

AAUW

THE INSIGHTER

JANUARY 2022

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Our Supporters



THE NEXT NEWSLETTER SHOULD ARRIVE BY THE 1ST FEBRUARY. IF YOU HEAR OF A MEMBER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED ONE, PLEASE CALL DENA TRAINA AT 209.777.5227. SORRY I WAS LATE THIS MONTH!

WEBSITE

Though Coronavirus is still with us, most of us are vaccinated and getting out a bit more. The Board will be watching this carefully as we go through the year so stay safe and please visit our website <https://merced-ca.aauw.net/> regularly for information about Zoom programs and activities.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DEAR FELLOW AAUW MEMBERS,

Dear Members,

Welcome to 2022! Like all of us, I hope this new year will bring us relief from the pandemic and opportunities for safe interactions with our families, friends, and the organizations we care about and support.

It was great to see so many of our members at the AAUW Holiday Tea at Bette Wolstenholme's home in December. Thanks to everyone who brought guests and appetizers and sweets to share. While we charged members for the event, the funds raised went towards our scholarship program and science camp.

Many of you have expressed concern about indoor events and with the Omicron variant circulating, the Board has arranged for two exciting programs in January and February that will be held over Zoom. Our January 18th program will be presented by Merced College faculty member and dietician Jennifer Hobbs. Jennifer will help us start the new year out right by talking about healthy eating. In February, former member Gigi Marr-Mitchell, who moved to Australia with her family two years ago will Zoom in to talk about living "down under". We hope that March will bring us an in-person program. We have designated March as Women in Action Month and former president and civil engineer, Dena Traina, will present about her work in communities following the Camp and Creek fires. Along with other engineers, Dena evaluated residential and commercial buildings following the fires to ensure that they were still safe and/or habitable.

We hope you will be able to join us for all of these programs! Watch for more details on email and our website.

With the continuing of pandemic, our theme of Service to Our Community is more important than ever. I hope in 2022 through involvement in AAUW and other organizations, we will all find ways to support those in need in our community.

Again, Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing you at many activities in the Spring! Best, Jane Lawrence
President



Hello!

The holiday tea at Bette's house was fabulous. Past presidents served tea and coffee to the members. Unlike previous years, we did ask for contributions. Half of the money went to the Science Camp fund and the other half to the scholarship fund. In total the organization raised \$403 with \$201.50 to each fund

Members with name ending from M-Z brought finger food and desserts. There were definitely more desserts than finger food. Who would have guessed. Delicious items such as vegetable trays with curry flavored dip, chocolate cake, persimmon cookies, crinkle cookies, hummus and many, many more.

Jane Lawrence welcomed all to the tea and let us know what was going to be happening in the new year. In February we will be travelling to the other side of the globe.

February Program

Australia: The View from the Bottom of the World

Who: Gigi Marr Mitchell

When: February 10, 2022

Time: 5:00-6:00 PM

Watch for the Zoom link which will be emailed to you early in February!

THANKS!!!



“I want every day to be a fresh start on expanding what is possible.”. Oprah Winfrey



JANUARY PROGRAM

JANUARY PROGRAM

Our next program is Jennifer Hobbs, Faculty at Merced College and Registered Dietician will be giving a talk on healthy eating.

Tips & Strategies to Keep You Eating Healthy in 2022!

When: Tuesday, January 18th from 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Where: ZOOM!

Who: AAUW Members and Guests

Cost: Free



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85234159297?pwd=UHZoVFRxeEhOcEJHdkE5STg1a0tvUT09>

Meeting ID: 852 3415 9297

Passcode: 542705

Meeting ID: 852 3415 9297

Passcode: 542705

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85234159297?pwd=UHZoVFRxeEhOcEJHdkE5STg1a0tvUT09>

Healthy Breakfast 15 Word Search

F	G	B	O	A	T	M	E	A	L	C	M	D	H	T
K	T	F	S	R	S	O	Z	S	T	I	L	I	W	E
B	S	P	C	L	K	C	L	E	T	I	U	R	F	L
M	A	Y	K	E	E	E	N	I	V	W	L	X	P	E
U	O	Q	A	R	O	Y	G	G	N	C	D	R	E	M
S	T	V	E	Z	H	R	K	G	O	W	E	W	G	O
Z	V	A	Y	T	L	T	U	E	S	H	C	Q	N	S
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V	B	C	L	F	I	B	E	R	K	C	D	W	Z	V

