

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.

April Program: Vines, Views & Villas

Home Tour April 18 in Rural Amador County: Ridge Road Area

By Michele Powell

“Vines, Views & Villas” our 43rd annual home tour is on Saturday April 18, 11 am - 4 pm. The amazing Home Tour Committee led by Chair, Nancy Schuster, has been working very hard since last fall and they have put together an amazing tour. The homes truly are villas, the views are magnificent and the vines...well...the vines are there, too. The musicians are booked, the tea is set for the Rauch home and the art show and

wine tasting are at Avio Vineyards.

Tickets are now on sale at five retail venues in the county. You can find the list on our website: <http://amador-ca.aauw.net>. I bought tickets for Jim and me at the last home tour meeting.

You will also find a photo of the stunning
(continued on page 3)

Cookies! Cookies! We Need Cookies

Home Tour 2015 needs some delicious cookies for the tea and we need YOU to help out. The tea offers a lovely setting with entertainment featuring local musicians and delectable refreshments; it is a vital part of Home Tour included with the Home Tour ticket. This year the tea will be held under the oaks at the Charles Rauch home which is also on the tour.

Please bake four dozen, one-bite cookies, the more delicious the better, and deliver them before 4 pm on Friday, April 17. Disposable containers are best. Cookie collection locations are:

- **Margie Guletz** <address and phone number are in the directory >
- **Coming Attractions**, 43 Main Street, Sutter Creek
- **Sierra Travel**, 19900 State Highway 88, Pine Grove

The hospitality duo, Sandy Campbell and Claire Wait, thank you for helping to make Home Tour 2015 a success. Our scholarship recipients also appreciate your contribution to our major fund raising activity on their behalf.

Remember: Your support matters! Please purchase a ticket: \$22 in advance, \$25 on the day of the Tour.

—Hospitality Co-Chairs: Sandy Campbell and Claire Wait

President's Message

by Michele Powell

Here we are counting down to our 43rd Home Tour this year held in rural Amador County. I want to express my personal appreciation to all the members, husbands and friends who are serving as hostesses and parking attendants for the Home Tour. We could not have this tour without your help. I hope you look at the article on page 1 that provides an overview of all the sites.

March Program

I am happy to report that 35 members and prospective members attended the March Women's History program. We celebrated our branch by reviewing the home tour history including recognition of chairs and scholarship recipients.

Scholarship Committee Activities

The scholarship and Tech Trek committees have been hard at work disseminating scholarship applications and information, reviewing the applications and conducting the interviews.

Gretchen Carlson reports that three impressive Tech Trek scholars have been selected. One is from Jackson Junior High and the other two are from Ione Junior High.

Community college committee is comprised of Kelli Garcia, chair, and Kathy Guletz, Karen Baker and Katie Scott. Upper Division/Graduate/Re-Entry committee is comprised of Kathy Guletz, chair and Robin Stolk, Kelli Garcia, and Janet Kendig.

May Program – Ice Cream Social

In May we announce our scholarship winners and honor them and their families. It will be held on May 16, 4-5:30 p.m., at the home of Sandi Baracco. This is always a very happy event. Be sure to save the date.

Nominating Committee Report

Nancy Street and Jackie Martinez have been working since January to develop the slate of officers and appointees and they have done an amazing job. However, there still are open slots. See Nancy's report on page 4 and call Nancy or Jackie to volunteer for one of these positions.

One of the open positions is Home Tour Chair. Without a chair there is no Home Tour. Without a Home Tour, there are no scholarships. Please help!

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting is Saturday June 13 when we'll be sharing brunch after which we'll vote on the proposed budget and

on the proposed slate of officers. This is our last time to get together this year. Your presence will help make it a fun event. I hope to see you there. Please put this on your calendar.

I will see you at the Home Tour.

–Michele Powell

Board Briefs

There was no board meeting in March and thus no board briefs.

–Michele Powell

Dues Renewal for 2015-16

It's time to renew your annual AAUW dues for 2015-2016. The annual renewal window is open and goes from March 16 through June 30, 2015.

