

# 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 and Pine Grove STEM School Present Science Saturday – May 6th

*By Karen Dickerson*

Kids will explore science while participating in up to 30 hands-on STEM-related activities, during “Science Saturday” at Pine Grove Elementary STEM Magnet School on Saturday, May 6 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Build an arched bridge, experiment with solar powered cars, dig for rocks, fossils and artifacts, make a circuit to understand electricity, watch drone flights, make & take things that fly and float, marvel at robotics and satellites on display, giggle as you experiment with slime, and much, much, more! Open house format.

Science Saturday is a FREE family friendly event. Best for ages K-6 and must be accompanied by an adult. Science Saturday is hosted by AAUW-Amador and Pine Grove Elementary STEM Magnet School and sponsored by generous grants from the Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort and Amador Community Foundation.

## SPECIAL Presentation – 10-11 AM



Hot Air Balloon Demonstration sponsored by Pine Grove Civic Improvement Club and AAUW-Amador Branch.

Cheers Aerial Media will introduce students to the basics of thermodynamics and the wonders of hot air ballooning, mankind’s earliest form of flight, 10 to 11 AM during Science Saturday. The demonstration will consist of two components: a 30-minute talk on the science and history of ballooning followed by a field demonstration and inflation of the hot air balloon equipment (weather permitting).



## Science Saturday Presented by



Lunch will be available for purchase at the event offered by PAWS (Parents Association Working for Children)



***Pine Grove Elementary School***  
***Saturday, May 6, 2017 10:00AM - 2:00PM***  
***FREE FAMILY EVENT***

Science Saturday is an interactive day of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) activities and exploration that will fuel kids' passion for a lifetime. We are inviting students in grades K-6 County wide to have the opportunity to do science with us. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

## President's Message

Dear All,

Our 45th Annual Home Tour was successful in every way: sunshine, intriguing venues, and captivating homes, and the preliminary returns look very promising; approximately \$14,000, net of expenses. Final numbers will be released once all costs and revenues have been accounted for. Sandy Campbell won the gorgeous quilt! A colossal thank you to Sandi Baracco and her hard working team for investing their time and energy to make the Home Tour one of the best ever. Well Done!

Science Saturday is up next – Saturday, May 6th. The committee has outdone themselves putting together AAUW Amador's first event of its kind. The response from the community, local educators, the schools, and members has been outstanding. We have 40 exhibits planned, including a planetarium/astro lab, robotics, solar experiments, hot air balloon demonstration, and more. It's not too late to volunteer to support our young STEM

enthusiastists – we're expecting 100+ kids and could use some additional help!!

May 25 – L&C becomes Conversations and Refreshments for the Tech Trek and Scholarship Award Ceremony from 5:30 to 7:00 at the Hotel Sutter. AAUW will provide small bites and non-alcoholic drinks and host a discussion about careers and education. As with our regularly scheduled L&C meetings, wine will be available for purchase.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 10. We're still working on a location.

Note: we still have open Board and Chair positions. Please consider supporting this Branch by carving some time out of your schedule and becoming more active.

Warmly,  
Santee

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## Board and Chair Positions for 2017-2018

Thank you to all the branch members who have joined the leadership team for 2017-2018.

### Proposed Elected Postions

**Co-Presidents:** Santee Bowman and Rebecca Wilson

**President-Elect:** Open

**Secretary:** Sara Wilson

**Membership VP:** Janet Kendig

**Funds VP:** Open

**Program VP:** Open (*Could be shared by multiple people*)

**Treasurer:** Bonnie Krupp

### Proposed Appointed Postions

**Bylaws:** Karen Baker

**Historian:** Sandi Baracco

**Public Policy/Education Equity Chair:** Karen Dickerson

**Tech Trek Chair:** Gretchen Carlson

**Sunshine:** Lynne Brumit

**Directory Editor and Website Editor:** Michele Powell

**Facebook Editor:** Santee Bowman

**Libations & Conversations Committee:** Katie Scott and Deborah Dillon (*additional help welcome*)

**Hospitality Committee:** Debra Brown with help from Brenda Walker (*additional help welcome*)

**Newsletter Editor:** Rebecca Wilson

**Publicity & Communications:** Open

**Scholarships:** Open

**Community Liaison:** Open

We are building a even stronger branch and if you'd like to be part of it by taking a position, there are still openings. If you have any questions about what is required, contact Michele Powell.

