



Feather Vane — MAY, 2019



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

GARDEN TOUR IS MAY 4 --There is no branch meeting in May due to the MAY 4 GARDEN TOUR. See you at the GARDEN TOUR.



THANK YOU - Our 2019 STEM Conference went well. It went well because we had the help of so many volunteers. It was a lot of work, but because we had such great help it was a pleasure. I especially want to thank Sandy, she makes my life easier. We have so many talented women that are willing to give of their time and talents. Without them this great gift to 8th grade girls could not come about. Thank you everyone that took part in the Conference. Sincerely, *Barbara Solheim, Co-Chair*

Council Chat *Joann Nixon, Executive Council Leader*

The STEM Conference on April 2 was exciting and inspirational. These photos show some of the excitement of the girls, and the speakers were indeed inspirational. STEM Committee -- job well done!! We have learned over the years that the girls look forward to attending the STEM Conference at Yuba College with great anticipation when they become eighth graders. Each year we welcome more girls even after we find it a challenge to get more rooms at Yuba College, more speakers, more facilitators, more lunches (thank you Chief Hanson and the Culinary Arts Class). Yuba College Counseling Department provides valuable support by making room numbers more visible and directing girls to their sessions, as well as providing a tour of the campus. This year some of our friends from Delta Kappa Gamma, Soroptimist Club, and the Grass Valley AAUW branch joined us in providing services for our increasing numbers. THANKS to all those who were a part of this **memorable for all** event. Join this group of women supporting girls for the STEM Conference next year. It is tentatively planned for March 30, 2020. See you at the GARDEN TOUR on May 4th, *Joann*





S.T.E.M. at the STEM Conference

The Tech Trek Alumni group – called S.T.E.M.—attended the recent STEM Conference at Yuba Community College. They stood out proudly in their bold purple T-Shirts and greeted the more than 800 eighth graders attending the conference on April 2. The girls were formally introduced to the 8th grade conference attendees, and received welcoming cheers and applause for their achievement. On the S.T.E.M. calendar is the upcoming AAUW Garden Tour—a Tech Trek fund-raiser event. The girls will serve as Junior Hostesses. Still in the planning stage is a STEM-related field trip and/or tour of Beale AFB. Three meetings a year are planned to help the girls stay connected and to continue expanding their

interests. Pictured (L-R) are Larissa Fecue, Trinity Gomez, Ali Thompson, Latoya Green, Lydia Donaldson, Natalie Buzzini, Chloe Nguyen. *Story by Barbara Douyon, photo by Joann Nixon*

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING: THURSDAY, May 9, 1 pm, Sutter County Schools, 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.

PROGRAM NOTES 

Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader

There will NOT be a branch luncheon in May because of the GARDEN TOUR.

Our next branch meeting is **June 1**, and it will be the last branch meeting before our summer break.

Mark your calendars now for June 1 at 11:30 am.



DUES ARE DUE -- Annual dues for

2019--20 are due. Mail your check for \$92 (\$59 National+\$20 California+\$13 Branch) to AAUW, PO Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992.

Your dues must be received by June 1, 2019 to enter into our FREE MEMBERSHIP drawing. Questions? Call Treasurer Sandy Davini, 673-0930 or /c 713-1390.



GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEE 2019 – (L-R standing) **Martha Bunce, Joan Young, Yvonne Pierre, Colleen Franklin, Gwyn Baker, Jeanine Rounds, Sandy Davini.** (Sitting L-R) **Judy Zukas, Barbara Kenney, Janet Theiss.** (Committee members not shown) **Artis Buerki, Carol Clark, Judy Hale, Jo Hilling, Lee Jones, Joann Nixon, Barbara Palser, Jeanne Schultz, Barbara Solheim.**
Photo by Artis Buerki

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO YUBA COLLEGE WOMEN --

Jeanine Rounds, Scholarship Chair, reported that our Scholarship Committee has selected three scholarship winners at Yuba College. The committee was made up of **Jeanine Rounds, Barbara Alves, Liz Skelly, and Leslie Williams** (former MS dean at Yuba College). Here are our winners. Read more about them in the next *Feather Vane*.

1. **Tingxian Liu**, here three years from Shanghai, China. Major: Engineering
2. **Alyssa Perez**, has AS in Natural Science, now has major in Nursing
3. **Margarita De La Vara**, has AS in Natural Science, now has major in Nursing

INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC) *Janet Theiss, IBC Representative*

The **Monday, May 6, 2019**, IBC meeting is at **6:00 p.m.**, at the **Italian Cottage, 2234 Esplanade, Chico.** Contact me (wftjedt@syix.com/695-3159) if you plan to go. Every branch member is welcome.

