



FEATHER VANE – November 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. 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 a period of 1 year.

BRANCH MEETING – Nov. 15

Date: Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025

Time: Door opens at 9:30, Program at 10:00, buffet following

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

Program: Phyllis Smith and Victoria Tudor will share stories from their recently published book *The Historic Marysville Cemetery*.

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.



Council Chat

by Artis Buerki

Women's Coalition Holiday Brunch is December 13 at Hillcrest Catering! – Ticket deadline is Nov 19.

What IS the Women's Coalition?

Networking, Brunch, Entertainment, Drawings

In November you can make your reservations for the December 13 Women's Coalition Holiday Brunch. You may not know what the Women's Coalition is. Well, let me put your mind at ease. We are NOT a political society, and we are NOT limited to women. In fact, we are a group made up of different volunteer organizations in our area.

It all started with our AAUW branch in 1993 when Barbara Palser began her term as President of our AAUW branch. Her idea was to have a nice holiday event at the Peach Tree Country Club, but our branch was too small to carry it off on our own. So, Barbara invited other women's groups in the area to come, and the Yuba Sutter Women's Coalition was born.

In the first years it grew and grew to the point that the Coalition coordinated a children's art show that was held at the Mall. We sent ladies in period costumes to visit classrooms during Women's History Month, and the Coalition raised \$\$\$ for books about women in history for the public libraries. Over the years those projects were turned over to other organizations, and the Coalition continued to hold the Holiday Brunch.

Brunch will take place on Saturday, December 13, at Hillcrest Catering, 210 Julie Drive, Yuba City. That's



Program Notes

by Gwyn Baker, Program Lead

Phyllis Smith and Victoria Tudor will share stories from their recently published book *The Historic Marysville Cemetery*. Their efforts highlight the historical significance of the cemetery and the lives of those buried there. Hear stories of some of the 10,000 interred including the famous and the infamous. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and are currently available at the Sutter County Museum.

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the same location where AAUW holds our monthly meetings. Over the years Delta Cappa Gamma, PEO, Bridges to Housing, Soroptimist, Marysville Art Club, Sutter Buttes Garden Club, Blue Star Moms, American Red Cross and others have been a part of the Holiday Brunch. That changes each year, but the objective of the event has stayed the same....networking with other like-minded people who believe in volunteering to help others in our community is still our goal. At the Holiday Brunch we all talk about our fundraisers and projects, and we enjoy the music provided by local children's groups. This year the entertainment will be provided by **Faith Christian High School**.

The beneficiary of the day is **Hands of Hope**, so bring your donation of new women and children's socks and toiletries for those in need. Our branch and other organizations will hold individual opportunity drawings which are fund raisers for each of their organizations. AAUW will have an opportunity drawing that is organized by our Christmas Elves. Of your \$30 fee to attend, \$2 from each ticket will go to the entertainment group. This is the 32nd year of the event. I hope that now that you know more about the Coalition Holiday Brunch you will decide that you want to attend. Here is the flyer which tells you how to make your reservation.



The Dec. 13 Coalition Brunch is our AAUW's December gathering with other organizations and clubs. REGISTER NOW

YUBA-SUTTER WOMEN'S COALITION HOLIDAY BRUNCH

**Saturday, December 13, 2025
9:30 a.m.**

Hillcrest Catering, 210 Julie Drive, Yuba City
(Where we hold our regular branch meetings.)

Tickets \$30 must prepay

RESERVATIONS-AAUW MEMBERS:

Write your check to AAUW. Mail to PO Box 3031, Yuba City, CA 95992. Check must arrive by Wednesday, November 15. If you prefer, you may pay at the October 18 or November 15 AAUW Branch meeting. After Nov. 19 Artis or Sandy will let us know if there is room for late reservations.

HANDS OF HOPE DONATIONS:

Please bring new pairs of women and children's socks, roll-on deodorant, disposable razors, regular size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, & washcloths.

