

# The Chico AAUW Grapevine



American Association of University Women - Chico Branch Vol. 30 No. 8 Apr 2018

## Next Meeting...

**Saturday, April 7 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Meet Samia Yaqub - President of Butte College**

**Soup and Salad Lunch**

**Shelley's Catering - 2565 Zanella Way, Chico**

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

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

AAUW membership is open to all graduates holding a recognized associate (or equivalent), baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified educational institution.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



We are honored to host Dr. Samia Yaqub at our luncheon. Dr. Yaqub will share with us her personal story of work and determination that brought her to the position of President of Butte College. She is a Chicoan from way back; a graduate of CSU, Chico, a mother, and a recent newlywed. We will also hear about the vision she has for Butte College and some projects and programs that assist young people from many backgrounds and life stories in their quest for higher education and opportunities for success.



We hope to have a wonderful welcoming crowd to hear this

outstanding educator, administrator, and leader in her field. The soup and salad buffet is \$17 and includes beverages. Contact Kathy Sweet at [kathysweet@gmail.com](mailto:kathysweet@gmail.com) or (530) 893-1812 to make your lunch reservation. You can then pay at the door. Check or exact change appreciated.

Get the details on this exciting event on page 5.

The Chico American Association of University Women presents  
**A Book Signing Benefit for Local Scholarships**

MEET MARY K. JENSEN, AUTHOR OF ACCLAIMED

*Rudy's Rules for Travel*

*Life Lessons from Around the Globe*

Proceeds from sales of the book at the event donated to local scholarships.

"A set of rules for life, by way of a delightful travel narrative."  
---Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018  
11 A.M. TO 2 P.M.  
ABC BOOKS  
956 MANGROVE  
CHICO, CA 95926

Visit Mary at [www.marykjensen.com](http://www.marykjensen.com)

## Message from the Presidents

### Branch Officers

Co-Presidents -

Helen Gesick

Toni Reid

Vice President -

Joan Cleveland

Membership -

Betty Lusina

Finance -

Denise Worth

Secretary -

Barbara Paige

Newsletter Editor -

Jana Lawton

Public Policy -

Carol Holzgrafe

Tech Trek Chairs -

Michelle Rasmussen

Susan Blizman

Technology -

Helen Gesick and

Toni Reid

Historian -

Barbara Paige

The CHICO GRAPE-VINE is published by the Chico Branch of AAUW. Items for inclusion can be mailed to Jana Lawton, newsletter editor, 1112 Bidwell Avenue, Chico, CA 95926 or e-mailed to [jdlawton72@gmail.com](mailto:jdlawton72@gmail.com)

For those who were unable to attend our meeting last week with speaker Lisa Michels, you did miss out on an excellent presentation. It was heartening but also humbling to hear the stories of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers who act as advocates and friends to children in the foster care system. These wonderful people give their time, energy, and affection to interact with “their” children. As was pointed out, these volunteers are the only adults that the children interact with who are not paid to be there.

There are 600 children in foster care in Butte County and approximately 65 CASA volunteers. More would certainly be welcome. The only prerequisites are to be interested and to be kind.

We are moving toward the end of our AAUW program year. Next month on April 7, we will hear from the President of Butte College, Dr. Samia Yaqub. Hope to see you at Shelley’s Catering for lunch and information about Butte College in our community. **Save the Date** for our final meeting of the year on May 19 for the AAUW Spring Brunch which will include officer elections, awards and more.

Lastly, a reminder. You can renew your AAUW membership now for the 2018-2019 year either with a check payable to AAUW Chico for \$95 (send to treasurer Denise Worth, 798 Sierra View Way, Chico 95926) or rejoin online at <http://www.aauw.org> using your credit card. Easier yet, respond to the AAUW dues reminder email by clicking a link and using your credit card.

