

Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
October 2020

<http://redlands-ca-aauw.net>
Issue 3, 11 Issues Annually



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



Sue's News

We have started off the year with a bang. From the emails I received, everyone felt our first Zoom webinar branch meeting was a success. We critiqued that meeting at the board meeting the following Monday and have developed some new ideas to address concerns. In the future we will have a Zoom meeting that you will be able to join first for a social time with members and a later webinar where we can have our branch meeting with guest speakers. The first meeting will be scheduled for 20 to 30 minutes to give members a chance to see and speak with each other. We will even be able to conduct smaller break out groups

similar in size to our usual tables at the branch meetings to facilitate communication with each other. All will meet together at the end to report and then be given directions on how to connect to the webinar for the branch meeting. We are hopeful this will allow us to stay connected with each other.

We have several important events coming up in October. But first, I hope everyone purchased a ticket for our Lunafest fundraiser that took place on September 18. Our October branch meeting is being planned by our Public Policy Committee. We will hear the pros and cons of three of the propositions on the ballot in November to help you make a more informed decision on how you will cast your vote. League of Women Voters *PROS & CONS* on propositions 14-25 is attached to the newsletter. The Public Policy Committee, under the leadership of Dianne Landeros and Kris Goodfellow, has created two forums that will allow our members and members of the community to listen to the candidates who are running for Redlands City Council and Redlands Unified School District School Board. These positions are non-partisan. There is information on page 2 that describes how you can connect to these forums on October 3 and October 4 and the flyer is attached to the newsletter. Lastly, we are looking forward to our annual Footlighters fundraiser that will take place on October 16. Check out the flyer on our Facebook page, and look for more information to appear in your email box.

This is going to be a challenging year, but so far it looks like we are up to the challenge. Please let me know if you have concerns or suggestions, and I will make sure we address them. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the next branch meeting.

October Branch Meeting:

The Public Policy Committee is working hard to get you ready for the elections!

Our October 6th meeting will feature a debate on three propositions that are on the ballot this year. They are [Prop 15](#), split roll taxation, [Prop 22](#), rollbacking of the gig-economy legislation passed last year, and [Prop 24](#), changing the consumer privacy laws that went into effect at the beginning of the year. Each speaker for and against will give a three-minute opening statement, a two-minute rebuttal, and a one-minute closing statement. We

will not have time for questions; however, we would be happy to pass your questions along to the appropriate speakers in advance so that they may address them in their remarks. Please submit questions to Kris Goodfellow at krisgoodfellow@gmail.com.

Additionally, we wanted to provide everyone with some information about all of the propositions on the ballot

October Branch Meeting

When

Tuesday, October 6, 2020
Social 6:00 p.m.
Zoom
Program 6:30 p.m.
Webinar

Branch Meetings: 2020-2021

Saturday, 11/7 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 12/1 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, 1/9 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, 2/6 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, 3/6 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 4/6 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 5/4 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, 6/5 9:30 a.m.



this year. **Attached to this newsletter** you will find the information guide on all of the propositions from the League of Women Voters. Here are the endorsements from AAUW, the Democratic and the Republican parties of California as well as a link to BallotPedia where you can learn more about the propositions.

~Kris Goodfellow

Registration link for October 3 RUSD forum: <http://bit.ly/AAUWRUSDForum>
 Registration link for October 4 City Clerk/Council forum: <http://bit.ly/AAUWCCForum>

