



60th Anniversary Year 1947 – 2007



# Branches and Twigs

**Redlands Branch, AAUW**

[www.aauw-redlands-ca.org](http://www.aauw-redlands-ca.org)

*December 2006*

*Issue 4, Eleven Issues annually*

## Celebrating the Holidays with . . . the East Valley Singers, December 5th

Do you relish beautiful choral music? Then come to our branch meeting Tuesday, December 5th and ENJOY!

East Valley Singers, under the direction of Rita Stevens, is a highly select chamber choir comprised of 11th and 12th graders who display exceptional talent. Students in this choral ensemble must audition and prove that they have outstanding sight-reading skills as well as an exceptional voice. Students in this group perform choral literature of all styles with an emphasis on Renaissance music. They compete throughout the academic school year at many collegiate choral festivals. They are considered to be one of the finest chamber choirs in Southern California and were invited to compete in the prestigious Golden State Competition. In addition, they have won several first place awards including the invitational Choral and Sight-reading competition at California State College at Fullerton. They traveled to New York City to compete in the Festival of Gold, which is considered to be one of the finest invitational festivals in the country.

Rita Stevens is the director of choral music at Redlands East Valley High School. Her education includes a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Redlands and post-graduate work as a graduate assistant at the University of Redlands. As a graduate student, she was given the Pi Kappa Lambda award for academic achievement and contribution to the University of Redlands. In addition, she was given a full academic scholarship to complete her Master's degree. She was nominated to the Who's Who of American Teachers four times and has received numerous awards as outstanding teacher. She and her husband John, a composer of choral music and a history teacher, live in Redlands with their three children.

*Mary Lou Guerrero*

**PLEASE NOTE:** For the December meeting, we cannot accept any reservations after the deadline. If you call after the deadline, you will be put on a waiting list and contacted if there are any cancellations.

## December Branch Meeting Information

### When

December 5th, 2006  
 Social time: 5:30 p.m.  
 Dinner: 6:00 p.m.  
 Program: 7:00 p.m.

### Where

University of Redlands  
 Casa Loma Room

### Menu

Chicken Pecan (chicken breast crusted with chopped pecans and served with cranberry mustard sauce) and herb roasted purple potatoes, or Leek and Asparagus Gratin. Both are served with fresh seasonal vegetables, Mesclun mix salad, dinner rolls, butter, flourless chocolate torte, and beverages.

### Cost

\$22.00 for Chicken  
 \$19.00 for Vegetarian

Cost covers the meals, gratuity, tax, linen, use of room, audiovisual equipment, setup, speakers and guest meals.

### Reservations

Deadline is Tuesday, November 28th at 9 p.m. Call Antoinette Brenion or email her. 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**

Sheron Bealer

#### **Program Vice President**

Dorothy Richardson

#### **Membership Vice President**

Renaë Reisswig

#### **Recording Secretary**

Doris Billings

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Dorothy Nordquist

#### **Treasurer**

Gwen Wysocki

#### **President-elect**

Sue Angell

#### **Branch Website**

[www.aauw-redlands-ca.org](http://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.

## **Local Scholarship Recipients**

On November 7th, the AAUW Redlands Branch presented scholarships to six very deserving women. Members of the local scholarship committee introduced the recipients that evening.

Each of the following women will receive a \$1,500 scholarship: Bonnie Tat, Anne Marie Turner and Sonya Zurcher. Bonnie Tat of San Bernardino plans to attend California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) majoring in Liberal Studies and Human Development. Her academic goal is to graduate with a Master's Degree in Liberal Studies and receive a teaching credential. Anne Marie Turner lives in Redlands. She is a full time student at Loma Linda University in the nutrition certificate program, and her goal is to become a registered dietitian. Sonya Zurcher's home is in Highland where she lives with her four children. She also attends CSUSB and plans to receive her B.A. in Liberal Arts in 2008.

