

# Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW  
December 2018

<http://redlands-ca-aauw.net>  
Issue 5, 11 Issues Annually



*AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.*



## The President's Corner – Toni Momberger

On November 6, two members of our branch won election to the Redlands City Council -- Denise Davis and me. This makes history for our branch, and for our town, having never before elected an openly LGBT councilmember or a Latina.

I am especially struck by the fact that Denise and I both ran and won without conforming to stereotypes of power. Society, or at least Redlands, has come a long way, that we didn't worry that showing our gentle nature would threaten the perception that we are

strong and smart.

"There seems to be less of an expectation that the women running will conform to dated ideas of female politicians: donning boxy red blazers, presenting picture-perfect family lives, and keeping personal stories discreetly in the background," said an April article in the New Yorker. That's a huge stride.

We both made the decision to run after a serious consideration and, frankly, pressure (that we are lucky people put on us).



*Continued on page 3*

## December Branch Meeting



**Lumiere de Chanson** is a 40- member choir at Citrus Valley High School. Under the direction of Mrs. Kimberly Anaya, LDC (for short) has traveled singing all over the Inland Empire and United States. This year we are planning on attending a WorldStrides Competition in Florida and have competed in the past in Los Angeles, Seattle, San Diego, and twice in New York City. At these competitions, we have received Gold ratings for 6 years in a row. We have also been awarded the sweepstakes award and most outstanding choral group two times. Students

are presented with a variety of choral literature throughout the year. We sing classical, madrigals, spirituals, and contemporary. We also bring in a choreographer to choreograph four winter songs. These songs are performed at our winter concert at CVHS. Let's just say we do enough dancing in our year to give our P.E. classes a run for their money! During our month of December, we spend many a day and night caroling around the IE to raise money for the cost of our big competition. This year's trip will be \$1,600 per person. Thank you for having us at your event and helping us make our goal!

*~Kimberly Anaya, Director  
~Patty Ahearn, Coordinator*

## December Branch Meeting

**When** Saturday,  
December 1, 2018  
Social 9:00 a.m.  
Brunch 9:30 a.m.  
Program 10:15 a.m.

### Where

University of Redlands  
**CASA LOMA Room**

### Menu

Sumptuous Breakfast Buffet

Scrambled eggs, blueberry blintzes, home-fried potatoes, bacon, seasonal fresh fruit, assorted breakfast pastries, creamy butter, fruit preserves, coffee/tea

### Cost

Members and guests: \$19

### Reservations

The reservation deadline for the December 1st meeting is Sunday, November 25, 2018. Please call 909-362-4955 or email [rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org). Reminder: a reservation made is a reservation paid.

**Members and guests are always welcome at all branch meetings. There is no cost to attend the program at 10:15 a.m. Chairs will be available.**

## Branch Meetings: 2018-2019

Wednesday, 1/9 dinner  
Saturday, 2/2 brunch  
Saturday, 3/2 brunch  
Wednesday, 4/3 dinner  
Saturday, 5/4 brunch  
Saturday, 6/1 brunch

Sunday, November 25 RESERVATION DEADLINE for DECEMBER 1 BRUNCH				December 2018		
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9 am Branch Mtg. & Scholarship Boutique
2 9-1 & 12:45-4:45 YMCA Home Tour 6 pm California Cuisine 1	3	4	5	6	7	8  9 am STEM Redlands Mtg.
9	10 NO BOARD MEETING 5:30 pm CHAT	11	12 9:30 am PASS area STEM Mtg. NO I Am, Therefore I Think MEETING	13	14	15
16 5:30 pm California Cuisine 2	17	18	19 1pm Bunco	20 NO Reading & Rainbow MEETING	21	22
23	24	25-31 NO International Affairs MEETING		Save the dates Tues. January 8, PASS STEM Conference Tues. January 8, 7 pm Named Gift Honoree meeting Tues. January 22, 6 pm Adult Literacy Tutor Orientation Tues. March 5, Redlands STEM Conference First Week of March, Mon. & Wed. Great Decisions Friday, April 12, 2019 LUNAFEST		
Bridge Contact coordinator for established bridge groups. ~Louise Schumann				STEM Conference, Pass Area 12/12 9:30 am Committee meeting. Contact Marilyn for location. Conference date: January 8, 2019 ~Marilyn Shankar		
Bunco 12/19 1pm at Patty Ahearn's home ~Barbara Krause				STEM Conference, Redlands 12/8 Committee meeting at Heather's home. Conference date: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 ~Heather Abushanab		
California Cuisine and Conversation 1 12/2 p.m. Host & address will be sent by email. ~Pamela Ong				YMCA Home Tour 12/2 9-1 & 12:45-4:45 ~Ann Leonard and Linda Browning		
California Cuisine and Conversation 2 11/18 5:30 pm at Patty Ahearn's home						
CHAT Meeting 12/10 Smiley Library Assembly Room Potluck, family welcome. Please RSVP with how many will attend and what you are bringing. ~Katherine Gifford 798-7565 literacy@akspl.org						

