

President’s Message

Our branch got off to a fine start in September with our general membership and welcome back meeting on September 11 at the Exploratorium.



Dierdre Araujo, former AAUWSF President and **Marta Mendoza**, Tech Trek Alumna



Linda Calhoun presenting Career Girls.org

The turnout was great, with both Tech Trek girls, their families, and AAUW members attending. The girls were enthusiastic and articulate in recounting some of their camp experiences. Former Tech Trek camper Marta Mendoza did a wonderful job as emcee. As a bonus, our branch member Linda Calhoun introduced the website she has founded (www.careergirls.org) that contains videos of women in various professions explaining their work

and the potential for a career in their field. At the end of the meeting we enjoyed cake and snacks.

An AAUW meeting is not complete without refreshments! Once again, we owe big thanks to our former president Deirdre Araujo for arranging access to the Exploratorium.



Elaine Butler and the 2016 Tech Trek girls

September also marked the initial meeting of the **Second Tuesday Lunch Bunch** that has been organized by Mary Suter. Every month, on the second Tuesday, we will meet for lunch at a different restaurant that will be listed in the Avanti. There were six of us at the Cambodian restaurant, Angkor Borei, on September 13. No reservations are necessary. Just show up at the appointed restaurant at 12 noon. Our October lunch will be October 11, 12 noon, at El Buen Comer, 3435 Mission Street, near Cortland.

There is a great backstory for this place. The owner, Isabel Caudillo, began selling simple street food out of her Tenderloin apartment in 2001. When she moved to the Mission a few years later, she signed up with La Cocina, an incubator for women-only food businesses. La Cocina helped Isabel get a stand at the Noe Valley Farmer’s

Market and the move from there to her current location.

Finally, as mentioned last month we have instituted a phone tree to remind members about upcoming events. We will leave a voice message if we get no answer, and we will also continue our email blasts.

Please contact your board members if there are programs or groups you would like to see started. We want to hear from you!

Andrea Laudate and Barbara Spencer, Co-Presidents

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, October 12**, 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 doorman you are visiting Corrine, and ask to have your car parked.

Call Corrine at 415-292-4130 if you have any questions.

The potluck will begin at 6:30 pm., and the meeting will start at 7 pm. Please let Barbara know if you are unable to attend.

Afternoons With Books

Date: Friday, October 21, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.

Book/Author: Duel, by Thomas Fleming

Hostess: Terese Terry, 850 Powell St #901

Please RSVP to Terry at 415-800-7081 or terese.terry@yahoo.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, October 24, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Book/Author: The Red Chamber, by Pauline A. Chen

Hostess: Nancy Shapiro, 1683 42 Ave.

Please RSVP to Nancy at 415-731-2654 or nancy.shapiro@comcast.net

Saturday Book Club

Date: Saturday, November 12 at 11 am

Book/Author: Kindred, by Octavia Butler

Hostess: Corrine Sacks, 1835 Franklin St. #401

Please RSVP to Corrine at 415-292-4130 cpsacks@yahoo.com

Lunch Bunch

Date: Tuesday, October 11 at 12 noon.

Where: El Buen Comer 3435 Mission St at Kingston. Parking available on the side streets.

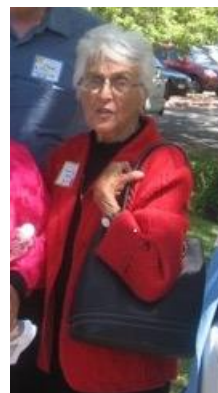
Or more information contact Mary Suter at 415-665-1185 or marsuter@yahoo.com.

Or just show up!!

Our last lunch was at a Cambodian Restaurant which was recommended to us by a Silver Jubilee recipient. We had some dishes which were new to us, but delicious, including a fish mousse and pumpkin stew.

We expect some new 'favorites' from our next venue.

Farewell



Marilyn Leal, a long-time and active member of our branch and board, passed away on September 5, 2016, at the age of 93. For many years Marilyn hosted our board meetings with good cheer, food, and wine. We had many good times with Marilyn and will miss her very much. At present no services are planned, but there may be a remembrance celebration in the future. Please contact Marilyn's daughter Patricia Ann Dark at padark84@gmail.com for further information. Marilyn was an active presence in our lives, and it is hard to say farewell.

Barbara Spencer, Co-President

Discussion of Ballot Issues

Joel Engardio will discuss the issues on the November 8 ballot.

Date: Monday, October 17 at 7:00 pm

Location: At the home of Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona St at Taraval.

