



President: Nancy Overton

Editors: Carolyn Chandler and Linda Wright



Redding Inc. (CA)

October 2026

October Branch Meeting

Wednesday, October 21



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our October branch meeting will feature experts in women's health. The meeting will be held at the parlor for the Native Daughters of the Golden West, 2322 California Street, Redding, with social time beginning at 5 p.m.

Dinner will be provided by West Coast Sourdough.

\$25 covers meal and dessert. Please send payment via PayPal or checks/cash (payable to AAUW Branch) to **M.C. Masulis**.

Please RSVP no later than October 9th.

Need a ride to a Branch meeting? Don't let the night keep you in. Call, text or email Marta Hopkins and arrangements will be made.

Or call:

Frances Cole-Boyd (she lives on the south side of Redding).

Sharon Clairemont (she lives on the north side of Redding).

Both would be very happy to take you to and from meetings.

Please let us know.



Letter from the President: Nancy Overton

Slipping into Fall

What an amazing organization of women!

Thanks to Pris Brutlag for gathering three of our four 2026 Tech Trekkers, fresh from their UC Davis week venture, at the Old City Hall Garden for our annual Ice Cream Social. It was such an inspiring time for us to witness their enthusiasm and to remember the importance of STEM experiences for middle school girls. What better way than with ice cream!



The Riverfront Playhouse Buyout Tech Trek Fundraiser on September 9th had a great turnout with around one hundred tickets sold. The social and the play, *Grave Mistakes*, provided an entertaining evening for our membership and friends. Pris Brutlag is stepping down as Tech Trek Coordinator. We want to thank her for building up such a great program. She has offered to mentor our next Tech Trek Coordinator. Please consider helping our branch continue with this excellent and rewarding program for girls.

Our branch dinner at McConnell Foundation on September 23rd is being coordinated by our new Program Chair Marta Hopkins and Social Chairs MC Masulis and Dale Ammerman. The evening is always fun, and members are full of enthusiasm for our new AAUW year! We'll all be inspired by our guest speaker Kimberly Bonéy to further our work in our community. It's a great time to sign up to volunteer for our annual events, including Starry Night, STEM Conference and Garden Tour!

A heartfelt thank you to Andi Winters for her many years of being our newsletter editor and to Carolyn Chandler and Linda Wright for stepping up this year to be our new editors. Also special thanks to Mari Ennis-Applegate and Jan Brockett for completing the 2025-26 financial review.

So, as fall slips in, and you're drinking your pumpkin latte, please remember to answer your phone when I call to invite you to Coffee with the President. It's fun! Or better yet, you make a call or send that text or email me to ask how you can help empower women and girls in our community to keep our mission alive. Our future depends on you!



Nancy Overton

PresidentAAUWRedding@gmail.com

2026-27
Branch Officers

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Nancy Overton
President-Elect
Open
Program Vice-
President
Marta Hopkins
Membership VP
Jenn Snider
AAUW Fund VP
Sharon Clairemont
AAUW Fundraising VP
Maureen Chenoweth
Recording Secretary
Debbie Spiess
Treasurer
Cindy Anderson

Board Meetings start
at 5:30 pm
Monday, **October 26**
Monday, **November 16**

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
Nancy.

Member Spotlight: Carol Skill

Carol Skill, a Liberal Studies graduate from UC Santa Barbara, first joined AAUW in 1993 after she and her husband, Fred, moved to Watsonville. Neither knew many people in the community, and both looked for ways to make connections—Carol through AAUW and Kiwanis, and Fred through Rotary. Carol was also familiar with AAUW through her sister, who belonged to the Fresno Branch. When Carol and Fred moved to Redding in 1996, she transferred her AAUW membership to the Redding Branch. For many years, she supported the branch quietly. She attended and volunteered at the annual home tours but rarely attended meetings. That changed when Sharon Salpas called and asked whether Carol would help with the branch website after Lana stepped away. Carol agreed, and her involvement grew.



Outside of AAUW, Carol is active with Redding Newcomers. She is an avid reader and belongs to a book club. She also enjoys quilting and playing bocce, which she considers a team sport.

