

Our Next Meeting

The Atelier of Redding Fashion Alliance

Thursday, March 14, Social at 5:00 pm, Meeting at 5:30 pm

Redding Library Community Room

We are in for a unique treat with a presentation and fashion display of the designs by Redding fashion designers Gini Holmes, Jan Kearns, Nancy White, and Rhenn Beaumont. Together they form The Atelier@RFA, "Where Design Dreams Come True!" Located in the heart of the Downtown Redding Cultural District, the Atelier provides studio space for regional fashion designers. Each designer has a distinct style and focus, including one of a kind couture, up-cycled fashion, limited edition pieces, and wearable art. They will bring sample clothing to share with us and whet our appetites for more!



Menu:

Dinner: \$12, assorted salads From the Hearth, shrimp, fruit, chips, cookies, nuts, coffee, tea, water and wine. **RSVP by March 11th.**

Mail check payable to AAUW, mail to Tammy Douse. Late reservation or paying at the door is \$15. Tickets may be purchased through the website: aauwredding.org. Under payment choose Option #2-\$12 or vegetarian choose Option #7-V-\$12.

AAUW Spring Riverfront Playhouse Buy-Out To support Tech Trek and Shasta College Scholarships

Thursday, March 21, 7:30 pm



Five Women Wearing the Same Dress is a comedy by Alan Bell. It is sure to keep our audience laughing as five southern bridesmaids share a bit of gossip.

The play is set at the home of the bride in Knoxville, Tennessee during the newly married couple's wedding reception. The five bridesmaids have found refuge in the room of Meredith, the sister of the bride. The women come to realize that despite their differences they have more in common with each other than any of them do with the bride!

Ticket price is \$35. Tickets may be purchased through our website aauwredding.org using PayPal or by check written to Redding Branch AAUW. There will be small bites available at 6:30 pm and a

"no-host" bar. Tickets can be picked up at will-call before the play. This Buy-Out will help support AAUW programs: Tech Trek and Shasta College Scholarships.



President's Message

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb!

We have been actively pursuing goals on several fronts and I want to share the progress with you.

1. The application for local scholarships is posted on our website and the Education Committee is busy advertising the scholarships to solicit those applications. You can help them by posting flyers in local businesses and/or help spread the word! Kudos to the outstanding work of this committee!
2. The Fundraising Ad Hoc Committee is nearing completion of its work as well. There will be one final meeting this month to complete the work. We will be looking at types of fundraisers, timing and what corporate sponsorships we would like to pursue, among other items. It is not too late to add your input. If you would like to attend, please contact Judy Bush. Outstanding work Judy and committee members!
3. Our treasurer, Lana Hill, has been working on adding the Special Projects Fund to provide tax deductible receipts for donations. This will be an important tool in our fundraising. Thank you, Lana!
4. The President-Elect is finalizing proposed changes to the Bylaws (some mandated by National) and Policies and Procedures. Be sure to look for these in the coming weeks. We will send them to you within 15 days of voting at the April meeting. Yes, I know, this is a boring topic for many, but it is important for our organization to keep these up to date, and for incoming officers to have a "handbook" to guide decision making and activities.
5. Have you had any trouble logging in to our website? Members of the Communications Committee will hold a workshop prior to the April meeting to help any member get logged in and receive instructions on navigating the website. We will also try to answer any issues with logging onto the National Website as well.
6. Finally, ***I want to encourage you*** to consider taking on one of the many appointed positions within our organization. The organization is only as strong as its members. I have been blessed with an amazing team of volunteers this year. We would love to have you join us too! Please see Sharon Clairemont if you are interested or have any questions. If you would like a list of positions, let me know and I will send you one!

Many thanks to all of you for making the work of AAUW Redding possible!

In solidarity, *Maureen Chenoweth*, President



WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 1

Application deadline is March 1.

For information:

Linda Wright (see contact sheet)



Upcoming Board Meetings

March 25, 2024

April 29, 2024

We meet at 5:30 pm in the Foundation 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.

