



Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley (CA) Branch

Santa Barbara—Goleta Valley  
AAUW

Coast Connections

The SB-GV AAUW Monthly Newsletter

Volume 4  
Number 9

June/Summer  
2014

AAUW Santa Barbara  
County Inter-Branch  
Council Fundraiser

Join us for this wonderful musical  
under the stars preceded by a  
meal of substantial appetizers,  
desserts, wines and other  
beverages.

**When:** Saturday, JULY 19, 2014

**Time:** Pre-Show gathering  
6:30pm

**Where:** Solvang Theater Patron  
Garden

**Show:** 8Pm

**Cost:** \$40.00 per person for  
social gathering and show ticket

Profits divided among the branches in  
proportion to the attendance from  
each branch.

Questions/More  
info: Call Claire at  
967-7523



**For Reservations, please send  
checks made payable to AAUW  
SB-IBC to:**

**AAUW Event, Att: Jeni**

**722 E. Main St., Suite 210**

**Santa Maria, CA 93454 by July  
5<sup>th</sup>, Please include any special  
requests or needs, such as aisle seats  
for people with wheelchairs, walkers,**

# Acting Co-Presidents' Message

We have reached the end of another AAUW year. It is time to look both back and forward at the same time. As we look back, we are so grateful to those who have made this past year such a joy for us as your acting Co-Presidents. All the members of the Steering Committee have worked hard, taken on commitments, and moved the mission of our organization forward. They have cooperated, taken on each other's responsibilities as life's circumstances have thrown some of us a curve or two, and shown a real dedication to making our Santa Barbara – Goleta Valley branch of AAUW a viable, significant force in our community as well as an enjoyable and welcoming group to be a part of.

In the past year, thanks to the fund-raising success of Beverly Kowalsky Ching, we sent 25 local junior high girls to Tech Trek and then gathered to hear of their experiences and be inspired by their enthusiasm. The Tech Trek Committee headed by Barbara Levi, worked hard again this year to promote Tech Trek, read 52 applications and essays, interview 52 girls and families, and ultimately select 26 girls for this coming summer's camp.

With CARE International, we sponsored a showing of Girl Rising that drew many community members and furthered our mission by promoting education and equity for girls. We then followed up by participating in a local panel sponsored by the League of Women Voters on opportunities for girls in our local area.

We gave the community an opportunity to learn more about the state of the local schools, their challenges and triumphs as they deal with such issues as the new Common Core standards. We learned of the many responsibilities and programs of the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department with particular emphasis on programs for women and children.

We gathered with other branches from our county and San Luis Obispo County to meet and learn from recipients of AAUW Funds grants studying in the local area, feeling proud that we contribute to such a wonderful program of support for women scholars. We heard from Dianne Owens of the Lompoc-Vandenberg branch about the Bridges Out of Poverty program which directly addresses many issues of equity.

Thanks to the efforts of Jill Dunlap, our UCSB liaison (and branch member), we and UCSB won one of ten Tech Savvy grants offered through AAUW National to put on a one-day STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Career conference for girls in grades 6-9. Held on the UCSB campus, the conference drew girls from as far away as Simi Valley, and involved many grad students from the UCSB WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) group.

We learned about the research our local scholarship recipient, Laurel Phelps, has been conducting on gender biases in language and how this influences fairness in classrooms and in life. And we ended our AAUW year with a

lovely celebratory luncheon with a thoughtful, intriguing talk by local author Karen Keskinen.

We also participated in the Coalition Against Gun Violence forum in October and the Roe v. Wade anniversary ad from the Pro-Choice Coalition in January.

Wow! We did a lot! And that was in addition to our ongoing activities like Bookends, Lunch Bunch and Movie Night. It was only because so many people shared responsibilities, were willing to step up when needed, and shared their enthusiasm for AAUW and our mission that this was all possible.

So a big **"Thank you!"** to everyone who helped plan a program, attended a program, passed on information to a friend or neighbor, served on a committee, brought refreshments, helped set up chairs, participated in Bookends, came to lunch with Lunch Bunch, saw a film on Movie Night, enjoyed the Holiday Party, contributed to AAUW Funds, Tech Trek, or the Scholarship Fund, read AAUW email Action Alerts, visited an AAUW website, or simply maintained your membership for the year. You are all important parts of our Santa Barbara – Goleta Valley AAUW branch and we hope you will all continue the journey with us as we go into the 2014-2015 AAUW year!

