

## Welcome Back!

### Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### Central United Methodist Church

Welcome back! The 2024-2025 AAUW branch meeting calendar is set. Members and guests can look forward to a variety of engaging and informative programs which include a joint meeting with League of Women Voters San Joaquin County, our second "Thanks for Giving" fundraising tea and the return of the holiday brunch at Brookside Country Club.

We begin on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at Central United Methodist Church. We'll hear from the Tech Trek girls who attended Tech Trek camp this summer. You will also hear from leaders of a variety of interest groups that you may want to join. Come and learn how you can help with refreshments at branch meetings and volunteer in a number of ways for the "Thanks for Giving" fundraising tea in November.

See you on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Bring a friend!

**When:** Saturday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am

**Where:** Central United Methodist Church

**Schedule:**

9:30am Check In, Refreshments, Meet and  
Greet, Peruse Information Displays  
10:15am Meeting Begins - Announcements,  
Welcome of Guests, Program

**Cost:** \$10

**Reservation Deadline:** Wednesday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>

Call or Text Reservation Chair Betty Parsons  
@ (408) 309-8958 to Make a Reservation  
[bjpars\\_95120@yahoo.com](mailto:bjpars_95120@yahoo.com)

**A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID**

# President's Message



To paraphrase President Kennedy: "Ask not what AAUW can do for you; ask what you can do for AAUW."

As we begin a new year of Branch meetings and activities, I encourage all members to understand that an organization is only as strong as the dedication and involvement of its membership. Although many members have numerous commitments to family, friends, and employers, please think about what you can do to become a more active member of AAUW.

For example, are you aware of the many interest groups that are a part of our organization? Do you like to write? You might like to be a part of a writing group. If you enjoy reading and discussion, one of the book groups might be for you. Maybe our gourmet or Bunco groups would interest you. A fun activity is our "Saturday Wisdom Circle," which meets monthly at O'Connor Woods, in which we have a lively discussion to solve the world's problems, sort of. Our Reading is Fundamental program, in which members order and distribute books to several elementary schools, can always use assistance, and our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion discussion group would welcome new members to enrich our program.

Our first Branch meeting will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about these programs and to sign up for any that interest you.

For those looking for even more involvement, we have two positions that need to be filled. If you like taking photos and compiling scrapbooks, we need a new historian. Joan Erreca, who held this position for many years, will be available to help you. The other position would be appropriate for someone with persuasive people skills and community contacts to approach individuals and businesses to ask them to place ads in the STEAMER which would support our operating budget. If you are interested in either position, text me or let me know at our September Branch meeting.

I hope many of you will attend our first meeting and will take advantage of this opportunity to become a more active participant in our outstanding organization. See you there.

Sandra Mazzuola  
President

## 2023-2024 Elected Board of Directors

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Barbara Nash

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Amy Lovett-Cooper

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### Financial Vice President

Donna Hammel

### Membership Treasurers

Claudia Mennuti

Bette Outlaw

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Sue Kenmotsu

Karen Frank

### Public Policy Chair

Karen Frank

### Branch Website:

Sue Kenmotsu

[aauwstockton.org](http://aauwstockton.org)

### Delta Steamer

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### Editor

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# Mentor Program

The Mentor Program took off the month of July - except for helping our graduates negotiate everything that has to be done to get ready for college this school year, and keeping contact with the remaining girls in the group.



On August 10<sup>th</sup> we all met on the lawn at O'Connor Woods (thank you Gladys Finucane!) for our annual Welcome Activity. All four Tech Trek Campers joined us! Credit goes to our current girls who made them feel welcome and really "talked up" our program. This year's seniors led the ice breaker activities and the bonding has begun! We are still working on our ONE WORD project and the "old" girls helped the new girls discover their word. Terri Mercer and Jennifer Gray-Rieber took some time with our seniors to slog through the application process for the Questbridge Scholarship program, which matches students with top-notch universities across the country.



The mentors (Pam Mallett-Jones, Julie Pichardo, Terri Mercer, Rosa Solis, Leslie Cazares,

Jessica Lopez, Jennifer Gray-Rieber) welcomed Samantha Johnson to our roster. Samantha promises to be a valuable addition to our group. We all met via Zoom on August 13<sup>th</sup> to plan for the upcoming academic year. Great things are in store for the girls in the Mentor Program this year! Watch this space for updates!



