

Gold Filings



Mid-June 2025

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

Vision: Equality for all.

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

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Message from the Leadership Chair



Greetings, everyone!

I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to have served as the Leadership Chair of this branch for the past two years. It has been a rewarding experience to be part of this incredible organization while contributing to our shared goals. I am now stepping down to pursue other adventures.

I'd like to express my deepest appreciation to our current Leadership Committee members. Each has served with dedication, wisdom, and passion, helping guide us through a pivotal time in our history. I am profoundly grateful for their service and impact.

I'd also like to thank our members for your participation and for all you do to support our mission. Together, we're creating a more equitable world for women and girls.

I hope you're planning to join us at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 21st, starting at 10am (details below). Yes, we have to conduct business, but we'll also be playing a bit. That part is secret for now, so you'll have to attend to find out. It will also be fun to meet our three new scholarship recipients and several new members.

The Nominations committee still has a few positions open for the new fiscal year starting on July 1. We need YOU and your creative ideas. Please contact Sandee Bowman at sbowman56@gmail.com if you're interested.

It's also time to renew your membership. Here's the deal: If you renew before June 30th, you'll save \$10. The total will be \$119 instead of \$129. The Branch and National dues will increase by \$2 each, however, voters approved a \$10 increase in State dues effective July 1st. So, if you renew before June 30th, you won't have to pay the State dues increase.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Meeting!

Cheers, Terrie Houseman

Annual Meeting June 21



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL BRANCH MEETING

**June 21, 2025 10:00 AM
United Methodist Church
14 Main St. Sutter Creek**

- Scholarship Presentation
- Officer Election/Installation
- 2025-26 Budget Approval
- A celebration of a great year with light bites, awards, and discussions about future events

**RSVP to aauwamador@gmail.com
by June 18th**

**Reminder: RSVP by June 18
We'll see you there!**

June Calendar

Monday, June 16 2:00-4:00pm
Afternoon Book Group

We will meet at Marilou Lane's house to discuss *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar.

Contact [Debra Brown](#) if you would like to join the group.

Wednesday June 18, 5:30pm
Working Girls Book Group

We will be meeting at Element in Sutter Creek. Our book this month is *My Friend* by Fredrick Backman.

Contact [Jacque Fletcher](#) if you would like to join the group or have questions.

Saturday, June 21, 10am
Annual Meeting

Creekside United Methodist Church in Sutter Creek

Don't miss the chance to socialize with other members, vote for next year's officers, approve the budget and discuss exciting plans for next year!

Monday, June 23, noon

Great Decisions (Afternoon Group) will meet at Stephanie Young's house to discuss The Future of NATO

Contact [Stephanie Young](#) if you would like to join the group.

Monday, June 23, 2:00-4:00pm
Page Turners & Book Lovers

We are meeting at Michele Powell's house to discuss *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain.

Contact [Sande Bowman](#) if you would like to join the group.

Thursday, June 26, 6:00pm

Great Decisions (Evening Group) will meet at Stephanie Young's house to discuss The Future of NATO

Contact [Stephanie Young](#) if you would like to join the group.

Friday, June 30

Annual Renewals are DUE for many of members. See details below.

DEI--Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

June 10, 1963:

The Equal Pay Act was signed into law by President John F. Kennedy

It's been 60 years and women are still paid a fraction of what men receive for the same work. And the gender pay gap exists across all industries, regardless of education level. No matter how you analyze it, the gender pay gap is real, persistent, and harmful to women's financial well-being. For every dollar men earn today, women across the board earn 78 cents, according to US Census Bureau data analysis by the National Partnership for Women & Families.

There are many reasons for these inequities. Key factors sustaining the gender wage gap are workplace harassment, the lack of protection for parents and caregivers, segregation of men

and women into different job types, and women entering the workplace after a history of earning lower or unequal wages (see details in this USA Today article, <https://apple.news/A8wpdZVfFSQWjbp4DYQxT5Q>).

What is being done? AAUW's policy teams at the National and State level work tirelessly to support policies that will help achieve economic security for all women. Collaborating with leading gender equity organizations, mobilizing dedicated advocates and members, and engaging directly with elected leaders all because of your support. It is efforts like this that you support with your yearly dues. Don't forget to renew.

Bonnie Krupp

Honoring Juneteenth & Opal Lee

Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19th, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States and stands as a powerful reminder of resilience, freedom, and the ongoing fight for justice. It is a time to reflect on our nation's history and honor the strength of Black communities, history and culture.

We recognize the extraordinary efforts of Opal Lee, known as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth." At 89, she walked from Texas to Washington, D.C., to advocate for Juneteenth to become a federal holiday - a goal realized in 2021. Her lifelong dedication to justice reminds us that history is shaped by those who persist in the face of adversity.

Membership

Membership Renewal Time for Many is NOW!

**If you have belonged to the branch for more than three years,
you have a June 30 membership expiration date.**

If your renewal date is after July 1, you might want to renew before June 30
to avoid the \$10 increase in state dues.

