



Branching Out Newsletter: May – June 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This will be my last President's letter. On July 1, we will have a newly installed board for Auburn AAUW. And what a strong one it will be! I have been on the board in some role for 7 years. Now I will focus on keeping the UC Davis Tech Trek alive and running with my co-director, Rachel Kanowsky.

What a pleasure to work with and stand with all of you. The strength of our Branch is the women and men who step up every time they are needed. The talent and enthusiasm often leave me amazed.

Now to the matter of Fundraising. We had our BEST Trivia Bee ever. I know I said this last year. But we more than doubled our donations from Sponsorship this year. It means we can continue to give 12-15 scholarships and not the 6 we did for many years. A BIG thanks to ALL of you who helped. A special thanks to Pam Hart and Carol Hachmeister who planned the evening. And to Alexia who was committee chair for sponsorship.

See you at the May 29th Scholarship Meeting and Board election. (Please note the date change). And mark June 17th for our last meeting of the fiscal year. A fun meeting and installation of officers is planned.

And finally, don't forget to vote before May 15th on opening up our AAUW membership to all the women and men who share our goals.

Deb Sabo

Upcoming meetings:

May meeting

The date of our May Branch meeting has been changed from Thursday the 30th to Wednesday the 29th at 5:30 P.M. It will be held at the Winchester Community Association, 1400 Lodge View Dr Meadow Vista, CA 95722

The Board and Scholarship committee will provide a potluck dinner and we'll introduce this year's amazing scholarship recipients! We will also vote on the prospective members of the 2024-2025 Board.

Driving directions:

From Auburn, take I-80 east to Exit 125/ Meadow Vista, Clipper Gap.

Take a left on Placer Hills Road and follow for about 1 mile to Sugar Pine Road.

Take a left at Sugar Pine Road, which continues as Winchester Club Drive for about 1.2 miles.

Go left on Longview Drive, and immediate right into the first driveway.

June meeting

Calling All Auburn AAUW Members to Our
"Wrap Up the Year" Social
Salads & Sundaes - YUM!

Monday, June 17, 2024 6:00 pm
The Beecher Room (Library)

The Program will be casual conversation highlighting:
Installation of 2024-2025 Officers;

End of The Reign for Deb Sabo

2023-24 Successes

Program Suggestions for 2024-25.

We hope to see you there with your thoughts and ideas!

Tech Trek news

It's a Wrap! Auburn AAUW has selected its 2024 Tech Trek Campers!

Our branch is sending 6 campers to UC Davis, 1 camper to CSU Monterey Bay and 2 campers to Tech Trek Virtual camp. The families of the campers are so excited and grateful for this opportunity for their daughters.

Auburn's selected campers and families are attending a Meet and Greet at Recreation Park on Saturday, April 27 while the campers participate in science games and the parents get a chance to get to know us, and learn about the next steps to camp.

Tech Trek Davis recently ran into an unexpected funding issue. Camp Directors reached out to the



Branching Out Newsletter: May – June 2024

branches sending campers for help and are happy to report an excellent response in the form of donations to help with the unexpected overage, including Auburn AAUW! Thank you!

If you are interested in helping out for 1 day at Tech Trek Davis camp, please contact Estelle Shiroma of AAUW Davis Branch and our Volunteer coordinator. TT Davis Camp runs from July 14 to July 20. And if you are interested in volunteering from home for Virtual Camp for a day, please reach out to TT Virtual Camp Director, Mary Issac. TT Virtual Camp runs from July 21 to July 26. Finally, Auburn AAUW, **you are invited to attend Tech Trek Davis Visit Day!**

It happens this year on Thursday, July 18, starting at 9 am. You will tour the morning classes campers attend, with the option to stay for lunch with campers and staff at the lovely lunch venue, Olive Main.

It truly takes a village to make an impact for girls in STEM, especially in the world of volunteer run operations.

We are fortunate to have people with skills take on the needed roles.

Thank you everyone for supporting girls in STEM!

Tech Trek volunteer dorm mom needed

Dorm mom needed for the UC Davis camp July 13-20. (We are in need of one alternate in case a volunteer has to drop out.)

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

Rachel Kanowsky/ Auburn AAUW Tech Trek Branch Co-Coordinator

DEI

Over the past 143 years since its founding, AAUW has increasingly become more inclusive. In 1987 men were allowed to join, in 2005 we expanded our membership to individuals with an associate (or equivalent) degree and in 2009 AAUW voted to change the organization's purpose from "uniting graduates of different institutions for practical educational work" to "promoting equity for all women and girls". During each of these changes, our purpose and work to improve opportunities for women and girls has never wavered.

AAUW members are being asked to vote on a proposed national bylaws amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for AAUW membership. The amendment was brought forward to fully open membership to anyone who supports AAUW's work. The intent is to align our practices with our mission for equity for all. Here is a list of resources for understanding the proposed change.

