

AAUW Sacramento presents: A Glimpse of the Future By Gloria Yost

Saturday, May 15, 2021, 10 a.m. - 12:00, on Zoom

Please join our spring celebration as we wrap up our regular program schedule for the 2020-2021 year and take a glimpse of the future. We will have a busy agenda, including the installation of our new officers as they begin their two-year terms. They are: Donna Holmes and Marty McKnew, membership co-directors, and Carole Cline, secretary. The other elected officers are continuing.



Saher Haidari

A special treat will be the chance to hear our 2021 Speech Trek winner, **Saher Haidari**, present her winning speech. Saher is a junior at Pleasant Grove High School in the Elk Grove USD, where she competed against 15 students from six different district high schools. As the contest winner, Saher received the top award of \$500. She will be delivering her speech in person on the topic “Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?”

We will also recognize five new 50-year members -- **Dorie Bracchi, Susan McLearn, Elaine Moody, Pat Stilwell** and **Gloria Yost**. In addition, we’ll learn who our named-gift honoree recipients are for this past year.

Our special guest speaker will be Councilwoman **Katie Valenzuela**. She was elected in March 2020 to serve on the Sacramento City Council for District 4. Valenzuela has over 10 years of state and local policy and community organizing experience. She was born and raised in Oildale, California, and holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in community development from UC Davis.



Katie Valenzuela

We will hear about her journey to elective office, as well as her vision for the future of Sacramento, and learn what she sees as the greatest needs for the advancement of women and social justice reforms.

Please invite your friends and prospective members to catch a glimpse of the future and hear from Councilwoman Valenzuela as we celebrate together. **To join us, please register at Eventbrite [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-sacramento-branch-glimpse-of-the-future-tickets-150825201237) (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-sacramento-branch-glimpse-of-the-future-tickets-150825201237)**. The Zoom link will be sent to you two days before the event.

President's Message By Angela Scarlett

Spring is here! I hope everyone is enjoying the warm weather. While this is one of my favorite seasons, I know the temperate climate is all too short and that we will be heading into a hot and dry summer. As more of our members receive COVID-19 vaccines, we will review the feasibility of meeting in person. We will continue to offer programming online to allow our members to connect with our branch and mission.

This month, on May 15, we will be installing our new officers, while members will be receiving renewal materials in the mail (thanks to our long-serving membership treasurer, **Sharon Anderson!**). **Katie Valenzuela**, Sacramento's recently elected City Council member, will be speaking. Katie is a fellow "midtowner" like myself. One of her inspirations for running for office was the ballooning rents and lack of affordable housing in the downtown and midtown areas. While Katie also has a rich background in public policy and environmental advocacy, I have found her story to run for office to be a compelling one. What is your catalyst for getting more involved, be it volunteering for AAUW, women's commissions, or running for office? I hope everyone can attend.



Angela Scarlett

If you would like to get more involved with AAUW Sacramento, we have several positions open, including membership treasurer and Sunshine Lady. Jane Cooley has served admirably as our Sunshine Lady, sending out condolences and birthday cards.

If you would like to ensure that you receive AAUW National and AAUW California communications, consider this resource from AAUW CA (<https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2019/08/communication-reference-guide.pdf>). This document has helpful emails from AAUW CA and AAUW National to add to your safe list so essential communications don't land in folks' spam folders.

AAUW Membership Renewal By Sharon Anderson

The branch renewal letters went out in the mail on Monday, April 19. The day before that, I sent out, to all our members, a mass email that includes National's invoice form. If you will use National's emailed invoice form to renew this year, to that we say: Yippee! It saves us a lot of time and trouble, getting all the dues in the right slot very quickly.

The invoice was mailed out from my computer, but it doesn't look like it because I have to use National's program. The email will be from memberinfo@AAUW.org.

National's email invoice is easy, as you no doubt learned last year, but here's a refresher, just in case: 1) open the email with your credit/debit card in hand; 2) click on the blue (aqua?) highlighted option 1: "Click here to use debit or credit card"; 3) fill in the blanks; 4) click "next"; 5) click the "submit" button at the end. Besides dues, you can also donate to any of National's Funds on this invoice.



For any donations that you wish to make to any of Sacramento's programs with your renewal, please include a check mailed with your renewal form, because National will not process our branch donations.

