

Gold Filings



March 2022
March is Women's History Month!

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



Our MARCH Program

Science, HIV, and Health Care: A Woman's Journey from America to Africa and Back

On Tuesday, March 8 from 6-8 p.m., join us in person to celebrate Women's History Month. Dr. Michelle Roland will speak about her medical career ranging

from her training at UC Davis and UC San Francisco, experience in HIV/AIDS treatment, education and prevention to leading the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Country Offices in Tanzania and Botswana.

In Africa she worked with numerous partners to reduce the burden of HIV, TB, malaria and other public health challenges.

In May 2019, Dr. Roland took over Dr. Bob Hartmann's internal medicine practice in Jackson. Much of her focus is on helping people navigate their older years. Dr. Roland's photographer husband, Richard Miles, will conclude the program with images of their time in Africa.

The event will be held at the Amador Senior Center, 229 New York Ranch Rd, Jackson.

This event is free and the public is welcome so bring a friend or spouse--we hope to see you all there! All attendees are required to be fully vaccinated, have their booster shot and wear masks.

Membership

Calling all members: new, recent, long-time, and potential members! Invite your daughter, daughter-in-law, niece, or grand-daughter to become a member! Invite a friend or neighbor to join our group. To meet other members and make new friends, come to our meetings! Get involved!

If you like to talk and laugh while supporting other women and girls, or if you know or have friends who are of a different race or ethnicity, invite them to a meeting! When you sit next to others at your community, political, church or other social group, have you ever discussed AAUW?

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to participation on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

Remember--men are welcome as members too.

Note from National:

National membership dues will increase \$5 to \$67 for 2022-23, out of which \$64 will be tax deductible. CA dues & our Branch dues will remain the same. Sometime in mid-March we will all begin getting renewal notices. The total membership dues for this year will be \$103.

Two More New Members!

Sylvia Pardini (Joe) 408-859-9899
sylvia.pardini@yahoo.com * 12/18
18550 View Circle
Fiddletown, CA 95629
Technical Degree, Enology/Viticulture
Weinbauschule Frier, Germany

A'Laina Lyons (Pat) 415-990-7785 (c)
Alainalyons01@gmail.com * 5/31
10751 Cross St / PO Box 502
Amador City, CA 95601
UC Santa Barbara, BA Communication

Member Spotlight

Next month we are going to begin a regular monthly feature highlighting our members, both new and existing. We need to make time celebrate ourselves!

This month we are spotlighting a former member who recently died. Here is a tribute submitted by Sandi Baracco:

MARGARET SWIFT

JULY 11, 1925 – JANUARY 30, 2022

Margaret Bunds Swift was a treasured member of our AAUW Branch from 1972 through 2000. Born in San Rafael, California, Margie excelled in school. After graduating high school early, she attended the University of California, Berkeley, graduating with a degree in mathematics, and a teaching credential. Her first teaching position was at Lassen High School in Susanville. There she met Edward Swift who was attending Lassen Junior College, which shared the high school campus. Ed was smitten by Margie's beauty, intelligence and rifle marksmanship...

Ed and Margie were married in 1949 and made Sutter Creek their home. She taught home economics and mathematics at Jackson Union High School for two years. 1951 brought the first of their five

children, and Margaret transitioned to life as a business owner, office manager, homemaker, and community volunteer. Margie's business career concluded when she retired as the family bookkeeper at age 90.

Margie spent 29 years as a member supporting the mission of AAUW Amador, serving as president in 1992-93, as well as numerous other positions over the years. Margie was either chair or co-chair of our annual home tour five different years (1988, 1989, 1991, 1993, and 1994). Margie and Ed also graciously allowed AAUW to have their beautiful Queen Anne Victorian home on at least four different tours. Margie was honored by our branch twice (1981 and 1992) as a 'Named Donation' to the National AAUW Fellowship program.

The family is planning a public celebration of life for both Margaret and Edward, tentatively scheduled for May 2022. A notice will be published when the date is firm. Burial will be private.

More Ways to Celebrate Women's History Month

[The dream of educating Afghan girls lives on](#)

by *Shabana Basij-Rasikh*

At TEDWomen in 2012, educator Shabana Basij-Rasikh challenged the world **to dare to educate Afghan girls** and help create the best-educated generation Afghanistan had ever seen, after years of oppressive Taliban rule. The result? The School of Leadership, Afghanistan (SOLA) — the country's first and only all-girls boarding school — was forged. In 2021, the Taliban returned and Basij-Rasikh faced a new challenge: coordinating the evacuation of more than 250 SOLA students, staff and family members from Kabul to Rwanda.

