

March 2025 Women's History Month

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

Vision: Equality for all.

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

What's in This Issue?

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Cheers

Greetings!

There's so much to do and celebrate in March! International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8th to recognize women's achievements and the fight for gender equality. Come join us on March 6th when the Women's Adventure Film Tour will be presented at Jackson Cinema. The movie brings together incredible stories of courage, adventure, and self-discovery. Last year's films were very inspiring. We'd love to see you there.

On March 2nd, Susy Flory, one of our new members, will be at the Jackson Cinema to present "The Unbreakable Boy," a tender story she wrote about a

teenage boy with a rare brittle-bone disease. Suggested donation is \$10.

Do you want to make smart financial decisions? Who doesn't? Then plan to attend the free Financial Literacy Workshop on Saturday, March 22nd. The workshop caters to all those who want to better manage their finances. Please spread the word to all community members. They'll be glad they attended.

The Home Tour is back! Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 3rd in Ione. In the meantime, Rita Bohl is looking for donations of creative raffle baskets. The raffle is always one of the most popular parts of the Home Tour, so think about what you can put together to create a fun basket.

Jen Ellis is also looking for members and non-members alike who want to be docents at the four homes and historic sites that are a part of the tour. If you're interested in having some fun, contact Jen HERE.

Last but not least, celebrate the Vernal Equinox on March 20th, the first day of spring. It's right around the corner.

Terrie I	, Houseman						
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March Programs



Women's Adventure Film Tour

The Women's
Adventure Film Tour will
present a thrilling
selection of films that
span extreme sports,
personal journeys, and
boundary-pushing
storytelling from across
the globe. This year's
program highlights the

resilience and creativity of individuals navigating the challenges of both the outer world and their own inner landscapes. We are thrilled to present a program that brings together incredible stories of courage, adventure, and self-discovery. These films represent the spirit of perseverance and the power of women in the outdoors to inspire, entertain, and spark important conversations.

Branch members and guests enjoyed last year's movie. A group plans to go to the Jackson Cinema on **Thursday**, **March 6 at 6:45pm** in celebration of *International Women's Day*. All are welcome to come along to the movies. We hope to see you there!

Note: In addition to Thursday's showing, other dates are Saturday, March 8 at 5:00pm (*International Women's Day*) and Sunday, March 9 at 3:00pm. View the trailer **HERE**.

Financial Literacy Workshop

Share the information about this event with friends and neighbors who might find it useful. It is an overview of the topic and is interactive so can be of value to a wide range of individuals.





Presents

Smart Finance Starts No

JOIN US FOR A FREE FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSH NO RSVP NECESSARY INTERACTIVE - BRING YOUR QUESTIONS

Learn the techniques of budgeting, investing, and securing your financial future.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Create a money plan
- · Control recurring expenses
- Follow a budget
- · Establish an emergency fund
- Work toward financial independence
- · Manage credit and debt
- Start a systematic investment plan
- · Identify Useful Budgeting Apps

Saturday March 22

2:00-4:00 p

Amador Senior Cen 229 New York Ranch Jackson

Join Cheryl Maderal former EVP and CO of United Business Bank, for a comprehensive introduction to fina that will assist you with making inform financial choices.

3/25

2025 Home Tour Update

The Home Tour in Ione, CA is scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2025.

The theme for the 49th Home Tour is "**Iconic Ione**" and will feature four homes and two historic sites. The Tea and Raffle will be held at Preston Castle and the Ione Community Methodist Church will be open.

Tickets will be available starting March 26, with three convenient ways to purchase tickets – online at Eventbrite (\$40.00 + processing fee), the lone Pharmacy and the Feed Barn in Jackson (\$40 checks or cash). In addition, tickets are available the day of the Home Tour at Preston Castle for \$45.00.

The remaining **Committee Meetings** are as follows:

The committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Some meetings will be via Zoom only, and in-person meetings will have a Zoom component as well.

March 12 in person, March 26 (Zoom only) April 9 and April 23 (in person)

We will need 50 docents to support the Home Tour in Ione. If you and your friends are interested in being docents, please contact Jen Ellis at sewjellis@gmail.com or at (650) 537-6253.

Thanks
Rachel & Greta
Rachel Stahl. / Greta McElroy

March Calendar

March 1 - 31 Women's History Month

Sunday, March 2, 2:00pm

Fundraiser Premiere for *The Unbreakable Boy*

One of our members, Susy Flory, has co-authored *The Unbreakable Boy*, based on the true story of a boy on the autism spectrum with brittle bone disease, which has been made into a feature movie. A special fundraiser is planned as a celebration on Sunday, March 2 at 2:00pm at the Jackson Cinema to benefit two local nonprofits: Small Change for Big, and West Coast Christian Writers. A donation of \$10 per ticket will secure your seat at this unique occasion; all ticket sales will benefit the organizations. A limited number of tickets for this private showing are available HERE.

