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AVANTI

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June 2023

Month at a Glance

June 7, 7:30 p.m.

TTAG Committee Meeting

- Contact: Rosaura Valle

June 10, 10:30 a.m.

Board Membership Annual Meeting – Brunch!

- Location: Mission Rock Resort, 817 Terry A Francois Street in the Dogpatch neighborhood of San Francisco
- RSVP by June 8: Barbara Spencer

June 16, 1:30 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: While Justice Sleeps by Stacy Abrams
- RSVP: Michelle Mammini

June 19, 7:00 p.m.

International Book Group – via ZOOM and IN PERSON

- Book: Paradise by Abdulrazak Gurnah
- Location: 1723 42nd Avenue
- Hostess/RSVP: Sherry Bridygham 415-672-0234 or

June 22, 7:30 p.m.

Mystery/Adventure Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: The Crossing Places by Elly Griffiths
- Reviewer: Mary Suter
- RSVP: Elaine Butler 415-305-2220

All members welcomed any time!

June 24, 2:00 p.m.

New Member Luncheon

- Location: Dragon's Beaux
- RSVP: Mary Renner

Lunch is open to ALL to meet each other and NEW members.

Co-President Message

Passages

June is the end of our AAUW year. It is therefore time to renew our memberships. It is also time for me to say farewell to Kelly Joseph as my co-president. Kelly and I have had a great run together for the past 3 years. Kelly has also served alone as president. Most of the board has recycled, and many have held just about every office. We are not saying goodbye to Kelly. She has agreed to serve as branch treasurer in the absence of anyone else who has come forward. Kudos to Kelly!

Roli Wendorf, who just finished her two terms as CFO of AAUW-CA, has agreed to join me as co-president of the branch. We will be voting on Kelly and Roli's new positions at our June 10 brunch. See inside for details.

Tech Trek Send-Off

Our Tech Trek Send-Off party on May 6 was one of the best ever. The girls got to know each other, and the parents melded as never before. They organized carpools for transportation to and from camp without any prompting from us and asked many questions of our Tech Trek committee and alumnae.

Our TTAG scholarship winners were announced, and Kimia Sattary was there to receive her scholarship certificate.

Membership Renewal

Our state AAUW just presented a webinar on how to navigate the online renewal process on the national website (aauw.org). You can find a recording of it and the written presentation on the state website (aauw-ca.org). If you still have difficulties, please contact me, Mary Renner, or Roli Wendorf. We hope you will take advantage of the online renewal procedure. Our dues are \$93.

Celebrations

Happy Flag Day on June 14 and Juneteenth on June 19. Juneteenth is now a federal holiday that commemorates the freedom of more than 250,000 enslaved Black people in Texas. June is also LGBTQ Pride month. Enjoy the celebrations and Father's Day as well.

Barbara Spencer, AAUW-SF Co-President

WE'RE HAVING BRUNCH

All Members are Invited to Our Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 10, 10:30 am

At Mission Rock Resort, 817 Terry Francois Blvd, SF

RSVP by June 8 to Barbara Spencer

Meet the Silver Jubilee Awardees and Vote for Officers

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

AAUW State had a good meeting for branch leaders on keeping DEI in the forefront of the work we do. I will not let the history of my people be erased as if it never existed. The backbone of America was built on slavery. I will not forget the sacrifices of those who came before me.

For the new year we're starting with a film--The Revolution Generation. You'll be sent a link for viewing and discussing the film in June. That will be followed by reading the Warmth of the Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson.

Tentative discussion dates are:

Sunday's at 3 p.m:

July 23, August 13, September 10

Happy Summer,

Kelly Joseph, AAUW-SF DEI Coordinator

Tech Trek Send Off May 6

We had an excellent turnout of campers and alumnae. Thank you Bryant Street Sports Basement for the use of your comfortable space. Many thanks to the Tech Trek Committee and T-Tag AAUW members, too. We played ice breaker games, answered many questions and got to know each other. Each camper received a small bag of fun items.



Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

Tech Trek Alumna Kimia Sattary Recognized At the Tech Trek Send Off

The Tech Trek Send Off Party on May 6, 2023 was not only the setting to meet and greet the Tech Trek cohort of 2023, but also the time and place to recognize the recipients of the first Marie Curie TTAG Scholarship: Kimia Sattary, Lexian Nguyen and Danielle Knutson (*Avanti May 2023*).

Kimia made it to the Send Off Party to meet the campers and lead fun and engaging icebreakers with Tech Trek Alumnae Julie and Sonia (2019), and Emily and Wryan (2022). Kimia was recognized at the end of the event and handed a scholarship certificate.

Kimia has been participating in Tech Trek candidate selection interviews, Tech Trek Send Off and Welcome Back Parties ever since she returned from her Tech Trek experience in 2016. In addition, Kimia participated with enthusiasm to a TTAG college workshop in 2021, and to our most recent Tech Trek Alumnae online panel in April 2023. As Kimia stated at the panel, she has always known she wanted to do STEM: she is now on track as a candidate for BS in Mechanical Engineering at UC Berkeley, interested in sustainable technology and energy efficiency.

Lexian and Danielle, who were not able to attend the in-person event, applied to the TTAG Scholarship as high school seniors. They attended Tech Trek in 2018, at the Fresno and Stanford camps respectively. Lexian, a Lowell High School graduate, was the first Tech Trek Alumna to actively participate in TTAG events and help with the TTAG Newsletter; she also shared her direct experience in writing college application essays at the online event of the same name on May 7th. Lexian is particularly interested in the life sciences and will enroll at UC Davis. Danielle, also a Lowell student, eventually moved to Arizona during covid and challenged herself with a great number of AP classes as well as coding and robotics clubs; fascinated with “comp sci”, she will enroll at MIT.



Congratulations, Kimia, Lexian and Danielle!
Rosaura Valle, TTAG Coordinator

The Silver Jubilee

The Silver Jubilee committee is proud to present the recipients for the 2023-2024 academic semesters.

The Silver Jubilee Scholarships gives \$3000 to students enrolled in an academic university who have been recognized by their advisors to be excellent students.

This Silver Jubilee has changed through the years since it began with \$50 loans in 1926.

ALICE TRUONG



Alice is receiving her MS in Integrative Biology from SFSU in the spring of 2024. Alice is in her biology lab working on a vaccine oral bait project to reduce the risk of tick-borne disease. The preparation is complex and Alice has immersed herself in the results.

DANIELA CIBEL SANCHEZ

Daniela is receiving her Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation from San Francisco State University. She has the good fortune to further her insight as a leader and a scientist for the SEPAL laboratory in an HHMI-funded biology education study geared towards minority science students.

EMILY LATIMER



Emily is receiving her Master of Science in Organizational Development at University of San Francisco for the spring of 2024. Through her long passion for public service, she has developed an understanding on how to use the tools of Organizations to become an agent of change. With her past knowledge of working for 10 years in public service, she will use the MSOD program on the science of leading and affecting systemic change within institutions.

SALLY GASTON

Sally is receiving her MA in Cultural Resources Management at Sonoma State University. Sally plans to build on her experience in the archaeology of Northern California to conduct thesis research that examines the impacts of change on coastal cultural resources, and how these impacts can be reviewed.

AMY NGUYEN



Amy is receiving her BSN in Nursing at SFSU. Being a Medical Assistant for 12 years helped guide her to a final decision of wanting to become a Registered Nurse. She will be able to provide more hands-on care as an RN to assist the patient thoroughly.

KALANI DUNN



Kalani is receiving her Bachelor of Arts in Media studies in May 2024 from University of California. In her Rhetoric course, she discussed how awareness and critical analysis of our societal values are an important step to dismantle racism and sexism. Kalani is doing everything in her power to make sure that in her time at UC Berkeley her interpersonal skills and creativity will be able to flourish.

