



President’s Message

The spotlight continues to shine on women’s rights to pay equity and to be free of sexual harassment. I was heartened to see both issues brought front and center in the Golden Globe Awards. For years it had seemed like AAUW was whispering in the dark about the pay gap and sexual harassment. It is gratifying to see the change. Let’s hope the talk turns to action.

There was another Women’s March on January 20. I was out of the country and pretty much off the grid (in Cuba) when it occurred. I know that a number of our branch members participated, and I’m sorry I missed it.

Mary Suter and I represented our branch at the annual membership meeting of the Alliance for Girls in January. Three other members of our branch were there representing other organizations. The Alliance is beginning a research project at the San Francisco Unified School District to discover what issues concern female students in the district. A similar study of the Oakland Unified School District resulted in a report advocating changes that will be implemented by the district. Rosie Rios, the 43rd Treasurer of the United States during the Obama administration, was the keynote speaker who expressed her dismay at the dearth of official recognition of women’s contribution to our country’s history.

This month is Black History Month, and AAUW is recommending a book by Professor Emerita Patricia Bell-Scott, an AAUW American Fellow in 1984-85, titled *The Firebrand and the First Lady*:

Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice. Pauli Murray’s letter to Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt protesting southern segregation was the start of a 25-year friendship between the women. Murray, the granddaughter of a mixed-race slave, was a civil rights activist, a lawyer, an Episcopal priest, and a co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW). She was born in 1910 and died in 1985 at the age of 74.

Finally, a little bragging about AAUW’s accomplishments: 270,000 messages to lawmakers were sent by AAUW members and supporters in 2017; 17,000 women learned to negotiate for salaries through AAUW workshops in 2017; and \$3.7 million was awarded to women and community projects by AAUW in 2017.

Barbara Spencer, President

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, February 14, 2018**, 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, February 16, 2018 at 1:30 PM

Book/Author: Istanbul, by Orban Panuk

Hostess: Pat Metzgar, 446 Waller St.

Please RSVP to Pat at 510-410-8772 or
merhabametz@gmail.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Book/Author: The Dry by, Jane Harper

Hostess: Mary Graves, 2901 Broderick St.

Please RSVP to Mary at 415-563-3610 or
marywgraves@comcast.net

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

Date/Time: February 22, 2018 at 7:30 PM:

Book/Author: **Damaged**, by Lisa Scottoline

Hostess: Harriet Sollod, 186 Stonecrest Dr.

Reviewer: Elaine Butler

RSVP: Harriet at 415-585-6869

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at noon

Restaurant: Eliza's Restaurant

Chinese/Korean

2877 California (between Broderick
and Divisadero)

RSVP to Mary Suter, marsuter@yahoo.com

Branch Invitation

North Peninsula Branch
cordially invites you to
**San Francisco to Mid Peninsula
Mini Inter-Branch Conference:
AAUW Fellowship Luncheon**

Date: Saturday, February 24th, 2018

Time: 12 to 2 pm,

Location: Basque Cultural Center

599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco 94080

Our speaker is **Monica Yu**,

Director of the Institutional Giving at Girl Scouts of
Northern California

Send your check (payable to your branch) for \$45
to your branch treasurer before **February 8**.

Please indicate your choice of menu:

Salmon, Chicken, or Vegetarian Pasta.

Price includes salad, main dish, desert, tea/coffee,
gratitude, taxes.

Tech Trek

It is the time to call out for volunteers for review of
camper questions and interviews of the candidates
and their families. We are getting nominations and
will be emailing the application packets - thank you
in advance Leslie.

I will be emailing the questions that we have used
every year to AAUW members and recent campers
to see if they need updating so we send girls that
are passionate about science and or math and will
enjoy learning about those subjects from 7 am until
lights out at 10 pm.

