



# Feather Vane – February, 2020

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



## FEBRUARY 15 branch luncheon – Space talk

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 15, 2020, 11:30 am – Bring a friend

**WHERE:** Adventist/Rideout Conference Room at 989 Plumas Street, Yuba City (across from the old Fremont Hospital)

**PROGRAM:** Guest speaker will be Associate Professor of Physics, Abrar Shaukat Ph.D. He will talk about discoveries in space over the last Century (read more page 2 Program Notes column)



**MENU:** Caterer is Chef Salim. He will serve goat cheese garden salad, Coq au vin, buttered egg noodles, and dark chocolate mousse.

**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 (695-3159) to be sure that you are on the list. *If your reply yes, you owe for the meal.*



**On January 1, 2020 the BEST THEME was awarded to the Rose Parade float, “Years of Hope, Years of Courage.”** The float celebrated the Centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment ratification to the United States Constitution in 1920, which finally gave women of the USA the RIGHT TO VOTE. Can you believe that this was just 100 years ago?

## Council Chat *Liz Skelly, Executive Council Leader*

Where has the time gone? It seems like it was just yesterday that I was taking down Christmas decorations. Which took forever, by the way. But it’s a new year and a new decade! Something for all of us to look forward to. First off, the Rose Parade had a Women’s Suffrage Float with Nan Johnson as Project Manager. Nan is an AAUW president (Rochester) who recently moved to California. The float showcased the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration of women winning the right to vote. Our branch will be highlighting this centennial in the coming months.

Our Executive Council members and volunteers are a busy crew doing a number of projects:

- Tea Bag fundraiser letters will be mailed out in February
- The STEM conference is just around the corner (March 30)
- The annual Garden Tour planning is in full swing (May 2)
- Tech Trek is starting up (summer)

Whew! There's a lot of activity in the next few months. Stay tuned.

Our January branch meeting was a great start to the new year. Our featured speaker was Jan Fishler, an author who lives in Nevada City. She has written several books and currently writes columns for the local newspaper. She did a presentation on the "secret to making the most of your life". Jan shared her life's successes—and trials and tribulations—and the 10 lessons she's learned from her life experiences. We had an awesome lunch provided by Marcello's too. A ton of food—nobody left hungry. Well folks, here's a toast to a healthy and happy new year!

**Executive Council meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 1 pm.** The meetings are open to all of our branch members, so come join us. We meet at the Sutter County Superintendent of Schools building, 970 Klamath Lane in Yuba City. Contact Liz Skelly, 635-0821, for more information.



Thank you to our January 18 speaker, author Jan Fishler, for an enlightening and entertaining presentation. She is shown here with Liz Skelly. *Photo by Lee Jones*

**FACILITATORS NEEDED for MARCH 30 STEM CONFERENCE --**

Are you looking for a simple way to volunteer for AAUW? **We need at least 30 facilitators to help at the STEM Conference for 8th-grade girls which will be held on March 30, 2020, 8 am to noon at Yuba College.** Facilitators stay in the room with the speakers and make sure things run smoothly. Please contact me right away if you would like to help. Gwyn Baker, email [GDCARYL@yahoo.com](mailto:GDCARYL@yahoo.com), or call/text 530-632-4336

## PROGRAM NOTES

*Barbara Solheim, Program Leader*

Our guest speaker on February 15 will be Professor Abrar Shaukat Ph.D. He will talk about discoveries in space over the last century. Professor Shaukat started his college education at Yuba College in 1999 and transferred to UC Davis in 2001, where he received his Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics. After graduating, he got a second masters in Mathematical Finance from Columbia University in New York. Having missed California, he started looking for a job back home and found one in the bay area building mathematical models to assess the financial risks of various natural and man-made catastrophes and at AIG's Enterprise Risk Management group based in New York. Several years ago he received an opportunity to return to Yuba College to teach physics and astronomy, and recently he is teaching at the Woodland Community College campus which is a part of the Yuba College system.

## INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

*Janet Theiss, IBC Representative*

**Interbranch Luncheon – Sat. Feb. 1**  
**All branch members are invited to attend. If you haven't already made your reservation, contact Janet Theiss, 695-3159.**

When: Saturday, February 1, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Location: Moose Lodge in Gridley at 1533 Hwy 99 (between Cherry Street and the McDonald's restaurant)  
Cost: \$17.00, write checks to Janet Theiss who will write a single check to the Gridley branch.  
Speaker: Mark Toney is the executive director of The Utility Reform Network. He will discuss proposals for alternatives to our current provider of public power - Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Mr. Toney will give us some criteria for assessing these various alternatives. We are all affected by choices our local representatives make on our behalf as public utility consumers. Our

speaker will help us become better informed about what those options could be.

