

The Chico AAUW Grapevine



American Association of University Women - Chico Branch Vol. 33 No. 9 May 2021

Next Meeting:

A Joyful Reunion
Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 10 a.m.
12555 Meridian Road, Chico

AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

AAUW membership is open to all graduates holding a recognized associate (or equivalent), baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified educational institution.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



CDC guidelines for our county and AAUW CA recommendations now permit in-person meetings, if done safely. Our last branch meeting of the 2020-21 year is our annual Strawberry Brunch. It will be a departure from our mostly Zoom-inspired agenda of the past year.

Join us for our annual business meeting where we elect new officers, pass our branch budget for the coming year, and celebrate our accomplishments and the many people who have contributed to making this another successful year for AAUW Chico - in spite of all we have been through during the pandemic.

Jana Lawton is hosting our meeting at her small farm on the edge of Chico. No need to make a reservation or bring food. Branch board members will supply tasty muffins, tarts, fresh strawberries, and morning beverages.

We hope all members have been able to get vaccinated for COVID-19 but we will have seating to allow for social distancing and we also recommend wearing a mask until you get settled in. We don't want you to miss the meeting if you are unable to drive so please call for a ride. There are many members who are happy to provide transportation. Call Jana at 894-1843 to set up a connection with your driver.

Driving directions to 12555 Meridian Road:

The Bell home place is one of the historic farms in Butte County - dating from the 1800s. Located just off Highway 32 (heading west to Orland), turn right on Meridian Road. The farm is located on your left about 1/4 mile from that turn. Look for the big barn and grain bins. If you cross the railroad tracks, you have gone too far. The driveway is gravel so wear comfortable, sturdy shoes to be safe.

We look forward to a joyful reunion with our AAUW friends.

Message from the President

Branch Officers

President -

Jan Britton

Membership -

Mary Huntsinger

Betty Lusina

Finance -

Marilyn Myrick

Secretary -

Adele Arnold

Newsletter Editor -

Jana Lawton

Public Policy -

Carol Holzgrafe

Tech Trek Coordinator -

Joan Cleveland

Technology -

Helen Gesick

Historian -

Barbara Paige

Chico AAUW is already on the move for the 2021-22 year. At our last Board meeting on May 2, we made a number of important decisions and plans for the coming year.

We voted on offering a new scholarship from our branch for a graduate student in the credential program at California State University, Chico. The scholarship was one of the ways to help bolster our relationship with the campus, which is now a College/University Member of AAUW. Thanks to the work of Mary Jensen, Ruth Berger, and Jackie McClain the criteria for the scholarship are as follows:

Working with the University, we will provide funds to a graduate student who has been accepted in the credential program and plans to teach subjects in science, math or technology. The recipient of the \$1,500 scholarship must demonstrate financial need. Preference will be given to a student who graduated from a high school in Butte County. You will receive a copy of the scholarship guidelines in a separate email prior to the May 22 branch meeting.

Thanks to Marilyn Myrick and Katy Azevedo for developing a slate of ideas for programs in the coming year. Once the details have been worked out, we will present the plans to all of you. One request we had was to help find suitable venues for our branch meetings, most of which are open to the public. If you know of places that might be able to accommodate 30 to 50 attendees, please let them know.

The in-person Tech Trek camp at UC, Davis is still not available this summer. Our alternative is to send the following girls to Tech Trek Camp on Zoom:

Daniela Gonzalez from Marsh Jr High

Ella Grothe from Chico Jr High

Audra Hayton from Chico Country Day

Ashley Harp from Core Butte Charter School

Tiya Patel from Marsh Jr High

Through the coordination and hard work of Joan Cleveland, we are set to send these girls to camp and invite them to come to our meeting in August to tell us about their experiences at Virtual Tech Trek.

The Board also completed the final plans for our Strawberry Event on May 22. It will be a wonderful opportunity for us all to meet in-person again. We will be honoring our 50-year member, Jeannemarie Bordoli and presenting AAUW National and our Branch President's awards to our members. Please join us at a joyful and very special event.