Two events, nine years apart. Now Basij-Rasikh tells the story of the days that came between, and her hopes for the days to come. An exceptional story of courage and resilience — and a challenge for the world to not look away.

[▶ WATCH NOW](#)

Pauli Murray - The Life of a Pioneering Feminist & Civil Rights Activist

by Rosita Stevens Hollsey

Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray demanded justice and equal treatment for all. She was a civil rights and women's rights activist before any movement advocated for either--the brilliant mind that, in 1944, conceptualized the arguments that would win *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*; and in 1964, the arguments that won women equality in the workplace. If you want to learn about this mostly unknown, but amazing woman who was a poet, writer, lawyer, activist and Episcopal Priest, purchase the latest book about her by visiting your favorite bookstore.

Streaming now on AMAZON Prime is the trailblazing 90-minute documentary "My Name is Pauli Murray."

Title IX Update

“Know Your Title IX: What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You”

Saturday, March 19, 2022 11:30-1pm: Santa Clara County Interbranch Council presents a Webinar:

June 2022 marks 50 years since Title IX legislation became law in Congress.

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that was passed as part (Title IX) of the Education Amendments of 1972. It prohibits sex-based discrimination in any school or other education program that receives funding from the federal government. The Supreme Court issued decisions in the 1980s and 1990s making clear that sexual harassment and sexual assault are forms of sex discrimination.

Here is your chance to learn more about Title IX and how it applies today.

Moderated by Danielle Slaton, US Women's Soccer Olympic Medalist and current television analyst for the San Jose Earthquakes.

Speakers and panelists include:

- Marlene Bjornsrud, Executive Director of the Alliance of Women Coaches and co-founder of the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative.
- Lucy Jane Bledsoe, award-winning novelist; her latest novel is "No Stopping Us Now."
- Jess Eagle, a passionate social justice advocate and community organizer.
- Dr. Akilah Carter-Francique, Executive Director for San Jose State University Institute for the Study of Sport, Society, and Social Change.
- Rebecca Sheff, Program Coordinator at Equal Rights Advocates.

Contact Marian Sacco at marian.sacco@gmail.com for the link.

A Message from the Chair

*There are only two choices:
Sit back and hope someone else will fix the problem, or
get involved, expand our minds, make new friends
and be part of the solution.*

To that end, we are still looking for the next group of members who will step up and lead our branch for the 2022-23 year!

If you are interested in being a part of the Leadership Team
please contact me this month at syoung@calarts.edu or 661-478-0138

I will be contacting many of you, via phone or e-mail, if I think your participation would enhance the Branch's effectiveness. We have a great many smart, talented women in this branch and **WE NEED YOU!**

Diversity, Equality and Inclusion

Recognizing Unconscious Bias

Denial of bias is common. However, each of us has some unconscious or implicit bias. Being able to own this and talk about such bias can open opportunities for branches to grow. AAUW presented a webinar on bias on September 23, 2021 that is available for you to watch at your convenience. The webinar is titled, Unconscious Bias: Recognizing Your Biases and How to Interrupt Them. The program explains the science behind bias, how gender bias affects the education and workplace environment for girls and women and presents conscious steps we can take to overcome our unconscious bias.

To find the webinar, go to aauw.org, search for Webinars, click on Past Webinars, the Membership tab, then choose the Unconscious Bias..... webinar.

Another tool to help us discover our unconscious biases is the Implicit Association Test developed by Harvard University. Just do a search for IAT test. Very interesting.....

Also, a reminder that the Sacramento/American River (CHAR) branches of AAUW have a DEI discussion group the meets on ZOOM every second Wednesday at 7pm. For the next meeting (March 9) we will be discussing The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together, chapters 4 and 5. Anyone who is interested can join the meeting using the Zoom meeting ID 737 420 3780.

Bonnie Krupp

Branch Activities

Libations and Conversations

This no host event is open to all members, friends and the public. We encourage everyone to get out and support our monthly events.. It is a nice time to visit with current members and hopefully attract new members. Katie Scott and Jacque Fletcher, Co-Chairs of Libations and Conversations, are looking for future speakers/topics from our organization members.. We also hope that more members can attend our program. The program provides a great opportunity to visit with members, invite individuals who may be interested and meet new members.

Please contact them at fletcherja4545@gmail.com or kbscott3576@gmail.com with any speaker ideas.

