

- HAVE FUN— take a field trip
- VOLUNTEER—to be a tutor or mentor
- MEET— new members



Meet the Speech Trek Contestants

When: Monday, February 8, 2016

Where: Community United Methodist Church, HMB

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Speech Trek—Our new project

Speech Trek is a new project for our branch, though it has been around for a few years in California. Antoinette Wrubel and I have begun working with a group of students in Half Moon Bay High School. We received 40 applications from interested students, though we think we will probably end up with about 10 when they see how much work it will be. We met with the high school English teachers and received their enthusiast support for this project. Speech Trek is a speech contest open to all students in high school. The students prepare a 5 minute speech which they will deliver from memory. The theme for this year's contest is GENDER BIAS AND INEQUALITY. In January we will choose 3-5 students to compete at our February general meeting. The date for this meeting is MONDAY, FEB. 8, 2016 at the Methodist Church Social Hall at 7 PM. **PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE from the 15th, when the students would have been on winter break.** We have invited 3 community members to be our contest judges. The top contestant will be entered into the state AAUW Speech Trek competition, which will be held at the AAUW CA state convention which will be held April 15-17 in San Mateo. This event is always the high light of the whole 3 days, which is even more reason to attend the convention! The top 3 winners state wide will each receive a cash award. Stay tuned for more updates in next month's Tidings. Be sure to save the date of Feb. 8 to attend our Speech Trek competition.

Mary Vargas Speech Trek Coordinator

BRANCH BUSINESS:

It's a Leap Year — and our branch has grown by leaps and bounds! AAUW-HMB branch membership is the highest it has been in over 20 years, thanks to the strong, three-year effort of Membership V.P. Mary Sheridan, assisted this year by Co-V.P. Peggy Rozhon, and the appeal of our mission to advance equity for women and girls.

We are 158 members strong!

Running an organization of this size — providing substantive programs with speakers in hospitable meeting rooms that welcome the wider community, managing our scholarship programs, supporting our officers who keep us linked to state and national AAUW initiatives, and communicating through our Tidings newsletter — requires member support through local dues, currently \$21. (As you know, the National portion is \$49 with \$46 of it tax-deductible; AAUW-CA \$20.)

With advice from Treasurer Helen Paul, the Board has decided it is time to ask the membership to consider a dues increase — the first in 20 years! Our General Fund must keep up with the needs of our growing organization. The Board voted at its January 2016 meeting to raise annual dues by \$10. (Remember, our dues are now tax-deductible too.)

This issue will come before the entire membership for a vote in the spring. Before then, please feel free to ask questions of board members, as we are anxious to engage our members in this process. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

President Mary Alice Pearce & AAUW-HMB Branch Board of Directors 2015-16

Public Policy:

Oct. 29, 2015 is a new term for the US Supreme Court. This coming year of 2016 will see a serious challenge to affirmative action, new threats to contraception access and a potential watershed case for reproductive rights.

Fisher v University of Texas brings the discussion of affirmative action back. A white student has filed a suit against the university challenging its use of race-conscious admissions after the top 10% of high school seniors are automatically admitted. The Supreme Court is expected to hear this case which will affect affirmative action programs through out the US.

The "Hobby Lobby" case. The 8th Circuit of Appeals ruled that Hobby Lobby will not have to provide their employees with contraception through their employee health plan citing religious opposition.. This ruling has been challenged by the Right to Choose group and the Supreme Court is expected to hear this case on appeal.

A number of states have passed the TRAP (targeted regulation of abortion) laws, provides to restrict or element a woman's access to legal abortions. The Supreme Court is currently considering whether it will hear challenges to the TRAP law.

Mary & Carlos Vargas Public Policy Co-Chairs

AAUW– HMB Local Scholarship

I am happy to report that as a result of the early mailing, I have already received one application for our Local Scholarship.

Because of your generosity and hard work on fund raising our funds will again provide two \$2k Ivania Portocarerro scholarships. Edna Cox Funds will provide another. A gift from the estate of Gloria Dudfield will provide another for this year and one each for several more years. The scholarship will be named in honor of James and Gloria Dudfield.

