

Gold Filings



January 2022

Visit our Website: amador-ca.aauw.net or our Facebook Page: [Amador-AAUW@Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/Amador-AAUW@Facebook.com)

Message from the Chair

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

To all of you who are without electricity, may your power be restored soon.

The past two years have certainly honed our coping and flexibility skills, so we should be ready for the surprises that 2022 is likely to bring our way.



Have you been thinking about how to best use your time and talents in the new year? As we go into 2022, make the resolution that you will get more involved with the branch, like attending programs, joining an interest group, contributing to Gold Filings or volunteering to be a branch officer. The current board is actively seeking new blood to help us reinvigorate our branch.

There are quite a few public policy issues that are currently in process, so please read about them in case you want to act on behalf of one or more of these issues.

Libations and Conversations

We will meet Thursday, January 27, 5:30 at Le Mulet Rouge Wine Tasting. 59 Main Street, Sutter Creek. Our speaker is Deborah Mackey, City of Jackson Fire Chief. The topic will cover Chief Mackey's experience and challenges rising to the position of Fire Chief and current issues the department faces. This no host event is open to all members, friends and the public. We encourage everyone to get out and support our monthly Libations and Conversations. It is a nice time to visit with members and hopefully attract new members.

Special Interest Groups

Cork and Fork

A reminder that this year's Cork and Fork groups are re-forming, so if you are interested and have not yet contacted Rita Bohl, please do so this month: ritab@softcom.net. Traditionally Cork and Fork includes spouses or significant others, but Rita hopes to add a "ladies only" group this year as well.

Page Turners and Book Lovers

If you are interested in reading enjoyable thought-provoking books and enjoy discussing them, please join us on the 4th Monday of each month at 2pm. Discussions are held at various members' homes and

includes a delicious dessert. Please contact Christine van Fleet at vancoh7@gmail.com.

Our book list for the year is:

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

American Baby by Gabrielle Glaser

Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark Sullivan

Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro

Once I was You by Maria Hinojosa

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

Band of Sisters by Lauren Willig

The Rose Code by Kate Quinn

Winter Garden by Kristin Hanna

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Afternoon Book Club

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2pm, also including dessert. This month we will be discussing *Daughter of Molokai* by Alan Brennert and selecting our book list for 2022, which we will share in Gold Filings next month. All members are welcome to join us. Please contact Debra Brown at debrown6@gmail.com.

Working Girls Book Group

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

Supper Club

Contact Claire Wait if you are interested in participating in this group. Newcomers are always welcome.

Great Decisions

We are still hoping to form a Great Decisions group in our branch. Currently there are two members interested but we hope to add a few more--if you are interested in exploring some of the issues facing the world today, please contact Stephanie Young (syoung@calarts.edu) for more info.

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.

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

Historian's Corner

Pictures Please!

In order to maintain our ongoing history, we need to send pix of all our events to Brenda Walker (walker@volcano.net) as well as to Gold Filings editor (which at this time is Stephanie Young: syoung@calarts.edu)

AAUW Funds

In the AAUW Chico Branch newsletter there was a good explanation of the importance of Funds and how Funds is part of the AAUW solution to the many situations where EQUITY is still an issue for women and girls.

The Funds are divided into three areas, Economic Security, Leadership and Education and Training. This month I'm sharing the section discussing **Economic Security**.

Who isn't aware that many women earn less than men for performing essentially the same work? A classic case is that of Lilly Ledbetter, a production supervisor at Goodyear. She became aware that she was a victim of wage discrimination based on sex because her male counterparts earned more than she

