News and Events from AAUW Stockton Branch, Inc.

Volume 54 No. 8

April 2019

Saturday, April 27th, 2019 Central United Methodist Church – Fireside Room

Our April meeting will include several branches of AAUW interests and policies. The speech contest winners, expounding on the topic, "How can we...eliminate violence at our schools?" and our "Inspirational Women" essay contest winners will be making presentations. The third "branch" will have to do with branches, on trees, that is.

In 2002, SUNSET magazine designated Stockton as the "Best Tree City in the West." Unfortunately, years of drought and financial problems took a devastating toll on our tree canopy, especially in the most disadvantaged areas. The loss of trees has caused a worsening of local air and water quality.

AAUW has long supported environmental In keeping with this, our April advocacy. branch meeting will feature Dr. Gene Bigler, PhD, retired diplomat, former professor, and activist in public affairs in the Central Valley. Dr. Bigler was formerly a senior advisor for PUENTES, a Stockton-based community development organization that operates the Boggs Tract Community Farm and seeks to spread the use of sustainable agriculture to address food security, tree canopy restoration, and other community needs. In a power-point presentation, Dr. Bigler will speak to us about the challenges facing our city and the declining conditions of our environment.

Join us on April 27th in the Fireside Room at Central United Methodist Church for breakfast and an informative meeting.

<u>Schedule</u>:

- 9:30 Registration, Coffee, and Noah's Breakfast Treats
- 10:15 Business Meeting
- 10:30 Essay & Speech Contest Winners
- 11:00 Featured Speaker Dr. Gene Bigler
- 12:00 Adjourn

<u>Menu</u>: Noah's Breakfast Box: Bagels and Spreads, Sweet Treats, Fruit Salad, Orange Juice, Coffee, Tea, and Water.

<u>Cost</u>: \$13 (to cover breakfast, room rental, and guests)

Reservation Deadline: Monday, April 22nd

Checks Payable to AAUW <u>Reservations</u>: Call Joan Erreca, Reservations Chair 478-1457 <u>Reservations MADE Must Be PAID</u>.



First Unitarian Universalist Church Of Stockton -A Liberal Religious Community-2737 Pacific Ave. at Bristol St. (Sunday School; Childcare Provided)

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.



Recently, a well-intended acquaintance asked me why my work and passion involve championing for girls and women when there has been a decline in the number of males in college, and there are more boys who are at-risk in schools. I reminded this person that I am a veteran educator who works daily with boys and girls, and I raised two sons. I am aware of the boys' drop-out rates. I have seen boys experience socialemotional learning problems and academic difficulties. Many of them are raised by hard-working, struggling single mothers.

It's very easy for me to see why I need to support girls and women. When we lift up women's lives, we lift up everybody's life, including the lives of boys and men. Today, more than half of American women are the primary breadwinners in their households. According to 2018 U.S. Census Bureau, there were about 11 million single-parent families, and more than 80% of those families are headed by single mothers. Yet, we know a gender pay gap and the staggering glass ceiling still exist.

Pay equity and more women in leadership matter! Without pay equity for women, children suffer. Without gender diversity, men and women are held to restrictive gender standards that hamper their potential in the work place and in society. Gender diversity and inclusivity are human issues. In business and in government, diverse perspectives are needed for greater innovation and better decision-making. Because of personal life experiences, women bring different in perspectives to problem-solving and different approaches to public discourse. Leadership in businesses around the world is grossly unbalanced. Only less than a guarter of management positions are occupied by women globally, and the disparity is even greater when it comes to CEO positions. Equally-shared leadership between men and women is imperative to advance humanity.

We now have the most women in U.S. history who serve in Congress - 102 in the House of Representatives and 25 in the U.S. Senate. This is good progress, but the fact that we must excitedly claim 2018 the "year of the woman" and the theme of the International Women's Day was "Time Is Now: Rural and Urban Activists Transforming Women's lives" signifies that we still have more work to do to achieve gender equality.

> Van Ha To-Cowell Co-President



2018-2019 Elected Board of Directors

Co-Presidents Donna Hammel Van Ha To-Cowell

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Program Vice Presidents Sandra Mazzuola Ronda Sanders

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Financial Vice President Bette Outlaw

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Secretaries Alice Malde Katherine White

Branch Website:

Ronda Sanders stockton-ca.aauw.net

Delta Steamer Published monthly (Sept-June)

Editor John Milford <u>studio@prodgod.com</u> (209) 952-0547





The mentors and our girls came together in March to celebrate Women's History Month by gathering at the home of Paula Almaas to view the story of the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, "On the Basis of Sex." Not only is this a five star movie, it opened our girls' eyes to the plight of women who came before them. Mentors shared personal stories of discrimination which was a powerful lesson for our girls. At the same time, copious amounts of popcorn were consumed so there were some light-hearted moments as well. If you have not had the opportunity to see this movie you should view it On Demand right in your own living room!

We head to U.C. Davis in April for a campus tour. Watch this space for their impressions of that noble institute.



We have a casual small group that meets weekly to practice speaking French. Whatever your level of fluency, from beginner or beyond, you are welcome to check us out. We emphasize fun over strict adherence to grammar rules. Contact Carolyn Wischhusen at 957-0952.





2019 AAUW Art Show Awardees: Left to right- Chauntelle Perez, Dawn LeAnn, Jeffrey DeSersa, Amanda Johnston

AAUW Stockton Branch held its 3rd annual art show and contest on Saturday, March 16th in the Fellowship Hall at Central United Methodist Church. A large number of AAUW members attended along with participating artists and friends. Local college students and community artists, including AAUW members, were invited to address the theme "Empowering Women and Girls."

