Feather Vane



JANUARY, 2018



Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



STEM CONFERENCE is January 19 at Yuba College

The STEM Conference is on <u>Friday, January 19, 2018</u>, and is chaired by Barbara Solheim, 674.3577, cell 751.6954, and Sandy Davini, 673-0930, cell 713-1390. **If you have not already volunteered to be a Facilitator in a classroom or are still needing instructions, please phone Lee Jones, 674-1942, cell 300-0214, and Roberta D'Arcy, 743-8742.**



Council Chat by Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader December, 2017

The Coalition Brunch on December 9th at the Peach Tree was a great success with over 40 of our AAUW branch members attending. In total there were nearly 100 women at the event where we joined with other

organizations to celebrate the holidays and share information about our service projects. Here are some pictures that I took that day. See you next year! *Joann*

The Yuba College Choral group sang for us, led by Tracie Barbieri with Dr. Mathews on guitar. Outstanding! Their enthusiasm was contagious. AAUW wishes Yuba College a Happy 90th Birthday!

Here are seven women from five organizations who worked together to plan the annual Holiday Brunch. Three of our AAUW members, Jeanine Rounds, Artis Buerki, and Barbara McCarty, represent our branch on the Women's Coalition Holiday Brunch planning committee. Shown (L-R) are Anne Fletcher-Bridges to Housing; Janie Hood-Marysville Art Club; Jeanine, Artis, Barbara-AAUW; Sue Wilson and Nancy Summy-Delta Kappa Gamma. Not shown: Charline

Gonder-Marysville Art Club & Pam Clifton-Soroptimist Marysville-Yuba City.





(L) Jan Wallace brought the women and girls from her family to the Holiday Brunch this year. (R) The Brunch is a good place to meet friends and family. Long-time friends, Mary Lou Naughton and Pat Fournier, are shown here. Pat is one of our branch's 50-year members.





Melissa Ha joined our branch at the Coalition Holiday Brunch. Melissa is an Associate Professor at Yuba College, Department of Biology and Ecology.

Thank you to all of the members who so generously contributed goodies for the Opportunity Drawing at the Coalition Brunch. We had some wonderful baskets which were really popular with the group. It's nice to see others besides our members contributing to the Tech Trek program. Thanks again for your support and we hope to be able to put together some wonderful baskets next year. If any of you have suggestions, please contact Priscilla Kerr at 530-645-7120. Again, thanks for all the wonderful contributions. *Priscilla*

URGENT REMINDER – <u>VOTE YES</u> ON THE AAUW CALIFORNIA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION REVOTE - JANUARY 9-11. MUST BE <u>UNANIMOUS</u> TO COME INTO COMPLIANCE WITH AAUW NATIONAL. – IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, DON'T VOTE. SEE DETAILS PAGES 6-7 OF THIS *FEATHER VANE*.

IMPORTANT – IN JANUARY THERE WILL BE NO BRANCH PROGRAM MEETING AND NO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING BECAUSE WE WILL ALL BE VERY BUSY WITH THE STEM CONFERENCE.



PROGRAM NOTES



by Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader

There is NO program meeting in January due to our commitments to the STEM Conference. Please mark your calendar for the following:

Saturday, February 17, 2018, 11:30 am, meeting at Rideout Conference. Rm., 989 Plumas St., Yuba City, Program-Beware of Scammers. Speaker, Katy Godson, a member of the Yuba City Police Department. Lunch will be catered by Antonio--Cost 18.00.



INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

by Janet Theiss, IBC Representative

IBC Luncheon is February 3, 2018

Why: AAUW's strength is the joining together of strong, intelligent women. Come meet some from Chico, Paradise, Oroville, and Gridley.

Where: In Paradise at the Paradise Center for Spiritual

Living, at 789 Bille Road.

Time: 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon

Program: John Nicoletti speaking on Representative John

Garamendi's programs to advance women

Menu: TBD

Cost: TBD, usually around \$20.

RSVP: Call or email Janet Theiss (695-3159—say who you are—or wftjedt@syix.com). Make checks out to AAUW. Mail (Janet Theiss, 9631 Schroeder Rd., Live Oak Ca 95953/give checks to Janet Theiss by **January 15**. No refunds since, as usual, the caterer must be paid for the number reserved.

