

# 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 Fall Harvest Party Recap

*By Janet Kendig*

On September 15th, AAUW celebrated the beginning of a new year with food, fun, and an overview of activities members can participate in this year. Lynne Brumit and Sara Wilson greeted everyone at the door, offering the new 2016-2017 directory to members as they entered. After a convivial time of conversation, wine and appetizers the meeting was called to order by President Sandee Bowman. Thirty members and three guests gathered to celebrate the opening of the Amador Branch 2016-2017 year of AAUW.

The members recognized the membership anniversaries with commemorative pins; a new practice in AAUW to acknowledge the number of years of membership. Carol Bilheimer and JoAnn Chevrette were each recognized for 30 years of service. Michele Powell, Suzanne Nicholson, Isabel Singleton and Christine VanFleet were honored for 5 years service and Norva Fagg for 10 years.

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## AAUW Harvest Party Recap Cont'd

Continued from page 1

The summer planning sessions, attended by 20-25 members, yielded 4 projects which were introduced and summarized by Sara Wilson (Parade of Lights), Stephanie Young (Mentoring program), Judy Lerner-Liston (Operation Care partnership) and Greta McElroy-White (Local Tech Trek Day).

The following portion of the meeting was informed by various members of Amador Branch special interest groups in explaining the activities and schedules of the groups. Sandi Baracco discussed current plans for the upcoming 2017 Home Tour in Sutter Creek. Gretchen Carlson discussed the local history and importance of Tech Trek. Myrna-Kay Robison had an entire table of sign-up sheets for special interest groups, projects, Home Tour positions, and open leadership positions. Questions were answered regarding any of the projects and interest groups.



The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) is currently in the process of updating the County-wide Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. We are seeking to better understand more about your experience as a walker and biker in Amador County.



## GET INVOLVED

Visit our website: <http://walkbikeamador.com>

- Take our survey!
- Use our Public Comment Map to identify where you walk and bike, your favorite walking, hiking, biking routes, points of interest for walkers and bikers, and existing hazards.

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Thanks to all of you who attended our Fall Harvest Party! The lovely fall decorations, yummy snacks, desserts and, wine made our meeting just that much more cozy. Thank you to everyone who presented each of the Interest Groups, L&C, Home Tour, Tech Trek and our 2016/2017 Project Plans. You each added a personal touch with motivating words and joyous entertainment (special thanks to Lynne Brummit).

TECH – CONNECT – CARE! Yep, there it is again. We will commence each of the 2016/2017 projects between now and the end of the year. The one-day Tech Trek workshop will begin with an Open House in November. The date is to be determined.

The Mentoring Program will begin, once the committee has completed its research into the exact needs of the students. The partnership with Operation Care has begun with an exploratory

meeting between Judy Lerner-Liston and Natalie Vetter of Operation Care. Sara Wilson is collecting volunteers for the Parade of Lights on December 10th.

Giving Tuesday, November 29, is the Global Day of Giving, which highlights the season of giving on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. As an organization, we will be working on ways to publicize and raise local awareness of this very important day.

Our Holiday Party is in the midst of planning. A place, time and event details will be forthcoming in the next few weeks and you will receive notification via a special email communication.

Happy Fall!  
Kind Regards,  
Sande

## AAUW Amador Branch Member, Judy Regnier, Is Honored by Her High School

By Michele Powell

Judy Regnier is being recognized with the Distinguished Alumna Award by her high school. From third grade through high school graduation Judy attended university labs schools affiliated with Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois.

Judy is being recognized for her many and varied accomplishments over her life. In the 1960s Judy was one of the two first women to be computer programmers for State Farm Insurance and then at age 36 she returned to college to complete her nursing degree. She worked many years as a registered nurse in Intensive Care Units and over 20 years in hospice nursing and management. It was while Judy was working in the ICUs that she discovered she had contracted hepatitis C and cirrhosis.

She was told her condition was terminal and while she waited for a transplant, in her words she “became prepared to die.” After spending two years on the wait list, in 1998 Judy received, again in her words, “the ultimate Gift of Life, a liver transplant from the family of a 33 year old man from Arizona on Mother’s Day of 1998! A true miracle, as I recovered to enjoy a pretty healthy life; that is why I began volunteering for Donate Life California, both when we lived in the Bay Area, and continue to this day, hoping to increase to the number of registered donors and save lives through organ, tissue and cornea donation.” Judy also works with the DMV and their employees, helping to educate them so they have the correct, accurate and up-to-date



information about organ donation when they speak with members of the community.

If you have questions about organ donation or Donate Life California, ask Judy!

In 2002 Judy worked on her dream to become a watercolor artist and started a company called In Full Color to sell her paintings. In addition to painting and studying art, she and her husband, Ken, began designing websites. They designed the first website for AAUW Amador. Judy displays her artwork at Sutter Creek Gallery and is a member of Amador County Artists’ Association and the Amador Arts Council.

We offer heartfelt congratulations to Judy on being recognized for her important work with Donate Life California.

