



Humboldt Inc. (CA) Branch



# The Branch

February 2023  
Vol 73, Issue 5



February Meeting

Date: February 4, 2023

Place: Red Lion Hotel, 1929 4<sup>th</sup> St. Eureka, CA  
9:30 Registration, Social, Breakfast  
10:20 Introductions: Meet 2 of our 2022 Tech Trek  
participants & our 4<sup>th</sup> Scholarship Recipient  
Speaker: Financial Trends in this Economy  
Local Banker, Jennifer Budwig will update us on what is  
important to know about our volatile economy  
Questions and Announcements  
Cost: \$24.00 with food, \$9.00 Beverage only  
Menu: Bacon, Eggs, Potatoes, Fresh Fruit, Muffins and/or  
Scones, Beverages

Phone chain callers will collect reservations; they are due on January 30. 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 preparation of food and tables.

If you make a reservation and cancel after the deadline, it is our Branch policy that you pay the fee whether or not you attend. Fully vaccinated is required. Masks optional.



Humboldt County native Jennifer Budwig graduated with honors from Humboldt State University in 1989 with a degree in Business Management. Additionally, Ms. Budwig is a graduate of Pacific Coast Banking School, graduating in 2011 in the top 10% of her class. Her banking career includes four years at US Bank, 14 years at Humboldt Bank/Umpqua Bank and 17 years at Redwood Capital Bank. Her current position is Senior Vice-President / Chief Lending Officer where she oversees the branches, the commercial lending team and the Bank's business

development.

Her civic involvement includes, the Blood Bank Board of Directors, Eureka Rotary club, RREDC loan committee, Ingomar Finance Committee, Fortuna Ad Advisory group and the Mad River Hospital Board of Directors.

She will soon be celebrating her 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with her husband Robert Budwig. They reside in Ferndale with their brood of kitties.



## President's Message:

The December Gala was a great success. Vice President Judy Bennett had a challenging task: plan a Gala after a hiatus of 2 years and make it different from the past, but enjoyable, engaging, and beneficial to the scholarship fund. She had the capable help of Judy Stoffer. The hall was beautifully decorated, the baskets for the raffle were varied and full of treats, the speaker, Nancy Corran, was interesting and warm, and everyone enjoyed the social time together. I would say Judy and Judy hit a home run! Thanks so much for your hard work and creative efforts.

Great news! We raised over \$10,000 for next year's scholarships. Thanks to all of you for your wonderful generosity. We are in great shape to carry on next year with awarding Re-entry Scholarships. I'm sure there will be no shortage of deserving and high-achieving candidates. See below for financial details. At the December Gala we met 3 of this year's recipients and heard their stories. We

will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> recipient at the February meeting. I'm so glad we will be able to continue helping re-entry students like these young women, who have dreams and work hard to achieve them. Thanks to our co-chairs, Margaret Wallace and Gina Rogers, and to the committee, which includes Sharon Ferrett, Mary Lou Lowry, and Becky MacQuarrie, for their hard work in advertising, screening, and interviewing.

Several interest groups have been collecting \$1 per member per meeting to donate to the scholarship fund. At the Board Meeting, we discussed the possibility of splitting the money that is donated between the Scholarship fund and the Tech Trek fund. There will be a mailing in February with an opportunity for members to donate to Tech Trek so that there will be funds to send 4 girls this year. We also thought that since the scholarship fund is in good shape, it would make sense for the interest group donations to go to Tech Trek for the rest of the year. If a group objects to this change, please have the leader communicate the group's wishes to the treasurer. Otherwise, the treasurer will put the donated money into the Tech Trek fund for the next 5 months.

I hope to see you at the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and after that, at our favorite event of the year, the Women's History Tea on March 4<sup>th</sup>, where we will honor two women who have made outstanding contributions to our community.

