

Gold Filings

Amador Branch
American Association
of University Women



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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.

AAUW Amador Fall Kick-Off

What: AAUW Amador is having a Farm-to-Fork themed fall kick-off meeting with speakers, display tables, wine tasting and savory appetizers provided by your board members. We'll hear brief remarks from our guests and learn how they became aware of Farm-to-Fork and how they employ these precepts in their businesses.

Please join us. It is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new branch members. Consider bringing a prospective member. Meet the new board for 2014-2015. Learn about this year's monthly programs. Rediscover the special interest groups. Sign up to help with the Home Tour.

Car Pooling is strongly encouraged. Thank you for your help in this. Look for the AAUW sign and colorful balloons.

Speakers are Tracey Berkner, Alice Kaiser, Beth Sogaard, Mary Pulskamp and Vicki Bray. There is more information about our speakers below.

When: Wednesday September 24 from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Where: Drytown Cellars, 16030 Highway 49 in Drytown (www.drytowncellars.com).

RSVP to: Sandi Baracco by Monday September 15 at BaraccoArchitect@comcast.net. You must RSVP to reserve your place.

A very big "thank you" goes out to our member Suzanne Krueutzer and her husband, Allen, for hosting us. Suzanne and Allen are offering us complimentary "small taste" winetasting.

And, of course, wine will be available for purchase by the bottle or glass. Once you have had your "small tastes" of Suzanne and Alan's wine, you will no doubt want a bit more. The price for a glass is \$5 and bottles at the regular price. Cash is best for a glass of wine, while either cash or credit card is fine for bottles.

Tracey & Mark Berkner are co-owners of Union Inn and Pub in Volcano and the award winning Taste Restaurant in Plymouth. Taste has been selected as one of the top 100 wine restaurants in America by Wine Enthusiast magazine. (www.tasterestaurant.com and www.volcanounion.com)

Alice Kaiser is president of Mother Lode Harvest. ML Harvest is an association of local (100-mile radius) farmers, ranchers, beekeepers, candle makers and bakers who offer their products for sale year-round. (www.mlharvest.com)

Beth Sogaard is the principal in Beth Sogaard Catering. Chef Beth caters events at many venues around the county, leads cooking classes and owns Amador Vintage Market in Plymouth. (www.chefbethcatering.com and www.amadorvintagemarket.com)

Mary Pulskamp, owner of Rose Bud's Café in Jackson, brings food to the café directly from the family-run Majestic Oak Farm and Gardens. The Café offers fresh baked bread and pastries, eggs from truly free-range chickens, edible flowers and much more. (www.rosebud-cafe.com)

Vicki Bray, manager of Amador County

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President's Message

by Michele Powell

Welcome Back.

Once again we are starting a new AAUW Amador year. It seems incredible to me that it is 2014-2015 and yet it is. It seems incredible that summer is nearly over and yet it is. I hope you all had a relaxing, interesting and enjoyable summer full of activities that inspire and engage. Jim and I went on a sea and land cruise to Alaska. It was an exhilarating experience. The grizzly sightings and the flight in a nine-passenger airplane are only two of the many amazing things we experienced.

I am proud to be serving as your president and thankful for a board with members who are talented and dedicated to our cause. I am thankful, as well, for an engaged and involved membership. The complete board is listed on page 3. We are very fortunate to have every position filled except president-elect. You will recognize many of the names; some board members are the same as last year, but in new positions; some are in the same positions. Please help me welcome our new treasurer, Isabel Singleton. This is the first office she has held for the branch.

President-Elect Needed

For the third year in a row we don't have a president-elect; this is a serious hole in the board particularly as we look ahead to 2015-2016 because being president-elect serves as a learning year for the next year's president. Please consider taking on this position. If you want to explore this possibility, any of the past presidents will be happy to answer all questions you may have.

Fall Kick-Off

Our fall kick-off meeting is going to be quite a bit different this year. On Wednesday September 24th at 5:30 are having a Farm-to-Fork themed meeting at Drytown Cellars (www.drytowncellars.com). Branch member Suzanne Krueutzer and her husband, Allen, are hosting us.

