

Celebrate the End of the Season

Saturday, June 10th
Central United Methodist Church

That's a wrap! The final meeting of the AAUW 2022-2023 year will be on Saturday, June 10th, 9:30am at Central United Methodist Church. You don't want to miss this meeting as we hear from the winner of our high school essay contest and our San Joaquin Delta College scholarship recipients. Four named gift recipients will be revealed and new officers will be installed. Bring a guest and share with them what AAUW is all about.

Co-Vice Presidents Ronda Sanders and Mary Jo Gohlke thank all who have attended the 2022-2023 branch meetings. We hope that you have found them to be enlightening and fun.

If you haven't renewed your AAUW membership by June 10th, you can bring your renewal form and dues to the meeting.

Place: Central United Methodist Church
3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton

Schedule:


9:30am Check-in

Cost: \$10 (Covers room Rental and Refreshments)

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, June 4th

Contact Betty Parsons, Reservation Chair
@ (408) 309-8958 or bjpars_95120@yahoo.com

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID

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We affirm and promote the inherent
worth and dignity of every person and
are a welcoming congregation.

President's Message



They're Doing What? Part II

In the novel, FARENHEIT 451, leaders of a dystopian society banned and burned “objectionable” books. This was a work of fiction. However, I never thought that in 2023 book banning would be happening in the United States.

According to PEN America, * 37 states and millions of students have been impacted by recent bans across the country. There are more books being banned and more books being banned in bulk than ever before. In the 2022-2023 school year, PEN America reported 1,477 separate instances of book bans. Books being banned across the United States remain primarily those by and about people of color or members of the LGBTQ+ community, especially books about Critical Race Theory and Comprehensive Sexuality Education. Labeling books as “pornographic” or “indecent” is being given as a reason for the bans. These labels are used to create legislation making the books eligible for banning. The question is, who decides what is “indecent?”

Libraries and librarians are also under attack. In Missouri, legislators are defunding libraries because a group of librarians sued over book banning. In Louisiana, a legislator expressed hope that “eventually America will build beautiful church-run libraries” because libraries now are “liberal grooming centers.”

Many publishing houses, including Penguin Random House, are suing states and legislators over these bans. Children, as usual, get caught in the middle and are victims.

The fact is that book banning is driving kids away from reading, depriving them of the information they need to think for themselves, ask questions, and express individuality. Censors don't seem to want children exposed to ideas different from their own.

According to author, Judy Blume, whose books have been targeted for banning, “Censorship grows out of fear, and fear is contagious.”

*PEN America is a 501(c)(3) organization of more than 7,500 members of a variety of literary professions.

