



President's Message

With the summer behind us, the holiday season right around the corner plus an interesting election heating up, I wanted to take a break from all of it and focus on the International Day of the Girl. October 11, Eleanor Roosevelt's birthday, commemorates the International Day of the Girl Child, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2011. The purpose of the resolution is to "recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world."

From the UN website:

"Adolescent girls have the right to a safe, educated, and healthy life, not only during these critical formative years, but also as they mature into women. If effectively supported during the adolescent years, girls have the potential to change the world – both as the empowered girls of today and as tomorrow's workers, mothers, entrepreneurs, mentors, household heads, and political leaders."

I found this video by the organization The Girl Effect particularly poignant about the power of girls around the world: [click here to watch](#). To learn more about this and other organizations working

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to educate girls, end child marriage, and empower girls, check out: [Girls Not Brides](#), [Because I Am a Girl](#), [The Girl Effect](#), and [CARE](#).

Thinking about the Day of the Girl reminds me of the importance and need for these organizations. I'm proud we are part of an organization like AAUW that works to empower women and girls. On the local level, we make it a priority to send girls to Tech Trek (we've sent 28 girls each of the last two years!), we offer a scholarship to help graduate students finish their degrees, we hold diverse educational programs to our membership and community and I'm excited we are investigating a service project this year to help women in our community.

All of this wouldn't be possible without an active membership and a willingness to take on these projects. Thank you for being a part of the Santa Barbara - Goleta Valley AAUW branch!

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Empowered Woman Luncheon – Save the Date!

We are honored to have Kelsey Gerckens as our speaker! In 2015, Kelsey won the Amazing Race, a reality tv game show in which teams of two people race around the world in competition with other teams. She is also a KEYT news reporter covering Ventura County and has worked in the journalism field for many



years.

March 8, 2017
(more details coming soon!)



AAUW's Voting Record Keeps Congressmen Accountable

When women vote, we change the conversation. Members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) have a long history of lobbying Congress and holding their legislators accountable for how they vote on AAUW priority issues. This week, we released the AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record (CVR) for the 114th Congress, which provides information about elected federal legislators through the votes they cast on critical issues.

AAUW entered the 114th Congress with a critical agenda: to focus on the needs of women and girls through bipartisan action. However, the Congress had other plans. Given the legislative gridlock that has shadowed President Barack Obama's presidency, it is perhaps no surprise that this Congress struggled to reach agreement on even the most basic, constitutionally prescribed legislative duties, such as passing a budget or confirming a nominee for the U.S. Supreme Court. On Capitol Hill, the anticipated end of the president's second term only heightened the partisan acrimony that so often stalls any public policy progress.

Heading into the home stretch of this turbulent 2016 election season, it is important now more than ever that AAUW members and other concerned citizens use this voting record to hold their senators and representatives accountable for their positions on AAUW's priority issues. You can use the updated CVR in so many creative ways this election season. Refer to information in the voting record during community issue forums, candidate

debates, or at town hall meetings held by your members of Congress. Distribute copies during local voter education events, and write letters to the editor about a legislator's position on AAUW's priority issues. Share the CVR with coalition partners, friends, family, and prospective AAUW members. Don't forget to tag your posts on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media forums using #ItsMyVote.

From equal paychecks to paid leave, from access to birth control to college affordability, there is so much at stake each time women head to the polls. Politicians and policy makers at all levels of government routinely make decisions about issues that directly affect women and their families. However, more often than not, the conversation lacks women's voices. To create real change, women must be part of the conversation, and the most powerful way to chime in is by voting. We encourage you to use this voting record to help you better understand how politicians measure up when it comes to issues that matter to women and their families. With that knowledge, we'll hold candidates accountable come November.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Maatz

Vice President of Government Relations and Advocacy



Tech Trek Treats

Those attending the annual Tech Trek Ice Cream Social, held this year at the First Congregational Church, were treated not only to topping-laden sundaes but also to enthusiastic reports from the 2016 campers. The girls shared with us their delight at dolphins racing their boat during a marine excursion; with facing

and conquering the challenges of coding and with meeting like-minded fellow campers and staff. We also heard from branch member Carol Koch who, along with branch president Jill Kingdon, was a dorm mom. Kathy Mintzer, mother of a Tech Trek alum, told the audience that she had joined AAUW to help with the program. Then, three Tech Trek junior counselors told the 2016 campers about the activities of our branch Tech Trek alumni group. There were many smiles among the grateful parents whose daughters had benefited from a fabulous experience.



Clockwise from top left:

1. Tech Trek committee members Kathy Mintzer, Irene Stone, Kate Thompson and Bobbie Offen were busy scooping ice cream.
2. Three of the camp staff stopped by: Linda Stinebaugh, on the left, is also the Tech Trek coordinator for California. The other two are Virginia Seaton and Judy Pfeil.
3. Four girls from La Colina share their camp experiences.
4. Tech Trek junior counselors tell girls about the active alumni group, (from left) Ally Mintzer, Chloe Chow and Hailey Babcock.

