



FEATHER VANE - March 2024

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.

The Executive Council meets Thursday, March 14, 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.

Council Chat

by Martha Bunce

NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO HELP! – LET'S ALL SELL GARDEN TOUR TICKETS!



Mark your calendar and just say "YES" when you are asked to help.

The 30th annual AAUW GARDEN TOUR will be held on May 4, 2024, and you will be invited to help in two ways:

1. Garden greeters are needed. Sign up at the February, March, or April branch meetings.
2. In mid-March each member will receive two tickets to sell or buy. Please do your part.

Here's our chance to make sure there is enough money to do the good work we do! The Garden Tour is our ONLY public fundraiser (yay!), and local stores (K. Roberts Gifts, Country Florist, Sperbeck's Nursery, and Digs on D Street) are all selling tickets for us. Let's help them out!

Please send your \$50 check in the addressed envelope provided. If you want more tickets to sell, please phone Joyce Smith, 530-674-9178 or email Artis Buerki, artisb@comcast.net, and we will arrange to get more tickets to you. We are counting on you to do these two small things to make sure that our branch has the money to do the many things that benefit women and girls in our community.

BRANCH MEETING-MARCH 16

When: Saturday, March 16

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)

Speaker: Gretchen Cupp, YSDADA

Menu: Lunch Buffet following speaker

Cost: \$20. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED (pay at meeting/no cancellations) Tell your emailer (Gwyn Baker) or your caller (Barbara Kenney) 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.

Program Notes

by Gwyn Baker



Long-time AAUW member Gretchen Cupp will be telling us about her work with Yuba Sutter Domestic Animal Disaster Assistance (YSDADA) at the March 16 branch meeting. After watching news footage of the devastating floods of 1997, Gretchen wanted to find ways to help animals in times of disaster. She started training with YSDADA and taking the required FEMA tests. She became their second president in 2015. In 2017, their organization was activated three times to provide shelter for the animals: during a high-water event in the river bottoms, the Oroville Dam evacuation, and the Cascade Fire. Since then, they have also provided shelter for more than 100 dogs during the Camp Fire and the North Complex Fire. Come find out more about the work this organization does, and what you can do to prep for your pets in times of emergency.



Opportunity for New Member – Shape the Future discount

by Lee Jones & Sandy Davini

Shape the Future is an exciting opportunity for potential members to save some money by joining our branch between **February 17 and March 16**, or on **March 2** at the Day for Women event at Hard Rock Casino. Please invite prospective members to attend one or more meetings. Membership is open to both women and men who have at least an associate degree or greater. If they join at a Feb. or March branch meeting, they will get a 50% (\$36) discount on their first year AAUW National dues. That means they can join for \$69 (instead of (\$105) for a full twelve months. New members would owe a full year's dues when they renew a year later.



Tea Bag Fundraiser

In February, each of our branch members will have received a teabag in the mail, and a letter explaining our annual Education and Training Tea Bag Fundraiser. Your donations are used at the national level to address barriers that prevent women from thriving in school and pursuing the careers of their dreams.

Please participate in this event by writing a check for \$15 or more to: AAUW and write ET-#4450 in the memo line.

Mail your check to AAUW, PO Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992, by **March 31, 2024**. 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. If you have any questions, contact our Treasurer, Sandy Davini.

February 17 branch meeting report

photos by Mary Mayfield, story by Artis Buerki

The Branch meeting on Feb. 17 was memorable. Dan Flores, Community Development Director in



Marysville, spoke about the growth taking place in Marysville and showed a fabulous slide show that told the story.



We were fortunate to fill the room and to bring four new members into the fold. Pictured below are Cheryl Hoke and Claudia Schroeder. Please say hello when you see them and make them feel welcome. Details are on page 4.



Thanks to Sunsweet Growers and Sandy Davini, we had two nice gift baskets to give away at the Opportunity Drawing. Winners were Kathy Nehl and Thea Norum.

