

October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage

AAUW California News



California Book Club

- Statewide book study this year, *The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves* by Dr. Shawn Ginwright. Open to **ALL** members!
- The first Pivot will be discussed on **October 22nd at 7 p.m.** Reading the chapter ahead of time will provide you with more context, but all are welcome to participate in the discussion regardless. You can **register [HERE](#)**.

California Compass

- Connection is important, so starting this month, we have a new all-member publication called the California Compass. This publication builds upon the California Connection and introduces several new features.
- Look for this new way of staying connected in your email from AAUW California
- If you have inadvertently opted out of receiving this communication, **click [HERE](#) to re-subscribe**.

Upcoming Branch Events

Teen Mental Health Webinar:

Oct 16th @ 6-7:30 p.m.

Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner:

Nov 2nd @ 5-7:30 p.m.

Soup Supper:

December 12th 2-6 p.m.

October is Here

★ A **new member** has joined our branch! A big warm welcome to,

Sandie Fong Sing

★ Please remember to **invite/sell your tickets** for the upcoming Turlock-Modesto Branch Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner

Meet Your Board Members

President – Nancy Turner

Finance – Susan Baldwin

Secretary – Gail Benge

Membership VP – Glynis Dove

Funds VP – Valerie Doherty

Programs – Cheryl Carmichael

Appointed Officers

Newsletter/Montage – Angelica Slater Contreras

Tech Trek – Beverly Schlegel

Public Policy – Open Position

Diversity Chair – Open Position

Contact Nancy Turner with questions/inquiries regarding open positions @ **(510) 690-7550**

October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage

October's Mission & Action

Member Benefit: Drive Into Savings: Rent an SUV for Just \$49/Day!

Looking for the perfect ride for your next adventure? Budget Car Rental has you covered with an exclusive SUV rental deal! Whether you're planning a family road trip, a weekend getaway, or holiday travel, you can rent an SUV for just \$49/day. Use BCD code B079581 with coupon code MUWZ055 when making your reservation to lock in this unbeatable rate.



Is your contact information up to date with AAUW?

National is moving to a new mass email platform to better serve you! Access your AAUW personal snapshot and update your contact information and preferences.

Frequent users, click [LOG IN](#) as usual. Non-frequent users, click [LOG IN](#), then below the blue log in button, click FORGOT PASSWORD. Enter your email address and click RESET YOUR PASSWORD to receive and confirm a new password to access your Personal Snapshot. Need help? Email connect@aauw.org and enter LOG IN HELP in the subject line.

THE AAUW PROGRAM

LET'S TALK FIVE-STAR!

The AAUW Five Star Program is designed to help branches like ours align with AAUW's strategic priorities and advance our mission of achieving gender equity for women and girls. By participating in this program, our branch contributes to a strong network of advocates, elevating both our local impact and our collective efforts nationwide.

Turlock/Modesto branch achieved Five-Star status for the first time this year, and we couldn't be more proud! Keep up the amazing work, we are a team!

October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage

Webinars & Events

AAUW California Webinar – Harnessing the Power of AI.

Saturday, November 1, 2025, 10–11:30 am. Register [HERE](#)

AAUW Silicon Valley Branch Program on Higher Education at Risk

- And How You Can Help Protect It – featuring Meghan Kissell, AAUW Senior Director of Policy.
Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 4–5 pm. SAVE THE DATE – registration link coming soon.

AAUW California School Board Project Half Day Symposium

- Saturday, January 31, 2026, 9 am–12 noon, via Zoom. SAVE THE DATE – registration link coming soon.

Public Policy

Proposition 50

Check out the October 2025 issue of [Public Policy News](#) for Three Steps to Take Action in October – Focus: All About Proposition 50. The issue includes two articles for branch newsletters: “Investing in Our Democratic Future: Non-Partisan Voter Education Around Prop 50” (first sent to branch leaders 9/11/2025), and “School Boards – The Overlooked Frontline of Democracy”.

Check out the GOTV/Proposition 50 resources

A comprehensive toolkit with over 25 resources to support GOTV efforts. You can find the resources [HERE](#) or on the AAUW California home page ([HERE](#)).