The scholarship committee will meet in April to determine the four recipients of the scholarships. These scholarships would not be possible without the support of our members who believe in supporting higher education for women.

Sue Hatfield, Chair

Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce Education Committee

On February 25, the Chamber will host network@night honoring the connection between the local business community and our teachers. All teachers of coastal public and private schools are invited to attend.

The Chamber and the business community provide school supplies for the teachers. Businesses, non-profit organizations, and private individuals provide \$100 to each teacher who is in attendance. Last year, AAUW-HMB was able to participate because of a generous donation. This year another donation makes it possible for our organization to support a local teacher cover classroom costs.

Branch members may attend this event on Thurs. Feb. 25, 5-7 pm, Mavericks Event Center. AAUW is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Contact Sue Hatfield for more information.

Sue Hatfield, Chamber of Commerce Education Committee Representative

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Donations for 2016 LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP for Coastside Women

If you would like to contribute to our AAUW-HMB Local Scholarship Fund, you may use the form below. Our branch Local Scholarship Fund makes awards to outstanding graduates of Half Moon Bay and/or Pescadero High Schools who are entering their junior or senior year of college.

YES, I want to support Coastside women in the final stretch of their college education.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

My gift is in memory of: _____

Make checks payable to: AAUW-HMB LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND with Local Scholarship noted on the memo line. MAIL TO: SUE HATFIELD, 450 Cypress Ave., Half Moon Bay 94019.

President's Message:

It's hard to believe that another membership year is halfway over and that election time is once again upon us. That means we need to nominate a new board of officers. As you know we are an all-volunteer organization so we rely on our members to help fill crucial positions and support the branch. Some of our present Board members have been doing this for a long time and are ready to move on. Our Nominating Committee may contact you about a position and if they do, I hope you will give serious thought to accepting a leadership position. There are also many other volunteer opportunities in our branch where you could make a difference, many of which are discussed in this or other issues of Tidings. It would be wonderful if some of you could make this the year that you give a little bit more of your valuable time to AAUW.

Mary Alice Pearce, President

AAUW Fund News:

In December, the Fund Committee met to distribute the \$3,260 from 2015 contributions. We sent \$1,000 to the Jessie & Wilder Ellis International Fellowship and \$1,000 to the Sunnyvale-Cupertino 50th Anniversary Fund. At the end of this month, we will meet again to choose two members as Named Gift Honorees. It's not too late to email your recommendation. We will accept recommendations until January 31st. Please email your choice(s) to diana@kalos.us.

2017 will be our 50th anniversary. Last year, the Fund Committee established an anniversary fund for a special scholarship to celebrate our 50th. This year we added an additional \$1,000 to that fund. Back to fund-raising 2016! J

Diana Kalos
Fund VP



Tech Trek Donation Form—2016

Yes, I want to continue to support Coastside girls at Tech Trek, the annual AAUW summer math and science camp, now in its 19th year!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

My gift is in honor of/memory of: _____

Make checks payable to: AAUW.

In memo section, please designate: TECH TREK CAMP HOPPER.

Mail to: Julie Gerth, AAUW-Half Moon Bay Branch Tech Trek Chair, 2094 Touraine Lane,
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019.

2015 Tech Trekkers Explore Wide Range of Topics in Science Fair

by Julie Gerth



What fun to see the science projects of our 2015 Tech Trekkers at the annual, eighth-grade Cunha Science Fair — truly a rite of passage on the Coastsides.

The Cunha gym was packed on Jan. 13 as families and friends roamed the aisles of colorful displays summarizing data from a wide range of experiments in behavioral, physical, earth and life science. Our six Tech Trekkers covered the whole range of categories — and each earned a ribbon! Four will go on to the county competition.

- **Jamie M.** received a first-place award in the Physical Science category for her project entitled, "Polygon Parachutes." She wanted to find out what parachute shape is best. She controlled for the surface area of

each parachute at 900 sq. cm. as well as the weight attached to the parachutes so the independent variable could be the shape. She tested 5 different shapes: triangle, square, pentagon, hexagon and octagon. The octagonal parachute slowed a falling weight most.

