

Gold Filings

Amador Branch
American Association
of University Women



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Join fellow Members along with Spouses
or Significant Others for a Festive Afternoon

AMADOR AAUW HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Please bring a Savory or Sweet Appetizer to share.

Wine, tea, coffee, water,
and hot cider will be provided.



SUNDAY

December 7, 2014
3:00 to 6:00 PM

The Baracco Home



RSVP to Peggy Jolley by December 4th



Hotel Toiletries will also be collected
for Operation Care's Safe House

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.

President's Message

by Michele Powell

I want to send holiday greeting to all and my best wishes for a happy and healthy new year.

November STEM Program

The STEM program on November 13 was a great success with over 50 people in attendance. See the article on page 3.

November Libations & Conversations

Seventeen women around the table at the November meeting at the National Hotel in Jackson; three were new attendees who had not been to a gathering before. The conversation topic was

role models and it really resonated with the group. See the article on L&C on page 4.

Holiday Open House

Our next gathering is the holiday open house on Sunday December 7, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the home of Sandi & Bruce Baracco in Sutter Creek. All details are on page 1. I hope to see you there.

Please see Norma King's message on page 7 about how we can help feed the hungry this holiday time.

—Michele

Board News & Updates

Board Briefs: November 20 Meeting

- VP Programs Sandi Baracco led the meeting.
- Sunshine Chair, Lynne Brumit, sent cards to: Bernice Honeychurch, Lynn Morgan, Andrea Sexton, Susan Staggs, and Lisa Watson (homeowner for 2015 Home Tour).
- The current Amador Community Foundation balance is \$18,031.18.
- Treasurer Isabel Singleton presented her report. Total expenses in October were \$1,547.24.
- Home Tour Chair, Nancy Schuster, gave her report including highlights; Jo Ogburn's painting of Avio residence will be used for the AAUW Home Tour poster. The CA Highway Patrol's Explorers will help with parking at two homes in Surrey Junction.
- Lani Chapman proposed the creation of a Stephen Honeychurch memorial scholarship for 2015; means to implement were discussed. Board approved the scholarship.
- January International Program on Ecuador's Rainforest featuring Kelsi Himmel (head of the Science Dept. at Argonaut H.S.) will be held Wednesday, January 14, 4:00-5:30 p.m. The March Women's History program needs a lead. If no one steps up, there won't be a program.

- Web editor Sue Harrington presented the alternative of using AAUW National as our website service at a savings of approximately \$500 a year when our contract with In Full Color expires in April. Board discussed and voted to use National's service.
- Holiday Open House will be Sunday, December 7, 2014, 3-6 p.m.
- Susan Staggs reported that we have 92 members and 12 members have agreed to be an "AAUW friend" to a new member.
- Next board meeting is January 15, 2015.

January Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on January 15. 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.

January Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the January issue of Gold Filings is **December 27**. Sooner is better, especially as holiday activities will impact all our schedules. Please submit material as soon as you can. Thank you.

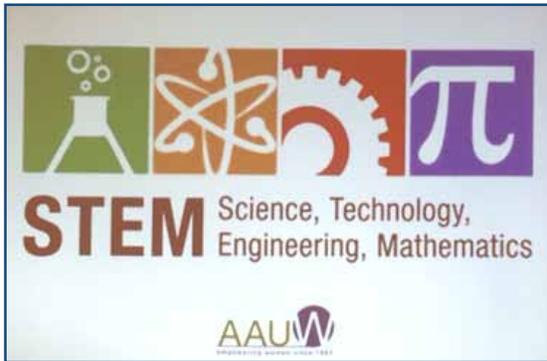


November STEM Program Report

The STEM program on November 13 was a great success with 55 people attending. It was exciting to learn about the STEM activities and opportunities in the Amador County school system. Many thanks to our speakers: Elizabeth Chapin-Pinotti, ACUSD Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; and Kelly

Carlson, Tech Trek chair, who contacted the TT girls; to Sandi Baracco, Program VP who was also the lead and a presenter. Special mention also needs to go to hospitality co-chairs, Sandy Campbell and Claire Wait for their amazing on the spot food and decorations. Many thanks go to Kathy Allen for her work taking photographs. AAUW

Hunkins, Principal of Pine Grove Elementary, a STEM Magnet School. We had presentations from our Tech Trek scholarship recipients from the past several years; it was exciting to hear from them about how their Tech Trek experience changed their young lives.

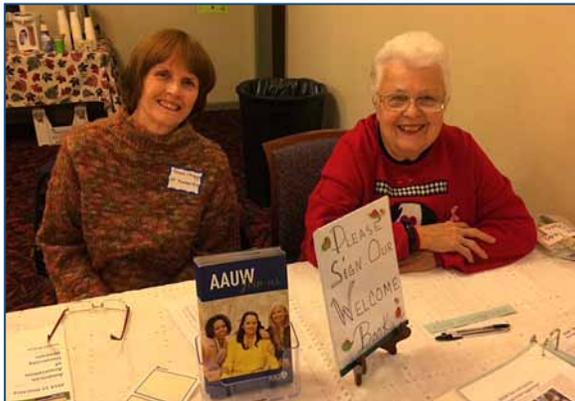


husbands, Bruce Baracco and Jim Powell came early and stayed late helping with room set-up and the sound system.