You can do so two ways:

Mail a check for \$119 to PO Box 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685 OR
Go online to the [AAUW Website](#) and renew electronically with a credit card.
(Amador Branch: CA0150)

Annual membership for college students is \$41.31
(\$18.81 National dues, \$10 State dues and \$12.50 Branch dues).

Annual membership for Lifetime members is \$45.00
(\$20 for State dues & \$25 for Branch dues.)

Our Local Partners

Operation Care Fundraiser

Wine and painting, what could be better? Support Operation Care's domestic violence and sexual assault programs by attending its Sip & Paint fundraiser Saturday, August 19, from 6 to 9 p.m. The event will feature a little paint, a little wine, hors d'oeuvres and a whole lot of fun. With expert guidance from artist Priscilla Carpenter of Heart & Soul, you will create a magnificent 12 by 12 painting of your very own. The cost is \$45 and includes canvas, paints, and local wine. All the fun takes place at the Historic Kennedy Mine Office, where you will find spectacular views of Jackson. Contact Operation Care for tickets at (209) 223-2897, or visit operationcare.org.

Public Policy / Finding Your Voice

Please click [HERE](#) for the June issue of Public Policy News

Public Policy Website

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy/>

For summer, here are some suggestions to keep active:

- Visit: americansofconscience.com - They post a checklist with actions to take.
- Visit: activateamerica.vote - Postcards to write on specific issues.

Or find actions on the Take Action Spreadsheet -- <https://ca-online.aauw.net>

Now that AAUW California Public Policy has an account on BlueSky, we will be sunsetting the Action Alert Network.

- We will no longer send emails with calls to action.
- Instead, **please follow us on BlueSky:**

<https://bsky.app/profile/aauw-ca-advocacy.bsky.social>

Tech Trek

Join us Thursday, July 17, for Visit Day at AAUW Tech Trek camp UC Davis! We hope you and your fellow Tech Trek Committee Members, camp sponsors, nominating teachers and other guests will find the day both informative and fun.

We assemble at UC Davis at Wall Hall in the Tercero area of campus between 9:00 - 9:15 a.m. to check in, get name tags, meet with branch members, teachers and other Tech Trek supporters in attendance. We'll break into five groups for the Core class visits, led by Dorm Monitors and Residential Counselors. Core class visits begin at 9:30 a.m.



Following the class visits, we'll meet with Tech Trek staff for a brief discussion with Q&A. The official visit is over then, but you are invited to have lunch with the campers from your Branch in Wall Hall. We will take Branch group photos too.

You may RSVP to the TT Davis Camp Visit Day Tour by emailing Meri McEneny, Visit Day Organizer, here: mmceneny@gmail.com

You may RSVP to attend the optional Visit Day Luncheon (after the tour), with your Branch TT Campers and Staff by clicking this link and filling out the [Google Form](#).

If any of you plan to go, contact [Stephanie Young](#), who can put you in touch with others for carpooling purposes.

Arts and Education

"The tragedy in the lives of most of us is that we go through life walking down a high-walled lane with people of our own kind, the same economic situation, the same national background and education and religious outlook. And beyond those walls, all humanity lies, unknown and unseen, and untouched by our restricted and impoverished lives."

Florence Luscomb, architect and suffragist (1887-1985)

Women in History
June Highlights from the National Women's History Alliance



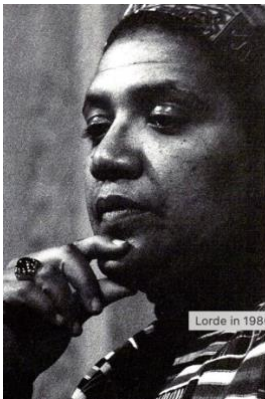
Stormé DeLarverie
Activist
1920 - 2014

Stormé DeLarverie was a trailblazing entertainer and civil rights icon whose resistance at the Stonewall uprising helped ignite the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement. She was a longtime community protector, and was known as “the Rosa Parks of the gay community” and spent decades performing, hosting, and safeguarding the LGBTQ+ community in New York’s Village.



Lorraine Hansberry
Playwright & Writer
1930 - 1965

Lorraine Hansberry was the author of *A Raisin in the Sun*, the first play by a Black woman on Broadway. Hansberry was also an activist whose works addressed racism, feminism, and queer identity before it was widely accepted. Her advocacy courageously challenged both racism and homophobia in her work and life.



Audre Lorde
Author, Professor, & Activist
1934 - 1992

A self-described “Black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet,” Lorde’s work explored the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality. Her writings remain foundational to feminist and LGBTQ+ thought. Through her writing and advocacy, she challenged systems of oppression and gave voice to those too often silenced, reminding us that “your silence will not protect you.”



Helen Zia
Journalist & Activist
1952

Helen Zia is a Chinese American journalist and activist who helped found American Citizens for Justice after the 1982 murder of Vincent Chin. A pivotal figure in Asian American and LGBTQ+ rights, Zia has authored multiple books and continues to speak out on civil rights, media equity, and intersectional justice.

National Women's History Alliance

When you join the National Women's History Alliance, you're not just supporting an organization - you're joining a movement. Our members are vital to keeping women's history visible, valued, and vibrant.