#### Branch Officers:

**President:** Toni Momberger, **President-Elect:** Marie Mitchell, **Communications Vice President:** Becky Johnston, **Hospitality Vice President:** Kathy Toister, **Membership Vice President:** Erica Wilson, **Program Vice President:** Kathryn Brown, **Secretary:** Patricia Stubbs, **Treasurer:** Hazel Curtis

#### B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **January newsletter** will be **December 5th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to [news@aaupw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:news@aaupw-redlands-ca.org) or by mail to Paula Ferri-Milligan

## The President's Corner – Toni Momberger (*continued*)

Women are less likely to become candidates in general. We reportedly consistently underestimate our qualifications and perceive ourselves differently than men who have nearly identical credentials. Women are also more likely to perceive campaigning as harder and, although Councilwoman-elect Davis and I are exceptions (thank you AAUW), are less likely to have anyone encourage them to pursue political office.

Adolescent girls are more likely to indicate an interest in running for office during years when there is consistent media coverage of women in politics. In the countries with more female legislators, young women are more likely to participate in politics and have political discussions, and young women express a greater interest in becoming politically active in the future.

We need to change or work with this because we need women in office.

We're not better, but we're different. Our leadership styles tend to be more open and collaborative, and less hierarchical. And we prioritize some different values.

Women consistently co-sponsor more bills related to women's health than their male counterparts, regardless of liberal or conservative ideology. Our leadership also helps drive change in policies for parental leave, child care and pay.

And having more women in government changes how society thinks about all women — and how young women think about themselves.

Our branch has been encouraging and supportive of my journey to the dais from the start and has had no small role in my courage to serve.

At the November meeting, that moment I turned from giving Denise a celebratory hug and saw everyone standing to applaud was incredible. It will be one of the stand-out memories of this frightening, rewarding, overwhelming, embracing campaign experience.

From me -- and on behalf of the girls who see two AAUW members governing (without shoulder pads) in Redlands City Hall and start to imagine themselves in office-- thank you.

## Milestones for women in government

1916: Jeannette Rankin (R-MT) became the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

1922: Rebecca Latimer Felton (D-GA) became the first woman appointed to the Senate but only served one day.

1964: Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-HI) became the first woman of color elected to the House.

1974: Bertha Rose Grace, owner of Serr's stationery store on State Street, became the first woman elected to the Redlands City Council.

1983: Carole Beswick became the first female mayor of Redlands.

1992: Carol Moseley Braun (D-IL) became the first woman of color elected to the Senate.

1998: Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) became the first openly LGBT person elected to an initial Congressional term. She is now the first openly gay member of the Senate.

~Toni Momberger

## AAUW Vision Statement

**Mission** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy

**Vision** Equity for all

**Values** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that is nonpartisan and fact-based—with integrity, inclusion and intersectionality for all.

## In It For Life? Make It Official

### AAUW Life Membership

Empower future generations through your lifetime membership in AAUW! Show your commitment to advancing equity for women and girls. Join us or upgrade your existing membership today and receive a letter of recognition, a certificate, and a lapel pin that you can wear proudly knowing that you've put your values into action to advance AAUW's mission. Lifetime membership in AAUW is a one-time, fully tax-deductible gift of \$1,180, which is 20 years of AAUW national dues.

**Become a life member today!**

~Erica Wilson,  
Membership VP





## Condolences

Condolences to Maria Rossi on the death of her father last month.



