

Mid-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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- Greatest Needs Fund
- Arts & Education
- Notes from the January and February Leadership Committee Meetings

Programs

Financial Literacy Workshop--March 22 at 2:00pm

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 Now

JOIN US FOR A FREE FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP 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 pm

Amador Senior Center 229 New York Ranch Rd. Jackson

Join Cheryl Maderazo, former EVP and COO of United Business Bank, for a comprehensive introduction to finance that will assist you with making informed financial choices.

3/25

2025 Home Tour Update

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

The Committee is actively seeking **Raffle Baskets** or donations toward a Raffle Basket. We hope to have commitments for raffle items by early April and will arrange for pre-Home Tour Day dropoff. Contact <u>Rita Bohl</u> with donations or questions.

Tickets will be available starting March 26, with three convenient ways to purchase tickets – online at Eventbrite (\$40 + processing fee) and in person at 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.

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

March 26 (Zoom only)

April 9 and April 23 (in person)

We need 50 Docents to support the Home Tour in lone. If you and your friends are interested in being docents, please contact Jen Ellis at sewjellis@gmail.com or at (650) 537-6253. We hope that all members support the Home Tour in some fashion.

Thanks
Rachel & Greta
Rachel Stahl / Greta McElroy

Late March Calendar

March 1 - 31 Women's History Month

Wednesday, March 12, 2:00pm Home Tour Committee Meeting Sandi Baracco's house, 44 Eureka St., Sutter Creek

Tuesday, Mar 18, 2025 07:00 PM

Oregon Online is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Guest:: Cherie Sorokin, AAUW Board Chair

Click **HERE** to join the Zoom meeting

Meeting ID: 879 6816 6277

Thursday, March 20th, 10-11 am

Webinar: DEI in the Balance-Strategies for Moving Forward in Uncertain Times

Register **HERE**.

Thursday, March 20th, 11am-noon
In Conversation with Clara Bingham, author of
The Movement: How Women's Liberation Transformed America, 1963-1973
An interactive program through the Calaveras County Library "Author Talks"
See the details below in the Arts & Education section of GF
Click HERE to register.

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

We are reading *Stone Yard Devotional* by Charlotte Wood. We are meeting at 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 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 <u>Sandee Bowman</u> 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 to discuss "The Evolution of U.S. Leadership in the Global Economy"

Contact **Stephanie Young** if you would like to join the group.

And coming soon:

Save the Date! Sunday, April 6, at 2:00 pm "Connect" -- AAUW Member Social Event See details in the Membership Section below.

Influential Women Then and Now-Celebrating Women's History Month

Meet the 2025 Women of the Year

From USA Today

Priscilla Almodovar

Priscilla Almodovar understands where you live is foundational to life's outcomes. As CEO of Fannie Mae, she helps people achieve the American dream.

Scout Bassett

As president of the Women's Sports Foundation, Scout Bassett is addressing the disparities female athletes with disabilities face in parasports.

Jonquel Jones

Jonquel Jones left the Bahamas at 13 to pursue basketball. Now the 6-foot-6 Center and WNBA MVP is inspiring a new generation of women.

Hoda Kotb

After leaving the "Today" show this year, Hoda Kotb is living her best life. She urges women to be their own advocates and fight for themselves.

Kellie Gerardi

As an astronaut, Kellie Gerardi wants to show that women can love science and still be sparkly, and to inspire more girls to learn about space.

Ilona Maher

Ilona Maher won a silver Olympic medal for rugby. Now she's a body positive activist and an inspiration for younger generations of women.

Angela F. Williams

As the CEO of the United Way, Angela F. Williams is redefining what it means to lead a non-profit and pushing for equality along the way.

Ellen Potts

Ellen Woodward Potts leads Habitat for Humanity Tuscaloosa, which has built more than 100 homes since a tornado wiped out 13% of the city in 2011.

