> - Jane DeSelm's home at 619 Camino Campana, SB. Come prepared to present any one book which has especially inspired you. Our selection for January is <i>All the Stars in the Heavens</i> by Adriana Trigiani. |
| December 22 | Tuesday             | <b>Movie Night</b> - Please watch for an email the weekend before for information on the film, time and theater location.   |

## Smart Talk

Smart Talk has been meeting on the second and the fourth Mondays of the month. The October 12th meeting was a discussion of transgender youth and of sexual reassignment treatment starting at an early age. Subjects included issues of parenting, the question of whether children can make such permanent decisions at a very early age, and the peer relations of children who are 'different'.

October 26th's meeting took up issues around the Second Amendment; its origin in English common law, the political circumstances involved in its drafting, the definition of a "militia", the changing legal interpretations and the growth in the influence of the NRA. The acceptance of marriage equality was given as an example of the ability of public opinion to radically change and of the willingness of judiciary to follow that change. Reframing the conversation in this country from "gun rights" to "public health/harm prevention" might prove as useful in swaying public opinion as changing "the right to gay marriage" to "marriage equality".

The November 9th meeting concerned water in California. In a new procedure, members of the discussion group all read up on aspects of this broad topic that interested them, and then shared what they had learned. This process facilitated a multi-layered discussion, which touched on the history of water legislation, the causes and effects of the drought and new technology to address it, among other topics.

The next meeting will take place at the home of Claire VanBlaricum, 5026 Yaple Ave. at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14th. The topic will be "Digital Devices: Their Impact on our Lives for Good and Ill". All are welcome. You can pick an aspect of the topic which interested you and come prepared to present it to the group or just come and jump into the discussion.



Santa Barbara -  
Goleta Valley AAUW

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**2014-2015 OFFICERS**

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**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](mailto:ginnycapra@cox.net).

## A Banner Year for AAUW

2015 was a banner year for AAUW—not only did we wrap up a fabulous National Convention in San Diego, we were also honored by two major associations for our outstanding communications.



For the third year in a row, the AAUW blog was recognized for its excellence by the Association Media and Publishing, receiving a silver Excel Award. But they didn't stop there. We also won a bronze redesign Excel Award for the new and much-improved Mission and Action e-newsletter and two editorial awards for single-topic magazine issues. The Winter 2014 issue of Outlook, which focused on LGBT rights, and the Fall 2014 reproductive rights issue were awarded bronze and silver, respectively.

In addition to the publishing awards, the Direct Marketing Association of Washington gave AAUW a bronze and silver MAXI Award for our member note cards. Every year, generous and talented AAUW member artists donate their work to be used on note cards that are then sent to every member with a call to support AAUW's mission and programs.