Quick Look: Dates to put on your calendar

March 1 WOA Applications due

March 2—30 Tuesdays and Thursdays Hiking/
Walking Group

March 6 Drama Divas

March 7 Past Presidents Lunch

March 12 Women's Issues Interest Group

March 13 Wine and Brews



March 15 Branch Meeting

March 18 AAUW Scholarship
Applications due

March 19 Book Group

March 21 Theater Buyout

March 27 Travel Interest Group

March 29 Branch Board Meeting

PUBLIC POLICY-DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION

Book Banning and Why It Affects All of Us

Books, texts and supplemental reading materials that support our state mandated public school curriculum are the bones of our public schools.

As most of us are products and teachers of those same schools and colleges and universities, we know the importance of basic information for our future leaders and voters, our children. Books and the public education they support are the foundation of our future democracy.

So, now I'll climb down from my soapbox and share some facts:

- 26 states have banned over 1100 books from their public and school libraries, a 33% increase since 2020 according to Kathi Harper, AAUW-CA's School Board Project Chair.
- Much of the push for bans is supported by political agendas, PACs and their money. Groups such as "Moms for Liberty" have chapters in every state and claim to support parents' rights, but seem to be much more about getting schools to align with their personal religious and political views and to elect school board candidates that support hurtful, diminishing policy.
- Book Banning is a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion issue as well as a Public Policy issue for us as AAUW members.
- Most of the banning demands are counter to our Public Policy Priority of *Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, including: Access to diverse staff and curriculum that represents historically accurate information.*
- As the majority of the books banned have LGBTQ characters, issues and racial-minority themes, banning also runs counter to another AAUW-CA Public Policy Priority: *Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society.*
- Is book banning happening at our Redding Library or in the Shasta Public Libraries? I asked Jessie Spragge, our new Assistant Library Director this recently. The good news is "No." Parents occasionally bring a book from the children's section to her and ask if it should be there. She says it is the librarian's responsibility to place books in the proper library collection, such as Teen, Adult or Children.
- The age ranges for these collections are determined by our local librarians. Their decisions are partly based on publisher designations, ALA (American Library Association) guidance and local norms. Determinations are often made based on the age of a book's characters as well as themes. A book questioned is often only mis-assigned. A questioned book can be moved to the adult section, but not removed from the library. Totally banning a book from all readers is a government decision, not a library decision.

What can we as an AAUW Branch and as individuals do to support our public schools and our library?

1. Respond to efforts to ban books by writing letters to editors and legislators.
2. Attend and share AAUW's Public Policies at school board meetings.

Continued on next page

Book Banning continued from page 3

3. Encourage and endorse candidates for school boards who support our priorities and will stand against book banning.
4. Be aware that CA AB 1078 signed into law 9/2023 prevents public school districts from banning books and censoring approved curriculum.
5. Let me and Maureen, our president, know if you'd like to help so we can coordinate a group effort to counter book banning.

Lastly, from "Unite Against Book Bans.org":

- Reading is a foundational skill, critical to exercising our democratic freedoms.
- We can trust individuals to make their own decisions about what they read and believe.
- Parents have the right to guide their children's reading and education, but not make decisions for other parent's children.
- Young people deserve to see themselves reflected in a library's books.
- Banning books from public libraries is a slippery slope to government censorship and the erosion of our country's commitment to freedom of expression.

-Penny Harris, Public Policy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair

Nominating Committee Update

The Nominating Committee is pleased to recommend the following wonderful, talented members for election to the 2024-2025 Board!

President-Elect—Frances Cole-Boyd

Program VP—Barbara Enochian

Membership VP - Gail Paulsen

AAUW Fund VP—Sally Wallman

Secretary—Linda Wright

Treasurer—Lana Hill

You will find short biographies of these nominees in the April newsletter. The election will take place at our Annual Meeting on April 18.

