



Feather Vane — MARCH, 2019



Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy

WHEN: Saturday, March 16, 2019 — BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING – BRING A FRIEND

TIME: 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Yuba College, Flavors Restaurant – North Beale Road, past West parking lot, and after the Administration Building, turn right onto Sutter Street to Placer Street, Flavors is in Bldg. 300 at intersection of Sutter and Placer. FREE Parking.

PROGRAM: Michael L. Chin, M.D. cardiologist, will speak about developments in heart health. *See Program Notes pg. 2*

MENU: Chicken cordon bleu with rice, Caesar salad, French bread, and strawberry shortcake. Lunch will be prepared by the Culinary Art students of Yuba College under the direction of Roy Hansen.

COST: \$18, 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 reservation by Tuesday, please phone Janet Theiss (530-695-3159) to be sure you are on the list. *If you reply yes, you owe for the meal.*

Council Chat — Branch Election **Vote** March 16

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT -- by Artis Buerki, with Linden Reynolds and Kelly Swanson

On February 16, 2019, I announced at the Branch meeting that day that we have a full slate of officers for our **March 16** election. Our nominees for the Executive Council are: Liz Skelly, Joan Young, and Christina Billeci all for three-year terms; and Sandy Davini for one-year term as Treasurer.

Sandy Davini is our current Treasurer, and is co-chair of the annual AAUW STEM Conference Committee. During her career she was Assistant Superintendent of Business Services at the Marysville Joint Unified School District. For 13 years after retirement she worked as a consultant in northern California school districts.

Liz Skelly has recently retired from Yuba Community College District where she held the position of Interim Chief Business Officer. She had previously retired from YCCD in the capacity of Director of Fiscal Services. In the intervening years she worked as a consultant at Feather River College, Solano College and Sierra College. She has a Business Administration degree from CSU Chico.

Joan Young is an active branch volunteer with Talking on Paper, Meeting Callers, Publicity Committee, and *Feather Vane* Committee. She has served on boards at Fremont Hospital, Barton Memorial Hospital (South Lake Tahoe) and Toastmistress International Training in Communication. She with her husband helped create and organize the Garden Tour with South Lake Tahoe's Historical Society during their 12 years at the lake, and is on our Garden Tour committee.

Christina Billeci was the Yuba County Public Guardian/Conservator for 31 years caring for the elderly, disabled, and mentally ill. She was on the Marysville City Council for 12 years until 2012. She graduated from Chico State University majoring in Social Work, and has been active with groups in the community, including President of the Friends of the Bok Kai Temple and Bridges to Housing.

Executive Council Outgoing Officers on July 1, 2019 are Carol Clark, Joann Nixon, and Karen Tuttle.

Continuing Officers are Lee Jones, Jeanine Rounds, Barbara Solheim, and Janet Theiss.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING: THURSDAY, March 14, 1 pm at Sutter County Schools office, 950 Tharp, Bldg. 300, Suite 302, Yuba City. Park in rear. Contact Joann Nixon, 680-0356, if you are interested in attending an EC meeting, or if you wish to become a Member-at-Large on the Executive Council. Members-at-Large are appointed for one year at a time, attend EC meetings, and are voting members on the Executive Council.

Education & Training Tea Bag Fundraiser

by Karen Tuttle for Jeanne Schultz, AAUW Funds Chair



In February, each member received a tea bag and a letter explaining our annual **Education and**

Training Tea Bag Fundraiser. Your donations support opportunities for women that give them a chance for a lifetime of success. Please participate in this event by writing a check for \$15 or more to "AAUW" and write **ET-#4450 in the memo line**. Please notice that the **fund number for the memo line has been changed**. Please mail your check to AAUW, P.O. Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992, by **March 15**. Total donations of \$750 or more allow us to designate one or more branch members as an "AAUW Education and Training Opportunities Named Gift Honoree." We will be honoring our Named Gift Honoree at a future branch meeting.

March is Women's History Month – see story, Page 5

PROGRAM NOTES

by Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader



Our speaker at the March 16 branch luncheon will be Michael L. Chin, M.D. Dr. Chin is a cardiologist at Rideout Heart Clinic, 414 G Street, Suite 208, Marysville, where he has been an associate since 2013. Previously he has practiced at Feather River Cardiology Medical Group, Feather River Cardiovascular Institute, Sutter North Medical Foundation and Chico Medical Group. Dr. Chin was born in Hong Kong. He studied at University of Pennsylvania where he earned a B.A. in Economics, and went to medical school at Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. His Internship and Residency were at Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago. Fellowships included UCLA Center for Health Services in Los Angeles and Robert Wood Johnson Fellow in Investigative Cardiology at UCLA. We are honored to have Dr. Chin speak to our branch once again about the new findings in cardiac treatments.



