

Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
www.aauw-redlands-ca.org

June 2006 Issue 10, Eleven Issues annually

What Does that Gizmo Do and What Would it Do for Me?

What's a BlackBerry? Is that the right spelling, and what does it do? Is it time to buy that high-definition television and why?

Do you know what the Palm handheld organizer can do, the Pocket PC, the BlackBerry pager, and smart phones or Nokia handsets with graphics-heavy games?

"U.S. News" magazine reported that a recent survey by Royal Philips Electronics found that two-thirds of American consumers have lost interest in a tech product because it looks too complex. Is that you? Can you run the television remote control at your daughter's house?

Would a portable GPS (Ground Positioning System) be useful and cost-effective in your car?

Which electronic devices are brand names and which are generic descriptions? What do all those initials stand for?

It's time to catch up with the younger generation. Come to the June brunch and see if there is indeed a new gadget that can make your life easier or more fun. A Circuit City electronics specialist will bring a number of items selected from several areas so we can see them and understand what they do.

Nelda Stuck

Edna Steinman Honored at State Convention

Edna Steinman is the 2006 recipient of a state AAUW Educational Foundation Named Gift Honoree award, which was presented to her at the recent convention in San Jose. She received the Redlands Branch award in 1974.

Edna is a 50-year member of AAUW. In addition to serving two terms (1970-1972, 1993-1995) as our branch president, she has held many other Branch offices and has served on numerous committees.

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June Branch Meeting Information

When

Saturday, June 3rd
Social time: 9:00 a.m.
Brunch: 9:30 a.m.
Program: 10:30 a.m.

Where

University of Redlands
Casa Loma Room

Menu

Quiche Lorraine, quiche with spinach and artichokes, rosemary new potatoes, coffee cake, breakfast meat, fresh seasonal fruit, assorted chilled fruit juices, coffee, and tea, both iced and hot.

Cost

\$13.50

Cost covers the meals, gratuity, tax, linen, use of room, audiovisual equipment, setup, speakers and guest meals. This is not a money-making project.

Reservations

Deadline is May 30th at 9 p.m. Email or call Antoinette Brenion. Please include "AAUW" in the subject line of reservations sent by email.

Remember: a reservation made is a reservation paid.

Branch Officers

Your Branch officers are available to help members and to answer questions, Please call them.

President

Jane Dill

Program Vice President

Pat Kramer

Membership Vice President

Renae Reiswig

Recording Secretary

Doris Billings

Corresponding Secretary

Maurita Stueck

Treasurer

Ann Marshall

President-elect

Sheron Bealer

Branch Website

www.aauw-redlands-ca.org

AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change. In principal and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

AAUW Background

AAUW founded in 1881, is open to all graduates with an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendships.

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Gateways to Economic Security

Our Branch Delegates to the 2006 State Convention were Jane Dill, Edna Steinman, Grace Hart, and Sheron Bealer. The Women's Economic summit focused on building a woman's resilience through perspective, autonomy, connectedness and tone. We were encouraged to imagine the perfect day, find a plan to make it happen and continue to imagine...what if...

This motivational seminar provided by Dr. Marjorie Blanchard was followed by numerous sessions focused on new frontiers for women, leadership and empowerment and sound concepts for women investors.

In the opening session, "Opening Leadership Doors," we experienced briefings and reports, adoption of convention rules and announcement of new officers. Donna Lilly (Del Mar) and Rita Wustner (Walnut Creek) had been nominated as Co-President elect, along with other officers. Membership statewide is at 13,686.

During Saturday's session, "The Power of Program and Giving," the focus was on AAUW's 125 years as well as future leadership, state treasury being in the "green," and EF state honors to our own Edna Steinman and Sandy DiSario (Orange, Palm Springs). We were reminded that individuals may join the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund for \$25 per year and through this mechanism continue to contribute to IFUW.

The workshops that followed supplied a large variety of information. We were provided the 2006 Bill Package for Public Policy, which will be used to tie into our goals determined during discussion at our Branch meeting earlier this year. The Online Branch presented a resolution that Association members be urged to support candidates who will pursue and maintain the full range of women's health rights that allow women to make health choices without governmental interference or obstacle, based on their own beliefs and in consultation with their own medical providers, which was subsequently passed by the State Delegates. There is a newly created platform to move the abortion debate to centering on "A Woman Knows Best in Reproductive Rights;" we now have access to a movie, banner ad for our web site and PowerPoint computer training for those who wish to promote this endeavor locally. See <http://awomanknowsbest.org>

We also heard that greater than 50% of students, both male and female, experience sexual harassment on the college campus. We were encouraged to begin this conversation at dinner with family and friends, at parties, etc.

