

## How Are the Women and Girls of Sacramento County? Community Forum March 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m. by Donna Holmes



In August 2018, the current Board of AAUW Sacramento met in retreat. One of our tasks was to set goals for the year. One of our three goals under our theme of “Working for Equity” was to participate in the establishment of a new County Commission for Women and Girls.

Our first opportunity to participate as a branch is Friday evening, March 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Offices, 6601 Elvas Avenue, Sacramento. This is the Kick-Off event for a series of community listening circles throughout Sacramento County.

You can sign up for free for this event at this link (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-forum-how-are-the-women-and-girls-of-sacramento-county-tickets-56604592861>).



### Presidents' Message by Liz Jordan and Donna Holmes

We started off the year with another great turnout for the IBC Luncheon. We had 100 attendees representing all eight branches. We raised money for Funds, got updated on Public Policy, and heard from two wonderful fellows. Donna and Marty were able to announce that the Alicia Hetman Research and Project Grant is complete! The money our branch raised went to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), and we are sending our first student this year. Her name is Billie Veerkamp and she is a sophomore at CSUS as well as a member of the CSUS AAUW chapter who wants to be the chapter president next year. You will be hearing more from and about Billie. Congratulations team on reaching another one of our branch goals!

Six days of great meetings – ours, IBC and Lodi Branch – are coming up this spring. More details will come by e-blast and newsletter. Here is the list to spark your interest:

1. **Friday, March 8, 5-7:30 p.m. is the Sacramento for Women and Girls kick-off event.** AAUW Sacramento is a sponsor of this group who is working to reestablish the Sacramento County Commission on the Status of Women.
2. **Saturday, March 16 – independent film “Dark Money” followed by a discussion** is offered by AAUW Lodi at Lodi Public Library, 201 W. Locust Street, Lodi.

3. **Saturday, March 30 is the branch meeting at Center for Sacramento Archives** from 10 a.m. to noon.
4. **Monday, April 1 is Equal Pay Day event at the State Capitol**, arranged by our Interbranch Council.
5. **Saturday, April 27 is Author's luncheon at Plates Café** with Sacramento playwright Ginger Rutland. This is also our branch election meeting.
6. **Congratulations to Public Policy Director Ashley Anglesey** for raising awareness of AAUW with NOW California and more.

Lastly, we want to share an accomplishment of some young women I met last fall who came to our Fall Showcase event to see what we do and to interview me. Vivian Tran, Jessica Le and Natalyn Tran are all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Franklin High School in the Elk Grove Unified School District. They made a documentary film on Women's Rights for their digital media and filmmaking class that we want to share with you. Take a look:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xg1Iyr6mKj4>

[women's rights doc](#)



## 2019 Authors Luncheon Features Playwright Ginger Rutland By Deborah Dunn



The ever-popular Authors Luncheon, to be held on Saturday, April 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Plates Café, will feature Ginger Rutland, playwright and former editorial writer for The Sacramento Bee. Ms. Rutland's play, "When We Were Colored, A Mother's Story," is adapted from her mother Eva's memoir of the same title. Many of our Sacramento Branch members may remember that Eva Rutland was one of our Authors Luncheon speakers several years ago, and Ginger Rutland accompanied her mother to the Luncheon.

"When We Were Colored, A Mother's Story," tells the story of a black middle-class family, progressing from the Jim Crow South, through World War II, the civil rights movement, the black power era, and finally to the racially blended families of today. Not only will our Branch members be able to hear from Ms. Rutland at the luncheon about the process of adapting a novel to a play, they will have the opportunity to go see the play as it will be performed by the Sacramento Theatre Company March 20-April 28 in the intimate Pollock Theatre, 1419 H St. Tickets are available by contacting the Box Office at (916) 443-6722 or online at [tickets.sactheatre.org](http://tickets.sactheatre.org).

Ginger Rutland moved to Sacramento in 1952 with her family. Her father was a civilian administrator at McClellan Air Force Base. Ms. Rutland attended McClatchy High School but graduated from high school in Germany after her father was transferred. After spending a year in Germany and a year in France, Ms. Rutland enrolled in and graduated from Howard University. She has worked for KCRA-TV in Sacramento as well as KRON-TV in San Francisco, where she earned an Emmy award for her documentary about the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. In 1988, Ms. Rutland joined The

Sacramento Bee Editorial Board as an Associate Editor. She currently lives in Sacramento with her husband, Donald Fields. They have a daughter and a grandson.