National AAUW has developed a payment program that allows you to pay online. You have already received an email from National with instructions how to do this. If you don't know your member number, call Isabel, call me or call National. I have already renewed online; it is fast and easy.

As a former two-year treasurer and current president of the branch I strongly urge you to renew online. It will save Isabel Singleton, our treasurer, a great deal of bookkeeping, data entry and paperwork. I thank you in advance for considering this option for renewal.

If you prefer not to renew online, you can send in your check to the PO box as you have done before. The total amount of the dues for 2015-2016 is \$85.00. Last year AAUW members in California voted to increase the State dues by \$4.00, accounting for the increase. The new dues breakdown is: National - \$49; State - \$20; Branch - \$16.

–Michele Powell

May Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the May issue of Gold Filings is **April 27th**. Please submit material as soon as you can. Thank you.

Home Tour Sites: Rauch Home and Pine Grove Cemetery

Charles Rauch Home

The country home of Charles Rauch, situated in K-C Ranchettes development, was built in 1987 and purchased in 2001 by Mr. Rauch. The house was originally to be a weekend retreat from the toils of Mr. Rauch's law practice in Silicon Valley. The retreat evolved into a "resort" with the additions of a swimming pool, spa, putting green, large outdoor kitchen under a spacious cabana, outbuildings and extensive dog kennels for family pets. After selling his Bay Area law practice in 2005, Mr. Rauch came to his country home, and began a local law practice in a separate building on the grounds – now a very short 95 yard commute to work!

In 2013, Mr. Rauch extensively remodeled the interior of the home and engaged Larry Shaw of Valley View Interiors of Sutter Creek for guidance to create this lovely custom decorated home. Original oil paintings, hand-knotted rugs and unique accessories and furniture were selected including a Theodore Alexander 20th century Italian dining table.



Rauch Home

The downstairs guest bedroom to the left of the stairs is decorated with the theme of the great outdoors. A large print of wolves hangs behind a dark brown leather love seat. Roman shades of deer and animal print Toile' grace the room. Upstairs, in the master suite, a West Indies style four-poster bed with custom bedding complement the dramatic area rug. An interesting eglomise chest and Roman shades create a calming retreat. The master bath features a very large spa steam/shower and circa 1910 freestanding claw foot tub.

The mud room/laundry room portion of the remodel will be the envy of all with the spacious countertops, large island and adjoining bathroom with 8' steam/shower.

(continued on page?)

2015 Home Tour

(continued from page 1)

quilt and information about the opportunity drawing on our website. The quilt is available for display at any of your meetings with other groups. Please contact Sue Harrington to purchase quilt raffle tickets, to get a packet of tickets to sell or to display the quilt. susanlh@volcano.net.

Thank you all for doing your part to make this Home Tour successful. It is our only fundraising activity to support our scholarship program

that gives Amador women and girls a chance to attend college. This May we will award \$10,000 in scholarships using money raised by the home tour in 2014!

Below is a brief photo review of the Nelson home which was detailed in February *Gold Filings* and of Canyon Oak Cottage and Avio Vineyards which were detailed in March *Gold Filings*. Full descriptions of the Rauch home and the Pine Grove cemetery are in this issue of *Gold Filings*.



Nelson Home



Canyon Oak Cottage



Avio Vineyards

We Need Your Help! Time Is Running Out!

by Nancy Street

After a hiatus to focus on Home Tour preparation, the Nominating Committee will return to making recruitment phone calls and sending emails for elected officers and appointed board positions. Many branch members have agreed to serve next year and we are forming a great team (please see the list below). We still have some slots to fill and are hoping that you will consider stepping up to help our branch. Any position can be shared by two people, so check with a friend.

At this time we really need some of you to volunteer, otherwise some things will be dropped! Can you imagine no Home Tour, no refreshments at meetings, or no newsletter? That's what will happen if the positions are not filled. The open elected positions are President-Elect and Membership Vice President. The open appointed positions are Community Representative, Hospitality Chair, Home Tour Chair, and Newsletter Editor.

