

Gold Filings



December 2021

Visit our Website: amador-ca.aauw.net or our Facebook Page: Amador-AAUW@Facebook.com

Message from the Chair

**WHATEVER YOU CELEBRATE
IN DECEMBER,
*Christmas, Hanukkah,
Kwanzaa, or Solstice*
DO IT WITH JOY AND
HAPPINESS!**



Prepare to Discuss the World--Great Decisions 2022

Are you interested in exploring some of the issues facing the world today? Many of the California branches have a Great Decisions special interest group. I am putting out feelers to see if we have a few members interested in forming such a group within our branch.

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on World Affairs. The program model involves reading a brief chapter in the Great Decisions book, viewing a 20-minute video on the topic and then meeting (virtually or in person) to discuss the issue. Meetings are informal and invite discussion.

More information is available at fpa.org. The eight topics for Great Decisions 2022 are listed below. The book serves as the focal text for discussion groups by providing background information, expert analysis, and suggested discussion questions for each foreign policy issue. Cost of the briefing book is \$35.

The Nine Topics for 2022 are:

- Changing Demographics
- Outer Space
- Climate Change

Russia
Myanmar and ASEAN
The Quad Alliance
Industrial Policy
Drug Policy in Latin America
Biden's Agenda

If you are interested, please contact me at syoung@calarts.edu and we can set up a monthly meeting time.

Membership Matters

We can all help grow our branch--we thrive with a larger membership base. I ask you all to think about what you might say about AAUW if the opportunity arises. We are all passionate about different aspects of our mission and projects, so what matters to you? Here is a short summary of some key points to consider:

AAUW is a non-partisan national organization whose mission is to *advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research*. The current focus is one of the most defining issues of our time: Gender Equity. Membership is open to all graduates (women and men) who hold an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

The Amador County Branch

§ Presents public programs and forums about topics of interest to the members and the community.

§ Holds monthly small discussion/social events titled "Libations and Conversations."

It is the perfect event for women interested in finding out more about AAUW.

§ Sponsors projects that support issues and interests affecting our community.

§ Raises funds to provide scholarships to young women at a variety of levels: Tech Trek, Re-entry Scholarships, Upper Division and Graduate Scholarships

New Member

We want to welcome our latest new member: Deborah Yates.

Please put her contact info into your directory.

Deborah Yates
16305 Suncatcher Lane
Pioneer, CA 95666
Deborah.L.Yates@hotmail.com
209-295-3217

BS in Computer Science, Regis University, CO
PhD from Nova Southeastern University, FL

Cork and Fork

Hello Members!

Our Cork and Fork groups are done meeting for the year and it is time to make plans for next year. The goal of Cork and Fork is to learn more about the world of wine and enjoy an evening of sampling wine in a sociable environment. Our groups meet bi-monthly on the 2nd Sunday at 5:30 in a member's home. We have a fun time and find it is a great way to get to know each other better. We are always looking for new members to join our group. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me. We will be forming new groups in the next few weeks.

Cork and Fork is also interested in starting a ladies-only group. This will be focused on our single members or those whose husbands aren't interested in this type of activity. Our goal is to have at least 6 ladies to participate and would meet at the same time as the other Cork & Fork groups. If you are

interested and want more details please contact me in the next few weeks.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Rita Bohl

ritab@softcom.net

November Program Meeting Report

On Saturday, November 13 our branch sponsored a program about the Amador County redistricting process. 14 attendees met at the Jackson View Clubhouse to hear Andy Byrne, one of the representatives on the Redistricting Advisory Committee, speak. He reviewed 5 of the maps presented to the Supervisors, then took questions from the group. Feedback from the 14 branch members present was very positive--we all felt we have a better understanding of the guidelines and the dynamics of the process.

Historian's Corner

by Brenda Walker

As Branch Historian, one of the challenges of AAUW-Amador has been trying to ferret out the dates of activities that I have found interesting from mere scraps of newsprint. Here are some examples of some of our interesting programs over time.

Local author Elaine Zorbas spoke to us in January 2016 regarding her 10-year study of Fiddletown and other aspects of Amador County history. "Her first book, *Fiddletown: From Gold Rush to Rediscovery*, traces the passage of Fiddletown from a boisterous village that managed to endure as a community. The once sizeable Chinese population left an unforgettable legacy ... that helped tell the story of the Chinese experience during the Gold Rush."

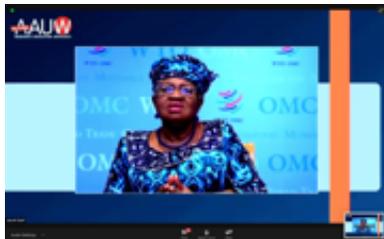
On March 9 in an unknown year, as part of the awards Ceremony for the annual "Women in History" Writing Contest, AAUW "brought in the Bristow Educational Productions theatrical company to perform *Women Win the Vote*, a musical drama that tells the stories of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton and their fight for the political rights of women and all Americans."

In yet another year, "Patrick Johnson, a former state legislator who now teaches public policy at the University of California Berkeley ... discussed public policy and how government really works."

On March 28, 1998, AAUW-Amador "offered a full-day workshop with speakers and activities emphasizing the integration of complementary medicine of women's individual programs of health. Speakers included Mayo, an herbalist and specialist in Chinese medicine; Beth Hartline, herbalist and Certified Massage Practitioner; Christine Bitler MSW and LSCE, and Gloria Kovacevich EN, CCRN, and Clinical Hypnotherapist."

So, over time we have had some interesting people share their knowledge with us. If you have ideas of great speakers that could share their ideas with at a lunch event or a workshop or an evening event with members and the public, please give Stephanie a call or send her an email.