Please plan to attend this special event and learn about the challenges of transforming a book into a play and getting it produced. ***Please note that the election of our Branch officers for the 2019-20 year will also take place at this meeting.***

**There are two ways to register for the Authors Luncheon:**

- Register on Eventbrite (via <https://sacramento-ca.aauw.net/>) and pay with a credit card
- If you prefer to pay by check, download the registration form by ([either linked on the website or enclosed with the hardcopy newsletter](#)) and mailing it with your check to Dawn Boyd. See you there!

## Board Briefs February Board Meeting, February 4, 2019 by Cherril Peabody



### BOARD MEETING

*Here are the highlights of the February AAUW Sacramento Board Meeting:*

- Finance Director M. Lynch reported via email that the Branch will need a review of its 2017-18 financial records, and she is looking for two members to volunteer for this job.
- Co-President L. Jordan reported that State AAUW may change its emphasis on STEM to STEAM, adding Arts to the acronym. Local branches are asked for feedback on the idea.
- Jordan announced that the branch has a candidate for president of its CSUS affiliate who is interested in attending the NCCWSL leadership training workshop and asked for a motion to send her to the training. National AAUW also is expected to contribute to her expenses. Moved (A. Scarlett), seconded (S. Beck), carried. (In the absence of a quorum, the vote was ratified unanimously later by the full board via email.)
- Program Co-Director D. Dunn announced that local journalist and playwright Ginger Rutland, whose mother was the Author's Luncheon speaker some years ago, will be the speaker at this year's event on Saturday, April 27. More details elsewhere in this issue.
- Member C. Goehring updated the Board about a March 8 event the branch is co-sponsoring with CHAR and the United State of Women, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at the Girl Scout headquarters. The principal host is Sacramento for Women and Girls, advocate for the establishment of a local Commission on the Status of Women. Speakers will discuss the status of women locally. Our branch has been asked to provide snacks for the event.
- Jordan reported that the AAUW-CA lobbyist is asking for an Equal Pay Day resolution to be issued by the California Assembly on April 1. If that is approved, those who attend can arrange for a box lunch in the Eureka Room at the Capitol, the cost to be shared among participating branches. A. Scarlett moved that the branch participate in the luncheon, including a donation out of the branch Public Policy budget not to exceed \$100 to the Interbranch Council (IBC) towards the luncheon fees. Seconded (D. Dunn), carried. (In the absence of a quorum, the vote was ratified unanimously later by the full board via email.)
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## Membership Matters: After March 16, New Members Can Join for 15 Months; We Also Wish Anne Rhones Bon Voyage! by Linda Patterson and Sharon Norris

March 16, 2019, marks the first day of the year that new members and members returning after a break in membership will receive 15 months of membership instead of the usual 12. It is the perfect time for a new or returning member to join and receive an extended membership benefit. If new members join at a Branch event they will also pay a reduced annual membership amount of \$69.50 for the first full membership year. If you have friends or acquaintances who are considering membership, please encourage them to take advantage of this membership offer.

Please welcome new members Karen Burley, Kait Murray, Dr. Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin and Ebony Benzing to the Branch.

It is with sadness that we bid farewell to Branch member Anne Rhodes, who is moving with her family to Texas in early March. Anne has been a very active member of our Branch since joining in 2008, having served as Hospitality Chair, Board Games group leader, Women of the World coordinator, Program committee member, greeter at events, assistant registrar, Great Decisions member and Ambassador of AAUW, inviting many people she met to join the Branch. Anne's sweet smile and friendly demeanor will be missed by Branch members and the many friends she has here. Get ready, Texas. Anne is on her way!

## Public Policy Updates by Ashley Anglesey

2019 is now in full swing with Governor Newsom and the new administration! The recent release of the 2019-20 Governor's Budget gives a clear idea of this administration's policy priorities. Of the areas receiving large budgets, several are of note for AAUW priorities. "Improving access and quality of subsidized childcare in California" proposes a \$500 million one-time General Fund allocation to both expand subsidized childcare facilities in California and to make a significant investment in the training of the childcare workforce. Gov. Newsom also proposed increasing CalWORKS grants to 50 percent of the federal poverty level by October 1, 2019. Additional areas that will receive more funding and attention include Health and Human Services, Home Visiting and Black Infant Health Programs (receiving \$78.9 million in a mix of federal and state funds), Cal Grant Access Awards for Student Parents, Longitudinal Education Data, Two Free Years of Community College (\$40 million Proposition 98 General Funds), among others. You can find the Budget here for further review: <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/>



AAUW California has released the Public Policy Priorities for 2019-2021, so if you haven't had a chance to review, please do. You can access it online here: <https://www.aauw.org/policy-priority/public-policy-priorities/>

We are excited for Public Policy to pick back up! The end of an administration's term can be slow, and the transition period for the new Governor can feel like we're on the edge of our seats, just waiting for everything to kick off again. I'm looking forward to things picking back up!

