



Discover the broader implications of reproductive rights at our January meeting, with presenter Yvonne A. Dobbenga-Rhodes, MS, RNC-OB, RNC-NIC, CNS-BC, CPN. Her presentation will offer an opportunity to explore:

- The historical journey of reproductive rights.
- Current challenges and policies shaping the debate.
- What the future holds for reproductive healthcare in the U.S.

Interactive activities and actionable steps will empower you to get involved in this vital issue. Members are encouraged to invite their adult daughters and/or granddaughters (or other interested guests) to attend and help broaden our inter-generational perspective of this topic. Together, we can help shape a more informed and equitable future! Join us!

When: Saturday, Jan. 18th, 9:30am

Where: O'Connor Woods North Clubhouse
3400 Wagner Heights Rd.

Schedule:

9:30am Check In & Continental Breakfast
10:00am Program

Cost: Members \$10; Registered Guests of Members
Attend At No Cost

Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, Jan. 15th

Call, Text or E-mail Reservation Chair Betty Parsons
@ (408) 309-8958 to Make a Reservation
Be Sure to Include Guests
bjpars_95120@yahoo.com

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID

President's Message



Recently, Sarah Sanders, governor of Arkansas, signed a bill into law that creates a process for challenging books available to children in public and school libraries. The bill would create an offense for “furnishing a harmful item to a child,” a misdemeanor.

Sanders justified this act by saying that she wants children to be “as safe in the libraries as they are in their classrooms.” Really? In this country, our classrooms can hardly be considered safe.

Apparently, Governor Sanders has never heard of Sandy Hook, Uvalde, or Columbine. As of September 6th, 2024, there have been at least 46 school shootings in the U.S., so many that most schools conduct “active shooter” drills to prepare students for the event so that they know how to react and to protect themselves as much as possible. Recently, there have been two school shootings here in California at small, private schools with religious affiliations. It seems no one is exempt from this violence.

An estimated 4.6 million children live in a home where at least one gun is kept loaded and unlocked. These improperly stored weapons can contribute to school shootings. The easy availability of guns at gun shows and the like where there is no requirement for background checks also contribute to school shootings. The new Arkansas law would require that books would need to be evaluated before being placed in libraries, but, apparently, guns are okay for children to have easy access.

Supporters of the law explained that the measure is needed to protect children from what they consider to be obscene material. The fact that children are not safe from the danger of gun violence in the street, in their homes, or in the schools is what is obscene. To some people, books seem to be more dangerous than guns. Our children deserve better.

Sandra Mazzuola
President

I wish all AAUW members a Happy New Year. We will have many uplifting programs in the New Year. Please try to attend and bring a guest or two.

2024-2025

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Mentor Program

The mentors and girls in the program have had a busy December! On The 14th we all assembled at the Cape Cottages Clubhouse for the first part of our holiday celebration. The girls mingled over Apple cider served in pretty stemmed coupes while the "Hostess with the Mostest," Betty Parsons, put the finishing touches on a sumptuous meal. We all sat down to dinner where wooden name cutouts designated our places complete with beautiful china. Ken Parsons and Tom Jones were the waiters serving a first course of a butter lettuce salad with pears, oranges and apples dressed with a light Asian vinaigrette. The next course featured chicken cordon bleu accompanied by four cheese pasta and bakery rolls. Finally, Ken and Tom served Betty's famous brownies topped with ice cream.



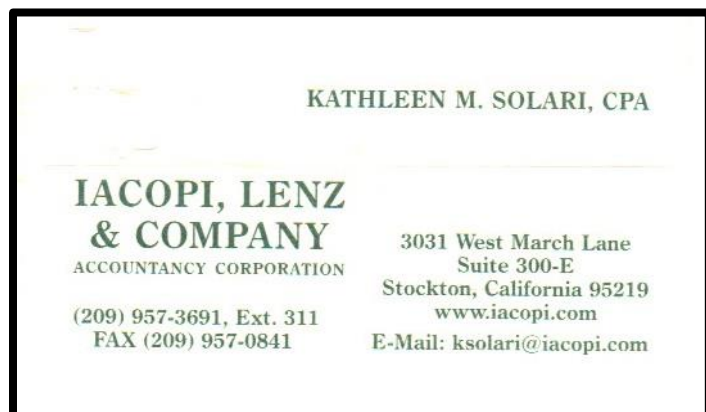
That meal gave us all the energy to review our 2024 New Year's resolutions and write our resolutions for 2025. We also discussed our One Word project and the activity schedule for the rest of the academic year. Then, everyone piled into cars to head down to the Banner Island Ballpark to see the Lantern Festival which was really a sight to behold!



No time to rest yet, because just one week later we reassembled at the Commodities Warehouse to help the LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) assemble food baskets for those less fortunate at Christmastime. The early morning gray, cold and rainy day did not dampen the spirits of our girls who are always ready to assist those in need.