Sunday's business session focus was "Translating our Mission in Action." The Women's Bureau notes more women are now enrolled in college, women earn half the degrees in business, but less than 12% of all degrees are awarded to women in math and science, 59% of Masters degrees, and 46% of doctoral degrees. In addition 48% of privately-held U.S. firms are 50% owned by women, 47% of salaried working women participate in a pension plan and last, the average income of women after age 65 is half of our male counterparts.

Next year's convention will be in the south but the location is not yet determined. Please consider attending- we need eight delegates.

Our outgoing president, Kathleen Cha summarized for us: Life is change, growth is optional. Choose wisely.

Sheron Bealer
President-elect

Local Scholarship Garage Sale Nears

June 10th is the garage sale! We will have a presort June 3rd, from 1 to 5 p.m. Then Monday through Thursday June 5th through the 8th, we will work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. sorting, cleaning and pricing. Leaving Friday, June 9th to rest, we then begin at 5:30 a.m. Saturday, June 10th, SALE DAY, to put things out for the buyers who are anxiously waiting for our 7 a.m. opening. We can always use additional workers. Please sign up!

IMPORTANT!!! We will not be accepting donations after Wednesday, June 7th. By that time, we will be about done, close to completion, ready for the sale, and well past the initial sorting process. So clean out your closets and get those yard sale items turned in before June 7th. Thanks so much.

*Nancy Yowell
Co-chair*

Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Many thanks to the 72 members who have sent in their renewals! If you have not renewed, it is most important to send in your \$85 check made payable to AAUW-Redlands Branch just as soon as possible. A self-addressed envelope was included in the May issue of our newsletter.

*Beverly Cox
Membership Treasurer*

Welcome New Members

We have two new members!

Becky Ashworth joined after attending our March coffee. She was invited to join by Dorothy Nordquist. Becky is a kindergarten teacher at Bryn Mawr Elementary. She enjoys exercise, the stock market, and travel. She has expressed interest in Book Cassette, Bridge (she clarified in learning Bridge!), and Travel.

Mary Bulen, who recently relocated to Redlands, was introduced to AAUW by a friend in Las Vegas. Mary is a substitute teacher and enjoys reading, religion, and watercolor. She is interested in Book Cassette, "I Am, Therefore I Think," Orangewood-AAUW Library, and Reading and the Rainbow.

Please join me in welcoming these two new members.

*Renae Reiswig
Membership Vice-President*

Nominating Committee Meets

The Nominating Committee will meet after the June branch meeting. Members of the committee need to attend to choose a chair for the upcoming year.

Grace Hart

Member News

Dr. Charles Swift, husband of two-time Redlands branch president Verna Swift, asked to be remembered to all who knew her. He is currently residing at Plymouth Village.

Help Add to the Yearbook: Invite Others to Join!

Do you have a friend or co-worker whom you would like to invite to be a branch member? Here are two of ways to do it:

Invite her to the next branch meeting and bring her with you as your guest.

Give her name, address and telephone number to Renae Reiswig by phone, mail or email.

National News

AAUW Works for National Women's History Museum

(Excerpted from the AAUW National Website)

AAUW is pleased to join our coalition partners in launching a nationwide campaign calling on the House of Representatives to approve Senate-passed legislation (S. 501) allowing the National Women's History Museum to make its permanent home at the Old Post Office Annex. The museum should play a critical role in efforts to better integrate women's history into our national history, and would best do so with a permanent presence near the National Mall in our nation's capital.

We must recognize and preserve our knowledge of the contributions of women as we reflect on the important progress women have made. By doing so we can inspire women across the country and around the world who are continuing the struggle to make their communities and their countries safer and more equitable places for women and girls.

The National Women's History Museum in a permanent home would be a remarkable gift to future generations. It would honor the past, inform the present, and help shape the future.

Interest Groups

Audio Book Lending Library

Need a good book on tape? Visit the table at each general meeting. Your support and \$5 donation benefit the local scholarships given each year to a deserving woman returning to college. There are several new titles: check it out.

Librarian: Louise Schumann

Book Cassette Group

One of the Book Cassette groups is beginning another round. If you are interested in joining to listen on tapes or CDs, now is the time to phone Nelda.

The Book Cassette Group currently has three round robins going involving 40 members and spouses, rotating chosen books every six weeks. At the end of the year and a half period, group members meet to discuss the books and to choose the new cycle, with each group member purchasing a book on tape or CD.

Chair: Nelda Stuck

Bridge

The Redlands Branch of AAUW has many types of groups in place for those interested in playing bridge. Call the coordinator if you are interested in playing or in being placed on the substitute list.

Daytime:	1st Wednesday, 1 p.m.	Coordinator is Evelyn O'Prey
	3rd Monday, 1 p.m.	Coordinator is Sally Vaughn
Evening Couples:	1st Saturday A, 7 p.m.	Coordinator position is open
	1st Saturday B, 7 p.m.	Coordinator is Deborah Lewin
	3rd Saturday, 7 p.m.	Coordinator is Janice Belden
Duplicate Pairs:	4th Saturday, 7 p.m.	Coordinator is Louise Schumann

California Cuisine and Conversation

California Cuisine is closing down for the summer. See you in September.

