



BRANCH LINES

Let your voice be heard and
Be part of the change!

Empowering Women Since 1881

Welcome New Member Judith Martin


We are pleased to welcome a new member, Judith (Judy) Martin. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Judy lived in Lima, Ohio and Danbury, Connecticut before moving to San Jose in 1978. She graduated from San Jose State University with a BA in Liberal Studies in 1980 and a MA in Cybernetic Systems in 1984.

After working for one year in industry, she decided to return to college for her teaching certificate. Judy became a middle school teacher, teaching disadvantaged and immigrant students in the Evergreen School District, San Jose for 30 years. In addition, she earned a Technical Writer certification from USF and completed Fellowships with several Bay Area corporations, eventually working as a contractor for Lockheed Martin.

She lived in Almaden Valley (south San Jose) for 44 years until relocating with her husband to Lincoln last year. She has three adult children and four grandchildren. Her interests include music, drama, dance, cycling and yoga. AAUW interests include Speech Trek, public policy, Sierra College, communications, and high school scholarships. She read about AAUW in the Lincoln Hills [Sun Senior News](#) and decided to join after the November meeting. Welcome Judy!

The following people have been chosen to serve on the AAUW 2024 nominating committee.

- Jane Watkins
- Lynn Cook
- Lora Finnegan
- Nancy Taylor

Please consider becoming a board member.
 **We need some fresh new faces to move our branch forward!! Please volunteer.....**

ELECTION UPDATE: SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

We are happy to report that school board candidates who were seeking to ban books and historically accurate curricula lost BIG in the November election nationwide! Current reporting tells us that only 50 of 139 school board candidates endorsed by Moms for Liberty were elected. We'll keep working to ensure that our marginalized students are accurately represented and protected through the School Board Project in California. Save the Date: Speech Trek semi finals Feb. 3; finals Feb. 9

Speech Trek Semifinals Feb 3; Finals Feb 9

Denise Hexom –Speech Trek Chair



“How can we ensure a robust public-school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?” That’s the intriguing topic students will be addressing in the Eleanor Stem Allen Memorial Speech Trek contest, sponsored by our branch and the Gray Allen Family. You can volunteer or just attend. Judges and timers are needed for the semi-finals on February 3 (10 AM) at Whitney High; to volunteer, please contact Gail Berberian at aaurosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com. Watch the finals February 9 at 4 PM at a free event held at Sun City Lincoln Hills’ Kilaga Lodge (Presentation Hall), 1167 Sun City Blvd, Lincoln. Seating is limited and unreserved come early. Link: [Speech Trek Finals | AAUW-RSP Branch Site \(aaurosevillesouthplacer.org\)](#)

January Program Event has been cancelled

We are unable to obtain a Title IX speaker from Sierra College.

You are invited to attend:

Please consider attending the IBC Fund Luncheon on Saturday Jan 20, 2024 - Keynote Speaker will be Tracy Ramondini, Elk Grove Sheldon High School teacher along with several other interesting topics and speakers. We have two confirmed speakers. Krystal Lau from Stanford will speak to us via Zoom and Joyce Weaver from the Academy of Arts in San Francisco will speak with us in person.



AAUW Fund Luncheon

Sponsored by your Capitol Counties Interbranch Council

Saturday, January 20, 2024
Noon – 2 PM

Northridge Country Club
7600 Madison Ave. Fair Oaks, CA

Keynote speaker: Tracy Ramondini, Elk Grove Sheldon High School teacher and Gov Trek State Committee member, will update us on the Gov Trek program. In addition, two current AAUW Fund Recipients will share their educational journeys, focusing on details and progress of their work.

Reserve your spot today; deadline for reservations is January 10, 2024.
Make your \$40 check payable to
AAUW CHAR, P.O. Box 1555, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Name _____ Branch _____
Phone _____ email _____

Please indicate your menu choice:
 Turkey w/mashed potatoes & veggies
 Vegetarian Risotto




Jan 20, 2024, noon – 2:00 PM
Northridge Country Club, 7600 Madison Ave,
Fair Oaks, CA 95628, USA

Link: [IBC Fund Luncheon Jan 20, 2024 @ noon | AAUW-RSP Branch Site \(aaurosevillesouthplacer.org\)](#)

AAUW's 'Final Friday' Happy Hour Event!

