



## President's Message

**Happy 2017** to everyone! We closed 2016 with a terrific Holiday Luncheon at Mescolanza Restaurant.



As special guests we had Rachel Cutter and Sarah Bolmer from the newly formed San Francisco

Younger Women's Task Force which is affiliated with AAUW. They just formed the group in

September and already have 60 members. Now that we know they exist we will work with them to collaborate on special projects. Sarah and Rachel said they will attend our board meeting on January 11.

Andrea and Barbara represented our branch at the 75th Anniversary Luncheon of the Hayward-Castro Valley AAUW Branch where we heard from Carolyn Garfein, Past President of AAUW National, who told us that females now comprise 19% of the House and Senate, an increase of 1%. There is still work to be done.

Elaine Butler and Barbara attended the Tech Trek organizational meeting for Camp Curie, which will be at Stanford July 9-15. Elaine also attended the meeting for Camp Potter, which will be held at Stanford July 3-9. Both camps need volunteers. Last year Elaine, Mary Renner, and Anna Stern prepared lunch for the camp staff on a Sunday. We would like to do that again if we can get volunteers. Mary and Anna will not be available this year. Please let Elaine know if you can help on July 9.

Women are marching nationwide on January 21. The march in San Francisco will begin with a rally at Civic Center Plaza from 4-6 pm, which will be followed by a candlelight march down Market Street to Justin Herman Plaza. The rally will have speakers, arts and music. The Women's March is a national movement to unify and empower everyone who stands from human rights, civil liberties, and social justice. Barbara will be there and hopes that other members will join her. Let's meet at the elevators at Civic Center Plaza Garage at 5. Look for the AAUW banner!

Also on January 21, we will hold the informational meeting for potential Tech Trekkers and their families to learn about camp and AAUW. It will be at Umpqua Bank at 415 DeHaro Street in the Potrero Hill area from 2-4 pm.

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

### **AAUWSF Board Meeting**

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, January 11**, 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, January 20, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.**

**Book/Author:** The Girls of Atomic City, by Deniose Kierman

**Hostess:** Pat Spencer, 505 Ortega  
Please RSVP to Pat at 415-661-0347 or  
[merhabametz@gmail.com](mailto:merhabametz@gmail.com)

### **International Book Group**

**Date: Monday, January 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Book/Author:** Circling the Sun, by Paula McClain

**Hostess:** Barbara Spencer, 736 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Please RSVP to Barbara at 415-221-0347 or  
[barbaracspencer@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracspencer@gmail.com)

### **Saturday Book Club**

**Date: Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 11 am**

**Book/Author:** The Sympathizer, by Viet Thanh Ng

**Hostess: Mary & Anna**, 1200 18 St. Corner of Mississippi

Please RSVP to Mary at 415-255-8234 or  
[mary.renner2@gmail.com](mailto:mary.renner2@gmail.com)

### **Lunch Bunch**

**Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at Noon**

**Where:** American Food- The Clubhouse at the Presidio Golf Course (inside the Arguello Gate), 300 Finley Road, 415-561-4861. For more information contact Mary Suter at 415-561-1185 or  
[marsuter@yahoo.com](mailto:marsuter@yahoo.com)

## Tech Trek

### Tech Trek Donors for the month of December

Stephanie Graham  
 Joanne Mandel in honor of Marilyn Leal  
 Connie Armitage  
 Mary Renner and Anna Stern  
 Patricia Metzgar  
 Jane Hansen  
 Sheila Bost

Thank you everyone, a great way to end 2016. The program could not exist without you.

### Tech Trek Upcoming Dates

Nomination Forms have been emailed to the teachers. If you know a San Francisco 7th Grade Math or Science Teacher, public or private school, please let me know so I may contact them personally.

An information meeting is planned for the end of January or early February

**March 18-19, 10-4**, mark your calendar to be one of our interviewers of prospective campers or the families. Please let me know if you'd like to do this for the program. You ask prewritten questions. You will be assisted by Tech Trek Alums. We will choose the girls within two weeks after the interviews. We all consider each girl in making the final decision. Please contact me to sign up for a 3 hour shift at [elainebutler124@comcast.net](mailto:elainebutler124@comcast.net). Thank you for your help.

