

The Lodestone

October 2023



Nevada County Branch

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AAUW Mission

The mission of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. To that end, the organization encourages its members to actively participate in public discussion to ensure enlightened advocacy on the priorities of AAUW as established by members. Priorities were adopted in May 2019 and can be found on the AAUW website under AAUW Public Policy Priorities.

<https://www.aauw.org/issues/>

Saturday,
October 21

Doors open:
9:30 AM

Program starts:
10:00 AM

Peace Lutheran Church
828 West Main
Grass Valley



Wildfire Threat: Building Resistance in the Sierra Nevada

We are pleased to bring you programs in October and November that highlight two critical issues in our region...fire and water.

This month we welcome Brittany Covich with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC). Brittany serves as SNC's Policy and Outreach Division Chief.

Did you know that the Sierra Nevada-Cascade area, which is supported by SNC's work, includes 60% of the state's animal species and that 75% percent of the state relies on this region for fresh drinking water? Yet vast swaths of this area are at high fire risk putting animal species and fresh drinking water supplies in jeopardy.



Brittany Covich

At the October 21 program, we will hear how the SNC is helping to reduce wildfire risk, protect biodiversity and improve recreation access. Brittany will also tell us about the SNC's role in helping restore lands when wildfires occur. Lastly, we'll hear about their support of cutting-edge scientific research projects and how they are using regional knowledge to advance forest management strategies.

This exciting presentation will be followed in November with a look at our regional water supply. Nevada Irrigation District Board (NID) Directors Karen Hull and Ricki Heck will explain how our changing climate is influencing the way NID is planning for the future. More to come on this engaging program in next month's Lodestone.

Happy Halloween

Wow, what a fantastic launch we experienced at our recent Welcome Back Brunch. We were close to 'standing room only' with a group of energized and engaged women. The drop-in visit from our local scholarship girls was frosting on the cake. So great to get a last glimpse of them before they set off for their college experiences. I can't wait to hear their stories and follow their growth through studies and careers. Our Tech Trek girls were incredible and so grateful for their experiences at UC Davis this summer. No one deserved a standing ovation more than **Martha Rees** who has led our branch through many seasons of Tech Trek experiences.

We have an exciting year ahead with a slate of important educational programs for our members---and our community, new partnerships with The Food Bank and Interfaith Food Ministry for our holiday service projects, a joint public forum we will co-sponsor with League of Women Voters and Business & Professional Women to help us talk with others despite our differences.



Thirteen new members have joined our Branch since July 1st. Please reach out and welcome them and help them get connected.

Thank you to all our interest group leaders for the exceptional displays and enthusiasm you brought to encourage participation, and to **Susie Monary-Wilson** for her outstanding support of these groups for many years.



*Deb York
Branch President*

My hope for this year is that we: continue to focus on inclusion; expand opportunities to engage with our community; continue to expand membership; raise funds for education for women & girls; and engage Program Sponsors to help cover the additional facility costs for our monthly programs. Rental fees at the church have doubled and our programs are now averaging \$500.00 each. Contact Jennifer Wilkerson or myself if you can help. My best,
Deborah York, President

Covid Guidelines

1. We will assume all Branch members are vaccinated and boosted. If you are not, please wear a mask and let Deb York know, and we will accommodate.
2. If you are experiencing symptoms associated with Covid 19 (fever, headache, loss of taste/smell, sore throat, cough, muscle/joint aches, shortness of breath, etc.) please stay home from Branch activities.
3. If a close family member has symptoms or has tested positive, and you do not have symptoms, please mask when carpooling or attending indoor meetings.
4. If you have been traveling with increased exposure, please wear a mask for 5 days after returning if you are attending indoor meetings.
5. A meeting host (interest group leaders, committee chairs, etc.) may request participants to test negative prior to attending meeting or wear masks.
6. If you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive (with/without symptoms) please alert meeting host and wear a mask.
7. We will track Nevada County Covid rates and follow all local government and CDC guidelines. We will notify all Branch members of any changes to these guidelines.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Deborah York
President Elect	Open
Secretary	Ann Gould
Finance Officers	Jennifer Wilkerson & Peg Flanders
Program VPs	Karen Hull & Diane Kellegrew
Membership VP	Deb Cubberley
AAUW Fund VPs	Carol McMillan & Mari Kobus

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Local Scholarship	Rhea Williamson
Public Policy	Melanie Heckel
DEI Officer	Lisa Turlo
Publicity	Martha Rees
Tech Trek	Martha Rees
Ways and Means	Karin Quinn
Communications	Katherine "Bup" Greenwood

