

President's Message



Tech Trek girls and their certificates. Elaine Butler, TechTrek Coordinator, and Barbara Spenser, AAUWSF President celebrating with them

Our September 9 Welcome Back meeting at the Sports Basement was a lively success. Most of the 16 girls we sent to Tech Trek camp this summer came with their families and reported to us on their experiences. It is so heartwarming to hear! The management at Sports Basement was very welcoming, providing snacks, ice water, a microphone, and a 20 % discount for the day's shopping. They even thanked us for coming and told us we are welcome back any time! Kudos to Elaine Butler for organizing the meeting!



Girls Sharing their camp experiences



Parents and friends listening to Tech Trek girls telling their stories

Title IX has been in the news lately, and AAUW has stayed involved. What is at issue is the rescission of guidelines that had been developed by the Obama administration regarding sexual harassment and violence in schools. Our national office has been weighing in on the matter and will continue to do so. Be assured that Title IX itself still

stands. The fight is about interpretation and implementation of it.

Even though we no longer have the Travel Group, we are nevertheless planning an outing on Saturday, October 21 to visit the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond. More details are provided in a separate article in this issue. There is a museum with interactive exhibits and a speaker who will describe her experiences. Other outings are possible if we find someone to be the organizer.

The AAUW Fund Fall Luncheon for our area will be held at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco on Saturday, October 28, from noon to 3pm. Everyone should have received an invitation in the state newsletter — California Perspective. It is an opportunity to meet our 2017-2018 California Fellowship and Grant recipients. The cost is \$45, and you must RSVP by October 16.

Finally, save the date of Saturday, December 9, for our Holiday Luncheon that will again be held at Mescolanza Restaurant.

Barbara Spencer, President

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, October 11, 2017**, at Corrine Sacks' condo, 1835 Franklin St. #401 (between Sacramento and Clay).

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 20, 2017 at 1:30 PM

Book/Author: Killers of the Flower Moon, by David Grann

Hostess: Terese Terry, 250 Powell St.
Please RSVP to Terese at 415-800-7081 or terese.terry@yahoo.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, October 16, at 6:00 PM (**Note new time**)

Book/Author: The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: And Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscript, by Joshua Hammer

Hostess: Nancy Shapiro, 1683 42 Avenue
Please RSVP to Nancy at 415-731-2654 or nancy.shapiro@sonic.net

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

Date: October 26 at 7:30 PM (**Note time Change!**)

Hostess: Pat Camerena, 157 Amber Dr.

Reviewer: Pat Camerena

RSVP: Pat at 415-285-7589

Lunch Bunch

Second Wednesday Lunch Bunch

Date: Wednesday, October 11, at 12 noon.

Where: La Soliel

(Vietnamese food with quality and swanky setting)

133 Clement St, between 2nd and 3rd Ave
(415)668-4848

RSVP to Nancy Shapiro at 415-731-2654 or nancy.shapiro@sonic.net

Tech Trek

I want to welcome Leslie Yuan to the Tech Trek Committee. She is a Tech Trek parent. She has agreed to help me with organization and with new ideas from a camper's parent's viewpoint. We need to make the process more efficient and I look forward to working with her. Tech Trek 2018 will begin again in early November.



Camper reporting on their experiences at Tech Trek

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the Welcome Back Event. It felt good to hear all the comments of the 2017 campers. Members asked some astute questions and the girls responded with insights beyond their years. It is a wonderful AAUW Project and I am so glad that San Francisco continues to participate. We look forward to the 2018 Tech Trek year.

Consider joining the Tech Trek Committee.

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

SAVE THE DATE

Our Annual Holiday Luncheon will be held on **Saturday, December 9, 2017** at one of our favorite Restaurants: **Mescalanza**

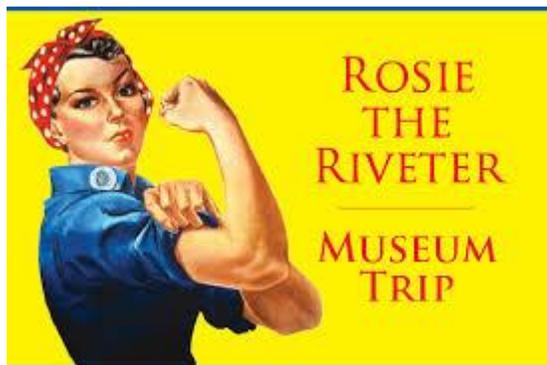
Plan to be there.

Additional information and details will be posted here next month, and a mailing will be going out to all members....so please mark your calendars now!!!

Travel With Us

We are planning an excursion and would love to see all of you.