Celebrating Women Who Changed the World

Cleopatra (69 BC - 30 BC)

The last pharaoh of Ancient Egypt wasn't a man but a woman. Educated, cultured and polyglot, Cleopatra achieved great success in politics. She signed alliances with the most powerful leaders of the time, and she ruled shrewdly to ensure the stability and financial solvency of her country by means of various economic initiatives. She is described as a scientist, a philosopher and an alchemist.

Hypatia (370-415)

She's regarded as the first female mathematician. She was the daughter of a prominent Greek astronomer and mathematician and, educated by her father, she also excelled in philosophy and astronomy. Her contributions to science influenced Newton, Leibnitz and Descartes. A proponent of Neoplatonism, she was lynched and burnt to death by Christian fanatics for her pagan beliefs.

Virginia Woolf (1882-1941)

In a male-dominated society, the brilliant writer criticized the lack of equality and the obstacles for women when it came to developing the careers and becoming independent. In her works Woolf recounted her outrage at discrimination and the inferior position of the female gender. She was ahead of her time. The ideas of this pioneer of the feminist movement still live on and her legacy continues to influence modern culture today.

Clara Campoamor (1888-1972)

This Spanish lawyer, writer and politician fought for equality between men and women and, above all, women's suffrage in her country. She achieved a historic milestone: the 1931 Constitution recognized the right of women to vote and they went to the polls for the first time in the 1933 elections.

Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986)

French philosopher and writer Simone de Beauvoir challenged and criticized the dominant patriarchy of her time. Her book titled *The Second Sex* has become a "bible" of modern Western feminism. In her writings she laid the foundations for legal abortion and birth control in France and she launched a new women's liberation movement.

Rosalind Franklin (1920-1958)

She studied chemical physics at Cambridge and was instrumental in the discovery of the double helix structure of DNA. James Watson and Francis Crick won the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1962 for that discovery, eclipsing the role of the researcher in this scientific breakthrough that paved the way for life-saving drugs.

Benazir Bhutto (1953-2007)

Benazir Bhutto is one of the most important women in history, as she was the first elected female Muslim prime minister of an Islamic country, Pakistan (from 1988 to 1990 and 1993 to 1996). As prime minister she led the way towards equality for Muslim women in the country. Her murder in 2007 shocked the world.

And Closer to Home

Julia Morgan, Architect

First Major Architecture Commission--January 1913

Julia Morgan, the first woman licensed as an architect in California, began work on the Hearst Castle, a sprawling estate that showcased her innovative design and engineering skills. Known for seamlessly blending classical European styles with modern functionality, Morgan's work on the castle became a hallmark of her career, solidifying her legacy as one of America's most influential and pioneering architects.

Pat Summitt

Named Head Coach of the Tennessee Lady Vols January 10, 1974

At just 22 years old, Pat Summitt became the head coach of the Tennessee Lady Vols, beginning a legendary career that transformed women's basketball. Over 38 seasons, she led the team to 8 NCAA championships and 1,098 wins, setting records and inspiring countless athletes. Her dedication to excellence and advocacy for gender equity in sports cemented her legacy as one of the most influential figures in basketball history.

Margaret Dalton (1940-2008)

Leader of the Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwuk Indians

The Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwuk Indians was first recognized by the Federal Government in 1898. Over 100 years later, the Tribe enjoys self-sufficiency and self-reliance thanks to the vision and determination of one small Indian woman, Margaret Dalton. Her vision for the Tribe was for it to

become self-reliant. She didn't want future generations to have to depend on government handouts, and she was determined to find a way to do it. Through her determination, Margaret was able to bring independence to the Tribe, and today Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort thrives as their commitment to the community continues.

Changemaker: Joan Baez Musician, Social Activist and Environmentalist

"I was born in Staten Island, NY, and spent my formative years in Palo Alto, CA. My parents converted to Quakerism when I was a little girl, which instilled a deep respect for pacifism and social justice throughout my life. My love for music began when my father's friend gifted me a ukulele, and I discovered I had a natural talent for singing. My aunt took me to a Pete Seeger concert, which deeply moved me. I started to use folk music as my platform to advocate for social justice.