Our website (amador-ca.aauw.net) contains job descriptions for you to peruse. PLEASE HELP! If you are interested, please contact Nancy Street at streetjb@volcano.net or Jackie Martinez at jackiemartinez@aol.com.

**Denotes a vacant position*

** Home Tour Chair*

** Hospitality*

Officer Nominees and Board 2015-16:

President- Michele Powell

** President-Elect*

Program V.P.- Helen Bonner

** Membership V.P.*

Funds V.P.- Suzanne Nicholson

Secretary -Nancy Street/Jackie Martinez

Treasurer -Isabel Singleton

By-laws- Karen Baker

** Community Rep*

Directory- Laurie Brunson

Historian- Sandi Baracco

International Relations- Rita Bohl

** Newsletter*

Public Policy/Ed. Equity- Karen Dickerson

Public Relations- Myrna Kay Robison

Scholarships Community College- Kelli Garcia

Scholarships UD/Grad/Re-entry- Kathy Guletz

Tech Trek- Gretchen Carlson

Sunshine- Lynne Brumit

Website Editor- Sue Harrington

Home Tour Sites

(continued from page 3)

The hilltop has been cleared to be fire-safe and the magnificent old oak trees have been manicured and preserved as focal points in the new landscaping. In 2009, artificial green turf was added to conserve water, especially important in the current drought situation.

Exiting outdoors, guests will enjoy the Home Tour Tea and the quilt raffle of AAUW Amador's 43rd annual Home Tour.

The Pine Grove Cemetery – 14090 Irishtown Road, Pine Grove

In the early 1850s there were a number of small mining communities located near Pine Grove, including Irishtown, Aqueduct City, Clinton, and New York Ranch. However, only a sawmill existed where the roads from Volcano, Clinton, and Sutter Creek intersected. But the crossroads eventually proved lucrative for those who realized the potential for commerce along busy byways. A village nestled under the pine trees soon sprang up and with the death in 1860 of Luther S. Elliott, a miner from Missouri, the little Pine Grove cemetery was fashioned. Although most of the surrounding communities shrank into obscurity, the Village of Pine Grove survived and its cemetery became the final resting place for many of the region's earliest pioneers.

Come with us now to celebrate their rich, unique lives: families who came and settled, the farmers and ranchers, ditch tenders and miners, influential



businessmen, and those who let the bottle rule. Hear about brave women of Pine Grove: a widowed postmistress who traveled twice across country by covered wagon, an elderly mother who buried most of her children, the school teacher and the way station keeper. Learn about the tragedies that befell those who worked in the mines, logged the forests, and kept the water flowing through Amador's canals. Meet a famous World War II general, a Klondike gold seeker buried at sea, the lay minister shot by Indians, and a crazy man who terrorized the town. There were those who died by accident and those whose deaths were not by accident at all. Most importantly, there were those who lived their lives well, contributing much to their wonderful community! Please come and let us introduce you.

—The Amador County Cemetery Board

Getting to Know You

Cynthia Greer, Janet Kendig and Mara French

Please meet **Cynthia Greer**, one of our newer AAUW members! Cynthia was born on Fairchild AFB in Spokane, Washington, but her family soon returned to San Francisco where they lived since before 1906. Her great grandmother experienced the famous earthquake. This makes Cynthia a 4th generation San Franciscan.



After graduating from South San Francisco High School, Cynthia worked for Chevron a couple of years, then quit working with the birth of her twin daughters. A third daughter arrived later. After her divorce, she went back to college and became the first in her family to graduate from college - four weeks ahead of a male cousin. She attended Notre Dame de Namur and became involved in social activism on health-related issues.

Her favorite job was working as an office manager for a homeopath, osteopath and acupuncturist in Palo Alto. Cynthia developed a deep appreciation of traditional and alternative health care systems and their effectiveness. During this time Cynthia was building her own practice as a birth doula supported with her skills as a massage therapist and a reiki master which she did for 10 years. A birth doula is a birth companion and post-birth supporter who assists a woman before, during, and/or after childbirth.