## Named Gift Honoree Selection



All previously awarded Named Gift Honorees are invited to meet on Tuesday, January 8 at 7:00 P.M. at Margee Fuller's home. The meeting is to select Named Gift Honorees for 2019. We will honor the recipients at our February 2019 branch meeting. This is a very special award for individual branch members who have done outstanding work in supporting our programs and goals. Our previously recognized Named Gift Honorees are listed in your yearbook, so if your name is there, your participation in this meeting will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

~Margee Fuller, Chair  
Named Gift Honoree & Program  
Coordinator



AAUW STEM  
REDLANDS BRANCH

## PASS STEM Conference Needs Your Help

The 19th annual Pass STEM Conference is fast approaching. If you can help as a guide or host on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, please call Theresa Lantz or Marilyn Shankar. We will appreciate all donations at the Adopt-A-Girl table at the December branch meeting.



MT. SAN JACINTO COLLEGE



## Hospitality Birthday Club

Can't believe it's already December. Time to wish a special Happy Birthday to our December ladies. Many happy returns!

Janyth Dison  
Marge Emrick  
Randa Little  
Marie Mitchell  
Dorothy Nordquist  
Eileen Sanborn  
Louise Schuman  
Carol Townsend  
Sarah VanTassel  
Helen Webb  
Tabetha Wittenmyer



**Birthday Club** -- If you haven't "joined" our Birthday Club yet, please put your name and birth month on the sheet at the birthday table at the back of the room, so we can recognize you, too!  
~Pat Belk



*Happy November Birthday  
Marilyn Shankar*



## Holiday Boutique

Don't miss the best boutique in town!  
Discover one of a kind, hand made gifts!

Many thanks to all of the wonderful members who contributed their crafts to our boutique and to all the shoppers who purchased them. We had great participation in November, so our crafters are busy making more items for the December sale. Don't miss it! It's a great way to pick up a special gift for someone as well as those stocking stuffers that come in so handy.  
~Pat Belk

## Membership & Hospitality

**New  
Members  
Get  
Together**



When one becomes a member of AAUW Redlands,

I think the first thing she may be impressed by is our Branch's hospitality. This certainly was on display Thursday evening, November 1st, when Kay Dobbertin graciously opened her home for the New Member Coffee hosted by the Membership and Hospitality Committees. We began the meeting by introducing ourselves, our educational backgrounds, and how we came to join AAUW. It was a great way to get to know both our new and old members.

New members who attended were Lorraine Enriquez, Kelsey Gormley, Diana Haberkorn, Brittany Hagen, Debbie LeDoux, Sarah Osborne, Eileen Sanborn, Geri Stahly, and Sarah VanTassel.

Kathy Toister, VP Hospitality, provided them with an excellent overview of the vital programs, community action projects, fundraisers, and the many interest groups sponsored by our branch.

Additionally, there to answer any questions or concerns our new members may have had (and they did) were Susan Bangasser, Kathryn Brown, Kay Dobbertin, Margee Fuller, Adriane Gram, Dianne Landeros, Marie Mitchell, Toni Momberger, Dorothy Nordquist, Pam Ong, Judy Racine, Ellen Schollenberger, Kathy Toister and Erica Wilson.

An enjoyable (and very edible) time was had by all.

*~Erica Wilson, Membership VP*



## Hospitality

Thank you to our wonderful Mentors who have made connections with our new members and welcomed them. Mentors, you are making a difference.

*~Kathy Toister, Hospitality VP*



## College University Partnership

Our committee has been meeting with University of Redlands faculty to develop and define a new approach to table events, one that involves students delivering short, to-the-point messaging that students can learn in 15 seconds. It is a fun project, and we will be anxious to see the results.

Other committee members are working with the U of R faculty to develop criteria for the NCCWSL scholarship application. Faculty will also communicate about the scholarship to the students and help us select the awardee.

Stay tuned as we continue these projects.