Asked what advice she would give her younger self, Carol laughs: “Chill. Be nicer. A lot nicer.” Looking back, she recognizes that many things she once thought were a very big deal really weren’t.

Carol’s hopes for the future begin close to home. She hopes families will continue helping one another as people face the challenge of building good lives amid the rising cost of living. She sees resilience in people’s ability to figure things out, support one another, and find ways to make life work.

Jenn Snider

Contact Information:

**For all newsletter articles, see contact
page at the end of this newsletter for
phone numbers, emails and addresses.**



2026-2027 Branch Meetings

August 20, 2026—Ice Cream Social—5:00-6:30

September 23, 2026—McConnell Foundation. Kimberly Bonéy—5:00-7:30

October 21, 2026—Women's Health (Breast Cancer Month)—5:00-7:30

November 6, 2026—Starry Night, 4:00-7:30

December 5, 2026—Holiday Brunch—11:00-1:00—theme: Holidays Around the World, live music

January 16, 2027—Girls, Inc—11:00-1:00 (workshop before program—9-11)

February 13, 2027—Branch History, honor 50+ year members—11:00-1:00

March 2027—IBC and STEM conference (no branch meeting)

April 15, 2027—Computer Awareness, Scamming, Hacking—5:00-7:30

May 20, 2027—Public Policy and DEI with Susan Wilson, Scholarships—5:00-7:30

June 17, 2027—Installation of New Officers, Women of Achievement—5:00-7:30

August 19, 2027—Ice Cream Social—5:00-6:30

Riverfront Buyout a Great Success Thank you! Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who supported our September 9 buyout of the Riverfront Playhouse production of *Grave Mistakes*. We had an outstanding response selling over one hundred tickets! The net proceeds will go toward sending five middle school girls from Shasta County Schools to the UC Davis Tech Trek camp next summer.

A special thanks goes to all you who purchased or sold multiple tickets inviting members and friends to attend. Frances Cole-Boyd wins the Gold Medal for selling twenty-five tickets. Several of you generously purchased tickets knowing you couldn't attend but wanting to support the buyout.

Without the essential and welcoming support of Susan Wilson and Tammy Douse, as well as all the Riverfront hostesses, and the many helpful AAUW members, the entire event would have been impossible. Kudos to Sharon Clairemont, Dale Ammerman, and many members for providing a lovely social. We had many sweet and savory delights thanks to member's contributions.

What a wonderful way to fundraise while enjoying a stimulating, entertaining evening. Stay tuned for our next Riverfront Buyout early in 2027.

Pris Brutlag, Interim Buyout Chair

Starry Night 2026

We look forward to seeing you, your family, and your friends at the AAUW Redding Branch's 2026 Starry Night of Art & Wine Scholarship Fundraiser on Friday, November 6th from 4 – 7:30 PM, at the North Valley Art League, 48 Quartz Hill Road, Redding.



Featured art/artisan works by our own talented AAUW member artists/artisans, who are graciously donating a portion of their sales to AAUW Scholarships.

Wine tasting by local wineries, along with non-alcoholic beverages and appetizers to delight your palate.

Silent Auction —wonderful donated items will be available for you to bid on during the Starry Night reception! **New this year – bidding online will start on Oct 16th.**

Why is this fundraiser so important?

100% of net proceeds from this event support our Scholarship Fund. Because of your generous support last year, our branch awarded four deserving young women with scholarships to UC San Diego (waitlisted at UCLA); CSU Chico (two students); and UC Davis!

How can you help?

- Purchase Tickets! All branch members will receive two tickets to purchase/sell for \$40 each at either our September Branch Meeting or by mail shortly thereafter. Additional tickets are available at [Starry Night 2026](#).
- Donate Items to the Silent Auction— **see details in this newsletter.**
- Volunteer.

See you at Starry Night!
Your 2026 Starry Night Committee

Silent Auction



This year, we will combine an online Silent Auction with the Friday night Starry Night event in an attempt to increase revenue for our main fundraiser for local scholarships! There are many ways you can help to make this a success.

