

# Feather Vane



SEPTEMBER, 2018



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

## SEPTEMBER 15 - Meet our Tech Tekkers Bring a friend or potential member

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 15, 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church, 1390 Franklin Road, Yuba City, in the Ministry Center. Please park in the parking lot south of the Church and enter through the door closest to the parking lot.



**PROGRAM:** Our Tech Trek scholars will speak about their experiences at camp this summer. They are pictured above (L-R) Natalie Buzzini - Butte Vista School, Lydia Donaldson - Paragon Collegiate Academy, Larissa Fecceu - Foothill Intermediate, Trinity Gomez - Brittan School, Latoya Green - Paragon Collegiate Academy, Chloe Nguyen - Butte Vista School, and Abigayle Thompson - Barry School. (See story, 20 Years of Tech Trek, on page 7)

**MENU:** Light buffet brunch

**COST: \$10, RESERVATIONS REQUIRED** - 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 reservations by Tuesday, please phone Janet Theiss (695-3159) to be sure that you are on the list. If you reply yes, you owe for the meal.

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1:30 pm** at Sutter County Schools office, 950 Tharp, Bldg. 300, Yuba City. Park in rear. Contact Joann Nixon if you are interested in attending EC meetings as a member-at-large.

## COMING SOON – October 20

### League of Women Voters

11:30 a.m. – Rideout Conference Room,  
989 Plumas Street, Yuba City.

Put this October branch meeting on your calendar now! Reservations required – Bring a guest. Respond to your phoner/emailer by the Monday before the meeting.

**Representatives from the League of Women Voters will talk about the November ballot issues pro and con.**

\$18 Catering by Chef Salim.

## PROGRAM NOTES



by Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader

**PLAN FOR THE YEAR - MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE FOLLOWING BRANCH MEETINGS**  
*More details will follow in upcoming Feather Vanes.*

- October 20 – 11:30, League of Women Voters
- November 17, 11:30, Neelam Cantollugo who works with women in 3<sup>rd</sup> world counties
- December 8 – 9:30, Women’s Coalition Holiday Brunch
- January 19 – 11:30, Jessica Hougen, Museum Curator
- February 16 – 11:30, Preet Didbal, Yuba City Mayor
- March 16 – 11:30, Annual meeting at Yuba College, speaker is Dr. Michael Chin, heart specialist
- April 2 – STEM Conference, NO luncheon this month
- May 4 – GARDEN TOUR, NO luncheon this month
- June 1 – 11:30, Meet the Yuba College Scholars

## Council Chat - Welcome Back!

by Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader

Welcome back to a fun and service filled new year with AAUW. Be sure to check the information on page 1 of this *Feather Vane* about our first Branch Meeting of the year, **September 15<sup>th</sup>**, when we will meet our Tech Trekkers and hear about their experiences at the AAUW Tech Trek camp at UC Davis this summer. Please note the new location for this event is Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church on Franklin Road in Yuba City. The Branch meeting will be held in the Ministry Center, please park in the parking lot South of the Church and enter through the door closest to the parking lot.

I hope you have had a good summer, and that you are looking forward to all the things planned for the coming year. Since this is an election year, we have scheduled **League of Women Voters** to present the pros and cons for propositions that will be on the ballot at our **October 20** branch meeting. On **November 17** we will look forward to hearing from Neelam Cantollugo who works with women in 3<sup>rd</sup> world counties.

Our December meeting will be one you won't want to miss. The festive Coalition Holiday Brunch, on **December 8**, will be at Peach Tree Country Club where we'll join with other women's groups in our community to celebrate the holidays together.

I'm looking forward to the coming year of learning and serving together. We have Branch Meetings, Interest Sections, Garden Tour, STEM Conference, and Tech Trek Committees, and the Executive Council to choose from; all meetings are open to the membership. Please let me know what you are interested in, and I'll look forward to meeting you there. *Joann ECL*



Sandy Davini, Branch Treasurer, and Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader, are shown here on June 2 at the end-of-year branch meeting at The Refuge. *Photos by Lee Jones*

**VISIT OUR BRANCH WEBSITE:**  
<https://mvyca-aauw.net/>



Do you see yourself in these June 2<sup>nd</sup> pictures?





