

# Gold Filings



## May 2020 Newsletter

Visit our Website [amador-ca.aauw.net](http://amador-ca.aauw.net)

### Information from AAUW National

On April 18 we received an email from Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier, Co-Presidents, AAUW California forwarding a message from National concerning the coronavirus pandemic. A portion of the email is stated below.

AAUW National has issued this statement:

"You MUST follow your Governor's and Mayor's guidance. **We at National have strongly advised absolutely NO meetings in person for the foreseeable future for all affiliates (branches/states), and in compliance with local/state guidance/orders.** Our state/local laws supersede in this exceedingly difficult time. Better for all AAUW members to absolutely shelter in place and meet virtually via Skype, FaceTime, Zoom, or conference calls."

We fully endorse this. *Branches must not have any in-person meetings until Governor Newsome lifts the "Stay-at-Home" order. That includes interest group meetings. No branch should sanction any meetings of any group within the branch.*

If any of you have additional thoughts to contribute, please contact us.

Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier, Co-Presidents, AAUW California

[siteadmin@aauw-ca.org](mailto:siteadmin@aauw-ca.org)

### Renew your Membership 2020-2021

On Wednesday April 15, all AAUW members received an email from National with annual renewal instructions. Dues again this year are \$95 <FYI-National dues are \$59, State dues are \$20, Branch dues are \$16>

As in the past you can quickly and safely renew through the information provided in the email. If you prefer you can send your check for \$95 made out to "AAUW Amador" and mail to-

AAUW Amador  
P.O Box 611  
Sutter Creek CA 95685

If you have any questions or concerns, email to this address-[memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org) or contact Judy Lerner-Liston, our Membership Chair.

### AAUW National Board of Directors Vote

On April 8th we all received an email from Shannon Wolfe at AAUW National urging us to vote on four candidates to join the 15 person AAUW National Board of Directors. Follow the directions in the email and vote to keep AAUW strong. Voting is through Monday May 18, 2020. If you have questions email [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

### Open Positions in Our Branch

The branch Leadership Committee with Stephanie Young, Administrative Contact and Candy Smith, Financier Contact, has started the process of filling open positions. We are asking you to volunteer for one of the following positions. Contact Stephanie or Michele if you have questions.

- Program Committee, two positions
- Facebook
- Historian
- Publicity
- AAUW Funds

### **Leadership Committee Meeting**

The next LC meeting is Thursday May 14 at 2:00 pm. All members are welcome and invited. If you'd like to join the meeting contact Stephanie, so she can send you an agenda. This likely will be a Zoom meeting.

### **Save the Date! Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting will be on Saturday, June 13 at 11am, most likely on Zoom or some other electronic platform. We will be voting on next year's budget and the bylaws changes. More details in the next Gold Filings about the meeting, the agenda and how to "attend" the meeting.

### **Obituary - Patt McHugh**

It is with great sorrow that we tell you Patt passed away on April 9th. A full obituary is in The Ledger and on Daneri website. The branch is making a donation to the Interfaith Food Bank in memory of Patt. The Food Bank was one of Patt's favorite ways to help in the community and she volunteered there regularly. If you'd like to contribute to this effort, please make your check out to- Interfaith Food Bank and send to Candy Smith who will take the checks to the Food Bank. Your check should be received by Candy by May 12.

Candy Smith  
18914 Shake Ridge Road  
Sutter Creek CA 95685

If you'd like to send a condolence card to Patt's brother, Brian, here is his address.

Brian McHugh  
P.O.Box 291  
Milesburg PA 16853

### **DONATE Button on our Website**

In April *Gold Filings* we announced that we now have a DONATE button on our homepage - [amador-ca.aauw.net](http://amador-ca.aauw.net) - to accept donations to our Scholarship Fund. These contributions are more important this year than any other because we did not have a Home Tour in April 2020. All donations go directly into our Scholarship Fund which is held in the Amador Community Foundation and are 100% tax-deductible.

When you go our website [amador-ca.aauw.net](http://amador-ca.aauw.net) and click on the DONATE button, you will be taken the homepage for the Amador Community Foundation -ACF- On the ACF homepage at the top right side of the page, there is a green button that says GIVE NOW, click on it and you'll get to the donation page. AAUW Scholarship Fund is not listed, therefore you should go to in OTHER line and type it in there.

We'd like to thank and acknowledge Kathleen Harmon, Executive Director of the Amador Community Foundation, for her assistance in getting this project accomplished.

### **Tech Trek**

In February, Jacque Fletcher, Nancy Street, Rita Bohl and I interviewed ten girls who had applied for Tech Trek. Once again, we were so very impressed with the poise, personalities and intelligence of all of these girls! Three were chosen to attend, and I will share a bit about each of them here.

Aja Fuller attends Lone Jr. High. In her essay she wrote that she would like to be a zoologist. She is concerned about the impact of human population growth on our environment, particularly on the extinction of species. Aja wants to inspire and help people, and wants to discover things that no one has ever imagined.

Sudi Smith attends Jackson Jr. High. Her essay spoke of her interest in the areas of conservation and genetic programming, and the study of polythene (plastic). She would like to use CRISPER (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) to target defective sections of DNA. Ultimately, she would like to create a new bioplastic using CRISPER technologies.

Chloe Page is a student at Lone Jr. High. Chloe is passionate about wanting to work in the area of addiction prevention. She has created a 'three-part plan that will hopefully prevent the heartbreak and health complications that come with addiction.' Her proposed program is geared towards middle school

students. Chloe believes that knowledge IS power.

The girls were notified of their selection a few days after they were interviewed. All three, along with their families, were SO excited! Then the COVID-19 crisis hit and **Tech Trek 2020 was canceled!**

Branches were surveyed by State leadership of the Tech Trek program regarding how the cancelation should be handled, and I voted to allow the girls selected this year to go in 2021, and to not select girls next year. Unfortunately, on 4/19/20 we learned that State had made the decision to NOT allow this year's girls to attend camp next year. We are now beginning to consider options for the girls chosen this year. How might we honor them and inspire them to continue to pursue their passions in STEM fields? Stay tuned.

Gretchen Carlson  
Tech Trek Branch Coordinator

## **Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage**

Suggestion from the National Women's History Alliance:

"After consulting with many of you around the country, we believe it's important to encourage the extension of the suffrage centennial through 2021. Many groups, individuals and institutions are already making plans. With this larger timeline in mind, we can continue throughout 2020 as much as possible, and then use 2021 to make up for the dislocation caused by the virus and even create new tributes. We can't let the virus overwhelm recognition of women's historic breakthrough. We can reclaim and make the most of the lost time."

The Leadership Committee had tossed around some ideas and we were thinking that we would sponsor a field trip to Sacramento in August to join in the celebration there. Of course that is no longer an option for this year, but we hope to be able to acknowledge this historic achievement in some fashion within the next year.

## **Educational Resources for Teaching Women's History**

*National Women's History Alliance*

For general interest or if you are suddenly finding yourself a home school teacher for your children or grandchildren:

The NWA website includes a Women's History Resource List which is regularly updated with links to classroom resources such as readings, writing prompts and videos from museums, archives, documentaries and other sources to help teachers (and parents who are now home-schooling their kids). They also have an online book club, virtual discussions and a new Facebook group specifically geared toward educators teaching women's history.

## **Membership News**

We send best wishes to long time branch member, Judy Venckus, who recently moved to Texas.

## **Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in May!**

Debra Brown  
Judy Lerner-Liston  
Aieleen Parker

## **Sunshine Cards Sent in April**

Kelli Garcia  
Brian McHugh, sympathy card recognizing the passing of his sister, Patt McHugh

