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## Women's History Month Speaker

### Beth Wyman to Speak

A Delightful Historical Experience is how Beth Wyman describes the presentation she has prepared for Gilroy AAUW. Beth will be the featured speaker for the Gilroy AAUW Women's History Month presentation scheduled for Wednesday, March 18th.

Beth will present information on three influential women from Santa Clara County.

Beth received her BA in Social Science from San Diego State University and obtained



*Beth Wyman, speaker at March 18th Women's History Month presentation.*

Women's Leadership and Community Service Award in 1992. Currently she is involved in many community projects including the Saratoga Heritage Resource Commission, Executive Board of the Santa Clara County League of Conservation Voters, Executive Board of the Santa Clara County Land Trust, and is a member of Friends of Coyote Valley Greenbelt. In addition, Beth has been a member of AAUW since 1960.

You can read some of her publications including, "Shasta Hanchett Park in San Jose. A Residence Park," in the American Bungalow Magazine, June 2007.

The meeting will take place at the Gilroy Police Department, Community Room. The address is 7370 Rosanna Street. We will meet at 7:00. Please plan to attend this informative program, and celebrate Women's History month with the Gilroy AAUW.

This event is open to the public, so invite friends, family, and potential AAUW members. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.



*Isola Kennedy, president of two-county WCTU who lost her life fighting a mountain lion.*

*Gertrude Achilles, Kodak heiress, builder of Fountain Oaks estate in Morgan Hill.*



*Clara Shorridge Foltz, first female attorney in California who established the public defender's office.*

her Masters degree in History from San Jose State. She went on to work for the County as the Homeless Coordinator in the Office of the County Executive. She has been a lecturer in Historic Preservation in the Department of Urban Planning at San Jose State University and has been a Council member and Mayor of the City of Morgan Hill. She has been and is currently an independent consultant. Beth has been nominated several times for the Santa Clara County Women of Achievement Award and won the

## Think: QUILT SHOW

The Third Gilroy AAUW Quilt Show is fast-approaching! It's time for all members to commit:

**Commit to attending** on Saturday, May 9th. (It's the day before Mothers' Day.)

**Commit to registering a quilt.** This year the theme is "Flower Garden" so quilts with flower print material, or flower patterned quilting are the best choices. Also this year a limit of 70 quilts and quilted pieces has been set. This means that if you have a flower quilt to enter you need to do it early!

**Commit to helping on a committee** for this great fundraising event for Gilroy AAUW. Many people are needed to make this event successful. You can be involved in the Before, the During, and the After work. All



Margie Enger is making the Opportunity Quilt for the 2009 Gilroy AAUW Quilt Show. She and Terry Newman hold it up for the Board to see at the February meeting.

you have to do is contact Marianne Peoples to let her know what you would like to do. Marianne can be reached at 842-9033, or quiltldy@garlic.com.

**Commit to selling 10 tickets.** You will receive your tickets

in the mail at the beginning of April, and you'll have a month to promote the event to your family and friends.

**Commit to making this the most successful Quilt Show ever.**

### Silicon Valley Reads comes to Gilroy in March



Brian Copeland  
*Not A Genuine Black Man*

Author talk and  
booksigning

March 24, 2009  
6:30

City Council  
Chambers  
7351 Rosanna Street

## Tech Trek Windfall

The History Club of Los Gatos has made a very generous donation to the Gilroy AAUW Tech Trek account.

The club sent a check in the amount of \$800, which covers Tech Trek tuition for one girl.

In November the group held a fashion show, raffle and silent auction to benefit Tech Trek scholarships, after a presentation by a member of the Los Gatos Saratoga AAUW, and several Tech Trek attendees.

The fundraiser netted \$6,300! The club distributed the funds to three AAUW branches including San Jose which received

three scholarships, Los Gatos Saratoga which received four scholarships, and Gilroy which received one scholarship.



The History Club of Los Gatos is a local not-for-profit group dedicated to serving the needs of women and children in the community. Their members are all over the state of California, but primarily in Santa Clara County. The Club was established in 1898 and has created a good track record of donating to their community. Many of the members of The History Club of Los Gatos are also AAUW members.

# Interest Groups—February

## Wine & Whine

Meeting at Mimi’s was fun for the Wine & Whine group in February. No picture this month! Apparently there was too much wine to remember to snap a pic!



In March it’s more about Whining than it is Wine because the group is meeting at The Claddagh Irish Pub in honor of St. Patrick’s Day. The date is March 6th and everyone is Irish that night.

## Culinary

# Morgan Hill Fundraiser

The Morgan Hill branch of AAUW is hosting their 26th annual Wildflower Run on Sunday, April 5th, 2009. The event will include a 10K Run, a 5K Run/Walk and a 2K fun run for kids 12 and under. Come out and join Terry Newman! She received a complimentary registration from Suzanne Barrett, who is a co-member of Gilroy and Morgan Hill.

For more information visit the website at [www.aauw-morganhill.org](http://www.aauw-morganhill.org). Online registration is available at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

Charleen and eight guests had a wonderful “Lite” dinner on Saturday, February 21st. Some old friends and some new additions had a warm relaxing evening enjoying the menu that Charleen had chosen.