Rides: Alert Janet Theiss (695-3159—say who you are—or wftjedt@syix.com) if you are willing to give a ride to another member (or more) OR if you would like a ride. Car poolers would meet at the Gray Avenue Round Table Pizza parking lot, but there's no point in announcing this if no one will give or needs a ride.



GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEE REPORT

by Martha Bunce, Garden Tour Chair

If you would like to help plan the <u>May 5, 2018</u> Garden Tour please come to a meeting. We will not meet in January. Next meeting is Feb. 1, at noon, at Barbara Kenney's.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

by Lee Jones, Membership Group Leader

FOUR NEW MEMBERS JOINED IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. We look

forward to working with our new members to continue our mission of serving girls and women in the local community. If you have a friend who might like to know more about our AAUW Branch, bring them to a meeting. Contact Lee Jones, 674-1942, for a membership application, or find the printable Membership Application on our branch website under JOIN: http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/ (hover over link. Press Ctrl and left click to open this link).

Marie Lavoie, 1983 Elliott Drive, YC 95993; 530.790.0324; mariel@brittan.k12.ca.us. CSU Sacramento-BA, Liberal Studies.

--Marie is a STEM teacher at Brittan School who nominated one of this summer's Tech Trek campers. Marie joined us on visitation day at 2017 UCD and is very proactive in promoting STEM.

Dr. Bal Dhillon, 1515 Malta Drive, Yuba City 95993; 530.822.2931-Work; bal.dhillon@suttercoe.org. CSU-Sacramento-Ed.D, Education Leadership.

--Bal is Sutter County Superintendent of Schools. Sutter COE funds one of the Tech Trek camperships each summer and allows us use of a SCOE room for STEM Packet Day. Bal also joined us on visitation day at 2017 UCD.

Evie Toles, 1000 Lincoln Road, Suite H-137, YC 95991; 760.220.6738; evietoles@gmail.com.

--Evie joins us as a dual member of AAUW-Victor Valley in November, having recently moved from southern California. Evie has been an active member of her branch, serving in many roles. Sadly she will move to Oregon next month but said she wishes to help long distance in any way she can.

Melissa Ha joined at the Coalition Brunch. She is an Associate Professor at Yuba College. See photo page 2. More information about her will be in the next *Feather Vane*.

TECH TREK COMMITTEE

by Carol Clark, EC Project Group Leader

The committee is organizing for the selection of our 2018 Tech Trekkers. Let Carol Clark, Donna Long, or Karen Chiechi know if you are interested in being a part of this team. Carol's number is 672-5286.

INTEREST SECTIONS

All branch members are welcome to attend.



ADVOCACY & ACTION

Call Martha Bunce 743-0306 or email buncehall@yahoo.com to receive email advocacy and action alerts.

To see how our AAUW branch is working for you, click on our branch website http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net



BOOK CLUBS

Book Explorers

Normally meets at 10 am the third Friday of the month. Contact is Paulette Almeida, 415-5588. Phone Paulette for details about January meeting.

Rabid Readers

Regularly meets at 10 am the third Friday of the month, but will meet one Friday earlier, on **January 12**, due to the STEM conference, and will then return to usual date. Book is <u>Lost City of Z</u> by David Grann at Marilyn Elliott's house. Contact is Marilyn Elliott, 673-2840 or Pat Jones, 674-0114.



BRIDGE GROUPS

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



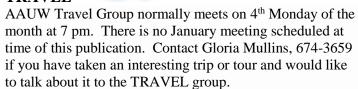
MOVIES

Do you like to go to the movies, but hate going alone? If so, the Movies group may appeal to you. First-run movie matinees, classics, and opera are all options at the Yuba City Cinemark. Six saw <u>Three Billboards</u> on December 12. We are watching for arrival of <u>The Greatest Showman</u>, and <u>The POST</u>. Contact Artis Buerki, 671-5665, if you are interested in being on the email contact list, and if you have ideas to share.

TALKING ON PAPER

Talking on Paper, our creative writing group, usually meets at the Cookie Tree the first Tuesday of the month, but in January will meet a week later - on **January 9 at the Cookie Tree.** Meeting starts promptly at 10 am and finish by 11:30 am. Bring a writing pad for notes and something that you have written and want to read to the group. Up to two pages of typewritten stories provide us a view into our member's hearts and activities. Call Joan Young 777-9215 for more information.