By becoming a member, you'll gain access to exclusive resources, stay connected through monthly updates, and help amplify women's voices across generations. We offer no-cost membership options because we believe everyone should have the opportunity to be part of this important work. [Click here for Membership Info](#)

Notes from the Leadership Committee

Leadership Committee Meeting Summary, 4/3/25

Old Business

Reviewed final details for Home Tour

Nominations Committee Update (Sandee):

Open positions 2025-26: Leadership co-chairs, Finance, Membership, DEI, Website/E-Docs Chair, Historian, Libations and Conversations Co-Chairs, Secretary, and Funds Chair.

- Sandee, Sue, and Mel met, went over member roster, and noted those well-suited to different Chairs or Officers.
- Nominations are due by May 21st, 30 days prior to the June meeting.

Terrie spoke to Lucy Hacket (former member) who works with many local nonprofits. She is willing to manage the website, social media, and the Ledger. But we need to define what those parameters are. Billing rate is \$60 an hour. The LC unanimously voted to work with Lucy. Suggestion to limit her hours to 2-3 hours/month, plus a free membership.

Recruitment strategies: the state suggested that branches partner with other organizations, i.e., League of Women Voters to partner with on programs and share the workload or have them present a program.

NCCWSL Update: National has outsourced this to NASPA; there are lots of issues to work out. Group agreed to look again next year to see if we want to send someone.

Reviewed Donations Policy: Branch donations need to be aligned with our mission, i.e., scholarships, Tech Trek, NCCWSL, etc. If the request is from an individual, we normally send those requests to members for individual donations. The LC voted unanimously to maintain the current donation policy. The LC voted to donate \$500 to Tech Trek for incidental expenses at the Davis campus. A vote to increase the dollar amount and number of scholarships was approved at a previous LC meeting.

New Business

Fundraising request from National: the group reviewed a request from National AAUW to contribute to their Greatest Needs Fund by donating a portion of the proceeds from this year's Home Tour. National will also be asking members to contribute \$60 annually to that fund to balance their budget. The LC voted not to support either request citing our small budget and the pending dues increases. We agreed to consider budgeting \$1,500 next year for the Greatest Needs Fund instead.

Additional Donation Request: Emily Cannon-Brown is the daughter of member Debra Brown and a former scholarship recipient and is requesting funds to assist in making a film on Amador County. As per our donation policy above, this has been added to Gold Filings so individuals can make donations.

Committee Reports

Finance:

The Tech Trek check for \$3,600 was paid against a budgeted amount of \$3,000, increase due to the venue being switched to Davis.

Request from Scholarship Committee to increase each scholarship from \$2,000 to \$3,000. The LC unanimously agreed to keep the total funds of the scholarships at \$9,000 or three at \$3,000. This can be reviewed again next year.

Membership: Directory update: Cyndie discovered website security issues and potential vulnerabilities. Terrie decided to remove the membership directory from the website until we find a more secure option. The group agrees to send out quarterly updates of the directory via email (pdf) instead of directing members to use the website.

Programs and Events (Sue)

Member Social: Event was cancelled.

Annual Meeting: Scheduled for Saturday June 21, 2025 from 10:00 am to noon. Details discussed. Kathy to invite 2025 scholarship recipients to the meeting and to ask Deja Douglas, one of the branch's scholarship recipients from last year, to attend and talk about how the scholarship helped her.

Leadership Committee Meeting Summary, 5/15/25

2025 Home Tour Update:

Budget: \$12,000 was our gross revenue \$8,100 ticket sales, and \$2,500 from sponsorships. Baskets \$1455; Attendance was 200 vs. 375 people last year. Sandee projects expenses to be around \$3200. Revenue distribution will be split 60/40 for the tickets; 100% of the basket sales go to scholarships and Tech Trek; and 100% of the sponsorship goes to operating expenses.

Summary: it was a good tour—interesting and people enjoyed it, but not enough profit, i.e. return on investment was not there

Number of tickets sold was 199. Members purchased 50 of those tickets.

It is interesting that more than half the tickets were paid in cash. Explanation can be attributed to our demographics skew older and that the fees for credit card use was nine dollars, a hefty charge.

Next time need to make sure ticket outlets get contact info for all purchasers.

Nominations Committee Update:

- Communications: Lucy Hackett, who is going to take on our communications, including the website, our social media, and other publicity needed.
- Finance: Marilyn Newton, a CPA and an Enrolled Agent, agreed to take on the finance role. We will comp her a membership so she can have access to the database and our bank account, but she will not be required to come to meetings. She is volunteering her services. She will do a monthly report providing information we are used to seeing. She will purchase Quicken so Sandee can transfer branch information to Marilyn.

- Membership: considering making the Membership Chair two positions or Co-Chairs, one doing the data entry & Hub logistics with National and the other working on orientation of new members, assigning buddies and recruiting.
- Programs: Plan is to roll Libations and Conversations into programs and expand the committee. Hopefully, this will encourage the sharing the workload so that it doesn't fall onto just a couple of people.

Contact Us / Social Media

aauwamador@gmail.com

amador-ca.aauw.net

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

Facebook.com/AAUW-Amador

instagram.com/aauwamador

YouTube.com/@aauwamador

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