

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 Holiday Party

Sunday, December 11

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Jackson

Start thinking about your favorite holiday appetizer or dessert to share with our members!



Tech Trek Preview Day



**November 5th ~ 9:30 to 11:30
Sutter Creek Community Center**

Tech Trek is a science and math camp designed to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in young women who will enter eighth grade in the fall. It features hands-on activities in math, science, and related fields at week-long camps on university campuses throughout California during the summer.

Activities include:

- Information on Tech Trek presented by previous Tech Trekkers
- Special Guest: Amy L. Slavensky, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Amador County Unified School District
- Sample STEM project for 4th - 6th graders.
- Please bring food to donate to the Interfaith Food Bank



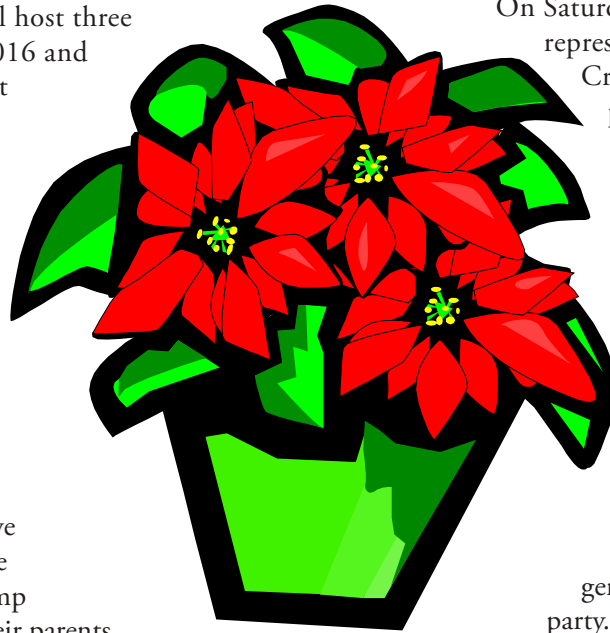
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President's Message

Welcome to the Holiday Season,

Halloween is behind us; Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah and the New Year are ahead; the time of year when we share good times with great food, wine, friends and family. AAUW Amador will host three more events before the end of 2016 and we would love to see all of you at each event.

As we reported last month, our Branch will host a Tech Trek Preview on Saturday, November 5, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Our new Superintendent of the Amador County Unified School District, Dr. Amy Slavensky, will be our guest. Dr. Slavensky will make a short presentation on the STEM Magnet program at Pine Grove Elementary School. We have invited our Tech Trek girls to share their experiences at Tech Trek Camp this year. Some of the kids and their parents from local schools have been invited to get a preview of the Tech Trek program and, we will set up one or two hands-on experiments for the kids to work on. We will also collect food for the Interfaith Food Bank in anticipation of the Thanksgiving holiday. Please support the AAUW Tech Trek program by taking two hours out of your week to welcome our



new Superintendent to the community, meet the Tech Trek girls and, share a cup of coffee or tea with your fellow members.

On Saturday, December 10th, AAUW will be represented in the Parade of Lights in Sutter Creek. Sara Wilson is hosting a meeting to plan our walk in the Parade. Everyone is encouraged and welcome to join the fun. Come and Sparkle!!

Save the Date for the AAUW Holiday Party. The festivities are planned for Sunday, December 11th, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Jackson. St. Sava's is a beautiful and special venue. We are working with the church to clarify additional details and members should start thinking about bringing a festive dessert or appetizer. Katie Scott has generously offered to provide the wine for our party. We will send out an email blast and flyer with more details in the next couple of weeks.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season filled with love, peace and joy!

Hope to see you soon,
Sande

Board Briefs – 10/11/16

- The minutes for September 13, 2016 were approved as written.
- Changes at the *Ledger Dispatch* and the new *Acorn News* were discussed in relation to our branch promotion.
- Plans were made for the Tech Trek Preview Day on November 5th. We will be inviting the new Superintendent of Schools and the Principal of Pine Grove Elementary School.
- A venue for our Holiday Party was discussed. Two previous locations have fallen through and possible locations of St. Sava and the St. George were suggested.
- The Parade of Lights committee will meet November 1st.
- The Local Tech Trek Day committee will meet to start planning for our event next spring November 9th at 6 PM at Provisions in Sutter Creek.

