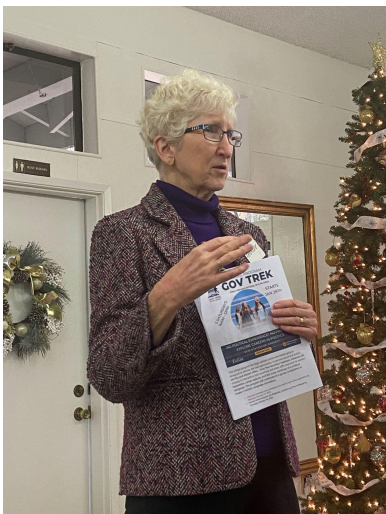


# The Post Graduate

Foothills of El Dorado County Branch  
January/February Newsletter



Sharon Lawrence presenting about Gov Trek at Citrus Heights-American River Branch of AAUW

## President's Message

Sharon Lawrence

I am pleased and excited to be your President. This message will be short and sweet because I've written a long biography, which you can read in this issue.

I am so happy that we have gained several new members this year. I hope to keep this momentum going. Our mission speaks for itself. "To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy." Our Branch has been actively participating in this mission through our

longstanding efforts with Tech Trek. The California AAUW has also recently launched Gov Trek to advance the participation of women in politics. Unfortunately we have a long way to go, the work is not over. I look forward to working with you to further our mission.

Welcome

## New Members

Please welcome new member Janis Thomas. Janis received her BS in Physiology from Arizona State University and her MS in Physical Therapy from Baylor University.

Janis is interested in Art Club and Great Discussions, and would like to participate in carpooling to events.

## President's Bio

When Sharon Lawrence assumed the position of Branch President, I asked her for a short biography to share with the

membership. She provided the interesting write up below:

I began my higher education in 1968 as a math major at San Diego State, with the intention of, one day, teaching math. That plan changed when I married in 1970 and my husband's job took us to the LA area. I spent several years working for Sears, as my math skills were of no use in the job market.

We later moved back to San Diego where I took typing at night school in order to get a job as a clerk for the County of San Diego.

In 1974 I was working as a clerk in the Municipal Court and began taking Criminal Justice courses at Palomar Junior College. At some point I re-enrolled at San Diego State taking night classes while I worked in the Accounting unit of the Municipal Court.

I graduated in 1981 with a degree in Public Administration, which was not helpful as I progressed on an accounting career with San Diego County. My step mother, who was a teacher, gifted me an AAUW membership upon graduation. I participated in a Professional Women's Dinner that was a San Diego AAUW Interbranch program.

In 1991 we moved to El Dorado County when I was hired by the Judges to be the Superior Court Executive Officer. I immediately joined the Placerville AAUW and served as the branch Newsletter Editor for several years.

I retired from Sacramento County in 2004 where I was a Senior Accounting Manager, but continued to work part time until my

husband was recently diagnosed with dementia.

I agreed to be your President after Eileen moved out of the area. I believe strongly in the AAUW mission for seeking gender equity. I am anxious to get our message out to a younger cohort and expand our program offerings.

### **December Board Meeting Highlights**

We are pleased that we already have over \$6,000 on deposit for future Tech Trek participants. Misty and Laurel are busy working on a grant application from The Latrobe Fund for additional Tech Trek funding. This is in addition to other funding sources that have indicated their willingness to provide additional funds.

We are excited by our Branch's continued success with the Tech Trek program and grateful to Misty for all the hard work and dedication she provides to this effort.

We are considering hosting a panel discussion of El Dorado County groups who interact with women who are unhoused. The idea would be to explore what steps are being taken to help the women with an eye towards future independence.

If you have any contacts working in this area. Please let us know.



**The Gift of Giving**  
 Laurel Gromer

The Gift of Giving/ Native Daughters of the Golden West , Sutter's Mill Parlor

In October 2022 members of the Sutter's Mill Parlor of NDGW attended the Tech Trek Luncheon to hear this year's talented and energetic TT campers speak about their camp experiences .

This event inspires all who attend and always confirms that AAUW Tech Trek is a valuable project to support , including the women from The Sutter's Mill Parlor.

The NDGW were so impressed that a December fundraiser was planned to raise funds to sponsor a TT Camper by selling Poinsettias and hosting a bazaar at the Christmas Fair in Coloma on December tenth and eleventh. Despite a major storm

that canceled the Coloma event, the Christmas Bazar was moved to a members home.

The parlor raised an amazing \$1, 200. Besides the sales this includes donations from NDGW members. One NDGW member donated 20 poinsettias to be handed out to Seniors at the Placerville Senior Citizen Center. Is it not a wonder how Tech Trek has brought local groups together to help fund TT scholarships for middle school girls from El Dorado County . Here is to another successful 2023 Tech Trek. Happy New Year Everyone !