TRAVEL



TRAVELING GOURMET



Coordinator is Carol Clark, 671-5284. The Traveling Gourmet normally meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. Will meet in front of the Round Table Pizza on Grey Avenue at 10:30 to carpool to the restaurant. The Traveling Gourmet is headed to Buonarroti Ristorante in Lincoln on **January 25, 2018.** Contact hostess Pat Jones, hostess, 674-0114, to reserve.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORT – December 14, 2017

by Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

AAUW Executive Council Meeting December 14, 2017 - 1:30 a.m. at Sandy Davini's

Those in attendance were the following; Carol Clark-Projects Leader and Interim Executive Leader; Sandy Davini,-Treasurer; Lee Jones- Membership; Barbara Solheim-Program; Janet Theiss-Communications; Karen Tuttle- Bylaws and Historian; Jeanine Rounds-Secretary; Artis Buerki and Christina Billeci.

Call to Order, 1:35 pm; Minutes of November 9, 2017, were approved as presented.

<u>Council Leader Report:</u> Carol Clark was serving as Interim Executive Leader in Joann Nixon's absence.

There was considerable discussion over the earlier failure of the state's AAUW branches to vote for our IRS status. There were 3,160 votes cast and all but 26 were "yes," but those 26 "no" votes deny AAUW California the legally required change from being a mutual benefit organization to being a public benefit organization to match the classification that AAUW National already has. The new vote will be on January 9-11 Artis said she is putting 2 pages of information quoted from the state in the next Feather Vane. Members were encouraged to vote yes when contacted, or—if questions—choose not to vote, as a single "No" will destroy the activity. Janet will also send out an email blast updating our members.

Committee Members voted against scheduling an Executive Committee in January because of all the other activities, especially the STEM conference. If an emergency occurs, a meeting could be called.

There was considerable interest and discussion about helping facilitate a Yuba College student AAUW organization. One of our members has shown interest in this. Artis provided information and will investigate further. If Yuba College becomes an AAUW member, undergraduates can join AAUW at no cost. It would cost the college \$125 the first year to join AAUW. There are 78 colleges who are members of AAUW in California. It was unanimously voted for our branch to support such an activity and pay the initial fee when and if such an activity is developed. Artis was requested to check with the state organization to see what kind of support they give such an activity.

Correspondence and Treasurer's Report: Sandy Davini. Sandy passed out some miscellaneous correspondence and then reviewed the monthly Treasurer's Report. She indicated we have received checks for \$500 from Soroptimists and \$900 from Sutter County Schools. She also indicated that, because of state law, we will owe an additional \$150 for our insurance for the STEM conference, since there are over 500 attending. This will be paid by the state and we will reimburse them.

<u>Public Policy:</u> Martha Bunce continues to send out information via email.

<u>Membership:</u> Lee Jones reported four new members: Dr. Bal Dhillon, Marie LaVoie, Evie Toles, and Melissa Ha. Unfortunately, Evie Toles will be moving on to Oregon shortly. Our membership is about 95.

Other reports from Executive Council

<u>Historian/Bylaws Update:</u> Karen Tuttle said that our By-Laws were approved at the meeting on 9/11.

<u>Communications</u>: Janet Theiss reported that Joan Young will take over the mailing of those Feather Vanes that do not go by email. Artis Buerki reported that the deadline for the next FV is noon on December 18. She said that our book clubs regularly meet on the 3rd Friday, which this January will be the STEM conference, and she is asking if they plan to reschedule their meetings. She

reported that the photos Joann took of the Coalition Brunch are very good and will be on our website and our next <u>Feather Vane</u>.

<u>Programs:</u> Barbara Solheim said that the February meeting will be held at the Fremont/Rideout conference room and will be "Beware of Scammers," with Katy Godson, a member of the Yuba City Police Department. It will be catered by Antonio.

<u>Projects:</u> Carol Clark and members reviewed the various activities.

STEM: The committee had met earlier today, and things are going well. Martha Bunce has identified 22 excellent speakers. Jeanine has arranged for facilities at the college. Barbara Solheim and Carol Clark will manage the Hospitality Room on campus. Lee Jones has identified the facilitators, and Janet Theiss will send out a reminder memo. June McJunkin had reported that the schools had been prompt this year, and 723 students have registered, with 52 faculty. She has arranged for Packet Day to be held again at the Sutter County Schools facility, on January 11. Jeanine is working with the college to get all the arrangements completed.

