

# The Branch

November 2022

Vol 73, Issue 3

## November Meeting: Cal Poly Humboldt Update

With California's historic \$458 million investment in our polytechnic vision and approval of our polytechnic designation from California State University, Cal Poly Humboldt will add a total 27 new academic and experiential programs by 2029, with 12 launching in 2023.

There is a lot happening and Connie will try her best to update AAUW members and answer all questions.

### Meeting Information

Date: November 5, 2022

Place: Red Lion Hotel, 1929 4<sup>th</sup> St. Eureka, CA

Schedule: 9:30 Registration, Social, Breakfast  
10:20 Announcements, Introductions  
10:30 Speaker, Questions  
Sharing

Cost: \$24.00 with food, \$9.00 Beverage only

Menu: French Toast, Sausages, Fresh Fruit, Beverages

Phone chain callers will collect reservations; they are due on **Oct. 31**. Contact Maggie Augustine, if you are not contacted by a caller.

Please be sure to make a reservation if you're coming so we will have accurate numbers for Red Lion's preparations. They have promised to do a better job with the food and sound system for this meeting.

Fully vaccinated is required. Masks optional.

Zoom link will be sent out on Weds. Nov. 2 so that members can join by Zoom if they wish.

## November Speaker

Connie Stewart is the Executive Director of Initiatives for Cal Poly Humboldt. Prior to that, she spent 11 years as Executive Director at the California Center for Rural Policy (CCRP) at Cal Poly Humboldt, a research center committed to informing policy, building community, and promoting the health and well-being of rural people and environments. She continues to serve as Chief Policy Advisor for CCRP.

Connie hosts the Redwood Coast Connect Broadband Regional Consortium, which is dedicated to deploying reliable, high speed broadband to everyone in Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity Counties. Connie also hosts the Humboldt Workforce Coalition, a partnership between Cal Poly Humboldt, College of the Redwoods and Humboldt County Economic Development, which helps staff the Job Market and provide services for job seekers and

businesses. She also serves on the Board of Directors for Redwood Acres Fairground and the Open Door Community Health Centers. Prior to joining Cal Poly Humboldt, Connie was a Mayor and a member of the City Council in Arcata, California.

## President's Message

I'm looking forward to having Connie Stewart as our speaker for the November meeting. Connie is the perfect person to further inform us about the developments and activities at Cal Poly Humboldt. We are all interested in how the changes are being implemented and the current state of plans for the university. Besides the fact that education is a main part of AAUW's mission, the changes at Cal Poly Humboldt are affecting the entire Humboldt community in many ways. Be sure to come to the meeting or tune in on zoom to hear what she has to say and ask your questions. Thank you, Connie!

Some sad news is that Nancy Kay has decided to move to Virginia to be near family. We will miss her as a member, friend, and a major contributor to our AAUW Branch. Nancy was president for 2 years and has been our treasurer for the last 4 years. We appreciate her hard work and how she has moved the Branch forward and kept us on track. Nancy, we hope that your move is smooth, and that life offers many wonderful and satisfying experiences in your new home.

AAUW's Mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Our Cal Poly Humboldt Re-entry Scholarship is aimed at assisting women who have returned to upper division and graduate level education after a gap of 5 or more years. You can help by spreading the word about the scholarship if you know women in that category. The application is available through the website. You can also help by making a donation when you receive the mailing from the Branch in November. Since we are having the gala in person this year, you can bring your donation or mail it. The purpose of the mailing is to provide an opportunity for all members to participate, not just the ones who attend the gala. So be generous as you have in the past and bring or send your check for this important project. Because of the past generosity of our members, we have about \$8000 in our fund to use this year. Thank you!

Happy Fall and Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. I'm thankful that we can again meet together and enjoy interacting with our members. I'm also thankful that family get togethers are getting back to normal. Family and friends are the best part of the holiday season.

Rosemarie Weaver  
Branch President

## Member News

- Maggie Augustine needs more callers for the phone chain and drivers for bringing members to meetings.
- If your interest group is meeting, please send pictures to Shelley Mitchell for the newsletter and Nancy Dean for the Website. It's nice for everyone in the Branch to see what is going on in the groups. Also, please collect \$1 per member as a voluntary donation to the scholarship fund.
- Is there a member who will volunteer to take pictures at the Branch Meetings? The pictures would be used in the Newsletter and on the Website.
- Please mail or email your nominations for Women's History Honorees to Rosemarie Weaver, The nomination form is in this newsletter and on the Branch Website.

· We need a replacement for Nancy Kay as treasurer as she moves on to new adventures. Nancy will help train someone in her systems and even help by zoom after she leaves. Please consider this job if you are good with accounts, money, and have some computer skills. We need you!

### **Daytime Book Group**

Earlier this spring, our board contacted the book group chairs to learn if they were going to continue with Zoom meetings or attempt to meet in person. To date, we believe all, but the Monday Daytime book group are meeting in person.

