

Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
February 2023

<http://redlands-ca-aauw.net>
Issue 7, 11 Issues Annually



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

President's Corner, Patricia Stubbs



Welcome to February, 2023. WHAT!? 2023, impossible, but there it is. The temperature has warmed up and the sun is out. The birds outside today are noisy picking through the trees for food. The grass is starting to grow on the hills again which is so lovely. I feel grateful as I close my eyes and breathe in and out. Life is good.

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE to all who contributed to the successful Pass STEM Conference. I am happy that I was able to contribute in a small way. It went very well. The girls from the Banning and Beaumont school districts were wonderful. They listened and asked good questions. A few were braver than others, but in the workshops I was in, there was a good give and take discussion. The information was well received. When the girls ran off to get on their busses, I felt warmed with the knowledge that we had given them something precious; great information, ideas for their future, and good messages about themselves which they can never hear enough of. They will remember the conference and put it to use in their lives. So many of us helped put that conference together. Thank you to all. It does take a village.

If you've never listened to Amber Jazairi deliver her empowering keynote address, you must do that on March 1 at the Redlands Stem Conference. Amber's poster is featured in the Pass STEM article on page 6.

continued on page 3

February Branch Meeting:

AAUW Fund Fellowship/Grant Speaker

Tamar Giligashvili is a 24 year old filmmaker from the Republic of Georgia currently doing an MFA in Film and Video at California Institute of the Arts.

At 16 she was awarded a scholarship to study at an international boarding school in The Netherlands. Her undergrad work was done at Bennington College and her graduating thesis included a short documentary on Marriage by Abduction. Her belief is that in order for any work of art to be authentic and profound, it has to be mediated through personal experience to a great degree. Thus the documentary centered around her family. Thanks to an AAUW International Fellowship, she is expanding her research at CalArts. Her presentation, *A Conversation With A Very Happy Woman*, is a documentary on marriage by abduction in Georgia. The goal is to shed light on bride kidnapping to hopefully bring about active change, more education and more resources and progress toward healing generations of women in Georgia. In her presentation, Tamar will address the work she has done so far, her processes engaging this matter and her plans for the future.



Marilyn Shankar AAUW Fund Program Coordinator

February Branch Meeting

When

Saturday
February 4, 2023
Social 9:00 am
Brunch 9:30 am
Program 10:15 am

Where

University of Redlands
CASA LOMA Room

Menu

Breakfast Buffet: Orange
French Toast, Scrambled
Eggs, Bacon, Breakfast
Potatoes, Fruit

Cost

Members and guests: \$25



Reservations

Please call 909-362-4955
or email
rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org by
Wednesday, January 25.
After January 25,
reservations will be on a
space-available basis.
*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. *Chairs will be
available.***

Branch Meetings 2022-2023

Tuesday, 3/7 5:30 pm
Tuesday, 4/4 5:30 pm
Saturday, 5/6 9:00 am
Saturday, 6/3 9:00 am

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Wednesday Jan 25 Reservation Deadline for FEB. 4 Brunch			1 1pm Bridge	2 7pm DEI	3	4 <u>9am Branch Mtg.</u>
5 6pm California Cuisine 1	6	7	8 6pm CHAT	9 1pm Tech Trek	10	11
12	13 6:30pm Board Mtg.	14 	15 <u>TBD Hiking</u> Noon I Am, Therefore I Think	16 7pm Racial Justice	17	18 9am STEM packet
19 5:30pm California Cuisine 2	20  1pm Bridge	21	22 1 pm Bunko	23 3pm STEM walk through @ UofR 1pm, 4pm & 7pm Reading & Rainbow	23	25 9am STEM walk through @ UofR <u>TBD Hiking</u>
26	27	28 7pm Public Policy	Save the Dates		Week of March 6th, Mon & Wed, Great Decisions Wed, March 1 Redlands STEM Conference Spring 2023 LUNAFEST Sat. April 22 AAUW California Annual Event	

AAUW Redlands Board Meeting

2/13 6:30 pm Zoom
~Patricia Stubbs

Bridge Groups

3rd Monday @ 1pm, 1st Wednesday @ 1pm,
~Contact coordinator Dorothy Nordquist

Bunko

2/22 1pm
~Patty Ahearn

Cuisine and Conversation I

2/5 6pm host & address will be sent by email.
~Kathy Toister

California Cuisine and Conversation 2

2/19 5:30pm
~Patty Ahearn

CHAT meeting

2/8 6pm Assembly Room AK Smiley PL
~Katherine Gifford

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice

2/2 DEI 7pm Zoom
2/16 Racial Justice 7pm Zoom
~Ellen Gruenbaum
~Erica Wilson 90
~Donita Remington