Feather Vane Staff

Artis Buerki – Editor, e-mailer artisb@comcast.net
Libby Haraughty & Joan Young - Snail Mailers
Cynthia Fontayne & Corky Ulrey – Proofreaders
Joann Nixon & Mary Mayfield - Photographers
Linda Zall - Communications Leader

IBC Luncheon report by Liz Skelly

Every year the North Valley Interbranch Council (IBC) hosts a luncheon for members from our region's branches (Redding, Chico, Paradise, Oroville, Gridley, and Marysville/Yuba City). This year's IBC luncheon

MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH was hosted by Chico on February 3rd. We had eight members from our branch attend!

This year's speaker was Dr. Fay Mitchell-Brown, Director of Nursing for CSU, Chico. She spoke about her humble beginnings in Jamaica to becoming the new Director of Nursing and all that it entails. This is her first year in the leadership role and she gave insight into her new work role and how the nursing program works.

At IBC meetings you can learn what other branches are doing and how they fundraise to send their young women to Tech Trek. For example, the Oroville branch is having a Tea & Luncheon fundraiser on March 9, and the Chico branch is hosting an Antique Appraisal Faire on March 24 whereas we have the Garden Tour. Our branch will host the IBC luncheon in 2026 so we will need some helping hands when the time rolls around. I'll be in touch!

VOTE to change the AAUW bylaws *by Sandi Gabe, AAUW California President*



The AAUW California Board of Directors came together with one powerful voice, voting unanimously to champion inclusion by supporting open membership for AAUW. Now, it's your turn to join the movement and help us act during the AAUW national election from April 3rd to May 15th. Let's broaden our appeal and remove the degree requirement so everyone who's got our back can officially join our chorus!

We understand you might have questions. Here's how you can dive deeper:

1. Keep your eyes on your inbox! In February, AAUW California will send you more information about open membership.
2. Watch the webinar [Living our Vision of Equity for All](#), which discusses dropping the degree requirement.
3. Ready to take action? Visit the [Open Up AAUW](#) website for details and add your name to the endorsement list. Let's show

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the world we're united and ready for change!

Together, we're rewriting the future of AAUW-more inclusive, more powerful, and more united than ever before.

The online election will be in April. Read the measure now:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2024-aauw-proposed-bylaws-changes>.

Branch Election is April 20

by Nominating Committee:

Christy Estabrook, Betty Bonner & Liz Skelly

Eight elected members sit on the Executive Council. Terms are staggered and terms that are expiring at the end of June 2024 are Lee Jones, Gwyn Baker, Christy Estabrook and Sandy Davini. Gwyn, Christy, and Sandy have agreed to run for another term.

Slate of officers for election:

Gwyn Baker (3 yr.)
Christy Estabrook (3 yr.)
Artis Buerki (3 yr.)
Sandy Davini, Treasurer (1 yr.)

Other continuing EC leaders

Martha Bunce
Ellen O'Neil
Linda Zall
Liz Skelly

If you would like to attend branch meetings as a voting Member at Large or wish to run for election, please contact Christy Estabrook before March 15.

Visit our event page on Facebook and invite your friends to the page: **AAUW Garden Tour**



Membership report

We regret to report that two of our long-time and very active members have passed away. Dorothy Jang who was a Charter member of our branch, passed away in late January. Janet Theiss passed away in early February. See the tribute to Janet in this Feather Vane and look for a remembrance of Dorothy in the next Feather Vane. They will both be missed.

Some of our members have asked how they can make a donation in Janet's name. Her obituary suggested our AAUW branch among other places. If you want to make a memorial gift, our Treasurer Sandy Davini says that you could write a check to AAUW, with a note saying "in honor of Janet Theiss to be used for local branch projects." Mail it to AAUW, PO Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992.

New Members - Four new members signed up at our Feb.17 branch meeting. See their contact information below. Please add them to your roster and make them feel welcome. For membership questions, contact Lee Jones, 530-300-0214.