However, babies don't know about regular work schedules and it was time to move on to less sleep disturbing pursuits. For years Cynthia had volunteered as a poll worker, then had an opportunity to work part-time in the Elections Office for San Mateo County. When a full-time position became available in Amador County, Cynthia jumped at the chance to move here in October of 2013. She is an Election Technician and is also a Deputy Commissioner of Civil Marriages.

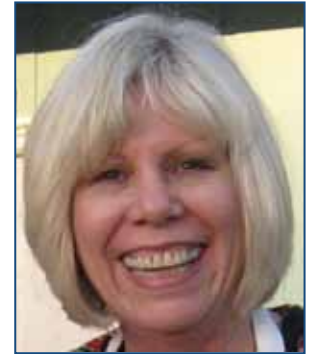
In her personal time, Cynthia is aspiring to achieve the status of a fiber artist. She has been converting her basement into a studio. In it you will find a weaving loom, three knitting machines and a couple of sewing machines. She also hand knits and needlepoints.

Cynthia belongs to a writing group here and also loves to read. She wants to make a contribution to the community which is why she has joined AAUW and will be one of five members who will be working on the Home Tour Quilt for 2016.

Cynthia lives in Jackson with two rescue dogs and two barn cats. She is eager to meet more AAUW members, so look for her at our evening events.

—Sue Harrington

Janet Kendig visited an AAUW meeting in 1991 with Betty Brandson, but felt it was for somebody who was living a different life at that time as she had three children, one a toddler, and many irons in the fire.



No country girl, Janet was born in Cleveland Ohio and grew up in Houston, Texas, doing most undergraduate work at Lamar University, but earning a BS in Social Rehabilitation and Social Services from Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas. "Working with troubled teens, I soon realized if someone had noticed their learning problems at a younger age, they might not have been in trouble. So I went back to school to learn how to teach." With a teaching credential and a BAT from Sam Houston State University, she became a Learning Disabled Resource Specialist and Educational Diagnostician.

In search of new horizons, she headed to California in 1980, where she later met and married another caring person, Chiropractor Armen Kendig. Looking for the best place to raise Justin, 13, and their three year old son, Evan, they learned that Amador County was rated as a likely to thrive California county in the next decade/century, "to grow, but not too much." Since Armen had gone to Delta College and done field studies there, they headed to the hills of Amador County and bought a house, where another son was born. "Colin's roots are in Pine Grove," she says with pride. Pine Grove has affected all three sons: When Evan saw the play, *How to Eat like a Child*, at Mountain Oaks School in San Andreas, he said "Next year I want to be in that play!" and he was. Colin was also enrolled and Janet was Mentor Teacher working at Mountain Oaks all within a few short months.

No wonder there was no time for AAUW. While homeschooling the boys and leading 4H, and eventually working full-time at Mountain Oaks Charter School (for homeschooling families), "I met mothers and professionals who think like I do." Special Ed? She smiles warmly. "All my students (and families) were special." She also coached (and still does) the Mountain Oaks Academic Decathlon team in speech and interviewing.

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Getting to Know You

(continued from page 5)

Her goal? To teach them “to say what’s on their minds and in their hearts.” Seventeen busy years passed before retirement at the conclusion of the 2013-2014 school year.

Along with all that, Janet taught Sunday school and sang in the choir of Trinity Episcopal church, while serving on their every board and committee, including, of course, Education for Ministry Mentor. How does she feel about retirement? “That was then and this is now. My kids are adults and hey,” she says with that quiet smile, “I care for others now in a different way.” Welcome to AAUW, Janet.

—by Helen Bonner

Mara French of Sutter Creek is one of our newer members. She was raised in Berkeley, graduated from Berkeley High in 1961, competing in speed skating, roller hockey, and the roller derby. After a short 10-month marriage at age 19 in which she had a son, she moved to Los Angeles. At General Dynamics, she met a Peace Corps summer intern who opened her eyes to moving to Spain.



