

The Chico AAUW Grapevine



American Association of University Women - Chico Branch Vol. 34 No. 4 Dec 2021

Next Event:

AAUW Holiday Party
St. John's Episcopal Church community hall - 2341 Floral Ave
Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 3 to 5 p.m.



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.

Chico AAUW invites all Chico and Paradise members to its Holiday Party in December. It will be held in the roomy community hall at St John's Episcopal Church located at 2341 Floral Avenue in Chico. To encourage attendance, attendees will be requested to share their COVID vaccination card and have a temperature check.

Each person who is attending is requested to bring a finger food - purchased or home made. Ideas include vegetable or fruit platters, mini-quiches, cookies, quick breads, shrimp on a stick, mini-pizzas, etc. Those with last names from A through M are asked to bring a sweet dish and those with last names from N through Z will bring a savory dish. To help people with special dietary needs, we ask that all dishes with meat, eggs, or shellfish have a label that states this. We will provide a dessert cake and a variety of drinks. Wine will be available for a \$4 suggested donation.

We will be treated to live mandolin and guitar music during the event. We will also have drawings for enjoyable gifts. Join us and bring a friend and have some fun.

Those who signed up for donating gifts to Catalyst can bring the gifts to the party and Catalyst will pick them up. Any questions?? Call Lyn Smith at 530-636-4984.

Also in December . . .

The Art Boutique

December 11 and 12

A benefit for AAUW scholarship programs. Held at the historic Bell home place. Join in the fun of an old fashioned holiday boutique. See article on the following page for details.



The Art Boutique - December 11 and 12

Branch Officers

- President -
Jan Britton
- Vice President -
Sue Blizman
- Membership -
Lyn Smith
- Finance -
Pam Bodnar
- Secretary -
Maria Elena Ramirez
- Newsletter Editor -
Jana Lawton
- Public Policy -
Carol Holzgrafe
- Tech Trek Coordinator -
Joan Cleveland
- Technology -
Helen Gesick
- Historian -
historian needed

More dolls
available at the
Boutique for a
donation to
AAUW Funds



The Art Boutique features fine art and handmade goods from these local artists. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 11 and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 12. There will be wonderful items in all price ranges starting at just a few dollars. Ceramic sculpture, pottery, mosaics, jewelry, luscious soaps and bath items, snuggly wearables, sweet felted creatures, photographs, cards, collages, blankets, table runners, paintings, and decorative items to add cheer and humor to your decor. Don't miss this opportunity to get some gifts made from the heart and to also support AAUW scholarship programs.



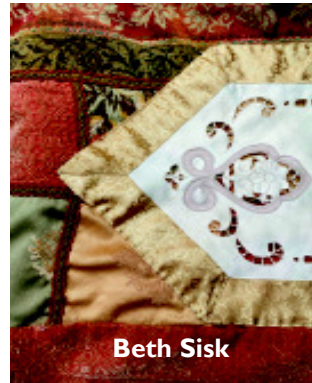
Christine Connerly



Sheryl Cummings



Brenda Schlegel



Beth Sisk

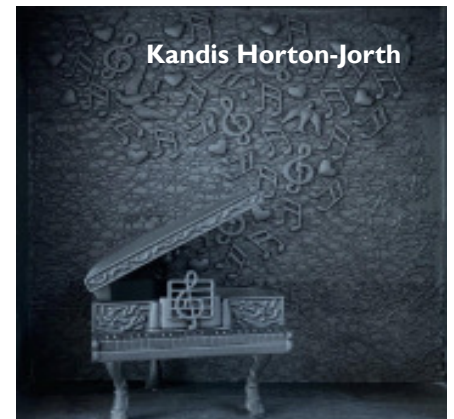


Carla Resnick



Jana Lawton at left

Linda Lunsford below



Kandis Horton-Jorth

Location: 12555 Meridian Road (just off Hwy 32 heading to Orland). Look for the Art Boutique signs on the road.

Member News and Notes

NEW MEMBERS!

