



Branching Out Newsletter: March – April 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAKE AAUW STRONGER AND MORE INCLUSIVE

At our Board Retreat last July, I announced 2 goals for my last year as Auburn AAUW president. One was to actively get membership and community sponsorship to fund our goals of “Breaking through Barriers for Women and Girls.” We put together a team with Alexia Retallack, Sandra Scott and Brandee Ambrosia to get the momentum we need to get this rolling. We have a good start and I’m sure it will continue into the future.

My second goal is to see AAUW open its doors to allow all who support our mission to stand with us. This means a change to our bylaws and a vote starting April 3, 2024 to pass this. I got my degrees later than most, with no help. I’m proud to have them, but I would have been disappointed to be told I could not join AAUW and not be able to work for those values I share.

Opening up our membership is strongly supported at the National and State level. In fact, in 2021 63% of our voting members approved this change in our Bylaws. But it requires 66.7% to pass. I believe the time has come to make AAUW stronger and more inclusive. But we all must vote! An email with a link will be sent to you to use for your vote. Go to the AAUW National Web site to help you understand the change.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/open-membership-toolkit/>

Deb Sabo

AAUW-AUBURN CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF IMPACT

On April 28, 2024, we will celebrate the American Association of University Women – Auburn branch’s Diamond Jubilee. Over our 75-years – which spans the post-World War II years to the digital age transforming society today - we have dedicated our efforts to advancing gender equity and economic security. Our ever-evolving approaches have changed over time to provide life-changing education, workplace equity, and leadership opportunities for women and girls.

- Sunday, April 28, 2024, 11:00 a.m.
- The Ridge Restaurant, 2020 Golf Course Road, Auburn.
- Plated lunch, \$40 per person.
- Enjoy music by the Gold Country Strings, members of the Auburn Symphony.

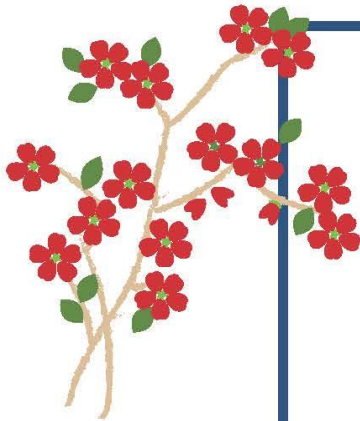
See the reservation form below or on the website: <https://auburn-ca.aauw.net>



Celebrating 75
Years

Celebrate our Diamond Jubilee
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PLATED LUNCH

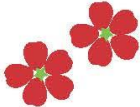
Salad

Entree Choices:

Roasted Chicken Breast
or
Slow Roasted Pork Loin

Dessert

\$40 per person



RSVP BY APRIL 18, 2024

Name _____

I have enclosed \$ _____ for my lunch and _____ guest(s).

ENTREE CHOICE: Roasted Chicken Breast Roasted Pork Loin Vegetarian

List any food allergies and/or sensitivities you have. We will work with the Ridge to accommodate to the extent possible.

Mail RSVP to Sharon Watson-Hamilton, 2995 Black Oak Road, Auburn, CA 95602
Make checks payable to Auburn AAUW

OR

Pay online at <https://auburn-ca.aauw.net/> and email your reservation form to auburnaauw@gmail.com



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Tech Trek news

In February, our president, Deb Sabo, signed the Memos of Understanding (MOU) to AAUW CA. This is our branch's commitment to pay for the camper slots we requested so Camps have a budget to work with to put together this year's camp. Our branch committed to 6 residential slots at UC Davis camp and 3 Virtual camper slots for Virtual Camp.

Auburn AAUW received around 2 camper nominations from each of 7 area schools. Nominated girls are working on their Camper Applications and will be interviewed for final selection in mid-March.

Dates for campers from Auburn AAUW is July 14 to July 20 at UC Davis. Visitors' Day to UCD Camp will likely be Thursday, July 18, 2024.

Our branch can be proud of our support of Tech Trek! Currently we have 4 members volunteering. Watch for more requests for volunteers in the months ahead.

The AAUW CA board approved the addition of two new Tech Trek camps in California! Camp Hopper at Santa Clara University and Camp Carson at CSU Monterey Bay.

Branch members can check out Tech Trek volunteer roles on the AAUW CA webpage and click the link at the top of the page to apply. Every volunteer contributes to our social capital, and you can help us grow it by signing up today!

**Rachel Kanowsky/ Auburn AAUW Tech Trek
Branch Co-Coordinator**

Public Policy

We have a pivotal year in Public Policy!

We have 3 students participating in Gov Trek, a new program for Junior and Senior high school girls to learn about careers in public service and elected office. They are investing 7 Saturdays this spring to engage on issues that matter, such as gun control, climate change, and voting equality. They are meeting women changemakers in politics, and they will work in teams to create a campaign simulation. They will opt to be a candidate, a campaign manager, speechwriter, communications director, or field and volunteer manager. What a great experience!

As we go to press, we are in the final planning stages for our Second Annual Speech Trek. This is a terrific opportunity for all high school students to practice public speaking skills. It is true what you've heard: almost everyone would rather die than do public speaking! These students are already winners because they will be light years ahead of their peers during job negotiations, work presentations, and interpersonal communications.

Next up on our agenda are Lobby Days, where we travel to Sacramento and meet with our elected representatives in person to talk about pending legislation that affects women, children, and families. The training for this event is March 25, and the days in Sacramento will be April 2 and 3. Stay tuned to find out which bills we are going to discuss.

Our state Public Policy team's [School Board](#)



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Project to combat regressive school board policies, such as book banning, is so impressive that they were asked to share it with other states. Project chair Kathi Harper presented a nationwide webinar *School Boards: The Battleground for the Education Culture Wars*.

Call me or email me if you want to make a difference in Public Policy!

Susan Roughgarden
Public Policy Chair

Membership updates:

Message from Carol Hachmeister
My landline is disconnected - delete the 530-885-8327 and only use the cell.

Thanks,
Carol



Dinner and a night of
lively entertainment



Benefiting local Scholarships for young girls and women.
Teams are forming now, Call Susan Rushton 530-878-7938

5:30PM
March 23rd, 2024

First Congregational
Church, Auburn, CA

Tickets Online at Auburn-CA.AAUW.net and at Roper's Jewelry
or call Susan at 530-878-7938 \$50 in advance / \$55 at the door.

Tech Trek volunteers needed!

More dorm moms are needed for the UC Davis camp July 13- 20.

Contact Rachel Kanowsky or Deb Sabo if you can help. Thanks!



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March - April 2024 Interest Groups

BOOKMARKS: meets on the third Friday, March 15 & April 19 at 2 p.m. at Sue Dings home. Call Sue Dings for information.

DRAMA READING: Meets at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, March 5 and April 9. For information: Susan Rushton

GLOBAL ISSUES/GREAT DECISIONS: Meets at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 8 at Raley's Event Center, 1915 Douglas Blvd., Roseville. Topic: "Risky Science Across Borders." April Topic: TBD
Contact: Elsie Gaura

BOOKSTERS: Booksters will meet on Zoom at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26th and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23 either in person or on zoom. For information, contact Carol Francis

BOOKENDS: Meets at 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday, March 27 and April 24. For books and locations, contact Susan Rushton.

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

HIKING GROUP: Hikes are planned for Thursday, March 7 & 21st and Thursday, April 4 & 18th. An email will go out early March with more details. Contact Deb Sabo to get on our monthly email list.