

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.

Scholarship Celebration

Our Home Tour to raise money for scholarships was a success! Amador Branch of AAUW is able to continue providing scholarships to Amador County students. This year's scholarship recipients are three high school seniors who will be attending community colleges; two graduate students who will be enrolled in graduate programs; and two middle school students who will be attending Tech Trek science camp at Fresno State University, Juliette Bionaz and Pristine Day.

On May 17th at 4 p.m. a ceremony will be held at Baracco's Creekside Garden to award the scholarships. AAUW members are urged to attend this exciting event to support the recipients and their families . . . and to enjoy the delicious Ice Cream Social! See the sidebar for details.

Community College Scholarships

The Community College Scholarship Committee received 19 applications and interviewed seven girls. The committee has selected three amazing young women to receive \$1,000 scholarships for attendance at a California community college this fall. Our recipients for 2014 are Taylor Cranston and Sicily Singleton from Amador High School, and Sabrina Smith from Argonaut High School. Please join us at this month's ice cream social to meet and congratulate our winners and their families.

Upper Division/Graduate Scholarships

Two outstanding women have been selected by the Upper Division/Graduate Scholarship Committee to receive \$2,000 scholarships for continued attendance as a graduate student at a university this fall. Bethany Renfree and Stephanie Bramer are our recipients for 2014.

AAUW Ice Cream Social

Saturday, May 17,
4- 6 p.m.

Baracco's Creekside
Garden

Join in the fun as we award our 2014 College and Tech Trek Scholarships. Our Amador Branch Named Gift Honoree will also be announced.

Come and celebrate with us!

This function is open to members and guests.

Please RSVP by Monday, May 12, 2014 to:
Robin Stolk
robinfstolk@sbcglobal.net



President's Message

by Nancy Street

AAUW Priority: AAUW advocates increased access to higher education, especially for women in poverty.

Quote of the Month: *I hope the fathers and mothers of little girls will look at them and say, "Yes, women can."* Dilma Rouseff, First Female President of Brazil

Home tour was a great success! We had perfect weather, outstanding homes, an inviting inn, an interesting historical site, a lovely tea venue, a creative art show, wine tasting with a visit from the ABC, and the dedicated and enthusiastic participation of our members. 'Twas terrific! We sold 550 tickets and grossed \$16,901. Reviews by visitors were very positive. Giant kudos and thanks to Claire Waite and her committee for an amazing job!

Our next event is the May Funds Social on May 17, where we honor our new scholarship recipients. This is why we do the Home Tour! The social is very enjoyable, especially if you like ice cream, and it is wonderful to meet the young women of Amador County who represent the future. Do come. Details are on page 1 of this newsletter.

The Nominating Committee, after significant effort, has been quite successful in building a new board of officers and directors for next year. The list follows this article. We still need a President-Elect. Please consider stepping up; the job of President is so much easier when you have been President -Elect first. Many thanks are due to Sandy Campbell and Lynne Brumit for working so hard to get this arranged.

Our annual meeting is set for June 11 at 2 p.m. at the Sutter Creek Methodist Church, a salad potluck from 5:30-7:30 p.m. It will also be a party for our branch's 45th anniversary. Be sure to save the date. We will be voting on the slate of officers, and the 2014-15 budget.

On May 10, Michele and several incoming board members will be attending the North San Joaquin Area Leadership training in Modesto. I hope they come back energized and full of great new ideas to improve our branch.

The voting period for State elections is now until May 3. Be sure to vote! You have received an email which makes voting very simple and quick. Let's improve our voting record!

It is time to renew membership dues. They are still \$81.00; checks should be made out to AAUW Amador and mailed to AAUW Amador, Attn: Michele Powell, PO Box 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685. Dues should be paid by mid-June to allow for processing by June 30. Late renewals cause headaches (extra paperwork) for our hardworking treasurer, so please send them in on time!

Hope to see you at the Social on the 17th!

Thank you all for helping with the HT, for your faithful sup-

port of the branch, for knowing and showing that women can, and, as always, for being brilliant.

-NJS

Slate of Officers and Board

The slate of elected officers and appointed positions is almost complete. Please consider filling one of the open slots. Your service and contributions will be greatly appreciated and you'll have fun! The positions of hospitality and community college scholarships do not require attendance at board meeting unless you have business on the agenda or business to report. Scholarships will be active in the spring only.