Wendy Burri: 2127 Gold River Dr., Yuba City, CA 95991; 530.755.3905; wendyburri@comcast.net. Pasadena City College-Early Childhood Education degree. Wendy was a preschool teacher for many years. She heard about AAUW from co-worker Corky Ulrey--thanks Corky!

Bonnie Calkins: 1311 Hidden Creek Way, Plumas Lake, CA 95961; 530.277.5554; bonniecalkins@sbcglobal.net. UC Davis-Child Development degree. Bonnie enjoys travel and entertaining friends. She heard about AAUW from Lee, our Membership Chair!

Cheryl Hoke: 9974 Mountain Oak Ct., Browns Valley, CA 95918; 970.691.6787; choke0131@aol.com (zero131, not letter o). Missouri Western University, Regis University-BSBA; Regis Univ.-Masters, Non-profit administration. Cheryl enjoys gardening, working with young adults and travel. Thank you Mary Harris Kasuba for telling Cheryl about AAUW!

Claudia Schroeder: 1418 Johnathan Drive, Yuba City, CA 95993; 530.441.4497; claudia_schroeder@comcast.net. Mission College-BA, Psych. Claudia's ambitions are living life gracefully, sewing, supporting women. Thank you, Joyce Smith, for bringing Claudia to AAUW!



Remembering Janet Theiss

Janet Theiss passed away on February 2, 2024. Janet grew up in AAUW as her mother, Alice Dewey, was a Charter Member when our branch organized in 1955. Janet was born in Yuba City in 1953 and attended Live

Oak schools. She went on to earn an English degree from UC Berkeley. She married Bill Theiss and they lived and worked in the Bay Area before returning to Live Oak.

Here are some thoughts and remembrances of Janet by some of her AAUW friends:

Carol Clark said "The last time I saw Janet, I told her it took five different people to take over the tasks she was doing on her own. What an amazing lady."

"Janet Theiss was a force of nature," Martha Bunce said. "A rock. Solid. Dependable. Reliable. Steady. Her energy was like gravity – the potential force that existed for her to channel. Her presence like that of a Redwood tree – so massively strong and seemingly permanent that we took her for granted. And when she had to stay rooted and couldn't come to our meetings any longer, we missed her extraordinary competence, her remarkable work ethic, her brilliant ability to solve problems, and her total dependability to do what needed to be done.

We missed her. And we still miss her, as we still try to do without her."

Barbara Douyon remembers that "I met Janet after I retired from teaching—looking for an organization to connect with that had a "giving" objective. AAUW was the 4th organization I'd checked—arriving at the beginning of a meeting and waiting outside for the nerve to enter. As with the other organizations that I'd visited there appeared to be no Black members and I wasn't sure how I'd be received—or, frankly, if I'd "fit in". Then this woman approached me—introduced herself as "Janet" and invited me to join her. She sat with me during the meeting, took my phone # and called me afterwards, accompanied me to the next meetings...long story-short: she embraced me, introduced me to AAUW, to her husband, Bill...to the realization that I was welcomed in her life. She, Andre, Bill, and I "connected". I will forever be grateful for that day that I stood outside the meeting room, and she walked up. I really, really valued my friendship with Janet to the nth degree."

"Janet was my mentor," Artis Buerki said. "Janet was the Feather Vane editor from 2002 to 2012 when she passed it on to me. I'd call Janet whenever I had computer issues and if she didn't know the answer, she'd ask Bill. I still use her layout for the Feather Vane. She was our branch President from 2000 to 2002, was an Executive Council leader, a member of the Garden Tour committee, STEM Conference committee, and many others, and she created and edited the Roster until 2021. The information inside our current Yearbook/Roster is pure Janet. She used her leadership skills and her computer know-how to keep us all on track. She is greatly missed."

