



AAUW started this inspiring event twelve years ago. We will be joined by members of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Kappa Gamma, Delta Sigma Theta, Links Inc., NAACP, San Joaquin County League of Women Voters, and Women of Color International. Entertainment will be provided by members of Stockton Soul.

Menu: Salad, Roast Chicken Breast, Wild Rice, Green Beans, Bread Pudding
(Vegetarian - Omit Chicken)

Cost: \$65

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, Feb. 16th

Contact Reservation Chair Betty Parsons
@ (408) 309-8958

bjpars_95120@yahoo.com

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID

President's Message



Let's see now. Canada should become the 51st state. We need to annex Greenland and reclaim the Panama Canal, by force, if necessary. The Gulf of Mexico should be renamed to the Gulf of America, and the Alaskan peak, Denali, should reclaim its former name, Mt. McKinley, thereby eliminating the indigenous influence.

Domestically, we should dissolve or defund the Department of Education, silence the CDC and medical experts, and privatize the Postal Service. To ensure loyalty, perceived enemies within the intelligence and national security agencies should be fired or reassigned. All federal employees hired under the guidance of DEI will be laid off and, eventually fired. Are we having fun yet?

Climate change is "fake news," so we don't need advice or guidance from the EPA. If we find oil anywhere, no matter how pristine the area, it's okay to "Drill, baby, drill!" Men and women who have little or no expertise in the areas to which they are being given control as cabinet members should be approved for these posts based on their undying devotion to their "Fearless Leader."

There is a movement to defund both public radio and PBS. Reproductive and voting rights are open to restrictions. Most recently, it has been decided that all children's sex at conception is to be their gender permanently on government documents and that there are only two genders, male and female. (Interestingly, according to medical science, all embryos are female at conception. It is only after six or more weeks of gestation that a male sex can be determined.)

Trump won the election with 77 million votes. Kamala Harris had about 75 million, hardly a mandate. I would personally like to thank the approximately 90 million Americans who were eligible to vote but couldn't be bothered. Thanks to your disinterest, what I listed above could well be our reality for the next four years. The damage done could be forever. Thanks a lot!

Sandra Mazzuola
President

2024-2025 Elected Board of Directors

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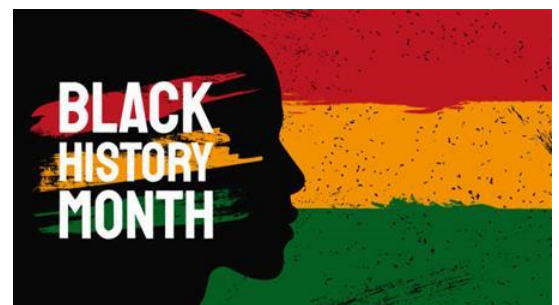
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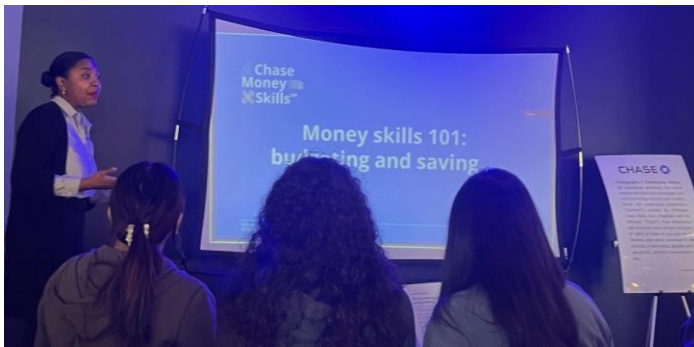
(209) 952-0547



Mentor Program

I don't know about you, but when I was a child my parents rarely discussed money management with me. All I knew was how to get money and either spend it or save it, always short term. Thankfully, I married an economics teacher who taught me that money can do so much more. Our early married years were definitely an exercise in decision making!

That's why when mentor Rosa Solis suggested that we take advantage of a workshop offered by JP Morgan Chase Bank on January 11th, we eagerly agreed. VP and Manager, Andrea Andrade who presented the workshop stressed that learning about money can secure a safe and productive future. We also opened this workshop to parents and older siblings who also may have an interest in providing a more economically secure home for their families.



This is an example of our program having an exponential effect on our community. Our girls often bring back newly acquired knowledge to share with their families, who, in turn, share with neighbors, friends and extended family.



