

Sacramento Branch of AAUW
Citrus Heights American River AAUW
Present “The Rights Stuff” Season Two

The Right to Celebrate and Renew

Lights, Camera, Action!!

LAST PROGRAM UNTIL SEPTEMBER!!!

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 10:30 AM to 1 PM

Unitarian Universalist Church, 2425 Sierra Blvd, Sacramento



By Barbara Smith, Co-VP Programs

Most of us have been called to jury duty and some have had the honor of serving. Having a fair trial by a jury of one's peers is one of our fundamental American rights. But what do we know about the Grand Jury--who serves, what are its functions? Come to the May branch meeting to find out!

Beth Ten-Pas has chaired the Sacramento County Grand Jury for the past two years and is eager to share her knowledge and experiences with us. The Grand Jury is a vital oversight committee charged with multiple areas of concern in local governmental agencies. With limited print information these days, it can be difficult to be informed citizens. Social media comments leave lots to be desired. Beth has a wealth of information to share with us.

I had the privilege of serving on the Grand Jury many years ago and was amazed by what we did. It was a memorable experience. I can't wait to hear about Beth's recent term. In addition to Beth's presentation, we will:

- Listen to the winning Speech Trek participant, Suyan Golzar.
- Recognize new 50-year members and named gift honorees.
- Introduce new members.
- Award free branch membership for most new members recruited.

President Nancy McCabe will discuss how the disbandment of the Citrus Heights American River Branch will affect the Sacramento Branch and introduce those members in attendance.

Actions:

- **Invite** a friend/neighbor to join you. There is no charge for this meeting, but registration is requested to ensure refreshments and seating for all. Please register!
- **Think** of a question about the Grand Jury for Beth or about Speech Trek for Suyan.
- **Wear** your name tag if you have one. We will have paper ones if needed.
- **Click** [HERE](#) to access Eventbrite.
- **Come** enjoy being together to celebrate **US!**

President's Message By Nancy McCabe



As my term of president winds down, I have a few thoughts to share. First, this AAUW branch has the nicest group of women (and an occasional man) that I have met. I would suggest that if you are a member, and don't know many others, that you take a leap of faith and join one of the standing committees. It is difficult to make meaningful connections with others if you attend meetings and then go home. Volunteering is the best way to get to know members as you work on a mutual interest in AAUW's mission. Join a group who can use your time and ideas, such as Program and Public

Policy. Both of these areas have had outstanding years and we have a lot to build on. There are other ways that you can contribute which you will see on your renewal forms. Volunteer with Karen and Cathy to take a role in leadership. Most do not have to attend the monthly zoom board meetings-just send a form to the director of your area telling what you have done during the month. See? Easy Peasy! The more you get involved, the more rewarding your membership will be. Volunteer to be a greeter for meetings and get to meet the new branch members who are transitioning from CHAR. Engage the person sitting next to you at meetings and see what AAUW interests you share. You will be glad you did. Because I am leaving the presidency doesn't mean I am going away. I will see you at meetings and Singles Dining- I am never above publicizing our Dinners out!

Incoming Co-Presidents Message By Karen Burley and Cathy Locke

Our duties as AAUW Sacramento co-presidents don't officially begin until July, but we want to introduce ourselves, as we will be asking for your help in the coming weeks.

We joined AAUW about four decades apart, one right out of college and the other after retirement. Cathy joined what is now the Oakdale-Riverbank-Escalon AAUW branch in Stanislaus County in 1975. As a recent college grad, she was impressed by AAUW's emphasis on promoting equity and educational opportunities for women and girls,



and “education over the lifetime.” She joined AAUW Sacramento in 1987 and has served as chair of the scholarship, funds and program committees. She retired from The Sacramento Bee in 2018 after a 43-year career in community journalism. She is single, has no children – but enjoys dog-sitting her extended family’s canines.

Karen joined the Cupertino-Mountain View branch of AAUW in 2017 when she retired from High Tech. Shortly after moving to Sacramento a year later, she joined our branch. In addition to supporting equality for women and girls, she is passionate about fighting climate change and will eagerly tell you about the many changes she has made in her life to try to eliminate her dependence on fossil fuels. Karen has three adult children: a son who lives in the Santa Cruz Mountains and two daughters who live in Sacramento. She is the proud grandmother of three granddaughters (latest born just a month ago!).



