

AAUW's Annual Spring Social

Wednesday, May 17th

Venetian Gardens Clubhouse, 1555 Mosaic Way, Stockton

We gather for a fun evening this month for AAUW's Annual Spring Social. On Wednesday, May 17th, join us at the newly-renovated Venetian Gardens Clubhouse and Golf Course. We'll enjoy hearty hors d'oeuvres and festive alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages. Surprise fun and games and the honoring of our new members will be featured. AAUW has been granted permission to play on the practice putting green, so bring a putter and a golf ball if you like. Bring a friend!

Place: Venetian Gardens Clubhouse
1555 Mosaic Way, Stockton

Schedule:

5:30pm Check-in

Menu: Hot and Cold Hors D'oeuvres; Beer, Wine,
Sodas, Water; Desserts

Cost: \$25 (Covers Room Rental, Food, Beverages
And New Members as Honored Guests).

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, May 14th

Connect with Your Caller,

Or Contact Betty Parsons, Reservation Chair

@ (408) 309-8958 or bjpars_95120@yahoo.com

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID



President's Message

They Did What??

*"A fool can criticize, condemn and complain—
and most fools do."* Ben Franklin

In recent weeks, news media have reported on several examples of what can be considered foolish behavior. Some appear to be more foolish than others. Two examples follow.

First, there is the quandary over Michelangelo's statue of David. A charter **ART** school in Tallahassee, Florida, recently became news after parents complained about the inclusion of a photo of the famous nude statue in a sixth-grade art history class. Even though this statue continues to be viewed by thousands of visitors to Florence, Italy each year as a masterpiece of Renaissance Art, some parents considered the statue to be pornographic. As a result of the complaints, the principal was forced to resign. Parents were upset about not being given advance notice that their child would be exposed to such a controversial topic and picture. The Academia Gallery in Florence went so far as to invite the parents, the students, and the principal to come to see the 17-foot statue in person. (The saying is that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Apparently, so is pornography).

A second example of foolish behavior raises the question of whether free speech is protected in the Tennessee legislature. After a mass shooting in a Nashville school in which six people, including three children were killed, three Tennessee House members, all Democrats, interrupted the proceedings as a reaction to the legislators' reluctance to do more than offer "empty thoughts" and "ineffective prayers." Using a bull horn to disrupt the meeting and to voice their opinions on the matter, the three were deemed to be in violation of House rules. The Republican super majority voted to expel the two Black members who had participated in the protest. (Their white colleague was NOT expelled. Hmm?) Fortunately, the vote backfired. People in Tennessee and across the country were outraged by the treatment of these duly elected legislators and the obvious racial bias that was exhibited. The two expelled members have since been reinstated, and all three have been invited to the White House to meet President Biden. That this unseemly action by the majority legislators ever happened is shameful, or, at least, it should be.

These are only two examples of the levels of folly to which some have fallen. Stay tuned for more as there seems to be an epidemic, unfortunately, and I really don't think it's funny as these are attacks on basic liberties. I hope we stem this tide much more quickly than we did COVID.

Sandra Mazzuola
President



2022-2023

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empowering women since 1881

Mentor Program

There are so many talented people in the Stockton branch of AAUW! Some are gifted musically while others turn thoughts into books. Some can capture beauty through a camera lens while some are able to whip up a 5 course meal seemingly effortlessly. We have a few fabulous artists who are able to make a canvas come to life with paint strokes or turn a ball of yarn into a scarf. We have the crafty folks that can turn discarded "stuff" into art. Luckily for the girls in the mentor program, member Amy Lovett Cooper was willing to open her home and lead our girls on a creative adventure. With assistance from Amy's friend, Christi, the girls were led through the many steps to creating mosaic designs with several different materials including glass on river rocks.

Over the course of 4 hours on a warm April Saturday the girls paid rapt attention to Amy and Cristi and were proud of their finished products. Many of the girls are planning to give their moms their creations for Mother's Day! A birthday celebration for Mrs. Paula (Almaas) capped off a great day!

This activity is another example of how branch members can support our program without actually being a mentor. Do YOU have a skill to share with our girls? Contact Pam Mallett-Jones.