Hiking Our Hills & Mountains

USUALLY 3rd Wednesday and 4th Saturday.
Contact Erica and Kathy to be added to distribution list.
~Kathy Toister bktoister@aol.com
~Erica Wilson 909-797-7938 drericar@outlook.com

I Am, Therefore I Think

2/15 "These truths: A History of the United States by Jill Lapore"
10 Fascinating Insights (fun facts) into American History facilitator: Jane Roberts Meets 12 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church Lounge
(Rooms 6-8) 419 South 4th Street, Redlands.
~Barbara Simmons
~Margee Fuller

Public Policy

2/28 7pm

Reading and the Rainbow

2/23 *The Personal Librarian* by M Benedict & V C Murray
1pm host: Valarie Boone
4pm: Self facilitated Zoom session
7pm host: Patricia Stubbs Reservations are not required.
~Amy Bisek
~Kathryn Brown
~Valarie Boone

AAUW Redlands STEM Initiatives**Redlands STEM Conference****Redlands STEM Committee Meetings:**

1/28 9am committee meeting at Kathryn Brown's home
2/18 9am PACKET ASSEMBLY University United Methodist Church
940 E. Colton Ave
2/23 3pm and 2/25 9am Walk Through @ UoR
Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at University of Redlands
~Kathryn Brown
~Pam Ford
Pass STEM Conference held Jan 12 at Mt. San Jacinto College
~Pam Ford
~Theresa Lantz

Tech Trek Planning Meeting:

2/9 1pm Denise Westcott's home
~Denise Westcott
~Theresa Lantz

President's Corner, Patricia Stubbs *continued from page 1*

Amber was the keynote speaker for The Pass STEM Conference and will be again for the Redlands STEM Conference. The girls love her message of self-discovery of who they are and to be brave, bold and courageous. The message works for adults as well. We need to see ourselves and our thoughts as powerful, surround ourselves with others who also speak words of power and empowerment. Think thoughts that make you happy. Stay away from the people who don't support you.

I'm looking forward to attending the AAUW Redlands branch programs this month. I hope you can attend the ones you are interested in.



Don't forget, Susan Miller will help you find a ride if you need one. Our Bridge and Bunco groups are popular and can always use more members participating. Our Reading the Rainbow book club will meet to discuss *The Rose Code*. I loved it. Hiking is ongoing, especially in good weather. I Am, Therefore I think will discuss Roe, not for the last time. DEI meets on Zoom regularly to discuss how best to bring AAUW forward in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and to discuss related podcasts and literature. Great Decisions discussion groups start the week of March 6 (article on page 4.) If you haven't attended an activity, pick one and join in.

Tech Trek and Gov Trek are currently finding young women interested in participating. The STEM Initiatives will now focus on the March 1st STEM Conference at the U of R. We have a record number of girls from the Redlands and Yucaipa school districts signed up. We are looking for a few more speakers. If you know of anyone, call Kathryn Brown. We will need a record number of volunteers. See the **volunteer opportunities box** on page 4 for contact information.

Have a wonderful month. I'm looking forward to seeing you.

Tricia Stubbs, President
Redlands Branch AAUW

"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn't be that women are an exception."

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Hospitality Birthday Club

Happy Birthday to All! This month we will celebrate not only our February birthdays but also August birthdays. We celebrate both months because we don't meet in August, and we don't want to leave anyone out.



February Birthdays:

Marianne Baldwin
Marcella Cavallaro
Rosemary Conway
Kay Dobbartin
Judy Elder
Ginny Evans-Perry
Cheryl Jordan
Loes Knutson
Tracy Massimiano
Lisa McCarty
Kathleen Presnell-Best
Renae Reiswig
Nelda Stuck
Karen Watkins
Denise Westcott

August Birthdays:

Heather Abushanab
Gail Anderson
Cid Breyer
Peggi Cook
Roslyn Dunn
Marion Golson
Joyce Heitmeier
Liz Kim
Martha Lehman
Valerie Lichtman
Betty Meltzer
Julia Naman
Cathy Curtis Odegard
Jane Roberts
Anne Sandel
Susan Shodahl
Deepika Srivastava
Susan Willis

Membership news



Ellen Timothy worked and taught theater arts at university and community theaters and taught multicultural education, women's studies, teacher

training at university and community colleges.

Ellen has two children and four grandchildren in the Portland area. She moved to Redlands in 2003 to marry her high school sweetheart, who was working in biochemistry research at the Loma Linda VA. After moving to Redlands, Ellen worked as a copy editor at the San Bernardino Sun until it started "reducing its workforce." She met Tim Rochford in 2008 and shortly thereafter became Director of the Rochford Foundation. After 14 years, Ellen recently retired from that position.

Membership updates are attached to the newsletter email. Please print and attach to your yearbook.



