

Gold Filings



November 2021

Visit our Website: amador-ca.aauw.net

Message from the Chair

Vision and Values.

Our AAUW visibility occurs most notably at our community level through the eyes of neighbors observing what we do. Our mission, vision and values are made real through our work and actions with people at the local level. Think about:

- The transformational experience for young girls we send to Tech Trek.
- The students receiving our branch scholarships; feeling the support of our community to continue their academic journeys at some point in our own life journey.
- The education and inspiration to be experienced by audiences attending our programs.
- Most importantly, how YOU make these experiences possible through your hard work, perseverance and donations. (*adapted from the Alhambra Branch newsletter*)

Calling All Badges!

Now that we can meet in person for some of our events, I am asking everyone to find their AAUW badge. After 18 months of disuse, some of them have gone missing. If you can't find your badge after this search, let Judy know (dandjl@suttercreek.com or 1-209-296-4745) and she can order you another one. Replacement cost is \$12.50 each when we order 4 or more so we will gather names and place one order.

First in-person branch meeting a success!

We gathered for our September "Welcome Back" meeting on September 15 at the Jackson View clubhouse. We hosted several guests and 2 of them have joined the branch. The meeting was not as well-attended as I had hoped, but that may have been in part because it was in the evening and I know several of our members don't drive at night. The Leadership Committee is committed to providing rides for those who need them, so please don't hesitate to call another member or Stephanie Young, who will arrange a ride for you. We want everyone to feel comfortable participating in our branch activities.



The program for the meeting focused on the 2020 Tech Trek girls. They each discussed their experiences and showed their "wearable art" project, which combined their work in the robotics workshop with contributions from each about their goals and aspirations.



November Program Meeting

Our November meeting will be a Zoom presentation and question-and-answer session by Andy Byrne, who has been leading a citizens' committee offering suggestions to the Supervisors about the re-districting plan.

The meeting will take place on Zoom on November 15 at 7 pm (yes, it's in the evening but you can participate from home!) By that date the new maps will be closer to being finalized, so you can get a good sense of how the supervisorial districts might be re-drawn.

Please join us! I will send out a Zoom link a few days before the event. If you are not familiar with Zoom, please contact me (661-478-1038 or syoung@calarts.edu). I can walk you through the process (which is easy) so you can participate.

From the Branch Historian

Having spent the last 5 months living with the last 20 years of AAUW-Amador's history strewn about my house, I will be sharing some observations with you throughout the year.

AAUW-Amador was chartered in 1969 by women who were teachers, home makers, business women, professional women, and volunteers in their community. AAUW, the national organization, was 88 years old in 1969. Our Amador founders wrote our by-laws for our branch guided by the State By-Laws Chairman. The First Vice President of the California State Division was in attendance at the January 23, 1969.

The beginning branch decisions then were very similar to the decisions AAUW-Amador makes today- the size of dues needed to run the organization, positions of leadership needed, the length of term officers would hold, and picking study topics. Study topics have been a major component of AAUW since its founding in 1881 and those offered in 1969 were- "American Foreign Policy--Dilemmas and Realities of Power", "The Academic Community—New Look on Campus", "This Beleaguered Earth—Can Man Survive?", and "The Human Uses of Urban Space". Members who were interested in the topic formed a group and researched the topic. That research became the basis for advocacy actions proposed by those members. An example of that would be a slide show produced in the 80's and shared with the public that led to planning proposals for future growth in our county. I have the slides and the written script for that program. If you are interested in viewing the pieces, let me know and I will share them with you. If you are adventurous, you might like to resurrect the slide show as a project looking back in time.

A Pitch for Giving Tuesday

Early on it was evident that to be effective as an organization fundraising would be essential. The first Home Tour was in 1972. Over time this branch held 47 Home Tours enhanced with quilt and basket raffles as well as arts and crafts sales, used books sales, art sales, Little Red School House themed donations, paint and sip events, and Giving Tuesday opportunities to fund our scholarship offerings. Giving Tuesday takes place on Tuesday November 30th. Please consider giving a little extra to the Branch if you have not done so this year.

