



# RIVERSIDE PIPELINE

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

## SEPTEMBER, 2012

### MEETINGS

September 6th, Thursday, Book Group at Stella's at 1:00 PM — *Rose Hill* by Carlos Cortes (who will be at the meeting).

September 6th, Thursday, Book Group at Erika's — *Time is a River* by Alice Monroe

September 10th, Monday, Board Meeting at Jo's at 10:00 AM

September 15th, Saturday, Tech Trek at **Habitat for Humanity**, near the corner of Spruce on Iowa — at 9:30 AM Brunch.

September 21st, Friday, Healthy Hearts at Marilyn Puckett's at Noon.

September 24th, Monday, Current Affairs at At 1:00 pm at Jo's.

September 24th, Monday, Bridge Group at 7:00 PM at Ted's.

### ANNUAL TECH TREK FUND RAISING BRUNCH

Please join us on  
Saturday, September 15  
at 9:30 am  
\$15 members/\$10 guests  
at Habitat for Humanity!

Habitat for Humanity is near the corner of Spruce at 2180 Iowa Avenue.

The past year we were able to send 7 girls to UC San Diego for Tech Trek, and they would like to share their experiences with you! One Tech Trek scholarship is \$850, so we need your help. Please consider bringing guests to the brunch. Also, if you know of any organizations that I can contact for a possible donation, please let me know. The girls and I would be happy to talk with groups and share what a fantastic opportunity Tech Trek is for young girls!

Please contact Lisa Newhall to RSVP for the brunch by September 12 at 951-323-3836. I look forward to seeing everyone there!

### Board Members

|                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Co-Presidents   | Barb Ryon<br>Barbara Purvis |
| AAUW Funds VP   | Stephanie Dingman           |
| Membership VP   | Carlease Chandler Co        |
| Secretary       | Marilyn Puckett             |
| Treasurer       | Stephanie Dingman           |
| Communications  | Taffy Geith                 |
| Parliamentarian | Bessie Ridley               |

### Interest groups & Others

|                                       |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Book Group—1st Thursday at 1 PM       | Stella Fife      |
| Book Group - 1st Thursday at 7 PM     | Lisa Newhall     |
| Bridge Group - 4th Saturday at 7 PM   | Mary Lou Morales |
| Current Affairs - 4th Monday at 1: PM | Marilyn Dunagan  |
| Healthy Hearts - 3rd Friday at Noon   | Dorothy Andrus   |
| Out & About - dates & times vary      | Bessie Ridley    |
| International Affairs Chair           | Jo Turner        |
| Public Policy Chair                   | Carrie Garret    |
| Tech Trek Coordinator                 | Ann Kasper       |
| UCR Coordinator                       | Lisa Newhall     |
|                                       | Adrienne Sims    |



# September 2012

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri                                       | Sat  |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|
|   |  |  |   |   | <b>Note the Birthday Girls this Month</b> | <i>1</i>   |
| <i>2</i>  | <i>3</i>   | <i>4</i>  | <i>5</i>  | <b>6</b> Book Group<br>1:00 pm<br><hr/> Book Group<br>7:00 pm<br><b>Beverly Cox</b> | <i>7</i>                                  | <i>8</i><br><br><b>Carlease Chandler</b>   |
| <i>9</i>  | <i>10</i><br>Board Meeting<br>10:00 am                                   | <i>11</i>   | <i>12</i>   | <i>13</i>   | <i>14</i><br><br><b>Taffy Geith</b>       | <i>15</i><br><b>Tech Trek</b><br>9:30 am   |
| <i>16</i>   | <i>17</i>  | <i>18</i>   | <i>19</i>   | <i>20</i>   | <i>21</i><br>Healthy Hearts<br>Noon       | <i>22</i><br> |
| <i>23</i>   | <i>24</i><br>Current Affairs<br>1:00 pm<br><hr/> Bridge Group<br>7:00 pm | <i>25</i>   | <i>26</i> <br><b>Marilyn Puckett</b> | <i>27</i>   | <i>28</i>                                 | <i>29</i>  |
| <i>30</i><br><br><b>Ellie Bennett</b><br><b>Aki Caszatt</b> |  |   |   |   |   |               |

## PRESIDENTS' CORNER



**By Barb Ryon,  
Co-President**

Greetings

As many of you know I taught elementary school for 38 years and kept my hand in the classroom for nine more years as a substitute. I therefore feel that I have retired twice. Education is so important and our two focuses for the month of September reflect this. Along with our Tech Trek brunch where we get to hear reflections from our Tech Trek Girls on their experience, we are again focusing on supplying books to another elementary school in Riverside.