## Amador STARS Needs Volunteers

Amador STARS is in need of drivers to take cancer patients to medical appoints. People can volunteer to be a regular driver, or a substitute. 209-267-1246 is the number at the office.

## Board Briefs – 4/11/17

Membership -- Sara Wilson: “Getting to Know You” interviews pending for 3 new members

Publicity – Myrna-Kay Robison: publicity for Women’s Day event, upcoming Science Saturday and Home Tour.

Scholarships & Tech Trek – Tech Trek, Community College and Upper Division – Sandee Bowman reported 5 Tech Trek, 4 Community College, and 2 Upper Division scholarships to be awarded at May Libations & Conversations, May 25 at 5:30 in Hotel Sutter banquet room.

Date in June for Annual Meeting: Tentative date of June 10.

Science Saturday Update – Everything progressing with good participation. Additional volunteers welcome. Will be held Saturday, May 6, 10—2 at Pine Grove STEM School. Grant from Rancheria underwriting some of the expenses.

Home Tour Update – Final Days Countdown: Sandi Baracco reported that houses, tours, shuttles, etc., arranged. Tear sheets going home in school packets and will, hopefully, be present during the Friends of the Library book sale which is the same weekend.

Mentoring Program - To be continued at a later time if there is sufficient interest and participation.

Nominating Committee Update – Many board and committee positions still open for 2017-2018.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 9 @ 6 p.m. at Paisano’s Pizza in Jackson, CA.

Submitted by: Janet Kendig, Secretary

## Tech Trek Update

*By Gretchen Carlson, Tech Trek Chair*

Five bright young women were recently selected to be Amador Branch AAUW Tech Trek sponsorship recipients. Tech Trek is a weeklong Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) camp, put on by AAUW. Our girls attend camp at CSU Fresno. This year, 20 girls were nominated, and 13 applied for the sponsorship. Kathy Guletz, Rita Bohl and I enjoyed interviewing the girls and getting to know them a bit. We’re very impressed with how intelligent and poised these seventh graders are! All the girls would have been good candidates for Tech Trek, and it was difficult to decide on just 5. But we are so pleased that we can send that many, the most we have ever sent.

This year the recipients are Abby Henness, Trinity Machi, Emma Cranfill, Annessa Thompson, and Jacquie Garcia. Jacquie is the daughter of AAUW member Kelli Garcia. This is the first time a daughter of one of our members has gone to Tech Trek. Please join us at the Hotel Sutter on May 25, where you will have the opportunity to meet the recipients. Congratulations to all the young ladies!!



In other Tech Trek news, each year I attempt to contact all past TTer to find out what is going on in their lives. Since we first sent girls to Tech Trek in 2003, 39 Amador County girls have attended. I have lost track of many of the girls, but this year I have heard back from about 10 of them. One of the young ladies, Samantha Fischer, is attending San Francisco State University. This coming summer will be the 4th time she has returned to Tech Trek as a junior counselor!! She also connected with AAUW in San Francisco, and was on their TT interview committee! Another one of our past campers,

Rebecca Boulden, will be majoring in Neuroscience. Another, Breanne Orey, graduated from UC Merced, and is in graduate school in London, where she will get her MSc in sport and exercise psychology.

All the girls who write back to me express what a positive experience Tech Trek was for them. Many are still in touch with girls they met at camp. This year, three past and one current TTer helped at the Home Tour tea. Six will be assisting at Science Saturday. Stop by and say hello to them!!