Thursday, March 6, 4:00pm

Leadership Committee Meeting via Zoom and at Stephanie Young's house All members are invited to attend. If you wish to be included, please contact <u>Terrie Houseman</u>.

Thursday, March 6, 6:45pm Women's Adventure Film Tour

Jackson Cinema See details above.

Saturday, March 8 International Women's Day

Saturday, March 8, 5:00pm Golden Acorn Awards Dinner.

See details below.

Monday, March 10, 1:00-3:00pm (note time change) Afternoon Book Group

We will meet at Brenda Walker's house to discuss *Fly Girl* by Ann Hood Contact <u>Debra Brown</u> if you would like to join the group.

Monday, March 24, 5:30pm Working Girls Book Group

We are reading *Stone Yard Devotional* by Charlotte Wood. We are meeting at Member Katie Scott's home.

Contact <u>Jacque Fletcher</u> if you would like to join or have questions.

Monday, March 24, noon

Great Decisions (Afternoon Group) will meet at Stephanie Young's house (2059 Thomas Drive, Jackson) to discuss "Competition, Cold War or Conflict? Navigating US-China Relations in Tense Times"

Contact Stephanie Young if you would like to join the group. stephanieyoung856@gmail.com

Monday, March 24, 2:00-4:00pm Page Turners & Book Lovers

We are meeting at Cyndie Zikmund's house to discuss *The Soul of an Octopus* by Sy Montgomery.

Contact Sandee Bowman if you would like to join the group.

Wednesday, March 26 Equal Pay Day

Wednesday, March 26 5:30-6:30pm

Libations and Conversations

The speaker is Matthew Hooper, a professional growth coach and consultant for TRACK 3 Leadership Development. His passion is to build whole-hearted leaders through authentic collaboration. For our meeting, he will be talking with us about "The Settling Power of Sadness" and, acknowledging we are beginning a new year with many unknowns and yet high aspirations at heart. This topic will take us down a road less travelled and, as we walk this pathway together, we can discover the difference it makes toward living a more abundant life. Wine and snacks will be available on site. It will be held at the Leadership Hub at 40 Hanford St. in Sutter Creek. (Next to the post office,in the lower part of the building.)

Members, guests and the public are welcome to attend this no fee presentation. No need to RSVP, just come and join the discussion.

Thursday, March 27, 6:00pm

Great Decisions (Evening Group) will meet at Stephanie Young's house (2059 Thomas Drive, Jackson) to discuss "The Evolution of U.S. Leadership in the Global Economy"

DEI--Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

The National Women's History Alliance (NWHA) proudly established March as National Women's History Month, ensuring diverse women's voices and contributions are recognized and celebrated. Since 1980, when NWHA (then the National Women's History Project) successfully advocated for the recognition of Women's History Week, we have been amplifying the stories of all women who shaped history. In 1981, Congress passed a resolution officially establishing the week, with President Jimmy Carter issuing a proclamation. By 1987, NWHA's continued efforts led Congress to expand the recognition to the entire month of March, creating the National Women's History Month we honor today.

At NWHA, we believe change begins with education and awareness. By making women's history visible, we empower individuals, challenge biases, and foster a more equitable society. By amplifying all women's voices, we hope to continue to inspire understanding, action, and progress.

As we celebrate Women's History Month 2025 with the theme, "*Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations*," we will continue to advocate, educate, and build a more inclusive future.

Celebrate International Women's Day 2025

The International Women's Day (IWD) 2025 campaign theme is **'Accelerate Action'** because at the current rate of progress, it will take until 2158, which is roughly five generations from now, to reach full gender parity, according to data from the World Economic Forum.

With the first IWD gathering in 1911 supported by over a million people, today, IWD belongs to all groups collectively everywhere. IWD is not country, group or organization specific. Simply, March 8 is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. This year it marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality because collectively, we can **Accelerate Action** for gender equality.

Focusing on the need to **Accelerate Action** emphasizes the importance of taking swift and decisive steps to achieve gender equality. It calls for increased momentum and urgency in addressing the systemic barriers and biases that women face, both in personal and professional spheres. So, together, let's **Accelerate Action** to speed up the rate of progress worldwide. Learn more **HERE**.

