



FEATHER VANE – June 2025

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

The Executive Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Planning meeting is June 19 at 10 am, Contact is Martha Bunce, 530-713-0663, If you would like to attend EC meetings as a member-at-large, please contact Martha or any EC member to volunteer. MAL appointments are made for 1 year at a time.

BRANCH MEETING – June 7

When: Saturday, June 7, 2025
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: Darcy Totten, Executive Director of the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

Menu: Lunch Buffet following speakers

Cost: \$20. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.
Reservations made are reservations paid. (pay at door/mail in check if you cannot attend) Tell your emailer (Gwyn Baker) or your caller (Barbara Kenney) if you are coming. Please reply **YES or NO**, by Monday prior to the meeting.

Not sure you have confirmed reservations?
 Contact Gwyn Baker, 530-632-4336.

Program Notes

by Gwyn Baker, Program Chair

We hope that you can join us on Saturday, June 7th, when Darcy Totten, Executive Director of the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls will talk about their projects and programs. The Commission was formed 60 years ago and examines gender equity in areas such as health, safety, employment, and the media. They provide leadership through research, education, outreach and collaboration. They are one of the leads on the California Women's Well-Being Index which measures Health, Personal Safety, Employment & Earnings, Economic Security, and Political Empowerment and ranks California's counties on a scale of zero to 100. See where Yuba and Sutter Counties rank.

Council Chat

by Martha Bunce, Executive Council Leader

2024-2025 has been a great AAUW year
 The 2025 Garden Tour was a huge success! NO RAIN - NO NORTH WIND - NO LOST OR MISSING GARDEN TOURISTS ON BACK ROADS OF SUTTER COUNTY!! Huge congratulations to the many, many people who organized and carried out challenging logistics. We netted enough funds to support our mission, including our most expensive project -- sending five girls to TECH TREK this summer. We carried off the STEM Conference. Someday I'll count how many women it takes to pull this off. It's impressive.

In April we sent two members to Lobby Day in Sacramento to talk with California legislators about bills that AAUW supports/opposes. Think about doing this yourself next year – it's only one day (OK, you do need to look at the information AAUW provides before you go), and it's interesting to see the process in action and to meet AAUW women from throughout the state.

In March, our AAUW participated in A Day for Women, joining several hundred local women for lunch, awards, and a joyful time. Our Scholarship winners were invited, and one was able to join us.

The Programs we enjoyed at Branch Meetings were educational, interesting and gave us a wider knowledge of our community (thank you Gwyn and her committee).

And, as always, members met in groups to discuss books, share lunch or dinner, taste wines, watch movies, share thoughts on paper – all chances to have fun and enjoy each other's company.

AAUW makes a difference for the girls of our community. And for us. And we have fun.

There will be several leadership-sharing opportunities in our Branch next year. Think about being part of the action!



Nadine's beautifully secluded patio. *photos by Sherry Wonder*



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS – Dues are due by June 7 for all members except members who joined since 2021. Each of those newer members will be individually notified by our branch when it is time for them to renew.

If you have not done it already, write your check to AAUW in the amount of \$105 and bring it with you to the **June 7** branch meeting to be included in the drawing for free membership.

(Dues breakdown through June 2025 is \$11 branch/ \$20 state/ \$74 national=\$105)

We are uncertain about the outcome of the AAUW-CA election to increase CA dues from \$20 to \$30 on July 1, 2025, and we encourage you to renew your dues now to avoid the increase.

Please contact Membership chair Joyce Smith or Treasurer Sandy Davini with any questions.

Editor's note: DO NOT RENEW ONLINE. Our branch has opted out of this process.

Feather Vane Staff

Artis Buerki – Editor/emailer, artisb@comcast.net

Cynthia Fontayne – Copy Editor

Joan Young & Libby Haraughty - Snail Mailers

Sherry Wonder & Mary Harris Kasuba - Photographers

Linda Zall - Communications Leader

Tech Trek update

On May 16, the new Tech Trekkers and their families met in Kelly Swanson's back yard to get acquainted before leaving for Tech Trek camp at UC Davis in July. Read story about it on page 7 of this Feather Vane. *Photos by Joann Nixon*



2025 selectees left to right are Kylling Helzer, Brittan; Ofelia Orozco, Brittan; Nanki Bains, Butte Vista; Aiya Ohri, Barry. Not present was Rachael Henry, McKenney School (Sister was graduating from Yuba college that night.)



