

The Lodestone

APRIL 2024



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**SATURDAY
APRIL 20**

9:30-11:30

Peace Lutheran Church
828 West Main
Grass Valley

Elections Confidential: An Insider's View

You do not have to look far these days to find headlines about stolen elections and Americans waning confidence in the election process. While research indicates a slight rebound in election confidence in 2022, voter distrust persists across the partisan divide and among Black and Latino voters. How has our local election process shifted and adapted to this contentious political climate?



Natalie Adona

On April 20th, the AAUW Branch Meeting will host a 'candid conversation' with **Natalie Adona**, Nevada County Clerk Recorder. Since winning the election in 2022, Natalie Adona has worked diligently to create transparency in our local election process. During the April Branch meeting, we drill down into the anatomy of the election process and hear what it's like to run an election.

Natalie will share some of her challenges as Registrar of Voters. The conversation will be solutions based. Contribute your thoughts as we ponder voter mistrust and how to restore trust in our local election process.

Natalie Adona has over 15 years of experience in the administration of public elections. Natalie holds a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley and a J.D. from the American University College of Law. She also completed an M.P.A. and Certified Elections and Registration Administration Credential from Auburn University.

[Continued on Page 5](#)

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 the Strategic Plan: <https://www.aauw.org/resource>



Deborah York

Despite the rain, which I know we all appreciate, AAUW has been busier than ever this time of year.

Our Local Scholarship teams have been reading scholarship applications/making recommendations, and our Tech Trek teams have been interviewing candidates for camp this summer. These are core programs for our Branch to support education for women and girls in Nevada County.

Our annual fundraising event, "Fund the Future," for Local Scholarship is coming up on April 27. Our hope is to expand both the amount of support we provide and extend offers to additional highly qualified students. This Gala event will be at the home of Karen & Maury Hull in Auburn. It will be a wonderful evening of food, fun, friends, and music.

For the Gala, please [purchase tickets at our website, AAUW Nevada County](#), no later than [April 15](#), when we need to confirm the count with our caterer. Parking is limited and I know lots of us don't like to drive at night. Register to join a carpool when you sign up; we will arrange for someone to pick

you up at home and return you.

We are wrapping up our year with another exciting program on April 20th about Women and Voting. To start the program, we will vote on new and continuing Board members recommended by the Nominating Committee. We'll have some time prior to the meeting's start to discuss the upcoming vote with AAUW National regarding opening membership in AAUW to women without college degrees. The discussions will help you understand the pros and cons of this choice, and then it will be up to you to vote by May 15.

Our May 16th luncheon will be held at Miner's Foundry where we will thank our current Board members and install the new Board of Directors for the upcoming term.

You can purchase your May luncheon tickets (\$35.00) [online](#) or at the April meeting.

Wishing you all joy and sunshine ahead,

—Deb



President Deb York



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 |
| Past President | Katherine (Bup) Greenwood |
| Secretary | Ann Gould |
| Finance Officers | Jennifer Wilkerson & Peg Flanders |
| Program VPs | Karen Hull & Diane Kellegrew |
| Membership VP | Deb Cubberley |
| AAUW Fund VP | Carol McMillan |

APPOINTED OFFICERS

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Local Scholarship | Rhea Williamson |
| Public Policy | Melanie Heckel |
| DEI Officer | Lisa Turlo |
| Publicity | Martha Rees |
| Social Media | Open |
| Tech Trek | Martha Rees |
| Ways and Means | Karin Quinn |
| Communications | Katherine (Bup) Greenwood |
| Parliamentarian | Carolyn Woods |

STANDING COMMITTEES (NON-BOARD FUNCTIONS)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Lodestone</i> Editor | Cece Royal |
| <i>Lodestone</i> Copy Editors | Bup Greenwood & Martha Rees |
| Distribution | Jan Williams |
| Directory/Database | Bonnie White |
| Website | Cece Royal |
| Hospitality | Gretchen Corbin |
| Interest Groups | Susie Monary-Wilson |
| Friendship | Pat Pedersen |
| Historians | Margaret Munson & Shirley Zeff |
| Event Planner | Open |
| Program Sponsor | Open |
| Development | |
| Photography | Martha Rees Bernadette Sylvester Sue Miller |
| AAUW Msg Line | Peg Flanders |

Board Meeting Highlights

- Our Financial Reports continue to be strong and donations are continuing to fund our programs, scholarships, and Tech Trek.
- The March and April Branch meetings were discussed and clarified.
- The April Fundraiser and May Luncheon plans were reviewed and ticket sales have begun on the

- website and will be offered at the Branch meetings.
- The Nominating Committee reviewed the list of potential new officers and leaders for next year.
- The officers' job descriptions are continuing to be reviewed and updated.