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Feather Vane Staff

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Charmen's Chat, Board to Board n/l

Charmen Goehring, President, AAUW

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Every day, I dread hearing the news or seeing the division among us on social media. Many of us are concerned about our families, friends, neighbors, and our democracy. Our new Get Out the Vote (GOTV) campaign is designed to give you a way to be actively involved in making a difference here in California. While all may not agree with Proposition 50 and what it hopes to accomplish, we know with certainty that continuing to allow Project 2025 actions to be implemented by this current administration is harming our AAUW mission for women and girls. While we are not recommending a position, our public policy committee has thoroughly researched the proposition and its potential impact on our vision and goals at AAUW. Our members can trust us to provide this information accurately, and then they can make an informed decision about how to vote.

There has also never been a more important time to be visible and active in supporting our individual communities and the women and girls within them. I am proud of the work our branches are doing statewide to bolster gains for women and girls through their outreach efforts. Thank you for all that you do every single day to promote gender equity on behalf of AAUW

Women's Coalition Holiday Brunch – Donations are needed for gift baskets

Contact Linda Zall, 530-713-0552 or Kathy Nehl, 530-632-6050

The Holiday Elves are working industriously to prepare baskets for the drawing at the brunch. Please bring any donations you have to the October or November branch meeting. In addition to items for the baskets,

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we are also in need of large baskets. Some suggested items for the baskets:

- **Local agricultural products:** prunes, rice, nuts, wine, serve ware, napkins
- **Wine:** a bottle of wine, wine glasses, cocktail napkins, crackers, chocolate
- **Specialty coffees/teas:** mugs, biscotti, cookies, candies, teacups
- **Books:** a just released novel, a gently used book
- **Can't think of something?** How about gift cards, Christmas ornaments or decorations, candles.

Thank you to our Oct 18 speakers!

Members who attended the October 18th presentation enjoyed learning about all the wonderful programs the Sutter County Library has to offer. Ayla Elkins, the new Director of Library Services, shared that the library provides free access to *The New York Times*, park passes, and even a Zip Book program that lets patrons have books not in the collection shipped right to their homes. Susana Bautista, the Adult Literacy Coordinator, talked about the English language learning programs and citizenship classes available to the community. Chalese Eggleston, the Children's Coordinator, highlighted the many entertaining programs for kids and talked about the new Teen Advisory Board.

They also answered a plethora of questions from the audience, including whether the library has encountered requests to ban books. It was heartening to hear that our library has not faced this issue. If you would like to support the library, the first Saturday of every month is the Friends of the Library Book Sale, where you can pick up a bag of books for only \$5, and any time the library is open you can browse their sale room where books are only a dollar. *Gwyn Baker*

Garden Tour Committee – We meet on the first Thursday of each month, 9:30 am at the Sutter County Library. If you want to help with the planning of this event, please contact Linda Zall or Kathy Nehl who are the co-chairs of the May 2, 2026, Garden Tour.

STEM Committee– We will meet Thursday, Nov 6 at 1 p.m. at the Sutter County Schools Annex (out back), 970 Klamath Lane, Yuba City. Please contact Sandy Davini, 530.713.1390 for details.

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Membership – If you have a friend who is interested in knowing about AAUW, invite them to a meeting. Linda Zall has applications. We have several new members. Janet, Patricia, and Kim were all garden owners for our 2025 Garden Tour. Kay and Jan are former returning members.

Janet Alonso: PO Box 254, Robbins, CA 95676; jfalonsos@gmail.com; 530.713.2883

Patricia Van Ruiten: PO Box 332, Robbins, CA 95676; patty.vanruiten@gmail.com; 530.870.7556

Kim Richter, 22676 Karnak Rd. Knights Landing CA 95645; 530.908.4035 kmwrichter@gmail.com.

Kay Sims: cell # 530.713.2676. Kay is rejoining and is in our current yearbook.

Jan Roberts-Hayden: has rejoined.

Saba Baig: joined this month. Contact information will follow.

If you have not received your new yearbook/roster contact Linda Zall.

AAUW Celebrated Socktober - At our October meeting, AAUW members donated 252 pairs of warm socks to the Socktober collection drive. The socks will be distributed to those in need via several area nonprofits that serve the unsheltered and others with precarious housing circumstances.



Did you know?

