



Feather Vane – JANUARY 2023

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 is **January 12, Thursday, 1 p.m.** Contact is Martha Bunce, 530-713-0663. Tell Martha or any EC member if you want to attend Executive Council meetings and be appointed as an EC Member-at-Large for a year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

BRANCH MEETING – JAN. 21

When: Saturday, January 21

Time: 10 a.m. Door opens at 9:30

Where: Hillcrest Catering, 210 Julie Drive, Yuba City (on the back side of the Hillcrest Plaza Mall)

Program: Steve Kroeger, Blue Zones

Menu: Buffet

Cost: \$20. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED (pay at meeting/no cancellations) Tell your emailer (Gwyn Baker) or your caller (Joan Young, or Donna Long) if you are coming **YES or NO** by the Monday prior to the meeting. Not sure you have confirmed reservations? Contact Gwyn Baker, 530-632-4336.

researchers found that people reach age 100 at a rate 10 times higher than in the US.

Steve has served as both Deputy County Administrator for Sutter County and City Manager of Yuba City. When he retired in 2019, he saw the opportunity to lead the Blue Zones Project team as a way to expand this passion collectively to the entire Yuba Sutter Community. He believes that all the essential elements for success are currently at work in the community and that the Blue Zones Project process will assist in bringing focus and alignment in the development of a shared strategy to improve community well-being. Steve holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California and a bachelor's degree in finance from Santa Clara University.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Council Chat *by Martha Bunce*

December's Executive Council meeting was zoomed because we are all trying to squeeze more minutes into every day – Do you feel that way too?

I see beautiful decorations on so many houses, and think, "Hmmm Well, I got the wreath on the door!"

What can I say about the marvelous women you elected to your Executive Council other than that they are fantastic. Everyone is engaged in the work of the whole; everyone does her job; everyone helps one another; everyone is cheerful and fun to be with. I appreciate them so much! We are in the process of figuring out how to make the Treasurer's job less onerous and more in line with the workload of the other portfolios. It looks

Program Notes



by Gwyn Baker

Our speaker at the January 21 branch meeting will be Steve Kroeger, Executive Director of Blue Zones



Project Yuba Sutter. Blue Zones is a community-led well-being improvement initiative designed to make healthy choices easier through permanent changes to a city's environment, policy, and social networks. In 2004, researchers identified pockets around the world where people lived measurably longer. In these five areas, dubbed "blue zones"

MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH like we will separate out the Membership aspects and create a committee to handle the tasks. Linda Zall, Lee Jones, Sandy Davini, Liz Skelly and I spent some time on Friday hashing out how to start and have come up with a plan. You'll see more about this in the next couple of months.

The Nominating Committee (Christy Estabrook, Joyce Smith, Joann Nixon) has had an easy time of finding folks willing to stand for election this spring. You'll get the names in the March Feather Vane.

All our projects (Garden Tour, Tech Trek, STEM Conference) are on track. STEM will be here before we know it, and we anticipate almost 900 girls this year – that's with limiting the number! When asked to help, please say YES! with gusto. Finally, to you all, a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy New Year, and Joyous Holidays! I wish health, happiness, and joy to you and all those you love.

Coalition Brunch photos *by Joann Nixon*



The Coalition Brunch on Dec. 10 was attended by a total of 98 women from 5 organizations. This is our annual opportunity to network and share information with other women outside of AAUW. Each organization held its own opportunity drawings (aka raffle), and here is the AAUW table of beautiful items to win. Thank you to Linda Zall, Kathy Nehl and their elves who worked hard to earn \$638 for our branch.



The room was beautifully decorated by the staff of the Peach Tree Country Club who also prepared our delicious brunch.



But before eating we listened to an outstanding performance by the Live Oak High School choir.



And these are the ladies that worked to make this event happen. You will recognize AAUWs Linda Zall, Kathy Nehl, and Artis Buerki in this photo. **Next year's Coalition Brunch is scheduled for December 9, 2023!**

New Member Opportunities

by Lee Jones & Sandy Davini

Shape the Future: Exciting opportunity for new members - AAUW Marysville-Yuba City Branch is designating our Jan. 21 & Feb. 18, 2023, Branch Meetings as Shape the Future events to encourage new members to join. Please invite prospective members to attend one or both meetings. Membership is open to both women and men who have at least an Associate Degree or greater. If they join at a Jan. or Feb. meeting, they will get a 50% (\$33.50) discount on their first-year national dues. That means they can join for \$66.50 (instead of \$100) for twelve months. New members would owe a full year's dues when they renew a year later.

