

Join us Thursday, May 16
Social at 5:30 with Dinner and Program at 6 pm
Redding Library Community Room
Guest Speaker, Annelise Pierce,
Founder, Shasta Scout

Annelise Pierce is Editor, Community Reporter, and founder of *Shasta Scout*, a nonprofit online news service in Northern California. Her experience of serving on the Shasta County Civil Grand Jury and seeing behind the scenes of local government motivated her to found a news outlet in 2021 with a focus on government accountability and in-depth local reporting. Her goal is to encourage deep readership engagement and rebuild community trust in local news. Annelise has developed innovative practices that have drawn both regional and national attention and helped *Shasta Scout* earn the LION Publishers 2022 New Business of the Year Award in the small revenue category. We are privileged to hear this young, successful, Redding entrepreneur share her story with us.



Please join us for an informative and entertaining evening.

**IN ADDITION TO ANNEWISE, YOU WILL ALSO HAVE A CHANCE TO MEET
OUR FOUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (see page 5 for more info)**

Menu and Cost

Taco Bowl Salad buffet by Los Gordos Mexican Restaurant. (Buffet includes choice of grilled chicken or shredded pork, rice, beans, tortilla shell, chips, pico de gallo & condiments.) Wine, coffee & tea offered as well. Price is \$25 with RSVP by 5/13/24. Late reservation or paying at the door is \$30. Mail check payable to AAUW to Tammy Douse or payment may be made on line on the website at aauwredding.org, Option #5-\$25.



Win a Chance for Free National Membership

At the May Branch meeting, we will have a drawing and the winner won't have to pay the National portion of their dues. The \$50 for State and Branch dues will still need to be paid, but you will save \$72! You must be present to win.

President's Message

Spring has sprung and it is truly beautiful! I hope you can enjoy the sights before the heat sets in. We were able to see a super bloom at both Table Mountain and Death Valley in April and really enjoyed it!

Blooms are figuratively happening here in our Branch as well. When you read this, the AAUW Fund Silent Auction will have just concluded. Many thanks to so many of you who donated items and funds to this effort. The Education Committee has completed their work and we will be able to meet the scholarship winners soon. The Women of Achievement Committee has also completed their task and will present those awards as well. Plans are well underway for the 2025 STEM Conference, and we have a tentative plan for all of our fundraising events for the coming year. What a gorgeous bouquet!

A couple of reminders: 1. If you have not already done so, please vote with National regarding the opening of membership to non-degree holders (see link on page 5). The deadline is May 15, and if you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. 2. Your membership renewal will most likely be sent to you electronically very soon, depending on what time of year you initially joined. Please contact Frances Cole-Boyd or Alison Krupit if you need assistance with renewal.

We have great programs planned for both this month and the one coming in June. I hope you will join us and invite a friend! Also, if you can, please join us May 6, 5:30 pm, at my home, for the annual Program Planning meeting. We would love to hear what interests you! If you cannot join us, and have ideas, please send them to me via email.



In solidarity,
Maureen Chenoweth, President



PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING Monday May 6, 5:30 pm, at Maureen's

This is your chance to weigh in on the programs to be presented next year. Come with suggestions and ideas or just feedback on what you liked most from this year. Your input is valuable to our Branch operations. Board members are asked to attend, but all members are welcome. RSVP to Maureen by May 3 and bring finger food to share.

AAUW May Past Presidents First Thursday Monthly Luncheon

Date: May 2, 2024
Time: 11:30 am
Place: Cheesecakes
1135 Pine Street
Redding, CA 96001
RSVP: Tara Swanson
Deadline: April 30, 2024



Upcoming Board Meetings

Tuesday May 28, 2024
(to accommodate Memorial Day)

All members are welcome to attend Board Meetings, which start at 5:30 pm at the Redding Library. The agenda will be emailed one week prior to the meeting. If you wish to speak to an agenda item at the meeting, please contact President Maureen Chenoweth.

June 24 - Board to Board
The outgoing and incoming Boards meet at Maureen's house 5 - 7 pm.