After graduating from Palo Alto High, I enrolled at Boston University as a Drama major but soon left college to pursue a professional music career. My big break came at the 1959 Newport Folk Festival when I was 18. I secured a record contract, and all three of my first albums went gold! I became an influence for younger musicians like Judy Collins, Joni Mitchell, Bonnie Raitt, and Emmylou Harris.

Years later, when I took my granddaughter backstage to a Taylor Swift concert, and Taylor thanked me for my influence on her music, my granddaughter finally appreciated the contributions I made to American music and my lifelong commitment to social activism!

Throughout my 60+ year career, I released more than 30 albums, performed at Woodstock, participated in countless anti-war rallies, marched alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., protested with Cesar Chavez and the migrant workers, and took part in tree sit-ins to protect urban farms.

For my music and commitment to social justice, I was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and an Amnesty Int'I's Ambassador of Conscience Award, and served as an American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellow.

As I reflect on my life, I feel disappointed that our society has not progressed further. Now, in the troubled political and cultural climate we face, there is much work to be done. Where empathy is lacking and sharing has been replaced by greed and a lust for power, let us intensify our efforts to empathize. We the people are the only ones who can create change."

Equal Pay Day: March 26

This marks the day that women match men's earnings from the previous December. 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 <u>less in Social Security and pensions</u>. In terms of overall retirement income, women have only 70% of what men do. Remedying this is one of AAUW's goals.

"As society sees what women can do, as women see what women can do, there will be more women out there doing things, and we'll all be better off for it."

Sandra Day O'Connor 1930 - 2023

Save the Date! Sunday, April 6, at 2 pm

Connect! Visit with friends and meet new ones at the upcoming AAUW Member Social Event. Join us on Sunday, April 6, at 2 pm at Margie Guletz' home and garden, 500 Endicott Avenue, Jackson.

Bring your best <u>chocolate or berry dessert</u> to participate in our 'Most Delicious Dessert' contest.

Attendees will vote on their favorite in each category and the winners will receive a small gift.

Coffee, tea and water will be available, but if you would like wine, you are welcome to bring a bottle.

Bring a friend!



Fundraising Request

Emily Cannon-Brown, daughter and granddaughter of two of our members (Debra Brown and Mona Evans Brown) has written a film script for a movie she plans to shoot in April here in Amador County. She and her team have set up a GoFundMe account: <u>AMADOR</u> and will gratefully take any and all donations. See the story and the shooting plan on their website <u>https://www.amadormovie.com/</u>

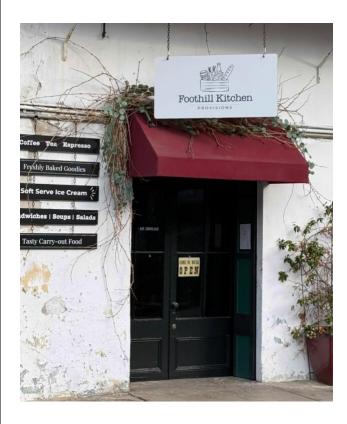
Website Home Page Banner Photos

Earlier this year, members were invited to submit personal photos of Amador County for use on the refreshed website. Several members responded and rather than select one or two, it was decided to use all of them on a rotational basis. Each photographer will be credited in the lower right corner of the home page. My sincere appreciation to members who took time to share their fabulous photos – please enjoy them in the coming year HERE.

If you missed the opportunity to participate, photos will be accepted at aauwamador@gmail.com for posting in the Member Spotlight section on the home page.

Submitted by Julie Taylor – Assistant Website Editor

Welcome to Foothill Kitchen Provisions





Foothill Kitchen Provisions is a new small business created by Amador City residents A'Laina and Pat Lyons. After retiring from corporate life, they recognized a need for more local, healthy, and delicious food options in Amador County. They also wanted to support the next generation of local food artisans by providing a place for them to start and grow their businesses.

