



### President's Message

Another AAUW year is underway. Your board had a planning meeting in August and came up with some interesting ideas. We continue to explore ways to participate in the Start Smart/Work Smart employment negotiation program sponsored by AAUW and begun in San Francisco by the Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women. We will keep you informed about our efforts.

We plan to ask members for short biographical information to be put in the Avanti in the month of their birthdays. I hope you will respond if contacted. It seems as though we are losing touch with our members now that joining and renewing is often done online.

Our monthly lunch bunch continues on the second Tuesday of the month, led by Mary Suter. In

August, eight of us dined at El Buen Comer in the outer mission district. It is a family endeavor led by Isabel Caudillo, Chef and Owner, and serves authentic food from Mexico City. Please join us for the next outing at a different restaurant!

At our planning meeting we developed a tentative calendar of events for the year that is printed inside. Also inside is a flyer announcing the Fall AAUW Funds luncheon on October 6 at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. A few board members plan to go. Financial assistance is available if needed.

Our Welcome Back Branch meeting will be held September 29 at the Sports Basement. We will hear from the girls who attended Tech Trek camp this summer. It is always an uplifting event. See inside for further details. Please come!

**Barbara Spencer, President**

### AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, September 12, 2018**, at Barbara Spencer's house, 736 Third Ave.

Call Barbara at 415-221-6690 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.



AAUWSF Board, 2018

### San Francisco Branch Calendar for 2018-2019

**September 29** — Welcome Back: Branch Meeting with Tech Trekkers

**October 6** — AAUW Funds Luncheon

**October 30** — Election Issues Meeting

**November 4** - Interbranch Council (IBC) Meeting

**December 1** — Holiday Luncheon

**February 2 or 9** — Interbranch Council Event with Kathleen Cha

**March** — Tech Trek Interviews

**April 6** — State AAUW Annual Meeting

**May** — Tech Trek Send-Off Party

**June 8** — AAUW San Francisco Branch Annual Luncheon Meeting

### Afternoons With Books

**Date:** Friday, September 21, 2018 at 1:30 pm

**There will be a potluck lunch at 12:45 for anyone who is interested**

**Hostess:** Michelle Mammini, 2520 Greenwich St

We will be choosing the books for the 2018-2019 year. Please bring your recommended selections for discussion. The books should be ones you read, enjoyed, and are available at the library. You can email your suggestions to [mmammini@pacbell.net](mailto:mmammini@pacbell.net)

Please RSVP to Michelle at 415-346-9114

### International Book Group

**Date:** Monday, September 17, 2018, at 7:00 pm

**Book/Author:** Miss Burma, by Craig Charmaine

**Hostess:** Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona St

Please RSVP to Sheila at 415-823-0961 or [wawonast@earthlink.net](mailto:wawonast@earthlink.net)

### Mystery/Adventure Book Group

**Date/Time:** September 27, 2018 at 7 pm

Please bring your book recommendations to our annual selection meeting. Read the book, like the book and make sure the library has copies.

**Hostess:** Susan Peliks, 109-111 Sutro Heights Ave

RSVP: Susan at 415-668-2961

**Lunch Bunch**

**Tuesday, September 11 2018 at noon**

**Restaurant:** STEM Kitchen and Garden  
 (Mediterranean and seasonal local produce)  
 499 Illinois St (near Mariposa St)

**RSVP for reservations to** Mary Suter,  
[marsuter@yahoo.com](mailto:marsuter@yahoo.com)



Munching on Mexican fare

**Tech Trek**

TECH TREK WELCOME BACK CELEBRATION

**Saturday, September 29 2:00 to 4:00 PM**

**Sports Basement: 1590 Bryant St.**

(Limited parking is available, The underground garage can be accessed off Florida St between 16<sup>th</sup> and Division)

It is time to welcome everyone back from travels faraway and staycations. This is the meeting for new members to learn about AAUW and meet veteran members. It is also the time we celebrate our Tech Trek Project. We have invited the girls to share their experiences with us.



Marie Curie Camp at Stanford

**Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator**

**INTO THE WILDERNESS**

**Pat Camarena**

No picture of Sarah is known to exist today but the three-story stone house fifty miles north west of New York City that she and her husband John built in the 1720s still stands. Today, a ninth-generation descendant lives there as the caretaker. Relatives from all over the United States return every year for a family reunion. More than 300,000 people live in this area today. However, in 1712 it was a nameless wilderness when eighteen-year-old Sarah, an orphan, went to settle on 100 acres of free land that had been promised to her if she would secure the claim--granted by Queen Anne--TO its owner, who had been delayed in New York on business. So off she went into the forest to build her home accompanied only by two native guides and a carpenter. Other settlers joined her later on but she continued to live a very independent life, for instance, rowing alone across

the Hudson to get her grain ground at the nearest mill. Once she had to climb a tree to escape from wolves.

When an English stonemason named John Bull joined the wilderness community several years later, Sarah married him. Together they built their three-story stone house with walls three feet thick. However, the isolation was so real that, for example, once she tied her toddler to the bedpost when she had to search for her husband, who failed to return as scheduled. She found him ten miles away overcome with sickness. Meanwhile the tied-up baby cried but was perfectly safe when they returned.

Thousands of Americans today can trace their ancestry to pioneer settler Sarah Wells Bull, whose courage and enterprise built a magnificent home in the wilderness so long ago.

The Sarah Wells Trail commemorates her today. Her handsome ten room home is part of the National Register of Historic Places and open for tours.



