



Not sure how to vote on California ballot measures? Attend the AAUW branch meeting on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> to listen to Jane Wagner-Tyack from the League of Women Voters San Joaquin County as she helps us to understand the measures. The League of Women Voters does not take positions on candidates for office, but it does give recommendations on ballot measures after careful study.

Jane will use Power Point and handouts in her presentation. You can be sure that whether or not you “vote with the League” you will be well-informed to fill out your ballot. Discussion will be encouraged.

The meeting will be held in the Fireside Room at  
**Central United Methodist Church**  
3700 Pacific Avenue

**Schedule:**

9:30am      Check In  
10:00am      Meeting

**Cost:**      \$10 for Continental Breakfast

Contact Betty Parsons, Reservation Chair at (408) 309-8958  
or [bjpars\\_95120@yahoo.com](mailto:bjpars_95120@yahoo.com)

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID

# President's Message



*"The vote is precious. It is the most powerful tool we have in a democratic society, and we must use it."*

These words were spoken by John Lewis, the late civil rights activist. In recent years, precious voting rights have come under persistent attacks by a cynical culture or movement that has become more and more prevalent in our country.

In 2021, 19 states enacted 34 laws restricting access to voting. These laws impose a wide range of voter suppression measures such as obstacles to voting by mail by limiting the availability of ballot boxes; new voter ID requirements, such as demanding proof of citizenship; limiting what election officials can do to promote voter access; not allowing water or snacks to be distributed to those waiting in long lines to cast ballots, and other measures designed to make voting more difficult. These laws place a heavy burden on voters, especially on communities of color.

We should be encouraging more people, especially young people, to vote, not making it harder for us to exercise our rights as American citizens.

Voting rights organizations, including the League of Women Voters, are actively seeking to overturn these restrictive measures and, once again, guarantee every citizen's sacred right to cast a ballot and have it counted. Our democracy depends on this.

(The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act, which would strengthen the Voting Rights Act of 1965, has passed the House of Representatives but is stalled in the Senate).

Sandra Mazzuola  
President



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[stockton-ca.aauw.net](http://stockton-ca.aauw.net)

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### First Unitarian Universalist Church Of Stockton

-A Liberal Religious Community-

2737 Pacific Ave. at Bristol St.

(Sunday School; Childcare Provided)

Contact Us: [stocktonuu.org](http://stocktonuu.org) (209)466-7743  
[contact@stocktonuu.org](mailto:contact@stocktonuu.org)

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



## Coastal Clean Up Day

By Julie Pichardo

In September, several of the girls from the Mentoring group participated in Coastal Clean Up Day at Lodi Lake. This is an event that takes place all over the nation where trash is collected along coasts and counted up. Data is then submitted to agencies who compile numbers on what is thrown away. Our girls enjoyed connecting with one another while doing a service for the community. They even got a free shirt and a swag bag at the end! Thank you to all members for continuing to support this valuable program.



By the time you read this article our girls will have taken advantage of an unprecedented opportunity to hear Dolores Huerta speak in person on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Latino Heritage Month's signature event held at U.O.P. Ms. Huerta speaks about her humble beginnings as a Stockton native who went on to influence many lives through teaching and as a champion of the rights of farm workers and women.

Our program seeks to inspire our girls to stories such as this.

## Ways you can Help

I have written in this space before about the many ways members can support the Mentor Program. Some members choose to make monetary donations which are always welcome. Others seek other ways to become indirectly involved in shaping our girls.

Some ways to support our Mentor program without actually being a mentor:

\*Do you have a recreation room in the complex where you live that might accommodate 20 or so for an activity? Could you open your home to our girls for a movie, meal or party on occasion?

\*Can you occasionally provide car transportation to or from an activity?

\*Did you hear about an activity, venue or scholarship that might be of interest to our girls?

\*Do you "know people in high places" who might be a resource for our program?

\*Can you or someone you know speak to our girls about your profession?

\*Do you have a particular skill to share? Can you draw, cook, bake, dance, play an instrument, twirl a baton?

*The Mentor Program welcomes all levels of participation. If you have an idea or suggestion please contact Pam Mallett-Jones.*



## DEI at AAUW Stockton

If you have been attending AAUW Stockton meetings over the past year or reading the Delta Steamer, you are aware that we not only have a DEI Committee but also a DEI Interest Group. If you have already joined our Group, this message is not for you. It is for the other members of our Branch who have not.

I want to remind those members that our DEI Interest Group offers an opportunity for all members of the Stockton Branch to come together to discuss all topics that include: Microaggressions, White Privilege, CRT, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Cultural Competency, Diversity, Inclusion, Equity vs Equality and more. Conversations are facilitated by knowledgeable members or special guests. Because our meetings are considered a “safe zone,” the opinions of our members are expected to be kept confidential.

