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Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

Home Tour Update

Your Home Tour committee has worked for months on the Amador City tour. We appreciate all of you who have stepped forward to hostess, work the tea, or fill other jobs to provide a memorable experience for our visitors.

Please support our scholarship program by purchasing a tour ticket. Tickets are on sale at the following locations for \$22.00: Claypool's in Martell, Ione Pharmacy, Pine Cone Drug in Pine Grove, and Amador 360 in Plymouth. For \$25.00, credit cards can be used on the website. Look for the Buy Now button on the Home Tour page.

This is a reminder to use the Amador High School in Sutter Creek for parking and take the shuttle into Amador City between the hours of 10:00 and 5:00. Those working the tour will need to park at the school and carpool or shuttle to their assignments. There will be only a few parking spots at each site for these members. As much as possible, we need to leave the in-town parking to ticket holders and other visitors.

Don't forget to make your cookies!

Steering Committee:

Bobbie Brubaker Judy Venckus Sandra Campbell Nancy Schuster Claire Wait













March Women's History Month Program

by Michele Powell

Women's History Month is an annual declared month that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. In the United States, Women's History Month traces its beginnings back to the first International Women's Day in 1911.

In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women's History Week. His proclamation ended by urging the ratification of the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that "Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Carter was referring to the Equal Rights Amendment, which was never ratified, and would have the 27th Amendment if ratified.

Since 1988, U.S. presidents have issued annual proclamations designating the month of March as Women's History Month.

The program on Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress one hundred years ago in 1916, was a wonderful way for us to acknowledge Women's History Month. Helen screened a biopic on Rankin and gave us a costumed performance on the life of Rankin.

Special thanks go to Helen Bonner who created and produced the program, to Rebecca Wilson who volunteered to perform hospitality duties and to Karen Dickerson who provided the computer, projection and audio equipment needed to screen the film. Attendance was 22 members and nine guests.



Branch Member Gwen Clayton (Candidate for District 4, left), Branch Member Helen Bonner (performing as Jeannette Rankin, center), and
Branch Member Amber Hoiska (Candidate for District 2, right)



President's Message

by Michele Powell

Home Tour

Our 44th Annual Home Tour is close upon us; it's two weeks away. The committee is in the last days of preparation pulling together all the last minutes details. As most of you know it takes as many as ten months of planning and preparation to produce a successful home tour. I want to be sure that the committee members led by Sandy Campbell, all the hostesses, the parking attendants and other volunteers know how much I appreciate everything they are doing for the Home Tour. Your help is critical. I encourage you all to look at the article on page 1 that reviews the total picture of the tour.

Scholarship Committee Activities

Scholarship committees are very active this time of year disseminating applications and information to schools and other locations in the community, reviewing applications and conducting interviews. I'd like to acknowledge the committee members.

Gretchen Carlson heads the Tech Trek committee and the members are Margie Guletz, Gretchen Kingsbury and Kelli Garcia. In the words of Gretchen C: "we have chosen three bright, inquisitive girls again this year!"

Kelli Garcia heads the community college scholarship committee and its members are Kathy Guletz, Katie Scott, Sandee Bowman and Janet Kendig. Kathy Guletz heads the upper division, graduate and re-entry scholarship committee and its members are Isabel Singleton, Robin Stolk and Kelli Garcia. Thank you to all.

May Program

In May we announce our scholarship winners and honor them and their families at the Scholarship Awards Ceremony. It will be held on Saturday, May 14 at the Sutter Creek Community Center, 33 Church Street. This is always a very rewarding event. Be sure to save the date.

Nominating Committee Report

The NomCom is still working, but rather than offering a report its members defer to the member survey committee and their survey results report which is on page 4.

Implicit Association Test

Do you think that you're not biased against women leaders? Take the Implicit Association Test on National AAUW website: aauw.org. There is a link to it on our homepage or go directly to National's page.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting is Saturday, June 11 at 9:30. Our brunch was so successful last year that we're going to do it again. It is at this meeting where the membership votes on the draft budget and on the proposed slate of officers for 2016-2017. It's a business meeting, but it's also a fun and our last meeting of the year. Please put in on your calendars.

I'll see you at the Home Tour.

