

The American Association of University Women



The Post Graduate

Mar - Apr 2020

Upcoming Events

March

Mar 2 – Play Reading Group

Mar 10 – Second Tuesday Book Club

Mar 12 – Great Discussions Group

Mar 14 – Program: Film on Title IX, Placerville Library

Mar 18 – Bridge Group

Mar 19 – Out to Lunch Bunch, Flightz, El Dorado Hills

Mar 23 – Art Group

Mar 25 – Fourth Wednesday Book Club

April

Apr 6 – Play Reading Group

Apr 9 – Great Discussions Group

Apr 14 – Second Tuesday Book Club

Apr 16 – Out to Lunch Bunch, Visconti's, Folsom

Apr 18 – Annual Member Meeting & Program on Health Care, Placerville Library

Apr 22 – Fourth Wednesday Book Club

Apr 25 – Bridge Marathon

Apr 27 – Art Group





Co-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Kudos to our Speech Trek Committee for an outstanding first speech contest. Sharon Warner was tenacious in working with the Ponderosa Speech Coach and debaters to apply, prepare, and deliver their speeches. Helped by Laurel Gromer, Ginny Wiseth, Sara Edwards and our Hospitality Chair, Hannah Jacobsen, the professional presentation was upbeat, welcoming and informative.

This contest is important if we are to encourage young women to gain confidence in their fact-based public speaking skills so that they may go on to run for public offices and to break the glass ceilings present in the corporate world.

Casey Carlton-Mercado

Co-President

There is a great tool available at the AAUW website called the Two-Minute Activist. Please check it out at <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>.

You can have the ability to take action on issues impacting women and girls by joining AAUW's Action Network. As a Two-Minute Activist, you will receive urgent email notices when your advocacy is needed most. AAUW will provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, write letters to the editor of your local newspapers, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more.

Diane Dunnigan

Co-President



PROGRAM: THE RISE OF THE WAHINI

American Association of University Women (AAUW) Foothills of El Dorado County Branch is presenting the film, **"The Rise of the Wahini: Champions of Title IX."** at the El Dorado County Library, Placerville Branch, 345 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667, on Saturday March 14, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

The film documenting women's history details the rise of women in America, including the battles of women to overcome gender inequality, of women's rights to play sports, and of the passage of Title IX, the Equal Rights Amendment.

In the years following the Civil Rights Movement and the passage of Title IX in 1972, Dr. Donnis Thompson, an African-American female coach; Patsy Mink, the first Asian-American US Congresswoman; and Beth McLachlin, captain of the first Rainbow Wahini volleyball team, battled discrimination from Washington, D.C. to the volleyball courts of the University of Hawaii.

The event is free and open to anyone interested in learning about women's history. For additional information contact Barbara Smiley at 916-813-6281.



Tribute to Jane and Bob Havilla

We were saddened to hear of the death of Jane and Bob Havilla on January 3, she from congestive heart failure and Bob from complications of dementia. As a couple, they were active in many interest groups and attended numerous branch events over the 20+ years they lived in Pollock Pines and Placerville. As a 60-year AAUW life member, Jane took on many roles in San Jose and Placerville branches. She was instrumental in starting our Tech Trek program and was at a Tech Trek meeting the week before she died. At their memorial in February, we learned that they took in Japanese exchange students after WWII, took in foster children, did mission work during their summer teaching breaks, and most recently were senior ombudsmen for El Dorado County. Both of them lived their lives to the fullest in service to their church, community and AAUW. They are survived by two daughters and a son who shared wonderful memories of their childhoods. We miss them deeply.



Annual Member Meeting & Program on Healthcare

Our annual meeting will be convened on April 18th at 12:30 at the El Dorado County Library, Placerville Branch, 345 Fair Lane, Placerville. We will be voting on our slate of officers for 2020-21 and discussing programs we'd like to present in the next year. Both Tech Trek and Speech Trek committees will present an update.

Following the annual meeting we will be presenting a program titled "**What's Going On With Our Health Care?**" at 1:15 pm. The presenter for Health Care is Jen Flory from the El Dorado County Progressives who will feature a 20-minute health care documentary that examines the health care system and includes the voices of more than 40 health policy experts, economists, physicians, nurses, patients, activists and business and labor leaders. Jen is an attorney and health care policy advocate who specializes in access to health care for low income Californians.

The video and presentation will answer questions such as: What is single payer health care? Who will run the health care system? Will I lose my employer-based insurance? Will it raise my taxes? How will it be paid for? How do we control drug prices? What is covered under single payer? How will it affect doctors and hospitals?

Whether you think single payer is the answer to our health care woes or believe there is a better way, this presentation is for you. Learn about single payer so when you have those health care conversations/debates about the best path forward, you are well informed.

The event is free and open to anyone interested. For additional information contact Barbara Smiley at 916-813-6281.



Annual Bridge Marathon & Speech Trek Fundraiser

We will be holding our year end bridge marathon this April 25 at 12:00 to 3:30 at the Foothills United Methodist Church. The entry form is attached. The money raised will go to fund the Speech Trek awards. If you know someone that plays bridge, please consider inviting them to play. You do not need to be an AAUW member to play. Any level is welcome as you will be playing with your partner. If a partner is needed or you have questions, call Jan Ives (530-295-8170).

PS: Help would be appreciated. Casey and I work hard to make this a good event and the bridge group brings in more than \$400 to AAUW. We could really use some support in publicizing and/or in lunch preparation. Is there anyone interested in supporting this event? The Shakespeare Club makes significant amount of money with their bridge event. They have 20 tables at \$40 a pair vs we are lucky to get 6 tables at \$30 a pair. It would be nice if we could make it a bigger event. Suggestions are welcome.