Saturday, October 21, 2017 at 10:30



For any and all who would like to come, we are planning to visit the Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park in Richmond. The park was established in 2000. There is a Visitor Education Center, with exhibits and films, and a special talk at 2 pm by Ranger Betty Soskin about her experience as a young African American woman during World War II. Admission is free, but there is limited seating for the 2 pm talk.

We plan to carpool and leave San Francisco at 10:30 am to allow plenty of time to see everything and to get our tickets for the 2 pm talk. There is no cafe so it is advisable to bring a lunch with you.

Barbara Spencer will organize carpools. Please email or call her if you would like to come and if you are able to drive.

barbaracspencer@gmail.com; 415-221-6690

Let's celebrate the role of women in World War II; it's our history!

AAUW Fund Fall Luncheon

It's the most wonderful time of the year! This is the time when we come together to celebrate and honor our Fellowship and Grant recipients, along with all their extraordinary research. Join members from Northern California AAUW branches.

October 28th, 11:30 AM, at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco

Lunch will be served, but reservations are required! Please check you issue of California Perspectives or contact Barbara Spencer for more details.

barbaracspencer@gmail.com; 415-221-6690

Get Involved

The San Francisco Department on the Status of women has named October as National Domestic

Violence Awareness month. You can join them at any of the many events and support the movement for a better community.

For further information you can call, write or email the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women | DOSW@sfgov.org | (415) 252-2570 | <http://sfgov.org/dosw/>

Gertrude Ederle (1905-2003) Pat Camarena



"When somebody tells me I cannot do something, that's when I do it."

At a time when most women did not know how to swim, and bathing costumes were considered risque, fifteen-year old Trudy began breaking swimming records. She always felt at home in the water. "She was quoted as saying: "To me, the sea is like a person ...like a child that I've known a long time. It sounds crazy, I know, but when I swim in the sea, I talk to it. I never feel alone when I'm out there."

During the four years between 1921 and 1925, she set twenty-nine national and international records, once breaking seven records in one day. She was a member of the Gold Medal Olympic swim team in 1924 in Paris. The following year, she set out to swim the English Channel. Her first attempt did not work out due to an error by her observer who, thinking she was in distress, reached out for her. She was actually only resting. Just his

touching her disqualified her. Those who argued that a swim of this distance was impossible for a woman felt themselves verified.

Ederle was not deterred. In 1926, she not only crossed the Channel against currents that forced her to swim thirty-five miles instead of the minimal twenty-one, but she also set a record for speed, swimming the distance almost two hours faster than any man had yet done. She was just twenty years old.

Americans rejoiced in her achievement, organizing a parade down New York's Fifth Avenue in her honor. More than two million people lined the route. Her story was retold in magazines and movie reels. She held her celebrity status throughout the twenties and toured the country in swimming exhibitions. An accidental back injury had kept her in a cast for several years in the '30s. Her final performance was at the World's Fair in 1939. Later she taught swimming to deaf children. She herself was losing most of her hearing due to the effects of childhood measles.

When physical fitness became an issue after the introduction of television in the 1950s, President Eisenhower appointed Ederle to his Youth Fitness Committee. She expressed her philosophy of life by saying: "I am not a person who reaches for the moon as long as I have the stars."

www.nytimes.com (Dec. 1, 2003)

www.biography.com

www.brainyquotes.com

Playing Now **Paula Campbell**

An American in Paris, now at the SHN Orpheum Theatre, is everything its ads promise and then some. Lighthearted (the story), lightfooted (the dancing), luscious (post war Paris), and lovely (the

costumes). This charming adaptation of the Oscar winning 1951 Vincent Minelli, (starring Gene Kelly) movie updates the setting just a bit, without losing the basics of its premise. The action takes place in post-war Paris, with the war and its horrifying consequences not far behind. Beautifully conceived and artistically mounted the show, which by the way, garnered more than forty nominations, won four Tony awards, three Outer Critics Circle awards, and five Drama Desk Awards, and five other awards.

The show is wonderful – George Gershwin's music, his brother Ira's lyrics, combined with a new book by Craig Lucas create perfection. Some of the Gershwin songs are different from the ones in the film; they were added along with some orchestral pieces to enhance and move the story. All are especially well chosen for the update. The show is both directed and choreographed by Christopher Wheeldon, who is one of today's most prominent ballet choreographers. He's often worked at SFBallet, choreographing many ballets *for* the company, and *on* specific dancers in the company. His work for **An American in Paris** is impeccable! He won every Best Choreographer award, from every critics group, for this show. The lead dancers/actors, Maddox Mcgee, and Sara Esty are seasoned, trained ballet dancers. They dance with art, skill, and precision. They play their roles – she the young Parisian dancer with a dark secret, he the American GI who falls in love with her and can't fathom why she resists him – expertly and with great feeling. The supporting cast is excellent, Nick Spangler and Esai Benson as our hero's buddies are especially noteworthy.

