



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

March 2016

**President’s Message**

This month has a flurry of activity. On Sunday, March 6, from 1-3 pm, we will hold our first AAUW film program viewing movies/videos about gender-related issues at the home of Peggy Kavounas. Please email Andrea Laudate (mamalaudate@gmailcom) if you wish to come. There are only 10 seats in Peggy’s theater area so don’t delay. Saturday, March 26 will be the first meeting of the Saturday mystery/crime book group. The first book to be reviewed is Deadly Illusions written by branch member Pat Morin who will be there to discuss the book and mystery writing. The book group will meet at Andrea Laudate’s house from 1-3 pm on Saturday, March 26.

The Tech Trek program is moving into high gear. On March 12-13, members of our branch and some Tech Trek alumnae will interview the applicants for this summer’s camp. We can always use more help, so contact Elaine Butler if you would like to join the interviewing.

Also on Saturday, March 12, from 11:30 am- 2:00 pm. there is an Interbranch Council luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco. The program will be a speaker from the Islamic Networks Group on the topic Muslim Women Beyond the Stereotypes. The branch will pay the cost of any member who would like to attend, but you need to contact Barbara Spencer by **March 3**. You will also need to tell her which entree you would like — salmon with champagne sauce, breast of chicken chasseur, or vegetable pasta.

Keep in mind the AAUW State Convention that will be held April 15-17 at the Marriott Hotel in San Mateo. Please contact Barbara or Andrea if you would like to attend.

**Finally, we urgently need help to keep our branch going.** We have been struggling with retaining officers and have a number of board positions that have become vacant and are critical to our survival. We desperately need to fill the position of Secretary, which involves taking minutes at the monthly board meeting (2-3 hours a month).

- Help is also needed for:
  - Programming - holiday party, installation lunch, designing programs for the branch and help with the Tech Trek program.
  - Public Policy - 4-6 hours per month.
  - Membership - 4-6 hours per month.

Please contact Barbara or Andrea if you can help. We will also begin calling some members to ask for help. Please consider joining us.

**Andrea Laudate and Barbara Spencer, Co-Presidents**

**AAUWSF Board Meeting**

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, March 9**, at Corrine Sacks' condo, 1835 Franklin St. #401 (between Sacramento and Clay). Street parking should be available, but if there is a problem, pull into the driveway of the condo building, tell the attendant you are visiting Corrine, and ask if there is space to park. Call Corrine at 415-292-4130 if you have questions. The potluck will begin at 6:30

pm, and the meeting will start at 7pm. Please let Barbara know if you are unable to attend.

### Afternoons With Books

**Date:** Friday, March 18 at 1:30 p.m.

**Book/Author:** The Boys in the Boat, by Daniel James Brown

**Hostess:** Joanne Mandel, 12 Marne Ave  
Please RSVP to Joanne at 415-665-7329 or [jmandel@yahoo.com](mailto:jmandel@yahoo.com)

### International Book Group

**Date:** Monday, March 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**Book/Author:** Without You There Is No Us, by Suki Kim

**Hostess:** Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona St  
Please RSVP to Sheila at 415-664-4985 or [wawonast@earthlink.net](mailto:wawonast@earthlink.net)

### Saturday Book Club

**First Meeting!**

**Date:** Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 1 p.m.

**Book/Author:** Deadly Illusions, by Patricia Morin

**Hostess:** Andrea Laudate, 243 Missouri St., between 18<sup>th</sup> and Mariposa  
Please RSVP to Andrea at 415-999-1570 or [mamalaudate@gmail.com](mailto:mamalaudate@gmail.com)

“Patricia Morin demonstrates her full range of abilities from cozy to suspense to noir and every genre in between” (Marcia Muller (Grand Master, Mystery Writers of America).

Pat Morin will join us in the discussion of this Anthony Award Finalist, as we show our support for one of our own.

NOTE: You can pick up a copy of the book at Andrea’s house for \$10.00. They are \$12.95 at Amazon, B&N).

