



# DIRECTIONS

Novato Branch

[novatoaauw.org](http://novatoaauw.org)

February, 2012

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



## Annual Tri-Branch Brunch

**Saturday, February 25, 2012 -- 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

**The Club at McInnis Park**

**\$22 per person**

**Featuring Camilla Gray- Nelson, Dog Trainer, Businesswoman and Author, who has this to say this about herself and her work:**



I was born on a dairy farm in Petaluma, my father an Irish immigrant and my mother the daughter of a local blacksmith-turned-auto-parts-dealer. While other little girls my age were playing with their friends and having tea parties with their dolls, I was catching cows to ride, figuring out how to gather eggs without being pecked by the hens, and teaching my ponies tricks. In fact, most of my friends growing up had four legs, not two.

My brothers and I weren't micro-managed as children, but we knew without a doubt that our parents were in charge of our family – just like the cows, horses and dogs also knew who set the rules in their own herds or packs. My parents did not yell; they

simply set and enforced the rules – like the lead horse, the queen cow and the alpha dog did in their own groups. From my earliest days on the farm I learned a great truth: that the secret to getting what you want and influencing others is quiet strength, feedback and follow-through – not yelling, intimidation or conflict. Nature taught me this. My parents proved it. I live it.

When I started training dogs professionally, it was women who sought out my help. Responsibility for the family dog typically falls to them, after all. Their homes were in chaos; they were yelling at their dogs – and their kids – and couldn't control either one. The life skills of personal power that I learned as a child (and assumed everyone else had, too), turned out to be rare among my clients.

Since that time, it has been my personal goal to share Nature's message of quiet power with women (and men) everywhere to help them become more effective not only with their dogs, but in their greater lives as well.

**Please RSVP to Eileen Hutchinson by February 18**

**Send your check for \$22 per person, payable to Novato AAUW,**

**to Eileen at 875 Atherton Avenue, Novato, CA 94945**

**Contact Eileen at 415-898-2355 or [ehutchin@earthlink.net](mailto:ehutchin@earthlink.net)**

## MEMBER NEWS

Instead of celebrating at the Winter Party, **Libba Patterson** was in Kaiser Hospital with an undetermined ailment that left her weak and nauseated. She was feeling better by Monday and hopes to be back at home by the time you read this. We hope so, too, Libba!

**Sue Potter** had a much better reason for being absent from the party: she and Dick had a not-to-be-missed opportunity to sail through the Panama Canal aboard a luxury cruise ship.

## SAVE THE DATE

Saturday afternoon, April 21  
AAUW Spring Tea

Speaker: TBD

## AN INVITATION TO GRANDMAS & WANNABES from Sue Potter

Have you noticed the monthly announcement for the special interest section, Grandmas & Wannabes? Are you wondering what a wannabe is? See the adjacent photo for a glimpse of a wannabe. Typically, wannabes have children who are of child bearing age but who have not produced. Wannabes are often inclined to attach themselves to other relatives as in the case here. Grand nieces can be almost as satisfying as grandchildren.

Please do not hesitate to join the group EVEN IF YOU HAVE NO GRANDCHILDREN. If you come, be sure to come armed with photos of darling children, even if the photos are of your own children when they were little. Come join the fun every fourth Thursday of the month, 7:30 at Sue Potter's. For more information call Sue at 892-5569.



## CLASSROOMS ACROSS CULTURES ([www.classroomsacrosscultures.org](http://www.classroomsacrosscultures.org)) by Nancy Major



I attended the lecture October sponsored by the Marin Branch of AAUW at Dominican University. The speaker, Camilla Barry, teaches hands-on science to Afghan educators, which was especially interesting to me as I also taught hands-on science for 10 years. It was fascinating to learn how one person can, through persistence and courage, use her experiences to make the world a better place.

Through her friendship with a local Afghan woman in Mill Valley, Camilla learned about an opportunity to go to Afghanistan with The Global Exchange, an organization that promotes world peace through people-to-people tours in countries with difficulties. (My son studied in Cuba a few years ago for the summer through Global Exchange.) Within three weeks, she was on a plane heading for Afghanistan.