Toni Reid and Helen Gesick  
Co-presidents



L to R Kathy Sweet (a CASA volunteer), Julia Westland (CASA peer coordinator), Caroline Langen introduced our program, and Lisa Michels, guest speaker and CASA program supervisor for Butte and Glenn Counties

## Membership News

### Directory Updates

#### NEW MEMBER

Debra Lucero  
810 W. 11th Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926  
(530) 228-2860  
deblucero@deblucero.com

#### NEW MEMBER

Satsie Veith  
1401 Sunset Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926  
(530) 570-3550  
satsiedv2@gmail.com

Our new member profile this month features **Debra Lucero**. Debra joined AAUW in November and we're happy to introduce her to you now. Please remember to add her name to your branch directory. It's also a pleasure to welcome **Satsie Veith** to the branch. She is also a member of the Paradise branch but wanted to connect with our branch when she moved back to Chico.

Betty Lusina, Membership Chair (521-3444)



**Debra Lucero** was born at Enloe Hospital in Chico, raised in Corning, attended Shasta College and graduated from CSU, Chico, with a Bachelor's in Communications. Her mother and grandmother were born in Oroville. She has deep Butte County roots - going back to 1860 when her great, great grandfather, Phillip Klos settled in Mountain Spring and then moved to Enterprise where her great, grandmother Lena Klot (Klos) was born in 1863.

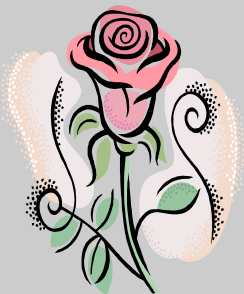
Her father was the first person in his family to attend college. He became a teacher, a volunteer firefighter and an advocate for girls sports at the school board level and for teachers at the state level. He was also an unofficial spokesperson for the hundreds of migrant farm workers who passed through Corning as they picked olives. It was his activism that inspired Debra to become an advocate and community organizer.

Debra raised her three children in Chico. She is married to Raymond Laager who is president of a local business group and underwriting director for a local radio station. For nearly two decades, she has been involved in economic development and has been at the helm of nonprofits, active in community media, arts, culture, heritage and agricultural pursuits. At the core of this activity is the belief that economic and community development should be built around our local assets and our local people.

She is an award-winning journalist and editor and has extensive grant writing background that has enabled her to augment educational programs, festivals and events throughout her career. She currently consults with two California Arts Councils in Redding and Chico and two public access TV stations. Debra has served the greater community for decades as a board member for a number of local and regional organizations including the Chico Arts Commission, Californians for the Arts, and Western Region of the Alliance for Community Media, among others. She has decided to run for public office - Butte County Supervisor for District Two - and would be proud to represent Butte County as an elected official. "I've been doing it unofficially for years" she notes. We're happy to welcome Debra to the branch.

Our sympathy goes out to **Barbara Heron**, long time active member of Chico AAUW, and to her husband, Dr. Billy Heron, and family, Their daughter, Dr. Janet Heron Miller, has passed away at age 61 after a hard-fought battle against cancer. Janet was the granddaughter of Gladys Jackson, another Chico AAUW pioneer. The family has established a Chico AAUW scholarship fund, in honor of Barbara and in memory of Janet and Mrs. Jackson. If you wish to contribute to this fund, please contact:

**Mary Jensen** at [mjensen@csuchico.edu](mailto:mjensen@csuchico.edu)



## Branch News and Notes



**FUNDRAISER** - When was the last time you had a perfectly spiced beef shawarma sandwich, or lamb marinated in yogurt and Mediterranean spices served over fragrant basmati rice? How about a tangy tabouli salad or a bowl of curried lentil soup? Give yourself a break from the kitchen on **Wednesday, April 11** and join us at Cafe Petra at 5:30 in downtown Chico for a food journey to the Mediterranean and an AAUW fundraiser. Cafe Petra will donate 20% of the cost of each of our orders to AAUW. Invite your partners or come alone and join us for a good dinner and good company and to raise money for AAUW at the same time. Please call Susan Critchfield at [\(530-519-3460\)](tel:530-519-3460) and say you intend to join us.