Happy Birthday to the branch members whose birthdays are in **November:** Betty

Bonner, Sandy Davini, Candice Fresquez, Cheryl Hoke, Joann Nixon, Diana McVicker, Rita Montejano-Guanzon, Teresa McManis.

If we missed you, or got it wrong, please let me know. Artis Buerki, 530-632-7052.

PUBLIC POLICY, Board to Board n/I

Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko, *Directors, Public Policy Committee Co-chairs*, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV)! ALL PROP 50 VOTING AND EDUCATING RESOURCES

Proposition 50

Check out the GOTV/Proposition 50 resources that have been launched – a comprehensive toolkit with over 25 resources to support GOTV (Get Out The Vote) efforts, including a Prop 50 Messaging Guide, Overview, FAQ, Flyer, Election Timeline, and more.

You can find the resources [HERE](#).

Harnessing the Power of AI: Innovation, Creativity, and Social Impact – webinar on Nov. 1.

WHEN:

November 1, 2025 @ 10:00 am – 11:30 am

[AAUW CALIFORNIA](#) [PUBLIC POLICY](#)

[public](#)

Audience: All members

Join us for an insightful and engaging webinar as we explore the transformative role of AI in various fields, from education to creativity and social good. Our expert speakers will dive into three key topics:

1. AI in the Classroom
2. AI as a Catalyst for Creativity & Change
3. AI for Social Good Key

Takeaways:

Practical applications of AI in education and business

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- Unlocking AI-powered creativity– for equitable access, education, and opportunity
- Ways to leverage AI for social good

[Click HERE to Register](#)

AI in the Classroom – Missy Maceyko, AAUW California Director and Public Policy Co-Chair Discover how AI is revolutionizing the educational landscape. Learn how AI is enhancing the way we teach and learn, making education more accessible and engaging for all.

AI as a Catalyst for Creativity and Change – Shauna Oenning, 2022–24 Gov Trek Director, AAUW California Beyond efficiency, AI fuels creativity. We'll explore how designers and makers are using it to break new ground and deliver work that resonates.

AI for Social Good – Maria Lupetini, CEO, InfoMaker Inc. AI is more than just a technological marvel; it's a force for positive change. Learn how AI can be leveraged for social good— Maria will share her AI projects aimed at solving the hunger crisis and improving lives.

Our 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

If you have questions about websites please contact Artis Buerki. If you have questions about our Facebook pages please contact Gwyn Baker.

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 - Dinner group, normally meets on the **2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm** at a local restaurant. Contact Betty Bonner, 530-301-2265 to join the group.

We went to the El Zarape in October. Some family joined us too. *Photo by Sherry Wonder.*



The Feather Vane is posted on our branch website mvyc-ca.aauw.net in the FOR MEMBERS ONLY section. If you are asked for a password, it is FMO2022.



CORK DORKS - 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, dlmcvicker2521@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. 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.

In Oct.Traveling Gourmet went to Crawdads.

Photo by Liz Skelly



Executive Council Meeting October 9, 2025

In Attendance: Kathy Nehl, Martha Bunce, Carol Clark, Linda Zall, Brenda Mock, Christy Estabrook, Gwyn Baker, Ellen O'Neil, Artis Buerki, Sandy Davini, Liz Skelly

The minutes of the last meeting were approved with no changes.

Note – the word branch has been replaced by affiliate.

Sandy started the meeting on a happy note: Jo Hilling celebrated her 98th birthday yesterday.

Martha began the business portion by announcing that the Executive Council needs to appoint a member to replace Joyce Smith as Communications Leader. Brenda Mock accepted the request to do so and a vote was taken: Martha/Carol/Unanimous.

Correspondence: None to report

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Treasurer's Report: The 2025-2026 budget was approved by members at the September 20, 2025 Affiliate Meeting.

Public Policy: Martha noted that the Board-to-Board emails have a substantial section relating to public policy.

AAUW, at the national level has put their support behind California's Proposition 50. At the next Affiliate Brunch, on October 18th, flyers that outline reasons to support it will be on the tables.

There are cases before the Supreme Court that would weaken the Voters Rights Act. Gloria Blackwell, CEO of AAUW and other members are attending sessions in supporting those arguing in opposition.

