

AAUW Stockton April Program

Saturday, April 15th

San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum @ Micke Grove

Julie Blood, manager of Collections and Exhibitions for the San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum, will give a gallery talk about the Chinese textiles and clothing from the Joseph C. Tope Collection and the Helen & Esther Cone Collection for Stockton AAUW members on Saturday, April 15th.

The program will be held at the museum at Micke Grove, 11793 N. Micke Grove Road, Lodi, and there will be no charge for the event. Coffee and snacks are free. However, there is a \$6 fee for park entrance, and members and guests must pay the entrance fee and so are encouraged to carpool.

These two collections were donated to the San Joaquin County Historical Museum in the 1970s. They include Chinese opera costumes, court robes, skirts, footwear, and hand embroidered panels.

Tope was an attorney in Stockton who traveled extensively throughout the United States and the world, collecting clothing and other objects during his travels. He donated a significant collection of objects to the Museum, including Chinese clothing, in the early to mid-1970s. The Cone sisters traveled widely throughout Asia and Europe. They lived in northeast China for ten years before settling in Lodi. They donated their collection of Chinese clothing to the Museum in 1979.

Julie Blood was born and raised in Vallejo, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in History from Stanislaus State University. She attended Sacramento State University where she received her Master of Arts in Public History, with an emphasis on Museum studies, in 2005. As a grad student, she interned at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum and the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento. She left the Sacramento History Museum and began working for the San Joaquin County Historical Museum as the Collections and Exhibits Manager in 2009.



Place: San Joaquin Historical Society and Museum
11793 N. Micke Grove Road, Lodi

Schedule:

9:30am	Check-in
10:00am	Meeting
10:15am	Program

Cost: No charge! Coffee & snacks are complimentary.
There is a \$6 fee for each car entering Micke Grove Park. Carpooling is encouraged.

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, April 9th

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

President's Message



This morning, March 21st, when I opened the door to let my dog “go potty,” she looked up at me as if to say, “Are you crazy? It’s raining again, and I’m not going out in that!” I couldn’t agree more.

After enduring many years of severe drought, California has finally seemed to have reached a level of precipitation that appears to break the drought. Since the beginning of this year, beginning New Year’s weekend, the state has received nearly 30 inches of rain and more than 600 inches of snow. Both are records. Even areas in southern California and along the coast have received large amounts of rain and snow.

Heavy snow and rain, as well as wind, led to road closures due to fallen trees, avalanches, rockslides, and careless driving by those who were not accustomed to driving in these conditions. Even major roads and highways were closed due to severe weather, leaving many in mountain communities stranded, in many cases with no electricity due to downed power lines, sometimes for days.

The question is: are we out of the drought? The answer is that only time will tell. Will the rain continue into next year? What happens to the snow melt when it occurs? While reservoirs have room and are filling, ground water basins in the Central Valley, where thousands of wells have run dry, are an example of the long-term effects of the drought that can take years to reverse. So much rain has fallen in such a short time that storing the water for the future use is difficult.

I’m certain that most of us, like my dog, are thinking, “enough already!” However, our state government has no clear plan to address our water needs when the next drought occurs, or the one after that. It is necessary to design and build storm water systems capable of capturing runoff for irrigation and drinking water. We can’t control the weather, but we can plan ahead to prepare for what comes next.

Sandra Mazzuola
President



2022-2023

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Welcome

Spring

Mentor Program

We are all still in awe over our trip to see U.C. Merced on March 25th. 12 of our girls made the trip along with Terri Mercer, Rosa Solis, Julie Pichardo and Pam Mallett-Jones. None of us had ever visited that campus before and were all pleasantly surprised at what a fabulous place it was!



Terri Mercer took the lead on the organization of this excursion. The girls met early at Pam's on Saturday morning and piled into cars to make the almost two-hour drive. Upon arrival at UCM the first thing we noticed was that the campus was beautiful with modern buildings that were well thought out for student use. Notably, there was not one piece of litter anywhere! All of the building and landscape were impeccably maintained. It was hard to believe that students actually live there!

