



**December Branch Meeting**  
**Saturday, December 14th**

**Community Room, Redding Library at 11:30 am**

Cooler days and joyful holidays are quickly approaching, reminding us that Winter is here. At our December Branch meeting we will honor the season with the theme of “The 12 Days of Winter.” Hostesses are decorating tables using a riff on the traditional song, 12 Days of Christmas, and



are encouraged to personalize the lyrics. For instance, instead of 4 Calling Birds the phrase could be changed to 4 Laughing Llamas! We may need more hostesses, so please contact Barbara Enochian if you are interested in decorating a table.

We will gather to enjoy a potluck and then feel our spirits lifted by the Klezmer band named Sheine Nechome, which means “beautiful soul” in Yiddish. Attendees should bring breakfast/brunch foods to share. Water, coffee, tea and orange juice will be provided. Please contact Barbara if you have any questions. RSVP to Marta Hopkins.

**Please: Bring Socks for the Homeless to this Meeting!**

*Socks for men and women are desperately needed.*

**Giving Tuesday is Almost Here!**



By now, you have noticed activity on our Facebook and Instagram pages and received emails about Giving Tuesday. This is **the first year** that our branch is participating. We hope to raise some funds for both our Local Scholarship Program and our Tech Trek Program. If you remember, we included the Giving Tuesday Program in our Fundraising Plan for this year. We also hope that our presence in Giving Tuesday will raise more awareness in our communities about our wonderful AAUW Redding Branch!

If you have not yet done so, please share the following link on your personal Facebook and/or Instagram page(s), and make a personal comment about why you are encouraging participation: <https://www.northstategives.org/Aauw-CA-Special-Projects-Fund>. Or you may prefer to share one of our posts to your personal Facebook page.

Also, we know many of you have already donated through Starry Nights and/or Riverfront buyouts, but we hope you can at least make a small donation to one or both of these very worthy programs on **Giving Tuesday, December 3**. It is possible that we can earn additional funding if we have a strong giving presence during the “**Power Hour**” from **11 am to 12 noon on December 3**. If you can make a donation, please do so during Power Hour.

We will present data on all of our fundraising activities at our June 2025 Branch Meeting. Our new Garden Tour is scheduled for May, so we need to wait for that data. Please do not hesitate to contact Fundraising VP, Maureen Chenoweth, if you have any questions.

Thank you! The AAUW Redding Branch Executive Board

## A Message from the President



You did it again! Our Starry Night event was a resounding success because you bought tickets, bought art and bid on silent auction treasures. We had a great time! (Rain? What rain?) Thank all of you who contributed and participated. We need especially to thank event chair Nancy Williams for leading a dynamic committee, Marta Hopkins and her crew for delicious food, Barbara Enochian for coordinating the art show, Lana Hill and Barbara for graphics and social media, Maureen Chenoweth for the silent auction and the winery connections, Gail Paulsen for decorating (you should have seen how gorgeous it was outside before the rain came), the wine guys for sharing their fine creations, and Frances Cole-Boyd for handling all the financials. What a team! What a dedicated branch! Your participation = local scholarships.

So, what's next? Glad you asked.

First, we have our December branch meeting on Saturday December 14. This is going to be fun, especially if you want to decorate a table! Talk to Barbara about the theme. Great way to wind up the year!

In January, once we've recovered from all our winter holiday indulgences, we want to get going on a 2025 full of projects that will involve us in the community. We will continue to support local women through scholarships and work with middle schools to identify promising Tech Trek students. We will also find ways to help our community communicate. Please look for more information on the Kern Beare workshop on how to have "Difficult Conversations." We are co-sponsoring this event. You'll want to be there. We will also find a way to collaborate with the "Building Bridges" effort that is involving many local organizations. Perhaps you will have some ideas and experiences to share. As State and National tell us, we can affect public policy.

We're also going to show the community how excited middle school girls can get about STEM learning. Our Women in STEM Conference in March is one of our biggest efforts to support equity and opportunity in education. Many of you have already signed up to help. More are needed. Talk to event chair Nancy Overton.

