

# **Branch Lines**

SEPTEMBER 2017 American Association of University Women



## Celebrating Fifty Years! 1967-2017

**Kick-Off Brunch** 

Wednesday, September 20, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sierra Pines, 7600 Whistlestop Way, Sun City Roseville Celebratory Door Prizes

Hear nationally acclaimed journalist **Michelle Carter** talk about her experiences in Russia during the "Bubble of Freedom" in the 1990's, the pre-Putin era. *From Under the Russian Snow* is a searing personal memoir of her year in Russia as a U.S. appointed Journalist-in-Residence when she attempted to "midwife" Russian journalists through the birth of a free press after the fall of the Soviet Union, working her way across 11 time zones in some of Russia's more primitive sectors.

Michelle was our speaker for the first Kick-Off program in 2011, when she told of her experience in a male dominated profession and her hopes of writing this memoir. She is also:

- \* Co-author of the 1993 publication *Children of Chernobyl: Raising Hope From the Ashes* and chair of The Children of Chernobyl Project of Northern California, which raised over \$500,000 worth of chemotherapy drugs and two tons of medical supplies for hospitals in Belarus, Minsk.
- \* A 19th California Assembly District Woman of the Year.
- \* Former staff member and then managing editor of the San Mateo Times.
- \* Retired Professor of Journalism at Notre Dame de Namur college in Belmont
- \* An AAUW Member of the San Carlos Branch.

Michelle's book can be pre-ordered in paperback from Amazon or Barnes and Noble but will also be available for purchase at the Kick-Off. Guests will have an opportunity to ask the author questions and have books signed at the Kick-Off.

Menu: Quiche, muffins, fruit, mimosas, and orange juice — Cost \$12 Make your check out to AAUW and send to Barbara Fraivillig.

## **Reservation Deadline: September 10th**

\* New 2017-2018 Branch Handbook will be available at the Kick-Off.

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#### **BRANCH LINES**

## President's Message & Board Meeting Highlights By Kathy Novotny

## **Celebrating Our Fiftieth Year!**

The AAUW Roseville-South Placer Board for 2017-2018 held our initial Board Meeting on August 9th. I was impressed by the participation of the members of the board; there were great ideas and productive comments that showed their level of enthusiasm for the coming year.

Our first order of business was the review and discussion, led by the VP of Finance Maria Actis, of the proposed budget for this fiscal year. The Budget Committee, Maria Actis, Sue Cofer, Kathy Kort, Kathy Novotny and Kate Tiongson, proposal was approved and will be published in the Branch Handbook.

Sue Cofer and Kate Tiongson, Co-VP's of Programs, presented their proposals for the coming year. Sue and Kate have planned a calendar of programs that will inform and inspire our membership throughout the year. The proposed schedule of programs was approved by the board.



2017-2018 Branch President Kathy Novotny

After adjourning the Board Meeting, the board spent a few hours planning our areas of focus for this year:

- 1. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Roseville-South Placer branch
- 2. Member engagement
- 3. Advocacy

The board members proposed so many ideas on how to implement each of these focus areas that they need to be prioritized at the next board meeting to identify the proposals that will be included in our final plans.

I look forward to seeing you at the September 20th Kick-Off meeting. The Program team has planned an appetizing brunch menu to complement our agenda. Not only will we be honoring the founding members of the branch and celebrating our 50th anniversary, our keynote speaker, Michelle Carter, will share her sometimes heart wrenching and at times humorous experiences as the U.S. Journalist in Residence in Russia in1995. The Soviet Union had dissolved, and Russians were then learning the meaning of "free press" and newspaper production using computers as they opened themselves to the rest of the world as America's friend. Her struggle to become a managing editor of the *San Mateo Times* in a journalistic world dominated by men and her own personal loss of her husband during this year in Russia are a testament to what a determined woman can accomplish. Don't miss Michelle's inspiring presentation. There will be time for questions and book signing.

Congratulations to our Sierra College Grads—Welcome New Scholarship Recipients By Betty Manning, Sierra College Scholarships Chair

# Congratulations

## Our three Sierra College students graduated this spring/summer and are moving forward with their education plans.

Carisa Lolmaugh moved to Portland, Oregon soon after graduation in May. She says that the Northwest is where she thrives and Portland is her favorite city! Her plan is to take a few more courses at Portland Community College and then transfer to the University of Washington, Seattle. She is most grateful for AAUW's scholarship support.