Eleanor Stem Allen Memorial Speech Trek

Speech Trek is a speaking contest open to all California high school students. On February 15 we held our first Speech Trek local contest!

It was well-attended with about 20 members in attendance. Four students from the Ponderosa High School Speech and Debate Team presented their 5-minute speeches on this topic: ***Are men and women truly equal today, or are the Suffragettes of 1920 still suffering in 2020?***

Everyone enjoyed listening to these articulate students. The panel of three judges decided the following:

3rd place, \$100: Makayla Mayhew

2nd place, \$300: Ellie Barbuska

1st place, \$500: Carter Hill

Carter's winning speech has been submitted to the State Competition. The top three speeches in the state will go to the finals at the April AAUW convention in Millbrae. The speech can be viewed on YouTube through the following link: <https://youtu.be/kSvnMSngblo>

The Ponderosa team is having a fundraiser on March 21. Please contact me at sharonlovestravel@hotmail.com should you wish to attend or donate.

Sharon Warner, *Speech Trek Committee Chair*



New Officers Needed for 2020-2021

Your nominating committee will be working to fill the following offices:

President and President elect, and V.P. of Programs. We need new people or old board members to step up to these leadership positions. If you and a good friend are willing to be trained together, the co-presidents' roles can be very manageable. The program V.P. will have the results of our annual interest survey to make the job easier. **Please reply to Casey Carlton-Mercado at (530) 621-3443 or caseym@riverfast.net.**



SOME HISTORY ON EARLY EFFORTS TO PASS 19TH AMENDMENT

[This article originally appeared in the Auburn AAUW branch newsletter.]

In 1875, the Supreme Court ruled in *Minor v. Happersett* that neither the Constitution of the United States nor the 14th Amendment confers the right of suffrage upon anyone. Citizenship did not give women voting rights, and women's political rights were under individual states' jurisdictions. Following the Supreme Court's decision, emphasis was placed on seeking a Constitutional amendment for women's suffrage, as opposed to a court solution. As early as 1869, an amendment to the Constitution for federal women's suffrage was introduced by Senator S. C. Pomeroy of Kansas. It was rejected. "On January 10, 1878, Senator Aaron Sargent of (Nevada City) California introduced a resolution for an amendment to the Constitution to provide for woman suffrage: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Sargent requested that his colleagues take the unusual step of allowing suffragists to personally address members of the Senate. The Senate agreed, and the following day suffragists testified before members of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. The Sargent amendment proposed the language that would become the 19th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution - - but not until 1920.

Throughout the Woman's Suffrage Movement petitions were circulated and Congress was lobbied. Starting in the late 1880s, 'The nation experienced a surge of volunteerism among middle-class women—activists in progressive causes, members of women's clubs and professional societies, temperance advocates, and participants in local civic and charity organizations. The determination of these women to expand their sphere of activities further outside the home helped legitimize the suffrage movement....'

This new generation of women picked up the fight with civil disobedience, marches, and picketing the White House to promote women's voting rights. In 1913, Suffragists paraded down Pennsylvania Ave in Washington, DC, the first public demonstration in the nation's capital for women's suffrage. For these, and other efforts, they got ridiculed, arrested, and jailed.



Interest Groups

You are encouraged to participate in one or more of these groups in order to socialize with fellow AAUW members and share common interests. ***Our branch has the policy that you must be a member of AAUW to participate in an interest group. You may attend up to 3 meetings of a group without joining AAUW, but then you must join AAUW or drop out of the interest group. Hardship cases may appeal to the exec board by contacting the branch president.***



Out to Lunch Bunch – Sara Edwards, Chair

The Out to Lunch Bunch meets the **third Thursday** of the month. All branch members are welcome and encouraged to come. Reservations must be made two days in advance by notifying Sara Edwards at (530) 622-0703 or by e-mailing Sara at sara.leeed@gmail.com. **Note: This is a new email for Sara and yes, there are 3 e's in a row.**

On Thursday, March 19, we will go to **Flightz Restaurant**, 3907 Park Drive, El Dorado Hills, at noon.

On Thursday, April 16, we will go to **Visconti's Italian Restaurant**, 2700 E. Bidwell Street, Folsom, at noon.



Ladies Third Wednesday Bridge Group

The ladies bridge group meets on the third Wednesday of the month. For more information, please call or e-mail Jan Ives. (530) 295-8170, janives@sbcglobal.net. Players do not need to be AAUW members. Part of the proceeds goes toward scholarships and part is reserved for prizes for the top team score in each group. There is also a couples bridge group who arrange their own playing time. Contact Jan Ives for more information.



Play Reading Group – Barbara Reider, Chair

On the **first Monday** of each month, a group of enthusiastic women who love to "cold read" plays meets at homes of the readers. The program is so successful, that no new members are being solicited. Since the plays are mailed to us, we have no choice as to their titles; as a result, subjects are of an interesting variety. There is no preparation necessary other than to let the chair know in advance of one's participation. Typically, the group finishes in May. Summers are free, and meetings begin again in October. If you are a member and if attending, please call Barbara at least two days in advance at (530) 677-0627.



Great Discussions (Current Events) – Patricia Garon, Chair

We enjoy lively discussions on current events, and local, national, and international issues. The meetings are held on the **second Thursday** of each month at 10 a.m. in the homes of members. The discussion group gets pretty wild at times...why don't you join us and see (hear) for yourself? All opinions welcome – the more diverse, the better! For more information, call Patricia Garon at (530) 647-2736 or e-mail pacbgaron423@gmail.com



Art Group – Hannah Jacobsen, Chair

AAUW Art Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 10 AM. The group is limited to 6 members due to space issues. We would welcome more women into our group but art supplies take up room and most of us do not have enough area for anything over six people.



