



AVANTI

sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net

A monthly publication of AAUW, San Francisco, est in 1886

May 2025

Month at a Glance

May 3 at 10:00 AM on Zoom

Women's Professional Networking Group - "Mastering Your Inner Critic"

Author: Susan Mackenty Brady

Managing the "inner critic" with Susan Mackenty Brady

Author: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPAR71JSTKQ>

Good Morning America Segment: How women can master their inner critic | GMA

May 7 @ 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

TTAG Committee Meeting

Contact: Rosaura Valle

May 12 @ 7pm, Zoom Board Meeting

Contact: Barbara Spencer

May 16, @ 1:30p.m.

AAUW SF Friday Afternoon Book Group

The Women by Kristin Hannah

Coordinator: Michelle Mammini

May 19@ 7 pm International Book Club

Book/Author - Liliana's Invincible Summer by Cristina Rivera Garza.

Contact: Nancy Shapiro

May 21 @ noon Lunch Bunch

Piccino Presidio

RSVP Mary Suter

May 22 @ noon Mystery Adventure Potluck Luncheon

In person Location: Susan Peliks home

Book//Author: Mrs. Plansky's Revenge by Spencer Quinn

Discussion Leader: Roli Wendorf

May 31, 10:00 AM Silver Jubilee Scholarship Brunch

Home of Mary Renner

Contact: Barbara Spencer

Co-Presidents' Message

As the AAUW year winds down, we are busy firing on all cylinders. There is a lot of activity in each of our key programs, with several events planned for May and June. Mark your calendars!

Tech Trek

Our Tech Trek STEM camps will be held in June and July. We have selected 16 7th graders to attend – 6 for Fresno and 10 for Santa Cruz. The campers and their families are busy completing their last required forms. We will hold a "Send-Off Party" for all campers and their families on May 17, 2-4 PM at the Sports Basement on Bryant Street. A flyer for the event is included in this Avanti issue. All members are invited to attend. It is a pleasure to see the excited campers.

TTAG

Among its many activities, TTAG is holding an in-person panel discussion at the end of April where the past TTAGers who are now in college will advise the current ones on how to navigate their transition from high school to college. Such an excellent idea and format! Four TTAG scholarship winners have also been selected and informed.

Silver Jubilee Scholarships

We have had a large influx of Silver Jubilee applications this year, 15 in all, thanks to Barbara's outreach efforts. The scholarship committee had a challenge choosing the winners from the many excellent applications. They have selected 7. The winners will be recognized at a special brunch with the AAUW Board and the scholarship committee at Mary Renner's home on May 31.

Networking Group Discussion

The Women's Professional Networking Group will hold its next discussion on Saturday, May 3 at 10:00 AM on Zoom. The topic this time is "Mastering Your Inner Critic". The discussion will be led by our own Anne Leung, based on the book by Susan Brady. An email has been sent out to all branch members with the Zoom link and resources on this topic provided by Anne. We hope to see several of you there.

Please send any written contributions to this newsletter to the attention of avanti.editor2024@gmail.com by no later than the 24th of the month

Annual Branch Luncheon

Our annual, end of year luncheon will be held on Saturday, June 14 at noon at Alice's Restaurant. We will hold a short business meeting at the luncheon to vote on our new Membership VP, Rebecca Miller. Please do attend! It will be good to see you, and your vote is important! Please email Barbara Spencer if you plan to attend. Advance payments are not needed. A flyer is attached in this issue.

**New Member Event**

We will hold an event on Zoom for new and prospective branch members to learn about them and inform them about the many AAUW programs at the branch, state, and national levels. The event will be held on June 3 at 6:00 PM and is being organized by Rebecca Miller, our new Membership Co-VP.

Dues Increases and Membership Renewals

Memberships expire at the end of June for a significant number of our members. Now is a good time to think about renewing. Renewals will come with a dues increase of \$2 from national. AAUW California is considering a high dues increase of \$10 to be voted on by the membership at their upcoming elections. If the vote passes, the state dues will increase from July 1, making the total annual dues \$105. If it

fails, total dues will be \$95.

State and National Elections

Please vote in the state and national online elections. Both are in progress. State elections are April 26-May 16. You should have received an email from them. You will vote on electing board members, public policy priorities and the proposed state dues increase of \$10. National elections are in progress April 14-May 13. Emails were sent out from national on April 14. You vote on electing board members, changes to public policy priorities, and bylaws changes.

Roli Wendorf, Co-President**A Powerful Voice**

Abigail Adams is a well known name in early American history. However, I must confess that I knew very little about her until my fifth grade grand-daughter recently chose Abigail to be her character in a recent school event during Women's History Month. After I saw Marlee in her period costume, I wished to know more about Abigail's amazing life.

There is a great deal of knowledge about Abigail's impact due to the copious amount of correspondence

she had with her family and friends. Many of her contacts were influential people themselves. Scholars and historians are able to study those letters today. Many details about daily life, social mores, as well as the development of the thinking of those individuals who were forming the policies of our young government two hundred years ago.

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Growing up in the Boston area in the mid-1700s, Abigail, like most females of that era, had few opportunities for a real formal education. However, as the daughter of a minister, she had unlimited access to a large home library which she devoured.

All her life she struggled against the limitations that society placed upon her dreams. She became a staunch advocate and supporter of women's rights, abolition, and equal education. Concurrently, she was an ardent patriot at a very crucial time in the formation of our young republic; her ideas were freely discussed and considered.

Abigail had married her third cousin John Adams, a young lawyer, and diplomat. who was to become the second president of the young United States of America. Abigail became the second First Lady in American history and the First Lady to reside in the White House. She had a powerful influence on her husband's decision making and those of others who were in his political circle such as Thomas Jefferson with whom she exchanged many letters. Even as a young wife raising five children, she oversaw the personal investment decisions of the Adams family, and managed the farm. She considered the family property as her own.

