

# Feather Vane



FEBRUARY, 2017



Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

## FEBRUARY MEETING - Bring a friend or potential member.



**WHEN:** Saturday, February 18, 2017, 11:30 am

**WHERE:** Rideout Health Conference Center, 989 Plumas Street, Yuba City (formerly known as Fremont Conference Center)

**PROGRAM:** Dr. John Walz, Acupuncturist, speaking on “Oriental Medicine and the Process of Healing.” (read more in Program Notes, page 2)

**MENU:** Nicoise salad, potato gratin, beef bourguignon, yoghurt with caramelized persimmons and blackberry honey - catered by Chef Salim.

**COST:** \$18. **Tell your emailer or caller if you are coming YES or NO by the Monday prior to the meeting.** *If you replied but did not receive a confirmation of your reservation by Tuesday, please phone Janet Theiss (695-3159). If you reply yes, you owe for the meal.*



**Council Chat** by Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader  
Message from the ECL –Jan. 12, 2017

Be sure to read the STEM Conference news in this *Feather Vane*. It was so exciting, as usual, and the amazing STEM committee untangled several snags and the Conference was probably our best ever. (We get better every year!) It is all about the wonderful eighth grade girls that attend and what makes it happen are the fantastic professional women presenters and the school districts that bus the girls to Yuba College every year.

This year Dr. Francisco Reveles, Yuba County Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Baljinder Dhillon, Sutter County Superintendent of Schools; and Supervising Public Health Nurse, Maria



Heredia, took time from their busy days to experience our exciting event.

Assemblyman James Gallagher sent a representative, Zachary Brown, shown here with Lee Jones. We were very happy they could all be part of the Conference.



**PROGRAM NOTES**



Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader

**Saturday, February 18, 2017, 11:30 am - BRANCH LUNCHEON** at Rideout Health Conference Center, 989 Plumas Street, Yuba City, (formerly known as Fremont Conference Center) *Program:* “Oriental Medicine and the Process of Healing” – **Dr. John Walz is the speaker.** He is a Yuba City based acupuncturist, with offices at 481 Ainsley in Yuba City.

**John F. Walz, MS.OM, L.Ac, BPS, CMT**

Our office specializes in treating the whole person with natural therapies including acupuncture, cupping, herbs, AMMA Massage Therapy, Reflexology, Reiki, Cranio-Sacral, Lymph Drainage, nutrition and Tai Chi. We treat many conditions including back and neck pain, joint pain including arthritis, allergies, digestion and elimination conditions, anxiety, stress, depression, insomnia. We have successfully helped men and women with fertility issues, weight loss and smoking cessation. We are preferred providers with most major insurance companies including Blue Cross, Tri-County Schools, United Health, and Sutter North. Our office is a pleasant, calming, patient friendly environment. We are open Mon-Fri 8AM to 6PM.

**Please mark your 2017 calendars:**

**Saturday, March 18, 2017, 11:30 am - BRANCH LUNCHEON** at Rideout Health Conference Center, 989 Plumas Street, Yuba City (formerly known as Fremont Conference Center), *Program:* “What you Might Not Know about Your Senior Years” - Paula Hyatt-McIntire speaker.

**Saturday, April 8, 2017, 11:30 am – BRANCH LUNCHEON/ANNUAL MEETING** at Flavors at Yuba College. *Program:* “Making Our Community Safer, Amanda Hopper speaker.

**Saturday, May 6, 2017, GARDEN TOUR event,** gardens are open 10 am-3:30 pm/reception is noon until 4 pm at Community Museum on Butte House Road.

**Saturday, June 3, 2017, 11:30 am – BRANCH LUNCHEON,** wrap-up meeting of the year at Ruthy’s Restaurant, Hillcrest Plaza on Clark St., Yuba City, *Program:* college scholarship winners will speak.

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING** – Contact Joann Nixon 530-680-0356, if you are interested in knowing more about being an EC Member At Large. Meets on **Thursday, February 9, 2017, 1:30 pm at Karen Tuttle’s.**

**STEM CONFERENCE – BIG SUCCESS**

Story by Artis Buerki, Publicity Chair; photos by Joann Nixon and Sue Graue

732 eighth grade girls from 27 schools attended the January 12<sup>th</sup> STEM Conference at Yuba College. Our AAUW branch has been putting on the STEM (Math-Science) Conference for 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls once a year since the mid-1980s.