We bid all Happy Holidays until we meet again on January 11th for a Financial Literacy Workshop. Watch this space for more news from the Mentor Program!



FUNDRAISING TEA A SUCCESS!

Our fundraising tea was very successful. We netted \$9,784, which is \$2,500 more than our inaugural tea last year. The gross amount brought in was \$1,600 more than last year and expenses dropped by \$900. We are getting better at this. The funds go to our Community Outreach Programs, which include RIF, Mentor, Delta Scholarships, Tech Trek, and the Essay Contest. So now we have funds from the tea to help with our programs. Good job everyone!



In this issue, a celebration of the world's holidays continues. This month, January 29th, to be precise, is the start of Chinese New Year. This holiday is celebrated by one sixth of the world's population and is celebrated worldwide in regions and countries that house significant overseas Chinese or Sinophone populations, especially in Southeast Asia. Chinese New Year or the Spring Festival is a festival that celebrates the beginning of the New Year on the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar. It is one of the most important holidays in the Chinese culture.

In China, each lunar cycle has 60 years, and 12 years is regarded as a small cycle. Each of the 12 years is defined by an animal sign: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. 2025 is the year of the Snake and 2026 is the year of the Horse.

The celebration decorations are mostly red. Houses are decorated with red lanterns and red paper cuttings; city streets are lit up with red lanterns; many people dress in red traditional clothing. The red decorations are the equivalent of Christmas trees to the Christmas holiday. Rather than receiving gifts, children are given red envelopes filled with lucky money from their relatives. The largest fireworks displays in the world are held during the Chinese New Year celebrations.

Just like holidays celebrated around the world, food is a very important aspect of the Chinese New Year celebration. The most famous festival food is dumplings. Many other foods such as rice cakes, spring rolls, fish, spring rolls, noodles, wontons and rice balls are also served.

The beginning and the peak time of the celebration is New Year's Eve and 15 days later it ends with the Lantern Festival. Gong Hay Fat Choy (Happy New Year)!

This information was taken from Wikipedia and other resources.

**AAUW Mentor LULAC Basket
Assembly on Saturday, December 21st**



Directory updates:

The 24/25 Directories are now out and a number of new members didn't make the roster. The following new members or changes need to be added to your new Directory:

Dana Miller-Tart

6047 Portsmouth Place

Home: (209) 473-1444 Cell: (209) 601-3076

E-Mail: millertart@comcast.net

Grad School: Univ. of the Pacific

Kristen Bahler

3738 Hatchers Circle

Stockton, CA 95219

Cell: (209) 298-7315

E-Mail: kebahler35@gmail.com

Univ: Emporia State University

Andree Sue Guest

3627 Fourteen Mile Drive

Stockton, CA 95219

Cell: (209) 915-3180

E-Mail : andreeguest@icloud.com

Univ: Texas Woman's University

Josephine Sambado

3909 Glen Abby Circle

Stockton, CA 95219

Cell: (209) 609-6149

E-Mail: jillsam@comcast.net

Univ: University of Pacific (Santa Clara)

Kim F. Bell

10104 Blue Anchor Lane

Stockton, CA 95219

Ph: (209) 479-3938

E-Mail: kimfbell@gmail.com

Univ: Teachers College of San Joaquin.

Norma Goonan

5709 E. Morse Rd.

Lodi, CA 95240

Cell: (209) 327-5260

E-Mail: Cisgoonan60@gmail.com

Address Change:

Rosa M Martinez

339 E. Noble St.

Stockton, CA 95204

Add phone # to Directory:

Della Richardson

(209) 478-1809



San Joaquin Delta College Scholarship Recipients

We received thank you notes from Delta College for the scholarships we donated last year. The two recipients also wrote thank you notes.

Recipient Hajra Ahmad said she was transferring to UC Berkeley to study Molecular and Cell Biology. Her goal was to become a pediatric surgeon.

Recipient Jennyfer Camacho was previously involved in the Tech Trek Program which gave her exposure to STEM areas. That inspired her to pursue an engineering degree. She was going to be attending San Jose State University to work on a chemical engineering degree. Another one of her goals was to inspire young children to pursue STEM related careers.

These students are certainly impressive. They thanked us for the help our scholarships provided.

Susan B Anthony Award Dinner

February 15th - Hilton Hotel - 5pm Reception

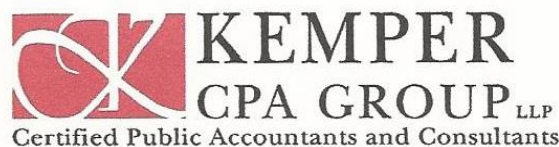
One of our members, Barbara Nash, will be an honoree. (She was nominated by Delta Kappa Gamma).

If you are interested in attending this gala event; a reservation can be made by sending a \$75 check, made out to Donna Hammel, 1049 Woodglen Court, Stockton 95209. Donna will submit 1 check for the number of AAUW attendees.