## WHY BECOME A BOARD MEMBER?

Have you ever wondered if you should become a board member? *Do you know that our AAUW branch board is called the Executive Council?* Have you ever been curious about attending a meeting?

First of all, our branch members are all welcome to sit in on any Executive Council meeting. Meetings are not always at the same location, so please contact Joann Nixon, 680-0356, if you plan to attend. We meet one time a month, usually on the second Thursday afternoon of the month, to support all of our branch functions. Our eight elected officers are voted in for three-year terms, with the exception of the Treasurer, which is a one-year term. The three-year terms are staggered so that only two or three terms end each year.

On **July 1, 2019** there will be two openings on the Executive Council, and elections will take place at our **March 16, 2019** annual meeting. If you are interested in joining this exciting committee, please contact Artis Buerki, 671-5665.

You can read more about the responsibilities of the Executive Council on our branch website <http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net>. Password is mvyc-member.



## AAUW Tech Trek Adult Visiting Day at UC Davis - July 27

*Story by Tessa Phillips, Photo by Marie Lavoie*

One day each year interested adults from AAUW branches are invited to visit UC Davis during the week that their Tech Trekkers are attending. Davis was a little cooler on July 27<sup>th</sup> than Yuba City, and the campus design good with

beautiful grounds. Marie Lavoie, who was the driver, and Tessa Phillips went to hear half hour sessions of five subjects our 7 scholarship students are studying for the week. There were several dozen people visiting and we were divided into groups for our tours of the classes.



Our branch Tech Trekkers are pictured here. L-R back row: Latoya, Natalie, Trinity, Larissa, and Abi, and the bottom row: Lydia and Chloe.

Each student studied one subject for the week and the following are the subjects from which they could choose:

### Anatomy and Physiology: As I Live and Breathe.

They study organs through dissection and use of medical equipment. We saw them building a model of the lung and diaphragm to understand the pressure in the chest cavity.

Jump on Board the Coding Express. They were creating interactive applications and mobile apps for the phone.

High Energy Engineering. They were using hands on team projects and explored topics like environmental, structural and electrical engineering. We saw them racing their model solar powered cars.

Genetics: DNA, Genomics, Heredity. They study DNA under a microscope and learn about diseases and how genes are passed from parents to offspring. We saw them dissect sheep's eyes.

3D Math: Architecture, geometry, design, and what went wrong. They discover how types of math from trig to algebra can be used to solve problems and they tackle budgeting and materials challenges. We saw them building model bridges and models for dorm rooms.

We had lunch with our 7 girls at the Segundo Dining Commons and they were all delightful, enthusiastic and very polite and considerate. The teachers were all very interesting and seemed to thoroughly enjoy both their subjects and their students.



## Why do members stay in AAUW?

by Lee Jones, Membership Leader

Recently some members were asked why they are renewing their memberships and remaining active members of AAUW. Here are the top 4 reasons:

1. They love the AAUW community and their fellow AAUW members.
2. They believe in AAUW's mission – *Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*
3. They take pride in the impact that AAUW has on the lives of women and girls.
4. They enjoy the social opportunities – such as Book clubs, Traveling Gourmet, Travel, Bridge, Writing, and Movies.

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 Member Application on our branch website <http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/join> (hover over link. Press Ctrl and left click to open this link). Password is mvyc-member.

## GARDEN TOUR Committee

by Martha Bunce, Garden Tour Chair

The Garden Tour Committee will begin meeting again on Thursday, **September 6, 11 am** at the home of Barbara Kenney. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee and/or have ideas for home gardens that you'd like to see considered for the 2019 Garden Tour, please contact Martha Bunce, 743-0306, /c 713-0663, and come on September 6 to be a part of this exciting process.