If you have something to share or something to learn, we welcome you to join our group. If you would like more information or would like to join our group, please contact Barbara St. Urbain, 209-603-5365 or [bsuatmjc@aol.com](mailto:bsuatmjc@aol.com).

## New Stockton Branch POP-UP Interest Group

This new interest group is not going to have the same members at each get together nor will it meet at the same place each time nor have the same activity each time. **No, it's a Pop-Up group! Anything is possible!**

Then, whoever wants to plan the next event, just gives me the details (date, time, place, cost, etc.) and I will send out the invite email to our members. I am only the facilitator for any other pop-up events—you do the research and planning and I'll spread the word for you using my branch member email list.

### Other POP-UP ideas:

- —Is there a **movie** you think others would like to see? Give me the details--place, date and time and cost-- and I'll send out the invite email to our membership.
- —Maybe you want to plan a meet-up for **breakfast at Bobs at the Marina!**
- —Maybe you heard about an **exhibit at the Haggin** you think others would like to see it too.
- —Maybe you just want to meet for **coffee** sometime and skip the walk!

The possibilities are endless!

Paula Almaas  
[almaas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almaas@sbcglobal.net)  
(209) 603-9437



## REMINDER:

When ordering through Amazon Smile, please designate **AAUW Community Outreach Fund** as your charity. Organizations receive a small percentage on each purchase.

Each month we receive between \$5-6 in our COF Account, but it could be so much more. Thank you for your participation.



## Invite Someone You Respect

If you know of someone who needs AAUW please refer the person to me or simply give me a contact so I may contact. There are many reasons to join AAUW, but promoting issues of women and girls is the primary goal of our organization.

In AAUW there are over 170,000 members nationwide. This organization is 140 years old and has a long history of promoting education for women and girls. In fact, over \$115,000,000 in fellowships and grants have been awarded to 130,000 women in 150 countries. These fellowships and grants support research projects for scientists and scholars. AAUW also advocates for equal pay and workplace equity such as breaking down barriers for the next generation. Besides all that and more, we have fun in interest groups and enlighten ourselves with programs and speakers. In addition, each of the members is a wealth of experience and knowledge who has been contributing to our community in various ways. So if you know someone who has any of the interests of AAUW or of someone who wants to become more engaged in the community, please offer an invitation to him or her. We'd love to meet that special person.

An application can be found in this newsletter. Refer someone to me and I'll send an application and letter of invitation.

[Orendiane@gmail.com](mailto:Orendiane@gmail.com)



During our September meeting Sandra Mazzuola put out a call for a Public Policy Chair and I eagerly accepted. For the moment, let's just consider this new position "the Public Policy Liaison" since I think I would need a group in order to chair. Maybe as we look into the future!

One of the Branch's goals is to support the state and national public policy priorities. I will be communicating those to you through both the Delta Steamer and on our Facebook page. These policies can be divided into the broad categories of:

- Education
- Workplace and Economic Equity
- Leadership

Look for more information throughout this next month!

With elections coming up very quickly, I would like to encourage everyone to take a look at their voter guide. The pdf version in English can be downloaded from:

<https://vig.cdn.sos.ca.gov/2022/general/pdf/complete-vig.pdf>. The County guide, which includes local measures and elections, can be found at: [https://ballotpedia.org/Municipal\\_elections\\_in\\_San\\_Joaquin\\_County,\\_California\\_\(2022\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Municipal_elections_in_San_Joaquin_County,_California_(2022))

Karen Frank

## Directory update

Please make the following addition to your Directory:

### New Member:

**Margaret E. Dewar**  
3400 Wagner Heights Rd # 329  
Stockton, CA 95209  
(c) (925) 212-4149  
email [medewar@comcast.net](mailto:medewar@comcast.net)  
University of San Francisco

A graphic with a blue background and white text. The text reads "WHEN WOMEN VOTE, THEY CHANGE THE CONVERSATION." The words "THEY CHANGE" are larger and flanked by red arrows pointing outwards. The background also features a faint image of an American flag.



**AAUW Stockton Branch, Inc.**  
**Saturday 9.17.22, 10 am**

Location: Fireside Room at Central Methodist Church

Reservation check-in began at 9:30 with Betty Parsons.

President Sandra Mazzuola called program to order at 10 am.

Interest Group sign-up sheets are positioned around meeting for members.

**Announcements:**

-Thanks given to Sue Kenmotsu and Jennifer Balestracci, the board and branch secretaries respectively, for creating the branch Facebook page.