In Madrid with her three-year old son, she worked for a tourist shop, an advertising agency, and attended the University of Madrid. Not wanting to leave Europe, but finding it difficult to live under the Franco regime, she and her son moved to Germany. She obtained a five-year civilian work contract with the U.S. Army in Heidelberg. Returning to the Bay area in 1973, she settled in San Jose. She completed her BS in recreation and leisure studies with a minor in graphic arts at San Jose State in 1975, just as the government severely cut funds for the Parks and Recreation Department. She opted to work using her minor in graphic arts.

In 1977, her company purchased a desktop publishing system without trained staff to run it. Of the three women in the Publications Department, Mara volunteered to learn the software, and that’s when her career took off. She combined art and writing and was able to publish newsletters and more. With these skills, companies contacted her at work, offering advanced jobs. Before college classes were offered in desk top publishing systems, Mara learned on the job. Later she received an AA in computer information systems at DeAnza College. That same year, her son graduated in the same field from Chico State University with an emphasis in International Communications. He returned to Germany where he has lived many years working for the United Nations and other companies. He and his wife

(coincidentally from Spain) and two children live in Trier. Mara feels as if she has a home in three countries.

In October 1990 on a trip to New Orleans, just for her own amusement, she had a “reading” done by a psychic who had been three times on the Johnny Carson Show. During the first five minutes, the room was silent while he stared at her, and she figured she had just lost \$5. The first words the psychic spoke were that she was going to buy a house about two hours from where she lived, and the house wasn’t going to be an ordinary house, but the house of her dreams, and that she was going to come into some money, not from inheritance, but from an unknown worldly event that hadn’t yet happened. Plus, he said that her trip to Russia with her mother was not going to take place the next year as they had planned because of this unknown worldly event, but that it would take place the following year. Mara wanted so much for the psychic’s story to come true, that she spent many weekends driving a two-hour radius from San Jose. When she entered Sutter Creek, driving north on Hwy 49 past the lovely old homes on the left, she was shaking with nervous excitement as if she has discovered gold. The psychic had told her “You only like older quaint cottages with shutters, a wraparound porch, and one full of gingerbread and charm”. She asked realtor Dick Flynn about such a house, and he said they had only one house for sale in town with that description. This was on February 10, 1991 when she had no savings whatsoever, and wrote him a check for \$1,000 to show her interest, but without any funds in the bank. Suddenly only two weeks later, when the Operation Desert Storm War was in full swing, her stock surged from \$8,000 to \$60,000. She sold the stock, bought the house, and her mother decided to cancel their vacation to Russia because of war unrest. Just days after she sold the stock, the war ended, and the stock dropped. The psychic also stated the exact amount the house would cost, as it was going up for auction. All of the psychic’s reading had come true; in fact, JoAnn Levy, a writer in Sutter Creek, published a book *The Sutter Creek Chronicles* based on this story which you can purchase at the Bubble Gum Book Store, or see <http://claim.goldrush.com/~joann/suttercreek.html>. Mara has not returned for any readings by anyone.

Retiring from Cadence Design Systems in October 2003, she moved into her dream house which she calls “The French Quarters”. She lovingly restored it and now also maintains two local rentals. She travels to Europe often, and also enjoys genealogy, the local German Club, concerts, writing/photography, classic cars, history, traveling, playing her clarinet in the Amador County Concert Band, her cat, and gardening. You can also see her at jazzercise. She joined AAUW in order to meet like-minded women.

—Bobbie Brubaker

April Libations & Conversations Set

AAUW Amador's Libations & Conversations group will meet Tuesday, April 21, 5:30-6:30 pm at the Imperial Hotel in Amador City. If weather permits we will meet on the back patio. Our topic of discussion will be "Raising Feminists: Not for Girls Only."