Walking around Kabul, Camilla found the Aschiana School catering to street children, offering them breakfast and lunch and some education. They didn't have a science class because they didn't have a science teacher. And so she taught the first hands-on science class ever taught in Afghanistan. She was offered lodging, breakfast and lunch and an English translator if she could come back.

Word spread and soon six other schools wanted her to teach them. She started holding teacher training classes and has trained hundreds of Afghan teachers over the years to teach science without labs or equipment. The students learn to love not just science but learning itself as, for the first time, learning becomes engaging and exciting. Heretofore, Afghan students had been solely male and had to sit quietly listening to the teacher. Now students are of both sexes and many women have used her lessons to start micro-businesses to support their families.



# Section News

**All sections are open to and welcome newcomers.** Each member is encouraged to visit and check out sections that might be of interest to her.

**Newcomers, please call the meeting hostess** if you want to attend. Similarly, **a regular member who must be absent should always so inform the hostess.**

**BOARD MEETING. Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 p.m., Community Room at Nova- Ro II, 1130 Seventh Street,** on the right side of the street just north of Carmel Drive. **Park on the street.** All members are welcome to attend. Board members, if you are unable to attend please inform Lois St. Sure at 897-9247.

**TRI- BRANCH BRUNCH. Saturday, February 25, 10:00 a.m., The Club at McInnis Park (at the end of Smith Ranch Road). Featured speaker: Camilla Gray- Nelson (see page 1 for more information).**

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES. Wednesday evening, February 1, unless canceled.** Please call Leigh Blair, 897-9021 for further details.

**BRIDGE GROUP. Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.** Meet at Nova-Ro II Community Room. Contact: Joan Ganzhorn, 883-7990.

**BOOKS - DAYTIME. Thursday, February 2 , 12:00 noon: *Run*, by Ann Patchett.** Meet at the home of Joyce Palmer, 897-1309. March's book will be *Cleopatra*, by Stacy Schiff.

**BOOKS - EVENING. Wednesday, February 15, 7:30 p.m.: *Imperfect Endings*, by Zoe Fitzgerald Carter.** Meet at the home of Sue Potter, 892-5569. Everyone welcome! Bring your suggestions for future reading, please.

**GRANDMAS & WANNABES. Thursday, February 23, 7:30 p.m.: Sibling Rivalry.** Meet at the home of Sue Potter, 892-5569. Always bring photos and your ideas for guest speakers and meeting topics of interest.

**MAH- JONGG 1. Wednesday, February 22, 3:00 p.m.** Meet at the home of Martina Bedar, 892-2448.

**MAH- JONGG 2. Wednesdays, February 1 and February 29, 3:00 p.m.** Meet at the home of Joan Davis, 892-9826.



**MOVIE MANIA. Tuesday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.** Discuss any and all interesting movies you've seen lately. Some suggestions: *Albert Nobbs, Carnage, Declaration of War, Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, Flowers of War, Man On a Ledge, Red Tails, Return.* Meet at the home of Elvera Berson, 883-5846.

**NEEDLEWORK & CRAFTS. Monday, February 20, 7:00 p.m.** Meet at the home of Sue Potter, 892-5569.

**POTLUCK GOURMET. Saturday, February 18, 6:30 p.m., Feel- Good Food.** Meet at the home of Gail Jackson, 897-7696. Do you have a favorite recipe, maybe one that reminds you of a particular event or person? Please bring it along with the story that it goes with . RSVP to Gail Jackson, gjackson@goldengate.org, or 897-7696. **We need volunteers for 2012 - bring your calendars so we can select dates and homes.**

The next-month calendar is here to provide you a glimpse at the future for advance planning. But things DO change (and/or get corrected ☺), so don't rely on an old calendar for an approaching date. Always update your posted calendar with the new one as it comes out.