Each year during Thanksgiving season we have a nationally recognized annual day for Giving Back: #GivingTuesday on November 30th, 2021. Watch the countdown at [GiveAmador](#)

Amador Community Foundation gathers our nonprofit community partners together, organizing Giving Tuesday to benefit over 50 charitable organizations serving vital needs right here in our community. ACF's mission matches local generosity with local needs, managing and directing vital resources to those in need right here in Amador County all year, every year since 1999. [Click here for prior #GivingTuesday totals through Amador Community Foundation.](#)

THREE ways to Give on November 30th, 2021

→ In Person - Meet & Greet Charity Showcase 4:30pm - 6:30pm

FREE Event with refreshments at Katharine Drexel Parish. Your chance to meet other nonprofits, learn what they do and what they need. Donations, Time & Services are precious resources nonprofits do not take for granted.

→ Drop Off at ACF Office in Jackson starting at 9am to accept your tax-deductible check donations! Coffee's on Us!

→ Online Giving All Day @ [GiveAmador.org](https://www.giveamador.org)

Donations made in person + online 11/30/2021 qualify for Giving Tuesday incentives, maximizing your charitable gifts!

All checks dated 11/30/21 or charges made that day will qualify us to receive some matching funds. This is a great end-of-year way to donate to AC-AAUW and other charities that interest you. All money generated for us will go toward scholarships.

New AAUW CEO Selected

The Board of Directors of AAUW has appointed Gloria L. Blackwell to be the new Chief Executive Officer of the organization, effective October 18, 2021. Gloria currently serves as AAUW's Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer and has extensive experience leading within the organization. She's managed and expanded AAUW's esteemed fellowships and grants program—awarding more than \$70 million in funding to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and abroad. She's spearheaded innovative programs, including the award-winning salary negotiation workshops, which have reached more than 190,000 women nationwide.

Gloria initiated and built partnerships with major funders, local governments and institutes of higher education. And she has significantly expanded the organization's outreach to girls and women of color. But most of all, Gloria has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to AAUW's vision of the future. Talented, thoughtful and passionate about AAUW's mission, Gloria is the right leader at the right time. The Board has complete confidence in her ability to steer the organization through rapidly changing and challenging times in our country and to tackle new (and age old!) obstacles to gender equity

Kathy Guletz: 2020-2021 Funds Honoree

Every year our Branch names a Funds Honoree—someone who has made an important contribution to our Branch. This year's Honoree, selected by the Fund committee, is Kathy Guletz.

Kathy has been a member for many years, serving on the Board, the Leadership committee, as Tea coordinator, Music coordinator, Hospitality chair, and Scholarship Committee member and chair. Kathy is an "essential" member of our Branch. She makes all of the events and awards that we as a Branch are so proud of (Home Tour, Science Saturday, scholarship awards), possible by volunteering to be on committees, planning events, setting up and breaking down.

Kathy always serves on the Home Tour committee, showing up every year with a smile on her face ready to work the whole day to be sure the Tea runs smoothly. When the concept of Science Saturday was proposed, she joined the committee, showed up on Friday to plan the layout for the event, was there early Saturday morning to set-up her booth, and then helped break it all down.

When scholarship winners are announced for upper division and re-entry students, it is in large part because she makes sure that information goes out to the community, applications are reviewed by the committee, women are interviewed and the awardees announced. We were not able to have a big celebration this last year, but the work still went on and, thanks in large part to Kathy, the scholarships were awarded.

Thanks Kathy for all of your hard work.



Paint & Sip Fundraiser: A Big Success

There were 25 attendees at the Paint 'n' Sip on Saturday October 23. We welcomed 18 community members and seven Branch members.

Income totaled \$1,381 -
\$1,165 from attendance fees,
\$125 from cash donations
\$20 from wine donations
\$71 from the silent auction
-and after paying the \$250 fee for our artist, Judy Day, we netted \$1,131 for scholarships and operating expenses.

The Fundraising Committee members, Sandee Bowman, Michele Powell, Nancy Street and our chair, Stephanie Young, want to thank all who participated and assisted in this effort.



Monthly Calendar

Saturday, October 30 10am: CA-AAUW Funds Event #2 on Zoom Go to aauw-ca.org to register

Sunday November 7 1 pm: CA-AAUW Funds Event #3 on Zoom Go to aauw-ca.org to register

Thursday, November 11, 4 pm: Leadership Committee Meeting via Zoom. If you would like to be part of the meeting, contact Stephanie and she'll send you the Zoom link.