Board Briefs – 3/16/16

- The minutes for February 17, 2016 were approved as written.
- The Treasurer gave her report.
- The March program is set.
- One new member has joined.
- Organization of the Home Tour is all coming together: the posters have been distributed; publicity is awesome; quilt ticket sales are going well; and the parking issues have been worked out.

- The Nominating Committee reported a lack of members willing to take on leadership roles.
- The Survey Committee reported that out of 98 surveys sent, 52 replies were received. The committee submitted two proposals based on the survey: close the branch or keep going in a smaller, reimagined version with fewer board members and fewer meetings/programs. Many ideas were discussed. The committee will write and present a detailed plan for continuing to the board for approval and to the membership for a vote. Michele will contact National and State about possible by-laws concerns and changes.



AAUW Survey Results

by Isabel Singleton

When the nominating committee of our branch started contacting members for next year's board, we found that there was very little interest from the majority of the members to help run the branch. Many of the members have either been on the board for years and have held many offices, or are working and do not have the time.

Without a board, there is no branch, so this board decided to send out a survey to our 98 members to find out what everyone thought about this branch of AAUW. What do you all like? What have you done? What are you willing to do? And finally, Should we continue?

Number of surveys sent: 98 Number of surveys returned: 53

Here is a tally of the results we received. There were five major questions posed in the survey which will help to determine whether we continue as a branch or not. They are:

1. What would you like to see our chapter do next year?

Continue: 21 No Answer: 32

2. What keeps you a member of AAUW?

People/Friendships: 25 Scholarships: 9 Mission: 25 Interest Groups: 25 Home Tour: 3

3. Would you like to help with the organization & promotion of our chapter next year? How many hours would you be able to give in a month?

Willing: 19 Unwilling: 27

Of those willing to sit on a committee or hold a position, only 2 were willing to take on a board position.

4. How would you feel if AAUW only put on the Home Tour to raise scholarship monies and stopped all other activities?

In Favor: 14 Against: 26 Other: 9

5. What type of programs do you like attending or would like to see more of? Less of?

Author/Speaker: 15 Interest Groups: 8 Social Activities: 12

Mission based programs promoting equity for women: 14

Mission based with a social element: 15

There were other questions, but we feel that these are the most pertinent in determining the continuation of this branch. The board is still evaluating the results and will advise the membership before the annual meeting as to outcome.

Cookies Drop-off April 15th!

The Amador City Home Tour 2016 is on April 16. All AAUW members are expected to make 4 dozen cookies. These should be one or two bites. Cookies will

be picked up from the drop-off

locations on Friday, April 15, at 4 p.m. Two of the locations are the homes of Margie Guletz in Jackson and Jackie Martinez in Ione. You may take them there ahead of time after calling to make sure it is convenient. For the Pine Grove location, Sierra Travel, drop off only on the 15th by 4 p.m.

Home Tour Quilt 2016



Everyone is excited about this year's Home Tour Quilt, so don't miss your opportunity to purchase tickets. You can buy one ticket for \$1, six tickets for \$5 or more, increasing your chances of winning the quilt and supporting our AAUW Scholarship Fund benefiting women and girls.

You can also help by taking packets of tickets to our Branch's Interest Groups that you belong to and other organization meetings you attend.

Let's make this a great year for quilt ticket sales! Contact Sue Harrington (susanlh@volcano.net) to contribute to this great cause.



Home Tour Homes

The Lyons House — 10751 Cross Street (Owners: Patrick and A'Laina Lyons)

You might have seen this house before, when it was on the 1993 Home Tour as the Jurisich house. Present owners, Patrick and A'Laina Lyons, bought the home in the fall of 2015, and have reinvented it. You will not believe the transformation of this three-bedroom, 2 ½ bath home.

The Lyonses were frequent visitors to Amador County for ten years and decided to buy a home in Amador City because of its small town charm. They were especially drawn to this home because of the expansive wraparound porch, perfect for relaxing outdoors with friends and family.

The style can be described as "modern farmhouse," with a modern, light-filled interior. Admire the impressive 22-foot ceiling height as you enter the living area. The living room, dining area and kitchen have a spacious open floor plan. Old fashion board and batten cover some of the walls throughout the house. Furnishings are comfortable, casual and eclectic, because A'Laina has taken "found treasures" and put them to new uses.