Chair: Kim Roman

I Am, Therefore I Think (*Sum Ergo Cogito*)

We will meet on June 21st to discuss ideas for the next year. "I Am" meets in the large room off the parking lot at Trinity Episcopal Church at the corner of Fourth St. and Fern Ave. Bring your lunch at noon and/or join us for the planning session from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Chair: Jane Dill

Interest Groups, Continued

International Relations

We will have a planning meeting Tuesday June 13th 1:30 p.m. at Dorothy Richardson's house. RSVP to Dorothy OR Antoinette.

Chairs: Antoinette Brenion and Dorothy Richardson

Play Reading

The theater is dark for the summer. We will resume in October. The list of titles for the season will be available at the September meeting. We hope you will join us.

Chair: Marcia Pifer

Reading and the Rainbow

Our annual potluck has been changed.

We will meet at 6:00 p.m. on May 25th at the home of Mary Stewart. Please call her for directions. Bring money to pay for your part of a delicious long sandwich to eat before we launch into the discussion of the Art Association's movies and choosing our next year's selections. Bring ideas and the books if you have a copy. Please reserve a piece of the sandwich by calling either co-chair as soon as possible.

Keep this date open for "summer lite" reading - July 27th.

Co-chairs: Helen Webb and Kathy Presnell-Best

Recorder Group

The Recorder Group members will continue their regular Monday rehearsals.

Chair: Mary Jane Auerbacher

San Gorgonio Pass Interest Group

The Pass AAUW meeting has cancelled its June meeting due to many members being out of town and also having graduations. We may have a membership tea in August, but that's tentative. Otherwise, hope to see you all in September.

Chair: Linda Niemann

Getting the Word Out

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

The deadline for the July/August newsletter is June 5th. Send your articles for that issue to the editor, Jennifer Hill.

Website Submissions

If you have any submissions for the branch website, send them via email to webmistress@aauw-redlands-ca.org.

Branch Scrapbook Submissions

The Branch scrapbook includes items about the Branch that appear in the papers, as well as anything else members submit relating to AAUW activities. Lorie DeMarco requests that members submit photos and other items to her. Also, if anyone sees news items relating to the Branch in a publication other than the Redlands Daily Facts, please let Lorie know.

National News

Pay Equity Is Still an Issue

(Excerpted from the AAUW Mission In Action Newsletter)

April 25, 2006, was Equal Pay Day. While more women than ever are obtaining college degrees, and family-friendly legislation—such as the Pregnancy Discrimination Act—has increased options to create a win-win situation for women and their employers, the wage gap between men and women persists.

For the average woman's salary to equal a man's for 2005, she must work from Jan. 1, 2005 well into April, and Equal Pay Day raises awareness about this critical gender pay disparity. The Census Bureau reports that on average a woman earns 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man.

AAUW strongly supports efforts to close the persistent wage gap between men and women. The new *AAUW Pay Equity Resource Kit* will help members learn more about the issue and help you take meaningful action. The resource kit contains facts, figures, and frequently asked questions, as well as ideas for action and step-by-step suggestions for how you might pursue pay equity projects. The kit is available at:
http://www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm

Edna Steinman, Continued from Page 1

Edna's long-time membership on the Redlands Branch EF committee is outstanding. She was instrumental in establishing the Orangewood Continuation High School library and continues to chair the AAUW Orangewood library committee. Her parliamentary expertise has been invaluable to our branch for many years. The Math-Science Conference is another of her projects, having served three terms as co-chair.

In the 1980s and 1990s she was the parliamentarian for the CA AAUW board of directors and state conventions and has presented parliamentary workshops. She has served as chair of the State Resolutions Committee and in the 1970s was the director of the Southeast District for two years.

A resident of Redlands since 1964, Edna received her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri and her master's degree from CSUSB. Before serving 21 years as director of public affairs at CSUSB, she was director of news and publications at the University of Redlands for four years.

Edna is a prominent member of the Redlands community. She is active in the University Methodist Church where she is the current lay leader. She is past chair of its administrative council and board of trustees and past vice chair of the Riverside District Council of Ministries and has served on the CA Pacific Conference's communication commission, also editing the Circuit West Methodist Newspaper.

A long-time member of Zonta International, she is presently its treasurer and has been an office holder at the local, area and district levels. She served as president of the Redlands Chapter for six years. As a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honor society, she served two terms as president of Alpha Pi Chapter, was parliamentarian and yearbook editor and sat on the standing rules committee. She is a past board member and vice president for community relations for the University of Redlands Town and Gown. Other areas of participation are the San Geronio Girl Scout Council, where she has served on its board of directors for 12 years, including three as president, and served on the fund development committee. She is a past vice president of Inland Harvest.

