

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A Diamond Anniversary for AAUW Auburn.

Seventy-five years ago, in April 1949, the Auburn AAUW became the 66th AAUW branch to be formed in California. Throughout the 2023-2024 year, we will honor our important achievements, and will celebrate with a Diamond Jubilee party in April 2024.

It will be interesting to go back in history and highlight the achievements of our group. Sandra Scott has already started this project. She has researched our first scholarship recipient and is putting together news articles and a time line of the branch. If you have any information, photos, articles, or stories from our past 75 years to share, please contact Sandra.

We started our fiscal year on July 1 with a new board which met on July 21 for lunch and lively discussion. We planned out most of our meetings, established our fundraising goals and voted on a working budget for 2023-2024. We also brainstormed new goals we would like to work on this year. These include our Legacy Program Rollout, establishing Grants, and expanding membership to include women and men without a college degree.

I look forward to next year. I'll see you in September at our first meeting where our Tech Trek girls will tell us all about their week at UC Davis or at the virtual camp held online. The meeting will be held on Friday September 15, 6PM at Old Town Pizza at the Auburn Fairgrounds. Please purchase your tickets for \$20 per person on our website or by mailing a check to: AAUW Auburn, PO Box 7872, Auburn CA 95604

**Deb Sabo**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**September 15 2023 (Friday) 6PM Old Town Pizza at the Fairgrounds – General meeting and Tech Trek presentations**

**October 16 2023 (Monday) – Diversity**

**Please see our website for the full calendar of meetings for the year.**

## VOTER REGISTRATION NEWS

A number of our AAUW members who deliver voter registration cards to sites throughout Placer County attended a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Clerk-Recorder-Elections office in Rocklin on August 10th.

Our AAUW members have been delivering voter registration forms to post offices, DMV's, libraries and other sites in Placer County since 1991. At that time the County offered non-profits the opportunity to provide this service as a fundraising opportunity. The first Purchase Agreement was signed by then president, Pam Hart for \$1250. In 1996, Auburn's 4H club was awarded the contract but the following year it returned to AAUW.

Deanna Hogg was the AAUW president and VRC Chair in 1997 and set up the system for our card delivery service which we still follow today. When she left Auburn in 2000, I assumed chairpersonship.

In 1999, we "got a raise!"—from \$1250 to \$1300. The next increase was in 2000 for \$1500. In 2006, we were encouraged by an Election Dept official to apply for a CPI adjustment which then granted us \$1600.

In some years we were told to remove all of the old cards from the sites and replace them with the newly printed State forms which showed the required new legal verbiage. All of the old cards we had delivered needed to be destroyed. That was a big job!

This year's forms will display the new address of the Elections Dept. in Rocklin, so we will be delivering new cards again with the new address. However, Ryan Ronco, County Registrar, reported that the Elections Dept. will maintain an office site in Auburn.

Since I have decided to "retire" from the chairpersonship of the VRC Volunteers, I am very grateful to Barbara Gerletti-Weiss for agreeing to accept that responsibility. She is a long-time VRC Deliverer and an excellent reporter of the data required by the County. I will continue to be part of our volunteer group and deliver the VRC cards to my designated sites in Auburn.

If any member is interested in helping with this worthy cause, especially in the upcoming election season, please let Barbara or me know.

Sue Dings

## TECH TREK CAMP 2023

California AAUW, supported by AAUW branches throughout the state, successfully hosted 8 Tech Trek Camps at various colleges throughout the state this summer.

Auburn AAUW sent 7 campers to Tech Trek camp in July and we also sent 7 Auburn AAUW volunteers to help at 4 different TT camps!

Our own Auburn campers were thrilled with their camp experiences at UC Davis and at Virtual Tech Trek Camp.

A few camper comments included: "I realized I'm way more interested in STEM than I thought." "I have never been exposed to so many opportunities having to do with STEM, so this was life changing." "I was surrounded by extraordinary girls who became my great friends"

This rare and important opportunity for campers to interact with female role models and be immersed in a camp of like-minded girls has had a powerful, expansive impact on the campers' ideas of themselves and what they are capable of.

We can all be proud of the work we do to provide scholarships to Auburn area girls to attend Tech Trek camp, some of whom may not have had another opportunity to go to a summer camp.

