

Gold Filings



November 2025

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?

- Message from the Leadership Co-Chairs
- Programs--Libations & Conversations & Forensic Science and DNA
- November Calendar
- Membership
- DEI
- From National and State
- Program Recap--Scammer Jammers
- Finding Your Voice
- Coming in December
- Arts & Education

Message from the Leadership Co-Chairs



Welcome to November!

We have been enjoying Fall so far-- warm clear days alternating with occasional rainy days, a favorite time of year!

We encourage you to participate in the wide variety of webinars presented by AAUW! Webinars are recorded, so if you can't view the initial presentation, you can watch it later. As a member, you receive notification of upcoming webinars on a regular basis.

The next AAUW California Webinar, "Harnessing the Power of AI" is on Saturday, November 1, 10:00 – 11:30 am. Register [HERE](#)

AAUW California Leadership is "exploring the book *The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves* by Dr. Shawn Ginwright. The book is grounded in research and Ginwright's own wisdom, insight, and lived experience as an African American social scientist, leader, and movement builder.

It also includes practical reflection prompts that invite us to uncover our biases, discover new lenses, and boldly assert our need for connection, transformation, trust, wholeness, and healing. It acknowledges that our current broken systems hold us back, predefine our dreams, and limit our collective capacity to imagine a better future together."

All Members are invited to attend the Zoom Sessions. All sessions begin at 7:00 PM. We are encouraged to read the section before the meeting, but we are welcome to attend the discussion even if we haven't. The Sessions are scheduled as follows:

- ^ Session One – Pivot One – meeting was held on October 22, 2025
- Session Two – Pivot Two - scheduled for January 15, 2026
- Session Three – Pivot Three - scheduled for March 18, 2026
- Session Four – Pivot Four – scheduled May 19, 2026.

Please refer to the following for the registration links: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/the-four-pivots-in-four-sessions/>

^ Note: Rachel attended Session One and enjoyed the discussion with other members from California.

Rachel Stahl and Stephanie Young
Leadership Co-Chairs

November Programs



November 19, 2025

5:30 to 6:30 PM



Raven's Reach

83 Main St., Sutter Creek

Favorite Holiday Traditions

Join the discussion as we share our favorite holiday traditions. Maybe you will learn about one you would like to add to your own celebrations.

What are your favorite family recipes? Bring copies of the recipe or bites to taste!

Do you create themes for your holiday gatherings? Are there special activities you participate in to celebrate? Bring pictures and share how you celebrate.

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

**PLEASE JOIN US
FOR THIS MONTH'S
Libations &
Conversations**

**LISTEN
LEARN
ASK**



A Special Program for 7th-12th Graders...

After our September program with the Tech Trek campers, Brenda Walker had an idea... she contacted a friend whose daughter is a forensic scientist and invited her to do a presentation for our local high school and junior high school students. She has secured the use of the Amador High School Cafeteria for Monday, November 10 from 5-7pm.

This is a program focused on young people, but any member who wants to attend will be more than welcome. Please RSVP to [Brenda](#) or to [Stephanie](#) if you plan to go. See below for details.

Forensic Science and DNA

Presented by the Amador Branch of AAUW

Join Amador High School Alum Vicky Price on November 10 to delve into her fascinating career as a criminalist and gain insights into forensic science, including understanding DNA results.

This interactive presentation about forensic science will explore what it means and what it takes to be a forensic scientist. Attendees will learn about various aspects of forensic casework, including answering questions like, "What is DNA?" "How do we link suspects to crime scenes?" "How do we find and use DNA in forensics?" "What other elements are analyzed at a crime scene?"

Attendees will do their own examination of forensic DNA profiles, learn how to interpret forensic DNA mixtures, and determine who committed the crime!

When: Monday, November 10 from 5-7 pm

Where: Amador High School cafeteria

The event is designed for students in grades 7-12.

Please RSVP to blwalker@volcano.net



November Calendar

Saturday, November 1, 10:00-11:30 am

CA-AAUW Webinar "*Harnessing the Power of AI*"

See Co-Chairs statement above for registration info.

Tuesday, November 4 -- Last Day to Vote

Tuesday, November 4, 6:30pm

Leadership Committee Meeting

via Zoom

Contact [Stephanie Young](#) if you want to join the meeting. All members welcome.