This program could not have happened without the efforts of many members and we thank them all. Particular recognition goes to Gretchen

Branch member Kelli Garcia attended STEM with her ten-year-old 5th grade daughter, Jacqueline, who was inspired by the presentations.

After the program Kelli said, "The STEM program was terrific tonight. My daughter wants to go to the charter



Fifty-five people attended the November STEM Program.

school now."

I believe that branch member Susan Staggs spoke for all

of us when she said, "I just felt especially proud to be a member of AAUW last night!"

Stephen Honeychurch Memorial Scholarship

Bernice and Stephen Honeychurch have been contributing members of AAUW Amador over many years. They have supported a wide range of AAUW activities, and have opened their home for a great many branch events.

Last month, Stephen tragically and unexpectedly passed away. We will miss his delightfully jovial, fully engaged, immersion in life.

To honor Stephen the board would like to designate a scholarship in his memory this year. We take this opportunity to remember Stephen with great fondness in a manner that we believe he would have appreciated.

Checks should be made out to the **AAUW Honeychurch Scholarship Fund.**

Donations can be brought to the Holiday Party on December 7 or mailed to the address below.

AAUW
Honeychurch Memorial Scholarship
P.O. Box 611
Sutter Creek CA 95685

-Lani Chapman



Getting to Know You: Katie Scott

Katie, a relatively recent arrival to the county, joined AAUW Amador after finding the Libations and Conversation group last year. She and her husband, Rob, moved to Ione in 2010 from the Bay Area, looking for a piece of land where they could have their horses on the property.

She was raised in Santa Cruz, received a BA in Social Science from the University of California at Berkeley and then an MBA with an emphasis in Human Resources from Drexel University in Philadelphia.

She has worked in Human Resources for her entire career,

and currently leads a team of compensation, benefits and HR systems professionals at Shutterfly, Inc. Luckily, she gets to work from home three days per week to be able to enjoy our county and have the lifestyle she wants.

Katie has two young adult daughters, both college graduates. Marissa, 25, is a CPA and works for a public accounting firm in Santa Clara. Abby, 23,



has a degree in Psychology and works as a job coach for disabled adults in Santa Rosa. Katie also has two stepchildren. Justin, 27, is fulfilling a lifetime love of airplanes and is a flight attendant with Alaska Airlines. Emily, 21, will graduate college in 2015 with a business degree and is looking forward to a career in that field.

Katie and Rob have become big wine lovers with the abundance of great wineries in the area. Part of the year, Rob works at Terra D'Oro in the cellar, and the rest of the year splits his time between a metal engraving business and managing their 40 acres.

Katie is always busy – when not working, she is either riding her horses or canning fruits and vegetables coming from the garden. Last year, she even won Best in Division at the Amador County Fair for her canned pears.

–Submitted by Katie Scott

Libations & Conversations Catches On

Libations & Conversations is catching on! After just one year, the group now has an email list of 43 women who have attended meetings.

Modeled after an AAUW “Program in a Box”, Libations & Conversations was begun in October 2013 by a committee of four AAUW Amador members: Lani Chapman, Bonnie Krupp, Suzanne Nicholson, and Susan Staggs. The goal of the group is to reach out to working women and women with young children who are unable to participate in AAUW’s daytime activities, thereby attracting a different demographic to our organization. L&C also appeals to some of our retired and

single women who enjoy meeting new, interesting women and exploring provocative topics of conversation.

The format is simple. The group meets monthly from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on various week nights at rotating venues. There is no RSVP required. We gather for no-host drinks and to discuss different topics led by one of the committee members. Everyone is asked to fill out a card with their email address and ideas for future topics of conversation. At the end of the meeting, one of



Seventeen women gathered for L&C on November 5th in Stan’s Room at the National Hotel in Jackson. The topic “You can’t be what you can’t see” (the importance of role models) resonated with the group.

the cards is drawn for the door prize. Past topics of conversation have included women in media, building the pipeline of women candidates, pay equity, defining and finding work/life balance, email etiquette and role models, to name a few.

In the future, the commit-

tee will ask others in the group to lead the topics plus we will have outside speakers from time to time. For example, in January Cathy Yochheim will introduce the stress management topic and our guest speaker from Sutter Health.

Have you noticed all the new members to AAUW Amador lately? Many of them were introduced to the organization at an L&C meeting. L&C is not meeting in December, but meets again on Thursday, January 27, at Element (Hanford Hotel) in Sutter Creek.

–Susan Staggs



Two Branch Members Elected to County, City Offices

On behalf of the board of directors and the entire membership, I offer hearty congratulations to Lynn Morgan and Andrea Sexton on their election to office in Amador County. Lynn was elected to the County Board of Supervisors from Upcounty District 3. Andrea was elected to the Sutter Creek City Council. This was the first run for public office for both. We applaud Lynn and Andrea for their

commitment to our community and to public service.

