

## Paradise Branch Annual Fall Meeting

**Tuesday, Sept. 15th \* 1:30 p.m.**

**On-line via Zoom!**

(See “Upcoming Membership Events” for details)

**Important!** Adoption of proposed 2020-21 Budget

### View from Here

Dear Paradise Members:

I am very happy to report that **all but 3 of our members from last year have signed up again for 2020-2021.** That gives us a membership roster of 29 to start out the year. This might not be much to boast of in ordinary times but given the recent history and current state of Paradise and Magalia, it's pretty darn good. Thanks to **all** of you, but a special thank you to members who do not now live in our area, but who still choose to join with us as Paradise AAUW. We really appreciate you!

We have a **full calendar of membership events planned for the coming year (see below).**

Please note that **two meetings are scheduled in September, plus a Chico meeting at the end of August you may wish to attend.** We even hope to have a fundraising event that will go beyond the “silent fundraiser letter” of recent years. So far, we have faced the reality of COVID-19 and have not attempted to plan any in-person

events. But by the time we get to May 2021, perhaps things will be otherwise. In the meantime, ZOOM may not be ideal, but it does let us see and talk to each other, no matter how far apart we might be.

**Maybe you've wondered about last summer's Tech Trek girls,** who did not get to go to camp, and whether AAUW has done anything to make it up to them. It has pretty been much left up to each branch. Thanks to Jan Britton and her committee, the Chico and Paradise girls have had a lineup of activities to inspire their interest in science and the world around them. **Be sure to read Jan Britton's article in this newsletter on the activities the girls took part in.** And more is being planned.

STAYING IN TOUCH: It's safe to say that this will be a most interesting year with many obstacles to overcome for all of us. **Let's be here for each other.** The new Directory is coming out soon. The newsletter will go out every two to three months, and we will be sending out briefer notices of activities and news. But please let us

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Branching Out is published four times a year by the Paradise Branch of the American Association of University Women. AAUW Paradise 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.



know of any information you would like to have, or would like others to have, your ideas for events, or, most important, if you and a member you know needs help, such as shopping or other tasks, because of the conditions we are living in now.

Please contact me any other board member by email or even snail mail with any of the above.

Stay Safe.

Satsie Veith, President/Facilitator

## Upcoming 2020-2021 Paradise AAUW Membership Events

**Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 1:30 PM on ZOOM: BRANCH MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING.** This meeting is primarily to allow the members to ask questions about and to adopt the **proposed budget for 2020-2021** as required by our bylaws. (See copy of budget elsewhere in newsletter.) This is also an **opportunity to discuss interest groups or other ideas.**

**Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020, 5:00 PM on ZOOM: JOINT MEETING OF PARADISE AND CHICO – THE SOUPER SUPPER.** As she traditionally does for the Chico branch Souper Supper, Jana Lawton will make hand-crafted soup bowls for those who wish to donate \$35 or more to AAUW Funds. Since the meeting is on Zoom, the bowls will be distributed to the donators before the event. But we will provide our own soup and eat at home.

**Our speaker will be Carolyn Dusenbury,** a member of both AAUW and the League of Women Voters of Butte County. Carolyn will take us through the complexities of the local and state ballot measures we will need to decide on for the November 3 election. You will have plenty of time to consider what she has to say before voting,

even if you are vying to be the first to send in your ballot.

**December, 2020: Holiday Gift Exchange** for those who wish to participate. Details to be announced.

**Tuesday Evening, January 26, 2021: Paradise Soup Supper.** Details to be announced.

**Saturday, February 6, 2021: IBC Luncheon.** Details to be announced.

**Saturday, March 20, 2021: Women’s History Presentation.** Details to be announced.

**Saturday, May 15, 2021: Annual Meeting –** Election of Officers, any other needed business. That’s right, details to be announced, but we plan on a speaker and, if possible, an in-person meeting.

## An Invitation from Chico Branch

Chico AAUW has extended an invitation to all of us to attend their Branch Meeting on Sunday, August 30, at 3:00 PM, on ZOOM.

Debra Barger, President of the League of Women Voters of Butte County will give us the latest information about the National Census for 2020 that is NOW DUE BY SEPTEMBER 30.