### Tech Trek

We are going to interview and choose our 2016 campers in March. If you have time to help us with interviews either March 12 or 13 between 10-4 any amount of time you can give us is appreciated. Please let us know using the email: [techtreksf@gmail.com](mailto:techtreksf@gmail.com).

**Tech Trek donors for February**

Our heartfelt thanks go to:  
Mardi Kildebeck  
Pat Camarena

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

### Our First AAUW Film Day

**Date:** Sunday, March 6, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Peggy Kavounas is hosting this event at her home: 565 Marina Blvd.

Peggy has edited and produced 22 minutes of wonderful footage for us to enjoy about ‘Girls who code.’

Stanford, Computer Science Degrees, Girls Can, Code like a girl, go geek—find out what it all means and why we have Tech trek.

Peggy has a film room that holds 10 people so if you are interested:

e-mail Andrea at [mamalaudate@gmail.com](mailto:mamalaudate@gmail.com) for RSVP.

Light munchies and conversation about the film and subject matter before and after.



Andrea Laudate and Katherine Cha at Kathleen's AAUW Film Day

### Silver Jubilee

The San Francisco AAUW Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund will offer two scholarships for \$2000 each to help upper division and graduate women to complete their final year of study in a college or university. Candidates must live or be attending a university or college within a 100 mile distance of San Francisco. There is no restriction on the use of the funds. Applications will be due, Friday, April 29, 2016. **If you are interested or know relatives who may benefit from this scholarship**, please check the Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund on The AAUW SF website at [www.aauwsf.org](http://www.aauwsf.org). The application process may be done on line.

If there are any questions, email Mary L. Suter, Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund Chair, [marsuter@yahoo.com](mailto:marsuter@yahoo.com)

### Women of Change Pat Camarena

Katherine Dexter was a six years old when Ellen H. Swallow and Marion Talbot invited a small group of female college graduates to a meeting in Boston in 1881. Ellen had been a science student at MIT, the first American woman to be accepted to any school of science and technology and the first to receive a degree in chemistry. Ellen and Marion were hoping to begin an organization to encourage other women to aspire to greater career opportunities through higher education. Ellen remained an instructor in the field of sanitary chemistry and the unofficial dean of women at MIT for the rest of her life. In 1882, two women became the founders of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, the predecessor of our AAUW.

Like Ellen Swallow, Katherine Dexter also enrolled at MIT less than twenty years later, also as a science student, planning on becoming a doctor. It was at MIT that Katherine began what was to become her life long work of crusading for change. While a student, she petitioned the MIT science department to change their potentially dangerous dress code requiring women to wear their hats in the chemistry labs. She saw the stylishly large hats as fire hazards. The faculty came around to agreeing with her. No hats were to be worn in class anymore. After graduation instead of pursuing a medical degree, Katherine did what most women of her social class were expected to do. She married the youngest son of Cyrus McCormick, founder of the International Harvester Company. Within just two years of their marriage Stanley developed schizophrenia and spent the rest of his life in mental hospitals. Believing that his illness was hereditary, Katherine decided never to have children. Becoming an early feminist, she became an active proponent for women's suffrage as well as an advocate for more research into the treatment of mental illnesses. She also firmly

believed that all women should have the right to have control over their own bodies. After attending a lecture in Boston in 1917, she met and became involved with the work of Margaret Sanger and began to assist her in getting supplies for her birth control clinics. For many years, the McCormick family, and not Katherine, had the financial control over Stanley's wealth. After his death in the late 1940s, she was awarded full control of his estate. At age 75, she was finally free to pursue her interests. Becoming a great benefactor, she almost singlehandedly provided the funds that led to the development of the oral contraceptive we call The Pill. In the early 1950s, little contraceptive research was being done by the government, medical institutions, or the pharmaceutical industry. The millions of dollars that she was now able to donate to research institutions changed the level of the financial playing field. She also provided MIT with the money to build a women's dorm building now called McCormick Hall. There had not been a women's campus residence when she and Ellen Swallow were students.

The life work of both Ellen and Katherine have had a profound impact on our society and women's rights. The world would be a very different place than if they had not advocated for change long ago.