Foothill Kitchen Provisions collaborates with local food artisans and farmers to offer a curated selection of seasonal products and freshly made meals that you can take home or enjoy as a picnic. Their shared commercial kitchen serves as a hub for culinary professionals, allowing them to prepare a variety of offerings for Foothill Kitchen while building their own small businesses. This small business initiative supports many other regional businesses and creatives.

Located in downtown Amador City, the retail store is set in a beautifully renovated 1887 building that originally served as a general store. There is also an adjacent outdoor seating area and garden overlooking the charming downtown, perfect for sipping, savoring, and enjoying your provisions. Currently open Friday through Sunday, Foothill Kitchen Provisions plans to extend their hours and expand their food offerings, including an option for online meal pre-orders for in-store pickup.

Visit us, grab a coffee, and explore our ever-changing selections. And be sure to save some room for our Soft Serve Ice Cream! Stay updated by following us on Instagram or signing up for our monthly newsletter at www.foothillkitchen.com.

Tech Trek Update



Again, this year our interview team was very impressed with the Tech Trek applicants. They were intelligent and poised. Five were interviewed and three selected for the week-long STEM camp to be held at UC Davis. They are Meris Schauer, Avery Metz and Hailey Linesburgh. We wish that were able to send all five to camp! Thank you for your ongoing support of this program.

Gretchen Carlson, Amador Branch TT Coordinator, and interview team of Samantha Fischer, Helen Loffland, and Janie Brown.

From National and State

Public Policy

To fulfill the mission of our organization, "to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research," we will continue to compile resources to help you take action. This is a critical moment, as the changes that are being implemented may have long-lasting impacts, locally and globally.

Planning for our AAUW Future Starts Now

Mark your calendars for the Annual Event on April 26th, starting at 10 am. In addition to the usual awards and updates, we will focus on social change and how we can pivot to ensure our AAUW branches survive. More information will soon be available.

Even as we are asking you to act, we want to remind you that your well-being is important. With an uptick in policies and enforcement actions that run counter to our core values, you may be feeling overwhelmed, exhausted, fearful, or anxious. Action is important, but self-care is also a political act. Be gentle with yourself and acknowledge your efforts.

News and You

We encourage you to <u>check out this guide</u> on how to read the news more strategically to still be able to follow events while preventing burnout and protecting your mental health.

Why AAUW is Relevant

Have you stopped to review all AAUW accomplishes even in present-day circumstances? Here are some highlights from first national, then state and local:

- 6.3 million dollars went to 285 AAUW Fellows and Community Organizations
- 6157 women received Work Smart, Money Smart, and Start Smart training
- 500 college women went to NCCWSL
- 47,000 messages were sent to our elected officials via the 2-minute activist

Learn more from the **2024 Annual Report**.

- Speech Trek working with high school students to deliver a speech on a selected timely topic
- Tech Trek has sent more than 15,000 girls entering 8th grade to STEM camps throughout California since 1998. Virtual camps were added during the pandemic. and now both options are offered! Be inspired at their website: Tech Trek.
- Branches provide thousands of local scholarships for women pursuing their first 4-year degree.
- A focus on DEI makes the world a better, more welcoming place.
- Too many local programs to list here; check out <u>Branch Brag</u> on the AAUW California website.

So, keep strong and carry on!

What I need to know: All of it! Remember you are making a positive difference.

What I need to do: Use the information to make your 'elevator speech' to tell others about AAUW and why they should join.

What I can do: Follow AAUW California's Petitions Page on Resistbot

<u>What I can do:</u> Please share PP News more broadly! We want everyone inside and outside of AAUW, including anyone not regularly involved in Public Policy, to have important action tools and updates. You can also share the link to our <u>PP News Archive</u>. Thank you in advance! Please click <u>HERE</u> for the March issue of Public Policy News

DEI Is the Solution, Not the Problem

by Melissa Maceyko, Co-Chair of AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Narratives about "DEI" and hiring clearly overlook the fact that many people who are labeled as DEIhires, including many women, are hired based on merit, regardless of their identity, even as they often have to overcome additional hurdles to enter into historically masculine fields and gain the qualifications and experiences to succeed.