<u>Melissa Wenzel</u> graduated in May and will take a break for a year before finishing her education. Melissa spoke at the June Installation and moved the audience with her personal tale of life struggle and the great help the AAUW scholarship provided, not only financially but emotionally to encourage her to go back to school and earn a degree.

**Micheal Wilson** says that the AAUW Scholarship changed her life! She graduated from Sierra College with a degree in communications and will continue at CSUS in the fall, majoring in communications. AAUW's scholarship gave her confidence and pride, allowing her to reduce her financial stress and help her to provide for her daughter. Her extended family began to rally around her and now provides her more emotional support. She says:

"Thank you, ladies, for your inspiration. You have motivated me and given me hope."

#### AAUW wishes these remarkable women well as they continue their education.

In April, Louise Sandoval, Scholarship Committee Member, Susan Hall and Sue Orvis met and interviewed Sierra College students for our three scholarships available this fall. Our new scholarship recipients then came to a luncheon in their honor on July 21st at the Timbers Restaurant in Sun City Roseville. They are:

<u>Sheri Courville</u> - Sheri plans on graduating from Sierra College in the spring of 2018 with an AA in Philosophy. She then plans to transfer to CSUS to pursue her Bachelor's Degree in Intercultural Studies with a minor in children's studies. With her children grown, she says that the AAUW Scholarship will allow her to maintain her daily basic needs and focus on her studies. Starting next month, she will be sitting on the Placer County Consumer Council, which is made up of clients from the Adult System of Care. On this panel, she will be discussing County Mental Health & Substance use services, policies and programs. Sheri feels this is an opportunity for her to give input on what improvements she feels are needed to the existing services offered.

<u>Tonya Hart</u> - Tonya says that she attempted to go to college 20+ years ago but it didn't work out. Now, divorced after 21 years of marriage, having raised two "amazing" daughters and recovering from a serious illness, she's ready to move forward with her education. She was told not to set her goals too high and to possibly take an art class and her journey hasn't been easy. However, she's proven her doubters wrong and will graduate in the spring of 2018 with an AA-T for Psychology and an AA in Administration of Justice! From here, she hopes to be accepted into Edinburgh University in Scotland for her Bachelor's.....a dream that is becoming a reality! She feels that she's a role model for her daughters and nieces.....that it is never too late to get a college education. Tonya thanks the AAUW for believing in her!

Continued —->

#### Welcome to New Sierra College Women's Scholarship Recipients

#### Continued: New Women Scholarship Recipients:

**Pham Thi Kim Dung**- Pham, her husband and two children are immigrants from Viet Nam and absolute role models of how immigrants with perseverance and motivation can become successful! Neither of them spoke English when they arrived and Pham is now majoring in Accounting at Sierra College with the goal of graduating in the Fall of 2018! She plans to attend CSUS after graduating and will major in business/accounting, with the hope of helping others when she graduates. The AAUW Scholarship has reduced her financial burden, allowed her to focus on her education and pursue her dreams. She says: "This is the hope and the belief that this world still has hands to grasp the hand." She would like to thank the AAUW for bringing hope and generosity to women like her, who already have the responsibilities of motherhood, wife and daughter in the family. She has been inspired to help others and to give back to the community and hopes that one day she will be able to help others to get over their difficulties like the AAUW has helped her.



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## Tech Trek Camp Visitation Day A Done Deal By Kim Lillard

2017 Campers and Counselors from left to right



Feisah Teope, Yuliana Quijas, Hannah Treehan, Pearl Dohan and Anjali Desai (former Branch campers and now counselors), Mackenzie Culler, Allisyn Toth, Ramneek Kaur



The 2017 Camp Visitation Day was a rousing success, with more visitors attending the camp than ever have before. Roseville-South Placer added to that number by seven, including Branch members Lois Adams, Noreen Briggs, Patti Kingston, Kathy Kort, Kim Lillard, Dotti May, and Viktoria Peterson to check things out.



Noreen Briggs and Dotti May

Kathy Kort and Noreen watching a dissection

Morning classes offered at camp this year included Anatomy, Environmental Engineering, Genetics, 3-D Math, plus a brand new class titled Cyber Security. Afternoons were spent at self-defense, scientific experiments, audio engineering at The Mondavi Center, and many other activities. Among the various evening activities, one stood out in particular: a chance to meet professional women in a roundhouse event. Girls were able to interact with a professor of plant pathology, a transportation engineer, a CSI archaeologist, a farmer, a forensic scientist, a veterinarian, an Intel software engineer, an infectious diseases physician, SMUD's director of accounting, and a winemaker. The girls had hundreds of questions and received answers from women who know what it takes to pursue career in these STEM fields.



