

Gold Filings



55th Anniversary
AAU
Amador Branch 1969-2024

Mid-November 2024

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

Vision: Equality for all.

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

DEI--Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

What to know about Native American Heritage Day/Month

While we are all aware that Columbus didn't really "discover" America, it is rarely a part of our national discussion (or K-12 curriculum) that Indigenous peoples had inhabited the Americas for thousands of years. The British and other immigrants from Europe colonized the Eastern seaboard and, moving westward, displaced the Native population resulting in the destruction of Indigenous governing structures, culture, farming and food supplies. As stated in *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, "Europeans did not settle a virgin land. They invaded and displaced a resident population."

So, what is the purpose of "National Native American Heritage Day/Month?" According to the U.S. Department of the Interior, Indian Affairs, "National Native American Heritage Month" is celebrated each year in November as a time to celebrate the traditions, languages and stories of Native American and Alaska Native communities and ensure their rich histories and contributions continue to thrive with each passing generation. This November and every

month, we celebrate the culture and heritage of these remarkable Americans who deeply enrich the quality and character of our Nation. In 2024 the Department will focus on the failed policies of the past with a focus on the Federal Indian Boarding Schools and moving into the present and the work being done to address the intergenerational trauma Native people still face.”

The celebration of Native American heritage began in 1916 when New York declared an “American Indian Day.” In 1990 Congress, supported by Hawaii Sen. [Daniel Inouye](#) and Congressional [Delegate Eni Faleomavaega](#), passed a joint resolution that President George H. W. Bush signed into law. This resolution designated November as National American Indian Heritage Month, emphasizing the critical role of Native American Indians as original habitants of what is now the United States and their contributions to the nations and the world.

In 2024 Native American Heritage Day will be celebrated on November 29, the day after Thanksgiving. Note that many Indigenous People view Thanksgiving Day as a Day of Mourning for the loss of their culture. How can we observe the day? We can educate ourselves to raise our awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced in the past and present and celebrate their rich culture, accomplishments, contributions and heritage.

Close to Home

The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California hosted the first Washoe Intentional Fire Training in Lake Tahoe from September 30 to October 4, 2024. This event was part of a broader interagency initiative that blends Indigenous knowledge with modern land management techniques and fosters community collaboration. Follow the link to read more...

<https://www.tahoelivingwithfire.com/prescribed-fire/washoe-tribe-kicks-off-fire-training-to-promote-cultural-burning-and-land-stewardship/>

Submitted by Sandee Bowman and Bonnie Krupp

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Book Group Suggestions

The Fall months are when branch book groups usually choose their books for the next year. When your AAUW book group meets to make your selections consider a DEI focused book. The list below contains books that I have read and recommend plus suggestions from branch members. There are some real

eye openers among them. Check them out on Amazon or contact me if you have questions.

- *“The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together,”* author Heather McGhee.
- *“How the Word is Passed: A Reckoning With the History of Slavery Across America,”* author Clint Smith.
- *“The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves,”* author Shawn Ginwright.
- *“Call Us What We Carry: Poems,”* author Amanda Gorman.
- *“Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race,”* author Debby Irving.
- *“A Wreath for Emmett Till,”* author Marilyn Nelson (poems and illustrations).
- *“The Help,”* author Kathryn Stockett.
- *“Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race,”* author Margot Lee Shetterly.
- *“True Biz: A Novel,”* author Sara Novic.
- *“Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family,”* author Amy Ellis Nutt.
- *“The Namesake: A Novel,”* author Jhumpa Lahiri.

Of course, there are many more DEI focused books out there. This is just a sample. Check them out and see if anything looks interesting to you.

Bonnie Krupp

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Celebrating Indigenous Women

Here are three remarkable Indigenous women whose legacies have left an indelible mark on our society:



DEB HAALAND

In 2021, Deb Haaland made history as the first Native American to serve as a U.S. Cabinet Secretary, heading the Department of the Interior.

A member of the Laguna Pueblo tribe, Haaland has long been a champion for environmental justice, tribal sovereignty, and public lands conservation.

As Secretary, she plays a key role in shaping U.S. policy on environmental issues and advocating for Indigenous communities, ensuring that Native voices are included in critical national conversations.