Hint: We cannot do this without you!

1. Do you **know someone with a business or organization** that may contribute something? Personal contacts are often more effective than cold calling. Contributions, large and small, are all appreciated. It could be a gift card, a product or service. The business may want to help sponsor our event. It never hurts to ask! I have a letter from our organization to provide information that a business may need in order to contribute. If you have a connection to North State Symphony, Cascade Theater, Riverfront Playhouse, Axiom Theater, Turtle Bay, or a Redding restaurant, these are all very popular!
2. Do you make **handcrafted items**? Popular are holiday themed items, wine themed items, table runners, apparel, tote bags, and many more. Are you a photographer? Consider photographs of iconic Redding sites.
3. Do you have **gently used vintage items** that you no longer use? Holiday decorations and unique wine glasses are popular but so are many other items. Let us know.
4. **Interest groups:** if you belong to an interest group, consider volunteering to organize a special gift basket from your group.

The Silent Auction will go online on **October 16**, so we will need the items beforehand to organize, photograph and add to the website.

Maureen Chenowith



October Past Presidents

Date: Thursday, Oct. 1

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Place: Janya Thai Cuisine,
630 N Market St. in Redding

RSVP: Tara Swanson by
September 24

17 Past Presidents enjoyed camaraderie and food at Cheesecakes Unlimited

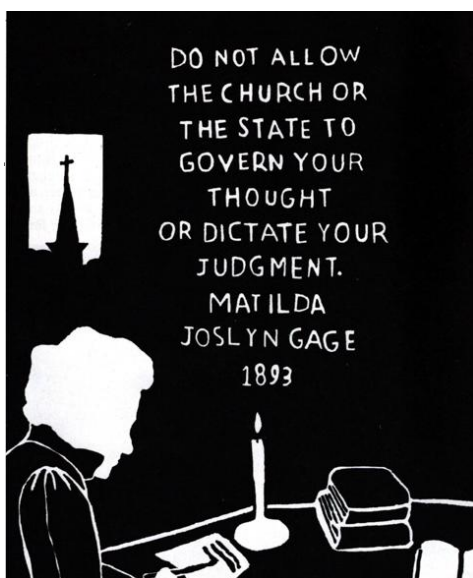
Speaking of DEI....

I just discovered Matilda Joslyn Gage, 1826-1898, of Syracuse, NY, one of the lesser-known leaders of the early women's rights movement. She grew up in an abolitionist home, a stop on the underground railroad. As an adult she offered her own home to freedom seekers. At the age of 26 she spoke at the 1852 National Women's Rights Convention with Susan B. Anthony in the audience.

She was inspired by the Iroquois Confederacy of the Six Nations and advocated for their indigenous treaty rights. She was adopted into the Mohawk nation in 1893.

She was also a strong advocate for religious freedom and the separation of church and state. These beliefs brought her into conflict with Susan B. Anthony who believed that a strong partnership with the powerful Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) would further women's suffrage in the US. The WCTU fought for the US to become a theocratic state and that suffrage should be extended only to white women, excluding Black, indigenous and immigrant women. Gage left the suffrage movement as she felt strongly that religious freedom undergirds all our rights.

October 12th is the annual Indigenous People's Day, a day to honor the history, culture and contributions of Native Americans. It can be celebrated in conjunction with or as an alternative to Columbus Day, which is also October 12th each year. One purpose of Indigenous People's Day is to shift the focus from European colonization to the resilience of our continent's original inhabitants.



A linocut block print by the author

What is happening locally in our indigenous communities?

For a welcoming family friendly celebration, join the Redding Rancheria's **Stillwater Pow Wow** where native peoples from Alaska, Canada, and even South America will be dancing, drumming & more.

Oct. 2-4 at the Redding Rodeo Grounds.

Fri. Opens 4 pm. Sat.-Sun. Opens 9 am. Drop by anytime.

Also, check out Native Roots Network.