## Getting to Know You: Valerie Rodman

Born in the East Bay, Valerie Rodman completed kindergarten and 1st grade in Oakland and San Leandro. During the late 1940's the Rodman grandparents, after moving to California from their Minnesota farm, purchased several acres in Pine Grove. The property was subdivided so that each of seven children received 5 acres of land. Valerie's father, Donovan Rodman, was the oldest son. Elton Rodman, the next son, decided to buy a large parcel of adjacent land and moved his family from Chicago to begin what was named Pine Acres. In the early 1950's Donovan assisted Elton in developing Pine Acres Resort (later sold and now known as Gold Country Resort) and the land parcels for sale. Valerie attended Pioneer School. Her father thought the 3 room school was more modern than Pine Grove's 1 room schoolhouse. Later the Elton Rodman family developed and now operate the Roaring Camp Mining Company Resort. It was a wonderful childhood. During the mid-60's Valerie's father became a Realtor in Long Beach, CA. and moved the family to Southern California. However, every summer Valerie returned to Pine Acres.

Valerie chose University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) for her education because it was close to Pine Grove. There she enrolled in a dual baccalaureate program in Anthropology and Geology/Earth Science and graduated with a BA in 1978. Also, Valerie minored in Art. She followed this in 1985 with a MA in Anthropology with specializations in Historical Archeology and Historic Preservation.

She was the Lead Interpreter/Naturalist for Nevada State Parks for 2 years. In the 1980's she worked as an Archeologist for Nevada DOT, UNR, and private firms. She held teaching positions at UNR and the Truckee Meadows Community College. Her career took a big turn when she started with Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission as a transportation planner. This led to planning manager positions with: San Joaquin County, Placer County Transportation Commission,

Washington State DOT, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). With FHWA Fed Lands Division she performed transportation planning in the Northwestern National Parks including projects in Denali, Rainier, and Glacier. Next, Valerie served as the FHWA Nevada Division's Transportation Planning Manager. At FHWA Valerie was selected to join the Executive Potential Program (EPP). During this program, she interned as the Assistant Division Administrators in the Hawaii and Nevada Divisions. Also, as part of the EPP, Valerie served in Washington, DC on the White House Committee for the Marine Transportation System.

After retirement Valerie moved back to Pine Acres. She is currently building a new home behind the original 1950's cabin. Acting as the Owner Builder this project is challenging, as well as fun! She feels that this location still allows her to be close to her son Tim and grandson Alex who live in Reno. It will surely keep her busy for months choosing everything that goes into building a home and running through antique stores to select just the right accents. Valerie hopes to make time for her other passions such as hiking, kayaking, and snowshoeing with her son and grandson, traveling, painting, reading, and volunteering.



Valerie Rodman

## Upcoming Refreshments & Conversations

This year we will be combining our popular Libations & Conversations with our Tech Trek and Scholarship Award Ceremony. On May 25th we will meet at the Hotel Sutter from 5:30 to 7 PM to celebrate these amazing young women and of course discuss careers and education. AAUW will provide some small bites and non-alcoholic drinks. As always drinks will also be available for purchase. We hope to see you there!

The L&C planning team could use your help! If you would like to partner to help find venues, speakers, and plan dates, please reach out to Katie Scott at [kbscott3576@gmail.com](mailto:kbscott3576@gmail.com).



# Amador Community College Foundation (ACCF) Presents El Festival Flamenco – A Night in Spain

The Amador Community College Foundation presents its 5th annual gala – El Festival Flamenco – A Night in Spain at the Jackson Rancheria Casino Grand Oak Ballroom on Saturday, July 22nd, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

When one thinks of a flamenco festival, or any music festival, one conjures an image of open air, moonlight sky, and all the aromas that a warm summer's night has to offer. One of the major aspects of a flamenco festival is the proximity of the bar, where people congregate to have a few drinks and conversation. Start the night on the Garden Terrace under the twinkle lights with live music from Daniel Frías and Company as they

serenade you with traditional Spanish acoustic guitars while you sip on sangria and munch on tapas. Then head into the Grand Oak Ballroom for an upscale Spanish Fest while flamenco entertainment awaits.

Your passport to El Festival Flamenco – A Night in Spain is offered at: <http://www.jacksoncasino.com/entertainment/full-schedule> under Concerts and Events for \$100 per plate. Tables of 10 are available for groups.

All proceeds benefit Amador College Connect operated by the Amador Community College Foundation, a volunteer non-profit organization whose mission is to advocate, facilitate, and support higher education in Amador County.