MEET OUR MEMBER, RAE HOYT



Rae was born on June 11th in Yucaipa, CA. As a child, she wanted to be a magician. She has lived in San Jose, CA and Ventura, CA. Rae is firmly committed and lives with her partner, Keith. She says he is my cheerleader, friend and adventure companion. She has no children.

Rae earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts, specializing in Digital Media Arts in 2011, from San Jose State University. Her favorite subject was CNC machining, which is a combination of shop class and computer science. This got her involved with technology like laser cutters, 3-D printers and 3-axis milling machines.

She works as a content producer at LinkedIn and works on the Lynda.com production team in Carpinteria. She produces courses in the technology segment of the library. She says, “Working with subject matter experts, we craft compelling content with one goal in mind: Educating the eager mind.”

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/producerrae>

Rae loves to travel and says there is nothing more helpful to building a world view than seeing other cultures and places. She enjoys traveling with her family, friends and partner who have all gone on a few adventures together. Her favorite trip was a 4-day Amtrak train ride from San Jose, CA to New York, NY. She states there is no better view of America’s beauty than by rail. She also attends an annual rave cruise called Holy Ship. As for her favorite food, Rae loves anything out of the ocean, especially sushi, fish filets and abalone steaks.

Rae loves film and says she has hundreds. Her favorites are well-told stories that evoke emotion. She says that sometimes that means something silly, like “Real Genius” or something thought provoking like “Requiem for a Dream”. She also enjoys watching something thrilling and bizarre, like Heathers but she also

likes science fiction. “May the force be with you” is uttered frequently in her circles.

She listens to a wide range of electronic music, but is drawn to trance, house, and techno. Her favorite producers are Prok&Fitch, Coyu, Yulia Vlady, J. Philip and UMEK. Outside of work, Rae’s passions are varied. She loves to scuba dive and camp. She likes to work on cars and motorcycles, sew new outfits or learn a fresh piece of technology. She says she simply loves using her hands, exploring the world and solving problems.

Rae states she is a very colorful person. She likes red cars, orange flowers, blue Slurpees and black shoes. She has a diverse collection of bathing suits and her clothes are a spectrum of colors. Red is Rae’s main accent color because it was her swim team’s color from ages 5-18 and she adds “Go Yucaipa Swim Team!”

When asked why she joined AAUW, Rae states she joined initially to volunteer for Tech Trek. She says it’s easy as a young girl to feel alone in loving math or science and that is how she felt. She believes that by bringing these talented young women together to embrace their shared passion for STEM creates a community of peers. She is proud to be a part of the Tech Trek committee.

Community is what Rae hopes to get out of AAUW. She states, “It’s amazing to know there are hundreds of women with a shared passion for higher education participating in the thriving 805 economy.”

Thank you for your membership Rae!

October, 2016 Calendar

October is the fallen leaf, but it is also a wider horizon more clearly seen. It is the distant hills once more in sight, and the enduring constellations above them once again.” ~ Hal Borland

October 5, Wednesday – 11:00 a.m.

Outings- We will tour the Santa Barbara Courthouse. AAUW member Jane DeSelm will lead the tour. We will meet for lunch afterwards. Please contact Tanda Jacobs at 805-896-7873 or tandaj21@gmail.com to let her know if you plan on attending or if you have questions.

October 9, Sunday – 2:00–4:00 p.m.

League of Women Voters - Ballot Measures, Informational Forum - A discussion of the ballot measures pros and cons of the 17 California state propositions and the Santa Barbara 11 local measures.

Faulkner Gallery, Santa Barbara Public Library, 40 E. Anapamu.

October 10, Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Smart Talk Discussion Group - We will meet at the home of Joanie Jones, 1035 May Court, Goleta. The subject is Aging.

October 11, Tuesday – 12:00 noon

Lunch Bunch - Bucatini's, 436 State St., Santa Barbara. Please contact Dena Stein at denastein0@gmail.com or 650-269-3666 by Monday morning for reservations.

October 13, Thursday – 5:00 p.m.

Steering Committee Meeting - The committee will meet at the Dowitcher Designs conference room, 510 State St., Suite 250.

October 17, Monday – 10:00 a.m.

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.

October 18, Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

Book Ends - We will meet at the home of Diane Corey, 6827 Sweetwater Way, Goleta. Please call Diane at 805-452-0793 to let her know you're coming. We will discuss *The Underground Girls of Kabul* by Jenny Nordberg.

Our selection for November is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman and we will gather at the home of Deborah Castorini, 456 Arbol Verde, Carpinteria.

October 24, Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Smart Talk Discussion Group - To be announced.

October 25, Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

Movie Night - Please watch for an email the weekend before for information on the film, time and theater location.

Our Coalitions

Coalition Against Gun Violence, Pro Choice Coalition,
League of Women Voters

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](#) and give her name and contact information to Ginny Capra at ginnycapra@cox.net.





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