The Appeal Democrat ran this ½ page story on page 3 of the Jan. 13 paper. *Photo courtesy of Lee Jones.*



The keynote speaker at the Conference was Amanda Hopper, Sutter County District Attorney.

Twenty-five professional women led sessions talking about their careers in medical fields, veterinary science, and engineering (among others), and how the STEM subjects (Science, Technology,

Engineering, and Math) have been important to them in their careers. The objective of the STEM Conference is to inform girls of some career choices in the fields of Math and Science, and to encourage them to stay in school to continue studying the STEM fields.



**STEM Conference** debriefing meeting is on **Feb. 9, 11 am, at Barbara Solheim’s.**



The girls met together in the Yuba College gym for the orientation, led by Pat Jones, and to hear the Keynote speaker, DA Amanda Hopper. This is just half of the girls. The other side of the bleachers is filled too!

Here are some fun pictures of the girls enjoying the day.



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Lee Jones, Membership Group Leader

We currently have 94 AAUW branch members, and our goal is 100 or more. Consider introducing your friends to AAUW by bringing them to a branch meeting. If you have any suggestions, contact Lee Jones, 674-1942 or lee@harkeyhouse.com. I would be happy to send a membership application.

## MEET SOME NEW MEMBERS:



### Kay Cockrell

I moved here from Seattle, Washington, after I got married in 1966. I continue my education and graduated from Chico State with a credential in elementary education. I first joined AAUW in 1971 after my long-time friend Nancy (Peters)

Vierra asked me to join. Working full time for MJUSD and with a new baby, my life was consumed with work and family. So after working 37 years in education I retired and it's time to rejoin AAUW!

I had and do have many hobbies that have changed over the years ... no skiing or scuba diving anymore... but my passions are travel, gardening, gourmet cooking with my husband, wine, flower arranging, free form Ikebana and my top priority is my only grandson. In 2017 I will try to be more active in AAUW.

*Note: Kay was recruited for membership by Lee Jones. Her contact information is listed in the [November 2016 Feather Vane Membership Update column](#).*



### Joni Adams

Joni was a prior member of the Marysville-Yuba City AAUW earning the Named Gift Honoree award in 1999. She graduated from Loyola University, IL in

1966 with a BS in Science and then graduated from Rosary College, IL in 1970 with an MA in Library Science. She was a librarian with the Chicago Public Library until retirement when she moved to California. She enjoys traveling and she traveled with an educational tour of Cuba in 1978 when then President Jimmie Carter opened travel to Cuba for such tours.

*Note: Joni was recruited for membership by Karen Tuttle who wrote this story. Joni's contact information is listed in the [January 2017 Feather Vane, Membership Update column](#)*



## Christina Billeci

I was born in the East Bay, graduated high school in 1967, and came to Yuba City in 1972. My husband just got out of the Navy (a Vietnam Veteran), and was beginning an apprenticeship program with Cal Trans Shop 3 to

become a journeyman diesel mechanic. My son, Todd, had just turned five, and started school at April Lane.

I have one grandson, Dante, who is 16 and is a jazz musician. I have never missed one of Dante's concerts, including traveling to New York to see him play at Carnegie Hall. My sister and her 4 grown children live in Yreka, California.

Regarding my career - I graduated "With Distinction" from Chico State in 1977 with a major in Social Work. I have worked for the Federal Government in Hawaii, and had a temporary assignment with Yuba College, but my career was with Yuba County. I was the Yuba County Public Guardian/Conservator for 31 years. I cared for the elderly, disabled, and mentally ill who were unable to care for themselves, including person and estate. I have been retired since 2009.

From 2000-2012 I was on the Marysville City Council, and other boards and commissions, including the Harmony Health Family Resource Board, FREED Center for Independent Living, Bridges to Housing, and Friend of the Library. I was part of a group of women who formed the first N.O.W. in our area. I have been active in local, state, and Federal Democratic politics since 1992 when Clinton ran for president.

I am currently on CRLA's Community Action Team, and the Chair of the Yuba County Democratic Central Committee. I am a strong advocate for homeless families in Yuba and Sutter Counties. My community vision is to provide a home for every homeless child. I am an avid reader of non-fiction books, and a fan of international and foreign films. I love attending Book Fairs, and have been to several in New York City, Washington D.C., and Baltimore. I am participating in the STEM Conference as a facilitator. My son and his former wife are both scientists. Science is a tough field, especially at the higher educational levels, when it becomes very political. I am interested in supporting women and girls in their careers, providing leadership, and advocacy for women's rights, and would like to participate in any way that I can to make this organization a success.

