

Celebrate the Season

Saturday, December 21st, 2024

Brookside Country Club

Back by popular demand! AAUW Stockton Branch will gather for a festive holiday brunch at Brookside Country Club on Saturday, December 21st. Join us at 9:30am to celebrate the season. Enjoy the company of AAUW members and friends. Members of the fabulous Stockton Soul group will provide the musical entertainment.

When: Saturday, Dec. 21st, 9:30am

Where: Brookside Country Club

Menu: Seasonal Fruit

Buttermilk Biscuits with Honey and Sweet Butter

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs with Green Onion and Tomato

Herb Roasted Red Potatoes

Sausage and Cherry Wood Bacon

Assorted Juices and Coffee

Hosted Self-Serve Mimosa Station

Cost: \$50 (Includes Room Rental, Food and Beverages,
Centerpieces and Entertainment)

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, Dec. 8th

Call or Text Reservation Chair Betty Parsons

@ (408) 309-8958 to Make a Reservation

bjpars_95120@yahoo.com

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID

President's Message



2024-2025

Elected Board of Directors

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Sandra Mazzuola

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Barbara Nash

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Ronda Sanders

Amy Lovett-Cooper

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Diane Oren

Financial Vice President

Donna Hammel

Membership Treasurers

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Bette Outlaw

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Sue Kenmotsu

Karen Frank

Public Policy Chair

Karen Frank

Branch Website:

Sue Kenmotsu

aauwstockton.org

Delta Steamer

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Editor

John Milford

studio@prodgod.com

(209) 952-0547

Aah, December! The year is almost over, and what a tumultuous year it has been! The major news events, of course, focused on the presidential election, which was quite divisive and mean-spirited. It's finally over, and, whether you're happy with the result or not, (I am not!) we have to move on and try to pick up the pieces. The time between the results of the election and the inauguration should provide a cooling off period. We know that this time there will be a peaceful transfer of power.

December offers all of us the opportunity to mend fences, join with friends and family for holiday observances, and, basically, wind down our emotional turmoil. It is this "most wonderful time of the year" that should provide us with positivity going forward into the New Year. Just be careful not to overstress yourself. Try not watching the news.

There are many things we can look forward to. Firstly, "Wicked" is opening in the theaters. Also, Taylor Swift is still performing in the "Eras" tour. There will be parades, parties, sappy holiday movies, and genuine hope for peace on earth, eventually.

This time abounds with so many holidays in our "beautiful mosaic" of a country that it should make it possible for us to put at least some of the vitriol of 2024 behind us. Let's hope and pray that 2025 will be better than most of us fear. Remember we have the ways and means to prevent the worst of our fears from becoming reality. Be vigilant but trust the system to work as it has for more than 200 years.

Have a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Sandra Mazzuola
President