### **California AAUW Office Mailing Address Update**

There is a new mailing address for the AAUW California state office:

**AAUW California Office**  
**PO Box 160067**  
**Sacramento, CA 95816-0067**

## Special Interest Groups

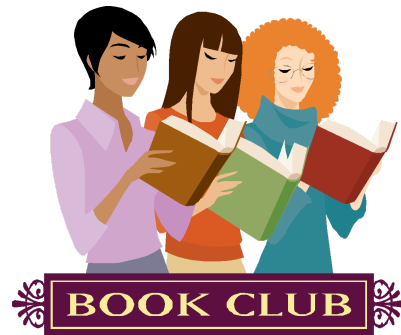
Please consider joining one of our branch's Special Interest Groups. There is a lot to choose from, and if you are interested and not yet a member, email the AAUW's Foothills Branch for more information on becoming a member and joining one or many of our groups. That email is [AAUWFoothillsEDC@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWFoothillsEDC@gmail.com).

If you are already a member and would like more information about a group, get in touch with the contact person. See your directory for contact information:

**Play Reading Group:** Sara Edwards and Janie Wesner

**Great Discussions:** Patricia Garon

**Out to Lunch Bunch:** Sara Edwards



**4th Wednesday Book Club:** Melanie Hale

- In January, the 4th Wednesday Book Club will be discussing *The Language of Flowers* by V. Diffinbaugh
- In February, the book is *The Secret Keeper of Jaipur* by Alka Joshi

**2nd Tuesday Book Club:** Betty Hamilton

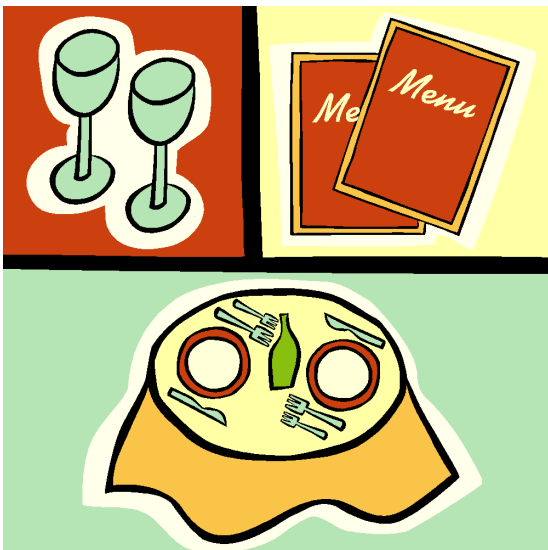
**Nonfiction Book Group:** Patricia Garon

**Art Club:** Hannah Jacobsen

**Bridge Groups:** Jan Ives

**Evening Play Group:** Melanie Hale

**Evening Art Group:** Melanie Hale





A lifelong gender pay gap plus lower Social Security benefits means women are more likely than men to live in poverty over age 65.

## **AAUW Reacts to Latest Gender Pay Gap Data**

Women's economic security is under constant threat and, no matter how you measure it, the gender pay gap remains persistent and unacceptable. In a calculation of the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau comparing full-time, year-round workers, women took home 83.7% of the pay that men did—a figure that is not statistically different from the pay gap in 2020. In addition, a more comprehensive calculation that compared everyone with earnings in 2021 (including part-time and seasonal workers) found that women were paid a shocking 77% of men's wages last year.

In coalition with other equity organizations, AAUW this year used this new calculation that assesses all workers. Our goal was to get a fuller sense of the wage gap at a time when millions of women were forced out of the workforce due to layoffs and increased caregiving demands. The results underscore a grim reality: Women still face a pay gap that has, at best, stagnated over the past several years and, at worst, widened further.

Moreover, the pay gap continues to be most egregious for so many women of color. Using the analysis that included all wage earners, AAUW found that Black women were compensated a mere 64% of what white, non-Hispanic men were paid in 2021. For Latinas, the gap was even more abysmal: 54%.

We'll keep pushing to provide the most inclusive and accurate data possible. In the meantime, we cannot get distracted from our critical work to achieve pay equity for all, which includes prioritizing racial equity. AAUW remains strongly committed to advocating for laws and policies to ensure fair pay, relieve the disproportionate burden of student debt on women of color, and provide paid leave and affordable child care. Employers and legislators must do better. We won't stop fighting until all women are paid fairly and have the same opportunities to build secure economic futures for themselves and their families.

## **Upcoming AAUW Webinar Growing AAUW California**

Please join this webinar hosted by the state Membership Committee to learn about several fresh pilot projects to attract and retain members. Discover how to use the power of our mission and make every member a recruitment ambassador for AAUW!