Monday, November 10, 5:00-7:00pm

Amador High School Cafeteria

"Forensic Science and DNA"--a special program for 7th-12th grade students

Wednesday, November 12, 5:30pm

Working Girls Book Club

We will meet at the Hotel Sutter in Sutter Creek to discuss "*The Correspondent*" by Virginia Evens.

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

Monday, November 17

Afternoon Book Club

We will meet at Kathy Guletz' house to discuss *A Day in the Life of Abed Salama* by Nathan

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

Wednesday, November 19, 5:30-6:30pm

Libations & Conversations

The topic is "Favorite Holiday Traditions. We will meet at Raven's Reach, 83 Main St. in Sutter Creek.

Members, guests and the public are welcome to attend this no fee presentation.

No need to RSVP, just come and join the discussion.

Page Turners & Book Lovers

We will not meet in November, but will instead meet on December 1 at noon to discuss *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon and to make plans for our 2026 reads.

Contact [Sue Harrington](#) if you would like to join the group.

Membership

"The ideals which have lighted my way, and time after time have given me new courage to face life cheerfully, have been Kindness, Beauty, and Truth."

Albert Einstein, physicist, Nobel laureate (1879-1955)



November Birthdays



Rose Guthridge
Norma King
Bonnie Krupp
Zeffy Ruvalcaba
Gail Schifsky
Katie Scott

We are working on issuing an updated directory soon.

If you have changed your phone # or email since May, please send those changes to [Stephanie](#) asap.

We added two more new members in October!

**Alyssa Ramirez, Amador County Librarian
and
Alicia Barber, Owner of Zola Exchange**

We will feature them in future issues with a bio and pic.

DEI-- Diversity, Equity Inclusion

Women are taking pay cuts as companies mandate return to office

Edited from a Washington Post article by Taylor Telford, October 11, 2025

After decades of progress on closing the pay gap between men and women, it's now widening. For the first time since the 1960s, the earnings gap between men and women has widened two years in a row, according to recent data from the Census Bureau, with women earning 80.9 cents for every dollar a man earned in 2024. That compares to women earning 84 cents for every dollar a man earned in 2022.

Meanwhile, the median income for men rose 3.7 percent from 2023 to 2024, adjusted for inflation, while remaining largely flat for women.

This marks the biggest difference between men's and women's pay since 2016, according to analysis by the Institute for Women's Policy Research, a nonpartisan think tank.

While economists haven't pinpointed a single driver, researchers see a number of possible factors — including women leaving jobs at the growing number of companies requiring workers to spend more time in offices, fewer affordable child care options and the changing makeup of the labor force post-pandemic.

A gap between men's and women's earnings has long persisted in the United States, but it narrowed steadily for decades after the 1960s as many more women joined the labor force, thanks to rising educational attainment, equal pay legislation and shifts like the rise of the service sector. Child care remains a persistent barrier to progress for women's pay. When child care needs increase, it's generally women who pick up the slack, despite a toll on their careers, research shows, in what is often referred to as "the motherhood penalty."

To read the complete article click [HERE](#).

**Bonnie Krupp
DEI Coordinator**

From AAUW National

AAUW National Facebook link

If you want to follow AAUW on Facebook, click the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National?emci=dcb7f759-f54b-ee11-a3f1-00224832eb73&emdi=1bda0418-4a59-ee11-9937-00224832eb73&ceid=974701>

From AAUW California

**Breaking down barriers for women and girls.
Because EQUITY is still an ISSUE**

Proposition 50

Don't forget to vote on or before November 4.

AAUW California Facebook link

If you want to follow AAUW-CA on Facebook, click the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=AAUW California>

Scammer Jammer Program Recap



On Sunday, October 26th, a packed audience was treated to an amazing rundown of all the latest scams currently circulating both the state and Amador County.

Kue Lee, Director of Targeted Outreach at the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) provided Scammer Jammers with a very long list of current scams and ways to protect themselves. The main recommendation was DO NOT RESPOND if contacted by someone you

don't know. And if you want to respond, contact the person/site independently—do not call or click on the contact info given.

Caitlin Casey, an AAUW member and Chief Assistant District Attorney for Amador County, provided chilling accounts of how several county residents have been criminally scammed and how she was able to help them.

