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NOVEMBER 2021

Hey, mistakes happen.*

Dear Randa,
Welcome to the *California Connection*, the monthly e-blast sent to every member from your state organization for a quick read of things to know and do in AAUW!

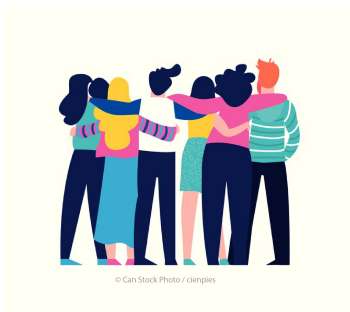
Things to Know

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Sit down for this piece of good news: AAUW is turning 140 this year . . . and you're not. You're welcome.

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What's in a name? Our traditional state-wide gatherings, formerly known as the Annual Meeting and the Convention, have been renamed collectively as the Annual Event. That will give us the freedom to do different things each year and remain bold, brave, and brilliant. Assign yourself 100 extra credit points if you recognized that phrase as our 2020-2022 slogan. FYI, the conversion chart for 100 extra credit points is one brownie, perhaps two if you were not good in STEM.

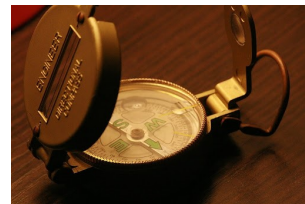
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thank you

All kidding aside (really), the members of AAUW Paradise want to again acknowledge the extraordinary generosity of the AAUW family on this third anniversary of the Camp Fire which devastated their town. A simple request for help resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in donations and offers of housing, furniture, and even a car for a member who lost hers when a garage door failed to open. The Paradise board members, most of whom also lost their homes, worked hours to distribute the contributions to 35 of its 40 members as well as Tech Trek families who were particularly hard-hit. Let's be reminded that good work starts at home.

Things to Do

Hungry for adventure? (No, no, you misread that. We said adventure, not Chex Mix TM.) The April 30th Annual Event, **Adventures in AAUWland**, will take you on a journey to explore new routes to connect to AAUW. In addition to looking at our year in review and being inspired by our Speech Trek contestants, you'll be invited to **Choose Your Own Adventure** by visiting Zoom breakout rooms that venture into the "topical" jungle of whatever AAUW ideas you find interesting. And if you suffered the shame of not earning the "Outdoor Adventurer" Brownie badge, **this is your chance to be a Trail Guide!** You can host one of those informal 30-minute breakout rooms for your fellow travelers. What topics, experiences, stories are you (or someone you know) dying to talk about? No agenda. No PowerPoint. Just inspire the conversation! Learn more, see some potential topic ideas, and sign up [here](#). Then grab your compass and fill your canteen. We're not judging you for what you put in it.



We gave you a hint above, so you knew this was coming. Register for AAUW's [140th anniversary](#) celebration on Nov 17th. It's a party! Put on your pointy party hat, open up Zoom, and be inspired by AAUW's history, accomplishments, and vision for the future. SPOILER ALERT: two of our branches and a certain unnamed state organization will be recognized for forming 50, 75 and 100 years ago! Wonder which ones? Join the event and find out. No one likes a party pooper.



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There's nothing wrong with a little fame and fortune (and we do mean "little"). If your branch does something unique, innovative, or downright cool within the year ending March 1, 2022, nag your leaders to submit an application for the [Branch Activity of the Year Award](#). Your branch might win a small reward, but better yet, other branches may be able to reproduce your event. "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery."



More extra credit points if you know who said that. ** Hint: check out the picture.

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* Thanks to an astute reader, we learned that our spooky Halloween-y October newsletter contained a grave error (that pun is killin' us!). It was Linus van Pelt who waited for the Great Pumpkin, not Charlie Brown. We feel like such blockheads.

** Oscar Wilde. Take another brownie.

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**See you next month,
at which time we will
discuss what you
wished for.**



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

[AAUW.org](https://aauw.org)

AAUW California's mission: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education and resources.

www.aauw-ca.org



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