The owners used local craftsmen and materials in the remodel, including the owner's stepfather, Mick Smyth, to oversee the project and contribute his woodworking skills. Local cabinet-maker Greg Stremcha helped redesign the kitchen. Simple white Shaker cabinets and rustic open shelving create a relaxed and un-fussy farmhouse style. Countertops are honed engineered quartz. Classic subway tiles form the backsplash. Flooring throughout most of the rooms is eco-friendly bamboo.

The three bedrooms continue the neutral palette of white, linen and gray, with pops of barn red for accent. Sliding barn doors conceal the closets. Bathrooms have classic subway tile on the walls and old-fashioned white hex tiles on the floors. Upstairs, a bonus loft area affords a dizzying view of the living area below, a great space for an office and extra guests.

A final must see is the old fashioned sleeping porch at the back of the house, inspired by childhood memories of summer, where the kids' beds were in a screened-in porch for a giant outdoor slumber party. The Lyons can't wait for summer to try it out.

Amador County Library

Get Your Summer Reading at Friends of the Amador County Library's Sale

- Friday, April 22, 4 7 pm
 - (Friday: Members only-or Come Join!)
- Saturday, April 23, 10 am 4 pm
- Sunday, April 24, 11 am 3 pm (50% off-Sunday Only)

American Legion Hall | 12134 Airport Road, Sutter Creek

(At Hwy 49, across from the Italian Picnic Grounds)

Sponsors: American Legion Post 108, Pine Grove Youth

Conservation Camp, Round Table Pizza, Safeway,

Save Mart, Grocery Outlet & Cost Less

www.friendsacl.org



Home Tour Homes

Amador Whitney Museum (Fleehart Building) — 14170 Old Highway 49

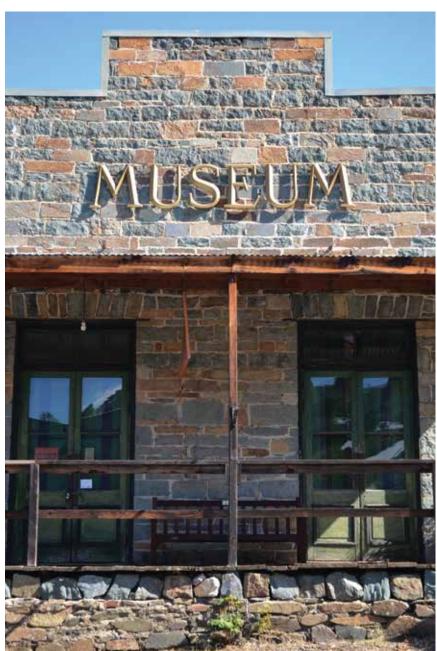
The Fleehart Building is the oldest intact commercial building in Amador City, dating from the 1860s or possibly earlier. It was most likely an early Keystone Mining Company store, also known as Kirkland's, and the only store to survive Amador City's great fire of 1878.

William Fleehart was an early day mine owner, merchant, and Wells Fargo agent. Through the years the building has housed many types of businesses including Fleehart's Wells Fargo office. The building was purchased in 1983 by Jerrold Whitney, an antique dealer, and Clayton Pinkerton, a well-known Bay Area artist. They bequeathed the building to the City to be used as a museum. In 1993 it acquired its current name and took as its focus the role of women and the part they played in settling the West.

Early migrants to the gold fields were mostly men. But the wild, rough-and-tumble gold mining way of living gradually gave way to family life. Schools were established, hiring mostly women as teachers. Girls and boys could now enroll in school rather than being educated at home. A post office was organized and stores, homes and churches—Catholic and Methodist—were constructed. The fabric of an established town was woven by the women, while the men mined the gold.

The women came west in covered-wagon trains.

A highlight of the Amador Whitney Museum is a well-documented depiction of the various routes they followed across the continent, gleaned from diaries many of them kept. Exhibits focus on the family and community life that women brought to the Gold Rush: replicas of a one-room schoolhouse, a boarding house, a mine shaft, and a 19th-century office. The original safe belonging to the City and two early ballot boxes for city elections are housed here, along with the desk belonging to John McWayne's grandfather when he was head of the Wells Fargo freight office. Photographs throughout the museum depict Amador City's early days. Exhibits from the old post office are in place with names of past and present residents or their descendants still listed on many of the boxes.