The girls also walked away with a "swag bag" containing backpacks, tee shirts, pens, and other Chase Bank merchandise.



After our workshop we walked a few steps to Dave Wong's Restaurant for a delicious family style lunch, complete with our usual lessons on table manners.



We are looking forward to one of the girls' favorite activities on February 8th when we will learn to decorate (and eat!) Valentine cakes. Watch for the report in next month's Steamer!



**First Unitarian Universalist
Church Of Stockton**

-A Liberal Religious Community-
2737 Pacific Ave. at Bristol St.

Contact Us: stocktonuu.org (209)466-7743
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We affirm and promote the inherent
worth and dignity of every person and
are a welcoming congregation.



What is so wrong about DEI?

I have been writing and talking about DEI for more than two years, but never has DEI been under attack as it is as we begin 2025 and look forward toward a new era in our history. The backlash against DEI is palpable. So, rather than discussing the inconsistencies in statements made towards DEI, I am simply going to redefine what DEI is.

DEI is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. So, what do these words mean in general and as they pertain to AAUW!

DIVERSITY: Diversity means differences among people with respect to age, class, ethnicity, gender, health, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, religion, physical size, education level, job, physical traits and other human differences. So, for AAUW it basically means being representative of the community in which we live.

EQUITY: Equity refers to fairness and justice and is distinguished from equality where everyone is treated equally. Equity recognizes that we don't start from the same place and that we need to make adjustments to imbalances. For AAUW it means taking into consideration the special needs for those who cannot drive at night, are not technologically literate, cannot hear at a distance, are not available during "work" hours and more. We need to make sure that each of our members has an equal opportunity to participate in the AAUW activities and be successful.

INCLUSION: Inclusion is the practice of including and accommodating people who have historically been excluded because of factors which could include race, age, gender, religion, sexuality or ability. As a diversity advocate once said, "Diversity is being invited to the party and Inclusion is being asked to dance." For AAUW, it means welcoming newcomers, regardless of their diverse backgrounds, to sit at your table, participate on a committee, offer their ideas, share their customs and traditions and more.

My hope is that when you hear disparaging remarks about DEI, you remember what DEI is and NOT what some are describing it as.

This article was originally published in Tau Tales and was directed towards DKG TAU but I thought it was also relevant for AAUW, Barbara St. Urbain.

I would like to invite all AAUW members to attend the DEI meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays from 4:30 to 6pm on Zoom. Barbara St. Urbain will send out a link. I have been attending these meetings, which also include members of DKG, and have found them to be informative, lively, and enjoyable. Since the current administration has such a negative view of DEI, I hope many of you will take the time to join us to find out more. There is much to learn, and we feel free to express ourselves openly. Please come.

Sandy Mazzuola



We had a full house last month to hear our guest speaker, Yvonne Dobbenga Rhodes, RN, present us with a history of reproductive rights, our current state of affairs, & her take about the future. I know it was hard to put such a broad topic into a 45-minute time slot! It was especially good to see so many there, including some "young blood", especially since the meeting was not in our usual place (& then it was moved again at the last minute).

The fight continues...

Former-president Biden stated before he left office that the Equal Rights Amendment is the law of the land. So why is there any debate? It is not currently a part of the Constitution, & we aren't clear on it's ratification status. It was first introduced in Congress in December **1923!** It was reintroduced by Representative Martha Griffiths in 1971 & approved by the U.S. House of Representatives that same year & the U.S. Senate the following year, thus sending it to the states for ratification. This didn't happen within the deadline provided – or the deadline's extension. Actually, not until 4 years ago did Virginia become the 38th & final state needed to ratify the amendment, despite occurring almost 4 decades after the deadline. So, is this a real amendment? The National Archivist, who is responsible for certifying & publishing new amendments, says that the Congress or the courts needs to lift the deadline. So while many of us thought this was already law, it's still up in the air.

Contact your representative & urge him to act!



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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.

February Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Thu	13	4:30-6:00pm	DEI Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sun	16	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Mon	17	6:00pm	February Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Sat	22	9:30am	AAUW Feb. Program: "Black History Luncheon"	Stockton Hilton
Thu	27	10:00am	Rotary Read-In	Kennedy Elementary
Thu	27	4:30-6:00pm	DEI Meeting	Online via Zoom