Menu at Interbranch Luncheon: Entrees --Rosemary chicken in white wine sauce with roasted vegetables. Vegetarian option is stuffed portabella mushroom with roasted vegetables. Sides -- green peas, mixed salad, roll and butter. Dessert -- glazed triple lemon lavender cake.

facilitated *Start Smart* and *Work Smart Workshops* to help close the gap, and you can learn more about these workshops at the website: <https://www.pay-equity.org/day-kit.html>. AAUW now offers an online one-hour Work Smart Workshop accessed from the AAUW.org website, for salary negotiation skills.

**Feather Vanes are posted on our branch website:**  
<http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/>  
 (ctrl+left click to follow link)

## Equal Pay Day is March 31 – Wear Red

By Karen Jackle, AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee

**The next Equal Pay Day (EPD) is Tuesday, March 31, 2020. This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The National Committee on Pay Equity** <https://www.pay-equity.org/day.html> reminds us to wear red to symbolize how far women and minorities are “in the red” with their pay. This is a great idea for branch members working EPD tables in their communities or at local colleges. AAUW’s publication *The Simple Truth* update is based on the most recently released data from the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2018, women received just 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man. Women of color often face a wider gap: compared to white men, Black women make 62 cents on the dollar, and Latinas make 54 cents on the dollar. The pay gap has only decreased by a nickel in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. For more information on the Gender Pay Gap, and ideas for EPD events, check out

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-equal-pay-day/>.

On the National Level, the *Paycheck Fairness Act* passed in the House of Representatives and languishes in the Senate with no action yet taken. The Equal Pay Act requires that men and women be given equal pay for equal work in the same establishment. The jobs need not be identical, but they must be substantially equal. It is job content, not job titles, that determines whether jobs are substantially equal. Specifically, the EPA provides that employers may not pay unequal wages to men and women who perform jobs that require substantially equal skill, effort and responsibility, and that are performed under similar working conditions within the same establishment. According to WAGE (Women Are Getting Even), women earn one million less than men in their lifetime. AAUW has

## Education & Training Tea Bag Fundraiser

by Sandy Davini for Jeanne Schultz, AAUW Funds Chair

In February, each member will receive a tea bag in the mail, 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 Honorees at a future branch meeting.

**Find our branch on Facebook**  
**AAUW.MVYC**

## Tech Trek Alumni (TEM) Committee

*Joann Nixon*

The Committee met “online” last month to plan an email reminder for the 2017, 2018, and 2019 Tech Trek Teams inviting them to attend our February 15 Branch meeting to hear Yuba College Physics Professor. Professor Shaukat will talk about Space discoveries over the last century.

**February 5** is the next meeting of the TEM Committee. For information contact Joann Nixon 530-680-0356.

## Rosalie Pitt remembered

Our longtime member, Rosalie Pitt, has died. No services are planned at this time. Rosalie was a member of our AAUW branch since 1956. She was recently active in the Bridge group. As is the procedure of our AAUW branch, we will donate \$50 to purchase books dedicated in Rosalie's name at the Sutter County Library.

Rosalie H. Pitt died January 9, 2020, at Prestige Assisted Living in Marysville. Born in Ogden, Utah, Rosalie was a Yuba-Sutter resident for 58 years. She worked for the Marysville Unified School District for 33 years. She taught kindergarten through third grade for 23 years followed by ten years as a resource teacher and reading specialist at Ella Elementary School.

Rosalie was the daughter of Frederik and Rose Festersen. She grew up in Roseville, CA, and attended local schools. She was a graduate of the California State University, Sacramento. Rosalie and her husband, the late Charles L. Pitt, were married 63 years.

Rosalie was active in many clubs and loved attending all kind of events in the community with friends and family. She was a member of the Marysville First United Methodist Church.

## GARDEN TOUR Committee –

*Martha Bunce, Garden Tour Chair*

The Garden Tour committee will meet at 11 am on **February 6** at the home of Barbara Kenney, 1421 Peach Tree Lane, YC, 673-5995. Only 3 more months until the May 2, 2020 Garden Tour!

## STEM CONFERENCE Committee

*Barbara Solheim & Sandy Davini, STEM Co-Chairs*

We are looking for facilitators for the March 30 STEM Conference. If you are asked, please say yes. It is not a hard job, but it is an important one. If you know someone that you think would make a good facilitator, get their phone number and e-mail and give it to Gwyn Baker who is coordinating the Facilitators. Committee's next meeting will be on **February 13 at 10:00** at Sutter County Office of Education annex. If you have any questions call or e-mail Sandy Davini or Barbara Solheim.