MEMBERSHIP- If you have a friend who is interested in AAUW please invite them to a meeting and let Lee Jones know so she can provide membership information. Contact Lee Jones, lee@harkeyhouse.com.

Janet Theiss update - Janet is undergoing extensive rehabilitation at Bridgeview Post-Acute, 521 Lorel Way, Room 10A, Yuba City (Live Oak Blvd north of Winslow Drive) to regain strength and mobility. She'll be there for an undetermined amount of time, and she said she would love to have visitors. Please continue to send cards to her at her home address: 9631 Schroeder Rd., Live Oak, CA 95953. She does not have access to email currently. Here is a transcription of her handwritten note to us:

Dear AAUW Executive Council, I'd collected my cards when I was worse and wasn't up to opening them until now. Imagine my pleasure and surprise when I read Sandy's lovely note (June 2022) explaining you had decided to send me a \$50 gift card. I don't remember the EC doing so before. How kind of all of you, thank you!

The EC and certain members have been so thoughtful about sending supportive notes and cards. It is wonderful of each of you! I, too, would rather be with all of you than here, but we sometimes must accept new phases that we would never have chosen. My gratitude is deep and continuing. Love, Janet

MEET A NEW MEMBER– Jeannie Morrissey

I was born in Los Angeles and moved to Oakland at age 12. I attended UC Berkeley and graduated with a BA in Anthropology. My former husband and I moved to Yuba City when he was offered a teaching job at Yuba City High School. Our second son was born in Yuba City.

I have two sons, five grandchildren and two great-grands. My present husband, Richard, is a retired music educator, choir director and conductor of the Yuba Sutter Symphony in which I played Double Bass for 40 years. I have been blessed with opportunities to travel, mostly with the Sacramento choir my husband directed for 19 years. But the most life changing experience was spending almost two months in Israel on an archeological excavation.



At age 57 I received a MA in Theology and was offered a job as coordinator of Children's Ministries at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. This was a dream job and I count it as my career even though I was

59 when I started working. At the same time, I was volunteering as a tutor with the library. As a result, I was to get to know and work with about 25 Afghan women and their families over a period of eight years. Many of these ladies have become part of my family.

I am now fully retired from most of the above activities. I now enjoy walking, working in the yard, tending my succulent garden, reading, and giving an occasional children's sermon at St. Andrew. I look forward to participating in some of the exciting learning experiences provided by AAUW as I return to membership after many years.

COALITION BRUNCH DRAWING –

Thank you!

Kathy Nehl and I asked, and you responded! We asked you to donate items for the baskets created for the Women's Coalition Holiday Brunch. Your generous donations ensured that the ladies at the Brunch wanted to buy tickets to win our beautiful baskets. Not only did we have your support, but we also had donations from some of our local businesses: Brock's Ice Cream Palace, Bald Mountain Nursery, K. Roberts Gifts, The Harkey House, and the Polished Salon. The next time you visit one of these merchants, let them know how much you appreciate their support of this organization. *Linda Zall*

IBC (Interbranch Council)- February 4 in Redding

Liz reminded everyone that the Redding Branch will be hosting on **February 4th, 11:30 am, cost is \$30.** Registration is solely online but Liz will take checks and handle registration for people who prefer that process. A speaker is not yet confirmed. The planners are hoping for an indigenous woman to talk about the status of missing women. Contact Liz Skelly, 530-635-0821 right away if you plan to attend.

STEM Committee - Plans are well underway for our **March 27, 2023**, STEM Career Awareness Conference for 800+ 8th grade girls at Yuba College. We are still recruiting presenters for morning sessions. If you know a STEM professional who loves to share her experiences, please talk with her, then send contact info to Martha Bunce. If you'd like to help plan the conference, please contact Sandy Davini. **Next meeting is January 12, 10 am.**

Garden Tour Committee - We are planning the next Garden Tour scheduled for **May 6, 2023.** We meet on the first Thursday of the month from 10 am to noon. If you are interested in joining this exciting committee, please contact Martha Bunce. **Next meeting is January 5, 10 am, at Sutter County Library.**

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC/>

Did you know?

