



# LODI BRANCH CORDON

ISSUE 23 DECEMBER 2022– JANUARY 2023  
A LODI AAUW PUBLICATION – CHARTERED IN 1959

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Marne Simpson

It's time to put a great big bow on 2022! The year is nearly all wrapped up, and I am truly looking forward to 2023. We have made so much progress, stretching toward normal after our Covid Pandemic time warp over the past two — wait, is it three — years? We have started several exciting new projects within our branch, and I am truly enjoying the growing relationships that are developing with both new and long-time members I have known for many years. Working side by side has a way of deepening relationships in a way far greater than I had expected. We have such an impressive source of talent and strength in our midst!

I wish you a joyous holiday season and am looking forward to seeing you all at our first meeting of 2023. It is sure to be an inspiration as we enjoy our continued renewal in the year to come.

## DECEMBER NARCISSUS

## JANUARY SNOWDROP



The **narcissus** symbolizes good wishes, faithfulness and respect. In Greek mythology, Narcissus was a beautiful young man who fell in love with his reflection and was transformed into the narcissus flower. Thus, narcissism can describe someone who is full of herself.



The solemn **snowdrop** is a delicate flower—often one of the first to poke through the snow in late winter — that signifies hope and beauty.

## AAUW GENERAL MEETING - TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023

Village Adult Developmental and Community Center, 25 E. Pine St., Lodi

**Social Time:** 6:00pm

**Meeting:** 6:30pm

**Program:** 7:00pm

**Speaker:** Akiliah Manuel Mills  
Director, Lodi Public Library

**Topic:** "Equity, Diversity & Inclusion: The Work of the Public Library"



## MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2022 GENERAL MEETING

Ginny Pelton

The meeting was called to order by President Marne Simpson at 7:39pm.

The minutes from the October general meeting were approved as they appeared in the newsletter.

Marne reported that there is an open position for Program Vice President. Nancy St. Clair was nominated for the position. The vote for this nomination will take place at the next meeting.

The treasurer's report indicated \$11,374.12 in funds. There have been no transactions since the October general meeting.

Linda Hammons reported that we have eighty members.

Nancy reported that next meeting's guest speaker will be Akiliah Manuel Mills, the Director of the Lodi Library. She will speak on the topic of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

The Bunco fundraiser was discussed. Each interest group is responsible for donating two baskets. All members will be given two tickets to sell. The price of the tickets is forty dollars each. Tickets will be given to members at the January meeting. They will be mailed to those not present at the meeting.

Carolyn Ross spoke about some difficulties with gmail. Please let Carolyn know if you are not receiving your newsletter by the end of each month for the following month's edition. Please check that the newsletter is not in your junk or spam mail folders. If so, create an entry for Carolyn Ross in your contacts.

Elena Wong discussed tax write-offs for donations to the Lodi AAUW fund. If interested, please contact Julie Thompson.

Stacey Ardelean spoke about the upcoming Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) meeting. Members were asked to volunteer for a committee to research various sources of DEI information. The committee is currently made up of Stacey Ardelean, Nancy St. Clair, Mary Ann Cox Martin, and Cara Davis.

Marne read a letter from AAUW National asking members to boycott Twitter due to changes made by Elon Musk's takeover of the social media platform. Our branch voted to support the boycott recommendation. Contact Marne if you would like to have a copy of the letter from AAUW National.

After thanking the organizers, cooks, and boutique donors for hosting a lovely Soup, Salad, and Boutique fundraiser for AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), Marne adjourned the meeting.



Carolyn Ross &  
Cara Davis &  
goodies



Élise Forbes &  
D'Arlene Roseneau



Liz Orwin finds a  
boutique treasure



Leigh Ramsey & Pat Druin



Susan Wyckoff



Kathie Mettler,  
Stacey Ardelean, &  
Linda Hammons

### SOUP & SALAD & HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE LAF FUNDRAISER

Event Photos by Suga Moriwaki

## JANUARY MEETING SPEAKER: Akiliah Manuel Mills

Nancy Mellor



Our speaker for the January meeting will be Akiliah (uh-key-luh) Manuel Mills, Director at Lodi Public Library. Akiliah has been actively engaged with underserved and underrepresented communities for 26 years. She has founded as well as worked for grass-roots non profit organizations. In addition to her MLIS, Akiliah has a BA in Psychology with an emphasis on Human Services. She is a Certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor and has trained over 100 library staff in Mental health first aid. She is committed to whole person librarianship, connecting community partners for the good of patrons and equipping librarians for proper handling of critical patron issues.