We are happy to partner to lead AAUW Sacramento in the coming year, welcoming CHAR members to the branch.

We know many members join AAUW to participate in our various interest and groups, but it is the branch structure that provides for those groups and we need your help to maintain that. One of our goals is to involve more members in branch volunteer activities, whether it be serving on program, scholarship, Tech Trek, public policy, membership, communications or other committees, or bringing refreshments or helping as greeters at branch meetings. So if you receive a call or email asking for help, please say “yes”. You’ll make friends and enjoy yourself, guaranteed!

MEMBERSHIP DOINGS By Gloria Yost

Welcome to our new member!

-Archana Maniar (spoke at Authors Luncheon)

We are glad you have joined and look forward to getting to know you.



2024-25 Membership Ambassadors, so far

Jan Stuter, Charmen Goehring, Gloria Yost, Hedda Smithson,

PJ Missman, Liz Jordan, Joy Allender, Karen Burley

WHO’S GOING TO WIN A FREE MEMBERSHIP?

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Please become an ambassador by doing the following:

- **Bring in a new member -- get your name on our Wall of Honor**
- **Bring in a new member -- get your name added for our drawings**
- **Monthly drawing for prizes at meetings**
- **Recruit the most new members -- WIN a free AAUW membership for 2025-26**

Help us Strengthen our Branch connections and friendships

Gloria Yost and Vicky Lovell - Our contact information can be found in the Membership Directory.

Membership Renewal By Donna Holmes

2025-26 Membership renewal for the majority of our members is due. If you sent in a check last year your paperwork is coming via USPS as it was sent 5/23/2025. If you did not receive it, you can download a copy to print <[here](#)> and a tax receipt <[here](#)>.

To renew online with a credit card, go to <https://www.aauw.org/membership/>, click on login to renew. If you have never logged in, click on 'Forgot Your Password' and National will send you a link.

Please **renew by June 30**. State dues will increase by \$10 to a total of \$30 on July 1, so it 'pays' to pay on time!

Questions? Call Donna Holmes, Gloria Yost or Vicky Lovell. Their contact information is in the directory.

Happy Birthday to All!

Celebrating June Birthdays!

- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| • Della Knowles | 6/2 |
| • Patricia Peck | 6/2 |
| • Mahnaz Khazari | 6/4 |
| • Shirley Wheeler | 6/8 |
| • Pamela Spears | 6/8 |
| • Jane Reinmuth | 6/10 |
| • Rita Walker | 6/10 |
| • Sharon Lee Swanson | 6/11 |
| • Carmen Hobbs | 6/12 |
| • Charmen Goehring | 6/19 |
| • Kathleen Papst | 6/20 |
| • Carol Hayes | 6/29 |



Celebrating July Birthdays!

- | | |
|---------------------|------|
| • Karen Ruth Curtis | 7/1 |
| • Nancy Kniskern | 7/1 |
| • Gloria Sears | 7/3 |
| • Karen Ann Rystad | 7/5 |
| • Patricia Winkle | 7/6 |
| • Judy Foote | 7/8 |
| • Michele Hobza | 7/8 |
| • Linda Sparks | 7/9 |
| • Shari Beck | 7/13 |
| • Lisa Howard | 7/14 |
| • Billie Veerkamp | 7/14 |
| • Vivian Counts | 7/16 |
| • Vicki M Kloock | 7/18 |
| • Marty McKnew | 7/20 |
| • Lori Franz | 7/24 |
| • Martha H McDowell | 7/24 |
| • Gina Schumacher | 7/31 |

Interest Group Happenings By Pat Winkle

If you are interested in participating in any of our Interest Groups, please contact the coordinators listed here. If you would like to propose a new Interest Group for our branch, please contact me and I will present your ideas to the board for approval. My contact information, as well as the contacts for each of the Interest Groups, is in your branch directory.

