



Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley (CA) Branch

Santa Barbara—Goleta Valley
AAUW

Coast Connections

The SB-GV AAUW Monthly Newsletter

Volume 4

Number 5

February 2014

AAUW Central Coast Fellows Luncheon

Saturday, February 22, 2014

11:30am-2:00pm

Garden Room, Madonna Inn

100 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo, CA



Guest Speakers:

Lindsey Higgins, American Fellowship recipient

Cal Poly SLO Agribusiness Department

Farnaz Daneshpour, International Fellowship recipient from Iran

Cal Poly SLO Agribusiness Department

Allyson Toscher, Career Development Grant recipient for Nursing

CSU Channel Islands

Sharon Westafer, AAUW CA Director, AAUW Funds

Menu: Santa Maria-style buffet lunch with Tri Tip, BBQ Chicken, Garlic Bread, Chili Beans, Green Salad and Potato Salad. Dessert and beverage included. Vegetarian option is a Grilled Portabella Mushroom "Steak" layered with heirloom tomatoes, gorgonzola cheese, seasonal vegetables and a balsamic reduction drizzle.

Cost: \$25 per person

Reservations: Due Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2014

Write your check payable to: "AAUW SBC IBC".

Send check to Santa Barbara County IBC Treasurer: Cathy Black,
7171 Emily Lane, Goleta, CA 93117.

If vegetarian option is desired, indicate on the memo line of your check.

Reservation questions to: csblack@silcom.com, 805-968-6049.

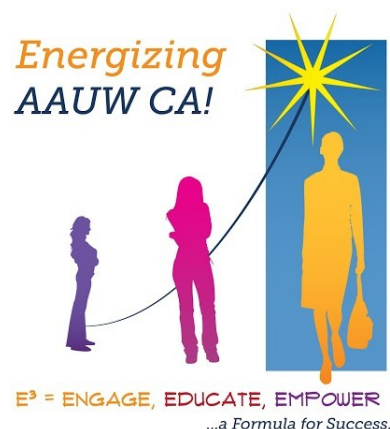
Acting Co-Presidents' Message

Happy February! A month of Valentines, Presidents, Winter Olympics, and of course an AAUW Interbranch Luncheon! We hope to see many of you at this event, planned this year by the Interbranch Council of San Luis Obispo County as a Central Coast Fellows event. It is always so inspiring to hear from women who are directly benefitting from our efforts in AAUW to support women's education. On page 3 you will see the brief bios of the women who will be our speakers.

February is also the month in which we begin our planning in earnest for the next AAUW year. No one can say we are not forward thinking people! Your Nominating Committee will be appointed soon by the Steering

Committee, and they will be looking for a few (or more) good women to lead our branch in the 2014-2015 AAUW year. Please consider joining the Steering Committee for next year to bring your good ideas and energy to the branch.

We (Jane and Claire) are planning to go to AAUW CA Convention in April and we would love to have company! The recent *Perspective* that you received (by email for most of you) has all the information about Convention, the speakers (including Jane!), the workshops, and registration information. It is close this year at the LAX Marriott. We plan to go by Airbus to avoid driving. Please consider joining us! Information and registration forms, etc., are



also available on the AAUW CA website at www.aauw-ca.org.

As always, thank you for being a part of our wonderful branch, Santa Barbara - Goleta Valley AAUW!

Claire VanBlaricum 967-7523
Jane Honikman 967-9757

Keeping In Touch with AAUW



As a member of AAUW, you are part of a national organization that advocates ceaselessly for women and girls. Do you know how much we have accomplished? Do you know what challenges we are facing? Do you know what efforts are being made on your behalf? Do you keep up with the events and legislation that affect your life, your daughter's life, the lives of all women and girls in the country? Do you know how you can influence these events and changes?

If you are not already subscribed to the two AAUW communication lists shown above, now is the time to do so! *Washington Update* is an internal communication for public policy leaders and members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) that alerts us to any legislation, policies, legal decisions, etc., that impact women's lives. *AAUW Action Network* sends calls to action when a vote on a critical piece of legislation or a critical policy decision is imminent, and gives you an easy way to make your views known to those in power by clicking a link to send your personal message to the appropriate officials.

Please sign up today for these two services by going to the AAUW national website, www.aauw.org.

