



**The Branch** 

November 2019

# November Branch Meeting Sat. November 2 Red Lion Hotel Dining Room 1929 4th Street, Eureka

9:30 AM registration & social, 10:00 AM brunch buffet & meeting Brunch menu is fluffy pancakes with warm maple syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, seasonal fruit, juice, coffee, tea. \$20 for brunch, \$8 for beverage only

## What's New at the HSU Library?

Libraries have gone from Collections to Engagement.

The HSU Library is not like the libraries of our childhood. It's interactive, has a flight simulator that flies over the bay to Trinidad, a new Humboldt Room, a cafe, and no one has their finger to their lips shushing us. Join us to listen and see the



changes that HSU students experience envisioned by University Library Dean Cyril Oberlander.

#### As a special treat, GeoBee winner Ethan Alburo from South Bay School will also speak briefly about his experiences

If your caller has not reached you by Tuesday, October 29, please contact Maggie Augustine by phone or email.

It is our Branch policy that if you make a reservation, you will be expected to pay for your meal whether you attend or not.

Our Speaker: Cyril Oberlander, Dean of HSU Library, is an experienced and innovative leader in libraries, committed to and passionate about creating a vibrant learning environment and positively transforming libraries and higher education. His extensive scholarly record includes 23 published articles, 3book chapters, and over 100 presentations at the state, national, and international level, and various inventions. HSU Library Dean since July 2014, he has successfully renovated three floors of the library with new and innovative spaces and services, including; a Center for Teaching and Learning, Special Collections, Scholars Lab, Digital Media Lab, Learning Commons, Collaboration Lab, and launched HSU Press. Previously, he served as the Director of Milne Library at the State University of New York at Geneseo since 2011, and as the Principal Investigator of the Open SUNY Textbook Project, a multi-institutional, \$120,000 grant and library funded open textbook publishing initiative. Prior to that, he served as the Associate Director of Milne Library at SUNY Geneseo and as an internal consultant to the IDS Project, a 75 library cooperative in New York, since 2008. He also served as the Director of Interlibrary Services at the University of Virginia Library from 2005-2008, the Head of Interlibrary Loan at Portland State University from 1996-2005, as well as various roles in Access Services at Portland State University since 1987. Cyril Oberlander is passionate about libraries, connecting people to ideas, and supporting teaching and learning through creative problem-solving, collaboration, and innovation.



### **President's Letter**

The loss of power for 24 hours was a lesson for all of us. I had learned last year from Ellie Gaynor who passed out a list of things we need in an emergency. I had gathered most of those things, thank you Ellie! November 2019 meeting was are you prepared presented by Saroj Gilbert that gave us more information on how to prepare for an emergency. The 24 hours without electricity then

tested our preparedness. We can now fill in the gaps and be prepared for the next emergency.

After 24 hours of isolation, it was great to meet with AAUW Mystery Book Group and discuss our mystery books as well as our survival techniques.

We had a very interesting meeting Saturday October 5. Alex Stillman stepped up and filled in with a great program when our speaker was unable to come. I found her analysis of Eureka's neighborhoods a light bulb moment, it made so much sense about the way neighborhoods are built but it took Alex to distill it for me. Thank you so much Alex for the great program and filling in the last minute. Again, thank you to Jeanne Harris for making the arrangements. Everything ran so smoothly!

I am looking forward to our Holiday Gala and Raffle. I always come home with something I did not know I needed but has come in so handy. Remember this is our Branch's major fundraiser for our reentry scholarship. I hope we will be generous both with donations and supporting the raffle.

Judy Stoffer gave me some old AAUW records. I read over an old newsletter in which the president discussed attracting new/young members. Young women according to this newsletter want something that will empower them and move them forward in their life. I believe that bringing the salary negotiation workshop to Humboldt County will be just the thing to do that.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I wanted to tell you all how grateful I am for both your friendship and your hard work for our Branch.

Mary Lou

### Holiday Gala and Brunch Baywood Country Club December 7, 2019

This is the favorite event for many of us. Members donate lovely gifts and we buy tickets to bid on the items we would like to win. Amidst much hilarity and competition over lucky tables a winner is drawn for each item. The funds we raise will help re-entry women to continue their education at Humboldt State University.