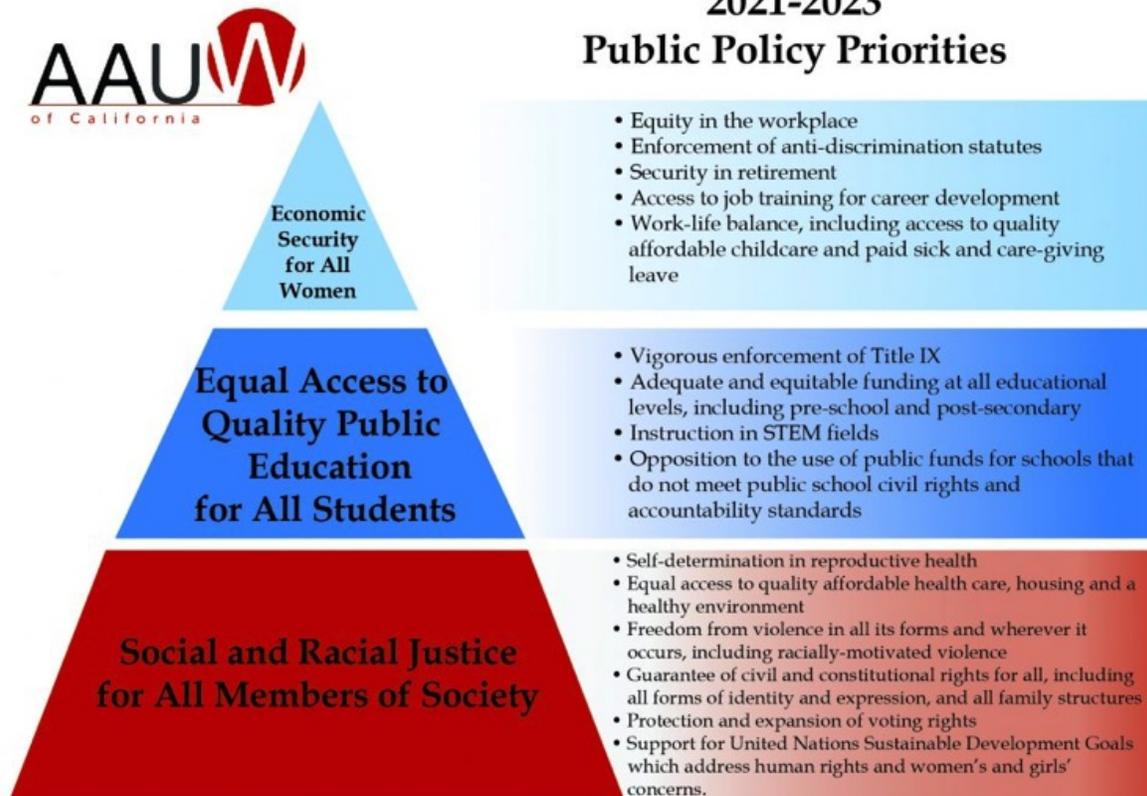
did for the same work. However, she received no restitution from Goodyear because the statute of limitations has passed. How can you address an injustice if you are unaware that it is occurring? AAUW and its members helped to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Play Act. AAUW also introduced WORK SMART and START SMART wage negotiations workshops to help women understand the importance of negotiating for a salary and to practice the skills needed to do so.

Next month, **Leadership**.

Public Policy

What We Believe

The work of the AAUW California State Public Policy Committee is guided by the Mission Statement and by three Public Policy Priorities:



AAUW: Political and Nonpartisan

AAUW is nonpartisan but has always been political. That goes back to the 1880s when we began pushing for higher education for women—a push that continues today.

The recent webinar: *Exploring Tough Policy Issues Through an AAUW Lens: Political and Non-Partisan* was an excellent look at where we've been and where we are going. Our nonpartisan work includes:

- Endorsing legislation
- Taking political stands
- Influencing legislative debate
- Working with any policymaker who cares about our priorities

All of these things can and must be done in a nonpartisan way.

The Advisory Board to the National Public Policy Committee is producing a series of webinars on “tough policy issues.” The first of these, “Political and Non-Partisan,” aired on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at noon (Pacific Time). You can find and it on the national website and view it at your convenience if you missed it. Just go to AAUW.org and search “webinars.” That will take you to the Webinar page, click “programs” and you will see the recent webinars.

