

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 Tech Trek Scholars & Local STEM Happenings!

What is STEM? The Amador Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will be hosting a program that will answer that question as well as tell about STEM education that is happening right here in Amador County. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Workforce projections for 2018 show that nine of the 10 fastest-growing occupations that require at least a bachelor's degree will require significant scientific or mathematical training. Keeping K-12 students, especially girls, interested in STEM fields beyond junior high is a real challenge nationwide.



For more than 15 years, AAUW of California has run a highly successful weeklong camp called Tech Trek which develops girls' excitement and self-confidence in STEM.



Surveys from Tech Trek attendees demonstrate the camp's effectiveness. Alumnae complete a higher number of science and math courses in high school and attend college at higher rates than the national average. Since 2002, the Amador Branch of AAUW has provided scholarships to over 32 girls in our county to attend Tech Trek Camp the summer prior to eighth grade.

The audience will hear from recent and past Tech Trek scholarship recipients, as well as presentations

from educators in our community who are knowledgeable about the opportunities available here in our own county. Speakers will include Elizabeth Chapin-Pinotti, ACUSD Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Kelly Hunkins, Principal of Pine Grove Elementary (STEM Magnet School); and representatives of the new Shenandoah Valley Charter School in Plymouth.

The STEM program will be hosted by Amador AAUW on Thursday, November 13th at the Margaret Dalton Children's Center, 975 Broadway, Jackson, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Open to the public, there is no cost to attend, and refreshments will be served. For more information, please go to aauwamador.org.

President's Message

by Michele Powell

Here we are heading into the holiday season. Each year it seems to come more quickly than the year before. As I enjoyed the lovely rain and the beautiful fall leaves of red, gold, orange and yellow, I recognize that I have much and many people in my life for which to be thankful. Please join me in letting those people in your life know how grateful and thankful you are for their presence. I am very happy that I found AAUW Amador and the branch and the members have become such an important part of my life.

Our Branch Is Growing

It is very exciting to recognize the growth in membership that our branch is experiencing. I'm sure you saw in the October Gold Filings the contact information for seven new members. Now in this issue there is contact information for six more new members. The new member contact information in this issue of G.F is not in the directory, so you may want to print and paste that page into your directory.

There will be Getting to Know You articles for all our new members in *Gold Filings*, so look for them within the next three or four months. Perhaps you'll have a chance to meet them at the November program on the 13th or at the holiday gathering on Sunday December 7 at the home of Sandi and Bruce Baracco.

Wine and Cheese Party

On October 6 Susan Staggs our Vice President for Membership hosted a wine and cheese reception for new members and board members. There were 16 in attendance and we all had a great time. Sandi Baracco led us in a getting acquainted ice-breaker.

November Program

I'm looking ahead to our November 13 program that is on STEM—science, technology, engineering and math. It's a two-part program; we'll hear about STEM educational opportunities in Amador County and then we'll hear reports from our Tech Trek scholars on their summer camp experiences. Full details are on page one. I hope to see you there.

Interfaith Food Bank

A wonderful way to share your blessings and good fortune this Thanksgiving season is to help support the Interfaith Food Bank's efforts to feed the hungry in Amador County. Please see the details about Project Thanks and the Festival of Carols Benefit Concert on page six.

I wish you all a season full of love and goodwill.

—Michele

Board Briefs

Board Briefs: October 16, 2014

- AAUW Amador received thank you notes from three scholarship recipients and a letter of appreciation from Amador High School.
- The treasurer presented her report.
- Early tours for Home Tour sites for photos/write-ups have begun. Next Home Tour Committee meeting is November 20 at 11:30 a.m. at Margie Guletz's home.
- Sandi Baracco reported on the November STEM program, which will include a slide show, a panel presentation, and sharing from our Tech Trek recipients.
- The March Women's History Month program was discussed. The theme will be "Celebrating Amador Women" and is set for March 12, 2015, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Myrna Kay Robison reported on the Amador Ledger Dispatch sponsored workshop, "CMS: Content Management System", which she attended.
- Sue Harrington is the new Website Editor. The job description was updated.
- Eleven new members have joined since the beginning of September. There will be another membership campaign March 15-April 30.

There will be no board meeting in December.

Board News & Updates

November Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on November 20. 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.

December Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the December issue of Gold Filings is **November 23rd**. Sooner is better especially as Thanksgiving activities will impact all our schedules. Please submit material as soon as you can. Thank you.

Libations & Conversations Set for Nov. 5

November Libations & Conversations is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the National Hotel in Jackson. The topic of conversation will be “You Can’t Be What You Can’t See”, the importance of role models. Branch member Bonnie Krupp is leading the discussion.