Ann Gould
Secretary

2024-25 Nominated Officers/Chairs

Please thank your Nominating Committee of **Deborah Cubberley, Peg Flanders** and **Bup Greenwood**, with **JoAnn Castori** and **Karen Smith** in reserve, for their tireless work to fill the 2024-25 Executive Board positions. New officers/chairs are indicated in bold.

Up for your approval vote at the April 20th general meeting are the following, with co-officers listed alphabetically:

- Co-Presidents: **Diane Kellegrew** & **Carol McMillan**
- Secretary: Ann Gould
- Program Co-VPs: **Carolyn Feuille** & **Bernadette Sylvester**
- Finance Officer: Peg Flanders
- Membership VP: **Vicky Hines**
- AAUW Fund Co-VPs: **Fran Erickson** & **Barbara Johnson**

Nominations from the floor may be made on April 20 with the prior consent of the nominee. Please inform Pres. Deb York by April 13 if you intend to do so.

Serving with the Executive Board but not elected by general vote are the following appointed officers and committee chairs

- Local Scholarship: Rhea Williamson
- Public Policy: **Helen Cavanaugh**, Melanie Heckel
- DEI: Open
- Communications: Bup Greenwood

- Publicity and Tech Trek: Martha Rees
- Ways & Means: Karin Quinn
- Parliamentarian: Carolyn Woods
- Facility / Community Outreach: Sue Van Son
- Immediate Past President: **Deborah York**
- Hospitality: **Catherine Flowers, Janine Martin, Penny Savelly**
- Interest Groups: Susie Monary-Wilson & **Sue Van Son**
- *Lodestone* Editor/Website: CeCe Royal
- Distribution: Jan Williams
- Directory/Database: Bonnie White
- Gracious Helpers/Friendship: Pat Pedersen
- Historian: Shirley Zeff
- Program Sponsor Development: Open
- Fundraiser: Open
- Photography: Sue Miller, Martha Rees, Bernadette Sylvester
- AAUW Message Line: Peg Flanders

Please join us in April to vote in the new Board.

We are fortunate, and grateful, to have dedicated women, including the outgoing and the nominated officers, willing to share their time and talent with the Branch. Thank you all for the many hours given in service to our Branch, to local girls & women, and to the community.
—**Bup Greenwood**



Welcome to Spring! I sit writing this article at my computer while the sun is out and the flowers are blooming. What a refreshing change. This past month I did not get any information from AAUW National or AAUW CA about new initiatives pending, but I do have a few things to report.

AAUW California

AAUW CA is busy selecting our top priority bills for the California Legislature and getting ready for Lobby Days on April 2 and 3. I will be leading a team of five AAUW members from our region, hoping to meet with Senator Brian Dahle and Assemblywoman Megan Dahle or their representatives, to tell them about our top priority legislation this year. In the May newsletter, I will be able to report on all of this.

AAUW National

On Equal Pay Day, March 12th, the White House issued a Fact Sheet to AAUW National, that was forwarded to local Public Policy chairs.

GOOD NEWS

The Biden Administration, of course, wants to talk about their accomplishments and about what they hope to continue to accomplish. This was six pages long! I have only pulled out a few highlights, and toned down the language, since we are non-partisan and can't support candidates.

"Today on Equal Pay Day, we celebrate how far we have come and how far we have yet to go in closing the gender pay gap. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, America has seen an unprecedented and equitable, economic recovery, building back an economy that is the strongest in the world. Women's labor force participation is the highest it has been in decades, and the gender pay gap is the narrowest it has ever been on record."

Yet, women workers are still paid on average only 84 cents for every dollar paid to men. These inequities cost women more than \$1 trillion every year, and add up to hundreds of thousands of dollars lost over the course of a career for individual workers. The Biden Administration reaffirms its commitment to tackling pay gaps and announces new efforts to continue to build our understanding of pay disparities, address

inequities, and support women's economic security. Here are a few examples of recent improvements helping women in the workplace:

