



Valley View

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are beginning the second month of the new year and yet things don't really look "new" on the landscape of the outer world. However, on the more local horizon I do spot some glistenings of pleasant thoughts about upcoming events.

AAUW, MWPC and CFI are going forward with plans for the annual *Women's History Gala* event on March 20 at the Saturday Afternoon club. Nominations for honorees, Program plans, unique Covid Safety set-ups, and great refreshments are all underway. And now we need to fill in some blanks regarding volunteer helpers in several categories – and that's YOU ALL. Please read Val's column that follows to see where you can comfortably fit in and fill the voids! The importance of honoring women who heal and promote hope cannot be denied, as well as the vital need to raise the funds that keep this work ongoing.

PLEASE E-MAIL ME IF YOU ARE WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE A SAVORY DISH AND ALSO IF YOU ARE WILLING TO BE ON THE REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE TO HELP SET UP AT THE SATURDAY AFTERNOON CLUB.

The next program on February 22 will focus on *Healthy Families Make a Better World* and is something to which we can all relate. Camille Schraeder certainly has the talent to put together an interesting, relevant and enjoyable evening. The Saturday Afternoon Club has already put in place a Covid Safety environment. Attendees will be masked, distanced, vaccinated. Calendar in a good-time evening—we all need it.

And yes, we will plan once again on having our Spring Dinner at the beautiful Rivino Winery. The foodie I am is already thinking about the possible menu and drinking options and the delight of seeing the faces of our membership once again.

It's timely I believe, to refresh our energy that allows us to put attention on matters that are important in sustaining our living enthusiasm and that extend our personal horizons...kind of like a group hug!

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WHEN WILL THE GENDER PAY GAP BE CLOSED?

How long will it take? What can we do to make it happen sooner rather than later? These are questions that AAUW has been grappling with for decades. As we mark Equal Pay Day on March 24th, perhaps there is hope that we can make progress in decreasing the gender pay gap in 2021, given a new administration that is committed to social justice and leveling the growing disparity between the haves and the have-nots. We also now have women in the highest echelons of national leadership; and as we all know, when women are in charge, things get done!

According to the 2020 update to AAUW's *The Simple Truth*, based on the projected earnings ratio compiled between 1988-2019, it will take white women until the year 2069 (fifty years)—to achieve parity with men. For women of color the numbers are even worse. Black women will have to wait until the year 2369 (350 years) as their earnings ratio advanced only 7% from 1988 to 2019. And Latinas find themselves in the worse scenario as their earnings ratio has only increased from 51% to 55% during this period of time, projecting their year of parity to 2451 (430 years)! (AAUW, *The Simple Truth* 2020 update)

The reasons for these disparities in the gender wage gap are known—and understanding what's causing the problem is the first step to meeting it head on. Members are urged to click here to read the summary of *The Simple Truth* update on the AAUW National website which lays out the problem, its causes and solutions.

AAUW is leading the charge to effectuate change and you are part of the solution with the work your branches undertake on behalf of women and girls. The more we educate ourselves and others about the scope of this gender wage gap with programs like Start Smart, Work Smart, NCCWSL, etc., the more we chip away at the disparity. What is your branch doing to make a difference in the Gender Pay Gap? Let us know what creative ideas you have come up with to spread the word in these days of social distancing, and we'll share them on the web (send to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org).

Val Muchowski
Public Policy Chair

Nominations Are Open for Honorees: 39th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration

The Mendocino Women's Political Coalition (MWPC), Ukiah AAUW and the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse have launched the planning for the 39th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration to be held at the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse in Ukiah. Mark your Calendars and save the date: March 20, 2022, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Malia Cohen, the current Chair of the California Board of Equalization District 2, will be the featured guest speaker. Lake County Poet Laureate, Georgina Marie Guardado, will be reading one of her poems. There will also be a silent auction, music and refreshments. The Ukiah AAUW will be providing savory refreshments. The MWPC will provide sweet refreshments.