Also on display are pieces of the vast collection of contemporary original art by Clayton Pinkerton that was donated to the museum, along with the building, upon his death. The artwork is available for purchase or to enjoy.



Home Tour Homes

Amador City Fire Station — 14203 Old Highway 49

Built by the volunteer firemen in the early1900s near the site of the old livery stable and blacksmith shop, the Amador City Fire Station has been partially restored and developed into a museum

by the Sutter Creek Fire District and the City of Amador City with some grant funding from the Amador Community Foundation.

The museum's star attraction is the Amador City 1939 fire truck that has been reconditioned and reequipped. With about 1,200 miles on the odometer and the original paint job, the truck still runs and appears in parades and local celebrations. The fire truck will be on the apron in front of the museum during the Home Tour. Also on display

in the museum are a fire hose cart and an early-style chemical fire extinguisher on cartwheels, along with the Sanborn Fire Maps for Amador City from 1890 to 1930.

The fire truck was built in Sutter Creek and was originally purchased and owned by the Amador City Fire District. It was built at Oneto Brothers Garage on a Dodge truck chassis. The fire ap-

paratus, designed by O. Shirley Clemens, had a 200-gallon water tank and direct-drive water pump mounted on the front of the engine. It was also outfitted with 250 feet of booster hose,

hard suction line, two ladders and other firefighting tools. The total cost was \$2,000 (nearly \$34,000 in today's dollars – still a bargain!). The Amador Dispatch of September 15, 1939, reported that the "tank's capacity is sufficient to operate the pump for fifteen minutes at ninety pounds pressure without refilling."

In 1989, Amador City's fire district and fire department were merged with the Sutter Creek Fire District. The Amador City Fire Museum

and Dodge fire truck are part of the Sutter Creek Fire History Projects. Sutter Creek firefighters will be on hand to answer questions. Public restrooms are available for Home Tour guests at the rear of the museum building.



Upcoming Events

April 16th

44th Annual Home Tour Time: 11:00 to 4:00 PM

April 19th

Libations & Conversations

Time: 5:30 to 6:30 PM **Location:** Drytown Cellar

May 14th

Scholarship Awards Ceremony

Upcoming Libations & Conversations

Libations & Conversations will meet next on Tuesday, April 19 from 5:30 to 6:30 at Drytown Cellars, 16030 Hwy 49 in Drytown. Our guest speaker will be the Honorable Judge Renee Day, recently appointed to the bench of Amador Superior Court and branch member. No-host wine by the glass is available. No need to RSVP, just show up and bring a friend!



Getting to Know You: Virginia Vasquez

by Sandee Bowman

Getting to know Virginia Vasquez will be delightful for anyone who hasn't met her. Virginia is already engaged in the AAUW Amador Branch; she will be a Home Tour Hostess, she won the door prize at our ACCF program last October and she is anxious to attend a Board Meeting to learn more about AAUW in Amador County.

It is complicated for Virginia to answer the question, "where are you from, originally?" Although born in El Paso, Texas, by the time she was 3 years old, her father was stationed in Japan. Virginia, her parents and two siblings moved back to the U.S. and then on to Germany. Over the course of three years, Virginia attended three different schools. Although living abroad was an exciting and enriching experience, Virginia also faced the impact of impermanence on her academic performance. Virginia's grandparents lived in Amador City in a home that had been purchased as

a vacation home and, consequently, when her father retired and the family moved to Amador City in the 1970s, Virginia felt she was 'home.' So let's just say, "she's a local."

Moving to Sacramento after attending Amador High School, Virginia had fond memories of Amador City and returned from time to time to feel the embrace of Amador County. Six years ago, she was visiting Amador City and heard through a friend that the man she had fallen in love with years before, Michael Vasquez, had moved back to Amador City and was now a City Council member. She connected with Michael, only to find that he was soon to be married. After several months, Virginia stopped by to see Michael again. The wedding had been called off. Fast forward a little and, now it was Virginia to whom he was engaged. Congratulations to Virginia and Michael on their fifth wedding anniversary!