### Tech Trek Volunteers Needed

Each year we hold an informational meeting for nominated girls and their parents. It has been held at the Taraval Police Station in the past . This year

thanks to Andrea, we are trying a new venue. Please join us to help with set-up and clean up and to encourage our speakers.

**Date: Saturday, January 21, set-up 2PM, program 2:30**

UMPQUA BANK will host the event  
 Location: 415 DeHaro Street—94107  
 Light refreshments will be provided by UMPQUA BANK

RSVP: Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator  
 415-305-2220 [elainebutler124@comcast.net](mailto:elainebutler124@comcast.net)

*Thank you for your help,*  
**Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator**

## The Art of Fiction Pat Camerena

Despite her unhappy childhood and often interrupted education, Callie was always an eclectic reader. Her acute observational skills and deep, often dark personal experiences provided her with abundant material for the short stories that she soon began writing. An unhappy childhood, domestic instability, four failed marriages, and periods of ill health contributed to her unique view of reality. Not until she was 33 did she see her first short story published. Her first book met with only moderate success. The profoundly negative effects of the Great Depression on talented women writers meant they had to augment their incomes by teaching and writing shorter stories. Callie survived on grants and loans, as well as the occasional university lecture opportunities that came her way. It was not until she was in her early seventies that her only full length novel was finally published. The plot was based on an ocean voyage

to Nazi Germany taken prior to WWII. More than twenty years had passed until the completed manuscript was published. Ship of Fools was a huge success and was eventually turned into an Oscar nominated film in 1965. Callie summed up this time by saying, "Most people don't realize that writing is a craft. You have to take your apprenticeship in it like anything else." Though

recognition might have come late in life, Katherine Anne Porter, the name by which we came to know her, lived to see many honors heaped upon her. Her expertise with the short story form ultimately brought her awards and membership in the National Institute of Arts & Letters. The following year her collected short stories won her the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award.

Katherine Anne Porter continued to practice her craft, publishing her last work three years before her death at age ninety. She had a most impressive literary career for a woman whose formal education ended after grammar school. The majority of her education she sought independently.

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

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

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

## Playing Now Paula Campbell

Two reviews today – 946:The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips, and an old favorite, Avenue Q.

946:The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips is a co-production of Berkeley Rep and England's Kneehigh Theatre Company. Previous Kneehigh productions at Berkeley Rep include The Wild Bride and Meow, Meow. Anyone who's seen either of these will be

familiar with Kneehigh's athletic, acrobatic, hyper-energetic style, successfully coupled with serious drama. I LOVED this show, and I literally laughed out loud, and wept real tears.

946:The Amazing Story... is based on a terrible tragedy of WWII. The US was "rehearsing" for the Normandy Invasion. England's Cornwall coast was the closest thing to the coast of Normandy, so that was the chosen site. American troops were billeted there. They were black troops of the then segregated armed forces. The troops mingled freely with the citizen population, especially enjoying the freedom from prejudice and segregation which they experienced at home in the US. On the day of the rehearsal everything went wrong. The troops' small boats were supposed to be protected by two battleships. The battleships, which were essential because German boats patrolled the coast, never arrived. Their commander tried to contact the troops' commander to warn him to postpone, but they were literally on different wavelengths and the message never went through. Further, the troops weren't properly prepared; many couldn't swim, they weren't told how to put on life jackets properly (some wore them upside down, which meant their heads would be forced underwater), they weren't told to scrap their heavy backpacks, which would pull them down. The Germans did attack with torpedoes, the US ships burned and went down, and 946 of the 1,100 troops were killed. The survivors were warned, under threat of court martial, never to speak of this. The shameful story was not made public till 1984. Adolphus Tips was one of the few survivors.

So the play has two stories; the story of the people of South Devon, including a child evacuated from London, and their loving relationships with the soldiers, and the story of the attempted invasion "rehearsal" and its' tragic result.

I said earlier that I laughed and cried – I laughed at the antics of the family’s child and her cat, at the clever maneuver of the family dog – both animals being puppets, so well built and manipulated that they seemed almost to be real animals, laughed at the schoolroom and the interaction of the kids, laughed at the zany local characters, laughed as the band played and people danced. I cried when I saw the invasion, watched the men drown, saw them blown up. I cried in anger since it could all have been prevented if the communication channels had worked properly. I cried because one of the dead soldiers was someone the audience had gotten to know very well and I mourned him.