BREAKFAST

FRUIT
CEREAL
MILK
OMELET

EGGS

BROWN RICE
PROTEIN
WHOLE GRAIN
HEALTHY

FIBER

VEGGIES
SKIPPING
OATMEAL
TOAST



SECTIONS

Sections continue to be a vital part of our organization. Many of our sections are meeting via video-conferencing and can accept more members now because there are no constraints on the number of people that can fit in one's home, so consider signing up for more groups! We would love to see you. Write or call Becky Tietjen to join a section at (559) 909-1520 or frautietjen@yahoo.com

Adopt-a-Highway: Chair - Colleen Eisberg 725-9082 eisberg@sbcglobal.net

Become a part of the group of volunteers who clean up the AAUW stretch of Hwy.140 on the way to Mariposa. The group goes out early on a Saturday morning four times a year. Watch your newsletter or email for times and dates. Cal Trans has approved resumption of our highway cleaning projects.

Almost Gourmet: Chair – Karen Wallace 722-5289 the.wallaces@comcast.com

Couples gather for four dinners a year. This group is closed. Currently meeting outdoors.

Book Section 1: Chair – Linda Douglas 769-2616 imdouglas@hotmail.com

Meets the first Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. from October through May at a member's home. Members read a fiction or non-fiction book of their choice and different reviewers share a favorite book each month. Once a year we do a group read. This group is closed. **We have not been meeting due to Covid. Hopefully we can start up again after the first of the year.**

Book Section 2: Chair – **This is a new section in need of a chairperson and members. All are welcome!**

Book Section 3: Chair – Sharon Wainwright sharonlwa@comcast.net

Members meet the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. all year at a member's home and enjoy brunch or snacks. We select a book to read and one person leads the discussion. All are encouraged to read the book and participate in the discussion. This group is closed. **Currently meeting via ZOOM**

Book Section 4 (Evening Book Group): Chair Dee Near 723-9007 neard@comcast.net

Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at a member's home. This group has been meeting for 20 years. Everyone reads the same book and discusses it. A wide variety of genres are read. All are welcome. This section meets August through May. **We are accepting new members.**

Bridge Couples: Chair – Carol Hamm 383-4705 cjhamm@comcast.net

Meets the second Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Subs are welcome. This section meets from October through May. Regulars and subs are welcome. **Suspended pending a vaccine/participant comfort level. New members are welcome.**

Bridge Singles: Chair – Julia Larson 722-2628

Meets the third Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. The group rotates between members' homes. Dessert is offered. Subs are welcome. This section meets October through May.

Bunko: Chair – Cheryl Burke – 726-8481 cdinesburke@gmail.com

Meets the fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. There is a lot of lively interaction for the 12 members of this group. Subs are welcome. This section meets September through May with no meeting in December. **Suspended through Covid**

Chocoholics: Chair – Diana Alexander 658-1647 dianaalex51@gmail.com

Meets the third Wednesday of the month at members' homes at 7:00p.m. from October through May. Members should be prepared to either host or co-host one meeting per year. They prepare a special chocolate dish for the event. **New members welcome. They have been zooming.**

Dining for Women: Chair – Jane Guerra 723-0384 jane@guerraville.com

Meets the first Monday of the month at 6:00p.m. at a member's home for a potluck dinner. Money is donated in the amount that would have been spent on a restaurant dinner to the organization featured each month. The mission is to empower women and girls living in extreme poverty by funding programs that foster good health, education, and economic self-sufficiency. Members become educated to various needs of women living in poverty around the world and participate in collective giving to make a positive difference. This group meets September through June. Members are asked to host or co-host one dinner. **Meeting via Zoom during Covid. New members are welcome.**

Knitting and Crocheting: Chair – Dena Traina 777-5227 traina.dena@gmail.com

Meets the second Wednesday of the month at a member's home between 6:00-8:00 p.m. Beginners and experienced knitters/crocheters are welcome. Refreshments provided. This section meets all year. **New members are welcome.**

Lunch Bunch: Chair – Connie Brons 385-3837 conniebrons@yahoo.com

Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at various restaurants. Members are notified by email as to the location. Be sure to RSVP by contacting Connie to ensure a reservation. This section meets all year round. **First meeting since pandemic is Thursday, Sept 23 at Toni's Courtyard Café at 11.15 a.m.**

Quasi-Epicures: Chair – Holly Zacharias 722-4428 hwzacharias@gmail.com

Members are notified by email to dine out at a local restaurant and see a play at Playhouse Merced on Saturday evenings. This section meets October through May or June. **On hold because of Covid**

Sierra Trekkers: Chair – Judy Smith 777-5345 sierratrekker@comcast.net

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month all at 7:00 p.m. at various members' homes (except in December). The September planning meeting maps out the tentative dates for hikes during the year. Hikes usually occur once per month. The emphasis is on hiking - - some easy, some moderate & occasionally a more strenuous trail. Weather permitting, a snowshoe hike in the winter months can be planned. The group occasionally travels for overnight /weekend adventures. One longer trip is scheduled each a year to one of our national parks.