-Top science fair honors and a first-place award went to **Sonya C.**, whose pastime is sailing. Her love of the ocean and concern for marine life inspired her to look at "Ghost Fishing" and to ask the question, "Which automated release system material (hemp, jute, nylon or cotton) will break first?" Lost fishing nets and traps continue to ensnare and kill fish worldwide. She wanted to find out which material would break down most easily thereby allowing marine animals to escape and survive. She created a frame of wire and strands of the four materials and submerged them in the harbor for 32 days. Her conclusion was that hemp would be best for the marine environment, as it breaks down first.

-**Melissa G.** was also drawn to the sea and local tide pools. She asked, "Does the temperature of the tide pool water affect hermit crab activity?" and received a second-place ribbon for her observations. She hypothesized that hermit crabs were more active in warmer water, but her experiment showed that was not necessarily the case. She suspects the salinity of the water may have a greater effect. You can check out her video on "Hermit Crab Activity" at:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?=21OEWES5jobmQ>

-**Kendall M.** went into her kitchen to study yeast and earned a second-place ribbon. Her experiment was entitled, "Pour Some Sugar On Me" as she explored "how different sugar sources affect the pH and rise of bread." She says if you want a light and fluffy bread dough, you need white sugar. (Honey had the biggest change in pH, from 5 to 7.)

-**Mia G.** took up the difficult area of Behavioral Science and enlisted 37 human subjects to explore "How Different Genres of Music Affect Memory." She received a third-place ribbon. She had heard of research on the "Mozart Effect" and wanted to see if listening to music while reading allowed people to recall material better.

- **Madison S.** earned an honorable mention ribbon with her Behavioral Science question, "How Hard Is It to Cheat?" and examined the issue of plagiarism. She was also recently honored by her teachers as Student of the Month.

Many observers noted that girls dominated the podium at the awards ceremony this year. Congratulations to all of our 2015 Tech Trekkers! We are so proud of them!

SAVE IT FOR THE SALE – S. I. F. T. S

It's that time again. Beginning of a New Year. A bit of cabin fever. Going through drawers and closets. Are you starting to make a S.I.F.T.S. pile?

AAUW HMB is gearing up for this year's White Elephant Sale, Saturday, May 21st, at the Train Depot. So let the sifting, sorting, saving begin. Put on your sorting hat and save some interesting, usable, good quality items for our sale.

Things that always sell well are housewares, collectibles, jewelry, books, linens, purses, any type of clothing, and of course, anything brand new.

Please use as a guide a few pointers on things we cannot accept –

If it weighs more than 40 pounds

If it has become obsolete – VHS tapes, textbooks, computer software, old electronic equipment

If it is really, truly dirty and/or torn and/or broken

More details will magically appear in the March Tidings.

Always looking for suggestions, helpers, and someone to assist Peggy with the poster distribution and publicity.

AAUW HMB White Elephant Co-Chairs

Peggy Rozhon and Mary Sheridan



Tidings Deadline for March 2016

Monday, February 15, 2016

When emailing articles please be specific in your Subject Line. **Please name your interest group or other subjects not just the word Tidings.** It makes it easier for me to keep track of submissions.

Thank you.

Please send articles as attachments, preferably in WORD.

Again, Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Harriett Beck, Editor hmbeck1@comcast.net

AAUW State Convention Info:

The AAUW state convention is coming up April 15-17, 2016 in San Mateo. Members from all over California will be attending, which should be about 300 participants. Since the convention is in our area this year (and probably will not be this close for a long time) our branch, along with the other 5 branches in our IBC (Interbranch Council) have been asked to help . If you work 6 hours, there is a good deduction on the registration (\$135 down from \$190). Convention is a good place to interact with other AAUW members through out the state and learn more about what AAUW is doing to empower women and girls. In January the AAUW CA web site will be open for registration and also to indicate what you might want to volunteer to help with. I hope you will consider attending this event and enriching your knowledge of all the wonderful things our organization is working on.

Mary Vargas
IBC Branch Coordinator

Membership Matters:

Two Months and Two Recruits. By March 31, all our members who recruit at least two new members become eligible for our Recruitment Raffle. The two members who recruit the most new members will receive free national dues for year 2016/2017 (value of \$49). As of January 15th, June Baxter and Chris Green are in the lead, having both recruited two new members. Let's give them some competition! Many of you have already recruited one person. Will you try for a few more?

