



# CLAYTON BRANCH NEWS

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

October 2006

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## October General Meeting:

**2006 Propositions  
Pros & Cons  
as presented by the  
League of Women Voters**

**Mon., Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:30pm  
at Diamond Terrace  
6401 Center Street, Clayton**

Get familiar with the propositions on the November 2006 ballot. Here both sides of the story. This meeting is open to the public and co-sponsored by AAUW Clayton & Concord branches.

AAUW membership is open to all people of any gender who hold an associate degree or higher. Students working toward a qualifying degree may become student affiliates. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks members of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability.

Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Jay

Members may submit articles, quips & photos, which are subject to editing and condensation. November issue deadline: 10/24/06 5:00pm. E-mail to JJay925@comcast.net or mail to: 366 Blue Oak Lane, Clayton, CA 94517.

## November 2006 Ballot

AAUW California has taken positions on four measures that you'll see on your ballot in November 2006.

### AAUW CA Supports Ballot Init. 1C

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

### AAUW CA Supports Ballot Init. 1D

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.

No organized opposition exists, but the last bond issue passed by just 50.2%, and your active support is needed to get this passed. Branch newsletters and

October meetings are great channels for advocacy.

### AAUW CA Opposes Prop 85

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.

### AAUW CA Supports Prop 88

California students rank in the bottom six states in reading and math, and this is caused in part by inadequate funding and facilities, high class size, 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. Safeguards exist against mismanagement and waste and owners 65 and over are exempt.

AAUW 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.

## Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security

In April 2005, the AAUW Educational Foundation Board and the Association Board voted to approve a new programmatic theme for AAUW: Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security. AAUW will build a coordinated, collaborative, and contemporary portfolio of AAUW programs that will serve the mission of AAUW, support and engage members and prospective members, and, in the process, move the organization forward in a focused and strategic manner.

According to research from a wide variety of sources, economic security is one of the top issues of interest and concern for all women. It is perceived as a broad and timely issue that engages a diverse population of women at the local level with great potential for national and international results.

This theme has particular relevance for AAUW, as we reflect on and celebrate the tremendous progress of girls and young

women in education over the past 20 years. Clearly, gender equity issues remain in the K-12 arena and into the college level, including the pervasive problem of harassment in schools and the continued need to support girls' early participation and advancement in science and technology. The reality is that girls are now faring as well as boys by most measures of educational achievement. As the leader in education and equity for women and girls, AAUW must refocus its efforts to play an integral role in ensuring that the school-based achievements of recent decades translate into lasting, lifelong equity for women and their families.



As has become abundantly clear from recent research, including [AAUW's Women at Work \(2003\)](#) and the web-based [Gains in Learning, Gaps in Earning \(2005\)](#), women today are working more than ever yet remain crowded in undervalued, lower-paying occupations with fewer benefits for themselves and the children and elderly for whom they often care. Ensuring equity for women

and girls — from pre-K through retirement and at all points in between — has become our greatest challenge.

The new theme is intended to focus our work as the continued leader in equity and education for women and girls, proving that for all of our accomplishments, equity is still very much an issue.

AAUW is building a national platform of programs and initiatives that will concentrate on the following theme-related issues:

- Access to high-quality education for all girls and women
- Access to high-quality professional training and development for women.
- Lifelong opportunities for literacy development and learning
- Opportunities to study and advance professionally in high-skill and high-wage fields, particularly science and technology
- Greater value for women-dominated fields, including education
- Fair wages, family-friendly benefits, and nondiscriminatory workplaces for all women

### Public Perceptions of the Pay Gap

*Women working full time earn about 75% of what men working full time earn. Even after considering job tenure, years in the labor market, occupation, education, and other factors usually associated with pay, about 20% of the gap remains unexplained.*

*Do Americans know about this disparity? Why do they think there is a pay gap? In March 2005, the AAUW Educational Foundation commissioned a nationally representative poll conducted by Lake, Snell, Perry, Mermin and Associates to learn about common perceptions of the pay gap.*

#### Highlights from the research

- ❖ **Americans are well aware that a pay gap exists between male and female full-time workers, according to AAUW's research.** 81% of women and 69% of men agree that there is a difference between the wages of male and female full-time workers. Only 12% of women believe there is no gender gap, compared with 24% of the men surveyed.
- ❖ **Women are more likely to believe there is a pay gap, and they estimate a bigger gap, on average, than do men.** Men and women ages 45 and older are more likely than younger adults to strongly agree that there is a pay gap.
- ❖ **Democratic and Republican women agree that a pay gap exists** and believe that a key reason for it is that employers don't promote young women because employers believe women will leave if they have children.
- ❖ **Over half (56%) of Americans include employers' unwillingness to promote young women because they may leave when they have children as either the first (29%) or second (27%) most important reason for the pay gap.** About 41% say it is because women prioritize family over work and are less committed to their careers. An identical number (41%) say it is because employers discriminate against women in their hiring and promotion practices. About a fifth of Americans (28%) chose gender differences in negotiation and assertiveness as a leading factor. Only 12% of adults think there is a wage gap because men are more likely to have the education and skills needed for higher paying jobs.
- ❖ **Women's skills and educational attainment are *not* considered an important factor in the gender pay gap by either men or women** —work/family balance issues, employers' perceptions of women's family commitments, and discrimination by employers are considered more important reasons.

