

Annual Holiday Gathering
Join us on Tuesday, December 5th at 5:30 pm

- Gold Nugget Museum on Pearson Rd.
- Spouses, partners and friends are welcome
- Please bring a finger food: savory hors d'oeuvre or dessert
- Wine and cider provided—(monetary donations accepted)
- Please bring an unwrapped book for a child from toddler through high school age.
- Member Kelley Connor will deliver them to the Family Resource Center.

■ **The View From Here**



The CASA Presentation on October 17th was an eye opener. More than 88 children enter foster care every day in California. The Court Appointed Special

Advocates (CASA) are doing wonderful things to improve these children's lives.

Ronda Hoffman (AAUW member) also a CASA volunteer, was our host for this evening's presentation. The presenters were Lisa Michaels, Butte-Glenn CASA Program Supervisor, Tracy Hunsicker and Chris Hoffman, CASA volunteers.

They gave us examples of why children are removed from their homes and what happens when Child Protective Services removes a child from their home.

They shared stories about these children's path through foster care program. They explained the

role of a CASA volunteer, and emphasized the significant importance of CASA volunteers advocating for these children. Each volunteer must attend training so they can become certified to represent 'their' child in court when necessary, etc.

What can you do to Help?

Donate money, attend their fundraisers, be a fundraiser committee member and/or of course, become a trained CASA Advocate.

Contact Ronda Hoffman 872-3031 for information.

Paulette Jones



CASA Program Presenters

Branching Out is published five times per year by the Paradise Branch of the American Association of University Women. AAUW Paradise Branch is committed to advancing lifelong education opportunities and equity for girls and women. We will do this while providing growth opportunities and support for our members and establishing a positive visible presence on the Paradise Ridge.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



■ Welcome New Members!

Gail Davidson

was born in Edmonton, Canada but has been on the move ever since. She has lived in many other Canadian cities, then in Portland, OR, Yreka, CA and back to Canada a few times. Her husband's job took them to Idaho for 9 years.

In all her moving she started nursing school in Canada. She continued college in America but had to change her major. Gail graduated from Lewis & Clark University with a BS in Psychology/Biology. She worked for Vista (a U.S. program like the Peace Corp).

Gail has three sons who live in three different states – Arizona, California and Oregon. Gail and her husband moved to Paradise to help take care of her father-in-law and mother-in-law. Sadly, her husband passed away about three years ago and she decided to stay in Magalia for awhile.

Let's hope that Gail will enjoy our AAUW friendship and will decide to stay here . . .

Joyce Bond

is originally from Pennsylvania. She received her BA degree in Anthropology/Archaeology in 1984 from the University of Montana. She has lived in several states, most recently Florida before moving to Paradise in 2006.

She began birding about 25 years ago while living in the Northeast, and after moving to the West Coast, discovered a whole lot of new species about which to learn!

Joyce works as a freelance editor, which allows her the flexibility to participate in OLLI classes. Currently, Joyce is a Peer Group leader for OLLI with her class "Birding in the Chico Area." Her other interests include photography, watercolor painting and plain air sketching, gardening and wildflowers, hiking and road trips. She is also involved in the upcoming 19th Annual Snow Goose Festival.



Wine & Whine, October, 2017



■ Sunshine Corner

Bright festive lights and holiday cheer
Create that sparkle in the atmosphere.

Extra time with family, offers memories and more
Warm open houses and a welcoming door.

A lovely time of year, there is no doubt
And included in the enjoyment, this issue
of Branching Out!

Many thanks to Alex and Dianne Lorenz
for a wonderful job on our Newsletter.

Season's Greetings to All!

Laurie Baker





■ Why AAUW Why AAUW Funds



Over \$100,000,000 to 12,000 women and projects in 135 years, that's why.

Bulletin! AAUW exists for more than books, bridge and dining out and even more than Tech Trek and local scholarships.

Those are the fun bits offered so members will work together for "a larger good". And, what are those, you may ask. Well.....

AAUW was established in 1881 (this is your history lesson for today) for the purpose of providing fellowships and grants to graduate women. There were none in the United States at the time. Startling but true. So, a small group of women raised funds and found capable and ambitious women to receive the grants, allowing them to continue their education. Over the past 135 years this has been AAUW's fundamental reason for being.

Of course, we have "expanded our horizons" and, based on our vision statement, "AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential," we work hard to affect legislative activity in both Washington, D.C. and in state capitols. We are, I always say, the good lobbyists.

Some details before I get to the good part: this year \$3.7 million has been awarded by AAUW to 250 fellowship and grant recipients in the U.S., with 26 of them studying or directing projects in California. Our members in California contributed \$1,958,609.27. By the way, AAUW now encourages us to donate, not to individual funds, but to an unrestricted fund so they can distribute the proceeds where they are needed the most.

•• Once a year AAUW members get a chance, at a lunch, to meet a few of these stellar recipients and hear about their work. I try NEVER to miss this.

