



Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley (CA) Branch

Santa Barbara—Goleta Valley
AAUW

Coast Connections
The SB-GV AAUW Monthly Newsletter

Volume 4
Number 8
May 2014

Time to Celebrate!

Saturday, May 24, 2014 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

La Cumbre Country Club

4015 Via Laguna, Hope Ranch

\$35 per person

Choice of Citrus Glazed Salmon Salad, Rosemary Chicken Pasta Salad, or Vegetarian option
Rolls, beverage, and dessert included.



Featuring local mystery author

Karen Keskinen

Author of "Blood Orange"

and "Black Current" (Coming June 2014)



A few reviews of "Blood Orange":

"An impressive debut with echoes of Sue Grafton and Ross Macdonald featuring appealing characters, a twisty plot, buried family secrets, and a coastal California backdrop saturated in color and light."

—Denise Hamilton, author of *Damage Control* and editor of *Akashic's Los Angeles Noir*

"Keskinen has launched a promising soft-boiled debut, one that definitely fits into the Sue Grafton mold. Her fiercely independent PI meets her challenges head-on, making the pages fly by." -*Library Journal*

Karen will share with us the joys and fears of the writing life, her passions for nature and family, and her interest in issues of mental health. As she says on her website, karenkeskinen.com:

"... I'm a passionate advocate for the rights of people struggling with mental disability. Only fear keeps us from honoring their humanity, and thus our own. Only fear, don't you agree? Fear - the opposite of love."

Reservation Deadline is Monday, May 19!

For reservations, please call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 or email at clairevanb@cox.net. Please indicate meal choice.

Send check made out to SB-GV AAUW to SB-GV AAUW, P.O. Box 802, Goleta, CA 93116

Our end of the year luncheon also serves as the official annual meeting for our Santa Barbara - Goleta Valley AAUW branch.

Acting Co-Presidents' Message

Greetings Friends,

Our 2013 Scholarship recipient Laurel Phelps gave a stimulating presentation at Roosevelt School on April 8th. We are delighted to welcome her as our newest and youngest member! The Scholarship Committee is now seeking applicants for this year's grant. Ann Lippincott, Bette Perelli, Bonnie Johnson and Lynn Cavazos will review and select the winner(s) for 2014.

Our membership renewal campaign is well underway. Thank you to the 24 who have already sent in your dues. Those who have renewed by our Annual

Meeting on May 24 will be eligible for a drawing to get their local dues returned!

Jane and Ginny were inspired by the membership workshops they attended at CA State Convention. A Branch Membership Task Force will be formed to set goals and objectives as AAUW begins its 100th year in Santa Barbara. Watch for more information about recruiting new members and enticing former members back to fulfill our Mission.

Join us on Saturday May 24 to hear local author Karen Keskinen speak about her writing process at La Cumbre Country Club. Her current book "Blood

Orange" is set in Santa Barbara and her next book is due out in June. This lovely event will be an excellent opportunity to celebrate the end of another successful year. Please join us and bring a prospective member!

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

Tech Trek Update

The Tech Trek Coordinating Committee selected 26 campers for 2014 out of a record 52 applicants! Needless to say, the committee members deserve our gratitude for the time they spent reading applications, interviewing potential campers and, most of all, agonizing over the final pick. So many deserving girls. Thanks to all our donors who already make it possible to send as many as we do!

We can use a few VOLUNTEERS to help with the "Meet and Greet," at which the campers can get to know other girls from this area who will be attending the camp. It will be held at the First Congregational Church 2101 State Street, Santa Barbara, from 2-4 pm on Sunday, May 18. Basically, the event is just for the girls but we need a few people to help serve refreshments and take photos. Let me know if you can help!

Barbara Levi
962 8900, bglevi@msn.com

From AAUW CA

Join the AAUW CA Leadership Team! Now is the perfect time to share your talents and knowledge by joining a statewide committee and help shape the coming year for our wonderful, dynamic organization. Public Policy, AAUW Funds, Membership and so much more! The Call for Appointments and Vita/Application for the 2014-2015 year are now available on the AAUW CA website. The deadline is June 1, 2014.

Kathleen Doty, *President Elect*, kdoty@aauw-ca.org

The AAUW Funds committee thanks and congratulates the members of AAUW California for your generous donations. Because of your commitment to AAUW and its mission, **\$521,088.13** was donated to AAUW Funds from AAUW California members and branches.

Congratulations to **Pat Allgeier and Mickie Allgeier Feicht**, 2013-2014 AAUW California Named Gift honorees!. Pat's primary branch is Laguna Hills and she is a dual member of the Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach branch. Mickie's primary branch is Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach branch and she is a dual member of the Laguna Hills branch. This mother-daughter team is a long time advocate and leader of AAUW and our mission of equity for women and girls.