AAUW members, prospective members and interested women are invited to join us for lively conversation over no-host drinks. You will be warmly welcomed and it’s a great way to meet new friends in a fun, casual environment. No need to RSVP . . . just drop in!

AAUW, a national organization, advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Membership is open to all graduates who hold an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. For more information, contact Susan Staggs or visit www.aauwamador.org.

The L&C Committee: Lani Chapman, Bonnie Krupp, Suzanne Nicholson, Susan Staggs

Consider Making a Donation to the Scholarship Fund

There are only two months left in 2014 and that means only two months to make a donation to the AAUW Amador in this tax year. Please consider a fully tax-deductible donation to our AAUW Amador Branch scholarship fund.

Any money that you donate goes only to the scholarship fund. Any donation no matter how large or small will be greatly appreciated and well used to help local girls and women achieve their dreams of attending college. The cost higher education can make this dream particularly difficult to come true for many local families.

Should you choose to donate, make your check out to AAUW Amador Branch, mark it “scholarship donation” and send to:

AAUW Amador Branch
P.O. Box 611
Sutter Creek CA 95685

Branch Welcomes New Members

Karen Dickerson (Wyman)
karenltd@volcano.net
CSU Bakersfield; BA Political Science
CSU Stanislaus; MA School Administration
*6-10

Marianne Pantle (Alan)
lpantle@sbcglobal.net
CSU Chico; BA Child Development; Teaching Credential
*10-3

Sonny Graves (Brad)
tchrgraves@gmail.com
CSU Sacramento; BA Child Development
Chapman University; Teaching Credential
*11-28

Janet Kendig (Armen)
kendig@volcano.net
Sam Houston University, B.S. Social Services
B.A. & M.Ed. Edu/Psy.
*6-15

Angel LeSage (John)
angellesage@icloud.com
CSU Fresno; BS Nursing
*2-24

Kristen Root
kristen.root@pepperdine.edu
Holy Names Univ., BA International Relations, Pepperdine, MPP Public Policy, currently enrolled.
*1-30

*Denotes birthday

Nominating Committee Members Sought

Nancy Street is heading up the nominating committee to identify candidates for the 2015-2016 Board. Our bylaws require that a past president lead this committee; Nancy is the most immediate past president.

She needs several members to work with her on this important project. The committee will begin to meet after the holidays. If you join Nancy in this effort you will be providing an important service to the Branch.

Responsibilities include attending one or two meetings and contacting potential Board members. Please call or email Nancy to volunteer or for more information.

Getting to Know You: Karen Baker and Andrea Sexton

Karen Baker



- **Karen** was born in Jackson, raised in Amador County, and now resides in Sutter Creek.
- She graduated from Amador High School in 1990, then received her AA in Social Science from Sacramento City College. She then graduated from CSU Sacramento with a BA in Communications Studies.
- She has worked for the State of CA for 22 years, starting out as a student assistant in college and now as a Program Analyst in the Department of Education. She helps distribute the funding for our 112 community colleges throughout the state.
- Happily married 16 years. She met her husband, Bill, at the Amador County Fair. He is a teacher at Amador High School and coaches Football.
- They have 2 daughters, Mara (14) and Lauren (11), who are very active in sports, dance and academics.
- Karen was inspired to join AAUW after her daughter, Mara, was awarded one of our Tech Trek Scholarships.
- She also enjoys cooking and sports.
- Karen is a true fifth generation Amador County native, and as 93 year old grandmother Mary Studebaker likes to say “They were the *Studebakers* living in *Plymouth* next to the *Hudsons* who drove a *Buick*.” Grandmother Mary owns a *Ford*.

–Interviewed by Kelli Garcia

Andrea Sexton

Andrea, who joined AAUW Amador in September 2013, lived in Amador County from kindergarten through high school graduation. Her parents relocated here from Sonora and co-owned the One-Stop grocery store at Sutter Hill (now Amador Athletic Club) for many years before retiring. Andrea admits she took Amador County a bit for granted as a child. Eager to seek adventure elsewhere, she was a foreign exchange student in Germany during her junior year in high school. And like many Amadorans, Andrea left the area when she went away to college. Andrea earned a B.A. in Political Science from UCLA and a J.D. from McGeorge School of Law. She practiced law in Sacramento for ten years before she and husband Paul Danczyk decided to return to Amador County in 2011 to settle and raise a family. Their son Max is just one year old and they are thrilled that he can grow up in our beautiful county.