If you have any problems, please call me. **Please be sure to postal mail back your paper application to me**, as we do need it for our bookkeeping purposes. If the emailed invoice gets lost in your inbox, just let me know and I'll send you another one.

If you haven't renewed as you read this, renew now! Thank you!

Sharon Anderson, Membership Treasurer
916-396-9790

AAUW MEMBERSHIP MATTERS By Bonnie Penix and Jan Stuter

Our term as Membership co-chairs is ending. It's been a challenge and a privilege to hold this responsibility. In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, AAUW Sacramento branch has welcomed 22 new members over these past two years. Two of them live locally but are national members only. Four did not renew this year. So the total of continuing new members acquired over the last two years is 16. It's invigorating to meet more women who wish to help advance equity for all, and to learn from their different experiences, points of view and new ideas.



Bonnie Penix



Janice Stuter

A big welcome to our two most recent new members:

Margi Park lives in Midtown. She holds a BA in French from SUNY Binghamton and an MS in health from Columbia University. She is retired from her work as an education programs consultant for the State of California. Margi would like to be involved with AAUW

Funds and Public Policy. She also looks forward to participating in a number of our interest groups. Margi is a longtime friend of Bonnie Penix.

Jennifer Krebsbach lives in Folsom. She is a graduate student at Sac State. She holds a BA in psychology, an MS in applied behavior analysis and autism studies, and will complete her MA in education-gender equity from CSUS this month. Jennifer plans to help with Speech Trek and the Scholarship Committee. She also wants to participate in Board Games and Bridge.

Please join us at the May 15 installation meeting when we will also honor five of our longtime members: **Dorothy Bracchi, Susan McLearn, Elaine Moody, Pat Stilwell** and **Gloria Yost**, each of whom will receive a special Honorary Life Membership certificate and pin to mark a great milestone — 50 years of membership in and contribution to the goals of AAUW.

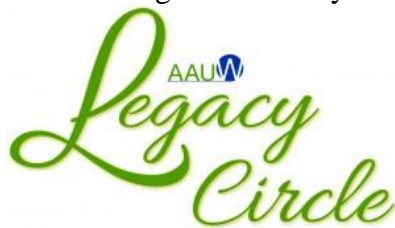
The Nominating Committee has put forth the names for the next slate of officers for our Sacramento Branch. **Donna Holmes** and **Marty McKnew** will be the next Membership co-chairs. We feel these experienced and dedicated women will be excellent stewards of membership as we move into a new year of opportunities and possibilities for AAUW and for all women.

AAUW Sacramento Funds Update By Charmen Goehring

Many thanks to those of you who send in regular gifts to AAUW to help our beloved organization advance our mission of gender equity. Making a regular monthly gift that is automatically withdrawn from your account is very easy to set up online. No more remembering to write the check! I love how easy it makes it to give on a regular basis, and it also allows AAUW to plan for the contributions.

I was talking the other day to an AAUW friend, who is on the state board, about the Legacy Circle. She revealed to me that she thought one needed to have a healthy bank account in order to become a member. I thought that if she has this assumption, others might as well. The answer is, no, you do not need to be well off to be a Legacy Circle member! A Legacy gift is not something you give during your lifetime -- it is given by your estate. There are many ways to leave a gift, including making AAUW a beneficiary on an insurance policy or annuity (this is what I have done), donating a set sum or a percentage of your estate, creating a charitable gift annuity, or even creating a COD account at your bank (You deposit money now, either one time, or several deposits, and it is payable to AAUW upon your death). Knowing that I am a part of helping secure the future of AAUW, an organization that I have contributed my time and talents to for 28 years now, makes me feel proud.

I would love to welcome more AAUW Sacramento members to the Legacy Circle. Please reach out to me for more information! Or go right to the AAUW website to enroll!



Living Our Mission of Equity By Charmen Goehring

We invite you to join us in a monthly equity conversation looking at our own biases and what actions we can take to attract diversity to our branch and become better people in the process. We are reading the book “**Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents**” by **Isabel Wilkerson** and discussing what we have read, along with exploring other issues related to race and equity. We meet the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. on Zoom.

The Zoom meeting code is 737 420 3780 or you can join using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7374203780>.

We will discuss **Part 3 on May 12 at 7 p.m.** If you have questions and to RSVP, please email Charmen at charminme@yahoo.com.