"Janet was inspirational," Edna Smyth said. "She had a brilliant mind, positive outlook on life and a joyous smile and laugh. She was a 'doer'. In both AAUW and the Garden Club she took leadership roles and helped the organization meet its goals. When given lemons, Janet made lemonade. When at Bridgeview facility, she was mostly confined to the bed as she dealt with numerous medical issues. Janet continued to smile. The angels in heaven have another worker bee. I'm certain that she'll be busy with new assignments and new adventures. Janet is loved and will be missed. I'm glad that I had an opportunity to meet her and wish that we had more time to share."

Sandy Davini said "Janet served as Executive Council member and leader extraordinaire. She was a member of our branch for 35 years. She supported every part of our organization with her communication, organizational, and technical skills. Janet developed and ran the STEM Conference registration database, handled all aspects of written and electronic communication with our members, designed and published the annual Garden Tour brochure. Since Janet relinquished her duties EC members have often said it takes several people to handle one of Janet's jobs. We'll miss her giving spirit."

In addition to volunteering for our AAUW branch, Janet was active in the Sutter Buttes Garden Club. Libby Hauraughty knew Janet in the Garden Club, and she said, "You will be forever missed and remembered for those beautiful twinkling eyes, that huge infectious laugh and big heart! You were always willing to listen to problems and then to help solve them! You were Co-President of the Garden Club with Bill as well as Co-Chairing Plant Sale efforts with Bill. Your help with the Membership duties was so appreciated! The Good Lord must have needed some assistance, and He chose a wonderful person to help! I will think of you often! Rest in peace, beautiful lady."

AAUW California will hold its 2024 Lobby Days on April 2 and 3.

The Public Policy team is seeking members who are interested in meeting with their state representatives and/or their staff to inform them about AAUW and advocate for their support of priority bills. Meetings may be held in person at the Capitol or virtually via Zoom. Information go to the website <https://www.aauw-ca.org/learn-how-to-be-an-effective-lobby-days-advocate-2024/>.



Did you know?

Happy Birthday to all who have birthdays in March: **Donna Burrows, Jennifer Jones,**

Karen Kam, Debbie Naylor, Beverly Paget, Karen Villalobos, Kathy Bertelsen, Phyllis Smith, Bonnie Calkins. If we missed you, or we got it wrong, please let us know right away.

Did you know that as the oldest non-institutional provider of graduate funding for women in the United States, **AAUW American Fellowships** empower women scholars engaged in full-time dissertation completion, postdoctoral research, or preparing research for publication. Candidates, evaluated for scholarly excellence and a commitment to advancing women and girls, contribute not only to their academic fields but also through active service in their communities and professions. Explore the opportunities for the coming year and consider joining this legacy of impactful scholarship. Visit <https://bit.ly/3CUriQR> to learn how to apply.

Don't miss the Pioneer Women photographic show, **Sutter County Museum** now til April 7.

Did you know that we have selected three scholarship winners at Yuba College? Names and majors of the scholarship recipients are: **Elizabeth Gonzales, Biology, Pre-Med**
Gracia Murillo, Vet Tech
Kimberly Rivera, Biology, Forensics

Did you know that you can sign up for the TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST and make your voice heard?

Just click here: <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist>

Did you know that March is **Women’s History** and did you know that it has been celebrated during the month of March in the United States since 1987? Here are some quotes worth reading on the subject:

<https://www.success.com/30-quotes-to-celebrate-womens-history-month/>

Did you know that it is **ART CONTEST TIME?**

The entries are in and now it is time to vote for your favorites. Starting in February, all AAUW members can select their favorite entries via ranked-choice voting. The winners will be featured on a collection of notecards sent to all members this spring. The back of each card will include the winning artist’s biography, a fact about AAUW and a highlight of the artist’s local branch affiliation when applicable.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/art-contest/>



Julie Goldwyn and her baby granddaughter Tatum, Madeline Covil (TT2019), and Joann Nixon enjoyed lunch at Dancing Tomato while discussing Madeline’s college plans.