This slate varies slightly from what Nancy reported in her President's message last month. This is the final version.

Board of Directors for 2014-15

Elected officers

President	Michele Powell
President Elect	OPEN
Program VP	Sandi Baracco
Membership VP	Susan Staggs
AAUW Funds	Robin Stolk
Secretary	Nancy Street
Treasurer	Isabel Singleton

Appointed Positions

Bylaws	Sarah Hart
Community	Norma King
Directory	Susan Staggs
Historian	Marjorie Guletz / Sandi Baracco
Home Tour	Nancy Schuster
Hospitality	OPEN
Newsletter	Michele Powell
Public Policy/Ed Equity	Bonnie Krupp
Public Relations	Myrna-Kay Robison
Scholarship -	
Community College	OPEN
Upper/Grad	Kathy Guletz
Tech Trek	Gretchen Carlson
Sunshine	Lynne Brumit
Website Editor	Belva Pummer

June Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the May issue of Gold Filings is **May26th**. Please submit material as soon as you can. Thank you.

Board Briefs

Board Brief from the April 17, 2014 meeting.

Sunshine

Lynne Brumit sent a birthday card to Floy Goulart for her 90th birthday.

Correspondence:

We received the annual request to support the Sober Grad program and Michele Powell, treasurer, will send the check. We received a very kind thank you note from a home tour attendee.

Treasurer's Report:

Michele Powell reported that we have to-date a balance in the annual operating budget of \$1,986.43 after having spent \$2,206.57 since July 1, 2013.

Unfinished Business:

Program Updates

- There was an informal report on the Amador Partnership Candidates Forum which was held on April 16. All who attended agreed that it was a successful and informative program.
- May 17 4-6 p.m. - Scholarship Awards program (Ice Cream Scholarship) There was a detailed discussion on planning and execution of this program. Items discussed included publicity, decorations, refreshments, securing a photographer, invitations, and set-up.
- June 11 5:30-7:30 p.m. at SC Methodist Church - Annual Meeting - The time, date, and place of the meeting were confirmed. It was agreed that further discussion would take place at the May board meeting.

Home Tour:

Claire Wait reported that HT was a success and there were no problems. There was, however, one surprise. Four ABC officers visited the wine tasting to check for our compliance with regulations! Jerry Trottier, the head wine pourer, had prepared the site in accordance with all the rules and we passed with flying colors.

There will be a full debriefing, review and reports by the area leads at the final HT committee meeting on Tuesday April 29.

2014-2015 Board

The slate is filled for next year except for president-elect, hospitality chair, and community college scholarship chair.

NSJA Leadership Day, May 10

The board approved Michele Powell's request that the branch pay the \$15 registration fee for all attendees.

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee Update

Kathy Guletz, upper division, graduate and reentry chair, and Suzanne Nicholson, community college chair, reported on their committees' activities and selections

Community college scholarship committee reviewed applications from 19 girls and interviewed seven. Three scholarships were awarded. The details are in the article on page 1.

The upper division, graduate and reentry committee reviewed six applications and two scholarships were awarded. The details are in the article on page 1.

2014-15 Membership Renewal

It is time to renew our membership in the branch; dues for the 2014-2015 year are payable starting now.

Dues are the same as the last several years \$81; of this \$49 goes to National and \$46 of this is tax-deductible as a charitable contribution; \$16 goes to State and \$16 stays with our branch.

Please renew as soon as possible. After I receive your check, there is lots of paperwork, online work and bank work I have to do; this is why an early renewal is very important and helpful.

Make your check out to **AAUW Amador** and send to:
AAUW Amador
P.O. Box 611
Sutter Creek CA 95685-0611
Thank you very much for renewing your membership.

Michele Powell, Treasurer

Libations & Conversations

The next meeting of Libations & Conversations is Thursday, May 29, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Baiocchi Wine Tasting, 82 Main Street in Sutter Creek. The weather should be perfect for our patio setting. The topic of conversation is “What does it mean to be a strong woman?”

Please join us and bring a friend for lively conversation over no-host drinks (wine is available for sale and water is complimentary). No need to RSVP, just drop in!

42nd Annual Home Tour Report

The sun shone brightly on Home Tour 2014. Even though the tour was one week earlier than usual, the weather was fabulous on April 12, unlike the blustery end of the month.

