

September 28th Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at the McConnell Foundation

Speaker: Nikki Blum, President, Redding Refugee Sponsor Circle



Ruslana, Sasha, and their three young sons who found help in Redding after fleeing Kyiv.

You won't want to miss our special dinner meeting at the McConnell Foundation at 5:00 pm on Thursday, September 28th, featuring Nikki Blum, President of the Redding Refugee Sponsor Circle.

In October 2022, the Redding Refugee Sponsor Circle brought Ilona Tremba and her two daughters from Kyiv to Redding in the middle of a bombing raid. Another couple, Ruslana and Sasha and their three sons, found themselves penniless and desperate in Redding after fleeing the bombings in Kyiv and were rescued by the Redding Refugee Sponsor Circle. Redding now has five Ukrainian families and two Afghan families that the Refugee Sponsor Circle has helped on their relocation journeys by providing shelter, food, work, drivers licenses, and school enrollment for the children.

Nikki Blum will share with us how a small group of volunteers has worked to help refugee families and individuals find safety and the opportunity to create a new beginning.

After graduating from Northwestern School of Journalism, Nikki began a career in marketing communications and freelance magazine work - eventually becoming an executive speechwriter at

Cisco Systems. After retiring and leaving the Bay Area, Nikki moved to the Northstate to fly fish and bake artisan bread. We welcome Nikki and look forward to her becoming an AAUW member in the near future.

Meeting includes a catered meal: RSVP \$25 by 9/22. **There is limited seating so reserve now so that I can let the McConnell Foundation and the caterer know how many to expect.** Make check payable to AAUW and mail to Tammy Douse. Payment may also be made on our web site: <http://www.aauwredding.org>. Under Payment choose Option #5- \$25. Contact Tammy if you need a vegetarian meal.

Menu: Taco Salad Bar by C&C Catering; wine, tea, nuts and cookies are also included. The taco bar includes pollo asado (roasted chicken), Romaine lettuce, tortilla strips, pico de gallo, black beans, corn, pepitas, shredded Cheddar cheese, black olives, jalapenos, sour cream and guacamole.

A Message from our President

As I look forward to the year ahead, I am excited about all the opportunities we have to engage in our mission both within our branch and with our greater community. We will kick off the new term by attending our first Branch Meeting at McConnell Foundation on September 28th, then on October 19th provide an information booth at the Think Pink event at Sundial Bridge. Please read further to find out more about all of the additional and wonderful activities planned by our interest groups. Each and every Branch meeting is designed to further and strengthen our mission. Please mark your calendars!

I also wanted to alert you to a growing concern within our community and in the state at large. Our School Boards have come under attack by groups who would like to ban or censor educational materials. This will be a focus for us in the coming year. For more information, please see the article in the Public Policy section.

"Many hands make light work." I heard this many times when I first joined and I have seen the strength and truth of this saying at every turn since. I am grateful for each and everyone of you for making this Branch so productive! So, as we gear up for the coming year, I want to reach out to you and ask you to consider what you can do to support this year's work of the Branch. Volunteers are needed for our November fundraising activity – an Art and Wine Event in Caldwell Park at the North Valley Art League Museum. We also need individuals to host the Think Pink booth in October. Volunteering is a great way to make new friends and accomplish great goals together. Presently there are a few positions in Branch leadership – helping with the newsletter and assisting our AAUW Funds Vice President with the Silent Auction. In addition, although this is not a STEM Conference year, we still need a chair who will start working with the Shasta County Office of Education this coming Spring. If you are interested in finding out more about these and other opportunities, you are encouraged to contact the individual listed (for example Tech Trek, Social Committee or STEM), or myself, and offer to help.

I am in awe of the creativity, compassion, and intelligence of the women of this Branch! I look forward to serving you, hearing from you and working alongside you this year! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any question or concerns.

-2023-2024 President Maureen Chenoweth

Important Announcements

The Play WILL go on! September 14 at the Riverfront Playhouse

Riverfront Playhouse had to make a change in the upcoming fundraiser on September 14. The play will now be *Hate Mail*. The tickets purchased previously for *Forever Plaid* will be honored.