<https://www.nativerootsnetwork.org/>

Penny Harris

DEI Chair

Susan Wilson

Public Policy Chair

AAUW Upcoming Interest Group Meetings

Wine and Brews

Wine and Brews will meet at The Grape Escape at the corner of Pine and South St. on Wednesday, October 14th at 5:00. They serve wine, beer, and a seltzer. Please bring an appetizer to share.

Contact **Nancy Randall** by Monday, October 12th, to attend.



Scrabble

Join us for Scrabble the last Friday of every month

1:00 p.m.

Friday, September 25 and Friday, October 30

If you would like to offer your house and can accommodate 8 to 12 avid Scrabble players, let me know as soon as possible. We use “cheat sheets” and dictionaries and often help each other—the point is to have fun. Mark your calendars now. Location will be announced.

Patty Mullett

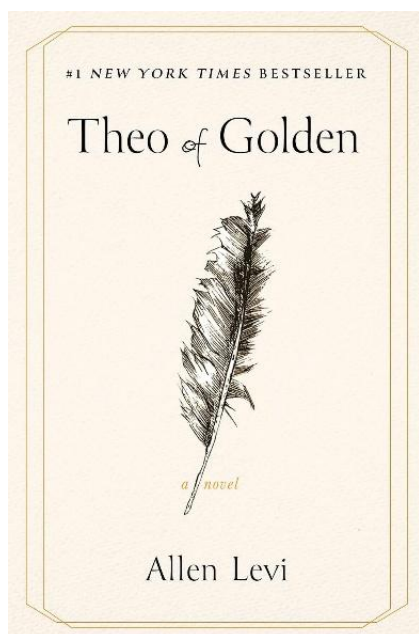
Movie Group

Movie Group Meets 3rd Monday of the month at
4:30 p.m.

Market Street Blade & Barrel,
1777 Market St.

Contact **Pam Crowe** for more information.





October Book Group
Tuesday, October 20
2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Debbie Stokes
Leader: Sharon Salpas

RSVP to Debbie Stokes

**Call Dale Ammerman for more
information.**

One spring morning, a stranger named Theo arrives in the small Southern city of Golden, Florida. He doesn't explain much about where he came from or why he's there, but when he visits the local coffeehouse, where pencil portraits of the people of Golden hang on the walls, he begins purchasing them, one at a time, and gives each portrait to the person depicted. In exchange, he asks only for the person's story. And so, portrait by portrait, person by person, secrets are revealed, regrets are shared, and ordinary lives are profoundly altered.

Sharon has some surprise treats for everyone.





October 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.

Tuesday Walks:

10/6 Lema Ranch (parking lot at Shasta View and Hemingway)

10/13 Churn Creek Trail (trailhead parking at Tidmore Ln, off College View)

10/20 Sundial Bridge/ Turtle Bay

10/27 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking lot)

Saturday Walks:

10/3 Sundial Bridge/Turtle Bay

10/10 Hornbeck Trail (trailhead parking on Quartz Hill Rd.)

10/17 Anderson River Park

10/24 Churn Creek Trail (trailhead parking at Tidmore Ln, off College View)

10/31 Lema Ranch (Shasta View/Hemingway parking lot - Halloween costumes OK, not required)

Contact **Sharon Clairemont** for more detailed information about walk length, location and terrain, and please let her know if you plan to join a walk. Walks start at 8:15 a.m. this month.



Travel Interest Group

Karline's Restaurant
5:30
Reservations Needed



Travel Interest Group returns in October on the 28th. Debbie and John Stokes will start off Travel again this year with their OAT trip to France. In two weeks, they visited Paris and saw Fontainebleau, Bayeux, and the Normandy D-Day beaches. Plus, John was able to take private transport to Utah beach where his dad landed on D Day. From here they visited the Loire Valley, Dordogne region, and Languedoc region. Their travels took them to the north of France, down the west coast and around to southern France. Their trip included castles, gardens, and wine tasting. The last part included Lyon, the culinary capital of France.

Also, Dave Bush returns with his 10-minute program on our recent trip down the Mississippi on a Viking Cruise.