Join No Kings Day (Oct 18)

Across the country, AAUW members are rallying for education, economic opportunity, civil rights, and a healthy democracy. [Click here for AAUW’s toolkit and find an event near you.](#)

Fight disinformation-driven voter suppression.

America First Legal Foundation is pressuring the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to adopt a tactic built on disinformation that would undermine voter registration and disenfranchise women, students, people of color, and low-income and rural voters. [Submit your comment to the EAC to reject these barriers and protect fair elections.](#)

October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage

The Reason and History Behind the Scholarship Fundraiser

AAUW has a proud history of granting scholarships to girls and women. Turlock/Modesto Branch traditionally raises money for three levels of learning. We contribute to AAUW national endowments that fund graduate level research as well as community action grants. Secondly, we offer \$1,000 scholarships to local girls in their senior year of high school. The schools include Turlock High, Pittman High, Modesto High, Enochs High, and Ceres High School. There's more! Started in California, in 1998, Tech Trek offers seventh grade girls week-long STEM summer camps held on university campuses. Most years we are able to send six girls to CSU Fresno. This camp, at \$1,000 per student, is an eye-opening and hugely affirming experience for the girls who attend. We are very proud to be able to offer Tech Trek to junior high girls, who come recommended by their math and science teachers. The fundraiser on Nov. 2 will raise the money needed to meet our scholarship goals. Each of us has a part to play in this. Ticket sales generally cover the costs of the event. Money raised by the silent auction and Fund-a-Need donations fulfill the scholarships. Please encourage attendance among your family and friends. Plan your donation!

If you need more tickets, or have any questions, please contact me. In addition to donating items for the silent auction, we welcome baskets - empty or filled- that we may use. Please drop them off at Bjorg's house sometime between Oct. 5-18.



Respectfully,
Valerie Doherty, AAUW Funds VP
209-765-7196
valeried@charter.net



October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage



President's Message

This month we launch our first program of the year. Join us via Zoom on **Thursday, Oct 16 at 6 p.m.** as we present our Teen Mental Health Webinar. (see flyer in this issue) Invite your friends, and any teens that you know to attend. Heather Friedberg of our Program Committee will be the host and one of our presenters. It's going to be very enlightening. See you online!

On **Sunday, Nov 2 at 5-7:30 p.m.** this year's Scholarship Fundraiser will inspire. Remember our branch only does this one fundraiser a year. If the needed funds are not raised, then we must cut back on our commitments to local and national impact. You should all be inviting friends, family and colleagues to purchase tickets for this fun event that provides the funding for our 2026 high school scholarships, 2026 Tech Trek campers, and branch contributions to AAUW Fellowships & Grants. Perhaps ask another branch member to split a table and you each fill five seats or if you're motivated, purchase an entire table and fill ten seats. Come visit with friends, introduce folks to the wonderful work of AAUW, hear from some past scholarship recipients and Tech Trek campers, and bid on a magnificent range of silent auction items. Let's have some fun!

Lastly, I take comfort from the fact that AAUW recognizes the importance of economic equity. I encourage you all to take a look at the Webinar series available on AAUW's website: Start Smart for the new employee; Work Smart for the mid-career employee and Money Smart for all of us on how to manage and plan for our futures. 190,000 women have taken advantage of these powerful tools. Pass the word on to the younger women in your life who could benefit from the information. Be proud that AAUW has long recognized this problem and has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of all working women and the lives of the families that depend upon them.

- **Nancy Turner**, AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch President

Next board meeting is **Monday, November 3 at 4:45 pm** at Tacqueria El Compadre in Modesto. Board meetings are open to all members. Please come join us.