Debra will explain why filling out the census form is so vital to our community and how it will impact political representation and funding for programs including medical care, schools, elder programs, and housing. She will also catch us up on the low Butte County response rate, what is being done to improve that, and how to respond to the census for those who have not done so.

Chico will also be presenting their President’s Recognition Awards and AAUW FUND honorees for contributions to AAUW.

The Zoom invitation will be sent out later this week.



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## Public Policy

**We earned the vote 100 years ago. Now let's be sure our votes are counted!**

We all know that voting for some of us may be trickier this year. Here are some hints to share with your friends and relatives (if they will let you).

1. **Register** to vote or update your voter registration information at [RegisterToVote.ca.gov/](https://RegisterToVote.ca.gov/) This is critical if you have moved or changed your name.
2. **Check** your voter registration info at [VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov](https://VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov)
3. Sign up to **track your ballot** at [WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov](https://WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov)

Remember that AAUW is Political, not Partisan. There is a difference. Identified AAUW members can advocate for policies and legislative bills but not people running for office. But be sure you and your friends and relatives have the information above.

### News from your State Board of Directors

Each member of the state board, including me (Carol Holzgrafe), will host or help with a webinar sometime during the year. Topics are planned to reflect the interest and needs of our members. A webinar is like Zoom only simpler. You will have to register (name, branch), then they send you the link and time to click. It's easy.

*These are some upcoming webinars:*

For the complete list (coming soon) go to [www.aauw-ca.org/2020-2021-webinars/](https://www.aauw-ca.org/2020-2021-webinars/)  
Sept. 14 Waging a Successful GOTV Campaign in the Time of Covid-19

Sept. 23 Show Me the Money

Oct. 12 Increasing Gender Diversity on Boards of Non-profit Organizations

Oct. 28 Why Public Policy Matters

Nov. 9 Keeping in Touch with Your Tech Trekkers: and Why You Should **(THIS IS CAROL'S)**

Nov. 18 Work Smarter, Not Harder

*Something new for all members and board members:*

#### **Ask Us First:**

This new AAUW California program is our attempt to take some of the load off National's under-staffed office —and to get our members speedier answers. Instead of calling the national office with questions, we urge AAUW California members to contact our state officials at [AskUsFirst@aauw-ca.org](mailto:AskUsFirst@aauw-ca.org). Quite often one of us will know the answer; when we don't, we should know whom to call. Stay tuned.

#### **Five Star Program:**

Back for a second year, this time with more help for us all is AAUW's national Five-Star Program. Even better, much of what we in Paradise have done or will do counts —even Zooming —from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2021. Go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/5-star-program/> and scroll down to reach "Five-Star Criteria and Resources" to find the updated branch criteria. Basically, our branch (and AAUW California) will be rewarded for advancing the mission of AAUW, and inspiring our community to do the same. The Marin Branch earned Five-Star status last year and has shared the spreadsheet they used to keep track of who, what, when, and how. For a copy, just ask me.

For example: we will get credit for the September 26 joint meeting with Chico on voting and the election. And we are always eligible with our Women's History Presentations — which we hope to start again this March. Can you help?

Carol Holzgrafe, director, AAUW California  
Member Paradise, Chico, and Morgan Hill  
branches  
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## Tech Trek

– by Jan Britton, Chico AAUW President  
(Reprinted from The Grapevine, Chico AAUW  
Newsletter)

As you may know, the 2020 Tech Trek Camp was cancelled at UC, Davis because the university closed for the summer. We were all disappointed for the girls. Undaunted, we formed a committee to develop plans for our own mini-camp for the Chico and Paradise Trekkers. Thanks for the work of Sue Blizman, Pam Bodnar, Joan Cleveland, Kim Cross, Carol Holzgrafe, Mary Huntsinger, Jana Lawton, Jackie McClain, Lucia Ronan, Kathy Sweet, and Satsie Veith. This committee pulled together and learned how to use Zoom on computer so all eleven Trekkers could meet on June 23.

From this meeting the girls expressed a desire to build their own birdhouses. The committee located plans from Cornell University for the houses, then members purchased wood, screws, and paint for the girls to use. Jackie McClain helped us contact a local ornithologist, Sarah Blackstone, who educated the girls about birds. This event was held on July 25th. The girls and their parents were excited and thankful that they could learn about birds and build the birdhouses and that their daughters had not been forgotten. Another project may be planned as well.