While Paul still commutes to Sacramento where he coordinates Executive Education and Leadership programs for the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy, Andrea set up her solo family law practice in Sutter Creek. Additionally, she is running for Sutter Creek City Council because she believes it is important for younger people to be involved and represented in local government, has a calling to serve the public, and loves Sutter Creek.

Andrea’s mother babysits Max two to three days a week so Andrea can work outside the home. They would love to find alternative childcare for their son, so if you can refer her to someone, please give her a call!

Andrea serves on the AAUW Membership Committee and enjoys reading, Jazzercise, and anything to do with food and wine . . . when her busy schedule allows!

–Interviewed by Susan Staggs

Directory Correction

There are two errors in the 2014-2015 member directory. On page two, last paragraph, it states that the “dues for anyone joining from January 1 to March 15 are \$48.50.” That is incorrect. The correct dues for anyone joining from January 1 to March 15 are \$56.50. Secondly, change Charlene Unger’s email to: cux2@volcano.net.

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. The Afternoon Book Group will be discussing *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd at the home of Judy Venckus on November 10. We meet at 2 p.m. If you wish to join us, call or email Judy.

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 November 24 we will be discussing *West With the Night* by Beryl Markham at the home of JoAnn Chevrette. If you'd like to join us, contact JoAnn.

Cork & Fork

Bonnie Krupp, Chair
bonniekrupp@yahoo.com



This group meets every other month with significant others to enjoy wine tasting and appetizers. Member's homes are the usual meeting place, but we sometimes gather at a winery tasting room or other appropriate venue. Cork & Fork meets the 2nd Sunday except in May when we meet on the 3rd Sunday because of Mother's Day. We meet again on November 9. Sue Harrington and Kelly Trotter are hostesses; contact them for 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

The Christmas Store is an Annual Event at the Amador Flower Farm, open in November and December. The gift shop is decorated for the holidays and features ornaments, gifts and decorations for your home. Weather permitting a walk through the gardens sounds like fun after all the shopping.

This is the Garden Groupies destination on November 19. We'll meet at the parking lot next to the Post Office in Sutter Creek at 10 a.m. Please let Nancy Schuster know if you will join the group.

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're meeting on the **3rd Thursday!** On Thursday November 20 at 11:30 a.m. the Lunch Bunch will be having "Brunch for Lunch" at ELEMENT Restaurant, 61 Hanford St. in Sutter Creek. Please join us to chat with friends and enjoy some delicious food. RSVP to Kelli Garcia by phone or email by Monday, November 17.

(continued on next page)

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 will travel to Italy in November. Bonnie and Lani are co-hostesses and will be determining the menu for an Italian meal at the Chapman's home on November 2. Each couple will contribute something to the meal as we meet and enjoy good friends and good food.



Please contact Claire Wait 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. Wednesday, November 5 at 10 a.m. we'll meet at Sheila's house



in Pine Grove for a two mile stroll in her neighborhood. Please be sure to bring water/fluids and a sack lunch for after the stroll. Bring ideas for walks for the coming months . . . bring friends or spouses . . . more is good! No need to rsvp.

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.

Carol Campbell

Judy Regnier

Bernice Honeychurch

Lisa Watson, Avio Vinyards

Lynn Morgan

Lynne Brumit

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with November birthdays.

Lisa Conti

Bonnie Krupp

Sonny Graves

Peggy Roberts

Dot Haislet

Katie Scott

Norma King

Christine Van Fleet

Interfaith Food Bank Needs Your Support

Project Thanks 2014

The food bank has received requests from 900 families for food baskets this Thanksgiving and local organizations and churches are contributing 650 of them leaving a need for 250. If you would like to bless a family this Thanksgiving you can write a check for \$45 which will feed one family and mail it to the Interfaith Food Bank at 12181 Airport Road, Jackson, CA 95642.

If you would like to shop for the basket yourself and deliver it to the Food Bank, please contact Norma King at normaking123@hotmail.com and she will send you a list of items to buy and the dates for delivery.

Festival of Carols 15th Annual Benefit Concert

This year's concert will be presented on Saturday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 23 at 3:00 p.m. to welcome in the holidays. The concert features music by Handel, Brahms, R. Thompson, Early American Revival African Music as presented by the Interfaith Community Choir and Orchestra. The concert is free and offers childcare and refreshments. An offering will be taken to support the Interfaith Food Bank. The venue is Grace Fellowship Church, 8640 S. Hwy 49, Jackson.

Visit feedamador.org on other ways to support the hungry.