



# Auburn AAUW Connection - July 2025

## A Note from the President

### Stay cool! Stay informed!

It's been an incredible summer so far! Lovely temperatures. I hope everyone is doing well and thriving.

We have a few quick updates.

AAUW Auburn will not have regular Board meeting in July or August. We will have a retreat on August 5 to set the budget, strategize with the membership on recruitment activities, review the program plans for the year, and establish some goals.

We value the input of our members, so please feel free to submit comments and suggestions to [auburnaauw@gmail.com](mailto:auburnaauw@gmail.com).

We do have a few items scheduled. For September, mark down the 19th as a general meeting and reception for the Tech Trek participants. We would love to see you there.

The theme for my term as president continues to be "we rise together." Keeping in step with that theme, our program team has been coordinating presentations that not only inform our members but serve our community as well. We recently had Tri Counties Bank and the Placer County Sheriff present on Cybercrimes (see the summary and resources below). We opened that event to the public because it is critical information all of us need.

Our goal is to raise awareness of AAUW, provide great opportunities to our members, and serve our community through various forms of education.

With that in mind, mark down October 13 as a general meeting featuring State Treasurer Fiona Ma who will be talking about how she guides the state through the tumultuous times with the federal cuts, roller coaster economy, and new mandates. This meeting is open to the public, so when details come out, please feel free to invite friends to join us.

Thank you for your commitment to AAUW. We are here because of you!

## You Can Make a Difference: Placer County Invites Input on 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan

Placer County and its partner jurisdictions are working to update the FEMA-required Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, an essential roadmap to reduce risks and improve public safety from natural and human-caused hazards.

Community participation is vital to ensure the plan reflects local priorities and concerns.

### Virtual planning committee meeting July 10

A virtual meeting of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will be held at 1 p.m. on July 10, via Microsoft Teams. Community members are invited to learn about the planning process, review draft materials and provide input. Registration is available at <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/93a435d7-29ec-459e-bd79-978f6e07da2f@a40fe4ba-abc7-48fe-8792-b43889936400>.

### Public informational meeting July 17

A public informational meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on July 17 at the Placer County Health and Human Services Center, 11434 B Ave., Auburn. The meeting will also be available online, [here](#). Attendees will receive an overview of the plan, ask questions and learn how it will help protect lives, property and infrastructure countywide.

## Public survey open through Sept. 30

Residents are encouraged to complete an online survey to share their experiences and suggestions regarding hazards in their communities. The survey will remain open through Sept. 30 and is available at <https://forms.office.com/r/0PcirqWyWH>.

For details, visit <https://engage.placer.ca.gov/Hazard-Mitigation-Plan-2026> or contact Zach Alesci with the Placer County Office of Emergency Services at 530-886-3473 or [fireready@placer.ca.gov](mailto:fireready@placer.ca.gov).

## Avoid Cyber Scams: What You Need to Know

AAUW Auburn members received critical information on how to protect themselves from cybercrimes from members of Tri Counties Bank and the Placer County Sheriff's Department cybercrimes team.

According to the Tri Counties Bank Financial Investigations Unit, 90 percent of adults believe they can identify a scam. Unfortunately, as people become more aware of scams, the scammers become more sophisticated, relying on a variety of tools and techniques to thrust their victims into a threatening situation that can hinder the ability to recognize a scam.

"Scammers make a living off of being scary," said Lisa Lareau, from Tri Counties Bank Financial Investigations Unit. "They are always adapting techniques to stay ahead of fraud detection and protection efforts."

Scammers may prey upon people through fear and threats or through romance. Some scammers will spend a great deal of time cultivating a romantic relationship with a potential victim, waiting for enough trust to be built before beginning to ask for money. Lareau noted that one recent victim gave more than \$400,000 over eight months to someone who took advantage of her after she had lost several people close to her.

"Scammers keep track of the conversations and know just what to say to make someone believe they are legitimate," said Lareau, who noted that the banks can sometimes help recover money depending upon the situation, but victims need to make the call.