Sharon Westafer, *Chair, AAUW Funds Committee* swestafer@aauw-ca.org

AAUW WASHINGTON UPDATE

The momentum continues to build around ending sexual assault on college campuses. This week we saw new announcements from the White House and the Department of Education, capping off a long push by AAUW and some key allies.

Just over a year ago, AAUW successfully led efforts to make campus safety a part of VAWA reauthorization – messages from AAUW members in all 50 states helped make this possible! AAUW has continued to track the implementation of that campus safety law, and we look forward to schools coming into compliance this year. As more and more survivors stepped forward and publicly discussed their campus experiences, enforcement efforts at the Department of Education ramped up, and the White House officially created a Campus Sexual Assault Task Force and issued a new call to action for safer campuses.

This week was the culmination of all those efforts on many different levels. The White House Task Force released recommendations, launched a useful new website, and convened stakeholders here in Washington, D.C., to keep the conversation going. In addition, the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued a helpful FAQ document to guide schools on how to effectively implement Title IX and respond to campus sexual assault complaints — including reaffirming that the new VAWA amendments to the Clery Act do not in any way alter or weaken a school's obligations under Title IX.

As I told U.S. News and World Report this week, the website and the new task force report could be game-changers. "I think many colleges see campus sexual assault as a public relations problem, and I would really like for today to turn that on its head," I said. "I want colleges to step up to the plate and say, 'We know this is an issue, we're taking our head out of the sand, we've got these tools and we're now going to move forward on trying to make this better.'"

Here at AAUW, we couldn't be more pleased with this week's developments. It's well past the time for schools to take action when it comes to ending violence on campus, and we know that the Obama administration can also do more to help make this happen. Keep reading for more details on this week's announcement and ways to spread the word, and make sure to pat yourself on the back for being a part of the force behind this exciting week.

Yours in AAUW,
Lisa M. Maatz
Vice President of Government Relations

Tackling Campus Sexual Assault under Title IX

This week, the Obama administration unveiled new [resources](#) for students and schools to help protect students from sexual violence under Title IX. The White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault released a [report](#) recommending that colleges implement campus climate surveys and suggesting best practices for campus policies, judicial proceedings, and ways to work with local resources to prevent and respond to sexual assault. In conjunction with the report, the Department of Justice announced plans to support research on pilot programs to treat sexual assault perpetrators on college campus. No programs currently exist to address this issue. Additionally, the Department of Education unveiled a new website, [NotAlone.gov](#), which consolidates resources for students and schools.

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:

Jeni @ 805-928-2029



**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 5th, Please
include any special requests or needs, such as
aisle seats for people with wheelchairs, walkers,
crutches or canes.**

May 2014 Calendar

"The world's favorite season is the spring.

All things seem possible in May." - Edwin Way Teale



May 13	Tuesday 12 noon	Lunch Bunch - Ming Dynasty, 290 Storke Road, Goleta (K-Mart Center). Lunch specials, buffet, or Mongolian BBQ all available in addition to a traditional menu. Lots of parking. Call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 by Monday afternoon for reservations.
May 15	Thursday 7 pm	Steering Committee Meeting - At Jane Honikman's home. 927 North Kellogg, SB. All branch members welcome!
May 19	Monday	Deadline for reservations for End of the Year Luncheon! See page one for details!
May 20	Tuesday 7 pm	Book Ends - "The Rosie Project" by Graeme Simsion. This book is not yet in paperback, but is cheap on Kindle, and the library has multiple copies. At Claire VanBlaricum's home, 5026 Yapple Avenue, SB. Our book for June is "Defending Jacob" by William Landay. Available in paperback.
May 24	Saturday 11:30 am - 2 pm	Annual Meeting and End of the Year Luncheon Celebration - at the La Cumbre Country Club. Featuring local author Karen Keskinen, author of <i>Blood Orange</i> , a wonderful mystery novel set here in the real Santa Barbara. Please see page one for details and reservation information.
May 27	Tuesday	Movie Night - Please watch your email the weekend before for information on the film, time and place.

Looking Ahead

July 19
Saturday
6:30 pm



Annual Interbranch Council Theater Party! - A Fundraiser for our Tech Trek program! This year we are seeing *Forever Plaid*, 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 the flyer on page 4 for details!

Naturally, we always carpool for this wonderful event.

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.

AAUW CA 2014 Election Results
Voting ended May 3

Record 20.8% of Members Voted

Winning Candidates

Secretary: Tracey Clark

Directors: Sharon Westafer, Jane Niemeier, Virginia Beck, Susan Negrete, Kathy Andreini

Proposal to Increase State Dues

Passed by more than the required 2/3 majority.

Thank you to all of you who participated in this election!