



Goal

Gilroy AAUW's Membership goal for 2006-07 is 90 members.

OFFICERS

- President's Council* *Michele Ing*
842-6943
Lyn Hackett
842-4946
Margie Enger
842-9996

- Program Chairs* *Esther Forman*
847-2856
Lani Yoshimura
379-7964

- Membership Chairs* *Marianne Peoples*
842-9022
Arti O'Connor
847-0451

- Recording Secretary* *Deb Kaczor*
(650) 255-2324

- Treasurer* *Cindy Hughes*
847-6868

- Public Policy* *Jan Paterson*
842-3737

- Publicity Chair* *Connie Rogers*
842-8494

- Newsletter & Website Chair* *Susan Murphey Patereau*
981-2799

- International Studies Chair* *Lyn Hackett*
842-4946

Fall Membership Luncheon

by **Arti O'Connor**

On October 7, 2006, thirty members and prospective members attended the Fall Membership Luncheon at the Westside Grill in Gilroy. They enjoyed a delicious meal of chicken, pasta or a French dip sandwich, accompanied by a salad and dessert.

The speaker for the event was Dena Dickinson, a registered nurse who is currently Nurse Manager of Public Health Clinics for Santa Clara County. She has amassed an impressive list of accomplishments that span 3 decades, including volunteering as a Court-Designated Child advocate for the past 18 years and, also currently, serving as Co-Chair of the Santa Clara County HIV Planning Council.

In addition to sharing her professional career with those present, Dena brought slides of a trek she took with friends to Tibet and Nepal. Hundreds of

images chronicled the journey, which covered many miles over challenging terrain and in sometimes-inclement weather. Hiking at elevations of up to 18,600 feet and being delayed by mudslides were only a small part of what Dena experienced. For a period of 3 days during that adventure, she and her fellow travelers circumambulated Mt. Kailash (Tibet), considered to be a sacred mountain. At one point in the journey, Dena and her companions had to stay in a monastery when their horses got stuck in mud.

Dena has also traveled to Central and South America, the South Pacific, Europe, Canada, Mexico, and around the US. In November, Dena will be departing for another adventure to Bhutan and Cambodia. We were fortunate that she was able to spend Saturday afternoon with us. Her story was a fascinating one and all in atten-



Guest speaker Dina Dickinson.

dance listened eagerly as she described her adventures. Thank you, Dena, for finding time for us in your busy schedule.

Everyone present received a program created by Membership co-chairs, Arti O'Connor and Marianne Peoples. The program contained recipes from the Spring Membership Tea, including Apricot Ginger Scones, Jammer Cream Scones, Lemon Cream Scones, and Jan Paterson's delicious Salinas Valley Spinach Salad with Pork Loin.

Members also received AAUW business cards to help with membership recruitment, and an AAUW bookmark declaring, "125 Years, A Legacy of Leadership."



Jan Dickens and Penny Lockhart enjoy the conversation.

“Lofty” Budget Approved for 2006-07

Non-Partisan Voter Information

Smart Voter (<http://www.smartvoter.org>) is produced by the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, to:

Provide voters with comprehensive nonpartisan information about the contests on their ballot in an easy-to-use presentation.

Provide a means for candidates to publish information about themselves and their candidacy directly to voters.

Smart Voters will check out this site!

Explanation	Income	Expense	Revenue
General Fund			
Income			
AAUW Dues (90 Members)	7,110	5,490	1,620
Advertising Income	1,000		1,000
Quilt Show	800		800
Other Fundraiser			0
Expenses			
Administrative		250	250
Affiliations (Interbranch)		25	25
Donations: EF (80% of Quilt Show)		640	640
Donations: EF (80% of Fundraisers)			
Legal Advocacy (\$1/mbr.)		90	90
Insurance		175	175
Newsletter & Postage		600	600
Membership Development		500	500
Programs	1,000	1,000	0
Socials	500	500	0
Sunshine		150	150
GHS/Gavilan Scholarships		2,000	2,000
Net revenue over expenses			1,010
General Fund Balance Forward 6/30/06	2,350		2,350
General Fund Balance, 6/30/07			1,340

Tech Trek Fund			
Income			
Garage Sale	600		600
Garlic Festival	700		700
Expenses			
4 Scholarships @ \$800		3,200	3,200
Net Revenue over expenses			1,900
Tech Trek Balance Forward 6/30/06	2,431		2,431
Tech Trek Balance, 6/30/07			531

The 2006-07 Budget was approved by the Executive Board at the October meeting.