Virginia's career path further reveals her resolve. She is the only one of four siblings to earn a college degree. She put herself through college and earned her AA in Hospitality Management from American River College. After five years as a stay-athome mom, Virginia put herself through ROP and found her way to the lab at Kaiser Permanente. She introduced herself and requested an opportunity to shadow a Lab Assistant and EKG Tech. She began a nursing program but found that she has a passion for her work as a Lab Assistant. She has been able to apply what she learned during her stint in the nursing program and, overall, it has given her a deeper appreciation for the work she and those in the healthcare industry perform.

Virginia has an extended, blended family, which includes her son and two daughters from Michael's first marriage. It was speculation about her granddaughter's future

that compelled Virginia to join AAUW. At an airshow at Mather Field, she spotted STEM program information and it became Virginia's conviction that her granddaughter and all girls deserve access to STEM programs. Belief in the importance of girls' and women's education created an impetus for Virginia to join AAUW.

Virginia never stops; her energy seems limitless. Last year she was involved in the Amador City Centennial. She has been working to familiarize herself with the city and one of her learning tools is the Amador City Cemetery, hence, she is the perfect choice to act as Hostess for visitors to the Amador City Cemetery on our Home Tour. Virginia works on the annual String Bean Alley Fun Run, sponsored by Rotary and, if that is not enough, in her 'spare' time she trains to participate in various triathlons!



Do Women Contribute to the Gender Pay Gap With Their Career Choices?

This is the discussion topic sheet from March 2015 Libations & Conversations. It was published in April 2015 Gold Filings; it is still relevant and bears running again. Michele

April 12, 2016 is Equal Pay Day, the symbolic day when women's earnings (78 cents to men's dollar) finally catch up to men's earnings from the previous year.

At the 2003-2013 rate, the pay gap won't close for another 124 years.

A little history:

- In the 1950s, the federal government required that its female employees be paid 25% less than male workers.
- In 1963, President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act.
- In 2009, President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

Is the Pay Gap Really About Women's Life Choices?

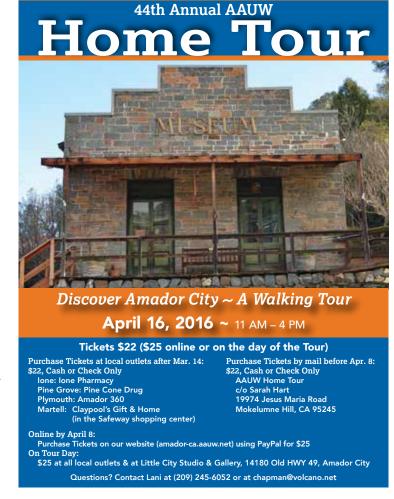
- In the 2012 report, *Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earning of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation*, analysis found that just one year after college graduation, women were paid 82 percent of what their similarly educated and experienced male counterparts were paid.
- An earlier report, Behind the Pay Gap (AAUW 2007), found that 10 years after graduation, the pay gap widened, and women were paid only 69 percent of what men were paid.
- After accounting for multiple factors, *Graduating to a Pay Gap* found that an7 percent unexplained difference in the earnings of male and female college graduates one year after graduation, and *Behind the Pay Gap* found a 12 percent unex plained difference in earnings among full-time workers 10 years after college graduation.

There are a variety of reasons why the gap persists. For one, the jobs that are more likely to be female-dominated — think education, social work and child care — also tend to pay less (*Here's How Long It'll Take To Close The Gender Wage Gap In Each State*, Huffington Post, 3/15/15). Becoming a parent, taking time away from the workforce or working fewer hours, which are more common for women than men, also hurts earnings.

But, wage studies by the Bureau of Labor Statistics routinely find that, from lawyers to teachers to janitors to members of the clergy, men consistently earn more than women almost regardless of occupation.

As Hanna Rosin, author of *The End of Men: And the Rise of Women*, wrote in an August 2012 Slate piece, "Is it that women are choosing lower-paying professions or that our country values women's professions less?"

- The L&C Committee: Bonnie Krupp, Suzanne Nicholson and Lani Chapman,





Special Interest Groups

Afternoon Book Group

Robin Stolk, Chair robinfstolk@sbcglobal.net

Join us for a thoughtful and friendly book discussion the 2nd Monday of each month at 2 p.m. Our next meeting is April 11th



at Floy Goulart's home. We will be discussing The Rosie Project. New members are welcome. If you'd like to join the group, contact Robin Stolk.