John's growing political commitments demanded that he travel a great deal both at home and abroad. The couple kept their close relationship fresh by exchanging many letters. One of her letters to her husband demonstrates her wise advice: "Remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands.

Perhaps Abigail was not a feminist as we think of the word today, but definitely an influencer.

Abigail was not only the wife of a president but the mother of another. Her son, John Quincy Adams, became president a few years after Abigail passed away.

www.nps.gov

www.womenshistory.org

www.friendsofthepublicgardens.org

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Tech Trek



TTAG Chat



May Birthdays



Delores Schoen

May 8

Rebecca Miller

May 10

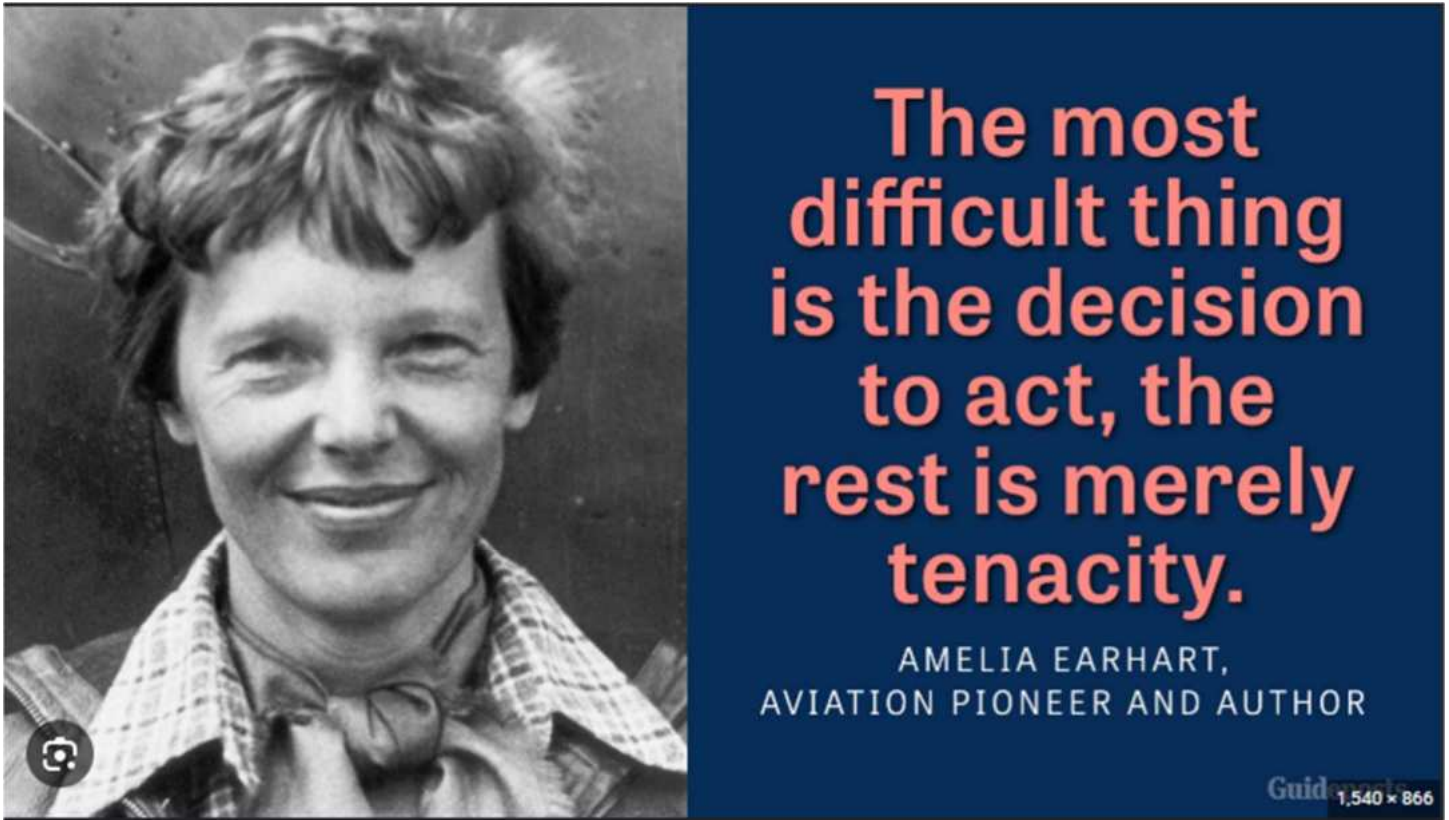
Cyndi Bireley

May 15

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Lisa Aquino

May 18



Avanti Editor
AAUW
San Francisco Branch
P.O. Box 31405
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>

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AAUW-SF Board**Contact Us:**aauwsfbranch@gmail.com**Co-Presidents**

Barbara Spencer

[Roli Wendorf](#)**Treasurer**

Kelly Joseph

Treasurer's Assistants

Barbara Spencer

[Roli Wendorf](#)**Secretary**

Rosaura Valle

Membership Vice Presidents

Mary Renner

Rebecca Miller

rebeccamiller.aauw@gmail.com**Website**[Roli Wendorf](#)**Avanti Editor**

Cyndi Bireley

Silver Jubilee Fund Chair

Barbara Spencer

Voter Information

Sheila Bost

Teck Trek Coordinators

Barbara Spencer

[Roli Wendorf](#)**Tech Trek Alumnae Group
(TTAG) Chair**

Rosaura Valle

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

Kelly Joseph



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.

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