## STEM Conference Committee

by Sandy Davini & Barbara Solheim

The first meeting of the STEM Committee is Thursday, **September 13, 11 am** at the Cookie Tree. If you'd like to help in the planning of the next STEM Conference, please contact us so we can put you on the email list for meeting reminders. Sandy 673-0930, /c 713-1390; Barbara 674-3577, /c 751-6954.



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS – June 2018

### BRANCH MEETING - JUNE 2– REFUGE

by Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

35 members and 2 guests attended the year-end meeting. The three newly selected Yuba College Scholarship winners spoke. Ashley Arroyo, Jordan Brooks, and Lisa Burkhart are all pursuing careers in the medical field. Several of our new branch members, Gwyn Baker, Bal Dhillon, and Marie Lavoie, introduced themselves and talked about their education and work histories and their interest in AAUW. Gwyn is a retired science career worker, Bal is currently Superintendent of Sutter County Schools, and Marie is a teacher at Brittan School.

Reports were made for the major committees: STEM-Barbara Solheim; Tech Trek-Carol Clark; Garden Tour-Sandy Davini. Programs-Barbara Solheim, reported on branch meeting programs planned for the upcoming branch year.

All members were invited to attend the annual Planning Meeting on June 14 at the home of Jeanine Rounds. The brief business meeting was called to order at 1:15 pm, by Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader. Karen Tuttle, Bylaws Leader, presented a proposed revision to our bylaws to resolve the issue of the quorum that does not rely on the attendance of our Members at Large. The quorum would be defined as a majority of 'elected officers' instead of "voting members." Approved unanimously. (Note: for more details about this change, see article [Local Branch Bylaws Amended](#), by Karen Tuttle.)

Sandy Davini held the drawing for the "free" membership, and it was won by Pat Jones.

Ting was thanked in appreciation of our being able to hold our meeting at the Refuge at a time when restaurant is normally closed. Meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Respectively submitted, Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

### PLANNING MEETING – Secretary's Notes June 14, 2018 – 10 am to 2 pm

by Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

The EC met on June 14 at the home of Jeanine Rounds for the annual Planning Meeting and June Executive Council meeting. Present were Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader; Carol Clark, Program; Sandy Davini, Treasurer; Lee Jones, Membership; Barbara Solheim, Program; Karen Tuttle, Bylaws Leader; Jeanine Rounds, Secretary. Members at Large: Martha Bunce, Artis Buerki, Priscilla Kerr, and Joan Young.

Minutes of May 16 Executive Council and June 2 Branch meeting were approved.

Goals – Council Leader, Joann Nixon, discussed our goals: 1) *membership*, we are doing well, but need to continue to recruit; 2) *visibility*, we also have done well, thanks in part to Artis and her assistants as to our participation in community activities; and 3) *collaboration* with other groups, we work closely with Chamber, Girls on Run, Scouts, Yuba College, etc.

Treasurer's Report/Budget – Sandy Davini gave us a budget printout, as well as a detailed written discussion of the various categories. She anticipated we will get about \$6500 from our Garden Tour. Tech Trek costs us \$900 a girl, plus about \$425 additional costs. We have three major donors: Yuba County Schools (\$450), Sutter County Schools (\$900), and Soroptimists (\$500). However, we then donate \$500 to Soroptimists for Girls on the Run. Our ending balance continues to grow, and there was a discussion about what else we might want to support, including 1) larger scholarships at Yuba College, 2) the War Museum in Marysville, 3) AAUW paver at the Sutter County Museum, 4) increase the book fund for re-entry students at Yuba, 5) CORE STEM program, and 6) sponsor a girl in need to participate in the Girls on the Run program. It was recommended that we consider a small donation to the War Museum, the paver at the County museum, increasing the book fund, and explore possible ways to augment the college scholarships (now 3 at \$500).

Historian/Bylaws - Karen Tuttle reported on the recent national effort to change some bylaws, and said that the first request, which involved staggering terms on Executive Councils, had passed; but the other two—allowing non-members on these councils and dropping the degree requirements for membership—had failed.