Interviews are scheduled on **March 10-11**
(Saturday and Sunday) from 9-4 each day. The

location is 1663 Mission St. 3rd Floor(Mission/13th st.). This is the same location that we have used for the last 3 or 4 years. We thank Support for Families of Children with Disabilities, my work office. There will be 2 shifts each day - morning 10-1 and 1-4. We need AAUW members and adults in related organizations. We will be contacting former campers to assist the adults.

The adults will meet a week later to choose the 2018 campers and alternates.

Please mark your calendars and let me know if you are available to help with this project.

Tech Trek January Donors

Pat Spencer

Pat Camarena

Thank you to our two AAUW Pats. We appreciate your donations to Tech Trek.

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

Women's March 2018

A year after millions of people turned out for the Women's March and took to the streets en masse to protest President Trump's inauguration, demonstrators gathered on Saturday in cities across the United States, galvanized by their disdain for Mr. Trump and his administration's policies.

A deluge of revelations about powerful men abusing women, leading to the #MeToo moment, has pushed activists to demand deeper social and political change. Progressive women are eager to build on the movement and translate their

enthusiasm into electoral victories in this year's midterm elections.

Countless pink knit hats came out of storage as tens of thousands of protesters shouted and streamed through downtown San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose and other communities in the second incarnation of the Women's March.

In San Francisco, an enormous crowd jammed Civic Center Plaza for a rally, then marched down Market Street to the Embarcadero in a wave of people that stretched for blocks. In Oakland, the protesters crowded the shore of Lake Merritt, then made their way to City Hall.

Other Northern California crowds gathered in Walnut Creek, Pacifica and even fired-up Chico in Butte County.

The raucous and peaceful local events were part of dozens of marches around the U.S. and the world to protest President Trump's first year and to organize political opposition to it.

Here are some of the things they had to say:





Hello Girls

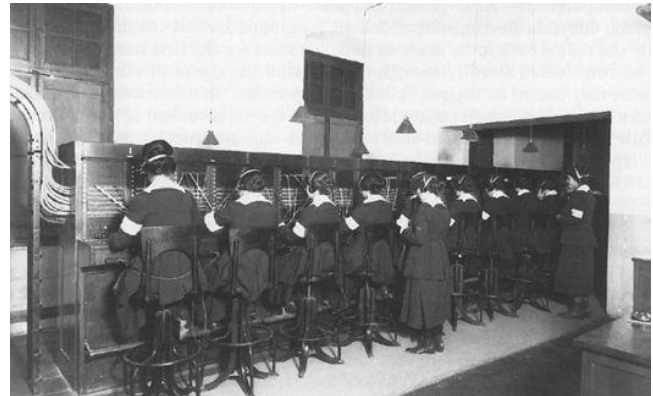
Pat Camarena



Photos by Andrea Laudate

Silver Jubilee

AUW-SF will offer scholarships of \$2000 each to help upper division and graduate school women complete their final year of study in an accredited college or university for the school year 2018-2019. Candidates must live or be attending college within a 100 mile distance of San Francisco and be on track to complete their course of study by June 2019. There is no restriction on the use of the funds. Completed applications are due by April 30, 2018.



Hello Girls operating switchboards in [Chaumont, France](#) during WWI

World War I ended at 11 a.m. on the eleventh day of the eleventh month of the year 1918.. One hundred years ago Germany accepted the terms demanded by the Allies. Hostilities ended. An entire generation of men had gone to war. The American soldiers were only in combat for about seven months. During this time, approximately 116,000 soldiers died. More than double that number were injured.

On the home front, more than a million patriotic women had stepped up to take places in the work force. Many women worked long hours, often in poor conditions sometimes handling dangerous chemicals. Women sometimes nicknamed "canaries" worked with TNT which gave them toxic jaundice, turning their skin yellow.

