



AAUW 2023 Holiday Traditions Brunch

Saturday, December 9th, from 11:30 am-1:00 pm



Each family and culture has its unique way of celebrating the winter holidays and winter season. At our Traditions Brunch we will embrace a variety of celebrations.

A number of AAUW members have volunteered to be your hostesses by decorating tables with individual themes in the Redding Library Community Room. And since no party would be complete without music, get ready to enjoy concert violinist Cherie Gans, her daughter Janessa Gans Wilder, and Janessa's three children, Afton (10), James (8), and Aurora (6), all playing stringed instruments.

We will need an accurate count for this event so that we have enough decorated tables to seat everyone.

There is no charge for this Brunch. We are asking each member to bring small-bite appetizers or desserts to share.

Please RSVP to Tammy Douse (see Contact Page for info) as soon as possible and ask your AAUW friends to join you. Please respond by December 5th.

P.S. Ugly sweaters and bling-bling accessories are encouraged!



Please: Bring Socks to this Meeting!

Bring new socks for men, women and children over the age of 5. During the cold months, new socks are always in demand by the neediest members of our community. Your donations will be distributed locally.

Kirsten Plate, Community Outreach Coordinator

A Message from the President

Yay! We did it! Thanks to each and every one of you, the Starry Nights event was a huge success due to the outstanding leadership of Sharon Clairemont and her Co-Chair Penny Harris. It is impossible to list everyone here, but I must give a shout out to Barbara Enochian for coordinating the Art Show; Tammy Douse and her fabulous team for catering; Gail Paulsen for decorating; Lana Hill, Noella Pearson and Barbara Enochian for their work on graphics and social media; Martha Hamon for keeping tabs on expenses and revenue; Noella Pearson for helping with donations; Joann Roskoski for coordinating the Silent Auction; and the local wineries who poured fabulous wine and donated generous portions of their sales – Dakaro Cellars, Ridgetop Cellars and Old 44 Cellars. This is the kind of event that really showcases the strength of teamwork!



I also wanted to share with you the superior work of the Education Committee this year, led by Nancy Williams. Nancy, who is new to the Board, was given the arduous task of reformatting the scholarship application process for local recipients due to major changes in the California educational system. Instead of using the Shasta College application system, we must now provide our own format. And the new format must be rolled out in early January, so everything must be in place right away. We will provide these details in the January newsletter. Stay tuned!

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our December Branch meeting highlighting the diverse ways to celebrate this season. It promises to be a delightful event with tasty treats, merry tunes and warm comradery in abundance!

In solidarity,
Maureen Chenoweth
AAUW Redding Branch President

It was truly a Starry Night!

What? You missed it? We are so sorry for those who weren't there!

We had great fun with friends, old and new! We enjoyed (and bought) amazing art created by our branch members, ate delicious food, tasted wonderful wine (did you know Old 44's Cabernet won a San Francisco Chronicle award?), and spent eagerly on an engaging silent auction. It was an excellent evening!



Thanks to our sponsors KIXE, Office Depot, and North Valley Art League we reached an expanded audience, printed beautiful posters and tickets and hosted our evening at the charming Carter House Gallery. Local wineries Old 44, Ridgetop and Dakaro not only contributed to the ambiance but also donated a portion of their sales.

We are grateful to all the local businesses and individuals who donated to our silent auction. The Starry Night committee worked hard, had fun, and is very grateful to all our members and friends who supported this fundraiser. Thanks to you, we added over \$9,000 to our local scholarships fund!

Sharon Clairemont, Chair; Penny Harris, Co-Chair

December Travel Group News

October's Travel group enjoyed the remarkable trip of Penny and Daryl Harris to Peru. Their story was captivating from their high-altitude trek to Machu Pichu, living along the Amazon in a wooden structure with no doors or windows, and back to the high altitude of Lake Titicaca. At the end of the presentation, Penny shared her Quinoa cookies. We learned from Penny that quinoa is native to the Andean region of South America, and has been the main food for Andean civilizations since before 3000 B.C.

I want to do a shout out to my husband for the Travel Shorts at each meeting. He definitely described the harrowing trail up to Angels Landing, and the dangerous water trail up the Narrows in Zion National Park. Thank you!