Quick Look: May Dates to put on your calendar



May Dues Renewal this month
May 1 Drama Divas
May 2 Past Presidents Lunch
May 6 Program Planning
May 7 - 28 Tuesdays and Saturdays Hiking/Walking Group

May 8 Wine and Brews
May 14 Women's Issues
May 16 Branch Meeting
May 21 Book Group
May 28 Board Meeting

On Behalf of Scholarships and Tech Trek - Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who sold tickets, brought delicious small bites to share, and attended our Spring Riverfront Playhouse Buyout of *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. It was a great success, with all enjoying the play as well as wonderful food and drinks during our pre-show and intermission social time!

Special thanks to Frances Cole-Boyd, who sold the most tickets; Tammy Douse and Susan Morris-Wilson, who helped set up, graciously handled the no-host bar duties, and served as clean-up crew as well; Maureen Chenoweth for supplying the Square App on her phone the night of the play; and Lana Hill for keeping track of ticket purchases online.



Perhaps most importantly, though, thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. Your generosity raised a total of \$2,733.09, which will be divided equally between our Scholarship and Tech Trek programs. Again, we thank each of you for your amazing, continued support of these two important and worthy AAUW causes.

Sally Wallman, Tech Trek Coordinator
Nancy Williams, Education Chair

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

You have received, or soon will receive, an email from AAUW National asking you to renew your membership. Please check all your email folders, including your spam folder. You will not receive a bill in the mail or an email from the branch.

When you renew, please **DO NOT MAKE A NEW ACCOUNT**.

If you are logging in for the first time, or can't remember your password, go below the large, blue "Log In" button and click on "Forgot your password?"

If you need assistance with the renewal process, please contact Alison Krupit, Membership Treasurer or Frances Cole-Boyd, Membership VP.

WINE AND BREWS - 4:30 pm - MAY 8TH AT ALICE AND TOM'S

Wine and Brews will meet at the home of Tom and Alice Wilkinson for our final event for this season on May 8th.

To celebrate Cinco de Mayo, bring your favorite wine and a Mexican-inspired appetizer. Please RSVP to Nancy Randall by Monday, May 6th.



AAUW 2024 Women of Achievement Cathy Darling Allen and Penny Harris

Cathy Darling Allen has served as the Shasta County Clerk and Registrar of Voters since 2004 and was elected to her fifth term of office in 2022. She has overseen the administration of 37 elections; counted more than 1.5 million votes; managed the implementation of multiple voting technologies; and steered Shasta County elections through major changes in California election law, regulation and local political upheaval.



Cathy has always been an active member of the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO), serving on the Elections Legislative Committee, the Board of Directors, and as President (2012-2014). She has led CACEO's Election Cost Project since 2014. She is an originating member of the Future of California Elections (FOCE) collaborative and served on its advisory committee and serves as Chair of the Board for the California Voter Foundation.

Cathy has had a challenging time in recent years, but despite professional and personal harassment by elected officials and their followers, she has remained focused on ensuring all citizens can exercise their constitutional rights to vote and to have their vote count. She has consistently shown grace and integrity under adverse conditions. Her informative talks to community groups helps strengthen our democracy. She is a roll model for all elected officials: open, friendly, interested in educating voters, available to all individuals and groups. She richly deserves the honor of AAUW Community Woman of Achievement.

Penny Harris is our 2024 Branch Woman of Achievement Award recipient. Penny is a relatively recent member of the Branch but has been incredibly active. Since joining, she has held the following positions:



- President and President Elect
- Bylaws Committee Chair
- Nominating Committee Chair
- Public Policy/Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair
- Co-Chair Kidfest 2022

In addition, Penny has served on the following Branch committees: STEM Committee, Shasta Women's Networking Group, Women's Issues Group, and Home Tour Committee.

Penny graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and finished her special education credential at CSU Chico. Penny taught in several schools in Shasta County and supported other special education teachers through a local network which she was instrumental in organizing.

Before coming to Shasta County, Penny served in the Peace Corps in the Philippines and with her husband, Darryl, in Liberia. Penny has always been active in progressive causes, primarily through Shasta County Citizens Advocating Respect, which she helped found and has supported. Whenever she has perceived an injustice locally, nationally and internationally, she has been in the forefront of working to right it. A marvelously empathetic and concerned citizen, Penny has strong feelings of right and wrong but is always willing to compromise in order to serve the greater good.