Happy Birthday to all our members who have January birthdays including Carol Clark who is a past Executive Council Leader (2013-2016) and who coordinates the Tech Trek program for our branch.

If you didn't get mentioned but think you should, please contact artisb@comcast.net and tell us your birthday month. Just the month, please, not the year or the date. We don't care how old you are. We just want to say Happy Birthday when yours comes around again!

Did you know that there will be these new quarters in 2023 that honor American women?



Did you know? AAUW member benefits can save you money on travel services, office supplies, pet insurance, and more. And every time you use one of your benefits, you will be supporting AAUW's vital work advancing gender equity. Click [HERE](#) to read about the many perks of AAUW membership.

Quotes of the month:

“Life is too important to be taken seriously.” Oscar Wilde (1854-1900/died aged 46)

“Life can only be understood backward; but it must be lived forwards.” Soren Kierkegaard (1813-1855/died aged 42)

Feather Vane Staff

Artis Buerki – Editor/E-mailer artisb@comcast.net
Joan Young – Proofreader/Snail mailer/Phoner
Corky Ulrey – Proofreader
Joann Nixon – Photographer
Mary Mayfield - Photographer
Linda Zall - Communications Leader

INTEREST SECTIONS - All branch members are welcome to participate



ADVOCACY & ACTION

To receive advocacy and action alerts by email, contact Martha Bunce email buncehall@yahoo.com and ask her to add you to her email contact list.



ALL AROUND TOWN

- This group of adventurous diners continues to meet on the second Wednesday of the month. Our next dinner will be **January 11, 2023**, at a yet to be determined location. Some of our recent outings have been to Carlito's Mexican Restaurant, Fernando's Cali Kitchen, Dancing Tomato Caffe, and Kenzo's Sushi Restaurant (and, yes, they have much more than sushi). For more information, contact Linda Zall, 530-713-0552 or lindazall66@gmail.com.



Here is the Dinner group on Dec. 14: (L-R) Kathryn, Linda, Ethel, Sue, Debbie, Mary, Betty.



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 daytime movie in Yuba City about once a month with some friends? We prefer Monday matinees. To be on the Movie group email list contact Artis Buerki, artisb@comcast.net or Mary Mayfield 530-691-0336.



RABID READERS

- The book group meets on the third Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Sutter County Library. Our next meeting will be **January 20, 2023**. At the January meeting we will be discussing *The Engineer's Wife: A Novel*, by Tracey Enerson Wood, historical fiction

about the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge. For the February meeting we will be reading *When Women Lead: What They Achieve, Why They Succeed, and How We Can Learn from Them* by Julia Boorstin. For more information, contact Linda Zall, 530-713-0552 or lindazall66@gmail.com.



Book club met on Dec. 16 with Lee, Sue, Christy, Judy, Linda, Dee, Marilyn, Mary, Helen present.



TALKING ON PAPER

- Our writing group meets on the 2nd Tuesday morning, 10 am of each month at the Sutter County Library. New members are welcome who like to express themselves on paper (like travel, family, new experiences, memories or poetry). We have a good time sharing, laughing, and empathizing with each other. See you there on **January 10**. Call Joan Young for details at 530-713-1279.



Talking on Paper on December 13 (L-R) Artis, Barbara Joan, and June. Not shown Edette, Donna, Debbie, and Gwyn. *Photo by Mary Mayfield*



TRAVELING GOURMET

goes to lunch once a month to restaurants within about a 50-mile radius of Yuba City. **We are returning to the 4th Thursday of the month, January 26, location TBD.** We will carpool and meet in the Yuba City Bridge Street Raley's Shopping Center parking lot (at the east end between Wendy's & Huckleberry) **about 10:15 and leave at 10:30.** Reserve by the Monday prior to the lunch. Call co-chairs Carol Clark 530-301-2164 or Christy Estabrook 530-713-5223 if you want to be added to the contact list for future meetings of the Traveling Gourmet.