Excerpted by Julie Taylor from <u>internationalwomensday.com</u>

Tape v. Hurley--a Landmark Case

Mary Tape immigrated to the United States at age 11 and ended up as a servant in a brothel in San Francisco. She was raised at the Ladies' Protection and Relief Society, where she took the name of Mary McGladery. Mary met and married a young Chinese immigrant, Joseph Tape. He established his own prosperous transportation and immigration brokering business.

However, their wealth could not inoculate them from racial discrimination during this time of anti-Chinese exclusion and racial hostility. In 1884, their daughter was denied admission to a local school because she was Chinese. Incensed, Mary wrote an impassioned letter, and the Tapes sued the San Francisco Board of Education. They won the landmark case Tape v. Hurley, which guaranteed Chinese children the right to a public-school education.

After the court decision, the school district built a Chinese Primary School, "suitable for Mongolian children". The Tape case and the state's reaction foreshadowed the "separate but equal" doctrine soon to become law in the 1896 decision Plessy v. Ferguson.

- Renee Tajima-Peña, Series Producer of the PBS series "Asian Americans" and a Professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles

Amanda Nguyen, Civil Rights Activist and Astronaut

I grew up on stories of Vietnamese boat people, including my mother's family, who were guided by stars as they escaped war and famine to reach the lands of freedom. Ever since I was a little girl, I would look up at the stars and dream of becoming an astronaut. When I started college at Harvard, I majored in Astrophysics, conducted research about exoplanets, and interned with NASA. My future was bright until I was assaulted in my senior year.

When I went to the hospital, I found out that my rape kit would be discarded after six months, and all evidence of my attacker would be destroyed. I had a choice. I could either accept the injustice or rewrite the law, so I rewrote it. I sent out a blast e-mail to everyone I knew and asked them to walk with me in penning my own justice into existence in the form of a sexual assault survivor bill of rights. This is how I started RISE in 2014 when I was 23. It is a social change incubator for citizen lawmaking.

Through RISE, I drafted the Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act, which was passed unanimously by Congress and signed into law by President Barack Obama on October 7, 2016. This law ensures that survivors have the right to have their rape kit preserved for the duration of the case's statute of limitations, to be informed about the results of forensic exams, and to be notified when a kit will be destroyed. This bill protects nearly 25 million estimated survivors in the US. Through RISE, I want to persuade the U.N. to adopt an international assault survivors' bill of rights, which would protect 1.3 billion survivors worldwide.

For my efforts, I was nominated for the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize, named 2022 TIME Women of the Year, recognized as a Nelson Mandela Changemaker, and one of the Top 100 Global Thinkers by Foreign Policy. In 2024, my childhood dream came true when I made history as the first Vietnamese woman to fly to space aboard Blue Origin's New Shepard Rocket!

We came on boats, and now we're on spaceships. To me, this represents the resiliency of my Asian-American community, and I hope it inspires others to know that they belong in these spaces. I want young women to see this and understand that they deserve to dream big. Even if those dreams are out of this world, we can achieve them!

Equal Pay Day: March 26

Over half a century after pay discrimination became illegal in the United States, a persistent pay gap between men and women continues to hurt our nation's workers and our national economy.

Women working full time in the U.S. are still paid just 84 cents to every dollar earned by men — and the consequences of this gap affect women throughout their lives. The pay gap even follows women into retirement: As a result of lower lifetime earnings, they receive less in Social Security and pensions. In terms of overall retirement income, women have only 70% of what men do.

Membership

"Freedom and justice cannot be parceled out in pieces to suit political convenience. I don't believe you can stand for freedom for one group of people and deny it to others."

Coretta Scott King















Kathy Allen Mona Evans Brown Marge Chisolm Mara Feeney Samantha Fischer Kathleen Gallagher Jones Terri Works **Deborah Yates** Rebecca Wilson

Don't miss this Semi-Formal Awards night! Honoring one of our members, Deborah Mackey.

Amador County Chamber of Commerce presents The Margaret Dalton Memorial Golden Acorn Awards Dinner

March 8th@ 5:00pm at the Italian Picnic Grounds Honoring Ken & Debbie Mackey and Toni Linde Plus recognizing Amador County Ambassadors Giles Turner, Georgia Fox, and Cedric Clute

Get your Tickets HERE

NO HOST BAR AT 5PM • DINNER AT 6PM FOLLOWED BY AWARD PRESENTATIONS **TICKETS \$75 PER PERSON** TABLE OF 10 - \$800 (Includes Premium Table Placement, Wine And Table Signage) Questions;

209-223-0350 or amadorchamber.com

If 10 members buy tickets, the branch will contribute an additional \$50 to ensure members have a reserved table. Contact <u>Terrie Houseman</u> when you have purchased your ticket as she will make the table reservation.

