



President Frances Cole-Boyd

Editor Andi Winters



Redding Inc. (CA)

February 2026

**Join us at the February Branch Meeting
Saturday, February 21, 2026, 11:30-1:30
Location: To be announced**

Let's welcome and learn from Katrina Cantrell, Executive Director of Women's Health Specialists. Katrina is a strong and nationally recognized advocate for passage and practice of the Equal Rights Amendment. Cantrell's lived experience in the feminist movement has been her north star toward justice for 45 years. She inhabits a continued learning environment to build and sustain community. She strives to dismantle false narratives and works for a world that rejects white supremacy, and embraces youth, culture and diversity.

Katrina will speak to us about what it takes to provide reproductive healthcare in rural communities and the associated challenges, joys and opportunities.

"The protection of reproductive rights – including access to contraceptive care, abortion, sexual health education and family planning services – has been an unwavering AAUW policy principle since 1977. Access to abortion is not only a fundamental right, it is critical to a woman's ability to control her life, her body and her future. Expanding reproductive services increases women's prospects of attaining economic security."



Please join us for an informative, dynamic and timely presentation and discussion with Katrina.

For our February branch meeting, there will be a variety of salads catered by From the Hearth. The cost will be \$20, payable by check, cash, or through PayPal (option #3). Please contact Marta Hopkins to RSVP.

**Needed:
Newsletter Editor(s)**

Our current editor is retiring after this year's June Newsletter.

This fun and creative job could be done in Word or any popular word processing software. One person or a group are welcome to jump in and takeover. Contact Andi or Frances.

Board Meetings

Board Meetings meet at 5:30 pm

Monday, February 23, 2026

Monday, March 23, 2026

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 Frances.

Letter from the President: *Frances Cole-Boyd*



The weather may not know what season it is, but our branch members hold firm in our wish to empower women. This was seen by the good turn out at our January meeting where we explored AAUW priority areas and what meaningful actions can look like locally. **Thank you, Jenn Snider** for organizing and leading this meaningful, and fun, gathering. **Thank you to each and everyone of you who attended and shared your ideas** (and your delicious food). It was gratifying to see new and old members getting to know each other and sharing ideas. I look forward to seeing the results and beginning to move forward.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead, cultural anthropologist.

As always, we have many upcoming branch activities to look forward to. This newsletter is full of information about all the projects and meetings our branch is undertaking this month. Program Chair Karen Ramstrom has been working diligently to find interesting speakers and locations to have our meetings. It’s been a challenge with the library being closed and the opening date changing almost weekly, plus confirming very busy speakers, but she perseveres. **Thank you, Karen!**

I am also looking forward to the theater buyout on March 11th, Interbranch (IBC) meeting on March 7th, and the Garden Tour on May 9th. **Get them on your calendars now. There are also opportunities to help.** I am continually amazed by the good work we do, all while having so much fun together.

STILL NEEDED: A STEM chair. We don’t want to let down the 250 girls from all over the North State!! You will have lots of support. To have a successful program, we need to start planning very soon. Please contact Nancy Overton or me if you are interested.

I look forward to seeing the slate of new officers presented by the Nominating Committee. I know that although we are busy, we also are dedicated to keeping AAUW Redding Branch strong and vibrant.

Thank you for your commitment toward the **empowerment** of women.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 1

Please take time to nominate that woman who stands out in your mind as one who should be recognized for her achievements either on behalf of the Branch or on behalf of the Community. Who is it that goes the extra mile to support the mission of AAUW or enhances our Community with her good works and stands out as a Woman of Achievement?

This is our Branch’s opportunity to recognize and thank those women who demonstrate those ideals. Please take time to nominate someone you believe deserves this honor. The nomination application is in this newsletter (on Page 3).

Application deadline is March 1.

Send applications to **Maureen Chenoweth** (see contact sheet).

AAUW REDDING BRANCH, INC.

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Redding Branch AAUW has the option to present two Women of Achievement awards annually. One award goes to an outstanding member of the Branch and the other is given to a woman from the Community at Large.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

The criteria for the selection of the Woman of Achievement are drawn from the Mission Statement and Image Statement shown below. Your narrative must include the criteria listed below. You may write on the back of this form or add additional pages. The nomination is made for the year 2026 and must be received by March 1.

