



empowering women since 1881

AVANTI

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March 2024

Month at a Glance

March 11, 7:00 p.m.

AAUW Board Meeting – via ZOOM

- Contact: Barbara Spencer

March 15, 1:30 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Book Group – IN PERSON

- Book: [Lady Tan's Circle of Women](#) by Lisa See
- Location: Michelle Mammini's Home
2520 Greenwich St.
- Contact/Coordinator: Michelle Mammini

March 16, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tech Trek Interviews

- Location: Junior League HQ
226 Fillmore, SF 94115

March 17, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Tech Trek Interviews

- Location: Junior League HQ
226 Fillmore, SF 94115

March 18, 7:00 p.m.

International Book Group

- Book: [The Postcard](#) by Anne Berest
- Hostess: Sheila Bost, 736 Third Avenue
- RSVP: Barbara Spencer
- The April book is [The Dying Day](#) by Vaseem Khan

March 21, 12:00 p.m.

Lunch Bunch – IN PERSON

- Location: Green's Restaurant, 2 Marina Blvd at Fort Mason Center
 - Food: Mediterranean and vegetarian
 - 415-771-6222
- RSVP: Mary Suter

March 28, 7:30 p.m.

Mystery/Adventure Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: [The Thursday Murder Club](#) by Richard Osman
- Discussion Leader: Harriet Sollod
- RSVP: Elaine Butler

Co-President Message



A warm welcome to new member Annette Mixon who joined us in the past month!

Greetings to all as we begin March, the Women's History Month. There are several important dates coming up. March 8 is celebrated as International Women's Day each year to put focus on women's rights and gender equity issues. An obvious form of inequity is the gender wage gap. This year, March 12 marks Equal Pay Day, to remind everyone of the date to which women need to work to make the same as what white men made in 2023. It shows that the average pay gap for full time work is 84 cents to a man's dollar. The pay gap is reducing extremely slowly.

Another equity issue for AAUW is our current degree requirement for membership. In today's world, there are many paths to acquiring skills besides degrees, and the requirement to hold a degree for membership is seen as discriminatory. We will be voting on this important issue this spring. Watch out for information in your email on

April 3 rd and cast your vote! You can learn more about the election [HERE](#).

Tech Trek

Our own work in the branch to promote equity in STEM education with Tech Trek continues. We have been very busy recruiting girls for the 2024 camps. We have received 29 nominations from Math and Science teachers of several different SFUSD middle schools, out of which we will be selecting 15. The nominees are now busy working on their applications which include a 400-500 word essay on their STEM journeys. The applications are due March 1, and the applicants will be interviewed on March 16- 17. If you are interested in helping with interviewing, please let us know.

Scholarships

The deadline for the Silver Jubilee scholarship applications, March 15, is coming up quickly! Each scholarship provides \$3,000 to be used in the last two years of undergraduate or graduate studies. If you know someone who would like to apply, the application process is described on the website [HERE](#).

We also offer a TTAG scholarship for current TTAG members. The deadline for that was February 15.

Women's Professional Networking Group Event

We had a very interesting session on Saturday, January 27 led by our own Kelly Joseph talking about how she has handled salary negotiation and networking in her professional life. It was a very engaging and worthwhile discussion. The next event will be held on Saturday, April 20 th at 10:00 AM on Zoom to discuss mentorship and sponsorship. We plan to open this event to other branches in the nearby geographic area as well. If you are

interested in joining this group, email aaufsbranch@gmail.com to get on the mailing list.

Roli Wendorf, Co-President

Win a VIP TOUR at CALACADEMY by March 1st

Who: AAUW member, Tech Trek Alumnae Parent, Tech Trek Alumnae

When: TBD between May 1st - June 30th

What: A FREE VIP Tour of the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco

How: To win, be one of the first 5 to respond to [this survey](#) by **March 1st**

Contact: rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com

Silver Jubilee Scholarship

The Silver Jubilee Scholarship is still open for applications. The due date is Friday, March 15. The application process is on the SF AAUW website. Look at the email: <http://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net/scholarships> A university student can be in the last two years of undergraduate or in a master's program. Call 415-665-1185 or 415-681-2110.



"The Little Major"



In the military, a major serves as the officer for brigades and task force command and manages personnel, logistical, and operational missions. In other words, a chief executive officer. Chloe Annette Buckel demonstrated all of the qualities of a military major although she would not be given a military commission during the Civil War as a surgeon due to one reason. She was a woman, a woman doctor with a graduate medical degree from one of the first medical schools which accepted and graduated women. This was unfortunate given that the Union army badly needed more trained surgeons on the battlefield as well as in recovery hospitals. Frustrated, Buckel petitioned the governor of Indiana to accept her as a volunteer nurse. Given her already honed skills, she was soon placed in a position of selecting and supervising nurses. In Kentucky she worked as the agent for Dorothea Dix in assigning Army nurses. She soon developed a reputation as a knowledgeable and judicious worker. The governor of Indiana appointed her sanitary commissioner for the entire state. Those with whom she worked began to call her "The Little Major". Medical officers still

referred to her as "Miss Buckel" as they were reluctant to refer to a mere woman as "Doctor".

After the war, she practiced as a resident physician at the New England Hospital for Women and Children. Wanting to hone her surgical skills even further, she moved abroad and studied for two years in Vienna and Paris.

By 1877, Buckel had moved to the West Coast, settled in Oakland and set up her own practice. She also did medical consulting in San Francisco. She was the first woman admitted to the Alameda County Medical Association and became an active member. Philanthropic work had always been her passion, probably due to her unhappy childhood, losing both her parents when she was only three months old and being raised by resentful cousins. The welfare of women and children especially orphans and those with learning disabilities ranked high in her interests. She began a children's nature study program to get kids outdoors to appreciate nature. She also worked to establish a cooking school which helped form a home economics program in the Oakland school system. She established a trust to be used after her death to fund a research study benefiting learning disabled children. The inscription on her gravestone in Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery aptly sums up her legacy: "A physician beloved by two generations. Every human cause had her sympathy and many of her active aid". Her cousin, Washington Bartlett, governor of California, lies buried near her.

www.encyclopedia.com

www.localwiki.org

www.womenshistoryblog.com

Pat Camarena

March Birthdays



Pat Camarena	March 1
Anne Leung	March 2
Sunny Holland	March 4
Aleksandra Olow	March 5
Mary Renner	March 15
Paula Campbell	March 16
Nancy Pelosi	March 26

AAUWSF Board

Contact Us:

aauwsfbranch@gmail.com

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Roli Wendorf

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Rosaura Valle

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Mary Suter

Voter Information

Sheila Bost

Tech Trek Coordinator

Barbara Spencer
Roli Wendorf

**Tech Trek Alumnae Group
(TTAG) Coordinator**

Rosaura Valle

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
(DEI) Coordinator:**

Kelly Joseph

I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept.



Angela Davis

Avanti Editor

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 San Francisco, CA 94131-0405
 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.