| Ballot Initiative Cheat Sheet | | | |
|---|---|---------------|---------------|
| California 2020 ballot propositions | AAUW Positions | CA-DEM | CA-REP |
| Proposition 14, Stem Cell Research Issues \$5.5 billion in bonds for state stem cell research institute | SUPPORT (access to quality health care) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 15, Split Roll Taxation Requires commercial and industrial properties to be taxed based on market value and dedicates revenue | SUPPORT (funding for education) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 16, Affirmative Action Repeals Proposition 209 (1996), which says that the state cannot discriminate or grant preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, education, or contracting. | SUPPORT (educational opportunity) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 17, Voting for Parolees Restores the right to vote to people convicted of felonies who are on parole | SUPPORT (expansion of voting rights) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 18, Voting at 17 Allows 17-year-olds who will be 18 at the time of the next general election to vote in primaries and special elections | SUPPORT (encouraging voting) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 19, Property Taxes Allows transfer of property tax amounts for older homeowners, Changes tax assessment transfers and inheritance rules | NO POSITION | SUPPORT | NO POSITION |
| Proposition 20, Criminal Justice Makes changes to policies related to criminal sentencing charges, prison release, and DNA collection. | NO POSITION | OPPOSE | SUPPORT |
| Proposition 21, Rent Control Expands local governments' power to use rent control | SUPPORT (affordable housing) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 22, Gig Workers Rollback of "gig worker" legislation. Considers app-based drivers to be independent contractors and enacts several labor policies related to app-based companies | NO POSITION | OPPOSE | SUPPORT |
| Proposition 23, Dialysis Clinics Requires physician on-site at dialysis clinics and consent from the state for a clinic to close | NO POSITION | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 24, Consumer Privacy Expands the provisions of the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) and creates the California Privacy Protection Agency to implement and enforce the CCPA | NO POSITION | NO POSITION | OPPOSE |
| Proposition 25, Cash Bail Replaces cash bail with risk assessments for suspects awaiting trial | SUPPORT (social and economic justice) | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |

Branch Officers:

President: Sue Wallace (909-798-4347), **President-elect:** Erica Wilson (909-797-7938),
Communications Vice President: Priya Vedula (989-400-3242), **Hospitality Vice President:** Sue Ferguson (951-312-4904), **Membership Vice President:** Shelley Bodnar (909-792-7181), **Program Vice President:** Martha Lehman (909-936-7819),
Secretary: Nerni Miller (951-595-1297), **Treasurer:** Ellen Weiss (909-794-7941)

B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **November newsletter** will be **October 16th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to news@aauw-redlands-ca.org or by mail to Paula Ferri-Milligan.

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thu | Fri | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 6:30pm Candidate Forum |
| 4 4:00pm Candidate Forum | 5 | 6 9am CHAT Branch Meeting 6:00pm Social & 6:30pm Program | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 1pm AAUW FUND Luncheon |
| 11 | 12 6pm Board Meeting | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 6pm AAUW Theatre Benefit | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 6pm CHAT | 21 12pm I Am, Therefore I Think | 22 1pm & 7pm Reading & the Rainbow | 23 | 24 1pm AAUW FUND Luncheon |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

BRANCH MEETING

10/6 6:00pm social via Zoom
6:30pm program via Webinar

Candidate Forums ~page 2 & flyer attached

10/3 6:30pm Redlands Unified School District
10/4 4:00pm Redlands City Clerk/Council

AAUW Fund VIRTUAL Luncheon meeting ~page 4

10/10 and 10/24 1pm via Zoom Webinar
Register for either or both of the Zoom Webinars by clicking [HERE](#)

AAUW Theatre Event ~page 4 & flyer attached

6pm Footlighters OUTDOOR stage, 1810 Barton Road, Redlands
~Kathryn Brown

AAUW Redlands Board Meeting

10/12 6pm via Zoom

~Sue Wallace

CHAT meeting

10/6 9am via Zoom
10/20 6pm via Zoom

~Katherine Gifford 798-7565 literacy@akspl.org

I Am, Therefore I Think ~page 5

10/21 "What is on your Nightstand" via Zoom
Facilitator: Pam Ong
12 -2 pm (12-12:30 social - brown bag lunch)

~ Viktoria Norberg & Ellen Schollenberger

Reading and Rainbow ~page 5

10/22 1pm & 7pm via Zoom
I am Malala: the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai

~Amy Bisek & Kathryn Brown

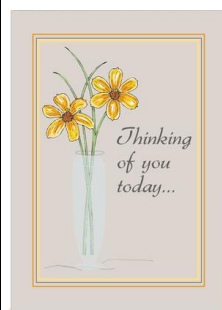


Elizabeth Meade

Joined 9/15/2020

B.A. Mount Holyoke College

Hospitality Member News



We want our members to know that we think of them when they are ill or grieving the loss of a loved one. Please contact me if you know of a member who needs a card from our branch to let them know they are in our thoughts. Thank you.

