



# Valley View

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## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Speaking for your Board Members, we all hope you are well, happy and enjoying the holiday season best as possible. The rain brings an auspicious beginning for the coming year of the Chinese Water Rabbit, beginning January 21.

**And now some breaking news:** Each year during this season we raise funds for various projects than help support our work together. Please check out the following poster and go to our website to read about this fun and unique fundraiser.

**We need your response in order to go forward.** Send an e-mail to our mailbox: [aauwukiahbranch@gmail.com](mailto:aauwukiahbranch@gmail.com) with your comments, questions, (hopefully) enthusiasm and a desire to participate!

This is our first try at a fun and unusual fundraiser that goes beyond our species! Also note that we are now on *Facebook*. If you want to post something just run it by one of the Board members and we will facilitate it.

Lastly, I would like to remind you to look again at the page in your yearbook about Membership Participation and please select your choices and let us know. Only one or two members at a time are invited to attend Board meetings. The dates are announced in the newsletters and on our website. Please e-mail or phone any one of us to let us know when you would like to attend. We would really welcome your input as we develop our events and policies. The Board meetings are enjoyable and we even have refreshments—come and see.

Again, we need to hear what you have to say about this first-time ever fundraising project. You can also call or e-mail [sulinbell@gmail.com](mailto:sulinbell@gmail.com), or call me at 707-462-5747

# A FUNDRAISING CONTEST

## FINDING A 2023 MASCOT



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**CALLING ALL ANIMAL LOVERS** to help make a difference in our community.

**AAUW Ukiah** is holding a contest to find a mascot from Mendocino County. You do not need to be a member to participate. your pet, or a friend's pet, can become a local celebrity!

The winner will be decided by votes purchased by you, your family, friends, neighbors or coworkers.

There will be a live celebration event on February 18 at the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse for final voting and announcement of the victor.

The winner will receive the Title: OFFICIAL AAUW 2023 MASCOT and

Publicity in local papers, social media and on *Facebook*  
A professional portrait painting  
A trophy and formal certificate  
A professional photo shoot  
Recognition, admiration and community gratitude

**Enter before January 29**

**Voting: January 30 - February 16**

For complete rules, entry form and information visit our website  
[aauwukiahbranch@gmail.com](mailto:aauwukiahbranch@gmail.com)



## LOBBY DAYS

Save the Dates .... March 21 and March 22, are the AAUW CA scheduled Lobby Days, so mark your calendars and be sure to sign up to participate when our Lobby Day registration arrives in your January mailbox.

Advocating for our top three priority bills is fundamental to achieving our legislative priorities by addressing economic security for all women, providing equal access to public education and insuring social and racial justice for all members of society.

We need all members on board and will be counting on you to reach out to our elected officials in the CA legislature. Our Public Policy Committee will make it easy for you to do so. This year instead of a full week, Lobby Day will consist of two days and will occur while the legislature is in session, not on break. Hopefully, this will provide more opportunity to actually speak with a member in lieu of a staffer. Our plans are to make it hybrid – virtual and in-person. Those branches in and around Sacramento would have the option of in-person meetings at the Capitol with the remaining branches meeting virtually or in-person with staffers in the district. So, a bit more flexibility this year as the committee feels it's beneficial to establish relationships with our elected leaders' local staff.

Our AAUW legislative Advocate will be scheduling meetings with the member offices willing to participate, and once you return your Lobby Day survey, the committee will begin to assemble branch participants and match them with Assembly and Senate districts in order to assign teams. We will provide you with material on the bills we are supporting and have scheduled a mandatory training webinar for March 20, so you'll have the information at your fingertips.

If you have participated in Lobby Day in the past, we would love to hear from you on what worked and what didn't; please send your comments to [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org).

Lobby Day is our chance to make a concerted impact on the priorities and values we, as AAUW members, hold dear. It brings out the "advocates" in all us for improving the economic and educational lives of women and girls. And goodness knows, we need that commitment now more than ever. So, mark those calendars and join us on Lobby Days.

Val Muchowski  
Public Policy Chair

**NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR HONOREES:****39th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration**

The Mendocino Women's Political Coalition (MWPC) has 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 5, 2023. Up to three women in Mendocino County will be honored to represent the 2023 theme:

**“Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories”**

Our story-telling community women are essential in making our history visible. The National Women's History Alliance encourages the recognition of women who have been active in all forms of media and storytelling to include: print, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts, news, and social media.

This timely theme honors women who have devoted their time and talents to producing art and news in pursuing truth and reflecting society. Our Mendocino County 2023 Honorees may represent many diverse backgrounds and each may have made her mark in a different field. Most importantly, the 2023 Honorees will inspire women and girls to follow.

Please send your nomination via e-mail to [katarzyna@pacific.net](mailto:katarzyna@pacific.net) with the following information:

1. **Name** of nominee to include her telephone number(s) and email address.
2. Two sentences to explain how your nominee fits the 2023 theme.
3. Three paragraphs to describe why your nomination deserves to be a 2023 Honoree.
4. **Deadline:** All nominations must be received by January 23, 2023.

When you prepare your e-mail submission, include the subject: **2023 MWPC Nomination.**

Katarzyna Rolzinski

### AAUW BOOKMARKERS

Next meeting: January 11 at 2:00 p.m. The book is *Lorna Mott Comes Home* by Diane Johnson.

New members welcome, meetings are at the home of Katie Gibbs, 4561 Eastside Calpella Road, Ukiah, telephone (707) 228-6143.

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Board will meet via Zoom on Monday, January 9 at 10:30 a.m. Please e-mail Sulin Bell at [sulinbell@gmail.com](mailto:sulinbell@gmail.com) or Kyle Mayers at [mayers4ky@gmail.com](mailto:mayers4ky@gmail.com) request Zoom contact information.

### YEAR OF THE RABBIT REPORT

The rabbit epitomizes gentleness, refinement and charm. It resolutely turns its back on conflicts of any kind. The element of Water this year adds kindness and depth to our feelings and emotions. The Rabbit is linked to Pisces nature, rarely angry, hostile or aggressive.