Penny and Darryl, the parents of 3 children, have traveled all over the world, to every continent except Antarctica. They were on a trip in 2018 when their house, along with all their belongings burned in the Carr Fire. Since the fire also destroyed the award Penny received as AAUW Community Woman of Achievement in 2016, this year's inscription also commemorates her 2016 award.

PUBLIC POLICY + DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION



AAUW-CA has authored **AB 2843** “Health Care Coverage for Rape and Sexual Assault Survivors”. and it is before our state legislature. It falls under two of our Public Policy Priorities.

Remember the colorful card of four Public Policies that Susan Wilson and I shared back at our rainy January branch meeting? Here is a link to those four priorities, just in case you missed them: [Public Policy Priority](#)

AB 2843 would eliminate cost-sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor seeking medical care following a rape. (See the [Lobby Days Talking Points](#) and [Bill Text](#) for more details.)

To see the full 2024 AAUW-CA Legislative Agenda, go to our [Bill Tracking Report](#). This report will continue to be updated as the bills move through the legislative process so you will always be able to see the latest status.

Sign Up to Get CA Legislative Action Alerts Soon

This spring the state Public Policy Committee will be launching a social media education and action-centered program focused on priority legislation. Sign up for Legislative Action Alerts [HERE!](#) Share the sign-up link with anyone you think may be interested . . . AAUW members and non-members are welcome.

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

MEET 4 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AT MAY 16 BRANCH MEETING

The Education Committee is pleased to announce **the selection of four scholarship recipients from Shasta Community College:** Sosanna (Sosie) O’Sullivan, Tyler Swanson, Megan Murray, and Cassidy Kyle. They have been invited to our May 16th Branch meeting where you will have the opportunity to get to know them. Each has already accomplished a great deal, and we cannot wait to see how far they will go in the pursuit of their academic dreams. Come meet them and hear about their achievements, college plans, and career goals!



I would also like to take a moment to thank this year’s Education Committee, who worked diligently to compose our Scholarship Application, Letter of Recommendation form, and Scoring Rubric in time for this year’s applicants to apply for our scholarships on our AAUW website. Committee members also made the interview process fun as well as thought-provoking! Many thanks to each of you: Sharon Clairemont, Mari Ennis-Applegate, Sally Wallman, Donna Holscher, and Marta Hopkins. A big thank you to our Communications Chair Carol Skill for her role in adding our work to our AAUW website, too; she truly made it happen. Thank you each for your time, commitment, and a job well done!

Nancy Williams, Education Chair



VOTE ON ELIMINATING AAUW DEGREE REQUIREMENT BEFORE MAY 15

AAUW National is asking members to vote on eliminating the requirement to be a college graduate. Whether you support this effort or not, it is important to vote. National says previous low voting rates indicate that members are in favor of opening our organization to everyone. Whether you agree or disagree, it’s important that AAUW National hear from many voices. If you would like to read and review the talking points, visit <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/open-membership-toolkit/>

AAUW Walking/Hiking Group May 2024 Schedule

April showers should bring May flowers. The walking group plans to enjoy the colors and camaraderie. We will be exploring some new routes, which are highlighted in the Bigfoot Adventure Challenge. More information can be found at: <https://bigfootadventurechallenge.com> If you are interested in joining us, contact Frances Cole-Boyd.



Tuesday Walks (8:00 am meeting time):

5/7 Canyon Hollow (~ 4.1 mi) Meet at Ridgeview Park (2059 Cumberland Dr.) We will walk along new greenbelt trails in a beautiful oak woodland - crossing fun seasonal creeks.

5/14 Chamise Peak (~ 4.7 mi) Meet at the Raley's parking lot on Lake Blvd. One can expect a pleasant climb through an oak and manzanita forest before circling Chamise Peak and finishing at the amazing Three Shastas Vista point.

5/21 Swasey Short (~ 4.1 mi) Meet at Swasey Recreational Area (Delano Dr. off of Swasey Dr.) This loop is described as a fun traverse of the lower area of BLM's Swasey Recreation Area.