~Sue Ferguson, Hospitality VP

**27th Annual Footlighters Theater
Event--Friday, October 16
DANCING IN THE DISTANCE**

Our annual Footlighters Theatre event (set for October 16 at 6 PM) will feel a little different this year—We'll be *watching the show outdoors!* The two-hour event will be hosted by "Piano Man" Patrick Vargas (have your requests & dedications ready!) and will showcase popular dance favorites performed by the Unity Dance Company. We will (safely) serve tasty Refreshments, and a lucky ticket-buyer will win the door prize!



FOOTLIGHTERS
A row of small, white, stylized footlighter icons.



Photo: Joe Impastato

The Footlighters parking lot has been reconfigured to include an outdoor stage and audience area, which meets safe physical distancing requirements. Open seating--chairs will be provided, but feel free to bring your own comfortable portable chair if you wish. Face masks are required; hand sanitizer will be available.

Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased on Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-presents-dancing-in-the-distance-tickets-120807978917> or by calling AAUW at 909-362-4955.

Tickets are also available from event committee members (contact Kathryn Brown, Chair)

As always, proceeds from this event will benefit both our local AAUW Redlands programs & scholarships as well as the AAUW Fund. **Flyer attached to this newsletter**

**The AAUW of California Fund Committee
is proud to honor our 2020-2021**

California Fellow and Grant Recipients at a VIRTUAL LUNCH

As we shared with you in the August B2B, the 2020-21 Fund luncheons will be replaced by two webinars, which will be held on two dates at one location--your computer. While we will miss the social gathering aspect of the luncheons, the webinars may afford the opportunity for those hampered by distance or other physical constraints to participate. There will be different speakers at each event, so you are welcome to attend one or both webinars. Please note these dates in your branch calendars:

Saturday, October 10th, and Saturday, October 24th. Both webinars will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Don't forget to register for the Zoom webinars by clicking [HERE](#).

~Judy Cavin Brown, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aauwfund@aauw-ca.org

In 2020-21, AAUW is awarding \$3.5 million to more than 200 women and community projects to improve the lives of women and girls. 22 of the recipients are here in CA!

Hospitality Birthday Club

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO OUR OCTOBER BIRTHDAY LADIES!

Kathy Albrekton
Luann Bangsund
Susan Bentley
Valarie Boone
Ellen Cope
Amber Costa
Suzanne Cranston
Shirley Harlan
Diane Landeros
Carolyn Ritchie



Deb Seibly
Diane Shimota
Karen Skoog
Patricia Stubbs
Erica Wilson
Whitney Zick

~Pat Belk

2020/21 Reading and the Rainbow Reading List



As co-leaders, Kathryn Brown and I are excited to announce this year's reading list! If you would like to be added to our Reading and the Rainbow email newsletter, which highlights meeting dates,

times, Zoom access details, and other important information, please contact Amy Bisek. We'd love to have you join us to discuss these great books.

September - *A Woman of No Importance*
by Sonia Purnell

October - *I am Malala: the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai

November - *The Other Americans* by Laila Lalami

January - *The Overstory* by Richard Powers

February - *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness* by Michelle Alexander

March - *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

April - *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family* by Robert Kolker

May - Book Recommendation Meeting

June - *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead

July - *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins

August - *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See

I AM, THEREFORE I ZOOM

I Am, Therefore I Think has responded to Covid-19 by deciding to conduct their monthly meetings on Zoom. The new skill set required for zooming called for someone who knew her way around the app, thus we were very fortunate that Toni Momberger graciously volunteered to serve as Acting Chair for this new venture.



Some of the topics for discussion this year will focus on that giant Pandemic in the room: "Coping with Covid" (sharing strategies for managing your life during a pandemic), facilitated by Barbara Krause. Then, from a very different perspective, Marie Mitchell will lead the discussion titled "It Took a Pandemic To. . ." (ways that Covid-19 has changed our lives for the better).

Erica Wilson, who has been instrumental in forming the AAUW Racial Justice Discussion Group, will present "Racism: Changing the Discussion," while Pamela Ong will ask us the same question the *L.A. Times* asks the author being interviewed each Sunday, "What's on Your Nightstand?" (a look at all those books one has stacked up, intending to read, or has read only partially so far). At our last topic meeting, back by enthusiastic demand from I Am'ers, Cheryl Jordan will once again head-up "Bring a Poem" where participants share a favorite poem, a newly discovered poem, or one of their own poems.