Redlands STEM Conference

PACKET ASSEMBLY>>February 18, 9am @ University United Methodist Church, 940 E. Colton Ave., Redlands

NEED>> **GUIDES** and **HOSTS** for the STEM Conference on March 1 Conference at U of Redlands **CONTACT:**

Patty Ahearn
Linda Browning
Sally Trost



TechTrek Video on YouTube!

Our STEM Initiatives team has created a short video, "The TechTrek Experience", which was shown at the January 14 branch meeting by TechTrek committee Chair Denise Westcott. The committee plans to use the video to generate interest in Tech Trek among potential applicants, their parents, school personnel and donors by showing what happens during a TechTrek camp week.

You can view it on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/rxST8RcVaHs>. The video was crafted from 25 minutes of DVD footage taken at the 2018 camp held at UC San Diego. AAUW Redlands members Kathryn Brown and Heather Abushanab wrote the script, which also features quotes from the actual 2018 student participants, whose words are voiced in the video by Kat Bristow (Ellen Cope's granddaughter), Anika Shankar (Marilyn Shankar's granddaughter), Aria Mizrachi (Amy Bisek's granddaughter) and Ashlyn Farmer (neighbor of Amy Bisek).
-Kathryn Brown, STEM Initiatives Chair

AAUW Redlands is now collecting donations to support our Tech Trek program!



Please consider donating today.

The link is <https://bit.ly/AAUWTREK>

Reminder: Applications Still Open for the Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship



If you know a woman living in the Redlands branch area who has had her higher education interrupted but has now returned to earn her Associate's, Bachelor's or post-graduate degree, please let her know about this scholarship opportunity. The NYMS application can be found by going to our Redlands branch website <https://redlands-ca.aauw.net/projects/scholarships-2/>. Sometimes these women are working right alongside us, so let me know if you'd like a flyer to post in your local workplace break room or lounge.

~Keita Wangari NYMS Committee Chair

Great Decisions Interest Groups

The Great Decisions discussion groups will begin meeting the second week of March. The afternoon session will meet on Monday afternoon, March 6 at 1 pm. The evening group will meet on Wednesday evening, March 8 at 7 pm. Each group will meet for 8 consecutive weeks starting on those dates.



If you have previously pre-ordered a book through Redlands branch, those books will be available to pick up at the February branch meeting or you can contact Sue Wallace to make arrangements to pick up your book from her. If you would like to join one of the groups but have not pre-ordered your book, you can independently order your book by going to www.fpa.org/great_decisions, click on Bookstore tab and choose Great Decisions 2023 Briefing Book which costs \$35.00 plus shipping.

If you would like to join one of the groups, please contact Sue Wallace, the coordinator for the Monday afternoon group, or Sue Ferguson the coordinator for the Wednesday evening group. Topics for this year include Energy Geopolitics, War Crimes, China and the U.S., Economic Warfare, Politics in Latin America, Global Famine, Iran at the Crossroads, and Climate Migration. We look forward to another year of thought provoking discussions and gaining a greater understanding of global issues.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee meetings are now at 7pm on Zoom on the first Thursday (business) and the third Thursday (Racial Justice Discussions). Join us! Contact Erica (drericar@outlook.com) for the link.



This month, in memory and honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we are participating in the 2023 MLK Jr. Blood of the Martyrs Blood Drive, which kicks off on January 16th.

- Donate at any Life Stream location from 1/16/2023 - 4/4/2023 with Code "RC26."
- Donate to help save a life! Use Donation Code RC26.
- AAUW DEI Committee member, Twillea Evans-Carthen, is volunteering 9:00 am on Monday Jan. 16th at 426 E. Hospitality Lane, Suite A7, San Bernardino (909-885-6503).
- Other DEI members plan on being there.
- Great opportunity to donate blood and be included in group photo.

Other MLK Day January 16 events:

- 43rd annual prayer breakfast, Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches (speaker Bishop Noel Jones), 9 AM, Kingdom Cultural Worship Center, 909 N. D St., San Bernardino. In person and virtual. <https://bit.ly/MLKDAYCELEBRATION>
- MLK 5K Walk-a-thon to benefit Riverside African American Historical Society, 10 AM, Stratton Center, 2800 Martin Luther King Blvd, Riverside, \$35. <https://raahsinc.org/mlkwalk/>

~Ellen Gruenbaum and Erica Wilson

<https://mailchi.mp/aauw-ca.org/september-2021-california-connection-6022009?e=79a871b0d2>



Lobby Days are Here Again....

Ginny Hatfield, AAUW California Public Policy Committee Member

Save the Dates **March 21st** and **March 22nd** 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 ([use link above](#)).

Advocating for our top 3 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 there is 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 20th, 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

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 Day/s.