In the spirit of promoting education, local college art students were given the opportunity to participate in this juried show and compete for cash awards Four awards were given: Amanda Johnston, first place, \$200, Jeffrey DeSersa, second place, \$150, Dawn LeAnn, third place, \$100 and Chauntelle Perez, Honorable Mention, \$50.

Our guest speaker was San Joaquin Delta professor Leslie Asfour who gave a most engaging talk about 20th century women's fashions. There was so much information and everyone was enjoying it. Rather than rush through the later part of the 20th century, Professor Asfour has agreed to come back to finish her talk at another branch meeting.

Ronda Sanders and Jo Wagner arranged and hung the art work and Jo created the certificates for the award winners. A special thanks goes to Jan Marlese, director of the Horton Gallery on the campus of San Joaquin Delta College who encouraged Delta students to participate.



Trivia Bee Friday, April 26th Stockton Arena

We have our TEAM: Sandra Mazzuola, Russ Wylie and Bill Oren.

The theme is: "Those Fabulous 40's - All things 1840's and 1940's"

I purchased a packet of tickets. You can send me a check for \$30 and I will send you a ticket by return mail. The money generated benefits the Library and Literacy Foundation.

> Bette Outlaw bou82235@aol.com

<u>Save the Date</u>

Brunch Buddies

Saturday, May 11th

9:30-11am

O'Connor Woods Living Room

Details coming in May Steamer

What a great conversation we had in March in a great location: Living Room at O'Connor Woods! We'll be there again on Saturday, May llth with breakfast buffet to be determined. Save the date and enjoy an opportunity to be heard in a congenial setting. What is your biggest area of concern locally? Nationally? What do you do about it?

Peggy Guttieri/Pamela Cooney

Thank you for your donation of \$65.00 to go to the Operating Fund. It is greatly appreciated.

We haven't had any opportunity drawings so far this year, so this donation really helps.

Bette Outlaw, Treasurer

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AMAZON SMILE benefits the Community Outreach Fund, Inc. Go to: <u>Smile.amazon.com</u>, if you have an account, log on and it will prompt you to identify your charity. There are many AAUW groups. Look for AAUW Stockton Branch Community Outreach Fund, Inc. Proceed with your purchase. If you just go to Amazon, it will usually ask you if you want Amazon Smile. Click on it. Thank you for your participation. Each penny helps.

Sectory updates

Please make the following additions, deletions and corrections to your Directory:

New Members:

Cassie Findlay 2010 Meadow Ave. Stockton, CA 95207 (209) 696-5506 <u>cbfindlay@outlook.com</u> 2018 University of the Pacific BS Business Mgmt & HR

Karen Frank 3808 Falmouth Ct. Stockton, CA 95219 (209) 406-9317 Frank0890@sbcglobal.net 1989 UCSF MS Nursing

Maiya Lee 1321 Woodmont Way Stockton CA 95209 (209) 479-3125 <u>maiyam@pacbell.net</u> BA UC Santa Barbara Masters National Univ.



Nominee for the 2019-2021 AAUW Executive Board

Director at Large: Jan Vernor-Howard

Members will vote on the nominee at the May branch meeting.

EQUAL PAY DAY IS IN APRIL

"THIS ARTICLE DISCUSSES THE IMPACT OF CLOSING THE PAY GAP FOR INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES AND THE US ECONOMY"

"Imagine an America without a Pay Gap It is common knowledge that a woman in the United States makes 80 cents per dollar made by a man of similar qualifications. The pay gap is worse for women of color. In an era when women make up nearly 50% of the workforce, this pay gap burdens individual family finances and the economy. A recent study estimated the impact on society if the pay gap was corrected.

How would closing the pay gap be expected to impact families?

- 60% of working women and 66% single working mothers would see an increase in their pay
- Poverty rates for working women would drop by half from 8% to 3.8%
- Poverty rates for single working mothers would drop from 28.9% to 14.5%

How would the US economy benefit?

- Closing the pay gap would increase gross domestic product an estimated \$500 million, roughly 2.6% of the GDP of our entire nation
- The increase in women's earnings would be roughly 16 times what federal and state

governments spent in 2015 for temporary assistance to needy families

The pay gap adversely impacts American families. Closing it would raise many out of poverty and reduce the need for public assistance. The question to ask our elected officials is not whether we as a society can afford to pay men and women the same income for the same work. The question is, how can we afford not to? "

Archana Maniar-AAUW Public Policy CA Source: The Impact of Equal Pay on Poverty and the Economy 2017, Institute of Women's Policy Research

> Marilyn Wylie Public Policy Chair

AAUW Book Group

Tuesday, April 16th, 6pm Reviewer: Betty Parsons Hostess: Pam Mallett-Jones

Cool Gray City of Love by Gary Kamiya



San Francisco history, travelogue and love story of the city



AAUW Stockton Branch, Inc. DELTA STEAMER P.O. Box 690663 Stockton, CA 95269-0663

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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. 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.

April Calendar

| Day | Date | Time | Event | Location/Contact |
|-----|------|---------|--|---------------------------------|
| | | Online | Submission of Articles/Pictures | ronsan3628@sbcglobal.net |
| | | Anytime | for <u>stockton-ca.aauw.net</u> Web Page | |
| Tue | 16 | 6:00pm | AAUW Book Group - Cool Gray City of Love - Gary Kamiya | Jeanne Gaia (209) 403-4365 |
| Mon | 22 | All-Day | Reservation Deadline | Joan Erreca – 478-1457 |
| Mon | 22 | 6:00pm | Board Meeting | Home of Van Ha To-Cowell |
| | | | | 3872 Brook Valley Circle |
| Fri | 26 | 5:00pm | Trivia Bee - "Those Fabulous 40's" | Stockton Arena |
| Sat | 27 | 9:30am | Program – Branching Out | Central United Methodist Church |