Sometimes even though a touring company works hard, the show never quite jells. Not this one – this company has literally got its act together. The company performs as if they've been doing it forever – smoothly, gracefully, and with a certain

joie de vivre that can't be forced but has to come from within.

An American in Paris is a joy to watch. And along with the joy of watching, come the joyous feelings the show inspires. People leave the theatre smiling, nodding to perfect strangers as they go up the aisles. Gershwin would be proud of this production of his work.

An American In Paris, through Oct 8. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market Street,
Tickets: Online box office
shnsf.com/online/article/anamericaninparis Phone 888-746-1799
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat at 8pm, Wed, Sat, Sun at 2pm
FYI – \$40.00 online (no waiting in the street) rush tickets are available for this production at
shnsf.com/online/article/anamericaninparis

Just discovered a whole new genre of music that I'd missed out on entirely.

I spent the 60's married to a folk musician, living in a cross between militant protest songs and kum-ba-yah land. Today I discovered what I'd been missing – rhythm and blues. Of course I'm talking about **Ain't Too Proud, The Life and Times of the Temptations**, now playing at the Berkeley Rep theatre.

Ain't Too Proud... is the history of the Temptations, the foremost rhythm and blues group of the 60's and of every century since then. This amazing group of young men rose to the top of the charts by sheer force and determination, talent, and originality of their musical genre, and once they got there, they stayed there. Other groups came and went by the wayside, but the Temptations, and their parallel female group, the Supremes, stayed on top. Over the years there were conflicts, changes in the group's membership, illness, drug addictions, and huge societal changes, but nothing ever stopped the Temptations from playing amazing music.

Ain't Too Proud... is music from start to finish. The story is told by Otis, the first group member, the founder of the Temptations. And since the story is all about music, it's told through the music. It's rousing, moving, fierce grand music. It's made me an overnight fan of r&b. Didn't expect that to happen, but boy did it.

Never thought I'd hear myself saying that – but then again, never saw **Ain't Too Proud...** before.

Directed by Des McNuff, with book by Dominique Morisseau, **Ain't Too Proud...** soars through the theatre. The music can stand by itself, but this is also the history of our changing nation, of Detroit, of Motown – of the personal cost for a person of color of being a musical success in America and maintaining one's integrity.

I can't recommend **Ain't Too Proud...** strongly enough. It's a strong, important meaningful show – and an absolute joy to sit through. Audience response has been so enthusiastic that the original Oct. closing date has been extended to Nov.5.

Ain't Too Proud..., extended through Nov.5. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St, Berkeley
Tickets: Box office: 510 647-2949 Online
<http://www.berkeleyrep.org>
Tues – Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm, Sat., Sun, 2pm.

October Birthdays

Nanci Cooper	October 1
Carol Robinson	October 1
Cathy Corcoran	October 3
Joyce Bowe	October 4
Harriet Sollod	October 10
Michelle Mammini	October 13
Esther Wong	October 23
Patricia Spencer	October 27

AAUWSF Board

President

Barbara Spencer
barbaraspencer@gmail.com
 415) 221-6690

Treasurer

Barbara Spencer
barbaraspencer@gmail.com
 415) 221-6690

Secretary

Program VP

Membership VP and Webmaster

Nancy Shapiro
nancy.shapiro@sonic.net
 415) 731-2654

Public Policy

Legal Advocacy VP & Education Fund VP

Avanti Editor

Corrine Sacks
cpsacks@yahoo.com
 415) 292-4130

Silver Jubilee Fund Chair

Mary Suter
marsuter@yahoo.com
 415) 665-1185

Voter Information

Sheila Bost
wawonasf@earthlink.net
 415)664-4985

Tech Trek

Elaine Butler
ElaineButler124@Comcast.net
 415) 826-3172

College/University Liaison

Cathy Corcoran
corcorancf@gmail.com
 415)341-0206

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Lunch Bunch 12 Noon	12	13	14
15	16 Internat'l Books 6 pm	17	18	19	20 Aft w/Books 1:30pm	21 Rosie the Riveter trip 10:30
22	23	24	25	26 Myst/Adv 7:30 pm	27	28
29	30	31				

In the midst of movement and chaos, keep stillness inside you.

Deepak Chopra



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



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.