Monday, November 15, 7 pm: Branch Program on Zoom—"Amador County Redistricting" details above in article titled "November Program Meeting"

Thursday, November 18 5:30-6:30: Libations & Conversations, at the Hotel Sutter in Sutter Creek
Speaker and topic to be announced soon.

Supper Club is not meeting in November, contact Claire Wait to join or for more information.

Sunday November 14, 5:30 pm: Cork & Fork - contact Michele Powell to join or for more information.

Book Clubs

Monday November 8, 2:00 pm: Afternoon Book Club—This month we are reading *A Woman is No Man* by Etaf Rum (in person meeting)

Book Lovers—We are on holiday hiatus until January. We meet on the fourth Monday January through October at 2:00 pm.

Working Girls Book Club—The current book club members are interested in restarting our club. Please reach out to Jacque Fletcher 209 606-1157 if you are interested in joining. We meet for dinner, once a month, to discuss the book and select a new read.

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in November

- Dot Haislet
- Norma King
- Bonnie Krupp
- Katie Scott
- Chris Van Fleet

Sunshine Cards Sent

No Sunshine cards were sent out this month.

New Member

Help us welcome new member Cheryl "Cheri" Peterson. Cheri's contact information for your directory is below. Don't hesitate to call her and say "Welcome to Amador branch of AAUW"

22270 Copper Court
Volcano 05689
209-406-7699
ckp252@att.net

Waldan University MSN Nursing; CSU Stanislaua, BSN Nursing
Birthday- February 22,
Spouse- Wayne

Webinars

For more information on past and upcoming AAUW Webinars, go to
<https://www.aauw-ca.org/2020-2021-webinars/>

AAUW Fund "Luncheons" Have Been Renamed the AAUW Fund "Events"

There are two remaining Fund Events scheduled, on October 30 at 10am and on November 3 at 1pm. You can hear presentations from this year's California fellows and grant recipients explaining their work. The events are free but you must register in advance at [AAUW-CA.org](https://www.aauw-ca.org). Click on the event on the calendar, which will take you to a registration page.

You will be able to register soon to be informed and inspired by these wonderful women. Bonnie Krupp and I "attended" last year and can attest to the quality of the event.

Member Corner: Idea Exchange

Remember: this section of Gold Filings is for recommendations from members about things they discover—books, films, TV shows, events, etc. Please contribute when you find something you like and want to share.

Cokie: A Life Well Lived

In this loving tribute, and in honor of the extraordinary life and legacy of legendary journalist Cokie Roberts, called a trailblazer for women, the book's author Steve Roberts, Cokie's husband of 53 years and bestselling-coauthor, reflects not only on her many accomplishments, but on how she lived each day with a devotion to helping others. Through her visibility and celebrity, Cokie Roberts was an inspiration and a role model for innumerable women and girls. A fixture on national television and radio for more than 40 years, she also wrote five bestselling books focusing on the role of women in American history. Steve and Cokie's daughter, author Rebecca Boggs Roberts, will join her father in [conversation in the YouTube companion program](#) beginning on November 3.

You too can become a two-minute activist!

Send emails and texts to your legislators to fight for equal pay and family leave, to stop sexual harassment, to promote equality in education and more. Sign up to get regular alerts to be able to take timely action.

You provide the voice. AAUW provides the megaphone.

The Two-Minute Activist includes all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, contact your state legislators about pressing issues and more. You might even get a thank-you email from the legislator.

Start [here](https://www.aauw.org/act/) at <https://www.aauw.org/act/>

PUBLIC POLICY: Where We Stand: Voting Rights

"AAUW is committed to open and fair elections, nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office, and the expansion of voting rights."

Our democracy works when everyone can fully participate. Elected officials routinely make decisions about issues that directly impact all of us. From our paychecks to paid leave, access to reproductive health care and access to education, our lives are on the line — and our vote is our voice. To create real change we must be part of the conversation and the most powerful way for us to have our say is at the polls. Yet the right to vote has a long and tumultuous history. Protecting that right — one that many fought long and hard for — continues today as ongoing efforts to suppress the right negates what it means to live in a free democracy.