That Dissection!

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## Tech Trek Camp Visitation Day



Campers interviewing STEM Women

This year, we were fortunate to have two of our former Trekkers, Anjali Desai and Pearl Doan, as Junior Camp Counselors. These are former Trekkers, now in high school, hand-picked by the Camp Directors to serve as assistants to the morning class instructors and mentors to the current campers. Thanks go to the girls for continuing to represent our Branch at Tech Trek camp.

Although our esteemed Branch member Lois Adams has been involved with Tech Trek since its inception in 1998, she had never been able to attend a Camp Visitation Day until this year. We were honored to have her experience first-hand the fruits of all her labors over the years. Thank you, Lois!

Keep watching future *Branch Lines* for a chance to attend an in-depth look at our Tech Trek scholars and the achievements they engage in throughout the Tech Trek Camp week. If you have donated your time or funds in the past, or if you would like to volunteer to be a more active participant in our STEM programs, you won't want to miss this coming event. For more information on Tech Trek or the proposed STEM program expansion, please contact Kim Lillard.

Your donations to the Branch changes young women's lives as they see other young girls like them in STEM programs at Tech Trek. These young women are our future!





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## Public Policy Advocacy is More Important than Ever! From Sue Miller, Branch Public Policy Chair



Almost daily we hear of new challenges to the values we hold dear in AAUW. *Equity for women and girls is threatened in the current partisanpolitical climate!* Issues that we thought to be "settled" now have become front-page news. Access to health care for people at all income levels is threatened as Congress has been unable to act, and the president can take steps to reduce funding through administrative action. Public education as we know it could change substantially if the new administration pursues a voucher system or other alternatives to traditional public schools.

Another of the "settled" issues now at risk is Title IX, the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This vital law affects all areas of education, including recruitment, admissions and housing, pregnant and parenting students; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); sexual harassment and assault, and athletics. It requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices, adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination and implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee discrimination complaints. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and the Department of Education are "questioning" whether to keep these Title XI protections in place. Fortunately there is a current bill in the CA Legislature that would keep these protections in CA law if it passes and is signed by the governor. You'll likely see an Action Alert soon on this one.

AAUW's Public Policy Program underscores AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research and speaks to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns. The publication of AAUW's most recent research, *Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans,* shows that increasingly students are leaving college with debt that they will have difficulty repaying. The gender pay gap for college graduates is one major factor that contributes to a substantial loan repayment gap between men and women following graduation. Secretary DeVos and her staff are rewriting or rolling back many regulations that are in place to protect student borrowers.

We can work at the branch level to better understand these and other issues, and ways to take appropriate action as needed. Establishing ongoing communications with our elected legislators in both California and Congress would enable us to be more effective advocates when issues of concern to AAUW arise.

I invite anyone interested in a Public Policy Interest Group to contact me and I'll set up a meeting. Remember, active citizens *can* influence the legislative and regulatory process!

Sue Miller

## AAUW RSP Smart eGals Interest Group

## Have questions about your smart phone or tablet, lap top, or the apps on them?

The newest Branch interest group, **Smart eGals**, will gather to share information about tech devices such as iPhones, Androids, e-tablets, and laptops. The group will also provide a forum for answering questions about apps such as Facebook, Twitter, and more.

All levels of Techies are invited! Contribute your own tips and learn something new. The interest group is in its formative stage.

The group is now being chaired by new member **Janet Dixon**. She has degrees in and a wide range of knowledge about information technology. She volunteered to chair the group when Tasha Standridge resigned as chair because of work and educational commitments.

Janet is excited about developing this new interest group and finding ways to make it work for interested members. If you have ideas for getting this group started, contact Janet by phone or email. Janet hopes to have more plans in place starting next month.

## **Use Amazon Smile and Help our Branch**

## An easy way to help the branch!

So many members order from Amazon, some even using Amazon prime. Now there is a way to buy your usual items and let Amazon give back to our non-profit charitable funds.



#### When you are ready to place an Amazon order:

Find the "Select a charity" space and type in AAUW Roseville South Placer.

Then click the select button. Now you are on Amazon Smile. You have just entered Amazon through a different portal. Shop and place your order in the usual way, and Amazon takes care of the rest, giving back one-half a percent to our branch--not a lot, but every few dollars help, and you have no extra charges. You already have your credit card and personal information on file and secured with them, so you are not exposing any information to a third party. If you are an Amazon Prime user, the process works the same way.

