

Gold Filings



55th Anniversary
AAUW
Amador Branch 1969-2024

Mid-October 2023

AAUW Mission: Advancing gender equity through research, education, and advocacy

AAUW Vision: Equality for all.

AAUW Values: Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality

Advocating for Women and Girls since 1881 and into the Future
(from the national website)

October Program This Saturday



A Journey to a STEM Career: No One Path is the Same

Featuring Teija Isotalo

Don't miss this special program celebrating the success of a young Amador County woman finding her way to a STEM career

If you know anyone with boys or girls interested in a STEM career, make sure they know about and attend this program.

In this presentation, Teija Isotalo will discuss her journey from small-town Amador High School, through university, and ending up in the biotechnology sector in the San Francisco Bay Area. She will discuss the unlikely turns that led her down her current career trajectory, as well as the unlimited pathways one can take in the STEM field. She will conclude her presentation with an openended Q&A session.

Saturday, October 21, 1:00pm at the Senior Center, 229 New York Ranch Rd.

Mid-October Calendar

Saturday, October 21, 1:00pm

Program: A Journey to a STEM Career: No One Path is the Same featuring Teija Isotalo, AHS alumna
Amador Senior Center, 229 New York Ranch Road, Jackson

Monday, October 23, 2:00pm

Page Turners & Book Lovers

We will meet at Kate Kramer's house to discuss My Antonia by Willa Cather
Contact Sandee Bowman if you are interested in joining the group. Sbowman56@gmail.com

Tuesday, October 24, 2:00pm

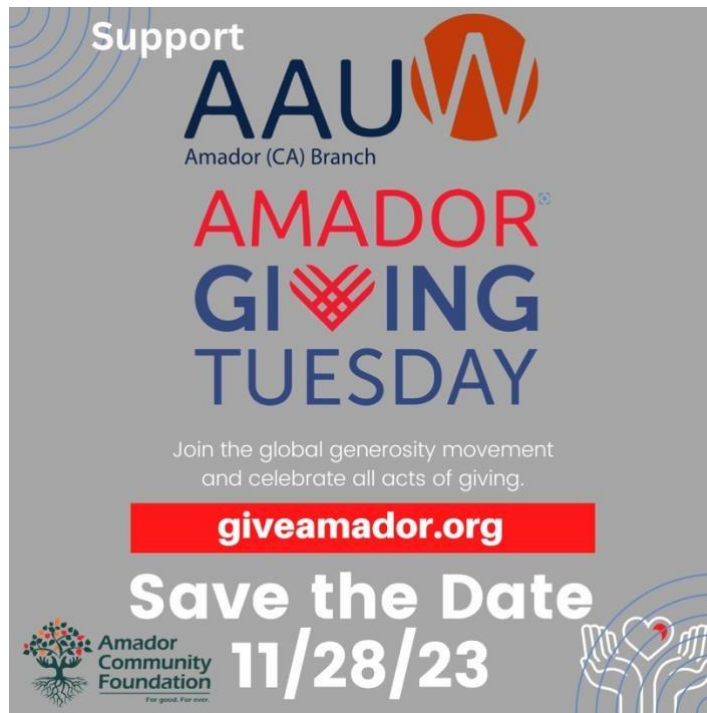
Great Decisions

We will meet at the Jackson View Clubhouse to discuss Iran at a Crossroads.
New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Stephanie Young at syoung@calarts.edu

Thursday, October 26 5:30pm

The Working Girls Book Group

We will meet at Element restaurant in Sutter Creek to discuss Mary Jane by Jessica Anya Blau.
New members are always welcome to our Book Group. Contact Jacque Fletcher if you would like more information or join the group. **209 606-1157 or fletcherja4545@gmail.com**



Membership

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By joining AAUW, members play a crucial role in transforming one educational opportunity at a time. Together, we can break down barriers, challenge stereotypes, and create a world where every girl has the chance to reach her full potential.

Welcome Two New Members:

Francine Poque of Sutter Creek
Macie Dentone, Miss Amador 2023

You will all soon be receiving an email with these new members' contact info and some corrections to a few other members' contact information as well.

Two New Special Interest Groups Forming!

AAUW Branch Walking Group

In the spirit of supporting usage and trail development in Amador County, it would be great to start up an AAUW Amador Branch Walking Group. In the past, we had an active Walking Group that has since dispersed and, currently, we have a wonderful opportunity for us to gather to enjoy nature and connection in our County.