The Travel Interest group will be taking a break over the holidays. Due to Thanksgiving and Christmas, we will meet again the 4th Wednesday in January, January 24th. Maureen and Wayne Chenoweth, will present their extensive trip through Oregon last summer. Remember to RSVP.

May your holidays be joyful.

Judy Bush, Chair



Travel Tip: Fly early in the day, or late at night. The most on-time departures typically occur between 6 and 8 a.m. In many cases, the on-time departure rate improves between 11 p.m. and midnight.

*Please warmly welcome our
new members:*

Elizabeth Reiten

Kate Lindberg (Kathryn)

See Contact Page for full information.



Theater Arts

Hi all! December is a fantastic time to be an arts aficionado. Lot's happening!

Here are answers to a couple of frequently asked questions.

First, **how can I get on the Shasta College Theater Arts mailing list?** Answer: Call the College Theater Box Office at 530-242-7373.

How can I check my tickets when purchasing online for the Cascade Theatre? If in doubt, call or stop at the downtown Cascade Box Office. Phone Number 530-243-8877.

Happy Holidays – See you at a theatre!

For information regarding Theater Arts contact Pat Williams or Gwen Knaebel.

With sadness, we announce the passing of **Mary Foster Abrott**. Her obituary is posted on the Redding Record Searchlight site at <https://www.redding.com/obituaries/rrs022922>.

Mary was 98 years young. Members remember playing bridge with her in her nineties with other branch members.

A donation of \$50 has been made to AAUW National in Mary's name. Mary was an honorary 50-year member who joined our branch in 1948. That makes her a 75-year member.

Upcoming Board Meetings

January 22, 2024

There is no Board Meeting in December

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.

Starry Nights November 3, 2023





Wine and Brews

is celebrating this season of giving by holding a fundraiser for
Tech Trek on

Wednesday December 13th at 5:00 at our home.

We will provide the wine and brews. Please bring an appetizer
and your donation for this wonderful cause.

Contact Nancy Randall by December 12th to attend.



Public Policy-Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Happy December to You All.

Just in time for the holidays, here is your **Public Policy Holiday Quiz**.

1. Can you name the women's issues selected for focus and action by AAUW and AAUW CA? How are these focus areas chosen?

ANSWER at our January 13th Branch Meeting. Hint: See 5 below.

2. How can you join the action to help solve some of these issues? How can you become a "2 Minute Activist"? What is the Action Network and Lobby Day?

ANSWER See answer above.

3. Was our CA Public Policy legislative lobbying team successful this recent bill cycle?

ANSWER: YES. How many AAUW CA priority bills were recently signed into law? **19.**

Now that shows our AAUW CA dues at work! Check out all the details of the new CA laws that support women in the November issue of Public Policy News.

4. How many women world leaders were awarded Nobel Prizes recently?

ANSWER: 4. How many are Americans? 2. Katalin Kariko, Hungarian-American, won for her work in medicine. She helped develop the Covid vaccine saving millions of lives.

5. Who was the other American woman Nobel laureate?

ANSWER: Claudia Goldin, 77, the first woman to win for her work in Economics without men as collaborators. Based on her **AAUW aligned research**. Dr. Goldin's Nobel-winning study focuses on causes of the gender wage gap, the evolution of women's participation in the job market over the past 200 years, and the implications for the future of the labor force.

An AAUW Public Policy Priority is Economic Security for all women, including equity in the workplace, enforcement of work-place anti-discrimination laws; access to job training and quality, affordable childcare and paid sick leave and caregiving leave.

These are the exact factors studied by Dr. Goldin to understand why U.S. women earn on average 80 cents for every dollar earned by a man, why men's wages are higher than women's in the same occupation, and why women are under-represented in the top jobs even though women are now more educated than men.

6. Are you culturally curious? What are 3 major holidays celebrated this December and when will they be celebrated?

ANSWER: Hanukkah December 7-15, Christmas December 25, Kwanzaa December 26-Jan.