2024 TTAG attending were Left to right: Audrey Marler, Barry School; Amelia Larson, Live Oak; Laila McRice, Brittan School



Also attending were Ravneet Pabla, (2023 TTAG), who currently attends Yuba City High School and Abi Thompson (2018 TTAG) who attends Yuba College:

Thank you Garden Owners



Janet and Frank Alonso



Nadine Mitchum



Melanie and Justin Munro family, Red Maple Ranch



Patricia and Anthony Van Ruiten
Garden owner photos by Joann Nixon



This is an amaryllis from Simone Furlan's beautiful large amaryllis display in her garden.



"As they cleared the land, Emile and Simone Furlan uncovered a small lake that has become the jewel of the property."



Clairelee grew these beautiful geraniums in tractor tires in her side yard.



Kim Richter



Clairelee Bulkley



Clairelee arranged for music in her garden. *This photo by Fritz Albrecht*

MEMBERSHIP: Contact Joyce Smith for membership applications. This year we have had 9 new members who joined January through March. Here they are:



Sherry Hoon, 1029 H Street, Maryville, 95901, 530.701.4830, sherryh02@gmail.com, CSU Chico, B.A. English/American Studies. Sherry was invited by Leslie Williams.



Cheryl Norton, 1652 Emmett Way, Yuba City 95993, 530.755.7126, Cheryl.norton@att.net, Cal Poly SLO, B.S. Soil Science. Cheryl was invited by Kay Cockrell.



Teresa McManis, 806 Carpenter Pl., Wheatland, 95903, 530.965.6400, teresamcmanis@gmail.com, University of Phoenix Business Management. Teresa was invited by Amy Molina-Jones.



Rebecca Murray-Herbst, 1529 Lincoln Rd., Unit 5, Yuba City, 95993, 530-813-9840. Rebecca has a Juris Doctorate, UC Davis, UOP McGeorge. She enjoys reading, shopping, and sending cards. Rebecca was invited by Cheryl Blackburn.



Laura Goble, 1747 Mariner Loop, Yuba City, 95991, ls.goble@gmail.com. 530-701-6771, Botany, Humbolt Univ. Laura enjoys gardening, and her garden was on our 2024 Garden Tour. reading, music, circus, PEO. Laura was invited to join by Janet Van Alstyne.



Debbie Barbaccia, 1764 Royo Ranchero Dr. Yuba City, 95993, 530-671-0704, c/530-300-5230, barbaccia@outlook.com, Multiple subject teaching credential, Bethany Bible College, She enjoys gardening, painting, reading. Debbie was invited by Sandy Davini.



Doreen Fuller, 1020 Oswald Road, Lot L, Yuba City, CA 95991; 530.229.4233. ddf Fuller.ct@gmail.com Doreen received her BS from CSU Fresno and MA at University of Connecticut. Her interests include golf and travel. "I met Doreen via phone while she was on the golf course found out that she was an AAUW member when she lived in Connecticut years ago," Joyce Smith said.



Molly Yager, 820 Chestnut Street, Yuba City, CA 95991, 530-215-4468, c/ 530-301-2839, mollyyager@rocketmail.com, CSU Chico, BS Crop Science. Her passions include agriculture, golf, helping others. Molly was invited to join by Linda Zall.



Elisabeth Quick, 2797 Apricot Street, Live Oak, CA 95953, 530-635-5226, humblefoxfarms@gmail.com. CSU Chico, BS Crop Science.. Her passions include plants, horses, equality. Elisabeth was invited to join by Linda Zall.



Did you know?

Happy Birthday to all branch members whose birthdays are in **JUNE**: Dee Ellen Day, Baljinder Dhillon, Kathryn

Jankowski, Manjit Jhutti, Katy Coladarci, June Wilcox, and Rebecca Murray-Herbst. If we missed you, or got it wrong, please let us know. Artis Buerki, 530-632-7052.



Thank you **Garden Tour Sponsors**

ORCHID

Kimberly Heisch
Marcia Stranix
Celebrating Marilyn Fontayne
Colusa Casino Resort
Janet Alonso

ROSE

Ross & Kay Cockrell
Sutter Buttes Garden Club
Clairelee Bulkley
Plumas Bank

AZALEA

Neil Goforth
Holycross Funeral Home & Crematory
Chuck & Artis Buerki
Sunsweet Growers
Betty Bonner
Cookie Tree
French Whisk
Bald Mountain Nursery
Hilbers, Inc.
American Painters

IRIS

Harkey House Bed & Breakfast
Davis Printing
Kathryn Jankowski In loving memory of Juanita

INTEREST SECTIONS - All branch members are welcome to participate. During the summer contact your section leaders to confirm meeting dates.