STANDING COMMITTEES (Non-Board Functions)

Lodestone & Branch Website	CeCe Royal
Distribution	Jan Williams
Directory/Database	Bonnie White
Hospitality	Gretchen Corbin
Interest Groups	Susie Monary-Wilson
Friendship	Pat Pedersen
Historians	Margaret Munson & Shirley Zeff
Fundraiser	Open
Financial Underwriters Development	Open
Photography	Martha Rees
AAUW Msg Line	Bernadette Sylvester
	Sue Miller
	CeCe Royal



If you are interested in getting involved, please consider the following opportunities. Audio-Visual recording during branch program meetings

1. **Making audio-visual recordings** during Branch meetings.
 2. **Help with Branch program set-up** 3:00-4:00 at Peace Lutheran the Friday before each program (Oct, Nov, Jan-April)
 3. **Posting notices and pictures of our activities and events on our Facebook page** (we have lots of pictures available).
 4. **Fundraising Chair** open board position. We have a team in place to support this work, need a leader.
 5. **Underwriting Chair** open board position. We have a team in place to support this work, need a leader
- Contact **Sue VanSon** for #s1 and 2, **Cece Royal** for #3, and **Deb York** for #s 4 and 5



The pictures to the right are from Susie Monary-Wilson's granddaughter's unicorn-attended birthday party. The unicorn visit was one of the auction items offered by Carol McMillan's sister, Mary, at last year's Tapas & Trivia fundraiser. Susie says the party was a great success and the "unicorns" (of course) a hit!



Advancing Gender Equity is Advancing Environmental Sustainability (and vice versa)

By Missy Maceyko, Co-Chair, CA State Public Policy Committee

After a year of wild weather in California, many of us may be thinking more about climate, environment, and sustainability. How does our concern with the weather relate to [AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities](#)? Advancing gender equity is directly related to environmental sustainability. The inverse is also true.

The [United Nations sustainable development goals](#), adopted in 2015, seek to push all countries to act to protect the planet, ensure widespread prosperity, and promote peace. Achieving gender equality, goal number five, is a crucial element in this overall strategy.

We know that [having greater gender diversity in leadership](#) improves organizations. One of AAUW California's public policy focus areas is increasing women in leadership positions. However,

we can see how sustainable development goal 5, promoting greater gender equality, alongside advancing AAUW California's public policy priorities, can be important for achieving sustainable development goal 13, creating more impactful climate action.

Data also shows us that (un)sustainable production and consumption patterns, which harm the environment, [tend to be gendered](#), with "green" choices being widely feminized. While this is a global trend, we see this in popular portrayals of more planet-friendly consumption choices in the United States, as well, such as veganism, [which tends to be marked as more "feminine"](#) and less "masculine." This example shows us that sustainable development goal 5, promoting greater gender equality, alongside AAUW California's overall public policy mission of advancing equity for women and girls, is also important for achieving sustainable development goal 12, which focuses on creating more planet-friendly and responsible production and consumption patterns.



Advancing gender equity is directly related to environmental sustainability, and vice versa. In advancing AAUW California's public policy goals, and expanding the rights of all women and girls, we can help create the conditions for greater justice and inclusion, economic parity, and environmental viability, all at the same time.

advancing this goal can also have positive climate impacts. [The UN has found that having greater gender diversity in climate discussions leads to improved outcomes](#) on climate-focused policies and projects. This is just one case in which

If we took away barriers to women's leadership, we would solve the climate change problem a lot faster.—*Mary Robinson*



Melanie Heckel
Public Policy Co-Chair

Shared Camp Experiences



Martha Rees
Camp Co-Director

Loved the September Brunch and the chance for members to see the remarkable young ladies who you helped send to Tech Trek STEM camp at UC Davis this past summer. Hope you enjoyed the 2023 Tech Trek @ UC Davis camp video, produced by **Ava Johnson**, who was a former Trekker and is one of the 2023 Local Scholarship recipients. Hearing directly from the Trekkers themselves is always a treat for me, hope for you, too. 2023 Trekkers **Sage, Aidynn, Peyten**, and **Lili** shared camp highlights, including the Engineering and Astronomy/Space core classes and the Veterinary Labs and Mondavi Center for Performing Arts field trips. Hope you also had a chance to chat with the girls to learn more about their experience.

