

Annual Meeting & Election of Officers

Saturday, May 15 * 11:30 a.m.

On-line via Zoom!

See details on Pg. 2 of newsletter

View from Here

Dear Paradise Members:

During the past two years as Paradise AAUW facilitator, I've had the great privilege of working with the other officers and board members on continuing the existence of our branch. Actually, it has been way more fun than work.

I am happy and proud that our branch is hanging in there, still sending girls to Tech Trek camp (virtually for now) and still handing out Pence Scholarship awards – in spite of the catastrophe that two and half years ago struck our communities and almost all of our members personally.

Thank you so much to all members who have continued as members and who have joined us since. And, of course, thank you to my fellow board members for your dedication to our branch and its goals.

~ Satsie Veith, President/Facilitator

Your Vote is Needed!

Each Spring you are asked to vote on the proposed slate of officers to run the Branch for the following year. The vote will be taken at the May 15th annual meeting which will be held via Zoom. If you are unable to attend the Zoom meeting, you may also email your vote to Dianne Lorenz, de4lorenz@comcast.net. You may email your vote at any time prior to May 16th. (NOTE: You are voting on the entire slate of officers as one entity.)

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2021-22

ADMINISTRATOR/FACILITATOR:

Sue Griffin and Kit Oldham

TREASURER: Nancy Wirtz

SECRETARY: Dianne Lorenz

COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Jan Britton, Madeleine Caton, Carol Holzgrafe, Mary Huntsinger, Paulette Jones, Lani McManus, Linda Meniccuci and Satsie Veith

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.



Pence Scholarship

Most of you know already that we give a scholarship each year to a student at Butte College who has been away from school or college for two years or more and is described as a returning student.

This year the members of the Pence Scholarship Committee were Sue Griffin and Madeleine Caton.

Butte College sent four applications for us to review and decide who should be the recipient of the scholarship. After reviewing the applications and discussing the merits and needs of the four students, the Committee chose two deserving women.

One is planning on becoming an RN. She wrote that she had been working as an EMT when she was injured on the job. She receives disability payments which means she can have no other income from employment.

The other applicant, who spent two years in prison, plans on getting a degree in criminal justice so she can help others who are caught up in the system.

This year we were able to give two scholarships as our members had made sure that our fund drive was successful. Each scholarship is \$750.00

~ Madeleine Caton & Sue Griffin

Tech Trek update

Registration for our four Tech Trek girls to attend this summer's virtual robotics camps is proceeding. So far Madeline Johnson (Paradise Charter Middle School) and Ava Hutts (Achieve Charter) have completed their registration. Grace Cooper and Ada Simmons (also Achieve) are not quite there yet. The deadline is April 30 so I'm sure they will finish up in time.

There are three identical robotics camps in June and July, offering girls and their families a choice of dates. If you want to see more about these camps — a definitely better than nothing alternative to no camp at all — go to <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2021-virtual-tech-trek-internal/>

Or go to aauw-ca.org, type "Tech Trek" in the search box, then select "Tech Trek Internal" from the list at the right, and you will find a treasure house of details.

~ Carol Holzgrafe

May Annual Meeting

Be sure to join us for the final meeting of this AAUW calendar year! It will be held on Saturday, May 15, 11:30 a.m. on Zoom.

Our main order of business is the election of officers for 2021-22. The rest of the meeting will be informal. We are encouraging members to share how they have fared during this past year of "Covid upheaval to lives" and what they are most looking forward to doing as society is opening up more.

We hope to "see" you there!



On Moving Forward from That Day

It has been two and a half years since Paradise and Magalia - and our AAUW branch - were devastated by the Camp Fire. (No need to tell you that, is there?) During this time many of you have moved away but many remain in the area. Now, May is just around the corner and this is the time to renew your membership. It has been your support - from both near and far - that has kept this long-time branch going. We would like to keep Paradise Branch active at least as long as we can still send our local deserving girls to Tech Trek and continue to support the Pence Scholarship. And for that we'll need you to stay!

Some reasons to belong to AAUW: through Public Policy groups we truly affect legislation that we all support. We work for education and equity for women and girls - not small things. And, locally, we (usually) provide treats to our schools and community, make friends that we treasure, and enjoy our interest groups. Through the wonders of Zoom, some members who have moved away have even been able to join book groups and board meetings.

And, speaking of board meetings, I want to send my utterly huge thanks to our board for the past two years: Satsie Veith, Nancy Wirtz, Dianne Lorenz, and the committee of Sue Griffin, Lani McManus, Linda Menicucci, Jan Britton, Madeleine Caton, and Mary Huntsinger. If you approve, they will all be staying for another year, with the addition of Kit Oldham joining Sue Griffin as co-presidents/ facilitators.

We hope you will all continue to be part of the AAUW Paradise family.

The dues form is included as the final page of this newsletter. Please print out your copy, write your check and mail both to our Treasurer, Nancy Wirtz, at the address listed on the form.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

~ Carol Holzgrafe

Les Flaneurs

Heading Up to Redding - want to join us?

Our walking and talking group plans to drive to Redding on Saturday, May 1 to visit the Sundial Bridge, the Botanical Gardens, and walk the easy River Walk. If you might want to go along, give us a call before Friday night.

