

DECEMBER 2021

Volume 6

No.12

Ukiah • California
ukiah-ca.aauw.net

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is our final newsletter for 2021 and I am happy to write that we are completing the year on a very positive note.

Our first in-person Membership Program Meeting in over a year, on November 9 at the Saturday Afternoon Club, was very successful. It was well attended and Tim Karas, president of Mendocino College brought two college instructors: Leslie Banta, who had received an AAUW scholarship several years ago and who is currently a professor in the Mathematics Department. The second instructor Sara Bogner, Physical Therapy Assistant Program Professor/Director who developed and teaches in the Physical Therapy department. Also on the panel was a current graduate, Kyra Cash, who had attended a wide variety of courses over a 20-year period while raising a family. The presentations were very informative and interesting and certainly represented that we are positively moving forward on our mission of female equity and with our relationship to the college.



Continued on the next page. . .



I have been very impressed with the workshops and webinars being offered on the Internet by our State and National organizations. Be sure to look at Val's column about these beneficial offerings and take advantage of any that interest you.

By the way, you may have noticed that we have a new mailbox – aauwukiahbranch@gmail.com so that when we send out e-mails to you and others it does not come from a particular person - such as Kyle or Sharon as it had previously. In this way continuity can be kept as individual positions change over time.

A reminder that all members are asked to help host the program meetings at least once a year. At some time soon you will receive a call from either Kristana or Janet Chaniot asking you to sign Looking forward to the coming year that promises to expand our membership to students, and to more of your friends. Also, we hope to also booster the diversity in our AAUW Ukiah chapter.

Your Board members are meeting on December 7 and we will be discussing ideas for the holiday celebration and the annual scholarship fundraiser. If you have any fun and creative ideas, please send me an e-mail and I will bring it up at the Board Meeting.

Warmly,

Sulin Bell

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW California keeps track of the bills introduced in the California Legislature. We tracked those bills which deal with our bottom-line issues. Over 3,000 bills are introduced each year. Our legislative advocate tracks those bills and alerts us when we need to lobby our legislators. Here are the last of 2021 bills.

Legislative Updates

Our last five priority bills that were awaiting the Governor's signature have been acted on, here are the results:

SB 62 (requires fair pay, instead of "by the piece" payment, for garment workers) SIGNED

AB 367 (free menstrual products must be provided in girls/women's bathrooms in schools) SIGNED

AB 887 (allows domestic violence restraining orders to be filed electronically) SIGNED

AB 123 (increases paid family leave benefits to 65 – 75% of regular pay) VETOED

AB 1074 (requires hotel and janitorial workers who have lost their jobs due the pandemic to be prioritized for hiring as businesses reopen) VETOED

Val Muchowski
Public Policy Chair

AAUW IS LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL

When AAUW began in 1881, few women had the opportunity to pursue a degree—prompting founder Marion Talbot to support a fund for women’s education. Today, women outnumber men in earning degrees at nearly every level. Yet our work is far from done.

Over the past 140 years, AAUW has evolved to become the leading voice in advancing gender equity in education and workplaces everywhere. Through research, education and advocacy, we’re committed to ensuring that everyone gets the same opportunity to learn, earn and lead. Our programs aim at moving women forward—and we fight for policies that support our goals.

AAUW created research and project grants that allow women to return to school, to re-enter the workforce, and to give them the skills they need to be competitive in the workplace. It created “Selected Professions Fellowships” to bring more women into non-traditional fields such as law, business and medicine. Later the focus for these fellowships and grants evolved to cover science, technology, engineering and math as well.

AAUW’s 1975–76 American Fellow Judith Resnik made history by becoming the second female astronaut in space. After she perished in the 1986 Challenger tragedy, AAUW members raised \$235,000 to fund the Judith Resnik American Fellowship endowment. To find out about the many projects and webinars go to <https://www.aauw.org/about/>



AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

AAUW California will continue to embrace the advantages of the virtual world in 2021-22 by conducting another series of Zoom webinars on topics that promise to interest branch leaders, members, and the public. Several webinars will relate to this year’s focus: “M&Ms: Marketing and Membership.” Speakers will share ideas for building membership through marketing, publicity, advocacy, branch programs, etc. with a particular emphasis on engaging working and retirement age groups. There are webinars to keep you up to date on what is happening. <https://www.aauw-ca.org/category/2021-2022-webinars/>

Janet Chaniot has a number of programs planned to instruct us in issues. In March our beloved Women’s History program will honor local women with a theme of “Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope.” If you are interested in helping us put together this program, contact Val Muchowski at vjmuchowski@gmail.com or (707) 234-9000.

AAUW-UKIAH OFF TO A BUSY YEAR

By Janet Chaniot

How often have we heard the powerful words: equity, accessibility, and justice? We are all living in the world of 2021, and we hear these words almost every day in contexts from global to national to local. And they are words that inspire and motivate AAUW members, as we seek equity, access, and a just world for women.

