



2009-10 BOARD

President

[Patricia Dilks](#)
510-531-5133

Communication Co-VPs

[Linda Wood](#)
510-836-3730

and

[Julia Brown](#)
415-667-0138

Finance VP

[Nancy Adams](#)
510-528-2251

Legal Advocacy Fund VP

[Judy Mann](#)
510-531-9811

Membership VP

[Judy McCord](#)
510-922-1594

Program VP

[Teron McGrew](#)
510-601-5901

Public Policy VP

[Judy Cox](#)
510.595.7402

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Children's Programs Fair

Co-chairs:

[Marilyn Little](#) [Seena Clark](#)
510.339.9609 510.568.2336

Tech Trek

[Ann Johnson](#)
510.482.5596

Sunshine Committee

[Joyce Temby](#)

Association Websites

State: www.aauw-ca.org

National: www.aauw.org

Branch: www.aauw-op.com

A publication of the AAUW
Oakland Piedmont Branch,
est. 1952
Vol. 60, Issue 9, May 2010



NWPC-Alameda North

AAUW Oakland-Piedmont

You're invited to a free* community forum
co-sponsored by

***National Women's Political Caucus Alameda North
& AAUW Oakland-Piedmont***

**“Baffled by the Ballot?
Wise Women Explain it All”**

Hear the pros and cons of the five Initiatives that will appear on
the June Primary Election Ballot

*Take home a handy reference chart showing how our local elected
women and activist organizations stand on these issues, to share with
friends and family!*

Monday, May 3, 2010

6:00 – 7:30 pm

**Buttercup Grill, 229 Broadway at Third,
Downtown Oakland**

*Please arrive a few minutes early to order your meal before the
program begins. There is no charge for the meeting; dinner is at your own ex-
pense. Reservations are not necessary, for further information, please contact
[Miriam Rokeach](#) or [Ellen Augustine](#)*

Table of Contents

Branch Event	1	National Convention Info.	4
President's Message.	2	Membership Notes.	5, 6, 7
Children's Summer Programs Fair Open Letter	2	Student Aid Article.	5
Interest Groups & Items of Interest.	3, 4	LAF Update.	7
		Calendar	8

***AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education
and research. To serve our diverse community, the AAUW Oakland-
Piedmont Branch supports quality education and innovative programs.
Membership is open to all college graduates and enrolled students.***

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month, our eyes are on Voter Education. The California Primary Election is coming up on Tuesday, June 8th, and there will be five Initiatives on the ballot, shown as Propositions 13 through 17, along with a number of candidates for state and regional offices. Have you already decided how you will vote on each of those issues? Aptly named, Proposition 13 DOES deal with property tax, but does it increase it or decrease it, and what triggers a change? Should insurance companies be able to charge people more if they have gaps in their coverage history, or give those who don't a credit? How would that affect younger drivers? And what is the California Fair Elections Act about (Prop. 15). I know that I have come to rely on the honest pros and cons of our annual 'Baffled by the Ballot' meeting to help make those important decisions, and I hope to see many of you there on May 3.

Looking ahead to the November General Election (Nov. 2), there will be a great many local races to be decided. Most significantly, this will be the first election in our branch area to use Instant Runoff Voting (IRV). Judy Cox, our VP of Public Policy, is a longtime leader in local public policy and an advocate for good government. She has already been trained by the Registrar of Voters in IRV education, and has been making presentations to many community groups. The Registrar has a goal of having at least one trained IRV 'consultant' in EACH polling place for the November election. What an excellent opportunity for AAUW-OP to demonstrate its commitment to Voter Education! The Registrar will have funds to pay these trained 'consultants' ... some of us who are already on board to be trained have pledged our compensation to Tech Trek, making this a win/win for our community, our branch and our Tech Trek program. If you would like to join in this excellent program, which requires only a few days commitment at most, please contact Judy Cox right away. Judy will be sharing more information with us all soon about this program, but for now, please SAVE THE DATE of November 2 to help with Voter Education. Mobilizing women to vote is a key issue for AAUW, and one sure way to join with our sisters in like-minded organizations to bring about positive societal change.