TG on Dec. 15
L-R around
table are
Kathryn, Mary,
Carol, Gloria,
Liz, Sandy,
Ethyl, Sharon,
Joan, Kathy,
Betty, Sue



Executive Council Report

by Secretary Ellen O'Neil

Executive Committee met on December 8, 2022 via Zoom at 1:05 pm. Present were Martha Bunce, Liz Skelly, Kathy Nehl, Artis Buerki, Gwyn Baker, Sandi Davini, Lee Jones and Ellen O'Neil. Mary Mayfield and Linda Zall joined late.

Agenda was approved. Minutes from last month had one correction: Ethel Jorgensen is not yet a member. Discussion began regarding Job Descriptions of Executive Council Members including Members-At-Large. Liz has suggested that a format be developed, similar to what is customary in employment. Committee agreed that it was a helpful idea and Liz will work on the format.

Martha needs to excuse herself from the Coalition Brunch on Saturday and needs someone to do the 30-second description of AAUW. Liz agreed to do it and Artis will e-mail her the appropriate information to read.

Correspondence: A previous speaker from Birds of Prey sent a fundraising request for the recent "Giving Tuesday." Arts Council postcard arrived as usual,

Sandi reported. Treasurer's Report: All members received the spreadsheet through e-mail yesterday. Sandi was happy to report that there is already sponsorships for the Garden Tour: \$350. One of the responsibilities that makes the Treasurer's job description so duty-laden is that of Branch meeting registration. Liz, Sandi and Martha met and determined that the role should be undertaken by the Program Committee. Liz has volunteered to do it and will handle the reconciliation of the luncheon payments. Sandi noted that \$350 is budgeted for any organization that assists reentry women, but no such organization has yet been identified.

Membership: Sandi said that she, Martha and Liz had discussed ways to shift responsibility for reminding members that their annual fees are due from the Treasurer by adding a new person to the Membership Team. Lee, Linda, Martha, and Sandi will meet Dec. 9 to discuss possibilities. Lee announced that there are currently 86 members. Sandi described a national opportunity called "Shape the Future". For the first year, new members would get 50% off their national dues and their membership would be good for a year; it wouldn't end in June as has been the policy. Liz moved that we initiate the "Shape the Future" campaign locally at our Jan 21 & Feb. 18, 2023, meetings; Sandi seconded, and it passed with no nay votes. Artis requested an article for the Feather Vane regarding it by next week. Sandi will provide it.

Public Policy: Nothing new to report.

By-Laws: Christy was not present, however, Martha stated there was nothing to report.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC/>



BOOK REVIEW – The Resistance Girl

This book by author Mandy Robotham is set in Norway in 1942. Rumi Olstad is the 20-something daughter of a fisherman, and they are assisting the Resistance by smuggling British agents in and out of the country and transporting supplies and weapons in the bottom of barrels of herring aboard their

fishing boat across dangerous waters. But when Rumi found out that her childhood friend, Anya, had been raped by a German soldier and was taken to a maternity home for the birth of the baby, the war got even more personal for Rumi. Anya was sure that her baby would be taken from her after the birth and sent back to Germany for adoption, and it became clear that was indeed the German plan. Nazis had set up birthing factories using the beautiful, tall, light haired Norwegian women as birthing machines impregnated by German soldiers and officers in another of Hitler's plans to build the 'pure' race. Rumi with the help of her British undercover boyfriend created a plan to get Anya and another expectant mother across enemy lines to safety by way of the Northern Sea.

The author, Mandy Robotham is by trade a midwife as well as an author, and the birth scenes in the book are graphically fascinating as are the separate escapes on the icy Norwegian seas with the new mothers and newborns.

This is the 5th book by this author and was published in 2022. Recently I've also read her other books: The German Midwife-set in a German prison camp in 1944 (pub. 2018); The Secret Messenger-set in Venice in 1943 (pub. 2020); The German Girl-set in Germany in 1938 (pub. 2020); and I have reserved but not yet read The Girl Behind the Wall-set in East Berlin (pub. 2021). Her upcoming book, The War Pianist will be released in Feb. 2023. If you enjoy historical novels and are curious about life pre and during WW 2, then I recommend this author. *Review by Artis Buerki*



Communication: There are two Facebook pages. Artis suggested we keep both. She needs administrators for the one titled "AAUW-MVYC (Marysville-Yuba City)". The deadline for January's Feather Vane is Dec. 15th, a week from today.