Imagine a room full of (mostly women of a certain age) listening to young women describe their Ph.D. work, why they chose that subject and what travails they endured to get there. Imagine grins, smiles, applause and even cheers. We look at each other and say, silently, THIS is why we joined AAUW.

I attended one of two lunches in the Bay Area on Oct. 28. These are the fabulous young women who spoke:

Alissa Walter is from Georgetown University. She has been researching at Stanford for two years (thanks to her AAUW fellowship) to find why Iraq fell apart in extreme factions when invaded in 2003 instead of joining together to repel the invader. The answer is the way Saddam Hussein ran his government and the country. Fascinating!! All 10 million documents from that regime are at Stanford.

Zesemayat Mekonnen at both U.C. San Francisco and Berkeley. She studies the effects of environmental factors on fetal health and will receive both her Ph.D. and an M.D. when the project is complete.

Adele Kuzmiakova from Slovakia is a computational engineer and studying smart cities: the effects of cars and buildings, energy use etc. on weather and other factors.

Chyndyli Rogel, from the Philippines, is at the Monterey Institute of International Studies (now called Middleburg). She referred to AAUW members as "Leaders who are driven to achieve social change." A higher compliment I can't imagine.

Our Paradise contributions to the Educational Funds/AAUW Funds effort – now called Educational Opportunities - are due Dec. 1. You may be hearing how you can contribute to this truly valuable idea. An AAUW fellowship or grant truly changes the lives of young women and their families.

This is who we are!

Carol Holzgrafe



Alissa Walter, Zesemayat Mekonnen, Adele Kuzmiakova, and Chyndyli Rogel



■ Tech Trek News

The Paradise branch has requested four places at Tech Trek U.C. Davis for the summer of 2018. Since all girls attend camp on full scholarships, it is up to us to provide them. So far, we have almost one fully covered with some significant donations expected. We have until March 1 to pay for the rest. Stay tuned for your chance to contribute.

Those of you at the September lunch have met two of last year's campers; all will be invited to our holiday party in December.

Carol Holzgrafe

Save the Dates!

Sunday, January 7, 2018. Time: TBD

Plans for a FUNdraiser are in the making. Stay tuned for further details!

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Our Annual Soup Supper: 

Please make note of the new location: Paradise Center for Spiritual Living, 789 Bille Road. (One mile from Skyway - west on Bille Rd.)

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Feeling unhappy because your legislators don't respond to your suggestions on voting? Want to find ways to: 1. Find out what they are up to and 2. Find ways to communicate with better results?

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 17. AAUW San Jose's Public Policy Chair Peg Carlson-Bowen knows how to make these things happen and will tell all in a collaboration between the Paradise and Chico AAUW branches, the League of Women Voters and Chico State. More details later.

Questions? *Carol Holzgrafe*.

Directory Corrections

Please update your directories with the following:

Madeleine Caton - email should be madcat2@comcast.net

Marygrace Colby - apartment number should be 341



Evening Book Group, October, 2017



Out-to-Lunch Bunch at Juice & Java in Paradise October, 2017



■ Upcoming Events

Morning Books

Thursday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m.

Hosting: Connie Ferrell

Book for discussion: "A Man Called Ove"
by F. Backman

Evening Books

Friday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m. Hosting: Amy Darwin

Book for discussion: "Nectar in a Sieve"

by Kamala Markandaya.

Friday Bridge

Friday, Nov. 17, 1 p.m. Hosting: Gail Prince

No meeting in December.

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Thursday, Nov. 9, 11:30 a.m.

Paradise Elks Lodge, 6309 Clark Rd., Paradise

No meeting in December.

Wine & Whine

Thursday, Nov. 16, 5:30 p.m.

hosting: Dianne Lorenz

Please bring a bottle of wine or
an appetizer to share.

(Non-alcoholic beverages will also be available)

No meeting in December.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 3-5 p.m.

Hosting: Mary Huntsinger

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 3-5 p.m.

Hosting: Paulette Jones

Holiday Gathering

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m.

Gold Nugget Museum in Paradise.

(See front page for details)



Board/Committee Paradise AAUW 2017-18

President/Co-Facilitators:

Mary Huntsinger and Paulette Jones.

Finance – Lynn Eads

Finance Assistant – open

Secretary – Dianne Lorenz

Membership – Nancy Wirtz

AAUW Funds – Jan Kinney

Public Policy – Carol Holzgrafe

Newsletter Editor – Alex Lorenz

Web Manager – Alex Lorenz

Historian - open

Directory – Lynn Eads

By-Laws – Lynn Eads

Publicity – Jan Keller

Sunshine – Laurie Baker

Women's History Book Fund: Madeleine Caton

Woman's History Presentations – Sue Griffin/Carol
Holzgrafe

Pence Scholarships – Madeleine Caton/Sue Griffin

Tech Trek Coordinator – Carol Holzgrafe

Interest Groups Coordinator – Dianne Lorenz