When you speak to potential new members about the importance and mission of AAUW, be sure tell them about possible the dues savings. When someone joins at a public meeting, they always receive 50% off their national dues. However, if they join on March 21st, their dues payment would be good for 15 months. Their total cost for national, state and local dues would be \$65.50 and their membership would run through June 30, 2017. As always, please encourage any friends, neighbors, to attend our general meetings. Bring them to the February meeting, but have them wait until the March meeting to join. It's a true win/win situation.

The Recruitment Raffle winners will then be announced at our April general meeting.

If you can send Peggy or I the name and contact information of potential new members, we can email them more enticing information about our branch.

Branch Neighborhood Meeting:




El Granada and Montara neighborhoods will have a joint get together on Saturday, February 27, at 10:30 am at Nancy Evans' house, 978 Salvador Street, El Granada. All AAUW members living in El Granada and Montara are invited. Please RSVP to your neighborhood coordinator.

Half Moon Bay Members of AAUW:
Follow directions below to make reservations.



You are cordially invited to join other IBC members (Interbranch Council which includes branches in SF, North Peninsula, San Carlos/Redwood City, San Mateo, Pacifica and HMB) to a scrumptious lunch at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco, March 12, 2016, 11:30 AM -2:00 PM

Please make your lunch selection. The price includes tax and tip. Make a check out to AAUW HMB and mail it to Mary Alice Pearce at 1020 Bancroft Ave. HMB 94019 by Feb, 25, 2016






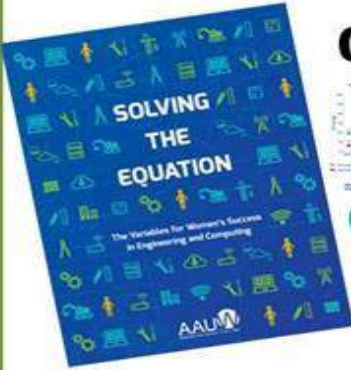
March 12, 2016, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Join other IBC members (Interbranch Council) for a scrumptious lunch at the Basque Cultural Center
599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco



SOLVING THE EQUATION WHILE ENJOYING GASTRONOMICAL DELIGHTS

Guest Speaker
Christianne Corbett



M.A., AAUW Senior Researcher

Speaking about her research and co-authoring of AAUW's latest research study, "Solving the Equation"

Please make your lunch selection; price includes tax and tip.

Make your check out to San Carlos AAUW and mail by February 23 to Cathy Chowenhill at 919 Pleasant Hill, Redwood City 94061.

NAME _____

ALL ENTRES INCLUDE SALAD, BREAD/BUTTER, COFFEE & ICE CREAM

_____ Salmon Champagne Sauce, rice, and vegetables - \$35.95

_____ Breast of Chicken Chasseur, rice and vegetables - \$29.52

_____ Vegetable Pasta - \$22.51

IZAN UNTSA (Basque for "Stay Well"!)

JANUS:



The JANUS luncheon group meets once a month on the fourth Wednesday at noon. The meal is potluck and we always have a great variety of good food. Our next lunch is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th, at the home of Delores Crabb, 567 Sixth Street, Montara. So put on your Mardi Gras beads and head over to celebrate (albeit late). In a departure from our normal format where the hostess provides only drinks, Delores (courtesy of husband Doug) will provide Jambalaya in honor of Mardi Gras. We request that everyone RSVP, either yes or no, to Delores at: 728-3794 or coastcrabb@comcast.net and to bring \$2 for the hostess along with your potluck dish. Looking ahead: March is in need of a hostess, please volunteer. [Note: No hostess means no get-together.] If you would like to be added to the email list, please let me know. If you would like to be removed from the list, let me know that, too. Everyone is welcome.

Delores Crabb, Chair
coastcrabb@comcast.net



Home Theatre:

Betty Lee -Kendall and Debbie Kratter will co-host our annual Academy Awards show **Sunday, FEBRUARY 28**. As usual, Betty will work her magic of fun, complete with votes and tabulating – but we will meet at Debbie's house, 24 Fairway Place, Ocean Colony. We'll start early (will send a notice when we get details on when the coverage starts, 4, 5?) – so that everyone who enjoys gossiping about the dresses on the Red Carpet can have their fill. As usual, for the Academy Awards, we'll have a pot luck dinner courtesy of Betty and Debbie – and appetizers and desserts courtesy of all who attend!