Member Joan Erreca has taken on the daunting task of soliciting funds through letters to the community. Community members, foundations and businesses will be asked to donate to fund the Mentor Program which will free up funds for the branch to support other community outreach programs. While we understand that all members are not able to donate themselves, all members are asked to let Joan know of any businesses, organizations, foundations or individuals who might wish to donate to our program. You may stay anonymous, the "lead" is all Joan needs to proceed. Please contact her at [recaj2@gmail.com](mailto:recaj2@gmail.com).





## Join our AAUW groups!

Have you thought about joining one of our AAUW interest groups? Our interest groups will have display tables and sign-up sheets at our September 7<sup>th</sup> Branch Meeting. Remember, if we're not currently offering a group for something you are interested in, we can start a new group.

Earlier this year, I featured a different interest group each month in the Delta Steamer. These articles described each group and highlighted some of their activities. In addition, these articles provided an opportunity for some members to share their personal experiences with their groups. I will focus on the remaining interest groups in the fall issues

We have an amazing group of interest groups, a little something for everyone. Don't miss out!

Anita Bautista, Director at Large

## Here's the listing of our Stockton Branch Groups:

### "Write On,"

Contact: Erica Dei Rossi, [\(209\) 565-5667](tel:(209)565-5667)

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI),

Contact: Barbara St. Urbain, [\(209\) 603-5365](tel:(209)603-5365)

### Gourmet Group,

Contact: Beverly Dierking, [\(209\) 474-8532](tel:(209)474-8532)

### Bunco Group,

Contact: Barbara Bahler, [\(209\) 957-2474](tel:(209)957-2474)

### Saturday Wisdom Circle,

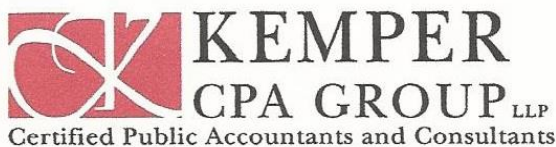
Contact: Amy Lovett-Cooper, [\(209\) 373-8606](tel:(209)373-8606)

### Book Lite Club,

Contact: Pam Mallett-Jones, [\(209\) 938-8246](tel:(209)938-8246)

Hi, everyone. If you are like me, your head has been spinning all summer long with what has been going on in this country. Whether it has been women's rights, rights of the LBGQTIA community, what can and cannot be taught in our public schools, the mixing of church and state, the incivility in our politics, the ups and downs of our political parties, support for warring countries by the US, racism in athletics, who can compete as a woman in the Olympics and more and more and more. If these topics are of interest to you and you want to either share your thoughts or learn from others or quite possibly even do both, THEN come join our **DEI Discussion Group on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month from 4:30-6:00 on Zoom.**

Since so many of our members are also in DKG, they will continue to join us for these thought-provoking discussions. All ideas are welcome. What is said in our Discussion Group stays in our Discussion Group. Of course, what we learn can be shared but we respect the privacy of who shared their thoughts. The Zoom link and a reminder will be sent out each week prior to our meetings. All are welcome.



**Christine Franklin, CPA**  
Partner

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## Save the Date!

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Thanks for Giving Tea is scheduled for Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Watch for ticket purchase information coming soon.

# AAUW Welcomes Current and Past Scholarship Recipients

At the June Branch meeting, our members enjoyed the opportunity to hear the inspiring stories and appreciation for their scholarships from our two 2024 recipients Jennyfer Camacho and Hajra Amad (*read by Jen Balestracci in her absence*). As spring graduates from Delta College, they will continue their higher education at their chosen universities this fall. They are both amazing, accomplished young women, and we know they will continue to excel in their respective fields of Chemical Engineering and Molecular Biology.



*2021 AAUW Scholarship Recipient-Anna Mathews*

Also at our branch meeting, our 2021 scholarship recipient, Anna Mathews, updated our members about her educational path and career. In May 2023, Anna graduated summa cum laude from the University of San Francisco with a B.A. in Politics and minor in Legal Studies. She is currently working as the Advocacy Manager of the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, where Anna represents community college faculty and students to the state legislature. She has the privilege and honor of advocating for community colleges in her daily work, and gets to teach faculty and students how to advocate for themselves.