Nominee's Name _____ Phone Number _____

Recommending Member _____ Phone Number _____

Please mark the category for which the nomination is made: Community _____ or Branch _____

LEADERSHIP: Serves, and/or has served, in leadership positions in the community and/or Branch. (For Branch award only.....has been an active participant for seven years or more).

SELF DEVELOPMENT: Fosters her personal development and furthers her education in a formal and/or informal way.

COMMITMENT TO THE COMMON GOOD: Demonstrates consistent, effective involvement, thereby bringing about positive societal changes.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Exemplifies qualities, including friendship, that make her a role model for others.

<p>AAUW MISSION STATEMENT <i>AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.</i></p>	<p>CALIFORNIA AAUW IMAGE STATEMENT <i>AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering: Action for Equity, Community, Leadership, Personal and Professional Growth *Friendships.*</i></p>
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As in the past, only written nominations submitted during the current year will be considered. Nominations for candidates not selected this year will be returned to the recommending member. Branch members are invited to resubmit candidates' names with updated information.

Please return this completed form to Maureen Chenoweth (see contact sheet).

AAUW REDDING BRANCH, INC.

2026 NAMED GIFT HONOREE NOMINATION

Every year the AAUW Redding Fund Committee honors AAUW Redding members who have done outstanding work in supporting the programs and goals of the AAUW Fund and/or AAUW Redding. A Named Gift is a special way to pay tribute to an individual or an organization giving extraordinary service to AAUW. Please nominate a member today who embodies this vision.

Please complete the nomination form and send to Suzannah Gerlach.

Nominations are due by February 28, 2026

Nominee: _____

Branch experience of nominee:

2. Has nominee actively participated in Branch for three years or more?

Yes _____ No _____

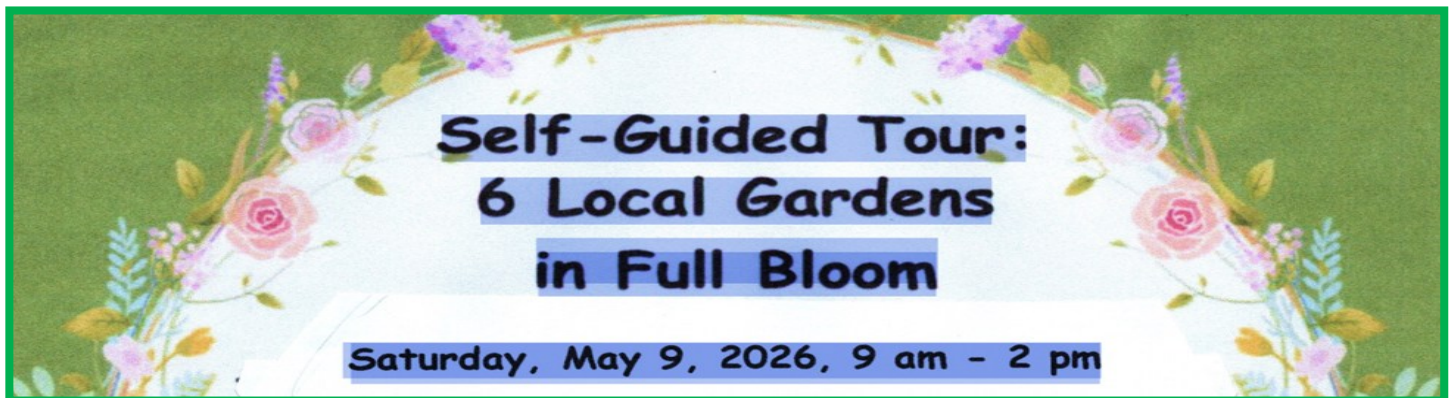
3. Has nominee been a leader in the branch serving in elected positions and chairing committees?

Yes _____ No _____

4. Has the nominee been active contributing at a community level? Yes _____ No _____

5. How does the nominee represent and exemplify the ideals of AAUW as defined in our mission statement and the AAUW image statement?

Submitted by: _____



SAVE THE DATE

Six super gardens will be on the tour – a pollinator garden, one with beautiful mosaics, one unfolding from the entrance with fountains and both drought tolerant and native plants, and another on the banks of the Sacramento River. Light refreshments will be provided at a new nursery-cafe, and the memorial gardens around the North Valley Art League gallery. Tickets will still be \$30, available mid-March.

Hostessing at gardens is very enjoyable. Please answer emails from Judy Bush, hostess coordinator par excellence, and say, "Yes!" Next planning meeting will be February 18, 1:30 pm at home of Penny Harris. Contact Co-Chairs Penny or Mari with questions.