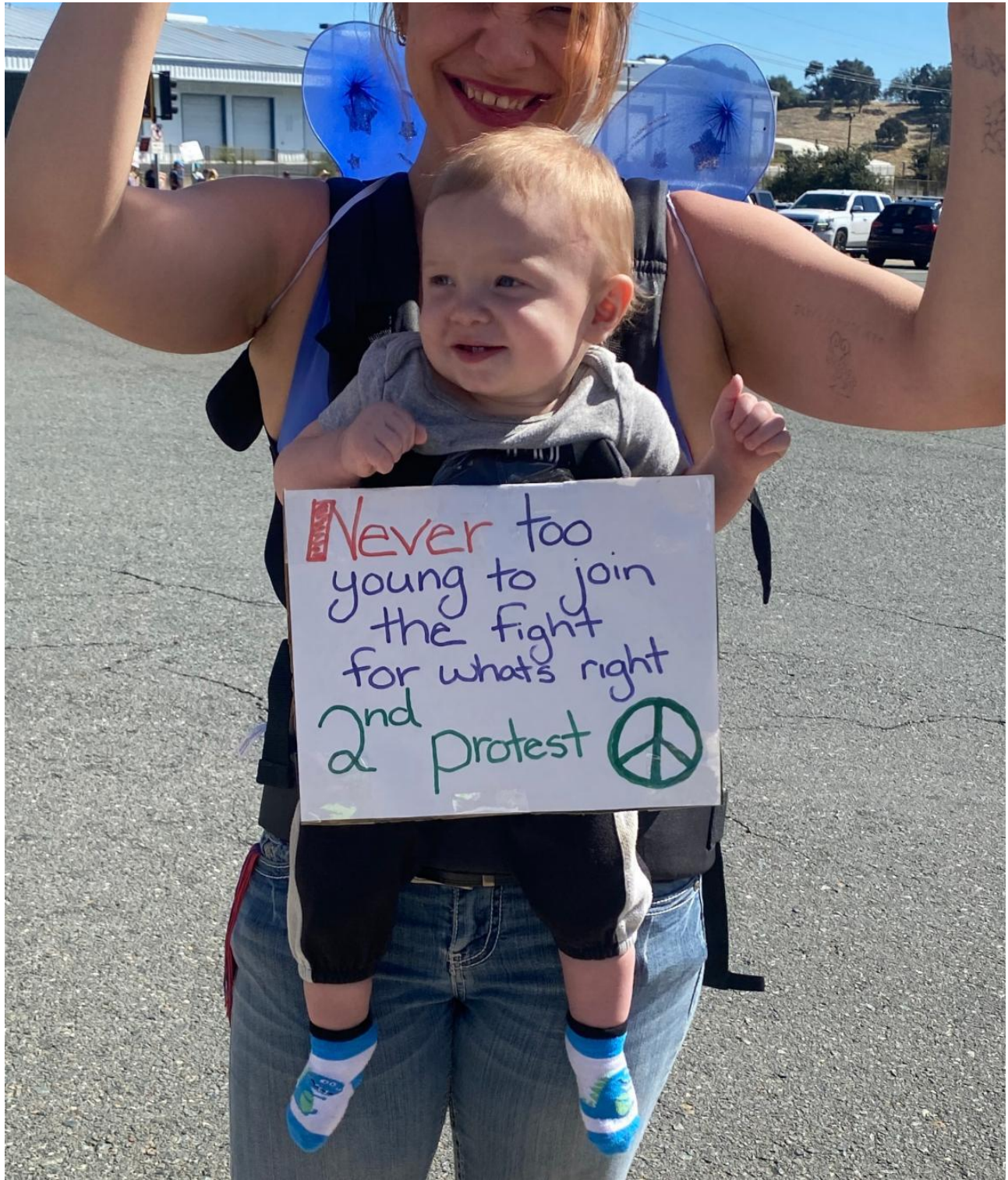
The newly-minted Scammer Jammers left with plenty of ideas to protect themselves from scams. For those who were unable to attend, here are resources to contact if you find yourself involved in a scam and need some advice and/or need to submit a complaint about a scam:

Department of Financial Protection and Innovation

Website: www.dfpi.ca.gov

Phone: 866.275.2677





No Kings Rally in Amador County -- October 18

The sign says it all.

Postcard Protest and Acts of Gratitude (Local Initiative)

This group meets once a month on the third Thursday of the month. Issues are emailed to all who are interested and postcards are provided.

The next session will be on Thursday, November 20 at 2:00pm.

at Yorba Wine Tasting, 51 Hanford St., in Sutter Creek
Here is a chance to make your voice heard!

