



Feather Vane – MAY, 2022



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, MAY 12, 1 pm. LOCATION TBD.** Contact is Liz Skelly, 530-635-0821. Tell Liz, or any EC member, if you want to attend Executive Council meetings and be appointed an EC Member at Large for a year.

STEM Conference BIG SUCCESS –

454 girls gathered on March 28 at Yuba College for the STEM Career Awareness Conference for 8th grade girls. Introducing the girls at this formative age prior to entrance into high school allows them to learn from professional women the importance of continuing their education and encourages them to stay in school to achieve future independence.

Sandy Davini spearheaded our STEM Conference this year. “We had a fantastic team for whom we are grateful.” Sandy said. “Bringing back the STEM Conference after a 2-year hiatus was challenging with so many people new to their positions. Team members came forward to provide an impressive experience for girls who attended the conference.”

Girls from 18 elementary/middle schools came with their teachers to experience this half-day conference.



The day began with an opening program in the gym and then each girl attended three sessions. 17 women led the sessions sharing

information with the girls about their STEM-related professions. Later the girls met again for lunch and an optional tour of the campus. Being on a college campus was a first for most of the girls, and they navigated well despite the light rain. Many positive comments were heard from girls and adults. The STEM team held a debriefing meeting on April 4 to start planning for next year! (See photos from March 28 on page 3 of this Feather Vane)



Thank you to Kate Marden who was our speaker at the April 16 branch meeting. Kate is a Master Falconer and is owner of West Coast Falconry in Browns Valley. She is shown here with her screech owl and her lanner falcon.



No meeting in May due to Garden Tour
 Next branch meeting will be **June 4, 10 am** at Sutter Theater Center for Performing Arts on Plumas Street in Yuba City. Speaker at 10 am will be David Read of Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture. **LUNCH** will be served at 11:00 am. **\$20**

Council Chat

by Liz Skelly, ECL



We're finally getting some April showers as I start this "chat" so hopefully we'll have May flowers! I know I said this last month, but the rain is soooooo welcome and just in time for the Garden Tour on **May 7**, our main fundraiser. Our GT Committee has been hard at work under the tutelage of Martha Bunce to bring back the Tour with a bang since we were not able to hold the Tour for the last two years. I think we all have some pent-up demand to be out in nature and what better way to do it than visit some beautiful gardens. Be sure to stop by The Brick for the reception and enjoy some refreshments!

The STEM Conference for 8th grade girls on **March 28** was a success thanks to the work of everyone on the STEM Committee, chaired by Sandy Davini. Even though it was scaled down this year, the evaluations indicated a successful conference. Next year it looks like we'll be back in full force.

The **April 16** Branch meeting was our best attended meeting yet—46 members and guests! Maybe it was the good food from Hillcrest Catering or our outstanding speaker, Kate Marden, master falconer and owner of West Coast Falconry. Kate has an incredible knowledge of birds of prey plus her fun sense of humor! She kept us all entertained and was able to bring a lanner falcon and a cute little screech owl to the meeting. Kate is a master falconer which requires seven years of training and is the highest level for a falconer. Her knowledge and passion are undeniable. You can go to westcoast-falconry.com to see what experiences you can explore with the birds.

April was our annual meeting and the members approved the slate of officers for new terms on the Executive Council—Sandy Davini, Martha Bunce and myself. Appointments to the different positions on Executive Council will occur at the **June 9** planning meeting. Members are encouraged to join the EC as Members at Large. We can always use some new faces. And don't forget that if you like to know what other AAUW branches are doing you are invited to attend the Interbranch Council (IBC) meeting on **May 4**, and this time it is in Yuba City. Call me for more details.

We won't have a May branch meeting due to the Garden Tour so we will see you on **June 4**, 10 a.m. at the Sutter

Theatre on Plumas Street for our last meeting before the summer break. We changed it up a bit this time and instead of breakfast we will have a salad lunch. See you then!