In June I was given a copy of all the grants presented by the Riverside Educational Enrichment Fund (REEF). In its biggest year ever, REEF awarded 169 grants for a total of \$179,152. These were awarded at all levels of schooling.

21 of the 43 grants were awarded at the middle school level in the STEM subjects of science or math. At Central grants were given for a digital microscope camera, and GPS devices. Chemawa was given \$1,000 for a trip to Johnson Space Center to get a glimpse of the realities of space travel and the intense training of an astronaut, and numerous math supplies. At Earhart funds were used to purchase a Survey of the Elements Visual Display which includes 36 elements from the Periodic Table. Gage students will have the opportunity to engage in activities involving real life applications of motion, force and geographic concepts using a weather balloon apparatus. Miller students will be able to contrast blood pressure and pulse using stethoscopes and blood pressure cuffs. They also got funds for their Math counts club to prepare for the national AMC8 test and competition in Math Olympiad and continental Math League. Sierra purchased triple beam balances to be used during hands-on lab instruction. Exciting things are happening throughout RUSD in math, science, language arts, history and music.

## OUR NEW WEBSITE

<http://riverside-ca.aauw.net/> copy and paste this in your favorites so you can go to the website easily, anytime.

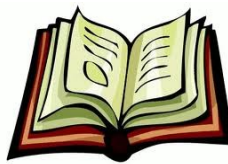


In the upper right hand corner of any page, find this envelop and click on it. This is the way to sign up so that you will get e-mails any time there is something new posted on the website. So far, Taffy has contributed an article and so has Carrie.

There are lots of interesting pages and things to explore on the website. Why don't you click on the blue URL above and do a little exploring now.



This year all the birthdays will be in the calendar each month. Look at page 2 and see who's having birthdays this month.



The drive to deliver 125 books to the kindergarten classes at Emerson Elementary school is underway. If you have books to be picked up, please let Carlease or Barbara Purvis know and we would be delighted to do so. If you have books and want to get them off your hands, please contact Jo Turner and she will accept delivery.

If you have no time to do the buying yourself, a check made payable to the AAUW Riverside Branch and sent to Barb Ryon will get to our new Treasurer, and eventually into the hands of an expert willing to purchase the books.

## SEIBC HOLDS SUCCESSFUL LEADERSHIP DAY

By Taffy Geith

The South East Inter-Branch Council (SEIBC) Leadership Conference for California AAUW, was held on Saturday, August 11, at Redlands University, from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. This conference allowed Branch Representatives to network and share their expertise, knowledge, and skills through specific workshops that attendees could select. The goal of the conference was to strengthen and grow the AAUW organization and its mission: advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

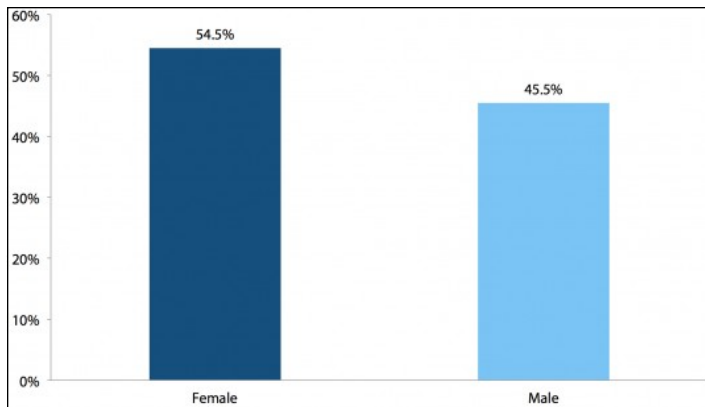
The Conference was unique because of the number of people (60) who came from far and wide --from Sacramento in the north, to San Diego in the south and Laguna Beach in the far west. All twelve branches of the SEIBC were represented: Big Bear; China Lake/Ridgecrest; Diamond Bar/Walnut; Hemet/San Jacinto; Ontario/Upland/Rancho; Palm Springs; Pomona Valley; Redlands; Riverside; San Geronio; Temecula; and Victor Valley. Thus, members had the occasion to hear and discuss issues and ideas from a region that was larger than usual for them. Further, the newly elected AAUW-California president, Alicia Hetman, was present and spoke of her vision for AAUW in her coming term, as well as her activities and experiences in Sacramento. Her passion for AAUW and all that it has and will accomplish was heartfelt and moving. Judy Horan effectively spoke about the qualities of good leaders. Carolann Ford, and Donna Lilly, all active in AAUW Leadership positions, engaged our attention on current issues and added to our understanding of the breadth of AAUW.

At the end of the session, the inter-change of ideas, the awareness of the depth of the concepts presented in the workshops, and of course, the camaraderie of the members from this wide region of Southern California, made everyone realize anew, the positive value that this type of conference provides for AAUW-California. Spirits were high.