If you aren't able to attend on the **11th**, you can also go to dinner or lunch anytime in April or May, just be sure to tell them that you are a member of AAUW so they will donate 20% of your purchase to AAUW. Cafe Petra is located at 163 East Second Street. Open 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**AAUW SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEWS** - Scholarship Committee members **Marilyn Myrick, Denise Worth** and **Diane Flaherty** interviewed twelve qualified area high school students for the five 2018 Chico branch scholarships on March 28. Their efforts are much appreciated. The recipients of our five scholarships will be announced at their high school awards nights in May.

### **April Fools & Follies**

April 12-15 | Blue Room Theatre

*April 12, 13 & 14 at 7:30 p.m. & April 15 at 2 p.m.*

OLLI's Fourth Annual Play Festival will showcase six original short comedies, all written, directed, stage-managed and acted by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) participants. Two of our AAUW Chico Branch members, **Joan Cleveland** and **Louise Cummins**, will take part.



New this year, Dr. Sarah Blackstone, Retired Dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, CSU, Chico, is lending her expertise to enhance the creative and technical processes of the entire production. The playwrights are Pam Loyd (Festival founder and Artistic Director), Joan Goodreau, Lois Ann Morrison, and **Joan Cleveland**.

Among the plays are Joan Goodreau's **How I Learned to Stop Worrying & Love the Smart Phone** featuring one character (played by Louise Cummins) who makes a surprising discovery. In Joan Cleveland's gentle comedy, **Neighborly**, what will happen when the landlord lives right next door?

Tickets \$10.00 are available at the door, at The Bookstore 118 Main St, or online at [blueroomtheatre.com](http://blueroomtheatre.com)

