

# Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW  
April 2023

<http://redlands-ca.aauw.net>  
Issue 9, 11 Issues Annually



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



## President's Corner, Patricia Stubbs

Redlands Branch AAUW has organized, produced and coordinated 29 STEM Conferences for eighth grade girls. The 600 girls and 30 school staff just about filled the chapel. More than 100 AAUW members volunteered to make the day perfect. Amber Jazairi's keynote address was well received by all, as always. She does speak to these girls in a way that they really hear her and feel valued. The STEM Committee's planning added to the day going off like clockwork. Thanks go to all of our donors and the University of Redlands. Congratulations to us all for another successful STEM Conference. No small accomplishment!!

Great Decisions has started their discussion meetings. California Cuisine 1 and 2 are meeting to share great food and company. If you are interested in joining a California Cuisine group, please let Kathy Toister or myself know. If we have enough interest, we'll start a third group. The Chat and Adult Literacy programs are ongoing. If you'd like to help an English learner, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm there will be an adult literacy orientation meeting. For more information call Diana Shimota (909-798-7565 ext 4138). The Reading the Rainbow book club is reading The Library Book by Susan Orlean in March and The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi in April. There are daytime and evening book club meetings, along with an afternoon zoom book club meeting. Check your amazing little pink yearbook for more information.

*~continued on page 3*

## April Branch Meeting

### *San Bernardino County District Attorney Jason Anderson*

Jason Anderson served as a deputy district attorney for the County of San Bernardino from 1998 until 2014. In this capacity, he worked as a prosecutor handling a variety of serious cases, particularly in the crimes against children unit for thirteen years. In 2014, he entered the private practice of law in Rancho Cucamonga. In 2018, Mr. Anderson was elected the 36th District Attorney of San Bernardino County and he was reelected in June 2022. His current term ends January 2027. Mr. Anderson's mission includes respecting and inspiring confidence in the rule of law, supporting victims of crime and restoring a culture of service and accountability to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office.

Mr. Anderson graduated from Regent University School of Law in Virginia in 1996. Since 2004, he has been an adjunct professor of law teaching a Criminal Procedure and Trial Advocacy Class at the University of La Verne College Of Law.

In 2008, he received the Jennifer Brooks Lawyer of the Year Award from the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association. In 2012, he received the Above and Beyond Award from the National Crime Survivors Organization for his work on behalf of victims of crime. In 2018, Mr. Anderson received the George W. Porter Criminal Trial Attorney Award from the San Bernardino County Bar Association.



## April Branch Meeting

### When

Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
Social 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner 6:00 p.m.  
Program 6:45 p.m.

### Where

University of Redlands  
**CASA LOMA Room**

### Menu

Mesclun salad with sliced oranges, Kalamata olives and red onion, balsamic vinaigrette, garlic bread sticks, cavatappi noodles, grilled herb chicken, eggplant meatballs, marinara sauce, alfredo sauce, seasonal vegetables, assorted craveworthy cookies and brownies coffee/tea

### Cost

Members and guests: \$30

### Registration for dinner:

Please email [rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org) or call 909-362-4955 by Saturday, March 25, 2023, to make a dinner reservation. After March 25<sup>th</sup>, dinner reservations will be made on a space-available basis.

### Reminder:

*A reservation made is a reservation paid.*

**Members and guests are invited to attend the speaker portion of the meeting free of charge. Chairs will be available.**

### Branch Meetings 2022-2023

Sat. May 6 9:00 am  
Sat. June 3 9:00 am

*~Patty Ahearn, coordinator*

**Saturday, March 25 RESERVATION  
DEADLINE for April 4 dinner**

*April*

**2023**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat 1
2 6pm California Cuisine 1	3 1pm Great Dec #5	4 <b>5:30 pm Branch Mtg.</b>	5 <u>1pm Bridge</u> 7pm Great Dec #5	6 7pm DEI	7	8
9	10 <u>1pm Great Dec #6</u> <u>6:30pm Board Mtg</u>	11	12 <u>6pm CHAT</u> 7pm Great Dec #6	13 1pm Tech Trek	14	15
16 5:30pm California Cuisine 2	17 <u>1pm Great Dec #7</u> 1pm Bridge	18	19 <u>TBD Hiking</u> 12pm I Am, <u>Therefore I Think</u> 7pm Great Dec #7	20 7pm Racial Justice	21	22 <u>TBD Hiking</u> <b>Virtual AAUW CA Meeting</b>
23 / 30	24 1pm Great Dec #8	25 7pm Public Policy	26 <u>1pm Bunco</u> 7pm Great Dec #8	27 1pm, 4pm & 7pm Reading & the Rainbow	28	29