This will be fun meeting; we are visiting the winery during crush, so there will be lots of activity and it's an appropriate setting for a Farm to Fork meeting. I look forward to seeing you there. An RSVP is required and car pooling strongly encouraged. All the details are on page one.

Tech Trek

You may recall that we have in the past had our Tech Trek girls come to the September meeting to tell us about their science camp experience. This will not happen this year, but don't worry because Sandi Baracco, our Program VP, and her team are working hard planning a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) program for November that will include the Tech

Trek girls. Careers in STEM areas, STEM education and reports from our Tech Trek girls will be part of the program. Full details will be sent to you in October.

Policy: Membership Expectations

Two years ago we implemented a membership policy which clarifies our responsibilities and expectations as branch members. Please be sure to review the policy on page 4 and consider how you could help make our branch stronger and more successful.

Home Tour Chair

Hats off to Nancy Schuster for taking on the role as Home Tour Chair. Nancy is putting her committee together and if you want to serve on the committee or if you have questions about how you can help, call or email Nancy. The Home Tour details will be revealed at the kick-off meeting. Nancy has written a brief save-the-date overview of Home Tour below.

I look forward to a wonderful year full of learning, fun and friendship.

—Michele

Home Tour 2015

SAVE THIS DATE – SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015

On April 18th we will host the 43rd Annual Home Tour to benefit the Scholarship Fund. Putting the emphasis on #43 should remind us of the many deserving young women who have received encouragement as well as financial support to pursue their dreams as a result of the tour; AND the dedication and hard work the members of our branch have worked, year after year, to make it a success.

September 18th will be the first meeting for the 2015 Home Tour Committee, and you are all invited to be a member. There's no such thing as too many volunteers! I have lists of "mentors" who will be your guide, just in case you're hesitating because you're not sure what's involved.

I'm on the lookout for a graphic design coordinator, brochure editor, sponsor solicitors (a "team" would be great), signage (another "team" would be perfect to get our visitors to the sites on tour day).

Get ready for the Preview of the tour at the big Kickoff.

Call or email me if you want more information, or if I can add you to the committee.

Thanks!

—Nancy Schuster,
2015 Home Tour Chair

2014-2015 Program Schedule Preview

2014

- September 24:** **Fall Kickoff: FARM 2 FORK**
Drytown Cellars 5:30-7:30 PM

- October 8:** **Spotlight on LIBATIONS**
& CONVERSATIONS
Amador 360 in Plymouth 5:30-6:30 PM

- November 13:** **TECH TREK SCHOLARS & STEM**
HAPPENINGS in Amador County
Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics
Sutter Creek Community
Building 6:30-8 PM

- December 7:** **HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**
(Baracco Home)
Sutter Creek 3-6 PM

2015

- January 14:** **INTERNATIONAL: KELSI HIMMEL**
on ECUADOR'S RAINFOREST
Impacts of Oil Extraction & Mining on
Ecosystems & Communities
Sutter Creek Community
Building 4-5:30 PM

- February 5:** **COMMUNITY: WOMEN'S**
FINANCIAL ISSUES
Sutter Creek Community
Building 3-5 PM

- March:** **CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S**
HISTORY MONTH
Fresh new ideas are in the making—Want
to help?
Details TBA

- April 18:** **HOME TOUR: Amador County**
All members Save the Date
11 AM-4 PM

- May 16:** **ICE CREAM SOCIAL:**
Funds Celebration
Awarding of College
and Tech Trek Scholarships
Baracco Garden 4-6 PM

- June 13:** **BRUNCH: ANNUAL GENERAL**
MEETING
Election of Officers/Business Meeting/Year
in Review

Amador Branch Board of Directors for 2014-15

Elected Officers

- PresidentMichele Powell
- President Elect..... **OPEN**
- Program VP..... Sandi Baracco
- Membership VP (and Directory)Susan Staggs
- AAUW Funds Robin Stolk
- Secretary Nancy Street
- Treasurer Isabel Singleton