## Membership

Mary Ann Hayes, Membership VP

Were you unable to attend our September 30 Membership Luncheon? Perhaps a guest you invited could not attend. Do you know someone who is interested in finding out about or joining AAUW?

You are requested to participate in AAUW's Keys to the Future, Member-Get-A-Member Campaign. Your personal commitment will assure AAUW's continued strength. You are encouraged to use your "Keys to the Future" to open the door to AAUW's second 125 years. Every AAUW member is challenged to recruit at least one paid new member between 6/1/06 to 6/15/07.

Invite a friend to a meeting. Reduced national membership dues are offered for new membership who join at an AAUW sponsored activity.

You will be recognized for your efforts. If you recruit a new member your name will appear on AAUW's website hall of Fame, you will receive a certificate of recognition, and perhaps be eligible for other awards. Each member who recruits five or more members will receive the exclusive 125<sup>th</sup> Logo Award Winner lapel pin. To be credited with recruiting a new member, you will need your AAUW ID number found on your *Outlook* publication.

I have invitation postcards to send to perspective members as well as brochures describing AAUW. Remember that

membership requirements require an Associate's or equivalent or higher degree.

Visit AAUW.org for a wealth of information about AAUW, special discounts for members, the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary webpage. Roseann Krane is our branch webmaster for our own Clayton branch website (ClaytonAAUW.org).

## President's Message

Dana McDaniel, President Elect

Thank you to all who attended modeled and assisted in our Fall Membership Lunch. It was a fun and fabulous event with good food and company. Big welcome to new members Judy Bates, Ester Nicastro Capon, Arlyne Singer and Pamela Newachek!

I hope that I will see the same big turn for our October General Meeting which will be held at Diamond Terrace (*see page 1 for details*). This meeting will help you become an informed voter for the upcoming November election.

The Educational Foundation, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund and the Legal Advocacy Foundation were established for women to obtain an advanced degree, promote teacher fellowships, professional development and to provide legal funding for individuals who are denied tenure. Become a part of the Century Club today by donating \$100 to the Eleanor Roosevelt fund. Honorees of the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund are individuals who are recognized for their dedication to equity and education.

## EF Fellows Lunch

The Educational Foundation committee invites you to a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration luncheon honoring the 2006-07 EF Fellows and Grant Recipients on Sunday, October 22 from noon to 3pm at Michaels in Mountain View. A choice of three entrée salads includes Shrimp Louie, Papaya stuffed with chicken salad and fruit, or vegetarian Pasta Primavera salad; non-alcoholic beverage and cake included. \$30 prepaid reservations per person check payable to "AAUW California" and entrée choice must be sent by October 9 to AAUW CA, P.O. Box 160067, Sacramento, CA 95816.

## Upcoming Events

Fri. Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 5:45 p.m.

### Bowling @ Clayton Valley Bowl

Please call Marcia 827-9540 if you like to bowl! Spouses and friends welcome.

Wed., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m.

### At Allegra Mill's

#### Ladies Evening Bridge

Hostess will call Bridge Group members to see who will play. If you would like to join, call Mary Ann Hayes at 672-4391.

Fri. Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 4-7; Sat. Oct 14<sup>th</sup> 10-6

Sun. Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 12-4

### At Clayton Community Library

#### Used Book Sale

Most books \$1. Half off most remaining books Sunday 12-4. \$2 a bag Sunday 2-4. Sponsored by Clayton Community Library Foundation.

Mon. Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:30 p.m.

### At Diamond Terrace

#### General Meeting: The Ballot

#### Propositions Pro & Con presented by the League of Women Voters

Open to the public. See page 1 for details.

Wed. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 7:45 p.m.

### At Sandi Watson's

#### Evening Literature

*My Honeymoon with My Brother* by Franz Wizer. Contact Mary Ann Hayes 672-4391.

Sat., Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m.

(Call Carol for location)

#### Couple's Bridge

If you are interested in playing this year, contact Carol Wolfe 672-1303.

Sat., Nov 4<sup>th</sup>

### Gourmet Group

Clayton AAUW Gourmet has been meeting for over thirty years. View some of our past dinners at

<http://www.claytonaauw.org/interests.html>. We

have a fun group that likes to try the foods from other countries. Join us by experiencing the culinary foods from France at member's homes. RSVP to Jean Cain by calling 672-5539 or e-mail [imalamin@aol.com](mailto:imalamin@aol.com). You will be given a choice of food preparation. Guests are invited. If you need more information, contact, Jo Ann Caspar at 672-7680 or [jojocaspar@comcast.net](mailto:jojocaspar@comcast.net).

Mon. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m.