October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage

Branch Interest Groups

• Book Club (Turlock)

- Group meets the second Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m.
- Call the August/Sept host Sue Baldwin @ 209-535-0954 for questions.
- Upcoming reading **Oct 13** *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead; Host – Mary Allen
- **Next reading → Nov 10** *Animal Farm* by George Orwell; Host – Marilyn Brunton

• Book Club (Modesto)

- Group meets the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m.
- Call Fran Ewald @ 209-409-2208 for questions.
- Upcoming reading **Oct 16** *All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot; Hostess – Elizabeth Tyler
- **Next reading → Nov 25** *Ambition* by Natalie Keller Reinert; Hostess Carol Anderson

• Bridge

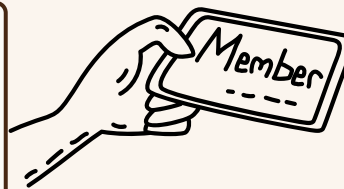
- Meets at 1 o'clock on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at the home of a hosting member.
- If interested, call Marilyn Brunton 209-648-6046 or Nedra Voorhees 209-613-2521.

• Game Night

- **Next gathering → Oct 11** at 7 p.m., dates/hosts vary monthly based on availability
- Oct **Host:** Valerie; Oct **Location:** 1420 N Quincy Rd., Turlock CA
- Questions: Valerie Doherty 209-765-7196 or valeried@charter.net

Membership Renewal Information

- Follow link → How to self-renew for existing members
- [INFO HERE](#) (link)
- Did you know it pays to be a member? ▼
 - [Discounts & Perks!](#) (link)



Your Feedback Matters ♥

We value your input!
Email or text Angelica Contreras with questions or comments regarding your branch newsletter
@ 209-338-4176 or
angelica.slater@outlook.com



October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage

Websites & Networking

BRANCH WEBSITE: [INFO HERE](#)

FACEBOOK: [INFO HERE](#)

STATE WEBSITE: [INFO HERE](#)

NATIONAL WEBSITE: [INFO HERE](#)

NATIONAL FACEBOOK: [INFO HERE](#)

AAUW CA FACEBOOK: [INFO HERE](#)

AAUW CA INSTAGRAM: [INFO HERE](#)

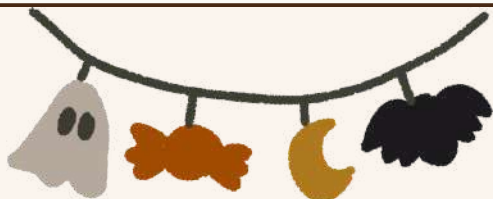
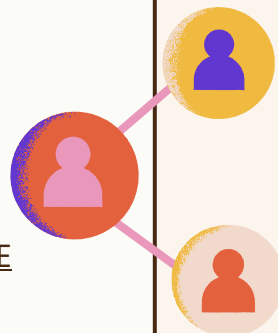
NATIONAL INSTAGRAM: [INFO HERE](#)

PUBLIC POLICY: [INFO HERE](#)

AAUW NEWS & INSIGHTS: [INFO HERE](#)

AAUW TAKE ACTION: [INFO HERE](#)

(double click → link to website)



October AAUW Online Events

- **AAUW Work Smart: Refresher:** Oct. 8th 2025
- **AAUW Start Smart:** Oct. 15th 2025
- **Lobby Corps Virtual Training:** Oct. 16th 2025
- **AAUW Money Smart: Smart Finances:** Oct. 23rd 2025
- Follow link for more information/registration
<https://my.aauw.org/eventcalendar/directory>
 - All events are **free** and hosted **online!**

Invite a Member

- Become a member and connect through our website, plus enjoy special members-only discounts, e-newsletters, webinars, calls to action and more.
- National Membership Dues: \$74/annual
- California Dues: \$30/annual
- AAUW Turlock/Modesto Dues: \$16/annual
- Total Dues = \$120/annually
 - <https://www.aauw.org/resource/s/member/why-join/>
 - NATIONAL DUES FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE



Sign Up

October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage



Upcoming AAUW Events

- **AAUW Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid AAUW Start Smart:** Nov. 5th 2025
- **AAUW Start Smart:** Nov. 13th 2025
- **AAUW Money Smart: Smart Future:** Nov. 18th 2025
- **2025 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Award:** Nov. 20th 2025
- Follow link for more information/registration
<https://my.aauw.org/eventcalendar/directory>
 - All events are **free** and hosted **online!**

October Observances & Holidays

Breast Cancer Awareness Month 

World Mental Health Day: Oct 10 

World Teachers' Day: Oct 5 

Halloween: Oct 31 

Breast Cancer Awareness

- **Survivorship**
 - Breast cancer survivors need support far beyond the end of treatment. Find the support you need with these free resources.
- **Healthy Living**
 - Adopting a healthy lifestyle can help lower your risk of breast cancer. Access our free healthy living cookbooks and resources.
- **Early Detection**
 - The early detection of breast cancer saves lives. Learn how to practice early detection with our free step-by-step resources.