Appointed Positions

- By-laws Sarah Hart
- Community Liaison..... Norma King
- Historians..... Marjorie Guletz & Sandi Baracco
- Home Tour Nancy Schuster
- Hospitality..... Sandy Campbell & Claire Wait
- NewsletterMichele Powell
- Public Policy/Ed Equity..... Bonnie Krupp
- Public Relations.....Myrna-Kay Robison

Scholarships

- Community College Kelli Garcia
- Upper Division / Graduate Kathy Guletz

- Tech Trek.....Gretchen Carlson
- Sunshine Lynne Brumit
- Website Editor..... Belva Pummer

Board Briefs

The Board of Directors did not meet in August.

September Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on September 18. We always meet at 1 p.m. at the home of Margie Guletz. All branch members are welcome.

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month except for June and July when the Board takes summer vacation and in December when the Board takes a winter break.

October Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the October newsletter is September 25th.

Upcoming: Libations & Conversations

In September L&C will be attending AAUW Amador's kick-off meeting the evening of Wednesday, September 24, at Drytown Cellars in Drytown.

In October L&C will meet on Wednesday, October 8, 5:30-6:30 pm at Amador 360 (a wine-tasting bar) in Plymouth. The topic of

conversation will be "Sustaining Life-Long Learning in a Rural Environment". Karen Dickerson from the Amador Community College Foun-

dation will be our guest and will speak briefly about local ACCF adult enrichment classes. Please join us.

Policy: Membership Expectations

All members will be expected to work at the Home Tour on the day of the Home Tour and are strongly encouraged to serve on one or more of the following:

- **Board of Directors:** Attends Board meetings, helps with the leadership of the branch, carries out specific responsibilities of office/chairmanship.
- **Home Tour Committee:** Works with the Home Tour Chairperson on the organization and execution of the Home Tour in assigned role.

- **Hospitality Committee:** Helps Hospitality Chairperson in the planning, organization, and serving at least one program.
- **Program Committee:** Serves as Lead or Co-Lead for one program, and helps Program Chairperson as needed.
- **Scholarship Committee:** Works with Scholarship Chairpersons in the process of selection of Scholarship recipients.
- **Nominating Committee:** Works with the Nominations Chairperson to find nominees for the coming year's officers.

Women's History Month Essay Winner Garner National Honors

Dahkota Brown, now a 15 year-old student at Argonaut H.S., was a winner in our Women's History Month essay contest in 2012 with his essay on Margaret Dalton, her influence in our community and how her life inspires his own. Dahkota continues to be recognized for his achievements. He was one of four Native "youth leaders" nationwide who have been dubbed "Champions for Change" by the Center for Native American Youth (CNAV). These youth were selected to attend an event in Washington D.C. hosted by President Obama. The purpose of this event was to announce new commitments to the My Brother's Keeper initiative.

tion — shared Native American priorities; ensuring Native youth perspectives were included in the discussion with President Obama." You can read the full press release by going to the Ledger Dispatch website and do a search for Dahkota Brown or look in the July 24 issue.

At the event Dahkota Brown shared his perspective by saying "I see the difficulties and struggles that follow us every day. Native boys are affected by the devastating statistics that haunt Native Americans: we have the highest drop out rate, lowest numbers represented in college and young Native men have the highest suicide rates among all ethnicities."

Dahkota founded a study group called NERDS (Native Education Raising Dedicated Students) in 2012 when he

was 13 years old in 8th grade. NERDS is now trademarked, with a recognized logo, and a fiscal partner. NERDS operates at three public schools in A.C.U.S.D. and in three Indian tribes within Northern California.

In addition Dahkota Brown was recently selected one of ten national winners of the Kohl's Cares© scholarship. The recipients of this scholarship each receive \$10,000

and a donation of \$1,000 to a nonprofit organization chosen by the recipient.

Dahkota also got an award from Richard Glock, the superintendent of A.C.U.S.D. for his many hours of community service.

We offer congratulations to Dahkota Brown for his many honors.