# Getting to Know You: Sandee Bowman

By Isabel Singelton

Meet Sandee Bowman, a cyclist, skier, corporate executive, world traveler and 2016/2017 President of the Amador County AAUW Branch. Sandee and her husband bought their home in Volcano 6 years ago, after the native Californians returned from a 2-year assignment in Chicago.

Tim and Sandee fell in love with Amador County while cycling and staying in Sutter Creek. They attended the Italian Picnic & Parade and were further charmed. They looked, for over a year, for the perfect place, before finding their new home on Shake Ridge Road. It was, of course, the very first one, of over forty properties, that they visited.

As an executive for GE Capital, having worked for the company since 1987, Sandee has done a lot of traveling, visiting 37 countries so far and hoping to make it to 50 countries altogether. In fact, their final move into Amador County was delayed for nearly two years when Sandee was posted to Singapore, working for a former GE company. The experience was one of delight and discovery, providing more prospects for travel and an opportunity to experience immersion into the Southeast Asian culture.



**Sandee Bowman**

In 2014, Sandee retired and accepted a role as Treasurer of the Board of Directors for a non-profit, The Nest Family Resources, a company founded and operated by her daughter, Katie, and Membership VP for AAUW. Just as she was relaxing into the role of gardener, reader and, the non-profit world, an old friend and business colleague tempted her back into the world of business. She is now working four days a week as a consultant, coaching and working with executive teams of small and medium-sized, fast-growth companies. So far, the travel requirements are domestic and short term – just right.

Sandee has two daughters, two stepdaughters, one granddaughter and three grandsons, with two of the families living in close proximity. She holds a BA in Management from Saint Mary's College of California in

Moraga. When she is not embracing outdoor activities: hiking, backpacking, cycling, and snow skiing, she attends the AAUW Book Lovers group, the Working Girls' Book Group and, looks forward to enjoying the camaraderie, food and wine with Cork 'N Fork at the beginning of 2017.

## Board Briefs – 9/13/16

- Paisano's Pizza meeting room, Jackson CA
- There was a board quorum.
- Correspondence was noted: several thank-you notes from scholarship recipients and a note regarding memorial scholarship donation.
- Treasurer's report was submitted. Scholarships have not yet been disbursed.
- Sunshine reported sending two cards to members Judy Regnier and Bobbie Brubaker.
- Details of plans and responsibilities for the Fall Harvest Party.
- Possibilities for venues for the Christmas Party (after the planned one fell through) were discussed with ideas for follow-up.
- Judy Lerner-Liston has reached out to Operation Care to partner (per project objectives from planning meetings) with very good initial results.
- Our branch may not, officially, sponsor the ACC (Amador College Connect) Gala Event. But, many individual members will be making donations to support the organization.
- Tentative plans for branch meeting in November were discussed with possibilities of Tech Trek speakers, introduction to the local Tech Trek and opportunities for participation in Project Thanks. Input is welcome.
- Next branch board meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 in Jackson, CA at Paisano's Pizza meeting room (back) at 6 pm. All branch members welcome.

~ JK

# AAUW Partnership with Operation Care

## (AAUW meeting 9/15/16)

*By Judy Lerner-Liston*

Our goal is to develop an Outreach program with Operation Care.

Offer mentoring services to help support clients' re-entry into the community after the support services of the crisis team.

To be of service to women/girls/men — to fill their educational, financial/academic needs to restart their lives.

I met with Natalie Vetter to learn more about their services — and to determine how AAUW volunteers could best supplement their program.

We came up with three possibilities (all existing programs):  
Transition Program — Fresh Start — ways to help start their new life – practical help with housing, shopping, classes, and finances. (funded by American River Bank)

REEP class (Rural Economic Experience Program) — financial educator

GO-Girl — program mentoring teen girls – preventing abuse/raising self-esteem.

Additionally, Operation Care can provide a speaker for one of our meetings and/or could help train our volunteer group once we get started.

Any of our members who would want further involvement could volunteer in other areas, including going through training as an advocate.

I must share that I was involved as a crisis line volunteer (1990 – 2002) and am absolutely amazed at the professional organization that has evolved.

I came out of our meeting with proverbial goose-bumps!

紅葉 KOYODU  
a Night in Japan's Red Leaves

Save the Date  
Saturday, November 5, 2016  
Jackson Rancheria Hotel Grand Oak Ballroom  
5:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Annual Themed Ball Fundraising Event  
Proceeds benefit a college center in Amador County  
501 c (3) non-profit organization

JACKSON RANCHERIA  
CASINO RESORT  
Family Owned & Operated Since 1988

## Take A Stand, Amador!

Operation Care staff are turning the Golden State PURPLE during October – Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Amador County, October 2016 — October is nationally recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year, the Golden State of California is Turning Purple! This statewide campaign, sponsored by California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV.org) strives to get communities engaged and aware that domestic violence is not only a “family issue” but also a “community issue.” Operation Care is asking everyone in Amador County to take a stand against domestic violence, and help turn the Golden State purple.

Domestic Violence does not just affect the family, but the community as well. Throughout the month, Operation Care will be placing baskets at various businesses throughout the county to gain support in “Turning the Golden State Purple.” Help support healthy relationships by wearing purple bracelets, pins and ribbons during the month of October.