Tech Trek girls have been selected

Carol Clark, Tech Trek Coordinator

The girls selected to attend the AAUW Tech Trek week-long science camp at UC Davis this summer are:

Jocelyn Robles from Twin Rivers in Sutter County
Maddie Covil from River Meadows in Yuba County
Allie Matsui from Butte Vista in Sutter County
Lauren Fowler from River Meadows in Yuba County
Jasleen Bains from Barry School in Sutter County
Selina Gharu from Barry School in Sutter County
Natalie Quintana from the CORE Academy in Yuba County is the Alternate.

Thank you to the many members of the Tech Trek committee. They have worked with Tech Trek headquarters, contacted the schools, read essays, selected 12 of the 28 nominees to be interviewed, chosen the girls to go to camp this summer, and they will entertain the girls at the upcoming get-acquainted party in May.

All of the essays were read by **Barbara Douyon, Linden Reynolds, Donna Long, Jeanne Rounds, Gwyn Baker, Jeanne Schultz,** and **Joan Young** who select the final 12 for verbal interviews. **Marie Lavoie**, who is a local teacher, has visited the Tech Trek site for several years representing our AAUW branch. **Karen Chiechi** sent out the emails to the winners and has done a ton of work behind the scenes. She has been very helpful in allowing us to change from manual communication to electronic communication, and she was there the whole day on March 23 allowing us to use the Sutter County Schools facility for the interviews.



The interviews were held Saturday, March 23, 2019. **Jeanine Rounds** and **Barbara Solheim** interviewed the parents, and **Joann Nixon** was the Facilitator for the day. Interviewing the students were (L-R back row) **Laura Nicholson, Marilyn Warmee,** (front row) **Gwyn Baker, Christy Estabrook,** and **Manjit Jhutti** who are pictured here. *Photo by Joann Nixon*



Barbara Douyon and Ethel Breyfogle were awarded this year's "Named Gift Honoree" awards at the annual meeting on March 16 at Yuba College. *Photo by Joann Nixon*

Education and Training Tea Bag Fundraiser Update *Karen Tuttle*

Our branch Education and Training Fundraiser in February generated \$1,070 through the end of March to support AAUW opportunities for women. Also, the donations to AAUW raised this year will allow us to designate at least one of our members as a "Named Gift Honoree" next year. Please contact one of the members of the AAUW Educational Opportunity Fund committee listed in your Roster, by December 31, 2019, to suggest a name of one of our branch members whose work for the branch is deserving of this honor that will be awarded Spring of 2020.

Garden Tour Artists – Of the 13 Artists in the Garden Tour this year, four artists consistently return to add color to the Gardens. They are: **Cindy Gaven**, Sue Graue, Jan Frink, and Terri Foley. Stop by their tables in the gardens on May 4 to see what's new. *Artis Buerki, Editor*



AAUW NATIONAL ELECTION

VOTE 2019

Your voice and your vote are vital to AAUW's future. That's why it is so important for you to participate in the 2019 AAUW National Election to elect members to our board of directors and set AAUW's Public Policy Priorities. **Online voting is now open and will close on May 14 at 6:00 p.m. ET.**

What do I do if I don't get an email or a postcard? Call the AAUW California Office at 916-448-7795 to vote by phone. You will need your AAUW Member ID in order to vote.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Lee Jones, Membership Leader

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

Our newest members is **Karen Kam**. Karen assisted with STEM of April 2 and has attended 2 Branch meetings already. Karen is a financial advisor for Edward Jones. She was recruited by Jan Wallace.

Karen Kam: 312 1st Street, Marysville, CA 95901; Cell-352.870.8829; Office-530.743.2642; [email-karen.kam@edwardjones.com](mailto:karen.kam@edwardjones.com). BSBA in Marketing from University of Florida.



Meet our new member Nancy Johnston

Nancy Johnston is one of our newest members. She joined at the March branch meeting at Yuba College. Nancy was recruited by Joan Young after they met at a John Garamendi talk at the Yuba City Senior Center the month before. Nancy was recently retired and was looking for a group which would offer opportunities to volunteer, and we hope that AAUW is the perfect fit. She has already volunteered as a Facilitator at the April 2 STEM Conference.

Nancy graduated from San Francisco State University in 1979 with a Bachelor's degree in Math. "I went to work in Bank of America's Data Processing department, which had a two-month training program for anyone entering DP," Nancy said. "It was a Great learning experience. I stayed there for one year, then left and went to Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. I love space, even applied to NASA for a spot as a Mission Specialist. This was right as the Mission Specialist program got started and everyone accepted outside the military had PhDs, alas I was not selected. So Lockheed was the next best option for me! I worked there for 12 years, starting as a Programmer, and moving on to Systems Architect.

