

The Montage:



Celebrating Our Successful Beginning!

Hello Nedra,

2022 Wine Social Dinner Scholarship Fundraiser

The Fund Raiser at Toscana's was a remarkable success. After two years of being unable to have an in-person event, the 2022 Wine Social and Dinner fundraiser was an incredible success. There were so many donations to the Silent Auction and the Fund in Need and so many participants that we exceeded by far the amounts we hoped to earn for our students who benefit from this fundraiser.

The total earned after all expenses were paid was 15,276.31! Wow! Not only did we all have a great time, but we can now add another scholarship to those we already give to young women to further their education. We will be able to fund 7 high school scholarships: 2 to Turlock High, 2 for Pitman High, 1 to Modesto High, 1 to Enochs High and added to our list, 1 to Ceres High. We will also be able to send 6 middle school girls to Tech Trek.

A special thank you to our Fund Scholarship Committee for all their hard work!

Our Work continues...

The Scholarship Committee

Each year before Christmas, the Scholarship Committee begins its work by contacting the high schools involved and notifying the counselors of the scholarships available and the qualifications needed for the girls to have if they are going to apply. There are applications to be filled out and essays to be written by the young women applying.

The applications and essays are gathered and a committee of Pat Portwood, Wanda Bonnell, and Sheila Younkin assemble themselves to read and consider all the students have had to say. They winnow the applicants to a few from each high school and present the most deserving to the AAUW Board at the next meeting. At this Board meeting, usually in April, the recipients of each of our scholarships are chosen. They will be presented with their parents to the whole of the AAUW membership at the May Luncheon. At this time, each girl tells the membership of her hopes and dreams for college and beyond.

A wonderful ending and beginning that is the result all our hard work of fund raising.

Our Officers for 2022-2023

President: Wanda Bonnell
VP (Programs):Pat Portwood
VP(Membership): Wanda Bonnell
VP(Funds): Linda Romero Soles
Recording Secretary: Nancy Turner
Finance officer: Susan Baldwin
Newsletter: Nedra Voorhees
Directory: Linda Romero Soles
University Representatives: Gitanjali Kaul, Haley Ye
C/U Coordinator: Wanda Bonnell
Communications: BeverlySchlegel
Special Projects, Tech Trek: Valerie Doherty, Beverly Schlegel, Samantha Coughlin

An Invitation to all interested...

These board members meet once a month, on the first Monday, at Allison's

A Big Thank You



to Linda Soles and all those on her hard working committee for their efforts in putting together this successful Fund Raiser.



Toscana's was the venue for the fantastic fund raiser where we gathered together this year.

Cafe at 4:00PM. Their main concern is planning and coordinating the activities of the Branch. These meetings are open to any member, so feel free to join the Board and share your ideas.

A few words from our president...

Happy New Year!

In 2023 AAUW will continue to be! It's not Shakespeare, but it works
AAUW is the state's most active and diverse organization for women with nearly 10,00 members in more than 100 branches.

I am honored to be a part of the collective leadership of our Turlock/Modesto Branch and share in our commitment to positive change that includes improving the lives of young women and students through the efforts of many individual women giving of their time and experience to the AAUW organization.

I want to encourage you to consider being a part of our efforts to provide scholarships and STEM based education to the students in our community.

Wanda J. Bonnell
AAUW Turlock Modesto Branch
President



Finance Officer Susan Baldwin and Sheila Younkin worked to keep all those donations recorded.



Hannah Sahota shared her Tech Trek experiences with us



Dedicated group of committed members who welcomed guests to the Fundraiser.

The Adventure of Tech Trek

This summer 2023, Tech Trek (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics

Camp for girls completing the seventh grade) will celebrate its 25th year. Created and implemented by Marie Wolbach at Stanford University in 1998, it spread throughout California and eventually to nine additional states. The California Tech Trek program is held on seven college campuses plus two Virtual camps, all coordinated and operated by AAUW volunteers.

AAUW branches appoint Tech Trek coordinators to work with teachers or counselors in schools to reach out to girls, parents and other branch members in the nomination process and selection process. Seventh grade girls nominated complete and submit an application and an essay online; the student's parent also submits an online application.

Modesto/Turlock Branch members from Modesto participating in the Zoom interview process were: Marylou Rousseau, Fran Ewald, Pam Mayne and Beverly Schlegel. Pat Portwood, Sheila Younkin, Mary Allen, Samantha Coughlin, and Valerie Doherty were the Branch members from Turlock who read applications and interviewed girls and parents and selected the participants.

Three girls from Modesto and one from Turlock participated in the Tech Trek Camp at CSU, Fresno, June 12-June 18, 2022. One girl from Turlock participated in the Virtual Camp in the Summer 2022. All have reported truly favorable experiences.

Jackie Forte, current President Wanda Bonnell and Margo Souza enjoy the camaraderie of a May luncheon where we install our new officers and meet our scholarship recipients.



Coming Soon!

Save the Date!

Thursday January 12 @ 6:30 via Zoom

The Community Collection--It's Your Public Library

Sarah Denton, Stanislaus County Librarian will be our presenter.

This is a hot topic around the nation. Learn about the laws and policies related to selecting, evaluating and removing materials.

To participate in this informative and edifying session, and to receive a link for the Zoom, please RSVP to Pat Portwood:
patportwood@gmail.com

an Invitation--

AAUW is initiating a new adventure for girls called **Gov Trek**. It is a virtual program open to all middle school girls in the model of Tech Trek. A webinar was presented on the details of the program on November 16, 2022. A recording of the program may be viewed by contacting Shauna Ruyle at govtrek@aauw-ca.org.

Your Branch board was interested in what appears to be an excellent program about public service, but felt the Branch did not have the time to get organized and participate this year.

If you are interested in being the branch coordinator of this program or in partnering with another member to organize our participation in this program please contact Wanda Bonnell or another Board member so that we can extend an invitation to girls in our community to benefit from this new and beneficial experience.

Also Coming Soon:

The Funds Luncheon at the Fruityard with the Oakdale/Escalon/Riverbank Branch will be on February 25 11:30-2:00. Our speaker for the day will be Patricia Martin, a PhD candidate from UCLA whose doctoral work is on digital advertising strategies and how they impact pathways to college for underrepresented students, particularly women and girls of color. She is currently the recipient of a grant from AAUW to help her in funding her studies and research. To RSVP for the luncheon, please email: soleslrs@gmail.com

Your Vote counts...from Karen Harper, director Public Policy Committee Chair

November 8th was a good day for women:

*one woman was added to each house of Congress. bringing the numbers to 124(H) 25(S)

*54 are women of color

*Governors of 12 states are now women

*23% of all mayors are women, including Karen Bass in Los Angeles

*32 women won seats in California legislature

*Proposition 1 prevailed and reproductive choices are now enshrined in our constitution.

Modesto/Turlock AAUW

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