**Save the Date: Fri., May 5 LUNAFEST**

**AAUW California Annual Meeting (see page 5)**

4/22 9am – 4pm

**AAUW Redlands Board Meeting**

4/10 6:30 pm Zoom  
~Patricia Stubbs

**Bridge Groups**

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

**Bunco**

4/26 1pm  
~Patty Ahearn

**California Cuisine and Conversation I**

4/2 6pm Host & address will be sent by email.  
~Kathy Toister

**California Cuisine and Conversation 2**

4/16 5:30pm  
~Patty Ahearn

**CHAT meeting**

4/12 6pm Assembly Room AK Smiley PL  
~Katherine Gifford 909- 7565, ext 4138 literacy@akspl.org

**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice /**

4/6 DEI 7pm Zoom  
4/20 Racial Justice 7pm Zoom  
~Ellen Gruenbaum  
~Erica Wilson  
~Donita Remington

**Great Decisions**

1pm Mondays & 7pm Wednesdays  
~Sue Wallace & Sue Ferguson

**Hiking Our Hills & Mountains**

USUALLY 3rd Wednesday and 4th Saturday.  
Contact Erica and Kathy to be added to distribution list.  
~Kathy Toister  
~Erica Wilson

**I Am, Therefore I Think**

4/19 "Disinformation: How, Who and What Now?"  
Facilitator: Stephanie Harlan  
12-2pm (12-12:30 informal brown bag lunch)  
~Barbara Simmons  
~Margee Fuller

**Public Policy**

4/25 7pm  
~Cassie MacDuff

**Redlands Bowl Ushering**

~Barbara Simmons

**Reading and the Rainbow**

4/27 The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi  
1:00pm: Live Session – Evelyn O'Prey host.  
4pm: Self facilitated Zoom session  
7pm: Live Session – Kathy Toister host  
Reservations are not required.  
~Amy Bisek  
~Kathryn Brown  
~Valarie Boone

**Tech Trek Planning Meeting:**

Final selection of Trek Trek campers  
4/13 1pm Denise Westcott's 1706 Brittney Rd, Beaumont  
~Denise Westcott  
~Theresa Lantz

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

Congratulations to Twillea Carthen-Evans for being a Pioneer Honoree at CSUSB on February 24<sup>th</sup>. She was honored at the "10<sup>th</sup> Annual Pioneer Breakfast which celebrates black excellence which leads and shapes the future." Pictured left to right are Patricia Stubbs, Kimberley Cousins, Twillea Evans-Carthen, Donita Remington, Erica Wilson, and Susan. If you know of any of our sisters who have been awarded an honor, please let me know so I can share that information with our AAUW membership. We are an amazing group of women.



March 8<sup>th</sup> was International Women's Day which began in 1911. Women's rights have always been human rights. The horrific abuse of the women of Iran comes to mind as the ongoing struggle of women in the world continues. The theme for 2023's International Women's Day is **Embrace Equity**. "It needs to be something we think about, know, value, and embrace. Challenge gender stereotypes, call out discrimination, draw attention to bias and seek out inclusion. Share the passion and excitement that comes from valuing and supporting differences." Google **#EmbraceEquity**.

March is a fitting month to observe Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV), March 31<sup>st</sup>. 82% of transgender youth have considered suicide. 40% have attempted it. As we move forward accepting and understanding lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) in our population, sexual orientation and gender identity must be acknowledged as the struggling equity issues that they are.



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

Tricia Stubbs, President

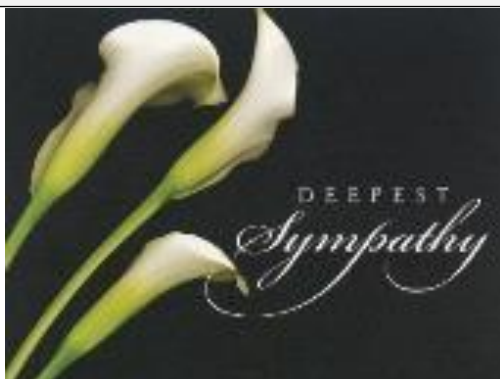
Redlands Branch AAUW

*"It is time we see all gender as a spectrum instead of 2 sets of opposing ideals."* Emma Watson

**Branch Officers:** **President:** Patricia Stubbs, **Presidents-elect:** Heather Abushanab & Marilyn Shankar, **Communications Vice President:** Priya Vedula Engel, **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, Kathy Warren

### B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **May newsletter** is **April 5th**. Send articles and photos to the editors via email to [news@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:news@aauw-redlands-ca.org)



In sympathy and friendship, we send our condolences to our members on the loss of their loved ones in the last few months.