Members are invited to purchase branded logo apparel at the **AAUW Amador Apparel Store** available through JBs Awards in Jackson.

From National and State

Why AAUW Public Policy Priorities Matter

Nancy Major, Member AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Why do AAUW's Public Policy Priorities matter? They shape the actions that we take as an organization, socially and legally. AAUW's mission is to advance equity for women and girls. Our Public Policy Priorities guide how we encourage active citizenship toward the goal of advancing our mission. Our 2023-25 priorities can be found HERE.

As active participants in society we can help shape the laws and society that govern us, such as healthcare, environmental policies, sex education, curriculum and book banning, housing, childcare, voting rights, immigrants' rights, sexual harassment, domestic violence, racial and LGBTQ discrimination, and Title IX enforcement. We "advocate" or promote our mission through research, education and lobbying for legislation on the international, national, state, and local levels.

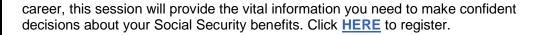
History has shown that our advocacy has made a big impact on national, state and local laws. Our Public Policy Priorities also shape our efforts to push forward programs that break through educational and economic barriers for women such as speaker programs, scholarships, oversight of local school boards, leadership and salary training, STEM opportunities for students, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs.

Why do our Public Policy Priorities matter? They make us the most effective advocates for our collective mission to protect and expand gender equity. At the branch and individual levels, we can take advantage of as many opportunities as possible to operationalize our Public Policy Priorities, and through this work to actively promote AAUW's mission. AAUW as an organization relies on the branches to stay informed and to keep track of where our Public Policy Priorities may fall short, to form coalitions with local allies who have similar missions, and to assign branch members to focus where we can have the most impact.

Webinar: What Every Woman Should Know About Social Security, presented by SSA

Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 10:00 - 11:00 am PT

Understanding Social Security is essential for every woman planning her financial future. Join Trisha Mentzer, a Social Insurance Specialist at the Social Security Administration (SSA) as she explains Social Security benefits. This session will focus on programs that matter most to women, including retirement, disability, spousal, and survivor, benefits. You will learn about eligibility requirements, the application process, and how these programs can support you throughout different life stages. Whether you're approaching retirement, navigating changes, mid-career or just starting your



Finding Your Voice

ACTION: Be a Two Minute Activist

Yes, two minutes can make a difference!

Join AAUW advocates in urging Congress to expand and pass legislation protecting access to education, economic security and civil rights, and more. Sign up to get alerts on when and how to engage, including sending letters to legislators, publication editors and other timely calls to action. All the tools needed to contact members of Congress and state legislators about pressing issues are provided. You will receive occasional email alerts about pending issues. Details at www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/

ACTION: Postcard Protest and Acts of Gratitude

In 2016 a group was formed by DIxie Camardo and Melene Smith to write to elected officials - Federal, State and local about issues of concern. This group has continued and now meets once a month on the third Thursday of the month, at Yorba Wine Tasting, 51 Hanford St., in Sutter Creek. Issues are emailed to all who are interested and postcards are provided.

Why do we write? When we write a postcard it counts as one 'contact.' The message needs to be clear and concise so that it is counted correctly. If we were to send a petition signed by 100 people, it would only count as one contact. If 100 people write about that same issue, it counts as 100 contacts. So we keep writing...it all counts!

If you are interested in being included on the mailing list, contact Nancy Nieland at nieland4@gmail.com.

Eleanor "Ellie" Smeal, recent <u>Presidential Citizens Medal winner</u>, Afghan women's rights advocate, Ms. publisher, and president and a cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation, observes, "Over my 55 years of feminist activism, I have witnessed moments that seemed insurmountable. Yet here we are, stronger, louder, and more determined than ever. But progress is not a straight path. *If there is one lesson history teaches us, it is this: small voices, united in purpose, can topple the mightiest of structures. Ordinary people with extraordinary hope have proven that change is possible, even against overwhelming odds."*

Tech Trek UC Davis Dorm Monitors

are needed for the week of July 13 – 19. If interested, contact **Stephanie Facchini**



News about former Tech Trekkers:

Anastasia Karnaze, TT 2011

I have such fond memories of Tech Trek; it was an exciting and immersive experience, and truly the first time I was surrounded by peers who shared my interests. The mentors were engaging and so passionate about their careers. It allowed me to envision what it would be like to be one of them, and looking back now, it's surreal to think I am.