Anyone interested in being part of the Nevada County Tech Trek Committee, or just finding out more about what we do, please contact **Martha Rees**, mjkrees@yahoo.com. Also, let me know if you are interested in learning how you might participate in the actual Tech Trek @ UC Davis camp. (As you may know, we are

looking for individuals who might be interested in camp leadership. From personal experience, I can attest that it is wonderfully rewarding because of the incredible people you meet – girls and women alike!!)

For those of you who missed the brunch, here is the camp video, enjoy: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nN6yuaKw7qSqyxrntF3IMdiF4L4rW5DM/view?usp=sharing>

And, **Astrid, Brooklyn**, and **Makaela**, who were unable to attend, had each video-recorded their presentations; though time did not allow us to play those. So here they are:

Makaela: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o82gl8QzNOul26eKia5wZQLmbliOdkRj/view?usp=drive_link

Brooklyn: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KTYgkAuRxYXtiRZ2qniSkblLJc5Dtnfo/view?usp=drive_link

Astrid: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G6lZb4euTt8yaO5x1fKtyfPTpMQvfZdx/view?usp=drive_link



Trekkers with 2023 Dorm Moms and Branch Members Michelle Baker and Jo Reiken

Celebrating the Year's Start

The brunch provided an energizing and inspiring start to the year with a focus on Tech Trekkers, Interest Groups, and the coming year's programs.

The program began with **President Deb York's** opening remarks, outlining what is planned in the coming year. Four Tech Trekkers from the 2023 alumnae girls took the stage and recounted some of their favorite experiences during the summer week at camp, attending classes, conducting experiments, and learning what it was like to live on a college campus and make new friends. Co-Directors of the camp, **Martha Rees** and **Stephanie Facchini**, thanked school educators and district staff as well as the girls' parents for their assistance and support in nominating and preparing the girls who were awarded this prized opportunity. Readers of the girls' applications also stood and received applause for their continued dedication every year in reading and evaluating the numerous applications, each vying for a spot in the group sent to camp.

Teri McConnell, last year's Edi Silverman Award recipient, announced this year's awardee, **Robin Laverly-Reves**, for her work with InConcert Sierra and its focus on youth's music appreciation, live music performance experiences, and education.

Sue Van Son described a holiday philanthropic project that will partner with Interfaith Food Ministry and The Food Bank to provide support to families experiencing food insecurity.

The program concluded with a prize awarded to a scavenger answer-hunt quiz created by **Susie Monary-Wilson**, which focused on Interests Groups and scholarship data.



Local Scholarship Recipient Updates

Halle Browning by Jennifer Wilkerson

Halle Browning, a Ghidotti graduate, is off to Chico State this semester. She will be living with three other Nevada County girls, sharing a 4-bedroom apartment off campus.

Halle is exploring a few options: nursing, public health, counseling. She has some fairly specific visions, perhaps as a "helicopter nurse" or neonatal care. Class choice and availability force Chico students to focus early on a declared major in their first year. Music is a big part of Halle's life which she will include in her studies as well.

Halle has Nevada County family history dating back to the Gold Rush. She wanted to stay close to be able to come home for visits with her parents and sisters, ages 13 and 7, and attend family events such as her Grandfather's BBQs.

This summer, Halle continued working as a barista at Caroline's, as well as pet- and house-sitting. With her warm personality and obvious commitment to hard work, I predict Halle will achieve whatever she dreams.

I will be sending her a novel I am enjoying, [The IT Girl](#), recommended by someone in AAUW. It's a murder mystery taking place during the first years at Oxford. Halle said she's interested to read it.



Jennifer Callas by Bonnie Curtis

Jennifer Jobeth Callas was born on 6/17/1985 in Anaheim, CA. At the age of three, she moved with her parents to Grass Valley. She graduated from NUHS in 2003. Jennifer traveled to Europe visiting 10 different countries, lived in Costa Rica and Nicaragua and completed coursework at both Sierra and Cuesta (San Luis Obispo) JC's.

In addition, she earned a certificate in Massage Therapy as well as completing a Healing Program, including meditation practice and energy work on others. THAT, she says, "is the best thing I ever did!"

Then, more recently, her younger brother was in a tragic accident where he was not expected to live. Thanks to an alert, observant, on-duty nurse, further treatment was advised which led to her brother's ultimate survival and return to productive living. This nurse's life-saving action absolutely solidified Jennifer's decision to make nursing her life's work.

Currently she is beginning year 2 of her nursing program at Sierra College. "My current GPA is 4.0. I'm doing my clinical hours at Sutter Roseville Hospital in December 2024."