GARDEN TOUR

Ticket Sale Begins March 16

by Martha Bunce, Garden Tour Chair

The Garden Tour is MAY 4, and Garden Tour tickets will be ready for you to pick up at our **March 16** meeting.

Our policy is to give each branch member three tickets for you to sell, or to purchase and give away.

We have been able to keep ticket price to \$15 again this year, and tickets will also be sold at Sperbeck's Nursery, Union Lumber, Yuba City Florist, and The Country Florist. We will also sell tickets on our branch website, mvyc-ca.aauw.net. On line tickets sell for \$20, and all tickets are \$20 on MAY 4, the day of the GARDEN TOUR.

If you do not attend the March branch meeting, your tickets will be mailed to you to sell. If this is a hardship for you, please let someone on the Garden Tour committee know, and return the tickets to us so that someone else can try to sell them for you. If you want additional tickets please contact Barbara Kenney or Janet Theiss after March 16 and arrange to pick them up.

This year the gardens are beautiful, and the reception location is exciting. You will receive the details at the same time that you get your tickets.

GARDEN TOUR – Business Sponsorships are available. The Garden Tour Committee is looking for BUSINESS SPONSORS of the Garden Tour and we need your help; so if you have a friend in business, please ask them if they can become a sponsor at one of these levels: **Iris -\$50, Azalea-\$100, Rose-\$300, Orchid- \$500**

In return, the AAUW Garden Tour Sponsors' names will be printed on the back of the Garden Tour booklet, listed in our *Feather Vane* newsletter, announced in our press releases, and posted prominently at the reception. If you need a Sponsorship Letter to give to your friends, contact Artis Buerki and she will email a letter for you to print out and deliver to your friends. **March 31, 2019 is the last day that sponsorships can be received.** This is the 4th year that we have solicited sponsors for the Garden Tour, and each year we have raised enough money this way to send at least one girl to the week-long AAUW Tech Trek science camps at UC Davis. This year we are shooting for the moon!

Facilitators Needed STEM Conference on April 2

by Roberta D'Arcy

The 2019 STEM Career Awareness Conference at Yuba College is Tuesday, **April 2**. We have many Facilitators agreeing to participate from 8:30 am-12:30 pm, **but we still need at least 15 more!** This is an opportunity for you to help dynamic presenters share their STEM career experiences with **over 800 8th grade girls**.

- Introduce presenter unless they prefer to introduce themselves
- Watch the students to be sure they are attentive and cell phones are turned off
- If the presenter runs out of material before session is over, ask questions which we will provide
- Distribute and collect Evaluations at end of 3rd session.

If you are willing to be a Facilitator, or if you have a friend who might like to help us (she doesn't have to be AAUW), please contact Roberta D'Arcy, 743-8742-home, 701-0175-cell, rolanddrc@yahoo.com by **March 15**.

Council Chat -- February 16, 2019

by Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader

The February Branch meeting included the usual format and some unusual moments. We welcomed several guests and a surprise guest for our speaker, Preet Didbal. Her old family friend, Resham Kajley, showed up to surprise her. He told me he hadn't seen Preet in 45 years. It was a warm reunion with smiles and hugs. He saw the announcement in the Territorial Dispatch that Preet would be the speaker at our Branch meeting, and made arrangement to attend. The Nominating Committee has been working diligently and today was the last day to fill the slate for elections next month. Artis announced that they filled the slate with two additional members **THIS MORNING!** The applause continued when we welcomed a new member, Grace Espindola, who is a new Yuba City councilwoman. Then our speaker, Preet Didbol, shared recounts of her personal journey from her parent's immigration to the USA and her time working on the Planning Commission, and then her election to Yuba City's City Council where she

served as Mayor retiring from the City Council last November. Her focus continues to be empowering girls and women based on her personal experiences. Preet Didbal will be the key note speaker at our STEM Conference in April.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Lee Jones, Membership Leader

We have two new members who joined in February. Here is their contact information to add to your Roster:

Katy Coladarci, 541 Millfront Ave., Yuba City 95991 530.301.9265; katycolada@comcast.net. She holds a BA from Linfield College; MA from Stanford in Early Childhood Education.

Grace Espindola, 1763 Wildflower Circle, YC 95991 530.321.4522; grespindo8@gmail.com. She is newly elected Yuba City councilwoman. She holds a Masters degree in Social Work from USC.

