



Humboldt Inc. (CA) Branch



## *The Branch*

May 2022  
Vol 72, Issue 8

### **Rebuilding Food for People – A Look at What the Future Holds**

**Date:** May 7, 2022

**Place:** Baywood Golf Course,  
3600 Buttermilk Ln. Arcata, CA

**Time:** 9:30 Registration and social time

10:00 Brunch

10:30 Branch Annual Meeting

10:45 Speaker, Ann Holcomb, Food For People



**Menu:** Full brunch and beverages

**Cost:** \$30.00/Brunch or \$10.00/beverage only

Please note: We request that anyone who attends should be fully vaccinated. Members who attend need to pay at least the minimum, even if they do not wish to eat or drink. The fee also covers rental of facilities, equipment, and service. Thank you for your understanding.

Anne Holcomb has been honored to serve as Executive Director of Food for People since April of 2001 and has more than 40 years of experience in nonprofit administration. Her past assignments have included projects in special education, assistive technology, and development of a continuum of

services for individuals with disabilities who were leaving institutional settings to experience life as part of a community. Inspired by grandparents who raised families during the Depression who often didn't have enough to feed their children, these endeavors were always fueled by an innate curiosity about our social structures and how we can improve outcomes, with a commitment to ensuring that healthy foods are readily accessible to everyone.

Anne moved from Maine to Humboldt County in December of 2000 to be closer to her adult children and growing grandchildren, who range from 11 to 24 years old, and is passionately committed to creating a community in which everyone has an opportunity to grow and thrive with dignity.

At our meeting, Anne will share updates on the rebuild project (which is finally underway!!) and what the future holds for Food for People, especially given the economic challenges so many households are now facing with inflation.

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## **MORE CALLERS NEEDED FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR**

For the past few years, I have had a fantastic caller team of Dorothy Skjonsby, DeAnn Erks, Claire Camozzi and Beatrice Avcollie. Claire and Beatrice cannot continue. I owe them a very big thank you for the good service they rendered for AAUW.

AAUW next year will continue with the caller system while we investigate electronic systems.

So in the interim, please come forth and volunteer to be a caller. A team of more than five would be great. The more callers there are, the merrier it is. In other words, the larger the team, the fewer each caller must contact. That makes it more manageable for the team members.

### **SO PLEASE COME FORTH AND JOIN THE TEAM!!**

Contact information below.

Maggie Augustine  
Reservations Chair



## **President's Message**

Our April 2 in-person meeting was lively and enjoyable. Everyone had a good time connecting and sharing with each other. Our speaker, Jane Hill from the Humboldt Historical Society, was delightful and entertaining. She has a lifetime of accomplishments, one of which is to be great at communicating her enthusiasm for her work and her life. We had a zoom link connected for several members who could not attend in person. They had some good suggestions for how to make this work better which we will be using at the next meeting.

On May 7, we will be having our Branch Annual Meeting at Baywood Golf Course. The speaker will be Anne Holcomb from Food for People, a group that does such important work in our community. During the business part of the meeting, we will vote on the slate of officers after taking nominations from the floor. We will also vote on the Proposed Budget for 2022-2023 and proposed changes to the Branch Bylaws and Standing Rules. Changes include updates, more concise language, and matching the text to how things are done in our Branch. Please check them out in this newsletter and let us know if you have any questions.

As our year comes to a close, I'm thinking of all that we have accomplished under difficult

circumstances. We had a Branch meeting and speaker every month, welcomed new members, completed our Re-entry scholarship process, honored 2 deserving women for Women's History Month, are again sending girls to Tech Trek, and took the step of beginning in-person meetings again. I've learned so much this year about the needs and requirements of our Branch and what needs to be done to keep things going. And of course, that brings on my appreciation of all the hard-working Officers and Board members who do so much, a lot of it behind the scenes. Many thanks to all of them. Because of you, our group is strong and moving forward. Special thanks to Shelley Mitchell for editing and distributing the newsletter each month and to Alex Stillman and Connie Stewart for planning and organizing our speakers. Thanks to everyone who came to the Zoom meetings and kept up our connection with each other. Finally, thanks to every member who has stayed with AAUW and believed in our mission.

