

REDDING REFLECTIONS REDDING REFLECTIONS

President Sharon Clairemont AAUW REDDING BRANCH, Inc. (www.aauwredding.org) September 2024

Andi Winters

Join us at the September Branch Meeting Wednesday, September 25, Social Hour 5:00 pm, Dinner 5:30 pm The McConnell Foundation, 800 Shasta View Drive, Redding



Lim's Cafe, 2023

Ellen Hedfield, Artist and Engineer!

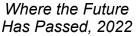
Some people consider themselves dominated by the analytical, linear left side of the brain and others by the creative, emotional right side of the brain. Ellen Hedfield is a perfect example of someone who has combined the two sides to become an accomplished artist as well as an engineer. As an engineer, Ellen has a background in mechanical drawing and architectural drafting. When she began studying watercolor painting, her creative side kicked in and she was hooked. Growing up in Detroit, Michigan, where she was surrounded by industrial sites, as well as her engineering



career influenced the subject matter in Ellen's paintings. She is drawn to old buildings, weathered signs, rusting cars, and abandoned equipment. She photographs what she discovers on her travels and then creates tight, detailed compositions that highlight her appreciation for relics of the past.

It is easy to imagine Ellen exploring country roads scouting for abandoned

vehicles and ravaged signs that will be showcased in her next paintings.



Ellen will show photos of her work and share some of her exquisite original paintings.

Menu

Dinner will be catered by Barbe Cervantes of BC catering and will include Citrus Grilled Chicken, Vegetarian Lasagne, Cauliflower Mascarpone Mash, Lemon Rice Pilaf, Caesar Grilled Asparagus, wine, and dessert.

The price of this event is \$35, payable by cash, check, or PayPal (Option 11). Checks should be made payable to AAUW and mailed to Marta Hopkins. If you have questions, please call Marta.

Members can receive pertinent contact and reservation information on their members-only contact page included with this newsletter on page 7.

President's Message



September, rather than January, has always been the beginning of a new year for me. Years of "back-to-school" have fashioned many of us into people who anticipate September as the start of something new, and so it is with our new AAUW year. We'll have new ideas, new events, new goals, new members!

We have a remarkable year ahead of us and your participation will make it amazing and rewarding. We're going to offer opportunities for women and girls in our community and do it while offering opportunities for branch members to grow as well. We're going to be involved! We're going to fundraise for causes important to us like Tech Trek, local scholarships and AAUW national goals, and we're going to be seen in our community. Our programs and special

activities will reflect AAUW public policy and DEI goals. We're going to tell the community and potential members why AAUW is important to us and to those we support. Reflect a minute. Why did you join AAUW, whether it was last year or 50 years ago?

To escalate your anticipation, here are some activities we're looking forward to this year. Coming up in the very near future, we have an intriguing play at the Riverfront Playhouse on September 18. The buyout is always a great evening for friends, food and fun. This play looks exceptional! Your ticket purchase supports Tech Trek. We want to send five girls to camp again next July and you can make that a reality for some very deserving girls.

Our September branch meeting at the delightful McConnell Foundation will feature local artist Ellen Hedfield who combines her engineering background with her artistic talent to create beautiful paintings. We'll also kick-off our Women in STEM Conference planning. Find out how you can participate.

In October we'll hear from this year's Tech Trek campers whose experiences are always touching and inspiring. We'll also hear the superintendent of Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area (just "Whiskeytown" to most of us) talk about the role the park plays in our community and about the careers for women in the park.

The rest of the year will include our "Starry Night" fundraiser (planning already underway), cosponsoring a workshop on "Difficult Conversations" led by author Kern Beare, hosting the Interbranch Council meeting, hosting the Women in STEM Conference for middle school girls, and more. This is by no means an exhaustive list, just a sampling.

And don't forget, as you'll see in this newsletter, Interest Groups are rolling again. Take a chance – try a new one!

It's going to be a fulfilling year and I'm looking forward to working with you.

Here we go!

Sharon Clairemont, Redding Branch President



Membership News

Please Welcome our new member:

Rose Penelope Yee

Contact info on Page 7



AAUW Redding Important Announcements

"The Minutes" Buyout at Riverfront Playhouse September 18, 2024, Social: 6:30 p.m., Play: 7:30 p.m.

