



Valley View

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

No mistake that it is Summer this month! Despite the heat, the Board met on Monday July 18 in Sharon Marshall's cool home (cool on many levels) and we are making good progress on the following projects:

The launching of the AAUW Student Club—either in mid-August but more likely in September with a table at a college event. We now have a brochure and an informative page on the benefits of being an AAUW Student Club Member. Norma Marks and Janet Chaniot have been very active in the formation of this club and in developing relationships with various college staff members who will assist us in this endeavor.

The preparation of next year's budget, thank you Kyle—it looks like we are in the green! Kyle says technically we are in the black, but I like the vitality of green better.

The newly established requirements for membership participation which will appear in the next yearbook. Your help is essential to sustaining our Ukiah Chapter

The Fall Dinner preparations are awaiting confirmation from Rivino.

Program plans are developing for this coming year, with Rocio Ortega as our new Program Director and Board member taking the lead with Janet Chaniot as a mentor. BTW we send healing energy to Janet who is recovering from a broken left foot and sprained toes and ankles on both legs...we surely missed her valuable contributions to our Board meetings. And, if you have any ideas about possible, please let us know about your inspiration.

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Testing the waters of establishing an AAUW Men's Support Group. If any of you as current members know a man who is supportive of your affiliation and work in AAUW, would you please e-mail me his name so we can send him a special invitation to the Fall Dinner and an invite to participate in an AAUW Men's Activity Group meeting.

We will have a Candidate Forum sponsored by MWPC, AAUW and possibly *UDJ* sometime in the first two weeks of October. The candidates are for seats on the City Council, the School Board and the College Board.

Another exciting proposition we discussed is to establish our presence on social media. We will be encouraging members to send input to the board to post on our AAUW site—be it on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Tik Tok - as well, of course, as our own fabulous website—currently being overseen by Kyle Mayers.

Please keep in touch—one way is to let us know you are reading the newsletter by sending an e-mail or making a call to comment on anything to someone on your Board. We so appreciate feeling your support.

Sulin Bell
President

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

July 1 marked the beginning of a new AAUW year and if you have not already done so, it is time once again to renew your membership. The cost is \$102.00 this year - \$67 for national, \$20 for state and \$15 for our local branch. Checks should be made out to AAUW Ukiah and can be mailed to P.O. Box 1626, Ukiah 95482. If you prefer, you can renew online at AAUW.Org. I found the online renewal is a bit difficult. You log in with your member number and go to your membership to renew. You have to select national and then the Ukiah Club and then the state, but it works if you prefer to pay with a credit card. If you need your member number you can email me at Mayers4Ky@gmail.com. Looking forward to another productive and rewarding year with AAUW and our Ukiah Branch!

Ky Mayers
Treasurer

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW will hold a Candidate Forum for the November election. Katrina Bartolomie, our County Clerk, released the list of positions that are up for election on November 8, 2022. Filing has begun and continues up to August 12. It is possible to extend the deadline if no incumbent files in a race. Up for election are three City Council seats, five Ukiah School Board seats and two Community College seats. We will need your help in gathering questions and keeping time. It will be at the Ukiah Civic Center at a date and time to be announced. There are also two local propositions—one to help fund the Library system and one to help-fund-the fire districts.

On the National AAUW Level

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The decision overturns the landmark *Roe v. Wade* ruling that established abortion as a constitutionally-protected right nearly 50 years ago and ignores the will of the American people, 80% of whom support legal abortion.

AAUW believes everyone has the right to make decisions about their own reproductive lives without government interference. Abortion access is vital to women's ability to control their lives, bodies and futures. Without reproductive freedom, there can be no equity. Being able to choose whether and when to become a parent improves women's well-being and fosters economic security—a crucial component of AAUW's mission. This is particularly important in a country that lacks accessible maternal health care, paid caregiving leave and workplace protections for pregnant workers.