Kim Cousins on the loss of her mother,  
Rita Reading on the loss of her husband,  
Margee Fuller on the loss of her mother and  
Carole Nagengast on the loss of her daughter.

## Aleta West



**Aleta West** recently moved to Idaho to be closer to her son. Aleta joined AAUW July 1, 1959 and has been a member of AAUW for 64 years. She likes her new home but misses AAUW Redlands.

*We miss you too, Aleta*

Aleta West





## Get your Tickets for Redlands Lunafest 2023!

[Lunafest: Films By and About Women](#)

Join us in Person on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

5:45PM Wine and Hors d'oeuvres Reception in the Esri Cafe

7:00PM Screening in the Esri Auditorium, [380 New York Street, Redlands](#)

[Tickets for Reception and Screening \\$40](#)

This is the primary fundraiser for AAUW Redlands Branch which supports all of our Mission Fund activities including NCCWSL scholarships, Speech Trek, High School Scholarships, and all outreach activities. Please invite your friends and family to attend this stellar event!



## Virtual Lunafest

Not able to attend in person? Have a friend or relative who lives too far away? You can get a screening pass and watch the films from home! A ticket for the virtual event will allow you to start watching the films anytime between Friday, May 5, at 7PM through Sunday, May 7, at 7PM. Once you begin the films, you have 24 hours to finish viewing.

[Virtual Tickets \\$20 for an individual \\$40 for a group](#)

A Virtual Lunafest Screening makes a great early Mother's day gift!! Considering purchasing for all the mother figures in your life!



**March 2023**



### ***Leaning into Leadership***

We have been asking you to tell us why you became a leader in your branch (or anywhere). And some of you did! Here's another one:

*The opportunity to grow amid wonderful experiences, meet fascinating women and girls is so fun. Most of all, the opportunity to contribute and participate in our legacy is what it's all about—leaning into our future!*  
**Sheron Bealer, Redlands Branch**

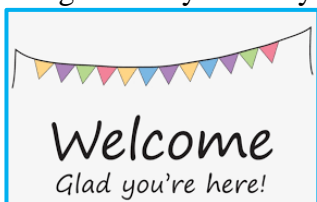
Feel free to send one or two (no more!) sentences to [cc@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cc@aauw-ca.org) and answer the question:

**Becoming a leader: why'd ya do it?**

## New Members

Terrill S. Levinson Wickham was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA. She earned her PhD at United States International University and is a child clinical psychologist. Terrill is the past president of the local chapter of the National Charity League and Redlands Kiwanis in addition to her work with the Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation. She is interested in the visual art (watercolors), piano, women's issues, sexual abuse and adoptions. In September 2019 Terrill became significantly visually impaired.

Jeannine McDonnell is enrolled in the Associates in Science at Crafton Hills College with the goal to earn her BS Nursing degree at Loma Linda University. She grew up in Redlands but lived on the East Coast for 30 years due to husband's Naval career. Jeannine loves nature and the outdoor activities of biking, hiking, kayaking, camping, picnicing, walking and gardening. Her desire is to mentor and encourage young women on the margins including unwed pregnant teens, girls raised by single moms, addiction and physical abuse. Because Crafton Hills College is a College/University (C/U) partner with AAUW, Jeannine is joining AAUW as a C/U student affiliate.



## Speech Trek

Adrian Baek, our branch's Speech Trek winner for 2023, will present his 5 minute speech at the April branch meeting. The topic is: *"How can communities, organizations, and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights?"*

His video was submitted to the AAUW California State selection committee. If Adrian is one of the three finalists', his video will be showcased at the virtual AAUW California Annual Event on Saturday April 22, 2023. All three Speech Trek finalists received cash awards of \$1500, \$1000 and \$500 respectively.



Adrian is a junior at Redlands High School.

~Patty Ahearn Speech Trek Chair

## Hospitality Birthday Club

Please let us know if we missed anyone!

### April Birthdays:

Jo Cavedon  
Twillea Evans-Carthen  
Terrill Levinson Wickham  
Monica Harwood  
Barbara Krause  
Jeannine McDonnell  
Susan Miller  
Elizabeth Schilling  
Geri Stahly



## 2023 AAUW CA Annual Event

Academy **AAUW**ards Event Celebrates  
AAUW Stars on April 22 from 9-4 on zoom



Come join us for red carpet interviews, listen to inspiring keynote speakers, and watch the Speech Trek and Gov Trek finalists. Cheer on your fellow members and branches for all sorts of AAUW awards, get a public policy update, and meet the board candidates. And, every awards event worth its swag bag has after-parties! Join our Zoom-style parties to hang out with your friends!