I want to thank AAUW for the opportunity to serve as your Scholarship Chair for the past 11

years, and to all those who served on my selection committee, especially Carolyn Wischhusen (7 years) and Jen Balestracci (2 years). We are so proud of all our scholarship recipients that we selected, and wish them well as they complete their higher education and pursue their amazing careers.

Beverley Dierking



*2024 Scholarship Committee and Recipients-Bev Dierking, (photo of Hajra Amed), Jennyfer Camacho, and Jennifer Balestracci*

## ✂ Directory update:

Please add the following **New Member** to your Directory:

### **Welcome to AAUW:**

**Kerry Klocke**

3740 Hatchers Circle

Stockton, CA 95219

Cell: (209) 483-7725

E-Mail: [kjklocke@gmail.com](mailto:kjklocke@gmail.com)

Grad School: Michigan State Univ./UOP



# Public Policy Update

[One of AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities](#) is to promote women in Leadership positions, so it is a pleasure to report that Claudia Goldin, 77, is the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Economics without men as collaborators and the third woman to win overall. She was also the first woman to be offered tenure in Harvard's economics department, in 1989.

Dr. Goldin's Nobel-winning study focuses on causes of the gender wage gap, the evolution of women's participation in the job market over the past 200 years, and the implications for the future of the labor force. [In a paper in the National Bureau of Economic Research](#), Goldin writes that, "the golden era of American women's rights lasted from 1963 to 1973." Of the 155 important moments for advancement of women, 45% took place in those years during which women changed from having jobs to pursuing careers. [This one factor is "among the grandest advances in society", according to Dr. Goldin.](#)

However, her work also focuses on the work that we still have to do to continue to advance.

[Another AAUW Public Policy Priority](#) is Economic Security for all women including equity in the workplace, enforcement of workplace anti-discrimination statutes, access to job training for career development, and work-life balance, including access to quality affordable childcare and paid sick and care-giving leave. These are exactly the factors studied by Dr. Goldin to understand why U.S. women earn \$.80 for every dollar a man makes, why men's wages are higher than women's in the same occupation, and why women lag behind men in the top jobs.

"Women are now more educated than men," [Goldin told the Associated Press](#). "They graduate from college at much higher rates than men. They do better in high school than men do. So why are there these differences?"

In the first half of the 20th century, laws limited women's ability to work [when married](#) or [pregnant](#). In the second half of the century, birth control, later marriages and education resulted in [substantial progress for women in the labor market](#). However, a gender

gap persists into the present day—a gap that is compounded by additional factors, such as class, race, ethnicity, and ability. Dr. Goldin's research shows that, when gender is the primary factor for consideration, parenthood and lack of childcare are the main factors contributing to the ongoing pay gap. As women are normally expected to shoulder caregiving responsibilities in the home, this pay gap begins a year or two after a woman's first child is born. And yet, since the Comprehensive Child Development Act was vetoed by President Nixon in 1971, an act which would have created a national daycare program, consistent and affordable access to quality child care options remains elusive for most American families. While Goldin's research is not focused on solutions to entrenched problems related to gender and labor, [other economists note the importance of her work](#) for better understanding these issues, which is a critical step for creating meaningful social and legal change.

*Written by Nancy Major, member of AAUW California Public Policy Committee, submitted by KAREN FRANK, Public Policy Committee Chair, AAUW-Stockton.*

As another wonderful year of AAUW activities begins, this is a gentle reminder that your callers will be contacting you soon to introduce themselves and ask how you'd like to be contacted throughout the year. We love seeing you at branch meetings and your callers will help make this happen. We really appreciate it when you send your caller a timely "Yes" or "No" response to her/his call.

Please plan to look at your 2024/2025 Directory which should be arriving soon and find your callers name near the front of the booklet.

The Directory also lists future branch meetings to help you in planning your social calendar. Each month please respond promptly to her/his call or email so she/he will know whether or not you will be attending the meeting. Looking forward to seeing you throughout the year.