One national bill that would make voting harder is the SAVE Act requiring proof of citizenship in order to register. Proof of citizenship would have to match one's birth name. This discriminates against married women who have taken their husband's name. It will also disenfranchise low-income people who can't afford a passport or certified birth certificate and those rural citizens who don't have access to the places to obtain them. The SAVE Act isn't necessary because there has never been a problem with non-citizens voting.

Four of the bills supported by California AAUW in the recent California legislative session, are on the Governor's desk. Others are still pending.

Membership: Linda Zall has proposed allowing people who do not have a degree to become "AAUW Allies". While not full members, they would have access to the same opportunities as regular members. A \$100 donation per year would be requested, half of which would go for operating costs and half to Tech Trek. Artis moved to welcome non-degreed allies to the affiliate. Artis/Kathy/Unanimous

Scholarships: Liz reported that her committee chose two Yuba College students to receive \$500 Women's Club scholarships and 4 were each awarded a \$1000 AAUW scholarship.

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Since the AAUW scholarships are administered by the Yuba College Foundation, the students are not aware that AAUW awarded them. Liz has asked the Director of Financial to provide addresses of the students in order for them to be invited to a Day for Women and to an Affiliate Meeting.

Additionally, Liz has offered that AAUW members are available to students on financial aid who need mentoring.

Nominating Committee: In April, a vote will be held for three openings on the Executive Council. The terms ending are those of Linda, Ellen and Sandy. They are willing to run again. However, everyone is asked to recruit new and additional members for the council.

Communications: Deadline for the November Feather Vane is October 22nd.

Webmaster: Artis noted that the site now has photos of the 2025 Garden Tour.

Gwyn reminded us that there are two Facebook pages. One is AAUW-MVYC, private for members and one must ask to join. The other is public.

Affiliate Meeting reservations are at 30 and a 35 minimum is required. Martha suggested that those planning to miss the meeting for the protests at 10:00 a.m. go to Chico's protest instead as it is in the afternoon. This is "Soctober" and all attendees are asked to bring socks for unhoused people, preferably cotton.

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Programs: October will be all about the Sutter County Library. The new Director, Literacy and Children's Director will be presenting. In November, AAUW member, Phyllis Smith, will be speaking on the historical Marysville Cemetery.

STEM Conference: The date is March 30, 2026. Already, 50% of the presenters have been secured.

Garden Tour: Members of the committee have already visited potential gardens. Artis and others will solicit sponsors with letters going out no later than November 15th. The next committee meeting is November 6th, 9:30a.m. at the Sutter County Library.

Tech Trek: Martha will solicit donations from the Yuba and Sutter County School Superintendents. October 15th is the deadline to tell CA. AAUW how many students we will be sending. Per usual, we are planning on five.

Interbranch: We are hosting this year's luncheon on March 7th, which is the same date as the Day for Women. We will still sponsor a table and invite our scholarship winners to attend with AAUW members.

Coalition Brunch: It is scheduled for December 13th at Hillcrest Catering and the cost is \$30. Tickets will be available at the AAUW Affiliate meeting on Nov 15.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45p.m.

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



Quote for the month

"The morns are meeker than they were –
The nuts are getting brown –
The berry's cheek is plumper –
The rose is out of town."

by Emily Dickinson (b1830-d1886)



empowering women since 1881

FEATHER VANE, Artis Buerki, Editor

P.O. Box 334, Sutter, CA 9598

**We are all Wonder Women.****November 2025**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10 am AI webinar
2 Daylight savings ends	3	4 Election day	5	6 9:30 am Garden Tour Com. 1 pm STEM Com.	7	8
9	10	11 10 am Talking on Paper (writing) Veteran's Day	12	13 1 pm Executive Council 5:30 pm All Around Town (dinner)	14	15 10 am Branch Meeting
16	17	18 5:30 pm Cork Dorks (wine tasting)	19	20 10:30 am Traveling Gourmet (lunch)	21 10 am Rabid Readers (books)	22
23	24	25	26	27  HAPPY THANKSGIVING	28	29
30						