If you are not an Amazon user but would like to be, you will be asked to set up an account. Amazon walks you through the process. If you are a regular Amazon buyer, you already know the procedures. Eventually, the branch hopes to have a similar connection with other businesses that will work the same way. Keep shopping and help our worthy causes!





## Interest Group Meetings in September--Open to all members

#### Wednesday Evening Book Group September 6, at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting at the Lincoln home of Carolyn Garfein Rosemarie La Rocca reviews: <u>The Last Painting of Sara De Vos</u> by Dominic Smith Please RSVP to Carolyn if you plan to attend. October book: <u>Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of</u> <u>the Lusitania</u> by Erik Larsen Further information: Contact Pat Morgan.

#### Mah Jongg

#### Thursday, September 7 and 21, at 1:00 p.m Group plays twice monthly in members' homes on first and third Thursdays. Our group is using the 2017-18 card. Players will be contacted by Coordinator Joyce Wade. Or RSVP to Joyce by phone or email if attending. Newcomers are welcome at the teaching table.

#### Duplicate Bridge Friday, September 8, at 1:00 p.m.

Sandi Roullier in Lincoln will be our hostess. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. If you are interested in subbing or joining this group, please contact Sandi Roullier.

#### Great Decisions Friday, September 8, at 10:00 a.m.

Our group meets on the second Friday of the month Raley's Event Center, 1915 Douglas Blvd, Roseville Topic: "Nuclear Security" (Timely) DVD shown. Open forum. Bring opinions. No host lunch afterwards. Further information: Contact Elsie Gaura.



#### Women of the World Monday, September 11, at 10 a.m.

Raley's Event Center, 39 Lincoln, Ave., Lincoln Joan Mackey reviews "Daring to Drive" by Manal al-Sharif. No driving for women In Saudi Arabia. More information: Contact Joan Mackey.

#### Hand and Foot Card Game Tuesday, September 12, at 1:00 p.m. Group meets on the second Tuesday monthly

at the Granite Bay home of Darlene Thomas, For information about our group, contact Darlene.

#### Casual Gardeners Wednesday, September 13

We're visiting Lake's Nursery for a guided tour at 10:00. The nursery is at 8435 Crater Hill Rd., Newcastle 95658 530-885-1027 Meet at the Rocklin Green Acres at 5436 Crossings Drive at 9:30 AM. We will go to lunch following the tour. Please RSVP to Karen Haggard. Diane Madden is our new contact person.

#### Social Bridge Wednesday, September 13, at 1:00 p.m. Group meets monthly on the second Wednesday. Questions & RSVP to Leslie McNeill.



## **September Interest Group Meetings -- Open to All Members**

#### **Movies on Monday**

Plans are being made for our new year of Movies on Monday, but we will not meet in September. Hope to see you all at the Kick-Off. **On October 16,** we'll be meeting at the Roseville home of Adele Tarantino. Our film will be "Adams Rib" with Spencer Tracy and Audrey Hepburn. Details will be in the October Branch Lines. Hope to see you then! More information: Darlene Thomas or Sue Cofer

#### Tuesday Book Group September 19, at 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Church, 6365 Douglas Blvd., Granite Bay Bring books to share. Junia reviews: <u>Live Right and Find Happiness</u> By Dave Barry October book: <u>Without You There is No Us</u> by Suki Kim Questions: Contact Patricia Glover.

#### Wednesday Book Group

September book group meeting has been cancelled due to the fact that our Kick-Off meeting has been scheduled at the same time. We will review <u>Life Drawings</u> by Robin Black in October. We will be choosing our books for the next year on **August 31st at 10:30 at Bev McLaggan's home.** Questions: Contact Nancy Taylor.

#### Couples Dining Saturday, September 23, at 6:00 p.m.

The Couples Dining Out Group is reinventing itself. For now, we will continue to meet once every other month but may change to monthly in the future. In addition, most of our meetings will be at restaurants. Our first fall dinner will be at the Sizzle Mongolian Barbecue on Sunset Blvd. in Rocklin on Saturday, September 23 at 6 pm. If you want to join us, please RSVP to be part of the group. Emails will come to you with announcements. There will not be total regularity in terms of days and times or types of food. We may do lunch occasionally or week nights. It depends on the type of venue. Look for emails with a subject line of AAUW Couples Dining Out and see DINO (Dining IN and Out) greet you inside. Bon Appetit! Karen Anderson,

#### Mexican Train Monday, September 25, at 1:00 p.m. The train is running again and will arrive at the Roseville home of Adele Tarantino, If you plan to attend our game, please

RSVP by September 20. REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR NICKELS.