SAVE THE DATE Fall 2023 - Local Scholarship Full Team Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Madelyn Helling Library/Community Room

Fruit and cookies will be provided.

Agenda to follow.

Interest Groups

In addition to our commitment to AAUW Nevada County Branch's mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research, we provide educational and enrichment opportunities for our members.

If you would like to learn more about the Interest Groups, please see the leaders' contact information in the AAUW Membership Directory or contact Susie Monary-Wilson, 530-470-9272.



Susie Monary-Wilson,
Interest Group Coordinator

Arts and Crafts — Teri McConnell

In October we will be learning the basics on how to make gift bags that you can personalize with your own decorations. Two different techniques will be taught. One suitable for larger items, and one made with just one 12"x12" sheet of craft paper! No experience necessary, just a love of making things. This meeting will be held on **Thurs., October 5th, at 10:00 am,**



at the home of **Pat Pedersen**. For information on supplies needed and to RSVP, please Contact **Teri McConnell**. The November craft will be: Dry felting autumn leaves.

Book Discussions

■ Mostly Fiction — Robin Laverty-Reves

Members of the Mostly Fiction Book Discussion Group jumped into the 2023-24 year with an enthusiastic discussion of Pulitzer Prize winner, *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver for September. October's selection, *Spare*, is Prince Harry's memoir, ghostwritten by J.R. Moehringer. Our group will meet on **Thurs, October 12, 1:00**, at Shanti Emerson's home to discuss the book's depictions of family/relationships, loss, and fame. One member noted the audio edition is read by Prince Harry. If you would like more information, please contact Robin at lavertyreves@gmail.com.



■ Non-Fiction — Diane Kellegrew

The Non-Fiction Book Club is off to a successful start after our September meeting at Lily's Garden. Our first three books of the season focus on health and wellness. In October, we will read *The Secret Life of Groceries: The Dark Miracle of the American Supermarket* by Benjamin Lorr. Spoiler alert- you will be grateful that Nevada County has such wonderful access to products from high quality organic farms. You will also be better informed for how to grocery shop for your own health and wellness. The group will meet on **Tues, October 17, 1:00pm to 2:30 pm**, at the home of Ann Shulse. To learn more or to RSVP, please contact Diane diane.kellegrew@gmail.com.

Writing Group — Deb York



The Writing group will meet **Monday October 10, 11:00-1:00**, at the Madelyn Helling Library, Prospector room. Contact Deborah York 925.216.6140 for more information.

Gardening — Janine Martin

Gardeners are invited to meet at New Life Nursery at 17115 Penn Valley Dr. on **Thursday, October 26th**, from **10:00 to 12:00 pm**.

We will make beautiful arrangements for our autumn décor. Pumpkins and succulents will be

provided along with everything else we might need. I will provide cookies, lemonade, and tea.

Price \$30. RSVP to Janine Martin janineandgalen@gmail.com 530 263 5894



Great Decisions — Susie Monary-Wilson

Great Decisions will meet on **Tuesday, October 24**, from **10 to noon** to discuss Chapter 8, "Climate Migration," led by Mari Weaver and Carol Raynsford.

We'll meet at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 235 South Church Street, Grass Valley in Bucks Hall. Please contact Susie Monary-Wilson for more information at

monarywilson@msn.com.



"One thing life has taught me: if you are interested, you never have to look for new interests. They come to you. When you are genuinely interested in one thing, it will always lead to something else."

— Eleanor Roosevelt

Gnaw & Jaw — Deb Cubberley & Chris Boykin



To those of you who are new to our group, welcome. To returning members, we are so glad to see you back. Our 2023-2024 dining groups have been chosen. Each dining

group will meet at least three times between now and the end of May 2024, generally aiming for a dinner in **October, January** and **May**.

A theme will be provided for each dinner as a way to hopefully guide the groups into some new territory.

Plans are also in the works for a couple of dining out experiences in local eateries.

If you feel that you missed the opportunity to sign up, it is never too late, just contact either Chris Boykin chrismboykin@gmail.com or Deb Cubberley debclubberley@comcast.net, your G'nJ group co-leaders.

Please know that (1) spouses, significant others, or just a plus-one are welcome and (2) you are also encouraged to come as a single if you prefer. Bon appétit!