- **Ensuring women have access to good-paying jobs being created by the President's Investing in America agenda.** The American Rescue Plan (ARP), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, CHIPS and Science Act, and Inflation Reduction Act have created thousands of good-paying jobs in industries of the future available to women and people of color.
- **Expanding access to good paying construction jobs.** The Department of Commerce launched the Million Women in Construction initiative, which calls on chip manufacturers, construction companies, and unions to bring one million women into the construction industry over the next decade, roughly doubling women's representation in the industry.
- **Increasing access to affordable care and supporting caregivers.** Access to affordable, high-quality care is essential to ensuring parents, especially moms, can participate fully in the workforce. The ARP Child Care Stabilization program delivered historic support to over 225,000 child care programs serving as many as 10 million children across the country. Over 90% of the child care programs that have received assistance are women-owned.
- **Supporting women-owned businesses and entrepreneurs.** The Small Business Administration-backed loans to women-owned small businesses are up more than 60%, totaling \$5.1 billion in lending to women-owned businesses in FY 23. **A new report found that from 2019 to 2023, women's small business formation surged, substantially outpacing overall formation.**



*Melanie Heckel
Public Policy Chair*

—*Melanie Heckel, Public Policy Chair*

Payment and reservation(s) for the April 27 fundraiser below can be made online. **Click the image below.** Reservation deadline: **April 15.** Also, please indicate your preference for carpooling (or not) by completing the form linked to the web page.

If you are unable to attend and wish to donate any amount to this year's Local Scholarship fundraising efforts, you can use the [Donate](#) button on our website.

American Association of University Women - Raising Funds for Local Scholarships



**You Are Invited
to Join Us!**

Saturday, April 27, 2024

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Fund the Future - Come and Have a Blooming Grand Time!

Catered Buffet Dinner, Drinks, Live Music
Home of Karen and Maury Hull (pictured above)
North Auburn, CA
(Carpools available with online registration.)

Tickets: \$75/person
Purchase tickets online:
nevadacounty-ca.aauw.net-Events



(continued from Front Page)

April Meeting Program, *Election Confidential: Meeting Moderators*

Jan Bedayn and **Lynn Forbes**, Co-Presidents of the League of Women Voters of Nevada County, will serve as moderators.



Jan Bedayn

We are grateful to Jan and Lynn for their work in helping to plan this 'candid conversation.' The League of Women voters is a women-led organization that

believes the right to vote is a nonpartisan issue, and everyone should be encouraged to take part in democracy.

In this 2024 election cycle, the stakes are high. Be educated about the voting process, and let us work together to ensure trust in our elections.



Lynn Forbes



Spotlighting our 2024 High School Scholarship Recipients

By Ann Shulse

A huge round of applause, please, for the 18 incredible members of our Local Scholarship High School committee who diligently read a combined 35 scholarship applications. Whew! What a labor of love and dedication to carefully review each application, agonize and sift, interview some finalists, and ultimately select six STEM, two Cleo, and one High-School -to-Community-College recipients.

Each STEM recipient will receive \$3,000; the Cleo girls will each get \$4,000 which is renewable each year up to \$16,000 each; and the Community College gal will get \$1,000 each year while at Sierra College plus the balance of \$5,000 once transferred to a 4-year college. That adds up to \$27,000 in new high school scholarships we will give in 2024.

In addition to new scholarships, we'll also be giving \$24,000 in renewable Cleo scholarships, \$3,000 for one renewable STEM scholarship, and \$1,000 for one renewable Community College scholarship = \$28,000.

This year's new recipients include three of our previous Tech Trek girls—how exciting is that! Look at all the impressive majors being pursued! Also notice (in bold) the AAUW liaison who will partner with each recipient:

- Julie Barbieri, BS Chemistry/MS Forensic Science
Jennifer Wilkerson
- Brooke Clark, Public Health RN Nurse
Melanie Heckel
- Aria Conte, BS Neuroscience/Surgeon
Lisa Turlo

- Gina Genovese, BS/MS Biology Conservationist
Rhea Williamson
- Angela Martinez , BS Biology/MS Biology Engineer
Joan Naszady
- Sidney Pixley, Nurse Practitioner (Pediatrics)
Franny Erickson
- Maya Dehoyos, BA Bus Admin/Accountant
Bonnie Curtis
- Julia Katz, BA Investigative Journalist
Nancy Jeffery
- Delaney Sherr BS Environmental Science/ Herpetologist
Ann Shulse

Stay tuned in May to learn about the new Sierra College Re-Entry and Transfer recipients who will collectively be receiving \$12,000. Including the \$55,000 in high school scholarships; that's a total of \$67,000 we'll be investing in young women, thanks to the generosity of donors like you.

Thank you for your support!
Fund the Future!!





Aneka Torgrimson Doesn't Miss a Beat

By Ann Shulse

Aneka Torgrimson is an extremely active sophomore at UC Davis and is making every minute of her college experience count. As one of our Cleo recipients for four years, she would make Cleo Gibson proud by her passion for learning, her dedication to activism, and advocacy for herself and others.