Remember to contact me to reserve your spot for dinner and the program. Travel dinner meetings are held at Karline's Restaurant and begin at 5:30. The travel group is open to all members, and spouses and friends are warmly welcomed. Because of the room size, reservations are required for all presentations, so let me know if you plan to attend.

I look forward to seeing you in October.

Judy Bush



AAUW Redding Branch Inc.

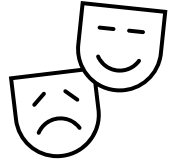
Save the Date

March 13, 2027, at Shasta College

STEM Girls Rock



Drama Divas



What: Enjoy reading a play, share small bites, hot or cold beverages and good conversations!

Join us for another great year of reading plays aloud and discussing them in a small group atmosphere. The upcoming season will find us reading one of these plays each month starting October 7th. Come and find out which one we will read on 10/7. I will have 10 copies of the play so we can all read or follow along at the same time.

Which one of these will we be reading first?

The Odd Couple, female version by Neil Simon **or**

Anybody for Murder by Brian Clemens **or**

Joe Turner's Come and Gone by August Wilson **or**

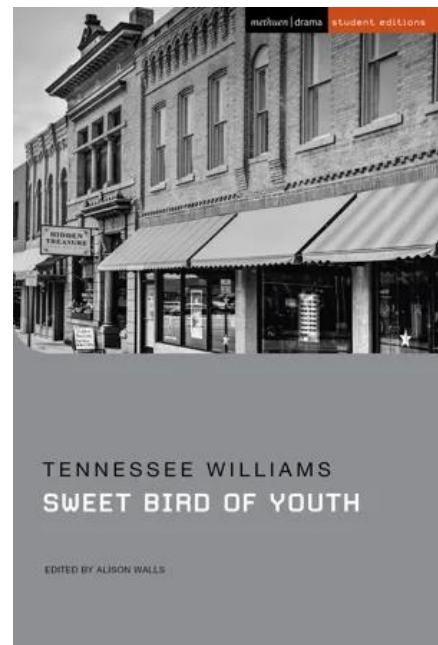
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee **or**

Leading Ladies by Ken Ludwig **or**

Home, I'm Darling by Laura Wade **or**

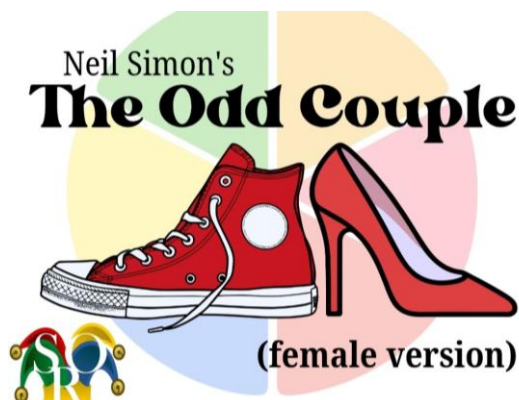
At Wit's End about Erma Bombeck **or**

Sweet Bird of Youth by Tennessee Williams



October 7th, 1-4 p.m. Hostess: **Tammy Douse**

New members welcome as are returning Drama Divas. Join the fun, only \$20 one-time fee to cover cost of receiving and mailing plays.



Beginning Bridge Lessons

Redding Duplicate Bridge Club

MONDAYS BEGINNING OCTOBER 5 2026

9:30-11:30

10 WEEKS

REDDING SENIOR CENTER

2290 BENTON DRIVE

TAUGHT BY CAROLYN CHANDLER

COST:\$50 INCLUDES TEXT

CALL VICKIE PUGH 530-524-6713



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



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DUTCH BROS



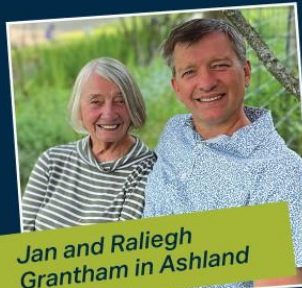
BEHRENS-EATON HOUSE MUSEUM

REDDING CA

HOURS

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Saturday 1-4

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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