The Fellows Who Will Speak at Our Central Coast Fellows Luncheon on February 22, 2014

2013-14 Fellows

Lindsey Higgins American Fellowship



Degree and Field: Publication Grant, Agribusiness
Institution: California Polytechnic State University
Project Name: Consumer Behavior and Wine Marketing

Lindsey Higgins is an assistant professor of agribusiness at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. She is a passionate teacher, and much of her research relates to creating an engaging educational experience for students. In addition, Higgins' research program focuses on gaining a better understanding of consumer behavior and decisions related to food and wine.

Funded by:

Fresno (CA) Branch (1979-80) [1045]
Graham, Gladys Murphy (CA 1979-80) [1050]
Riley, Susan B. (SE Central 1954-55) [1105]

Farnaz Daneshpour International Fellowship



Citizenship: Iran
Degree and Field: M.S., Agribusiness
Institution: California Polytechnic State University

Farnaz Daneshpour is pursuing a master's degree in agribusiness at California Polytechnic State University. She has received both a bachelor's and master's degree in agricultural economics in Iran, her home country. She will use her knowledge and experience to teach students about the business of agriculture. There are currently no female teachers with agribusiness degrees in Iran, and she wants to inspire women to enter this field of study.

Funded by:

California Region (1990-91) [1762]
California State Division (1973-74) [1143]
Redlands (CA) Branch (2001-02) [4217]

Allyson Toscher Career Development Grant



Degree and Field: B.S.N., Nursing
Institution: California State University, Channel Islands

As a child, Allyson Toscher didn't know what she wanted to be when she grew up; she just knew she wanted to help people. Today she is attending nursing school, and after graduation she wants to travel the world as a nurse and provide aid to those in need, focusing on family planning and maternal healthcare.

Funded by:

Bakersfield (CA) Branch Past Presidents (1983-84) [1534]
Bratman, Ann/Thousand Oaks (CA) Branch (1978-79) [1212]
Camarillo (CA) Branch (1987-88) [1593]
Oxnard-Hueneme (CA) Branch (1997-98) [4088]
Simi Valley (CA) Branch (1985-86) [1598]

From Alicia Hetman, President AAUW CA

January 2014 has been a very productive month for AAUW CA. On the 15th I represented AAUW CA as a mentor at a reception for 70 young women interested in politics prior to the Women's Policy Summit. At the Summit, AAUW CA was well represented by attendees and presenters. There were three AAUW CA members on the Title IX workshop panel: Cacilia Kim and Elizabeth Kirsten, both attorneys, joined me in presenting our Title IX Compliance Check List, which we are encouraging members throughout California to use to review high schools in their communities.

Your state Board of Directors met in January for our regularly scheduled board meeting. Our focus continues to be on keeping AAUW CA a strong and leading advocate for women and girls in California. We spent time discussing the upcoming AAUW CA every member voting. As you have read in the most recent California Perspective, a \$4 dues increase proposal is once again on the ballot. Although the membership was overall in favor of the increase there was a narrow defeat due to a low voter turnout.

The board believes that we have not adequately shared with you all of our accomplishments and have not clearly demonstrated the value you receive from AAUW CA. A Strategic Plan was drafted last year and we are revisiting it this year to be sure that the work the committees are doing addresses that plan. This year we adopted this commitment: Deliver on the AAUW Value Promise. Each state leader keeps this in mind as she does the work of AAUW CA to better serve our branch members. During the coming months you will receive more information about what we do to support your branch. Please visit www.aauw-ca.org to read more about the work done by AAUW CA to support our State Projects: Tech Trek, Speech Trek and Financial Literacy, among other work.

We are looking to engage branch leaders to be "Voting Ambassadors" and to work with them to increase the voting percentage in their branch. The state directors will be making calls to the branch presidents between March 1 and March 15 to discuss the dues increase proposal and plans to encourage members to vote. We ask that you share these messages with your branch and request you use our messages in your branch newsletters so that all members are informed.

It has been more than ten years since our last dues increase and we all know that the cost of doing business does continue to rise. During my term as president we have turned a very critical eye on our spending and have done much to reduce our expenses, but that means limiting the amount of services we can provide directly to the branches. We need this dues increase proposal to pass; and for it to begin July 2015 so that the 2015-16 state board can further increase services to branches such as sending more state leaders out to assist branches that are struggling and joining in celebrating branch achievements. It is the state board's responsibility to be good fiscal agents for AAUW CA and it just is not an acceptable business practice to continue to use our reserves to do the basic work of AAUW CA.