Status of the Equal Rights Amendment

“Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or

by any state on account of sex.”

That is it! That is the full text of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. Part of the reason for the lack of passage is that many Americans think that equality of the sexes is already guaranteed in the Constitution. It is NOT. Whatever progress has been made on gender equality in our country is a hodgepodge of federal and state legislation, any of which can be overturned without the full protection a constitutional amendment provides.

Here is a brief overview of how the process towards true equality has played out.

- It's been 101 years since the 19th Amendment granted women the right to vote.
- It's been 98 years since the Equal Rights Amendment was first introduced in Congress.
- It's been 49 years since the ERA was passed by Congress.
- And it's been more than one year since the ERA was ratified by the required 38 states.

The ERA is still not part of the Constitution because of an ambiguous and legally questionable deadline imposed at the beginning of the process, per the League of Women Voters. However, on March 17, 2021, the House of Representatives voted, with bipartisan support, to remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. This critical resolution moved to the Senate and is awaiting approval.

AAUW is clearly and forcefully behind efforts to move the ERA to a constitutional amendment. **The action you can take is to call or write your Senators about the importance of this issue. Letters to the Editor and taking action to sign petitions are all good ideas.**

It's time for the Senate to vote, remove the time limit, and repair what has been left out of the Constitution. Until that happens, reproductive rights, an end to gender-based violence, pay equity, and so much more are hanging in the balance. **We really cannot wait another century for true equality.**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only way it happens.” -Margaret Mead

Self-determination in Reproductive Health :

With the looming possibility of the Supreme Court gutting Roe v Wade, the future of reproductive rights in America is poised to become a central and potentially defining issue of 2022. In a few months one of the most fundamental and impactful changes in the lives of American girls and women will be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. As educated and resourceful leaders in the community of women, it is imperative that we be aware of and understand the consequences of the court's decision.

No matter what your position, this is a time to become informed and make your voice heard.

What can we do to protect and stop this assault on women's reproductive health?

You can directly email the Supreme Court

at: https://www.supremecourt.gov/contact_pio.aspx

Monthly Calendar--Local Events

Afternoon Book Club--Monday January 10, 2:00 pm This month we are reading *Daughter of Molokai* by Alan Brennert and will meet at Debra Brown's house, 13944 Irishtown Road, Pine Grove. New members are always welcome.

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.

Leadership Committee Meeting--Thursday, January 13 at 4pm via Zoom.

Contact Stephanie if you want to join in.

Page Turners & Book Lovers--Monday, January 24 at 2pm to discuss *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. We will be meeting at Stephanie Young's house--2059 Thomas Drive, Jackson. New members are always welcome.

Libations & Conversations

Thursday, January 27, 5:30-6:30 at Le Mulet Rouge Wine Tasting. 59 Main Street, Sutter Creek Open to current and prospective members--no RSVPs required.

Monthly Calendar--Branch, State & National Events

Finders-Keepers: Recruiting and Retaining Members

January 11, 2022 at 7 pm via Zoom

All AAUW branches must keep member rosters healthy in order to continue our impactful work. Attend this webinar to explore new and creative ideas from successful branches for finding and keeping our best asset—our members! Register by going to the /AAUW-CA website.

Marketing – From Gen Z to Boomers! -- a webinar about membership

January 19 at 7pm via Zoom. Register by going to the /AAUW-CA website.

How to meet and influence lawmakers

Thursday, Jan. 20, 6:30 pm via Zoom

The featured speaker will be Elizabeth Patterson, former mayor of Benicia and water management consultant. Her presentation will address “How to Meet and Influence Lawmakers.” Patterson has worked for the environment and the existential threat of global warming in all capacities as a professional, mother, and mayor. Participants are encouraged to bring a political issue they are passionate about. Patterson will offer practical tips about how to increase impact as a common citizen or as a representative of a local organization at the city, county, state, or national level.