These three women who are attending area two-year colleges will be awarded a \$750 scholarship: Nelly Reyes, LaFreda Hyman, and Tashana Sybliss. Nelly Reyes is from Peru where she taught elementary school. She attends Mt. San Jacinto College majoring in business administration. In 2008 she plans to transfer to UC Riverside. LaFreda Hyman lives in San Bernardino and attends San Bernardino Valley College. Her goal is to receive an A.A. degree and then transfer to CSUSB to major in Criminal Justice. Tashana Sybliss' home is in Grand Terrace and she, also, attends San Bernardino Valley College. After receiving her degree, she plans to transfer to Loma Linda University. Her goal is to receive her BS in Nursing and eventually an MS in public health.

These scholarships were made available because of Redlands branch annual yard sales and also, the rental of books on tape. So that next year AAUW can honor more women with scholarships, members must think ahead to June 2007.

June 9th has been selected to be the date for this sale. Once again Nancy Yowell will be providing her garage and yard for this event. Her garage is already being filled with members' donations. Read about how you can help with the 2007 yard sale in each Branches and Twigs or call Nancy for more information.

Also, be sure to rent a Book On Tape at the next Branch meeting. They cost only \$5!!!

*Sue Angell*

## **Y Alliance Christmas Open House on Dec. 3rd**

If you would like to volunteer, please call Marilyn Sanden (if you haven't already).

## **Member to present at National Convention**

Redlands AAUW member Jane Roberts will present two workshops at the 2007 National AAUW convention in Phoenix, Arizona on "34 Million Friends: Mobilizing the Grassroots for Women and Girls". She says she will talk about the importance of girls' education. The workshops are on June 29th from 4:00 to 5:15 p.m. and July 2nd from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

She has reserved a room with two queen beds at the Hyatt Regency arriving Friday June 29th and departing Tuesday July 3rd. If anyone from the chapter would like to share the room for all or any nights, Jane says "let's do it!"

## Adopt-A-Family

AAUW will participate with the Family Services Association of Redlands Adopt-A-Family program by sponsoring one family during the holidays. With your contributions we will be able to brighten the holidays for this family by presenting them with Christmas gifts. Contributions, either cash, check or a gift certificate, will be collected at our December branch meeting. Contact Kathy Toister for more information.

## Educational Foundation Update

As this is being written the benefit performance of "Morning at Seven" at the Footlighters' Theater is only a week away and the Educational Committee is busy finalizing arrangements. The EF committee is grateful to all who purchased tickets and especially to the interest groups that donated baskets for the opportunity drawing.

As we conclude the first fundraiser of the year, the EF committee turns toward planning the annual EF brunch where a recipient of an AAUW Fellowship is usually our speaker. At this time many of our members give generously to First and Second Century Clubs. These donations are \$100 and \$200 respectively. Larger amounts are always welcome and any donation over \$300 is designated as the Chocolate Club. All donations are tax deductible.

All money raised by the Redlands EF committee will be added to the Redlands International Fellowship Endowment. Upon completion of the \$100,000 endowment, interest will be used to fund the education in the United States of a post baccalaureate student from a foreign country.

*Evelyn O'Pry and Janice Belden, Educational Foundation Co-chairs*

## Welcome New Members

October 25th was the evening for our annual New Members Dinner. We had thirteen new members attend. It was a festive evening with tasty dishes provided by members of the board, membership committee, and interest group chairs. Again, we extend a welcome to our new members, a thank-you to our members who participated, and a thank-you to Edna Steinman for our location.

Please join us in giving a warm welcome to these new members to our branch.

**Linda Brown** joined during our October meeting and was invited by Amber Costa. Linda received her M.S. from San Diego State U. and listed California Cuisine, Reading and the Rainbow, and Travel as groups that she is interested in.

