



# Feather Vane – APRIL, 2021

AAUW National Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Our Branch Mission: To advance equity for women and girls through education and networking within our diverse community.

Executive Council Meeting is Thursday, **April 8, 2021**, 1 pm, via Zoom. Contact is Liz Skelly, 530-635-0821. Tell Liz, or any EC member, if you want to attend Executive Council meetings and be appointed a Member at Large for a year.

## Program Notes

Gwyn Baker, Program Leader

**April 17, 2021 – 10 am via Zoom**  
*Annual Meeting – Election -- Speaker from CAL FIRE*

Our next branch meeting will be Saturday, April 17, at 10 am. Members will receive the Zoom link from Janet Theiss by email the week of the meeting. If you do not receive the

Zoom invitation link by Thursday, April 15, please email Gwyn Baker, [gdaryl@yahoo.com](mailto:gdaryl@yahoo.com) to receive it. Our guest speaker is a Battalion Chief from Cal Fire. She will be telling us about the law enforcement side of Cal Fire and arson investigation. It should be an interesting presentation!



## BRANCH ELECTION APRIL, 2021



**Our branch election will take place by email again this year.** Janet Theiss will send ballots to all current members who have an email address listed in the Roster. Members without email addresses listed will receive the ballot in the mail with voting directions. **Respond before our Branch Annual Meeting on April 17, 2021.**

Terms for new officers will begin on July 1, 2021. Four terms are ending at that time, and these four members have been nominated: **Lee Jones, Gwyn Baker, and Christy Estabrook** are all running for new 3 year terms. **Sandy Davini** is running for another 1 year term as Treasurer. Please vote for four. If you desire to serve on our Executive Council, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: *Martha Bunce, Lee Jones, & Gwyn Baker*



## Council Chat

Liz Skelly, Exec. Council Leader

Well, my hay fever is in full bloom so it must be Spring! I looked back at our April 2020 Feather Vane issue just to see where we were a year ago and boy have things changed in a year. Last year we announced we'd have to cancel our STEM conference but were still hopeful we would have the Garden Tour. Unfortunately, this year it's another cancellation for both STEM and the Garden Tour. It's been quite a year.

If you didn't tune in to our March 20 branch meeting you missed a really dynamic individual and speaker—Col. Shannon Juby. What a remarkable woman. She said she came from a "very humble" beginning but with a goal of attending and paying for college by joining the ROTC. In 1995, with her degree in hand, she joined the Air Force and was initially the only female training for F-16 flight school at the base. Hard to believe but in 1993 the Air Force finally allowed females to be pilots so she wasn't the first female pilot ever, but certainly one of the few. For the first ten years in the service she was a pilot—flying missions in Iraq and training other pilots.

Then Col. Juby married her high school sweetheart and together they raised three children and she also obtained her Master's degree. She said the thing she was most proud of was being a mom and raising their three kids. She really enjoyed her time at Beale and loved the community feeling here. Her next assignment will be in Columbia at the American Embassy as liaison to the Ambassador. AND she'll get to do some flying again—but this time its C-12 transport planes. Best wishes to Col. Juby. We will miss her at our future STEM conferences.

Our next Branch meeting will be Saturday, **April 17** with a Cal Fire representative, so be sure to tune in. We had about

MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH  
25 members zoom in for our March meeting, so hopefully we'll pick up a few more in April. April is also our Annual Meeting and we'll be voting on some Exec. Council members so please try to make it, and don't forget to vote.

*Feather Vane*, APRIL 2021



## AAUW National Election APRIL 7 to MAY 17

*Martha Bunce, Advocacy & Action, 713-0663*



## Tea Bag Fundraiser

In February, each of our branch members received a tea bag in the mail, and a letter explaining the our annual Education and Training Tea Bag Fundraiser. Your donations support opportunities for women. Total donations of \$750 will allow us to designate a branch member for the AAUW National Award for outstanding service: the Education and Training Opportunities Named Gift Honoree Award.