Besides taking a required university writing class, next quarter she'll be enjoying three Asian American Studies classes that are a part of her major with that name. Did you know that Asian Americans make up 54% of the student population at UC Davis?

Aneka attends classes and works on campus Monday - Wednesday. Outside of class, she has three jobs that not only provide some income but allow her to mentor and tutor other Asian American students. She continues to be a research assistant for one of her professors that involves interviewing subjects and gathering data. She is a peer advisor with the Strategic Asian and Pacific Islander Retention Initiative, which supports students to complete their education and graduate.

Aneka is also a peer advisor in the Asian American Studies Department, assisting students to determine or modify their major and minor. She interfaces with professors,

providing feedback in an effort to enhance communication of information and ideas.

Off campus in the town of Davis, Aneka has gotten involved with the League of Women Voters and soon she will be hosting an event on campus called "Ballots and Boba." If you don't know, Boba, or Bubble Tea, is a popular cold drink with young people that has tapioca pearls in it that create some interesting texture and chewing fun! Any student who attends the LWV event will get a free Boba to sip while being given voting materials, a chance to register to vote, and encouragement to vote in November. Aneka has agreed to do this outreach to establish an LWV presence on campus.



On Thursdays and Fridays, Aneka is back in Grass Valley working at Chan Family Optometry as an Administrative Assistant, doing web design and marketing for them. This part-time work during school leads to full-time work for her during vacations.

Aneka is tenacious, focused, and absolutely passionate about her own learning and helping others to succeed and learn. After four years she intends to go directly to graduate school to earn a PhD that will lead her either to academia or on to law school and a career as a human rights lawyer, diplomat, or ambassador.

Aneka, you amaze!



Kudos and thanks to our outstanding Tech Trek Committee members who made up the various interview teams: Michelle Baker, Fran Erickson, Ann Shulse, Bernadette Sylvester, Penny Savelly, Chriss Hood, Kathy Scott, Joan Naszady, Stephanie Facchini, and Teri McConnell (Stephanie & Teri not pictured). Their thoughtfulness and adept interviewing made the very nervous candidates feel comfortable and special while they shared their interests and hopes in STEM.

And our 2024 Nevada County Tech Trekkers are ...

After 26 interviews on seven different days by ten dedicated Tech Trek Committee members, we selected seven remarkable girls to attend the 2024 Tech Trek @ UC Davis. Yes, seven, not six, since we happily received an extra camp spot just prior to our decision days. We also selected three alternates in hopes that we might get another spot – fingers crossed. These are always difficult decisions, and this year seemed even more difficult with uniquely impressive and deserving girls from ten different western Nevada County public middle schools and public charters.

Introducing our 2024 Nevada County Tech Trekkers:

- Sophia Alonso, **Arete Charter Academy**
- Alyssa Burnett, **Lyman Gilmore Middle School**
- Coral Duggan, **Chicago Park School**
- Raiden Maddox, **Union Hill School**
- Tatiana McLachlan, **Grass Valley Charter**

- Haile Sharma, **Nevada City School of the Arts**
- Lena VonRuden, **Magnolia Intermediate School**

And, our alternates:

- Elaine Luisetti, **Seven Hills Middle School**
- Alliya Noxon, **Grass Valley Charter**
- Sierra Beary, **Magnolia Intermediate School**

Huge thanks to **Michelle & John Baker** for offering the Nevada City Engineering Meeting Room for the interviews again!! We are so lucky and grateful to have such a nice, private spot to talk with the girls and their parents.



By late March, all the candidates received letters via US mail regarding their status, and certificates were sent to those not chosen and the alternates as well. Nominating teachers were also notified of their nominee's status.—*Martha Rees, Tech Trek Chair*

The 26
Tech Trek
Nominees



Photos courtesy of Martha Rees



On March 16, we received multiple perspectives from a student panel and Branch Local Scholarship Chair **Rhea Williamson** on how they have dealt with discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community. Rhea shared a personal history and the panelists offered their recent experiences and feelings around the challenges they have faced in an effort to promote empathy and respect.

Dr. Rhea Williamson, presented the audience with a lively recounting of her long and difficult

journey as an LGBTQ+ person, working in academia with two strikes against her: being a woman and being an LGBTQ+ person. She detailed encounters both hostile and accepting, and ultimately how she found her way to success both personally and professionally. We also heard from **Maddux Eckerling**, a first-year student at San Francisco State University, who led the student panel by posing a variety of questions.

The program was coordinated by DEI Officer **Lisa Turlo**. To view a recorded video of this program, [CLICK HERE](#).