Missy Maceyko has recorded a recent podcast episode on how to understand DEI work in light of the federal attack on DEI. The podcast also touches on programs and actions in which you can and should continue to engage in your organizations--those that historically overlap with DEI work, but that are not always coded as DEI, such as mentorship programs and/or training in how to speak across differences. Click **HERE** to access on YouTube.

Webinar: What Every Woman Should Know About Social Security. presented by the Social Security Administration

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 career, this session will provide the vital information you need to make confident decisions about your Social Security benefits. Click HERE to register.

Greatest Needs Fund's Impact on STEM

It can be hard to understand exactly what the Greatest Needs Fund does. In a nutshell, it is designed to pivot as opportunities arise to make an impact on policy and program priorities. Typically, funding is provided to initiate or support a program. An example is Tech Trek, a project of AAUW California, that was originally funded with a grant of seed money from AAUW National. This original investment has developed into a foundational program offered by many branches to local students.

Did you know only 35% of STEM workers are women? This isn't because women aren't interested in math or science. It's because of bias, something that starts young and holds them back throughout their lives. From classrooms to boardrooms, the gap is real. And while STEM jobs are some of the highest paying and fastest-growing, women are being left behind. To remove this barrier, members can change the story for students. Your support fuels the need to take on detrimental biases that hold women back and ensure they have equal access to the lifelong advantages that STEM careers provide. AAUW is breaking down barriers for women and girls in STEM through grants, advocacy, and encouraging lawmakers to act. You can help close the gap and give future women leaders the opportunities they deserve.

A donation to the Greatest Needs Fund makes an impact by funding efforts to:

- Push back against harmful stereotypes. From early childhood, girls receive signals that they aren't good at STEM.
- Uplift women in STEM, provide them with funding, and make it clear that women belong in STEM!
- Promote inclusive schools through webinars, resources, and direct action. We're resisting book bans and restrictions that harm inclusive education.
- Support women's economic success by making college affordable. Women are more often held back by a lack of financial resources so the provision of grants and scholarships can allow them to pursue their education. After graduation, AAUW continues to support them with financial literacy and salary negotiation courses so that they can aim high during their career.

Donate at <u>aauw.org</u> or send a check payable to AAUW, with Greatest Needs Fund on the memo line, to AAUW, PO Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045. Thank you.

Our Local Partners

Amador College Connect

If you know someone about to enter college, alert them to these workshops:

Get College Ready with Free Prep Workshops!

Thanks to our partners at the Motherlode Educational Opportunities Center (MEOC) we are providing 3 free workshops for anyone in the community interested in going to college! All workshops are located at Amador College Connect at 1 Prosperity Court in Sutter Creek, CA.

Choosing a College Workshop April 1 at 3 p.m.

Applying to a College Workshop April 15 at 3 p.m.

<u>Understanding Financial Aid Workshop</u>
April 29 at 3 p.m

Call for more information!

To get on the Amador College Connect mailing list, contact accf@amadorcommunitycollegefoundation.ccsend.com

The Mother Lode Friends of Music is planning its 2025 season.

We wish to thank all in our community who have made our organization a success for over 25 years: the talented and dedicated artists who have performed, those attending our many concerts, our sponsors and supporters through annual family memberships and individual donations. As in the past years, all concerts will be free of charge. We rely on your voluntary donations. Your contributions will enable us to engage top-quality musicians from out of the area, as well as our own superb local talent.

Shake off the doldrums of winter with beautiful music! Mother Lode Friends of Music presents a concert of beautiful music by timeless composers on Sunday, March 23, 2025, 3:00 pm at the Sutter Creek Theater, Sutter Creek.

Jason Jeffrey and flutist Sandra Betti will perform a selection of classical works by favorite composers including Bach, Mozart, Chopin, Poulenc, Debussy, and Beethoven.