We're also going to show the community how to put on a Garden Tour! It's a new effort for us, but thanks to Debbie Stokes, we've got it well on its way. Want to be involved? Of course you do. Talk to Debbie.

Final thought ... In a season in which we talk about gifts, it's good to remember that we all have them and are called to use them. And as you continually demonstrate, working together releases one another's gifts.

See you on Saturday, December 14! This is going to be fun!

Peace and all good,  
Sharon



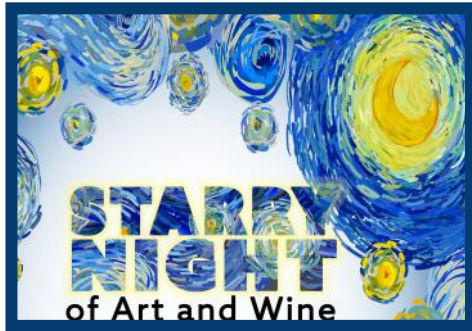
Photos by Frances Cole-Boyd



### Upcoming Board Meetings

There is no Board Meeting in December





## *Thanks so much!! Thanks so much!!*

Kudos and thank you to the many people who made our 2024 Starry Night of Art & Wine a success! Although rain forced Starry Night Committee member Gail Paulsen to abandon her outside patio decorating plans, she and helpers Mari Ennis-Applegate & Terry Applegate, Maureen & Wayne Chenoweth, Frances Cole-Boyd & B.J. Boyd, Penny & Daryl Harris, Donna Holscher, and Phil Paulsen still made the venue inside sparkle and shine with twinkle lights and silver swirls hanging from the ceiling. These folks also helped tear down after the event; you are each appreciated so much! In spite of the rain, most of you managed to make it to the event (see photos in this newsletter and on our Facebook/ Meta page). Your presence made for a wonderful evening of socializing and enjoying stunning artwork while tasting wines from David & Kathy Roth's Dakaro Cellars, Jay Sepulveda's Ridgetop Cellars, and Nick Mitchell's Old 44 Cellars; many thanks to our winery owners. Attendees also savored delicious tidbits and non-alcoholic drinks planned and provided by Starry Night Committee member Marta Hopkins and her crew of Dale Ammerman, Judy Bush, Maureen Chenoweth, and Tammy Douse—thank you, ladies! Other Starry Night Committee members not already mentioned whom I must thank for also graciously giving their time and talents to our endeavor include Pris Brutlag (check-in table; Mari, Frances, and Gail also worked the check-in table), Barbara Enochian (poster, flyer, and ticket design; publicity; artists; gallery set up, sales, and tear down), Lana Hill (poster, flyer, and ticket design; SPF Scholarship Donation banner; publicity), Carol Skill (envelope labels, table tents, and publicity), and Linda Wright (poster, flyer, and ticket printing). I must also mention and thank Judy, Maureen, and Penny again: Judy for obtaining our liquor license; Maureen for securing our wineries, overseeing the Silent Auction, and working on publicity; and Penny for distributing most of our posters and flyers. What a wonderful, hardworking committee—thank you!

Thanks, too, to the following member-artists, who donated a portion of their sales to our Scholarship Fund and treated us to both abstract and realistic works of various mediums—acrylic, watercolor, glass, clay, wood, and even fabric and yarn—all in an array of colors that delighted the eye: Barbara Enochian, Nancy Finck, Marta Hopkins, Abbie Ides, Gwen Knaebel, Kate Lindberg, Jeannette Logue, Diedra Malain, Mary Meisner, Gail O'Brien, Liz Reiten, Carol Schultz, Debbie Stokes, Sue Tescher, Vivi-Anne Thomson, and Nancy Williams. Many of these talented women also worked sales during the gallery non-event hours and during our event. I know we could not do this event without you; thank you so much. The gorgeous flower arrangements that graced the art gallery? Thank you, Mary Meisner! I am also grateful to Barbara Enochian and NVAL's President Bonnie Lampley for securing the gallery space for our use.