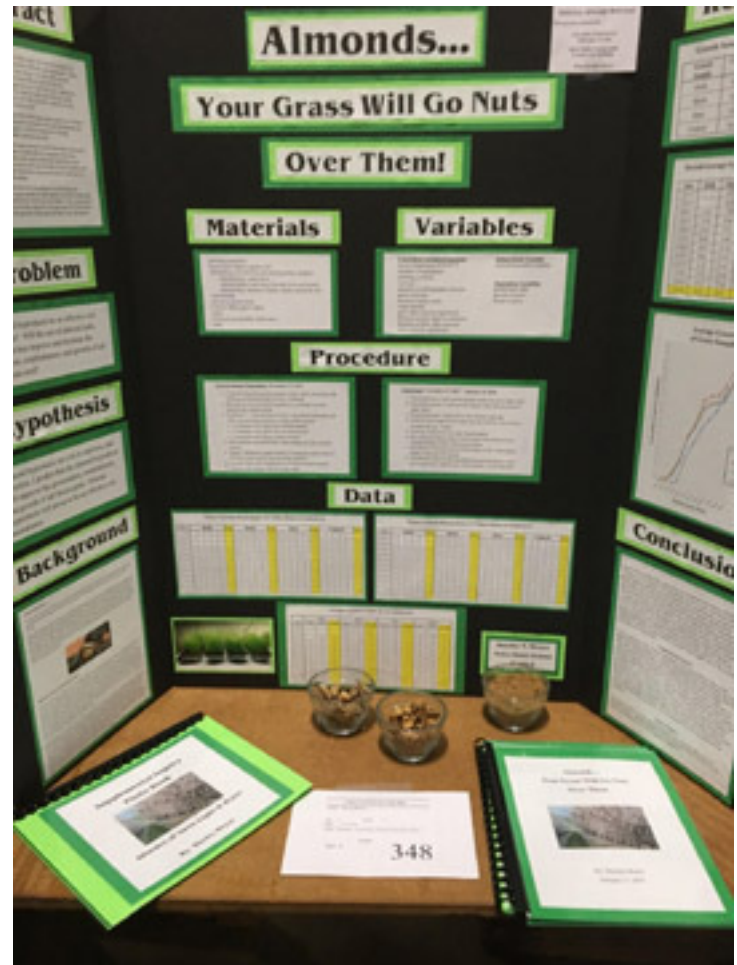
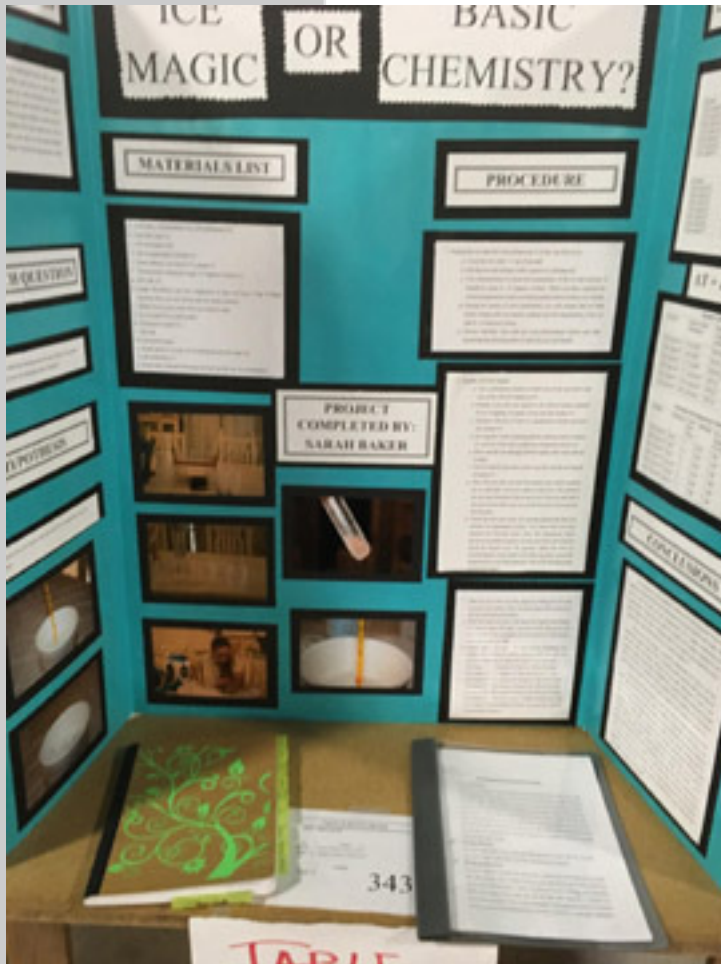


## Branch News and Notes

AAUW Chico has a newly published author! **Mary K. Jensen's** *Rudy's Rules for Travel: Life Lessons from Around the Globe* has already earned acclaim as "a charming read, a wonderful memoir with some great rules for travel and life!" Our Scholarship Team is sponsoring a benefit book signing to support local girls' dreams of college and to celebrate Mary's success. She is donating proceeds from books sold that day to our fund.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: BRING FRIENDS  
BOOK SIGNING for "Rudy's Rules for Travel"  
Sat. April 28 at ABC Books, 950 Mangrove, Chico  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Mary's depictions of travel adventures with her late husband Rudy have received acclaim from literary groups across the country. Praise has come from Kirkus Reviews which reviews over 10,000 books annually. It has awarded "Rudy's Rules" a star, which indicates "exceptional merit" and outstanding quality. Further, the KR has just named it one of their 4-6 Indie Books for the Month of May! Here in Chico excitement is growing over this kind of reception and for the upcoming book signing.