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 Mc Connell



Join us in April for a relaxing morning of making these cute yo-yo magnets for displaying pictures and notes on your refrigerator. All materials will be supplied unless you want to bring your own scraps of fabric for your yo-yo flowers. This will be held on **Thursday, April 4,**

10:00 am, at the home of Sue Miller. If you would like to attend, please contact Sue to reserve a seat. Attendance is limited.



Our May craft is all about making greeting cards. Sue Von Son will lead us in using our creative juices to create beautiful cards. This will be held on **Thursday, May 2, 10:00 am.**

Please contact Teri McConnell to receive more information on this gathering.

Book Discussions

Evening Book Group — Cathy Kalt



The Evening Book Group is meeting on the **4th Wednesday** of each month at **6 pm**. Our next meeting will be on **April 24**, when we will be discussing *The Marriage Portrait* by Maggie O'Farrell. I'm happy to announce Lisa Turlo will be our facilitator that evening. If you're interested in joining us or would like more information, please contact Cathy Kalt at cakalt@hotmail.com.

Mostly Fiction — Robin Laverty-Reves

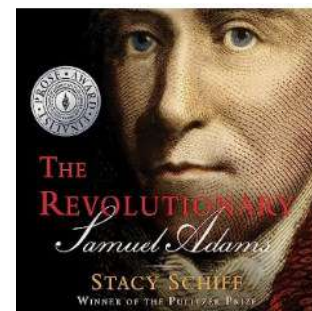
The Mostly Fiction Book Group will continue with the historical fiction genre to discuss *The Marriage Portrait* by Maggie O'Farrell on **Thursday, April 11, at 1:00**. This novel from the author of *Hamnet*, a favorite of our book group, is set in Renaissance Italy, centering on the young duchess Lucrezia de Medici as she makes her way in a troubled court. Members of our interest group will receive a reminder email with additional details about the upcoming meeting. We are also

encouraging members to send book recommendations to Lisa Turlo at lisaturlo59@gmail.com for next season's selections.

Please contact Robin Laverty-Reves at lavertyreves@gmail.com if you need more information.

Non-Fiction — Diane Kellegrew

On **Tuesday, April 16, 1:00-3:00 pm**, the Non-Fiction Book Group will turn to the founding of our country with a discussion of *The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams* by Stacy Schiff. Thomas Jefferson asserts Samuel Adams led the greatest campaign for civil resistance in American history. Goodreads describes the book as



'arresting, original, and deliriously dramatic.' Susie Monary-Wilson will host and lead our discussion. If you are interested in attending, kindly RSVP to Diane Kellegrew (diane.kellegrew@gmail.com) for meeting location and details.

Garden Group — Janine Martin

We will be touring Ananda tulips on **Thursday, April 25**, at the **10:15** time slot. If that time is sold out, purchase the **10:00** or **10:30** time slot.

We will be carpooling from Uren St. and Hwy. 20 at **9:30 am** in Nevada City. Please bring your water, hat, and lunch. We will be eating outside at Ananda after walking the gardens. Google: "Crystal Hermitage Gardens in Nevada City" to purchase your tickets right away! Tickets are \$12.50.

For more information contact Janine: 530-263-5894 or janineandgalen@gmail.com.



Quarry Trail ▶
Auburn



Interest Groups (cont.)

Gnaw and Jaw — Deb Cubberley & Chris Boykin



It was a cold and blustery night on February 29 when 13 brave souls ventured out for our group dinner at Enrique's Lounge (the former Kane's) in Grass Valley. This was the beginning of the major storm system, but we ignored the rain onslaught and happily dined on queso fundido, empanadas, pasta with seafood, ahi tuna with crispy wontons, and rib eye steaks. Delish. Put this restaurant on your list of places to go to if you haven't been yet.

Our dining groups of 6-8 will be meeting at least one or two more times before the end of May. The theme for the second gathering is hearty soups and the third theme is heavy appetizers, but these are just suggestions. New single or couple members are welcome to join us. For more information contact Deb Cubberley debclubberley@comcast.net or Chris Boykin at chrismboykin@gmail.com.

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 a website called Meal Train, which provides us with a page for the recipient. We deliver easy meals, and most provide meals which they usually make themselves. If you can assist us, please contact Pat at 530-477-1881 or ppedersen76@comcast.net. She will be happy to explain the process to you.



Great Decisions — Susie Monary-Wilson

Great Decisions will be discussing "Chapter 3, Science Across the Borders," led by Bup Greenwood on **Tuesday, April 23**. We meet from **10 to noon** 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.