Charmen Goehring

Take me to your leader! By Hedda Smithson

Our governing body consists of elected and appointed positions (Membership Directory p. 8.) In April of 2020, Article X of our Bylaws, (Officers) was modified by defining the term of service (two years or until successors are found) and who is elected when.



Secretary and Finance Director are elected in even-numbered years while President-Elect, and the Directors of Membership, Program and Funds are elected in odd-numbered years. To help find candidates as needed, three branch members are elected to a Nominating Committee and two members are appointed by the President.

The nominating committee for the 2020-2021 membership year consisted of Molly Dugan, Donna Holmes and Liz Jordan (elected in April of 2020), plus Hedda Smithson and Linda Sparks, appointed by President Angela Scarlett. They met via Zoom and presented a slate that was announced and elected in April.

Newly elected and continuing officers are listed below. See if you can match the name with a description. For the answers (and all the scoop) , continue to Part 2.

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| 1. Carole Cline, Secretary | A. Testified before Board of Supervisors |
| 2. Charmen Goehring, Funds Director | B. Wanted to be an actress |

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| 3. Donna Holmes, Membership Co-Director | C. Wrote the skit for the Anniversary Celebration |
| 4. Liz Jordan, Finance Director | D. Plays Scrabble virtually |
| 5. Nancy Lawrence, Nominating Committee | E. Worked as a newspaper copy editor |
| 6. Marty McKnew, Membership Co-Director | F. Attended AAUW meetings with her mom. |
| 7. Cherril Peabody, Nominating Committee | G. Her grandfather was a state senator |
| 8. Kim Rutledge, Program Director | H. Started an Oral History Project |
| 9. Angela Scarlett, President | I. Was a CA State officer |
| 10. Linda Sparks, Nominating Committee | J. Needed to talk to educated women |

AAUW Sacramento is fortunate to have such talented and dedicated members who are willing to accept these very important leadership positions. We ask you to think about this question: "When was the last time you did something for the first time?" Think about it!! Our branch is your branch! How will you lead?

Let's meet our new and continuing leaders:

Continuing as President is **Angela Scarlett**. She recalls attending Great Decisions before joining about 13 years ago, thanks to Gloria Yost. Her AAUW involvement includes hosting many Happy Hours (for networking and member recruitment), Membership, Communications, Women of the World and Book Group 6. Her original college goal was to major in drama and become an actress. Her degree in communications provided insight into journalism, film theory and interpersonal communication. Her second major improved her skills in critical thinking. "AAUW has helped me develop a better sense of service and community while deepening my knowledge of the policy issues that influence the lives of women and girls." Her motivation to accept the position of president goes back to service to the branch and its community. She also is committed to lifelong learning.

Continuing as Program Director is **Kim Rutledge**. She has been a member since 2013 when she attended a Happy Hour, thanks to Angela. She was "drawn to the organization's mission and various programs and activities." She served as newsletter editor from 2014 until last year, when she accepted the position of program director with Gloria Yost. She is active in Book Group 6. Her journalism degree led her to a job as a newspaper copy editor. A change in that industry led her to a MSW and her current job for the state in Adult Protective Services.

Through AAUW she has increased her knowledge of the ERA and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. While on the board, she has gained leadership skills and lifelong friends. She looks forward "to bringing more equity-focused programming" and resuming "in-person programs when it is safe to do so."

Elected Membership Co-Directors are **Donna Holmes** and **Marty McKnew**.

Donna has been a member since 1986 -- a gift from her mom allowed her to experience the Berkeley Branch. When she moved to the Sacramento area, she was invited to join our branch, thanks to Gloria. Her involvement includes Foster Youth group, Funds, Scholarship, finance director (a couple of times) and president. Her career path involved a management position at Pacific Bell; a degree in industrial psychology proved useful! AAUW has influenced her life in terms of friends and helping others. A brush with cancer at an early age has given Donna the power to stop sweating the small stuff and "become more patient and positive".

Marty has been a member of Sacramento AAUW since 1994, while she was serving at the CA leadership level. She has held board positions several times as president and funds director. Interest groups include Great Decisions, Film Fans and Singles Dining Out. Her degree is in history, and she was employed by the State of California. AAUW has influenced her life in terms of support in leadership roles at the state and local levels. Friendships made have enriched her life. She "wanted to support Donna and the branch." (Donna twisted her arm!)