We'll meet for carpooling at 8:30 a.m. at Satsie Veith's house, 1401 Sunset Avenue, Chico. It's near the library between East Third and E. Fifth avenues, just west of Sherman (the street the library is on.)

Call either Satsie, 570-3550 or Carol Holzgrafe 774-4009 cell or 873-6906 landline, to announce your interest. We will mask and socially distance once we reach Redding (or you can drive yourself to be extra careful).

Bring your lunch and a little money for gas, parking, and entrance fees. The weather should be warm, sunny, and nice.

~ Carol Holzgrafe



Voting Twice is OK this Time

Have you voted in the AAUW California election? Your emailed ballot should have arrived around April 7. Since I am on the ballot for a second term as state director, I want to be sure you can vote before the May 7 deadline.

If you have not received an email with your link to vote:

- Check your spam folder to see if it's there. The mail will be from siteadmin@aauw-ca.org.
- Search in your email for the subject: **2021 AAUW California Election Ballot**
- If you still are unable to find the email, send an email to webteam@aauw-ca.org for assistance.

A second ballot, from National, would have arrived earlier. That is where you can vote on the proposed by laws change to open membership. I think it was from Sharon Wolfe (not AAUW) and the subject like said nothing about voting, ballots, or PINs. It came around the last two weeks of March.

If you can't find it, write to connect@aauw.org and give them your name, branch/state, and member number and request a new emailed ballot. Your AAUW Paradise Directory entry has your member number (or ask me and I'll send it to you). National voting closes 5 pm EDT May 17.

Questions? Send them my way.

Thanks!

Carol Holzgrafe

530-873-6906 landline

530-774-4009 cell and text

carol@holzgrafe.com





Memories



Public Policy News from National

by Kathi Harper, Public Policy Co-Chair AAUW California

Article submitted by Carole Holzgrafe

On February 2, 2021, my co-chair Sue Miller and I met via Zoom with AAUW Public Policy Director Kate Nielsen and her assistant Robin Lucas, along with state public policy chairs across the nation, to get updates on changes to the public policy landscape with the new administration and Congress. Here is a summary of what we thought members would like to know:

1. AAUW Public Policy team sends notice of our priorities for the new year
 - a. Letter to the President, focused on
 - i. Women's Economic Security
 - ii. Education Access
 - b. Letter to 117th Congress
 - i. Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act
 - ii. Passing the Equity in Education Act
 - c. Both found at aauw.org/resources/policy/documents
2. Also outlined Admin and Congressional Priorities
 - a. Biden-Harris in the 1st 2 weeks – 41 Exec orders
 - i. Covid, including student-debt relief and opening of schools
 - ii. Anti-discrimination, including removing barriers, DACA relief and a Task Force to reunite families
 - iii. Protecting women's health at home and abroad, including access to abortions
 - b. Coming Legislation from Congress
 - i. Covid relief – \$1.9 Trillion package
 1. Paid sick & family leave extended thru Sept (14 weeks)
 2. Increase min wage to \$15
 3. Assistance to those at risk of losing jobs &/or their homes
 4. \$3B to help women with food relief for their families
 5. \$25B emergency fund for child care providers
 - ii. Raise the Wage Act (\$15 by 2025) – reintroduced Thursday
 - iii. FAMILY Act (emphasis on access to paid leave) – end of this week
 - iv. Paycheck Fairness Act – HR7
 1. AAUW working on since 1997
 2. Reintroduced 2/1
 3. Strong bi-partisan support
 4. Prohibits retaliation for discussing pay
 5. Closes loopholes in Equal Pay Act
 6. Can't use prior salary HX in hiring decisions
 7. Members can help: Toolkit at aauw.org/resources/policy/pfa-toolkit/



AAUW – Paradise 2021 / 2022 Dues Notice

**Please return completed form with payment
by June 10, 2021**

- Send to: Nancy Wirtz, Treasurer
AAUW – Paradise
1191 Bonair
Chico, CA 95926-2409

If You Wish To Join, Or Have Joined, Another AAUW Branch Where You Have Relocated, You May Keep Your Paradise Membership By Paying Only The \$19 Branch California State Dues (If You Live In The State Of California.) If You Live Elsewhere, You Will Have To Pay The California State Dues Also. National Is Paid Only Once).
Note Which Branch Is Your Primary.

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Name (as you wish it to appear in the directory) | Spouse/partner's name | Your birthday (optional) |
| | | |
| Mailing Address | City/ZIP | |
| | | |
| Street address (optional) | City/ZIP | |
| | | |
| Cell / telephone | Email address | |
| | | |

* Circle your phone number if you want a notation in the directory that the number is unlisted.

| Degree | Major | Institution/Location |
|--------|-------|----------------------|
| | | |
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| | | |

Dues are distributed as follows:

| | <u>Regular Membership</u> | <u>Life Membership</u> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Association (National AAUW) | \$62.00 | \$0.00 |
| State (California) | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| Branch (Paradise) | <u>19.00</u> | <u>19.00</u> |
| TOTAL: annual dues only | \$101.00 | \$39.00 |

We thank you for sending your check promptly; we must forward these funds to AAUW by June 30.

Questions or need clarification? Call Nancy Wirtz, Treasurer, at 530-514-3992.