This budget includes “lofty” goals, such as growing the chapter to 90 members during this year, increasing the local scholarships to Gilroy High School and Gavilan College to \$1,000 each, and sending 4 girls to Tech Trek.

All board members admit that there is work to be done because it is not their desire to deficit spend. They have scheduled a review of the budget each month.

Your input is welcome. If you have ideas for fundraisers, or membership recruitment, please contact one of the board members listed on the front page.

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2006 Voter Initiative Recommendations by California AAUW

YES on 1C

AAUW California Supports Ballot Initiative 1C

General information:

This initiative, called the "Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006," provides:

- Shelters for battered women and their children
- Clean, safe housing for low-income senior citizens
- Homeownership assistance for the disabled, military veterans and working families
- Repairs and accessibility improvements to apartments for families and disabled citizens

To finance it, the state will issue \$2.85 billion in bonds.

AAUW California's Analysis:

Lack of affordable and emergency housing in California is well-known problem. In 2002, voters passed Proposition 46, which provided \$2.1 billion for these services. Those funds will be exhausted by the end of 2006, so this measure seeks to re-establish the funding.

If Proposition 46 funds are not replenished, a critical weapon in the fight to maintain some level of emergency and affordable housing will no longer be available.

We need to ensure that women and their families have decent, safe, and affordable housing. Until these basic needs are addressed, it will be difficult for

those in need to focus on other issues, such as education and jobs.

YES on 1D

AAUW California Supports Ballot Initiative 1D

General information:

This initiative, called the "Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006," provides funding to:

- Relieve public school overcrowding
- Repair older schools
- Improve earthquake safety
- Continue and expand vocational educational facilities in public schools
- Repair and upgrade existing public college and university buildings
- Build new classrooms to accommodate growing student enrollment in the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University

To finance it, the state will issue \$10.416 billion in bonds.

AAUW California's Analysis:

The last funding bond act that addressed these issues was passed in 1998, and that money has built classrooms for over 1 million students and provided upgrades for over 2 million students. The 1998 bond measure provided for 50% matching funds with local sources.

During this time, the margin needed to pass local school bonds was lowered from two-thirds to 55%, so more local funds have been available, so more matching state funds have been needed. This state money will run out before 2008 and needs to be renewed now.

The CTA and PTA support this initiative, as does the business community. Business leaders consider the 1998 legislation a model for state and local education funding. The 2006 ballot measure follows the same model.

There is currently no organized opposition, but the last bond issue passed by just 50.2%, and your active support is needed to get this passed.

NO on 85

AAUW California Opposes Proposition 85

General information:

The official name is "Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy Initiative Constitutional Amendment."

Similar to last year's Proposition 73, this new proposition amends the state constitution to prohibit abortion for unemancipated minors until 48 hours after the physician notifies the minor's parent or legal guardian. It provides exceptions for medical emergencies or with a parental waiver. It also permits a minor to obtain a court order waiving this notice.

AAUW California's Analysis:

The California Constitution has

an explicit right-to-privacy clause that makes minor consent laws unconstitutional. This initiative amends the Constitution to limit a teen's right to privacy, thereby circumventing this guaranteed right.

Groups supporting this proposition are generally anti-choice, such as the Campaign for Children and Families, the California Resource Institute, the Eagle Forum, California Right to Life, the Life on the Ballot Political Committee, and the California Catholic Conference. We anticipate that the over 100 groups who opposed Proposition 73 will join in opposition to this new initiative.

AAUW California supports the protection of individual choice in the determination of one's reproductive life, including the right to privacy. National AAUW has an issue brief available on its web site entitled "Minors' Access to Reproductive Services" that emphasizes AAUW's strong support of confidential access for reproductive health services.



Useful talking points:

- 62% of pregnant adolescents already consult their parents.
- Those that do not fear abuse, punishment, loss of

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their home or parental disappointment. That segment may take desperate measures and seek illegal abortion providers should this proposition pass.