KATHLEEN M. SOLARI, CPA

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Our two student guides met us at the Welcome center and took us on a two hour walk around the campus pointing out all the features. They stressed all the fun activities that are available to students as well as the availability of the academic assistance, opportunities and the nurturing environment evident on campus. After our walk back at the Welcome Center our guides answered many questions. Their pride in their school was evident.



Lunch in the university dining room (all-you-can-eat!) we again assembled for the trek home. All mentors report that the girls in their cars were animated and thrilled with the U.C. Merced experience.

Our next activity is on April 29th at the home of Amy Lovett-Cooper who will lead us on an art experience. We are also looking forward to our coding class in May and our graduation celebration in June.



This past week was statewide AAUW Lobby Days, where teams of members and our Gov Trek students were able to promote our organizational stance on certain bills, specifically AB 1394, SB 287, and AB 549:

Thank You, Rotary Read-In Readers!

With the goal of giving free new books to public school classes, volunteer readers descended on 62 schools in Stockton, Lodi, and Manteca on February 23rd at 10am. The 32nd annual Stockton Rotary Read-In was underway!

Stockton Branch AAUW sent its own enthusiastic and well-prepared crew of nine readers to Kennedy Elementary School. Each person shared a new book with an assigned kindergarten through 3rd grade class and presented it to the appreciative students and teacher before departing. With their book gifts, our volunteers supported literacy and bolstered classroom libraries. Thank you, all readers!



(seated, from left) Betty Parsons and Joan Erreca (standing, from left) Kendall Parsons, Pam Mallett-Jones, Amy Cooper, Rosa Solis, Pat Hague, Karen Frank, Erica DeiRossi, and Cindy Milford (solicited readers from AAUW)

AB1394 – This is our co-sponsored bill. It would allow victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking to sue a social media platform for between \$1 million and \$5 million if the victim can prove the platform design knowingly, recklessly or negligently facilitated the use of code words for sexual predators to describe the type of child and the type of sexual activity that resulted in the act of exploitation.

SB287 – Would prohibit a social media platform from using a design, algorithm, or feature that the platform knows, or should know, causes child users to: purchase fentanyl; inflict harm on themselves or others; develop an eating disorder or engage in dangerous dieting; purposely take their own lives; and/or experience addiction to the social media platform. A victim of any of these consequences can sue the platform for up to \$250,000 for each violation.

AB549 – Requires all state agencies to conduct an evaluation of all their departments to ensure the state does not discriminate against women, and report their findings every 2 years.

As a representative of our AAUW branch, I was assigned to be a Team Leader, along with another AAUW member and a Gov Trek student. We had meetings arranged with Senator Susan Eggman and Assembly member Carlos Villapudua to discuss our support of these bills.

I can only imagine the organizational nightmare this statewide event must have been! My team “dissolved” with the withdrawal of the other team members, leaving me as both the member AND the Leader. Several teams had technical difficulties with ZOOM, including mine, and I was never able to meet with Sen. Eggman or her staff. But the following day I met with the Assembly staffers, and after getting through the initial case of nervousness, I actually enjoyed the experience and I would recommend others do this when they have the opportunity.

Karen Frank

48th Annual AAUW Home Tour

Celebrate Spring in Sutter Creek



Tickets available March 15th

Three convenient ways to purchase tickets:

- Online at Brown Paper Tickets: (\$40 +processing fee) at amador-ca.aauw.net/home-tour or scan QR code below
- At the Feed Barn, 11261 Prospect Drive, Jackson: \$40 cash or check only
- Day of the Home Tour: \$45 cash, check or credit card

Proceeds benefit the AAUW Amador (CA) Branch Scholarship Fund. For questions or to purchase tickets visit the Branch website: amador-ca.aauw.net/home-tour or scan the QR code

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Amador AAUW Home Tour is Back

After a three-year hiatus, the Amador Branch of AAUW is excited to announce the return of our popular Home Tour. You are invited to join us on Saturday, April 22nd, 2023, 11am to 4pm to **Celebrate Spring in Sutter Creek** while taking a stroll through this historic gold rush town to view five beautiful homes and several interesting historical sites. Put on your walking shoes and bring your friends to enjoy a day out in the heart of the Gold Country. Sutter Creek offers great restaurants, boutiques, antique stores and wine tasting rooms. Make a weekend of it and stay in one of many local overnight accommodations.

