

Gold Filings



2025 Home Tour Special Edition

The Amador Branch of the American Association
of University Women Presents

ICONIC IONE



49TH HOME TOUR | MAY 3, 2025

Get your tickets now!

There are three convenient ways to purchase tickets – online at Eventbrite (\$40.00 + processing fee) as well as the Ione 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 Homes

The Tresner Home Mark Tresner and Cindee Stewart - Owners

The home is listed on both the National and California Registry of Historical Places. The renovation has been a dedicated labor of love for its owners, Mark Tresner and Cindee Stewart. The house, originally completed in 1895 by C.W. Swain, the Superintendent of Construction at Preston Castle, is an example of a Shingle or Coastal Victorian architectural style dating from the 1880's to the early 1900's. The style combines many of the details of a Victorian house with clean, curved lines which are American in origin. Its porches, shingles, and asymmetrical forms borrow from the Queen Anne period and its balconies and large windows invite the outdoors inside. The exterior of the home evokes a slow and romantic lifestyle with its curved windows, casements and rounded, flowing corners. The home represents a unique expression of custom and one-of-a-kind architecture.

Step back in time when you enter the foyer. A gorgeous jewel box of a library, a parlor, a fireplace made of sun-dried local brick and, the period dining room comprise the main part of the living area. A majestic and generous window seat with the original construction and windows is an inviting setting to enjoy one of the hundreds of books in the library. As a master carpenter, the owner has ensured the preservation of construction details such as double swing doors throughout the house, original cabinetry, flooring and windows.

An enclosed back porch was added in the 1920's and a peek out the back reveals a little house built in 1864 once scheduled for demolition. It was purchased and moved from the corner of Market St. and Lone Road to the property at 311 South Church and renovated by Mr. Tresner.

The Bohl Home Mike and Rita Bohl – Owners

Color, color, color at 320 W. Marlette! The brightly colored directional sign in the front yard of the home is a hint to your visit to an original, vibrant and welcoming home. The multi-colored sign, painted by the owners, reveals the names and number of miles to each of their grandchildren's hometowns. Artwork created by various members of the family adorns the walls of the home, creating a warm invitation to stay for coffee, a meal or, overnight in the luscious guest quarters.

The gardens, a stunning result of the owner's ultra-green thumb, afford an overwhelming display of beauty. The spring bulbs, which include ranunculus, peonies, freesias and gladioli, produce a riot of color. Porches front, back and side offer a charming and sweet welcome into an art-filled, comfy nest.

The owners have completed extensive renovation and remodeling of their traditional (with a hint of Craftsman) home, moving walls to create greater efficiency of space while, at the same time, retaining the charm and unique characteristics of the home. Newly added crown molding provides

a touch of craftsman detail. The 3,300 square foot house is two homes--one an apartment with a separate entrance for the exclusive use of guests. What a wonderful way to welcome friends and family to come, stay and relax!

Marlette Ranch **Sam and Jessica McCarthy - Owners**

The Marlette Ranch was built in the American Revival style which is a reinterpretation of the English Georgian style from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Ranch is an Historical Landmark and was built circa 1852. The family's 5,480 square foot home sits on a gorgeous 6.7-acre parcel. Once part of a 100+ acre property, the Ranch was originally settled by J.P. Martin, who built the home which was then acquired in 1882 by the Scully family. Five generations of the Scully family owned the home until 2022 when it was purchased by its current owners.

Hand formed and fired on site, materials for the home's exterior red bricks were sourced from local clay. The fingerprints of the masons can still be found imprinted in some of the bricks on the home's exterior walls. A wooden porch and balcony were added in 1882 by Josephine Scully; reminiscent of her and her southern architectural roots.

The land is famously fertile, sitting on the southern bank of Sutter Creek. The resulting rich soil is perfect for growing swaths of lavender and a variety of flowers enjoyed by Gordon Hill Flower Shop, a family-owned flower shop in Jackson.

Enter the home and experience the impression of the gentle history of generations of families who have created a warm and comfortable respite. Original and period pieces of furniture, wall coverings, lighting fixtures, rocking chairs and multiple fireplaces are an invitation to immerse yourself in the comfort of long ago. The owners' renovations have been attentive to detail and carefully retain the style and the look and feel of the historic ranch. Although the kitchen and bathrooms have been added and updated, it is easy to imagine what it was like to live in the home over one hundred years ago. The Marlette Home is a treasure inside and out.

The Heirloom Inn **Tiffany Johnson - Owner**

The historic Heirloom Inn is a 'sister' house to the Marlette Ranch House. Built in 1863, it is a charming example of the Greek Revivalist homes being built in the U.S. during the late 1800's. The grounds are exquisite, with beautiful wisteria, calla lilies and flowers overflowing the gardens. The mansion, with its classical columns, a two-storied gallery, fan transoms, French windows, and a picturesque exterior carefully crafted with locally fired brick is a stunning home turned wedding and event venue.

Throughout the manor, simple box trim molding encloses period wallpaper that retains the look and feel of the home's origin. A piano graces the parlor and the entry hall offers the bride and groom a perfect alcove to welcome their guests. The magnificent landscaping and gardens are the star of the venue. Cozy seating areas, flowers and water features surround and intertwine with the lawn and gardens, and all are perfectly designed for a luscious wedding or a special event.