We have a packed few months ahead with a Coding Class in May, a party for our graduates in June and our summer retreat in July. Watch this space for more news.



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





On Friday, March 31st, members of AAUW Stockton joined with members from Delta Kappa Gamma, Tau Chapter, and Olli of Pacific to go to the Pride Center where they heard a presentation on the LBGQTIA+ community by Jonathan Lopez, the manager of the Center. Jonathan kept the attention of all of us as he beautifully told us about the community of which he is a part. For ninety minutes, he had our full attention as we learned the current state of the queer community in Stockton and the country. He also told us of all the services that are offered to that community through the Pride Center and there are many. Jonathan extended an invitation to our entire branch to visit the Pride Center, Tuesday through Friday, at 937 N. Yosemite in Stockton.

The last thing that Jonathan told us was that he is a professional Drag Queen. When asked where he performs, he told us that he performs on the third Sunday of each month at the Drag Brunch at the AVE on Pacific Avenue. Hence, many of us decided to visit the AVE on April 16th where we had a wonderful time. You might want to visit the AVE at one of their future Drag Brunches if you are looking for a fun place to go. Just remember to bring a lot of dollar bills with you. You'll see why. Have fun and tell Jonathan "hello" for us.

The renewals went out on April 25th. Your current membership expires on June 30th. As I mentioned previously, National AAUW increased their portion of the dues by \$5, making their dues \$72, and state and branch dues remained at \$20, so the total is now \$112.

We have a number of members who have paid Lifetime dues to National, so they only pay \$40. I am looking forward to receiving all the renewals by June 30th so we can process them in a more timely period. Appreciate it if you would sit right down and write that check upon receiving the renewal. I know how easily they can get misplaced or lost. Reminder to write a **separate** check for donations and indicate in the memo section which program(s) you wish to support.

It is important that everyone update the "profile" data in order for us to keep our files and the Directory current.

Thank you,
Bette Outlaw

Directory update:

Please make the following change to your Directory:

Change of email for Kathleen Moody:

kathmoody03@gmail.com

KATHLEEN M. SOLARI, CPA

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AAUW 2023 Scholarship Recipients

Each year, the Stockton Branch of AAUW awards three scholarships to Delta College women who have met the following requirements: attended college for two years, maintained a minimum of 3.50 GPA, and transferring to a four-year university in the fall as a fulltime student. Thanks in large part to the generosity of our branch members, we are able to award each of our recipients a \$2,000 scholarship for the 7th year in-a-row.

The AAUW Scholarship Committee met and carefully narrowed 61 applications down to the three top recipients. Carolyn Wischhusen has continued to serve on the AAUW Scholarship Selection Committee for the past seven years. This year, Jennifer Balestracci joined the committee and offered some fresh ideas. Thank you to Carolyn and Jennifer for their help in choosing the following 2023 AAUW Scholarship Recipients!

- **Malia Allen** will attend CSU Stanislaus, majoring in Kinesiology, and plans to earn a master's degree. Her career goal is to become an Athletic Trainer for a sports team, at the high school or collegiate level, or for a sports organization.
- **Angelina Frediani** will attend UC Davis, majoring in Political Science, and plans to pursue a graduate degree in International Relations. Her career goal

is to become a Political Health Analyst for the Center for Disease Control.

- **Hannah Salas** will attend UC Davis, majoring in Psychology. She plans to pursue her education to reach her a career goal to become a Therapist and/or Counselor and lead programs involving grief counseling and coping skills.

Our AAUW scholarship recipients have been invited to attend as guests at the June 10th AAUW Branch meeting at Central Methodist Church. Please join us to welcome and congratulate these amazing young women, and hear their inspiring stories.

(Note: Delta College awards our AAUW scholarship funds after they receive confirmation from the recipient's university that she is attending as a full-time student in the fall 2023 semester (\$1,000) and spring semester 2024 (\$1,000).

Beverley Dierking
AAUW Scholarship Chairperson



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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.

May Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Sun	14	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Mon	15	6:00pm	AAUW Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Wed	17	5:30pm	AAUW's Annual Spring Social	Venetian Gardens Clubhouse