**Denise Dittmore** also joined at our October branch meeting. Denise received her M.D. at the U. of Kansas School of Medicine. Currently she is a Psychiatrist for San Bernardino County. She enjoys bicycling, hiking, theater, and travel. She has listed California Cuisine, Great Decisions, Math-Science Conference, and Travel as groups that she is interested in.

**Beth Robertson-Yount** was invited to join by Janyth Dison. Beth received her M.S. from the U. of Wisconsin. She enjoys sailing, gardening, sewing, furniture restoration, knitting, and antique autos as hobbies/interests.

Our most recent new member is **Pat Kruger** (a former member) who was invited to join by Ellen Schollenberger and Martha Mawhinney. Patricia received her M.S.W. at UCLA. She is a Medical Social Worker and is currently working for KAISER Hospice. Patricia has listed her hobbies and interests as reading, travel, dogs, politics, gay/lesbian issues, and women's issues. She has selected Reading and the Rainbow as an Interest Group choice.

*Renaë Reiswig, Membership Vice President*

## DID YOU KNOW?

*Did you know that the Redlands AAUW Branch was formed in 1947 when we broke off from the San Geronio Branch, the third oldest AAUW branch (1909) in California?*

*Did you know that our dues were raised from \$6.70 to the astounding amount of \$7 in 1953?*

*Did you know that in 1963 our AAUW branch participated in the Redlands' Jubilee Parade with a float portraying the town's first physician, Dr. Ellen Brown?*

*Did you know that in 1972 AAUW endorsed the Equal Rights Amendment?*

These are just a few of our memories that have made our branch so special. Please join us for a remembrance of our 60 years at the Saturday, April 7, 2007 branch meeting when we will celebrate our wonderful Redlands branch memories.

*Coordinated by the Past Presidents of the Redlands Branch*

## Newsletter Submission Guidelines

The deadline for the January newsletter is December 5th. Send your articles for that issue to the editor, Jennifer Hill, via email or mail.

## **Additional Interest Group Info**

### **Play Reading**

For information on the next Play Reading meeting, please contact Marcia. We invite you for a fun evening discussing and reading a play.  
*Chair: Marcia Pifer*

### **Recorder Group**

The Recorder Group now practices on Tuesday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. We also have a group on Saturday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. You are welcome in either group.  
*Chair: Mary Jane Auerbacher*

## **Yearbook Additions**

**See the print version of the newsletter for yearbook updates.**

4

## **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. A list of all titles available for circulation is now available---stop by and pick one up!

*Librarian: Louise Schumann*

### **Book Cassette Group**

The Book Cassette Group currently has one CD and two tape-cassette round robins going involving 30 members and spouses. We rotate chosen books every six weeks. At the end of the schedule, members meet to discuss the books and to choose the new cycle. Each member purchases a book-on-tape or CD and receives the book back at the end of the cycle. The next cassette group begins in March. Now is the time to phone for information about joining.

*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: 2nd Saturday, 7 p.m. Coordinator is Louise Schumann

### **California Cuisine and Conversation**

Our December 3rd meeting will be at Renae Reising's historic home. Renae's darling home is located in Redlands. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. Please remember to bring copies of your recipe to share. California Cuisine is an interest group devoted to cooking and lively conversation.

*Chair: Kim Roman*

### **Great Decisions**

The Great Decisions Study Books of the Foreign Policy Association are now being published. The topics are Middle East, Climate Change, Mexico, Migration, South Africa, War Crimes, Central Asia, and Children. The cost of the study book and your share of the video is \$15.00. Please come to the Great Decisions table at the branch meeting or call me and let me know which discussion group you would be interested in: afternoon or evening. We will begin the first week of February and meet on eight successive Thursdays. We look forward to your joining us.

*Chair: Mary Jane Auerbacher*

## Interest Groups, Continued

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

I Am will meet on the fourth Wednesday of January at Trinity Episcopal Church. Bring your lunch at noon and/or join us for good talk from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

*Chair: Jane Dill*

### International Relations

There is no meeting in December, but the International Relations Interest Group will meet again on January 9th. Sue Angell and Dorothy Richardson will speak about Siberia. The cost is \$13.00 and reservations are due by January 4th.