I graduated in 2020 with my B.S. in Biomedical Engineering at the University of California, Irvine, and in 2023 with my M.S. in Biomedical Engineering from San Jose State University. Currently, I work at Axonics, (recently acquired by Boston Scientific) a medical device manufacturing company located in Irvine, CA. We make implantable pulse generators that stimulate the bladder which assists patients with incontinence. As an Operations Engineer, I oversee our in-house production line to ensure smooth and efficient manufacturing of the device.

Emma Cranfill, TT 2017

While I cannot pinpoint a specific favorite memory of Tech Trek, I really enjoyed my core class in circuits, getting to know peers with similar interests, and learning more about myself and my abilities. Tech Trek played a pivotal role in my understanding of STEM and the variety of career paths it encompasses. It also provided an opportunity to challenge myself and still acts as a memorable, crucial moment in my life.

I am in my junior year at Sacramento State and the GE Honors Program, majoring in Environmental Studies. Thank to AAUW once again for providing me the opportunity to attend Tech Trek.

Submitted by Gretchen Carlson, Tech Trek Coordinator

AAUW Scholarships

Remind any Amador County woman you know about our scholarship opportunities. Application Deadline is March 15.



Our Local Partners



The
Amador
Child Care
Council
Presents
the 27th
Annual
CELEBRATE
OUR
CHILDREN
FESTIVAL!

The

COUNTDOWN BEGINS now! You are invited to Amador County's largest FREE event for children, Please join us to help us celebrate 27 YEARS of offering this beloved annual event to the community! We are looking forward to providing an amazing day filled with "Unlocking the Mysteries of Learning" for the children and families of Amador County. We hope to make this year's event bigger and better than ever, and we have some very exciting things planned... so don't miss out! Check out some photos of last year's amazing event!

If you are an organization or business who provides services to children and families in Amador County, and are interested in providing a booth and free activities for children that day, please fill out the <u>Participant Form</u> no later than March 28.

We are a 501(c)3 organization under The Resource Connection, and the success of this long-standing tradition has been due in large part to the generosity of our community.

Arts and Education

Podcast Suggestion

Are you a confirmed Podcast fan, or just getting started?

Julia Louis-Dreyfus's podcast, "Wiser than Me," focuses on great interviews with older women sharing their knowledge. Included are Isabella Rossellini, Isabel Allende, Carol Burnett, Ina Garten, Billie Jean King, Patti Smith, and Anne Lamott. There are so many more! They are very interesting women. Julia gets them to share helpful advice they've learned themselves through their years of living. Julia always starts with an anecdote from her own life and ends with a phone call with her 90-year-old mother.

Available on multiple platforms, so search for "Wiser than Me"

The Center for Colorado Women's History is the first state museum focused on the past, present and future achievements of Colorado women.

The Center for Colorado Women's History focuses on scholarship, research, public programs, narrative, lectures, school tours and exhibits that expand the understanding and collective memory of the history of women in Colorado. The museum offers bold exhibits, personalized tours, and special events year-round.

Visit the Center for Colorado Women's History HERE.

Joy Harjo is an internationally renowned performer and writer of the Muscogee Nation. She served three terms as the 23rd Poet Laureate of the United States from 2019-2022 and is winner of the Poetry Society of America's 2024 Frost Medal, Yale's 2023 Bollingen Prize for American Poetry, and was recently honored with a National Humanities Medal.

The author of ten books of poetry, several plays, children's books, non-fiction works, and two memoirs, her many honors include the National Book Critics Circle Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award, the Ruth Lily Prize for Lifetime Achievement from the Poetry Foundation, the Academy of American Poets Wallace Stevens Award, and a Guggenheim Fellowship.

As a musician and performer, Harjo has produced seven award-winning music albums She served as a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets and Board of Directors Chair of the Native Arts & Cultures Foundation and is the first Artist-in-Residence for Tulsa's Bob Dylan Center. She lives on the Muscogee Nation Reservation in Oklahoma.

March Holidays and Celebrations 2025

- March 7th -- <u>National Day of Unplugging</u> (a 24-hour break from technology)
- March 8th <u>International Women's Day</u>
- March 13th <u>National Good Samaritan Day</u>
- March 14th <u>Holi</u>. The Hindu festival of colors is not only celebrated in India
- March 14th Pi Day
- March 17th St. Patrick's Day.
- March 20th March Equinox. The First Day of Spring
- March 21st National Flower Day.

- March 29th <u>Vietnam Veterans Day</u>. It's been 50 years since we left Vietnam
- March 31st National Crayon Day

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