-The Nominating Committee

Mari Ennis-Applegate (Chair), Penny Harris, Tammy Douse, Tara Swanson, Joann Roskoski

REMINDER: Important Vote from National coming up in April!

You may have already received the email from National regarding this vote. It went out January 8, 2024, and the subject line was Important Message from AAUW National. Please do let us know if you did not receive this email as this is an indicator that you will not be able to vote online (and we should fix that!).

The vote is about eliminating the requirement to be a college graduate to join. Yes, this has come before us numerous times. However, the topic does merit discussion and we will find time to do that ahead of the voting period (April through May 15). Most importantly, in the past a small number of members have voted. So, whether you end up deciding to support this effort, or not support the effort, it is important to vote. If you would like to read and review the talking points, pro and con, please visit <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/open-membership-toolkit/>

We look forward to hearing your views! Contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Maureen Chenoweth, AAUW Redding Branch President

REMINDER: AAUW Scholarships Applications due by March 18

Attention AAUW members! It's that time of year when we are again taking applications for scholarships. This year, our application window is opening on Monday, January 2, and ending on Monday, March 18. New this year, instead of applying through Shasta College, students will apply directly to us through our website.

Applicants must be women who are completing two years at Shasta College, and will be either going on to a four-year university or who will be going into an approved certification program. This year, scholarships awarded will be between \$1000 and \$5000.

Please encourage any eligible women that you know to apply. This scholarship program is a vital part of the goal of AAUW to "advance equity for women and girls through, advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research."

AAUW Redding Upcoming Interest Groups Meetings

AAUW Walking/Hiking Group March Schedule

In February, the walking group enjoyed a beautiful day snowshoeing around Manzanita Lake at Lassen Park. This was in addition to our regular, nearby, walks. 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):

3/5 Clover Creek Preserve (parking Shasta View & Venus Way)

3/12 Kum Bay Xerel (take the Knighton Road exit off of I-5 and park by the geodesic dome) This walk does include a portion on an uneven trail. Wear waterproof shoes.

3/19 Senior Center (2290 Benton Drive)

3/26 Sundial Bridge

Saturday Walks (8:00 am meeting time):

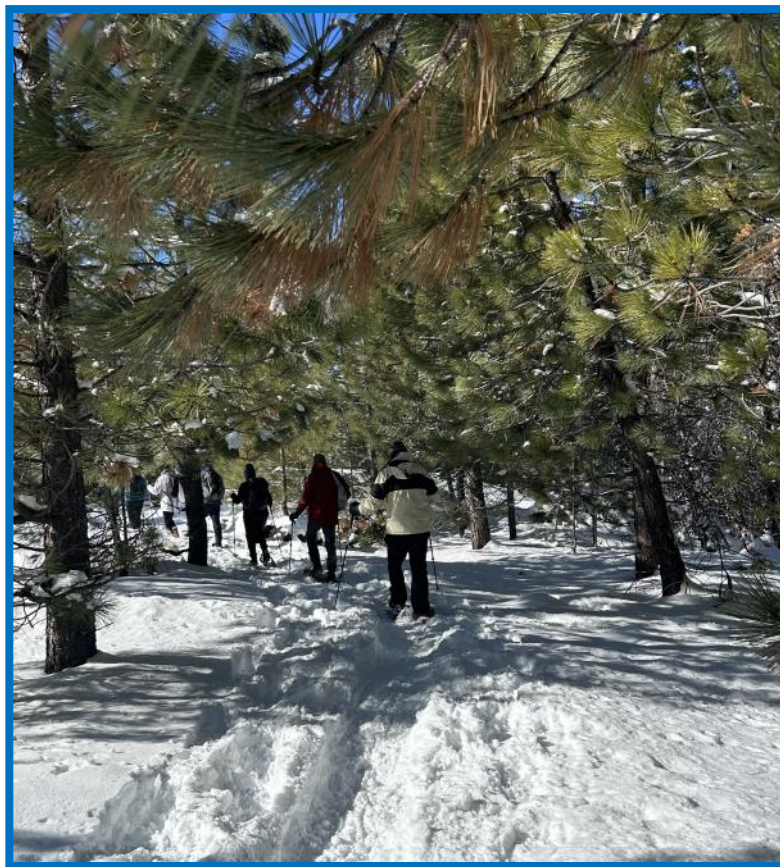
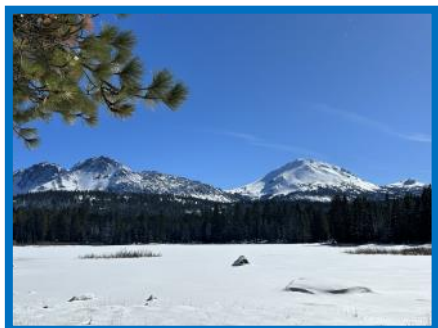
3/2 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/ Hemingway parking lot)