El Festival Flamenco – A Night in Spain is a rare opportunity for Amador County to join together for a fun filled evening while raising much-needed funds for Amador College Connect, which provides accredited college degree, certificate, and transfer programs locally. “This year more than ever, we appreciate the generous contributions from our friends in Amador County who continue to support the Amador Community College Foundation,” states Paul Molinelli, Jr., ACCF Board Chair. Molinelli said the funds raised at the event will help ACCF expand its course offerings, increase its classroom space, support the internship program, and provide technology upgrades. “We want to expand our service hours too and that means adding additional staff. Your financial support will help us serve more of our local residents with ongoing mentoring and tutoring,” Molinelli adds.

Amador College Connect offers more than 40 AA/AS degrees and certificate programs provided locally through distance education. There are two physical venues: one for student support services of mentoring, tutoring, and collaboration, the other for interactive video courses. ACCF's offerings include content from Allan Hancock College, Coastline Community College, Foothill Community College, and Shasta College. ACCF programs are especially appealing to those students who lack transportation, need financial assistance, work full time, or want to save money for their four-year goals.

El Festival Flamenco – A Night in Spain promises to be an unforgettable night of style, surprises, and amusement, benefiting a worthy cause. Surely an event not to be missed! Can you help us raise funds for more college programs in Amador County? We need your help because so many of our young people can't afford to go away to college.

## Home Tour Update

by Sandi Baracco

We were graced with perfect weather for our Home Tour, so we guessed correctly on which weekend to shift the date around Easter. Our five fantastic historic homes and five living history sites did not disappoint, not to mention all the extras scheduled for the same weekend in Sutter Creek, the Foundry Open House, Drama Festival, Little League Baseball, a Wedding, and Car Show. Thank you to all that helped in every large and small way. Sunshine and Happy Folks!

We will have a more detailed report after our wrap up meeting on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 11 AM for our traditional Salad Luncheon.

### The Revenue first glance:

• 454 tickets sold	\$11,406
• Quilt ticket sales	1,411
• Sponsor revenue	3,550
• Donation (Rancheria)	1,000
• Total revenue	\$17,367

### The Expenses first glance:

• Opportunity Quilt	\$ 524
• Printing Expenses	1,562
• Publicity	388
• Shuttle Bus	250
• Miscellaneous	114
• Total Expenses	\$ 3,043

**Net Proceeds** **\$14,324**



AMADOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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## 2017 Home Tour Opportunity Quilt

Our 2017 Home Tour quilt raised \$1,411 this year for scholarships for women and girls. THANK YOU to all of our members who purchased and sold tickets for the opportunity quilt. Your efforts account for over 65% of the funds raised on ticket sales so your participation is important.

We appreciate the members who took the quilt to other organizations' meetings. These included Teresa Ryan (Sutter Creek Women's Club), Jackie Martinez (Castle Oaks Woman's Club), Sierra Gold Quilters Guild (Aieleen Parker and Sue Harrington), Mother Lode Quilters' Guild (Sue Harrington) and the Home Tour Tea (Lynne Brumit).

The quilt was won by our own Sandy Campbell. Congratulations, Sandy!

A great deal of time and effort goes into making the quilt, so the quilters - Aieleen Parker, JoAnn Ogburn and Sue Harrington - thank you for your time and effort selling tickets and the tickets you purchased. We are sure that those who receive scholarships in the coming year also appreciate your efforts.



## Special Interest Groups

### Afternoon Book Group

Robin Stolk, Chair  
[robinfstolk@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 May 8th at Floy Goulart's home. We will discuss *Still Life with Breadcrumbs* by Anna Quindlen. New members are welcome. If you'd like to join the group, contact Robin Stolk.



### Art in Action

Bev York, Chair  
[likacb@volcano.net](mailto: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 Tabeau. 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 next meeting.



### Book Lovers & Page Turners

Jackie Martinez, Chair  
[jackiemartinez@aol.com](mailto:jackiemartinez@aol.com)

Come join us! We meet at 2 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month (except December) at members' homes. We have great discussions about books while sharing a light dessert. New members are welcome. Our next meeting is May 22 at the home of Sue Harrington. We'll discuss *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. 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.