Photo courtesy of Joann Nixon

TTAG Update

by Julie Goldwyn to Feather Vane, February 2024

On Tuesday, January 30, 2024, Joann Nixon and Julie Goldwyn met for lunch with Madeline Covil, a member of TTAG who had attended Tech Trek in 2019.

Madeline is an impressive young woman who is excited about her career goals which include a degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Alabama at Huntsville. She hopes to someday be employed by NASA. Due to her exceptionally high grades, Madeline has received a significant academic scholarship to attend this university.

Joann remembers Madeline’s discussion at the 2019 September Branch meeting when Madeline shared her experiences from Tech Trek camp at UC Davis. Madeline had participated in a class involving

computer coding and was able to program a device to play a musical tune.

At our meeting, Madeline shared that she participated in Varsity Golf during the four years that she attended Wheatland High School and her team qualified for Sectionals twice. She was involved in clubs during high school such as a coding club and a looming club. She was very excited about attending college this fall and enjoyed interacting with Tatum (Julie’s granddaughter).

Madeline has volunteered to be available to consult with younger TTAG members as they move through their high school years and prepare for college. We are grateful that Madeline is invested in the TTAG program, and we wish her much success and happiness in her future.

GARDEN TOUR SPONSOR UPDATE

by Artis Buerki, Joyce Smith & Linda Zall



This year we are focusing on women-owned businesses, but not exclusively, and we will post sponsors on the *Feather Vane* pages, on our Facebook pages and website, and in our publicity. Contact artisb@comcast.net with sponsor ideas. Levels of GARDEN TOUR sponsorships are Orchid - \$500, Rose - \$300; Azalea - \$100, and Iris - \$50. Here are our Garden Tour sponsors so far: Please thank them and use their businesses if you can.

- McC Campbell Mansion-Mike and Stephanie Jauron
- Aquamarine Contractors in Yuba City
- Owens Ranch in Browns Valley
- American Painters in Yuba City
- Lowe’s in Yuba City
- Davis Printing in Yuba City
- Kay & Ross Cockrell
- Harkey House, Lee & Bob Jones
- Chuck & Artis Buerki
- Plumas Bank
- Colusa Casino
- Sunsweet Growers
- Holycross Funeral Home
- Hilbers Inc.
- Betty Bonner
- Twin Cities Dancers
- Marcia Stranix
- Hillcrest Catering

Who do you know that we can ask to be Garden Tour sponsors?

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.



TRAVELING GOURMET – March 28

Lunch group goes to restaurants within about a 50-mile radius of Yuba City on the **4th Thursday of the month**. We will meet to carpool in the Yuba City Bridge Street Raley's Shopping Center

parking lot (at the east end between Wendy's & Huckleberry) at about 10:15 and leave at 10:30. Location TBD. 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.



The lunch group went to Rocco's Bar & Grill in Colusa on January 25. *photo by Mary Mayfield*



ALL AROUND TOWN – March 13

Dinner group normally meets the **2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm** at a local restaurant. Contact Linda Zall, 530.713.0552 or email lindazall66@gmail.com



Dinner Group went to Dragon Inn on February 7 in honor of the Chinese New Year. *Photo by Mary Mayfield*



MOVIE LOVERS - Would you like to go to a daytime movie in Yuba City about once a month with some friends? To be on the Movie group email list contact Mary Mayfield,

marymay22@comcast.net.



Executive Council Report February 8, 2024

Ellen O'Neil, Secretary

In Attendance: Martha Bunce, Liz Skelly, Sandy Davini, Joann Nixon, Ellen O'Neil, Linda Zall, Kathy Nehl, Lee Jones, Carol Anderson-Clark

The meeting was called to order at 1:05p.m. Minutes from January 11, 2024, were approved with no changes.



RABID READERS – March 15

Book Club meets on the **3rd Friday of each month at 10 am** at the Sutter County Library. Contact Linda Zall, 530.713.0552, lindazall66@gmail.com



TALKING ON PAPER – March 12

Members who like to express themselves on paper (writing about travel, family, new experiences, memories, or poetry) are welcome. We meet on the **2nd Tuesday of the month, 10 am** at Sutter County Library and have a good time sharing, laughing, and empathizing with each other. Contact Donna Long, 530-671-4381.