Home Tour tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 on site the day of the Tour. Tickets may be purchased online on the AAUW Homepage or the Home Tour page through Brown Paper Tickets (\$40 plus a processing fee). Tickets will be available locally at the Feed Barn in Martell (cash or check only) and on Tour Day at the Home Tour Tea located at the Creekside Methodist Church.

The link to purchase tickets and find more information is:

<https://amador-ca.aauw.net/home-tour/>

We are expecting a beautiful spring day on April 22nd and look forward to meeting AAUW members from other Branches.

Sue Harrington
Publicity

Directory update:

Please make the following addition to your Directory:

Please welcome our latest new member and add her information to your Directory:.

Donna Fletcher
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WHERE THE RIF BOOKS ARE!

Most of you know...

...that a point of pride for our branch is that we manage the national literacy program Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) for our community. Branch members fund book purchases via individual donations and the Community Outreach budget. Membership also generates AAUW/RIF Liaisons and distribution volunteers for each of the four RIF schools at one to two book-distribution events annually.

But do you know...

...where students actually handle and examine the tempting RIF titles at each of the campuses? Let's peek at the four different types of places where hundreds of enticing books await the visit of K-6 grade students to select their free new books.

We're using the example of school year 2022-2023 to learn...

WHERE THE RIF BOOKS ARE!

GRUNSKY ELEMENTARY:

A spacious setting for a RIF distribution was the multi-purpose room at Grunsky Elementary School on September 29th, 2022. AAUW/RIF Liaison Pam Mallett-Jones used the vast area to display hundreds of books for K-6th graders with assistance from AAUW Volunteer Joan Erreca.



5th graders cheer for their RIF book selection experience. As in all RIF distributions, they were able to explore titles of any reading level.



Grunsky 3rd graders check out fiction and non-fiction volumes, seeking that perfect book while a teacher looks on.

ONE.CHARTER ELEMENTARY:

The small One.charter Elementary, formerly the TLC School, enjoyed its pre-holiday RIF book distribution in a multiple use class/lunch room. AAUW/RIF Liaison Cindy Milford arranged for the fun to happen on December 13th, 2022, with assistance from AAUW Volunteers Karen Frank and Jan Vernor-Howard. Students who were absent due to illness or family holiday travel still received a RIF book. Their teachers selected books for the missing children, honoring their preferences. This occurs in all RIF schools so absent children won't miss getting a RIF book.



Jan and Karen sit with the K-3 students as they examine or show their new books.



4th-6th graders join their teacher as they display their new books. In the shopping bags (like the younger class also had) are notepads, pencils, greeting cards, and calendars —all attractive tools to increase student literacy.

KENNEDY ELEMENTARY:

The RIF book distribution at Kennedy Elementary, managed by AAUW/RIF Liaison Cindy Milford, occurred on February 16th and 17th, 2023, in the beautiful school library. AAUW Volunteers included Karen Frank, Joan Erreca, Ronda Sanders, and Carolyn Wischhusen.



Carolyn assists 4th graders as they select books from the Fantastic Fiction table. Realistic Fiction and Non-fiction books were also available on other tables. All RIF distributions offer a similarly wide selection of titles.



These Transitional Kindergarteners excitedly show off their new books before returning to class.

VAN BUREN ELEMENTARY:

An empty Van Buren Elementary classroom became the RIF distribution center on March 3rd and 21st, 2023. AAUW/RIF Liaison Sharon Marr managed the event with help from AAUW Volunteers Jan Vernor-Howard and Joan Erreca.



1st graders display their RIF selections before taking them back to their room to enjoy.



5th graders gather around one of the tables filled with inviting books.



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

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Is Fundamental
RIF.org

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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.

April Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Sun	9	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Mon	10	6:00pm	AAUW Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sat	15	9:30am	April Program	San Joaquin County Historical Museum @ Micke Grove