"Many victims do not call because they are embarrassed. Don't be afraid to talk to your bank," said Lareau. "Calling the bank should be the first thing you do if you think you have been scammed."

So what are some typical signs of a scam?

According to Detective Kenneth Kim with the Placer County Sheriff any request to send money should be suspect. Other clues that it may be a scam include requests for payments through gift cards, money transfer services like Zelle, Venmo, and Paypal, or sending cash.

"These are professionals," said Detective Kim. "It's organized crime at a global scale." Typical victims are the older members of society because they have built their wealth through years of hard work, but anyone can be a victim including businesses and non-profit organizations. Detective Kim noted to be very wary of anyone who calls or emails to get any of your personal information.

"Never give it out," said Kim. "With your email, do not click on links or open attachments from unfamiliar sources."

Detective Kim also advised that people look at the email address. Scammers often use a variation on an email to look like a legitimate source. Misspellings, strange punctuation, or strange domain names indicate potential fraud.

"Basically, red flag any request if they ask for money," said Kim who noted that scammers have used medical identification theft, investment scamming (especially cryptocurrency), and rental schemes for homes, cars and farm equipment on Craig's list. Kim also noted that scammers will threaten people with arrest from the IRS or local law enforcement. Kim advised that people not to answer any phone call from an unidentified number.

"It can go to voicemail and they will leave a message if it is important," said Kim who added that a person can then call the agency or company back which led Kim to his next comment about calls from the IRS or law enforcement.

"Law enforcement is not going to call you and threaten you with arrest if you don't give us money," said Kim. "We actually show up at your door, in person, and take you into custody. If they say they IRS or law enforcement, it's a scam."

"Scammers play a speed game," said Kim. This type of theft goes so fast and makes it hard to think because scammers move quickly, escalating the threat, and pushing urgency to respond.

Some have even resorted to using Artificial Intelligence to mimic the voices of relatives, like children and grandchildren, to trick individuals into giving money for bail, for a debt or some other crisis. Scammers use quick delivery systems like online money transfers, gift cards, or cash because once you give them money – it's gone and it's hard to trace to get it back.

Still, through bank fraud divisions and local enforcement, there have been successful recoveries. Tri Counties Bank was able to help one victim recover \$98,000 because the money went through a wire transfer, but unfortunately, that is not always the case.

"Best rule – if they ask for money, label it a scam," said Kim.

To stay ahead of scammers, to protect yourself, or to report an issue, Detective Kim provided several resources.

**Download Detective Kim's presentation.**

**Cyberscam Educational Information**

[www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety](http://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety)

[www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts)

<https://operationshamrock.org/> (cybercrime education)

<http://www.fightcybercrime.org> (romance scam prevention)

**Resources and advocacy for ID theft victims**

[www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org)

<http://www.annualcreditreport.com> (free credit checks)

[www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org)

<http://www.identitytheft.gov>

<http://www.giveanhour.org/financial-fraud> (peer support for fraud victims)

**Where to File Cybercrime Complaints**

<https://www.ic3.gov/> (internet crime complaint center)

<http://www.sacvalleyhitech.com/id-theft> (local task force)

**NEWS DEADLINES**

The Auburn AAUW Connection will come out at the beginning of each month. Deadline to submit news, information, photos, is the 25th of each month.

**AAUW Auburn Groups News**

**Hiking Group**

Hikes twice a month. Contact Deb Sabo to get on the email list

**Bookends I**

Meets 4th Wednesday of the month.

Contact Susan Rushton

**Bookends II**

Meets in the evening. Contact Sharon

Watson-Hamilton

**Bookmarks**

Meets 3rd Friday at 2 pm. Contact Sue Dings

**Booksters**

Meets 4th Tuesday at 2 pm. Contact Carol Francis

**Bridge Groups**

One meets 2nd Wednesday and the other the 4th

Wednesday at 1 pm.



AAUW Auburn Branch | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

AAUW | P.O. Box 7872 | Auburn, CA 95604 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!