*~Kathy Toister, Chair  
College University Partnership*

## Thank You to 39 AAUW Volunteers at the YMCA Holiday Home Tour 2018

Sunday, December 2, 2018, AAUW will be helping the YMCA with its Home Tour. Our home is 1525 Marion Road. Money raised supports the Y's Legal Aid Program, which provides legal services to low-income clients, primarily women. We learned about the YMCA Legal Aid Program when Paula Salcido was our speaker at our January 2018 AAUW meeting. Paula Salcido is a very experienced attorney who leads a team with at least one paralegal and several paid and volunteer clerks, as well as volunteer attorneys, who together provide legal services. Linda and I greatly appreciate all the AAUW volunteers and their dedication to this worthwhile cause.

*~Ann Leonard & Linda Browning, Co-Chairs*





## November Branch Meeting



Speakers:  
**Karen Martinez**  
and  
**Gabriella Tokatlian**



**Valerie Johnson**, the President of the Crafton Hills College Student Senate, gave the Thought for the Day

Valerie is the NCCWSL scholarship winner for 2018. Our Branch sent Valerie to

the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington, DC, in June. She thanked us for her amazing experience and her growth and development as a future leader.

Margee Fuller opened her house for the AAUW Redlands branch summer retreat in July. Marie Mitchell, President Elect, presented **Margee Fuller** with a thank you gift and card from the AAUW Redlands Branch.



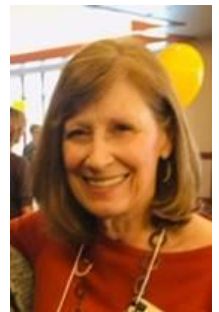
## 2019-20 Branch Meetings: Tuesday or Wednesday Evenings? We Need Your Input!

Last year, the majority of our membership voted to change our September 2018 through June 2019 midweek evening meetings from Tuesday to Wednesday in order to accommodate the scheduling conflict created when our 2018-19 President, Toni Momberger, gained a seat on the Redlands City Council.

It is now time to decide whether to change back to Tuesday evenings or continue with Wednesday evenings when our current President-Elect, Marie Mitchell, begins her 2019-20 term of office.

When you receive the email asking for your vote on this important issue, please respond at your earliest convenience! (NOTE: Those members who receive Branches & Twigs by U.S. Mail will be provided with a mail-in ballot.)

~Kathryn Brown, Program VP



## Lunafest—Save the Date!



Please save Friday, April 12th, 2019, for our 7th Annual Lunafest. This is a joint activity with Zonta Club of Redlands and our branch to support our respective clubs. The Lunafest Organization supports Chicken and Egg Pictures, a nonprofit that supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. Our entry fee to participate in Lunafest (\$350) will go to support this organization, and funds raised for the event will be split evenly between Zonta Club of Redlands and AAUW Redlands Branch.



~Contact Heather Abushanab with questions at [lunafest@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:lunafest@aauw-redlands-ca.org)



## AAUW Redlands STEM Receives \$25,000 Planned Gift from Grace Martin



Grace Martin was a member of our branch since 1991, who passed away in March 2018. Grace left an amazing gift of \$25,000 to our branch “to be used for its Math-Science Conference”, the original name for our STEM Conferences. Grace volunteered as a host or guide each year and saw first hand the smiling faces of girls attending the conferences, learning the importance of STEM, and beginning to plan for their futures. This gift is an expression of how Grace valued AAUW’s work for future generations of young girls, and it ensures that our branch will be able to both continue the work we are currently doing and expand our reach even further with new STEM initiatives.

Although the branch did not know Grace had designated us to receive a legacy until quite recently, it is not a surprise that Grace would use her resources to support the branch and its mission in her survivor trust, since she did similar things throughout her membership in AAUW. Most recently, Grace regularly drove Mary Jane Auerbacher to meetings once Mary Jane stopped driving. Several months before she died, Grace arrived at our branch meeting pushing Mary Jane in a wheelchair. I assisted Grace getting the wheelchair into her SUV after the meeting, and I asked her how long Mary Jane had had the wheelchair. Grace responded “Oh this isn’t hers, it’s mine.” Of course I asked Grace if she had used it at one time. She responded, “Oh no, I just bought it to take Mary Jane to meetings. Who knows, I may need it myself one day.” This spirit of kindness and generosity defined the Grace Martin that we came to love. She is missed by all those who knew her, especially her dear friend Mary Jane.