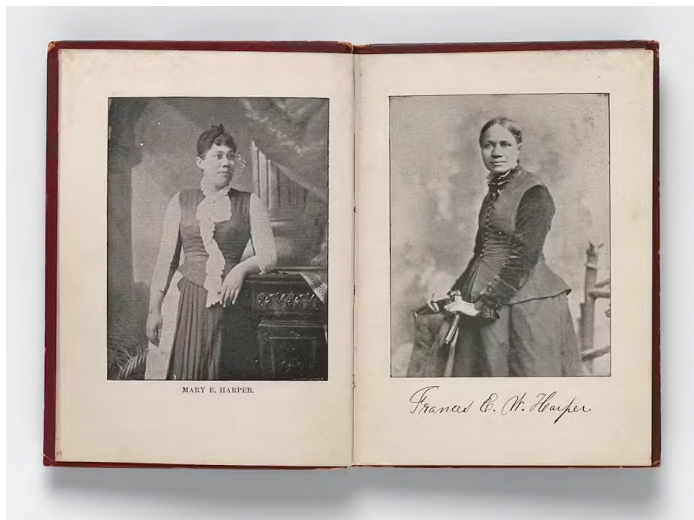
Mary Suter, Silver Jubilee Fund Chair

The Tree and the Apple

Significant events as we move through our lives shape who we become.

Frances Harper’s early life contained traumatic events and also some fortunate opportunities that led to her becoming one of the most well-known and beloved Black poets and activists of the nineteenth century. The only child of free black parents, Frances was left an orphan at the age of three. She was raised by her aunt and activist uncle who ran a school for black children. Not only did she get a good education but she observed and learned from her uncle’s antislavery activities. When a young teen, she was expected to get a job once her schooling ended. She worked as a nurse maid/seamstress but most of her free time was spent reading in the bookshop that her employer ran. By the age of 21, she had written her first book of poetry called “Forest Leaves”. Soon after, she left

Maryland to take a teaching position in Ohio. Recent laws in her home state made her return extremely dangerous. Free black individuals risked being re-enslaved upon returning. Moving to Pennsylvania while living there she became involved with the anti-slavery society and the work of the Underground Railroad writing for abolitionist newspapers and lecturing to raise public consciences as to the evils of slavery and the need for voting rights for all citizens. Once during her travels, a trolley conductor refused her passage. Frances refused to get off and remained seated till she reached her destination. Shades of Rosa Parks but about one century earlier. When Frances did slow down long enough to marry, she married an older man. Their marriage was short lived but produced a daughter named Mary Ellen Harper. Mary learned much from her mother's activities. She went on to a career of writing and lecturing on the east coast. Being ambitious as well as an eloquent speaker, she often added poetry and music to her readings. Gradually, she developed a wider audience, respectability and admiration. In one of her later books, Frances added a photo of Mary Ellen to the frontispiece of one of her own publications, as a tribute to her very accomplished, but lesser known daughter.



(See above). Mary Ellen is on the left, Frances on the right.

- www.womenshistory.org
- www.mypoeticside.com
- www.poetryfoundation.org

Pat Camarena

June Birthdays



Anni Puckett (Stroh)	June 10
Mary Graves	June 10
Lucretia Axtell	June 12
Sarah Bolmer	June 17
Mary Suter	June 21
Allison Peterson	June 23
Sandra Tye	June 28

AAUWSF Board

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Rosaura Valle

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The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.



Nelson Mandela

Avanti Editor

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 Address Correction Requested

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation’s leading organization advocating equality for women and girls. It has a national membership of 150,000. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. Check out our website <https://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net>



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

Marie Curie & AAUW

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. This was true even for one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her groundbreaking research had reached a virtual standstill.

Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

Pay Equity

AAUW has been on the front lines fighting for Pay Equity for over a hundred years.

AAUW was there in the Oval Office in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.

AAUW was there in 2009 when President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

AAUW continues the fight for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act to ensure women have further equal pay protections. The pay gap is real.

AAUW will continue the fight to achieve pay equity; the economic security of American families depends on it.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing indicative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund’s annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes indicative and replicable college and university programs.