Rosemarie Weaver, Branch President

## Member News:

Update on future speakers:

April 1, 2023 Speaker: Lori Dengler  
Topic: Humboldt County and Earthquakes

**May 6, 2023** Speaker: President Keith Flamer of College of the Redwoods  
Topic: Collaboration between Cal Poly Humboldt and College of the Redwoods

Update on Scholarship Funds raised:

Carryover after this year's scholarships were awarded:	\$1,640.28
Scholarship donations from mailing and Gala	\$6,895.00
Gala Raffle	
\$1,430.00	
Interest Group Donations	\$ 264.50
Miscellaneous Contributions	\$295.25
Total	\$10,525.03

**The coming AAUW year, 2023-2024, will be the third year of increases to dues by AAUW National. Treasurer Nancy Kay reported the increases in February 2021. State and local dues have not increased. This year we paid \$113; the \$5 increase will mean our dues will be \$118 when we renew membership in the spring.**

## Women's History Tea

by Mary Lou Lowry

We are having our History Tea in person this year at Christ Episcopal at 1:30. We are starting a new tradition. Both in order to help our table hostesses and for interest, we are asking each attendee to bring their own place setting. The place setting that you should bring includes, a dessert or salad plate, cup and saucer, water goblet, spoon and fork, and napkin (napkin ring optional). You may want to bring a setting or tea cup that has a particular meaning for you such as an heirloom. We look forward to seeing all the beautiful and interesting place setting. Also if you are interested in hosting a table, please contact, Mary Lou Lowry.



Scholarship winner Mickelle Ammer and her two year old daughter Cadence!



Re-Entry Scholarship Winners (L-R) Ashley Dickinson, Sarah Leidinger, and Julia Bartley

## This Year's Re-Entry Scholarship Winners Celebrated at December Gala

by Gina Rogers

The Branch Re-Entry Scholarship Committee, comprised of Margaret Wallace, Gina Rogers, Mary Lou Lowry, Becky MacQuarrie, and Sharon Ferrett, had an incredibly difficult job selecting this year's Re-Entry Scholarship winners from among the many amazingly accomplished applicants. Three of the four Cal Poly Humboldt recipients were in attendance at the Gala, and provided some wonderful stories about how they ended up in Humboldt, what they are studying, and their goals for the future. How lucky for us all to get the opportunity to meet them. Many, many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Scholarship fund and purchased raffle tickets to make this possible.

This year, four scholarships were awarded ranging from \$1,000 or \$2,000. Congratulations to these very talented CPH students.

**Mickelle Ammer:** Mickelle is enrolled in Cal Poly Humboldt's new RN-to-BSN program. Upon graduating from the Associate's degree nursing program at College of the Redwoods in 2014, she began working at Providence St. Joseph Hospital. She has continued working, now part-time, facing challenges and medical debt from a serious medical condition, and managing care for her two small children. The Selection Committee was impressed by her critical thinking about the changes she wants to see in healthcare and her goal of becoming a nurse educator, but especially found her resilience to be inspirational.

**Julia Bartley:** Julia is working on her Masters in the Department of Natural Resources with an emphasis on Forest Ecology. Her thesis is in the very important arena of using prescribed fire (controlled burns) as a land management tool. She already has an excellent base in this field, having worked for eight years following her undergraduate studies at land management agencies and organizations including The

Nature Conservancy. Her experiences as frequently one of the few, if only, women on largely male-dominated wildland firefighting crews, have sparked a strong desire to serve as a mentor to help traditionally under-represented students succeed in careers in natural resources.

Ashley Dickinson: Working in the field of rare plant conservation, eleven-year Humboldt County resident Ashley Dickinson is strongly committed to promoting biodiversity and understanding of how to protect threatened plants. A Masters student in Natural Resources, her current research is focused on understanding the risk of extinction of a rare plant, the two-flowered pea, found only in Humboldt County. She has shown great dedication to her work, persisting through incredible logistical challenges and difficulties, disrupting important seasonal study times and plant access. Her community commitment includes volunteer work with the North Coast Chapter of the CA Native Plant Society.