Sandra Mazzuola
President



2022-2023

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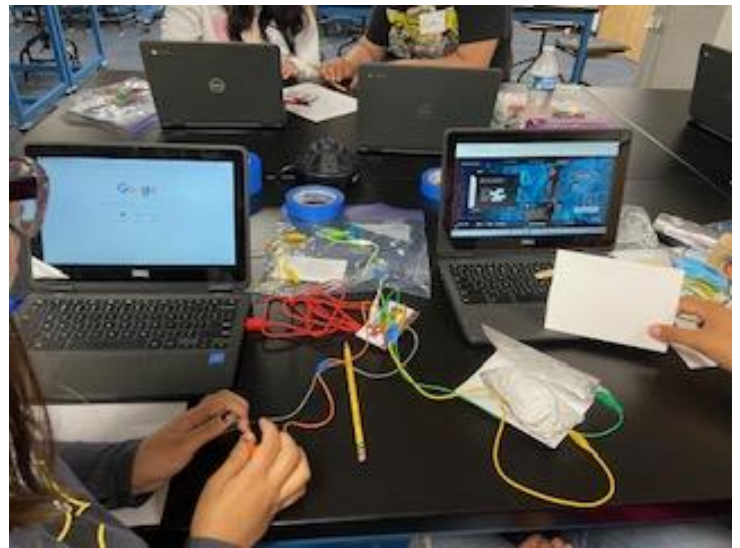
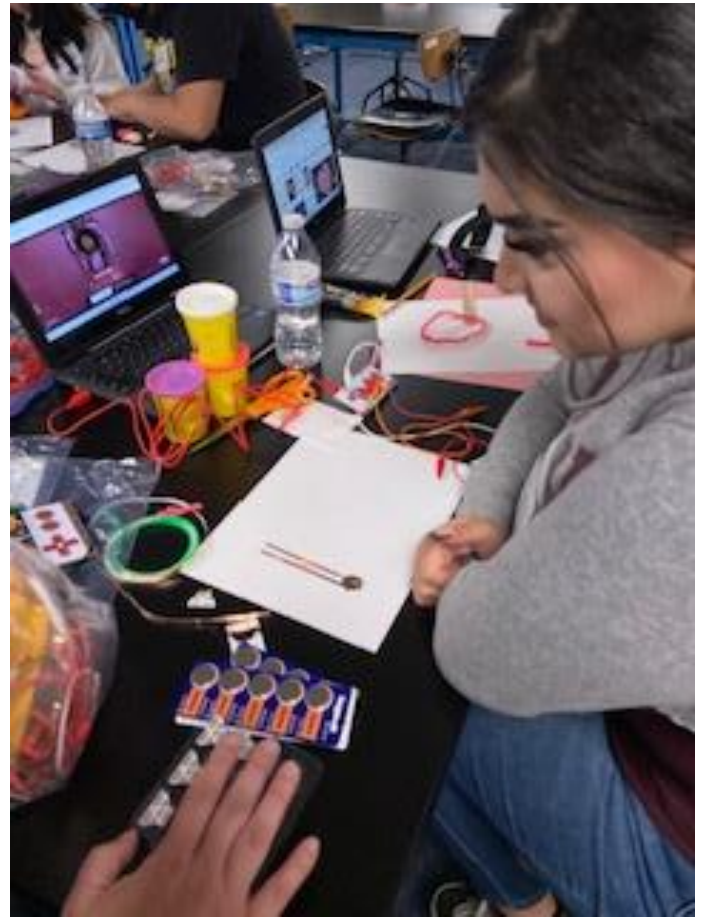
Two very talented members of AAUW-Stockton, Annie Cunial and Megan Smith, set up a special computer programming class, **Coding for Girls**, just for the young ladies in our branch mentor program! Annie and Megan both work in the STEM Program for San Joaquin County Office of Education and generously gave of their own time to make this event possible.



On May 13th, our girls met on the SJCOE campus for a 3-hour class that included creating a game controller and a video game! They started by developing a character name - "Powerful Engineer" and "Brave Angel" were just a few of the names the girls chose. Then they set up their avatar and learned how to use an invention kit called *Makey Makey*, a simple circuit board that lets you connect simple objects to a computer. Some then also used coding to develop their own video game, and others used circuitry to make beautifully lit up Mother's Day cards!



Many, many thanks to Annie and Megan for providing this class for us!



It's time to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act!

On March 9th, 2023, the Paycheck Fairness Act ([H.R. 17/S. 728](#)) was reintroduced in Congress. I thought this was already the law of the land, but the simple law of 1963 said that women should not be paid less than men for the same work. But after 60 years, we're still not there!

You've heard it before — on the average, women working full time in the United States are paid **just 84% of what men are paid**, and the gap is even wider for many women of color. When we include those who work part time or seasonally, we have a more accurate picture of how pay inequality impacts diverse communities: the gap widens further to 77 cents. As we know, lower workplace earnings ultimately results in lower retirement income. Social Security and pensions give women only 70% of what men have! The Paycheck Fairness Act would take meaningful steps to update and strengthen the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and help close the gender pay gap, including:

- Closing loopholes that have weakened the law over time to allow employers to justify paying workers unfairly,
- Creating more robust remedies for those who have suffered discrimination,
- Preventing employers from retaliating against workers who discuss or disclose their wages,
- Prohibiting employers from simply relying on salary history to set wages, and
- Providing much needed training and technical assistance, as well as data collection and research.