**Please participate in this event by writing a check for \$15 or more payable to: AAUW and write ET-#4450 in the memo line. Mail your tax deductible check to AAUW, PO Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992 today.**



## Sunshine calls-can you help? *Donna Long*

For several years I have been one of three callers, along with Joan Young and Colleen Franklin. We make calls regularly to our AAUW branch members who do not get their information about our happenings via the internet. We give them details about our general meetings and upcoming events. However, the most enjoyable part of the monthly calls is briefly chatting with them, asking them how they are doing, and letting them know they are remembered and valued. Sometimes we just leave a friendly voicemail and a callback number.

In our current situation, these calls take on a new significance, as some members are not having as much social interaction as they normally would. It's a small thing to make these calls, but it's important for us all to stay connected.

Can you help us by offering to commit to contacting one or two women in our branch at least once a month? And remembering them on birthdays and holiday? Joan Young is the coordinator of SUNSHINE CALLS. Please contact Joan at 713-1279, and she will share with you the list of members needing contacts. Perhaps some of them are your friends already!

EVERY VOTE COUNTS -- Voting will open on April 7 and close May 17, 2021, 2:00 p.m. PDT.

Since its establishment in 1881, AAUW has changed the membership qualifications four times. After WWII, accredited colleges and universities were included (originally it was a specific list of elite universities). Then the requirement to submit the degree upon application was eliminated. Later men were allowed to join, and more recently AA degrees or equivalent now qualify.

Members will now vote on a membership requirement that creates a barrier to those who share our mission of equality for all women and girls, but who do not hold a college degree. By eliminating this requirements, AAUW can become a more diverse and inclusive organization and be better aligned with its mission and needs of women today.

All members with email addresses on file will receive a ballot by email. **Voting will take place online April 7 to May 17.**

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO VOTE BY EMAIL, request a paper ballot by phoning 202-785-7700 before April 17. Paper ballots must be postmarked by April 30 to be counted.



## Dues are due

### Pay before June 5 to enter the Drawing for a Free Membership

**Annual dues for 2021-2022 year are \$95.**  
(\$62 AAUW National+\$20 AAUW CA+\$13 branch dues)  
Write your \$95 check payable to AAUW, and mail to  
AAUW, PO Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992.

Your annual dues must be received by June 5 to enter into FREE-MEMBERSHIP DRAWING. Questions? Contact Treasurer, Sandy Davini, 673-0930 or /c 713-1390

**Louise Miller**, 260 B Street, Yuba City, CA 95991, 530-632-9614, [louise.miller12@gmail.com](mailto:louise.miller12@gmail.com)  
CSU Chico, BA US History; MA Educational Leadership

### Vaccination Celebration

Hooray! Hooray!  
I need to get away!  
My house is nice and all of that  
But I do not wish to stay!  
Since my Covid vaccination,  
I dream of a vacation.  
Nearly any location is an  
Appealing destination.

Another lovely thing I want  
Is eating in a restaurant.  
Something different is what I wish  
Napa cuisine or Monterey fish  
Deli sandwiches and rustic stew  
Anywhere that has a view!

Of all the ways to celebrate  
This really bizarre anniversary date  
Is seeing family once more  
Beautiful faces at my door.  
Grandkids that have grown so much,  
A six month old I long to touch.

I hope that all of your wishes come true  
And you do the things you've longed to do  
And you'll soon be seeing friends and such  
And hugging those you've missed so much!

Happy pandem-aversary

*Poem by Donna Long*



Happy Birthday to **Lorraine Ainsworth** whose birthday is in April.



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*Lee Jones, Membership Leader, 530-674-1942, Cell 530-300-0214, or email [lee@harkeyhouse.com](mailto:lee@harkeyhouse.com)*

Our branch membership now stands at 77. If you have a friend who is interested, please invite them to attend a branch meeting, and contact me for an application. We welcome new members even during this time of holding our meetings by Zoom, and we look forward to in-person meetings sometime soon.



### Meet our newest member -- **Louise Miller**

Louise joined our branch in March and was recruited by Lee Jones. You may remember that Louise's garden of honey bee plants was on one of our recent Garden Tours. Here's what she said about herself:

I earned a Bachelor of Arts in US History from California State University, Chico in 1983. I had four children by the time I earned my multiple subject credential from Chapman University in 1996. The same year, I began a 21 year career teaching elementary grades at Yuba City Unified School District, working at Central Gaither, Bridge Street, and King Avenue. In 2010 I earned an MA in Educational Leadership and Administration from CSU Chico. I began my current position as principal/superintendent at Yuba Environmental Science (YES) Charter Academy in 2017. It is a free, public TKK-8<sup>th</sup> grade school in the Yuba County Foothills.