WILMA MANKILLER

Wilma Mankiller became the first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation in 1985, breaking new ground in Indigenous leadership. During her tenure, she focused on empowering Cherokee communities through education, health programs, and economic development. Mankiller’s leadership emphasized self-governance and women’s empowerment, serving as a powerful model for future generations.

Her autobiography, *Mankiller: A Chief and Her People*, continues to inspire advocates for Indigenous rights and gender equality worldwide.



BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE

An Indigenous musician, activist, and educator, Buffy Sainte-Marie has spent decades advocating for Indigenous rights and social justice.

As an artist, she used her music to speak out against war and systemic injustice, gaining international recognition for her activism.

Sainte-Marie was also the first Indigenous person to win an Academy Award for her song "Up Where We Belong." Her influence extends beyond music into education and environmental activism, where she continues to fight for Indigenous cultural preservation.

Late November Calendar

November is American Indian Heritage Month

Wednesday, November 20, 1:30pm

Home Tour Committee Meeting

Sandi Baracco's house--44 Eureka St., Sutter Creek

Monday, November 25, 12:00-1:30pm

Great Decisions

We will meet at the Jackson View Clubhouse to discuss *Pandemic Preparation*.

Contact Stephanie Young stephanieyoung856@gmail.com if you want to join this group.

Friday, November 29

Native American Heritage Day

Save these Dates!

Tuesday, December 3, 4:00-6:30pm--Giving Tuesday

Katharine Drexel Hall in Martell

Sunday, December 8, 2:00-5:00pm--Holiday Party

at Kani Flansburg's house, 19211 Red Hill Mine Road, Pine Grove

- *We will be collecting items again for Operation Care. They will be preparing stockings for adults and children, so stocking stuffer size hygiene products and other items for adults and kids would be appreciated.*

Monday, December 16, 11:00am

Book Lovers & Page Turners Book Choice Meeting

Bonnie Krupp's House

Saturday, January 11, 2:00pm

PROGRAM: The State of Journalism with Scott Anderson

Location: Amador Senior Center

**Giving Tuesday, December 3:
A Scholarship Fundraiser**

Giving Tuesday is an important opportunity to raise funds for local junior high students interested in STEM subjects and women pursuing upper division or graduate college courses. In 2025, the branch plans to send three girls to Tech Trek, award two college scholarships, and possibly send a student to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Last year the Giving Tuesday goal was \$5,000 and members and the public generously donated \$6,503, illustrating solid scholarship support. This year's goal remains the same and hopefully members will help to meet or exceed it. A donation amount of whatever you feel comfortable with would be greatly appreciated. The more funds raised, the larger the partial matching amount by the Amador Community Foundation (ACF) will be. One hundred percent of funds raised on December 3 will go towards scholarships.

Giving Tuesday Details:

- Checks **MUST be dated December 3** to be partially matched by ACF.
- To donate in person **on Tuesday, December 3**, stop by the ACF office, 571 S. Hwy 49, Jackson, from 8 to 4 p.m. or join community members

from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the Charity Showcase at St. Katharine Drexel Church Hall in Martell. Light bites will be provided by ACF. Sixty plus local non-profits enhancing the community's quality of life will be represented, making it easy to connect with them. Stop by the branch table to say hello; we'd love to see you.

- If you cannot attend the event, mail a check **dated December 3** no later than November 30th, to AAUW Amador, P.O. Box 611, Sutter Creek, 95685. Or, give your check to a branch officer at a November event (Cork and Fork; Walking Group; Libations & Conversations; Book Club or Great Decisions gathering).
- If you prefer to donate electronically, do so at giveamador.org/product/aauw **on December 3.**

Spread the word to family and friends by sharing a post from [Amador Community Foundation](#) Facebook page. Encourage them to join you in supporting the branch Giving Tuesday goal.

Share the branch Facebook page, [AAUW Amador Branch](#) to your page and caption it with what you like about being a member of AAUW.

With gratitude for your consideration and generosity for contributing whatever you can to help the branch successfully raise scholarship funds to award in 2025 and beyond.

*Submitted by Julie Taylor
Funds Chair*

Membership

Welcome New Member Laura Nasatir !