Cork & Fork

Michele Powell, Chair powell.michele288@gmail.com

This group meets every other month to enjoy wine tasting and appetizers. Members' homes are the usual meeting place, but we sometimes gather at a winery tasting room or other appropriate venue.

The next meeting is Friday, May 15 at 5:30. If you'd like to join Cork & Fork or for more information about the group, contact Michele Powell.



Art in Action

Bev York, Chair likacb@volcano.net

We are a group whose members enjoy drawing and painting at each others' homes or various outdoor locations such as PiPi Valley, Bear River, and Lake Tabeaud. We share information about art workshops and gallery exhibits. Art in Action group members are responsible for the Art Show at the Home Tour. Beginners are welcome. Lunch is always part of the day. Meetings are every 2nd & 4th Tuesday. Contact Bev for information about the



Garden Groupies

Judy Venckus, Chair venckus@aol.com

Garden groupies love plants and the beauty they add to our lives. No digging, raking, or pruning is required. Just join us in visiting some very interesting places. On May 18, we will be



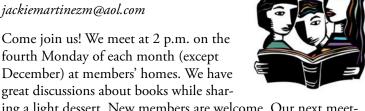
going on a docent led walk in the El Dorado Master Gardener created Sherwood Gardens, located in Placerville. Please let Bobbie Brubaker (schome100@gmail.com) know if you'd like to attend. We'll go into Placerville for lunch afterwards.

Book Lovers & Page Turners

Jackie Martinez, Chair jackiemartinezm@aol.com

next meeting.

fourth Monday of each month (except December) at members' homes. We have great discussions about books while shar-



ing a light dessert. New members are welcome. Our next meeting is April 25 at the home of Jackie Martinez. We'll discuss Me Before You by JoJo Moyes. If you'd like to join these conversations, contact the hostess by email or phone. If you'd like to join the book group, contact Jackie Martinez.

Lunch Bunch

Kelli Garcia, Chair kgarciaod@hotmail.com

April's Lunch Bunch will be at Clark's Corner in Ione on April 14th at 11:45 a.m. Please RSVP to Claire Wait by Tuesday, April 12th by email at clairesc@sbcglobal.net

Continued on next page



Supper Club

Claire Wait, Chair clairesc@sbcglobal.net

Supper Club will again meet on April 30 for a Vietnamese dinner. Bonnie and Harold Krupp are the hosts. Please call Bonnie for additional information.



Branch Member Notes

Sunshine Update for April –

I would be honored to send a card on behalf of our branch to any member you feel needs sunshine for illness or loss; congratulations for significant family happenings or noteworthy community contributions; or just "thinking of you." As I am a technological illiterate, you will have to call me.

Since our last issue of *Gold Filings*, I have sent sunshine cards to Helen Bonner, Kristen Root, and Cathy Yochheem.

-Lynne Brumit

Working Girls' Book Group

Liz Powell, Chair mslizpowell@gmail.com

The Working Girls' Book Group will discuss *Gift from the Sea* by Anne

Morrow Lingbergh on April 26th. We will meet at Katie Scott's home at 3576 Coal Mine Rd. Please contact Rebecca Wilson at rdiannaw75@icloud.com for more intormation.

Join me in saying good-bye to Helen Bonner, our VP Program Chair this year. Helen and her husband will have moved to O'Connor Woods in Stockton by the end of March. We wish Helen a smooth transition and a soft landing.

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with April birthdays.

Karen Baker Flor Sharon Berglund M Sandra Campbell Ro Andrea Sexton Danczyk Ca Renee Day M Kelli Garcia Vi

Floy Goulart Marilyn Hoopes Rosalie Perfler Carol Smallfield Mary Thorpe Virginia Vasquez

April Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 20th. We always meet at 6 PM at the home of Margie Guletz. All branch members are welcome.

Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month except for June, July, and December when the Board takes a vacation.

New Members

Renee Day Birthday 4/11

Stephanie Young Birthday 10/18

Brenda Walker Birthday 9/20

Shauna Solari Student Affiliate

Bailey Burton Birthday 10/30

May Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the May issue of Gold Filings is April 29th. Please submit material to *rdiannaw75@icloud.com*. Thank you.