*Claire VanBlaricum 967-7523*  
*Jane Honikman 967-9757*

## Congratulations to New Steering Committee!

At our annual meeting on May 24, 2014, we elected the following people to serve as Officers and Steering Committee members for our 2014-15 AAUW year. We wish them well as they begin to plan for next year! There is still room on the Steering Committee for several more members, so let us know if you are interested in becoming part of our leadership team.

**President:** Claire VanBlaricum  
**Treasurer:** Carol Thompson  
**Assistant Treasurer:** Vacant

**Steering Committee:**  
Jane Honikman  
Cathy Black

Barbara Levi,  
Beverly Kowalsky Ching  
Janice Rorick

Ginny Capra  
Jill Dunlap,  
Colette Hadley



During the last week of May, AAUW was invited to the [Fourth White House Science Fair](#). The event brought together young award-winning scientists from around the country. Among the many extraordinary [exhibits](#), I was particularly impressed by the second-grade [winners](#) of Toshiba's ExploraVision who created a design concept for a "[Hot Car Safety System](#)." Meeting the two girls and one boy on the team, I was struck by the fact that they are the same age as my own daughter!

Of course, another parent of daughters – President Barack Obama – has taken a [keen interest](#) in promoting girls' engagement in science. This science fair focused on the importance of engaging girls and young women in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields (although there were many boys and young men scientists attending as well). President Obama [told the crowd](#) that we need all of our children to develop highly in-demand STEM skills to ensure our future competitiveness in the global economy. He said that not making an effort to interest girls in STEM would be like "not putting half of our players on field."

AAUW and its members want all girls to have a chance to get on the field. That's why we've [teamed up with the Verizon Foundation](#) – a partnership that was announced at the White House event! – to launch an initiative to teach girls how to develop mobile applications ("apps" for short) at Tech Trek, AAUW's weeklong STEM summer camps for rising eighth-grade girls. Thanks to the \$84,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation, participants at the University of California, Santa Barbara; Southwestern Oklahoma State University; and the University of Alabama, Huntsville camps will pilot an [apps inventor course](#), which was developed by MIT.

As Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama and Chair of the White House Council on Women and Girls, [tweeted](#) from the science fair: "Let's hear it for the girls!"

Yours in AAUW,

*Erin Prangley*

Associate Director of Government Relations

## Maya Angelou Dies at 86

On Wednesday, May 28, Dr. Maya Angelou, the award-winning author, poet, and activist, passed away in her North Carolina home. Angelou was best known for her memoir *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which described growing up in the South during the Jim Crow era. Her career included honors such as receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama and reading her poem *On the Pulse of Morning* at the first inauguration of President Bill Clinton. AAUW had the privilege of hosting Dr. Angelou at our 1993 biennial Convention in Minneapolis, where she told us: "It is time for us to talk about courage. The vision, the voice, will not bring us victory unless we have courage." Thank you, Dr. Angelou, for giving so many women courage.

## Five More Universities under Title IX Investigation

On Wednesday, May 28, the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights announced it is investigating five additional schools for possible Title IX violations. The addition of the University of Alaska system, University of Delaware, Elmira College in New York, University of Akron in Ohio, and Cisco Junior College in Texas brings the total number of publicly disclosed Title IX investigations to 60 across the country. The Department of Education will examine each school's handling of sexual assault cases following reports of mishandled claims. The announcement follows a recent push by the Obama administration to fight campus sexual assault.



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## Tech Trek News



1. **Most of the 26 campers being sponsored by our branch** attended a Meet and Greet in May to get to know each other before this summer. Thanks to the selection committee members for the time-consuming and heart-wrenching work to select just 26 from the 52 highly qualified girls who applied!

2. **Many thanks to the generosity of supporters** from our branch as well as from individuals and businesses in our local community. Companies sponsoring two or more campers are: ATK Space Systems, Inc.; Citrix Online; Frontier Technology, Inc.; Karl Storz Imaging, Inc.; and L-3 Communications. Those sponsoring one camper each are: Deckers Outdoor Corporation; Lopker Family Foundation; Nusil Technology; and the Raytheon Company.