Leader's Report: The first item was the "Women's Day Event" on March 2nd. AAUW representatives will attend for the first time this year and Martha took a count of who would be available to fill the table. Evidently, the various women's groups who participate create an award for the member who has best exemplified their individual mission. Martha will note how this is done and perhaps, next year, MVYC-AAUW can nominate a member to be recognized. Martha handed out a letter from National AAUW outlining the responsibilities of AAUW members. She

MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH noted that we have been hoping to increase diversity and that is right in line with the suggestions in the letter. The vote to change membership rules to allow persons without a degree to join AAUW will take place between April 3rd and May 15th, 2024. The Executive Council members support this resolution. AAUW's mission has evolved from advocating college education for women to increasing equity for women in all aspects of life.

Membership Report: Lee shared some questions from a prospective member and how she answered them. They involved why the organization supports "only" STEM, why men can join and why non-degreed people should be considered as members. Women are poorly represented in STEM fields; we recognize that men can be allies in promoting equity for women and again, while the name, AAUW is confusing, the mission has expanded.

Correspondence: Sandi passed around mailings from the Arts Council, Food Bank and a thank-you letter from the museum. She suggested that since we get a number of solicitations for monetary support, at some future point, we need to consider if providing financial support to any of the groups who are in need would meet our mission. It was agreed to review the possibilities at a future meeting.

Treasurer's Report: That will be done at the quarterly meeting in April. The Budget Committee will meet beforehand to propose ideas, especially in regards to the above suggestions.

Public Policy: California's State AAUW School Board Project has been noticed by the national office who wants to implement some of the ideas which California has implemented. The goal is to push back against book banning and gender discrimination. Since there are no local school board elections this year, it was suggested that members attend and observe school board meetings. Martha noted that the local state assembly representative, James Gallagher, supports policies and legislation contrary to AAUW Public Policy positions regarding full access to a quality education and to gender equity.

Lobby Day in Sacramento is April 2nd and 3rd. Lee and Martha have signed up. Members who are planning to attend must participate in a Zoom training. Information about the time and date for the training can be found on the state AAUW website.

Membership: Lee reported that there are no new members, however, a number of guests should be attending the Branch Meeting on February 17th. February and March are

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"Shape the Future" months during which dues drop from \$105 to \$69.

The membership form that Lee received from Redlands was again discussed. Linda is willing to do some editing of our form with what the EC liked from the Redlands form. It will be reviewed by the EC for approval. Linda also reported that with the new "rolling" renewal policy from national, there are 2 members who need to renew in April and 6 in May. She is sending them a simple invoice.

Nominating Committee: Martha spoke to Christy, the chair, who said the committee will be meeting soon. There may be three positions for which the committee will need to recruit.

By-laws: no changes.

Communications: Linda said that Artis is requesting all articles for the Feather Vane by February 20th. It was noted that the Garden Tour request for business sponsors made the front page of the Appeal newspaper. Gwyn said that social media activity has increased a bit since she asked for people to "like" FB posts. There are 50 reservations for this month's Branch meeting so far.

STEM Conference: Sandi stated that the branch can likely field a conference on April 1, 2025. Liz and Sandi will meet with the president of Yuba College next week to discuss logistics.

Garden Tour: There are eight gardens scheduled plus the reception spot, all closer together than last year. A "VIP" tour will occur the evening before so that greeters and artists as well as garden owners can enjoy the tour.

Tech Trek: Fourteen girls have been nominated; the committee awaits the parental paperwork and the girls' applications and essays. Interviews will probably take place on the 4th Saturday in March. Carol will step away from managing the Tech Trek process at the end of this year. Martha asks that the Tech Trek committee brainstorm some ideas to insure the process continues as well as it has.