-AAUW Fund luncheon:

-Dates: October 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 am-12 pm, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 1-3 pm, November 12<sup>th</sup> 10 am-12 pm.

-Registration is free, but donations are kindly welcomed. Members can register for all one meeting or all four, as they wish.

-Hope to have one of the recipients be our guest speaker for our June meeting.

-Public Policy chair position is still open and needs to be filled. If you are interested in joining the board, please see Sandy Mazzuola.

-position would research and present findings of news affecting women and girls at the local, state, federal and international level.

-Paula Almaas – new membership directories will be arriving in a few weeks, so keep your eyes open for your copy.

-Donna Hammel, VP of Finance, submitted the 2022-2023 branch budget for membership approval. Approved by unanimous vote.

1. Operating budget – various club expenses.
2. Community Outreach Fund (mentor trek, tech trek, speech trek, etc.) – assists the programs we run in our branch.
3. AAUW fund

-Diane Oren – has applications for any prospective new members.

**Program:**

**Tech Trek – Paula Almaas**

-committee members: Sue Kenmotsu, Barbara Schwartz, Julie Picardo

-three girls from program were in attendance of the meeting: Jayla, Emily and My

-we send 3-4 girls to Tech Trek camp every year where they participate in hands-on activities with STEM programs.

-for 2022 we sent two girls to camp in Fresno and one attended UC Davis.

**Mentor Program – Pam Mallett-Jones**

-member participants: Rosa Solis, Gladys Finucane, Paula Almaas, Terry Mercer and Pam Mallett-Jones

-program started in the 90s, but current program began around 2010.

-sees girls from Tech Trek/STEM Trek programs through high school and into college.

-arranges for SAT tutoring, help with college applications, major planning, scholarship applications. Etc.

-program hosts group activities each month and an end of year retreat. Last year's retreat theme was "health, wellness and safety."

-Rosa Martinez, a past mentor program participant, spoke about her journey within the program.

-graduated from Sonoma State with a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and is now teaching Pre-Calculus and Algebra 2 at Esca High School, her alma mater.

**Interest Groups**

**-Writing Group – Erica Del Rossi**

-quote from Gloria Anzaldua "I write because life does not appease my appetites and anger..to become more intimate with myself and you. To discover myself, to preserve myself, to make myself, to achieve self-autonomy. To dispel the myths that I am a mad prophet or a poor suffering soul...Finally I write

because I'm scared of writing, but I'm more scared of not writing."

-write to learn about ourselves, for self, family and future.

-next meet-up will be October 21<sup>st</sup>, time TBD.

### **Bunco – Bette Outlaw**

-there are two current groups active.

1. meets the last Wednesday of the month at 1 pm, meeting for 20+ years, 2 vacancies

2. meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:15 pm, meeting for 30+ years, 1 vacancy

### **Gourmet Group – Beverly Dierking**

-Currently only one group meeting and has been together for 42 years.

-there are no rules in creating your own group.

-the term "gourmet" can be misleading as not every meet-up is five star recipes. The group is a fun way to get together and share new recipes.

-Bev is happy to host a meetup to foster interests in creating new groups.

### **DEI – Barbara St. Urbain**

-diversity, equity and inclusion

-offers an opportunity to discuss a multitude of topics that fit into the three facets of the name.

-conversations are considered safe spaces and have an expectation of privacy.

-currently working on finding meeting times/places that can be accessible to multiple people in all situations.

### **Book Club "Lite" – Cindy Milford for Pam Mallett-Jones**

-there are no "lesson plans"/planned discussions, even though a book is chosen for each month to start a discussion.

-informal reading group, more about socializing.

### **Brunch Buddies – Gladys Finucane for Peggy Gutierre**

-come together and discuss current events and issues. Topic prompts are provided on tables, participants gather at 3-4 per table and come either use the topics provided or use them as a jumping off point for a different topic. Participants then report to the group with their discussion highlights.

-meetings happen on Saturdays at O'Connor Woods in the mornings.

-currently on hold due to pandemic

### **RIF – Cindy Milford**

-"Reading Is Fundamental," promotes a love of reading in elementary school students.

-committee members: Sharon Mar, Pam Mallett-Jones and Cindy Milford.

-largest non-profit program promoting literacy in the USA that began in the 1960s.

-our branch has been participating since 1978.

-we deliver to four schools in Stockton, twice a year.

### **Book Group – Betty Parsons for Jeanne Gaia**

-monthly get-togethers to discuss books each month

-10-15 people usually attends each month.

-currently inactive due to covid, but looking for someone to take helm and get restarted.

### **Home Tour – Bette Outlaw**

-has been our main fundraiser for 68 years, that averages about \$13,000 each tour.