Gracious Helpers — Pat Pedersen

Gracious Helpers is a group that provides meals for members who are suffering from a trauma. It might be an injury, death, or surgery for themselves or a spouse

or significant other. We determine the needs of the member, such as dietary necessities, day of delivery and time of the delivery. We use the Meal Train website to provide us with a page for the recipient. The page provides not only all their information and needs, but also, a calendar

which we use to let each other know the days that are available for meals. We are beginning again to need meals for our members. Consequently, we will need more volunteers to provide these meals. They can either make homemade meals or use restaurant meals. We deliver easy meals, and most providers make meals which they usually make for themselves. Contact [Pat Pedersen](#), who will be happy to explain the process to you.

Hiking Group — Mary Menconi

We are fortunate to live in an area with many beautiful places to hike, including trails just a few minutes from downtown Grass Valley and Nevada City. These trails are at their best in the fall, winter, and spring, with gorgeous colors, great vistas, and abundant wildflowers. The Nevada County AAUW Hiking Group meets the first Wednesday and fourth Monday of each month, year 'round. In the winter

we hike in our local area or at a lower elevation, and in the summer, we usually head for the high country. Trails are chosen by group members, so we get to enjoy a wide variety of hikes! If you would like to be on the email list

for upcoming hikes, or if just want to know more, please contact Mary Menconi at marymenconi@gmail.com



IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Action Squad) — Lisa Turlo

We had a great time attending the Latino Family festival on September 14. ➡

Our next meeting is **Wednesday, October 25, 1-3**, at Lisa Turlo's house.

Please contact Lisa at lisaturlo59@gmail.com for more information.



Make their day – and yours: AAUW's Holiday Service Projects

We have an opportunity to help others with the most basic, important need of all: food for those without. As Sue Van Son explained at the Welcome Back Brunch, the extent of local food insecurity became evident during a Great Decisions focused on global famine. Participants wondered what the local reality was, how many in our county experienced food insecurity. The answer is shocking: twenty-one percent of Nevada County residents reported not having enough to eat (CalMatters, July 2020).

Who are these people? They are working families, senior citizens, veterans, and people from all walks of life. Without Interfaith Food Ministry (IFM), the Food Bank and other supportive agencies, they would not know where their next meal is coming from. In 2022, IFM served over 9500 people, including 5229 children and seniors.

IFM distributes food to about 1200 families within a two-week period, supported by 400 volunteers and by the community—by farmers and grocers, and by many generous donors. For the holidays, IMF plans to provide each family with a special meal, but they can only do that with community help. That's where we come in.

Each one of us can sponsor a family's holiday meal with a donation of \$25. That's it—an entire meal including a turkey or ham, potatoes, a vegetable, soup, and cranberry sauce for just twenty-five bucks. Can you spare that much? Maybe you'll sponsor two



families, or four, or give some meals as a gift in someone's name. Whatever your budget allows will be welcomed. Give till it feels good, and make the holidays brighter for yourself while you cheer others.

Checks should be made out to IMF, with "Holiday Food Drive" on the memo line, and brought to the October or November Branch meetings, or may be mailed to AAUW Holiday Project, PO Box 326, Grass Valley CA 95945.

And if you have any spare change...you can support our second project. For 'spare change' we will provide 100 holiday gift bags with treats to be distributed to home-bound individuals receiving food delivery through the Food Bank. What we include will depend on how much we donate, but all 100 will receive this extra treat—especially appreciated by those without mobility.

Bring your spare change to the October or November meetings—and thank you!

— Diane Kellegrew, Sue Van Son, Bonnie White, Susie Monary-Wilson, Bup Greenwood

Got some spare change?

Help provide 100 holiday gift bags with treats to be distributed to home-bound individuals receiving food delivery through the FoodBank.




...and make the holiday a little brighter by sharing.

Bring your spare change to Branch meetings in October & November.

Brunch Produces New Members

Welcome New Members

Deborah Cubberley

Before our big fall brunch, we were doing well, adding three more new members in late August/early September. Here are those three:

Cathy Kalt, a pediatric advice nurse working fulltime, but with lots of outside interests.

Helen Cavanaugh is working parttime as a deputy county counsel here in the county.

The third is **Nanci Mason**, a former member who decided to rejoin.