In this wickedly funny alternative to *Love Letters*, Preston and Dahlia embark on an epic, often acrimonious correspondence as their lives intertwine. *Hate Mail* is a two-person comedy full of surprises at every turn.

This \$35 fundraiser will send 8th grade girls to Tech Trek. Delicious savory and sweet small bites will be served so come at 6:30 pm. Play starts at 7:30 pm.

Tickets may be purchased on our website at <https://aauwreeding.org/payment/>. For further information, please contact Sally Wallman or Maureen Chenoweth.

If you will be bringing a savory or sweet treat, please let Sally or Maureen know.

***Save the Date** November 3rd from 4-7 pm, for Art and Wine Tasting
at North Valley Art League. Fundraiser for women's scholarships.*

PUBLIC POLICY-DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION

AAUW CALIFORNIA Expands Education Goal and Establishes New Project

In a 2023 AAUW CA survey, members expressed concerns about book banning and K-12 school curricula that “denies access to historically accurate information.” In light of that survey and AAUW’s long standing goal of “Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students,” our state board has added the following point to that goal: *“Access to diverse staff and curriculum that represents historically accurate information.”*

To implement that enhanced goal, AAUW CA has established *“The School Board Project.”* To learn more about this project, join the virtual, on-line discussion September 21st at 7 pm. Kathi Harper, AAUW CA School Board Project Committee Chair, will explain this project and how all AAUW CA members can help. Registration is now open and the link to register is below. In the meantime our branch is exploring ways to collaborate with our local Shasta County Schools Superintendent and the local League of Women Voters to support our local schools and ensure Equal Access to Quality Education for All Students. Stay tuned.

What you can do...

September 21, 7:00 pm AAUW CA virtual discussion - new School Board Project. To register, go to [Webinar: Book Banning and Curricula Censorship in California? AAUW California to the Rescue! - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](#)

Penny Harris
Public Policy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair



Past Presidents' Meeting, August 3, at Peter Chu's



Upcoming Board Meetings

September 25

October 23

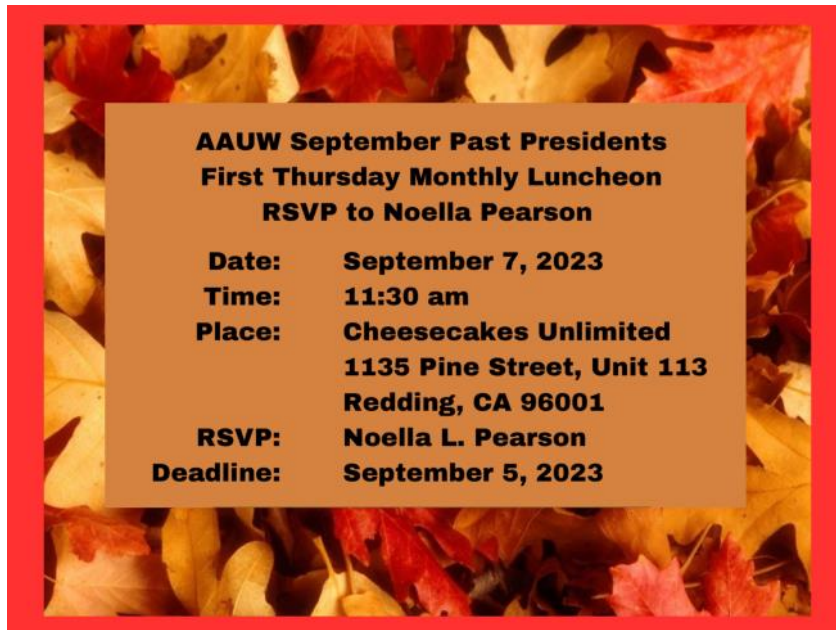
November 27

We meet at 5:30 in the Community Room at the Shasta County Public Library

All members are welcome to attend Board Meetings. The agenda will be emailed one week prior to each meeting.