AAUW Chico awarded two prizes (bookstore gift certificates) at the recent Chico Science Fair. We selected two projects that demonstrated excellence in the scientific method. Sarah, age 13, wondered how does adding salt or sugar affect the freezing point of water. Her experiment proved that the freezing point was lower with salt added. Our second awardee was Hayley, age 14. Hayley wondered, can almonds become a zero waste crop? Would the use of hulls, shells, and dust be an effective soil amendment and improve and increase the germination, establishment and growth of tall fescue grass? Her experiment proved that it is effective.

## Public Policy by Carol Holzgrafe



AAUW National in Washington, D.C. has formed a new senior management team for Public Policy led by Deborah J. Vagins, J.D., the new senior vice president of public policy and research. In this role, Deborah will lead the Legal Advocacy Fund and direct the organization's government affairs and research efforts. The new team will continue to push for gender equity.

### Cheer of the Week

**Women are making history in Congress.** This week, Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant (R) appointed state Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith (R) to the U.S. Senate, making her the first woman from her state to serve in Congress. And at 35 years of service, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) is now the longest-serving woman in the U.S. House of Representatives. AAUW congratulates Rep. Kaptur and soon-to-be Sen. Hyde-Smith on these milestones!

### Jeer of the Week

**A survey of more than 65,000 full-time physicians by Doximity found a 27.7 percent gap between men's and women's earnings in the field.** This represents a growing pay gap for physicians, as the field's pay gap was 26.5 percent in 2016.

### Another Jeer of the Week

Last Thursday, a federal court vacated a regulation that requires financial brokers to consider their client's best interest when providing retirement advice. The decision creates uncertainty around the ultimate fate of the rule. AAUW wrote a letter to the U.S. Department of Labor in July urging them to safeguard current and future retirees by implementing the regulation.

### News for Schools

The Trump administration announced this week that U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos will lead a school safety commission to identify means of protecting students from gun violence. Officials expect to address a wide variety of ideas to approach this issue.

**And Just News:** AAUW recently signed on to an amicus brief for a current U.S. Supreme Court case. Heard on March 20, the *National Institute of Family and Life Advocates v. Becerra*, will decide whether a requirement to post neutral and factual information about reproductive health services at so-called crisis pregnancy centers is a violation of the First Amendment.

**Graciela Gutierrez** has been the Assistant Auditor-Controller managing the County financial processes for the past 7 years. Graciela is also a member of the Gridley AAUW branch and she is seeking election to the non-partisan office of Butte County Auditor-Controller. She has been endorsed by the two top financial directors of Butte County, David Houser and Peggy Moak. Graciela earned an MPA with an Option in Public sector Management and Leadership from CSU, Northridge, a BS with an Option in Accounting Information Systems from CSU, Chico and an AS with an option in Business Administration from Butte College. She would like to continue her public service as the next Auditor-Controller of Butte County. Don't forget to vote on June 5. Local elections affect you where you live.

## Interest Sections



Is anyone interested in participating in a **history interest group**? We would view videos from the Great Courses series and then discuss them. No homework or preparation needed, just an interest in the fascinating history of our human race. I have facilitated this group in the past and I'd love to do it again if there is any interest. Contact Barbara Paige at 891-8330

### New to AAUW?

Call a group leader for more information about a section you might find of interest. A few have reached capacity but most would welcome new members.

### Foreign Policy Discussion Group

Roxanne Ferry - 891-1722 All welcome.  
Group meets 4th Monday at 7 p.m.  
Apr 23 - *US Global engagement and the military*. Discussion led by Roxanne Ferry, hosted by Beth Tice at 242 Tom Polk Circle (895-0579)

### World Interest Group

Caroline Langen 342-5388. All welcome  
Meets at Shelley's Catering on 3rd or 4th Sunday for lunch and a program of interest. \$15-20 per person and spouses welcome. Call for details this month.

