

## 🌿 The View from Here

Welcome to the new Branching Out format, designed by Jim Holzgrafe. Jim is member Carol Holzgrafe's husband and an accomplished graphic designer. After we got the unhappy news that Lynn Eads would be unable to continue as newsletter editor, Jim agreed to step in and produce the newsletter for us. [And our thanks to Dianne Lorenz, who has generously agreed to cover the increased cost of printing the new format. —Ed.]

We have some other changes as well. Since there is no designated Program Vice President this year, the board has chosen program ideas from those suggested by our members. We had a lot of good ideas to choose from; some had to be left out but they may be drawn on in the future.

In October we are planning a joint presentation on the North Valley Animal Disaster group and on fire evacuation route plans. Other planned topics are water conservation, the Catalyst domestic violence prevention center, and recycling issues.

We have no branch meeting scheduled for November; the board cut back on meetings because the lack of a Program VP and a Hospitality Chair—no one was found willing to do those tasks—creates more work for other board members, and cutting out meetings is a way of lessening the load. However, this is a group effort; we can always add meetings if members wish to find a speaker, make arrangements, etc.

In February the Inter-Branch Council luncheon, to be held in Gridley, will serve as our branch meeting.

As you know, one of our most valued branch projects is the Pence Scholarship for women returning to higher education. Our Fall Luncheon on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> will be not only a chance to meet this year's recipients but a fundraising event for the scholarship fund. Please note that reservations must be made by sending in your check in advance—see details at left. I'll see you there!

—Satsie Veith, Branch President

## Annual Fall Luncheon

Saturday, September 19, 2009  
11:30 am

Oak Knoll Senior Living Center  
1007 Buschmann Road, Paradise

Our fall luncheon is a fundraiser for the Pence Scholarship Fund. This year's Scholarship recipients will be present to introduce themselves. We will also have interest group information and sign-up sheets.

Lunch will be salad, sandwich, dessert, and beverages. The price is \$12 per person.

Please note that **you must reserve in advance by sending your check,** payable to AAUW Paradise, to

Paradise AAUW, P.O. Box 1585, Paradise, CA, 95967-1585. Please get your check in **no later than Saturday, September 12.**

## 🌿 October Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm "THE FIRE NEXT TIME" & "ROADS AND ANIMALS"

Remember the summer of 2008? Remember when Skyway and Clark were closed and Pentz was clogged with traffic—and all those helpful accidents? Remember people sleeping in their cars because shelters couldn't take their pets?

Come to the October meeting and discover where we are today on these compelling issues. Bring your friends and neighbors: **Oak Knoll Library, 1007 Buschmann Rd, Paradise.**

Former Paradise Town Councilor Robin Huffman will discuss "the roads out"—Are there any? Where are they? Will they work? What about Skyway through to Butte Meadows? Robin is an expert source of information on town and county issues and will answer your questions.

Marygrace Colby, representing the North Valley Animal Disaster Group, will bring us up to date on animal care during evacuations, complete with furry "examples".

We will also have information from the Paradise Fire Safe Council on keeping yourself and your property safe and how to get help if you need it. **None of us can afford to be without this information!**

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Branching Out is published five times per year by the Paradise Branch of the American Association of University Women. AAUW Paradise Branch is committed to advancing lifelong education opportunities and equity for girls and women. We will do this while providing growth opportunities and support for our members and establishing a positive visible presence on the Paradise Ridge.

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



## 🌿 Tech Trek at Stanford, 2009

The three young women we sent to Camp Curie at Stanford in July bring our total to thirty “opportunities of a life time” for students going into the eighth grade. As we continue to track our past participants, through both high school and college, we can be very proud of their accomplishments.

When Tanya Angell was a seventh grader applying for a 2004 Tech Trek scholarship, she announced that she planned to be valedictorian of her high school class, and she has delivered on that promise: this past May she graduated at the top of her class, gathering numerous scholarships—one worth \$28,000—as well as other honors. She played volleyball and was very active in community projects, and is now attending UC Davis. As members of Paradise AAUW, we provided a special opportunity that has led to her many achievements.

In camper thank-you notes, both Kaitlyn McElroy, Pine Ridge School, and Breanna Beach, Paradise Intermediate School, mentioned that their Chemistry With Food core class taught them a lot about fat and grease in various foods. Elise Saeger, Paradise Intermediate School, said she “learned so much” about CSI (Crime Scene Investigation).

Lauryn Gregorio, a camper in 2006, was selected as a Junior Counselor this year and assisted in classes and events, serving as an outstanding role model for the younger campers.

All three campers said that they had had experiences that they had not had anywhere else—the week was a doorway to so many new things. Meeting new friends and being exposed to so many outstanding women at Women’s Professional Night were experiences that will always be remembered.

We hope to be able to continue to send campers to Tech Trek. The current cost is \$800 per camper; individual contributions are most welcome.

Check out the terrific video that Abi Erickson (Camper ’05, Junior Counsellor ’07, Official Videographer ’08, ’09) produced of this year’s Stanford Tech Trek at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESflZfHesg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESflZfHesg).

...Or you can simply go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search on “Tech Trek Stanford 2009”.