I won the Robert E Gross Award for Technical Excellence in 1987. Only ten people out of 150,000 plus employees win this award each year. I and another woman were the first women to ever win that prestigious award. After leaving Lockheed, I worked at a variety of companies, one of which I ran the development group with 142 people, and finally wound up at AT&T in 2000 working as a System Analyst/Architect. It was a great job with a great company, which I retired from on July 31st, 2018."



Meet Esther Ngumbi, Entomologist and Activist

Sometimes we need scientists like [2007-08 International Fellow Esther Ngumbi](#) to explain how everything

connects. In a recent #AAUWAsks Twitter chat held on International Women's Day (March 8), she shared how the tiniest insects can profoundly affect our food supply — and women's lives.

Some facts about our Executive Council leaders

Artis Buerki, Feather Vane Editor

Please enjoy reading about the two EC leaders that we are featuring this month. Watch for more next month. *Artis*

Karen Tuttle has been the Bylaws Leader for our branch for the past three years (2016 - 2019) and the Historian (2016 - 2019). She is a member of the Education and Training Fundraising committee (2016 - 2019) and the Traveling Gourmet Coordinator for 2018-2019. She participates on the Tech Trek committee as an essay reader, the STEM committee on packet day and as a STEM conference facilitator, and the Garden Tour committee as a hostess. She graduated from Yuba College, attended Chico State and Sacramento State and graduated from St. Mary's College in Moraga. A part-time job with the Postal Service while she attended college later became a full-time career. She spent 37 years with the Postal Service, almost half of them domiciled in the San Francisco Bay Area as an Analyst for Washington D.C. Headquarters Finance, Western Area Statistical Programs Center. Her work consisted of teaching at Statistical Programs conferences, training adults in computer data collection, auditing, and monitoring data collection activities throughout the U.S. as well as other assignments including hardware/software support when not on travel.



Sandy Davini joined AAUW in 2005. She became Branch Treasurer in 2007, and has served in that capacity and on the Board/Executive Council since 2007. Sandy Co-Chairs the STEM Career Awareness Conference and also serves on the Garden Tour, Budget/Finance, Education and Training, and Program committees. Her favorite AAUW activities include Traveling Gourmet and the Travel group. Sandy received her Associate Degree from Yuba College and attended Sacramento State. Her 32 year career in Marysville Joint Unified School District spanned positions from Administrative Secretary through Assistant Superintendent-Business Services. During that time she was active in professional organizations, especially the Calif. Assoc. of School Business Officials where she served in many professional development roles. After retirement she consulted in school districts throughout northern California, and was an officer in Amici Italiani Club, Assoc. of Calif. Retired Administrators (ACSA), YMCA, and Yuba City Education Foundation. She was the newsletter editor for California Age Research Institute for 6 years. She's currently an elder and choir librarian at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church and treasurer for ACSA Retirees. She and her husband, Dave, enjoy their big family, friends, and traveling!





Secretary's Notes

Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary

The Executive Council met on April 11, 2019 at 1 pm at the Sutter County Schools offices, 950 Tharp, #302, Yuba City.

Officers attending were: Joann Nixon, Sandy Davini, Lee Jones, Janet Theiss, Barbara Solheim, Karen Tuttle, and Jeanine Rounds. Members-at-Large attending were: Martha Bunce, Christina Billeci, Priscilla Kerr, and Joan Young.

REPORTS:

Minutes of March 14th meeting were approved with a correction relating to deleting a comment about Martha's meeting with city council re Casa.

Council Leader Report: Joann reported she will be gone from May 17-June 9th, and Janet Theiss agreed to manage the June 1 meeting.

Correspondence: Sandy Davini reported the Museum had indicated the AAUW stone we have purchased have been installed. There was a thank you from Casa De Esperanza. Considerable discussion followed regarding our support of Casa. It was recommended we have a Casa member provide one of our first branch meetings in the fall. It was also suggested that we add a link on our Facebook to Casa. Another suggestion was that we might have a jar available at our meetings for members who want to donate a check to Casa.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Davini advised members that AAUW national and state no longer want to accept checks from branches, so she has applied for a debit card to pay our dues, Sandy also raised the question of the procedure in which we donate to another organization and then they donate a similar amount to us. One option would be to cancel such an exchange but some members were strongly in favor of continuing it as it indicates strong support of activities, such as "Girls on a Run."

Public Policy: Martha indicated our current major focus is Casa, and we still need to determine how much financial support we will give that organization.

Membership: Lee indicated that we have lost 7 members to passing since 2016. Lee said that the County Library has purchased several books with our \$50 check in honor of Tessa Phillips. We are still hoping to connect with more new members. We currently have two new ones: Nancy Johnston and Karen Kam

Bylaws Update: Karen said she had sent copies to the membership of the most recently updated bylaws, either by email or regular mail.