-unfortunately still due to Covid, we will not be having a home tour this year, in person or virtually.

-this year will be a mailing fundraiser, keep a look out for the invite. Our current mailing list has over 500 people.

-committee is currently working on a donation letter that members can give to their friends/business contacts to solicit donations as well.

Next meeting will be on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Meeting ended at 11:30 am by Sandy Mazzuola.

Submitted by Branch Secretary,  
Jennifer Balestracci



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*Partner*

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# AAUW FUND

## 2022 Fall Luncheon—Covid19 Style!

*Hear women tell how your Fund \$\$\$ have enabled them  
to pursue their post graduate dreams!*

*We'll later invite one to be our virtual or actual June meeting speaker!*

**What:** For the third year, AAUW California is hosting a *virtual* Fellows' Luncheon rather than the in-person event typically attended by numerous Stockton Branch members at Danville's Crow Canyon Country Club. Again, you'll meet several of California's recipients of fellowships and grants for 2022-23 as they describe their backgrounds and explain their respective projects. The 39 presenters will be in four groups with a different set of presenters speaking at each session. (As of Sept. 9, speakers had not yet been assigned to each session.)

**When:** Oct. 15, Sat., 10:00am-12:00pm; Oct. 22, Sat., 10:00am-12:00pm; Oct. 23, Sun., 1:00-3:00pm; Nov. 12, Sat., 10:00am-12:00pm.

**Where:** In the comfort of your own home, sip a hot beverage as you enjoy the inspirational stories of our AAUW scholars.

**Cost:**Free! You will be invited to donate to the AAUW Fund as you register.

### **Registration:**

☞ **Search** for "AAUW-ca 2022 Fund Events" on your computer or phone. **Scroll to "AAUW 2022 Fund Events."** Here's how to register: On the dates you want, respond to "Click HERE to register". Be sure to jot down the webinar ID number for each session for future reference since the session ID numbers are different.

I completed registration for all four sets of speakers and will view those webinars as they become available.

☞ **Reminders:** After registration, you will be sent a Zoom invitation and will also be alerted the day of each session.

☞ **Problems?** Contact the Branch AAUW Fund Chair Cindy Milford at (209) 481-2227 (C) or at [askwhynotnow@gmail.com](mailto:askwhynotnow@gmail.com).

**Your Feedback:** We will try to recruit one of the scholars to speak at our June branch meeting. Please ***note your opinions*** about the presenters based on such elements as \*how well the person held your attention, \*the value of her project, \*how compelling her life journey is, etc. For each session, choose your favorite two or three scholars and send to Cindy by text or e-mail before Thanksgiving. THANKS!





## Membership Application

2022-23

Please complete and return this form with your check (made out to AAUW)  
to Monica Frischkorn, 2811 Wagner Heights Rd. Stockton, A 95209  
Dues \$107 (\$20 local, \$20 state, \$67 national; join at meeting Shape the Future \$73.50)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

College \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) Earned \_\_\_\_\_

Our branch membership directory includes a professional section where you can be listed by your occupation.  
Would you like to be listed in this section? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been a member of AAUW before? Where and for how long? \_\_\_\_\_

### Are you interested in participating in any of these activities?

#### Program Committees

- \_\_\_\_\_ Educational Opportunities
- \_\_\_\_\_ International Affairs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Legal Advocacy Fund
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public Policy

#### Interest Groups

- \_\_\_\_\_ Book Groups
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bunco Groups
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gourmet Groups
- \_\_\_\_\_ Writing Group
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pop Up Group

#### Community Involvement

- \_\_\_\_\_ Essay Competition
- \_\_\_\_\_ Home Tour
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reading is Fundamental
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tech Trek Math and Science Camp
- \_\_\_\_\_ STEM Trek Mentoring Program
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bridge Tournament
- \_\_\_\_\_ Speech Trek

#### Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Communications/ Publicity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Diversity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter
- \_\_\_\_\_ Underwriting/Fundraising

Who referred you to AAUW? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.*

*Thank you for joining the American Association of University Women*

American Association of University Women-Stockton Branch, Inc. P.O. Box 690663 Stockton, CA 95269-0663

AAUW Stockton Branch, Inc.  
DELTA STEAMER  
P.O. Box 690663  
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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.

## *October Calendar*

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Mon	10	6:00pm	October Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sat	15	9:30am	AAUW Stockton October Branch Meeting	Central United Methodist Church
Fri	21	TBD	Writing Group	Erica Del Rossi
Sat	22	10am-12n	AAUW Fund Virtual Luncheon	<a href="#">Online via Zoom</a>
Sun	23	1pm-3pm	AAUW Fund Virtual Luncheon	<a href="#">Online via Zoom</a>