- Jason Jeffrey is a soloist who performs throughout the Mother Lode region. He is a returning performer for the Bach Sonora Festival and an accomplished accompanist, working with church and community choirs including the Pinecone Performers in Groveland, CA.
- Guest flutist Sandra Betti has performed with the Cal Berkeley Symphony and the Artesian Pops Orchestra in Los Angeles, and toured Europe with classical guitarist Sergio Funes. Since moving to Sonora, she has become a major figure in local musical circles.

At the March 23 concert, there will be a brief business meeting to elect Board members. There is currently one vacant chair. Anyone who would like to participate may contact us in advance.

Arts and Education

A few milestones in women's history in various fields.

- New Zealand was the first country to grant women the right to vote, in 1893.
- At the first Winter Olympic Games in 1924, the only events open to women were figure skating and pairs figure skating. A total of 15 women competed.
- Katharine Graham became the first female CEO of a Fortune 500 Company, the Washington Post Company, in 1972.

How Women's Liberation Transformed America:

In Conversation with Clara Bingham, Thursday, March 20th 11:00 AM From the Calaveras County Library Author Talks Program:

Click HERE to register for the interactive Zoom program

Join us online for a transformative conversation with award-winning journalist and author, Clara Bingham, as she chats with us about her new book, *The Movement: How Women's Liberation Transformed America, 1963-1973.* This is a comprehensive and engaging oral history of the decade that defined the feminist movement, including interviews with living icons and unsung heroes.

The book traces women's awakening, organizing, and agitating between 1963 and 1973 when a decentralized collection of people and events coalesced to create a spontaneous combustion. From Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* to the underground abortion network The Janes, to Shirley Chisholm's presidential campaign and Billie Jean King's 1973 battle of the sexes, Bingham artfully weaves together the fragments of that explosion person by person, bringing to life the emotions of this personal, cultural, and political revolution. Artists and politicians, athletes and lawyers, Black and white, The Movement brings readers into the rooms where these women insisted on being treated as first-class citizens and, in the process, changed the fabric of American life.

<u>About the Author:</u> Clara Bingham is an award-winning journalist and author. A former Washington, DC, correspondent for Newsweek, her writing has appeared in Vanity Fair, The Guardian, and The Daily Beast, among others. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

2025 NWHA Women's History Magazine

A 32 full page collection of stories to inspire and educate filled with information on NWHA Partners and Women's History Resources.

Available free online HERE or printed copies can be purchased at the NWHA store HERE.

Notes from Leadership Committee Meetings

Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 4:00pm via Zoom

Old Business

- <u>Branch Google Drive</u>--Terrie has provided Home Tour files to committee heads and will provide training as needed.
- <u>Giving Tuesday Update</u>: \$4340 from donors, ACF approximately \$436, totaled \$4,796.37 for the branch's scholarship fund. There were 41 unique donors; 30 of 80 members donated; 195 non-members were contacted via postcard and email, out of which 11 non-members donated.
- <u>Fundraising</u>. If / when we do not have a Home Tour, then the branch will need to find
 other ways to raise funds, such as Adopt-A-Fund, to cover operating expenses. Giving
 Tuesday donations have partial matching from ACF but cannot be used for operating
 funds, only for scholarships.

- <u>5-Star Program Update</u>: The branch received two Stars, one for Communications and one for External Relations and Programming
- Historian position is open.
- DEI position is open

Committee Reports

Finance

Sandee reported that the branch has a healthy financial situation, She suggested a short-term CD to earn interest on a portion of funds Suggested putting aside \$10,000 to cover a year's operating expenses and place another year's worth in a CD.

<u>Membership</u>

December membership directory update: To address privacy and protection concerns, the committee agreed to eliminate birthday information and replace it with the year a member joined. Zeffy to send Stephanie and Aieleen a spreadsheet that lists birthdays; for Gold Filings and for Sunshine. Steph will list birthdays by month only, not date. Zeffy to include the website "Members Only" password in the Directory so members can access the page.