Penny Harris and Mari Ennis-Applegate, 2026 Garden Tour Co-Chairs

Public Policy and You Important to know!

Updates:

Lobby Days will be different this year. All meetings with state representatives will be in-district or on Zoom, not in Sacramento. Our Branch has registered and indicated our interest in a district meeting with Heather Hardwick. District meetings will be held between March 27 and April 17. CA Public Policy is working out the logistics and will let us know the time and place for our meeting(s). Zoom meetings will be held April 8-10. ALL AAUW members are invited to attend an in-district or Zoom meeting.

California Prop. 50 passed in the Nov. 4 election, approved by 64% of voters. A federal court decision in January has upheld Prop 50. The California GOP plans an appeal.

If you are reading this before January 31: The AAUW California Public Policy Committee encourages you to join a half-day virtual Symposium - "**AAUW School Board Project: Defending the Frontline of Democracy**" - on Saturday, **January 31, 2026, 9 am to 12:30 pm PDT.**

Participants will hear a keynote address on the impact of new federal laws and policies on California's protective laws; a panel discussion on how AAUW members can support students, parents, and school board members in the face of challenges and misinformation; and participate in workshops on effectively recruiting school board members and forming collaborations for greater impact.

Register for the event [HERE](#).

* Are you interested in attending school board meetings in Redding? Please let me know if you would like to attend, observe, report.

Shasta County women need us!

Ever wonder why or how much women in our community need our help? Consider ...

Gender Pay Gap: As of 2025 updates, women in Shasta County earn **68 cents for every dollar** earned by men overall. Among full-time, year-round workers, the gap is narrower but still substantial, with women earning **80 cents** per dollar (median income of \$53,090 vs. \$66,613 for men).

Workforce Representation: Women comprise **48.6%** of the county's workforce.

Education: In higher education, women make up a significant majority of students, accounting for **58.9%** of total enrollments in Shasta County institutions as of 2023.

Life Expectancy: The average life expectancy in the county (75.8 years) is lower than the California state average of 81.0 years.

In Shasta County, while 28.06% of men aged 15 years and older working full-time year-round earned **incomes exceeding \$100,000**, only 18.31% of women in similar positions reached this income bracket. These statistics suggest that while a substantial portion of men surpass the \$100,000 mark, the percentage is notably lower for women in comparable roles.

"When women thrive, their families and communities prosper. Yet, despite decades of progress in job opportunities, earnings, and political leadership, women still face persistent barriers to accessing economic security, physical and mental health care, and representation in elected positions. These barriers significantly impact their well-being and the lives of their families and communities." (calbudgetcenter.org)

See also: California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (women.ca.gov)

Sharon Clairemont, Public Policy Chair.

Mark Your Calendar!!!

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Social: 6:30 p.m., Play: 7:30 p.m.

"Good People" Buyout at Riverfront Playhouse



A dramedy by David Lindsay-Abaire, directed by Jeffrey Taylor. Welcome to Southie, a Boston neighborhood where a night on the town means a few rounds of bingo, where this month's paycheck covers last month's bills, and where Margie Walsh has just been let go from yet another job. Facing eviction and scrambling to catch a break, Margie thinks an old fling who's made it out of Southie might be her ticket to a fresh new start. But is this apparently self-made man secure enough to face his humble beginnings? Margie is about to risk what little she has left to find out. With his signature humorous glow, Lindsay-Abaire explores the struggles, shifting loyalties, and unshakeable hopes that come with having next to nothing in America!

TICKETS (\$35) ARE ON SALE NOW. Purchase them at the Branch meeting, February 21, or text or email me if you'd like to reserve tickets. You can send a check made out to AAUW Redding to Pris Brutlag, 4522 Shannon Place, Redding, CA. 96001 to hold tickets at Will Call March 11. Pay Pal is also possible but please remember the fees we are charged cut into our profits.

Thanks to Marta Hopkins for coordinating our social that evening. She will need our support in bringing sumptuous finger goodies, setting up and cleaning up. Let Marta or me know if you can help that evening.

All net proceeds benefit scholarships for Tech Trek camp at UC Davis next summer.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Pris Brutlag, Tech Trek Coordinator and Riverfront Buyout Chair

Membership

Let's welcome and greet our new members. It is always a pleasure to see our branch grow. Please seek them out and get to know them.