## Tech Trek Committee

*Carol Clark, Tech Trek Chair*

The Essay Scoring meeting will be held at Donna Long's home on February 19 and February 26. Contact Donna, 671-4381, for exact time of February meetings. The interviews of girls selected from their essays will take place on March 21 between 8 am and 4 pm. Contact Carol Clark to participate in interviews, 671-5286.



## MEMBERSHIP

*Lee Jones, Membership Leader*

If you have a friend who might like to know more about our

AAUW Branch, bring her to a meeting. Phone Lee Jones, 300-0214, or email [lee@harkeyhouse.com](mailto:lee@harkeyhouse.com) for a membership application.



Kathy Nehl, attended the January 18 meeting and will join this month. She is shown here with Liz Skelly at the meeting. Kathy is a former member of our branch. Watch for more info about Kathy in the next Feather Vane. *photo by Lee Jones*

### Who can be an AAUW Member?

**MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY Regular membership** is available to anyone holding an associate or equivalent (e.g., RN), baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified educational institution.

**Student affiliation** is available to undergraduate and degree-seeking graduate students attending a qualified educational institution.

**FREE e-STUDENTS:** Undergraduates/Graduates attending AAUW member schools may join nationally for free. Visit [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and search e-student.

**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 email [buncehall@yahoo.com](mailto:buncehall@yahoo.com).



**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 Marilyn Elliott, 673-2840, or Pat Jones, 674-1942. Meet at Marilyn's home on **February 21**. Book for discussion will be The German Girl by Correa.



**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 Movie 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](mailto:artisb@comcast.net), if you are interested in being on the email contact list, or if you have ideas to share.



**TALKING ON PAPER** Our writing group usually meets the first Tuesday morning of each month, at 10 am. Meet on **February 4** 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, 713-1279



**TRAVELING GOURMET** Coordinator is Priscilla Kerr, 654-7120. Joan young will our hostess for **February 27** Traveling Gourmet. She has chosen The Cliff House in Folsom. Please call Joan at 777-9215 for reservations by February 24. We meet at the parking lot on Gray Ave. at 10:30 am.



**AAUW California Convention is April 17-19.**

This year it is being held in

Northern California at the Westin San Francisco Airport Hotel in Millbrae. Go to [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org) for more conference information, and contact a member of the Executive Council if you plan to attend the Convention.



**19th Amendment**

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**100 years ago --** the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920 allowing women the right to vote.

**You earned it. Use it.**

**Feather Vane Staff**  
 Editor and email distribution – Artis Buerki  
 Mailing and Proofing – Joan Young  
 Photographer – Joann Nixon  
 Communications Leader – Janet Theiss



## Secretary's Report

*Jeanine Rounds, EC Secretary*

The AAUW Executive Council met on January 9, 2020, 1 pm at Sutter County Schools Board Room.

Those in attendance were: Liz Skelly, Executive Council Leader, Sandy Davini, Treasurer; Barbara Solheim, Program Group Leader; Janet Theiss, Communications; Joan Young, Projects; Jeanine Rounds, Secretary; Members at Large present were, Gwyn Baker, Artis Buerki, Carol Clark, Joann Nixon

**Call to Order, 1:00 Minutes** of December 12, 2019 Executive Council were approved.

### **Information/Action Items.**

**February IBC Interbranch Meeting:** The meeting will be in Gridley at the Moose Lodge on February 1. Cost is \$17 for the lunch. Those attending must let Janet know and should give her their check in advance, but Janet said it would be possible, if she knows someone is coming but can't get a check to her in time, for her to pay the cost and be reimbursed later. Our responsibility is the gift basket for speaker; Jeanine indicated she might have a basket available. Liz volunteered to buy the stuff from our branch for the basket.

**Potential Yuba College AAUW Club:** Artis said she would like us to pursue this option again. We would need a faculty member at Yuba to agree to be the contact. But if such an activity were made available and Yuba College would pay the \$100 annual fee, then students would be eligible to join the AAUW at no cost. Many California community colleges provide this opportunity. Artis said Martha Bunce has agreed to check with such a college to determine procedures and activities.

**Public Policy Report:** Martha Bunce was absent, No report.

### **Reports from Executive Council**

**Executive Council Leader Report:** Liz wished the Council a Happy New Year.

**Correspondence:** Sandy passed out limited correspondence including a thank you from Girls on Run North State for our donation and quickly moved on to the budget report.

**Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget:** Budget for the coming year looks good, but nothing has yet been received by Yuba County Office of Education. Liz will pursue. Artis volunteered to check with Soroptimist club of Marysville-Yuba City to see if they are going to donate this year.

**Membership:** Lee Jones was absent but had reported we have 86 members.

**Nominating Committee:** Artis reported that only one current position needs to be filled, and a candidate will be nominated for that position. However, the Bylaws position is still vacant, and the Council will be appointing. Artis agreed that the issue should be resolved by the next Council meeting. Nominations are reported at the February Branch meeting, printed in March FV; nominations from floor in April Branch, and elections follow.