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 -**



Dinner group, All Around Town, normally meets on the **2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm** at a local restaurant. Contact Betty Bonner, 530-301-2265 to join the group. On May 13 we went to Fernando's in Yuba City. *Photo by Betty Bonner*



CORK DORKS - A new interest group has been formed. Join us! The Cork Dorks meet at members' homes on the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.** If you are interested in spending an evening with friends, tasting wine, and sharing good conversation, contact Linda Zall, 530-713-0552, or Betty Bonner, 530-301-2265



MOVIE GROUP -If you want to be on the Movie Group email list contact Diana McVicker, dilmcvicker2521@gmail.com. Please let her know if there are upcoming movies that you want to see when they come to our area.



RABID READERS - Book Club meets on the **3rd Friday of the month at 10 am** at the Sutter County Library. Contact Linda Zall, lindazall-66@gmail.com, 530-713.0552,



TALKING ON PAPER - Writing group meets on the **2nd Tuesday of the month, 10 am** at Sutter County Library. Members who like to express themselves on paper are invited to attend. Please join us. Contact Bunny Parcher, 530-272-3895 or Artis Buerki, 530-632-7052.

TRAVELING GOURMET - Lunch group goes to restaurants within about a 50-mile radius of Yuba City



normally on the **4th Thursday of the month**. To carpool we meet at the Yuba City Raley's Shopping Center parking lot (at the east end between Wendy's & Huckleberry Restaurant) at about 10:15 and leaves at 10:30.

AAUW MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY

Reserve for Traveling Gourmet by the Monday prior to the lunch. Call Carol Clark, 530-301-2164 or Christy Estabrook 530-713-5223 if you want to be on the contact list. On April 24 the Traveling Gourmet went to Fats Asian Bistro, Roseville. *Photo by Sandy Davini*

Garden Tour Artists

Patricia Sandor not shown. *Artist photos by Kathy Nehl*



Nikki Pearson, Clay Hippy Ceramics



Janet Staser



Sue Graue

Feather Vane JUNE 2025



Ronnye Bechtel



Inez Dermody



Adele Lux



Leslie G. Williams



Sherry Hoon



Terri Foley



Cynthia Fontayne



Linda Trudgeon



Executive Council Meeting May 8, 2024

In attendance: Martha Bunce, Joyce Smith, Linda Zall, Gwyn Baker, Carol Anderson-Clark, Liz Skelly, Kathy Nehl, Sandy Davini, Christy Estabrook and Ellen O'Neil

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

The March minutes were approved with two spelling corrections.

A discussion regarding the national AAUW election began the meeting. Some EC members have not received email enabling them to vote. A general email needs to be sent to members telling them how to go about voting online.

Public Policy: The California AAUW website lists the public policy issues that the state organization is working on as well as the priorities of National AAUW.

Martha urged everyone to call their Congressperson and Senators daily.

Garden Tour: It was a marvelous, rain-free event. Sandy reported that the selling of tickets on the day of the tour was excellent. Vendor sales were up from the previous year, though member sales were down. 325 people attended. So far, \$12,939 has been received and expenses of \$1600 have been recorded. Sandy expects more receipts for reimbursement to come in.

Lobby Day in Sacramento: Gwyn Baker and Claudia Chandler joined with Chico members to lobby for regarding bills chosen by the state AAUW. The organizers provided a script of the points necessary to make. They spoke with aides to three legislators. Gwyn recommends the experience for any interested member.

Election: Executive Council election of officers was held at the April 12th Branch meeting. Liz Skelly, Martha Bunce and Sandy Davini were coming to the end of their terms and were re-elected by acclamation.

Communication: Articles for the Feather Vane are due May 17th.

Social media: Gwyn reported that the Facebook page does not get a lot of traffic until someone with several followers likes an item. She encouraged everyone to re-post and like items, especially when marketing an event such as the Garden Tour.

She will be sending out notices for the June meeting on May 23rd.

Yearbook: Linda requested pictures that anyone may have of events, interest groups, etc.