Ann Zumbrum chairs the Daytime Group, and they will continue to meet on Zoom, indefinitely. Ann would like to extend an invitation to any member who has an interest in joining. She stressed that this group reads a wide variety of books on many topics and is not limited to one genre. The meeting time is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 10AM.

### **Evening Book Group**

At our September meeting we discussed *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks. It was an historical fiction novel based on the story of the first native person to attend and graduate from Harvard in the late 1600's. "Caleb" was a member of the Wampanoag tribe, which lived on what is Martha's Vineyard.

Our group enjoyed the novel and found it interesting. Our October selection is a biography of your choice. Suggestions included *Island Queen* by Vanessa Riley and *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell.

For Information and the zoom link, contact Chris Stenlund

## **Hall of Fame at Stanford Highlights Title IX at 50 years.**

This fall 10 women were inducted into Stanford Athletics Hall of Fame, acknowledging the impact of Title IX, which turned 50 this year. Women's athletics have come a long way, but there's more to go.

The university is doing a gender equity study right now, expecting to raise the bar. It is reviewing its athletic programs to ensure Title IX compliance and complete it no later than the 2023-24 academic year and may publish plans this October.

Stanford has the most women's sports championships – individual and team – in the nation, including most recently in golf and water polo. One alumna on Hall of Fame, Sally Voss Kruger, in 1976 walked on to the Cardinal golf team that won a Pac-8 championship.

What comes next in the history and continuity of Title IX will be dependent on opportunities that keep developing at pro, college, and youth levels.

## Holiday Gala

Halloween begins the holiday season, and we are now in full swing. Days are shorter and nights are colder, and the fall colors are beautiful.

Yes, Virginia, there will be a December Holiday Gala! It is scheduled for Saturday, December 3, at 11AM in the social hall of the Eureka Presbyterian Church. We will have a delicious brunch, good visiting with old and new friends, entertainment, a raffle of gift baskets, and the introduction of our Re-entry Scholarship recipients and perhaps, a little education.

Our membership expressed the desire for a change in format and our committee is working hard to make that possible. Because we are attempting to attain a pre-Covid normalcy by meeting in person and dining together, we are facing hurdles. Our committee is working on entertainment from different religions to teach us what the holidays mean to those faiths. If you have something you would like to share with our members, please contact me, Judy Bennett, either by phone or email. I'm in the directory.

We will raise money for our scholarship fund with our raffle, but it will not be enough to continue awarding what we have given in the past two years. Because of this, we will have a basket and envelopes for your checks for end of the year contributions to AAUW. This, of course, is completely voluntary and not a requirement. Please join us in December and enjoy yourself and if possible, please contribute.

by Judy Bennett, Holiday Gala Chair

## An Alchemist in the Kitchen Philippines and U. of Washington

Heinz, the king of tomato ketchup, introduced a new version of banana ketchup in 2019, saying it was doing so in honor of Maria Orosa, who created it during World War II.

Maria was born on November 29, 1893, in Taal, a coastal town in the Philippines. In 1916, when she was 23, Orosa traveled to the United States as a government sponsored scholar and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry and pharmacological science at the University of Washington in Seattle.

When offered a job, she wrote to her mother, "... in America ... before they offer a job to a person of color, such as Philippino, Japanese, or Chinese, the jobs are first offered to whites." She was offered a job as an assistant chemist for the State of Washington, but she chose to return to the Philippines, to help her country become self-sufficient in food preparation and preservation. She joined the government's Bureau of Science, often called "an alchemist in the kitchen," using native fruits for wines and jellies, plus flour from bananas and cassava and vinegar from coconuts.

"The practice of canning was virtually nonexistent in the Philippines," journalist Jessica Gingrich wrote in 2020 about Orosa's life on the website Lady Science.

She kept people from being starved to death in WW II, by organizing a system of smuggling lifesaving inventions to detainees in war camps, where more than 4,000

civilians, mostly Americans, were held for four years. During the final battle of Manila, Orosa was wounded and taken to a hospital. The hospital came under American shelling, and she was one of hundreds who died there on February 13, 1945. She was 48.

Orosa's banana ketchup has since become a Philippino (Filipiino) grocery staple. The concoction is made of hardy saba bananas, sugar, vinegar, and spices, with a dash of red coloring, to make it look like the imported Heinz kind. "I would say it's a defining part of the Filipino palate." says Yana Gilbuena, a chef based in Oakland, CA, who runs a series of pop-ups called SALO. in the U.S. and other countries. Banana ketchup, first mass-produced in 1942, Heinz now makes its own version in her honor, promising that ketchup lovers would be "fascinated with its bold and delicious taste...overcoming any challenge, even making ketchup without tomatoes."

*New York Times (thank you Jean G)*

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Editor:

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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.

**Celebrate Woman  
Veterans November 11**