*Note: Christina was recruited for membership by Lee Jones. Her contact information is listed in the [January 2017 Feather Vane Membership Update column](#).*



## Karen Chiechi, Ed.D

Although I grew up in Redondo/Manhattan Beach, I attended San Jose State University; I got my first teaching job in San Jose Unified and became a northern Californian (Go Giants!). When I accepted a position in Yuba City Unified many jobs/years later, I fell in love with the Yuba-Sutter

area and have been here permanently since 2012 with my husband, Bob Chiechi.

I grew up the 9<sup>th</sup> out of 9 children, most of whom are educators. Our parents were also educators and started the tradition of attending USC for advanced degrees. I have two children: Melanie, 27, who lives in Silver Lake, CA and works for a marketing firm; and Kevin, 24, who lives in Sacramento, attends Sacramento City College and aspires to be a film Director. Bob and I enjoy traveling, camping, attending all kinds of sports events and are avid moviegoers. I also enjoy reading and spending time with my cats (when they allow it, of course).

I am currently the Director of the Tri-County Induction Program for the Sutter County Superintendent of Schools which assists teachers in their first years of teaching and is the program that clears their preliminary credentials. While working as a classroom teacher for 10 years, I earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision from San Jose State and moved into site administration. I soon started a doctoral program at USC and became entranced with new teacher induction. That passion led me to start a BTSA Program in Placer County in 1999 while finishing my Ed D and I have come full circle in my career. Along the way, I have worked at the site and district office level in a variety of settings, always having professional development at the center of my responsibilities. I even co-authored a book *Your First Year of Teaching* published by Random House in 2001.

While still working, I would like to be a part of AAUW activities involving the support/education of school-age girls. I do enjoy social events and look forward to getting to know the other members of this organization!

*Note: Karen was recruited for membership by Jeanine Rounds and Joann Nixon at the Coalition Brunch in Dec. Her contact information is listed in the [January 2017 Feather Vane Membership Update column](#).*

### **Feather Vane Staff**

Mail Distribution - Ethel Breyfogle  
 Photographer – Joann Nixon  
 Communication Leader – Janet Theiss  
 Editor/Publisher– Artis Buerki

**INTEREST SECTIONS**

All branch members are welcome to attend.



**ADVOCACY & ACTION**

Call Martha Bunce 743-0306 or email: [buncehall@yahoo.com](mailto:buncehall@yahoo.com) to receive email advocacy and action alerts.



**BOOK CLUBS**

**Book Explorers**

Meets the third Friday of the month at 10 am. Contact is Paulette Almeida, 415-5588. Phone Paulette for details about the **Feb. 17** meeting.

**Rabid Readers**

Meets the third Friday of the month at 10 am. Contact is Marilyn Elliott, 673-2840 or Pat Jones, 674-0114. Next meeting is **Feb. 17**, Jo Hilling is hostess at the Cookie Tree. Book title is The Terror by Dan Simmons.



**BRIDGE GROUPS**

Normally meets the fourth Tuesday of the month. If you are interested in substituting, starting a new group, or learning to play bridge, call Jan Wallace, 743-1060.



**PLAY READING**

Normally meets the first Friday of the month at 1 pm. Contact is Barbara McCarty, 671-1275. Meeting on **Feb. 3** at Barbara Palser's home.



**TALKING ON PAPER**

Meets on Tuesday, **Feb. 7**, 10-11:30 a.m. at The Cookie Tree. There are many special dates in February -- birthdays of our presidents, Valentine's Day and others. What makes February special to you? Come to our meeting and bring a story you have written, about 2 pages long, and share with our enthusiastic gals.....or just sit and listen for the pleasure of it. We welcome new-comers who will soon feel right at home. Call Joan Young, 777-9215, for further information.



**TRAVEL**

The Travel group normally meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 7 pm. Coordinator is Gloria Mullins, 674-3659. Contact Gloria to find out about the next Travel group meeting, and let her know if you wish to tell us about your travels.

**IMPORTANT – If you have taken an interesting trip or tour and would be able to talk about it to the TRAVEL group, Gloria would like to hear from you.** At this publication time there is no speaker for February or for the rest of the year. Please call Gloria Mullins if you have any ideas, 674-3659. She'd love to hear from you.



