

AAUW HILO BRANCH

January 31, 2011



Advancing equity for women & girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy & research.



NEWSLETTER the prez sez:

I'm hoping you all had a wonderful holiday season and are eager to "kick up a notch" your involvement with Hilo Branch AAUW.

The Bi-Branch Meeting and Lunch with Kona Branch took place at KMC this month and was a great success. The presentation relating to the history of KMC was wonderful.

Carrie Blankfield is hosting a Tea and Auction at her home in February for our scholarship/education fund. We are taking a year off from our Double Hull Canoe fund raising with Aha Puana Leo and Carrie has graciously stepped in to fill the gap.

Science Fair judging is in March. Barbara Meguro needs assistance. Please respond directly to her. It's a few hours on a Saturday morning, and well worth it!

The Garage Sale is our BIG Fundraiser and requires all of us pitch in. Judy Beventon has offered her home. Date to be determined.

Math-Science is pau. Please, let's get a program going that allows us to be "hands on" in education. One suggestion is: "Let's Read Math". This program is something we all could get involved in, it does not require a huge commitment and has excellent reported results. And God knows, our children on this

island can use some big help. Phyllis Robinson has more info.

Please remember that if you sign-up to attend a lunch you are obligated to pay, **EVEN IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND**. We give the caterer a head count and base our invitation \$\$ on that, so if you do not ante up, the branch still has to pay for you.



Program news & notes

AAUW PRE-GARAGE SALE AUCTION AND TEA

In setting up for the garage sale each year, members often would select things they wanted and set them aside prior to the day of the garage sale. Often these were the little treasures that people had donated which seemed just a bit too good to be at a garage sale. In keeping with the spirit of getting a bargain, there will be a **special pre-garage sale auction and tea at the home of Carrie Blankfield (24 Poni Moi Pl.) on Saturday, February 19, 2011 from 3 pm until 5 pm.**

Members are asked to bring no more than three items that they would like to donate to the auction. They should decide on the value of the item and a minimum starting bid price. If there is time, the member will be asked to give a little history of the item—if that is relevant.

Carrie will provide a variety of teas and is asking that members each bring a small tea time treat. If you have a special tea cup you would like to bring for your use, please feel free to do so.

All monies raised at the event will be donated to the Scholarship Fund.

If you plan to attend the auction and tea, please contact Carrie at 934-8371 no later than February 10, to let her know you are coming and what you plan to donate so she can have auction sheets prepared. If you have no items to donate, but would just like to come and perhaps bid on an item, please feel free to do so.

If you need driving directions to Carrie's home, you can also contact her.

This event will be an opportunity to get in the spirit of the garage sale and begin the process of cleaning out your cabinets and closets.

Garage Sale!

April 16, 2011

I am letting you know about our annual Garage Sale for AAUW scholarships and legal defense fund. Start collecting all the items you want to bring to my house for the garage sale. As some of you may not know **the Garage Sale has been moved to my house at 1360 B Mele Manu St.** Remember no clothes or shoes. Start going through your closets, drawers, kitchens, and garages, and collect all those items you know are cluttering your home and donate them to this worthy event.

The date for the sale is Saturday, April 16th. And for those who volunteer mark your calendar for April 14th and 15th and 16th and let us know when you want to volunteer and we will get a calendar set up for the various jobs that need to be done.

I am looking forward to having a successful event and appreciate everyone who will help me to make this a big success.

I will be sending directions out to all of you when I set the dates to drop off your wonderful items for the sale.

Thanking you in advance,
Judy Bevington

Group News & Notes

Hiking Group

The group is still going strong, and we always welcome new hikers. We have quite a few non AAUW members, from whom we request a \$3 donation each hike. This year we donated \$130 to the Scholarship fund.

The January hike was on Saturday the 22nd. Check the website and your email for information on the February Hike.

Susan Hicks

Book Club

The AAUW book club continues to meet and have interesting and fun conversation mixed with friendship each month. We generally meet on the second Sunday of each month at 4PM but times and dates can occasionally change. January's book is Little Bee by Chris Cleave, a fascinating look at the fictional experience of a Nigerian refugee, refugee problems in Great Britain as well as the world, and a look at two independent women and how they face trauma in their lives. The meeting was held at the home of Josephine Crawford on Sunday, January 9.

We plan to have our annual one night book club retreat in March. We all enjoyed Kilauea Military Camp when we had our retreat there two years ago, and will probably revisit the site this year. For the retreat our group has typically read any book on a single topic, rather than all reading the same book. This year we will be reading any of the books listed on AAUW's 2010-2011 reading list: Adelante. For more information on that list go to: <http://www.aauw.org/connect/adelante/titles.cfm>

The group selected Last Days of Summer by Steve Kluger as February's book. The location has not yet been determined.

Other books selected for part of 2011 include: This Lovely Life, by Vicki Forman, The Writing Class, by Jincy Willett, Cutting for Stone, by Abraham Verghese, Off Season by Ann Rivers Siddon and Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali.

We have a few months open still. It has been suggested that some of our books are a bit heavy and/or serious, so if you want to join and proffer some lighthearted but good for discussion books, please contact me. Happy New Year!! Sheryl Rawson sherylhilo@yahoo.com or 934-0552.

Let's Read Math a math/science alternative?

By Phyllis Robinson

Your Hilo Branch board has been looking into alternative community project ideas to replace the Math-Science Conference. After much discussion, surveying, and soul-searching, we have come to the conclusion that we have worn out our enthusiasm for such a labor and fund-intensive program. Luckily, we discovered that some other AAUW branches on the Mainland have been involved in a "new" (since 2004) program: Let's Read Math.

Basically, it is a program that was designed for children in the elementary grades, using children's books to encourage the use of math and to develop math skills. It was developed with the input of elementary math educators, and can be adapted to use with individual children or parent-children workshops, in such community venues as libraries, Scouts, schools, etc.

What attracts us is that it is a tried and proven program that we could offer to

teach to all of our interested members. Many people could participate and interact directly with the students, if they so desired. We are hoping that the public library system will agree to co-sponsor the program; we could supply the workshop leaders if they could supply the books and venue at which to hold the workshops. Perhaps it could be incorporated into their annual summer reading program.

Costs to implement the program would vary. There are three lower grade level options (K-2, K-4 1 & 2) and one for upper elementary grades. We could start with just one and see how we like it. The training binder for each option is \$50. There are individual funbooks (workbooks) we could purchase for (or sell to) each child for about \$6.95 apiece. The greatest expense is for the book collection to go with each option, which we would hope to defray by using library books.

If this idea appeals to you, check out the website and see what how other AAUW branches have participated. I believe the 2007 AAUW grant funding has run out, but perhaps we would need it. Go to: <http://www.letsreadmath.com/> E-mail Patsy or myself if you have any comments or want to join us in planning this!

Phyllis Robinson

PLRrxconsult@netscape.net

Patsy Egan

hilo4us2@yahoo.com

Branch Officers:

President:
Patsy Egan

Membership VP:
Judy Bevington

Program VPs:
Margaret Drake &
Susan James

Treasurer: Lucy Maloney

Secretary: vacant

Mary Stuart's husband, Martti, passed away on December 1, 2010. If anyone from Hilo branch wishes to send sympathy cards her address is

Mary Stuart
P.O. Box 217
Pt. Ludlow, WA 98365