Free resources for everyone, no matter where you are in your journey. Brought to you by the National Breast Cancer Foundation, INC. (Double click subtitles → link)



Breast Cancer Awareness Month Resources: Free Guides on Survivorship, Healthy Living & Early Detection - NBCF. National Breast Cancer Foundation. (2025, September 23).

<https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/bcam-resources/#survivorship>

October 2025 AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch

The Montage



Are you in the first few years of your career or mid-career and ready to take control of your financial future? The AAUW Level Up: Salary Negotiation Program is designed to give you the tools, skills, and confidence to secure fair compensation and advance your career.

Through this program, you'll gain access to:

- **Salary Negotiation Training** with AAUW's evidence-based Work Smart curriculum
- **Coaching & One-on-One Support** to reinforce skills and overcome barriers
- **Practical Sessions** like resume writing, financial literacy, and career growth planning
- Peer Networking & Community to build connections and stay motivated
- **\$250 Stipend** to support your job search expenses, such as childcare and transportation

This program, made possible with support from The Coca-Cola Foundation, is tailored for recent graduates and early to mid-career professionals who are job hunting, recently employed, or planning a career change. Please note that to participate in this program, you must be looking for a new job or seeking a raise or a promotion.

[Don't just accept an offer — negotiate with confidence \(link\)](#)

APPLY NOW

Best,
Deborah McCall, AAUW
Senior Program Manager



* Click "APPLY NOW" → link



Empowering Women Since 1881
Turlock/Modesto Branch

All ages welcome!

Cohosts:

Enochs High School HOSA

Topics Discussed

Current Teen Mental Health
Challenges and Statistics
Strategies and Mindfulness

Open Discussion

Grab your favorite
snack, wear your
comfiest clothes and
let's talk!

TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

Webinar

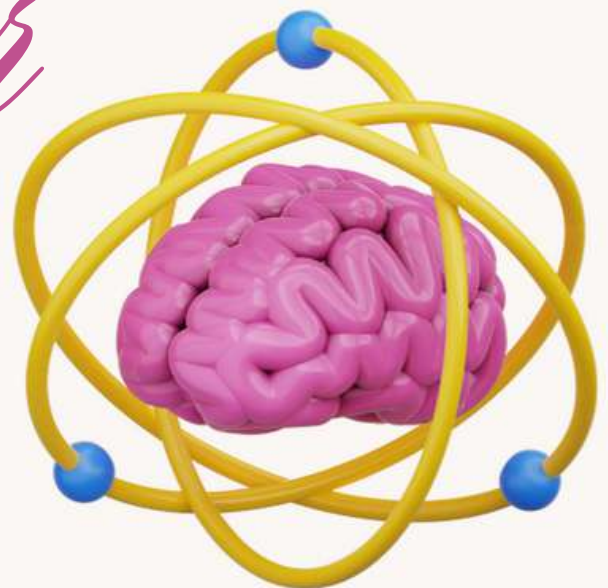
October 16, 2025

6p.m. to 7:30p.m.

Scan QR to join Zoom
or enter

Meeting ID:
885 3487 6936

Passcode:
2289



**American Association
Of University Women**
Turlock/Modesto Branch

**Sunday
November 2nd
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

*For more information call
Valerie 209-765-7196*

The Annual
Scholarship Fundraiser
Dinner and Silent Auction

at
Assyrian American Civic Club
2618 N. Golden State Blvd.
Turlock

*All Proceeds go towards
local scholarships,
STEM camps and
graduate fellowships*

*Tickets: \$80
Table for 10: \$800*



Linking together for our mission.