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

And if you're looking for MORE action, **check out AAUW-CA Action Alerts**
via our [Resistbot](#) and [BlueSky](#) accounts.
(State Initiative)

Coming in December!

AMADOR
GIVING
TUESDAY

Tuesday, December 2

AC-AAUW participates to raise funds for College and
Tech Trek Scholarships

This is our primary scholarship fundraiser this year.

In order to share in the matching funds, all checks must be dated December 2 and
all credit card orders must take place on December 2.

And on
Sunday December 7



Operation Care Donation Wish List

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Socks
- Gloves
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Chapstick
- Lotion
- Q-tips
- Hairbrushes
- Combs
- Small Stocking Stuffers for Children (No Toys Please)

Please bring a selection of these items to the party--we'll drop them off as a group donation the following week.

Arts and Education

November Holidays & Observances — 2025

- Daylight Saving Time ends: Sunday, November 2
- Election Day: Tuesday, November 4
- National STEM/STEAM Day: November 8
- Veterans Day: Tuesday, November 11
- National Happy Hour Day: November 12
- National Recycling Day: November 15
- Mickey & Minnie Mouse's Birthdays: November 18
- Good Grief Day: November 26
- Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 27
- Black Friday: Friday, November 28
- Small Business Saturday: November 29

Native American Heritage Month is celebrated in November to honor the history, culture, and achievements of Indigenous people in the United States and Canada. The observance, officially designated in 1990 by President George H.W. Bush, recognizes the diverse traditions, languages, and contributions of Native Americans.

November is also **Trans Awareness Month**—a celebration and recognition of transgender communities and people. Trans Awareness Month also includes Transgender Day of Remembrance (Nov 20), honoring the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-trans violence.

There There: A Novel

by Tommy Orange

Tommy Orange's "groundbreaking, extraordinary" *There There* is the "brilliant, propulsive" story of 12 unforgettable characters, Urban Indians living in Oakland, California, who converge and collide on one fateful day. It's "the year's most galvanizing debut novel" (*Entertainment Weekly*).

As we learn the reasons that each person is attending the Big Oakland Powwow - some generous, some fearful, some joyful, some violent - momentum builds toward a shocking yet inevitable conclusion that changes everything. Jacquie Red Feather is newly sober and trying to make it back to the family she left behind in shame. Dene Oxendene is pulling his life back together after his uncle's death and has come to work at the powwow to honor his uncle's memory. Opal Viola Victoria Bear Shield has come to watch her nephew Orvil, who has taught himself traditional Indian dance through YouTube videos and will perform in public for the very first time. There will be glorious communion, and a spectacle of sacred tradition and pageantry. And there will be sacrifice, and heroism, and loss.

There There is a wondrous and shattering portrait of an America few of us have ever seen. It's "masterful...white-hot...devastating" (*The Washington Post*) at the same time as it is fierce, funny, suspenseful, thoroughly modern, and impossible to pause. Here is a voice we have never heard - a voice full of poetry and rage, exploding onto the page with urgency and force. Tommy Orange has written a stunning novel that grapples with a complex and painful history, with an inheritance of beauty and profound spirituality, and with a plague of addiction, abuse, and suicide. This is the book that everyone is talking about right now, and it's destined to be a classic.

- One of the 10 Best Books of the Year - *The New York Times Book Review*
- Winner of the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize
- One of the best books of the year: *The Washington Post*, NPR, *Time*, O, *The Oprah Magazine*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Boston Globe*, *GQ*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *Buzzfeed*, *BookPage*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal*, *Kirkus Reviews*.
- *New York Times* Best Seller
- Nominated for the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction

A little background on Columbus Day...

it was first recognized in the US in 1792, on the 300th anniversary of his landing. On the 400th anniversary, a one-time federal holiday was declared following the lynching of 11 Italian immigrants and to repair diplomatic ties with Italy.

In the spirit of the celebration, schools emphasized patriotism; the **Pledge of Allegiance** originated at this time. Going forward, celebrating Columbus Day was recognized as supporting immigrants at a time when the KKK was pushing back on Italians and Roman Catholics. It became a federal holiday in 1971. The movement to rename Columbus Day as **Indigenous People's Day started in Berkeley in 1992**. Under a variety of names, it is recognized as a holiday in Italy, Spain and many Latin American countries.

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