All reservations (and money) must be received by the SBA Reservations Coordinator by January 24th. No exceptions.

AAUW Stockton has many former SBA recipients, who will be recognized at the Banquet.

Hope to see you there.



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



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.



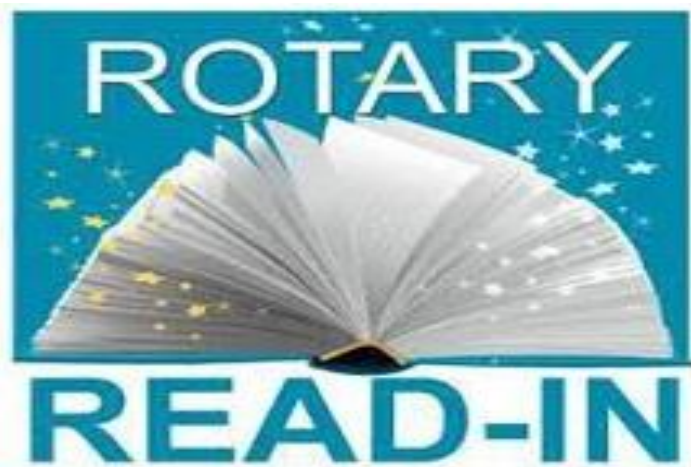
**First Unitarian Universalist
Church Of Stockton**

-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.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE ROTARY READ-IN!

WHAT? The 37th Annual Rotary Read-In has expanded from TK-3rd grade classes in Stockton Unified School District to include all schools based in Stockton in Lincoln, Lodi, and Manteca unified school districts, as well as charter schools. Readers buy an age/grade appropriate book to read to their assigned class and then donate the book to that class or school library. Specially discounted books are available at Barnes and Noble Book Store.

WHEN? Thursday, February 27th, 10am

WHO? For several years, AAUW-Stockton Branch has provided volunteer readers at Kennedy Elementary. Last year, 11 Branch members read to TK-3rd grade and Special Day 3rd-5th grade classes, and had a wonderful experience sharing the love of reading with youngsters. This year we'll need the following number of readers per grade level:

TK: 1 reader, K: 2 readers, 1st: 2 readers
2nd: 2 readers, 3rd: 2 readers, Aut. Spec. Day
3rd-5th: 3 readers.

WHERE? Kennedy Elementary School, 630 W. Ponce de Leon off Lower Sacramento Rd., NW Stockton, 95210

PLEASE! Contact **Cindy Milford** to volunteer:
Text or Call (209) 481-2227
OR E-mail--askwhyntnow@gmail.com

Indicate your first and second choices for grade assignment. You'll be notified of your assignment.



January, 2025



ZION CHAMBER ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL



Zion Lutheran Church • 808 Porter Avenue • Stockton • CA

Paul Kimball - Conductor

Sunday, January 12 • 5:00 pm

Zion Chamber Orchestra - Orchestral Colors

Klezmer Dances – Arranged by Stockton's Beth Sanders
Prokofiev – Violin Concerto #1 – Ann Miller – Violin Soloist
Khachaturian – Adagio from Spartacus
Beethoven – Leonore Overture #3

Sunday, January 19 • 5:00 pm

Zion Chamber Orchestra - Expressive Strings

Gavin Latta – A Knight's Journey (Stockton's own!)
Benjamin Britten – Les Illuminations – Dan Ebbers – Tenor Soloist
Finzi – Romance
Florence Price – Five Folksongs in Counterpoint

Friday, January 31 • 7:30 pm

Zion Pops Choir – Disney Delights

Music from the Magical World of Disney accompanied by Tom Cohan on piano

Individual ticket prices have remained the same for 23 years! – \$20/concert or \$50 for the three-concert Festival. Children through grade 12 are half-price. Seats are unreserved.

Tickets will go on sale by early December. Online sales at zlcstockton.org or purchase 8 am - 1 pm, Monday-Thursday at Zion Lutheran Church (808 Porter Avenue, Stockton) or at the door 30 minutes before each concert. For more information, please contact us.

Phone 209-477-0259 (Zion Lutheran) • email: ZionOrchestra@comcast.net • Website: zlcstockton.org

*I attended two of last year's three events.
Paul Kimball, retired Lincoln High music director
and director of some Stockton Civic Theater
musicals, is the conductor.*

*What a beautiful gift to share with someone or to
give to yourself!*

Cindy Milford



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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.

January Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Wed	15	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Mon	13	6:00pm	January Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sat	18	9:30am	AAUW Jan. Program: "Reproductive Rights Discussion"	O'Connor Woods North Clubhouse
Thu	23	4:30-6:00pm	DEI Interest Group	Online via Zoom
Tue	28	5:30pm	Delta College Women's Basketball	San Joaquin Delta College