- When parental notification is required, pregnant teens often postpone getting timely prenatal care. This increases associated health risks.

- Enhanced family commu-

YES on 88

nication cannot be legislated and does not belong in the state constitution.

AAUW California Supports Proposition 88

General information:

The official name is "Education Funding, Real Property Parcel Tax. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute."

It provides additional public school funding for kindergarten through grade 12 by imposing a \$50 tax on each real property parcel. Certain elderly and disabled homeowners are exempted.

The funds must be used for class size reduction, textbooks, school safety, Academic Success facility grants, and a data system to evaluate educational program effectiveness. It excludes the funds from Proposition 98 calculations.

AAUW California's Analysis:

California students rank in the bottom six states in reading and math, and this is caused in part by inadequate funding, high class size, inadequate facilities,

and students with greater needs. Our education funding is below the national average, so we need new investment. A parcel assessment will raise these funds while protecting property owners against runaway taxes. There are safeguards against waste and mismanagement, and owners 65 years of age or older are exempt.

AAUW California supports equitable funding for quality public education that supports individual special needs and talents, including programs and services for all students of any culture, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

For additional information on voter issues in 2006 that California AAUW has taken a position on, go to: <http://www.aauw-ca.org/policy/election2006.htm>.

There are other initiatives on the November ballot which AAUW has not taken a position. Members will have to seek out information on the following initiatives from other sources. The initiatives include:

Proposition 1A. Transportation Funding Protection -- State of California (*Legislative Constitutional Amendment - Majority Approval Required*)

Should the California Constitution be amended to further protect the state sales tax revenues for transportation purposes from general-purpose use and require any funds borrowed to be repaid to the transportation fund?

Proposition 1B. Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air

Quality, and Port Security -- State of California (*Legislative Bond Act - Majority Approval Required*)

Should the state sell \$19.9 billion in general obligation bonds to fund state and local transportation improvement projects to relieve congestion, improve movement of goods, improve air quality, and enhance safety and security of the transportation system?

Proposition 1E. Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention -- State of California (*Legislative Bond Act - Majority Approval Required*)

Should the state sell \$4.1 billion in general obligation bonds to finance disaster preparedness and flood prevention projects at the state and local levels?

Proposition 83. Sex Offenders. Sexually Violent Predators. Punishment, Residence Restrictions and Monitoring. -- State of California (*Initiative Statute - Majority Approval Required*)

Should California amend existing laws relating to violent and habitual sex offenders and child molesters to increase penalties and monitoring?

Proposition 84. Water Quality, Safety and Supply. Flood Control. Natural Resource Protection. Park Improvements. -- State of California (*Bond Initiative Statute - Majority Approval Required*)

Should the state issue \$5.4 billion in bonds for a wide variety of projects related to water safety, rivers, beaches, levees, watersheds, and parks and forests?

Proposition 86. Tax on Cigarettes -- State of California (*Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute - Majority Approval Required*)

Should the state impose an additional tax of \$2.60 per cigarette pack to fund new and expanded health services, health insurance for children, and expand tobacco use prevention programs?

Proposition 87. Alternative Energy. Research, Production, Incentives. Tax on California Oil Producers -- State of California (*Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute - Majority Approval Required*)

Should California establish a \$4 billion Clean Alternative Energy Program to reduce California's oil and gasoline consumption by 25 percent through incentives for alternative energy, education, and training?

Proposition 89. Political Campaigns. Public Financing. Corporate Tax Increase. Campaign Contribution and Expenditure Limits -- State of California (*Initiative Statute - Majority Approval Required*)

Should eligible candidates for state elective offices receive public campaign funding that is supported by new taxes on corporations and financial institutions, and should contribution limits be imposed on those candidates that do not receive public campaign funding?

Proposition 90. Government Acquisition, Regulation of Private Property -- State of California (*Initiative Constitutional Amendment - Majority Approval Required*)

Should the California Constitution be amended to require government to pay property owners for substantial economic losses resulting from some new laws and rules, and limit government authority to take ownership of private property?