Hiking Group — Mary Menconi

On March 18 Carol Raynsford took us to Fairy Falls, where we enjoyed some beautiful spring weather. We hiked about 5 miles over rolling hills covered in green grass and little blue flowers. Some poppies were also blooming along the way and the oak trees were just leafing out. We had a larger group than usual, with 12 hikers celebrating spring in the best possible way. Thank you, Carol! Our April hikes will be on **Wednesday, April 3**, and **Monday, April 15**.

Hike locations are decided by the leader and are announced via email about one week in advance. We hike the first Wednesday and third Monday of each month. If you would like to join the Hiking Group or reserve a date to lead a hike, please contact Mary: marymenconi@gmail.com.



Brisk Walking Group — Joan Naszady

The Brisk Walkers will begin this month for early birds, with a schedule ready for April signups! Our goal is 3-mile walks once or twice a week, with occasional walks up to 5 miles. The days we will meet on local trails are:

- 1st week: Monday, Friday
- 2nd week: Tuesday, Wednesday
- 3rd week: Wednesday, Thursday
- 4th week: Monday, Friday

Times will be set by those who lead each walk. Please email or text me if you would like to join, and I'll share the signup form. I will send a reminder each week for the next week's scheduled walks. Spring is here! jnaszady@gmail.com or 707-972-6852



Writing Group — Deb York

The Writing Critique group will meet **Monday, April 1, 10:00-12:00**, at the Madelyn Helling Library in the Prospector Room.

The monthly Write-In group will meet **Monday, April 29, 12:00-2:00**, at the Madelyn Helling Library in the Prospectors Room.

Contact Deborah York, deborah11623@gmail.com or 925-216-6140, if you are interested in participating.

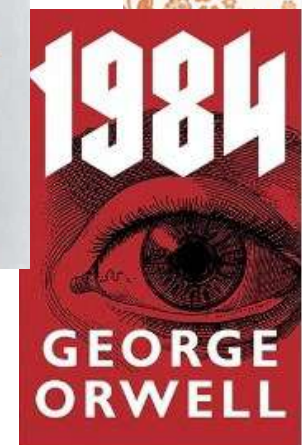
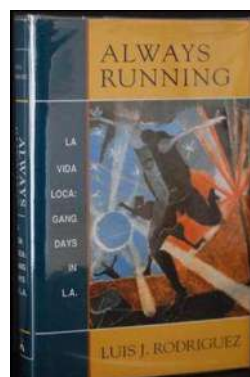
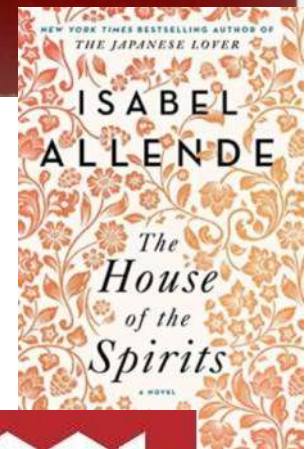
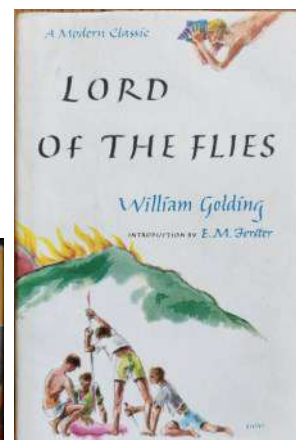
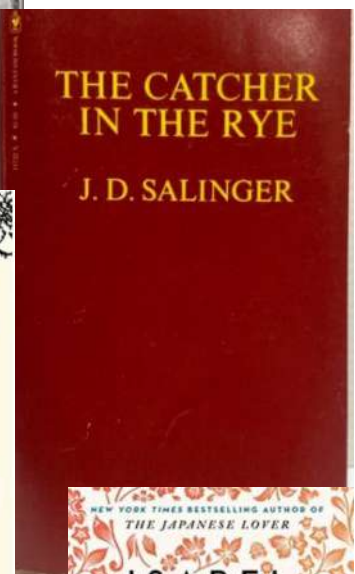
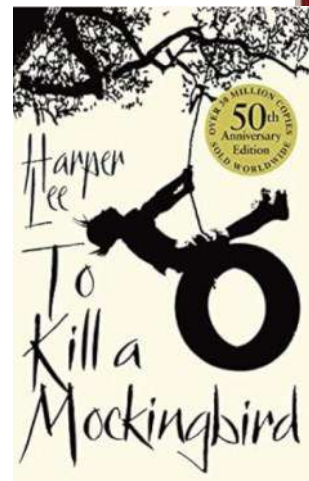
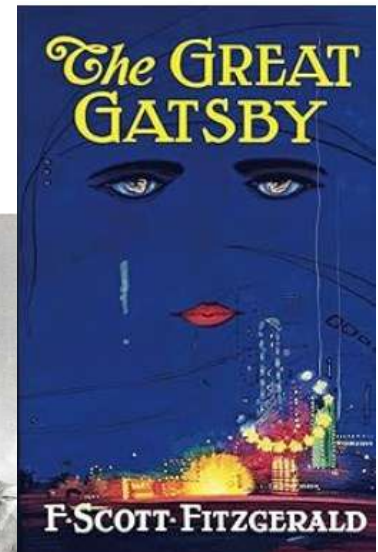
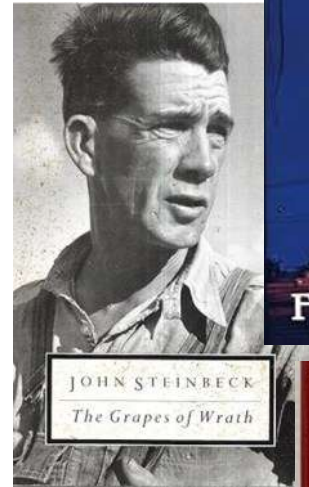