Rosemarie Weaver  
AAUW Humboldt Branch President

## Dues Are Due

Dues (\$113) for this upcoming year (2022-2022) are DUE MAY 1, 2022.

The \$113 annual dues includes the increased national dues (it went up \$5.00), as well as the state and our branch dues, which have not increased.

National's new website is not quite ready to handle the direct credit card payments as they had last year, so we will be sending dues notices ourselves via email.

If you wish, please send your dues check now to PO Box 5116, Eureka, CA 95502.

Please note that dues must be received  
before June 15, 2022, to maintain current  
membership and to ensure that your name is  
included in next year's Directory of Members.

Thank you,

Karole Ely, Membership  
Nancy Kay, Treasurer

## Branch News:

### Branch positions and jobs:

Jeanne Harris has taken on the job of obtaining advertising for the directory and newsletters. Gail Freeman has agreed to help her. Thanks Jeanne and Gail.

Thinking ahead, we hope to have the **December Gala** again in person. The Board has been thinking about new formats for this event. If you have ideas and would like to be involved in the planning, or even be in charge, we would love to have your help. Please let me know of your interest.

**The next Board meeting will be held on Zoom on May 14, 2022.** At this meeting, the Board considers proposals for **Community Action Projects**. This is the time to bring up projects you would like to see the Branch support. There is money in the budget for projects, and the Board prioritizes and decides how to spend it. Recent projects have included support for the Children's Author Festival and providing computer tablets for several continuation high school graduates. Helping local schools participate in the National Geographic Geography Bee was also a project in the past until the Bee was discontinued by National Geographic.

We have a new member, Ruth Richards, who is interested in starting a **Mah Jongg interest group**. She is willing to help and teach beginners. Sign up at the May meeting if you would like to participate. You can also email Ruth.



Jean Guthrie is donating a new, unopened, copy of Madeleine Albright's book, **Read My Pins** to raise money for the scholarship fund. Jean told us some interesting facts about Albright's career and accomplishments during our April meeting. You can bid for the book by silent auction at the May meeting. Thank you, Jean!



## Book Groups

### Page Turners

Five of us discussed **Oh William!** by Elizabeth Strout for our April meeting. Most enjoyed it and have read or want to read the other books in the series, **My Name is Lucy Barton** and **Anything is Possible**. We decided to postpone the May meeting because several of us aren't available. We will discuss **A Woman of No Importance** by Sonia Purnell on June 15.

Contact: Rosemarie Weaver,

### Evening Book

Since we've had a loyal group who've been zooming during the pandemic we've voted on a change of our club's "rules". We decided to no longer require that the books be available in paperback. Often it seems that the books we're most excited about are recently published and only available in hardcover or on line. By the time they come out in paperback, most of us have already read them. So, no more paperback requirement!

We decided as a group to continue with zoom for April and May, so we can see what this latest covid variant is going to do. If things settle down, when or if do you want to meet again in person?

Ok, on to Ukrainian authors! I'm apologizing in advance if my summary is as difficult to follow as the literature that was read!

Edith read most of *Your Ad Could Be Placed Here* by Oksana Zabuzhko. She found it difficult and painful to listen to. She couldn't tell if there was any punctuation. I also read a book by Oksana, *Field Work in Ukrainian Sex*. I second that idea that it was difficult to read! The author writes in a stream of consciousness style and while there is some punctuation, a paragraph can go on for pages. My book had no chapters. The tone of the book was very dark. From our discussion, it seems that one of the main themes of Ukrainian literature is their experiences of being conquered by multiple regimes over the centuries. In the last 100 yrs. Poland, Germany, Russian and USSR. One of the telling sentences in this book is that she describes relationships with Ukrainian men

where they're either the victim or the executioner.

Nancy Arroyo (a new member!) read *Everything is Illuminated* by Jonathan Safran Foer. He is an American of Ukrainian descent who goes to Ukraine to find out about the village and persons who saved his great-great grandmother from the Nazis.

Gina read *Mesopotamia* by Serhiy Zhaden. This volume was 9 short stories all set in Kharkiv, about the working class. Again, dark themes and disillusionment. Gina also read *Deaf Republic* by Ilya Kaminsky, an allegorical poem, where a town shows their resistance to an invasion by pretending to be deaf.