The Court's decision hurts all of us, but it will do the most harm to low-income people, women of color, immigrants, people with disabilities and LGBTQ+ people, because these groups already face substantial barriers to accessing reproductive services and health care.

While the Court's decision is a major setback for all Americans, AAUW remains steadfast in our commitment to protecting reproductive rights, a vital component of gender equity.

Val Muchowski
Public Policy Chair



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lynda McClure
707- 272-0580
lynda@pacific.net

PRESS RELEASE: Be a Change Agent for Freedom

What: MWPC Campaign Training for officials, candidates, staff and volunteers
When: 4 Sessions- July 30th, Aug. 6th, 20th, and Sept. 10th from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Where: Ukiah United Methodist Church, 270 N. Pine Street, Ukiah, CA

Time to fire up your inner mover and shaker! If the environment, pro-choice, civil rights, and voting rights are your passions plan to attend the Mendocino Women's Coalition (MWPC) four sessions on **Campaign Training – Be a Change Agent For Freedom**, July 30th, Aug. 6th, 20th, and Sept. 10th from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Pre-registration can be found on the website: <https://mendocinowomen.org>. It is never too early to begin to prepare for the 2022 Elections as a candidate or how to best help in a campaign.

Veteran political campaign trainer and founding chair of the MWPC, Val Muchowski, says, "Women considering a first run for public office or political 'old hands' should attend this valuable training to learn or relearn how to 'run to win'!

Valuable skills are taught! Media training, winning without costly consultants, projecting your image, strategies, forming a strong message, media skills, regulations, targeting voters and other skills are taught by MWPC certified trainers Lynda McClure and Val Muchowski.

"The Leadership & Campaign Training was invaluable to me preparing for my first, First District Supervisor campaign", says Carre Brown, former Mendocino Supervisor. "I learned a lot about preparation for candidate interviews, campaign strategies, and Fair Political Practice Commission regulations."

Our Democracy is being challenged like never before! Democracy is not a spectator sport. Come gather information at our trainings and learn how to participate and save our democracy, Elections Matter!

The trainings will be July 30th, Aug. 6, 20th, and Sept. 10th, from 10 am – 1:00 pm. Non-members will pay \$10.00 per session or \$40.00 for all four sessions. Members will pay \$25 for all four sessions. Early registration is accepted on our website: <https://mendocinowomen.org>. To find out more about this event call Lynda McClure: 707-272-0580 or email: lynda@pacific.net.

Additional information: To find out more about this informative event call 707-272-0580 or visit our web at <https://mendocinowomen.org>



NEW MEMBER AND PROGRAMS OFFICER

In addition to her role as Programs officer, Rocio Ortega hosts AAUW's-Ukiah Branch "Women's History Month Gala Event" held annually at the Historic Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse venue in Ukiah. Rocio considers herself an inspirational leader who is answering the AAUW call of "Membership Matters." She hopes to increase participation, outreach and member retention while expanding and promoting equity and education for girls and women globally.

In 2020, Rocio was appointed Chair to the Innovation Committee for the Social Security Administration. She is a former member of San Francisco Regional Management Association and a small business owner; she is Hispanic and brings 20 years of career experience in public service, including 14 years as a Federal civilian employee.



Among her many accomplishments, she has worked on national initiatives with the Social Security Administration in San Francisco, Sacramento, Washington D.C., and with several state and numerous municipal partners bringing awareness and fostering community engagement to duly served customers.

Most notably, Rocio is a proud mother of five girls.

She holds an associate degree in General Studies from Mendocino Community College and studied at Chico State University and Dominican University. Rocio is committed to supporting opportunities and empowerment for women and girls everywhere.

BOOKMARKERS

by Katie Gibbs

Bookmarkers will meet on Thursday August 18 at 3:00 p.m. (note change of time) at 3425 Deerwood Drive.

The book is *The Fog Sellers* by Dan Daglow, a good mystery set in San Francisco.

Questions or potential new members, please call or text Katie at 707 228-6143.

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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