## Explore the past, inform the future at the Center for Sacramento History on March 30 By Cathy Locke



Sacramento AAUW members will be treated Saturday, March 30, to a behind-the-scenes look at archives dating back to the Gold Rush during an “An Introduction to the Center for Sacramento History.”

The center is home to Sacramento AAUW branch archives. Several members have spent hours poring through minutes, yearbooks, newsletters and artifacts housed at the center in preparation for the branch's centennial celebration in 2020.

In addition to displaying some of our branch memorabilia, archivist Kim Hayden will lead a tour of the center and discuss its mission, resources, research opportunities and types of items accepted for archiving.

Branch members also will have an opportunity to share memories of their years in AAUW. Members are encouraged to bring photos, documents and memorabilia that might be donated to the branch archives or loaned to the branch for display at next year's centennial celebration.

Operated as a Sacramento city/county agency, the Center for Sacramento History is the repository for city and county government public records. It also houses manuscripts and personal papers of individuals, families, businesses, organizations and community groups related to the Sacramento region. Among its collection are photos, artifacts and oral histories, including those compiled by Sacramento AAUW over the past 100 years.

Hayden, a certified archivist, is a Sacramento Valley native with a master's degree in library and information science from San Jose State University. She worked at archives and libraries in the Bay Area before accepting the position in 2017 at the Center for Sacramento History, where she specializes in reference and government documents.

The March 30 meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at the center, 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., north of downtown Sacramento off Richards Boulevard. Parking is available in the lot in front of the building and on the street.

The center does not charge for presentations or use of its facility, but it accepts donations and honorariums to help support its services. For the March 30 meeting, a \$5 donation at the door is suggested.

Seating at the center is limited. Please register via Eventbrite (check our website at <https://sacramento-ca.aauw.net/>), or email or call branch reservations coordinator Dawn Arnone Boyd.



## Exploring Our Interest Groups – Fun and Games by Cherril Peabody

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. But what about Jane? She deserves a break, too! Evidently, our branch members agree since AAUW Sacramento has several interest groups that feature playing games of various kinds.

The Board Games group gets together on the last Friday evening of each month to play all kinds of card and board games. The group has a new chair, Judy Smith, who has taken over from Anne Rhodes, who is moving to Texas. Anyone interested in joining the group can contact Judy at [swedishjudy@gmail.com](mailto:swedishjudy@gmail.com).

The Scrabble for Fun group meets on the last Monday afternoon of each month, and members play two or three people to a board. Vivian Counts is the chair, and you can reach her at [viviancounts@yahoo.com](mailto:viviancounts@yahoo.com).

Then there are the bridge groups. The Chicago Bridge group, led by Margot Leidig, plays a style of bridge that apparently originated in the windy city. They meet on the fourth Wednesday in the morning and don't need regular members, but they do often need substitutes. Contact Margot to be added to the list at [MHLeidig@aol.com](mailto:MHLeidig@aol.com). Jane Reinmuth chairs the Bridge for Fun group, which meets on the first Tuesday afternoon each month. This group also needs substitutes, and you can contact Jane if you are interested at [cajane42@aol.com](mailto:cajane42@aol.com).

Contact any of the chairs if you'd like to put some fun back in your life!

## Funds at Work by Kathleen Asay and Danielle Metzinger



Kaitlyn Murray is a Doctoral student in the UC Davis Department of Education. She is also one of a group of women who received a grant from AAUW for a project they conceived and put into effect. What follows are her words:

“In late 2017, I joined a team of UC Davis students, staff and postdocs to create a grassroots campaign to increase opportunities for underrepresented girls in the sciences. The results of this effort, Girls’ Outdoor Adventure in Leadership and Science (GOALS), was funded in part with an AAUW Community Action Grant that we are so thankful for. At the time we applied, our group had just formed. We were all at different points in our careers, and none of us had ever formed a group like this. We had no idea what we were getting into.