3. **Come to Tech Trek's Open House** to see the camp in action:

Thursday, July 31, 9-11 am

Thursday, August 7, 9-11 am

RSVP to Barbara Levi at 962 8900 / [bglevi@msn.com](mailto:bglevi@msn.com)

4. **Help with camp registration** on:

Sunday, July 27, 11 am to 1 pm

Sunday, August 3, 11 am to 1 pm

To volunteer contact Barbara Levi at 962 8900 / [bglevi@msn.com](mailto:bglevi@msn.com)

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# Getting to Know Our Members

Each month we will be featuring two branch members, one who is rather new to the branch, and one who has been with us for a while. We hope you enjoy getting to know more about your fellow AAUW members. Thank you to Ginny Capra for initiating this project!

## Daisy Gonzales— Joined AAUW 2014

Daisy was born in Van Nuys, CA on June 30th and raised all over LA County. As a child of 5, she admired her kindergarten teacher and her dream was to become a teacher. She did teach elementary dual-immersion in the Bay Area after college. She attended Mills College in Oakland and has lived all over the Bay area. Prior to moving to Santa Barbara, she lived and worked for three years in Sacramento.

As an undergraduate she received her B.A. in Public Policy. Her favorite courses were Sociology courses and a class called “Women Redefining Security” from the Women’s Studies Department. She also received a Master in Sociology from UCSB where her favorite courses were “Critical Ethnography” and “Labors”.

She was a former Budget Consultant for the California State Assembly, from 2009-2011, where she was responsible for the budgets of over 50 departments, boards and commissions totaling \$9.7 billion in state and federal funds. Her job entailed analyzing budget proposals, writing budget and policy legislation, briefing members and all backend implementation of the fiscal and budget year proposals.

Currently she is a third year Doctoral Student in the Department of Sociology at UCSB. She is writing her dissertation on State Legislatures as sex segregated occupations. This summer she will be teaching a course on Intersectional Ethnographies.

Her hobbies include bikram yoga, baking, backpacking, taking eco-friendly tours and running on beautiful Goleta Beach. She has traveled with her partner (Enrique Ruacho) to world wonders and her favorite place is Machu Picchu. They will be taking a trip to Turkey this year.

Her favorite film is “Life is Beautiful”, an Italian film which sends the message of humanity and family.

She states that she joined AAUW because “the AAUW’s mission upholds the values and vision of the world I want to live in. As a graduate of a women’s college, I am dedicated to advancing equity for all women and girls for as long as I live.”

## Anne Kiley Gray---Joined AAUW 2002

“My name is Anne Kiley Gray. I was born into an Irish Catholic family in 1950 in Glendale, Ca. My father was in the garment business in LA, a company called Miss Pat. My mother was a stay at home mom. I had a typical upbringing in the 50’s and went to UCLA where I majored in History. (Being a people person, I loved studying about other cultures and time periods in the past) I had no idea why I majored in History, it was just something I liked, and as you all know, there weren’t many opportunities for female careers at that time. Thus, I became an Elementary school teacher like many of my relatives in PA. I had a great 30 year career teaching K-5 in CA, many of those years in Lompoc Unified.

“Besides teaching, I was married at age 20, and raised 3 children in Lompoc. They have all finished College now and are busy living independent lives around the country. Four years after my divorce, I married David Briggs in 1999. Together we have 4 children and 8 grandchildren. We spend a lot of time with them and are committed to being active grandparents.

“Retirement is truly a blessing. People ask me, do you miss teaching? I honestly haven’t because though it was a great career which I enjoyed immensely, our grandchildren fulfill that need. Besides spending time with our grandchildren, I love playing golf, traveling, knitting, reading, snorkeling, and playing my guitar. We have a new Lab puppy, who has been a wonderful addition to our lives. My husband, David, is an avid sailor, so we are spending more and more time on his boat. This summer we are sailing around the Chesapeake, and next year taking on the Bahamas.