Inspiration

At L&C on Thursday, our featured speaker was Bradley Booker, Director for Amador Trail Stewardship, a local non-profit group working to increase recreational trail access in the region. Bradley is also the Property Manager for Mother Lode Land Trust. He shared some of the ongoing projects and future plans for creating and developing local walking, cycling and equine trails, multi-use and single purpose options.

Support

As part of community outreach and support for other, local, non-profit groups, we have an opportunity to actively participate – just by walking! We will be in a better position to weigh in when decisions about where and how new trails are developed. We can add our voices to help private parties (possibly your neighbors) understand the importance and simplicity of saying, “yes” to a small easement.

Interested? Members' Next Steps:

Submit 3 days and times and a comfortable distance to Sandee Bowman sbowman56@gmail.com that are convenient for you and we will select a day and time for our inaugural walk. Maybe a walk around Lake Tabaud <3 miles or Erickson Ranch in Sutter Creek ~ 3 miles.

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Bridge Anyone?

We are looking for members who play bridge and would like to join a monthly afternoon bridge group. Bridge player of all levels are welcome. Have you always wanted to learn the game? Feel free to join in.

Days and times will be determined when we organize. Please call or text Marge Chisholm, 209-418-9396 or Francine Pogue, 209-256-6216.

Sunshine

If you have news about a member who needs to be congratulated on a special occasion or accomplishment, who needs to be encouraged during illness or difficult time, or to be reminded we are here for him/her, please contact Aieleen Parker at aieleenparker@gmail.com or 209-217-8120

Reminder: If a new member joins at a branch program or meeting they can join at the discounted rate of \$76 for the first year as part of the Shape the Future campaign. That includes Libations & Conversations events. So if you have a friend or neighbor who may be interested, invite them to one of our programs or L&C's! If you have questions, contact [Michele Powell](#)

2023-24 Leadership Committee



Meet Sandee Bowman, Finance Chair

Sandee Bowman has lived in Amador County for 14 years. She

moved here while working and commuting to the Bay Area and, subsequently, moved and worked in Singapore during 2014 and 2015. She retired at the end of 2015 for about a year, during which time she joined AAUW as Membership Chair and then assumed the role of President and CoPresident with member Rebecca Wilson.

Sandee is currently an Integral Leadership Coach and writer, collaborating with women seeking to become transformative leaders or to make midlife transitions or transition into retirement. As well as her coaching business, she has started a business, Kasanna Walks with her daughters, offering multi-day, guided walking tours designed for women. Their inaugural walk is later this month.

Sandee has traveled extensively and currently belongs to two AAUW book groups. She loves walking, hiking, cycling, skiing, being with her children and

grandchildren and spending time with her mare, Lola, who offers constant lessons about life.

Meet Deborah Yates, Website Editor/Technology

Coordinator



Deborah Yates is among a family of serious musicians while also being a Vice President of strategic portfolios in the corporate world – all around the world. She has lived in the U.K., Germany, Romania, Malta, New Zealand – and has traveled to many more exciting places.

She is the wife of musician Jon; mother of two daughters and

grandmother of two. Deborah performs on flute and piccolo with the OaklandCommunity Symphony, Piedmont Chamber Orchestra, Awesome Orchestra, Camillia Symphony, and Strauss Orchestra. She has two bachelor degrees, one in Music Performance and one in Computer Science. With master and doctor’s degrees in Management of Information Systems creating the knowledge and experience for consulting with international corporations.

As residents of Amador County for five years, Deborah and Jon moved to Pioneer from the Santa Cruz area. Since they moved here, they have established a foundation named “Two Hearts Music Foundation.” The goal is to reach out to people in new and exciting ways in sharing their passion for music in various forms. They have plans to expand into Blue Grass, Blues and Classical in their future Amador based projects.



Terrie Houseman
Leadership Chair



Barb Gurnari
Secretary



Michele Powell
Membership Chair



Julie Taylor
Funds Chair



Stephanie Young
Programs Chair
Gold Filings Editor



Bonnie Krupp
DEI Coordinator



Katie Scott
Libations & Conversations



Jacque Fletcher
Libations &
Conversations



Gretchen Carlson
Tech Trek Coordinator



Brenda Walker
Historian



Janet Kendig
Facebook Editor



Aieleen Parker
Sunshine Chair

From the State and National Offices

AAUW Public Policy Priorities

Besides the ERA, members of AAUW have adopted public policy priorities that inform our legislative and general activism on behalf of women and girls. Our overall priorities are grouped around three basic areas: economic security for

women, equal access to education for all students, social and racial justice for all members of society. Every two years our members vote on the specific areas of focus under these priorities and each state also crafts specific areas of focus tied to actions needed within each state. You can check out the specifics of our national and AAUW CA priorities by clicking on these links; [AAUW Public Policy Priorities](#) and [AAUW CA Public Policy Priorities](#).

As Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO, noted in the recent Mission in Action, AAUW (along with many other women's organizations) is "actively supporting the newly introduced [ERA Now](#) bill which calls on Congress to affirm the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution." You can help with this effort by writing your congressional representatives and senators using AAUW's Two-Minute Activist program.

Ethnicity Pay Gaps

October 5 marks "Latina Equal Pay Day," the second-to-last in a row of equal pay days for different races and ethnicities published by AAUW, also comprising Black Women's equal pay day on July 27 and Native American Women's equal pay day on November 30.

The equal pay day for all U.S. women (compared to all U.S. men) was March 14. On average, American working women are paid 84 cents for every dollar that working men make but Latinas and Native American women get paid no more than 57 cents for every dollar white, non-Hispanic men make.

Arts & Education

Amazon's Career Choice program

More than 150,000 Amazon employees worldwide have participated in this prepaid education and skills training program since it launched in 2012. Career Choice is an education and training benefit that helps eligible hourly employees grow their skills for career success at Amazon or elsewhere. It's part of Amazon's commitment to invest more than \$1.2 billion in skills training programs for employees by 2025.

Career Choice doesn't only include high school diplomas or college degrees. From industry certifications to English language classes, the program has

virtual and on-campus offerings for all kinds of learners on their individual journeys.

Career Choice overview and pathways

There are four parts to Career Choice to support employee's different learning needs:

1. College: Pre-paid tuition for associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, and certificate programs
2. Pathways: Industry certifications for in-demand roles in tech, healthcare, transportation, mechanical and industrial systems, and business & administration
3. Foundations: English and local language learning, high school completion, and GED programs
4. Coaching: Career Choice partners with Kaplan to help employees achieve career goals no matter where they are in their journey through career coaching, college advising, and specialized career services

Students can attend their classes at one of more than 400 education partners around the world, including community colleges, local and national colleges, HBCUs, and other skills training providers. Virtual or on-campus options are available depending on the students' preferences and the specific program. Amazon takes special care to make it convenient to access in-person learning if that's a priority to the participant. The flexibility to work and go to school is also built into the program, no matter which learning program the participant chooses. Amazon provides a variety of work schedules to meet every participant's personal situation.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the program and forward to any friends whose children or grandchildren might benefit from the program.

The World's First Novel Was Written by a Woman

"The Tale of Genji," often considered the world's first novel was written around the beginning of the 11th century.

Spread across 54 chapters and some 1,300 pages (in English), Murasaki Shikibu's *Genji Monogatari*, or "The Tale of Genji," explores the tumultuous love life of its aristocratic titular hero during Heian period Japan (794–1185 CE). *Genji* is an incredibly ambitious work featuring some 400+ named characters and a 70-year-long narrative that spans generations.

Because of its realistic setting, psychological depth, and the detailed development of its heroes — Prince Genji and his son Kaoru — many consider *Genji* to be the world's first novel, and thus Murasaki, who served as a lady-in-waiting at Japan's imperial court, the world's first novelist. An instant success, the book is still hugely influential in Japan today. Like a blossom falling from a cherry tree, *The Tale of Genji* serves as an example of the beautiful ephemerality inherent in all existence.

October Highlights in U.S. Women's History

October 3, 1904 – Mary McLeod Bethune opens her first school for African-American students in Daytona Beach, Florida

October 23, 1910 – Blanche Stuart Scott is the first American woman pilot to make a public flight

October 16, 1916 – Margaret Sanger opens the U.S.'s first birth control clinic in Brooklyn, New York

October 15, 1948 – Dr. Frances L. Willoughby is the first woman doctor in the regular U.S. Navy

October 24, 1956 – Reverend Margaret Towner is the first woman ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church

October 28, 1958 – Mary Roebling is the first woman director of a stock exchange (American Stock Exchange)

October 4, 1976 – Barbara Walters becomes the first woman co-anchor of the evening news (at ABC)

October 10, 1983 – Dr. Barbara McClintock receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine for her discovery in genetics about mobile genetic elements

October 11, 1984 – Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan is the first U.S. woman astronaut to "walk" in space during Challenger flight

October 4, 1993 – Ruth Bader Ginsburg joins the U.S. Supreme Court as its second woman Justice

October 8, 1993 – Toni Morrison becomes the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature

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

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

email address: aauwamador@gmail.com

You Tube Channel: AAUW Amador - YouTube

<https://www.instagram.com/aauwamador/>