Quotes are from Ledger-Dispatch articles.



AAUW Celebrates 140th Anniversary

AAUW celebrated its 140th anniversary by celebrating the naming of **Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala** as its distinguished 2021 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Awardee. The award honors a past recipient of an AAUW fellowship or grant who has attained outstanding success and distinction in their chosen profession. Our new CEO,

Gloria Blackwell conducted a very interesting interview with Dr. Okonjo-Iweala as a part of the anniversary celebration.

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is a global finance expert, economist and international development professional with over 30 years of experience working in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and North America. A

1977-78 AAUW International Fellow, she received her Ph.D. in regional economics and development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with her thesis on credit policy, rural financial markets and Nigeria's agricultural development. She served twice as Nigeria's Finance Minister and shortly as Foreign Minister in 2006, the first woman to hold both positions. She took office on March 1 as the seventh Director-General of the World Trade Organization and the first African and first woman to serve in that role.

Dr. Okonjo-Iweala has worked with countless government agencies, international organizations, corporate boards and non-profits to make a difference in global environmental sustainability and human welfare. She was named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2021.

Dr. Okonjo-Iweala has just published a book: "Women and Leadership: Real Lives, Real Lessons."

Calling All Badges!

A REMINDER: 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 a group order.

Monthly Calendar

Giving Tuesday

November 30. See details below.

Book Clubs

Afternoon Book Club--Monday December 13, 2:00 pm This month we are reading *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. We'll meet at Stephanie Young's house.

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 -- Wednesday January 12

The book club has regrouped and will meet again on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 5:30. Location is TBA. We are reading "The Vanishing Half" by Brit Bennett. New members are always welcome. Please contact Jacque Fletcher at 209 606-1157 if you are interested.

Libations & Conversations

Wednesday, December 15 5:30-6:30 at Brickyard Brews on Main St. in Jackson. Topic: Holiday Traditions. Open to current and prospective members--no RSVPs required.

Leadership Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 9 at 4pm via Zoom. Contact Stephanie if you want to join in.

Save these dates:

January 19 at 7pm via Zoom. AAUW-CA is sponsoring a webinar about membership:

Marketing – From Gen Z to Boomers! More details will be published in the January Gold Filings.

January 22 via Zoom--another branch is sponsoring this virtual program:

Understanding the Predator Psychological Methodology--Traffickers and other predators use a mental methodology to ensnare our children in their traps. Learn how they gain the unconditional trust of youth, manipulate and control them. (Zoom link will be listed in January)

February 5 at 2pm: Program--Authors and Chocolate. Kevan Hunt will be our featured guest, discussing her latest book. Details forthcoming.

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in December

- JoAnn Chevrette
- Diane Christensen
- Suzanne Nicholson
- Loretta Porteous
- Michele Powell
- Kelly Trottier

Sunshine

No Sunshine cards were sent out this month.

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.

Unladylike2020: The Changemakers

Illuminating the stories of extraordinary American heroines from the early years of feminism, **Unladylike2020** is a multimedia series consisting of a one-hour special for broadcast (**Unladylike2020: The Changemakers**) and 26 digital short films featuring courageous, little-known and diverse female trailblazers from the turn of the 20th century.

Digital Video Shorts

Narrated by **Julianna Margulies** and **Lorraine Toussaint**, the series of 26 8-to-10 minute animated shorts features stories of activists, musicians, artists, and scientists. Start by watching the video on Charlotta Spears Bass, the first Black woman to run for Vice President of the United States.

Find all these videos on PBS: American Masters. To find them, along with a longer description, google [Unladylike2020: The Changemakers](#)

Museum of Science and Curiosity opens along riverfront

The SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity, an interactive and exploratory STEM celebration in Sacramento's River District, has at last opened its doors.

"We need to be educating the future innovators who are going to help solve these problems," said Michele Wong, the museum's executive director. "Not just things like the pandemic and climate change, but how to feed the world. How to do things more sustainably."

The \$83 million museum is a public-private partnership between the city, the state, the county's education office, Powerhouse Science Center, UC Davis and SMUD. The 50,000-square-foot "exploratorium"-style museum includes upstairs and downstairs galleries housing interactive exhibits, each focused on an area of science or technology. Areas include health innovations, nature, water, energy and climate, space exploration and astronomy, robotics and engineering. "It's just about exploring — using all of your five senses to explore the world around you."

IF YOU GO

General admission tickets range from \$12 for children to \$15 for adults, and are available at visitmosac.org.

MOSAC uses timed ticketing and has limited capacity, so the museum recommends guests reserve tickets in advance.

MOSAC is open to the general public daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will be closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

A Message from the Paradise Branch

As the November 8, 2018 Paradise Camp Fire anniversary passes, those of us who received so much help from AAUW members in California and elsewhere, want to give an update and renew our thanks.

One small plea posted on the AAUW California website and a few emails asking for help brought tens of thousands of dollars in gift cards, offers of housing, furniture, and, in the case of a member who couldn't get her garage door open and had no replacement insurance—a car.

The Paradise board, most of whom lost everything, gathered frequently to sort mail and distribute the contributions to 35 of our 40 members. After their needs were fulfilled, we gave cards and checks to our Tech Trek families, most of whom also lost everything and often had fewer resources. We offered gas money to the son of Suzy and Paul Ernst, the couple who were trapped by the fire and spent many months in the U.C. Davis Burn Center. There were so many ways everyone's contributions helped.

From all of us, thank you!

Carol Holzgrafe and every AAUW Paradise member

Don't Forget about Giving Tuesday

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 your 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.

Webinars

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



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