—Marygrace Colby, Tech Trek Coordinator



2009 Tech Trek campers Elise Saeger, Breanna Beach, Kaitlyn McElroy; and junior counselor Lauryn Gregorio.

## 🌿 Pence Scholarships

This year the Pence Scholarship Committee has chosen two recipients: Kellie Mead and Shannon Silvas. Each will receive \$500 toward their college expenses.

The requirements for receiving this scholarship are:

1. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have been out of school for at least two years before returning.
2. Must be a graduate of Paradise High School or are current resident of Paradise Ridge for at least one year.
3. Must demonstrate need.
4. Must be currently enrolled at Butte College.
5. Must submit a letter describing educational plans and goals.
6. Must enroll as a full time student with a minimum of 12 units.
7. Must submit transcripts of previous college work.

Both of these women have met these requirements, especially the demonstration of need. Come meet Kellie and Shannon at our Fall Luncheon September 19.

—Pat Nohrnberg, Pence Scholarship Chair



## 🌿 We are the “Public” in Public Policy

The AAUW California website claims that AAUW is every member’s watchdog in Sacramento and, indeed, it is. The site goes on to say:

*“For more than a century, AAUW has influenced legislative debate on critical social issues. Do you care about education, Social Security, gender discrimination, civil rights, reproductive rights, affirmative action, Title IX, welfare reform, vocational education, pay equity, family and medical leave, or health care reform? We do!”*

The AAUW-Ca Public Policy Committee (all members like you) researches bills to be considered by the state legislature and selects those that will affect our members or specific AAUW concerns, usually those of education health or equity.

As public policy chair for the branch, I will keep an eye on what the committee—and our first-rate legislative consultant, Charlotte Newhart (yes, there are good lobbyists)—consider worthy of our attention. When notified of an impending vote on a bill that AAUW either supports or opposes, I will let you know by email and you can contact your representative with your opinion.

It is not necessary for you to agree with the AAUW stated position. However, if you disagree, please *do not* identify yourself as an AAUW member to your representative.

The national AAUW works the same way with Congress. If you do not wish to be notified about these impending votes, please send me an email at [carol@holzgrafe.com](mailto:carol@holzgrafe.com) and I will remove you from the list.

If you wish, you can keep up with public policy issues yourself. Just go to [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org), click on “Advocacy”, then “Public Policy.” You will find the complete list of 2009 AAUW-reviewed bills plus ways to contact your representatives. And much, much more.

You can check the national AAUW positions the same way: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org), then advocacy, then public policy.

AAUW had a great deal to say to Congress about the Lily Ledbetter pay equity bill. Congress listened and passed Ledbetter into law. Let us hope for the same success for 2009–2010.

–Carol Holzgrafe, Public Policy Chair

## 🌿 LAF News

The Winter 2009 LAF Update contained a interesting article from Barbara L. O’Connor, President of the AAUW Educational Foundation. As you know, LAF has expanded its support from strictly the academic arena to include sex discrimination in the workplace. If you know of any local woman who might qualify for assistance in this area, please send your recommendations to [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org).

–Connie Ferrell, VP EF/LAF

## 🌿 New Members

Jan Keller’s father was in the Navy and then a field rep for Pratt & Whitney. This meant lots of travel and resulted in many schools, including three different 5th grades, three different 8th grades, and a new 9th grade.

College was similar—starting at UCLA, continuing at the College of Guam, and finishing up with a B.A. in Social Science at California State University, Stanislaus. She obtained her MPA at California State University, Stanislaus.

She worked for Dameron Hospital in Stockton and General Hospital in Eureka in administration, then moved on in 1985 to become the Executive Director of North Coast Schools Medical Insurance Group JPA—a self-funded insurance pool covering all the schools in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.

In 1993 Jan moved to Paradise, where she became the Executive Director of Butte Schools Self-funded Programs JPA, a self-funded pool covering Butte County schools and Butte Community College.

She did this until she retired in January 2008. In April 2008 Jan became the Exalted Ruler of the Paradise Elks Lodge.

Jan and her husband Al have five children and ten grandchildren between them. The family keeps them busy but they also love to dance, travel, and enjoy their boat at Lake Oroville.

–Katie Rosenberg, Membership Chair

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## 🌿 Catch Us On The Web!

<http://www.aauwparadise.org>



## Other Dates and Interest Groups

**Annual Tech Trek Soup Supper** Monday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Evening Book Group** is always open to new members, either singly or with a significant other. We meet every 6-8 weeks on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM. Location rotates among the homes of members, where the discussion of a book is followed by dessert and coffee. The title for our September/October meeting is *The House of Mondavi* by Julia Flynn. If you're interested in joining us, call Mary Johnson at 877-3906 or Dianne Lorenz at 872-8967 for the date and location.

**Morning Book Group** meets every 4th Thursday of the month between 10 and noon. During our September meeting, we will be selecting the books we will be reading this year. To join our group or to find out the location of this meeting, contact Connie Ferrell at 873-0725.

**Pot Luck Group** welcomes new members—couples or singles. You cook only one dish and enjoy a great meal and even greater conversation. If you are interested, please call Marilyn Eldridge at 873-1029.

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## Dramatis Personae

President:	Satsie Veith
Treasurer:	Kay Hinerman
Secretaries:	Dianne Lorenz Merrie McLaughlin
VP EF/LAF:	Connie Rogers
VP Membership:	Katie Rosenberg
Editor:	Jim Holzgrafe



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