Communications. Janet Theiss reported - **Feather Vane:** Artis would like information by 4/15, with final date 4/22. There was no **caller report** as we will not have a branch meeting in April or May, as STEM was in April and Garden Tour will be in May. Barbara Douyon did send an email to members she usually contacts reminding them there will be no meetings until June 1.

Programs: Barbara Solheim: The June 1 branch meeting will be at the Adventist/Rideout Conference Center on Plumas Street. We will install our new officers, hopefully meet our scholarship winners and our new members. Committee will soon start planning the 2019-2020 schedule.

Projects: STEM—Barbara and Sandy: STEM committee met earlier today, and all went extremely well. We had over 800 girls enrolled, although not quite that many attended. We were able to locate facilitators for all the presenters, had lost one presenter due to illness, but the girls were transferred to another person. Teachers and facilitators were universally appreciative of programs. Tentatively we will invite Preet Didbal to speak again, but need to get her talking louder. Tentatively the date selected for 2020 is March 30. **Garden Tour:** Date is May 4. Martha reported that we currently have 8 gardens, and they will all be in Sutter County. There are artists in all the gardens and may be some music at the reception. Hostesses have been selected for all the gardens. We are exploring developing "flutter flags" this year to identify the location of booklets; and we may consider using such flags to replace our current rose signs and balloons. Martha Bunce will provide a pair of tables for use in the reception, and Janet Theiss will have Karen Tuttle and Liz Skelly as additional support for the reception. **Tech Trek:** Carol Clark was not available, but Jeanine reported that a review meeting will be held early next week. All has gone well, with 6 girls selected.

Scholarship: Jeanine said there are serious problems with the scholarship fund at the college; we don't seem to have the "permanent" fund we thought we had. There have been enough late term donations to give 2 AAUW scholarships this year and 1 from Women's Club funds, but she and Liz will meet next week with college staff to try to determine source of problems. Readers are Liz Skelly, Barbara Alves, Jeanine Rounds, and Leslie Williams (retired Yuba biology instructor), and final selection will be made next week.

OTHER BUSINESS: Interbranch: May 6 in Chico. Members are encouraged to attend. See Janet for info. **Historian:** Karen indicated she is still attempting to take materials to the Yuba County Library, but space is very limited. **Sunshine:** Gretchen Cupp's sister has passed, and we have sent Gretchen a card. **Coalition Drawing:** Priscilla Kerr reported none is planned except for Christmas brunch. **STEAM?** There was a brief discussion of whether the "A" (for liberal arts) should be added to STEM. There was mixed response, as there is concern for those students who are not interested in STEM areas coming to feel they are not appreciated. However, it was agreed that we will stay with STEM for the time being.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25. Next EC meeting will be planning meeting in June at Jeanine's. Respectfully submitted, Jeanine Rounds, Secretary

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://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.

Rabid Readers normally meets at 10 am the third **Friday** of the month. Contact is Marilyn Elliott, 673-2840, or Pat Jones, 674-1942. Meet on **May 17** at the home of Ethel Breyfogle. Book is The Coddling of the American Mind, by Lukianoff and Haidt. We will meet all summer long.



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, 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 **May 7** we will meet at the Cookie Tree. Watch your email for summer meeting dates. 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.



TRAVEL AAUW Travel group is in need of a coordinator.



TRAVELING GOURMET Coordinator is Karen Tuttle, 755-4405. The Traveling Gourmet normally meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. On Thursday, **May 23**, we will go to the Zinfandel Grill in Sacramento. Please meet at the Round Table Pizza parking lot on Gray Ave. for carpooling by 10:30 am. **Contact hostess Bev Paget at (916) 274-2555 by May 17 if you are attending, and tell her if you can drive.**

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

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

ADVOCACY AND ACTION -- You did it! Thanks to you and other advocates, the House of Representatives on March 26, 2019 voted 242 to 187 to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA) with bipartisan support. We're one step closer to ensuring every woman can take home the pay she rightfully earns. Now it's up to the Senate to act, and we need your support to succeed. Become a Two-Minute Activist.

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/mon/public/?action_KEY=25795

Equal Pay Day 2019: New Progress, New Priorities
 On April 2 — the symbolic day when women's earnings caught up to men's from the previous year — women everywhere made their voices heard. It was a time to take stock of progress while continuing the fight for pay equity.

Feather Vane Staff

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 Please call me if you have a story idea, comment, or problem receiving your Feather Vane. Artis, 530-671-5665



empowering women since 1881

FEATHER VANE

Artis Buerki, Editor

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April 2 STEM Conference opening ceremony at Yuba College

MAY, 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 GARDEN TOUR  AAUW
5	6 6 pm IBC in Chico	7 10 am Talking on Paper	8	9 1 pm Executive Council	10	11
12	13 JUNE FEATHER VANE DEADLINE	14	15	16 11 am Garden Tour Committee	17 10 am Book Clubs	18
19	20	21	22	23 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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