Lora Finnegan – VP Membership



Registration link: [AAUW Happy Hour | AAUW-RSP Branch Site \(aauwrosevillesouthplacer.org\)](#)

Date: Friday, January 26

Time: 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Location: Citizen Vine

845 12 Bridges Dr, Lincoln

Wine \$8/glass, please bring cash

Tapas, flatbreads, tacos and more.

Bring a friend - newcomers who join, at this event get 50% off national dues.

December Holiday Party

Kathy Kort – VP Programs



Our Holiday Party, on December 16th at The Timber Creek Ballroom, was a success. Those who did attend heard Jim Haufler, from Friends of the Auburn Ravine, and Sean O'Brien, from Dry Creek Conservancy. Both men had wonderful videos which included maps and pictures of the specific watershed areas in Sacramento, Placer, and Sutter counties that their

programs encompass. Their presentations included what is environmentally necessary to protect the waterways, the salmon, spawning and steelhead trout. They also discussed the volunteer programs that are needed to help to sustain the work they are doing. For additional information and donations their websites are: [www. AuburnRavine.org](http://www.AuburnRavine.org) and <https://drycreekconservancy.org>.

The Holiday Party ended with a summary of events from our program chairs in the coming months – Membership, Speech Trek, Tech Trek, Non-Event Fund Raising, and Sierra College Leadership.

Gov Trek - WE'RE GAINING MOMENTUM...

Lynn Cook – Gov Tech Chair

We are pleased to announce that, to date, 40 young women leaders from across California have registered for Gov Trek 2024! Thank you to the inspiring branch leaders who rallied girls in their communities to join AAUW California's leadership program for high school girls. **We have three students who signed up from Roseville.**

Our aim is to have 140 students in the program, and we need at least 50 to proceed. With your help, we can inspire more women to step up and take the lead! Together, let's drive the change we want to see and elevate more women to leadership roles. Gov Trek registrations are coming in. The goal is to enroll 140 students by January 20, 2024.

Full STEAM ahead for our 2024 Tech Trek Summer Camp!!

Carol Delville and Andrea Flamenco – Tech Trek Chairs

October 26th and November 30th, over 75 Branch Coordinators participated in the 2024 Tech Trek Branch Coordinators Kick-off Meetings. So much information, lots to do! I'm so excited to begin our work to make the 2024 Tech Trek STEAM camp experience a success for all!

In November, letters were sent to all current principals, math, and science teachers to our middle schools. We have already received interested principals and teachers! More to come in January and February!

Lobby Days 2024 - Save the Date!

By Amy Hom, Co-chair AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Mark your calendars! AAUW California will hold our 2024 Lobby Days event on April 2 and 3, 2024. An interest survey including a registration form will arrive in your inbox mid-January. Please be sure to complete and return the form to be added to the communications list for the event. We encourage all AAUW California members to participate in this act of advocacy that is essential for achievement of our legislative priorities. In addition to our members, we plan to invite college students to join the event. Their participation will enable us to reach more legislative offices, and we hope that this introduction to our organization will inspire these advocacy-minded young people who share our values to join AAUW. Starting in January, our committee will evaluate new bills introduced in the state legislature which are aligned with our Public Policy Priorities: Economic Security for All Women, Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society, and Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles. In early March, our committee will meet to discuss our evaluations and select 30-35 bills for our 2024 Legislative Agenda that best represent our priorities. We will also choose the top 3 bills to advocate for during Lobby Days.

Looking for a Few Good Women

Lora Finnegan – VP Membership

The Membership Committee is looking for a few good women to serve as mentors to our new members. The goal is to help newcomers feel connected to the Branch. We have almost 20 new members this year and we need to reach out to them. The goal is to help newcomers feel connected to the Branch. We have 20 new or recently joined members this year, and we need to reach out to them. Ideally, we will have enough volunteers so that each volunteer would mentor one person.

Responsibilities would include:

- Provide your contact information: “Call or email me anytime.”
- Meet in person if possible.
- Ask whether they have any questions about AAUW at this point.
- Make sure they are receiving our emails, the newsletter, and have a Handbook.
- Learn about their goals for joining (or rejoining) AAUW.
- Facilitate their involvement in groups and committees to help them reach their goals.
- Remind them of upcoming events.
- Meet them at events and introduce them to other members.

