

Gold Filings



June 2022

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Amador-Branch-107290106021891>

Branch Website: <https://amador-ca.aauw.net>

Message from the Leadership Chair

Let's grow our membership this coming year.

As we look forward to next year, let's each of us reach out to one potential new member or a member who recently dropped out. If we all do that, we can grow our branch membership in 2022-23. We can do it!

ANNUAL MEETING THIS MONTH

Our Annual Branch Meeting will be Saturday, June 18 at 11am.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Important! Come to vote, to honor our scholarship winners and outgoing officers, and to make some plans for next year.

It will be a potluck of salads & desserts, with drinks provided.

You already received an email with the preliminary agenda, the budget and the election slate. Please review the materials and be ready to vote at the meeting.

Membership Matters

Reminder: Renew Dues for 2022-2023

National has raised their dues to \$67.00 (of which \$64 is tax deductible.). State dues are \$20.00 and Branch dues are \$16.00. The total 2022-2023 dues for all three is **\$103.00**. You can write a check for that amount and send it to us at PO Box 611, Sutter Creek, 95685.

Note--On May 27 you should have received an email reminder from the national office to renew online. Here are the instructions:

When you receive the "go ahead" email:

- You will need to go to the www.AAUW.org, click on "Log In."
- You will be asked to click "Forgot my Password" to reset your Password.
- You will then receive an email with a link to reset your Password.
- Once that is done, you will be prompted to "edit your Personal Information" — you can now enter your cell phone number, as well as add your major from your degree.
- Once you do this, you can click on "Membership" and renew using a credit card.
- Branches are listed by the number associated with each location: Amador County is 0150.
- Enter the Branch, State (CA) and National dues.

You can select multiple branches if you want to add dual memberships. Just click all that apply — you will be asked which branch is your primary branch and you can set it to Amador County.

2022-2023 Directory

As I gear up to prepare next year's directory, please check your entry in the current AAUW Amador Directory and take this opportunity to correct any errors, to add new information or make changes. *Please consider adding your cell phone number.*

There is no need to contact me if there are no changes or updates to your entry.

Send all information to —

Michele Powell
1-209-296-1712
powell.michele288@gmail.com



New Member Welcome! Terrie Houseman

Terrie Houseman joined us in 2019 after her beautiful modern farmhouse was on the Fiddletown Home Tour. She and her husband of almost 47 years, Bob Kleinbrahm, arrived in Fiddletown in 2002, when they bought their current property and made it a weekend getaway. They moved from Oakland to Amador County in 2015 and built a house. Bob and Terrie have fully bought into the country life—they planted a small vineyard and make their own wine. For those of you who took the tour, you also enjoyed Bob's striking

landscape photography. A couple of special bits of information about Terrie: She played the flute professionally and her choice of pets was parrots!

Terrie was born in Medina, New York, a suburb of Buffalo. After high school she attended SUNY at Buffalo, majoring in Spanish. She originally had dreams of working as a translator at the U.N., but decided that NYC was not for her, so in 1971 she moved to California with a friend. The friend went back to Buffalo and Terrie stayed.

Terrie settled in Berkeley originally and worked as a professional flutist. She began playing the flute when she was in the 4th grade, so she had music as a second focus in her life. She also became a private flute teacher and was the principal flutist for the Vallejo Symphony for 28 years. She kept that gig as it provided a great creative outlet. And she scored a trip to Japan out of it. Vallejo's sister city, Akashi (near Kobe), invited the symphony to perform in Japan for a week. She and Bob, who went as the official photographer, extended their stay another week to enjoy more of that country. As a side note, she just discovered that two of her previous students settled in Amador County as well, so I see flute music in our future!

After 12 years of teaching flute, Terrie went back to school to become a corporate paralegal. She spent 6 years working with major San Francisco law firms as a corporate paralegal while also developing a specialty in HR work. For the next 25 years, she was hired by prominent accounting and law firms to either produce a professional HR system, or to fix systems that had gone awry. One of the law partners recognized her even-handed handling of issues and offered her an opportunity to focus on harassment investigations. Based in Oakland, she travelled up and down the west coast doing this work.