Additional thanks to our sponsor Steve Williams & InterWest Insurance Services and to the following local businesses who contributed to our Silent Auction: Balance Yoga, Branch House Riverfront Bistro, Cork & Tap, Dutch Bros (Erin and Chris Resner), Grape Escape, North State Symphony, R & R Quality Meats, Riverfront Playhouse, Riverview Golf & Country Club, and Turtle Bay Exploration Park. AAUW sections and members who contributed items, baskets, or secured donations from the above businesses deserve extra thanks and include our Past Presidents Section, our Travel Section, Dave and Judy Bush, Maureen Chenoweth, Sharon Clairemont, Frances Cole-Boyd, Barbara Enochian, Penny Harris, Carol Skill, and Nancy Williams. Special thanks to Maureen Chenoweth and Sharon Clairemont for their artful basket arranging and wrapping skills!

Finally, last but certainly not least, a huge thank you to each of you who purchased or sold your two (or more!) tickets and then bought art work, too. And some of you purchased tickets even though you knew you could not attend! Because of your generous support, we were able to meet our goal for this fundraising event, and I am truly impressed with what our AAUW Redding Branch can do as we work together. Thanks to you, our Branch will be able to change the lives of several women as they strive to reach their educational goals, which will, hopefully, result in making our world a better place in the future. Thank you.



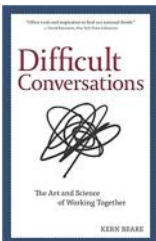


Photos by Frances Cole-Boyd

## DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

Thursday, January 23, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The McConnell Foundation



AAUW, the League of Women Voters of the Redding Area and the Shasta County Citizens Advocating Respect are presenting a workshop called *Difficult Conversations*

Kern Beare is a former Silicon Valley communications professional with deep roots in the fields of interpersonal communication and conflict resolution. He leads non-profit seminars and workshops on how to heal relationships and unleash our capacity for creative collaboration.

Kern's work in this field began in the 1980s, at the height of the Cold War, when he received a two-year fellowship from the Beyond War foundation, a fellowship that led to running educational programs on the obsolescence of war in the nuclear age and the imperative of learning to resolve conflict without violence. In the early 2000s, Kern co-founded Global MindShift, a nonprofit enterprise that offered facilitated online workshops on the essential skills we need to survive and thrive in today's interconnected and interdependent world.

In 2016, following the U.S. Presidential election, Kern launched the Difficult Conversations Project, an initiative to help address our national divide.

Based on a successful workshop that has engaged diverse audiences around the country, "Difficult Conversations: The Art and Science of Working Together" explores a powerful set of research-based principles and strategies that will allow you to engage in meaningful dialogue with anyone.

We have the book available for \$10. Lunch will be served for \$15. Please join us so we can model this behavior right here in Shasta County. Contact Susan Morris Wilson for more information.

## The Work of the Nominations Committee

It is the function of the Nominating Committee to nominate and present a slate of candidates for the April 2025 election of officers. The elected officers shall be President, President-Elect, Program Vice President, Membership Vice President, AAUW Funds Vice President, Fundraising Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

According to Redding Branch Bylaws, the Nominating Committee consists of five members: Two shall be past presidents, with the most immediately available past president presiding as chair. The chair of the 2025/26 Nominating Committee is Maureen Chenoweth, and at our December Branch Meeting, we will introduce the other members: past presidents Martha Hamon and Tammy Douse, plus Judy Bush and Pris Brutlag.

We will start meeting in January. If you have any suggestions for the open positions, or (better yet!) you are interested in serving in one of the positions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you and let's elect another outstanding Board to support our incoming President-Elect, Frances Cole-Boyd!

Maureen Chenoweth



**SAVE THE DATE for a Riverfront Buyout on February 6. The play is the female version of The Odd Couple.**

## First Official Meeting of the AAUW Garden Tour Committee

**January 10, 1:00 pm**

Some of our members and members of the public have expressed to me that they miss the AAUW Home Tour. It seems as though our identity is wrapped up in the tour. Often when I mention AAUW the first thing that comes up is some comment about attending the tour. Well, sad to say, it is not coming back. However we can hopefully make an equal impression with an event that will draw similar numbers of the general public and contribute to scholarships at Shasta College and the Greatest Needs Fund—*the Garden Tour*.