My professional goals include growing YES Charter Academy into a world class environmental science school. My personal goals include advancing the causes of environmental and racial justice. I see the two as intersecting and am a member of environmental as well as racial justice organizations. My hobbies are reading nonfiction and hiking; and I'm always on the lookout for great environmental film ideas.

###

**Joan Buchan Remembered** —Joan Buchan, a long-time member of our branch, passed away in January. Joan was associated with the Tea Bag Fundraiser for years, and our branch selected her as the Gift Honoree in 2015-16, much to her surprise. Joan had a degree in Art History from Yuba College which she was very proud of, and she loved discussing art. Though Joan's health did not allow her to join this year, she is fondly remembered by many in our branch. Here is what some of our branch members wrote about her:

Janet Theiss said "Joan was the lead for the Callers for years and when she would phone to report we would have the most interesting conversations. She also faithfully did the Named Gift Honoree teabag mailing. She told me she didn't think she did very much for AAUW, but we were fortunate to have her dependable service for so long, even after health problems became a challenge."

Jeanine Rounds remembers that “Joan worked at Yuba College for many years where she met and eventually married Jim Buchan, a second marriage for both. She worked the front desk and switch board and was known as ‘The Voice of Yuba College’. Her friendliness to a stranger resulted in one person making a huge scholarship donation to the college.”

Judy Zukas said “How sad. I will miss playing bridge with her.”

Artis Buerki said that “Joan was a person who always remembered my name, even when we ran into each other at the grocery store. She was always friendly, warm, and gracious, and even after she moved to Prestige Assisted Living last year and lost her dear husband, Jim, she continued to send a card back or made a phone call whenever she received one from me. That’s what kind of person she was!”

Sandy Davini said “Joan Buchan was a gracious lady and a friend. She was always happy to help with AAUW activities but didn’t like public recognition. After she served many years as AAUW Fund Chair (teabag fundraiser for AAUW Educational Opportunities--now Education & Training), in 2016 we surprised Joan with a Certificate of Appreciation from the CEO of AAUW for her significant contributions to the mission of our local branch. Joan accepted the honor humbly as was her nature. She will be missed.”

Liz Skelly remembers that “Joan worked at Yuba College from 1958 to 1984 when she retired. She worked the switchboard and all calls to staff came through her. She had the best voice on the phone--she could have been Siri! She even recognized my voice when I called back to speak to the VP of Business for a job I was applying for! Her work site was right by the mail room and therefore she saw everyone who worked on the campus which also gave her the ability to hear all the gossip, which I occasionally was privy to. Joan always had a smile on her face and was unfailingly gracious to students and staff alike. As Jeanine mentioned, she was probably the reason the District received a \$1.5 million endowment.”

Carol Clark added “I got to know Joan Buchan best with the Traveling Gourmet Group. That’s always a good way to get to know people in AAUW because you have the hour commute each way to Sacramento, Chico, or Grass Valley, and you have the opportunity to chat at lunch. Joan was such a nice, warm, friendly addition and I enjoyed talking to her during the luncheons and the commutes. She had a thing about anyone knowing her age. I figured it out one time because of something she’d said about one of her kids and I mentioned it to her. She was not happy. But she forgave me. When she had her wonderful 90th birthday

party, the venue was filled with so many people who were there to celebrate her birthday. She sent out a flyer to people to invite them to her party. One lady thought there was a mistake on because it said she was celebrating her 90th birthday, and this person thought that was a printing error because she looked so young for her age. Jeanine told me about that. So I’m very sorry to lose her and also sorry that she didn’t get to have visitors towards the end of her life. She truly missed connecting with people.”



## International Women’s Day

Report by Gwyn Baker

This year I celebrated International Women’s Day, March 8, at home by attending an online forum entitled *The Disproportionate Economic Impact of COVID on Women*. It was sponsored by the local E Center which administers federally funded programs like WIC and Head Start and moderated by Grace Espindola, Yuba City councilmember.