Marshelle and Maggie read two books by Andre Kurkov, *Death and the Penguin* and *Penguin Lost*. The main character writes obituaries for the local paper and he begins to question when the deaths (during a Russian invasion) begin to include leading people of the community.

We are looking for suggestions for summer reading.

Chris Stenlund



## **Calling all AAUW adventurers! Grab your compass and join the expedition to AAUWland at the AAUW Annual Event on Saturday, April 30th 9-3 via Zoom.**

We will all be explorers, searching for new routes to connect to AAUW and its mission.

### **To launch the trip, the morning session will:**

- Kick off with inspirational words from Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO, and Lisa Maatz, Senior Adviser, Ohio Citizen Action and former AAUW Policy Rock Star.
- Focus our telescopes on the year's accomplishments.
- Honor our AAUW expedition leaders with the announcement of the Named Gift Honoree, Equity Champion, and Top 10 Branch Fund Contributions.
- Review our advocacy efforts.
- Share important news and updates.
- Hear the inspiring words of the three Speech Trek finalists (throughout the day).
- Listen to the hosts of the breakout sessions pitch their topics.

### **During the afternoon route we will:**

- Be introduced to the accomplished candidates for the 2022-23 board of directors.
- Meet a dancing scientist, Jasmine Sadler, owner and founder, The STEAM Collaborative.
- Honor the three winners of the 2022 Branch Activity of the Year Award and hear about what they did.
- Award a Speech Trek winner.

Along the way, we will wind into unfamiliar territory. Instead of the usual workshops, you will have the chance to venture out and "Choose Your Own Adventure" with a self-guided journey deep into the "topical" jungle of AAUW ideas that you might be interested in talking about.

We will offer multiple Zoom breakout rooms hosted by Trail Guides, members who have offered to host informal conversations on topics they hope you might want to talk about. No agendas. No Powerpoints. No handouts.

We'll just network and share thoughts, stories, experiences, and maybe some debate. There's no set trip itinerary. You will be able to move freely back and forth between breakout rooms to stay and share or take off and find another!  
So, don your pith helmet and register for Adventures in AAUW land!

**The 2022-23 budget and the changes to the bylaws and standing rules will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on May 7. Please review before the meeting.**

**PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023**

<b>Income</b>	
Advertising Income	450
Membership Dues - Branch part only	2,470
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,920</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
AAUW Fund	65
Administrative Expense	200
Branch Courtesies	15
Community Action Projects	1,125
Conferences/Conventions	100
Discretionary Projects	100
Dues Assistance	100
Guest Meals	250
Honorees Award (History Tea)	20
Insurance	370
Membership Handbook	130
Membership Support	50
Newsletter	100
President's gift	70
Spoker Gifts	75
Treasurer	150
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>2,920</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>-</b>

**BYLAWS**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**  
**HUMBOLDT BRANCH, CALIFORNIA**  
Adopted May 5, 2018, Amended May 7, 2022

**ARTICLE VIII. BRANCH AMENDMENTS**

Provisions of these bylaws not governed by the AAUW bylaws may be amended at a branch meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided written notice shall have been sent to the members at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

**ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Section 1. Nominations.**

c. The names of the nominees for elected office shall be published and sent to every member at least 14 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Section 2. Elections.**

a. Elections shall be held at the Branch Annual Meeting.

c. Elections require a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Branch Meeting, provided that a quorum is present as described in Article XIII, Section 6.

**ARTICLE X. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 2. Officers.**

b. One appointed director shall be a membership director.

**Section 4. Duties**

**ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES**

**Section 1. Establishing Committees.**

The president shall establish a Nominating Committee and a Budget Committee and other special committees as needed.

**ARTICLE XII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Section 3. Budget.**

The annual budget shall be approved by the board of directors and published at least 14 days prior to adoption by the membership at the Branch Annual Meeting, provided that a quorum is present as described in Article XIII, Section 6.