TTAG: Joann shared informal survey results regarding the book, "Teen Girls Survival Guide" given to the 2023 Tech Trek attendees. Those with whom she spoke were enthusiastic about it.

The EC vote last summer to give \$250 gift cards to TTAG girls came under discussion since there is a goal to "spread

MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA, AAUW BRANCH the wealth” and help any group that advances equity for women. As of this time, EC deemed it appropriate as part of the Branch’s goal to encourage college attendance among the TTAG girls.

There will be further discussion about how the September Branch meeting should function for the girls and our members to get the most out of the experience.

Scholarships: No report; they will meet in the summer. Martha pointed out that the branch’s scholarship money is in the Yuba College Foundation. She is wondering if it’s possible to have a more flexible scholarship fund. Liz will research the possibility. Nevada County AAUW is able to do it and can guide us.

Interbranch: The IBC luncheon was held recently, hosted by the Chico branch and eight people from our branch attended.

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Coalition Brunch: Artis is now the chairperson.

Feb 17 Branch Meeting: A brief discussion was held regarding the agenda for the Branch meeting including: Garden Greeters, Sunsweet Basket raffle, Shape the Future, Nominating Committee, Speaker: Dan Flores

New Business: Sandi said that she had heard that a long-time member, Dorothy Jang, a Charter Member of our branch, has passed away. We will honor her with a book at the library.

Janet Theiss has died, and her funeral is February 22nd at Gridley’s Presbyterian Church. The time is 10:00 and Sandi encourages attendance. She has spoken to Janet’s husband and received the names of authors whose books could be donated to the library in her name. Both women contributed to the functioning of our branch.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00p.m.

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



Woman in History: Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell (1821–1910)

Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman physician. She was commemorated by a U.S. postage stamp in 1974.

Story by Cynthia Fontayne

Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell once said, “It’s not easy being a pioneer – but oh, is it fascinating.” She ought to know.

A contemporary of Queen Victoria, Bristol-born Blackwell was the first woman to be admitted to and receive a degree from a U.S. medical school and the first female doctor to be included in the registry of Britain’s General Medical Council.

One of nine children, she was fortunate that her Quaker father believed, contrary to the standards of the time, that girls should be educated, and she was taught by private tutors. She and her siblings also were schooled at home in the importance of human rights by her father’s support for abolition and female suffrage. When Elizabeth was 10, the family moved to New York and then to Cincinnati. When she was 17, her father’s death left the family in financial straits, so to help support the household, she became a teacher, then the only work outside the home that was deemed suitable for women. STEM, anyone?

In her mid-20s, the death of a close friend set Elizabeth’s sights on becoming a physician. After studying medicine privately, she applied to Geneva Medical College in upstate New York. As a joke, her application was put to a vote of the 140 male students, but the happenstance of their unanimous approval meant she was accepted. She endured taunts, isolation, pranks by teachers, students, and patients, and she graduated at the top of her class in 1849.

Dr. Blackwell went on to found clinics, organizations, and schools to serve women and children, and encourage women to become medical professionals. She once remarked, “If society will not admit of women’s free development, then society must be remodeled.” How very AAUW! Find her full bio at womenshistory.org



FEATHER VANE, Artis Buerki, Editor

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We are all Wonder Women.

AAUW California website: www.aauw-ca.org/ AAUW National website: www.aauw.org
 Our branch website: <http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/>
 Our Branch Facebook pages: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MVYC/> (org page);
AAUW--MVYC Group (open group page); **Art in the Gardens** (open group page)

MARCH 2024

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 10 am Garden Tour Com.	8	9
10 Daylight savings time begins.	11	12 10 am Talking on Paper (writing)	13 5:30 pm All Around Town (dinner)	14 1 pm Executive Council	15 10 am Rabid Readers (books)	16 10 am Branch Meeting
17 	18	19 First day of Spring	20	21 1:30 pm Tech Trek Committee	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet (lunch)	29	30
31 EASTER						

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