Jeannie Trizzino
3091 Chico Avenue
Chico, CA 95928-8229
(530) 570-2309
jtrizzino@gmail.com

Gloria Burson
13989 Lindbergh Circle
Chico, CA 95973
(530) 899-8227
(530) 864-9415 - cell
glburson@gmail.com

Welcome to our newest member **Gloria Burson**. Her contact information is listed at left so don't forget to add her to your most recent branch directory. A brief introduction to another new member, **Jeannie Trizzino**, follows. Thanks to **Carol Krok** who interviews our new members and writes these short biographies.

If you know people who might want to become a member of the branch, pass on the contact information to me and I will follow up.

Lyn Smith, Membership Chair
(530) 636-4984 or email to lindy_48@yahoo.com

Jeannie Trizzino, one of our newest members, was born and raised in LA's San Fernando Valley, thus making her our newest or only "valley girl." Jeannie lived on the East Coast while attending Yale as a political science major. Moving back to LA, she married and a decision was made to move to the beauty of Chico in 1998.

Jeannie has put her schooling to good use as an animal rights activist. See if you notice this passion when you stop to greet our new member. She has worked as a copy editor for an animal rights magazine and later for Moon Travel Handbooks in Chico, as an administrative assistant for several public works civil engineering firms, and now works in that capacity for Durham Irrigation District. A city girl turned nature lover, Jeannie is also a certified California Naturalist, and has taken botany, ornithology, and evolution courses at Chico State. To help fellow Chico vegans, she started the chicovegan.com website. While visiting this site, be sure to check out the Chico Vegan-Friendly Restaurant Guide.

Jeannie and her husband live among the orchards outside of town and their 5-acre property is home to many domestic and wild animals. If you have a chance, drive by her home and you will see how evident it is that she and her husband love art, animals and nature. Jeannie lives life with a passion for what she knows is important.

There's still time to participate in our **Christmas Adopt-A-Family** program! We're partnering with Catalyst to help make the season a little brighter for some families impacted by domestic violence. If you missed the earlier email sent by Jana, please contact me.

Catalyst representatives Carolina Cruz and Nat Calcutta will be attending our December 4th meeting, so if you've already purchased your gifts for the families, you can bring them there. Otherwise, you may drop them off at my house on or before December 8th. **Please remember Catalyst asks that gifts for children remain unwrapped, but feel free to wrap any gifts for adults.** Remember to mark the gifts with the appropriate family# and person. We've adopted three families: #s 9, 10 and 21.

You can see their "Wish Lists" by using the link to our **Adopt-a-Family** Google spreadsheet, or by contacting me for other methods. Please let me know if you have questions.

Thank you for participating!
Joan Cleveland (530) 520-3548

Adopt A Family



Branch News and Notes

Help Wanted

Jana Lawton still needs a few more volunteers for the Art Boutique. Shifts are for 3 hours - Saturday morning, December 11, from 10 to 1, Saturday afternoon, December 11, from 1 to 4 p.m. and from noon to 3 on Sunday, December 12. The primary job is helping to get purchases to the check out area and to wrap purchases in tissue, if needed. Contact Jana for more information and to sign up to help (530) 894-1843 or jdlawton72@gmail.com.

Joy, Gratitude, and Giving

For many of us, 2021 has been a slow emergence from pandemic isolation to some kind of “new normal.” While staying vigilant regarding our health and that of others, we have been able to come together in person. Joy and thankfulness have pervaded the air at every get-together! As the year comes to an end, we reflect on our struggles and accomplishments with gratitude for making it this far.

Hopeful for the future, we look at our AAUW mission and for ways to give back to our community. A gift to the AAUW Chico Scholarship Fund helps provide support to graduating high school seniors in meeting their higher education expenses. In recent years, families such as the Jackson/Herons (Gladys and Barbara) and Stewarts (Sydney) have established recurring scholarship awards, making yearly contributions in honor of their loved ones. Other branch members and families have made one-time or annually recurring donations to the fund, as well. One-time contribution checks should be written to *AAUW Chico Scholarship Fund*, with “CCSA high school” on the memo line, and mailed to branch treasurer, Pam Bodnar 818 Brookwood Way, Chico 95926. Contact Pam pbinuganda@yahoo.com or Ruth Berger krberger71@comcast.net if you wish to set up an on-going yearly gift. Another option is to bring your check with you to the Dec. 4 branch Holiday Celebration. Your commitment to the advancement of Chico’s young women is appreciated.