Gilroy Branch Board Members Write the Governor

At the September board meeting, board members wrote postcards to the governor urging him to sign Assembly and Senate bills that California AAUW supports. Those bills were:

AB2084—Domestic Violence shelter (to comply with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.)

AB2695—Domestic Violence (would continue laws dealing with workplace protective orders to better protect domestic violence shelter service provider)

SB840—Single Payer Health Care Coverage (would provide affordable health insurance for all Californians based on residency and not on employment)

SB1193—Pupil Attendance (would allow absences of students working precincts during elections to be excused thus generating more ADA funds for school districts.)

AB2802—Teacher Credentialing: Early Learning (would require development of an early learning credential as

well as a bachelors degree.)

MEMBERS: HERE IS THE GOVERNOR'S E-MAIL. PLEASE LET HIM KNOW THAT YOU URGE HIM TO SIGN BILLS THAT AAUW APPROVES. ONCE A MONTH OR EVEN MORE OFTEN WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IF WE ALL TAKE ON OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO WRITE.

<http://www.govmail.ca.gov>

The address, if you prefer to write is:

Governor Schwarzenegger
State Capitol, 1st floor
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

ALERT!

This newsletter will be printed and mailed to the mailing list through the month of November, 2006. After that time mailings will be discontinued to any member who has an e-mail address. Delivery of newsletter will be done primarily through electronic means and only mailed to members who don't have access to e-mail.

If you have not previously done so, please register your current e-mail address with Susan Murphey Patereau, spatereau@interorealestat.com, as soon as possible to insure that you get all Gilroy AAUW communications when they are "hot off the press."

If you currently receive e-mail communications from Gilroy AAUW no action is required.

Interest Group Report



Culinary

"Early Mission California" was an interesting and challenging theme for the Culinary dinner on October 15th. Everyone who attended had a great time.

Another dinner will be announced after the first of the year. Remember, all members are welcome. Anyone who would like to attend should call the hostess to get a recipe for the current dinner theme, then prepare it for the evening of the event.

Ninja Sushi. Marianne Peoples brought her daughter, Stacy, visiting from Idaho. Susan Patereau and new member Eros Lumicao were there, and Jan Paterson rounded out the group.

We all had a drink and shared Etamame, California Rolls, and the Ninja #1 Rolls. Everything was delicious!

The next gathering will be Friday, November 3rd, at El Amigo.



That is a Mexican Restaurant located near Staples and Home Depot. All members are welcome! Be there right at 5, or whenever you are available, up until 7.



Mark Your Calendar

Put these dates on your calendar now so you won't schedule over them:

- Sunday, December 3
Christmas Party
- Saturday, April 21, 2007
Spring Membership Luncheon
- Saturday, May 19, 2007
Quilt Show Fundraiser
- Saturday, June 2, 2007
Garage Sale
- Saturday, June 9, 2007
End-of-Year BBQ



Wine & Whine

A small group got together on Friday evening, October 6th, at



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We're on the web!
www.GilroyAAUW.org

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls,
lifelong education and positive societal change.

EF Luncheon, 2006

Join Us In Mountain View

by Carolann Ford, AAUW
California EF VP

The Educational Foundation committee cordially invites you and your friends to a 125th Anniversary Celebration luncheon honoring the 2006-2007 EF Fellows and Grant Recipients. As in years past, we will hold both a northern and southern luncheon, so that everyone has a chance to meet some of these remarkable women.

We are so pleased to have 29 fellows studying in California this year. Eighteen fellows are located in northern California -- 9 at UC Berkeley alone -- and 11 in southern California. Each of these women has an awesome and exciting topic of study.

The Northern Luncheon will be

held overlooking Shoreline Golf Links and a small lake at Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View on Sunday, October 22 from noon to 3 p.m.

Michael's offers a choice of 3 entree salads -- shrimp Louie, papaya stuffed with chicken salad and fruit, or vegetarian pasta primavera salad. The meal includes a non-alcoholic beverage and birthday cake. Pre-paid reservations must be sent to our Sacramento office by October 9th.

There is free parking and a no host bar. Please send your entree choice and a check for \$30 per person payable to "AAUW California" by the deadline to AAUW California, PO Box 160067, Sacramento, CA 95816.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!



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