The question of the day is always, "How were ticket sales and how much did we make?" We sold 550 tickets for a gross of \$12,376. Sponsors contributed \$3,000 and the quilt generated \$1,525. The grand total is \$16,901! After home tour and branch expenses the amount for scholarships will be approximately \$11,000.

Frequently members tell me what a good job I did. However, I was just a small cog in a very hard working machine. In excess of 20 people were involved in the planning and execution and so many more turned out to work on tour day. These people are the reason this event that sustains our scholarship program draws so many from near and far.

A special mention is in order for the husbands who created the graphics and brochure, turned out on tour day to set up the art show and the tea, man the wine-tasting booth, and control traffic. Lynne Brumit even recruited her neighbor to help with parking.

Committee members have written their reports and have included comments for improvement; you, too, should make note of any improvements for Home Tour 2015 and forward them to Nancy Schuster who will be chairman next year. And remember, many hands make light work.

So again, thank you, Amador Branch AAUW, one and all for making our 42nd Home Tour a success.

Claire Wait

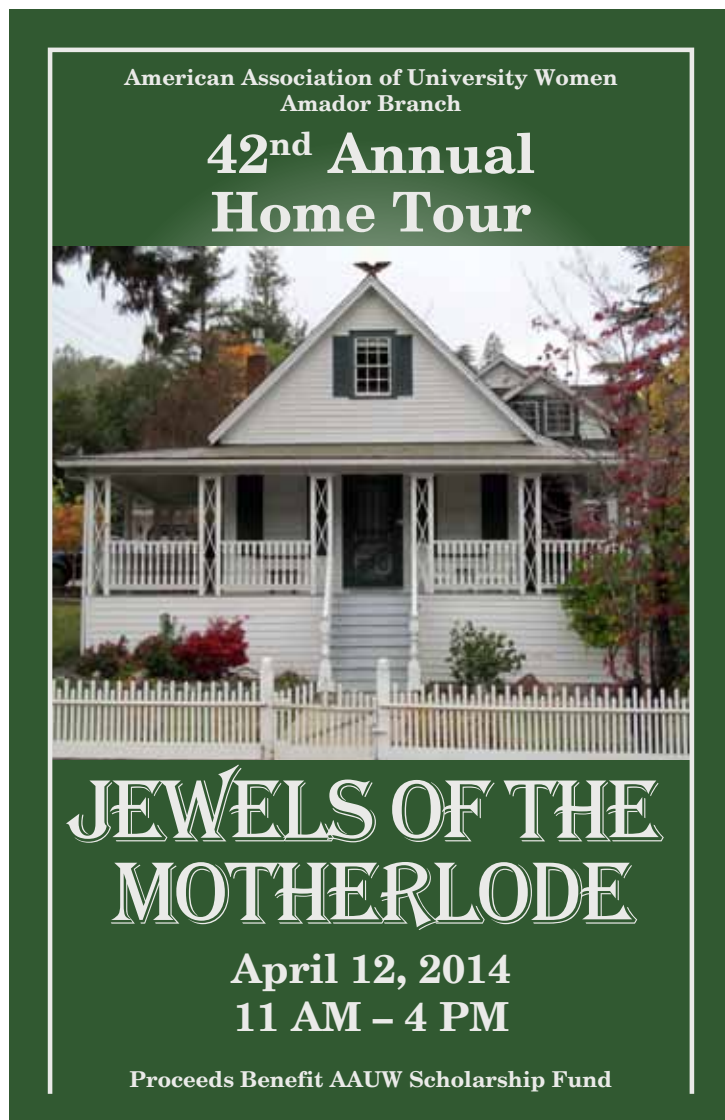
2014 Home Tour Opportunity Quilt

I want to express my sincere appreciation to all of you who purchased and sold tickets for this year's Home Tour quilt. As you know, 100% of quilt ticket sales goes toward scholarships for women and girls in Amador County. This year we raised \$1,525! This could not be accomplished without your participation.

Half of the money was raised by going to meetings of organizations such as Sutter Creek Women's Club (thanks to Norva Fagg, Carol Bilheimer and Teresa Ryan), Sierra Belles (thanks to Lynne Brumit's connections), and Sierra Gold Quilters Guild (thanks to Aieleen Parker and Barbara Garcia) and the Tea the day of the Tour.