Thanks to all of you who made our AAUW Summer Camps and Programs Fair such a wonderful success. In addition to all those terrific volunteers named in the April Voice, I would like to especially thank Barbara Pearl and Gen Katz who served on our planning committee and assisted with marketing efforts in public and private schools.

Our gross fair revenues were \$12,385, about half of which will be net profit. While this is adequate for branch needs this year, our revenues from this event decreased by 10% from \$14,490 in 2008, our peak year, to \$13,017 in 2009 and by another 5% from 2009 to 2010. We sold 92 tables in 2008 but only 78 in 2010. In a survey of 54 vendors, I found that economic reasons and a perceived lack of results from previous fairs contributed to their failure to register this year. High staff turn-over, changes in phone numbers, mailing and e-mail addresses also created a disruption in our communication with agencies, making it imperative that we follow-up each year to make sure we do not lose vendors.

While the fair still brings in adequate revenues, I believe that eventually we will need to supplement or replace it with another event. We may prepare for that day now by creating and trying out alternative possibilities. If you are interested in working with me and other volunteers to explore new events, please let me know.

Marilyn Little
Vendor Coordinator
510-339-9609
marilynjlittle@aol.com

**INTEREST GROUPS
AND COMMITTEES**

EVENING BOOKS

Sue Yascolt
510-530-2328

INTERNATIONAL FOODS

Ann Lister
510-658-5063

LUNCH BUNCH

Lori Durbin
510-482-4363

MORNING BOOKS

Joyce Temby
510-451-6711

SERENDIPITY

Sue Yascolt
510-530-2328

**PUZZLES, GAMES, &
CARDS**

Linda Hoffman
510-531-9255

Fiberista's Night

Patricia Dilks
510-531-5133

VOICE EDITOR

Julia Brown
510-547-8618
itboakland@yahoo.com

**Please email contact
changes/updates
ASAP**

VOICE DISTRIBUTION

Joyce Temby
510.451.6711

INTEREST GROUPS



MORNING BOOKS

First Thursday

May 6, 10 a.m.

We're back at Joyce Temby's house,
1125 Sunnyhills Road, Oakland
510-451-6711

Book : The Love of A Good Woman by Alice Munro

Reviewer: Barbara Boberg

Please bring suggestions for next seasons books! All are welcome!

Lunch Bunch

2nd Friday

May 14, 12:30pm

Pican

2295 Broadway
(cross Street is Grand Ave)
Oakland

510-834-1000

RSVP to SueYascolt@yahoo.com

510-530-2328



Fiberista's Night

4th Tuesday

May 25, 2010

6:30-9 pm

Patricia Dilks' home
97 Selkirk Street
Oakland
510-531-5133

**All knitters, crocheters, quilters,
needle pointers, etc., are welcome**

Ideas for New Interest Groups?

Contact: judy_mccord@comcast.net
or any board member & talk about
your ideas!

Puzzles, Games, & Cards

SUN, May 16

3-5pm at:

Linda Hoffman's house
29 Blachford Court (off Ascot)
Oakland, 94611
510-531-9255

Miss March Monopoly Madness?

Don't be shy-come on by! Bring
an old favorite to share, or
rummage through the stack and
choose what looks like fun. Come,
relax, perhaps learn something
new, laugh (a certainty), and have
a chance to catch up with friends
or make a new one! An RSVP is
not required but would be nice.



Evening Books

Second Thursday May 14, 2010

Book: "Finding Nouf"

Author: Zoe Ferraris

Reviewer: Ann Johnson

Hostess: Becky D'Harlingue

13786 Campus Drive

Oakland , CA 94605

510-562-0201

Coffee and Dessert - 7:30

Review - 8:00 p.m.

All are welcome!!!

Items of Interest



League of Women Voters of Oakland

Hot Topic for May 2010 Taking a Stand on June Ballot Measures

The June 8 ballot propositions deal with complex and controversial issues. Marion Taylor, who edits the League's online *Pros and Cons*, will lead a review of the background and details of all proposals. Helen Hutchison, leading the League's statewide advocacy campaign, will discuss the our stands on the issues.