Special Interest Groups

Afternoon Book Club

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2pm, also including dessert. All members are welcome to join us. Please contact Debra Brown at debrown6@gmail.com.

Page Turners and Book Lovers

We meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 2pm.. New members are always welcome. Please contact Christine van Fleet at vancoh7@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the group.

Working Girls Book Group

This book group meets in the evening and new members are always welcome--contact Jacque Fletcher if you would like more information or join the group. 209 606-1157 or fletcherja4545@gmail.com.

Cork and Fork

A group that explores and celebrates wine and food pairings. Contact Rita Bohl at ritab@softcom.net if you are interested in joining the group.

Supper Club

Contact Claire Wait if you are interested in participating in this group. Newcomers are always welcome. The group's first meeting of 2022 has been postponed due to Covid concerns. We hope to be able to meet in April.

Great Decisions

Four of us have formed a Great Decisions group. The aim of the group is to explore some of the issues facing the world today, We had our first meeting in February to discuss the history and policies regarding "Outer Space." We had a great discussion and decided to tackle the "Quad Alliance" next, an informal structure that includes the U.S., Australia, India and Japan, formed in response to China's increasingly assertive strategic posture.

If you would like to join us, please contact Stephanie Young at syoung@calarts.edu for more info.

You can go on the Foreign Policy Association website fpa.org to find out more about this year's discussion topics.



Historian's Corner

I was pondering fundraising ideas as over the years we have tried various things to finance our projects. Whether they were programs, scholarships, luncheons, Tech Trek, conferences, conventions, or projects such as Science Saturday, the question was always, "How will we fund this?" So I thought I would look through the Gold Filings and scrapbooks to see what ideas the clever ladies of the past have used.

AAUW-Amador started in 1969 and by December 1970 we were trying to raise funds for the needs of this fledgling organization. The first idea was to have a Festive Faire. At the

Festive Faire we would sell boutique items donated by members, books, and craft projects from our home crafts group. This was a start. Shortly thereafter it was decided to host a book sale in the Spring. The first Home Tour, chaired by Helen Potter, was held in April 1972; its reception exceeded expectations.

There were additions in subsequent Home Tours. For two years there were sales of note cards, possibly created by T. Taylor. In 1977 the note cards were dropped. In 1985 the Home Tour Cookie Book was sold. Maureen Hogan and Barbara Alexander managed this project. The cookie book sales continued through 1989. Then in 2003 the Home Tour Cookie Book reappeared, managed by Margie Guletz. Also in 2003 the Home Tour included an Art Sale. In 2004 came the raffle of a beautiful queen size quilt made by members; this continued through 2010. With the demise of the quilt raffle a great pivot was made to offer raffle baskets created by each of our special interest groups at the Home Tour tea. These raffle baskets were well received by the public.

A Gourmet Food Basket Raffle was held at our Valentines Party in 1981. In 1982 an ERA Basket Raffle was held with the proceeds going to the Media Campaign for ERA. In 1985 we hosted a Happy Holidays Homecraft Boutique at the Sutter Creek Methodist Church featuring gifts made by our members. Beginning in 2002 business card size ads were sold in the Gold Filings to help defer the cost of printing and mailing.

Members of AAUW-Amador 2003-04 were very busy with fundraising ideas. In February "A Fair to Remember" was held in the social hall of the Methodist Church in Sutter Creek. Admission was \$3.00 per person and included a delightful tea, the arts & crafts fair, and a silent auction. Twenty-seven donations were pledged from members to raise funds for Tech Trek and scholarships. The event was quite profitable. Our recent participation in Giving Tuesday, put on by Amador Community Foundation, has allowed members of the public to support our scholarship program.

Often programs were offered to the public with admission charged to offset the cost of room rentals, such as the showing of the RBG movie and the Author and Chocolate programs. Sometimes fundraisers were to benefit other organizations, such as Beads for Life which supported women in Uganda. Many holiday celebrations had a Giving Tree set up benefitting Operation Care. Looking back through the

newsletters we see funds collected to send Care boxes to our troops abroad and food drives for the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

I hope this article stimulates your thinking about future fund raising. Clever ideas are indeed inside the minds of the women of AAUW-Amador. I hope you will share some of your ideas with us.

Brenda Walker, Historian

AAUW Funds

Part 3, Education and Training

This is the third part of the Chico Branch article explaining the importance of Funds to the AAUW mission of economic security, Education and Training.