**946: The Amazing Story...** is a must see – it’s unusual in style, innovative, touching, and beautifully presented. I can’t recommend it enough.

**946: The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips**, through Jan.15. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St, Berkeley  
 Tickets: Box office: 510 647-2949 Online  
<http://www.berkeleyrep.org>  
 Tues – Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm. Matinees Thur, Sat, Sun 2pm.

The New Conservatory Theatre Center has reprised **Avenue Q**. This is one of my all time favorite shows. A show with Muppet-like puppets, **Avenue Q** is not for children. It deals with adult topics, (and a couple of very adult sex scenes.) To give you some idea of what it’s like I only need to give you some song titles. Let’s start with “What Do You Do With a BA in English” (sung by Princeton, a recent graduate who can’t get a job). How about “Everyone’s a Little Bit Racist”, “The Internet is for Porn”, “Schadenfreude”, “If You Were Gay, It’d be OK”, “Purpose, Finding My Purpose”. Princeton, our main character, finds an apartment on Avenue Q, and meets the assortment of various characters who live there. Suffice to say that I saw it in New York, and have seen it at NCTC four times. If they do it next year I’ll see it again. It’s just an absolute

delight. The puppets become people – I see them as people, even Kate Monster, covered in fur, who falls in love with the Princeton. Their sex scene is hilarious, sexy, and a bit shocking “You can’t put your finger there – oh, put your finger there.” NCTC usually sells out every performance of Avenue Q, so get your tickets now – you’ll be glad you did. There are two alternating casts – either cast is excellent.

Avenue Q, New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Avenue at Market, San Francisco, CA 94102. Through Jan. 22. Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm. Box Office 415-861-8972  
 Online:  
[https://nctcsf.secure.force.com/ticket/#details\\_a0SF000000QpDvMMAV](https://nctcsf.secure.force.com/ticket/#details_a0SF000000QpDvMMAV)

## Afternoon Activities

These are held at the JCC, 2000 California St. and are **FREE**.

Movie: **Lincoln**

**Thursday, January 12, 1:00 PM**

Steven Spielberg directs Daniel Day-Lewis in a revealing drama that focuses on his final months in office when he pursues a course of action to end the war, unite the country and abolish slavery. His choices will change the fate of generations to come.

Art Lecture: **Read my Pins: the Madeleine Albright Collection**

**Wednesday, January 11 at 1:00 PM**

Clara Morrissey, Docent, Fine Arts Museums of SF will examine the eclectic collection of pins and brooches which Madeleine Albright used as part of her diplomatic arsenal during her service as US Ambassador to the United Nations and as the first female Secretary of State.

The collection is on view at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco through January 27.

Afternoon Book Club: **The Bridge Ladies: A Memoir**, by Betsy Lerner

Returning back to her childhood home to care for her mother after the mother’s surgery, Betsy becomes a regular at her mother’s Monday Bridge Club. Through these ladies she finally faces years of misunderstandings and family tragedy that resulted from her mother’s practice of “don’t ask, don’t tell”

**January Birthdays**

Jane Bernard-Powers	January 1
Susan Kwock	January 5
Wanda Holland Greene	January 8
Pat Morin	January 15
Terese Terry	January 27

**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**

**Kelly Joseph**  
[kelly.wysinger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kelly.wysinger@sbcglobal.net)  
 415) 589-7005

**Program VP**

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

**Membership VP and Webmaster**

**Nancy Shapiro**  
[nancy.shapiro@sonic.net](mailto:nancy.shapiro@sonic.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

**Voter Information**

**Sheila Bost**  
[wawonast@earthlink.net](mailto:wawonast@earthlink.net)  
 415) 664-4985

**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

**January 2017**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Lunch Bunch 12N	11	12	13	14
15	16 Int'l Book Group 7PM	17	18	19	20 Aft W Books 1:30PM	21 Sat Bk 11am Tech Trek 2pm
22	<b>23</b>	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

*A Diamond is a chunk of coal that did well under pressure*  
**Henry Kissenger**



**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.