Mark your calendars and invite your friends. No RSVP is required. No host libations available at the bar

The discussion topic sheet from March Libations & Conversations is below. Come and join us for thought provoking discussions and a glass of wine.

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

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

April 14, 2015 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 1950's, 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*, 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 a 7 percent difference in the earnings of male and female college graduates one year after graduation, and *Behind the Pay Gap* found a 12 percent unexplained 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, 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?"

—Bonnie Krupp

Shasta College Offers ITV Classes in Amador

Amador Community College Foundation has forged a new partnership with Shasta College to bring additional Interactive Television (ITV) College Courses to Amador County. Interactive television uses videoconferencing technology for shared classes. In this type of shared class, students meet in a classroom equipped with cameras, microphones, and television monitors. Using two-way audio/video communications, ITV links the originating (sending) classroom at

regional colleges, where the teacher and some students are present, with the remaining students in our ITV classroom (receiving) site at the ACTC Center in Amador County. All classes are in real time and are interactive.

Karen Dickerson, AAUW member and Secretary of the Amador Community College Foundation, stated, "We are excited about the possibilities of expanding our ITV offerings with the additional classes that our partnership

with Shasta College provides. We are working with Shasta College in the next months to determine a course and sequence of degree and certificate programs through ITV as well. This model of college instruction overcomes barriers of distance and access for residents in rural counties. It's amazing to be in our classroom in Sutter Creek and join in college classes that are being taught on a college campus hundreds of miles away, fully interactive and in real time." She adds "ITV is like Skype

on steroids. It allows students and teachers to meet and work together across vast distances."

All ITV College Classes are held at the ACTC Center at 117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, CA 95685. Contact the Amador Learning Center by phone 223-6393 or email for more information regarding registering for classes for summer and fall 2015. ACUSD students took a field trip to ITV center to watch a class being broadcast from Shasta College!

Request for Interest Group Photos

Please e-mail me a few photos of the your interest group activities over the past year or in the next two months.

I'm interested in photos from...

- Book Groups
- Food Groups
- Garden Groupies
- Walking & Strolling
- Art in Action

Fun people shots are best! Anything AAUW! These photos will be used at the annual meeting to share with other branch members.

-Thank you, Sandi

Friends of the Amador County Library Invite You to the Spring



Book Sale

Friday, April 10, 4 – 7 pm
 (Friday: Members only—or Come Join!)
Saturday, April 11, 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday, April 12, 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, Umpqua Bank, Starbucks, Jackson Rancheria, Safeway, Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp

www.friendsofamadorkountylibrary.org



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. 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 April 13 we will be discussing *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline at the home of Floy Goulart. If you'd like to join this discussion, contact Floy by phone or email. Contact Robin Stolk if you'd like to join the Afternoon Book Group.



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

Jackie Martinez, Chair
jackiemartinezm@aol.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 April 27 we'll be discussing *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed at the home of Sarah Hart. If you'd like to join us, contact Sarah. If you'd like to join the book group, contact Jackie Martinez.

Cork & Fork

Greta McElroy, Chair
gretamcw@coastside.net

This group meets every other month 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. The next meeting of Cork & Fork is Sunday May 17 and details will be in May Gold Filings. For details about Cork & Fork or if you'd like to join the group, contact Greta McElroy.



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.



The Garden Group met in January to schedule our plans for the entire year. I think we came up with great destinations and we're all ready to get started. On April 22 we will go to Morningsun Herb Farm in Vacaville. They have every herb you could want and many varieties of lavender, plus a nice gift shop and a beautiful demonstration garden. It's a good time to get some herbs to plant in the spring. We'll meet in the parking lot next to the post office in Sutter Creek, a little earlier than usual. Be there by 9:30 am. Call or email Nancy Schuster if you can join us for this excursion.