If you wish to speak to an agenda item at the meeting, please contact President Maureen Chenoweth.

AAUW Redding Upcoming Activities



Walking Group



Photo by Frances Cole-Boyd

After summer vacations, the walking group will begin walking together again in September. This group enjoys fellowship while exploring the many walking trails in our area. We tailor the speed of our walks to who is present. To try to beat the heat, all walks will begin at 7:30 am. If you plan to attend a walk, please let Frances know.

Tuesday Walks (7:30 am meeting time):

- 9/12 Senior Center (2290 Benton Dr)
- 9/19 Sundial Bridge
- 9/26 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

Saturday Walks (7:30am meeting time):

- 9/9 Clover Creek Preserve (parking lot at Shasta View & Venus)
- 9/16 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)
- 9/23 Sundial Bridge
- 9/30 Lassen Park (trail TBD) We will meet at the Macy's parking lot and carpool.

Chair - Frances Cole-Boyd

Save the Date November 3rd from 4-7 pm, for Art and Wine Tasting at North Valley Art League. Fundraiser for women's scholarships.

Women's Issues

The first Women's Issues discussion group of the season will be **Tuesday, September 12th at 5:00 pm**. It will be at Frances Cole-Boyd's. Light snacks will be provided.

This year we will be discussing the issues listed on the AAUW website. Carolyn Chandler will lead the first meeting. The discussion will be on Title IX – Discrimination in Schools – including harassment based on Gender Identity. For a focused and deeper conversation, you are encouraged to review the information on the website at <https://www.aauw.org/issues/education/>

Please let Frances know if you will be attending, as space is limited.



Wine and Brews

The Grape Escape

Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 4:30 PM

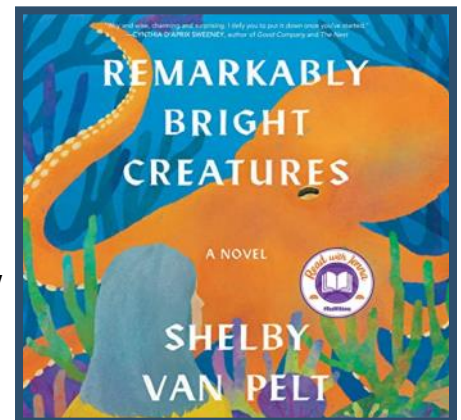
Please join us to kick off the new season of Wine and Brews at the Grape Escape for great wines and two brews on tap. The on-site kitchen, The Crepe Escape, will be open for delicious sweet and savory crepes, plus salads and more.

Please RSVP by September 8 to chair person Nancy Randall.

September Book Group

Tuesday, September 19:

***Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt**



"Remarkably Bright Creatures* is a beautiful examination of how loneliness can be transformed, cracked open, with the slightest touch from another living thing." -- Kevin Wilson, author of *Nothing to See Here

After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago.

Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors—until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova.

Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late.

Shelby Van Pelt's debut novel is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible.

Leader: Sharon Salpas

Host: Carol Schultz

Drama Divas 23rd Season:

October 4th from 1-4 p.m.

Hostess: Mari Ennis-Applegate.

The Drama group meets the first Wednesday of the month from October through June. This group is open to all AAUW members, we read a new play each month and the hostess always provides some tasty treats. If you have been wondering about our group please come check us out in October. Just be sure to rsvp to the hostess so she knows how many to set up for.

More questions? Contact Tammy Douse, Drama Divas chair.



TRAVEL INTEREST GROUP

Wednesday, October 25,

5:30 PM, at Karline's Restaurant



Inca Trail Photo by Tom Cleary on Unsplash

Travel interest group returns the last Wednesday in October at Karline's restaurant. Presentations planned for this year include hiking on the Inca trail, lodging in an eco-lodge along the Amazon, Lake Titicaca, southern India, Oregon, and Yellowstone. Presentations are typically trips that our own AAUW members have taken.

If you are interested in sharing pictures and stories of a trip you have taken, please contact Judy Bush. Trips can be domestic or international trips.