Books of Interest

Book Nook

In lieu of a book review, we are listing some of the books that have been banned in the past by various states, school boards, and libraries. The list below is provided by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) with hopes that we will all support our First Amendment rights, so pick one of these classics to read. This was a suggestion from one of our panelists at the excellent Saturday general meeting with LGBTQ+ youth. The American Library Association keeps track, and here are some of the most frequently banned or challenged books (*just a few pictured*):

- *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *The Catcher in the Rye*, by J.D. Salinger
- *The Grapes of Wrath*, by John Steinbeck
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee
- *The Color Purple*, by Alice Walker
- *Ulysses*, by James Joyce
- *Beloved*, by Toni Morrison
- *The Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding
- *1984*, by George Orwell
- *Lolita*, by Vladimir Nabokov
- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, by Maya Angelou
- *The Color Purple*, by Alice Walker
- *Kaffir Boy*, by Mark Mathabane
- *The Bluest Eye*, by Toni Morrison
- *Fallen Angels*, by Walter Dean Myers
- *Native Son*, by Richard Wright
- *The House of Spirits*, by Isabel Allende
- *Bless Me, Ultima*, by Rudolfo A. Anaya
- *Song of Solomon*, by Toni Morrison
- *Always Running*, by Luis Rodriguez



etc.



Above: Hiking Group



Above: Non-Fiction Book Group



*Above: Gnaw & Jaw
Combined Groups' Outing*



Above: Great Decisions



Arts & Crafts,
Working with
Ceramics

Welcome Two New Members!



Deb Cubberley
Membership VP

Another two new members to report this month.

Cornelia Woodworth is a resident of Nevada City. She is active with Citizens for Choice and coaching LaCrosse! She is now retired after years of program management and hardware design. Her interests

include education in the public schools and healthcare access. Cornelia also expressed an interest in DEI.

Our second new member is **Jeanne Bartelt**, who is a "neighbor" of Deb York. Jeanne is a computer science graduate who worked at Lawrence Livermore. Now retired and new to the area, she is looking for activities. She has come to the right place. Interested in hiking, book group and Great Decisions, she will find

that she can easily stay active with us.

To repeat from last month, it appears that members are either not receiving or not recognizing notices from National that it is time to renew. Most of us will be renewing in June; however, the newer members are now renewing on the anniversary of their joining.



So far it appears that these renewal notices are not reaching members. I will try to keep on top of this, but please be aware of your renewal month so that if I miss it, we don't lose you.

Everyone does have three months of "grace" after their membership has expired. During this time you may renew without a problem. After that, a new member application will be required. Remember, you may renew online at aauw.org once you create an account with a password, etc. This is the easiest method and you can use a credit card, but we still accept checks at our local post office box: AAUW-NCB, P.O. Box 326, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Thursday, May 16

Our year-end May meeting/luncheon will be held at The Miners Foundry, Nevada City, **11:30 - 1:30**. Lunch will be from Emily's Catering which will include: taco bar, salad, dessert, and beverage.

We are committed to a swift-paced program including announcements of AAUW Fund Named Gift Honorees, Edi Silverman Award, and installation of new officers/committee chairs for the 2024-25 year.

Parking is limited, so if you can, please carpool. In addition, handicap parking is available near the building in the lower parking lot. We will have someone posted at the door to let you in. Once you get inside, there is an elevator lift up to the main floor which we will help operate.