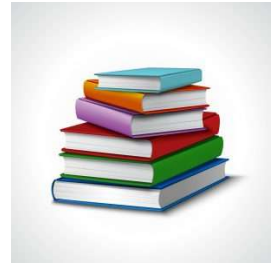


- **Art & Architecture: Friday, June 6, 11 a.m.** The group will tour the Harry Fonseca exhibit at the Gorman Museum of Native American Art, on the UC Davis campus. Note there will be a summer break so the next meeting will be in October. Contact: Deborah Dunn
- **Great Decisions I: Monday, June 16, 7 p.m. on Zoom.** The topic will be “India: Between China, the West and the Global South”. Contact: Cathy Locke
- **Great Decisions II: Thursday, June 12, 7 p.m. on Zoom.** Contact: Lynn Blair Wood
- **Great Decisions III: Monday, June 16, 1 p.m.** Meets in a member’s home. Contact: Margaret McCarthy
- **Healthy Heart Lunch: Friday, June 20, Place/Time TBD.** Contact: Jane Cooley
- **Reader's Theater:** Contact: Diane Petersen for updates.
- **Scrabble Just for Fun: Monday, June 30, 1 p.m.** in the game room at Eskaton Village Carmichael. Contact: Vivian Counts
- **Singles Dining Out: Sunday, June 1, 6 p.m.** at Sumer Nights, 2316 Watt Ave. Contact: Nancy McCabe

Book Groups Update By Sharon Anderson

If you wish to see what others are reading, or get ideas for your book group or yourself, please refer to the “books” page under “Activities” on our branch website (<https://sacramento-ca.aauw.net/bookgroups/>).

Each book group has its own tab, by book group number. (These book group numbers correlate with page 6 of the branch Membership Directory.) On each list, the meeting days, times and coordinator are listed.



June Book Groups

Book Group 1:

The Idiot, by Elif Batuman, on June 12; coordinator is Susanna Mullen

Book Group 3:

Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver, on June 25; coordinator is Carolyn Meeker

Book Group 4:

West With Giraffes, by Linda Rutledge, on June 11; coordinator is Pat Morehead

Book Group 8:

How to Stand Up to a Dictator, by Maria Ressa, on June 23; coordinator is Diana Squire

Book Group 10:

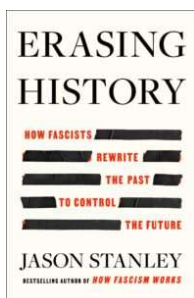
No meeting in June; coordinator is Sandi Schoenman

Book Group 12:

James, by Percival Everett, on June 5; coordinator is Linda Cook

Living Our Mission of Equity By Charmen Goehring

We hope you will join us in a monthly equity conversation where we look at our own biases, seek actions we can take to attract diversity to our branch and become better people in the process. Each month, we read a section of our selected book then meet to discuss what we have learned, along with exploring other issues related to race and equity. We meet the first Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8 PM 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 our current book, *Erasing History*, by Jason Stanley, **on June 4 at 7 p.m.** We will discuss chapters 6-end. It is very timely for our current moment. If you have questions and to RSVP, please email Charmin at charminme@yahoo.com.

The group will be meeting over the summer. In July we will start reading the book *Legacy: A Black Physician Reckons with Racism in Medicine*, by Uche Blackstock, MD. Check out the book from the library and join us on July 2nd!

Tech Trek News By Lana Widman

The Tech Trek Committee is in full swing getting ready for this year's Tech Trek camps.



Tech Trek will be sending six girls to the Davis Camp and three girls to the Virtual Camp. The Davis Camp will be held July 13 - 19 and the Virtual camp is July 20 - 25. Our campers will provide members with an account of their experiences during the **September branch meeting**. To learn more about what happens at Tech Trek, please check out the Tech Trek website.

The Tech Trek website has been revamped, and has a lot of great information and photos. Access the site by clicking <[here](#)>.