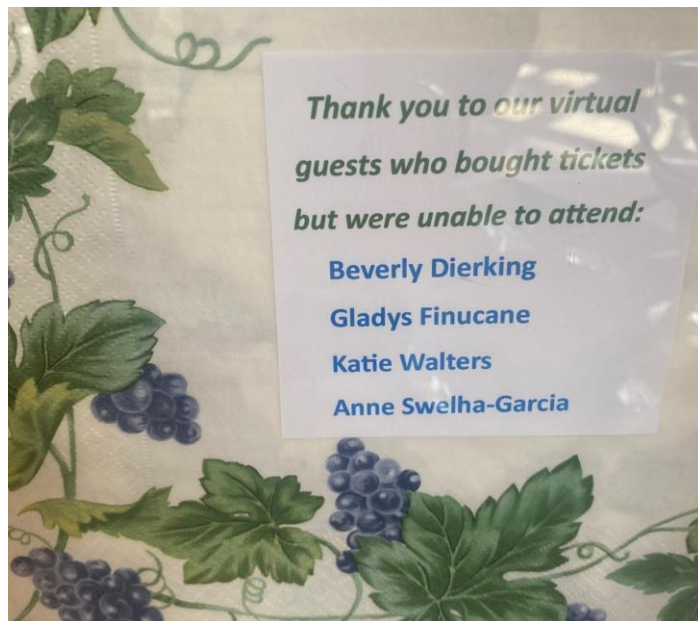


Mentor Program

We certainly hope that you enjoyed meeting our girls in the Mentor Program at the Tea. If you did, you now know why we do what we do! We are so grateful to all of those who donate to our program. Your generosity allows us to give these girls experiences that they would otherwise not have. For instance, On October 30 our girls had the opportunity to participate in the Dinner With A STEM Professional event offered by the San Joaquin County Office of Education. The girls were able to meet many STEM professionals and have conversations with them to really find out what their jobs entail. Thanks to generous donors we can make experiences such as this available to them.



This is the virtual table at the Thanks For Giving Tea set to honor those who made a ticket donation though they were unable to attend.







KEMPER

CPA GROUP LLP

Certified Public Accountants and Consultants

Christine Franklin, CPA

Partner

kempercpa.com

3031 W. March Lane
Suite 133 South
Stockton, CA 95219

Phone: (209) 473-2001
Fax: (209) 473-1761
E-mail: cfranklin@kcpag.com

Thank you

Our AAUW Stockton branch received a very generous donation for the Mentor Program from the daughter and son-in-law of Betty Parsons, one of our members. It shows how impressed others are by our Mentor Program. We are extremely grateful for this wonderful donation. We also thank Betty Parsons for sharing the benefits of this program with her family.



We are looking forward to our December activity which will include a holiday dinner prepared by Betty Parsons, followed by attendance at the Lantern Festival in downtown Stockton.



*Dear Donna Hammel,
Treasurer of AAUW Stockton Branch,*

Enclosed in this letter is a check for \$10,000 for the Mentor Program from David and Lauren Silver. The donation is not to replace the yearly budget of the program but enrich the program as the directors of the program see fit. The options are open to field trips, retreats, classes, guest speakers, materials, and any other ways to enrich the lives of the students they mentor.

We are donating this money because mentors played an important part in our personal and professional lives throughout the years. We feel their profound effect to this day. In addition, we have daughters in the same age group and we want to assure that this outstanding and successful program continues for young women in Stockton.

Sincerely and with great respect for your important contributions to your community,

David and Lauren Silver



This year is an unusual one in that Christmas, Hanukah and Kwanzaa are all during the same period on the calendar. Christmas is December 25th, Hanukah is December 25th through January 2nd and Kwanza is December 26th through January 1st. Both Christmas and Hanukah are religious celebrations for Christians and Jews, respectively, and widely known in this country. Kwanzaa, however, is a cultural celebration for African Americans and not nearly as well-known so this column will discuss Kwanzaa's beginnings and traditions.

Kwanzaa is celebrated every year between December 26th and January 1st. It is a week of festivities honoring African American culture and heritage. Friends and family gather each day to give thanks, exchange gifts and share feasts.

The holiday was created in 1966, by educator and activist Maulana Karenga, during a period when black people faced unfair treatment because of their skin color. The holiday honors African American people, their struggles in the United States, their heritage and their culture.

Kwanzaa means first fruits. Although not an actual Swahili word, it is borrowed from the Swahili word kwanza and by adding an extra a at the end to accommodate seven letters for the seven principles of Kwanzaa, refers to the joy and unity many Africans have when celebrating the harvest season. Swahili is a language spoken in many African countries. The holiday encourages people to honor seven principles: umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self-determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose), kuumba (creativity) and imani (faith).

There are also seven symbols of the holiday and seven candles in the African colors of red, green, and black, symbolizing the seven principles. On each day of Kwanzaa, the family comes together

to light one of the candles in the kinara, or candleholder, and to discuss the principle of the day. On December 31st families join in a community feast, karamu, with some people wearing traditional African clothing.

Kwanzaa is primarily celebrated in the United States.

The information for this article was taken from a piece written by Sylvia Mphofe and an article from the Encyclopedia Britannica.