GARDEN TOUR ARTISTS - In addition to walking through 6 lovely gardens on the **May 7 Garden Tour**, visitors will experience the work of these local artists who will donate shares of their Garden Tour sales to our AAUW's projects:



- Pamela Bleything-Nowak (watercolor)
- Terri Foley (watercolor)
- Jan Frink (fused glass)
- Diane Funston (mosaic tile/birdhouses)
- Cindy Gaven (watercolor)
- Sue Graue (photography)
- Leslie Greenetz (watercolor)
- Clay Hippie (ceramics)
- Luisa Leger (mixed media)
- Wynell Reid (jewelry)
- Janet Staser (jewelry)
- Linda Trudgeon (watercolor)

Tech Tech Report – Carol Clark, our Tech Trek Chair, reported that on April 2 there were seven girls interviewed by the Interview Team made up of Bal Dhillon, Gwyn Baker, Donna Long, and Manjit Jhutti. The parents were interviewed by Joann Nixon, Kelly Swanson, and Kathy Nehl. We are sending four girls to TechTrek camp in July. They are:

- Madeline Fedora from Butte Vista**
- Eva Knee from Riverbend**
- Rylee Brown from Riverbend**
- Simrat Johal from Butte Vista**

TTAG Committee Report

March 10, 2022 -- The committee discussed including the 2022 Tech Trek selectees as Jr. Hostesses or Ambassadors at the Garden Tour this year. We decided to assign two girls to each of two gardens and they will be supervised by Kelly Swanson and Jeanne Schultz. This was discussed with the parents at the Tech Trek Interview Day, and they were all receptive and felt it was important for the girls to recognize that it takes a fundraiser to send them to camp. Their experience will also serve as a community service, skills enhancement, and an opportunity to meet one of the other Tech Trek selectees. *Joann Nixon, TTAG Chair*



STEM Conference 3-28-22 photos by Joann Nixon



Branch Election was April 16

At our April 16 Annual Meeting **Martha Bunce**, **Sandy Davini**, and **Liz Skelly** were all elected to serve new terms on the Executive Council. New terms will begin on July 1, 2022.

Terms are staggered on the Executive Council so only a few officers term out each year. Other continuing EC officers for the upcoming year are Gwyn Baker, Christy Estabrook, Linda Zall, and Lee Jones.

Members at Large on the EC are appointed for 1 year at a time and currently include Barbara Alves, Artis Buerki, Carol Clark, Gretchen Cupp, Kathy Nehl, Joann Nixon, Joan Young, Joyce Smith, and Debbie Naylor. Contact Liz Skelly if you would like to serve on the Executive Council as a Member at Large.

AAUW CALIFORNIA ELECTION IS APRIL 23 TO MAY 14. Members receive a ballot with instructions by email. Voting deadline is May 14. To request a paper ballot call 916-389-0220.

FREE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING JUNE 4

Dues are due for the new AAUW year (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023). Please bring your \$100 check payable to AAUW to the June 4 branch meeting or mail it to AAUW, P.O. Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992. **If we receive your check by June 4, you will be entered in the drawing for a free membership.** AAUW National requests member dues be paid by June 30. Questions: contact Sandy Davini, ddavini@comcast.net, or 530.673.0930.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

-- If you have a friend who is interested in AAUW please invite them to a meeting and let Lee Jones know so she can get membership information to them. Membership now stands at 86 with 17 new members this year. Contact is *Lee Jones, Membership* 530-674-1942, c/ 530-300-0214, or email lee@harkeyhouse.com

Meet new member - Doreen Osumi

I was born and raised in Oxnard, California but have called Yuba City home for the past 35 years. My husband Bruce and two children, Taylor and Aaron, are proud alumni of Barry Elementary School and Yuba City High School.

After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a B.S. in Child Development in 1984, I decided to continue my education and pursue a degree in Speech Pathology. I continued my studies at CSU Sacramento where I earned a B.S. and M.S. in Speech Pathology and in 2000, received my Master of Arts in Educational Management. From 1988 until 2004, I worked for the Sutter County of Superintendent of Schools as a Speech Pathologist, Program Specialist and Director of Special Education. In 2004, I joined the amazing team at Yuba City Unified District (YCUSD) and have served as the Director of Special Education, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Deputy Superintendent and now am honored to serve as the Superintendent.

This year, I was asked to speak to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) about YCUSD. It was at that time, I realized that AAUW is an

organization that aligns with one of my personal goals of empowering women and advancing equity through advocacy, education, research, and networking within our diverse community. At that meeting,

it was when I knew that I wanted to be part of group of women who shared my fundamental beliefs and principles. My daughter Taylor benefitted from AAUW and attended Tech Trek camp at Stanford University many years ago. She still remembers this wonderful opportunity and is a successful Vice President of a female led communications firm.