Sara Wells Bull House

## Playing Now Paula Campbell

I'm going to introduce a new theatre form today. It's been around for 25+ years, originated here in the SF Bay area, and is called **Word For Word**. The practitioners of **Word For Word** are experienced performers, directors, costumers, and so on. What makes their work unique is that they dramatize short stories, parts of books – things that are works of prose, not plays. When they perform they say every word that is on the written page – the he saids, she saids, the ands and buts, the explanations – as well as the dialogue -- every word the author wrote. It sounds confusing but **Word For Word** performances are clear and brilliant. Somehow, the non-dialogue spoken words enhance the dialogue and the action.

I saw the latest **Word For Word** show, **Anniversary**, now at Z Space in San Francisco. As I expected, it was wonderful. I should say that over the years I've seen many, many of their productions. I've both laughed and been moved to tears at the shows. I wish I could show you what it's like – but in this format all I can do is give an example. **Anniversary** is composed of two short stories, Tobias Wolff's "Deep Kiss" and George Saunders' "Victory Lap."

Here's an example from "Victory Lap." A young man is totally kept under his parents thumb – his father by strict rules, his mother by emotional blackmail. In this scene, his mother wants to make sure he does what she tells him. The actress, using the mother's voice, says the mother's words "***I know I can always rely on you my sweet, sweet loving boy***" (then in her own voice the actor says the author's next line) "***she cooed into his ear, dripping saccharine. Then, to accent her point she rapped him on the head sharply with her knuckles.***" As the actor says this line she raps the

boy's head, the boy puts his hand on his head and grunts." Try reading aloud what I just wrote here – be sure to say aloud only everything in bold italics.

It's difficult to put the concept in writing – you have to see it. It works as if you're seeing a play, but with a running commentary that actually enhances it. One of the **Word For Word** shows I loved most was a story about a man who fell in love with a red car. The red car was played by a blond, long haired actress in a sexy red dress. As the men admired the car, ran his hand down it, she made soft purring engine noises, when taken for a drive she Vroom Vroomed, and screeched when coming to an abrupt halt. It was quite a show – she WAS the red car – the red car WAS the woman.

**Anniversary** is playing at Z Space though Sept. 2. I hope this gets to you all in time. Perhaps the run will be extended. If not **Word for Word** returns Nov. 5 with a new show.

Word For Word, Anniversary, Z Space, 450 Florida Street, through Sept. 2.  
Ticket info 415-626-0453  
[http://www.zspace.org/wfanniversary/?spektrix\\_bounce=true](http://www.zspace.org/wfanniversary/?spektrix_bounce=true)  
Wed.Thurs 7pm, Fri. Sat 8pm, Sun. 3pm.

## Meet Our Members

### Getting to know you

During the month of your birthday, we will be asking you to send us a note sharing a little about yourself, which will then be published in this column. Here is the first of such from a new member

Hello all! My name is **Roli Wendorf**, and I am a new member of the AAUW-SF Branch. My husband and I relocated to San Francisco this summer to be close to our daughter, son-in-law and one-year-old granddaughter. After more than 30 years in Westchester County, New York, it was time for us to move across the country.

One of my first actions in my new home town was to join the local AAUW! I have had the pleasure of meeting several of you over the summer through two lunches and the annual planning meeting. I look forward to getting to know you better and meeting other branch members as well.

I'm not new to AAUW. I have been a member of the Westchester County (NY) Branch for over 11 years, and have had the privilege of serving in a variety of capacities – as New York State President, Branch Co-President, State LAF VP, Branch Program VP, and Branch Funds Chair. I am honored to be joining the Board of AAUW-SF on the Start Smart/Work Smart Committee.

The AAUW salary negotiation program has been a passion of mine for several years. I first initiated a Start Smart program in Westchester Branch in 2009, and have co-lead it ever since. Over the year, our team has trained over 700 women in salary negotiation skills. With national AAUW's goal of training ten million women in salary negotiation by 2022, it will continue to be an important area for us here in San Francisco as well.

My other passion at AAUW has been in STEM. My professional background is in computer science and electrical engineering. When I did my undergraduate work in electrical engineering in India in the 1970s, I was one of two women in a class of 240. I am well aware of the challenges faced by women in the STEM fields. My interest in increasing the numbers of women in STEM was my reason for joining AAUW Westchester 11 years

ago. I think very highly of the Tech Trek program, and look forward to helping with it.

I enjoy the social side of AAUW as well, and look forward to joining the monthly "Lunch Bunch". The mission based work also helps build friendships. For a new transplant like me, joining AAUW-SF is the best way of making new friends!



Roli and Lia (a good reason to move!)

### September Birthdays

Barbara Spencer	September 11
Robin Brasso	September 13
Nora Lee	September 18
Mary Worth	September 18
Pat Metzger	September 21
Kathleen Kennedy	September 23
Dawn Wilkes	September 23
Janice Gonsalves	September 24
Kathy Traynor	September 24
Mardi Kildebeck	September 25
Jane Hansen	September 30

#### Birthday Not Announced?

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

**AAUWSF Board**

**President**

**Barbara Spencer**  
[barbaraspencer@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraspencer@gmail.com)  
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**Legal Advocacy VP & Education Fund VP**

**Avanti Editor**

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**Silver Jubilee Fund Chair**

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 415) 665-1185

**Voter Information**

**Sheila Bost**  
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 415)664-4985

**Tech Trek**

**Elaine Butler**  
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 415) 826-3172

**College/University Liaison**

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

**September 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Lunch Bunch 12 Noon	12	13	14	15
16	17 Intern'l Book Group 7 pm	18	19	20	21 Aft w Books 1:30 pm	22
23	24	25	26	27 Myst/Adv Bk 7:30pm	28	29 Tech Trek Welcome Back 2 pm
30	31					

*You will never have this day again, so make it count.*

**Unknown**



**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.