If you have an interest in the DEI Interest Group but the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month don't work for you, please contact Barbara St. Urbain with times that would work better for you. We want as many people as possible to join in our discussions.



**First Unitarian Universalist
Church Of Stockton**
-A Liberal Religious Community-
2737 Pacific Ave. at Bristol St.

Contact Us: stocktonuu.org (209)466-7743
contact@stocktonuu.org

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

✂ Directory update:

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

Norma Goonan

5709 E. Morse Rd.

Lodi, CA 95240

Cell: (209) 327-5260

E-Mail: Cisgoonan60@gmail.com

Referred by: Jeanne Gaia

Welcome Norma

*She expressed interest in participating in
Thanks For Giving Tea and Newsletter*

Address Change:

Rosa M Martinez

339 E. Noble St.

Stockton, CA 95204

Public Policy Update

On October 22nd, 2024, Amy Hom & Missy Maceyko of AAUW-CA delivered a webinar on the ways in which the Project 2025 agenda would, if implemented, be extremely detrimental to the California and National Public Policy Priorities (PPPs). The webinar specifically focused on potential negative impacts on things that have long been important to us as an organization, such as Title IX, sex-based discrimination, & reproductive freedom. To watch this Webinar recording, click [HERE](#):

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/project-2025-and-how-it-would-impact-aauw-public-policy-priorities/>.

There will be a ZOOM meeting on December 4th, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Pacific, featuring Meghan Kissell, Senior Director of Policy and Member Advocacy at the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Meghan will speak about post-election priorities for AAUW particularly as they relate to social justice issues, including reproductive rights, childcare, secure food and housing, voting rights, and more. You can register [HERE](#):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtf-yuqTwrHNXLgJev5-OXXtKlZJSUE1VI#/registration>

And, finally, an update on our Priority A Bills that were signed into law! **AB 2843** - Authored and sponsored by AAUW California, and carried by Assembly member Cottie Petrie-Norris, this bill eliminates cost sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor seeking medical care following a rape. Countless rape survivors do not seek medical care following their assault because of prohibitive costs. AB 2843 removes the cost barrier, ensuring that survivors can receive the care they need following a traumatic sexual attack. **AB 2326** - Sponsored by AAUW California and authored by Assembly member David Alvarez, this bill requires the Chancellors of the Community Colleges and the State Universities, and the President of the University of California,

to provide an annual report, publicly and orally presented, of their schools' compliance with Title IX. **AB 2099** - Authored by Assembly members Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and Kevin McCarty, this bill makes it possible for the District Attorney to pursue felony charges for the posting of information about reproductive health care patients or providers if the posting and subsequent actions result in bodily injury.



Pop Up Hoops Supporters

Stockton Branch AAUW Supporters of San Joaquin Delta College Women's Basketball will attend their first game on January 28th on the Delta College campus. The Tuesday game will begin at 5:30, but our hoop supporters will meet in the Budd Parking lot at 5pm and enter through the special accommodation access. The Delta ladies will play American River College, whose teams are always challenging and adept; however, Delta College's coach, Gina Johnson, always provides excellent competition for any team in the state.

If you are interested in attending, you are welcome to join us. Contact Diane Oren orendiane@gmail.com. The Delta College mascot is the Mustang. The college colors are black and gold. The gym is on Burke Bradley Drive which parallels Pershing Avenue. Parking is free. Admission is free. There is no snack bar or food for purchase, so prepare in advance. If you have your turquoise Title IX shirt, wear it so we are identified as Supporters of Women's Activities.

KATHLEEN M. SOLARI, CPA

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(209) 957-3691, Ext. 311
FAX (209) 957-0841

3031 West March Lane
Suite 300-E
Stockton, California 95219
www.iacopi.com
E-Mail: ksolari@iacopi.com

AAUW Stockton Branch, Inc.
DELTA STEAMER
P.O. Box 690663
Stockton, CA 95269-0663

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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.

December Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Sun	8	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Mon	16	6:00pm	December Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sat	21	9:30am	AAUW Dec. Program: "Winter Holidays Celebration"	Brookside Country Club