Getting to Know You: Alix Stewart

By Helen Bonner

Alix Stewart was born in Berkeley California, grew up in the Oakland Hills and San Francisco. She enjoyed being a city kid, but with Dad a lawyer and legal counsel for longshoremen, and Mom one of the first women stockbrokers, Alex had to be both independent and resourceful. In the 7th grade, she studied both German and French, and later earned a degree in Comparative Literature at U.C. Berkeley. "Very useful in the job market," she laughs.

After spending her Junior year in France, and finding bad translations everywhere she went, she decided to hone her language skills, and become a translator and interpreter. Back in San Francisco, she taught English in the financial district, often to Japanese students preparing to work in the U.S., then went back to Paris for another two years, attending the Institute of International Studies, earning a Masters degree in interpreting and translating in 1985.

By this time, age 27, "I was ready to go anywhere." A friend in Paris encouraged her to see Vienna, and after a week in Vienna, "This city girl fell in love with the culture there, the heart of Europe, so diverse." In 1987, she moved there and launched her career.

"You turn a corner and it changes your life," Alex recalls. She married a Vienna man, which "turned out to be less romantic than it sounds," and began to establish herself as a translator. As a native English speaker, she was greatly needed, "But English is not just American, there are British forms as well. In this international enclave I had to perfect my German and other

languages. Soon I was working with the Council of Europe, NATO, UNODC, UNIDO, and others."

"There I stayed for 26 years. My daughter was born and raised in Vienna. Creative and dyslexic, she struggled with its rigid school system. We came home to the states every six months for years, to visit my family and my wonderful mother, who for years, had supported and encouraged whatever I wanted to do, and now should not be living alone."

So in 2013, Alix came to Amador county, where every student has a chance to get a well rounded education, and her daughter, now a freshman at Portland State U, is thriving. "There has been some cultural shock, living in a rural county, but I enjoy making time for myself, and traveling when I can."

Still the traveler, Alix just returned from two weeks in Poland and Austria, then the coast of California, Mendocino and Carmel.

"I am looking forward to becoming involved with the good work of AAUW."

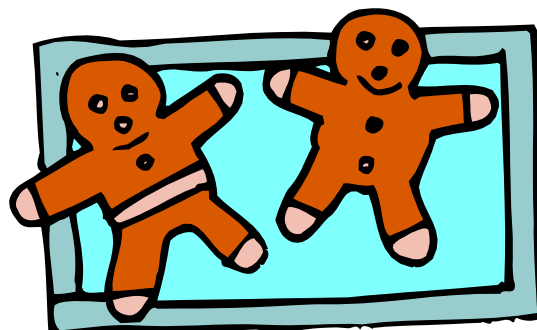


Alix Stewart

Project Thanks

Six hundred and sixty families have requested a Thanksgiving basket this year. If you would like to provide a family with a complete Thanksgiving dinner, please make out a check for \$45 and send it to the Interfaith Food Bank. Their address is 12181 Airport Rd., Jackson, CA 95642.

Your tax deductible gift should be made out to the Interfaith Food Bank and have PROJECT THANKS in the memo area of your check. The staff would appreciate your check by November 14th so they will have time to do the shopping for you. Thank you for your consideration.



Festival Of Carols

The 17th annual concerts to benefit the Interfaith Food Bank of Amador County will take place on November 18th at 7 p.m., November 19th at 3 p.m. and November 20th at 3 p.m.

The Sacramento Baroque Soloist's will be joining the event for the first time this year. The concerts are free and will be held at the Ione Methodist church, located at 150 W. Marlette Street, in Ione.

For more information please visit icchoirs.org or call (209) 223-2834.

AAUW Partnership with Operation Care

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Operation Care turned Amador County Purple. Pins, bracelets and ribbons were available throughout the county for us to wear as a reminder (I got mine at my auto repair company).

AAUW is partnering with Operation Care this year in an effort to supplement several of their ongoing transitional programs. We hope our volunteers can provide practical help with developing life skills, financial education and raising self-esteem.

I plan to meet with their staff again in November to refine our plans and need to establish some idea of how many AAUW members want to learn more and may be interested in joining the effort. Our AAUW members have such a large range of skills and experiences that I believe we can really make a difference in the lives of the women, girls and men served by Operation Care.

Please let me know if you have questions, would like to be part of the planning process, want to volunteer and/or be an AAUW/Op Care partner. You can reach me at dandjl@suttercreek.com.