Sarah Leidinger: Sarah is studying for a Masters of Science in Geology. She is currently undertaking a very ambitious course schedule while also working part-time job as a GIS Analyst with an environmental consulting company. The Selection Committee was impressed with how articulate Sarah was, and how she thinks about her future, mapping out how to achieve her long-term goal of becoming a licensed Professional Geologist, a long process that will take many years following completion of her Master. In addition, she eloquently described how she mentored students studying GIS.





## AAUW California Celebrates Black Women in History for Black History Month, February 2023

Nancy Major, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Many Black women have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more. For Black History month

we celebrate the achievements of but a few:

Sojourner Truth, a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights (1797-1883).

Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin (age 15) helped initiate the Civil Rights movement by refusing to give up their seats to white men on Montgomery, Alabama buses. Their actions inspired resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional.

Dorothy Jean Dandridge was an actress, singer and dancer, the first African American film star to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in Carmen Jones (1954).

Katherine Johnson a brilliant mathematician, was one of three Black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools. Her greatest contribution was to space exploration through her calculations synching Apollo's Lunar Module with the lunar-orbiting Module. She also worked on the Space Shuttle. (1958-1986)

Madam C.J. Walker was considered the wealthiest African-American businesswoman in America (1911-1919), by developing and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women. She hired 40,000 "ambassadors" to sell her products.

Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. She served as a representative from New York for 14 years, was the first Black candidate to run for president in the 1972 race, and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.

Mae Jemison became the first Black woman to fly to space on the space shuttle Endeavour. She was also the first Black woman admitted to the astronaut training program, in 1987.

Toni Morrison released her novel Beloved in 1987, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, based on the true story of an African American enslaved woman. In 1993, Morrison became the first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Oprah Winfrey, born into poverty in rural Mississippi to a single teenage mother, molested as a child and pregnant at 14, became the most influential woman in the world by many accounts. An American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and philanthropist, she was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only black billionaire.

## AAUW RESERVATIONS - A CALL FOR MORE CALLERS

by Maggie Gordon

The rockbed of reservations is the callers. For the current year, they are DeAnn Erks, Marilyn Field, Jean Guthrie, Ginny Hedgecock, Ruth Richard, Dorothy Skjonsby and myself.

They deserve many kudos for the great work they have done for the past two years. I will not continue as chair after this year 2022 - 2023. Jean Guthrie will become the chair for year 2023 - 2024.

The function of the callers is to contact the members monthly to determine if a member will or will not attend the upcoming meeting. If the member will attend, the caller will document if the member wants food or beverage only and also if a member will bring a guest. Names of the guests and whether they want food or beverage is further information needed for each meeting. For the September meeting, the callers will contact each member on her roster by phone. This gives a more personal touch on the opening meeting of the

year. After that, the caller can use email, telephone or both to contact members on her roster.

The callers report to the chair, the data for the upcoming meeting which is then reported to the President and the Facilities/food Board officer. It is important to get an accurate number of attendees for a meeting and the number who want food or beverage. Those numbers determine the number of tables/utensils needed for set-up and servings the caterer must provide.

There is a deadline for reservations which is generally about a week before the upcoming meeting. If a member cancels prior to the deadline, there is no payment. However, if a reservation is canceled after the deadline, the policy is that a reservation made is a reservation paid. So members must be very aware of the deadline.

There is one problem with reservations. It is the issue of members who attend meetings without making a reservation prior to the meeting. The following was decided at the January 2023 Board meeting:

- If the meeting is at the Red Lion, members without reservations can have food or beverage depending upon her preference
- If the meeting is at another venue, members without reservations can have beverage only.

The reason for this is that the Red Lion has more flexibility food/beverage wise than a private caterer.