Operation Care will also be offering a free 3D Break the Cycle Exhibit that will bring awareness of the effects of domestic violence. Take a stand against domestic violence by visiting this comprehensive and informative exhibit, where you will learn about the effects of domestic violence on individuals, families, and community. The Exhibit will be available for free viewing between the hours of 9am – 5pm, October 3 – 7, and October 17 – 21, 2016. The exhibit is located at the Health and Human Services Building 10877 Conductor Blvd. Sutter Creek, in Conference Room D.

Domestic violence is defined as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain and maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence includes physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, or actions/threats of actions that influence another person. Domestic Violence can happen to any person regardless of race, sexual orientation or economic status.

Everyone deserves to be in a healthy relationship, if you are constantly in fear of your partner and feeling belittled or intimidated, you are not in a healthy relationship. Operation Care offers one-to-one peer counseling, support groups for victims of domestic violence, court and hospital accompaniment, Temporary Restraining Order assistance, a 24-hour crisis line and a Safehouse for men, women and children. If you or someone you know needs help, dial 911 or call the 24-hour crisis line at (209) 223-2600.

Please join us this October and Take a Stand against Domestic Violence. Help us Turn the Golden State Purple!

### About Operation Care

Operation Care has been providing services and safe shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault since 1980. During the 2015/2016 fiscal year, 58 women and children were provided safe shelter. Advocates helped 49 victims with temporary restraining orders, and provided crisis intervention to 40 sexual assault victims. The staff provided 218 peer counseling sessions to 97 adults and 10 children, and hundreds of transports to appointments, court, and other locations.

The mission of the organization is to provide domestic violence and sexual assault support services, crisis intervention and education in Amador County. For more information call 209-223-2897 or visit [www.operationcare.org](http://www.operationcare.org) and <https://www.facebook.com/operationcare>.

## 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](http://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.

## 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 October 10th at Dot Haislet's home. We will be discussing *Behind the Beautiful Forever* by Katherine Boo. 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 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](mailto: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 October 24th at the home of Carolyn Hennings. We'll discuss *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. 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)

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](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. We will car pool from Sutter Creek and travel up country for lunch at Sorenson's. During the drive, we are in high hopes of viewing lovely seasonal changes. There will be opportunities to stop for short walks among the fall colors. Join us at 10:00 Wednesday, October 19th, in the parking lot next to the Sutter Creek Post Office.



### Lunch Bunch

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

Lunch Bunch is meeting at 11:45am on October 13th at Los Hermanos Mexican Restaurant at 60 Ridge Road, Sutter Hill. Please RSVP by October 10th to Kelli Garcia at [kgarciaod@hotmail.com](mailto:kgarciaod@hotmail.com).



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### Supper Club

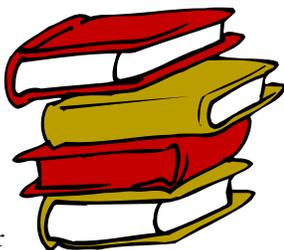
Claire Wait, Chair  
[clairesc@sbglobal.net](mailto:clairesc@sbglobal.net)

Supper club will meet October 21st at the Bilheimer home. Please call her for information about joining the fun!



### Working Girls' Book Group

The Working Girls' Book Group will be discussing *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nutt on October 27th. We will meet at 6 PM at the Brickhouse in Jackson. Please contact Rebecca Wilson at [rdiannaw75@icloud.com](mailto:rdiannaw75@icloud.com) for more information.



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## October Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th. We always 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.

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## October Newsletter Deadline

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

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## Next Home Tour Meeting

Next Home Tour Meeting is at 2:00 PM on Thursday, October 6th at Sandi Baracco's Home at 44 Eureka Street, Sutter Creek. We welcome anyone interested in helping. Do you have a clever idea for a theme for our walking tour of Sutter Creek? How about helping to sell ads for the Brochure (they really sell themselves—almost).

## Branch Member Notes

### Sunshine Update for October –

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 Judy Reginer and Bobbie Brubaker.

—Lynne Brumit

### Birthdays

Best wishes to our members with October birthdays.

Sandra Bowman  
Bailey Burton  
Peggy Jolley  
Kate Kramer

Patricia McHugh  
Marianne Pantle  
Lynn Morgan  
Stephanie Young

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## Upcoming Libations & Conversations

Our October L&C meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 19th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Brickhouse Brews on Main Street in Jackson. We don't yet have a confirmed speaker but have been collecting great ideas from folks so I am sure it will be of great interest! Remember this monthly event does not require any RSVP and is open to members and guests. Hope to see you there!

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## 2017 AAUW National Convention

Has anyone thought about going to the 2017 AAUW National Convention? The dates are June 14 to 17 and it's being held in Washington D.C.

I am thinking about going. For my part, I would combine it with a trip to Ohio and maybe New York City. I think it sounds like fun. And who doesn't need to visit D.C. again? There are new memorials that I haven't seen, so many museums and everything is free.

I'm not promising or registering yet, but I am seriously considering this. If you have any interest in talking about it, call me.

~ Michele Powell