Some may say I'm a bit of a workaholic but in my free time, I enjoy bowling, bass fishing, attending country concerts and running. I thank Martha Bunce and Sandy Davini for their support and encouragement as I learn more about the work done by AAUW.

Meet new member - Sue Palm

Sue joined our branch in February and was recruited by Tanna Thomas.



I was born and raised in Oroville, California, by a single mom working in retail. She was a hardworking, fun-loving, strong-willed woman who instilled in me a positive work ethic and a love of learning.

After graduating from high school, I moved all the way to Marysville to attend Yuba College. I earned my two-year degree in business and paused my educational journey to marry and raise a family. During that time, I also worked as a staff member at Yuba College, eventually teaching business computer classes on a part time basis.

As my daughter was ready to graduate high school, I went back to school and earned a BS in Computer Science, followed by an MS in Software Engineering. My beautiful daughter went on to marry and raise a family. I have three wonderful grandchildren and three and a half great grandchildren (a fourth will be born sometime in April 2022).

My professional life began by working for Yuba College for 18 years. I left Yuba to work for a federally funded organization teaching computer skills to criminal justice agencies. I left that organization after a couple of years to work for a computer programming company providing records management services to colleges and universities. I finished my career as a college professor working for the Los Rios Community College district in Sacramento. I retired as a professor at the end of the fall semester of 2013, after 17 years of teaching computer science.

These days, I spend time enjoying my home. I'm also blessed with a group of wonderful friends I've known for many, many years. We talk and text a lot and meet at least once a month for food and a gab fest. I look forward to gathering with more friends, both old and new, in AAUW.

Meet new member - Kathryn Medley

Kathryn has been a member of our branch in the past and rejoined in February. She was recruited by Carol Clark. Welcome back Kathryn!

I was born in the Fall Equinox in Marysville. Early on, ages 5 to about 9 or 10 I lived in two boarding schools in Washington and California. High school, college, graduating from Stanford with a B.S. and a master's equivalent in Child Development. Public Health in Southern California, married, surfing, free diving, and a son.



Moved back to northern CA, public health and schools, plus another son.

Told the husband goodbye, Moved on to skiing, backpacking, tennis, and gardening. Retirement. Master Gardener and a trained UC Davis Gardener Volunteer at the UC Davis Arboretum. Health problems loomed. 5 years ago a malignant visitor to my left foot – many surgeries, radiation, septic, and I became 3-1/2 years ago a LBK (left below the knee) amputee.

Currently I am doing well enough to take up golf last June. Fun. Many thanks and gratefulness to family, friends, my surgeon (my hero) my physical therapist for helping me to make it through. This horrific experience. They were all wonderful. Never give up, just keep going.

Did you know?



Happy Birthday to all of our members who have May birthdays including **Miriam Hatamiya, Liz Skelly, Cheryl Spaulding.** Did you know that one of the flowers for May birthdays is Lily of the Valley? It symbolizes purity, happiness, luck, and humility. Sounds just like our birthday girls doesn't it!

INTEREST SECTIONS - All branch members are welcome to participate.



ADVOCACY & ACTION

To receive advocacy and action alerts by email, contact **Martha Bunce, 530-743-0306, or email buncehall@yahoo.com** and ask her to add you to her email contact list.

ALL AROUND TOWN - Join me in exploring some of our local restaurants. I love an evening out when I can join others in sampling the local culinary scene whether it be for an interesting food preparation or just the best burger. The first meeting will be on May 25 at 5:30 p.m. when we can discuss dates and times we would like to meet as well as restaurants we might like to try. If you are interested in joining this new group, contact **Linda Zall, 530.713.0552, lindazall66@gmail.com.**



BOOK CLUBS

Book Explorers Book Club normally meets on the **third Friday of the month.** Contact is **Paulette Almeida, 530-415-5588.**

Rabid Readers Book Club continue to meet on the third Friday of the month at 10:00 am. The next meeting will be on May 20 and we will be reading *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach, a look at the science of human-wildlife conflict. The best-selling author has also written *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*, *Gulp: Adventures in the Alimentary Canal* and *Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War* to name a few of the other books she's authored. The discussion is always lively and frequently encompasses a variety of other issues. If you

MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH are interested in joining this group, contact **Linda Zall**, 530.713.0552, lindazall66@gmail.com



BRIDGE -- As our AAUW bridge group has gotten smaller we have morphed into a community bridge group. If you and a friend are interested in playing bridge please contact **Jan Wallace**, 530-743-1060.