<https://openupaauw.org/>

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

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/civCRM/MAILING/URL/?u=1541&qid=41210/>

AAUW is utilizing SimplyVoting.com, an independent, third-party voting system for this year's vote. Voting began on April 3rd. Look for your encrypted ballot email from Simply Voting, Check your spam folder. Online voting ends at 9 am Pacific Time on May 15th and results will be announced online. All members without an email address on file or who have unsubscribed from AAUW National emails will receive a paper ballot by mail.

This year we celebrate 75 years as a Branch of the AAUW. While it is wonderful to look back and reminisce about where we have been, it is vital to



Branching Out Newsletter: May – June 2024

look forward and envision what we can become as an organization. Are we an organization based solely on our accomplishments from the past? Or are we an organization of accomplished individuals committed to the work of advancing equity and inclusiveness?

This is an opportunity to honor our stated value of Inclusion and I encourage you to vote for this proposed change.

Thank you,

Julann Brown, DEI Chair

Public Policy

The Public Policy Committee for California selected the top bills that we will advance as our 2024 Legislative Agenda. All of the bills on the agenda fall under at least one of our four Public Policy Priority pillars; one bill - AB 2349 - falls under three.

Our signature priority bill AB 2843 “Health Care Coverage for Rape and Sexual Assault Survivors” was authored by AAUW California, and it falls under two of our Public Policy Priorities: “Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society” and “Economic Security for All Women.” The bill eliminates cost-sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor seeking medical care following a rape.

Our second priority bill, AB 2326 “Title IX Oversight and Compliance Act,” is also sponsored by AAUW California. This bill falls under our Public Policy Priorities pillar “Equal Access to Quality Education for All Students” and champions something that AAUW California has long supported: Title IX enforcement. AB 2326 requires the Chancellors of the Community Colleges and State Universities and the President of the University of California to provide an annual report of their compliance with Title IX, with the report to be presented publicly and orally to the Senate and Assembly Budget

Subcommittees on Higher Education Finance. The goal is to hold the educational systems, and their leaders, more publicly accountable.

Our third priority bill is AB 2099, “Protecting Reproductive Health Clinics.” This bill falls under our Public Policy Priorities pillar “Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society.” The bill makes it possible for the D.A. to file a felony charge for sharing personal information or images of individuals such as reproductive health care providers or patients, with the intent of causing harm or violence against them, if the posting and subsequent action results in bodily injury. With violence against abortion providers continuing to rise following the reversal of Roe, the protection of providers and patients is now more important than ever.

To see our full 2024 Legislative Agenda, please go to our Bill Tracking Report. This report will continue to be updated as the bills move through the legislative process so you will always be able to see the latest status.

Bonus: This spring the Public Policy Committee will be launching a social media education and action-centered program focused on priority legislation. You may sign up for Legislative Action Alerts

Share the sign-up link with anyone you think may be interested. AAUW members and non-members are welcome. <https://forms.gle/zkxQM8gByqjGymTA>



Public Policy Leaders in the Roseville and Auburn Branches traveled to Sacramento on April 3, 2024 to explain the highlights of our AAUW Priority Bills to Assemblyperson Joe Patterson.

From left to right: Sue Miller and Lynda Stockwell of Roseville AAUW, plus Julann Brown and Susan Roughgarden of Auburn AAUW. Unfortunately, Patterson was not able to meet with us, so we met with his Scheduler, Christina Paxton.

Susan Roughgarden
Public Policy Chair

Membership news:

AAUW Auburn Honorary Life member, Mary Ellen Oliveira, sadly passed away on March 24, 2024. Mary Ellen was a valued member of AAUW for over 50 years. In that time, she lent her time and energy toward our goal of equity for women and girls. She was a branch Fund Honoree in 2000-2001 and 2009-2010. She was active in Public Policy and worked at voting precincts during election years.

Mary Ellen was born in Oakland, and was raised in Pleasant Hill, CA. She attended the University of the Pacific and UC Berkeley, and graduated with a BA in Education with a teaching Certificate from Cal State Hayward. She taught 3rd grade for 25 years and earned her Master's Degree in Counseling from

Western Illinois University. She met Tony when he was working in management for Caterpillar Equipment and they enjoyed 64 years of marriage. They welcomed two sons and one daughter to their family, and her great granddaughter was very special to her. In later years they traveled extensively until Tony's recent death.

Mary Ellen will be remembered for her dedication to AAUW, as well as other community endeavors and for her sense of humor which endeared her to so many over the years.

Please see directory changes listed below:

Gayla Hibbert
New address
Same phone and e-mail

Mary Lord
Please use her cell phone for contact and texting

Carol Waechter
New address
phone unchanged

Karen Schwartz
Phone number was listed incorrectly in the directory. Please update

Mary Walker
Please use her cell phone.
Her home number is listed in the directory. Please do not call that number; use the cell phone number instead.

Welcome new member Sharon-Caballero. Sharon holds an Ed.D. in Academic leadership from USIU.