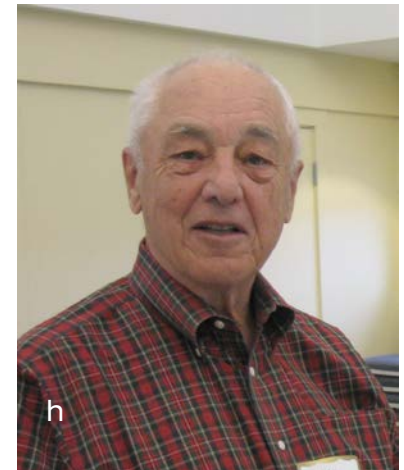
## February 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 3:00 pm Mah- jongg 2 7:00 pm Antiques	2 12:00 pm Daytime Book Group	3	4
5	6	7	8 7:00 pm Board Meeting	9	10	11
12	13	14 	15 7:30 pm Evening Book Group	16	17	18 6:30 pm Potluck Gourmet
19	20 	21 7:00 pm Bridge Group	22 3:00 pm Mah- jongg 1	23 7:30 pm Grandmas & Wannabes	24 Project Recognition Nomination Deadline	25 10:00 am Tri- Branch Brunch
26	27 7:00 pm Evening Needlework & Crafts	28 7:30 pm Movie Mania	29 3:00 pm Mah- jongg 2 7:00 pm ProjRec Mtg.			

## March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:00 pm Daytime Book Group	2	3
4	5	6	7 7:00 pm Antiques	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 7:00 pm Board Meeting	15	16	17 
18	19 7:00 pm Evening Needlework & Crafts	20 7:00 pm Bridge Group	21 7:30 pm Evening Book Group	22 7:30 pm Grandmas & Wannabes	23	24
25	26	27 7:30 pm Movie Mania	28 3:00 pm Mah- jongg 1	29	30	31

## WINTER PARTY FUN



### **Pictured, a small subset of partygoers:**

a) Our entertainment, Phil Roundtree and his Sweet Harmony group;  
b) President-Elect Kathleen Freitag; c) Shirley Printz and Charlotte Lewis;  
d) Pam (our boa lady) and Bob Rettig; e) Cathy Lidl and Shirley Printz  
visit with Joyce Palmer (not pictured); f) Gail Jackson; g) Dunja and Zoran  
Kacic-Alesic; h) Cathy Lidl's other half, Max; j) Jack and Kathleen Gallivan.

*[Ed. note: I was castigated for always leaving myself out, so this is it -- I think the only time you will see my picture in these pages.]*



## **AAUW PUBLIC POLICY**

### **Your voice was heard! You helped protect women's access to contraceptive services!**

After reviewing more than 200,000 comments from the public – many of them from AAUW Action Network members like you! – the Obama administration announced in January that almost all employers will have to include coverage for women's preventive health services, including contraceptive services, starting in August 2012. This is a victory for women's health, and would not have happened without our raising our collective and persuasive voice.

AAUW applauds the administration for releasing this rule, and is relieved the administration worked to protect women's rights to access preventive care including contraceptive services. This decision means that women's preventive services will be covered without co-pay or cost-sharing. As the Institute of Medicine put it when proposing what should be covered, "Positioning preventive care as the foundation of the U.S. health care system is critical to ensuring Americans' health and well-being. Women particularly

stand to benefit from additional preventive health services." AAUW couldn't agree more.

### **Study: Half of Teens with Unplanned Pregnancies Did Not Use Birth Control**

A new study released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed that 50 percent of teenagers who had unplanned pregnancies were using no form of birth control whatsoever. A third of that group said they did not think they could get pregnant from unprotected intercourse.

AAUW supports comprehensive sexuality education or programs that include information about both abstinence and contraception. AAUW believes individuals should have accurate and complete information about their reproductive health and family planning options. AAUW opposes federally funded programs that limit young people's information and choices by promoting abstinence only education. These programs censor information on contraception, pregnancy prevention, and sexually transmitted infections and are a disservice to our nation's youth.