

THE SPOKESWOMAN
July 2019 Volume 55 Number 7

JUNE 2 INSTALLATION

Despite a late start, a non-working video, and student absences due to transportation problems, the luncheon was successful. Estelle welcomed the Trekkers and parents, and introduced Gail, our Tech Trek organizer and leader. Gail asked Sithmi Jayasundara, a former Tech Trek camper, Junior Counselor, and graduating Senior, to talk about her experiences and upcoming plans. Sithmi told us how the camp encouraged her and made her feel empowered. She will be attending Johns Hopkins University to study bioengineering. Gail then asked each new camper to state her goals and give a short autobiography. She then passed out Tech Trekkie Bears and a certificate to each girl.

Sithu Tun expressed his sincere thanks for his daughters being able to participate. He saw a gratifying boost in Melody's self-confidence after her TT experience, and was generous in his praise for AAUW offering girls this opportunity. He was proud that Harmony successfully interviewed and looks forward to supplying sushi for the September gathering.

After lunch, Estelle praised each board member for her work and welcomed new board member Stephanie DeGraff-Hunt. The board now consists of President Shahla Farahnak, Secretary Leslie Rubin, Member/Treasurer/Tech Trek Coordinator Gail Johnson, Rhonda Reed, Estelle Shiroma, Verena Borton, and Stephanie DeGraff-Hunt. Estelle also introduced our college students, Marlene Amador and interns Denise Garcia and Mia Santos.

Estelle urged people to volunteer for Tech Trek on July 23 for a budget simulation from 5:30-9:00 pm. Visitors' Day is the 25th for seeing the classes in action. Call Gail or Estelle to sign up.



MIA, MARLENE, DENISE



Sami Tully-Smith, Sarah Boyd, Harmony Tun, Mariana Ramirez

GRADUATING SENIORS SEND-OFF

On June 7th, Estelle invited members to her home to celebrate and send-off the graduating UCD AAUW Organization Seniors. She also invited our two young women who attended the Washington, DC Leadership Conference (NCCWSL)- National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, Annie Chen and Sahiba Kaur.

As President of the Student organization and conference attendee, Sahiba began with praise for the conference. It helped her feel empowered to become more active in the community and the university in civil and social engagement (the "Elect Her" workshop). As a woman of color, she was proud to be an example for others.



Annie attended also, and had good interactions with speakers and other attendees. She was inspired by the woman speaker who powered through homelessness, single parenting, and other hardships, to become the Keynote Speaker at this Washington, DC gathering. Annie recorded her feelings, and shared them with us. Her writing touched all of us who heard her.

Marlene, who attended last year's DC event, spoke next about the graduating seniors who were active in the Student Organization. She thanked Jamila, Annie, and Monica for their "jumping in" and being ready and able and enthusiastic to help and lead. Jamila and Sahiba met and ran for Student Senate together. They both went above and beyond for promoting AAUW. Jamila managed as Treasurer and supported students with her connections and dedication. Annie was also very instrumental in the group's success.

Marlene thanked Estelle for her guidance and interest in assisting with the Student AAUW org., and thanked Rhonda for recruiting Monica, who proved to be another dependable hard worker.

Estelle and Marlene gave each grad the AAUW cords, Davis glasses, and one-year membership in the AAUW National. Estelle encouraged them to keep us posted regarding their activities, and urged them to contact the local AAUW branch wherever they settled.

THE BOOK CLUB

The group met at Mishka's on the 15th: Estelle, Rhonda, Terry, Trish, Marti, Juliana, Gail, and leader Celida. Celida discovered a new perspective on Circe after reading *The Odyssey*. We discussed whether Circe was a witch since she had powers that she could use for good or bad. This led us to consider the difference in attitude of being a Wizard (magical, good, male) vs. a witch (conniving, evil, female). Some of us had trouble following the characters and complicated relationships. The movie, *Clash of the Titans*, gave some background. The website for Circe was also helpful.

The next book is *Lies My Teacher Told Me* by James Loewen. This will be discussed at a Celebrate the 19th supper at Tres Hermanas (by Amtrak) at 5:30 pm on August the 19th.

Other books considered after *Lies* are: *Overstory* by Richard Powers; *No Friend But the Mountains* by Behrouz Bocchani; *Rent Tent* by Auto Diamont.

CELEBRATE THE 19TH in June

On the 19th, Rhonda, Stephanie, Juliana and Char met at the Graduate for a meal before the Graduate's closing. We heard about Rhonda's dog competition and her visit with Nan in Montana. Stephanie talked about her upcoming travels and

finding good pet sitters. A special notice will be sent regarding July Celebrate as yet TBD.

BOARD RETREAT

We will be meeting on July 13th at Leslie Rubin's home for the annual board retreat. We will greet and have morning snacks. Any member is welcome at 9:00am at 3014 Catalina Dr. to discuss and give input for the following: What are your top 3 objectives for AAUW Davis 2019-2020?; What are your top 3 activities you would like to do with AAUW Davis?; What top 3 outcomes would you like to see for AAUW Davis?

Can't attend but have input to share? Please email Estelle or Leslie. Estelle.shiroma@gmail.com, lesliefayrubin@gmail.com. At 10:30 we will sort the top 3 above by our mission elements. At 11:15 we will discuss how we get these things done. At noon, there will be a no-host Pizza lunch. The plan is to be done by 3:00pm.

Be as active as you can, but stay a member. You count.

CALENDAR

July 13- Board Retreat 9:00am at Leslie's July 19- Celebrate the 19th TBD

July 21-29- Tech Trek on the UCD campus

July 23- Volunteer for the budget simulation 5:30 pm- 9:00pm

July 25- Visit the campers on campus

August 19- Book Club and Celebrate the 19th at Tres Hermanas 5:30pm October 6- International Festival

Officers for 2019-2020

President-Shahla: 304-2844

Membership-Treasurer- Gail: 756-1207

Secretary- Leslie: 707-217-7166

Board Members:

Verena: 756-0632

Rhonda: 297-0460

Estelle: 758-8603

Stephanie: 902-8394

Book Club: Celida Johnson: 707-540-4663

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Juliana: 758-3011