We have had a number of members contact the Tech Trek Committee to volunteer to help with setup/takedown duties at the Davis Camp. **If anyone else is interested, please contact Lana Widman.** Lana's contact information can be found in the Membership Directory. Volunteer opportunities include:

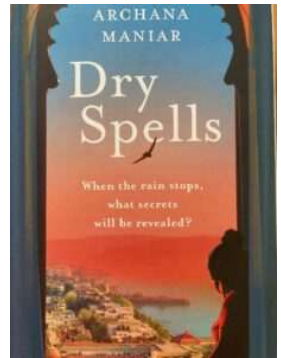
- Pre-camp: Saturday, July 12 – 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Set up laptops, prepare and organize class materials, set up for registration
- First day: Sunday, July 13 – 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Camper registration, greeters, dorm greeters.
- During camp: Tuesday, July 15 – 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. SAFE Credit Union Budget Cents event. Set up/breakdown, salespersons. Volunteers play the role of salespersons encouraging campers to buy services, housing and vehicles they may/may not need. Volunteers will get brief training and should plan to stay for the entire three-hour time slot.
- Last day: Saturday, July 19 – 9 a.m. to noon. Breakdown/pack up camp materials, take items to cars and storage unit. Volunteers should be mobile and be able to lift boxes.

If anyone is interested in joining the Tech Trek Committee for **next** year, please let me know. Planning for next year is already starting!

Two Branches Host Author's Luncheon By Hedda Smithson

April 26 at the North Ridge Country Club saw almost 70 of us gather to enjoy one another and meet **Archana Maniar, author of *Dry Spells***, her first – but not her last -- novel.

Host branches, Sacramento and CHAR, welcomed several members of the Roseville Branch as well. Dr. Maniar brought her parents, Bakula and Harshad, as well as her children, Kavita and Sanjay Thornton (who helped sell copies of their mom's book). Several of us brought guests who then became members. Easy as pie!



The election of president and program director went smoothly with a couple of volunteers from the audience. Congratulations to Co-Presidents Karen Burley and Cathy Locke, as well as Program Director Fay Grundel. We wish them a smooth and interesting next two years.

The AAUW CA Annual Event occurred at the same time as our luncheon but, thanks to technology, we are able to watch what happened. Log on to AAUW CA. On the home page there is an image called “AAUW 2025 Annual Event, Pivoting 4 Our Future.” There is a “Click here to view” button. You will listen to our state leaders and some keynote speakers, as well as catch up on the branch donation statistics, 5 Star winners, branch program recognitions, the three Speech Trek finalists and much, much, more.

Bringing guests who become members is very powerful. Think about friends and neighbors who share our passion and our mission. Include them in your small group meetings and prepare a 30-second “elevator speech” to grab their attention (can give your speech in the time it takes to ride the elevator).

If you enjoyed our membership year, think about how you can become involved. Meet new people – discover your own hidden talents – and have a lot of fun in the process. Reach out to our current branch leaders for guidance. And THANKS!

AAUW California Update

From Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko, Co-chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee: Please click [HERE](#) for the May issue of Public Policy News. There is an article about Lobby Days 2025 - "AAUW California Mobilizes to Advance Priority Legislation". Also in this issue we announce the launch of our Trans Allyship Guide and provide some actions you can take to be a trans ally.



From Lata Murti, Co-chairs, AAUW California State Board Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: There is now a DEI Statement on the AAUW California website's home page! You

can access it [HERE](#). AAUW California continues to stand strong in our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

If you missed AAUW California's 2025 Annual Event, Pivoting 4 Our Future, you can find a recording of it [HERE](#). A copy of the agenda and a summary of the 4 pivots can be found [HERE](#). Note that the discussions in the breakout rooms were not recorded.

National AAUW Update

National AAUW has released its 2025 Strategy. You can find it [HERE](#). Also, AAUW has announced two new targeted funds we can give to now-- the Public Policy Fund (4337) and the Defend Higher Education Fund (4513), as well as the Greatest Needs Fund. You can find these [HERE](#).

Did You Know? By Karen Burley

There's a new movie out called "Lilly," based on the life of Fair Pay activist Lilly Ledbetter. It stars Academy Award-nominated actress Patricia Clarkson as Lilly Ledbetter as she battles the court case Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. In theaters as of May 9th.



Scholarship News By Beth Rose

The Scholarship Committee met to review the twelve complete scholarship applications they received for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic year. Committee members were happy with the quality of the applicants. It was determined that five applicants will be asked to participate in personal interviews with the committee.

Sunshine Chair

Pat Winkle is our Sunshine Chair and **needs to hear from you** if you know members who might appreciate a get well, sympathy or “thinking of you” card. As she doesn’t know everyone, she needs your help in remembering our friends. Her contact information is in the directory.