Theater Goers: Chair – Robyn Farnsworth 382-0548 yaya4three@gmail.com

Members will see 5-6 plays during the year on Sunday afternoons. This section meets August through May. **Will start up again as soon as theater schedule is published. New members are welcome**

Wine and Cheese: Chair – Colleen Eisberg 725-9082

eisberg@sbcglobal.net Meets the last Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at various members' homes. The hostess and co-hostess determine the theme and prepare a selection of cheese and hors d'oeuvres. Spouses are welcome. This section meets September through May with no meeting in November or December. **Currently suspended due to Covid**



MEMBER NEWS

No member news this month. If you know how former or current members are doing, please let Newsletter

“I’ve grown most not from victories, but from setbacks. If winning is God’s reward, then losing is how he teaches us

Serena Williams



SECTION NEWS

Book Section III.....

Sharon Wainright

Book Section III is once again meeting in member’s homes. We are continuing our support of Friends of the Library by contributing our used books for resale and making memorial contributions to the “Adopt-A-Book” Program. Some books are also shared with the Senior Center for enjoyed reading.

We would like to share with the AAUW membership our reading list from the past year.

American Dirt, by Jeanine Cummins; The Cold Millions, by Jess Walter; Caste & The Warmth of Other Suns, both by Isabel Wilkerson (sometimes we choose an author and read either/or of the author’s works); Anxious People, by Fredrik Backman (author of another favorite – A Man Called Ove); The Paris Library, by Janet Skeslien Charles; West With Giraffes, by Lynda Rutledge; The Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah; The Henna Artist, by Alka Joshi; This Tender Land, by William Kent Krueger; and Facing the Mountain, by Daniel James Brown – one of our best discussions. The book is about the Japanese internment camps in WWII and the 442nd Infantry Regiment and the heroism and sacrifice of that Japanese American group of young men.

Good reading and happy holidays.





SCIENCE CAMP NEWS

Saturday, January 8th was the first session of the American Association of University Women's Science Camp for Merced's fourth and fifth grade girls. Each of the girls attend the camp with their mother or another adult. This session was held at the Merced City School's STEAM Center located at Ada Givens School. It is the first time the center has hosted students since the beginning of the pandemic in March of 2020. This is the 14th year AAUW has sponsored the Science Camp.

The top of Saturday's session was Biology. The students learned the basics of Biology and what



types of jobs biologists can do. Next they got to dissect an animal – either a frog, a water snake, a squid or a perch.

There are six other sessions to come including chemistry, soil science/archaeology, computer science, math, physics, and engineering.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Tech Trek



You know the TV show Where Are They Now?, which tracks down former stars from The Brady Bunch or Little House on the Prairie or Mr. Ed (you're thinking about that one now, aren't you?). Our Tech Trek program has served 13,572 campers. Where are they now? The state Tech Trek Committee plans to create a tool kit for branches to track former Trekkers and hopefully establish Tech Trek Alumnae Groups (TTAG), which are governed by the talented girls themselves. We think we'll find that most of them fared far better than Mr. Ed.

(Editor Note: Our Science Camp volunteers are planning to do this also!)

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Take three and a half minutes to learn why AAUW's interest in DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) is not just about gender and race! Our state committee recommends this compelling video [Accenture Inclusion & The Power of Diversity | Accenture - YouTube](#). This will make you think. Sorry.

You may not be a member of Gen X, Y, or Z. Perhaps your generation is best labeled Boomer or, errr, Paleozoic. Whatever, you—or some young working adult you know—will not want to miss the first of our Lunch and Learn Zoom sessions: Entrepreneurship: Is It For Me? Yvonne Campos, our expert speaker, will share her tales of starting companies and answer questions for 45 minutes while you eat a turkey sandwich. Get your non-AAUW peeps to register! They can eat whatever they want.

1/21/2022 12 noon

Click on this link to register for a presentation by Yvonne Campos, Founder and President of Next Act Fund, LLC

[2021-2022 Webinars Archives - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](#)





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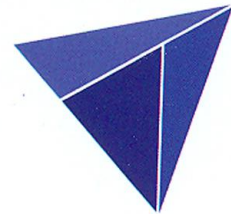
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