Lunch Bunch

Kelli Garcia, Chair
kgarciaod@hotmail.com

Lunch Bunch meets the second Thursday of every month. We patronize new restaurants and local favorites. Each month a different hostess chooses the restaurant and makes the reservations. Attendees pay for their own meals. New Lunch Bunchers are always welcome. This month we meet Thursday, April 9 at 11:45 am at Panda House Chinese Restaurant in Martell. Carol Campbell is our hostess; please RSVP to her by Monday April 6. *carol1191@volcano.net*



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. Each hostess volunteers for a certain date and selects the recipes to spread the preparation among all the couples attending. Supper Club will celebrate spring with a brunch on April 25.

The Krupps and the Waits will each host part of the club at their homes.

Please contact Claire or Bonnie to join the fun this day. Please contact Claire Wait clairesc@sbcglobal.net, if you are interested in joining this group of people who enjoy good food and great company.



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. Please be sure to bring water/fluids. Bring ideas for walks for the coming months . . . bring friends or spouses . . . more is good! No need to RSVP. Contact Sheila for more information.

Branch Member Notes

Sunshine Update for March

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 the following branch members:

Sandy Campbell, Lani Chapman, Carolyn Hennings, Gretchen Kingsbury, Myrna-Kay Robison, and Mary Thorpe.

—Lynne Brumit

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with April birthdays.

Karen Baker	Marilyn Hoopes
Sandra Campbell	Rosalie Perfler
Andrea Sexton Danczyk	Carol Smallfield
Kelli Garcia	Mary Thorpe
Floy Goulart	

Other News

Loretta Porteous has a new email address. Please change Loretta's email in your directory to: lorettaporteous@gmail.com

Susan Staggs has moved to Sonoma. Contact her for her new address and phone at usanstaggs61@gmail.com

Here is a note from **Marjorie Craig**.

My house has not sold yet, so still live in Pine Grove; however, am spending more time in San Jose.

We are scheduled to leave for our 25 days Health and Hygiene Mission in Mombasa April 14. We will continue our training, support, and plan on constructing a school latrine and water harvesting system at Gods Vision Day Care and School in one of the villages. We also have been providing food for the school feeding program at this site since 2011. We did not conduct a mission last summer, so we are eager to work with the children, parents, and teachers.

Amador AAUW members, along with other supportive organizations in the county, have provided such valuable support to Kenyan children. Along with the direct support of our fundraisers and volunteers, one of our AAUW members made one of the largest donations of support we have received. Often I am so involved in trying to obtain the resources and get them to Mombasa for the children that I am remiss in taking the time to adequately express our board's appreciation for all the generous service and support we receive.

I am aware of the emphasis that our organization places on girls and women; and children in general, including boys. In

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Mombasa where we serve each time we are able to provide food for the school feeding program, a girl or boy is not only able to get a solid meal, they are empowered to resist sexual oppression. Where we serve it is estimated that over 30,000 boys and girls are engaged in the sex trade for pure survival.

So, I salute our chapter for the support of the children. We are blessed to be a part of their lives and to know indeed that the children, wherever they are, are our children...from Amador county to the world!

Please keep us in your prayers.

Marjorie

New Member Contact Information

Liz Powell
mslizpowell@gmail.com

Sandra Bowman
Sbowman56@gmail.com

Jeannette Jentzen (Jeannie)
jsjentzen@gmail.com

Cathy Castillo
ccastillocpa@gmail.com

Cynthia Butle
cityeachnyc@yahoo.com

*American Association of
 University Women
 Amador Branch Presents*



*April 18, 2015
 11 am ~ 4 pm*

*Tickets: \$22
 (\$25 on the day of the Tour)
 Cash or check only*

*Purchase Tickets After
 March 16 at:*

- Jackson: Lady's First*
- Ione: Ione Pharmacy*
- Pine Grove: Pine Cone Drug*
- Plymouth: Amador 360*
- Sutter Creek: Coming Attractions*

On Tour Day:

Locations above and Amador STARS, 60 Ridge Road, Suite D, Sutter Creek (between Barron's Furniture and Umpqua Bank, about 1/2 block east of the signal at Sutter Hill).

*Questions? Contact Lani at
 209/245-6052 or at chapman@volcano.net*