### Morning Book Discussion Group

Marti Young 343-0412  
Group meets at 10:00 a.m. on the 4th Friday of the month at Woodoak Condominiums Community Room - 555 Vallombrosa Avenue  
Apr 27 - call for reading selection this month

### Women's Microfinance Collaborative

Jana Lawton 894-1843 All welcome!  
Semi annual meetings to celebrate the funding of new community banks which help poor women entrepreneurs in Guatemala. **You can make your tax deductible contribution any time through the North Valley Community Foundation.**

### Mystery Book Discussion Group

Denise Worth 343-5711  
Group meets at 3 p.m. on 3rd Wednesday  
All welcome.  
Apr 18 - *Booked to Die* by John Dunning. Hosted by Marcie Brown at 1462 Manzanita Ave #1 (619-764-1461)

### Computer and iPad Group

Helen Gesick 343-5931  
Meets 4th Thursday at 1:00  
Please call for location.



### Wine and Whine

Carol Holzgrafe 873-6906  
Group meets 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. All welcome!  
Apr 18 - *Unwined at 980* located at 980 Mangrove Avenue. Join us for drinks, snacks, and conversation. A great way to meet other AAUW members.



### Evening Book Discussion Group

Vicky Breedon - 345-2898 or vbreedon@csuchico.edu (preferred)  
Group meets at 7:00 p.m. on 2nd Tuesday  
Apr 10 - *Clover House* by Henrietta Lazaridis Power. Hosted by Sue Blizman at 462 Todd Court (891-3489)

### Ethnic Writers Book Discussion Group

Severance Dolan 433-0258 All welcome!  
Group meets at 3:00 p.m. on 1st Wednesday  
Apr 4 - *No Time Like the Present* by Nadine Gordimer. Hosted by Roxanne Ferry at 1163 Patricia Drive (891-1722).

### Non-fiction Book Discussion Group

Diane Flaherty 342-7016  
Group meets on 2nd Friday at 10 a.m.  
Apr 13 - Hosted by Susan Critchfield at 7 Patches Drive (519-3460). Please call if you are a regular member and can't attend.

### Bridge Groups

Call for locations  
Karen O'Neill 891-8568  
Monday Bridge - 1st & 3rd Monday at 2 p.m.

### Writer's Circle

Mary Hall 879-0524  
Meets on the 3rd Thursday at 10 a.m. to write, discuss, encourage, inspire one another, and celebrate the joy of writing! All welcome.  
Apr 18 - Hosted by Mary Hall at 20 Raintree Lane (879-0524) . You are welcome to drop in and visit our group. **Note change in meeting day this month.**

## 2018 AAUW Schedule of Events



**Apr 7** - Saturday at 11:00 a.m. at Shelley's Catering -2565 Zanella Way. Dr. Samia Yaqub, president of Butte College, will speak

**Apr 8** - Sunday, at 6 p.m. Oroville AAUW invites you to their International Dinner at the Congregational Church in downtown Oroville (1715 Bird Street). The cost is \$10.00 per person. The menu: Marinated chicken, rice and lentils, Mediterranean salad, and dessert.

The country of Jordan is highlighted this year. The speaker will be Carol Hensel, who is Belgian, and who lived for many years in Jordan as a missionary with her husband. If you want to attend, please RSVP Anna Devore at [ajdevore@me.com](mailto:ajdevore@me.com) (282-6284) by Thursday, April 5

**May 4** - Friday, Tech Trek picnic at the Lott Home in Sank Park, Oroville. Meet the young women who will attend Tech Trek camp this summer at UC, Davis.

**May 5** - Saturday - Marysville-Yuba City AAUW presents their 26th Annual Garden Tour. 10 to 3:30 p.m. self-guided garden tour. Noon to 4 p.m. reception at Marysville High School. \$15 advance or \$20 day of tour. Tickets can be purchased on line at <http://mvyca.aauw.net/garden-tour/> Redeem ticket for wristband and tour brochure on day of the tour from 9:30 to 12:30 at Wilbur Ave and C Streets in Yuba City.

**May 19** - Saturday, Strawberry Brunch - branch officer elections, awards, and more

1112 Bidwell Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926