Preplanning for the Garden Tour has progressed well. We have six gardens lined up and many of the main positions on the committee have been filled. What we need now is people to fill jobs like the distribution of posters, collecting money from ticket outlets, and serving cookies, tea, and coffee on the day of the tour. Actually there are a myriad of small tasks that must be completed before, during and after the tour. Please consider volunteering and attending the first "official" meeting of the tour committee on Friday, January 10 at 1 pm. I don't yet have a firm location so stay tuned.

In the meantime I would really appreciate any information you might have about businesses that might be willing to advertise in the ticket brochure. It is so helpful to have a connection rather than to just make a "cold call" to a business. My contact information is available to members on the contact page.

Debbie Stokes, Chair

*AAUW Redding Garden Tour-  
Keep Saving the Date-  
Saturday, May 10, the day before Mother's Day*

# PUBLIC POLICY-DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION

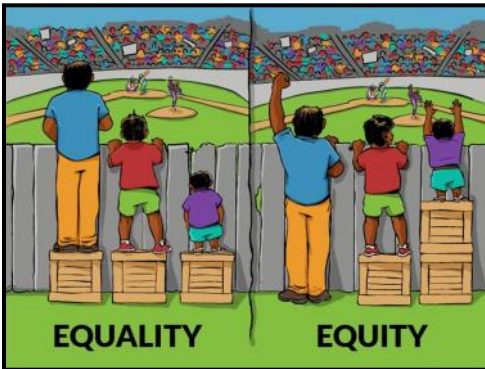
## Public Policy

Needing some inspiration?

Just in case you missed your November CA Connection newsletter from our state AAUW there is a link to an article on Lilly Ledbetter, “A Beacon of Equality and Justice,” who died recently. I think you will find it an inspiring read.

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion or DEI

DEI has been in political conversations recently. So, let’s take a closer look at the E or **Equity** in DEI.



**Equity and Equality** can be confusing, so Professor Craig Froehle of University of Cincinnati drew this cartoon awhile ago. You may have seen it.

Three people (we can imagine them as girls trying to view a baseball game) are given **equal** “opportunity” boxes. This is **Equality**.

**Equity** occurs when each is given what they need... access to affordable health care, child care, job equipment and uniforms that fit to insure safety, etc.

**A closer look:** Where is the inequity located? In the people? No, the problem is not in each person’s height or abilities. This can lead to “deficit thinking,” an ideology that blames the victims for their own situation.

Let’s look at the “fence,” the context of the inequity. As we are finding in the Women’s Issues Group as we read “Invisible Women” by Caroline Criado Perez, there are “fences” everywhere. Some we might not have seen from our “boxes.” Come join our discussions and maybe consider some local “fences.”

Happy Winter Holidays:

Bodhi Day (Buddhist) Dec.8,

Hanukkah Dec.25-Jan.2,

Christmas Dec. 25,

Kawanzaa Dec. 26-Jan.1.