Kathleen Albrektson, an AAUW Redlands branch member and estate attorney, says she regularly asks clients if they want to leave a financial gift to any clubs, church, charity or civic group while preparing their estate plans. Kathleen states that a legacy gift of this kind “is a great way to assure the continuation of the good work of AAUW.” Which AAUW mission means the most to you? AAUW has many ways that you too may plan a gift that will change lives for women and girls. Whether it’s a planned gift to our branch or a gift to AAUW national, a legacy gift allows AAUW to Empower Women and Girls for many years to come. The AAUW website <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/support-aauw/> has information on planned giving from leaving a gift in a Will or Trust, Legacy Circle, Gift Annuities and other options, or you may contact the AAUW Director of Planned Giving for more information: Heather Miller, Director, Planned Giving, 202.785.7766 E-mail: [millerh@aauw.org](mailto:millerh@aauw.org)

Although an acknowledgement letter is being sent to Grace’s Brother, Gordon Martin, 15 South Buena Vista, Redlands, 92373 and to her sister Carol Harder, 21 S Buena Vista, Redlands, 92373, please feel free yourself to let either Gordon or Carol know how much this gift means to AAUW Redlands STEM.

~Kathy Toister, VP Hospitality

**DEEPER  
IN DEBT**  
WOMEN AND STUDENT LOANS

### Women’s Student Debt Crisis in the United States

Right now about 44 million borrowers in the United States hold about \$1.4 trillion in outstanding student loans. The scale of outstanding student loans and an increasing share of borrowers who fail to repay have made many Americans aware that student debt is a challenge for society and for individual borrowers. Yet despite the fact that women represented 56 percent of those enrolled in American colleges and universities in fall 2016, many people do not think of student debt as a women’s issue. This report reveals that women also take on larger student loans than do men. And because of the

gender pay gap, they have less disposable income with which to repay their loans after graduation, requiring more time to pay back their student debt than do men. As a result, women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States — almost \$900 billion as of mid-2018.

This report offers a broad overview of how student debt became a women’s issue. It aims to change the conversation around student debt so that it includes gender-based analysis and solutions. The analysis examines the experiences of women as a diverse population and presents statistics by race and ethnicity as well as other demographics. The report relies heavily on publicly available federal government survey data as well as published studies undertaken by academics and organizations researching the issue of student debt.

Download the report: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/by-type/reports/>



## Getting to Know Our Treasurer Hazel Curtis

Growing up on the wind-swept prairies of South Dakota, I thought everyone went to a one-room rural school house – complete with all 8 grades and one teacher. Life was grand. I was surrounded by first-generation American women who were strong, resilient, and insisted on becoming highly educated. At 14 I left home in pursuit of advancing my education. I attended boarding school for my high school. At 300 miles from home, I swiftly learned to be independent.

Ever since I was 5-years-old, I knew I would grow up to be a nurse. I graduated with a BSN from Union College in Lincoln, NE, in 1972. With my RN license in hand, I moved to California and have never left! I completed my MPH with emphasis in Health Education from Loma Linda University in 1975. More recently I completed a pre-doctoral leadership program. I hold credentials as an Allenbaugh Executive Coach and Gallup Strengths Coach.

I spent my early nursing career in emergency care and home health care. It has been my privilege to have worked the last two decades as both a hospital educator and a staff developer where I successfully launched leadership curriculum for frontline to executive leaders in a variety of healthcare organizations. I am passionate about the employee and patient experience and to that end support leaders as they meet the challenges of creating a culture of Safe Patient Care.

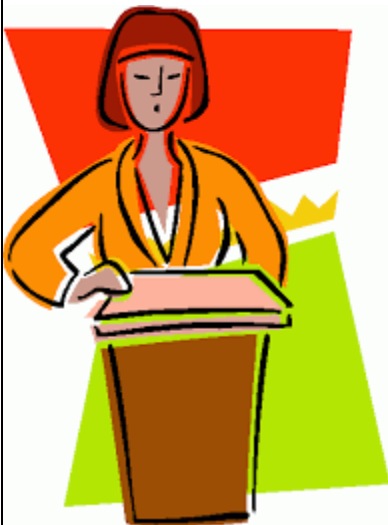
My teaching career began in the mid-70's when I was asked to develop and instruct the Paramedic Program for the Loma Linda University School of Medicine. The Paramedic Program was in its infancy and yet to be offered in the Inland Counties of Southern California. Standing in front of a room full of firemen gave powerful meaning to the words, "trial by fire!"