As for the parrots, their last parrot, Phineus, was very special. She lived for 35 years and Terrie taught her to perform vibrato. Terrie is a delightful woman and a great addition to the branch. We are glad to welcome Terrie into our midst, and to finally be able to introduce her to the branch.

Written by Stephanie Young



Member Spotlight--Floy Goulart

Happy 98th Birthday Floy!

Hats off to Floy Goulart, a guiding star in the history of AAUW-Amador. Floy's life is the product of the determination of a young girl to seek an education that would allow her to become self-sufficient. When Floy was born in 1924 marrying and raising a family defined a successful life for a woman. Floy decided early to exceed those expectations. She married and as her two children started into school, she started going to a local college taking a few courses at a time. As her kids grew, she continued on her path until she earned her BA in Education. Then she kept up that pace until she earned her MA in Administration and a license in Marriage and Family Counseling. Then she continued on to earn her PH.D. in Education. Along the way she held the roles of wife, mother, teacher, school administrator, and counselor. Floy champions the idea of persistence while chasing your goals.

Floy has been a powerful force in Amador County, developing the Wildwood Estates subdivision in Pine Grove with underground electrical lines, which are of great value today. She served on the Amador Unified School District Board for 12 years and was on the Amador Commission on Aging and Area 12 Agency on Aging for 19 years. Floy has practiced meaningful philanthropy over the years, sponsoring scholarships for young women attending Independence High School and making donations to Amador Community Foundation, Amador Senior Center, and the Food Bank.

Floy joined our branch in 1988 and rather quickly began her support of the organization, becoming our Program Vice-President 1990-91, Community Relations chair 1994-96, President Elect 1996-97, President 1997-98, and later

holding the chair of Educational Equity, International Relations and Community Relations (again). Thanks to Floy, we had our first male member, Pat Miller, join us in 1997. Floy made lots of lifelong friends in Afternoon Book Group, the Walking Group, and Lunch Bunch. Floy was a hostess for many birthday celebrations of her AAUW friends and other small group events. When I asked Floy why she chose to be involved in AAUW, she replied, "Because it is a powerful organization and women are powerful."

Written by Brenda Walker

Monthly Calendar --Local Events

Thursday, June 9, 4:00pm

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

Thursday, June 9, 5:30pm

The Working Girls Book Group -- *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
at the Vallarta Grill in Martell

Monday June 13 2:00 pm

Afternoon Book Club--We will be meeting at Stephanie Young's house to discuss *How To Be An Anti-Racist* by Ibram Kendi.

Saturday, June 18 11am-2pm

Annual Meeting--Potluck Lunch, Elections, Awards
Jackson View Clubhouse, 108 Nicolas Court, Jackson

Tuesday, June 21, 2:00pm

Great Decisions Group--We will be discussing "Climate Change."
Stephanie Young's house

Wednesday, June 15, 5:30-6:30pm

Libations & Conversations--Andrea Macon will be speaking about the work of The Farms of Amador - their mission and activities and how we can get involved.
Place TBA

Monday, June 27, 2:00pm

Page Turners & Book Lovers--We will be meeting at Kate Kramer's house to discuss *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

Members Celebrating Birthdays in June!

Susan Berg
Janet Kendig
Devin Snyder
Sara Wilson

Sunshine

A sunshine card was sent to Judy Lerner-Liston.

Please notify Dot Haislet if one of our members needs a sympathy or get-well card, but also if a "Congratulations" card is in order.

Tech Trek Update

Gretchen Carlson, our Tech Trek Coordinator recently conducted an interview with Emma Cranfill, TT 2017. Here are her reflections on her experience and how she has used her experiences:

My favorite memory from Tech Trek is hard to choose, but I think it would be the late night conversations before lights-out, the small greetings throughout the days, and finding the otherwise unknown similarities that I shared with a large number of other girls from all over the state. It gave me a sense of community and funny moments I will never forget. For Tech Trek 2021, I really enjoyed seeing the campers "get it." When they had a problem or difficult question, seeing them come to an understanding was really fulfilling and reminiscent of my time at camp.