Nominating Committee: Martha confirmed that the members are Joanne Nixon, Christy Estabrook and Joyce Smith. They do not need to nominate as all EC members have agreed to stand again. However, they will write a report.

Programs: No branch meeting this month. Forty-seven members have paid to attend the Coalition Brunch on Saturday. There are lots of AAUW raffle prizes! Future Branch Meetings: Jan. 21, 2023: Steve Kroeger from the Blue Zones Project Feb. 18, 2023: Robert Summa from The Appeal April 22, 2023: Sutter-Yuba Homeless consortium June is still in the planning stages. The EC committee agreed to switch from breakfast to lunch with the meetings still starting at 10:00 and having the speaker be up at that time.

STEM: Five more presenters are needed; medical and math fields are encouraged. March 27th is the date. Committee is working on the registration process, organizing the facility and confirming keynote speaker.

Garden Tour: Two additional gardens are needed. Homeowners are being asked to provide a photo for the brochure.

Tech Trek: No report

OTHER BUSINESS: Interbranch Council: Liz reminded everyone that the Redding Branch will be hosting on February 4th. Registration is solely online but Liz will take checks and handle registration for people who prefer that process. A speaker is not yet confirmed. The planners are hoping for an indigenous woman to talk about the status of missing women.

Scholarship: It was suggested that there be a raffle at Branch Meetings to fundraise for scholarships, perhaps using "leftover" raffle prizes from this weekend. Martha suggested that any ongoing fundraising ideas be on the next EC agenda.

Lastly, Linda and Sandi attended an online Tech Peer Group training put on by the state AAUW. It was concerning Google Drive. This branch could benefit by communication forms, etc. in this manner rather than having a variety of spreadsheets etc. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

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

REPORT FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA - Elections Finally Over – How'd We Do in '22?

Kathi Harper, Public Policy Chair AAUW California

The election is finally over! In addition to an end to the non-stop requests for donations, AAUW members can be pretty happy with the results. Here are a few highlights:

- 1 woman each was added to the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate, bringing the numbers to 124 (H) and 25 (S)
- Of the total of 149, 54 are women of color
- We lost the most powerful woman in government as House Speaker (Nancy Pelosi) but still have a woman on the Minority leadership team, Minority Whip Katherine Clark
- Governors of 12 states are now women
- 23% of all mayors across the nation are women, including our brand new and **first** female mayor of Los Angeles, Karen Bass
- 20 women won new seats in the California Legislature and 30 female incumbents were re-elected, bringing the total to 50 – but still just 42%
- All executive positions in California except Governor are filled by women, including Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Controller, as well as the Senate Pro Tem
- Proposition 1 prevailed and women's right to control their own reproductive choices is now enshrined in our California State Constitution.

And here are some fun facts:

- Only 3.2% of all members of Congress to date have been women
- California has sent more women to Congress than any other state – a total of 47 to date
- Vermont is the only state that has never sent a woman to either the House or the Senate

The State Public Policy committee thanks each and every AAUW California member who voted, who assisted in our Voter Education (VE) campaign by spreading our messages on social media, who took the pledge to vote for Prop 1 (we had 437 sign up!) and who worked within their branches to do their own VE events.

For a more detailed analysis of the election results, visit <https://www.aauw-ca.org/got-voter-fatigue/>



FEATHER VANE, Artis Buerki, Editor

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To find us online just CTRL+LEFT CLICK on any of these underlined links
 Our branch website: <http://mvyca.aauw.net/>
 AAUW California: www.aauw-ca.org/ AAUW National: www.aauw.org
 OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC/>

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3	4	5 10 am Garden Tour Com.	6	7
8	9	10 10 am Talking on Paper	11 5:30 pm All Around Town	12 10 am STEM Com. 1 pm Executive Council Meeting	13	14
15	16 MLK Day	17	18	19	20 10 am Rabid Readers	21 10 am Branch Meeting
22	23	24	25	26 Traveling Gourmet	27	28
29	30	31				

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(SAVE LOGOS)



We are all wonder women!



JOIN A GROUP