Penny Harris

Public Policy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair

---

## Women’s Issues Interest Group

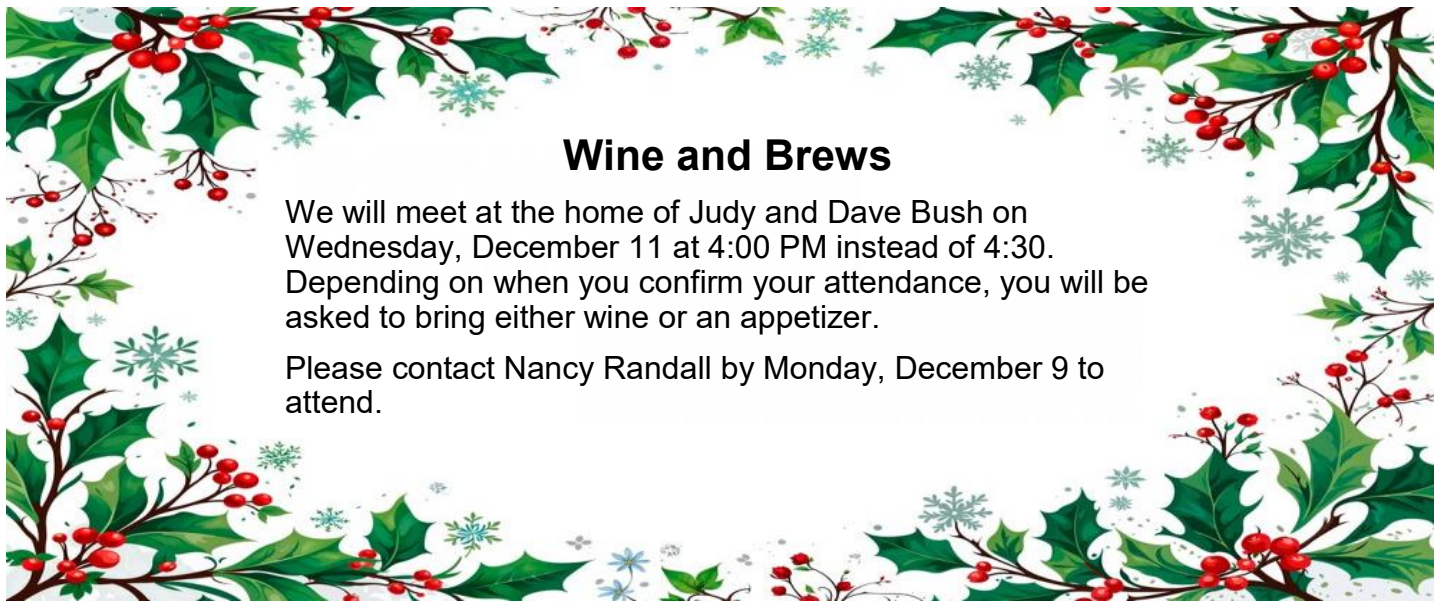
**December 10th at 5:30 pm at Marta Hopkin’s**

We had a lively discussion about chapters 1-2 (Part I: Daily Life) from *Invisible Women: Data Bias In a World Designed for Men* by Caroline Criado Perez. We learned reasons why women’s restroom lines are longer. Equal-sized female and male restrooms and even gender- neutral rooms do not necessarily help. Transportation, including public, traffic routes, and even clearing the snow off sidewalks before streets, affects women differently than men.

At the next meeting we will discuss Chapters 3: The Long Friday and Chapter 4: The Myth of Meritocracy.

Please let Marta know by December 5 if you will be attending. If you need transportation, please contact Frances Cole-Boyd.





## Wine and Brews

We will meet at the home of Judy and Dave Bush on Wednesday, December 11 at 4:00 PM instead of 4:30. Depending on when you confirm your attendance, you will be asked to bring either wine or an appetizer.

Please contact Nancy Randall by Monday, December 9 to attend.



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

Please RSVP to Jan so she knows how many to plan for. We will be reading Mark St. Germain's play, *A Plague of Angels*. It is the story of Mary Mallon, who was known as "Typhoid Mary," and her struggle with the public health system of New York City.

This group is open to all AAUW members and new members are welcome to join us. This is our 24th season of play reading and I will have 10 copies of the play for us to read from. It is a lot of fun and a great way to share time with other members in a small setting. Contact Tammy Douse if you have any questions or would like to join us.

*Save the dates:* 1/8/25 Mari Ennis-Applegate, 2/5/25 Shirley Ramstrom, 3/5/25 Diane Madgic.

## Travel Interest Group

Travel will not be meeting during December. Travel will return in on Wednesday January 22. Alison Krupit will present her trip to the Galapagos Islands that she took a few months ago. Alison's lively presentation is guaranteed to entertain you with amazing pictures of wildlife on land. Plus, she will share her underwater pictures she took while snorkeling.