#### Women's Gourmet Group Monday, September 25

Women's Gourmet will be held at the home of Cindy Hays and hosted by Jeri DiFiore. We will be sending out the menu and requesting rsvps in September. Questions may be directed to Karen Allen.

#### Scrabble Group Tuesday, September 26, at 1:00 p.m.

Scrabble meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. and lasts approximately 2 hours. Need volunteer to host for September but the group will definitely meet. Please contact Sandy Haley.

#### New Member Group Saturday, September 30

Save the date for the new member luncheon that will be held on Saturday, September 30, at Wise Villa Winery, Lincoln. New members will be receiving an invitation with more information.

#### Welcome Leslie

We welcome Leslie McNeill as our new Interest Group Coordinator. Her phone number has changed recently but her email remains the same. Updated contact information will be in the 2017-2018 Branch Handbook which will be available soon. Leslie welcomes calls from our interest group leaders.



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**BRANCH LINES** 



September Neighborhood Groups Events Schelly Jensen, Groups Coordinator



### Granite Bay/Loomis/Newcastle/E. Roseville/

**Orangevale:** Our group will commence our lunches on the 3rd Friday, September the 15th, at 12:30. The restaurant will be announced to members in an email. We would welcome new members. For more info about our group, contact **Sally Altman**.

**<u>Rocklin/Springfield</u>:** Plan ahead! Two September dates for your calendar. Sept. 20 Branch Kickoff and Sept. 28 Rocklin Neighborhood Group Lunch. Group members will be contacted early in September with more information. For more information about the group, contact **Jerri Yeager**.

#### Neighborhood Group Leaders

(They welcome your questions.)

Granite Bay/Loomis/Newcastle/E. Roseville & Orangevale: Sally Altman Rocklin/Springfield: Jerri Yeager SCR Villages 1-8 + Northwest Roseville: Connie Frank SCR Villages 9-13 + Southwest Roseville: Sandy Haley

## SCR Villages 1-8 + Northwest Roseville

Our group will attend the Branch Kick-Off on Wednesday morning, **September 20**. Be sure to get your reservation/checks in by September 10. For complete details, see the front page of this issue of Branch Lines.

SCR Villages 9-13 and Southwest Roseville:

On **Thursday, September 7, at 9:00 a.m**., the group will meet for breakfast at the Granite Rock Grill, 5140 Pacific St., Rocklin, CA. (Take Hwy. 80 to Exit #108 Rocklin Rd.. Turn left on Rocklin Rd.. Turn right on Pacific St.. Restaurant is on your left; u-turn required.) Please RSVP to Sandy Haley.

For further information about our groups, Contact Coordinator Schelly Jensen.





## **KUDOS TO**



Kudos to **Sandra Barnikel**, whose work you never see directly. After serving as Program Co-VP, Sandra turned her talents to a job that continues all year and is one of the most valuable to the Branch: every check sent to the Branch--whether for membership, reservations, donations, etc.,--is deposited in the bank by Sandra. It is a painstaking task demanding attention to detail and record keeping. **Sandra, we are most grateful for your continued work as Treasurer--you are indeed a treasure to the Branch.** 

#### **BRANCH LINES**

## **Board Meeting Notice**

Board Meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month at the Raley's Conference Room.

#### The next Board meeting will be on September 13, 10:00 a.m. Location to be announced.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Please call President Kathy Novotny with your discussion item a week before the meeting so you can be placed on the agenda. Thank you.

Misplaced your copy of Branch Lines? No problem! Contact Editor for a re-send. OR: The current issue of Branch Lines can be found on our Website. Check it out.

## AAUW ROSEVILLE-SOUTH PLACER BRANCH LINES

Adele Tarantino, Editor Gini Christiansen, Distributor



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

## Visit AAUW Media Sites

Hold CTRL on keyboard, then click on addresses below to visit our Branch Website and Facebook page, as well as State and National sites, for a wealth of information about AAUW events present, past, and future—also to access links to articles of concern for today's women.

http://rosevillesouthplacer-ca.aauw.net/

http://www.aauw.org/

http://www.aauw-ca.org/



http://www.facebook.com/aauwrsp/

To access the Members Only section on our Branch Website, you need to use the branch password.

Branch Lines Deadline: 15th of the month

### NOTE:

Branch Lines may be printed out in color <u>or</u> in black-and-white. Your printer will most likely be set for color. You may click on Properties or Preferences and change the setting to black-and-white or grayscale.

It is suggested that you print out the newsletter now so you will have it handy for future reference.