Pass Area 8th Grade Girls STEM Conference

By the time you read this, we will have hosted our 22nd Pass Area 8th Grade Girls STEM Conference at Mt. San Jacinto College in San Jacinto. Students from the Beaumont Unified School District and from the Banning Unified School District took school buses along with a dozen school staff to attend a day of workshops led by women in STEM professions, a great motivational talk by our treasured Amber Jazairi, and lunch in the college cafeteria.

Members of our branch of AAUW were present for a myriad of conference jobs. Some were Hosts to support each of the STEM professionals in their workshops. Some were Guides who help students find their way around the campus. And many others distributed folders, supervised the lunch, and checked in the speakers. We were also assisted by students from the Mt. San Jacinto College Honors Enrichment Program. (Remember the branch meeting in which Judy Cannon described the Honors program at Crafton Hills College? The program at MSJC is quite similar.)

Students were welcomed to the college at the beginning of the conference by Joyce Johnson, the Provost for Instruction who came to the college first as a nursing professor and then served as Dean of Allied Health. Tricia Stubbs welcomed everyone on behalf of AAUW Redlands and Theresa Lantz introduced Amber Jazairi. Amber remained at the conference through the lunch periods so that girls could meet her and take selfies with her.

We thank Mt. San Jacinto College for making this conference possible on the San Jacinto Campus. Lizabeth Bowles has worked with us tirelessly every year to be sure the spaces, the lunches, and the details are just right.

Thank you to all of our AAUW members for their support of this conference! The conference goes a long way towards helping AAUW fulfill its mission to promote equity for girls and women. Because of this conference experience, we expect that at least a few more young women will feel encouraged to follow their hearts and will develop the confidence to pursue education and then careers in STEM fields. School staff and AAUW volunteers always learn new things at these conferences as well.

PFord & Theresa Lantz, Pass STEM conference co-chairs



Thank You to the following Redlands Branch Members who were Presenters at the Pass Conference:
Susan Bangasser.
Kelsey Gormley
Jenna Guzman Lowery
Renae Reiswig
Elizabeth Schilling
Anne Viricel





Update to Online Membership Directory

It's time to update our online Yearbook again! Found on our Redlands' branch website (<https://redlands-ca.aauw.net/>) under the AAUW Directory tab, this online membership directory helps keep our members connected. If you are a new member, or you did not participate during our last update two years ago and would like to opt-in now, we have some options for you.

You may provide us with a headshot photo. Alternatively, spruce yourself up for either the February 4th or the March 7 branch meeting. During the pre-meeting social time, we will have a photographer available to take a headshot for this online directory. Now is not the time to be shy!

Recall that we have almost 200 members in our organization! How many do you recognize when you see them at a meeting, on Zoom, or passing by you? This online directory makes it easier for us to recognize and recall each other. Plus, it is a bonus for members traveling who need to contact other members on branch business.

Remember that our online membership directory:

1. Is password protected, with the password provided to all members in next month's newsletter
2. Contains an advisory that this information is designated for members' use related only to the activities of AAUW Redlands branch and not for any commercial or other non-profit use; and,
3. Contains each member's name, photo, preferred telephone number, email address (no home address), and academic background.

If you opt to provide a photo, please provide a professional-style, color headshot, with no animals or other people included, and minimal background. By snapping it yourself, you can reject poor quality and take it again until you are satisfied. Email or text your photo along with your name to Sheron Bealer or Amy Bisek, Membership VP. We would appreciate having your photos submitted by **March 10, 2023**.

The password will be published in an upcoming newsletter. In the future, the password will be published in the hardcopy Membership Yearbook. Do not share the branch password with anyone.

If you have questions, please contact Past President Sheron Bealer.

~Amy Bisek, Membership VP

January Branch Meeting



U of R President Krista Newkirk



January Branch Meeting



January & July Birthdays:
Lori Powell,
Shelli Stockton,
Carole Nagengast,
Judy Adams,
Sheron Bealer and
Mercedes Gifford



From: Nancy Major, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

AAUW California Celebrates Black Women in History for Black History Month, February 2023

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 resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional.

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. (1958-1986)

Madam C.J. Walker was considered the wealthiest African-American businesswoman in America (1911-1919), by developing and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women. 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 the 1972 race, and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.

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.



Branch Officers: **President:** Patricia Stubbs, **Presidents-elect:** Heather Abushanab & Marilyn Shankar, **Communications Vice President:** Priya Vedula, **Hospitality Vice President:** Eileen Sanborn, **Membership Vice President:** Amy Bisek, **Program Vice President:** Martha Lehman, **Secretary:** Marion Golson, **Treasurer:** Sue Ferguson **At-Large Board Members:** Rosemary Conway, Joyce Heitmeier, Sarah Van Tassel

B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **February newsletter** will be **January 5th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to news@aauw-redlands-ca.org

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Redlands, CA 92375-0678

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