Celebrating AAUW California, its branches, and its members will be the most fun event of the spring! Don't miss out on the Academy AAUwards on April 22nd! Get ready to mingle!

Information and registration: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/academy-aauwards-event-celebrates-aauw-stars/>

## College/University Partnership Committee Request

The College/University Partnership committee is happy to share the news that we are expanding our partnerships. In addition to having current partnerships with the University of Redlands and Crafton Hills College, we will have new partnerships with San Bernardino Valley College and San Bernardino Community College District. The AAUW Redlands Branch currently sends two college students, one from each of our current partner institutions, to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Our branch annually budgets sufficient funds to send two students to this wonderful leadership conference, held at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland. But we would like to send two more students, for a total of four, starting in 2023-2024.

If you would like to help support a student to attend NCCWSL, please donate to the Redlands Branch of AAUW and designate that the donation is to support a student to attend NCCWSL. We appreciate your support and generosity.

*~Susan Bangasser and Pam Ford  
College/University Partnership Committee Co-Chairs*



AAUW California will hold its 2023 Lobby Days on March 21 and 22, 2023. AAUW members will meet with their state representatives and/or their staff to inform them about AAUW and advocate for their support of priority bills. Meetings may be held in person with staffers in the district office, or virtually via Zoom.



## GOV TREK

GOV TREK is a new CA-AAUW virtual program for High School Junior and Senior girls. We are now half-way through the 5, 2 hour virtual sessions (every other Saturday), with about 60 girls and 18 adult facilitators participating. The Redlands Branch Public Policy group has made this program one of our projects for the year. Three HS girls from our area and one branch member are participating. Although there have been some technical glitches, it is clear that the CA-AAUW Public Policy Committee has done an incredible job of conceiving and organizing the program, which is “designed to elevate the next generation of females to pursue careers in public service”.



Each 2-hour virtual session has included speeches by lobbyists, campaign managers, elected officials and speech writers who have been involved in local campaigns and have made the idea of working on a political campaign exciting and attainable. The girls have been randomly assigned to a team of 6 with 2 break-out room facilitators. The members of each team have chosen roles that they want to play in a team competition to create a realistic campaign simulation. Each team chooses an office to run for (e.g. city council), a campaign issue (e.g. health care) and the voter demographic to focus on (e.g. Hispanics). This has been a lot to accomplish in 10 hours (5, 2 hour sessions). With two more sessions to go, we'll see how it goes.

You are all invited to attend the finale on Saturday March 25, 2023 from 10 am – 12:30 pm. Listen to inspirational remarks from Senator Toni G. Atkins, then watch the final competition between eight teams of smart, talented young women who are exploring careers in public service. They have spent four Saturdays crafting a realistic campaign simulation for this competition. Who will win? Who has the best stump speech, the best campaign flyers, and the best voter outreach plan?

Registration is required, Click [HERE](#) to register.

*~Erica Wilson*



## Elections will be held at April branch meeting



Co-Presidents: 2023-2024

Heather Abushanab

President Elect: 2023-2024

Marilyn Shankar

Communications VP: 2023-2025

vacant

Co-Hospitality VP: 2023-2025

Keita Wangari

Program VP: 2023-2025

Joyce Katkov

At-Large: 2023-2024

Keller Iuppenlatz

At-Large: 2023-2024

Eileen Sanborn

At-Large: 2023-2024

Susan Bentley

Donita Remington

Kathy Warren

Nominating Committee:

2023-2024: Patricia Stubbs, chair, Mary Lou Guerrero,  
Nerni Miller, Paula Ferri-Milligan

2023-2025 Ginny Evans-Perry, Dorothy Nordquist,  
Martha Lehman



**Vote!**  
**National and state elections are around the corner**

### National Election Details

April 5 | voting opens (online voting is encouraged)

May 15 | Online voting ends at 5:00 pm ET

May 17 | Vote results announced online

### California State Election Details

April 22 | voting opens (online voting is encouraged)

May 13 | Online voting ends at midnight PT

May 17 | Vote results announced online

## DEI STATEWIDE CHAT: WHAT IS JABEID? AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO AAUW?



How can we co-create spaces and embody Justice, Accessibility, Belonging, Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity (JABEID)? We often hear these terms but may struggle with ways we can put them into practice in our branch meetings, programs, and outreach. Join us for a rich conversation led by Dr. Lata Muri, Co-President of the Santa Maria Branch. Dr. Muri is Associate Professor of Sociology for the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Global and author of *With and Without the White Coat: The Racialization of Southern California's Indian Physicians*.

