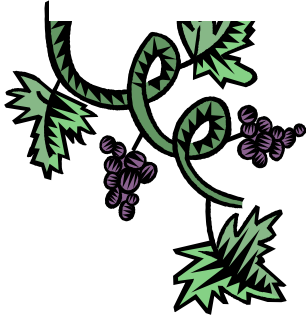


The Chico AAUW Grapevine



American Association of University Women - Chico Branch Vol. 34 No. 8 May 2022

Next Event:

Strawberry Brunch
Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Sue Blizman's home at 462 Todd Court

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.



This is our last program for 2021-2022. We will vote on the slate of officers for the 2022-2023 Board and celebrate our Branch honors and awards. It is full of fun and getting to share what we have been doing with our friends and sister AAUW members.

Please bring a finger food and enjoy the party. Beverages will be provided.

RSVP to Sue Blizman

530 519-9082 or ssblizman@digitalpath.net

To save a chair for you, please let her know by Thursday, May 19. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Sue could also use some help with set up. Volunteer by calling her at 530/519-9082.

Branch members need to elect their leadership team. The candidates listed below have agreed to serve and, in accordance with AAUW by-laws, a vote will be taken.

President - Sue Blizman

Treasurer - Lyn Smith

Secretary - Maria Elena Ramirez

Lost—AAUW 30 cup coffee maker. It has been missing for a few years. If you have one we could borrow for the Strawberry Brunch, please let Sue Blizman know.

AAUW Chico will be on the radio

Tune into KZFR (90.1) at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3 to hear three branch members interviewed by Bobbi Tryon. **Sue Blizman, Joan Cleveland, and Carol Holzgrafe** talked about AAUW, AAUW Chico, and our Tech Trek STEM camps for girls. If you miss the airing, it will be posted on the station's website. We thank Jan Britton for organizing this interview.

Message from the President

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

Dear friends,

We have been very busy this month. We had a successful Antique Appraisal Faire - building more than one girl though additional Build-A-Girl donations. If you don't know about Build-A-Girl, we will have a display that explains it at our Spring Strawberry Brunch. Stop by and see it. The appraisers assessed numerous antiques from dolls and jewelry to clocks. We raised more than we had at previous Faires. We also received donations via a drawing for an American Brilliant cut glass pitcher and glasses. The winner of the drawing was so excited because the set she had from her mother was destroyed in the Paradise fire. It was so exciting to present her with her prize that was generously donated by member, **Jackie McClain**. Thank you Jackie for giving this additional incentive to donate to Tech Trek!

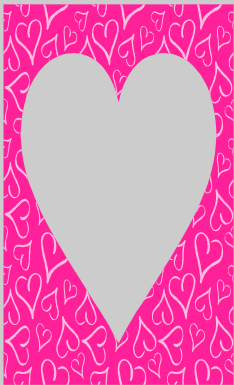
In April, a number of our members attended the annual North Valley Interbranch Council luncheon. The lunch was elegant and delicious. We had good representation from Chico and it was a joy to meet other members from Marysville, Yuba City, Gridley, Paradise, and Oroville. We got to meet our newest Interbranch Council member from Redding and plan on having a joint meeting between Chico and Redding members in the coming year.

What was really exciting about April was finding our book groups back in full swing and meeting in person once again. We look forward to future meetings and to giving you an overview of more of these groups in upcoming newsletters.

We also chose the girls who will be attending TechTrek camp at UC, Davis during July. Coming soon is the annual event in Oroville, on Friday, April 29, where we introduce our Chico and Paradise girls to those selected from Oroville, Yuba City/ Marysville, Gridley, and Redding. It is a lovely event held at the Lott Home in Oroville. All members are welcome to come. The cost is \$10 for attendees, but the girls and their families do not have to pay. We will car pool to this event.

I am sad to say this is my last President's Corner message. It has been a wonderful privilege and honor to be your president for the past two years and your vice-president before this. I want to thank all of you because this is a job that you do not do by yourself. I had wonderful support from the entire board and membership. Over the past two years, we had to make enormous changes by having to learn to conduct our meetings on Zoom. But this kept us safe and connected when we needed connections with one another the most. We weathered the quarantining and the many accommodations and even added valuable new members to our group. While the COVID outlook is still uncertain, it is clear that our AAUW branch is strong and will continue on for years to come.. Thank you all for your work and for allowing me to be your president. I will remain on the board as Program Chair. It will be good to see all of you in the coming year. Thank you!

Jan Britton
Chico AAUW President



Branch News and Notes



A High Tea “Teaser” HOLD THE DATE!

Mark Sunday, September 25 (afternoon) on your calendar for the 2022 High Tea Scholarship Fundraiser!

Where? Where else, but a very British venue.

For now, just get your hat ready! If you have the competitive spirit, you might want to “Google” Fascinators. More details to come . . .

TECH TREK

We’ve selected our 2022 Tech Trekkers! STEM Camp at UC Davis will be held July 17-23. Our three-person interview committee this year included me, Carol Holzgrafe, and Janet Rechtman. From a promising group of nominees, we chose seven students we believe will gain from being a Tech Trekker, and whose personality and talents will add to our week-long STEM camp. The girls have until May 1st to complete their online registration.

Coming Event - Friday evening April 29th at 5:30 p.m. – Please join us to meet our campers at the annual picnic, held on the patio at Oroville’s historic Lott Home, located in Sank Park. The picnic is held so parents and campers from Chico, Paradise, Gridley and Oroville and AAUW members can meet one another and learn about what to expect at camp. I hope you’ll plan to attend!