MOVIE LOVERS --Would you like to go to a movie matinee in Yuba City at least once a month with some friends? Contact **Artis Buerki**, artisb@comcast.net if you want to be on the movie email list. Thank you to **Steve Clark** who has agreed to co-chair this group, and who will research first-run movies in Yuba City. And thank you to **Joan Young** for tracking Fathom Events older movies for us. To protect both yourself and others, please have your COVID vaccines before attending the indoor movie theater. We prefer **Monday matinees** at the Yuba City Cinemark Theater. We're looking forward to Downton Abbey, A New Era when it comes to Yuba City in May.



TALKING ON PAPER, our branch writing group normally meets on the **second Tuesday of the month**. **GREAT NEWS - TALKING ON PAPER IS MOVING!** The Sutter County Library Director, James Oschner, has assured me we'll enjoy our first Talking on Paper meeting location in the small meeting room of the beautiful, newly refurbished Library on **May 10**. The doors open at 10am and the room is reserved for us until noon. Location is Forbes and Clark Avenue in Yuba City, across from the fire station. Thank you to the Senior Center for giving us space to meet for the last few months while awaiting the library's reopening. If you like to write, please call **Joan Young 530-713-1279** for more information. Bring your story of 2 pages or less to read to the group. We do a 5 min. impromptu writing to kick off each meeting. Perhaps going to lunch afterward will be in the works.



TRAVELING GOURMET -- On **May 26** Sandy Davini will host a trip to La Provence in Roseville. The Traveling Gourmet goes to lunch on the **fourth Thursday of the month**. We meet at 10:30 for carpooling in the old Round Table Pizza parking lot on Gray Avenue and go to a

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restaurant within an hour's drive. Phone co-chairs **Carol Clark**, 530-301-2164 or **Christy Estabrook**, 530-713-5223, if you want to be on the contact list.

Feather Vane Staff

Artis Buerki, Editor and email distribution, artisb@comcast.net
Joan Young, Proofing/ mailing
Joann Nixon, Photographer
Linda Zall, Communications Leader

Garden Tour Committee --Please contact Martha Bunce, 530-743-0306, or email buncehall@yahoo.com if you want to be a part of the Garden Tour planning committee.

STEM Committee -- Please contact Sandy Davini, ddavini@comcast.net if you want to be a part of the STEM planning committee.

Tech Trek Committee -- Please contact Carol Clark, 530-301-2164, if you want to be a part of the Tech Trek Committee.

TTAG -- Please contact Joann Nixon, 530-680-0356, if you want to be a part of the Tech Trek Alumni Group.

PLANT SALE – MAY 21, 9 am to 2 pm

The Sutter Buttes Garden Club will have their annual Spring Plant Sale on May 21 outdoors at the home of Marie Dankman, 1216 Randolph Drive in Yuba City. Here's an opportunity to help a fellow organization raise money for their scholarships provided to young people majoring in horticulture, agriculture, and forestry. Questions contact Marie Dankman, 530-671-3206



Secretary's Notes

AAUW Executive Council Meeting
April 14, 2022– 1:00 pm Via Zoom

Those in attendance were: Liz Skelly, Executive Council Leader; Sandy Davini, Treasurer; Lee Jones, Membership; Christy Estabrook, By-Laws. Members at Large present were: Joann Nixon, Carol Clark, Linda Zall, and Artis Buerki.

MARYSVILLE–YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH
Call to Order, 1:05 p.m. There were no corrections or additions to the March 2022 minutes.

Information/Action Items: Liz reminded the officers to prepare their “job descriptions” in preparation for the June planning meeting;

There were no volunteers for the position of Secretary so Liz volunteered to fill the vacancy left by Miriam Root through the June meeting. Discussion was held regarding the location of the June meeting with all agreeing that we will ask Martha Bunce if we can use her back yard again.

Reports from Executive Council

EC Leader’s Report: Liz Skelly had no report since there will be discussion under other agenda items.