Tech Trek Rocks!

## PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

AAUW was founded on the principle of advancing educational opportunities for women and girls, and California AAUW has recently launched two projects:

1. Actively seeking passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

2. The School Board Project (SBP) designed to ensure school boards up and down the state include members who are committed to "the maintenance of high standards of education" for all students – including access to diverse and historically accurate information.

As a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization, we are nonpartisan and cannot support a political party or specific candidates. However, we can explain and promote our values.

Your voice will make a difference! As a private citizen, consider writing an email, attending a meeting, or supporting someone who shares AAUW values who will run for a local school board.

For information about the AAUW CA School Board Project, register for the webinar Book Banning and Curricula Censorship in California. AAUW California to the Rescue! The webinar will be Thursday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m. Register on the AAUW CA website.

Questions? Contact Susan Roughgarden

## AAUW AUBURN NOTABLE DATES IN HISTORY

NOVEMBER 1948: University Women Organize, 49 Meet at Placer College.

Lois Nelson called for a meeting to organize a local chapter of AAUW in Auburn, CA.

APRIL 1949: Auburn Becomes The 66th Branch in California.

"Things were changing now that the war was over. We weren't counting coupons and rolling bandages anymore. We were focused on promoting education for young girls and women - and continuing our own education." Gina Akers, Charter member

OCTOBER 1949: Branch Awards First Scholarship Joy Johnson, Placer College sophomore, first scholarship recipient, receives \$50.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Our scholarship program checks in with our scholarship recipients after their first year of college. If they have a full schedule and achieved a 3.0 average in their first year of college, we send them a renewal award of an additional \$500. This continues our investment in them and encourages them to carry on, knowing that we are proud of them and are rooting for them.

We thought you might like to read some of their updates:

Chloe is at University of Hawaii at Manoa. "During my first year of college I have been working hard towards my marine biology degree. Although the STEM classes have been challenging, the courses only grew my excitement for my future career!"

Megan is at Cal Poly and is loving her major in Psychology with a minor in Biology. She is a research assistant in the psychology department as well as working as a surgical assistant for a cosmetic surgeon. She seems to be taking full advantage of the "hands on learning" environment at Cal Poly.

Amaya is at UCSB and she said, "Upon arrival, I never imagined how much work college would be, but I am immersing myself into the culture and trying my best! The chemistry series at UCSB is a weeder series and I and my classmates spend 4 to 6 hours a day studying just chemistry."

Emily is at UC Davis and she said, "I have been involved in some exciting research in the field of astrophysics with Professor Wittman at UCD. We've been working on determining the redshift of galaxy cluster ChampangeD to explore potential dark matter interactions. It's been an incredible experience, and I collected spectroscopic data using Keck telescopes and collaborated with UCD professors and grad students. We are working to publish a paper on that work soon."

Thank you to the members of AAUW Auburn for continuing to support this valuable program.

## SEPT/OCT INTEREST GROUPS

Contact Susan Rushton

BOOKMARKS meets on Friday, Sept. 29, at 2 p.m. at Sue Dings home, 180 Terrace St. Auburn. In October, the group meets on Friday, Oct. 20.

DRAMA READING: Meets at 1 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. For information: Susan Rushton

GLOBAL ISSUES/GREAT DECISIONS: Meets at 10 a.m. on second Friday of the month. at Raley's Event Center, 1915 Douglas Blvd., Roseville. Sept. 8 Topic: "Climate Migration." Topic on Fri., Oct. 13: "Global Famine" All welcome. Contact Elsie Gaura

BOOKSTERS: Our first fall meeting will be Monday, Oct. 23 at the home of Carol Francis. Email her if you are interested, as she is out working on a ship until Oct. 7. We are looking for at least one new member.

BOOKENDS: Meets at 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday. For books and locations, contact Susan Rushton

BRIDGE: For information, days, and locations, contact Meredith Bruck: All members welcome.

HIKING GROUP: Hikes for September and October are planned for Thursday, September 14 and 28th and Thursday October 12 & 26<sup>th</sup>. An email will go out early September and October with more details. Contact Deb Sabo to get on our monthly email list.