



# Valley View

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## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi All,

I am still excited about how wonderful the Fall Dinner was last Tuesday. There were many highlights – a beautiful day weather-wise, being together, delicious dinner once again (thank you to Earl and his team, and to our AAUW servers Sue Mason, Sharon Marshall and Susan Sher). We had many new guests, a few new members, and about 50 dinners served.



Meeting the Tech Trek and Scholarship recipients, and receiving their enthusiastic appreciation as well as honoring Marie Pera for her leadership in Tech Trek for over two decades, was very special.



Teck Trek Recipients -Summer of 23



Scholarship Recipient – Sarah Adams



Greta Palmerin & Marie Pera



Irma Turner giving Recognition Certificate to Marie

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Also important was an update from Suzanne Jahnke, the Rivino owner taking over the management, and assuring us of a continuing relationship between Rivino and the community.



Sulin Bell, Suzanne Jahnke and Kyle Mayers

You will enjoy visiting the website to see many more of the great pictures Madelyn McCauley took. A big thank you to her. We all looked so happy! The only limitation was my mistake in using the tall vases for flowers as the wind had a lot to say by knocking them over.

And another big thank you goes to Kyle Mayers for her fabulous work in updating our yearbook – adding pictures was a welcome update.

The College is having a day for Student Clubs on October 26 where we intend to set up an AAUW Student Club table and hopefully sign-up more students. Many thanks to Norma Marks and Janet Chanot for their dedicated work to make this happen. You are invited to come by and welcome our staff advisor and new member Julie Finnegan, club members, and teachers who might show up. We will also be creating a program meeting featuring the Student Club.

In the coming months you will receive many updates about changes with respect to Branch Officers and Committees Chairs. We are working on job descriptions and the By-laws. The Board is planning a day-long meeting to work on this. Let us know if you would like to be included.

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This is the last year for Mary Ann Villwock and Katie Gibbs to chair Accolades and the Scholarship Committee. They have been doing a great job finding our recipients for several years. We are grateful that Gretel Palmerin will step into the Accolades Chair position; the Scholarship Committee will need a Chair person.

In addition, I will be stepping down as President and Kyle will be running for new President of the board next year. How fortunate! Therefore, we are looking for a treasurer to replace her. Rocio Ortega has resigned as Program Chair and this position is also open. We also need someone to work with Membership. At the last dinner program Michelle Hutchins had graciously offered to assist Kyle with the Website... which keeps getting better and better! What specifically each job will entail will be spelled out in the next few months.

Save the dates for two exciting upcoming programs: On November 9 Janet Denninger, the Executive Director of Ukiah Hospice, will be the guest speaker; and on April 9 we will have a book discussion program featuring a book chosen by the Bookmarkers interest group— the name of the chosen book will be forthcoming.

Enjoy this beautiful Autumn season,  
Sulin

## Public Policy

### 2022-23 Legislative Session Closes with Big Wins for AAUW California Public Policy Committee

At the stroke of midnight on September 30, 2023, the legislative session officially came to a close as it marked the Governor's deadline for signing or vetoing bills. The AAUW California Public Policy committee is pleased to announce that we achieved a 70% success rate on the bills on our legislative agenda, and 25 of our 36 bills are now law, including seven of our eight top-priority bills. The following is a brief synopsis, by each pillar of our Public Policy Priorities:

#### **Economic Security for All Women**

Eight of our bills were signed by the Governor, one was vetoed, and one died in the legislature. The most significant bill under this pillar was AB (Assembly Bill) 92, which we co-sponsored. AB 92 was introduced in 2020, and became a two-year bill, which is why it remained on this year's agenda. This bill originally sought a one-year waiver of supplemental childcare fees for low-income families, with a request for a sliding scale to be applied thereafter. In his 2021 budget, Governor Newsom included \$120 million for two-years' worth of waivers. The bill was then amended to request an additional year of waivers through October 2024, with a sliding scale to then be implemented. Unfortunately, the amended bill was vetoed; however, we are still proud of the work we did to get those two years of waivers in the budget, so we still consider it a win!

#### **Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students**

Six of these bills were signed by the Governor, one was vetoed, one was approved by the legislature (no signature required) and two died in the legislature. Of particular note under this pillar are three of our top priority bills: AB 1968, which requires campuses to develop and post uniform guidelines for reporting sexual assault; AB 2881 which provides additional support for college students with dependent children; and AJR 23 (Assembly Joint Resolution), a Title IX 50th Anniversary Proclamation.

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## Public Policy (continued)

### Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society

8 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was incorporated by the Governor into an Executive Order, 1 was approved by and 2 died in the legislature. We saw success on all 4 of our top priority bills in this area: AB 1666, which provides protection for those from other states seeking abortions in California, as well as for those providing services here, from the enforcement of a related civil judgment from their home state; SB (Senate Bill) 523, which requires insurance coverage for over-the-counter contraceptive products; SB 1375, which allows certified nurse-practitioners to perform some early-term abortions; and SCA (Senate Constitutional Amendment) 10. SCA 10 was introduced in the Senate as a measure to place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot to enshrine in the California constitution the right to an abortion and to contraception. When this measure passed in the Senate, it became proposition 1.

Val Muchowski

## AAUW BOOKMARKERS

We will meet Thursday, October 19 at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Katie Gibbs, 4561 Eastside Calpella Road, Ukiah

The book is *How to Stand Up to a Dictator*, the fight for our future, by Maria Ressa, Nobel Peace Prize-winning journalist.

New members are welcome. Call Katie 707 228-6143

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on October 10 at 11:00 a.m. Anyone interested in attending needs to e-mail Sharon at [sharonjeanmarshall@gmail.com](mailto:sharonjeanmarshall@gmail.com) for the location still to be determined.

## NEW MASCOT

Meet Allie Bay—AAUW People's Choice Mascot 2023-2024



### Allie Bay – Official Mascot 2024

Licorice the goat was deemed the Patron Mascot since she received the highest amount in donations whereas Allie Bay was the People's Choice Mascot as she had the largest number of people voting for her.