Travel group is open to all members. If you are a new member to AAUW or a member who has never come before, I would like to extend a personal welcome to you to join us this year for more adventures. All travel interest group events are dinner meetings held at Karline's restaurant in

Redding. A reservation is needed to attend these events by contacting Judy Bush.

More information for the year will be in the October newsletter. Reserve your seat by contacting Judy Bush.

Travel tip: Clothes wrinkle when traveling. Carry a 4-inch water squirter. Hang up garment and spray lightly. Shake and smooth out.



Please welcome our New Members:

Donna Holscher

Mary Pfeiffer

Karen Ahern

Stephanie Taylor

Community Connections

Want to stay informed about what is happening in our community as it relates to to our mission? Click on links (suggested by members) that may interest you.

Newsletters

- AAUW member Lynn Fritz's newsletter—community events, trainings or issues: Email Lynn at lynnprod@sbcglobal.net. Include first and last name and phone number. You can opt out from the newsletter at any time.

Organizations and Their Websites

- Beloved Community Shasta County: on Facebook
- Children's Legacy Center
- Girls, Inc. of the Northern Sacramento Valley
- League of Women Voters of the Redding Area
- Nor-Cal Think Pink
- One Safe Place
- Shasta County Citizens Advocating Respect (S.C.C.A.R.)
- Society of Women Engineers: Proposed Shasta Cascade Section of the Society of Women Engineers on Facebook
- The Women's Fund Reimagined

Radio & TV Stations

- Jefferson Public Radio (KNCA 89.7 FM Burney/Redding-Rhythm & News. KWCA 101.1 FM Redding-Classics & News. KJPR AM 1330 Shasta Lake City/Redding- News and Information)
- Northstate Public Radio (KCHO 91.7 FM Chico. KFPR 88.9 FM Redding)
- KFOI 90.9 FM <https://www.kfoiradio.org/>
- KKRN Community Radio 88.5 FM
- KIXE TV PBS (KIXE 9-1 · KIXE 9-2 · KIXE 9-3) Northern California Educational TV.

Media

- A News Cafe
- Shasta Scout

Resources for Seniors

- City of Redding Utility Assistance
- Connected Living Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DHConnectedLiving>
- HICAP (for Medicare counseling) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057337154961>
- Marianne's - The Senior Source <https://www.reddingseniorsource.com/> (Also on Facebook at Marianne's Senior Placement Services, but not very active.)
- Older Adult Policy Council
- PSA2 Area Agency on Aging Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/psa2aaa>
- Redding Senior Center

Local Businesses that Support AAUW Redding Branch, Inc.

Please patronize these businesses and tell them where you saw their name.

For information about renting a monthly 3" by 3.5" square, Contact Debbie Stokes.

Estate Planning & Probate Litigation

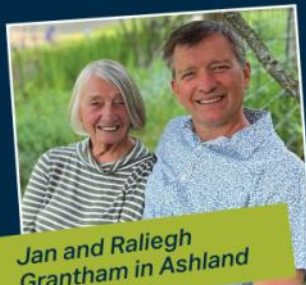


- Living Trusts & Wills • Medi-Cal Planning
- Will & Trusts Contests • Conservatorship
- Special Needs Trusts • Probate Litigation
- Social Security Disability



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THE EATON GIFT

aka Behrens-Eaton House Museum
1520 West Street, Redding, CA 96001

10:00 am to 4:00 pm Tuesday & Wednesday, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Saturday

www.eatonhousemuseum.org

behrenseaton@gmail.com

facebook: The Eaton Gift

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AAUW REDDING BRANCH, INC.
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AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW Educational Foundation—the world's largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women—supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers, and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented.

The Foundation Funds:

Groundbreaking Research
Vital Community Action Projects
Symposia, Roundtables, and Forums

Fellowships and Grants
Special Awards
AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering:

Action for Equity
Community Leadership

Personal and Professional Growth
Friendships

In principle and 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.

Visit our website at www.aauwredding.org