I am currently a speaker, author, and leadership coach. I will be releasing my first book in early 2019 entitled, *Lessons of the Cards – A Guide for Healthcare Professionals*. I am dedicated to "inspiring women to unleash their passion, purpose and power." Because of my personal mission, I find AAUW to be a perfect fit and am happy to serve as the treasurer. My volunteer work has recently expanded to include becoming a docent for the Mission Inn Foundation in Riverside.

Dan, my husband of 37 years, and I have raised 3 fantastic children who are now giving back to our communities. We have one sweet grand boy. I enjoy being with my family, entertaining, reading, gardening, and sewing.



Speech Trek



As chair of Speech Trek, I would like to invite all of the AAUW Redlands Branch members to be part of the audience to observe the contestants from our 3 local high schools.

The location of the event will be at Citrus Valley High on January 30, 2019, at 6:00 pm. The topic of the 5 to 6 minute speech is, "How can we-- students, parents, faculty, our communities, and organization such as AAUW-eliminate violence aimed at our schools?" The students will be timed and judged by experienced Toastmasters. The Redlands branch winner will be awarded \$300 dollars.

The winning speech will be posited to You Tube for submission to the state competition. The top 3 branch winners in California will present their speeches at the AAUW State Convention on April 9, 2019 in San Diego. The state winner will receive a \$1500 award.

This is the 3rd year our Redlands Branch has participated in Speech Trek. Last year, Caroline Irving, the Redlands winner from Redlands East Valley High School competed at the AAUW State Convention and placed first. That makes our branch the defending champs. Please support this worthwhile project by planning on attending the Speech Trek Competition.



~Patty Ahearn, Chair



## An Evening of Theater

On October 18, many of our members & friends gathered at the Footlighters Theater to enjoy the featured play, along with delicious finger foods, wine, and entertainment by Plum Nelly, a trio led by singer/guitarist Wendy Hunt. Many thanks to all whose presence, donations, and efforts went into creating this delightful event, all to the benefit of the AAUW Fund and our local awards and projects.



## Support our Redlands Branch STEM Initiatives

### Pass Area STEM Conference

### U of Redlands STEM Conference

### AAUW CA Tech Trek Scholarships for local girls

900 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls need your funding support to make our Pass Area and Redlands STEM Conferences a reality. You are invited to Adopt-a-Girl by covering the cost, \$20, for her to attend the conference. Adopt one, or adopt many! Together we can insure that girls in Banning, Beaumont, Redlands, and Yucaipa school districts are well informed and motivated as they enter high school and begin to plan for their future college and workplace careers. Money raised beyond what is needed for the conferences may be used to help send a 7<sup>th</sup> grade girl to Tech Trek this summer. We value and appreciate your donation so very much. Thank you! Want to help on conference day? Be sure we get your name on our Guide or Host list!

### STEM Initiatives Donation Coupon

#### Conference Dates:

**January 8, 2019, at Mt. San Jacinto**

**March 5, 2019, at U of Redlands – 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference!**

- ☐ Adopt a District \$4000
- ☐ Adopt a School \$2000
- ☐ Adopt a Treker \$1000
- ☐ Adopt a Class \$500
- ☐ Adopt a Dozen \$240
- ☐ Adopt a Girl \$20/girl



*Donations of \$100 or more will appear in the Conference Programs unless otherwise requested.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send pledge/donation to: AAUW STEM Initiatives  
P.O. Box 11883  
Redlands, CA 92423**

AAUW Redlands Branch is a 501(c)3 and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Redlands Branch, AAUW  
P.O. Box 7678  
Redlands, CA 92375-0678

Branches and Twigs  
Issue 5, December 2018



## CONGRATULATIONS TONI & DENISE

Marie Mitchell, President Elect, presented **Toni Momberger** and **Denise Davis** with flowers and congratulations for winning seats on the Redlands City Council. AAUW Redlands Branch made history by having two of our members elected to the Redlands City Council.