Continuing as Funds Director is **Charmen Goehring**. She has been a member of AAUW since 1992 and has joined a local branch after each move. In our branch, she has been public policy director as well as co-president. Currently, she is also co-director of Tech Trek and started an Equity Conversations Book Study group. For the past seven years, she has been active at the state and national levels. "AAUW fulfills that part of me that wants to make a difference in my community and world." After graduation, she obtained a teaching credential and enjoys

working with special-ed children. Her political background includes a grandfather who was a state senator; her dad was a lobbyist. Look for her name when she runs for office!! Charman has benefited from the leadership opportunities offered by AAUW and enjoys meeting women with like values. She became funds director because she hadn't done that before.

Continuing as Finance Director is **Liz Jordan**. In 1976, a friend suggested AAUW to Liz; a couple of people came to her home to check her diploma! Her involvement in the branch began with a book group, thanks to Linda Whitney. Liz has edited the newsletter, joined Creative Writers, spearheaded the Oral History Project that recorded the stories of many of our 50-year members and started Speech Trek with Shari Beck. She served as president from 2018 to 2020. Her English degree could have led to library school, but she chose teacher training at UCD. Her first job was not in teaching but at Cal West Life Insurance; she published all their policies and procedures. AAUW taught her how to drive around Sacramento before having a GPS; members met at one another's homes. AAUW offered workshops in leadership skills that proved useful in the classroom and beyond. Liz reminds us that a branch cannot exist without a president, secretary and finance director. AAUW "just celebrated an amazing milestone of 100 years of activity in February of 2020. I have loved the people and experiences I have had and wish to have in AAUW Sacramento." As finance director, she is bringing more automation and ease to the job.

Elected to Secretary is **Carole Cline**, who joined after attending the AAUW Showcase in 2011, thanks to Kathy Papst. She is teaching full time but still tries to attend special events. Majoring in French was her first plan; she now has a BA and MA in English literature. The 100th Anniversary Celebration Committee welcomed her contributions and enthusiasm. "I truly became immersed in AAUW history. I enjoyed writing the script for the skit. I was delighted to serve with such hard-working, accomplished women on the committee." She admits she

is shy but loves intellectual stimulation; she loves dining with friends as well as learning from others.

Elected to serve as members of the Nominating Committee for the 2021-2022 membership year are **Nancy Lawrence, Cherril Peabody** and **Linda Sparks**.

Nancy has been a member since 1991, thanks to Jean Bonar, because she "needed to talk to educated women about what I was reading and doing." She is in two book groups and has served as finance director and newsletter editor, as well as being president twice. Her degree in English led her to a career in teaching, which she loved. AAUW has given her "lasting friendships and continuing education." After being in the background recently, she is looking forward to being involved in the nominating process.

Cherril joined AAUW in 1970 but became interested in meeting women with similar interests in 1992. Thank you, Myke Taylor. She has served as program director, interest groups director, newsletter editor, public policy director, scholarship director, 100th Anniversary Committee member and president. Currently, she is in a book group, coordinates Film Fans and plays Scrabble. She plans to volunteer for the Membership Committee. She feels her degree in literature has taught her "how to think and how to learn, qualities that benefit you whatever field you enter." Through AAUW, Cherril has learned about women's issues and gained many good friends. "I have invested time (and money, too) in this organization, but I have gained so much more than I have given in terms of good friendships and feeling of achievement."

Linda joined in 1972 as a new resident and new mom. She was "looking for women to connect with." Her branch involvement includes Newcomers, Recent Grads and a book group. She helped to research and write two branch studies: Nuclear Energy and Transportation. She has testified before the City Council and Board of Supervisors on branch issues. She helped with neighborhood coffees, branch meetings, and bridge group. Her BA and MA in education led to a very successful career. Being involved in AAUW and meeting interesting women has

helped her be more involved in her city and neighborhood. “I value my membership in this organization, enjoy learning new things and connecting with others who are as curious as I am.”

Three Chosen to Receive 2021-22 AAUW Sacramento Scholarships By Molly Dugan and Cathy Locke

Three Sacramento-area students have been selected to receive a total of \$10,000 in AAUW Sacramento scholarship funds for the 2021-22 academic year.

Recognizing the increasing cost of a college education and the economic impacts of the pandemic – including the loss of part-time jobs for some students – the Scholarship Committee opted to award fewer, but larger scholarships this year.



Scholarship winners **Mariana Arellano, Merranda Kairn and Hassina Paiman** stood out among the seven finalists.