1. Learn more about Kwanzaa at the Kwanzaa table at our December 9th Branch Brunch.

Penny Harris
Public Policy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair

The Walking Group

December 2023 Schedule

The walking group meets twice a week. The walks' lengths and paces are tailored to the needs of the walkers present. If you are interested in getting out into the beauty that surrounds us, with some fun people, please contact Frances Cole-Boyd.

Tuesday Walks (8:00 am meeting time):

12/5 Clover Creek Preserve (parking lot at Shasta View & Venus)

12/12 Hornbeck Trail. We will meet at Raley's on Lake Blvd.

12/19 Sundial Bridge

12/26 NO WALK

Saturday Walks (8:00 am meeting time):

12/2 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

12/9 Churn Creek Trail (meet at Lema Ranch Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

12/16 Senior Center (2290 Benton Drive)

12/23 NO WALK

12/30 Sundial Bridge



Photo by Frances Cole-Boyd

December Book Group

Tuesday, December 19, 2:00 pm

Meet Me at the Museum by Anne Youngston



**“Warm-hearted, clear-minded, and unexpectedly spellbinding, *Meet Me at the Museum* is a novel to savor.”
—Annie Barrows, co-author of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society***

In Denmark, Professor Anders Larsen, an urbane man of facts, has lost his wife and his hopes for the future. On an isolated English farm, Tina Hopgood is trapped in a life she doesn't remember choosing. Both believe their love stories are over.

Brought together by a shared fascination with the Tollund Man, subject of Seamus Heaney's famous poem, they begin writing letters to one another. And from their vastly different worlds, they find they have more in common than they could have imagined. As they open up to one another about their lives, an unexpected friendship blooms. But then Tina's letters stop coming, and Anders is thrown into despair. How far are they willing to go to write a new story for themselves?

Leader: Barbara Cross

Host: Debbie Spiess

**If you are interested in attending please contact Debbie Spiess
by Friday, December 15.**

November Women's Issues Group

The Women's Issues interest group met in November and discussed "The STEM Gap." Per the AAUW National's website, "The Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields will account for some of the fastest growing — and highest paying — jobs of the future. Yet girls and women are still not on par with boys and men in preparing for or entering into these fields." How can we close this gap? We can install a mindset of confidence; prioritize from preschool through high school; encourage college women to major in the STEM fields; focus on retaining women in STEM studies; and urge STEM employers to recruit, hire and promote women. Specific ideas can be found at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/closing-the-stem-gap/>.



The group will not be meeting in December. In January, the discussion will be focused on Gender Bias and Stereotypes.

Drama Divas **Wednesday, December 6th, 1-4 p.m** **Hostess: Jan Brockett**

Join us for an afternoon of fun reading Branden Jacobs-Jenkins play **"Appropriate."** The plot: The Lafayette family has returned to their late patriarch's Arkansas home to deal with the remains of his estate. The eldest daughter hopes they'll spend the weekend remembering and reconnecting over their beloved father. Her brother wants to recoup some of the funds he spent caring for Dad at the end of his life. However things take a turn when their estranged brother appears late one night and mysterious objects are discovered among the clutter. Suddenly long-hidden secrets and buried resentments can't be contained and the family is forced to face the ghosts of their past.

This promises to be an entertaining reading! Jan will have an array of treats and beverages so be sure to RSVP.

The Drama Divas group is open to all AAUW members and we generally meet the first Wednesday afternoon from October through June each season. Contact Tammy Douse if you are interested in learning about this AAUW section.

Save the date: January 3, 2024, Hostess needed

Thanks to Debbie Spiess for hosting the November reading where we had some very tasty home baked goods and savory treats in her lovely home in Gold Hills while enjoying another one of Neil Simon's plays.



Past Presidents' Lunch at the Olive Garden, November 2, 2023 . The next Past Presidents' luncheon will be on December 7th at the Shasta County Office of Education Culinary School, 1644 Magnolia Avenue. Please RSVP to Tara Swanson by December 5th.

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

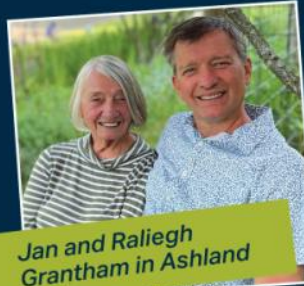


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