Your CCSA Scholarship Team

Interbranch Council News – (and what on earth is that?)

All Chico members are invited to the annual IBC lunch on Saturday, February 5, at the Oroville Congregational Church. Not only will you get to meet women who live in other Northstate areas, you will get to hear from one of our 2021 AAUW Fellow/Grant recipients, and that is always a good thing.

You will find details about registering for the lunch in the January issue of *The Grapevine*. Save the date and stay tuned.

AAUW California branches, uniquely, are encouraged to join in regional groups called Interbranch Councils. Our Chico branch is part of the North Valley IBC that also includes Paradise, Oroville, Gridley, Marysville/Yuba City, and now, Redding. Welcome Redding!

Officers from these branches meet three times a year – for dinner – and to share program ideas, Tech Trek experiences, and other things of mutual interest. Once a year, through this lunch, all branch members in our 6 branch IBC are gathered to share in the experiences of meeting, talking to, and possibly collaborating with members of other local branches.

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)

Branch News and Notes

Guidelines for using our AAUW mailing list

The Board for the Chico Branch thought it might be useful if we reiterated the guidelines concerning the use of our branch mailing list. It has been a while since these guidelines were reviewed and shared with members and we have had many new members joining us. Our local branch guidelines are in line with our national rules on use of all local branch mail lists. The mailing list use policy is as follows:

Notifications for all branch members should go through the newsletter editor, currently Jana Lawton, who maintains our mailing list. This mailing list includes both Paradise and Chico branch members, members at large, some potential members, and some former members. As a rule, member addresses obtained through the directory or the emailing list are to be used only for AAUW business and not to be shared with any outside organization. This is to ensure the security of our names and other contact information and to reduce any unnecessary mail our members receive from us. This is not to say that what other groups are doing is not of interest to AAUW members. Articles that share information about upcoming meetings, or programs, or local issues are welcome to be shared through the newsletter.

All interest group leaders can use their own individual group mail list to communicate with their group members. A group is designated as an official AAUW interest section such as the bridge, book discussion, foreign policy, and hiking groups among others. Group members should keep the use of these lists within their group and the list should be maintained by the individual section leaders.

Public Policy *Carol Holzgrafe*

In 2012-13 AAUW Chico filed a Title IX complaint with the Office of Civil Rights after member Cindy Wolff noticed a huge discrepancy between the boys' and girls' facilities at Chico High School. The branch backed her up. And the OCR took our complaint, investigated, and moved against the Chico Unified School District to make amends. Which they did.

Now, a somewhat similar situation has emerged at Durham High School and we may be asked to lend our support. But, if that happens, you should know what Title IX covers.

What is Title IX?

It prohibits sex discrimination in educational institutions receiving federal funding. Title IX requires that schools have a Title IX coordinator; that girls be treated equally in athletics, that students not be subjected to sexual harassment, and that pregnant and parenting teens not be discriminated against while at school. You can find a complete list of questions to ask your local high school at www.ccrwf.org. It's an "eye-opener" so do check it out.

Each high school must have a publicized Title IX Coordinator. They are responsible for checking the proportionality of girls' athletic participation, providing notice about the

Title IX

(continued on page 6)

Branch News and Notes

school's sexual harassment policy and complaint procedures to students, staff, and parents, and trained staff on how to respond to sexual harassment and gender-based bullying.

Athletics: Girls' participation must be proportional to their enrollment in the school. If not, the school's principal must be notified so "steps can be taken" to close the breach.

Sports facilities must be equal. This includes the quality and cleanliness of locker rooms, and all sports fields. Scheduling must be equal, including timing of practice and games, convenience, and visibility.

Publicity: The quality and source must be the same for girls' and boys' events. This includes school newspaper coverage, the marquee, electronic or physical billboards, and press releases to local media.

Sexual Harassment: There must be a policy against sexual harassment that is written for and directed at students, and it must be publicized.

For many more Title IX details and the full text of the above questions: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2021/01/title-ix-checklist.pdf> (or go to [aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org) and type 'public policy' in the search box.)