Please RSVP to wawonast@earthlink.net

Elizebeth vs. The Rum Runners Pat Camerena

Early in her life, Elizebeth demonstrated a penchant for learning languages. In college she studied German, Latin, and Greek. After graduating with an English degree in 1915, she took an apprentice position on a research project at Riverbank Laboratories in Illinois. There she met and married William Friedman. They both became interested in the fledgling science of cryptology. Together they taught courses in this new field for the U.S. Army. By 1921 William worked for the War Department inventing deciphering devices. Elizebeth worked for the U.S.

Coast Guard and later for the U.S. Treasury. She decoded more than 12,000 messages sent via shortwave radio by rumrunners during Prohibition. Smuggling of liquor had become a big business after the Volstead Act had been passed. Never before had federal anti-criminal forces encountered such profit making crime syndicates. In 1933, Elizebeth, now chief cryptologist for the U.S. Treasury, was called in as an expert witness in the criminal trial of master international rumrunners, Bert Morrison. He and his henchmen had been buying and selling and shipping millions of dollars of illegal liquor widely along the coasts of the United States and beyond. Elizebeth, and the cryptology team she had trained in Washington, deciphered hundreds of incriminating messages between Morrison and his cohorts. Her testimony led to the conviction of the Canadian racketeer and his 22 co-defendants.

Elizebeth has been considered America's first woman cryptologist.

www.uscg.mi.

www.themobmuseum.org

www.ciphermysteries.com

Playing Now

Paula Campbell

Marin Theatre Company has undertaken a huge project in its production of Tracy Letts' **August: Osage County**. This epic (3 hrs 15min) play originated at the prestigious Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago, then moved to Broadway where it won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, six Tony Awards, six Drama Desk Awards, and many other awards. It ran on Broadway for over a year and a half, was made into a movie, and has been translated into many languages and performed all over the world. In short, it's an outstanding piece!

Partially autobiographical, **August: Osage County** is a black comedy about a family in Osage County Oklahoma. To say they are the family from hell would be an enormous understatement. Matriarch Violet is a drug addict who entered rehab with a bottle of pills tucked up inside her unmentionable parts. (Although those parts are not just mentioned, but named and renamed in a hilarious scene where one of her daughters tries to imagine how she could tell people just where her Mama stashed the pills.) Patriarch Beverly, a renowned poet, and T.S. Eliot scholar, disappears in the first act. The three daughters, their two husbands and one's fiancé, and children are called home after Beverly's body is found, and it's open season for the whole family, who attack each other mercilessly. This is black comedy at its best. We watch these people destroy each other, but can't hold back laughter, although we also feel horror.

Director Jasson Minadakis has complete control of the special needs of this ensemble piece, and has assembled a perfect cast. This is no mean feat, since there are thirteen roles, all of them important. In particular, I'd single out Sherman Fracher (Violet), Will Marchetti (Beverly), Anne Darragh (Mattie Fae) and Arwen Anderson (Barbara), who have perhaps the most difficult roles – but all of the company is stellar. I've seen both the ACT production and the film of **August: Osage County** and this production is, I think, superior to both. The set and lighting design have no small part in this assessment. J.B. Wilson's set is unusual, innovative, unlikely for this type of play – and absolutely perfect for it. Combined with, or should I say complemented by Kurt Landisman's lighting design, the audience is treated to an unusual and moving visual experience. There are

some moments in the first act that could move a bit faster, but overall the play moves quickly. It's a long play, written with two intermissions, which is also unusual since the three act play structure is no longer often used. But it's exactly what the author knew was right for this play and is both appropriate and natural for it.

All in all, this is a fantastic play to do. It's a rare treat to see a play like this in an intimate small theatre. Everything about the production is on point – brilliant acting, direction, set, and lighting. I highly recommend it.

August: Osage County, Marin Theatre Company, 397 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, through October 9. Tickets: Box Office 415-388-5209 Online: <https://tickets.marintheatre.org>
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, some Suns 7pm, Sat, Sun 1:00pm.
n.b. early curtain time.

October Birthdays

Cathy Corcoran	October 3
Joyce Bowe	October 4
Harriet Sollod	October 10
Michelle Mammini	October 13
Sandra Chaves	October 14
Linda Rudolph	October 19
Esther Wong	October 23
Patricia Spencer	October 27

Birthday Not Announced?

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

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October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Lunch Bunch 12 N	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	21	21 Aft w/Books 1:30 PM	22
23	24 Int'l Books 7 PM	25	26	27	28	29

A feminist is anyone who recognizes the equality and full humanity of women and men.
 Gloria Steinem



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 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



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.