## Raise minimum wage; help working families, help the economy



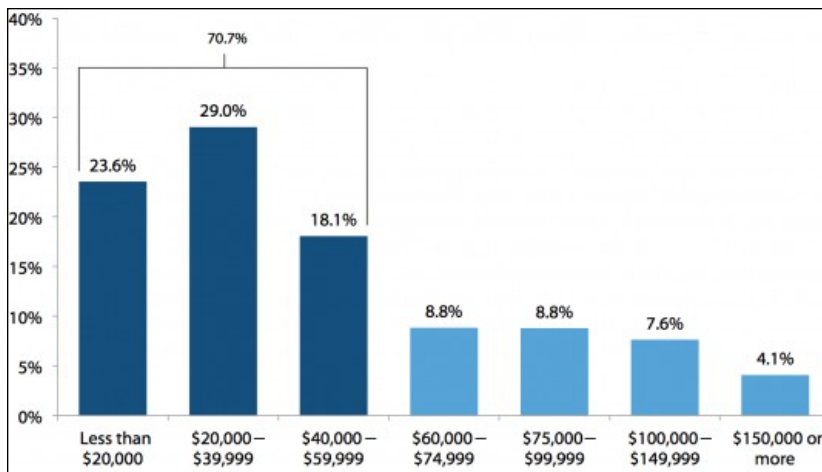
Millions of workers – mostly women – struggle to make ends meet on the current minimum wage. At just \$7.25 an hour, or roughly \$14,500 per year, the current federal minimum wage hasn't been raised in THREE YEARS and is leaving working families in poverty.

Income inequality in the United States is growing rapidly. Stratospheric incomes for the top one percent of earners eclipse the failure to help the lowest paid earners gain a fair wage. The Economic Policy Institute has released [a study](#) that indicates women would make up more than half of the workers affected by a raise

in the federal minimum wage. Seventy percent of those affected would be families that earn less than \$60,000 a year. Currently, the federal minimum wage stands at \$7.25/hour.

Raising the minimum wage would increase the economic security of working women and their families, the same workers staggering under the burden of recession. Key findings in the study include:

- Women would be disproportionately affected, comprising nearly 55 percent of those who would benefit.
- Nearly 88 percent of workers who would benefit are at least 20 years old.
- Although workers of all races and ethnicities would benefit from the increase, non-Hispanic white workers comprise the largest share (about 56 percent) of those who would be affected.
- About 42 percent of affected workers have at least some college education.
- Around 54 percent of affected workers work full time, over 70 percent are in families with incomes of less than \$60,000, more than a quarter are parents, and over a third are married.
- The average affected worker earns about half of his or her family's total income.



Surprisingly, this study is finding support on both ends of the political spectrum. “Corporations are taking huge advantage of the slack in the labor market—they are in a very strong position and workers are in a very weak position. They are using that bargaining power to cut benefits and wages, and to shorten hours,” states American Enterprise Institute scholar Desmond Lachman, a former managing director at Salomon Smith Barney. According to Lachman, a conservative, that strategy “very much jeopardizes our chances of experiencing a real recovery.”

The immediate benefits of a minimum-wage increase are in the boosted earnings of the lowest-paid workers, but its positive effects would far exceed this extra income. Recent research reveals that, despite skeptics' claims, raising the minimum wage does not cause job loss. In fact, throughout the nation, minimum-wage increases would *create* jobs. Like unemployment insurance benefits or tax breaks for low- and middle-income workers, raising the minimum wage puts more money in the pockets of working families when they need it most, thereby augmenting their spending power. Economists generally recognize that low-wage workers are more likely than any other income group to spend any extra earnings immediately on previously unaffordable basic needs or services.

# Riverside Pipeline

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## New Study Finds Students with Disabilities Suspended Twice as Often

A [new report](#) discovered that [students with disabilities are almost twice as likely](#) to be suspended from school, with even higher rates among black students with disabilities. Various school districts were also found to suspend a disproportionately high number of black students overall, with or without disabilities. Suspensions are cause for concern, as students with suspensions face greater risks of dropping out or future incarceration. Some advocates suggest that school districts with high suspension rates for students with disabilities should look to schools with lower rates on how to best support their students without disproportionate or inappropriate punishment.

AAUW is committed to ensuring adequate, equitable, and quality educational opportunities for all students. AAUW [believes additional support](#) is necessary to provide students with disabilities with a comfortable and successful school atmosphere. AAUW is concerned that many school districts seem to overlook the needs of students with disabilities, and we will continue to work to combat these inequalities through legislation and expansion of quality educational programs.

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*Visit our new website [HERE](#)*

**Members and guests are invited any time to all meetings!**