If you would be interested, please contact Jenny Griffin at aaurosevillessouthplacer@gmail.com

Current Interest Group Activities

Group Name	Leader	Meeting Day	Time
GREAT DECISIONS GROUP Raley’s Event Center, 1915 Douglas Blvd, Roseville Topic: <i>Iran at a Crossroads</i> presented by Karen Anderson Elsie: aaurosevillessouthplacer@gmail.com	Elsie Gaura	2 nd Friday of each month January 12 Note: 2024 books delivery	10:00AM
WEDNESDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP Zoom meeting – turn on your computer, iPad, Kindle Fire or smartphone! Book/Author: <i>Sugar Birds</i> by Cheryl Grey Bostrom Nancy: aaurosevillessouthplacer@gmail.com	Nancy Taylor	3 rd Wednesday of each month January 17	New time: 10:00AM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP Host: Denise Hexom Book/Author: <i>While Justice Sleeps</i> by Stacey Abrams Jane: aaurosevillessouthplacer@gmail.com	Jane Watkins	Wednesday January 3	6:30PM
MAH JONGG GROUP Joyce: aaurosevillessouthplacer@gmail.com December hostess: Nancy Taylor	Joyce Wade	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays in January	1:30PM

CHICAGO/DUPICATE BRIDGE GROUP Leslie: aauwrosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com	Leslie McNeill	2 nd Wednesday of each month January 10	1:00 PM
WINE GROUP For information about next planned event, call Joan: aauwrosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com	Joan Donlon		
CASUAL GARDENERS GROUP Contact Claire: aauwrosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com	Diane Madden		

Current Neighborhood Group Activities

Lincoln Neighborhood Group – Friday, January 19, 10:30AM. Get an insider’s tour of the Lincoln 12 Bridges Library with the insightful and delightful Linda Derosier and then enjoy lunch at Siinos. While we nosh, we can discuss ideas for next year’s outings. Bring ideas! A few things about the library tour:

- Since the library is closed that day, the group will need to come in and exit at the same time – if someone is running late, they’ll need to go to the west side of building to the staff entrance.
- If anyone needs a library card, they’ll need to complete the online application before the tour. I can confirm the info and give them a full card the day of, but I won’t be able to process paper applications for a group that day. Please RSVP to aauwrosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com

Roseville Neighborhood Group - If you’re considering joining Roseville South Placer Branch, contact Sandy Haley aauwrosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com

Rocklin Neighborhood Group – plan ahead: finals for Speech Trek will be our outing on February 9th. Contact: Leslie McNeill aauwrosevillesouthplacer@gmail.com

*** 2024 Words of Wisdom ***

I welcome opportunities to grow and stretch.

Growth is part of life. In the past, you may have resisted it, preferring to stay comfortable or maybe feeling afraid to try new things.

Today I welcome growth by stretching myself, moving just far enough outside my comfort zone to have new experiences without getting overwhelmed. Although I may feel tempted to compare myself to others, my growth happens at my pace. When I move to my own rhythm, I can stretch and grow. With flexibility, I find the courage to rise to challenges. I can bounce back, even when I falter.

If I have bad days, I keep going. Even when growth feels hard, I keep going and discover I am not only secure in myself but am stretching to fit a greater version of myself.

I view my life through eyes of wonder.

I feel inspired watching a young child discovering new things, eyes wide with awe and wonder. Even the smallest experiences—feeling the tickle of a butterfly on the skin or blowing the seeds of a dandelion—are a marvel and a joy.

I think of this when disappointing life experiences chip away at my sense of awe and appreciation. Today I let go of disillusionment and open my heart and my eyes to live in wonder once again.

As I view life anew, I renew my belief in the goodness of life and of all people. I open myself to the unexpected treasures happening all around me each day. Wonder is a precious gift; one I use to appreciate the marvels unfolding before me.

I am an individual in the world, but I am also a member of my family and community.

The people who know me and the people who raised me have helped shape my understanding of the world and have given me the support I need to take my place in it. They are to me what good soil is to a budding flower. My roots are strong in my community, and I grow tall as I reach for opportunities to use my talents and gifts to the best of my ability. My dreams and my potential are without limit. My community of support knows this; it urges me forward to success and comforts me during times of disappointment.



Linking together for our mission.

Board meeting

Branch Board Meeting is the 2nd Monday of each month. We will alternate between Raley's (10 am) Raley's O-N-E Market | 1970 Blue Oaks Blvd, Roseville, CA 95747, and the president's home (4pm) see handbook for her address. All members are welcome. **Please send an email to the President if you plan to attend and if you have something to add to the meeting agenda.**

For updates in real time, please visit our branch website at

aaurosevillesouthplacer.org