If you have a friend who might like to know more about our AAUW Branch, bring them to a meeting. Contact Lee Jones, lee@harkeyhouse.com, or phone 300-0214, for a membership application.



Grace Espindola is the newest member of our branch. She is shown here (on left) with her guest, Happi Ybarra, who helped Grace with her recent successful election campaign to the City Council of Yuba City.



THANK YOU to our February 16 branch meeting speaker, Preet Didbal, former Mayor of Yuba City. She is shown here with her old friend, Resham Kajley, who came to surprise her at our meeting.

Tech Trek ALUMNI COMMITTEE Report

by Barbara Douyon



Here is the new Tech Trek Alumni club -- Sensational Team (of) Extraordinary Minds (S.T.E.M.)

As we reported in last month's *Feather Vane*, seven of our branch's thirteen Tech Trek Alumni from 2017 and 2018, and one 2013 alumni and Tech Trek Camp Junior Counselor, met together in mid-January, with their parents and our branch's Alumni Committee.

The girls have selected their group name to be the Sensational Team of Extraordinary Minds (S.T.E.M.). They will meet periodically to support the STEM projects of AAUW under the direction of **Joann Nixon, Marie Lavoie, Karen Chiechi, and Barbara Douyon**. Our Alumni Committee is planning the next step forward with this wonderful group of bright and dedicated girls.

Small but significant steps are in the works. The S.T.E.M. members will participate in our branch's STEM Conference for 8th Grade Girls this spring at Yuba College. They will wear their Tech Trek tee shirts that day, and will be introduced at that time. Parents have given their support—and the girls are anxious to participate in the upcoming Garden Tour. Plans are also in the works for a summer field trip to Beale Air Force Base to experience their STEM Day activities.

Our goal is to keep the girls connected with like-minded girls so they can share their interests, ideas, and information. As we progress, AAUW branch members are invited to contact us with any ideas of how the Sensational Team of Extraordinary Minds (S.T.E.M.) Tech Trek Alumni group can expand their growth and/or offer their support.

AAUW California New Strategic Plan

by Karen Tuttle

As printed in the Winter 2019 edition of the California Perspective, the board of AAUW California has developed a new strategic plan for the AAUW California branches. The plan includes three priorities:

- * "Expanding Branch Connections and Communications" through asking for branch input,
- * "Reinforcing Public Policy Advocacy and Education" with increasing membership and local and national involvement in issues affecting the branch members, and

- * "Strengthening Branch Infrastructure" with diversity within the membership and strong educated branch leaders.

Further information on the updated strategic plan can be obtained on the AAUW CA Business > Governance website.

TECH TREK Committee

by Carol Clark, Project Leader

We have received 28 nominations, and will be doing interviews on **March 23**. We welcome branch members who are interested in participating in the selection of the six girls who will go to Tech Trek camp this summer. We could use a few more volunteers for the interviews on Saturday, March 23. Contact Carol Clark, 301-2164, for details.

AAUW CALIFORNIA ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 6, 2019 – SAN DIEGO

AAUW California will hold the annual meeting on Saturday, **April 6, 2019**, at the Handlery Hotel in **San Diego**. If you'd like to attend, please contact Joann Nixon, about representing our branch in San Diego on April 6.

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
To see what our branch is doing, go to our branch website, <http://mvyca.aauw.net>



BOOK CLUBS

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

Rabid Readers normally meets at 10 am the third Friday of the month. Contact is Marilyn Elliott or Pat Jones. **March 15** meeting is at Marilyn Elliott's home. The book is My Beloved World by Sonia Sotomayor.



BRIDGE As our AAUW bridge group has gotten older we have morphed into more of a community bridge group. We now play at the Marysville Art Club twice a month. Anyone interested in playing should contact me for further information. 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, artisb@comcast.net, 671-5665, if you are interested in being on the email contact list, or if you have ideas to share.



TALKING ON PAPER meets the first Tuesday morning of each month, at 10 am. On **March 5** we will meet at the Cookie Tree. The meeting begins at 10 am and ends at approximately 11:30. Bring something to write on and no more than a two page story you have written to read to the group. Contact Joan Young, 777-9215, for additional information.



TRAVELING GOURMET Coordinator is Karen Tuttle, 755-4405. The Traveling Gourmet normally meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. On **March 28** we will go to the Land Ocean Restaurant in the Roseville Galleria. Please meet at the Round Table Pizza parking lot on Gray Ave. for carpooling by 10:30 am. **Contact hostess Judy Zukas 674-0491 / c 301-1795 and/or Karen Tuttle if you are attending and let us know by Friday, March 22, if you can drive.**



TRAVEL AAUW Travel group has no plans for the month of March. This group is in need of a coordinator. Volunteers contact any member if the Executive Council.