*Thank you*



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## ***In Case You Missed the June Meeting...***

A traditional and exciting feature of our last meeting of the year is the revealing of our Named Gift Honorees. These are the branch members who have performed extraordinary service to our AAUW branch in the past, especially during the previous calendar year. For every \$750 contributed to the AAUW Fund in that year, our branch may honor one member for service to the branch by making the contribution in that member's name as a Named Gift Award. (See the complete list of honorees at the front of our branch directory.) Stockton Branch calls these helpful hymenoptera our Wonder Bees.

At last June's meeting, we honored two such bees for the 2023 calendar year. Our colony's AAUW Fund Chair Cindy Milford shared hints about each bee's personal life, talents, activities, and positions, then the hive buzzed with guesses about that Wonder Bee's identity. That morning, Wonder Bee #2 was outside the hive assisting with a young women's activity (where else?) so will receive her framed certificate from AAUW-National and a very special embroidered towel (above this article) at our September 7 meeting. These gifts will long remind our two bees of how much they are appreciated. Their persistence in doing their tasks and their dedication to equity for women and girls have helped our colony thrive. Even if you attended the June meeting, do revisit the following tributes to our Wonder Bees!

**Wonder Bee # 1** flew with her family from their Arkansas hive to Southern California then pursued her studies at CSU Chico and at CSU San Jose where she earned her teaching credential. She taught 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade American History for over 34 years. Along the way she met and married another teacher with whom she recently celebrated 55 years of marriage, the last 20 of which have been in Stockton. Her family is very dear to her as evidenced by her traveling each week for years to her daughter's Mill Valley home to spend two days caring for her two granddaughters.

in 2010, this Wonder Bee landed in Stockton AAUW's hive, became acquainted with opportunities to serve, and then in the last six years really got involved in the **work AND the fun of the colony**. During that time, she led her husband into AAUW membership.

**Work?** In the Pre-Covid Home Tours of 2018 and 2019, our Wonder Bee shouldered Head Hostess duties where she showed her strong work ethic, organizational skills, and sociability. In Post-Pandemic years, she and her husband have participated in each annual Rotary Read-In. From 2021 to the present, she has accepted the challenge of being the Reservations Chair, a role that requires communication skills, ease with math, and social gifts including patience while interacting with callers and meeting attendees—almost every month!

**Fun?** She is known for her hosting talents which she has used especially with two groups. One is the AAUW Board for which she has hosted several work-focused retreats in a pleasant setting. The other is the Mentor Group for which she has prepared holiday meals and organized swim parties and other activities. She declares that she loves using her food preparation and decorating skills for AAUW activities which, in turn, contribute to equity for women and girls, a very satisfying outcome indeed! One of her colony-mates reminds us that this Wonder Bee is a member of a branch book group Book Club Light, another opportunity for camaraderie in the hive.

**Devotion to family and young people in general, a friendly nature, the willingness to work hard for the colony, attention to detail, and reliability in doing her monthly Reservations Chair duties—These qualities belong to Wonder Bee #1, Betty Parsons!**

**Wonder Bee #2** reveres her Chinese heritage, but surprisingly, she is fluent in Spanish because she was raised in Panama! After applying to colleges in the States, our then-17-year-old Wonder Bee-to-Be chose to study at USF where she met her future husband. The couple settled in Stockton, and our bee began a 28-year career at State Fund. AAUW colony bee Paula Almaas, a Fund co-worker, recalls how for three years our bee worked on her Masters in Social Work via a new CSU Stanislaus program—after doing her day job at State Fund! She and her husband raised two sons and a daughter who have added four grandchildren to the family.

**Inside the Hive:** In 2013, our Wonder Bee winged into the AAUW hive where she quickly got involved in the work of the colony. Pre-Pandemic, she was Head Hostess for the Home Tour three times, and post-Pandemic, she has shared books with classes during each annual Rotary Read-In. She labored tirelessly in the kitchen during our AAUW Thanks for Giving Tea. Our bee joined STEM Trek and the Mentor Group where she is typically available to transport mentees to and supervise them during activities like Dinner with the Scientists. She uses her numerous local contacts to promote opportunities for mentees' service projects such as creating food baskets for LULAC. Her expertise in Spanish aids communication between several mentees' family members and the mentors.