Nominations - The group then discussed procedures for selecting our own candidates for our Council and agreed we need to recruit some new members. Artis Buerki was asked to lead the Nominating group (group of 3) and to recruit the additional members by the March, 2019 election to serve beginning July 1, 2019.

Membership - There was discussion about the need to do more to welcome new members. At one time, ongoing members were assigned to contact new people and assure they are sitting with people they know at Branch meetings. We need to continue to explore ways to make new or potential members feel more welcome. Joan Young volunteered to work on this with Lee Jones, helping new members find the committees or interest groups they desire.

Programs - Barbara Solheim announced the tentative schedule for 2018-19. Among other considerations is that STEM will be April 2, which will require adjustments for us, and so will result in no branch meeting in April. There will also not be a branch meeting in May because of Garden Tour. Barbara Solheim made a call to St. Andrew Church to see about using their community room, and it is now tentatively reserved for September 15. There will be a rental fee to do so.

Projects - Carol Clark reported that **STEM** will be April 2, 2019, and that charge to students will be the same to partially cover the cost of their lunches; **Garden Tour** date will be May 4, 2019; and that she very much needs additional support for the **Tech Trek** committee and program.

New Business - Executive Committee for 2018-19 will remain the same time; Focus/Goals for 2018-19 will stay the same as this year but include increased membership outreach and involvement. Adjourned at 2:00. The EC will resume meetings in September.

**Note:** For the complete approved minutes of the June 14, 2019 meeting, please contact EC secretary Jeanine Rounds following the September 13 Executive Council meeting.

## INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC) NEWS

by Janet Theiss, IBC Representative

**IBC is meeting in Oroville at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2018.** By October's *Feather Vane* we'll know the location. At this time, the Interbranch Luncheon appears to be on Saturday, February 2, 2019, definitely in Chico. Monday, May 6, 2019, will be in Paradise.

The August 6, 2018, IBC meeting was at Pete's in Yuba City. It was great fun to see other branch members again! We shared upcoming branch events and did initial planning for the luncheon and for Career Trek.



## BYLAWS AMENDED

by Karen Tuttle, Bylaws Leader

**BRANCH AMENDMENT** - The branch voted at our June 2, 2018 branch meeting to change our local bylaws under **Article XI. Executive Council, Section 4. Quorum** to read "The quorum of the Executive

Council shall be a majority of the elected officers." It previously said "...shall be a majority of the voting members" which proved too large for the Executive Council to obtain at meetings twice this past year, and the Council was unable to conduct business at those meetings.

**NATIONAL AMENDMENTS** - The national bylaws amendments before the entire AAUW membership in June 2018 passed **Proposal 1** in the area of creating three-year staggered board terms. **Proposal 2** for opening board service to non-AAUW members did not pass. And **Proposal 3** for the elimination of the degree requirement for AAUW membership did not pass.



**BRIDGE** 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. 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** The creative writing group meets at the Cookie Tree the first Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is **September 4**. Meetings start 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.

**INTEREST SECTIONS - All branch members are welcome to participate.**

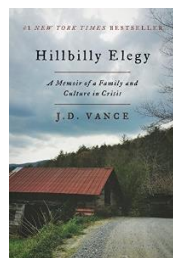


**ADVOCACY & ACTION**

To receive advocacy and action alerts by email, contact Martha Bunce 743-0306, or [buncehall@yahoo.com](mailto:buncehall@yahoo.com) To see what our branch is doing, go to our branch website, <http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net>



**TRAVEL** AAUW Travel Group meetings have been changed to the **FIRST TUESDAY** of the month at 2 PM. Contact Gloria Mullins about the next program, 674-3659.



**BOOK CLUBS**

**Book Explorers** Normally meets at 10 am the third Friday of the month. Contact is Paulette Almeida, 415-5588.

**Rabid Readers** Regularly meets at 10 am the third Friday of the month. Contact is Marilyn Elliott or Pat Jones. Next meeting is **September 21**. Hostess is Pat Jones at the Cookie Tree. Book is Hillbilly Elegy by Vance.



**TRAVELING GOURMET** Coordinator is Karen Tuttle, 755-4405. The Traveling Gourmet normally meets on the 4th Thursday of the month in front of the Round Table Pizza on Grey Avenue, Yuba City, at 10:30 to carpool to the restaurant. Next meeting is **September 27**. Barbara Solheim is hostess. Please contact Barbara to see what is planned, 674-3577.

**Feather Vane Staff**  
 Mail Distribution – Joan Young  
 Photographer – Joann Nixon  
 Communication Leader – Janet Theiss  
 Editor – Artis Buerki, 530-671-5665

## 20 Years of Tech Trek

A celebration of 20 YEARS of Tech Trek took place at the **AAUW California's biennial convention on April 29<sup>th</sup>, in Irvine**, where over 225 members and friends attended the anniversary luncheon. In opening remarks, California's outgoing-president, Donna Mertens, remarked that it was Tech Trek that made her become active in AAUW. A panel of four Tech Trek alumnae demonstrated the value of Tech Trek and what they have studied and their careers.

**AAUW of California member Marie Wolbach founded Tech Trek in 1998 with the help of an AAUW Community Action Grant.** Since then, 15,000 girls have gone through the program. Today AAUW Tech Trek operates 10 camps at 8 sites in California, 20 camps nation-wide. **Here are the California Tech Trek Camps in Order of Opening:**

1998 Stanford Univ. I	1999 CSU Fresno	1999 UC San Diego	2001 Mills College
2001 Whittier College	2005 UC Santa Barbara I	2008 Sonoma State Univ. (Moved from Mills)	
2008 Stanford Univ. II	2010 UC Irvine	2011 UC Santa Barbara II	2011 UC Davis

This information is from the Summer Issue of AAUW California Perspective Magazine. Click here for an on line copy: <http://www.aauw-ca.org/june-2018-edition-of-the-california-perspective/>



### New member bio – Meet Gwyn Baker

Gwyn Baker is one of our newest branch members. She was recruited by her neighbor, Jeanine Rounds, and joined at the STEM Conference in January 2018. This year Gwyn will be joining Joan Young and Artis Buerki on the Publicity Committee for the Garden Tour. We asked her to tell us about herself, and this is what she wrote:

“I grew up in the Bay Area and graduated from UC Davis with a bachelor’s degree in Biology in 1993. My husband is a civil engineer and we have two very bright kids, a 13-yr-old son and 16-yr-old daughter, and two high-maintenance cats. I started my career at a bioengineering company in Davis and then worked at the UC Davis Department of Nematology. When we moved to

Yuba City in 1999, I began work at Caltrans as an Environmental Planner. I worked there for almost ten years before taking a break to spend more time with my kids. I helped with Franklin School’s art program for several years.

I enjoy gardening and travel. I love to read historical fiction. I’ve always been interested in nature and science. In addition to being an advocate for women’s rights, one of the things that spurred me to join AAUW was when my son was working on a report about ocean acidification in spring of 2017 using NASA climate data, but then it began disappearing off government websites. I want to see an increase in science and education in this country, and want women to have an equal seat at the table.”



FEATHER VANE  
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**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](http://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC)**  
**AAUW California: [www.aauw-ca.org/](http://www.aauw-ca.org/) AAUW National: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) Tech Trek: [www.aauw-techtrek.org](http://www.aauw-techtrek.org)**

## SEPTEMBER, 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
						1
2	3	4 10 am <b>Talking on Paper</b>  2 pm <b>Travel</b>	5	6 11 am <b>Garden Tour Committee</b>	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 11 am <b>STEM Committee</b>  1:30 pm <b>Executive Council</b>	14	15 10 am <b>Branch Meeting</b>
16	17	18	19	20	21 10 am <b>Book Clubs</b>	22
23	24	25 <b>Bridge</b>	26	27 10:30 am <b>Traveling Gourmet</b>	28	29
30						



**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 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 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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**If you need a password it is *mvyc-member***

***See our branch photos and news on our website and facebook page.***

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