Edna has won numerous awards over the years. In 1998 she was Redlands Woman of the Year. Other honors include: William Leslie Award from Inland California Chapter of Public Relations Society of America, recognizing service to the chapter and her profession; Citizen of Achievement award from the League of Women Voters of San Bernardino County (1970s); San Bernardino Senior Citizen of Distinction award from Plymouth Village; A Woman's Place is Every Place award from the University of Redlands Town and Gown; the Thanks Badge (highest adult award) from the Girl Scouts of America; and Riverside District Council of Ministries Robert M. Maire Memorial Award as laywoman of the year (1994). Finally, in 2005 she received the Knights of the Round Table Woman of the Year award.

Simply put, Edna is the heart and soul of the Redlands Branch and its EF committee. Congratulations.

Celeste Beard

Redlands Branch AAUW Membership Renewal

Dues are payable now and will become delinquent July 1, 2006. Before you leave on summer vacation, drop that check in the mail or bring it to the June Branch meeting.

Enclosed are my dues for the coming year in AAUW (July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007) of \$ _____

Regular Members	\$85	Dual Members	\$24
Associate Members	\$85	Association Life Membership	\$900
Student Affiliates	\$30	Association Life Member	\$40
<i>(Must be attending as an undergraduate)</i>		<i>(State and Branch portion only)</i>	

Make checks payable to AAUW-Redlands Branch – PLEASE PRINT clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____

If you would like your e-mail address or FAX number also listed, please print below:

**Any corrections for the Branch yearbook: new degrees, changes in name, address, phone, spouse, e-mail address?
Please check the 2005 – 2006 yearbook as a reference.**

I am interested in the following committees: (please check)

Educational Foundation Committee. The AAUW Education Foundation provides fellowships and grants to women for education, research, and community programs. The Redlands branch raises funds through donations, the annual theater party, and cutlery sales.

Legal Advocacy Committee. The Legal Advocacy Fund promotes equality for women in higher education and fosters institutional change through support of appropriate sex discrimination lawsuits. Funds are raised through donations and an annual fund raising project.

Local Scholarship Committee. The Redlands Branch of AAUW provides local scholarships to women who have some previous college experience but whose schooling has been interrupted and now wish to continue with their academic pursuits. Funds for the scholarships are raised at the annual yard sale.

Math-Science Committees

Redlands Area **San Geronio Pass Area**

The Math-Science Committees present one day conferences for 8th grade girls in January. The speakers relate the need for math and/or science in their particular field and encourage the girls to continue their math and/or science studies in high school.

Membership Committee. The committee organizes and hosts September membership brunch and prospective membership coffees during the year. The committee plans and carries out a mentoring program for new members.

Program Development Committee. The committee develops programs for the coming year by contacting speakers, writing newsletter articles describing the program, and introducing the speakers at the meetings.

Public Policy Committee. The committee disseminates information from AAUW on Federal and State public policy initiatives and promotes voter education.

I am interested in volunteering time to the following AAUW Projects: (please check)

Librarian at Orangewood High School for 2 ½ hours weekly, every other week or as a substitute.

Math-Science Conference for preparation and/or conference day

Redlands

San Geronio Pass

Local Scholarship yard sale for preparation and/or yard sale day

Hosting for the YWCA Home Tour for 2 hours one Sunday

Ushering at the Redlands Bowl once or twice in summer

Mail to Beverly Cox

(Please use the self-addressed envelope in the May newsletter)

The President's Corner

What a great way to end April! The AAUW State Conference in San Jose was delightful and enlightening. Speakers like president of a management consulting and training company Dr. Marjorie Blanchard, regional director of the U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau Jenny Erwin, and television panelist of the McLaughlin Group Eleanor Clift and others brought us a full plate of critical information, passion for equity, and humor for dessert. Breakout seminars were mainly about economics, the State and National theme for the coming year. Some titles were Continuing Battle for Title IX and Gender Equity, Smart Women Finish Rich, Consumer Fraud, and Revitalizing Branch Membership. It was clear that there are still serious concerns for girls/women such as sexual harassment on campuses and global issues. Be sure to read Sheron Bealer's article on specific issues.

And, by all means, attend the June brunch to meet your new Board and offer them your support. The program will be educational and entertaining. It has been a delight to serve and have the pleasure to work with such capable women. Determine this year to serve the Branch that has provided many interest groups and financial and educational support for girls/women. We cannot expect that a few will continually carry the responsibility. Sincere thanks to all who have stepped forward in big and small ways during my time of service.

Jane Dill

*"One generation plants the trees, another gets the shade."
Chinese Proverb*

**Redlands Branch, AAUW
P.O. Box 7678
Redlands, CA 92375-0678**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED