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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

I must admit that the main subject on my mind lately is our Mascot Fundraiser:

*We have had two articles in the *Ukiah Daily Journal* by Katarzyna, the most recent one on page 2 Saturday, January 28. One article was titled “Join the Fun” and included this photo of Kristana Arp, Tech Trek Coordinator and yours truly.



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*A radio interview on KZYY on January 26 at 9:00 a.m. with me and Johanna of Live Oak Living on Thursday morning—currently available for you to hear on your browser at Jukebox KZYY.

*Posters up in Willits, Ukiah and the Coast,

And, of course, the e-mails and texts you and the MWPC will be receiving, and hopefully reading and responding.

There are 11 pet picture entries, one being a Mama Goat that came with an outstanding donation, and all of these furry Beings are so loveable and enjoyable to view.

I now look forward to the voting which has started and goes until February 16 just before our grand finale – the Celebration Party on Saturday, February 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse. At the event there will be a opportunity for final voting, announcing of the winner, and refreshments for you and take-home treats for pets. Please RSVP to the AAUW email –aauwukiahbranch@gmail.com--if you intend to come so we can have enough treats for both. Or you can email me sulinbell@gmail.com

IMPORTANT TO NOTE: Votes mean donations and donations are our goal. You don't have to enter a pet or even vote to donate to this fundraiser. Donations from you and your network of friends, family, neighbors and co-workers will help keep AAUW Ukiah active. Looking at the photos and voting is great fun and a heart-opening incentive. Anyone can vote as many times as they want.

Please help us have a successful fundraiser by voting and by contacting your personal community and encouraging them to vote and/or donate to support the work of AAUW.

As we approach Valentine's Day, and the lunar year of the Water Rabbit, love is in the air and potentially smoother sailing. I send my appreciation to you all for being a part of this generous Mendocino County community.

Janet Chaniot will be calling you to ask for your help with the Fundraiser Celebration Party. We will need help, on the Refreshment Committee especially, and aspects of the program itself. Also, is there a calligrapher out there?

PUBLIC POLICY

Many black women have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more. For Black History month we celebrate the achievements of but a few:

- Sojourner Truth, a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights (1797-1883).
- Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin (age 15) helped initiate the Civil Rights movement by refusing to give up their seats to white men on Montgomery, Alabama buses. Their actions inspired the Montgomery Bus Boycott which resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional. Parks became a nationally recognized Civil Rights leader and member of the League of Women Voters.
- Dorothy Jean Dandridge was an actress, singer and dancer, the first African-American film star to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in Carmen Jones (1954).
- Katherine Johnson, a brilliant mathematician, was one of three black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools. Her greatest contribution was to space exploration through her calculations synching Apollo's Lunar Module with the lunar-orbiting Module. She also worked on the Space Shuttle and the Earth Resources Technology Satellite. President Barack Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor.
- Madam C.J. Walker is considered America's first self-made, female millionaire who created and sold widely manufactured and recognize hair-care solutions and remedies door-to-door. She hired 40,000 "ambassadors" to sell her products.
- Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. She served as a representative from New York for 14 years, was the first black candidate to run for president in 1972 race, and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.



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- Mae Jemison became the first Black woman to fly to space on the space shuttle Endeavour. She was also the first Black woman admitted to the astronaut training program, in 1987

- Toni Morrison released her novel *Beloved* in 1987, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, based on the true story of an African American enslaved woman. In 1993, Morrison became the first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

- Oprah Winfrey, born into poverty in rural Mississippi to a single teenage mother, molested as a child and pregnant at 14, became the most influential woman in the world by many accounts. An American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and philanthropist, she was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only black billionaire. Winfrey was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and received honorary doctorate degrees from Duke and Harvard.

Val Muchowski
Public Policy Chair

AAUW BOOKMARKERS

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 8 at 2:00 p.m

The book is *10 Minutes and 38 Seconds in this Strange World* by Élif Shafak.

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

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on February 13 at 1:00 p.m. Anyone interested in attending needs to e-mail Sharon at sharonjeanmarshall@gmail.com for the location.