The other half (\$762) was due to your hard work and contributions. A great deal of time and effort goes into the making of the quilt, so on behalf of the quilters (Barbara Garcia, Sarah Hart, and myself) we thank you for your time and effort selling tickets and the tickets you purchased. And I am sure that those who will receive scholarships in the coming year also appreciate your efforts.

Sue Harrington



American Association of University Women
Amador Branch

42nd Annual Home Tour



JEWELS OF THE MOTHERLODE

April 12, 2014
11 AM – 4 PM

Proceeds Benefit AAUW Scholarship Fund

Getting to Know You: Michele Powell

Interview by Susan Staggs

The following is an email conversation between Michele Powell, the next AAUW Amador President, and Susan Staggs.

Q: Tell me about your educational background and why you selected your major.

A: I went to Queens College in New York City in 1961, and I graduated ten years and four children later. I always knew that I would major in one of the departments in the social sciences. It is a field that attracted me from the beginning. I enjoy advising and guiding people and I very much enjoyed social science and survey research, which I pursued in my sociology Masters' program at the University of Illinois in Urbana.

Q: You are married to Jim and have adult children. Please say more about your family.

A: Our marriage is a second one for both of us. My first-born children are twin girls, followed by a boy and then a girl. Jim has one son. Our only grandchildren are in Japan, so sadly we don't see them very often. My son went to Japan on an "exploratory, fun adventure" shortly after college graduation, decided to stay awhile, met a wonderful Japanese woman and the rest is history. He has lived there since 1990 with the exception of a four-year stint at USC where he obtained his Ph.D. Our oldest grandchild, Miki, is married and has a 17-month-old baby girl. We are great grands...seems amazing. Our other four children all live in Orange County, one is married and none have children. We see the kids in Orange County about three times a year and are treated to intermittent visits in the foothills.

Q: I know you were raised in New York and worked in Southern California; what brought you to California and finally to Amador County?

A: I left New York City in 1970 when my then husband and I moved our family to Urbana, Illinois where he was starting a Ph.D. program in economics. We lived there for three years, then he accepted a teaching position at Cal State Fullerton and that is how I got to California.

I lived in Southern California from 1970 to September 2010 when Jim and I moved to Amador County. Jim grew up in Calaveras County, so he was familiar with this area. When his folks moved back to California and settled in Pioneer, we came to know Amador County and both loved it. The rural setting with much less traffic and many fewer people were major draws for us.

Q: Please elaborate on your career.

A: My first professional job after getting my MA was working for Employment Development Department in Santa Ana.



Michele Powell

I worked there about 18 months in the Work Incentive Program- program where welfare recipients came to register for work. It was this exposure to the employment market and job search issues that gave me the experience to qualify for my next and final employer. I spent 28 years working in the Career Development Center at Cal State Fullerton and retired as Associate Director.

My responsibilities included assisting students in exploring and making career decisions; producing and presenting workshops and programs on various aspects of job search and employer research; interacting with faculty and other Student Services professionals; working with employers to encourage their association with our campus and to participate in our on-campus recruitment program for graduating seniors. I

was able to indulge in survey research when I took over the annual survey of graduates asking about post-graduation employment and attitudes.

When I accepted the job I never imagined I'd stay there until I retired, but I found employment on a college campus to be a dream job. The atmosphere that encouraged learning, personal and professional growth, and collegiality was very seductive. I can't imagine a better work environment for me.

Q: Tell me about how you spend your leisure time (besides working very hard for AAUW!)

A: I served as ticket chair for the Friends of the Library's recent Boots 'n Books concert; this was actually a lot fun, as well as rewarding. Consequently I was asked to join the board of FACL and I accepted that invitation. I am going to have to work hard at balancing these volunteer activities.

This summer we are going on a land/sea cruise in Alaska. I am very excited about this trip. One of the side trips we've booked is a plane ride over Denali Park. I've never been on a plane that small . . . Xanax anyone?

We are talking about a trip to Spain and maybe Portugal next spring...but it's got to be between board meetings.

I enjoy entertaining and cooking and we enjoy live theatre and film. We both like to kayak and we have wooden kayaks which have been too dry lately, but that is on the list to do now that warm weather is back.

Music is a big part of our lives. Jim and I both enjoy every kind of music except rap and hip-hop. We have large music

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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 May 12 the Afternoon Book Group will be reading *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver. We will meet at Robin Stolk's home at 2 p.m. If you wish to join us, call or email Robin.