Travel is open to all members. If you would like to share a trip with the travel group, please contact Judy Bush. Merry Christmas!



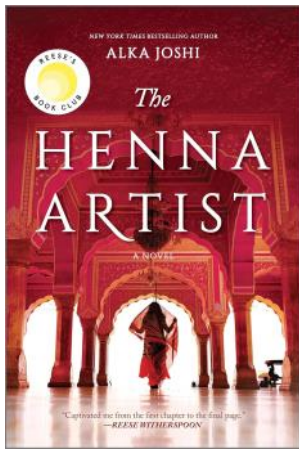
Judy Bush, Travel Leader

## Past Presidents

*The Past Presidents' Lunch was held at the Thai House Restaurant on Churn Creek Road, November 7. The next Past Presidents' luncheon will be on December 5, 11:30 am at Cheesecakes Unlimited, 1138 Pine Street, Redding. Please RSVP to Tara Swanson by December 3.*

*Graphic by Noella Pearson*





## December Book Section

December 17, 2:00 pm

### *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi

Vivid and compelling in its portrait of one woman's struggle for fulfillment in a society pivoting between the traditional and the modern, *The Henna Artist* opens a door into a world that is at once lush and fascinating, stark and cruel.

Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950s pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist—and confidante—to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own...

Known for her original designs and sage advice, Lakshmi must tread carefully to avoid the jealous gossips who could ruin her reputation and her livelihood. As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled one day when she is confronted by her husband, who has tracked her down these many years later with a high-spirited young girl in tow - a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. Still she perseveres, applying her talents and lifting up those that surround her as she does.

Leader: Carolyn Chandler

Host: Debbie Spiess

## December 2024 Walking Group Schedule

**NEW TIME** – to avoid 'rush hour' traffic – walks will begin at 8:15 am. Please let Frances know if you will join a walk.

### Tuesday Walks

12/3 Churn Creek Trail (meet at the trailhead on Tidmore, off of College View)

12/10 Sundial Bridge

12/17 Anderson River Park

12/24 NO WALK

12/31 Clover Creek Preserve (parking at Shasta View & Venus)

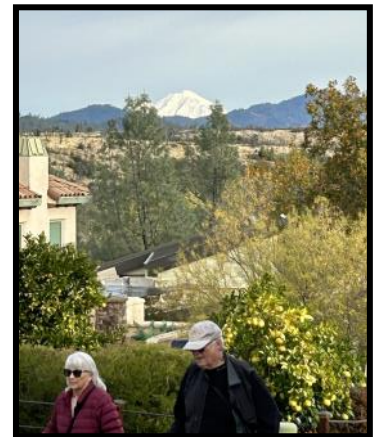
### Saturday Walks

12/7 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)

12/14 Senior Center (2290 Benton Drive)

12/21 Sundial Bridge

12/28 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking)



*Hiking on the Ten Bridges Trail and then to the Chenoweth's home where the group started and ended, with brunch. Photos by Frances Cole-Boyd*



## 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 Jean King.



**Are you looking at property in the Ashland area?**

*Give me a call, I'd love to help you!*

541.944.6411 • RALIEGHREALTOR.COM




At KIXE  PBS we're about a lot more than just TV.



Our local Outreach Activities make a real difference, right here in the North State!

**Become a Member • Become a Volunteer**

1 (530) 243-5493      www.kixe.org



EST. 1898

**BEHRENS-EATON HOUSE MUSEUM**

REDDING CA

HOURS

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10-4  
Saturday 1-4

1520 WEST STREET, REDDING, CA 96001  
530.241.3454 or 530.241.3455

Estate Planning & Probate Litigation



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



**530-244-6286**  

1648 Riverside Drive, Redding  
www.campbell-clark.com

Campbell, Clark & Vienneau  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



**AAUW REDDING BRANCH, INC.  
P. O. BOX 994593  
REDDING CA 96099-4593**

**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](http://www.aauwredding.org)**