After last year's election we heard from some members that they didn't know the candidates and so decided there was no need to vote. We encourage all members to reach out and find ways to get to know the candidates through their messages on the AAUW CA website or by asking other members about each candidate. Someone from your branch could gather up your questions and send an email to each candidate and ask them to answer your questions so you can discuss their answers. Please join with us as we build our voting numbers.

I finished January with driving the amazing Lisa Maatz, AAUW VP Government Relations, as we did a four day swing around northern California. She gave great presentations on how we, as AAUW members, have and will continue to make a difference. She took the red-eye back to DC on Tuesday night and went straight to the Hill where Lilly Ledbetter was speaking about the need for the Paycheck Fairness Act to be passed. Lisa and Lilly are also directly lobbying President Obama to write an Executive Order to allow employees working for federal contractors to discuss their paychecks without recrimination. Lisa shared with us just how important it is for AAUW members to call and write to their elected Representatives and Senators, whether or not they support our issues. Those that do support our issues need to know that AAUW members in their district have their backs, and those that do not support our issues need to know that AAUW members in their district support these important issues of equality for women and their families – **and that we vote!**

This AAUW CA month ends with AAUW CA being well represented at the CA Women Lead 2014 Legislative Reception in Sacramento where we will honor the CA Legislators and statewide women candidates. These receptions are where we really get a chance to talk with our elected legislators in an informal way and still remind them to keep AAUW's policy issues in mind.

This is just one month of what your AAUW CA leaders are doing for you, our members.

Please join me and Be More, Do More, Give More to AAUW CA!

February 2014 Calendar



- February 11 Tuesday
 12 noon **Lunch Bunch - Paloma**, 5764 Calle Real, Goleta. Formerly Rudy's. Interesting and classic Mexican food. Lots of parking! Call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 by Monday afternoon for reservations.
- February 18 Tuesday
 7 pm **Book Ends** - "Orphan Train" by Christina Baker Kline. (Be sure you get the novel by **this** author, since there is another "Orphan Train" by another author that came out about the same time last spring.) At Beverly Kowalsky Ching's home, 462 South San Marcos Roas, SB. Our March book is "The Monuments Men" by Robert Edsel. Both books are available in paperback, and have been seen at Costco recently.
- February 22 Saturday
 11:30am - 2 pm **Interbranch Fellows Luncheon** - Central Coast Fellows Luncheon featuring recipients of AAUW Funds grants studying at local universities. In conjunction with San Luis Obispo, Interbranch Council At theMadonna Inn, San LuisObispo. Yes, we will definitely car pool! See Page 1 for further info!
- February 25 Tuesday **Movie Night** - Please watch your email the weekend before for information on the film, time and place.

Looking Ahead

- March 13 Thursday
 7-9 pm **Bridges Out of Poverty** - At the Faulkner Gallery, of the Santa Barbara Central Library. Dianne Owens, President of the Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW branch will present a shortened version of her workshop (It is usually one or two days!) on this very important topic. This workshop identifies principles for improving outcomes with individuals from generational poverty.
- April 8 Tuesday
 7pm We will hear from Laurel Phelps, the 2013 recipient of the Lynn Cavazos Fellowship, the Santa Barbara – Goleta Valley AAUW grant for a woman completing her Master's in Education from UCSB. Laurel will share her educational research with us. Location to be determined.

Santa Barbara -
Goleta Valley AAUW

P.O. Box 802
Goleta, CA 92116-0802

2013-2014 OFFICERS

President:

Carol Hershey
(on medical leave)

Acting Co-Presidents:

Claire VanBlaricum
Jane Honikman

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Cathy Black

Asst. Treasurer:

Carol Thompson

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Beverly Kowalsky-Ching
Barbara Levi
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Newsletter Editor:

Claire VanBlaricum

Scholarship Chair:

Ann Lippincott

Directory:

Ginny Capra

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

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

REGISTER ONLINE FOR CONVENTION!

For online registration. Go to:

**www.aauw-ca.org and click on
"Convention 2014"**

Enter your registration details, and select your registration fee, workshops and meals. Follow the instructions to checkout and make your payment.

We use PayPal to ensure secure processing of your credit card payment (you do not have to open a PayPal account to use.) The payment will appear on your credit card statement as PAYPAL*AAUW CA.



E³ = ENGAGE, EDUCATE, EMPOWER