Joan Cleveland, Tech Trek Branch Coordinator

It will soon be time to renew your AAUW membership for the coming year. The world of technology is surging ahead and AAUW National is meeting the challenge. There are several updates and changes to the website of which you should become familiar. Recently, all members received an email instructing us to log in to the AAUW National website and create a new password in order to allow access to the newly established COMMUNITY HUB. The HUB will eventually contain important AAUW information including the membership renewal process and dues payment.

REMINDER – this is “a work in progress” so, please wait for further instructions regarding the renewal process coming soon. DUES INCREASE: AAUW National dues will increase by \$5 and our local Chico dues will increase by \$2 this year. The total renewal price will be \$105 which includes National, State (CA) and Chico dues. As we patiently await the completion of the COMMUNITY HUB we begin to envision the exciting return to many in-person AAUW events and celebrations.

Pam Bodnar, Marilyn Myrick and Lyn Smith

Note: If you require assistance accessing the website and creating your new password you can contact the AAUW helpline at 202-785-7782 between 7a.m. – 2 p.m. They are very helpful!

Finance Team Gives Membership Renewal Update

An AFaire to Remember

Thank you from your
Tech Trek fundraising
committee

The Antique Appraisal Faire is our event to raise funds to send seven Chico girls to Tech Trek camp at UC, Davis this summer. It was successful both in raising awareness about our program and also in raising money. The cost of sending a girl to camp this year is \$900. The girls are asked to raise \$50 themselves, if possible. We needed to raise about \$6,000. This year, over \$4000 was raised from appraisals, very generous members, and a scholarship from Chico Soroptimists. Thank you! Thank you!

Donations to support this project are accepted at any time and can be mailed to our treasurer, Pam Bodnar. Payee is AAUW SPF (Special Projects Fund).

We couldn't do it without our volunteer appraisers who donate their time and expertise to help us raise money. Shown below are jewelry experts Beth Dooley and Kathy Squyres, and Sam Kisse, glass aficionado extraordinaire, and the man who helps recruit all the other appraisers.



We couldn't have had a more deserving winner of our raffle prize than Carol Murdoch, a retired teacher. The American Brilliant cut glass pitcher and glass set, donated by Jackie McClain, was similar to one she lost in the Paradise Camp Fire which had belonged to her mother.

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)

Tech Trek alums are always a helpful addition to the Faire; welcoming people and assisting in getting them to the appropriate appraiser. This year we had help from Kaiya Struft and Joye Shen (show here with Build-A-Girl). They both attended camp in 2018.



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 Spring Version

Meets the 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Locations change each month Please contact Carol Holzgrafe, carol@holzgrafe.com if you want to join in. And bring a friend or relative. We are nice people. **On hold until June, and then . . . watch out for an outdoor wine tasting and, since we haven't met in months, much whining!**

Out to Lunch

Group meets on 2nd Thursday
Call Lyn Smith at (530) 636-4984 to make a reservation. Both Paradise and Chico branch members welcome.

Computer and iPad Group

Helen Gesick (530) 570-5185
Meets 3rd Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.
Call Helen for information. Decision on meeting in person or on Zoom will be made month to month.



Foreign Policy Discussion Group

Roxanne Ferry - 891-1722 All welcome.
Group meets 4th Monday at 7 p.m.
Jun 27 - *Foreign policy, economic power, and US industrial policy* Hosted by Lyn Smith at 25 Abbott Circle (530)636-4984



Evening Book Discussion Group

Mary Huntsinger (530) 521-1323
Group meets at 7:00 p.m. on 2nd Tuesday
Call for update on book selections and locations.

Ethnic Writers Book Discussion Group

Severance Dolan 433-0258 All welcome!
Group meets at 1:00 p.m. on 4th Wednesday
May 25 - *Eat the Buddha: Life and Death in a Tibetan Town* by Barbara Demick. Hosted by Sue Blizman at 462 Todd Court

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 decides each month if there will be Zoom or in-person sessions

Mystery Book Discussion Group

Denise Worth (530) 343-5711
Group meets at 3 p.m. on 3rd Wednesday
May 18 - Read either book by Denise Mina (*The Field of Blood* or *The Dead Hour*)
Hosted by Denise at 798 Sierra View Way

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
Apr 22 - *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victor Christopher Murray.
New members welcome. Contact Severance if you're interested in joining.

Items for your calendar

May 7 - AAUW Marysville/Yuba City invites you to their 28th annual Garden Tour (a branch fundraiser). Rain or shine, self-guided tour of unique gardens, with art too - 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Purchase \$25 tickets from mvycc-ca.aauw.net and bring to Wilber Avenue and C Street in Yuba City (parking lot with solar panels next to Gauche Aquatic Park) to get your tour brochure. Guaranteed to be a lovely way to spend the day for garden and art lovers.

May 21 - 10 to 12:30 Strawberry Brunch at the home of Sue Blizman
Election of officers and annual award ceremony.

June 16 - A special invitation from the Redding Branch! 80 years of promoting equity through education and advocacy for the women and girls of Shasta County is what the AAUW Redding Branch will be celebrating June 16th at the historic, downtown IOOF Hall. We will enjoy dinner, marvel at the many past branch community projects, and honor the work of our current local women leaders. Carol Holzgrafe, AAUW CA Branch Assistance Leader will be our speaker for the evening. If you would like to join our 80th Anniversary Celebration, contact Penny Harris, AAUW Redding Branch President at darylandpenny@hotmail.com.



1112 Bidwell Avenue
Chico, CA 95926