Another lesser known group of young American women performed a crucial service on the front lines in France. General Pershing realized that the rapidly growing use of telephones at home could be used to help communication lines at the Front. He advertised in major American

newspapers hoping to recruit female AT&T telephone operators. Over 7,000 initially applied. Those 700 selected had to speak French, have a college degree, and be single. They were required to purchase their own regulation Army uniforms, dog tags, and Signal Corps crests. After undergoing both basic military training and Signal Corps training, the first group of thirty-three women shipped off to France, picked up their gas masks and steel helmets, and went to work operating the vast network of complicated switchboards connecting the front line soldiers with military command headquarters and supply depots. These brave resourceful operators often worked close to the trenches under hazardous conditions. More than two hundred twenty trained women operators rotated through the invaluable military communication system before the war ended.

Upon returning home after the end of the fighting, the "Hello girls" as they were nicknamed, were denied veteran status. They were considered "civilians" working for the Army even though they were sworn into Signal Services and had to adhere to all Army regulations. Congress had even awarded Grace Banker, the Chief Telephone Operator, the Distinguished Service Medal.

For many years, legislation to address this injustice languished in Congress. Only after fifty years of persistence on the part of one of the operators, Mearle Eagan Anderson, were the "Hello Girls" awarded veteran status. In 1978 President Jimmy Carter signed the bill giving the women their long-deserved recognition.

www.worldwar1.com

www.the1a.org.

www.soldiers.dodlive.mil

Playing Now Paula Campbell

DO NOT MISS Tom Pinckney's **Still At Risk** now at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. It's probably this season's most important serious drama.

This is the world premiere of **Still At Risk** and NCTC has pulled out all the stops. The five person cast are all experienced seasoned actors, each perfectly cast for the role they play. Dennis Lickteig's direction is more than spot on; it's perfect. I was especially taken with Devin Kasper's set – a series of oddly angled different sized and shaped pieces that were moved to create different scenes – an office, an apartment, a ballroom. The sharp angular points of the pieces themselves reflect the thoughts and feelings of the characters

Set in the recent past, it's a reminder of the horrors of the 80's when AIDS decimated the gay community. Without revealing plot details, let me say a group of friends are approached for their support by the organizer/fundraiser of a charity gala for LGBTQ... issues. Each has their own skill the fundraiser would like to tap. Some are old enough to have lived through those terrible days – some are too young – to them it's more like an old story they've heard about but not really experienced on their own. (Details are vague to the young, kind of like some old war story.) Some are still militants, seen by their friends as throwbacks to the old days.

An important organizer's name has been left off the list of those to be honored. It's a deliberate omission – the man in question just offended too many people – was just too abrasive – rubbed too many people the wrong way. His former lover goes on a campaign to have the name added – to have

tribute paid to this fallen hero. In the course of this it becomes clear how much has changed. And of how much things stay the same. When one of the characters announces that he's living in shocked terror because he's just seroconverted (tested Positive) it becomes clear that we are in fact, still at risk, even in our apparently safe world.

There was a discussion with the audience after the play. I never stay for these – but this time I did. And it was worth it. Hearing audience and cast thoughts and comments was actually enlightening (hate that word but that's what it was) and stimulating. As was the play – don't miss it.

Still At Risk is a must see. It's moving, intellectually challenging, and if anyone wants to become a fundraiser, it's an eye opening look at the profession.

Still at Risk, New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Avenue at Market, San Francisco, CA 94102. Through Feb. 25. Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm. Box Office [415-861-8972](tel:415-861-8972) Online <http://www.nctcsf.org>

February Birthdays

Margel Kaufman	February 8
Corrine Sacks	February 25

Birthday Not Announced?

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

International Women's Day Celebration

Every year International Women's day observance happens on March 8, 2018. First celebrated in the early 1900's, it celebrates a day across the globe touting the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. AAUW California has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since the late 19th century and can dedicate this day to support women's issues globally in 2018.

1. Know your rights at work
2. Vote
3. Negotiate your salary
4. Support the next generation of innovators
5. Help young women find their voices
6. Be an ally
7. **Get involved**



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February 2018

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

Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground
 Teddy Roosevelt



Avanti Editor

AAUW
 San Francisco Branch
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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.