Garden Tour: Brief meeting was held recently. Martha has located several gardens, but we need at least 2 more private gardens. The garden tour and reception will be held at the Agriculture program at Marysville High School under the direction of Bonnie Magill, the instructor, and the garden will include a wide variety of high school ag programs. Janet Theiss and Judy Hale will be the hostesses.

Tech Trek: Carol said the Tech Trek manuals are out. She and Donna Long and Karen Chiechi will be going to the Branch meeting in Fair Oaks.

Scholarships: Jeanine said she had just been informed that there will be no Yuba City Women's Club funds this year, so we will be giving just three \$500 scholarships.

Other Business: Interbranch: Our branch is responsible for the program. Jeanine has arranged for John Nicoletti to represent John Garamendi at the conference. Joann is working to get someone from Gallagher's office, but no information at yet. Time is passing quickly, however, as the meeting, which will be in Paradise, is on February 3.

Opportunity Drawings: Sandy said we will have only 3 this year and perhaps do only 2 after this, one in September and one at Coalition Brunch.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55.

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.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA - Articles of Incorporation Re-vote

The **September 2017 member vote** to return to AAUW California to a public benefit corporation **failed because of 26 "No" votes**. Although 99% of votes were "Yes," it was not enough. Our state's corporate regulations require a unanimous "Yes" vote to change the status of a corporation.

AAUW California is calling for a re-vote in hopes of avoiding costly and time-consuming legal options.

Please vote "Yes."

If you would like more information, please contact Sue Cochran at governance@aauw-ca.org. If you do not understand the issue, please do not vote "no" because it has serious and costly consequences. Detailed information about the issue is available at www.aauw-ca.org

Please vote "Yes" ☑ 100% "Yes" votes	AAUW California will return to a public benefit organization (as it was pre 2008). AAUW California will be aligned with AAUW National benefit designation. AAUW can continue to participate in all AAUW programs such as Tech Trek.
Please DON'T vote "No" Just one "No" vote	AAUW California will need to enter a costly process to petition the state for a change of status. AAUW will lose affiliate status with AAUW National. AAUW California will not be able to participate in AAUW Programs such as Tech Trek.

Frequently Asked Questions – About the Mutual Benefit V. Public Benefit Status Re-Vote (January 9-11, 2018) Download a copy of the FAQs.

1. Why is AAUW California calling for a re-vote?

The results of the every member vote to return AAUW CA to a public benefit corporation from its current status as a mutual benefit corporation failed. The results are as follows:

Total AAUW CA Membership: 11907

Total votes cast: 3160Total yes votes: 3134Total no votes: 26

California corporate regulations require that all votes cast for a mutual benefit corporation to change its status to an entity such as a public benefit corporation must be unanimous. Due to the 26 "no votes" the measure failed. AAUW CA's legal counsel has advised us that we can call for a re-vote in hopes of avoiding the more costly and time consuming legal options.

The re-vote is scheduled to take place January 9-11, 2018. Members with e-mail addresses on file will cast their vote electronically. Those members without an e-mail address on file will receive instructions via a postcard to call the AAUW CA office to cast their vote.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA - Articles of Incorporation Revote (continued from page 6)

2. How did AAUW CA become a Mutual Benefit organization when it has historically been a Public Benefit organization? When AAUW CA undertook its reorganization in 2008 a critical error was made that affects the corporate standing of AAUW CA under California nonprofit law, our standing with the IRS, as well as our affiliation with National. There are several categories of nonprofit organizations under California law, and in 2008, AAUW CA changed its category from a "public benefit" to a "mutual benefit" organization, which is inconsistent with National's public benefit status. As a practical matter, the category change did not have any impact on AAUW CA's missions, goals, operations or its members. Similarly, changing back to a public benefit organization will also not have any noticeable impact.

Nevertheless, National has informed us that AAUW CA must change back to its prior classification as a public benefit organization or lose its national affiliation (see question 4 for further impact details). Unfortunately, the process to change AAUW CA back to its prior classification is somewhat complicated and we have spent a great deal of time negotiating with the state of CA and conferring with an attorney trying to resolve the issue as efficiently and expeditiously as possible. Without this change we risk losing our National affiliation as well as jeopardizing our tax exempt status.