*Chairs: Dorothy Richardson and Barbara Pike*

### Reading and the Rainbow

Reading and the Rainbow will not meet in December. If the holidays offer any quiet moments to read, get a head start on the books coming up in 2007. The book selected for the January discussion is F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night*. Fitzgerald's classic stands today as a lyrical, insightful look into the cultural world of aristocracy and the intimate life of a single, complicated couple. The February selection is *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole. *The Washington Post* summed it up as "A corker, an epic comedy, a rumbling, roaring avalanche of a book."

*Co-chairs: Amber Costa; Anne Derfer; and Ellen Schollenberger*

### San Geronio Pass Interest Group

Our December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14th, at Ann Harding's and will be a Pot Luck luncheon. We will be moving our meeting time up 1 hour to noon. Our speaker that day will be Amy Herr, member of the Banning School Board, and founder of the new Boys and Girls Club in Banning.

*If you need directions, please call Ann.*

## 2007 Redlands Math-Science Conference

Would you like to "ADOPT A GIRL"...or two...or more to support this Branch project? If so, donations will be gratefully accepted at branch meetings or by mail. Make checks payable to AAUW Math-Science Conference. Six hundred eighth grade girls from Redlands and Yucaipa **THANK YOU**.

Mail to: Ellie O'Brien, Funding Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 donation to "ADOPT A GIRL"  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 donation to "ADOPT TWO GIRLS"  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$45 donation to "ADOPT THREE GIRLS"  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to "ADOPT MANY GIRLS"

**Contributors of \$100 or more will be thanked by name in the Math-Science Conference program.**

## MATH-SCIENCE CONFERENCE CORNER

### Pass Area

Our Math Science Conference will be Friday, January 12th, and our workday will be January 10th, the Wednesday before in the morning. Please call either Mary Belle Clark or Joanne Mercier if you can come or if you have any questions.

### Redlands

Conference planning is well underway for our March 1, 2007 conference. Many thanks to our members for your continued support to our "Adopt-A-Girl" program, preparation work days and conference participation. The Math-Science Conference could not take place without YOU. Please mark these dates on your calendars.

1/6 AAUW Branch meeting

Assemble letters after meeting

2/3 AAUW Branch meeting

Assemble letters after meeting

2/22 U of R Walk Through 3:30p.m.

OR

2/25 Alternate U of R Walk Through

1:30p.m.

2/25 Packet assembly 3:00 pm

3/1 CONFERENCE

## **The President's Corner**

Let's take a few moments to thank those in our Branch who take many moments each month to make our organization successful. Our Newsletter Editor, Jennifer Hill, our Publicity Chairs, Jan Bell and Amber Costa, our Membership VP, Renae Reiswig our Treasurer, Gwen Wysocki, our Meeting Arrangement and Reservations Chairs, Grace Hart and Antoinette Brenion, and our webmistress, Leslie Priest, are just a few of those who volunteer so much of themselves. It is very rewarding to work with such committed women for the success of our Branch.

Dorothy Richardson, our Program VP has organized a wonderful program this year with the help from those on the Committee. Don't forget we have holiday music ahead of us as well as the Tango in January. Invite a dancing guest for a quick lesson early in 2007. Let's make this a fun event.

As we look back on 2007 we need to bear in mind the many successes we have in our Branch. We have many interest groups meeting monthly and our community support continues. Membership is growing again. Our State President visited us in November and we awarded scholarships to three women each at the University and College levels of education. We will complete this term with a Women's history event, our 60th Anniversary Celebration, a science program and finally, a local history program.

Best wishes to each of you as we close out 2006 and begin 2007, hopefully leaving our world in a better place than before.

*Sheron Bealer*

*“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more.  
It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity.  
It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.  
Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.”*  
--Melody Beattie

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**