Kick-Off

(continued from page 1)

Farmers' Markets, can be found at all the markets every week and she is taking time from the PG market to be with us. Vicki will bring examples of the products that are offered at the markets. At the markets in addition to fruit and vegetables you'll find many surprises like handcrafted lotions and olive oil.

In a quote from the Amador Ledger Dispatch- "These youth — who make up our country's most at-risk popula-

Getting to Know You: Cathy Yochheim

by Norma King

Cathy recently retired from her real estate business in downtown Jackson. She is surprised how happy she is being retired. She joined AAUW in order to participate in intellectual discussions and enjoys the diversity of different member's perspectives.

She grew up on a dairy farm in Ohio and graduated from Ashland College with a bachelor of arts and a major in biology. She taught school for eight years in diverse locations such as Pecos New Mexico, with Castilian Spaniard children, and at a detention center in New Jersey for youth eight to eighteen. She strove to find a way to motivate her students

to strive for excellence and they did.

Cathy and her husband Eric have lived in 15 states and Brazil. Eric was a radioactive materials manager at Rancho Seco Nuclear Facility and when it closed he went to a Lutheran Seminary in Berkeley and is now a Lutheran Pastor.

He encouraged Cathy to follow her own path and for nine years her major work was in low income housing. She started an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity in Riverton, Wyoming and developed a federal program that allowed Native Americans to own homes on Trust land (reservations)



Cathy Yochheim

for which she received a HUD Best of the Best Award. One

tribe she worked with was the Havasupai tribe who live in the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

As a real estate broker she founded the HOPE program in Amador County in 2009. Through fund raisers and individual contributions, first time homebuyers got a hand up. In retirement she likes to work with people in need and try to make their lives better.

Cathy and Eric have three married sons and nine grandchildren who continue to amaze her.



Ideas for New Interest Groups

Special interest groups are not the reason that our AAUW branch exists, but they are an important way to build relationships, enrich our AAUW experience and they sure are fun. What a great way for us to get to know each other in relaxed social and educational gatherings. For me it was my membership in the Book Lovers group that led to all other involvement in the branch. If I hadn't spent that time getting to know members in the book group I would not have been involved with governance.

We know that interest groups add value to our AAUW experience and I've been thinking about the fact that we've had no new interest groups in the three years that I've been in the branch. I wonder if there are members who might want to start new groups. Do you have a passion that you'd like to share? Here are a few ideas that I had.

- Bridge
- Breakfast Buddies
- Sewing
- Computers and Technology
- Brunch Bunch
- Quilting
- Bicycling
- Theatre and Film Club

This is just a start and I'm sure that many of us have other ideas. If you'd like to start or join a new interest group, email me with your name, interest topic and whether you'd like to chair and organize the group. I'll keep track and get back to everyone when I have any news to share. Thank you.

-Michele

Special Interest Groups

Afternoon Book Group

Iris Aparicio, Chair
joeiris@volcano.net

Join us for a thoughtful and friendly book discussion the 2nd Monday of each month at 2 p.m. We meet at members' homes to discuss a book chosen from our yearly list compiled in September. Our list is a mix of fiction and nonfiction. New members are welcome.



On September 8 at 2 PM we will meet at the home of Iris Aparicio to discuss *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini. Please contact Iris if you wish to attend.

Art in Action

Charlene Unger, Chair
cux2@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 Tabeau Lake. 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 Charlene for information about the next meeting.



Book Lovers & Page Turners

Michele Powell, Chair
powell.michele288@gmail.com

We meet at 2 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month (except December) at members' homes. We have great discussions about the books and how their themes and characters relate to our own lives and worlds. New members are welcome.



On September 22 we will discuss *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini; please contact Carolyn Hennings if you'd like to join us.

Cork & Fork

Bonnie Krupp, Chair
bonniekrupp@yahoo.com

This group meets every other month with significant others to enjoy wine tasting and appetizers. Member's homes are the usual meeting place, but we sometimes gather at a winery tasting room or other appropriate venue. Cork & Fork meets the 2nd Sunday except in May when we meet on the 3rd Sunday because of Mother's Day. We meet again on September 14 when Chris Van Fleet & Lee Cohee will host Group 1 and Teresa & Martin Ryan will host Group 2. If you'd like to attend or would like more information, contact Bonnie Krupp.