A dark comedy by Tracy Letts, directed by John Welsh, *The Minutes* takes a hard look at the inner workings of a city council meeting and the hypocrisy, greed and ambition that bubble to the surface when a newcomer to the small town of Big Cherry starts to ask the wrong questions. Does this sound a bit familiar?

All net proceeds benefit sending girls to Tech Trek camp at UC Davis next summer. Five girls from Sequoia Middle School just experienced an exciting camp this past July as a result of our previous fundraising efforts. (See article on page 4.)

Enjoy an engaging play, delicious sweet and savory finger foods and a wonderful collegial evening with AAUW members and friends! Thanks to Marta Hopkins for coordinating our social that evening. She needs all our support bringing sumptuous goodies, setting up and cleaning up.

TICKETS (\$35) ARE ON SALE NOW. Text or email me if you'd like to reserve tickets. Frances Cole -Boyd and Carol Schultz along with other members will be selling them also. PayPal is possible but please remember the fee we are charged cuts into our profits.

Let me know if you would also like to help hosting that evening. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Pris Brutlag, Tech Trek and Riverfront Buyout Chair

SAVE THE DATE!!! SAVE THE DATE!!! SAVE THE DATE!!! Friday, November 1, 4:00-7:30 pm

The Redding AAUW Branch's main Scholarship Fundraiser, **Starry Night of Art & Wine** will take place this year on **Friday**, **November 1**, **2024 from 4:00 - 7:30 PM!** Ticket information to follow soon, but please remember that support from each of you is much needed and appreciated. Providing scholarships for deserving young women to continue on their educational paths is one way to change our world for the better. Help be part of that change: mark your calendars now, and plan to attend!

Looking forward to seeing you there. Frances Cole-Boyd & Nancy Williams, Starry Night Committee Co-Chairs

Special Projects Fund

Are you planning on supporting fundraising efforts in the coming year to support Tech Trek and Local Scholarships? And would you prefer to have a tax-deductible receipt? We have great news for you! We have been approved by AAUW CA to use the Special Projects Fund to provide a tax-deductible receipt. Detailed instructions on how to donate by check and/or online and get your receipt will be emailed to you very soon.

Upcoming Board Meetings in 2024

September 30 October 28 November 25

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 Sharon Clairemont.

Tech Trek Camp 2024



The Redding Branch was able to send five girls to the Tech Trek Camp held at the University of California, Davis from July 14-20. The girls are currently entering their 8th grade at Sequoia Middle School. We look forward to hearing from the girls when they give a brief report at our October meeting. Here are some of their comments about the camp:

Abigail: "I have had so much fun because you helped me. I have extracted strawberry DNA and made rice crispies using DNA examples. I got to see a lung and find out about different diseases. Thank you for selecting me."

Melody: "This has been an amazing opportunity. I am very grateful for what you have done for me. It is so fun at this STEM program and I have learned so much. I have met a lot of amazing girls and women."

Mary Jane: "Thank you for giving funds so I could attend Tech Trek. I enjoyed data analysis class and the museum. It has been so fun and a great opportunity."

Prema: "Thank you so much for sponsoring this amazing camp to Tech Trek. I really enjoyed my Core Class and the insects at the entomology museum. Tech Trek helped me figure out what my passions are. I am really lucky that I was able to join the camp. Thanks again."

Gracie: "I would just like to say thank you so much for this opportunity to go to Tech Trek and meet amazing girls and new friends. I have been having a very fun time while still learning so much! Without this amazing camp, I would not have met some of the sweetest girls ever. This also wouldn't have truly opened my eyes to the possibilities for college and a future career. Again, thank you so much for this once-in-a-lifetime experience!"

Many thanks from the 2024 Tech Trek Committee Debbie Stokes, Sharon Clairemont, Tara Swanson, Jessica Brewster and Sally Wallman



Now's the chance to step forward to help make the next Women in STEM Conference another stellar event for middle school girls in March 2025.

We are looking for women interested in making a difference for our middle school girls through the many STEM Conference Committee positions available:

Registration Sponsorship

Publicity/Marketing Interactive Stations
Conference Day Volunteers Progression F

Conference Day Volunteers Breakout Session Presenters Interactive Stations. Famous Women in STEM

Conference Swag

Communications

Recorder

Logistics

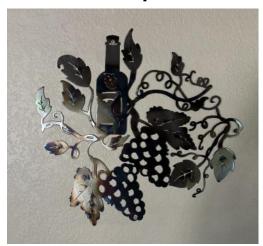
Photography

Finance

Please contact STEM Chair Nancy Overton. Look for our Kick Off event at the September 25th branch monthly meeting at McConnell Foundation.