Thanks to all of you for being a part of our membership and I look forward to seeing you on May 22 and in the year ahead.

Jan Britton
Chico AAUW President



Branch News and Notes

Help Wanted

Our branch needs two volunteers to take on small, but important, jobs to help keep our organization running.

Branch historian - clips articles and photos about AAUW from our newspaper and keeps our branch history up to date. We also keep such memorabilia as announcements for our fundraisers, awards, etc. There are three plastic boxes of scrap books to keep safe that come with the job. Very small time commitment but must have a little storage space to spare (garage okay).

Branch secretary - Our bylaws require having a person who will record minutes of our branch Board meetings. This would be once a month, at most, during our active season. Meetings last from 1 to 2 hours and it might take an additional hour to type up notes into final form. On occasion, there is a thank you note to write. This is an excellent position for someone who would like to become better acquainted with the people and projects in our branch. You will also take possession of the notebook of minutes from previous years.

Make your mark in the branch and take on one of these jobs for the good of the cause! Call Jan Britton (530) 896-1240 if you can jump on board.

Vote Now to Shape AAUW's Future

You should have received an email ballot from our national Association, where you can vote on the proposed by laws change to open membership. It was sent on April 7 from Shannon Wolfe who is the AAUW Managing Director and Chief of Staff.

If you can't find it, write to connect@aauw.org and give them your name, branch/state, and member number and request a new emailed ballot. Your AAUW branch treasurer has your member number (or ask me and I'll send it to you). National voting closes 5 pm EDT May 17.

Questions? Send them my way.

Carol Holzgrafe
530-873-6906 landline or 530-774-4009 cell and text
carol@holzgrafe.com

NEWS from other branches

You will find everything you ever wanted to know about fire weather, starting with climate change and ending up in your front yard – on a webinar produced by the Morgan Hill branch and posted at <http://www.aauwmh.org> or on the AAUW Morgan Hill Facebook page.

The presenters are professors of related sciences at San Jose State University plus a highly personable Fire Marshall. Check it out.

Carol Holzgrafe



The CHICO GRAPE-VINE is published by the Chico Branch of AAUW. Items for inclusion can be mailed to Jana Lawton, newsletter editor, 1112 Bidwell Avenue, Chico, CA 95926 or e-mailed to jdlawton72@gmail.com (preferred)

Member News and Notes

Sadie Urbanowicz talks about Reading Pals

The program involves one-on-one work with a child who is falling below grade level in reading. One doesn't have to be a teacher or have been a teacher, just a caring person who can encourage a child and move them along in their skills level.

This Zoom year there were 180 children served from 5 schools. The school district was so impressed with the program and the progress of the students that they want to put it in all 12 elementary schools which means 600 to 800 kids.

I encourage you to think about volunteering. You spend 30 minutes with your given child twice a week. I have worked with three children, 90 minutes, and feel very happy about the progress they are making. If you are interested, I can put you in touch with the organizers of the program and you can be prepared for next year.



There are times when, for one reason or another, you cannot meet with your child and there should be substitutes available. I have been called for jury duty in May and may or may not need a sub, but have alerted them to the situation.

Sadie Urbanowicz (530) 343-8180

Locally Produced Plays Available for Viewing

For your enjoyment! Our 6th Annual OLLI Play Festival went digital this year. It was a new challenge, but we had fun putting it together. I had personal involvement as co-writer, director and actor in "Heartache and Homicide" Here are the links below:

OLLI's Virtual Play Festival has arrived! We are excited to present four original one-act plays that have been recorded, and are available for viewing now. Check out the [festival program](#) to learn more, and use the links below to watch! (Note from the Grapevine editor: the links are likely not live in this issue so go to <https://rce.csuchico.edu>>osher for links to the plays.) For a fun afternoon, it is worth your while.

"Telemarketers Toment" by Pamela Loyd

"Zoom Friends" by Joan Goodreau

"Romance Reconfigured" by Pamela Loyd

"Heartache & Homicide" a collaboration by members of the playwriting class: Joan Cleveland, Joan Goodreau, Pamela Loyd, Debbie Vermette

Humbly ... well maybe not ...
Joan Cleveland

Directory Update

new email address
for Wendy Woods
woodsofchico@gmail.com

Interest Sections

New to AAUW?