Debbie will provide beverages (beer, wine, soft drinks and coffee or tea).

If you are not part of the group but would like to be included, or if you have any questions please contact Debbie Kratter (dgatzek@kratter.com) or 650-759-5068.

Walk with us!



Monday morning is a great time to get out in the fresh air, get some exercise, and visit with friends! Join us every Monday at 10 A.M. for a walk somewhere on the Coastside. If you send me your e-mail, I'll put you on our list and every weekend you will get a message telling you where we're going to meet. We usually walk from about 10 to 12. Hope to hear from you! Marilyn Garrison

Great Books



The selected book in February for AAUW Great Books is : The Wright Brothers by David McCullough. The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 11, from 2-4:00 p.m., at the home of June Baxter, 23 Erin Lane, HMB. Phone Number, 712-9189. Please contact her if able to attend.

Hands On:

Hands On! is our sewing/knitting/crafting group where each person brings her own project to work on in a lively, friendly environment. We meet once a month in members' homes. Our meeting day is the second Wednesday of the month from 4-6 PM. In February we will meet on the 10th at the home of E. Pardo in Half Moon Bay. Please RSVP to her: justresolu@aol.com and ask her for directions if you need them. Looking ahead: March hostess is Ruth Rafello. Hostesses are needed for April, May, and June.



Out To Breakfast

The Out to Breakfast group meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

It's decided at the breakfast where to meet the following month.

We'll be going to the Montara Café & Bakery, 1400 Main Street, Montara on **February 12**. No need to "reserve" or reply - just join us - it's a great way to start the day. We've been there several times and all like it. Hope to see you there.

Peg Nordensten, Chair

Writers' Group:

The Writing Group meets at 9:30 am on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Moonside Bakery and Cafe.

We alternate meetings with spontaneous writing in response to the inspiring prompts provided by Jean Slanger and reading from our work.

All writers and all genres are welcome.

If you have any questions, please contact Janet Orumchian: jhorumchian@yahoo.com or phone her at 510- 206-5493.

When you patronize these businesses, please let them know that you saw their ads here.



AAUW—HMB member advertiser

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February 2016

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----|
| | 1 Walk & Talk 10:00 am <u>Board Meeting</u> 7 pm | 2 | 3 | 4 Writers' Group 9:30 am | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 Walk & Talk 10:00 am <u>General Meeting</u> 7:00pm | 9 | 10 Hands On 4:00 pm | 11 Great Books 2:00 pm | 12 Out to Break- fast 8:30 am | 13 |
| 14 | 15 Walk & Talk 10:00 am | 16 | 17 | 18 Writers' Group 9:30 am | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 Walk & Talk 10:00 am | 23 | 24 Janus 12:00 pm | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Home Theatre 6:00 pm | 29 Walk & Talk 10:00 | | | | | |

Your TAX CALENDAR by Deb Marion, CPA, EA

AAUW Member, Half Moon Bay Branch

Hi . . . Visit my website **DebMarionCPA.com** for info about my complete Tax Preparation, Tax Planning, Tax Audit Representation, and QuickBooks services. I serve Individuals, Sole Proprietors, LLC's, Corporations, Non-profits, Estates and Trusts. Call me, let's talk!

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Do you know about the Sunshine Committee?

We assist local branch members when support is needed and wanted. Our volunteers offer support by providing transportation to appointments, visiting the patient, and delivering meals for the AAUW member and their family. If you would like to volunteer on an as-needed basis, please contact Jeanette Chapman at 726-5161 or handyjc@juno.com. We appreciate all volunteers!

The TIDINGS is published eight times/year by AAUW-HMB. Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Editor: Harriett Beck; Mailed Circulation: Beverly Landess; E-mailed Circulation: Betty Lee-Kendall



Return Service Requested

Time Dated Material

Half Moon Bay Branch
409 Wave Avenue
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019



“AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.”

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barrier to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.