Date: January 25, 2023

Time: 7 pm

[Growing AAUW CA Registration](#)

## Opportunities to Serve on an AAUW Review Panel

Would you like to contribute to women's advancement in education and the workplace? One way you can do that is by serving on one of AAUW's review panels, which are responsible for helping to choose the next recipients of our Fellowships and Grants programs. Panelists review and discuss applications to recommend awardees to AAUW. All panelists should have a commitment to advancing gender equity in higher academic, the professions, and/or the community. For more information, email [fellowships@aauw.org](mailto:fellowships@aauw.org)

### Placer Earth Care Action

**Placer Earth Care Action**, founded and facilitated by AAUW Auburn member, Linda Franklin, will be screening the official full film *Forests, Food & Nature Session - Women Declare Emergency and Raise Climate Ambition Summit* from a women-led group called **SHE changes climate**. The climate crisis is on our doorstep and is affecting all of us. Yet perspectives on it, and decisions on how to approach it have been made mostly by men. Since the first COP in 1995 only four women have been appointed as COP Presidents. Only 7 of the 110 world leaders at COP27 were women. At COP 26 only 34% of committees, and 39% of those leading delegations, were women. At the 2021 G7 Summit, there was only one woman among the decision makers.

**.SHE changes climate** is working to increase female representation at all levels of climate decision making by influencing key players, campaigning for public

support, collaborating with counterparts and amplifying the overlooked. These films give voice to female leaders from around the world left absent from global climate negotiations and explore the actions necessary to create a better future for ourselves and all of nature.

Meeting is available both in-person and on Zoom. (See invitation below Kenneth Moore is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Kenneth Moore's Zoom Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

[Zoom Registration for Earth Care Action](#)

Meeting ID: 968 4238 5199

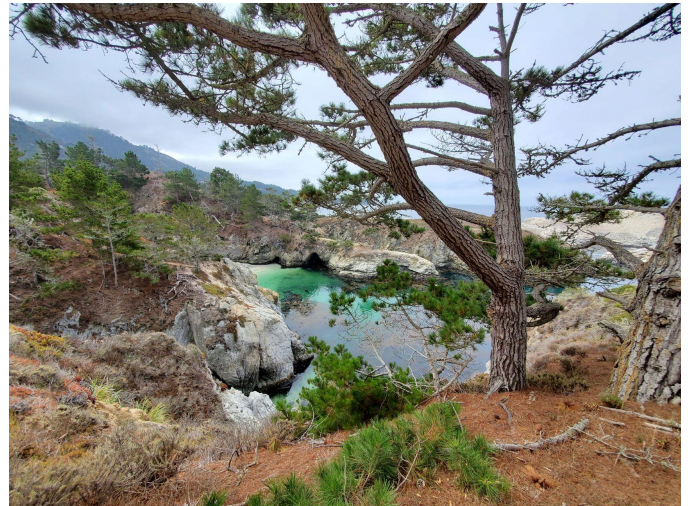
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**Jan. 8th, 1:15p**

**Auburn Congregational Church**

**710 Auburn Ravine Rd**

**Auburn**



# AAUW Fund Zoom Event

## Saturday, Jan. 28, 1–3 PM

Sponsored by Capital Counties InterBranch Council

Your local InterBranch Council is delighted to offer members the opportunity to hear directly from four powerful women.



*Sandi Gabe*

### AAUW Ca State

President **Sandi Gabe**, always engaging and knowledgeable, will bring us up to date on the issues that inspire us.



*Stormy Miller Sabia*

Our AAUW CA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director **Stormy Miller Sabia\*** will speak on the progress we're making in DEI, and the challenges we face.

Following these articulate leaders, two dynamic AAUW Fund Grant recipients—**Kyndra Cleveland** and **Isha Poudel**--will present their research, connecting us to the passion that motivates their work and their lives. Register for this free Zoom event with the link below. Our members generously support AAUW Funds—this is your chance to hear from the women you sponsor.

\*Stormy Miller Sabia may be called away; if so, she'll provide another knowledgeable speaker.

**Don't miss these terrific women on Jan. 28!** To receive the Zoom link, register on Eventbrite [HERE](#) before January 26. I will see you there —*Katherine Bup Greenwood*



*Kyndra Cleveland*

**Kyndra Cleveland**, pursuing her law degree at the University of California, Berkeley, seeks to amplify the voices of parents and children navigating legal systems by bringing the results of her research to policy decisions. Children in the many thousands are removed from their families during crises, and then often suffer a chaotic future without a chance for family reunification. These children can be lost in the system – but Kyndra and the Policy Advocacy Clinic at UC Berkeley are working to give them a voice, and to change policy to increase their well-being. She is a polished speaker on a topic of special relevance to AAUW's advocacy for girls.



*Isha Poudel*

**Isha Poudel**, a graduate student at UC Davis studying international agricultural development with a focus on gender equities, takes us to Nepal with a compelling project that lets us see the world a little differently. In Nepal, three-fourths of the economy is agricultural—but 80% of the farmers are women. Men have emigrated to other areas to work, leaving the women farmers to deal with the challenges of gender bias, of food insecurity, of Covid-19, and of global warming. Her research may build Nepali support to ease their challenges.