Monday, May 3, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Redwood Heights Community Center
3883 Aliso Avenue
(off Redwood Road below Hwy 13)

The League of Women Voters of Oakland sponsors monthly HOT TOPICS roundtable discussions to inform members and the public, and to seek ways we can come together to address important issues facing our community.

AAUW Launches New "Elect Her" Initiative to Change Status Quo in U.S. Politics

WASHINGTON – AAUW is launching Elect Her — a new initiative — to expand the pipeline of women running for elective office, an effort that could change the face of politics in America. Women now hold just 17 percent of the seats in Congress and 24 percent of seats in state legislatures. "AAUW, Running Start, and the Women's Campaign Forum are committed to helping women become leaders on their campuses and in their communities. We focus on the different aspects of the leadership gap, but our ultimate goal is to have better representation of women at all levels," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. See entire story.

http://www.aauw.org/media/pressreleases/electHer_042310.cfm

Children's Learning Center

State Certified Nonpublic, Nonprofit Special Education School
Seeing the Possibilities ... and Making them Real

Patricia Dilks

Business Manager

Direct Line: 510-864-3510

1910 Central Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 769-7100 * Fax (510) 769-1824
Email: personal: pdilks@yahoo.com
school: pdilks@clcalameda.com

We have
WARDROBE FOR OPPORTUNITY
in Oakland!!!

Any Man or Woman who has an interview scheduled can go to Wardrobe for Opportunity at:

570 14th Street, Suite # 5
Oakland, 94612
510/463-4100

They have an extensive array of clothing and accessories. They appreciate donations of business attire for men and women. There are volunteers present to help the interviewees with choices. For more information contact:

Judy Mann, 510/531-9811
judithamann@comcast.net

2011 National Convention

June 16-19, 2011
Renaissance Hotel
Washington, D.C.

SAVE THE DATE!!

**START MAKING YOUR
PLANS NOW**



SERENDIPITY GIRLFRIENDZ Annual Spring Concert

NINE JOYFUL WOMEN SING JAZZ STANDARDS,
POP & FOLK TUNES, and a little R&B in tight Har-
monies and gorgeous arrangements
DIRECTED by Jazz Vocalist ELLEN ROBINSON

SATURDAY, May 15, 2009, 8:00 PM
San Leandro Main Library Theater
300 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro CA 94577
Tickets: \$10 General admission / \$5 Seniors

Additional Matinee Show
SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2:00 PM
Contact Seena Clark at clarkscorner@comcast.net or 510-568-2336

Seena, of course, is our Branch's Community Projects Co-chair.

For more information visit www.ellenrobinson.com or www.ArtsCouncilofSanLeandro.org

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Judith Mann, our VP for LAF reports that: AAUW has signed an amicus brief for Christian Legal Society v. Martinez, a case that will be argued before the U.S. Supreme Court. At issue is whether the Hastings Law School violated the First Amendment rights of the petitioners, a student group, by refusing to recognize it as a "registered student organization" (RSO). The group welcomes all Hastings law students but requires its voting members and officers to sign and adhere to a Statement of Faith. The law school denied the group's RSO request on the grounds that the membership policies violated the school's nondiscrimination policy. The Court will decide whether the law school has violated the petitioners' free speech rights, rights of expressive association, or free exercise of religion.

For more details on the case and to read the brief go to:
www.abanet.org/publiced/preview/ChristianLegal.pdf



There are no new updates on the five cases the AAUW currently supports.

Branch Library Collection — AAUW RESEARCH REPORTS

"Why So Few" - this recently-released AAUW research report is a major study examining the underrepresentation of women in science and math with follow-up recommendations for drawing women into the so-called STEM fields. The report joins the other very significant AAUW reports that have studied the education and careers of girls and women, including those on sex discrimination and Title IX, bullying and sexual harassment in school, single-sex education for girls, and pay equity. While the latest report is available for downloading at the AAUW website (aauw.org), branch copies of the earlier reports are available for loan to members. For a complete list and to make arrangements to borrow, please contact Helen Bersie (hbersie@aol.com). (A few reports are currently out - please check your shelves and return for others' use - thanks!)