To make it easier on the callers, it would be advantageous to have more of them to reduce the number of members on a caller's roster. I personally feel that being a caller is a good way for new members to meet "old" members of AAUW. Whether you are new or old and are interested in serving as a caller, please contact **Maggie Augustine**. \_\_\_\_\_

Chair Reservations 📞📧 Maggie Augustine - 01.19.2022



## Kia-Ora Zeleny

by Calista Sullivan

One of our members, Kia-Ora Zeleny recently died and Rose asked me if I could write something about her for the newsletter. So here it is, cribbed from her obituary in LOCO. Kia-Ora was a member of my book group, Page Turners.

Kia-Ora Zeleny died on January 4, 2022. She was 90 years old. Her obituary in LOCO states that she was smart and feisty which really says it all. After a career at Kaiser Engineering and as a real estate broker, at age 63 Kia-Ora began work on her B.A. in Anthropology at HSU, graduating Magna Cum Laude. She also worked in the Anthropology Department at HSU. She loved Chinese studies and had a good command of Mandarin which came in handy on her three trips to China, the last as a foreign exchange student for one year at the age of 68. She was active in many groups and was a revered member of AAUW's Page Turners book club. We will miss

her.

## Tech Trek

by Mary Louise Lowry

February is the month we raise money for our Tech Trek Scholarships. You



will receive a mailing soon. Tech Trek is a summer camp program for 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls. The camp is at Sonoma State University. The girls are immersed in science and technology for a week. All classes are taught by women who are professionals in that particular field. Two of the girls are scheduled to speak at our February meeting and two spoke in September. I hope you will take the opportunity to speak with them about Tech Trek in February.



Also, the Tech Trek coordinators are thinking of adding another week of camp so more girls may attend. The major issue in creating another week is staff. They will need camp directors-in-training, dorm moms, workshop presenters, core class teachers, camp nurses/doctors/health aids and other volunteers. If any of you would like to volunteer or have ideas about people who would like to do this please contact Dorothy Skjonsby or Mary Lou Lowry.

Thank you to all of our advertisers



**Essex Studio**  
 2841 E St  
 Eureka, CA 95501 - Humboldt County  
 (707) 441-4901

**Central Office**  
**THE COPY CENTER**  
 Digital Printing Services  
 ...and more!

**DIGITAL PRINTING & COPIES**  
 BLACK & WHITE | FULL COLOR COPIES

We create and/or copy:  
 Newsletters - Flyers - Business Cards - Post Cards  
 Invitations - Certificates - NCR Forms - Envelopes  
 Mailing Labels - Menus - Brochures - Price Lists  
 T-Shirt Transfers - Depositions - Legal Documents  
 and Much More!

**326 I St. + Eureka, CA**  
**707-444-3044**

BINDING - FOLDING - CUTTING - LAMINATING - MAIL  
 BOX RENTALS - UPS SHIPPING - SECRETARIAL SERVICES  
 COMPUTER STATION & FAX SERVICE

Quality & Service  
 is our  
 #1 Priority!

Quick Turn Around  
 &  
 Competitive Pricing!

centralofficecopycenter@gmail.com  
 LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED  
 SINCE 1985

We love doing  
 business with you!

EUREKA

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





- EUREKA
- FORTUNA
- ARCATA
- HENDERSON CENTER

www.redwoodcapitalbank.com



KEITH D. BORGES, C.P.A.

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

## COMPLIMENTARY MAKEOVER

Mary Kay is the best-selling brand of facial skin care and color cosmetics in the U.S.\*



**Dorann Wolf**  
Independent Beauty Consultant

1432 Dena Dr.  
McKinleyville  
707-616-4760 cell  
707-839-8665 home  
dorannwolf@sbcglobal.net  
www.marykay.com/dwolf

God First, Family Second, Career Third

### THIS COULD BE YOU!

Discover your *real* beauty potential like these *real* Mary Kay customers did with a complimentary makeover from a Mary Kay Beauty Consultant. You'll love the look!

MARY KAY®

The Humboldt Branch of AAUW publishes The *Branch* eight times each year  
<http://humboldt-ca.aauw.net>

"Like" us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/aauwHumboldt](http://www.facebook.com/aauwHumboldt)

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.



\_\_\_\_\_