I don't think I would change anything about camp. It was overall a really good experience that proved that living on campus at college is tricky and that anything is possible if you put your mind to it and push through.

I have definitely used the information and skills from the online safety class that they had during my year and have done my best to stay safe online since then. I also used the embroidery skills from the math and art station throughout my new hobby of embroidery. I remembered bits and pieces from my original circuitry core class in 2017 during Tech Trek 2021 with the creation of a motorized hat through circuitry and was really excited when I was able to remember some key terms and definitions of parts. Overall, the entire experience--the interview, new environment, teamwork and cooperation, college campus life- it was an amazing experience that has shaped my perspective and skills in many different ways.

Tech Trek was an opportunity that allowed me to realize the many fields that I could pursue as a career and provided additional support and encouragement for me to remain interested in STEM. It also proved that through determination and opportunities, nearly anything is attainable and that there are people throughout the state, and world, that have similar interests as you and who are supportive of your goals and aspirations. This opportunity has improved my self-confidence due to the extensive application and responsibility of living away from home for a week.

I am currently a senior at Argonaut High School taking Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus, but I am also treasurer of the Science Club. I plan on attending Cal State University, Sacramento in the Honors Program with a major in Chemistry and am currently undecided on my minor. I still plan on going into chemical engineering as a career after college.

State and National Information

Mark Your Calendar: Celebrating 50 Years of Title IX

On Thursday, June 23, at 4:30 p.m. ET, we'll host a special webinar to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Title IX, highlight AAUW's role through the years and recognize our generous supporters and branches. Stay tuned for more information, but [register today](#) to reserve your space!

How to Resubscribe to AAUW Publications

If you can't find emails from the AAUW National Office, check in your spam or promotions folders. If you can't find them, it's possible you inadvertently unsubscribed from our list. Please click on this link [resubscribe](#) if you are interested in receiving Mission & Action or other national updates.

AAUW FUND

Lynne Batchelor, Secretary, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aaufund@aauw-ca.org

The AAUW Fund Committee is proud to announce that the 2022 State Named Gift Honoree is Mary Isaac, aka "Dr. Mimi" to the Tech Trek community. She was nominated for this honor by Randa Blanding from our Communications Committee. Randa introduced Mary at the Annual Meeting by saying, "This year's California Named Gift Honoree has only been an AAUW member for a few years. She saw a need and stepped in with her passion, organizing and directing skills, and created a team that implemented a virtual Tech Trek for the past two years and again this year. She has been the impetus for hundreds of changed young women, who will in turn, because of this experience, have positive repercussions on many others." Congratulations Dr. Mimi on this well-deserved honor.

Our Dangerous, Changing Climate

You often hear people claim we are destroying the planet. I disagree. I am more an advocate of the late comedian, George Carlin's, nuanced point of view. We will make a mess of this gorgeous planet we have been given. Mother Earth will get tired of us and flick us off like the "annoying little pissants that we are" (George's words, not mine); take a geological age to heal herself from our destruction and be just fine. We, on the other hand, will be, (how shall I put this nicely?) in deep trouble. **FACT: there is no Planet B.**

AAUW does not have a specific policy on Climate Change, however, it is hard to imagine that clean air, clean water, freedom from increasing horrific natural disasters all over the world, and the ability to inhabit much of the earth is not prerequisite for empowering woman and girls. It would be hard to concentrate on educating women when our very survival as a species is severely threatened and when climate-driven famine is a fact of life. Remember Maslow's hierarchy!

Another thing I hear climate change deniers often say is that over the eons, the climate has always changed, and that is true. If you look at a chart of 800,000 years of climate, you will see a regular cycle of peaks and valleys. What may not be obvious is that, until 1850 or so (the start of the Industrial Revolution), the amount of Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere never rose above 300 parts per million. Since then, the CO2 has risen steadily and in 2021 was 412 ppm, or in increase of over 35%. Sadly, that rate is rising steadily.

Our Mother Earth is under attack, and in the long haul, she is not going to take it kindly. There is more than enough information out there to verify the veracity of that fact. Even the fossil fuel industry acknowledges that the 97% of climate scientists who have been warning about climate change are right. The industry just doesn't think NOW is the right time to act. By some estimates we have between 9 and 11 years to act. I would ask, WHEN then is the right time?