Donations for Auction items may be dropped off at:

Mary Lou Lowry, 1611 I St, Arcata Rose Ann Hurst, 3412 I St. Eureka Maggie Augustine, 3022 S St. Eureka Carol Kinser, 2185 Rohnerville Rd, Fortuna Jan Niclai, 1400 Nursey Way, McKinleyville

It's Time to Plan for the AAUW Women's History Tea in March

AAUW Humboldt Branch Women's History Tea is March 7, 2020. It is the most beautiful and fun meeting of the year. It will arrive before we know it, so now is the time to call for hostesses and assistants.

Location for the tea is the Christ Episcopal Church in Eureka. Tables are decorated and set with table service for 8. An assistant of your choice for table setup and serving makes it easier and more fun. If you don't have an assistant in mind, the Chair will help find one. Additionally, there will be help with transport of the table service between your car and the facility.

I am seeking hostesses and assistants for 8-10 tables. This event provides enjoyment for both hostesses and attendees. So be a hostess and show off your creativity! You will find it very rewarding.



Please contact me by phone 707-786-7019 or e-mail, weaver@sti.net, if you would like to participate. I look forward to hearing from you! Rosemarie Weaver Chair, AAUW March Tea Hostesses



#### 2020 Women's History Tea Honoree Nomination

Each March we celebrate women from the past and present who have made a difference in Humboldt County. If you would like to nominate a recipient of this honor, please complete this nomination form. The Board of Directors will be making a selection by the end of this year. Please nominate a person or persons that you feel should be considered for this honor and why.

Your Name\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to nominate

In what way has this person/group made a positive difference in Humboldt County through her activities, education, occupations, or professions?

Please provide the contact information for your nominee:

EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR NOMINATION TO Branch President Mary Louise Lowry

(Marylouiselowry@gmail.com), or 611 I St, Arcata, CA 95521-5529

Simple Things You Can Do to be Prepared By JoAnn Schuch – Redwood Coast Village

The recent intentional power outage by PG&E gave us all a chance to evaluate











our readiness for an emergency. It was a surprise for many to find out that their Suddenlink "landlines" did not work, or the solar panels on their roofs did not actually provide their houses with power, or even that the batteries in their emergency lighting had gone flat. We live in an area where storms, fire, tsunami, earthquake are all real possibilities. So it only makes sense to take some commonsense precautions to



make sure we are ready next time around. A few simple steps taken now can make sure you and your pets are safe and comfortable when the lights go off.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

When the power goes out, a landline phone from AT&T will still work if you can plug in a simple, old-fashioned phone. Keep a basic plug-in phone on hand if you have an AT&T landline.(top left) Devices like: a Suddenlink landline phone, a cordless phone, or a phone attached to an answering machine will not work, because they all need electricity to run.

During this latest power outage we still had cell phone service, so we could call each other and our families and friends in other areas to tell them we were safe. With a smart phone, you could also make calls, access the internet, and check your email, Facebook, or local news for updates. But even the cell phones slowed down after a while when traffic on the internet increased and that became a less dependable way to communicate. Some of the more remote towers were also without adequate power supplies.

Of course, your cellphone's battery will eventually run out, so it makes sense to get a small portable charger that can be "juiced up" beforehand by plugging them into a power source; they can store that energy for future use. I also have a RAV POWER foldable solar charger that I used to charge my cell phone during the power outage and it worked great – fortunately it was a sunny day. (see above) Another trick is to use your car to charge your cell phone with the appropriate cord for your device.

You can use your car radio to listen to local news. There are also radios available that can run on solar, handcrank, or battery charging that can also serve as cell phone recharging stations. A local company, C Crane, makes some really excellent emergency radio. More info at: https://www.ccrane.com/item/rad\_ccradio\_obs\_sol/1001 03/cc\_solar\_observer\_amfmweather\_windup\_emergency\_ra dio

Radios were a great comfort to people during the most recent outage for news (thank you KHUM and KMUD) and some calming music from 94.1FM (The Lounge) is also comforting to have during an emergency (or just anytime at all).