March is Women's History Month – Meet Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell



Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman in America to receive a medical degree, was born in England in 1821 and moved with her family to the United States as a young child. She studied privately with male doctors who supported her cause.

After being rejected by 29 medical schools, Blackwell was finally admitted to New York's Geneva Medical College as a joke. The admissions committee thought that a rival school had submitted the application as a prank. It was no joke when she graduated at the top of her class in 1849. This made her the first woman to graduate from an American medical school.

Unable to find work because no institution would hire her, she won the support of the Society of Friends, called the Quakers, who began referring patients to her. Because no one would rent space to her, she purchased a house in New York and opened an office in 1852; four years later, this one-room dispensary became the New York Infirmary for Women and Children.

Feather Vane Staff

Mailing/Proofing – Joan Young
 Photographer – Joann Nixon
 Communication Leader – Janet Theiss
 Editor and email distribution – Artis Buerki

In Support of CASA – Letter to the Editor, Appeal Democrat, February 6, 2019, by Martha Bunce

AAUW Marysville-Yuba City is the local branch of the American Association of University Women, whose mission is to promote gender equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. We recognize the vital work that Casa does for the women and children of our community as it “provides protection and education for victims of domestic violence, violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.” Among our activities at the local, state, national, and international levels, we advocate to create and support laws and programs that support women’s safety and economic security. Casa does both, and our community owes our women and children the help they need to escape violence, recover from trauma, and learn to live strong and independent lives. As a member of AAUW and a community member, I plan to be one of the shouters in support of Casa. I volunteer to be a member of a committee to help Sutter County get the facility rebuilt and to promote the work that Casa does. Count me in. Count AAUW Marysville-Yuba City in. *Martha Bunce, AAUW Marysville-Yuba City, Public Policy Chair*

INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC) by Jeanine Rounds for Janet Theiss

The Interbranch Luncheon was **February 2**, at Shelly’s Creative Cooking in Chico. Those attending from the Marysville-Yuba City Branch were Carol Clark, Jeanine Rounds and Joan Young. Other branches attending were: Paradise, Oroville, Gridley, and Chico. Janet Theiss, IBC President, was ill and I conducted the meeting for her in her absence.

All were welcomed, but the Paradise Branch members were specifically recognized, and great concern was expressed for trauma and the issues related to the disastrous fire which had recently enveloped that community.

A lovely buffet was served. Merrily Stover of Oroville Branch introduced the speaker, Maureen Kirk, recently retired as a Butte County Supervisor. Maureen talked about how she had inadvertently gotten into public service and had served in this role for many years. She was given a lovely gift basket, which had been put together by Gridley Branch, with contributions from all of the branches.

Members from the branches of Chico, Gridley, Oroville, and Paradise spoke of their upcoming STEM-related conference for students, to be held at Butte College on a Saturday. It has been renamed from "Career Tech" to "STEM Adventures" and will be open to all middle school students. The Marysville-Yuba City Branch members spoke of their upcoming STEM Conference in April at Yuba College. Over 800 students have registered; this conference is for 8th grade only and is scheduled on a school day. Oroville Branch also spoke of their Women’s History lunch on May 9th; the speaker will be the President of CSU-Chico, and the event is a major fund raiser for Tech Trek. Chico Branch will also have a fund raiser; it will be a wine tasting and garden party, scheduled for May 19. Marysville-Yuba City Branch members mentioned our fund raiser will be the annual Garden Tour, scheduled for May 4. The next IBC meeting, scheduled for Paradise on **May 6**, will be in Chico with location to be determined.



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORT by Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

Executive Council Meeting – February 14, 2019

Officers in attendance: Joann Nixon, Carol Clark, Sandy Davini, Lee Jones, Janet Theiss, Barbara Solheim, Karen Tuttle, and Jeanine Rounds. Members-at-Large present: Artis Buerki, Martha Bunce, Liz Skelly, Joan Young

Call to Order by Joann Nixon, ECL. Minutes approved with correction.

Council Leader Report: Joann reported on organizing of the Tech Trek Alumni group of young ladies from 2017 and 2018. They are calling themselves the Sensational Team of Extraordinary Minds. Carol Clark said other branches are doing Alumni Tech Trek clubs. They requested we establish an annual budget for this group and Sandy moved to allocate \$200. Liz seconded

the motion and it was passed. Nominating Committee - Artis reported on status at this time. Joann also confirmed that we must elect officers at our March meeting (as there will be no April meeting due to the STEM conference.)