The bridal parties are treated to separate and communal spaces, all of which have retained the grandeur of this stately manor. There is a dressing room for the bride and her attendants with a lovely, mirrored space dedicated to hair and makeup touchups. The groom and his attendants have their own room to gather before the big event and there is a communal space for the wedding

party to gather for snacks or a special champagne toast before or after a wedding. The outdoor gallery is an ideal setting for that perfect wedding photo.

The Historic Sites

Preston Castle

Preston Castle was constructed in 1894 as the Administration Building for the Preston School of Industry, a reform school for boys. The Romanesque Revival style of architecture was employed to make the building look like a school rather than a prison. The complex occupies 50,000 square feet and includes a 3-story annex, four floors and a basement. Including the land, the property is just under 13 acres.

The Preston School of Industry opened in June 1894 and remained in use until 1960. The State planned to demolish the building and from 1960-1968 a group of local women fought to keep it standing. Once the State agreed to not tear the building down, they also said they would do nothing to keep it standing. The building remained vacant and in disrepair until September 2001 when the Preston Castle Foundation leased the building from the State. In 2014, the Foundation was granted ownership of the Castle and 12.91 acres.

The Preston Castle Foundation's mission is to preserve, rehabilitate and utilize the historic Preston Castle site as well as preserving the history of the school, its staff and boys. The Castle offers self-guided and guided tours of the extraordinary castle. For those who are interested in what haunts the Castle, there are Paranormal Investigation Tours and, of course, The Haunt, a Castle extravaganza in the fall.

Ione Community United Methodist Church

The Ione Methodist Church, the first church to serve Ione and the Jackson Valley, was originally dedicated as the Ione City Centenary Church and later, popularly known as the Cathedral of the Mother Lode. The cornerstone was laid in 1862 and the church, constructed of locally fired brick, was completed in 1866.

The building is a wonderful example of the Gothic Revival architectural style, popular in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Constructed of 255,000 locally fired bricks, the steeple rises 150 feet into the sky and is meant to be a sign of hope and faith to the community. Early members of the community said that the people built a 'city' church in a village because they had great hope for the future of Ione. The church was registered as a California Historic site on July 31, 1953 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Bonham Kiln #2

On the property at Domenico's Winery is an intact lime kiln built in 1859 by J.H. Bonham (a direct descendant of Daniel Boone), just five years after Amador became a California county. The lime was burned in the intermittent stone kiln, producing plaster and mortar from the limestone which was native to Amador County. It was used almost exclusively in the buildings of Amador County and was delivered by wagons from the kilns, with none of it shipped out of the county. In 1904, the total production from the kiln was 1,700 barrels of lime.

Home Tour Logistic Information

The Home Tour is on Saturday, May 3 from 11am - 4pm

As a member, what can I do?

Buy a ticket. This is our primary fundraiser for the year--proceeds fund both our scholarships and our operations. 60% of the ticket price is tax deductible. Even if you are working the Home Tour as a docent, we hope you will buy a ticket too. (Non-member docents don't have to buy a ticket).

Volunteer as a Docent. We are well on our way to securing the 50 docents needed to support the Home Tour, but we need more. If you and your friends are interested in being docents, please contact Jen Ellis at sewjellis@gmail.com or at (650) 537-6253.

There will be orientation packets and tours of all the houses prior to Home Tour Day, arranged by Jen Ellis. All docents are invited to tour each house during the orientation tours to make sure they are able to see all the houses. Details forthcoming.

Donate a gift basket or items that can be included in a basket. All basket proceeds go toward the scholarship fund. Contact [Rita Bohl](#) to have it picked up or to determine where to drop it off.

Bake 2 dozen cookies for the Tea.

We ask members to bake 2 dozen small cookies for the Tea. Collection sites will be: The Ledger Dispatch Office in Jackson, Bonnie Krupp's home in Lone or Remax Realty in Pine Grove.

- The Tea and Gift Baskets will be held on the patio at Preston Castle.
- Tickets may also be purchased on May 3 at Preston Castle.
- You may start at any of the houses or sites--just present your ticket to get a brochure and a wristband.

News from National and State

CA Annual Event--Pivoting 4 Our Future

April 26th from 9 am - 2:30 pm

Register [HERE](#) to join us on Zoom to toast how we are "Pivoting 4 Our Future."

Hear inspiring speeches.

Try to guess who will win Speech Trek.

Join the breakout rooms to explore roles for action in today's unsettled world.

Anticipate the final reveal of who won the coveted awards of

Branch Activity of the Year, State Named Gift Honoree, and DEI Champion.

Check out the packed schedule [HERE](#). There's a lot to celebrate!

VOTE in the AAUW National Election

April 14 - May 13

Watch for your individual ballot which will be emailed on or just before April 14.

On the ballot this year: The election of 4 directors, minor bylaw changes, and approval of revised and more focused public policy priorities for AAUW at the national level.

VOTE in the AAUW CA Election
April 26 - May 16

Watch for your individual ballot which will be emailed on or before April 26.
On the ballot: Election of directors for the AAUW CA board and perhaps a dues increase for AAUW CA. .

Note: The Leadership Committee recommends that you vote to approve the state dues increase. The CA AAUW organization provides excellent assistance to the branches.

READ AAUW's Annual Report 2024: A Year of Impact

Discover how AAUW is advancing equity for women and girls nationwide. The Annual Report highlights key achievements, financials, and the impact of our programs over Fiscal Year 2024. This resource is part of a focus on our commitment to transparency and impact and serves as an excellent shareable. [Read it here!](#)

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