Garden Groupies

Nancy Schuster, Chair
nancys@volcano.net

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. Join us Wednesday, Sept. 17 for a tour of Baldo's Acres in Orangevale. Mr. Villegas' two-acre garden in Orangevale has become a mecca for local rose experts, who marvel at its diversity. Villegas uses his garden know-how to attract beneficial insects such as lady beetles and lacewings that help take care of his roses with little use of pesticides.



We meet at the Sutter Creek post office parking lot at 10 am to car pool. Contact Nancy, the Groupie Announcer, if you'd like to join the group this month.

Lunch Bunch

Kelli Garcia, Chair
kgarciaod@hotmail.com

Lunch Bunch meets the second Thursday every month at 11:45a.m. We patronize new restaurants and local favorites. Hostess duties rotate each month and she chooses the restaurant and makes the reservations. Members pay for their own meals. New members are welcome. On Thursday September 11th at 11:45 Lunch Bunch is going to meet at Bella Rosa II, 36 Main Street in Sutter Creek. This is where JD Steak House was formerly located. We want to continue our tradition of greeting birthday girls of the month with just a little something extra. But ... birthday or not ... please join us for the opportunity to chat with friends and have some delicious food!



(continued on next page)

Please RSVP to Lynne Brumit by Monday September 8th.

Supper Club

Claire Wait, Chair
clairesc@sbcglobal.net

Supper Club meets quarterly for good food and great fellowship. The menus are decided by the hostesses and usually feature a theme. The men of our group planned and prepared the spread for our August picnic, and we wives just sat back and enjoyed. Our location was green and beautiful at the Volcano amphitheater park and all had fun.



Supper Club will meet on November 2, 2014. Bonnie Krupp and Lani Chapman are hostesses. Call or email Lani or Bonnie for more information and join the fun!

Walking & Strolling Group

Sheila Berg, Chair
sberg@volcano.net



The group determines which walks will be taken at a planning meeting early in the year. The group takes one walk each month. Some popular walks of the past have taken us to PiPi, Lake Tabeau, French Bar and Electra Road. We usually bring a lunch to share along the way or at the end of the walk. If there is rain, the walk is cancelled. Call or email to attend or to get more information.information.

Branch Member Notes

Welcome New Member

Elizabeth Rhein specializes in eBay selling assistance and training. She moved to Amador County from San Jose last February and lives in Sutter Creek. Wanting to meet as many people as possible in her "new life" and having enjoyed the Home Tour she went to May's Libations & Conversation, where she was impressed with the variety of activities available in this branch and immediately decided to join.

Sunshine Update for September

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 Lynne has sent sunshine cards to the following branch members and former members.

Betty Branson
 Nancy Street
 Judy Regnier
 Heidi O'Hara
 Christine Weidinger

Margie Guletz for her 91st birthday
 Norva Fagg
 Charlene Unger

Lynne Brumit

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with September birthdays.

Lynne Brumit
 Sarah Dougherty
 Lyn Edick
 Sarah Hart
 Carolyn Hennings
 Jo Ann Ogburn

Mary O'Neal
 Terri Schneider
 Claire Wait
 Christina Weidinger
 Beverly York

*Farms of Amador and Amador Farmers Market present
 the Amador County*

FARM TOUR

Dinner

**Temporada de Abundancia
 Saturday, September 6, 2014**

SELF-GUIDED TOUR 12-4pm

Runquist Winery • Karmère Winery

Harmony Hill Farm • South River Lavender

LOCAL, ORGANIC FARM-TO-FORK DINNER

AT HELWIG WINERY 5pm

11555 Shenandoah Valley Rd. • Plymouth

LIVE LATIN MUSIC • RAFFLE • AUCTION

Tickets \$60 • \$50 for Farms of Amador Members

**Tickets on sale at all Amador Farmers Markets
 or online at www.amadorfarmersmarket.com**



For more information • 209-267-5506