The gender pay gap is persistent and can only be addressed if women have the tools they need to challenge discrimination and employers have the incentives they need to comply with the law. It's time for Congress to make real change for all families by passing the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Obtaining pay equity is a priority for AAUW. Get the latest report at:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/simple-truth/> and then tell your congressmen to support the Act. (It appears that with the latest actions, HR.17 passed the House, but S.728 so far has failed the Senate along party lines).



As our year comes to a close, I want to thank our callers who provide a valuable link to the Stockton Branch of AAUW.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of our callers who have helped me this year as Reservations Chairperson. Your monthly volunteer commitment has made my job run smoothly and effectively. I have enjoyed getting to know each of you and you have made my work both enriching and rewarding. In addition, thank you to the members who have helped me at the Reservation table and have welcomed members with their smiling faces. I have also appreciated each of the members who have sent a timely yes or no in responding to his/her caller.

This fall, look in the front pages of our AAUW directory and you will find a list of callers with their phone numbers, email, the directory page, and the column they are responsible for calling. Each month please respond promptly to his/her call or email so they will know whether or not you will be attending the meeting.

Betty Parsons



It's often said that a picture is worth a thousand words. If that is true, a video (many pictures) must be worth even more. For that reason, I am sending you links to short videos that explain the meanings of Cultural Competence, Ageism, Intersectionality, Micro-Aggression, Systemic Racism, Inclusion and Gender Identity/Sexual Orientation. Each video is less than five minutes long and will provide you with an eye-opening glimpse into the world of DEI. Once you have done that, you may decide you'd like to join our DEI Discussion Group to explore even more concepts. We would love to have you, your ideas and your perspective. Please join us.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlaCa8y-LiM&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZF5o9st3YFIZbY1ttG12Aa&index=3>
Cultural Competence

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4R9BNb8Lc_r4&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZF5o9st3YFIZbY1ttG12Aa&index=2
Ageism

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6dnj2lyYjE&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZGGhVpNRX_1SWfmgu5f-avW&index=16 **Intersectionality**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4N50b76cZc&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZGGhVpNRX_1SWfmgu5f-avW&index=18 **Micro-Aggression**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrHIQIO_bdQ&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZGGhVpNRX_1SWfmgu5f-avW&index=32 **Systemic Racism**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SnXBKEfr2s&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZGGhVpNRX_1SWfmgu5f-avW&index=8 **Inclusion**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i83VQlaDIQw&list=PLP3li-MZU7ZGGhVpNRX_1SWfmgu5f-avW&index=28
Gender Identity/Sexual Orientation

May 17th Meeting at Venetian Gardens



*These ladies were welcomed into our organization at our May 17th Meeting. *Ladies in photo L. to R.: Peggy Dewar, Anita Bautista, Denise Faulkner, Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, and Megan Smith.*

**Women who are also new members this year, but not pictured here: Cecilia Montgomery, Rosa Martinez, Phyllis Mac Donald, and Kathleen Morley.*

Reminder:

Your 2022-23 AAUW dues will expire 6/30/23. If you have not sent in your dues, please do so now.

We are at 49%, which is great. Also, members who have joined in the past year, you will receive a renewal notice during the month you joined. You may receive a notice from National and choose to pay those dues directly to them; keep in mind you will still need to send \$40 thru the Branch for local and state dues.

Your other choice is pay \$112 and the branch will submit your dues to national and state.

Thank you for continuing your AAUW membership.

Bette Outlaw, Membership Treasurer

KATHLEEN M. SOLARI, CPA

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- Vision:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measureable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.
- Mission:** **AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.**
- Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

June Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Sun	4	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Mon	5	6:00pm	AAUW Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sat	10	9:30am	Final AAUW Meeting (<i>before summer break</i>)	Central United Methodist Church