At the Travel group meeting in January, Gretchen Cupp, her husband Steve, and Candy Mac Donald told the group about their trip to Cuba in May, 2016. Here are Gretchen and Candy pictured at Revolution Square in Havana.



**TRAVELING GOURMET**

Traveling Gourmet normally meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Coordinator is Carol Clark, 671-5284. We usually meet in front of Round Table on Gray Avenue, YC at 10:30. From there, we carpool to the restaurant. On **February 23, 2017**, Joan Young, 777-9215, is hosting the Gourmet Lunch at the Miner's Alley Brewery in Oroville. The address is 2053 Montgomery Street in Historic Downtown Oroville. After the lunch, Joan is planning on going to Table Mountain if the weather is decent. She can take four or five people in her Cherokee. If you are interested, you will need to let her know and plan to bring hiking boots and a windbreaker or jacket. It can be very muddy there so be prepared, but the wildflowers are beautiful. If there are enough people who are interested in going to Table Mountain, perhaps we can get a second car together.

**OPPORTUNITY DRAWINGS** –If you wish to donate an item please contact Priscilla Kerr, 645-7120.

**ALL HANDS ON DECK!**

**Garden Tour** meeting is on **Feb. 2**, 1 pm at Barbara Kenney's home. Contact Martha Bunce, 743-0306, if you are interested in participating on the Garden Tour Committee.

Our February 2 meeting is an important one, as it brings us together after several months' hiatus. We gear up now to get all the gardens lined up and the sponsor letters out.



**Saturday, February 4, 2017, 11:30 – INTERBRANCH LUNCHEON** in Oroville at the First Congregational Church, on the corner of Bird and Oak Streets, just west of historic Downtown Oroville. *Program:* CSU

Chico President Gayle Hutchinson. Deadline was Jan. 14. Phone Janet Theiss with questions, 695-3159.

### **Public Policy report** – Martha Bunce, Advocacy & Action chair

1/20/17 - This information is from Patricia Fae Ho, Board Chair of AAUW that arrived today.

The focus this month has been the Jan 21 Women's March in Washington DC. AAUW is one of the many organizations that is an official participant. AAUW's message is **WOMEN'S PRIORITIES ARE NATIONAL PRIORITIES**

An email was sent out to remind those AAUW members planning to come to the march that AAUW is non partisan, and that the **ISSUES** that AAUW is focusing on in the march are based on the Public Policy positions that members have approved and are published in AAUW documents. These include positions on health care access for women, violence against women, equal pay for equal work, family leave, equality for all regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation. AAUW California is part of the march in Sacramento on Jan 21.

### **To find us on line just CTRL+LEFT CLICK**

Our branch: [www.aauwmarysvilleyubacity.com](http://www.aauwmarysvilleyubacity.com)  
 Our Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC](http://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC)  
 Tech Trek: [www.aauw-techtrek.org](http://www.aauw-techtrek.org)  
 AAUW California: [www.aauw-ca.org/](http://www.aauw-ca.org/)  
 AAUW National: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)  
 Google us at AAUW\_MVYC. You'll be surprised what you find! Call me if you don't know how, Artis, 671-5665.



## **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING, Jan. 19, 2017**

Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

### **AAUW Executive Council Meeting January 19, 2017, 1:30 p.m., at the home of Barbara Solheim**

Those in attendance were the following:

Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader; Sandy Davini, Treasurer; Janet Theiss, Communications Leader; Carol Clark, Projects Leader; Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader; Karen Tuttle, Bylaws Leader; Jeanine Rounds, Secretary, Member at Large; Artis Buerki, Priscilla Kerr, Joan Young.

### **Call to Order, 1:49 pm**

### **Reports:**

Minutes of December 8, 2016, were approved as corrected, with Karen Tuttle indicating that the Feather Vanes she has date from 2005-2017. All the collections have varying items missing.

### Executive Council Leader:

Branch Web Site: As a continuation from previous meeting regarding membership in the Chamber of Commerce after we get our web site up, Sandy reported that the 2017 dues had been paid, and she and Artis presented some strong arguments for maintaining this membership in terms of supporting AAUW. There was some general agreement, but no need to make a final decision until budget for next year is developed.

New member: Dr. Karen Chiechi has joined. We currently have 94 members.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Davini indicated we are doing well and have budgeted to send 7 girls to Tech Trek; however, we have been approved only for 6.

Public Policy, Advocacy – No Report

### **Other reports from Executive Council**

Bylaws Update –No report.