**Deleted:** Section 1. Prior Approval.  
All other proposed amendments to the Branch Bylaws shall be sent to the director representing the state governance committee for approval before the call for the branch vote.  
**Section 2. Branch Vote**

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**Deleted:** Mail ballots or electronic voting may be used for elections, provided the number of members voting meets the quorum stated in meetings in Article XIII, Section 6. ...

**Deleted:** and will also serve as a secondary finance officer

**Deleted:** c. All elected officers and board members shall submit annual reports to the president.

**Deleted:** any activities relating

**Deleted:** (Personal budgeted increments) - (income, interest, dividends, and support) to the president for the fiscal year.

**STANDING RULES**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**  
**HUMBOLDT BRANCH, CALIFORNIA**  
 Adopted May 5, 2018, Amended May 7, 2022

**I. Standing Rules**

- A. Standing rules are those that directly affect members of the branch. They need to be reviewed annually by a committee of board members appointed by the president. Standing rules can be amended by:
  - a. A majority vote at the Branch Annual Meeting if 14 days prior notice has been given.
  - b. A two-thirds vote if no notice has been given.
- B. Copies of the Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be given to all Board members at the first Board meeting of the AAUW activity year (July 1 to June 30) by the Bylaws Chair, if appointed, or by the Board President.
- C. Copies of the Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be available to any member and posted on the Branch's website.

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**Deleted:** Board members shall have their documents at their personal files.

**II. Membership**

- D. Dues for each AAUW activity year are due by May 31st. Members still in arrears on July 31st will be dropped from the membership. A \$5.00 fee will be charged to late payers after July 31st.

**Moved down [1]:** A \$5.00 fee will be charged to late payers.

**Moved (insertion) [1]**

**IV. Communications :**

- A. Publications are the newsletter, *The Humboldt Branch*, and the Membership Directory.
- C. The branch webpage can be accessed by the address listed in the Membership Directory.

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**V. Officers**

- C. The names of nominated officers for the election of officers at the Branch Annual Meeting shall be published in the April and May newsletters.

**VI. Finance**

- B. The Budget Committee shall meet in January or February and prepare the annual budget for the year. Any interested member may attend the budget meeting.
- C. The proposed annual budget shall be approved by the Board and published in the April and May newsletters.
- C. Passage requires a majority vote by those members present at the Branch Annual Meeting provided a quorum has been established. Amendments to the budget may be made from the floor by majority vote.

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**Deleted:** of July

**Deleted:** The proposed annual budget shall also be presented to the Board at a Board meeting held prior to the first Branch meeting. It shall be presented to the Branch members in writing in the September Branch newsletter and shall be voted on at the September Board meeting by the members present.

**VII. Scholarships and Awards**

*Standing Rules of AAUW, Humboldt Branch*

- A. The Branch scholarships and awards include the Cal Poly Humboldt Re-entry Women's Scholarships and Susan Freeman Tech Trek Scholarships.

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- IX. Community Action Projects: Community Action Projects (CAP) for the upcoming activity year shall be presented and adopted or rejected at the combined Board meeting held in May.

**Deleted:** 1  
 -19-Community Action Projects (CAP) for the upcoming activity year shall be presented and adopted or rejected at the combined Board meeting held in May. These projects not requesting funds may be approved immediately. Those requesting a budgeted amount may be approved conditionally, with the approval as to funding postponed until the budget committee meets. The conditional shall present to the budget committee any funding requirements for the projects.  
 -20-Community action projects shall increase AAUW's visibility in the community.

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HAVE A GREAT SUMMER EVERYONE.***

The Humboldt Branch of AAUW publishes *The Branch* eight times each year

<http://humboldt-ca.aauw.net>

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Editor:

Shelley Mitchell

Submissions welcome: deadline is the 20<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.

May 29, 1851: A formerly enslaved worker turned abolitionist and women's rights activist, *Sojourner Truth* delivers her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech at the Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio. "And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have



ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man—when I could get it—and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne 13 children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?”

Contemporaneous reports of Truth's speech did not include this slogan, and quoted Truth in standard English. In later years, this slogan was further distorted to “Ain't I a Woman?”, reflecting the false belief that as a formerly enslaved woman, Truth would have had a Southern accent. Truth was, in fact, a New Yorker.