Contact Viktoria Norberg, Co-Chair, if you'd like a complete 2020-21 schedule; it will also provide the Zoom information if you wish to attend. And we happily welcome all those who want to come and "sit in" on any meeting. (No shoes required, but we do ask that you wear a shirt.)

~ Viktoria Norberg



Get to Know our AAUW Redlands Board Member



Hi, I'm Barbara Abrams Simmons, and I am very pleased to be a Member At Large this year. I was born in Seattle, Washington, where I spent my first seven years, and then we moved across Lake Washington to Bellevue, Washington, where I lived until I got married in 1969, but we remained in the area for two years.

My road to education was a bit different than many of you. I was frankly not ready for college at the age of 18. Sure, I attended for awhile, but I just wasn't serious about it and knew that I should leave before I got that dreaded "invitation" to leave. I attended and completed secretarial college, then worked, traveled to Europe with friends, worked some more, and married. When I married my husband, Don, he had just completed his sophomore year at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Once he completed his medical school training, we moved to California for one year of internship with every intention of returning to Washington

State.

Don used to love to say, "If you want to make God laugh, just tell him your plans." Enter our first child, Mara, who was born with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. She became my full-time job, and we somehow never made it home.....partly because we discovered that trying to walk in the rain with braces and crutches often left one face down in a puddle. Soon we had a second daughter, Amy, and our family was complete.

Once the girls were older and I had experienced a lot of fun volunteering in Redlands (we moved here in 1981 for Don to practice his specialty of OB/Gyn), I decided to return to college in 1984. I'll never be sure what happened between 1965 and 1984, but boy did those professors become ever so much more interesting! I didn't just love college, but I devoured it. I began at San Bernardino Valley College part-time and then onto CSUSB full time where I got my B.S. in 1989. Then I remained at CSUSB for my Masters in Clinical/Counseling Psychology. We lost our beloved Mara in 1994, and since she also wanted to be a therapist, I tried to be a therapist for not just myself but also for Mara. Not long after I became a Licensed MFT, and I went to work for Kaiser Permanente in Riverside.

Even though I didn't complete college when I was young as most do, I really did value education. I'll never forget driving to campus to take my last final of my last class to fulfill my degree requirement. I cried all the way there. I was so happy that I had finally achieved, what was to me, what I was meant to do. The Master's degree was merely icing on the cake. Once I was working, I did join this chapter of AAUW, but I soon learned that I didn't have the availability to attend meetings and volunteer. I rejoined in 2013 after I retired. Don died in 2014, and AAUW and the various groups have been a Godsend to me to fill up many empty hours. I am so happy to be a part of this important and prestigious organization that is dedicated to helping women achieve their full potential.

MISSION & ACTION **A Wealth of Webinars**

AAUW's newsletter

After offering weekly webinars for many months, we've now built up an impressive library of content for members to explore at any time.

You can peruse the archive of [Equity Network webinars](#), which are focused on professional development and how to build equitable and inclusive workplaces. Or take a look at our [2020 member webinars](#), which range from interviews with notable Fellows to updates on your membership to tips on how to enhance your activism.



Our webinars are going very well. Two in September and four in October!

- 10/10/2020 1 PM [AAUW Fund Luncheon](#)
- 10/12/2020 4 PM [Increasing Gender Diversity on the Boards of Nonprofit Organizations](#)
- 10/24/2020 1 PM [AAUW Fund Luncheon](#)
- 10/28/2020 [Why Public Policy Matters](#)

Keep the questions coming to ASK US FIRST at askusfirst@aauw-ca.org to get an answer to any question. If one of our Leadership Team members does not know the answer, we will find out for you. Don't forget to register for the Zoom webinars by clicking [HERE](#).

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

Branches and Twigs
Issue 3, October 2020



SEPTEMBER 2020

OUR FIRST MEETING



- Our guest speaker, Dr. Mary Zupanic, addressed the COVID pandemic and its impact on society.
- Information on our programs, projects and interest groups were presented by the chairs
- Branch business meeting

In case you missed our branch meeting, here is a recording!
<https://www.facebook.com/aauwredlands>

OUR 8th ANNUAL LUNAFEST ~ September 18

Thank You
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