It is also possible you might need to leave your house in an emergency, so make arrangements with friends now to have some place you can go, and be sure your families and friends have your back-up location information so they can reach you. For example, I have a friend with a house a few blocks away higher up on a hill where I will go to if there is a tsunami threat to my neighborhood. Be sure to have a printed list of all your important contacts – friends, family, and services like medical or insurance – so you can reach those contacts from another location.

#### TRANSPORTATION AND MONEY

Keep your car gassed up by filling up when you gauge says half-full. When the electricity goes off most gas stations cannot run their pumps! Make sure you have an emergency supply of cash on hand – get a few extra dollars out each time you visit an ATM. Save a stash of one- and five-dollar bills. Not only will ATMs not be working in an outage, but credit and debit card processing is likely to be unavailable in any stores that remain open.

#### FOOD, WATER, AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Make sure you have 1 gallon per day on hand for each person and pet, and refresh it regularly. If city water supply or your well pumps might be disrupted, fill your tub with water to use to flush toilets.

Stockpile 3-7 days of any essential medicines for you and your pets. Keep any over-the-counter medicines and first aid supply you might need in an accessible location ready to use or take with you if you need to leave. Folks with more demanding medical conditions should think about other ways to run medical equipment like CPAP machines, a home dialysis, etc. Talk to your doctor/veterinarian about appropriate preparations next time you have an appointment. During this last emergency, one local man got help from the ham radio community – they heard he needed help powering his breathing machine, so they cobbled together a series of marine batteries that got him thorough.

I always have a back-up supply of ground coffee in the house, because for me any emergency will go better if I have a cup of hot coffee (tea works too!). Have nutritious foods that you enjoy and that are long-lasting on hand. Canned soups, tuna, peanut butter and crackers, dried fruits, powdered milk, pasta and most importantly...CHOCOLATE. All you need to do is buy a little extra of these foods when you shop and rotate through them so they don't "age out".

Place containers of water for ice in your freezer to help keep food cold. If your normal water supply is contaminated or unavailable, the melting ice will also supply drinking water. Move the frozen water to the fridge during a power outage - this helps the food stay cold longer. Move milk and fresh meat to the freezer and keep the door closed. The refrigeratorwill keep food cold for about 4 hours if it is unopened. A full freezer will keep the temperature for approximately 48 hours (24 hours if it is half full) if the door remains closed. Another option is to buy a fancy ice chest like a Yeti or RTIC cooler that is designed with additional insulation to keep things cold longer. In any case, plan your meals and don't stand there with the door or lid open!

#### HEAT, LIGHT, AND COOKING

Have some extra batteries on hand in sizes you use. Have a couple of batteryoperated lanterns and/or flashlights around the house and keep them easy to find. You could also get a couple of "glow sticks" to keep in a kitchen drawer and a bedside table. These glow sticks are plastic tubes with a supply of two chemicals in them; when combined, these chemicals produce a safe, cool light. To activate them, you bend the plastic tube, break the inner tube, and mix the chemicals. You can purchase glow sticks at any hardware store. Candles and kerosene lamps are fire hazards, so these other devices are a safer better in an emergency.

God bless the folks with wood stoves when the power goes off. For the rest of us, conserve the heat you have by closing doors to rooms you aren't using, close your windows, close the blinds and curtains at night, and block drafts. Dress warmly, layer your clothes, and wear that warm hat and big sweater, nobody is looking! Remember to drink water and eat food to keep your internal fires burning. I also like to use the little pocket hand warmers when I get really cold. (Image 2 at left) These are sold at sporting goods stores, places like Costco, and online. Open the packet, shake them up and slip them into gloves or apply to the veins on your neck, wrist, or elbow to warm your blood up.