History

More than a century ago the 15th Amendment guaranteed the right of all men to vote regardless of race, color, or previous condition of slavery. Fifty years later in 1920, the 19th Amendment gave some women the right to vote. It wasn't until 1965, after decades of racially discriminatory practices like literacy tests, poll taxes and Jim Crow laws, that the right to vote for everyone — free of racially discriminatory acts — was written into law with the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Despite this landmark legislation, some communities were still unable to equitably access their right to vote. The 1975 amendments to the Voting Rights Act required that all voting materials be made available in multiple languages and ensured the right to vote for Asian Americans, Latinos and Native Americans.

In 2013, the *Shelby County v. Holder* decision from the U.S. Supreme Court gutted key protections in the law, making way for many new discriminatory and restrictive voting laws.

Why We Need the Voting Rights Amendment Advancement Act of 2019

The immediate result of the *Shelby v. Holder* ruling could be seen within 24 hours — strict voter ID laws in Texas, Mississippi and Alabama, and curtailment of early voting and elimination of same day registration in North Carolina. All these voter suppression tactics render moot the original intent of women, voters with disabilities, and young and older voters, making it more difficult for them to access the ballot box.

To protect these rights, the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019 (H.R. 4/S.561) responds to the *Shelby v. Holder* decision and restores the protections of the VRA. The Voting Rights Advancement Act will:

- Modernize the VRA's formula for determining which states and localities have a pattern of discrimination and are subject to preclearance before making changes to voting practices;
- Increase transparency and ensure that last-minute voting changes do not adversely affect voters by requiring officials to publicly announce all voting changes at least 180 days before an election; and
- Expand the government's authority to send federal observers to any jurisdiction where there may be a substantial risk of discrimination at the polls on election day or during an early voting period.

Additional Resources

Take Action: Support the Voting Rights Advancement Act

American Association of University Women (AAUW)

H.R. 4 – The Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019

The Brennan Center

Support H.R. 4, Voting Rights Advancement Act

Coalition Letter to the House of Representatives

Did You Know?

...US women athletes brought home more medals than men!

You can read more in USA Today (which attributes this success to Title IX)! at <https://www.msn.com/en-us/sports/olympics/us-women-are-dominating-medal-count-at-tokyo-olympics-in-ways-they-ve-never-done-before/ar-AAN0W6E>

...**Margaret Hamilton**, the lead software designer for NASA's Apollo space program, celebrated her 85th birthday in August. The pioneering computer scientist saved the 1969 Apollo 11 moon landing when the flight software she designed prevented an abort of the historic mission which brought the first humans to the Moon.

...**More Women's Inventions:**

The Fire Escape

The first credited person in the U.S. to patent a fire escape was Anna Connelly of Philadelphia in 1887. At a time before women were allowed to vote or even work outside the home, Anna Connelly was one of the first women to submit an idea to the patent office.

The Life Raft

The lifesaving Life Raft was invented by Maria Beasley in 1882. Maria Beasley—an "engineering dynamo" of her time, secured 15 patents from the late 1870s to the late 1890s, many of which were for machines. Her list of patents ranged from foot warmers to one of the most important transportation innovations of all time: the life raft.

...**When Marie Curie Needed Radium, We Obligated**

Did you know that in 1920, the [Association of Collegiate Alumnae](#) (the predecessor to AAUW) helped raise money to purchase a gram of radium for Marie Curie? The scientist stated she was in short supply of radium, an element that she had discovered. When asked, "If you had the whole world to choose from, what would you take?" Curie replied, "I need a gram of radium to continue my research, but I cannot buy it; radium is too dear for me."

A group of US women formed the Marie Curie Radium Fund. The Association of Collegiate Alumnae was an active participant in this effort. Many prominent leaders loomed large in the group and several committee members went on to become AAUW presidents.

In 1921, Curie visited the United States, along with her two daughters, to receive her gift of radium. President Warren Harding presented her with the gram of radium in a lead-lined box. At the time, a gram of radium cost \$100,000. The Marie Curie Radium Fund was so successful that it raised an additional \$56,413.54. After Curie died in 1934, the money was passed to her daughter, Irene Joliot-Curie, who at the time was continuing her mother's research.

The funds eventually went into a trust managed by a bank, and the ownership of the money was called into question. AAUW had to fight the case in court in order to secure the money for a cause related to its original purpose. After the court case, the bank granted the funds to AAUW to use for the Marie Curie Fellowship, which was first awarded in 1963, to support a French or American woman studying chemistry, physics, or radiology.