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Spring is here and it is time to renew your commitment to equity for women and girls. You will soon be receiving a letter asking you to pay your dues to our 100,000 member strong organization which helps women break through barriers in the sciences, business, politics or anywhere in the community that equity and women's voices are not heard.

You may have many reasons for belonging to AAUW. Whether it is for intellectual stimulation as in our book groups, to mentor young girls through Tech Trek, or because of the wonderful friendships you have formed over the years AAUW has many opportunities and benefits.

When you receive your membership form take a few minutes to reflect on the more than 125 years that AAUW has been making a difference for women and girls and join once again our strong network of educated women. **See Membership Renewal Form on page 8.**

Judy McCord, Vice President Membership

Give a Grad a Gift*

AAUW Members can give a recent grad--a friend, daughter, granddaughter, grandson, niece or nephew-- a free AAUW membership within two years of graduation-at no cost to you or them!

Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.

Expand their networking opportunities through career development and community action projects. They will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.

Keep them current on the events and people that affect their lives as they receive Mission & action, AAUW Outlook, Action Network alerts and more.

Increase their buying power with access to great discounts at The Princeton Review, BarnesandNoble.com, health and life insurance, AAUW research reports and more!

Best of all, she/he will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or them! Send no money!

Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer.

*Don't know a Grad?

The Oakland-Piedmont Branch is reaching out to the community, but we need your help.

If you will lend us your name we will arrange for a student at Holy Names College to receive a gift membership at no cost to you or to them.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES CON'T

UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY—E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGE:

Julia Brown, jtboakland@yahoo.com

If you would like a membership packet or if you have additions or corrections to the Membership Directory, please contact judy_mccord@comcast.net or 510-922-1954.

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Jack Olson, beloved husband of Irene Olson. Jack was surrounded by the love and comfort of his family when he left this life the evening of Saturday, April 24, 2010.

Information about services will be forthcoming; Irene asks any of her friends who wish to memorialize Jack to consider a donation to Tech Trek in his honor. Please contact Ann Johnson for more information at 482-5596.

MAY IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH ... PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK NOW

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I am a _____ Regular Member — National Association, AAUW-CA and Local Dues are \$80.00

I am a _____ Life Member — CA and local dues only \$31.00

_____ Student Affiliate—Reduced National Association Dues + State and Local \$48.00

Remember:

\$46 of your Association Dues are tax-deductible for 2009-10; your cancelled check is your receipt.

BECAUSE ASSOCIATION IS OPERATING MORE EFFICIENTLY, THERE IS NO DUES INCREASE FOR 2010!

Our branch is required to report and turn in membership dues on June 30th, so please return this Form by May 25th, along with your check made payable to "AAUW" to:

Patricia Dilks
AAUW O-P Finance
97 Selkirk Street
Oakland, CA 94619

The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

**Oakland-Piedmont
Info Voicemail
510.287.9855
info@aauw-op.com**

**State Office, Sacramento
916.448.7795
office@aauw-ca.org**

**Assn. Member Helpline
1.800.326.2289
helpline@aauw.org**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	PG
May 3	Branch Event	Buttercup Grill	1
May 3	LWV Event	Redwood Hts Comm. Center	4
May 4	Board Meeting	Patty Dilks' Home	
May 6	Morning Books	Joyce Temby's Home	3
May 14	Lunch Bunch	Pican Restaurant	3
May 14	Evening Books	Becky D'Harlingue's Home	3
May 16	Puzzles, Games & Cards	Home of Linda Hoffman	3
May 25	Fiberista's Night	Patty Dilks' Home	3
June 8	California Primary	Your Polling Place!	
June 16-19, 2011	National Convention	Washington, D.C.	4

May 2010, Volume 60, Issue 9 **The Voice** is published 10 times a year by the Oakland-Piedmont Branch of AAUW PO Box 20556, Oakland, CA 94620. Subscriptions are \$15 for 10 issues. Submit Voice articles/announcements by the 15th of the month for following month's issue to: Julia Brown, jtboakland@yahoo.com

AAUW Oakland-Piedmont Branch
PO Box 20556
Oakland, CA 94620
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2010