- 3. What is the difference between a Mutual Benefit and a Public Benefit Organization? "Mutual Benefit" and "Public Benefit" are classifications of nonprofit corporations under California law. The key distinction between them is that for a Public Benefit corporation, all assets must be irrevocably dedicated to a charitable purpose and as such, there are no distributions to members of the organization on dissolution or otherwise. In contrast, members of a Mutual Benefit corporation can receive distributions from the organization and receive the assets of the organization if it is dissolved, similar to shareholders of a for profit corporation. Based on these characteristics, Public Benefits corporations generally qualify for federal tax exemption under 501(c)(3) and sometimes 501(c)(4), while Mutual Benefit Corporations typically qualify under 501(c)(4) or 501(c)(6).
- 4. What is the long-term impact on AAUW CA if we fail to become a Public Benefit organization? As an affiliate of AAUW, AAUW CA must be a public benefit entity which aligns with the status of AAUW. To fail to obtain this status would make AAUW CA out of compliance with our Affiliates Agreement and would potentially lead to our loss of affiliation with AAUW. Loss of affiliation would mean we are no longer a recognized AAUW entity and as such would no longer be eligible to participate in any/all AAUW programs, such as Tech Trek.
- 5. What is the next step if the members do not vote to change AAUW CA back to a Public Benefit organization? If the re-vote fails AAUW CA will then enter into a formal appeal process with the Commissioner of the Securities Division of the Corporations Division of the California Secretary of State's Office to petition for a change. If that appeal fails or is rejected the only option open to AAUW CA is to dissolve the current corporation and reform a new corporation as a public benefit corporation. As an affiliate of National AAUW CA must be aligned with AAUW as a public benefit corporation and cannot remain as a mutual benefit corporation.
- 6. What is/has been the cost impact of this issue? Since the Fall of 2016 AAUW CA has invested over \$10,000 and over 250 volunteer hours working to resolve this issue, which includes an initial appeal to the California Secretary of State for a reversal to a public benefit corporation. The first appeal was a very different process than what will need to be followed if the second vote fails.

If the second vote fails both of the final two options are much more costly and time consuming and will have a far more significant financial impact on AAUW California. Thus, the call for a second vote in hopes that the organization will move forward without the far more significant legal costs associated with the option of a complex legal appeal process or corporate reorganization.

Who do I contact if I have further questions or need further clarification? Please address all questions in writing to: governance@aauw-ca.org. If you do not have internet access mail your questions to: AAUW CA, Attention: Sue Cochran, Governance Chair, 1331 Garden Highway, Suite #100, Sacramento, CA 95833.



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

To find us on line just CTRL+LEFT CLICK on any of these underlined links -

Our new branch website: http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC
AAUW California: www.aauw-ca.org/ AAUW National: www.aauw.org Tech Trek: www.aauw-techtrek.org

JANUARY, 2018

Please get in touch with your committee chairs to confirm meeting details/locations. For more information about Interest Sections see inside this Feather Vane.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	inatpy new year	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 10 am Talking on Paper	10	11 9 am Packet Day	12 10 am Rabid Readers Book Club	13
14	15	16	17	18	9 am STEM Conference	20
21	22 FEB. FV Deadline	23	24	25 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet	26	27
28	29	30	31			



This week marked an important anniversary in women's history. On December 13, 1923, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was introduced for the first time in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill was reintroduced every Congress until its passage in 1972. The proposed constitutional amendment required three-fifths of all states to ratify the amendment before fully implementing the ERA. State legislatures were given until 1979 to ratify the amendment, and Congress later extended the ratification deadline to 1982. By the time the final deadline passed in 1982, 35 states had approved the ERA—three states short of ratification.

It's been 94 years since the ERA was first introduced in the House, and women still don't have equal rights under the constitution. But there's good news—in March, Nevada became the first state in 40 years to ratify the ERA, renewing interest in the issue.

The ERA would clarify, once and for all, that sex discrimination is a violation of our constitutional rights as Americans. Take action to support the ERA today!

State Spotlight

We loved seeing this letter to the editor from a member of the AAUW San Clemente-Capistrano Bay (CA) Branch on the importance of upholding Title IX guidance! By customizing our letter to the editor template and submitting it to your local paper, you can energize branch members, promote AAUW visibility in the community, and draw attention to this significant issue. Or, if you've delivered resources to your local Title IX coordinator, consider co-authoring a letter.

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					
AddressPhone					
In memory or honor (circle one) of:	\$				
Yuba College Scholarship (Check to Yuba College Foundation-AAUW)	\$				
Tech Trek Fund (Make check payable to AAUW CA SPF)	\$				
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)	\$				

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