

Gold Filings



Mid-July Update 2022

Facebook Page:

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

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

Message from the Leadership Chair

We are beginning work on a two-year strategic plan, based on all the input you have given us over the past couple of years. All members who volunteered to serve in a leadership role have been invited. The first meeting will be held on July 27. Results of that meeting will be shared with the membership in future Gold Filings issues.

We are also beginning a series of articles about AAUW's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion initiative (DEI). Bonnie Krupp has volunteered to be our DEI coordinator and will be initiating both articles and some programming on the topic.

Monthly Calendar --Local Events

Thursday, July 21, 5:30-6:30pm

Libations & Conversations--This month we will have our Annual July Summer Read meeting. It is a fun and informal gathering where we share some of our favorite titles with others. If you do not have titles to share, attend anyway. You will leave with some interesting book suggestions. Location: Simply Bubbles in Sutter Creek.

Monday, July 25, 2:00pm

Page Turners & Book Lovers—We will be meeting on Zoom to discuss *Band of Sisters* by Lauren Willig

Wednesday, July 27, 5;30pm
Strategic Planning Meeting
Jackson View Clubhouse*

Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

AAUW is dedicated to helping members become more comfortable sharing their perspectives to address diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in all aspects of their work and lives. We seek to encourage ongoing dialogue that will inspire all members to bring these values to their personal and professional interactions. Within AAUW, our goal is to turn these conversations into actionable goals and strategies for each branch. We seek to help members understand how inclusion factors into every decision made in the branch and in their lives.

So how do we start a DEI discussion in our Branch? It can be something as simple as encouraging each of our existing Book Groups to include a book focusing on diversity in their yearly reading list. We could start a discussion group. We could have a program that talks about a subject like unconscious bias. Any suggestions? What sounds interesting?

What is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion about? It's about:

Age, Color, Education,
Ethnicity & National Origin,
Gender & Gender Identity,
Immigration Status,
Income & Socioeconomic Status,
Marital Status, Occupation,
Parental Status, Political Beliefs,
Physical & Mental Ability, Race,
Religious Beliefs, Sexual Orientation,
Veteran Status

"In diversity, there is beauty and there is strength."

This quotation from Maya Angelou highlights the growing awareness of the importance of diversity and identity in all aspects of our lives. As an organization, AAUW seeks to promote inclusion and awareness for all members to create an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive membership reflective of today's world.

"Diversity is not something you do once and then forget about. It is a process, something you keep working at, something you make a habit."

From Eugene Robinson --- The Washington Post

Bonnie Krupp, DEI Coordinator

Racial Gap Simulation

Stephanie attended a virtual program sponsored by the Santa Clara Branch that was a simulation workshop exploring the Racial Wealth Gap. During the simulation we explored 13 policies put into place between 1865 and today that created or extended that racial wealth gap. Some of them would surprise you, like the Social Security Act (1935) the Fair Labor Standards Act (1938) and the GI Bill (1944). Through the simulation it becomes clear (again) how insidious racism is. To view the event, click on the link:

<https://www.bread.org/library/racial-wealth-gap-learning-simulation>

New Member Welcome--Julie Taylor



Julie's journey to becoming a new member originated about five years ago when Terrie Houseman, Leadership Chair-elect, invited her and her husband, Lindsay, to stroll around Sutter Creek on the annual AAUW Home Tour. While this was not her first visit to Sutter Creek or Amador County, it became a highly anticipated event on the calendar. After enjoying the home tours in and around Jackson and Fiddletown in 2018 and 2019, Julie and her husband decided Amador County was the right place for retirement. In fact, they ended up buying a house from a former AAUW member, Carol Bilheimer, in Fall 2019 and moved in July 2020. Adapting to a rural lifestyle these past two years after living in urban environments for 40 years has been easy as Julie was raised in small towns and villages in England surrounded by farms and woodlands. In many ways it feels as if she has come full circle back to her roots (minus lots of rain and lush green fields and hedgerows!).

After attending the equivalent of a vocational college in England, Julie's career began with various positions in early childhood education, which led her to seek adventures across the pond. Deciding California was the place to be, she knew she needed an American university education to move her career forward. So, while working full-time, she pursued an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies and then a master's degree in Public Administration both from San Francisco State University. After taking an influential undergraduate class "The Geography of Garbage" that required participation in the on-campus recycling center and completion of an internship at an environmental non-profit, she pivoted to jobs in recycling and solid waste management. In fact, within a few years she returned to campus as the university's first full-time solid waste and recycling program manager. Fast forward several years and Julie transitioned into her final career; the challenging world of public agency procurement. After earning professional procurement certifications along the way and holding various positions at Bay Area water districts, she retired from San Mateo County Transit District as the Director of Contracts and Procurement.