### Cork & Fork

Michele Powell, Chair  
[powell.michele288@gmail.com](mailto:powell.michele288@gmail.com)

The Cork & Fork 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 of Cork & Fork is Sunday, May 21st at the usual time, 5:30 PM. If you'd like to join C&F or want to know about the interest group, contact Michele Powell.



### Garden Groupies

Judy Venckus, Chair  
[venckus@aol.com](mailto: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. Garden Groupies will have a docent-lead tour of Capitol Park in Sacramento on May 17. We will meet at the parking lot next to the Sutter Creek post office at 10 am and car pool to Sacramento. Lunch will follow, of course. Contact Claire Wait for more information.



### Lunch Bunch

Kelli Garcia, Chair  
[kgarciaod@hotmail.com](mailto:kgarciaod@hotmail.com)

Lunch Bunch is meeting at Bella Cucina in Jackson on May 11th at noon. Please RSVP by to Kelli Garcia at [kgarciaod@hotmail.com](mailto:kgarciaod@hotmail.com).



### Supper Club

Claire Wait, Chair  
[clairesc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clairesc@sbcglobal.net)

Supper Club will have five fabulous dinners in 2017. Supper Club will meet over Memorial Day weekend at Claire and Tom Wait's home. The menu will feature Red, White, and Blue food. Please call Claire for more information.





Continued from previous page



**Working Girls' Book Group**

The Working Girls' Book Group will be discussing *Mom & Me & Mom* by Maya Angelou on June 6th at 6PM. Location to be determined. Please contact Rebecca Wilson at rdiannaw75@icloud.com for more information.

**May Board Meeting**

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9th. We meet at 6 PM at Paisano's Pizza in Jackson. All branch members are welcome.

Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month except for August and December when the Board takes a vacation.

**Amador Senior Center:  
Executive Director  
Position**

The Amador Senior Center, 229 New York Ranch Road, Jackson California, has the position of Executive Director (ED) available for full time employment effective the summer 2017.

The ED serves as the chief administrator of the Center, with overall strategic and operational responsibility. The ED is under direction of, and accountable to, the Board of Directors who establishes the Center's strategic goals and financial objectives. The ED must have a vision and the skills to lead the Center forward by recommending timely programs, activities and information services specific to the community. We encourage those with the education, skills, experience and a desire to serve the community to apply.

A complete job description and application is available at [www.amadorseniorcenter.org](http://www.amadorseniorcenter.org) or call 209-223-0442. Applications are due by May 15.

**Branch Member Notes**

**Sunshine Update for May**

I would like to thank all of you for letting me know who to send Sunshine cards to. Your help in spreading a little Sunshine is appreciated.

Since our last issue of *Gold Filings*, I have sent sunshine cards to Kelly Trottier, Michele Powell, Lani Chapman, Suzanne Krutetzer, and Isabel Singleton.

—Lynne Brumit

**Birthdays**

Best wishes to our members with birthdays.

**May**

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Debra Brown        | Aieleen Parker |
| Bobbie Brubaker    | Judy Venckus   |
| Judy Lerner-Liston |                |

**New Members**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Deborah Dillon</b><br>11959 Colt Dr<br>Sutter Creek, CA 95685<br>Deborah@vnt.cc<br>Missouri State University -<br>BS in Sociology<br>The travel institute - certified<br>travel counselor<br>Spouse name - Jim<br>Date of birth 09/15 | <b>Jacquelyn Fletcher</b><br>240 Walnut St<br>Jackson, CA 95642<br>Fletcherja4545@gmail.com<br>California State University<br>Chico - BA Rec Admin/<br>Business<br>Spouse name - Fred<br>Date of birth - 4/16 |
|--|---|

**2017-2018 AAUW Amador  
Directory**

Please review your entry in the current directory to be sure it is still accurate. Did you move? Did you change your phone number? Did you change your email address? Consider adding a cell phone number. Email your updates or change directly to Michele Powell at [powell.michele288@gmail.com](mailto:powell.michele288@gmail.com). Thank you.

**June Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the June issue of *Gold Filings* is **May 24th**. Please submit material to [rdiannaw75@icloud.com](mailto:rdiannaw75@icloud.com). Thank you.