Today she helps to raise awareness of library services to decarcerated populations by means of an initiative called Ready Access. Her intention is to help the library community share their love and genius!

## BE INFORMED

Margy Gish

Our last two Be Informed meetings were home-oriented. The October meeting was an interesting talk on estate sales and antiques. Linda Sattler suggested Maury and Keith Jacinto as being knowledgeable and helpful for people in the process of moving. They have been holding estate sales for many years as a side business to their teaching careers. They both have had a long and varied interest in antiques, which had a major emphasis on their travels. The meeting proved useful in helping people who have antiques to learn more about them and to make good decisions about what to do with them. It was a fun meeting with many comments, questions, and a great deal of discussion.

In November we went back to Crescent Street for our meeting, and had a different experience regarding homes. Suga Moriwaki and a couple of other members had heard Scott Hamilton discuss his remodeling experiences and research on a house in the older central Lodi neighborhood. Suga thought it would be good program for Be Informed, and she was right. Scott invited us to meet at his renovated home, and his wife graciously provided us with refreshments. He had a wonderful packet prepared that showed the history of the house, along with corresponding Lodi history. He described his first task in having to cart out literally tons of trash. During his work inside the house, he was fortunate to have access to a treasure trove of antiques that he was able to incorporate into the finished project. We were invited to explore throughout the house, and it was just a remarkable and enjoyable experience.

The new year schedule for Be Informed speakers will include:

**January** - Carrie Sass, of Sass Public Relations, who publishes Her Life magazine that we see all over town.

**February** – A trip to the new Access Center for the homeless that Linda Hammons is coordinating for us.

**March** – The effervescent Radhika Rao will share her life story with us.

For now, we will continue to meet at the Partnership for Families building on Pine Street. That has worked out well for us, and we can continue to discuss how long we choose to meet there.

The other upcoming issue is the Bunco fundraiser. Terrie Hedden has graciously volunteered to put the Be Informed contributions together for us. Our theme will be Travel, and we need items or donations from each and all. THANK YOU, Terrie for taking on this task.

On a personal note, most of you know that I have recently moved to O'Connor Woods in Stockton. My new address is 3400 Wagner Heights Road, Stockton 95209. My home phone is no longer accessible, so please use my cell 209-471-3357.

Thank you for all the kind support.

## LUNCH 'n CHAT

**Bobbie Landau**

I did a "trial period" for a 2nd Friday Lunch 'n Chat interest group, and it is now over. Due to unexpected responsibilities, Friday November 11, 2022 was our final meeting. Linda Hammons provided good information on the Lodi Access Center for the homeless. We did the usual: "Saving time, recycling, kitchen doings," which we shared. A special thank you to those who attended. I highly recommend Thai Spices Restaurant at Turner and Lower Sacramento Roads. Great food, Great service and lovely atmosphere.

**Please use Membership Directories to access all personal contact information.**

### DECEMBER 2022 CALENDAR

**December 12 at noon: Toutes les Choses Françaises** members will meet in the parking lot at Tai Spices to carpool to Sacramento. They will have their holiday lunch at Brasserie du Monde.

**December 13 at 12:30pm: Needle Arts** at Élise Forbes' home. It's a potluck to celebrate the season and share ideas. Bring something to work on after lunch.

**December 19 at 1 pm: Book Group** at Karen Ruzak's home. RSVP your attendance to Karen. See you there!

### JANUARY 2023 CALENDAR

**January 5 at 10:00am: Be Informed** at the Partnership for Families, 100 E. Pine Street. Speaker is Carrie Sass, of Sass Public Relations, who publishes Her Life magazine.

**January 10 at 1:00pm: Needle Arts** at Kathy Anderson's home. Bring something to work on and plan to share holiday tales.

**January 11 at 6:30pm: AAUW Board Meeting** at Liz Orwin's home

**January 15 at 1 pm: Book Group** at Nancy Mellor's home. RSVP your attendance to Nancy. See you there!

**January 17 6:30pm: General Meeting** at the Village, 25 E. Pine St., Lodi

**January 19 5:30pm: Girls' Night Out** Location TBA. Hostess: Linda Sattler

**January 23 at 1:30: Toutes les Choses Françaises** at the home of Shara Guerette.

### MORE SOUP & SALAD SUPPER GOOD TIMES



Mary Ann Cox-Martin  
& Kathy Anderson



Nancy Mellor was the  
belle of the boutique



Nancy St Clair, Becky  
Greider & Elena Wong

### MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

**Margy Gish**

Address: 3400 Wagner Heights Rd.  
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Cell: 209-471-3357