Mariana Arellano, 33, plans to attend California State University, Sacramento, this fall, majoring in nursing. She is the mother of two children and is the first member of her family to attend college. Her goal is to become an ER nurse and eventually a nurse practitioner. Because the tuition at the university is significantly higher than at a community college, the committee decided to award Mariana a \$4,000 scholarship, with \$1,500 to be paid in the fall and \$2,500 at the beginning of the spring semester.

Merranda Kairn, an accounting major at American River College, and Hassina Paiman, a nursing student at Folsom Lake College, were each awarded a \$3,000 scholarship.

Merranda, 26, seeks a bachelor’s degree in business accounting and a CPA license, with the initial goal of working as a state budget analyst. Her dream, long term, she said, is to be “the CFO of a respectable company.” She is the mother of two children.

Hassina, 34, also has two children and plans to become a registered nurse. She said she would like to combine nursing experience with her interest in business to pursue a financial management position in the medical field.

We look forward to hearing from the three recipients during a virtual or in-person branch meeting this fall. Our thanks to branch members for your generous support of the scholarship program through regular contributions, memorial gifts and bequests. We are pleased to announce

that one of the scholarships this year will be given in memory of longtime branch member and past president Ruth Ann Hines.

Update from our First NCCWSL Attendees By Gloria Yost

In 2019, the Sacramento Branch sponsored Billie Veerkamp and Alexis Jimenez to attend the prestigious National Conference for College Women Student Leaders -- NCCCWSL. Here, Billie and Alexis reflect on what NCCWSL meant to them and share their new plans.

My name is **Billie Veerkamp**, I'm currently a senior at Sacramento State, majoring in women and gender studies with a minor in anthropology. I'm graduating in May and plan to remain in the Sacramento area and work for a year or two before pursuing further education. I have been involved with the student chapter of AAUW for four years now, and have had many opportunities to learn and grow from my experience with the organization. In May 2019, I had the privilege of attending the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

One of the most important things I learned at NCCWSL was not to take myself out of the running. Out of the many workshops and panels I attended, this small piece of advice stuck out to me because it is the encouragement I need to push back against limiting beliefs of what I can accomplish. I'll be keeping that piece of advice in mind over the next year or so while I apply for jobs and master's programs.

Hello, I am **Alexis Jimenez** in my fourth year of college at Sacramento State. I'm double majoring in anthropology with a concentration in archaeology and biology, and women's and gender studies. Currently, I've been working as the women's and gender studies department student peer mentor, and my planned graduation is spring 2022. My connection with AAUW started in 2019, where I've been able to develop personal and educational growth. I was luckily able to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and, through this honored experience, I got to meet amazing people and take away knowledge from each keynote speaker. NCCWSL exposed me to so many fresh and invigorating minds. My most prominent takeaway was being able to be in a room with so many young people, all aspiring for better change in their communities. I, too, am striving to create spaces for thoughtful and cooperative change in my communities. It's special and liberating to be involved with others, and understand their efforts for equity in their work and bring that experience to my future academic endeavors.



Billie and Alexis fly for the first time as they travel to NCCWSL

Speech Trek Contest Celebrates Its Donors

By Ann Arneill

The Speech Trek Contest season is drawing to a close. We urge you to attend our final event, the May 15 branch meeting, where our first-prize winner, **Saher Haidari**, will deliver her speech on the topic: “Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?”



We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many branch members who contributed to Speech Trek in 2020. Because of your generosity, we can award \$1,075 in cash prizes to our winners each year. Donors include Becky Anton, Ann Arneill, Kathleen Asay, Alice G. Bauer, Shari Beck, Jean Bonar, Margaret Brown, Karen Burley, Deborah Dunn, Judy Foote, Lori Franz, Cheryl Fuller, Joan Hammond, Jennifer Henderson, Marlys Fredrickson Huez, Elizabeth Jordan, Nancy Lawrence, Catherine Locke,

Vicki L. Nicholson, Carol Nyman, Marjorie Patzer, Bonnie Penix, Diane Petersen, Diane Preece, Elizabeth Rose, Karen Ann Rystad, Mary Schneider, Sandi Schoenman, Kathryn Schrupf, Gloria Sears, Hedda Smithson, Linda Sparks, Anna Storey, Shirley Wheeler, Linda Whitney, Patricia Winkle, Sandra Winter, Leitha Wyant and Gloria Yost.