You won't want to miss this conversation on Monday, March 27th at 6 pm! Click [HERE](#) to register.



## Southeast IBC

Date: April 29, 2023, at 10 am  
via Zoom

The Southeast Interbranch Council will be meeting on April 29th at 10:00am on zoom. SEIBC includes all of the branches in the Inland Empire. We meet three times a year to listen to a speaker, usually connected with AAUW. Our April 29<sup>th</sup> speaker will be Shuana Ruyle, the chair of the newly created Gov Trek virtual program for High School Junior and Senior girls. She will be sharing the needs of this newly formed leadership team and how the branches can include this in their membership.

After a question and answer session there will be a short business meeting that will include reports from the branch presidents on their activities and concerns for the year.

All members are invited to attend.

For the zoom link please contact Patty Ahearn.

~Patty Ahearn, Chair of SEIBC

## March Branch Meeting



### March Birthdays

Marge Galligan

Jan Negrón

Ellen Gruenbaum

March Speaker  
Rebecca A. O'Connor



# AAUW Redlands Branch STEM INITIATIVES

## 29th Annual STEM Conference Takes Place!

On a particularly blustery March 1, 600 8<sup>th</sup> graders arrived at the University of Redlands to participate in the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Conference for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls produced by the Redlands Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

While at the conference, each student participated in two STEM workshops led by female STEM professionals. These included engaging introductions to topics such as using forensics to solve crimes, geology & water quality, renewable energy, physics, mental health, mapping, and many more. Each student participated in a STEM Career Fair during which they got to meet and chat with three different STEM professionals about their careers. The students ate lunch in Irvine Commons and ended the day with Keynote Speaker Amber Jazairi, noted writer, actor, film producer, director, and public speaking national champion in Memorial Chapel.

When asked what was the most important message learned by participating in the conference, student responses included the following:

*"Planning our future is important and we should do something we love."*

*"You can accomplish great things so don't hold yourself back and don't give up."*

*"Try lots of things to see what you like."*

*"To follow your dreams and don't ever give up."*

*"I learned to be open-minded and experience new careers."*

*"Try my hardest no matter what."*

*"The most important message is that you are important and can do whatever you want to do. And that we all have to stick together."*

*"Believe in yourself."*

*"Don't let people tell you **you can't**."*

*"I never really was interested in STEM but this really interested me seeing all these jobs and learning what they do. And the speech it made me passionate to be a woman."*

If these quotes are any indication, then the conference is meeting our goal of empowering young women to participate in STEM courses and careers.

The Redlands Branch of AAUW has been producing STEM Conferences for students from Redlands and Yucaipa middle schools for nearly 30 years. Additionally, our branch provides a STEM Conference for girls from Banning and Beaumont middle schools in January of each year.

In order to provide the conference for over 600 students, AAUW recruits dozens of STEM professionals to share their experiences and dozens of AAUW members & volunteers to make sure the students get to the workshops, STEM Fair, lunch and keynote speech. AAUW Redlands is grateful to the

University of Redlands and to our many community sponsors for their unwavering support of this event over the years. Among the major sponsors are Optimist Club of Redlands, Rotary Club of Yucaipa, Beaver Medical Group, and Inland SoCal United Way. The conference would never happen without community-wide support. In this newsletter, however, we want to note and appreciate the hours of organizational planning by STEM Committee members, the energy of our on-site volunteers, and the commitment of our branch to this endeavor.

*~Pam Ford & Kathryn Brown, Co-chairs  
Redlands STEM Conference for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls*

Keynote Speaker  
Amber Jazairi





29<sup>th</sup> Redlands STEM Conference





**Redlands STEM Conference Committee thanks our wonderful volunteers for**

- **Making building signs**
- **assembling conference packets**
- **participating in the March 1st conference**
- **donating to STEM Initiatives**





## Update to Online Membership Directory



Coming soon...an update to our awesome online member photo directory. Watch for an email advising you how to access this password protected page! And, if you missed the two photoshoots we provided recently please send in your own headshot so you are not left out. Email it to Sheron Bealer.

*~Sheron Bealer*

## Redlands Bowl Ushering

As summer is soon approaching, AAUW will once again be ushering for The Redlands Bowl at one of the summer performances. We have had several already sign up to usher and we could use quite a few more people who would like to help in this one time annual event for AAUW at The Redlands Bowl. A specific date has not yet been set for us to usher, but it soon will be issued. All signups are greatly appreciated. Don't forget, you can enlist the help of significant others. I certainly hope you choose to sign up as it's fun and it is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to this very unique community treasure. Thank you in advance. My contact information is on the calendar page under Redlands Bowl Ushering.



*~Barbara Simmons*



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