Katrina Cantrell, Cindy Xiong, and Gloria Barreto

Their info is on the contact page.

Gail Paulsen, Membership VP

Beginning Bridge Lessons

Redding Duplicate Bridge Club

MONDAYS BEGINNING FEB 2, 2026

12 WEEKS

9:30-11:30

REDDING SENIOR CENTER

2290 BENTON DRIVE

COST:\$50 INCLUDES TEXT

CALL VICKIE PUGH (530)524-6713 OR

(530)524-6713



AAUW Redding Upcoming Interest Groups Meetings

Past Presidents

will meet Thursday, February 5
at Spice Garden

1619 Hilltop Drive (in the
PetCo shopping center)

Let Tara know by January 30
that you're coming.



Past Presidents met at Janya's
in December



Scrabble

1:00 p.m. Friday, January 30
at Maureen's House

Let Patty Mullet know you're coming! Please bring a
small snack to share.



Wine and Brews

will meet at RAW

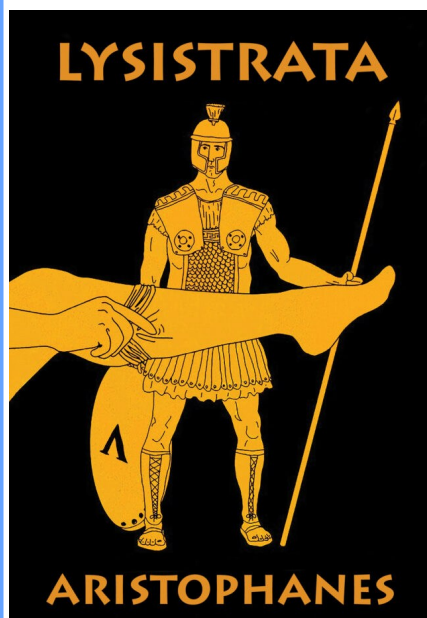
Wednesday, February 11 at
4:30 p.m.

They have appetizers, full meals, and sushi.
Please RSVP to Nancy Randall by Monday
the 9th to attend.

Drama Divas

Wednesday, February 4, 1-4 p.m.

Tammy Douse's home



Drama Divas meet once a month to read a play aloud. It's fun and it's easy, so give it a try as this group is open to all AAUW members. We have 10 copies of the play and everyone takes a turn reading and good discussions follow. No acting required!

What are we reading in February? Lysistrata is an ancient Greek comedy play by Aristophanes where Athenian women, led by Lysistrata, stage a sex strike (a "pankalamos") to force their husbands and the men of Greece to end the Peloponnesian War, seizing the Athenian Acropolis treasury to cut off war funding, leading to hilarious conflict, negotiations, and ultimately a peace treaty.

RSVP to the hostess. Tasty snacks and beverages will be served. Any questions? Please contact Tammy.

March 4 hostess is Diane Madgic.

April 1 hostess needed

May 6 end of season potluck hostess Sharon Salpas.

Tammy Douse, Chair

Women's Issues, Tuesday, February 10

The topic will be education. Please let Marta Hopkins know if you are planning to attend.

Marta Hopkins, Chair

Ethnic Food Group

Wednesday, February 18, 5 p.m.

Thai House, 2772 Churn Creek Road,
Redding

Thai House offers a variety of foods including Thai, Chinese, and sushi. Please contact Marta Hopkins if you are planning to attend.

Marta Hopkins, Chair



February 2026 Walking/Hiking Group Schedule

The walking group welcomes all walkers/hikers, new or veteran. We have a variety of walks and walking paces. Join us for camaraderie and conversation. Some of our walks and hikes are on asphalt, some on dirt, some on a combination of surfaces. Contact Sharon Clairemont for more detailed information about length, location and terrain, and please let her know if you plan to join a walk.

Walks start at 8:15 a.m.

Tuesday Walks:

- 2/3 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking lot)
- 2/10 Clover Creek (parking lot off Shasta View and Venus)
- 2/17 Sundial Bridge/ Turtle Bay
- 2/24 Churn Creek Trail (trailhead at Tidmore Ln., off College View)

Saturday Walks:

- 2/7 Chamise Peak (trailhead at the end of Flanagan Rd, off Lake Blvd.) Rain cancels.
- 2/14 Anderson River Park
- 2/21 No walk - Branch Meeting
- 2/28 River Trail (meet at the Redding Senior Center parking lot)



The Movie Group (Movie Monday)

Monday, February 16 at 4:30 pm

Market Street Blade & Barrel, 1777 Market St.