Art in Action

Charlene Unger, Chair
cux2@volcano.net

We are a group whose members enjoy drawing and painting at each other's 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 May 26 we will discuss *The Sandcastle Girls* by Chris Bohjalian at the home of Bonnie Krupp. If you'd like to attend, please contact Bonnie. Her email is bonniekrupp@yahoo.com

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. The next meeting of Cork & Fork is May 18. Contact Bonnie if you are interested in attending or if you'd like more information.



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. On May 21st the Garden Groupies will visit Judy Dean's Garden, located in Mt. Ranch. Judy is a master gardener specializing in native plants and heritage roses (she has an extensive collection). This will involve a 2-hour walk on gravel and pine needles, so comfortable shoes are advised. Judy said that most folks bring a lunch and take their time. We are welcome to take plant starts and cuttings but will need to bring our own tools and supplies. Let me know if you can join us so we can make arrangements to car pool.



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. Lunch Bunch will be meeting Thursday, May 8th at Amador Grill (the old In-Cohoots) on Main St. in Plymouth, across from the Post Office. They feature wraps, burgers, yummy sweet potato fries, etc. Please RSVP to Mary Thorpe by Monday, May 5th at wetwo@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. Supper Club members enjoyed Moroccan food in February. Each hostess volunteers for a certain date and selects the recipes to spread the preparation among all the couples attending. Supper Club menu on Saturday, May 31 will feature specialties from Spain. The hostesses are Iris Aparicio and Norva Fagg. If you would like to join the fun please call Norva.

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.

Getting to Know You

(continued from page 5)

collection that includes 50s rock-n-roll, opera, Americana & folk, current rock, classical, the American songbook and musical theatre. We attend concerts when we can.

Q: What is on your “bucket list”?

A: I'd like to attend the Mozart Festival in Salzburg and we want to return to Italy and to England, as well as explore Scotland and Ireland. We enjoy road trips and since Jim acquired a sports car last year, we have short-listed road trips to Seattle and Yellowstone. I'd like to stay in the historic lodges of the western national parks.

Q: When did you join AAUW Amador and what roles have you played, what offices have you held?

I joined AAUW Amador as a result of a chance meet-up with Sue Harrington in June 2011. I stopped her on the street to ask where she gets her hair cut, we started talking and she invited me to join the branch, which I did shortly thereafter.

I believe that if I hadn't joined the Book Lovers & Page Turners group, I would not be as involved as I am. It was through getting to know other members in a personal setting that I

Branch Member Notes

Welcome New Member

Katie Scott is our newest member having joined after attending several Libations & Conversations meetings. Katie was the guest conversation leader at the March L&C meeting at the Imperial Hotel where she offered thought provoking comments on the month's topic which was pay equity. Katie is the Director of Global Compensation for LSI Corp.

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with May birthdays.

Helen Bonner

Aieleen Parker

Debra Brown

Judy Venckus

Bobbie Brubaker

Barbara Garcia

Bernice Honeychurch

Judy Lerner-Liston

Lunch Bunch Update- Calling all May Birthday Girls!

The Lunch Bunch recently met in Volcano at the Country Store and dined in the new adjacent Kneading Dough Bakery where we enjoyed wonderful grilled sandwiches, brunch for lunch, desserts and coffee. The new owner, Debbie Dunn, even sold us some fresh local eggs to take home. We also celebrated some April birthdays (Floy Goulart and Kelli Garcia) and Floy gave us tips on how to stay young (at heart). So we thought we could start a new tradition and invite the birthday girls to come celebrate with us every month.

started to feel part of the group. Nancy Street is in the book group and she asked me to be treasurer; I am coming to the end of my second year in that position.

I was on the nominating committee in the spring of 2013. I have served as editor of Gold Filings since July of last year and have agreed to continue for 2014-2015. I will be President of our branch for 2014-2015.

Q: Now you will be taking on the important role as President of our branch. What would you like to see happen with the branch in the next year?

A: Several priorities come to mind, but I think the most important thing we have to do is revitalize our branch by strengthening membership. We need to recruit new members and get new and current members involved in the branch. Building a strong and active membership is key to our survival.

I am looking forward to working with our wonderful board and membership to grow our branch and make it even better.