Trivia Bee

Wow – what an exciting night we had exploring Famous Families. I can't thank the teams enough for participating – they are the backbone of this event. Thank you to Susan Rushton and Sharon Watson-Hamilton for wrangling the teams. The sponsors have turned out to be an integral part of our fundraising event. I would like to thank Linda and Stuart Yaffe, Joanna Jones, Diane Fishburn, Rachel Kanowsky, Susan Rushton, Yamasaki, AER Communications, Gayla and Dave Hibbert, Auburn Host Lions and Bennati's Martial Arts. Thank you to the behind-the-scene members who put together the sponsorship envelopes and were able to entice these donations: Sandra Scott and Alexia Retallack. This year we had Girl Scout Traveling Troop 10157 help us with serving and kitchen duties. A shout out to Rose and Evelyn Lease and Sadie Haskett – along with their parents. Our members Steve and Valerie Lease have been Girl Scout leaders for a number of years. Kudos to them. Our volunteers were stellar, as usual, from the question team (Bonnie Wilson, Charlene Daniels, Mary Stevens and Sharon-Watson Hamilton) to the proctors (Charlene Kiesselbach, Bonnie Wilson, Carol Hachmeister, Charlene Daniels and Pam Hart) and the ticket table (Mary Walker, Sue Dings, Alexia Retallack) to general help: Rachel Kanowsky – bar, Dave Duncan – timer, Judy Duncan – kitchen. A big thank you to Dr. Ed Weiss and Barbara Gerletti-Weiss for vetting the questions and acting as judges. And thank you to Deb Sabo for her opening remarks and review of AAUW programs. Of course, a huge thank you goes out to our treasurer – Julann Brown. The bookkeeping and keeping track of the sign-ups is always a challenge. Speaking of money ---we are happy to announce that we netted \$11,221 for our scholarships. Next year's theme will be Sports Mania and it will be on March 29th. Get your teams together now!



Winners: Left Is Right, with Tomas Vera, Rosie Wohlfromm, Leslie Vera -- with Emcee Dave Rosenthal



The Lions Share -- Larry Klink, Jo Ann Hostler, Bob Hostler -- winners from 2023



Sugar Plump Barbies



America's Family: Bob Lee, Lorene Euerle, kW Rice



The Weirdoughs -- From Old Town Pizza -- Carson Espedal, Weston Urquhart, Shea Marti



Travelers: John Downs, sorry, don't know middle guy's name, Frank Ordaz



The Grave Diggers -- Phil Sexton, Norma Sexton, Carol Roedder

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers

I sincerely thank all who worked at the voting center for our primary election. Thanks to all of you, we had four very successful days of voting. I thank Pam Hart and Norma Sexton for being there every day, all day for all 4 days. I also thank Sharon Watson-Hamilton and Norma Sexton for helping me to plan the work schedule. I also thank the following volunteers for helping our branch raise money: Barbara Gerletti-Weiss, Ed Weiss, Carol Hachmeister, Maureen Gazzaniga, Cindy Kasberg, Helene Crandall, Tom Crandall, Susan Rushton, Mary Walker, Marleen Wekell, Artella Hughes, Deb Sabo, Karen Bleuel, Kurt Bleuel, Mary Stevens, Colleen Conley, Diane Fishburn and Susan Hayes. We did a great job for our branch and for democracy.

Thank you to the fabulous committee who devised the questions for our Trivia Bee: Charlene Daniels, Sharon Watson-Hamilton and Mary Stevens. I also thank Barbara Gerletti-Weiss and Ed Weiss for being fair and impartial judges. We raised money and we provided an extremely fun evening, thanks to our chairs, Pam Hart and Carol Hachmeister.

From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU ALL. It is my great pleasure to know you and work with you all.

Bonnie Wilson



Branching Out
Newsletter: May – June 2024

May - June 2024 Interest Groups

DRAMA READING: Meets at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7 at Helene Crandall's home. We also meet at 1:30 on Tuesday, June 4, home to be decided. For information: Susan Rushton

GLOBAL ISSUES/GREAT DECISIONS: Meets at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 10 at Raley's Event Center, 1915 Douglas Blvd., Roseville. Topic: "NATO's Future" presented by Claire Ravi. For Friday, June 14, Topic: "The U. S. and the Middle East." Open forum. For information, contact Elsie Gaura

BOOKMARKS will meet on the third Friday, May 19 & June 19 at 2 p.m. at Sue Dings' home Call Sue Dings for verification.

BOOKSTERS: Booksters will be meeting at 2 pm on Tuesday, May 21, at Gerry Suskin's home. Beth Metrock will lead a discussion of "A Girl Named Zippy: Growing up Small in Mooreland, Indiana," by Haven Kimmel. Contact Carol Francis for more information. We will not have a June meeting, and are looking for new members.

BOOKENDS: Meets at 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday, May 24 and June 28. In May, we are each sharing one of our favorite early books. In June, we're reading *The Covenant of Water*, by Abraham Verghese. For locations, contact Susan Rushton

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

HIKING GROUP: Hikes are planned for Thursday, May 2, 16, 30th (yes, 3 days) and Thursday, June 13 & 20th. An email about summer hikes will go out end of June. Contact Deb Sabo to get on our monthly email list.