Join Zoom Meeting, sponsored by the Vallejo-Benicia Branch:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85921865470?pwd=RkxIS3p2ZUR0T1h2ZjJIZEJ2UmZnUT09>

Meeting ID: 859 2186 5470 / Passcode: 227246

Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch's Author Event:

January 22 at 11am via ZOOM. Meet Author Lisa Napoli and SALUTE contemporary she/roes: Susan, Linda, Nina & Cokie. To register, send your email address & name to Joe Des

Barres: joedesbarres@gmail.com

Understanding the Predator Psychological Methodology

January 22 from noon-2:30 via Zoom--the Santa Cruz Branch is sponsoring this virtual program.

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.

Join Zoom Meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3543348917?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3543348917?pwd=SzVETkQ2bXlJcW9POXB1bHJFclRqUT09)

[pwd=SzVETkQ2bXlJcW9POXB1bHJFclRqUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3543348917?pwd=SzVETkQ2bXlJcW9POXB1bHJFclRqUT09)

Meeting ID: 354 334 8917 / Passcode: 472354

For audio, find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3543348917?pwd=SzVETkQ2bXlJcW9POXB1bHJFclRqUT09>

Save these dates:

Local Program--Authors and Chocolate

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

The Annual Event: "Adventures in AAUWLand" (aka the State Conference)

April April 30th via Zoom

It will be an all-day event with great speakers, awards, and an afternoon of freewheeling conversations.

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in January

- Greta McElroy
- Teresa Ryan

Sunshine

Just one card this month to Sandi Baracco (broken wrist)

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

Where were you on May 3, 1971?

(the date of the first broadcast of NPR's "All Things Considered")

You are invited to welcome Author Lisa Napoli, Honored Speaker of AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch's Annual Author's Event on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 11:00 AM via ZOOM. There is no charge for this event.

Lisa Napoli comes to us from a long career in journalism, including staff reporting jobs at public radio's Marketplace, the pioneering New York Times Cybertimes, and as columnist/ correspondent at MSNBC. She is the author of several biographies, including her 2021 book, *susan, linda, nina & cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR*. Napoli takes us on a compelling journey with Susan Stamberg, Linda Wertheimer, Nina Totenberg, and Cokie Roberts. Learn firsthand about these women's enduring friendships, obstacles, successes, and lasting impacts while becoming national icons. Ms. Napoli's book recounts the struggles women faced not only in journalism but in our lifetime, when women were truly "second class citizens." These 4 trailblazers advanced gender equity for women and girls in the previously gender-biased workplace of print/broadcast journalism. This account will make you feel you were right there since "All Things Considered" hit the airwaves 50 years ago.

To attend this event, send your email address & name to the President of Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch, Joe Des Barres: joedesbarres@gmail.com to get the Zoom invitation. Registrations will be accepted until **Monday, January 17, 2022**. All registrants will receive a Zoom Invitation on Wednesday, January 19th, with a reminder on January 21st.

Healdsburg Branch Forum Courses

Every year Healdsburg AAUW offers Forum Courses as a fundraiser. Registration is \$95 for each course.

Spring Courses

- Before the Storm: America from 1815 to 1850 presented by Mick Chantler
(Jan 11-Feb 15)
- Interpreting Works of Art: Your "GPS" for Visual Literacy--Charles Goldberg & Heidi Chretien, PhD
(Jan 13-Feb 17)
- The Ocean Off Our Coast: Sea Life in the California Current by Robert Ruben, PhD
(Mar 15-Apr 19)
- Russian Power: Portraits in Time, Genghis Khan to Putin by Anastasia Edel
(Mar 17-Apr 21)

A portion of the registration fee supports local scholarships.

For more information and registration, see <https://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net>

Questions? Contact: Donna Riley at dlrdlh@gmail.com

Giving Tuesday

We had 26 donations for a total of \$1910.00. Thanks to all of you who donated!
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/>