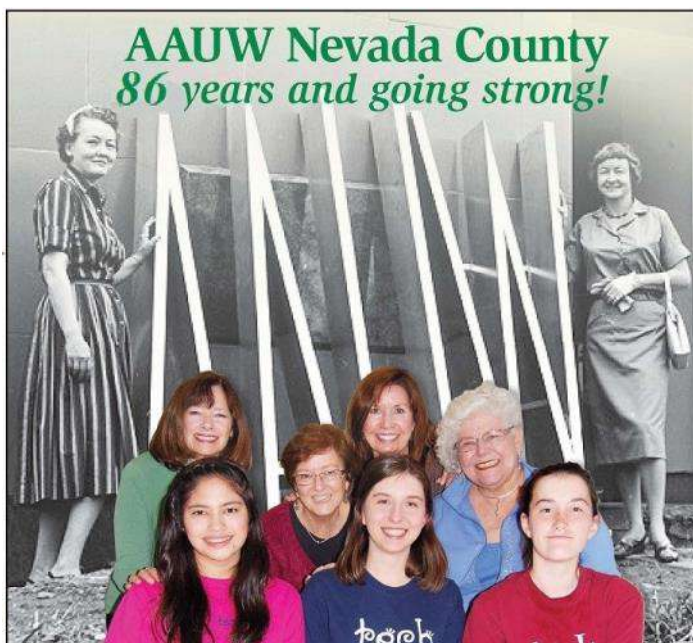
At the September Brunch we apparently made an impression because we had NINE join our ranks. In one sentence I'll try to tell you something about each one.

Joan Naszady has a degree in forestry, but has spent the last twenty-six years teaching.

Vicki Lester has a degree in child development, but is presently retired.

Vicky Hines has a PhD in biochemistry, and is retired.

Tammie Johnston has a degree in animal sciences and further education in nuclear medicine in which she worked for many years.



Claire Enright has a nursing degree and at present is working as the executive director of Quality Care Health Foundation/California Association of Health Facilities.



*Deb Cubberley,
Membership VP*

Gail Bakker has multiple degrees, the last in water resources engineering which she put to use as an environmental consultant for the USFS. Now she is retired after more than thirty years of teaching,

Mary Sivila rejoined our Branch.

Patricia Dwyer worked as a clinical laboratory scientist at SNMH, but is now retired.

Anne Covert, a retired teacher (32 years!), is active with Sammie's Friends and Curious Forge.

A single sentence does not begin to describe any of these talented women. All seem enthusiastic and ready to "dive-in" to the wonderful opportunities we offer.

I hope that each of you will take some time to introduce yourself and find out more about our new members. Remember, they will be the ones with a bee on their name tag. Unfortunately these new members did not make it into the new membership directory, but contact information for all of our members is available to members only online. Or drop me an email if you'd like contact information.

See you at the October meeting. It promises to be interesting.

Some of you may remember the poster at left, created in 2012 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Branch's start in 1937. The original text. "75 years and going strong," still rings true today in 2023, as we hit "86 years and going strong!"

Our Generous Underwriters

These businesses and individuals have generously donated toward the support of our Branch as individual underwriters. More information can be found about the businesses on the Branch website under [Philanthropy>Financial Underwriters](#). Please patronize them and thank them for their support!

- **Bodacious Blooms Flower Farm**
Karen Hull
- **KNCO News Talk 830**
- **Nevada Irrigation District**
- **Allison Rapp**
- **Sierra Tech Guy**
David Ball
- **SPD Market**
Ben Painter
- **Westamerica Bank**
Bernadette & Ed Sylvester
- **Jennifer L. Wilkerson, Attorney at Law**
- **Wolf Mountain Spa**
Dan Wray
- **Carol Young**



Ways & Means — Karin Quinn



*Karin Quinn
Ways & Means
Chair*

Welcome Autumn! Welcome to all new and old members many of whom were in attendance at the September 16, 2023, meeting. We reconnected, met new people and got to know a little more about the operations and the achievements of our Branch.

As you may or may not know, Ways and Means helps fund the continuous operations of the Branch which includes monthly programs, related facility rental costs, speakers, office supplies, etc. To help with these expenses, we sell branded AAUW items as well as donated books, and collect change in a bucket.

So, you may ask, what can I buy to help with this? Well, I'm happy to announce



that we have some new items this season. You can order your own choice of color, fabric and style of long or short sleeve T-shirts (see adjacent photo). In addition, coming soon, we will have day backpacks in 3 colors. And, back by popular demand, aprons will be available in 2 new colors. Stay tuned! We also have beautiful ceramic AAUW traveling tumblers, added earlier this year.

As the incoming chair of Ways and Means, I am open to suggestions for new product ideas or improvements on the old ones. Your previous chair **Chris Boykin** initiated a successful raffle, which could happen again if someone has a lovely item to donate for this purpose. Just a few things to think about as we embark on a new year together.

Hope to see you all at our next Branch meeting!