Fellowships and grants (nearly \$5 million this past year) support women doing important work in our educational system and that will help them attain their graduate degrees. Amy Irby Shasanmi received an American Fellowship in support of her research on health-care disparities. Maria Salgado received a Career Development Grant to help her prepare to gain a leadership role in higher education so that she can build equity in college access and success pathways for students from marginalized backgrounds. The Boys and Girls Club of Oceanside received a Community Action Grant to create a 24-week program for at-risk girls ages 5 to 18 which provides hands-on learning in science, technology, research, engineering, arts, and mathematics. Becky Mashaido from Kenya received an International Fellowship to study at Northwestern University. Using her background in applied mathematics and computer science, she will study the impact algorithms have on women while also promoting gender inclusion within the development of artificially intelligent technologies. Jalisa Ferguson received a Research Publication Grant so she can have the time and space to complete and publish her professional research. She has a passion for interdisciplinary approaches to teaching science.

Multiply these stories by the hundreds and you will understand what an impact AAUW Funds can have on our future.

Bonnie Krupp, Funds Chair

Tech Trek News

Gretchen
Carlson,
Branch
Coordinator

The Tech Trek year got off to a slow start, as universities took time to decide if they were going to host camps in 2022, and paperwork was fine-tuned. Both virtual and in-person camps will take place this coming summer, and we hope to sponsor three girls to the California State University, Fresno, in-person camp. If in-person camp is canceled, we are hopeful our campers will be able to switch to virtual camp. Nominations from teachers should be arriving within a few days. The girls will then be invited to apply to camp, which includes filling out an application and writing an essay. Applicants will then be interviewed by our local team- Jacque Fletcher, Rita Bohl, Nancy Street, and me. We should have our selections by the end of March.

On a related note, I am pleased to share some good news regarding funding Tech Trek. Many years ago, my father set up a scholarship fund in his name through the Jackson Lions Club. The fund has done quite well over the years. My husband, a member of Jackson Lions, presented to the Lions Club board our family's request to have \$1000 from the fund given each year to Amador Branch AAUW, to be used for Tech Trek or other scholarships, in my mother's name – The Margie Guletz Scholarship. The Lions passed the motion to do this unanimously. Mom loved the Tech Trek program, and I know would be so pleased.

Monthly Calendar--Local Events

Tuesday, March 8, 7pm

Program--Author & Chocolate. 2pm at Hein & Company. Reservations required. (Sold out) Bring your mask and your badge.

Thursday, March 10, 4pm

Leadership Committee Meeting-- via Zoom. All Members welcome. Contact Stephanie if you want to join the meeting.

Monday March 14m. 2:00 pm

Afternoon Book Club-- The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan. Meet at Debra Brown's house.

Tuesday, March 15, 5:30

The Working Girls Book Group will be meeting Tuesday, March 15 5:30 at Katie Scott's house in Ione. The book we will discuss is *The Taste of Ginger*. a novel by Mansi Shah.

Thursday, March 17, 6:00pm

"St. Patrick's Day Bingo" The Amador County Women's Network will hold a fundraiser at the Fiddletown Community Center to benefit Operation Care.

Monday, March 21 5:30-6:30

Libations & Conversations. Our speaker this month is Jim Rooney, Amador County Assessor. Jim will speak about new laws that affect the assessments and property taxes along with other property value information. The location is TBD.

Saturday, March 26, 1pm in Fiddletown

Rotary Fundraiser for Mbale, Uganda for materials to teach sewing and business and for personal hygiene products so girls can continue their education after puberty (currently not a part of their customs) \$40 for lunch & donation. Reservations required. To RSVP contact Luisa Almeida at catumbelense@gmail.com or 408-656-5971.

Monday, March 28. 2pm

Page Turners & Book Lovers—*Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan. Meet at Chris van Flet's house (this may change to a Zoom meeting)

Monthly Calendar--Other Branches, State & National Events

The Racial Wealth Gap Simulation

March 12, 2022, 2pm to 4pm Pacific Time via ZOOM

We welcome you to participate in this interactive tool that helps people understand the connections among racial equity, hunger, poverty, and wealth. Join us on Saturday, for a virtual, participative immersion in another world. **The Racial Wealth Gap** will help you to understand the connections among racial equity, hunger, poverty and wealth. To attend please register in advance at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZAduiivrzo0Ht3KRWnjwskIoein5tNXkgtN>

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Santa Clara County and Sunnyvale Cupertino AAUW.