Communications – Janet Theiss

Publicity: Artis Buerki suggests that we develop two Publicity committees next year because of the amount of work involved, and that she and Janet Theiss will work

out the details. The only immediate change is that Joan Young has agreed to help with the Garden Tour publicity. Artis will develop the new website, and Kathryn Jankowski will continue promoting the monthly branch meetings as Publicity co-chair. Artis will continue with the Feather Vane. The group agreed with this concept.

Meeting Callers: All is going well.

Programs. Barbara reported that plans are made for the John Walz to present on health care at the February meeting at Fremont-Rideout conference room; Salim will provide the meal. Paula Hyatt-McIntyre will provide the March program related to doing estate planning, also at Fremont-Rideout.

Projects: Carol Clark:

**STEM:** Carol reported on the very successful **STEM Conference** 1/12/17; 732 girls registered from 27 schools. Martha and Marilyn had given very interesting information about the program and AAUW to the teachers in the coffee room, and Council agreed they would like to have them give some of the same information at a branch meeting; there was general consensus that the June meeting would be a very good time for this. There will be a STEM review meeting 11:00, Thursday 2/9 at Barbara Solheim's house.

**Garden Tour:** No meeting this month. Meetings will be 2/2, 3/2, and 4/6. Martha is still looking for gardens.

**Tech Trek:** Sandy said we already have \$3,800 toward this year's girls. Bonnie, Carol and Joann had attended an area coordinators' meeting in regards to the Davis program. They presented the writing rubric our branch has developed, and there was considerable interest, with other branches wanting a copy. There was also interest in the task list that Marilyn Warmee developed. They indicated Davis would appreciate if some

members would agree to help with registration on the opening day on July 23. Dorm mothers for the week are also needed. Donna Long is now receiving the names of the candidates from the schools, and the essays will be read in February.

**Scholarships:** Jeanine. No news; she is working on getting contact with the college.

**Other Business**

Interbranch: Janet reminded members that the IBC meeting will be February 4 in Oroville. Joann Nixon will do a car pool, taking Janet, Jeanine, and Joan Young. There has not been a big indication of attendance.

Sunshine: A card has been sent to Gayle Prager

Opportunity Drawings: Priscilla Kerr will be providing them for the February and April meetings, and—while she has some things—she is always open to receiving more.

Envelopes: Martha has made a request that we order envelopes with our logo and return address for use when we contact our community. There was some discussion, as Sandy indicated that the minimum we could purchase would be 500 for \$50. Janet said she would be glad to be the "keeper" of the envelopes, and Sandy moved and Jeanine seconded that we make the purchase.. Meeting dismissed at 3:25.

Respectively submitted,

Jeanine Rounds, Secretary

Note: This report will be approved at next EC meeting. For final approved minutes please contact EC Secretary following the next EC meeting.

**YOUR GIFT TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP AND OTHER PROGRAMS ENABLES  
WOMEN TO BROADEN THEIR HORIZONS THROUGH EDUCATION**  
Please send this form with your check (s) to AAUW, P.O. Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In memory or honor (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yuba College Scholarship (Check to Yuba College Foundation-AAUW) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tech Trek Fund (Make check payable to AAUW) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yuba College Book Fund (Make check payable to AAUW) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Local Branch Operations /helps fund local activities (Check to AAUW) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ AAUW Educational Opportunities Funds (Make check payable to AAUW. Note "Ed. Opp" on bottom) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Legal Advocacy Fund (Check to AAUW. Note "LAF" on bottom). \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Girls on the Run (Make check payable to Girls on the Run) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**FEATHER VANE**  
**Artis Buerki, Editor**  
 P.O. Box 334  
 Sutter, CA 95982



Editor's Choice, STEM photo by Sue Graue



## FEBRUARY 2017

For details//locations of Special Interest Groups, see page 5 of this Feather Vane.

Please refer to other articles in this Feather Vane or with your committee chairs to confirm meeting locations.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 1 pm Garden Tour Com.	3 1 pm Play Reading	4 11:30 am IBC Luncheon in Oroville
5	6	7 10 am Talking on Paper	8	9 11 am STEM  1:30 pm Executive Council	10	11
12	13	14 	15	16	17 10 am Book Clubs	18 11:30 am Branch Meeting
19	20 Feather Vane Deadline	21	22	23 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet	24	25
26	27 TBD Travel	28 Bridge				

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