Some of the main speakers were Trish Kelly from Valley Vision, an organization committed to causes like building a 21st century workforce and healthy communities, Rachel Farrell the CEO of Harmony Health, a community-based health provider working to improve the lives of women and families, and Dr. Tawny Dotson, President of Yuba College and recent AAUW speaker.

The discussions highlighted all the ways that women are facing challenges due to the pandemic such as the loss of 400k childcare jobs, and women taking on a greater burden of household chores and childcare while trying to work from home. This combined with women’s jobs in the service industry taking a much bigger hit than jobs in traditionally male-dominated fields resulted in 2.5 million women leaving the workforce during the pandemic. Minority women and women in low-paying jobs have been hit the hardest. A highlight of the forum was the honoring of several “unsung heroes,” women who have continued to work tirelessly to support our community during the pandemic.

## INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

Janet Theiss, IBC Representative, article by Liz Skelly

There was a special IBC meeting on March 8 to discuss State IBC finances. After a survey done by the CA AAUW State Treasurer, Roli Wendorf, it was determined that some IBC’s have bank accounts and do fund raising (raising legal tax issues) while others do not (such as our IBC). The issue is that IBC groups are not affiliated with AAUW and have no tax exempt status. We responded that we did not wish to go the fund raising route and thereby do not need to have one of the branches file tax reports. The next IBC meeting is **May 3 at 6 pm via Zoom**. Contact Janet Theiss for Zoom link.

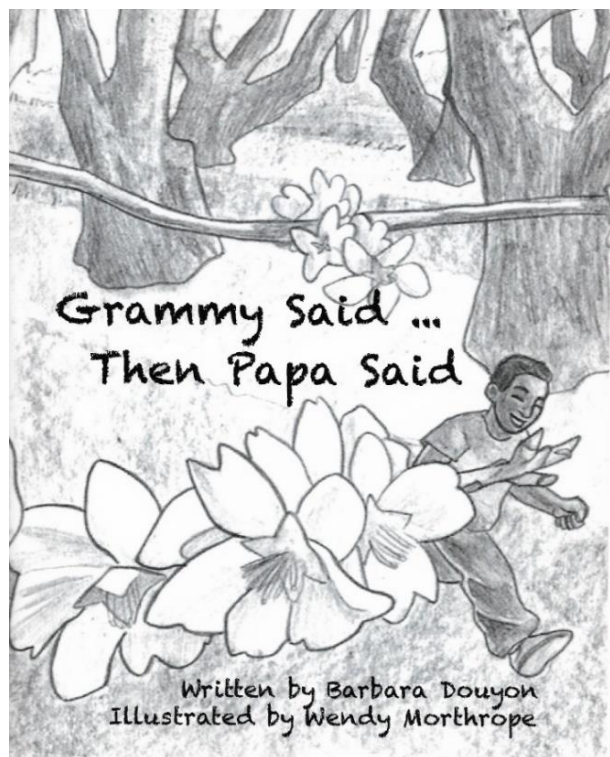
## **BOOKS I've enjoyed –**

### **GRAMMY SAID... THEN PAPA SAID**

This warm and entertaining children's book of short stories, entitled Grammy Said... Then Papa Said, was written by our own **Barbara Douyon**. Barbara's book is 81 pages full of words of wisdom, and beautiful black and white illustrations by Wendy Morthrope. Featuring Andrew and his Papa and Grammy, each story is based on a proverb or saying that we all use from time to time, or that we can remember hearing our mother or grandmother say.

Some of the story titles are: What goes around comes around, The apple doesn't fall far from the tree, Look before you leap, A stitch in time saves nine, and a dozen other charming conversations between a child and his grandparents. Published in 2018, this is Barbara's first publication; though we who are in the AAUW writing group (Talking on Paper) with Barbara can see more books in the making. You can reach Barbara at 530-673-8467 to find out how to buy a copy of this charming book. The first chapter of Barbara's book follows.