Title IX: What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You

Saturday, March 19, 2022 Noon to 1 p.m. ~ Free Virtual Event

See above for details

Intersectionality Identified

Thursday, March 24, 2022, 7 p.m. ET

By understanding the dimensions of diversity and how they intersect, we can begin to grasp the complex and cumulative impact of discrimination and oppression. Please join the Inclusion & Equity Committee for this discussion of intersectionality and how to create branch or state programming for members on this concept.

Save the date:

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

April 30th via Zoom

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

Our Branch Website

Our website is one of the faces of AAUW Amador seen by the outside world. With this medium we present information about our branch that is up-to-date and tells our stories. It is a place where all members and prospective members can find information about our events. Please bookmark our site and visit it on a regular basis – <https://amador-ca.aauw.net>.

A reminder that if you have information about an upcoming program, L & C or other event to share with the branch and others, please send it to me as soon as possible. I send any changes to someone at National, and they make the actual updates. The earlier I get the details, the better chance that it will be on the website in a timely manner. Thanks for your help with this.
Bonnie Krupp, Website Editor

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in March

- Kathy Allen
- Mona Brown
- Marge Chisholm
- Deborah Yates

Sunshine

No cards were sent this month.



Two More Women Inventors

Closed-Circuit Television Security (CCTV)

Working as a nurse, Marie Van Brittan Brown's hours were not standard and living in a high-crime area made her want to feel safe, so she invented the first home security system. The system enabled her to know who was at her home and to notify police right away if needed.

Marie started her invention by creating three peepholes in the door to provide access for tall and average height people along with her children. The next step was setting up a camera that could adjust from peephole to peephole to allow people inside the house to look

outside to see who was there. Marie wanted to find a way to view who was outside the house from any room and decided a wireless television system would work best. To do this, she used a radio-controlled wireless system that could stream the video to any television in the house. Along with the video system, Marie and her husband created a two-way microphone system that would allow for communication between the family and the person at the door.

She filed the patent with her husband Albert in 1966 and was granted the patent in 1969. This revolutionary invention is the progenitor of security systems homes and businesses still in use today.

Kevlar

Stephanie Louise Kwolek (July 31, 1923 – June 18, 2014) was an American chemist who is known for inventing Kevlar. This life-saving material is 5 times stronger than steel and used to make bulletproof vests. Her career at the DuPont company spanned more than 40 years. She discovered the first of a family of synthetic fibers of exceptional strength and stiffness: poly-paraphenylene terephthalamide

For her discovery, Kwolek was awarded the DuPont company's Lavoisier Medal for outstanding technical achievement. As of August 2019, she was the only female employee to have received that honor. In 1995 she became the fourth woman to be added to the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Kwolek won numerous awards for her work in polymer chemistry, including the National Medal of Technology, the IRI Achievement Award and the Perkin Medal.

Member Corner: Idea Exchange

Here are some books I found on my bookshelf that celebrate women's history. If you would like to borrow one, please contact me at syoung@calarts.edu

Founding Mothers, The Women Who Raised Our Nation

by Cokie Roberts

Ladies of Liberty, The Ladies Who Shaped our Nation

by Cokie Roberts

Wonder Women, 25 Innovators, Inventors and Trailblazers Who Changed History

by Sam Maggs, Illustrated by Sophia Foster-Dimino

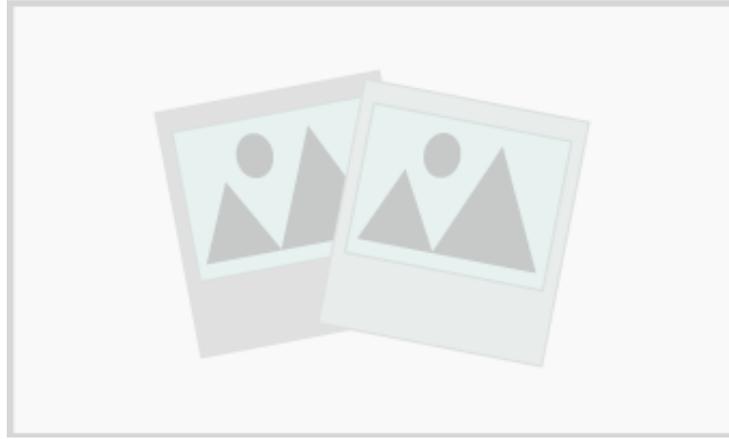
Women & Leadership, Lessons from Some of the World's Most Powerful Women

by Julia Gillard & Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

The Woman's Hour, The Great Fight to Win the Vote

by Elaine Weiss

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.



AAUW Amador (CA) Branch | PO Box 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

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