If you have a gas range, you can use matches to light the burners and heat up water to drink or to cook food if the gas lines are still working. That hot water can also go into a hot water bottle. Some gas ovens can also be lit by matches and that can help warm your house up too, as you cook food, but if you do this, remember to make sure you have a working carbon monoxide detector with fresh batteries. You could also cook outside on a camp stove, or a charcoal or propane grill, but never use these devices in a closed space

Generators can power a single appliance like a refrigerator or your whole house. They are fueled by gasoline or propane and need to be set up outdoors and be well-ventilated. They are too complex to report on here, but you can find out more here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKwBBesUKA8

#### TO SUM UP

Have on hand:

- batteries and lanterns
- · matches
- · food
- water
- · medicines
- · warm clothing
- · a radio
- cash
- · a gassed-up car
- pet food and dog and cat carriers
- · and ways to contact the outside world

#### Hang in there Humboldt!

Governor Signs 14 AAUW-Supported Bills Into Law by Magaly Zagal Legislative Advocate for AAUW-CA

The 2018-19 legislative season has come to a close, and by October 13, 2019 Governor Newsom signed 870 bills out of the 1,042 bills that were presented to him. Among the most significant of these were fourteen bills which will



become law due to the advocacy and research support offered by AAUW-CA:

AB 9 - Extends the time for filing harassment and discrimination claims under California's Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) from 2 to 3 years, allowing survivors additional time to seek redress.

AB 51 - Prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to waive any right for a labor code violation as a condition of employment, continued employment or receipt of employment benefits.

AB 59 - Directs county elections officials to consider a vote center location on a public or private university with the intent to increase youth voter turnout.

AB 170 - Closes a gap in the law to ensure that employers do not resort to subcontractor agreements for purposes of avoiding liability for sexual harassment claims.

AB 218 - Increases the civil statute of limitations period for commencement of a sexual assault cause of action. This will give sexual assault survivors sufficient time to access civil remedies.

AB 381 - Ensures that prevention and bystander intervention outreach on dating violence information is made available to incoming students during orientation.

AB 543 - Ensures that all 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students receive a written policy on sexual harassment information during orientation. AAUW's report "Schools Are Still Underreporting Sexual Harassment and Assault" was critical in helping support the legislative analyses for AB 543.

AB 749 - Prohibits the use of "no rehire" clauses in settlement agreements that broadly restrict future employment opportunities for workers settling a sexual harassment or other claims.

AB 809 - Mandates that public postsecondary institutions provide notice to students to ensure that pregnant and student parents are aware of their Title IX rights.

AB 922 - Allows a woman providing human oocytes for research to be compensated for her time, discomfort, and inconvenience in the same manner as other research subjects.

SB 24 - Increases access to reproductive health services for students at public universities and colleges by providing medication abortion at student health centers.

SB 142 - Requires employers to have a written lactation policy and lactation spaces that meet minimum requirements for lactating workers. While existing law requires employers to provide parents with the time and space to express breastmilk, SB 142 places specific guidelines to ensure that parents are sufficiently protected in the workplace.



Tuesday Evening Bridge: The Tuesday evening bridge group is back on. Call Carol Kinser for information about locations and times.

**Historic Choice** 

In June 2019 a helicopter pilot who heads a military command in Guam has said she is humbled by her selection to be the first female leader of the U.S. Naval War College. Rear Admiral Shoshana Chatfield



was named the 57<sup>th</sup> president and called by Navy Secretary Spenser a "historic choice." Spence also noted that "She is the embodiment of the type of warrior-scholar we need now to lead this storied institution as it educates our next generation of leaders."





KEITH D. BORGES, C.P.A.

ANDERSON, LUCAS, SOMERVILLE & BORGES, LLP CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

1338 Main Street (707) 725-4483 • (707) 725-4442 Fortuna, CA 95540 FAX (707) 725-6340 • (707) 725-9749 E-mail: keith@alsb.com Toll Free: 800-794-1643 www.alsb.com

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> > Editor: Shelley Mitchell shelleydmitchell@gmail.com Submissions welcome: deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

Mission. To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Vision. Equity for all. Values. Nonpartisan. Fact-based.

AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

Editor's Note: Last year the board voted to switch the *Branch* to a primarily emailed publication. An email publication looks different than a printed newsletter. It is meant to be viewed on a screen (computer, phone, tablet) and while it is printable, it looks different when it is printed. The best way to print it is to save it as a pdf file and then print that. Please let me know if you have problems viewing or printing it and I will try to work with Constant Contact to resolve them. Shelley

AAUW | PO Box 5116, Eureka, CA 95503

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