Call a group leader for more information about a section you might find of interest. A few have reached capacity but most would welcome new members.

Les Flaneurs

Join a walking/talking group of Chico and Paradise members as they wander through local parks and neighborhoods -sometimes farther afield - commenting on landscaping, architecture, and life. And getting exercise. The group usually meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, and/or Saturdays. Email or call for schedule if you might be interested. We usually start off at 9:30 during cooler times, 8:30 during the summer. Carol Holzgrafe, carol@holzgrafe.com, 874-6906 or 774-4009 or Satsie Veith, or 570-3550.

Wine and Whine Returns

May 19 at 5:30 Join our first in-person get-together at Wine Time, Lost Dutchman Drive, off the Esplanade, just south of Eaton Road, on the patio.

Masks are required by the restaurant but may be removed upon eating and/or drinking. No agenda, just friends, old and new, talking, enjoying wine (one of the best lists in Chico) or non-alcoholic drinks, and sharing snacks from the most creative menu in Chico.

We will discuss future venues, including a member's invite to her home/yard. We will need to reserve X number of tables so please, if you can, RSVP to Carol Holzgrafe, carol@holzgrafe.com, 874-6906 or 774-4009.

Diversity Discussion Group

Kathy Sweet (256) 603-4993
Time and date of the next discussion meeting will be announced. For more information contact Kathy.

Out to Lunch

Mary Huntsinger (530) 521-1323
May 13 at 11:30 a.m. Foodie Cafe - 196 Cohasset Rd - Ste 150. Call Mary to make a reservation. Both Paradise and Chico branch members welcome.

Foreign Policy Discussion Group

Roxanne Ferry - 891-1722 All welcome.
Group meets 4th Monday at 7 p.m.
May 24 - 10 a.m. - An open discussion of current foreign policy events. Hosted by Jana at 12555 Meridian Road. **Note time change this month.**



Evening Book Discussion Group

Sue Blizman (530) 891-3489
Group meets at 7:00 p.m. on 2nd Tuesday
May 11 - *We Were the Lucky Ones* by Georgia Hunter. Contact Sue for Zoom info. Due to a computer glitch, we did not meet in April. Everyone is invited.

Ethnic Writers Book Discussion Group

Severance Dolan 433-0258 All welcome!
Group meets at 1:00 p.m. on 4th Wednesday
May 26 - *Navajos Wear Nikes: A Reservation Life* by Jim Kristofic Hosted by Severance at Woodoak Condominium clubhouse.

Non-fiction Book Discussion Group

Group meets on 1st Friday at 10 a.m.
Contact Susan Critchfield for Zoom info at (530) 519-3460

Mystery Book Discussion Group

Denise Worth 343-5711
Group meets at 3 p.m. on 3rd Wednesday
All welcome. Contact Denise for Zoom info

Computer and iPad Group

Helen Gesick (530) 570-5185
Meets 4th Thursday at 2:00.
Call Helen for Zoom information



Dues are Due for 2021-2022

Your AAUW branch membership has been vital in helping advance gender and racial equity during this challenging time. The pandemic has been particularly devastating for women and people of color, but with your support we've pushed for much-needed COVID relief and paid-leave benefits, expanded voting access and education, and published important research on student debt and the power gap in colleges and universities. We rely on members like you to help us meet the challenges today's women and girls face—and build a brighter future for everyone.

You will be paying all of your dues – branch, state, and national – at once.

National - \$62 / State- \$20 / Branch- \$16

Total Dues - \$98

There are two ways to renew:

1) Online – see earlier email for instructions or contact Marilyn Myrick at (530) 520-1543. This is the easiest way to pay your dues!

2) By check - make check payable to *Chico AAUW*. Mail it to:

Marilyn Myrick
8 Montclair Dr.
Chico, CA 95926

We hope you will join us again this year. Together, we can drive meaningful change in 2021.