Correspondences: Sandy Davini reported there was no new correspondence.

Treasurer’s Report: Sandy reported that about one third of the members had paid for their Garden Tour tickets. Liz will assist at the branch meeting to accept payments for the GT. The top GT ticket seller will receive a free lunch for the June branch meeting. The Colusa Casino free play/food tickets will be given out at the April branch meeting. Sandy said we have adequate funds to be able to pay the budgeted donations after a mid-year review of the budget. Carol Clark asked for reimbursement of four teddy bears for her Tech Trek selections.

Public Policy, Advocacy: No report.

Membership: Lee Jones reported our membership stands at 86 with 17 new members this year.

Nominating Committee: Lee Jones said she would handle the vote for the three continuing EC members at the April branch meeting. The three members are Liz Skelly, Sandy Davini and Martha Bunce.

Bylaws: Christy Estabrook said there was an April 4 email from AAUW National asking for members to vote on a bylaw change. The voting closes mid May.

Communications: Artis said the deadline for articles for the May Feather Vane is April 20. Facebook has it’s own separate page for the Garden Tour. Artis was acknowledged for her excellent PR work with the Appeal Democrat. Joan Young was not in attendance but asked Liz to say that all the members had been contacted for the April branch meeting.

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Programs: Gwyn Baker was not in attendance, but discussion was held about the lunch menu for the June branch meeting and it was agreed that a variety of salads would be the menu of choice. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. but will begin with the speaker presentation, then the business portion of the meeting and finish with lunch. We will also give away the Colusa Casino free play/food tickets at the April branch meeting.

Projects: Sandy reported that the STEM Conference received good reviews and good press. The plan is to go back to having all the 8th grade girls attend next year.

Garden Tour: Liz said that she had received approval to hang the GT banner on the chain link fence in front of the Yuba Co. Office of Ed building by the approach to the 10th street bridge. She will also put another banner at a location in Yuba City, maybe in front of the ET Trailer location, intersection of Hwy 20 and Hwy 99. Artis will put a banner in Sutter before the Bike Around the Buttes happens. Artis also said PSA’s are on KUBA, 95-5 and 103.1 radio stations along with some ticket give aways.

Tech Trek: Carol Clark said they have now selected four young ladies for the Tech Trek camp at UC Davis. The girls will serve as Ambassadors at two of the gardens on tour. May 20th is the date for the pizza party for the girls, their families and AAUW members. The party will be in Joann’s backyard. Members were asked to bring sodas, ice, salads, tables/chairs. They expect about 40 people to attend.

TTAG: Joann said her group met the day before and assigned girls to the Garden Tour as ambassadors. She and Carol will go to the Oroville TTAG picnic to check it out.

Scholarships: Liz said that Sandy has contacted two ladies who were members of the Yuba City Women’s Club and they are writing a letter to the Yuba College Foundation to request that the account be unendowed.

Other Business: Interbranch—Liz reported that we had 8 members from our branch attend the April 9 IBC Luncheon in Oroville. The next IBC meeting will be in Yuba City on May 4 at 6 p.m. at either Dancing Tomato or Marcello’s. Historian—Karen Tuttle: No report. Artis said she had spoken to Karen and Karen agreed to continue as historian. Sunshine—Gretchen Cupp: No report. Coalition Drawing – Kathy/Linda: No report. Next EC meeting is scheduled for May 12 via Zoom (Liz will be in Hawaii).

Respectfully submitted, Liz Skelly

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



FEATHER VANE, Artis Buerki, Editor

P.O. Box 334, Sutter, CA 95982



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/ AAUW National: www.aauw.org

MAY-JUNE 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 6 pm IBC meeting in Yuba City	5	6	7 10 TO 3:30 GARDEN TOUR
8	9	10 10 am TALKING ON PAPER	11	12 1 pm EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 10 am BOOK CLUBS	21
22	23 10:30 am MOVIE GROUP	24	25 5:30 am ALL AROUND TOWN	26 10:30 am TRAVELING GOURMET	27	28
29	30	31	JUNE 1	JUNE 2	JUNE 3	JUNE 4 10 am BRANCH MEETING at Sutter Theater
JUNE 5	JUNE 6	JUNE 7	JUNE 8	JUNE 9 10:30 am EC Planning Meeting	JUNE 10	JUNE 11



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