Treasurer's Report: Sandy reminded members about the need to send in funds for our Tea Bag activity. Treasurer's Report was presented and accepted. Correspondence: Sandy reported on information from the Museum regarding the AAUW stone we have purchased.

Public Policy: Martha then raised the issue of the local Casa de Esperanza facility for women and children abused by spouses or significant others. The facility was badly damaged by fire a couple of years ago and funds are being raised to replace it. Discussion ensued. Martha Bunce and Barbara Solheim will approach the director of Casa to see how we can help. Jeanine moved and Janet seconded the motion that we increase our annual donation this year from \$100 to \$1,000, and that we later determine what amount we will regularly give. Motion passed.

Membership: Lee indicated that we are still hoping to connect with more new members, and that we currently have two new members: Katy Coladarci and Grace Espindola. She also encouraged our committee to continue to try to bring in new members.

Other reports from Executive Council Bylaws Update: Karen said we need to modify by laws to meet requirement of National regarding voting of co-chairs, and to correct a typo for the item number. She can make the changes and submit the revised ones to the membership.

Communications. Janet Theiss reported Feather Vane next issue: a reminder that Artis would like information by 2/18. Artis also said that she has been able to place information about the Garden Tour in a variety of community publications. Meeting Callers: Joan said callers are doing well.

Programs: Barbara Solheim reported the February meeting speaker will be Preet Didbal, and meeting will be at the Adventist/Rideout location on Plumas Street. We very much need more facilitators to help with the STEM conference, so we will attempt to do some recruiting at this meeting. Our March Annual Meeting will be at Yuba College, with a heart specialist, and we will also be holding our annual elections; as indicated nominations may also be offered from the floor. This is also the meeting where members are encouraged to bring spouses and/or other guests. There will be no meetings in April or May because of STEM conference and the Garden Tour. The June meeting location is yet to be determined.

Projects: **STEM** -Barbara and Sandy: The Committee met earlier today and things are going well. However, we have 840 girls registered to attend and so Martha has recruited more speakers. There are currently 27, so we will need to locate at least 5 more rooms at Yuba College. Liz Skelly will help Jeanine with this project; Jeanine has already put in the request. We also need to recruit quite a few more facilitators. **Garden Tour** - Date is May 4. Martha reported that we currently have 6 gardens, and they will all be in Sutter County. There are 13 artists. The reception will be at a very interesting place in Sutter (City). Next year we will try to emphasize Yuba County, including Plumas Lake. **Tech Trek** - Carol Clark reported. The information this year was emailed to the schools. Ten schools responded and we have 28 nominations; and the essays will be due by February 22. We will need to meet and review the initial essays on February 27 and March 6, with interviews on March 23. Because Carol must start her work at the schools on February 1, a great deal of support is needed. Donna Long will host the essay review meetings at her home. Readers are needed. **Scholarship** - Jeanine said the college indicated the scholarships will be available for review from April 1 to April 19. Readers will be Liz Skelly, Barbara Alves, Jeanine, and Leslie Williams (retired Yuba biology instructor).

Other Business: Interbranch - Luncheon was in Chico Feb 2. Janet was ill and not able to attend. Carol Clark, Joan Young, and Jeanine Rounds attended. Jeanine was asked to lead the meeting in Janet's role of president this year, and she and Joan will write an account of the event. **Historian** - Karen indicated she is still attempting to take materials to the Yuba County Library, but they are limited on room. She is putting material in binders, but wondered if there is a safer way to do it; the group agreed this was probably the easiest and best. Meeting adjourned at 2:40.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanine Rounds, Secretary

Note: These are meeting briefs. For final approved minutes contact EC Secretary following the next EC meeting.



empowering women since 1881
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://mvyca.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

MARCH, 2019

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 | 5  10 am Talking on Paper | 6 | 7 11 am Garden Tour Committee 1 pm STEM Committee | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 1 pm Executive Council | 15 10 am Book Clubs  | 16 11:30 am Branch Meeting |
| 17 | 18 FEATHER VANE DEADLINE | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Tech Trek Interviews |
| 24 <hr/> 31 | 25 9 am STEM Packet Day | 26 | 27 | 28 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet  | 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

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

_____ Tech Trek Fund (Make check payable to **AAUW CA SPF**) _____ \$ _____

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_____ Local Branch Operations /helps fund local activities (Make check payable to **AAUW**) _____ \$ _____

_____ AAUW Educational and Training Fund (Make check payable to **AAUW/ Note ET-4450 on memo line**) _____ \$ _____

_____ Legal Advocacy Fund (Make check payable to **AAUW. Note "LAF" on memo line**) _____ \$ _____

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