Those attending included Jan Paterson, Suzanne Barrett, Lyn and Randy Hackett, and Carolyn and Pete Schell. There were also two guests who enjoyed the evening.

Stay tuned for announcement of the next Culinary event. These planned dinners occur approximately every quarter.

## Symphony

Margie Enger, the group coordinator, reports that the next concert is the very popular Bach to Blues Concert at Gavilan College. On Friday evening, March 6th meet the



group in front of the Gavilan College Theater. Enjoy the concert and afterward gather at a restaurant for coffee and a decadent desert. For additional information, contact Margie at 489-1324.

## Books


Regular meetings include the second Tuesday and the last Thursday of each month. Call Carol Smith for the location because it changes each time.

## The Rules

Equal Times will be published approximately monthly in 2006-2007. The sole purpose of this publication is to convey the association’s business to its membership. Only articles and announcements related to branch business will be considered for inclusion.


Submissions, articles and notices are due by the 15th of each month and should be e-mailed, posted or hand delivered to Susan Murphey Patereau, 7470 Crawford Dr., Gilroy 95020, 981-2799, [spatereau@charter.net](mailto:spatereau@charter.net).

Equal Times encourages members to advertise by purchasing a business card size ad, available by contacting Communications Director, Susan Murphey Patereau.



March 28  
8:30 AM Check In & Coffee  
9:00 - Noon Training

San Jose Headquarters  
1165 Minnesota Avenue  
San Jose 95125



Interbranch Council provides an opportunity for AAUW members throughout Santa Clara County, to share ideas and interests in AAUW issues and goals.

**Golden Gate District:  
Santa Clara County**

*All AAUW Members Welcome!  
Branch Leaders are particularly encouraged to attend.*

**Training Topics:**

- Membership Recruitment
- Newsletter Publishing
- Website/Webmaster Activities

Share best practices, as well as collaborate on resources. Each topic will be led by a moderator, and all questions and ideas are welcome. Attend if you are currently Chairing the topic, or if you are part of the leadership of your branch, or if you are simply interested. *All members are welcome.*

Contact Susan Murphey Patereau, (408) 981-2799, [spatereau@charter.net](mailto:spatereau@charter.net), to reserve your seat in the carpool.

## Faces of Pay Equity



"I don't want my granddaughters to face the same problems I faced in the workplace. When I was working, they had to hire two men to replace me when I left on maternity leave—and they both made more than I did!"

*Bobbie W.*



"I have a master's degree in biology and have worked for almost 25 years in medical research.

For most of that time, I have been the sole support for my household. Upon graduation I was immediately hit with pay discrimination. Not much has changed in all those years!"

*Eileen D.*



# washington update

NEWS FROM AAUW

## AAUW Applauds President Obama for Signing Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into Law

*Wage Discrimination Measure becomes First Bill Signed into Law by New President*

WASHINGTON - AAUW applauds President Barack Obama for signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which restores the long-standing interpretation of civil rights laws and EEOC policies that allow employees to challenge any discriminatory paycheck they receive.

"President Obama has put pay discrimination at the top of the agenda, right where it belongs. The wage gap doesn't just hurt working women, it hurts families as well," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE, who attended the signing ceremony. "We are especially pleased that this measure is the first bill moved by Congress and signed by our new president, sending a strong message that economic issues and pay equity are a top priority."

Statistics on women in the workplace speak to the need for action. The average woman earns just 78 cents of every dollar earned by her male counterparts, and disparities appear just one year out of

college—even for those with the same job and the same major. Women of color make even less.

"AAUW is hopeful that the swift action on this important law is a harbinger of what we can expect from both the new Congress and the new administration," said Lisa Maatz, AAUW director of public policy and government relations. "Thanks to the remarkable Lilly Ledbetter, who stood up to injustice despite great personal sacrifice, women and others in her shoes will be able to seek a fair day in court."

Lilly Ledbetter is perhaps the best-known face of pay equity. She worked for nearly two decades at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in Gadsden, AL. Despite receiving top performance awards, Ledbetter discovered that she had been paid significantly less than male co-workers with the same job. After her November 1998 retirement, she filed suit under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and was awarded back pay and other remedies in a jury trial. The U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 decision not only erased Ledbetter's award, but also left women, minorities, and others in Ledbetter's situation with virtually no

recourse to pay discrimination.

"The wage gap not only affects a woman's paycheck, it can eventually reduce retirement and social security income. That could mean the loss of \$1 million or more over one woman's lifespan," Hallman said.

"This victory has energized us," said Maatz. "President Obama and Congress have made a good down payment on their promise to close the wage gap, but we're not resting on our laurels. The House also passed the Paycheck Fairness Act, a bill which would close loopholes in the Equal Pay Act, and AAUW and our allies are determined to see the Senate do the same."

Read more about AAUW's "Keep the Change" pay equity campaign at [http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue\\_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm).

To read Lilly Ledbetter's letter in support of both bills, go to [www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue\\_advocacy/actionpages/upload/LillyLedbetterletter.pdf](http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/actionpages/upload/LillyLedbetterletter.pdf).

Go to [www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue\\_advocacy/transition.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/transition.cfm) to see AAUW's recommendations to the new administration and the new Congress.