This was a real team effort by Chico and Paradise members. The monies we raised for Tech Trek had already been forwarded to the AAUW-CA Special Projects Fund and could be only be disbursed in support of Tech Trek at UC, Davis. Thus, Paradise and Chico groups equally funded the purchases necessary for this project and the gift boxes we gave each girl. We are all proud of this effort which helped ease the loss the girls suffered by missing out on the Davis Camp experience.





## New Feature!

*What have YOU been doing while “sheltering at home” during the on-going pandemic? New hobby, old projects completed, finished reading “the Classics?”*

*Send me your story, preferably accompanied by a photo, and it will be published here in the next newsletter!*

Here is Linda Menicucci’s story (Reprinted from The Grapevine, Chico AAUW Newsletter)

Linda is a quilter and sewer and is shown in the photo with a few projects she has made during this time: pillows, wall hanging, tuffet, dress form, and masks, masks, masks ( not shown because they have been mailed to others who need to look chic while out during the pandemic!) Also, not shown due to space limitations is Linda’s beautiful garden where she spends a lot of time tending to her roses which are “blooming their heads off.”



## New interest group!

'The Flaneurs' (Walking and Talking)

Days: Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Saturdays - tentative

Time: Early during heat; later when cooler

Safety: We wear masks and socially distance during our walks.

Most of our walks are on flat pavements; a few may be a bit more challenging. We have visited historic Chico neighborhoods, lower Bidwell Park, leafy Magalia paths along flumes, and are open to suggestions.

All are fun with good company; no agenda for talking.

Call Satsie Veith, 530-570-3550, or Mary Huntsinger 530-521-1323 for actual date, time, and place. Paradise and Chico AAUW members and friends are all welcome.





## Interest Groups

A direct outcome of the Camp Fire resulted in the relocation of many of our Branch members to areas outside of Butte County. Sadly, that has had a profound effect on our many and varied interest groups. The interest groups were a significant thread in the fabric of our social network.

Sooo, it's time to be creative and "re-imagine" what our interest groups might become!

You have seen the above article and photo of the new "Flaneur's" group. Of course, this is most relevant to those of us still residing in Butte County.

Utilizing the popular Zoom technology, the Evening Book Group has been able to continue. Of course, we're definitely looking forward to the day when we can again gather in person for our evenings of book discussion and wine and dessert!

So, do YOU have an idea for a new group- one that takes advantage of technology like Zoom - or otherwise? If so, please feel free to email ([de4lorenz@comcast.net](mailto:de4lorenz@comcast.net)) or call me (530.774.3419) to discuss your idea and how we might get it kick-started.

Dianne Lorenz, Interest Group Co-ordinator

★ **THANK YOU** ★  
**SUFFRAGISTS**

**100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT**

**CELEBRATE WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE!**



AAUW Paradise  
Proposed Budget for FY 2020-21

	Budget 2019-20	Actual 2019-20	Budget 2020-21
<b>INCOME</b>			
Carry forward	\$433.	\$433	\$445
Branch Dues	589	551	551
	(31 x 19)	(29 x 19)	(29 x 19)
<u>Ck a/c Interest</u>	<u>.50</u>	<u>.67</u>	<u>.67</u>
Total Income	\$ <u>1022.50</u>	\$ <u>984.67</u>	\$ <u>996.67</u>
 <b>EXPENSES</b>			
Rent	\$200.	-0-	-0-
Insurance	200.	\$188.	\$188.
Newsletter Mailing	10.	-0-	-0-
Directory	40.	-0-	-0-
PO Box	76.	92.	92.
Web Site	45.	-0-	45.
Program/Misc	100.	260.	200.
Membership	100.	-0-	50.
Women's History	100.	49.	-0-
Education (Career Trek)	100.	-0-	-0-
Sunshine	10.	-0-	-0-
<u>President's Discretion</u>	<u>41.50</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>50.</u>
Total Expenses	\$ <u>1022.50</u>	\$ <u>540.</u>	\$ <u>665.</u>
 Carry Forward to next year		<u>\$444.67</u>	<u>\$ 331.67</u>