Funds

The branch made the annual \$750 donation to National's Greatest Needs fund and will announce a Named Gift Honoree at the annual meeting in June. There are 31 California grant recipients this year. Group agreed to not have a speaker this year and look at next year.

Scholarships: suggested branch get this process started earlier.

Also, consider Amador College Connect and libraries as locations for scholarship information. Julie made a flyer last year that can be updated for Facebook and website outreach. Discussed other ways to find scholarships, including finding alternative sites to post scholarships.

Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 4:00pm via Zoom

Old Business

- 2025 Home Tour Update
- <u>5-Star Program Update:</u> The Branch received two of 5 stars this past year. Our weakest areas are Governance, Policy and Advancement. Governance: Lack of a Succession Plan is the primary weakness.
- <u>Nominations Committee</u>: Open positions for 2025-26: Leadership Chair, Finance Chair, DEI, Website/E-Docs Chair, Historian, Libations and Conversations Co-Chairs, Secretary, Funds Chair.
- <u>Succession Planning</u>: branch needs a bench of people to back up the current LC heads. Consider ideas: one-year positions are not practical, but may be necessary; Co-Chairs for Leadership Chair, other members who can "train" to move into key positions. This is part of the 5 Star program that we can improve upon.
- <u>Facebook Account Update</u>: Julie does not have full access to the branch's FB account. Continuing to inquire. Needs one person plus a backup on the account. Consider a private FB account for members?
- <u>Social media data update</u>: Latest data shows people are going to our site, liking and interacting.

Committee Reports

Finance Prinance

- Sandee reported Budget v. Actual is on target. We are maintaining the Budget. Income received a generous donation from the Guletz family of \$4800 for Tech Trek.
- Sandee still needs to research rates for short term CD's, possibly with PNC Bank.
 Interest rates continue to decline so need to take action sooner rather than later.
- Financial review: has been completed (see Handout). Sandee will add a sentence to the document that indicates the process for handling cash donations.
- Donation to David Tearpak's program: Sandee will contact the school secretary to interface with him and determine how and where to send the donation(s) for the school's program and theater department, splitting the donation of \$100 (50x50).

Membership

- Status of membership: four renewals and new members, plus Shape the Future.
- Still to do: Buddies for new members
- Spreadsheet with birthdays (month/day) for Stephanie, Aieleen and Terrie.
- Dues increases: State (\$5) and branch (\$2) dues increase coming. National is proposing a \$10 increase, which is up for a vote in April.
- Zeffy to include the website "Members Only" password in the Directory so members can access the page.
- Terrie will send Zeffy other changes that members have requested.

Programs and Events

- February Authors and Chocolate: \$650 is the estimated profit for this year / \$5 per person is the branch's cost. Debra Brown has the setup taken care of, sidewalk sign, intro of authors, etc.
- March Program: Financial Literacy Stephanie to send info to Sandee for poster (Canva) and to Sue to include in newspaper.
- Women's Adventure Film Tour: Jackson Cinema Group to attend on March 6.
- Lobby Days: April 9: Terrie is leading the effort.
- Golden Acorn Award Dinner being hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

Scholarships

- Terrie moved to increase the scholarships to \$3000.00 for 3 people. NCWSSL has been tabled for the time being.
- Kathy to post flyers at Senior Center, all Libraries, ACC, High School Counselors. Julie to post scholarship info on social media.
- Gender-based Survey from the State to come. They want to know branch requirements for scholarships.

<u>Funds</u>: \$1033.50 donated to National Greatest Needs Fund by branch members Tech Trek Update: 2025 Memo of Understanding submitted.

Communications: Website/E-Docs/Social Media:

- Cyndie is transitioning out of the website job in April. Julie and Cyndie are working together with Cheryl on this transition. Julie will take on some tasks with Cheryl taking on the rest.
- The website will not be updated as often Facebook will be used for timely updates.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 6 at 4:00pm via Zoom.

Contact Us / Social Media

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