**Outside the Hive:** This bee shows a devotion to community service. She has been deeply involved in Hospice of San Joaquin, including being President of the Hospice Butterfly Auxiliary. In 2008, she and her husband were awarded the Judges' Award of Excellence from the S.J. Council of Governments for dedication to the S.J. Regional Community. In 2018 she was honored with the Susan B. Anthony Award for Community Service. Her recently embraced outlets for service include membership in Junior League of San Joaquin and being an advisor for Eleanor by Women United.

**She is described by fellow worker bees as dependable, hard-working, compassionate--the iconic "volunteer" who sincerely wants to help others and does so effectively. This valued member of our AAUW Colony is Wonder Bee #2, Rosa Solis!**

**Thank you, Wonder Bees, for your willing service to the AAUW Stockton Colony!**



# Proposed Operating Budget 2024-2025

Branch members will vote on our 2024-2025 Operating and Community Outreach Fund budgets at the September meeting.

Operating Revenues			
Dues (130 x \$20)	\$2,600.00		
Steamer Ads	\$225.00		
Monthly Program	\$6,500.00		
Interest + Donations	\$5.00		
General Fundraisers	\$950.00		
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$10,280.00</b>		
Operating Expenses		Proposed 501(c)(3) Budget 24-25	
Administrative Expenses		COF Revenues	
President	\$100.00	Account balance July 1, 2024	\$73,068.11
Treasurer/Financial Secretary	100.00	Donations	\$6,225.00
Bank Fees	\$75.00	Fundraiser/Opportunity Drawing	\$10,000.00
Secretary	100.00	<b>Total COF Revenues + Balances</b>	<b>\$89,293.11</b>
Historian (photos)	0	COF Expenses	
Insurance	\$725.00	RIF Books	\$5,500.00
Bylaws	\$30.00	RIF—Other expenses	0
Tax Prep & Filing Fees	\$225.00	STEM/Mentor	\$7,000.00
Bulk Mail Postage	\$700.00	Essay Contest Awards	\$450.00
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>\$2,055.00</b>	Essay Contest Other Expenses	\$75.00
Membership Expenses		Tech Trek (\$900 x 3)	\$2,700.00
Membership Treasurer	\$200.00	Tech Trek—Other Expenses	\$186.00
Directory	\$400.00	Speech Trek Awards	\$600.00
Membership	100.00	Speech Trek—Other Expenses	\$100.00
New Members	100.00	NCCWSL	0
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	Delta Scholarships (\$2,000 x 3)	\$6,000.00
Leadership Development Expenses		Art Contest Awards	0
Association Convention	0	Art Contest—Other Expenses	0
CA Convention/Leadership Dev.	0	Shared Admin Exp. (Storage, SD Box)	\$1,600.00
Board Retreats (2)	\$100.00	Tax Prep & Filing Fees	\$225.00
<b>Total Leadership Development</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	Other COF Expenses	0
Publicity Expenses		<b>Total COF Expenses</b>	<b>\$24,436.00</b>
Delta Steamer/Labels	0	COF Reserve	\$64,857.11
Discover	\$150.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$89,293.11</b>
Web site	\$300.00		
Commission on Status of Women	\$175.00	AAUW Fund (Formerly EF + LAF)	
Trivia Bee-Festival of Trees	\$50.00	Fund Balance + Revenues	
<b>Total Publicity</b>	<b>\$675.00</b>	Fund Account Balance July 1, 2024	\$836.73
Program Expenses		Expected Fund Donations	\$300.00
College & University	\$100.00	<b>Total Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,136.73</b>
Public Policy/DEI	0		
International Affairs	0	Fund Expenses	
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	To AAUW Fund	\$300.00
Monthly Meeting Expenses		Annual Branch Assessment	\$65.00
Programs/Meetings	\$6,500.00	Other Fund Expenses	\$35.93
Reservations	\$50.00	<b>Total Fund Expenses</b>	<b>\$400.93</b>
<b>Total Monthly Meetings</b>	<b>\$6,550.00</b>	Reserve	\$735.80
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$10,280.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,136.73</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,280.00</b>		

AAUW Stockton Branch, Inc.  
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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.

## *September Calendar*

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Wed	4	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Sat	7	9:30am	AAUW Sept. Program: Welcome Back!	Central United Methodist Church
Mon	9	6:00pm	September Board Meeting	Online via Zoom