“Now, a year later, we can proudly say that we have accomplished so much more than we anticipated. Thanks in part to the AAUW Community Action Grant, we were able to take seven Sacramento area youth into the backcountry of Sequoia National Park, led by two UC Davis undergraduate trip leaders. The group hiked over 40 miles, spent 10 nights camping in the backcountry, participated in two community science projects identified as priorities by park scientists, and created and presented about their own scientific projects, all while engaging with science and leadership content – and all at no cost to the participants.

“This grant has had a profound impact on the lives of these seven young women, the two trip leaders, the 30+ graduate students and young professionals at UC Davis, and the National Park.

This grant has helped GOALS build capacity for dozens of women – as leaders, as outdoorspeople, and as scientists.”

Community Action Grants are awarded for projects that improve the lives of women and girls. Kait is now a member of our branch. Welcome her when you get the chance!

## 2,000 Copies of Vanishing Victorians sold in First Month: Amid '70s upheavals, Sacramento Branch recognized for effort to preserve historic homes By Marilyn Orrick and Georgia Richardson

The 1970s, a “pivot of change in global history,” focused on economic upheavals, political awakening, and women’s rights.

The oil crisis caused an economic recession, stagflation emerged, and Keynesian economic theory and practice was replaced with neoliberal economic theory favoring free-market capitalism.

The United States withdrew its forces from the Vietnam War. In 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. Violence in the Middle East increased.

Nationally the 1970s saw the resignation of President Richard Nixon on August 9, 1974, when he faced Watergate charges.

The “Me Decade,” coined by author Thomas Wolfe, described a new attitude of Americans toward atomized individualism. This phrase became a descriptor for the 1970s.

Television programming reflected trends, with programs such as “All in the Family,” “Soap,” and “Saturday Night Live.” In 1970, Germaine Greer published *The Female Eunuch*.

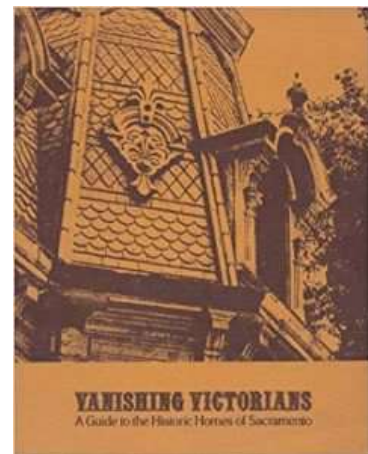
Fashions and fads included bell-bottom pants, polyester leisure suits, mood rings, lava lamps, Mohawk hairstyles, and pet rocks.

Sacramento debuted the Dixieland Jubilee in 1974 and established the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission in 1977.

Disturbing events included the attempted assassination of President Gerald Ford in front of the state Capitol on September 5, 1975, by Charles Manson follower Squeaky Fromme, and the ongoing fear caused by the East Area Rapist whose attacks brought a sense of anxiety to the area starting June 18, 1976.

The Sacramento area population grew to 768,502 by the end of the decade. The Sacramento Branch of the AAUW grew in membership to 1,150.

Two AAUW driving forces were ERA support and encouragement for women’s leadership. Activism included coastal study and studies on transportation, light rail, air quality and nuclear energy.



Education was the focus of new state legislation, and the Branch studied and supported proposed bills.

An outstanding Branch achievement was researching and writing *Vanishing Victorians, A Guide to the Historic Homes of Sacramento*, published in 1973. The book received "Award of Merit" from American Association of State and Local History.

Newcomers' get acquainted coffees welcomed new members and informed them of branch offerings. Campaign Brunches offered opportunities for all members to get acquainted.

Two-week summer preschool programs were offered for 3- and 4-year-old children.

Capital Puppeteers performed the dental hygiene puppet show at local elementary schools and celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> year October 1972.

New interest sections included Readers' Theater, French, Italian, Fun and Games, Brown Bag, and Singles.

Two-year Study topics included Economic Facts of Life, Living With Less, Society and the Individual, Conformity vs. Creativity, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Deciding Now, Women as Agents of Change, Politics of Food, and Redefining the Goals of Education.

A 5-minute radio program "Viewpoint" aired on various topics.

The monthly Branch newsletter became "Capital Ideas."