

Tech Trek Program

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The first of the Gilroy AAUW 2007-08 programs was all about Tech Trek.

Our three sponsored attendees, Kayla, Kristina, and Leticia, gave a report of their experiences and showed off their projects. The girls were chosen when they were in 7th grade, and they all three attend Solorsano Middle School in Gilroy.



The program was on Wednesday, October 10th, at the Gilroy High School Community Room.

AAUW members enjoyed the presentation, and participated in the lively discussion.

Kayla explained about the college and housing accommodations. Leticia demonstrated some of the projects the girls completed, and Kristina explained the equipment, as well as the Chabot Space Center field trip.

All three girls agreed that the Lip Gloss project was their favorite. The ingredients in lip gloss were a surprise to them.

Kayla really liked the Bats project, where bats were brought to a lab and examined and discussed.

Each of the girls explained their duties at the Chabot Space Center where their project was to complete a mission to Mars.

There was also a Ghiradelli Chocolate project, a car that runs on vegetable oil (it smelled like French Fries!), a Kaleidoscope project, a visit with a representative from Pixar Animation Studio, a Zoomobile, a Women in Science panel discussion, and a Campus Quest around the college to locate and identify landmarks.

In the dorms, each girl had their own room, and all three girls enjoyed dorm life.

All three girls thanked the members of AAUW for sponsoring their Tech Trek experience, and encouraged the group to continue the project. They all said they would talk to current 7th grade girls and encourage them to ask their Science teachers to recommend them for next year.



Interest Groups

Culinary

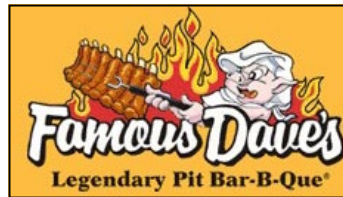


Octoberfest Dinner is on for October. 20th at Lyn Hackett's house. Call her for recipes! Call her at 842-4946, or e-mail her at hackett@garlic.com.

Wine & Whine

Met at Westside Grill on October 5th. Susan, Suzanne, Charleen and Lyn whined about everything including the service.

November 2nd is the next meeting. See you at Famous Dave's, Gilroy Crossings Shopping Center, 5 PM. No reservations necessary, just show up—and



Books



No news from Books Group. All attendees must have their nose in a book and not paying attention to telling us what they're up to. They still meet the second Tuesday and the last Thursday of the month. Call Eileen Barrett at 842-3507 for details.

Links

Gilroy AAUW:
www.gilroyaauw.org

California AAUW:
www.aauw-ca.org

National AAUW:
www.aauw.org

These links are also available on the local website, so make it easy on yourself and bookmark the page:

www.gilroyaauw.org/html/links.html

Holiday Party Plans

The holiday party for Gilroy AAUW will be Sunday, December 2nd, at 4:00.

Please save the date! The location and specifics are being worked out at this time. Charleen Arnberg and Carolyn Schell have volunteered to help with the details, and they could use more help.

If you would like to assist with the party, please e-mail Margie Enger. She can be reached at meeenger@aol.com.

The other part of the party is collecting money for buying gifts for a family that is identi-

fied as needing assistance by Community Solutions. Carol Smith is coordinating this effort. She will collect at the party, identify what needs to be purchased, and organize the shopping. If you would like to work with Carol on this project, please call her at 848-2475.

You should plan to bring \$10 to pay for the party, and a donation for the Family Shopping Project. You'll also be asked to bring a dish of some kind for the party. All of the details will come to you in an invitation in November, but



Budget 7/ 1/ 07 – 6/ 30/ 08

General Fund

	Income	Expenses	Net
AAUW Dues (50 Members)	3,950	3,150	800
Advertising Income	450	0	450
Quilt Show	2,000	100	1,900
Administrative	0	300	-300
Affiliations, Interbranch	0	20	-20
Donations: EF (80% of May 2007 Quilt Show Profits)	0	1,500	-1,500
Insurance	0	150	-150
Membership	0	250	-250
Newsletter & Postage	0	100	-100
Programs	0	250	-250
Scholarships	500	500	-1,000
Socials	500	500	
Sunshine	0	80	
Net Expenses over Revenues			-500
Checking Balance, 6/30/07			3,573
Checking Balance, 6/30/08			3,073