*Review by Artis Buerki*



Hello, my name's Andrew, but nobody hardly ever calls me "Andrew." Mostly—at my school—they call me "Drew." My Grammy sometimes calls me "Andy-man", and Papa—he calls me "Sport." Like, he'll say, "Come on, Sport, let's get this done!"

I live in Sacramento—it's a long way to my Grammy's house. It takes almost an hour to drive there. But I go there a lot--especially in the summer. Grammy and Papa have this humungous house with lots of almond trees in the front. Grammy's garden and fruit trees are in the back. Sometimes my big brother, Addison, comes, too. But not Buster. Buster's my dog. He stays home. But, when all of us—my mom, my dad and Addison—go to Grammy's for a long visit, like for the holidays, then, my friend, across the street—keeps Buster for us.

One time, when I was at Grammy's, I was telling her how at school a dog got into the school yard and ran around and played with all of us until the Principal, Miss Tucker, called the animal people to come and take it away. And when they came, they had to chase after the dog a long time before they could put him in their truck. We helped them to chase it for a while, but then, Miss Tucker rang the bell and we all had to go inside. It was a lot of fun that day!

Grammy laughed. "Well," she said, "every dog is entitled to *one* bite." I told Grammy the dog didn't bite nobody, but she just looked at me and smiled. All the time she says something to me that means something else. I don't understand what it means most of the time. But Papa does, and he explains it too. So, I asked him how the dog in the school yard got his "one bite" when he didn't even bite anybody.

He said, "Everybody, Sport—you, me—that stray dog— *everybody*—is entitled to do one--*something*--they don't get to do most often."

I thought about it. Then, I got it! Papa's real good at saying what Grammy means!



**Tell us about a book or an author that you like, or send us your story or poem and we'll include it in the *Feather Vane*. This is just one more way that we can stay in touch with each other during this time apart.**



**Email to *Feather Vane* editor, [artisb@comcast.net](mailto:artisb@comcast.net) before the 15<sup>th</sup> of any month.**

**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) and ask her to add you to her email contact list.



**BOOK CLUBS**

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

**Rabid Readers** normally meets at 10 am the third Friday of the month. **Contact Pat Jones, 674-0114, or Marilyn Elliott, 673-2840.**



**BRIDGE** As our AAUW bridge group has gotten older we have morphed into more of a community bridge group. We play at the Marysville Art Club twice a month. **Anyone interested in playing please contact Jan Wallace, 743-1060.**



**TALKING ON PAPER** – normally meets the first Tuesday of the month. We're all about having fun, sharing, and inspiration. **Call Joan Young, 713-1279, if you like to write and want to be a part of this group.**

**TRAVELING GOURMET** Traveling Gourmet normally meets on the fourth Thursday of the month but is not meeting now because of COVID 19. **If you want to be on the Traveling Gourmet phone list, please contact Carol Clark, 301-2164, or Joan Young, 713-1279, and we will notify you when we meet again.**

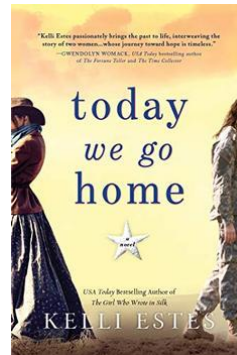
**We are all Wonder Women!**



**AAUW California Annual Meeting -- April 17**  
Attend (via Zoom) to hear AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown as she brings us all the news from AAUW National and the latest about the proposed bylaws change. **Registration is required. Click here to register: [2021 AAUW California State Annual Meeting - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](#)**

**BOOKS I've enjoyed –**

**TODAY WE GO HOME** By Kelli Estes



This book was an eye opener for me. Never having been in the military, and being a woman, I had no idea how differently women were treated than men. Having been sheltered from this subject most of my life, I am beginning to understand the reality of male chauvinism, both in the military and in society in general. The story begins with Larkin having returned from two tours of duty in Afghanistan. She was injured in an explosion and along with PTSD she blames herself for the death of her two best friends. She is slowly being assisted when, before her best friend's death, Larkin was entrusted with her diary from the Civil War days. Larkin reads how 'Willy' joins the Union Army to fight in the Civil War. Willy is her male name and she has dressed as a man determined to fight like a man. And therein lies the theme of this story. It is powerful, a must read for those who treasure their freedom from sexism. *Review by Joan Young*