5/28 Tower Historic District (~ 5.9 mi) Meet at Grocery Outlet parking lot. (Eureka Way & Buenaventura Blvd.) This hike in the Whiskeytown NRA, takes us from the Tower House Historic District to the edge of Whiskeytown Lake and back.

Saturday Walks (8:00 am meeting time):

5/4 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking lot)

5/11 Salt Creek Heights Loop (~ 2.9 mi) Meet at Salt Creek Heights Park (4270 Haleakala Ave.) Expect a fun walk, highlighted by a gorgeous traverse of rugged, beautiful Salt Creek.

5/18 Senior Center (2290 Benton Drive)

5/25 River walk and brunch. Meet at Frances's for a short walk along the Sacramento River and then enjoy a potluck brunch afterward.



WOMEN'S ISSUES - *Women in Leadership Positions*

Tuesday, May 14 at 5 pm

The Women's Issues group has been enjoying discussing topics important to AAUW. In April the focus was *The Gender Pay Gap*. In May, we will look at *Women in Leadership Positions*. "The pipeline is filled with qualified women ready to move into top slots. Yet it isn't happening: Barriers, biases and an outdated workplace model present challenges to women eager to get ahead." Read more at <https://www.aauw.org/issues/leadership/> and join us Tuesday, May 14th, 5:00 pm at Frances Cole-Boyd's.



**May Book Group - Help Choose Books
for Next Year**
**Tuesday, May 21, 5:00 pm at The Bluffs Clubhouse on
North Bechelli**

We are planning a potluck with an appetizer, salad, and dessert bar. A sign up sheet was circulated at the April meeting. If you have not yet signed up, please call or e-mail Debbie Spiess to let her know what you would like to bring.

Come ready to enjoy a meal and great conversation with our book section participants. We will nominate books proposed by members and then vote on our final selections. If you have a book you would like to suggest, it is recommended that you have read it prior to nominating it. It is also preferred that books be out in paperback. This is a wonderful opportunity for new members or members who are interested in joining our group next year to get to know us.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Debbie Spiess by Friday, May 17.

Debbie Spiess, Chair



Drama Divas - May 1 at 1 pm
Hostess: Tammy Douse

We will be reading the 2017 American play *What the Constitution Means to Me* by Heidi Schreck. The play premiered on Broadway on March 31, 2019 at the Hayes Theater with Schreck herself in the leading role. Over the course of the play, Schreck addresses themes such as women's rights, immigration, domestic abuse, and the history of the United States. Schreck varies the time period in which the play takes place, performing some scenes as her modern self and others as her 15-year-old self participating in Constitutional debate contests. *What the Constitution Means to Me* has received accolades such as a nomination for Best Play in the 73rd Tony Awards and a finalist spot for the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Join us for an afternoon of play reading and discussion. Beverages will be provided. Bring bite sized snacks to share. Please RSVP.

Tammy Douse, Chair

TRAVEL INTEREST GROUP WILL RETURN OCTOBER 23

Travel group is on vacation from May to September. We will start up again October 23. Look for information in the coming newsletters.

Wildflowers are in abundance right now all around Redding. A wonderful wildflower experience can be found south of Redding in the Sacramento River Bend area. The Sacramento River Bend area is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Travel south on I5 to Jelly's Ferry Road. Make a right turn at Bend Ferry Road and travel to the end of the road. Along the way, follow signs to Coyote Pond and Perry Riffle. All along Bend Ferry Road, the wildflowers are magnificent. For further sightings of wildflowers, travel down to Red Bluff and go to highway 36. You will come to Iron Canyon trailhead and Hog Lake which are both on the east side of the Sacramento River Bend area, opposite the River Bend area. Do be watchful for rattlesnakes if you walk off trail and around rocks.

I would love to hear from you if you travel down to the Sacramento River Bend area. Also send me locations of other wildflower areas you find here in the North State.



Judy Bush, Chair

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

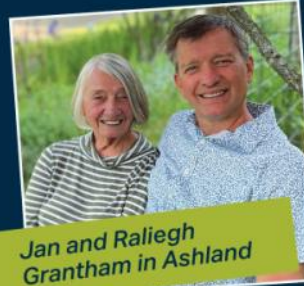


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AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW Educational Foundation—the world’s largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women—supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers, 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