Comments from Lynn

I am both honored and humbled by the support from D3 voters to have won this election for Supervisor. I am especially thankful to AAUW members for their support. I will represent all citizens in District 3 and the County, including those who did not vote for

me to accomplish our goals.

One of the County's next big issues is reviewing and eventually approving our Amended General Plan and EIR. I plan to include as many citizens as possible in this review as this is a critical document for planning our future.

Please plan to work with me in my new job.

Comment from Andrea

I am honored to join the City Council, and look forward to serving all the residents of Sutter Creek during my four-year term. In the race for Sutter Creek City Council, the final count proved that every vote does count as I won this seat by just 21 votes.

—Michele Powell

Home Tour Update

The 2015 Home Tour is fortunate to have the help of the Explorers, volunteers at the Amador Office of the Highway Patrol, to serve as parking attendants at the two homes located on Surrey Junction that pose unusual parking concerns. We still need to enlist parking attendants from husbands, friends, and neighbors for the other properties, so please try to recruit one or more. The Hostess chairs will try to assign spouses at the same sites, so you just need one car to make this happen. No volunteers yet for sign placement on tour day. We have new, lightweight signs that are easy to transport and place. This is the perfect job for a team (of two – one drives, the other plants). Just send me the names and cell phone numbers. Thank you.

—Nancy Schuster

March Program –Plea for a Lead

HELP! Help! HELP! Help! HELP! Help! HELP! HELP!

We are still looking for a Lead Person for the March Program. Many ideas have been suggested, including a focus on Women's History or just a purely social function. Remember the chocolate theme from a couple of years ago? It is the choice of the Lead and any of her fellow organizers. Thank you.

—Sandi Baracco

Do You Have a Projector?

The branch needs a projector that can be connected to a computer for a PowerPoint presentation. Does anyone have one that we can borrow for the January 14 meeting? Perhaps you know where we could rent one? Thank you for any help.

Hello–Nice to Meet You. What's Your Name?

Please remember to wear your name badges to the holiday gathering next Sunday. We have so many new members who don't know you and who you don't know. Seeing a member's name will make starting a conversation with a new member so much easier.

If you are a new member and haven't received your name badge yet, it will be at the open house as will the remaining directories. Thank you.

Are You Attending the Holiday Open House?

Please respond to Peggy Jolley by the December 4 deadline and sooner if possible. Having the attendance numbers is a great help to those who are planning the event: Sandi and Bruce Baracco, Sandy Campbell and Claire Wait, Co-Chairs for Hospitality.

After all, we wouldn't want to run short of wine.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

—Michele



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. The Afternoon Book Group will be discussing *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn at the home of Ruth Murrill on December 15. We meet at 2 p.m. If you wish to join us, call Ruth.



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
jackiemartinez@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 December 8 we will have our annual holiday potluck lunch and view a film. We're meeting at the home of Michele Powell; if you'd like to join us, call or email Michele.

Cork & Fork

Greta McElroy, Chair
gretamcw@coastside.net

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. The next meeting of Cork & Fork is January 11. If you'd like to join the group or want more information, 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 Groupies will attend a December Wreath or Swag Class on December 13th offered by Millie Butler especially to the Groupies. We may design some works of art at that class, and if so, photos will be shared! Contact Nancy if you'd like to attend.

Start making lists of the gardens we want to visit next year. We'll plan our schedule at the January meeting.

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.

Lunch Bunch is taking a holiday break and will next meet on January 11. Details will be in January Gold Filings. For other information or to join the group, contact Kelli Garcia.



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 couple contributes something to the meal as we meet and enjoy good friends and good food. Please contact Claire Wait for information and to 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.

Share Holiday Joy With Those Less Fortunate

Throughout the month of December our local grocery stores have programs to help the hungry with donations to the Interfaith Food Bank.

Raley's

A contribution of \$10 is doubled by Raley's to \$20. Check out their display in the front of the store with the teddy bears and contribute when you check out. This is the only store that matches your donation. They will match a donation no matter how big or small.

Safeway

Safeway has bags already assembled for \$10 each. Their slogan is Help us end hunger! You pay \$10 to the cashier for the bag and drop it off in the donation bin on the other side of the cashier.

Save Mart

Save Mart takes donations for breakfast, lunch and dinner (\$2, \$3, \$5) or whatever amount you would like to donate. The cashiers will take donations. All proceeds go to the food bank.

Great Finds Thrift Store

Do you need to clean out your cupboards or closets? All items including furniture are welcomed at Interfaith Great Finds Thrift Store on Sutter Hill. All proceeds go to the Interfaith Food Bank. Last year the thrift store's contribution was

Branch Member Notes

Sunshine Update for November

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.

Bernice Honeychurch

Andrea Sexton

Lynn Morgan

Susan Staggs

Lynne Brumit

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with December birthdays.

Joann Chevrette

Susan Staggs

Suzanne Nicholson

Kelly Trottier

Loretta Porteous

Cathy Yochheim

Michele Powell

\$66,000. What an easy way to give.

I hope your holidays are blessed and that you can be a blessing to others.

—Norma King, Community Liaison