Today We Go Home was published in 2019, and is the second historical fiction novel by Washington state resident Kelli Estes. Her first novel, The Girl Who Wrote in Silk, was set in Seattle in the 1800s to present. You can learn more about the author at her website: [Kelli Estes | Author](#)



**Find AAUW on Facebook**



# Secretary's Notes

Nancy Johnston, Secretary

## AAUW Executive Council Meeting --March 11, 2021, 1 pm

Those in attendance: Liz Skelly, Executive Council Leader; Gwyn Baker, Programs; Sandra Davini, Treasurer; Lee Jones, Membership; Artis Buerki, By-Laws; Nancy Johnston, Secretary. Members at Large present were: Joann Nixon, Joan Young, Christy Estabrook

### Call to Order, 1:14 p.m. Information/Action Items:

Last month's minutes were approved by all.

### Reports from Executive Council

EC Leader's Report: Liz Skelly reported she is not clear as to whether or not a June branch meeting will be held. AAUW State still has not sanctioned any in person meetings. June and May branch meetings will be discussed at the Programs Committee meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Correspondences: Sandra Davini reported we responded to Chamber of Commerce telling them we would not be joining due to budgetary issues this year.

Treasurer's Report/Proposed 20-21 Budget: Sandra Davini reported very little change to the Treasurer's Report.

Public Policy, Advocacy: Martha Bunce absent: No Report

Membership: Lee Jones reported Our membership has grown to 77 so far this year. If the enrollment restrictions are removed in our April voting, we need to figure out how to let people know about the changes and encourage new memberships.

Nominating Committee: Gwyn Baker reported April FV will have an article identifying the people nominated for next year's Executive Council.

Bylaws: Artis Buerki--No report

Communications: Check with Janet Theiss to see if she can send out the reminders for March 20th branch meeting.

Artis Buerki reported the deadline is March 22nd for articles to appear in the April 2021 Feather Vane. We need to notify the Appeal Democrat again in May that the Garden Tour is cancelled this year.

Joan Young requested we run the Sunshine Calls article again in the April FV.

Programs: Gwyn Baker reported the programs team will meet on March 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss May and June branch meetings, as well as next year's speaker list. If anyone has any ideas for speakers or questions for the CAL Fire speaker, please forward to Gwyn.

Projects: Martha Bunce

STEM CONFERENCE: Sandra Davini reported she will set up a STEM meeting for May 13, 2021 at 10:00 to begin discussing the possibilities for next year's STEM conference.

GARDEN TOUR: No report.

TECH TREK: No report.

TEAM OF EXTRAORDINARY MINDS: Joann Nixon reported she received and forwarded an email for a virtual North Bay Science Discovery Day webinar on Saturday March 13<sup>th</sup>. She forwarded to all the TEM girls and followed up with phone calls to ensure they received the email.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Nothing to report.

Other Reports -- Interbranch— Liz reported there was a special IBC meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> to address an IBC issue. Statewide, some branches have banded together to raise funds for projects. We will not. Historian—Karen Tuttle: no report. Sunshine—Gretchen Cupp: No report. Coalition Branch & Drawing – has been cancelled.

Other Business – Next EC meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2021. **Future Agenda Items:** Credit card for dues

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Johnston, Secretary

*Editor's Note: Please contact Executive Council Secretary for the final approved minutes after the next Executive Council meeting.*

**Feather Vane Staff**  
Artis Buerki, Editor and email distribution, [artisb@comcast.net](mailto:artisb@comcast.net)  
Joan Young, Mailing and Proofing  
Joann Nixon, Photographer  
Janet Theiss, Communications Leader



FEATHER VANE

Artis Buerki, Editor

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**We are all Wonder Women!**

To find us on line just CTRL+LEFT CLICK on any of these underlined links  
 Our Facebook page: <https://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)

## APRIL, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 	5	6 TBD Talking on Paper	7	8 1 pm, Zoom Executive Council	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Via email Book Clubs	17 10 AM Zoom <b>BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING</b>
18	19 <b>DEADLINE NEXT FEATHER VANE</b>	20	21	22 TBD Traveling Gourmet	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



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