[www.amazingwomeninhistory.com](http://www.amazingwomeninhistory.com)

[www.womenofthehall.org](http://www.womenofthehall.org)

[www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)

### **Playing Now** **Paula Campbell**

Here's something new, a touring show that's never been on Broadway, only on tour. A pre-Broadway tour that never made it to Broadway. The result is just what you'd expect; a crummy show. I'm talking about Dirty Dancing, now at the Golden Gate Theatre.

Based on the 1987 movie of the same name, Dirty Dancing is set in a Catskill resort in 1963. Plot has no surprises -- sweet young thing falls for pro dancer, father disapproves, sees the error of his ways, revises opinion. Not exactly what readers call a page turner.

In its favor there's lots of good music, and some very, very good dancing. Sadly the singers' voices are so heavily amped that while the sound comes through loud and clear, emotions are lost. Rachel Boone successfully carries off the Jennifer Grey role in the film, and Christopher Tierney is wonderful in the Patrick Swayze role -- he's a great dancer, and even sounds like Swazye.

The company is young and enthusiastic, with a few older, more experienced actors. Costumes are adequate, sets are not. Hard to remember when I saw such cheap, shoddy sets. Use of visual projections doesn't help -- the producers just didn't invest any money on the sets.

It's hard to say exactly what's wrong with Dirty Dancing. The script is weak, the characters poorly developed, the costumes OK, the set really cheesy. Dirty Dancing worked well as a film, but this stage adaptation doesn't cut it. It's toured the US and Canada for over a year supposedly on a pre-Broadway tryout.

But it still hasn't made it to the big time, for a very good reason -- it's just not good enough. Save your money for something better!!!

Dirty Dancing, through Mar. 20. SHN Golden Gate Theatre 1 Taylor St. (at 6th and Market)

Tickets: Box Office: (888) 746-1799 Online  
[www.shnsf.com/online](http://www.shnsf.com/online)

Tues-Sat 8pm, Sat, Sun 2pm.

Jessica Hagedorn's Dogeaters, at the Magic Theatre, is more than a play, it's a life experience. Hagedorn is one of the very few Filipino playwrights of our generation, and her work is ethnic focused.

Set in Manilla and the countryside, during the Marcos years, 1960's-1980's, Dogeaters takes us into the lives of the rich and famous, the poor and

struggling, the oppressed and oppressors. With a huge cast, 15 actors, all Filipino/American, some of whom double playing two roles, the play is epic. It's more or less narrated by two performers, ostensibly famous TV hosts, who talk to the audience, comment on the action, rather like the Interlocutors of American minstrelsy. The set itself is sparse, tables, chairs, a ramp or two, but the projections of places, scenery, interiors and exteriors, on the back wall are dynamic, and totally effective in setting the stage for each of the many scenes. I was seated at one of the several café tables that ringed the stage. It was like being there – on an unexpurgated trip to the Philippines, living through the splendor and the squalor. Loretta Greco's direction is spot on, exactly right for this exceptional play. Hana Kim's scenic design and projections are outstanding.

Dogeaters is an unusual play, episodic, filled with so many characters it's hard to relate to all of them, moving forward in time at a sometimes confusing pace, but definitely worth seeing. It's political, emotional, sometimes horrifying, sometimes amusing to the point of laughter – but make no mistake – this is a major work. Do audiences like Dogeaters? Well, the scheduled closing date of 2/28 has been extended to March 6 – that says it all. For a small theatre like the Magic, to extend a run, is significant. Clearly this play has broad appeal, and I recommend it.

Dogeaters, through Mar 6. The Magic Theatre, Fort Mason, Building D, third floor.

Tickets: Box Office 441- 8822 Online  
<http://magictheatre.org/season/dogeaters>  
 Some Tues 7pm, Wed–Sat 8pm, some Sat, Sun 2:30pm.

## Save the Date

**Sunday, March 13, 2016, 3PM**

Lois Flood: The Life and Legacy of *Isadora Duncan* - (1877-1927) **A Revolutionary and Legend**

Lois Flood, solo dancer and founder of Diablo Dance Theater, will perform the stunning historical classical dances of the legendary Isadora Duncan.