Julie volunteers at the Food Bank and is an amateur winemaker as her house came with a small vineyard. She enjoys attending outdoor concerts and theater performances and has recently begun to travel again. In January she began attending monthly Libations and Conversations

events, which prompted her to join AAUW. She was recently elected to the Funds Chair position and is looking forward to participating on the 2022-23 Leadership Committee.

Written by Julie Taylor

Membership Matters

NOTE: Contact Info Correction

We recently discovered that we had an incorrect phone number listed for Deborah Yates. The correct # is 209-295-7217

Reminder: Renew Dues for 2022-2023

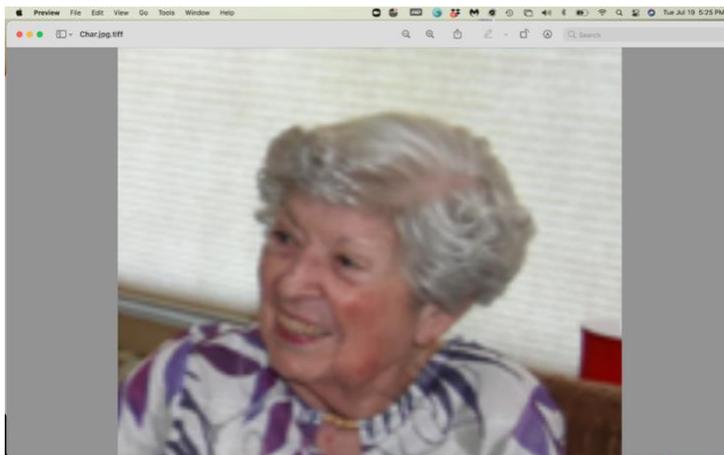
Yes, there have been difficulties renewing your membership online, but the National office has been working on those issues one by one and things are definitely easier now. Try again, or send a check to AC-AAUW, PO Box 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

So if you haven't already renewed, go to AAUW's [website](#) to get started. If the new process baffles you, watch a how-to video [HERE](#) or read written instructions [HERE](#).

- 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 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.

New Member Welcome--Charleen Arnberg



Charleen Arnberg was born in Idaho and attended school there until her senior year when her family moved to San Jose, California. She attended San Jose State University and majored in Journalism. She landed her first job as a Public Information Assistant in the office of the SJSU President. After graduation in 1951 she married and moved to Alameda while

husband, Bill, served four years in the United States Coast Guard. While he was often on extended time at sea, Char worked on the editorial staff at the Oakland Tribune. It was during this time that she joined AAUW.

While raising three young children, the family relocated several times in California, finally settling in Bill's home town of Gilroy. Things got off to a rocky start when their home burned down shortly after moving in. Since journalism jobs were rare in the rural Santa Clara Valley, Char returned to San Jose State and completed a teaching credential. But there was a new California Community College Campus growing in Gilroy and they needed publicity. Char was hired as the first Gavilan College Public Information Officer.

Due to limited staff at the college, Char's talents in providing various media services to the community expanded rapidly. She covered all board meetings, was liaison to local media services, provided newsletters for on campus communications, event photographer and worked closely with four different college presidents. Her responsibilities expanded over time to include the production of the college catalog and class schedule. The faculty and staff considered Char as vital for their programs' success. She was a role model and trusted co-worker to many students and staff in her 18 year career at Gavilan College.

Char was involved in several community organizations including AAUW since 1961 and was instrumental in coordinating AAUW events and scholarships with Gavilan College.

After her well deserved retirement she and Bill traveled all fifty states in their RV and took at least thirty cruises to all parts of the world. After Bill's passing, Char continued her love of travel and spending time in her garden. She enjoys being with her 26 offspring, including three great, great grandchildren.

Char moved to Jackson in 2018 to be closer to her family. In addition to her activities in AAUW, she also enjoys The Red Hats, Over 90 Lunch Bunch, bunco, bingo, a book club and is always looking for available bridge players. On most mornings at her home in Jackson View, you can find her tending her lovely garden or walking laps in the pool. Charlene will be a vibrant 93 years young in September.

by Aileen Parker



“ It is in all of us to defy expectations, to go into the world and to be brave, and to want, to need, to hunger for adventures. To embrace the chance and risk so that we may breathe and know what it is to be free.”

— **Mae Chevette, American artist & photographer**

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