Tech Trek Fund

	Income	Net
Garage Sale Income	400	400
Garlic Festival Income	1,000	1,000
Scholarships	-2,250	
Scholarship reimbursed by girls	150	-2,100
Net transactions 2007-08		-700
Teck Trek Savings 6/30/07		2,250
Savings Balance 6/30/08		1,550

The Rules

Equal Times will be published approximately monthly in 2007-2008. 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.

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

Candidates Square Off

Forum co-sponsored by Gilroy AAUW and The Dispatch

Hot topics for discussion and debate by mayoral and city council candidates included sidewalks, Gilroy Gardens, raises for city staff, a possible new mall, public safety, and working with schools.

The debate happened on Thursday evening, September 27th, at the CMAP studio on the Gavilan College campus.

Planning Commissioners Tim Day and Cat Tucker, former Councilman Bob Dillon, lawyer Perry Woodward, and incumbents Roland Velasco and Russ Valiquette are running for the three available council seats. Councilman Craig Gartman and Mayor Al Pinheiro are vying for the mayor's seat.

Dispatch editors and writers joined Susan Murphey Patereau and Margie Enger from the Gilroy AAUW to form the panel that posed questions to the candidates.

Sidewalks Dominate discussion

There was a great deal of inter-

est in how candidates will handle sidewalks. Woodward said he'd spend \$2 million a year to repair sidewalks in a triage-like fashion until the "problem's under control." Tucker's vision involved using the \$350,000 from the city's 50-50 coffer to fix about 40 sidewalks a year for roughly 10 years. Dillon wasn't having any of it. "Can we just fix the damn sidewalks with a bond?" he asked. But Velasco cautioned that the public sidewalk task force concluded bonding was a bad idea since the problem is ongoing.

City Salaries

Another issue the candidates took up was the exempt group's salary policy. Day said the city "may end up paying a higher salary, but in the long run you'll pay more for average results." But Dillon said he'd "be happy to hire ordinarily competent people at a reasonable market price," lest the city's salaries continually "ping pong" off fluctuating wages in nearby cities. Tucker said the policy was unprecedented in the private sector, and Woodward called it

"ridiculous."

Land and Jobs

The council has moved toward attracting high-paying jobs by reserving 660 acres of land east of Gilroy for high-paying technology-oriented jobs, but the Westfield Corporation wants to build a mega-mall on 120 of those acres instead. While Tucker was the only one who opposed the project, Day said he wouldn't decide on the Westfield project until all the facts were in, but the retail site "may be a major source of funding to take care of infrastructure on east side of 101."

The mall would also bring in more money than the empty land that's there now, Gartman said, but Valiquette said a vibrant, livable area is the key to luring high-paying jobs.

One open space the city plans to acquire for \$13 to \$25 million is Gilroy Gardens.

"Buying Gilroy gardens is probably going to have to be done in self defense if you don't want to see Hecker Pass tire and brake out there," Dillon said. Other candidates agreed.

School Facility Funding

The issue of pacing growth with school capacity came up briefly, with Day saying the city can't restrict development based on over-crowded schools because developers pay impact fees to accommodate more students, and the city can't control how, when or where the district builds. In general, candidates agreed that working with GUSD is not only a good idea, but necessary.

Vote on November 6th

It's a short, but very important ballot this year. On November 7th Gilroy voters will go to the polls to elect a Mayor and three Council Members.

Be sure to be informed, and make time that day to vote. If you aren't going to have time, or if it is easier, you can vote absentee. It's soooooooooo easy!



Perry Woodward, third from left, makes a point during the debate. From left, are council candidates Cat Tucker, Tim Day, Roland Velasco, Russ Valiquette and Bob Dillon listen to Woodward.