AAUW MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY

Programs: Dates for next year's Branch meetings have been set and some ideas for presenters are being pursued:
Marysville Cemetery: Phyllis Smith
Appeal-Democrat editor: Chuck Smith
Mental Health topics, Gwyn has two connections to contact
Literacy Programs
Educational Topics: County School superintendents

STEM Conference: Two speakers were unable to come, and some last-minute juggling had to be done. Contingency plans are necessary for next year.
Sandy is summarizing the evaluations and debriefing minutes will go out to the committee soon.
The tours of the campus for the 8th graders did not go as well as in previous years. Some coaching can be done by the committee.
Otherwise, an amazing success with fascinating topics and hundreds of attendees

Tech Trek: The committee met May 8. The Pizza Party, where the 2025 girls can learn about the camp from previous attendees will be held on May 16th.
The Visitation Day for the camp is July 17th. Liz is collecting names of people who want to attend. It was suggested that teachers and superintendents be invited.

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Carol mentioned that volunteers are needed for the camp Registration Day on July 13th. It is helpful to have local representation. Interested members can contact Carol Clark or Liz Skelly.

Two TTAG members are going to the camp as Peer Counselors. One is a 2019 camper, attending Sonoma State. The other is a 2022 attendee and a student at Sutter High School.

Interbranch Council: Liz, Carol and Martha attended the most recent meeting. The committee has a refund from a caterer and needs to determine how to use it. The possibilities are as an honorarium for a speaker, reducing the cost of next year's luncheon or dues reduction.

The Executive Council's meeting is on June 19th at Martha's residence.

Sandy noted that this is our 70th anniversary year and should be celebrated at the September meeting. A cake will be ordered.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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

The Exceptional Tech Trek Nominees for 2025 by Julie Goldwyn

On Friday, May 16, 2025, Kelly Swanson and her husband graciously hosted a gathering where AAUW members were able to celebrate and honor the Tech Trek girls for 2025. The Tech Trek Committee had contacted 23 schools in Sutter and Yuba Counties. Seventeen girls from nine schools were nominated by their science teacher. Of the seventeen, nine girls and their parents were interviewed (two were interviewed using Zoom) and five girls and one alternate were elected to go to camp this summer at UC Davis. The five girls who were chosen to go to camp are Kylling Helzer and Ofelia Orozco from Brittan School, Nakai Bains from Butte Vista School, Jaiya Ohri from Barry, and Rachael Henry from McKenney.

In addition to the 2025 girls, TTAG (Tech Trek Alumni Group) girls attended to meet and support their new peers who were going to participate in this fabulous experience. Three of the five 2024 girls, Audrey Mahler, Amelia Larson, and Laila McRice attended this celebration to share their experiences from last year and answer any question that the 2025 girls might have about their upcoming experience. Ravneet Pabla (TTAG 2023) and Abi Thompson (TTAG 2018) were also in attendance. Abi is now in college and shared how her Tech Trek experiences helped her shape goals for which college to attend and in her decision in choosing a major. (See photographs page 2 of this Feather Vane.)

Both the Tech Trek Committee and the TTAG Committee are always looking for more AAUW participants. If you are interested in working with these exceptional girls in either of these programs, please feel free to contact me.

The Feather Vane is posted on our branch website:

mvyc-ca.aauw.net/feather-vane.

If asked for a password in the FOR MEMBERS ONLY section, the password is **FMO2022**



empowering women since 1881

FEATHER VANE, Artis Buerki, Editor

P.O. Box 334, Sutter, CA 95982

**We are all Wonder Women.**

Our Branch Facebook pages are: *AAUW Marysville Yuba City* (organization page),
AAUW-MVYC Group (open group page), and *Art in the Gardens* (open group page).

Our branch website is: <http://mvyc-ca.aauw.net/>

AAUW California website: www.aauw-ca.org/

AAUW National website: www.aauw.org

JUNE 2025

Note: there will be no branch meetings during the summer. Most Interest Sections will continue to meet. Check with your section leaders to confirm the dates.

<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 Branch Meeting
8	9	10 10 am Talking on Paper (writing)	11 5:30 pm All Around Town (dinner)	12	13	14
15 Father's Day	16	17 5:30 pm Cork Dorks	18	19 10 am EC Planning meeting at Martha's	20 10 am Rabid Readers (books)	21 First Day of Summer
22	23	24	25	26 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet (lunch)	27	28
29	30					