Afternoon Book Club Welcoming New Members

We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2 pm rotating through member's homes. Books are chosen annually by group members. We alternate between fiction and non-fiction books, new titles and classic titles. This year we have read *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier, *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg, *The Hare with Amber Eyes* by Eric De Waal, *The*

Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride, *Armor of Light* by Ken Follett, and *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

On Monday November 11 we discussed *After the Miracle* by Max Wallace. This book provided us with an eye opening look into the life of Helen Keller which many of us found astounding.

It is not always necessary to read the book--sometimes people get busy in life and find listening to the discussion is a welcome break, plus we always have a tasty dessert. We would be happy to have you join us and we are always happy to pick you up if you would like. Currently, our homes are located in the Pine Grove area and in Jackson.

December 9 *The Exceptions* by Kate Zermike The afternoon will be spent at Mona Brown's home. Brenda will lead the discussion

January 13 *The Lost Bookshop* by Evie Woods The afternoon will be spent at Stephanie Young's home. Stephanie will lead the discussion.

You are welcome at any or all of these events. Send Debra an email and let us know you are coming. debrown6@gmail.com

A Thank You Card from Gretchen Kingsbury's Daughter, Diane:

This card is a long time in coming, but it carries our deepest gratitude. Just over a year ago, in September 2023, you honored our mom Gretchen Kingsbury at your branch meeting to kick off your 55th anniversary year. Mom was thrilled to be invited and remembered as a charter member and first branch president. It was one of the highlights of her last few months, and she shared the plaque and newspaper article with everyone who came in the door!

Thank you for that and for the kind card at Mom's passing a few months later. Founding the local branch of AAUW with her friends in 1969 was one of the many bricks she laid in this community. We appreciate your remembrance of her!

The Kingsbury Family

Arts and Education

Maidu Museum in Roseville November Events:

Check out what we are doing for National Native American Heritage Month!

Campfire

As nights are getting colder, come cozy up around the campfire, enjoy sweet treats, and hear native stories on Friday, November 8, 2024. Doors opened at 6:30! Register at roseville.ca.us/events. *This one is over, but think about it for next November.*

Native Craft Fair

Looking for gifts for this holiday season? Consider the works of art and handcrafted essentials made by Native creators available for purchase on Saturday, November 9, 2024 from 9am-3pm. Free admission to the trail and museum! *This one is also done for this year, but think about it for next November.*

Mocktails at the Museum

After the public tour on November 16th come and enjoy mocktails made with native plants. Free with the cost of admission.

Public Tours

Did you know that we offer a public tour every Saturday at 10am? Come learn about Nisenan culture, native plants, and local history on a guided tour of the site. Free with admission.

There is an ancient Indian saying that something lives only as long as the last person who remembers it. My people have come to trust memory over history. Memory, like fire, is radiant and immutable while history serves only those who seek to control it, those who douse the flame of memory in order to put out the dangerous fire of truth. Beware these men for they are dangerous themselves and unwise. Their false history is written in the blood of those who might remember and of those who seek the truth.~ Floyd 'Red Crow' Westerman (Dakota Sioux) actor, activist, singer

The [Maidu Museum & Historic Site](#)'s next free Night Out at the Museum program is An Evening of Native American Flute with Al Striplen on Saturday, January 20 at 7pm! Immerse yourself in an evening filled with music and poetry.

Leadership Committee Meeting Notes

AAUW Amador Leadership Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 4:00pm

Location: via Zoom

Call to Order & Welcome

Present: Terrie Houseman, Sandee Bowman, Sue Harrington, Gretchen Carlson, Kathy

Guletz, Cyndie Zikmund, Stephanie Young, Barb Gurnari

Old Business

- 2025 Home Tour Update (Greta)
- Historian Position (Terrie)
- Approved 3 college and 4 Tech Trek scholarships for 2025

New Business

- Title IX and Scholarships (Terrie)
- Succession Plan (Terrie)
- Partnership with UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center (Terrie)

Committee Reports

Finance (Sandee)

- Finance report
- Schedule financial review

Membership (Zeffy)

- With addition of 2 new members in October, we are now at 80 members.

Programs and Events (Sue)

- Holiday party - - Sue & Michele with meet with Kani
- \$100 Donation to David Tearpak's program approved for video support for programs

DEI – Position Open

Communication

- Website update and re-design (Cyndie)

Contact Us / Social Media

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amador-ca.aauw.net

P.O. Box 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685-0611

Facebook.com/AAUW-Amador

instagram.com/aauwamador

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