The most recent study I can find, the report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (part of the United Nations) shows greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise, and current plans to address climate change are not ambitious enough to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels—a threshold scientists believe is necessary to avoid even more catastrophic impacts.

May is the month we honor our mothers. Seems that Mother Earth deserves major consideration, if we are to leave anything resembling a livable world to our children.

From Patricia Cuocco, Public Policy

Little Girl Holodomor Statue in Kiev

(from the Oroville Branch)

At the entrance to the memorial park in Kiev, there is a sculpture of a very thin girl with an extremely sad look holding several ears of grain in her hands. Behind her is the Candle of Remembrance, a monument with details reminiscent of authentic embroidery that can be found on traditional Ukrainian costumes. This is a monument that marks a historical event known as the Holodomor. But what is the Holodomor and what crime does this monument mark in general?

After the end of the First World War, Ukraine was an independent state, but in 1919 the Soviet Union "sucked" it into the community of Soviet states. The Ukrainians, who even then considered themselves a Central European people like the Poles and not an Eastern European like the Russians, tried to restore Ukraine's independence.

Not wanting to lose control of Europe's main granary, Stalin resorted to one of the most heinous forms of terror against one nation in 1932. In the process of nationalization, he took away the grain-producing land from the Ukrainian peasants, creating an artificial famine. The goal was to "teach Ukrainians to be smart" so that they would no longer oppose official Moscow. Thus, the people who produced the most grain in Europe were left without a crumb of bread. The peak of the Holodomor was in the spring of 1933. At that time, 17 people in Ukraine were dying of hunger every minute, over 1,000 every hour, and almost 24,500 every day! People were literally starving to death in the streets. Stalin settled the Russian population in the emptied Ukrainian villages. During the next census, there was a large shortage of population. Therefore, the Soviet government annulled the census, destroyed the census documentation, and the enumerators were shot or sent to the gulag, in order to completely hide the truth.

During 1932-1933, between seven and ten million people were killed by famine, more than Jews in World War II. Their poison gas was hunger. Their Hitler was Stalin. Their Holocaust was the Holodomor. For them, fascist Berlin was Soviet Moscow, and their concentration camp was the Soviet Union. Today 28 countries around the world classify the Holodomor as genocide, and you could not learn about it in school because almost all the evidence was destroyed, and the victim was silenced for decades and until recently did not have the right to vote.

The Holodomor may have temporarily broken the Ukrainian resistance, but it made the desire for Ukraine's independence from Russia eternal.

For more information: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holodomor>

For Our Senior Members

The **HICAP** (Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program) is back. Sponsored by the Area 12 Agency on Aging, you can make individual appointments to get information on various Medicare Benefits. Call 209-532-6272 or 800-434-0222 to make an appointment. Sessions are being held at the Amador County Senior Center.

Member Corner: Idea Exchange

John Silva--Give Back Adventures

"Outdoor Adventures to Support Charitable Organizations"

John Silva was our guest at the May Libations & Conversations, and we want to share information about his projects. In 2021, John biked 3000 miles from the Canadian border to the Mexican border to raise money for Operation Care in support of domestic violence prevention. This year his adventure is in support of the Foothill Conservancy:

Mokelumne River, Source to the Sea

Starting in Jackson, CA, this 600-mile expedition will follow the Mokelumne River from several peaks forming its headwaters, down through the foothills & across the California Delta before heading out beneath the Golden Gate Bridge to the Pacific Ocean. Multiple sports will be utilized including bikepacking, mountain climbing, backpacking, whitewater kayaking, canyoneering, whitewater rafting and sea kayaking. From San Francisco, it's back on bikes across the Golden Gate and Richmond-San Rafael bridges and through the Oakland hills to the finish in Jackson 4 weeks later.

All donations for this expedition to benefit the Foothill Conservancy should be made directly to Amador Community Foundation who will have a link on their website to donate to this specific cause. 100% of the donations will be presented to Foothill Conservancy following the completion of the expedition and the fundraising deadline. Please contact amadorcommunityfoundation.org/

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.

