



Valley View

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

As you probably have noticed, things are heating up on many levels. Aside from the climate heatwave we are experiencing and anticipating even more of this week in Ukiah, AAUW is moving forward on many exciting projects.

This week I will be talking with Chef Earl to determine our menu for the Fall Dinner at Rivino's Winery on the 20th and will e-mail the entrée choices to you so you can send your RSVP to me with your choice. The cost is \$35, same as last year, and bringing guests is encouraged.

We look forward to another beautiful time, and delicious dinner meeting. Remember last year it ended in a full rainbow over the vineyards! And, it is also the time to send your dues for this year to Kyle, and if for some reason you don't, please bring your check to the dinner.

The new yearbook will be distributed at the dinner, and for those folks who can't make it to Rivino's, your yearbook will be left on Kyle's front porch for you (620 North Pine Street) as we did last year, and you can just come by and get it. Another option is to pick it up at one of the Program Meetings. For those members who chose to receive an e-book instead of a printed yearbook, we will send you an e-mail when it is available – most probably before the dinner meeting.

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Please note that our new Program Officer, Rocio Ortego, with the help of Janet Chaniot, has integrated your suggestions and have varied the dates, timings and focus of the Programs. We will talk more about this at the Dinner Meeting.

Also, there is an important new entry in the yearbook entitled Membership Participation Requirements. It had become obvious that we needed to define the needs and expectations of participation for our membership in order to more effectively sustain and advance our chapter of AAUW. We welcome your feedback on this.

Although we sent out an e-mail asking members to send us the names of men who are supportive of our work, and of their partners or friends who are part of AAUW, so we could invite them personally to the Rivino Dinner, we have not received any responses to this request . . . very disappointing.

On a brighter note, we will be meeting scholarship recipients at the Dinner – always an interesting, inspiring and satisfying experience. Speaking of inspiration, you will receive an update on the advances between AAUW Ukiah and our Mendocino College Student Club. The President of the College, Tim Karas, and the staff liaison on Student Life, Naoto Horiguichi , were invited to the dinner to tell us more about this ongoing relationship.

Happily, and warmly, to say the least, I look forward to seeing you all in person again.

Sulin Bell
President

GENDER FAIRNESS IN EDUCATION

To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, diversity and inclusivity, and to address the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women and girls, AAUW advocates:

Strengthening and vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights
Laws pertaining to education

Adequate and equitable funding for and access to quality public education,
Including early childhood education, for all students

Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary
education and to charter schools that do not adhere to the same civil rights and
accountability standards as required of other public schools

Increased support for and protection of programs that meet the needs of girls
and women in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education, including
strong promotion of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
education and comprehensive sexual health education

Increased support for and access to affordable higher education for women,
Including alleviating the debt burden that disproportionately impacts borrowers
of color and exacerbates the racial wealth gap

Support for practices that halt the flow of students from schools to prisons,
including reforming school disciplinary practices that disproportionately punish
girls and students of color.

BILL TRACKING IN CALIFORNIA

Each year we select a number of bills to help women and children. We track them and our Sacramento advocate keeps track of them and calls us if they need us to urge our legislators to support these bills.

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2021/04/bill-tracking.pdf/>

Keep an eye on the bills we have targeted. Chaptered means they went to the governor to be signed. Suspended means they will be put off until next year.

CANDIDATE FORUM

In preparation for the November 8 General Election, the Mendocino Women's Political Caucus (MWPC) and the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host "Candidate Forum" on Monday, September 26 in the Ukiah City Council Chambers located at 300 Seminary Avenue in Ukiah. The forum will begin at 6 p.m. This forum will present the candidates for the Ukiah City Council. Our organizations have jointly-hosted candidate forums on a regular basis for over 25 years.

It is our experience that these forums generate a great deal of voter interest and we hope and expect that all candidates will participate. Our goal is to educate voters and encourage voter involvement. We will include presentations by Measure O and Measure P.

Wendy DeWitt will be the moderator. Each candidate will have the opportunity for short opening and closing statements. Questions from the audience will be submitted to the moderator on index cards and each candidate will have equal time to answer the questions and to respond to each other.

We need timekeepers and folks to collect questions from the participants.

Please come and bring friends.

Val Muchowski
Public Policy Chair

BOOKMARKERS

by Katie Gibbs

Bookmarkers will meet on Wednesday, 2:00 p.m., September 21 at 4561 Eastside Calpella Road.

The book is *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles, "a propulsive novel set in 1950's America."

As the school year begins again, we would be happy to welcome new members.

If you have questions or are a potential new member, please call or text Katie Gibbs at 707 228-6143.