We had a really nice gathering last month with energy, laughter and ideas. Special thanks to Bev who brought whistles for each of us to use in case we see an untoward action by police or ICE.

Here are the movies selected for our February 16 get-together:

Marty Supreme (theater/John C.)

The Secret Agent (Prime/John S.)

Kpop Demon Hunters (Netflix/Nancy) Note: *Kpop Demon Hunters 2* is scheduled to be released in 2029. This older group will not be left behind.

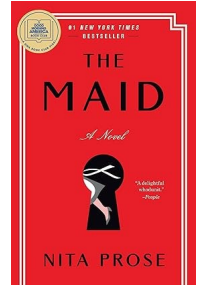
There are more movies left on our "to see" list. We have an exciting spring ahead. And the 4:30 start time worked well for the restaurant and us, so we will do that again.

New members or longstanding, all are welcome, including spouses. Sign up (space is limited) by emailing Pam Crowe by February 12.

Those who signed up at the previous month's Movie Monday are already on the list.

Pam Crowe, Chair

Book Group **February 17, 2:00 pm** **Hostess: Sharon Clairemont**



Molly Gray is not like everyone else. She struggles with social skills and misreads the intentions of others. Her gran used to interpret the world for her, codifying it into simple rules that Molly could live by.

Since Gran died a few months ago, twenty-five-year-old Molly has been navigating life's complexities all by herself. No matter — she throws herself with gusto into her work as a hotel maid. Her unique character, along with her obsessive love of cleaning and proper etiquette, make her an ideal fit for the job. She delights in donning her crisp uniform each morning, stocking her cart with miniature soaps and bottles, and returning guest rooms at the Regency Grand Hotel to a state of perfection.

But Molly's orderly life is upended the day she enters the suite of the infamous and wealthy Charles Black, only to find it in a state of disarray and Mr. Black himself dead in his bed. Before she knows what's happening, Molly's unusual demeanor has the police targeting her as their lead suspect. She quickly finds herself caught in a web of deception, one she has no idea how to untangle.

A *Clue*-like, locked-room mystery and a heartwarming journey of the spirit, *The Maid* explores what it means to be the same as everyone else and yet entirely different — and reveals that all mysteries can be solved through connection to the human heart.

Hostess: Sharon Clairemont
Leader: Nancy Williams

Dale Ammerman, Book Section Chair



Travel Interest Group **Wednesday, February 25, 5:30 pm** **Karline's Restaurant-Reservations needed**

Gail and Phil Paulsen will be our presenters for February. After taking multiple UnCruise trips, their latest adventure through the heart of the Hawaiian Islands offered an intimate and immersive experience far removed from typical tourist resorts. Aboard a small ship carrying just 17 guests and supported by a dedicated crew of 25, their journey emphasized exploration and authentic cultural connection. The exceptional staff-to-guest ratio ensured personalized service as they island-hopped among the Big Island, Maui, Lana'i, and Moloka'i.

Are you ready to explore the world? Join our travel group as we discover breathtaking destinations, both nationally and internationally. New presenters are always welcome to share their journeys and inspire our next great adventure.

Travel dinner meetings are held at Karline's Restaurant and begin at 5:30. The travel group is open to all members, and spouses or friends are warmly welcomed. Because of the room size, reservations are required for all presentations. I look forward to seeing you in January.

For reservations, please contact Judy Bush.

Judy Bush, Chair

Local Businesses that Support AAUW Redding Branch, Inc.

Please patronize these businesses and tell them where you saw their name.

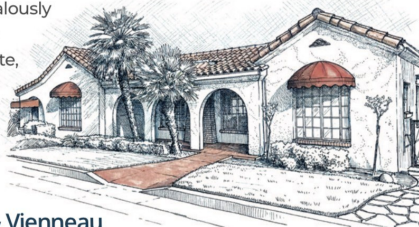


Linking together for our mission.

Estate Planning, Probate, and Conservatorships

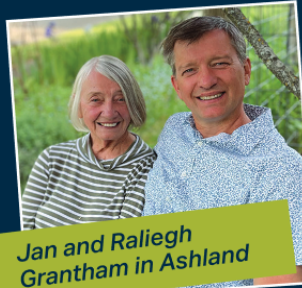
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AAUW

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