After a successful dinner in September at Rivino Winery and the first of three programs based on these issues in the lives of women (covered elsewhere in the newsletters), we look forward to a busy 2022 as we study and learn how to advance and support women, families, and all genders in their quest for healthy, fulfilling lives. Focusing on women we realize that everyone will succeed when women succeed.

The second program will be on February 22, moderated by Camille Schrader. Camille has been active for many years in overseeing programs and services for children, women, and families.

The third program on April 19 will be presented by The West Business and Development Center and focus on women-created and operated businesses.

Of course, an important part of our activities next year will be our initiative to enlarge our membership by serving Mendocino College students in a new AAUW Ukiah Student Club. (See Norma's article.)

As you can see, we have a busy, but joyful, fun, and productive year ahead. We hope every member will join in our activities and help to keep AAUW Ukiah alive and thriving.

BOOKMARKERS

December: *The Matrix* by Lauren Groff

Meeting: December 16 at Katie Gibbs, 4561 Eastside Calpella Road, Ukiah

January: *The Three Mothers*, by Anna Malaika Tubbs, biographies of the mothers of Martin Luther King, Malcolm X and James Baldwin.

New members welcome; questions call Katie: (707) 228- 6143

MENDOCINO LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (MLCCD) AFFILIATION WITH OUR AAUW UKIAH BRANCH

Our AAUW Ukiah Branch has started a long-awaited journey to affiliate with MLCCD students after our initial board discussions back in January 2020!

Dr. Tim Karas, MLCCD President, has guaranteed free community college student participation with AAUW Ukiah Branch by funding the AAUW e-student affiliation! He is committed to supporting this extraordinary collaboration. Our meeting with President Karas on October 12, 2021 set the foundation for a successful engagement with our talented student community by taking the following upcoming steps:

1. We will be establishing a relationship with the incoming Student Life Director as our community college liaison.
2. We will share an announcement board at the student club center to relay opportunities for MLCCD students on AAUW programs leading to student career success.
3. At the upcoming Spring Welcome Week, we will have the opportunity to sign up students to our very own campus club where we will be presenting the many opportunities AAUW offers for student success by sharing our vision of advancing equity and justice for all women.
4. We will offer opportunities for our AAUW Ukiah Branch members willing to engage in this e-student affiliate subcommittee to promote college achievement thru STEM career promotions, information and guidance on National's AAUW Leadership Development events and to avail students to National's START SMART workshops allowing for job interview and wage negotiation success!
5. We will offer opportunities for students to attend our local AAUW programs and events.

We look forward to the future growth of our branch membership with participation of our community's young women that will enrich our rural community.

We encourage your involvement in our growing Ukiah Branch e-student affiliate subcommittee and experience a world of youthful curiosity with the AAUW Ukiah Student Club, AUSC.

We extend the warmest holiday wishes and thank you for all your past and future support that will lead to much success!

Norma Marks and Janet Chaniot

ConnectUP Mendo!

Connect Up = Bring better internet connection to Mendocino County. This is important to the future of all communication in our county as landlines disappear.

As educated women, you know how important communication is to education, but also to safety, health, commerce and government.

As a resident of Mendocino County, you're invited to test your Internet speed. The County has launched a crowd-sourced speed-test that aspires to collect and share data about Internet availability in every region of Mendocino County.

Why? With historically unserved and underserved areas, where Internet service is poor or nonexistent, the pandemic highlighted the need for increased connection. Additionally, collecting this data will help the community develop policies and pursue funding to augment and facilitate the construction of needed "Last Mile" infrastructure now, or fill out the short form stating you have no internet connection at home.

Here's the link: <https://tinyurl.com/mendospeedtest>

Together we can close the digital divide. Help us get there! [#connectupmendo](#)[#mendospeedtest](#)

Katie Gibbs, long-time member of Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County
County of Mendocino
Community Foundation of Mendocino County
West Company



Wil Gonzalez, AIFD



-  <http://www.weflowers.florist/>
-  wil@weflowers.florist
-  WE-Flowers
-  www.yelp.com/biz/w-e-flowers-ukiah-3
-  <https://www.pinterest.com/yeshewil>
-  [google+ goo.gl/U62uM7](https://plus.google.com/u/0/117134149681312144811)

Please note that *Valley View* advertising is available to local businesses for \$25/year starting in January. Just scan or send a business card and a check to Kyle Mayers at P. O. Box 1626, Ukiah, CA 9482



Celebrate!
Gifts From Home

Paintings, Sculpture, Jewelry,
Quilts, Scarves, Woodworks,
Glass and more. 
Created by local artists.

November 5 thru December 29

Art Center Ukiah
11am - 5pm Tuesday - Saturday
201 South State Street Ukiah 462-1400



This holiday season, please shop local.

At the Corner Gallery/Art Center Ukiah, we have local art and locally crafted gifts in a variety of price ranges: Wood working, jewelry in several very different materials and styles, original paintings in watercolor, oil and acrylic, prints of photos and of watercolors, cards, quilts large and small, scarves, silk and lavender sachets, glass and wire tree decorations, small baskets and sculpture and wall hangings in silk or steel, and sparkly spiders. All created in our community.

Something for everyone and cheerfully gift-wrapped.