All the dances are lively and expressive and most are no longer than four minutes. Lois will include a narrative describing Isadora's many contributions that helped open a path for new ideas in Art and Politics.

**Location:** Portero Hill Neighbor House, 953 De Haro  
**Free**

## Volunteers Needed

California Pacific Medical Center is looking for volunteers at one of our 4 campuses located throughout San Francisco. (Pacific Heights, Laurel Village, Castro, Mission)

We have roles for almost every level of involvement, from welcoming visitors as they enter the hospital lobby to assisting our nursing staff. You can help prevent delirium in patients over the age of 70 by providing basic bed-side interventions in our Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP). As an Information Services volunteer you can direct patients and visitors to locations throughout the medical center and discharge medically stable patients via wheelchair to their waiting families.

There are a variety of volunteer services and we can help you find the right fit! Please give us a call at 415.600.3916 or email Carole Burns at [burncb@sutterhealth.org](mailto:burncb@sutterhealth.org)

For more information on the various service areas please visit [www.cpmc.org/volunteer](http://www.cpmc.org/volunteer)

### March Birthdays

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Pat Camerena      | March 1  |
| Karla Bobadilla   | March 2  |
| Helynna Brooke    | March 2  |
| Margaret Kavounas | March 8  |
| Mary Renner       | March 15 |
| Paula Campbell    | March 16 |
| Heather Otte      | March 23 |
| Nancy Pellosi     | March 26 |

#### **Birthday Not Announced?**

If your birthday is not there and you'd like to have it included (or corrected), contact the Membership VP.

**AAUWSF Board**

**Co-Presidents**

**Andrea Laudate**  
[mamalaudate@gmail.com](mailto:mamalaudate@gmail.com)  
 415)999-1570

**Barbara Spencer**  
[barbaracspencer@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracspencer@gmail.com)  
 415) 221-6690

**Treasurer**

**Barbara Spencer**  
[barbaracspencer@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracspencer@gmail.com)  
 415) 221-6690

**Secretary**

**Program VP**

**Pat Morin**  
[MorinPatr@aol.com](mailto:MorinPatr@aol.com)  
 415)328-1050

**Membership VP and Webmaster**

**Nancy Shapiro**  
[nancy.shapiro@comcast.net](mailto:nancy.shapiro@comcast.net)  
 415) 731-2654

**Public Policy**

**Legal Advocacy VP & Education Fund VP**

**Kelly Joseph**  
[kelly.wysinger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kelly.wysinger@sbcglobal.net)  
 415) 821-1737

**Avanti Editor**

**Corrine Sacks**  
[cpsacks@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsacks@yahoo.com)  
 415) 292-4130

**Silver Jubilee Fund Chair**

**Mary Suter**  
[marsuter@yahoo.com](mailto:marsuter@yahoo.com)  
 415) 665-1185

**Tech Trek**

**Elaine Butler**  
[ElaineButler124@Comcast.net](mailto:ElaineButler124@Comcast.net)  
 415) 826-3172

**College/University Liaison**

**Cathy Corcoran**  
[corcoranfc@gmail.com](mailto:corcoranfc@gmail.com)  
 415)341-0206

**Hospitality**

**Marilyn Leal**  
 415) 285-7589

**March 2016**

| Sun                          | Mon                                | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri                               | Sat                               |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|-----|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                              |                                    | 1   | 2   | 3    | 4                                 | 5                                 |
| <b>6 Film Day<br/>1:00PM</b> | 7                                  | 8   | 9   | 10   | 11                                | 12                                |
| 13                           | 14                                 | 15  | 16  | 17   | <b>18 Aft w/Books<br/>1:30 PM</b> | 19                                |
| 20                           | <b>21 Int'l Book<br/>Group 7PM</b> | 22  | 23  | 24   | 25                                | <b>26 Sat. Book<br/>Club 1 PM</b> |
| 27                           | 28                                 | 29  | 30  | 31   |                                   |                                   |

*Opportunities don't happen, YOU create them.*  
 Chris Grosser



**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 equity 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 [www.aauwsf.org](http://www.aauwsf.org)



San Francisco Inc. (CA) Branch

**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.