Three women in Mendocino County will be honored to represent the 2022 theme: **“Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope”**:

The National Women's History Month theme for 2022 honors women who, in both public and private life, provide healing and promote hope for the betterment of all. Our Mendocino County 2022 Honorees may represent many diverse backgrounds and each may have made her mark in a different field. Our theme is both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history.

While each Honoree will be extraordinary, each will also be ordinary in her own way. Most importantly, the 2022 Honorees will inspire women and girls to follow.

Please send your nomination via e-mail to vjmuchowski@gmail.com with the following information:

1. **Name** of nominee to include her telephone number(s) and e-mail address.
2. **Two sentences** to explain how your nominee fits the 2022 theme.
3. **Three paragraphs** to describe why your nomination deserves to be a 2022 Honoree.
4. **Deadline:** All nominations must be received by February 4, 2022

If you submit more than one nominee, please remember to send a separate e-mail for each of your nominations. When you prepare your e-mail submission, make the subject: **2022 Nomination**.

PROGRAM NOTES

by Janet Chaniot

Mark February 22 on your calendars and plan to attend the second program of the school year: *Healthy Families Make a Better World*. Led by Camille Schraeder, several women, who help Mendocino County women and others, will tell their stories of creating equitable and accessible opportunities to improve lives.

6:30 at the Saturday Afternoon Club on Tuesday, February 22. Come get together, following pandemic protocol, for an informative and fun time with AAUW Ukiah friends.

Call or e-mail Janet Chaniot: kiks@pacific.net or (707) 972-6722 to be included on the list of those attending.



CAMILLE SCHRAEDER, MA
DIRECTOR
PUBLIC POLICY & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Exciting Sendoff for College Club

by Janet Chaniot and Dr. Norma Marks

A productive meeting at the college on the last day of January with Dr. Tim Karas, Jonelle Meyers, Norma Marks and I, resulted in a tentative February schedule for beginning to enroll Mendocino College students in the new collaboration between AAUW Ukiah and Mendocino College.

We will have materials on the college website that include an application to become a member. And we will begin talking to students about joining during the last two weeks of the month. Any other members who wish to invite students to join May request materials to hand out from Janet.

Membership in the Club is free because Dr. Karas has joined the AAUW program that offers college students free membership and access to the benefits described on the page following this note.

Any students who join in February are also invited to the February 22 program, as it will provide an opportunity to learn about valuable social services available to them and to be introduced to other AAUW members.

As you can see, February will be an exciting and groundbreaking time for AAUW Ukiah.

MENDOCINO - LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT/AAUW UKIAH**STUDENT CLUB INFORMATION****Welcoming New Faces, Ideas and Friendships: 2022 - 2023****CURRENT AAUW ACTIVITIES****BENEFITS OF CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

Mendocino College Scholarships
for women returning to college

Expands your resume for job seeking
& applications for graduate education

Inspiring speakers programs

Opportunities to contribute to creating Club
and community programs

Fall Dinner Meetings

Networking with friends, old and new

Spring Dinner Meetings:
welcoming new officers, members and guests,
introducing scholarship recipients

Having fun times: Celebrating
graduates, discovering mutual and new
interests

AAUW Website

Community Outreach venues available

Monthly Newsletter Interest Groups (examples:
Book Club, Computer, Internet skills, walking)

Opportunity for Having a Mentor
and for Being a Mentor Monthly

Monthly Board Meetings

Helping to form board decisions

Supporting political policies and candidates
on national/state /local levels

Your voice is heard

Co-sponsoring annual Women's History Gala

Opportunities to participate in AAUW
national leadership training

Holiday Party and Scholarship Fundraiser

Opportunities to participate in job interview
& salary negotiation training

Accolades - Achievement Rewards for High School Students

Awarding scholarships to middle school students for a summer Science Camp (Tech Trek)

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



Wil Gonzalez, AIFD



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