You Don't Have to Go Through This Alone



Operation Care provides these and other services free of charge.

**24-Hour Crisis Line
223-2600**

**Operation Care
Domestic Violence and
Sexual Assault
Prevention Programs:**

- 24-hour Crisis Line
- Counseling
- Support Groups
- Hospital Response for Victims
- Accompaniment to Court
- Help with Temporary Restraining Orders
- Shelter
- Community Education



619 New York Ranch Road
Jackson, CA 95642
Phone: 209-223-2897
Fax: 209-223-2987
24-Hour Crisis Line: 209-223-2600
Toll free: 800-675-3392
www.operationcare.org

If you or someone you know needs help, call 911
Or call the 24-hour crisis line: 209.223.2600 or 1.800.675.3392

This project was financially assisted by grants through CBCAP and OES Domestic Violence Program DV10111628.

Parade of Lights

December 10th

Our branch will be participating in the Parade of Lights this year. We will be purchasing some mortar boards to decorate. If you would like a mortar board to decorate, please contact Sara Wilson at scwilson78@icloud.com. We ask that everyone wear a lighted necklace and either a mortar board or festive headband. More information will be emailed closer to the date.

Special Interest Groups

Afternoon Book Group

Robin Stolk, Chair
robinstolk@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 November 14th at Brenda Walker's home. We will be discussing *The Little Paris Book Shop* by Nina George. New members are welcome. If you'd like to join the group, contact Robin Stolk.

Art in Action

Bev York, Chair
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 Tabaud.

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
jackiemartinezm@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 November 28th at the home of Norma King. We'll discuss *The Paying Guests* by Sarah Waters. 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



This 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, November 13th at the usual time 5:30. 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



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. November 16th we will meet at the Sutter Creek Post Office at 9:45 AM to head up to Ridge Road Nursery in Pine Grove. Salye will give a class on container planting. Lunch afterwards. Contact Carol Bilheimer if you plan to attend.

Lunch Bunch

Kelli Garcia, Chair
kgarciaod@hotmail.com



Meeting at 11:45am on November 10th at The Brickhouse Brews at 140 Main St, Jackson. Please RSVP by November 8th to Kelli Garcia at kgarciaod@hotmail.com.

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Supper Club

Claire Wait, Chair
clairesc@sbcglobal.net

Supper club will meet will not be meeting in November. Please contact Claire for information about joining the fun at future meetings!



Working Girls' Book Group

The Working Girls' Book Group will be discussing *Re Jane* by Patricia Park on December 1st. We will meet at 6 PM at the Brickhouse Brews in Jackson. Please contact Rebecca Wilson at rdiannaw75@icloud.com for more information.



Next Home Tour Meeting

The next Home Tour Meeting is November 10th at 11:00 AM at Sandi Baracco's home at 44 Eureka Street, Sutter Creek. We need help in finding a Co-Coordinator for Hostesses. If you previously, volunteered or would like to volunteer, please contact Sandi Baracco.

November Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 8th. 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.

January Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the January issue of *Gold Filings* is **December 27th**. Please submit material to rdiannaw75@icloud.com. Thank you.

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*, I have sent a sunshine card to Norma King, Mary Thorpe, Judy Regnier, Gretchen Carlson, and Michele and Jim Powell.

—Lynne Brumit

Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with birthdays.

November

- Lisa Conti
- Sonny Graves
- Dot Haislet
- Jeannette Jentzen
- Norma King
- Bonnie Krupp
- Katie Scott
- Christine Van Fleet

December

- Lea Casita
- Joann Chevrette
- Kelly Trottier
- Suzanne Nicholson
- Loretta Porteous
- Michele Powell



Upcoming Libations & Conversations

November's Libation and Conversation will be held on Thursday, November 17th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. We will be meeting at the St. George Hotel in Volcano.

Just as in October, we are fortunate to be welcoming a speaker from outside our group – but one interested in joining! Gwen Starrett, a local group leader of Citizen's Climate Lobby, will be discussing Climate Change with a new President and a new Congress. It sounded like a great topic and very timely!

As usual, no RSVP is required and feel free to bring others who may be interested in our group or the topic! Some folks may stick around after 6:30 pm and enjoy dinner at the St. George. Give that idea some consideration. Looking forward to seeing you there!