Purchase tickets at the April meeting or online for **\$35. [AAUW Year's End May Luncheon | Nevada County \(CA\) Branch](#)** .



Exciting News: Crown Point Events Complex Under Construction!

Join a private AAUW group tour Saturday, May 18, 1 PM

InConcert Sierra purchased and is renovating a 42,000-square-foot building in Whispering Pines Business Park, Grass Valley, to create a community asset that includes:

- an elegant acoustic concert hall
- a conference center with banquet seating for up to 300
- a flexible black box theater
- a large support kitchen
- ample parking



Building being renovated at 125 Crown Point Court in Grass Valley

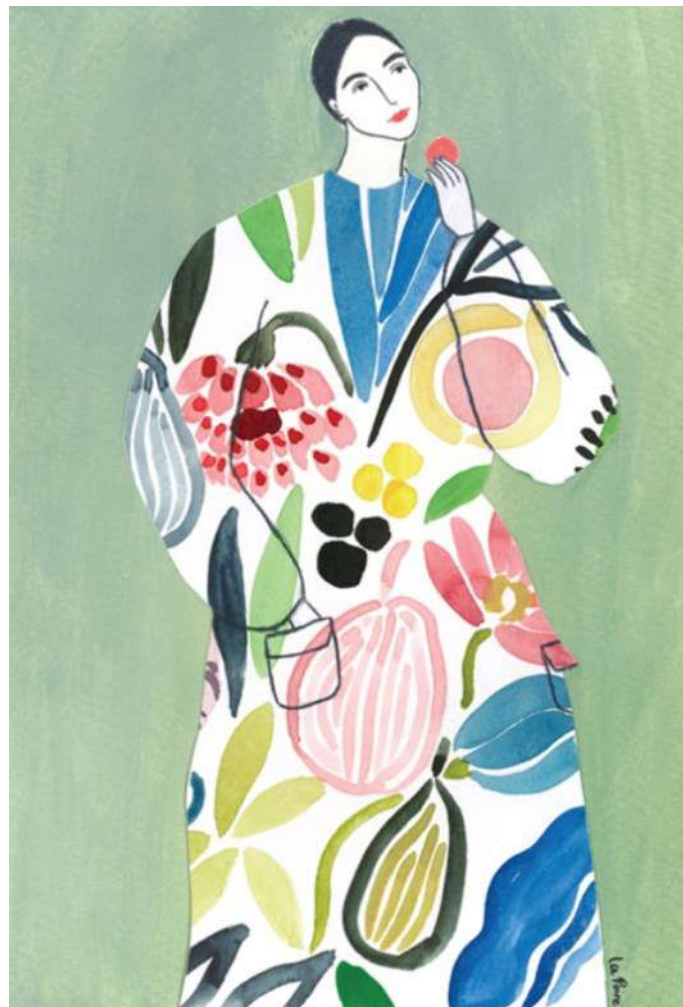
If you are interested in joining the group tour, please email **Barbara Drew** at: barbara.drew@ucsf.edu

Questions: Feel free to email questions or call/text Barbara's cell phone at: 415-987-4320

Program Sponsors

We are happy to acknowledge the following businesses, organizations, and individuals who have generously donated toward the support of our Branch. Please thank them for their support!

- [Bodacious Blooms Flower Farm](#)
Karen Hull
- [KNCO News Talk 830](#)
- [Nevada Irrigation District \(NID\)](#)
- Allison Rapp
- [Sierra Tech Guy](#)
David Ball
- [Westamerica Bank](#)
Bernadette & Ed Sylvester
- [Wolf Mountain Spa](#)
Dan Wray
- [Kim White, Attorney at Law](#)



Ways & Means Raffle Tickets



*Karin Quinn
Ways & Means Chair*

Tickets are \$5 each, or a \$20 donation gets you 5!

We're asking each member to donate to our Branch operations by purchasing one or more



raffle tickets for a chance to win the Handmade Quilt by master quilter Virginia Kingston. You can purchase raffle tickets at monthly meetings.

- Did you know that the cost for renting the Peace Lutheran Church for our meetings has gone up, and monthly costs are now between \$400-\$500?

- Other expenses such as printing, mailings, supplies, advertising, and speakers have gone up too!

The Ways and Means budget supports these administrative expenses.

In addition, we have many useful AAUW branded items for sale: aprons, T-shirts, daypacks, ceramic traveling cups. [AAUW Branded Merchandise | Nevada County \(CA\) Branch](#)

Be sure to stop by the Ways & Means table at the April meeting. See you there!