Title IX is just one of AAUW and AAUW-CA's public policy efforts. You can pick up a card that offers more information at the Dec. 4 holiday party. Or ask me and I'll get one to you.



A final important message:

November 8, 2021 was the anniversary of the Paradise Camp Fire. Those of us who received so much help from AAUW members in California and elsewhere, want to give an update and renew our thanks.

One small plea posted on the AAUW California website and a few emails asking for help brought tens of thousands of dollars in gift cards, offers of housing, furniture, and, in the case of a member who couldn't get her garage door open and had no replacement insurance - a car.

The Paradise board, all of whom (except yours truly) lost everything, gathered frequently to sort mail and distribute the contributions to 35 of our 40 members. After their needs were fulfilled, we gave cards and checks to our Tech Trek families, most of whom also lost everything and often had fewer resources. We offered gas money to the son of Suzy and Paul Ernst, the couple who were trapped by the fire and spent many months in the U.C. Davis Burn Center. There were so many ways everyone's contributions helped.

From all of us, thank you!

Carol Holzgrafe and every AAUW Paradise member

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

Carol Holzgrafe - (530) 774-4009
The group usually meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, and/or Saturdays at 8:30 or 9:30 a.m. depending on the season. A walking/talking group of Chico and Paradise members who wander through local parks and neighborhoods - and sometimes farther afield - commenting on landscaping, architecture, and life, and getting exercise. Email or call for schedule if you might be interested. Carol Holzgrafe, carol@holzgrafe.com, (530) 874-6906 or Satsie Veith at (530) 570-3550.

Wine and Whine, the Fall Version

Dec 15 - at 5:30 p.m.
Wine Time - 26 Lost Dutchman Dr.
Please contact Carol Holzgrafe, carol@holzgrafe.com if you want to join in. And bring a friend or relative. We are nice people.

Out to Lunch

Mary Huntsinger (530) 521-1323
Call Mary for details on the December lunch. Both Paradise and Chico branch members welcome.

Computer and iPad Group

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



Foreign Policy Discussion Group

Roxanne Ferry - 891-1722 All welcome.
Group meets 4th Monday at 7 p.m.
No December meeting. A January meeting will be scheduled to select topics for 2022. Call Roxanne for information about ordering the study guide.



Evening Book Discussion Group

Mary Huntsinger (530) 521-1323
Group meets at 7:00 p.m. on 2nd Tuesday
Dec 14 - *Beloved* by Toni Morrison. Call for location.

Ethnic Writers Book Discussion Group

Severance Dolan 433-0258 All welcome!
Group meets at 1:00 p.m. on 4th Wednesday
Note: 3rd Wednesday this month
Dec 17 - *Two old women: an Alaskan legend of betrayal, courage, and survival* by Velma Wallis
Hosted by Carol Krok.

Non-fiction Book Discussion Group

Group meets on 1st Friday at 10 a.m.
Contact Susan Critchfield for Zoom info at (530) 519-3460. Group will continue to have Zoom sessions through the end of 2021.

Mystery Book Discussion Group

Denise Worth 343-5711
Group meets at 3 p.m. on 3rd Wednesday
Dec 15 - *The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra* by Vaseem Khan. Hosted by Vicky Breedon.

Friday Book Discussion Group

Severance Dolan (530) 433-0258
Group meets at 10 a.m. on 4th Friday at Woodoak condominium club house located at 555 Vallombrosa **3rd Friday this month**
Dec 17 - *Lave and War in the Apennines* by Eric Newby **Seeking new members.** Group reads both fiction and non fiction.

Items for your calendar

December 4 - 3 to 5 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church 2341 Floral Avenue in Chico. A branch gathering for the holidays. Food, beverages, music, fun, friends. This is also the time to drop off gifts for our Catalyst family project.

December 8 - last day to drop off packages with Joan Cleveland for the Catalyst Adopt-A-Family project.

December 11 and 12 - The Art Boutique - a benefit for AAUW scholarship programs. Artists and artisans create handmade goods to gift those you love. Good cheer to be had. All welcome.

February 5 - Interbranch Council luncheon at the Oroville Congregational Church. All members invited. Guests also welcome.

April 30 - AAUW CA Annual Event - a virtual convention open to all members.