AAUW Redding Upcoming Interest Groups Meetings

Wine and Brews Wednesday, September 11th 4:30 pm



We will be meeting at the home of Louise and Charlie Ross. Please bring a favorite wine and an appetizer to share.

Contact Nancy Randall by Monday, September 9th if you plan to attend.

Past Presidents Monthly Luncheon September 5, 2024, 11:30 am.

Guadalajara, 4356 East Cypress Avenue, Redding. RSVP by September 3 to Tara Swanson.



September 2024 Walking Group Schedule

Walks begin at 7:30 am, except for 9/28 and 10/5. Please let Frances know if you will be joining a walk.

Tuesday Walks:

9/3 Sundial Bridge

9/10 Senior Center (2290 Benton Dr)

9/17 Anderson River Park

9/24 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

Saturday Walks:

9/7 Clover Creek Preserve (parking lot at Shasta View & Venus)

9/14 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

9/21 Churn Creek Trail (Meet at trailhead on Tidmore, off of College View)

9/28 St. Vincent de Paul's Friends of the Poor Walk (Meet at St. Joseph's School, 2460 Gold St @ **8:30am**) 2.2 miles, much of it downhill.

Saturday, October 5th **Think Pink 5K Walk/Run**, 9:00am. Register at https://www.norcalthinkpink.org/events/annual-5k-walk-run/



(Photo by Frances Cole -Boyd)



Do you have an interest in participating in an evening book section? Perhaps you work and are unable to attend our afternoon sessions. Suzannah Gerlach has expressed a desire to start an evening group and is willing to head it up. If you are interested in being a part of this or would like to find out more about it, please email her or call/text.

September Book Section September 17, 2:00 pm Dinners with Ruth By Nina Totenburg

Celebrated NPR correspondent Nina Totenberg delivers an extraordinary memoir of her personal successes, struggles, and life-affirming relationships, including her beautiful friendship of nearly fifty years with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Dinners with Ruth is an extraordinary account of two women who paved the way for future generations by tearing down professional and legal barriers. It is also an intimate memoir of the power of friendships as women began to pry open career doors and transform the workplace. At the story's heart is one, special relationship: Ruth and Nina saw each other not only through personal joys, but also illness, loss, and widowhood.

Dinners with Ruth also weaves together compelling, personal portraits of other fascinating women and men from Nina's life, including her cherished NPR colleagues Cokie Roberts and Linda Wertheimer; her beloved husbands; her friendships with multiple Supreme Court Justices.

Leader: Debbie Spiess Host: Marta Hopkins



Drama Divas 2024-2025 October 2, 1-4 pm

Welcome to another year of drama! This group is open to all AAUW members. We meet the first Wednesday of each month starting on October 2nd from 1-4 p.m. There will be 10 copies of each month's play for us to read aloud. It could be a comedy, mystery or drama. This will be our 24th Season of play reading and our group operates like the Round Robin book group as we pass plays onto the next branch after we read. An annual fee of \$11 is needed to cover the cost of receiving and mailing the plays.

Needed: Hostess for October 2nd. Contact Tammy Douse.

October Travel Group October 30, 5:30 pm, Karline's Restaurant

Travel returns next month with Shannon Carnegie, Tammy Douse's daughter, who will present three safaris in Kenya, Africa that she and her husband Scott took a year ago. Shannon is a phenomenal photographer. This presentation is bound to be quite popular, so get your reservation in early.

Upcoming meetings include January 22 with Alison Krupit presenting her trip to the Galapagos Islands that she took a few months ago.

On March 26 will be the team of Mari and Terry Applegate and Debbie and John Stokes, experienced world-wide travelers, as they visit South Korea for 1-½ weeks and then on to Japan for another 1-½ weeks.

February is still open. Please let me know if you are interested in presenting a trip or you know of someone who might like to share a trip with our travel group.

Travel group is open to all members plus spouses/friends are welcome.



DINNERS

WITH RUTH

A MEMOIR on the POWER

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.

To find out how we do this, see our website

www.aauwredding.org