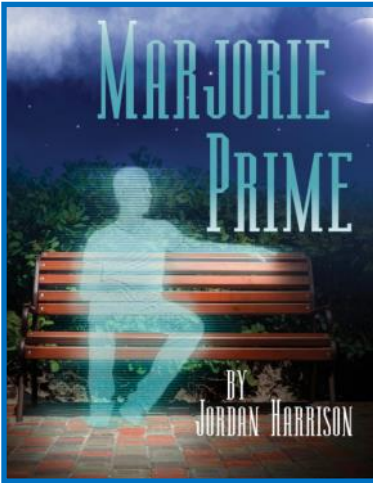
3/9 Sundial Bridge

3/16 Churn Creek Trail (meet at Lema Ranch Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

3/23 Anderson River Park

3/30 Clover Creek Preserve (parking Shasta View & Venus Way)





Drama Divas March 6, 1-4 p.m.

Hostess: Diane Madgic, please RSVP by March 4

We will be reading **Marjorie Prime** by **Jordan Harrison**, (it was made into a film in 2017). The story: It is the age of artificial intelligence and 85-year-old Marjorie--a jumble of disparate, fading memories--has a handsome new companion who's programmed to feed the story of her life back to her. What would we remember and what would we forget, if given the chance? In this richly spare, wondrous new play, Jordan Harrison explores the mysteries of human identity and the limits of what technology can replace.

April 3rd: Hostess needed

May 1st: Hostess needed

June 5th, Potluck

AAUW March Past Presidents' First Thursday Monthly Luncheon March 7, 11:30 am

Corbett's, 1455 Pine Street, Redding

Please RSVP to Tara Swanson by March 5.



Ten Past Presidents met at Tokyo Gardens February 1 for their monthly First Thursday Luncheon. (Photo from Noella Pearson)



The AAUW Redding Branch gathered at Lulu's Eating and Drinking Establishment on February 15 for its monthly meeting. (Photo by Frances Cole-Boyd)

Women's Issues

Tuesday, March 12, 5:00 pm

In March, The Motherhood Penalty will be the topic of discussion. You are encouraged to read the information AAUW shares at <https://www.aauw.org/issues/equity/motherhood/>. We will meet at Frances Cole-Boyd's.

The Women's Issues group meets monthly and discusses issues important for women and relevant to policies that we AAUW members have voted to adopt. In February, Reproductive Rights were discussed. All agreed this is an important, multifaceted, and far-reaching topic. As per the AAUW website, "Being able to choose whether and when to become a parent improves women's well-being and fosters economic security—a crucial component of AAUW's mission."

Don't forget to vote. Our collective voices, including our votes, help support our mission

Wine and Brews

Wednesday, March 13 at 4:30 pm

Final Draft, Downtown Redding

We'll be celebrating our brews lovers at Final Draft. Please come join us and raise a glass of ale or wine and enjoy everything from appetizers to burgers to sandwiches, wraps, and salads.