### Board Meeting @ Rosemary's

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### Membership Directory

The Clayton Branch AAUW Membership Directory for 2006-2007 will be available at the November General Meeting. Please send all updates and suggestions for inclusion in the directory to Roseann Krane at [rkane@yahoo.com](mailto:rkane@yahoo.com) by the 11/3/06 deadline.

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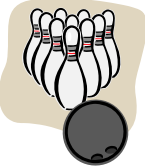
Did you travel somewhere fun or have great news to share? Send a brief description and photo to newsletter editor Jennifer Jay at [JJay925@comcast.net](mailto:JJay925@comcast.net).



**Member News:** Last month at Cal Wok Restaurant with close family and friends, member **Marcia Hart** celebrated her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and husband **Barry** celebrated his retirement after teaching 38 years.

## Interest Groups

AAUW has a wide variety of interest groups. This is a great way to socialize with a smaller group and get to know one another better while doing a fun activity. Marcia Hart is organizer of several of our groups that include bowling, bocce ball and field trips. No experience necessary for any of these events. Make it a goal to learn something new this year.



**Bowling.** A core of seven bowlers has been meeting for the past five years on the first Friday of the month at Clayton Valley Bowl at 5:50pm. This odd time was intentionally planned because a discount is given for each game if bowler arrives before 6. A good time is always had and everyone roots for everybody. They cheer high five, laugh and talk. After bowling, they pick a restaurant and continue our good time until around 8:30 or 9:00pm.

**Bocce Ball.** We don't currently have a Bocce Ball team, but we can start one! The league plays from April to October. It takes 6-10 people for a team.



### Field Trips and Outdoor Activities.

Marcia thought that this would be a good way for the men to become more involved. Barry has graciously volunteered to get this one going!

Wouldn't it be fun to go wine tasting in Napa, Livermore or Sonoma? Ride the snow train to Reno? Go camping on Mt. Diablo or Yosemite? How about going with your AAUW friends? Let Marcia know if you are interested or have suggested locations. *Let's Do It!*

**The Traveling Gourmets.** Come join us and do remember we don't just make fancy foods. We are really traveling to different countries and trying their foods—at least we imagine we do. On November 4, 2006, we travel to the south of France so take a look at our menu and the delicious food. You will find our current menu and recipes at <http://www.claytonaauw.org/french.pdf>.



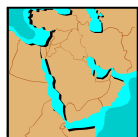
Naturally we are flexible and have changed the date of this dinner three times. So the peach dessert may be substituted as November will no longer be peach season. Contact Jean Cain or Joann Casper to sign up or ask questions or change a menu item.

We need a hostess or two for this November dinner. Please consider offering your home. Once you sign up, you will be contacted with the number signed up and the hostess just before the dinner. How do we share costs? Everyone brings the total cost of expenditures and we divide that by the number of people attending—then cost are split. Do join the fun. We look forward to a great evening.

**Great Decisions.** Spending an afternoon discussing world affairs, this group follows the Great Decisions 2007 briefing books and will meet on Mondays at 3:30 during February and March 2007. Save time in your busy schedules. For more details on cost of book and joining this interest group, contact Ruth Lyle at [RBLY8@aol.com](mailto:RBLY8@aol.com).



The currently outlined topics (which are subject to change due to current events before the books are printed) include:



**Middle East:** Although the U.S. will remain closely engaged stability in the region, Iran's nuclear program, the outcome of the conflict with Lebanon, and Israeli-Palestinian negotiations will all play a key role. How will these issues shape the Middle East?

**Climate Change:** How much are human practices contributing to substantial and irreversible changes to the environment? What effect are changes to the climate having in different areas of the planet? What response can the international community adopt to lessen the impact of dramatic climate change?



**Mexico.** The results of Mexico's presidential election were nearly too close to call, how will this result affect the New Mexican administration's policies? Can Felipe Calderon successfully reform Mexico's policies on energy, trade and

border security and strengthen relations with the United States?



**Migration:** The movement of people across international borders can be initiated by conflict, economic reasons or the chance to achieve political freedoms. Migration issues have taken center-stage in the U.S. and E.U., as citizens increasingly worry about job security and terrorism. What are the advantages and disadvantages for countries that are affected by migration?

**South Africa:** South Africa is the most developed country in Africa and has been an



active leader on the continent, yet it still struggles with major issues in the post-Apartheid era. What are the political challenges facing South Africa? What impact is the AIDS epidemic playing on South Africa's economy and society?

**War Crimes:** The creation of the International Criminal Court has established a new venue for investigating and prosecuting war crimes, despite a lack of U.S. participation. Will the non-participation of the U.S. weaken the power of the ICC? What challenges are faced by the ICC in punishing war criminals?



**Central Asia:** Rich in energy supplies and strategically located, the five countries of Central Asia attract attention from the Middle East, China, Russia and the United States. How will international competition for energy supplies affect each country? What are U.S. interests in the region?

**Children:** Ensuring the safety and proper development of children is the stated goal of the global community, yet in some countries, children are exposed to unsafe labor practices, human trafficking, and participation in combat. What role do private donors, governments and international organizations play in ensuring health care, education and safety for the world's children?