**Communications:** Janet Theiss reported. All seems to be going well. Artis Buerki raised a communication issues regarding the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. See Other Business below. Artis reported information is needed for the February *Feather Vane* by January 20. Joan Young said calls and emails for Branch meeting will commence this weekend.

**Programs:** Barbara Solheim indicated Marcello's will be serving lunch at the January meeting, when we will have a novelist as our speaker. Salim will cater for the February meeting when Dr. Abrar Shaukat will speak on what we learned about space in the past century. Barbara Douyon is also emailing information, and Joan Young said she would have her callers emphasize the same.

Projects: Joan Young requested reports from Project chairs:

**STEM:** Sandy reported the committee had an excellent meeting earlier this morning. Packet date will be March 20 at the Sutter County Annex. The conference will be Monday, March 30. Martha has 17 confirmed speakers and several other probable ones. June McJunkin has been very helpful in getting initial information out to the schools. Gwyn Baker will be working to confirm sufficient facilitators. We will need around 30, as we use several in a variety of ways on campus. Barbara Alves and Janet Val Alstynne will be responsible for providing all the appropriate information to those identified both initially and after they arrive on campus. We need to assure that we use the same procedure for seating students in the gym, as it worked very well last year. Preet Didbal will be the keynote speaker again.

**Garden Tour:** Date will be May 2. Martha Bunce not present, but Sandy reported she and Martha and Liz had been checking out a number of gardens, but don't yet have all they need.

**Tech Trek.** Carol Clark reported that some of our new members will be working on this year's committee, and Nancy Johnston will be going with her to the North State Coordination meeting next week. The nominating forms all went out to the schools just before the holidays. She was pleased that a former TT member, now a high school student, is interested in being a junior counselor. We will again be sending 6 girls to the Davis program.

**Team of Extraordinary Minds--TEM:** Joann says she is continuing to encourage members to attend our February Branch meeting on Space; the TEM program has a budget of \$500 to assure the girls' lunch is covered.

**Scholarships:** Liz indicated the amount of money available remains uncertain, and we need additional information; she said she should have it soon. Artis queried as to whether we could just offer scholarships without involving the college, but others indicated that would be a very difficult activity.

**Other Business: Historian** - No report; **Sunshine** - No report; **Coalition** - All went very well. Sandy indicated we think we made \$564, but a check for \$50 is still in process.

**Women's Right to Vote:** Artis raised the issue that this year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote. Linden Reynolds had forwarded to her the materials and activities of our local AAUW on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1995. Liz will contact the Yuba and Sutter Boards of Supervisors before March and arrange to deliver the proclamation to them at their meeting. We also may fund attractive bookmarks emphasizing the anniversary, as was done before. Decisions to be made by March.

**Named Gift Honoree Tray.** There was considerable discussion about what to do with this tray, which annually recorded the names of the woman (or women) identified as the outstanding member of the year as identified after our Tea Bag activity and reported to National. One tray was completely covered and donated to our holdings at the Library, but the new tray has just a few names, and we had decided not to continue recording them on the tray. Carol Clark has had possession of it for several years. Artis and some others felt we should at least bring it up to date, and Artis volunteered to get it engraved; we can continue discussion of the appropriate procedure at the next meeting.

**Future Agenda Items:** Replacement for Bylaws leader; Scholarship funding; Honoree Gift Tray

Meeting adjourned at 2:25. Respectfully submitted, Jeanine Rounds, Secretary

*Note: Contract Executive Council Secretary for final approved minutes after the next Executive Council meeting.*



empowering women since 1881  
 FEATHER VANE  
 Artis Buerki, Editor  
 P.O. Box 334  
 Sutter, CA 95982

**SAVE THE DATE: AAUW State Convention – APRIL 17-19, 2020 -- Westin San Francisco Airport Hotel**

**To find us on line just CTRL+LEFT CLICK on any of these underlined links**  
 Our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC](http://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC)  
 Our branch website: <http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/>  
 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)

## FEBRUARY, 2020

**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
						<b>1</b> 11:30 am <b>Interbranch Luncheon in Gridley</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10 am <b>Talking on Paper</b>	<b>5</b> time TBD <b>TEM Committee</b>	<b>6</b> 11 am <b>Garden Tour Committee</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10 am <b>STEM Comm.</b>  1 pm <b>Executive Council</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 11:30 am <b>Branch luncheon</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>MARCH FEATHER VANE DEADLINE</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> time TBD <b>TT Essay Scoring</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 am <b>Book Clubs</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> time TBD <b>TT Essay Scoring</b>	<b>27</b> 10:30 am <b>Traveling Gourmet</b>	<b>28</b>	



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