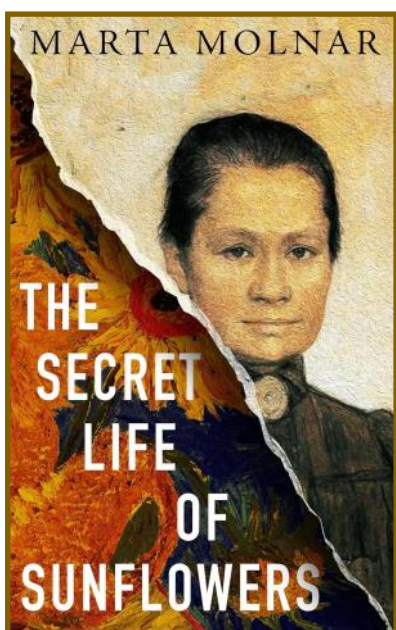
Please RSVP to Nancy Randall.



March Book Group

Tuesday, March 19, 2:00 pm

The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar



When Hollywood auctioneer Emsley Wilson finds her famous grandmother's diary while cleaning out her New York brownstone, the pages are full of surprises. The first surprise is, the diary isn't her grandmother's. It belongs to Johanna Bonger, Vincent van Gogh's sister-in-law.

Johanna inherited Vincent van Gogh's paintings. They were all she had, and they weren't worth anything. She was a 28 year old widow with a baby in the 1800s, without any means of supporting herself, living in Paris where she barely spoke the language. Yet she managed to introduce Vincent's legacy to the world.

The inspiration couldn't come at a better time for Emsley. With her business failing, an unexpected love turning up in her life, and family secrets unraveling, can she find answers in the past?

Leader: Carol Schultz

Host: Nancy Williams

If you are interested in attending please contact Nancy by Friday, March 15



TRAVEL INTEREST GROUP

Wednesday, March 27, 5:30 pm

At Karline's Restaurant

Reservations Needed

On March 27th at 5:30, Travel will feature the trip to Oregon that Maureen and Wayne Chenoweth took last summer. Starting off their presentation, they will share the special beginning of their trip as they meet with friends in Point Reyes, California. From there, they will take you on their trip to Oregon, visiting some amazing places like Crater Lake (which is the deepest, bluest, and clearest lake in the nation), Columbia River, and their special surprise along their route. Our newsletter editor, Andi Winters, writes about her favorite state of Oregon:

"From my mother's family crossing on the Oregon Trail in 1851 and settling in Roseburg, to my father's birth in Astoria, to the several years I lived on the beautiful Oregon Coast, I find my heart frequently calls me to return—at least to visit. The Chenoweths will be taking us on a delightful tour to our nearby neighbor that holds so many special qualities."

Reserve your seat by contacting Judy Bush.



GARDEN TOUR
First Saturday in May
AAUW

American Association of University Women, Marysville-Yuba City Branch presents

AAUW's 30th Anniversary

GARDEN TOUR

Art in the Gardens

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Self-guided Garden Tour—10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Reception—11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the McCampbell Mansion
located at 422 Second Street, Yuba City

\$25 - Tickets online: mvycc-ca.aauw.net/garden-tour/
and from these local merchants beginning mid-March:
The Country Florist, K. Roberts Gifts, Sperbeck's Nursery, Digs on D Street,
and from AAUW branch members

Rain or Shine on May 4 bring your ticket or online receipt to our brochure central location at Wilbur Avenue and C Street, Yuba City, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to receive your wristband and brochure with map. (We will be in the parking lot with solar panels next to Gauche Aquatic Park.) For late arrivals tickets and brochures will also be available at our reception site at the McCampbell Mansion after 12:30 p.m.



Wine and Brews
celebrated Valentine's
Day at a gathering at the
Chenoweth's home.
(Photo by Nancy Randall)



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.

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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	Fellowships and Grants
Vital Community Action Projects	Special Awards
Symposia, Roundtables, and Forums	AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

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

Action for Equity	Personal and Professional Growth
Community Leadership	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