I” joined AAUW in about 2002, when I moved to Goleta. I wanted to meet new friends who might have similar interests. Over the years, I was on the steering committee, membership chair, Tech Trek committee, and have enjoyed Book Ends and various other meetings as well. I have always supported the advancement of women, so finding AAUW was an easy fit.

“Well, that is a little about me. If you enjoy any of the above, or just want to talk about movies, books, life in general, give me a call. I am still a people person and enjoy friends old and new. “

## End of the Year Luncheon a Great Success!

Our End of the Year luncheon on Saturday, May 24 at the La Cumbre Country Club was a lovely event with 30 attendees. Thank you to Barbara Levi for making the arrangements with La Cumbre Country Club. The meal was excellent, the company superb, and our speaker, author Karen Keskinen, was thoughtful and engaging. Here are a few photos from the event for you to enjoy. If you were there, these will bring back good memories, and if not, you'll wish you had been there!



Dessert!



Carol Hershey with husband Phil and Pam Holst



Linda Metelka, Bette Perelli, and Bonnie Johnson



Jane Honikman at sign-in



Our speaker, Karen Keskinen  
with Claire VanBlaricum

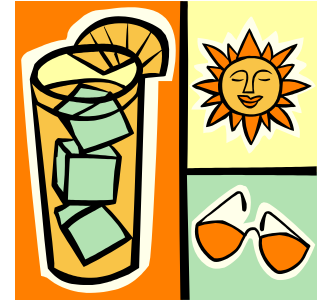



Suzanne McBride and Tanda Jacobs



# June/Summer2014 Calendar

To see the Summer Sky  
Is Poetry, though never in a Book it lie -  
True Poems flee. ~Emily Dickinson



June 10	Tuesday 11:45 am	<b>Lunch Bunch</b> - Beachside Bar-Café, 5905 Sandspit Road, Goleta, at Goleta Beach. Call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 by Monday afternoon for reservations. Please note early time.
June 17	Tuesday 7 pm	<b>Book Ends</b> - "Defending Jacob" by William Landay. Available in paperback. At the home of Ann Gray, 7834 Day Road, Goleta. Please park just around the corner as there is no parking on Day Road.
June 24	Tuesday	<b>Movie Night</b> - Please watch your email the weekend before for information on the film, time and place.
July 8	Tuesday 12 noon	<b>Lunch Bunch</b> - Louie's California Bistro at the Upham, 1404 De La Vina, SB. Call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 by Monday <b>morning</b> for reservations.
July 15	Tuesday 7 pm	<b>Book Ends</b> - "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" by Anne Fadiman. At the home of Pam Holst, 4548 Via Clarice, SB. Available in paperback.
July 19	Saturday 6:30 pm	<b>Annual Interbranch Council Theater Party!</b> - A Fundraiser for our Tech Trek program! This year we are seeing <i>Forever Plaid</i> , a tribute to the doo-wop music of the 50s and 60s with wonderful harmonies, engaging personalities, a load of nostalgia, a tug at your heartstrings, and a touch of the supernatural! Please see page one for details! Naturally, we always carpool for this wonderful event.
		
July 28	Tuesday	<b>Movie Night</b> - Please watch your email the weekend before for information on the film, time and place.
August 12	Tuesday 12 noon	<b>Lunch Bunch</b> - Los Arroyos, 1280 Coast Village Road, Montecito. Call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 by Monday afternoon for reservations. We'll carpool!
August 19	Tuesday	<b>Book Ends</b> - "Birdsong" by Sebastian Faulks. At the home of Jane Honikman, 927 N. Kellogg, SB. Available in paperback.
August 26	Tuesday	<b>Movie Night</b> - Please watch your email the weekend before for information on the film, time and place.

Santa Barbara -  
Goleta Valley AAUW

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

**2013-2014 OFFICERS**

**President:**

Carol Hershey  
(on medical leave)

**Acting Co-Presidents:**

Claire VanBlaricum  
Jane Honikman

**Treasurer:**

Cathy Black

**Asst. Treasurer:**

Carol Thompson

**Steering Committee:**

Ginny Capra  
Jill Dunlap  
Beverly Kowalsky-Ching  
Barbara Levi  
Bette Perelli  
Janice Rorick

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

Don't  
Forget  
To  
Renew  
Your  
Membership!

