



President's Message

We had a warm and friendly September 29 branch meeting at the Sports Basement Community Room to welcome back the girls we sent to Tech Trek Camp this summer. It is such fun to hear their stories about camp and what they liked best. The girls' parents and siblings came as well. We hope to get some parents of the girls to help us with Tech Trek alumni gatherings. Branch members would be welcomed too. This year we sent 10 girls to camp at Stanford and 4 girls to camp at Cal. State University, Fresno. As ever, we are so grateful for our branch's generous donors and volunteers.

Our monthly lunch bunch had a wonderful lunch at Stem Kitchen/Garden in Dogpatch. The setting was spectacular and unexpected. Thanks to Connie Armitage for suggesting the restaurant. We would never have known about it or found it otherwise. See inside for a listing of this month's lunch location. All are welcome!

At our last board meeting, I resigned as treasurer and Corrine Sacks was appointed to that position. We are grateful to her for stepping up.

Election season is upon us. The ads seem to be coming nonstop. Please join us on October 30 for a discussion of the ballot propositions led by Joel

Engardio at Sheila Bost's home. The discussion is always informative and helps one sort out the issues. See inside for further details.

We have scheduled our annual holiday lunch for December 1 at noon at Mescolanza Restaurant at 2nd Avenue and Geary. We are fortunate to have Mescolanza open for lunch just for us. The food is always delicious, and the company great. The holidays are a splendid time to get together with old and new friends, and you are welcome to bring a friend who might be interested in AAUW.

On a personal note, I returned recently from a very special trip to Norway and Lapland. Three of my "bucket list" wishes were fulfilled. I got to see the beautiful Norwegian fjords, the elusive Northern Lights, and real reindeer. I hope the rest of you experienced something new during the summer.

Barbara Spencer, President

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, October 10, 2018**, at Corrine Sack's house, 1835 Franklin St #401, between Sacramento and Clay. Street parking only.

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 19, 2018 at 1:30 pm

Book/ Author: Pachinko, by Min Jin Lee

Hostess: Mary Suter, 1770 18th Avenue

RSVP to Mary at 415-314-6893 or

marsuter@yahoo.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, October 15, 2018, at 7:00 pm

Book/Author: The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane, by Lisa See

Hostess: Paula Campbell, 338 Ewing Terrace

Please RSVP to Paula at 415-5671330 or

campbellp@usfca.edu

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

Date/Time: October 25, 2018 at 7:30 pm

Book & Author: The Women in Cabin 10, by Ruth Ware

Hostess: Pat Camarena, 157 Amber Drive

Reviewer: Pat Camarena (She is doing double duty)

RSVP: Pat at 415-285-7589

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at noon

Restaurant: Spiazzo Italian Restaurant

33 West Portal Ave (between Vincente and Ulloa)

RSVP for reservations to Mary Suter,

marsuter@yahoo.com

Ballot Issues

A discussion of the Issues on the November ballot will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, October 30 at 7:00 p.m.
Hosted by: Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona St.

Speaker: JOEL ENGARDIO

Please RSVP to Sheila at 415-823-0961 or wawonast@earthlink.net

1. Set-up: Connie Armitage, Barbara Spencer, Elaine Butler
2. Photographer Kimia Sattery Tech Trek Alumnae
3. Registration Table: Esther Wong
4. MC: Kelly Joseph
- 5.Refreshments: Barbara Spencer, Andrea Laudate, Sports Basement
- 6: Recruitment for the Tech Trek Committee: Leslie Yuan and Alumnae Mia Aaronson
7. Clean-up: Roli, Sheila, Connie, Nancy, Barbara. These are the people I saw but I expect more of the audience participated.

If this is an example 2019 will be an awesome year.

Tech Trek

TECH TREK WELCOME BACK CELEBRATION

It happened and it was a party attended by our campers, families, alumni and AAUW members. Sports Basement and AAUW members provided refreshments. Sports Basement also gave us use of their Grotto meeting room, 20% discount on store items and a microphone. We heard the girl's stories using the microphone and it was good. This meeting always gives the Tech Trek Committee the energy to begin the camper year 2019.

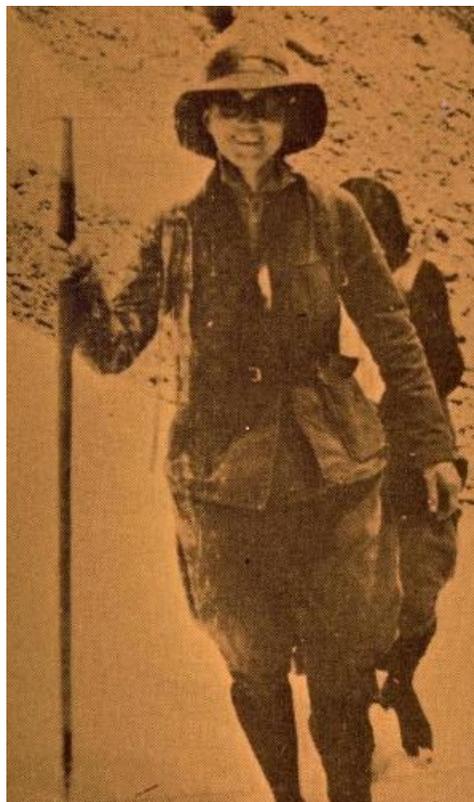


I want to thank everyone who helped with the party and hope I don't miss anyone

Elaine Butler and the Tech Trek Committee

The Burnells of Rockies and Others

Pat Camarena



Esther and her sister Elizabeth were two of the first female nature guides of the National Park Service.

The sisters worked in Colorado's Rocky Mountains in the days when much of the area had yet to be explored.

Esther was the first to go west filing a homestead claim near Estes Park in 1916. After building a cabin she spent the first winter alone. Her only means of transportation were snowshoes. Her older sister, Elizabeth, joined her a year later.

Both women were trained as nature guides by the infant park service. The following year they were awarded their official permits, becoming the park's first female rangers. Esther eventually opened an inn catering to park visitors and supported herself and her daughter.

Elizabeth went on to become a serious naturalist, writing a book on birds and running nature study programs in both Colorado and California. An expert mountain climber, she was the first woman to lead expeditions to summit some of the most prominent peaks in the area.

Many of the early park rangers were ex-cavalry men. That male culture made it difficult for women who desired to enter the National Park Service. Female rangers existed but in small numbers. Many early women rangers were the wives or daughters of male National Park employees. Two such women were Mrs. Cal Peck and Marguerite Lindsley. Mrs. Peck, the wife of a ranger, wore a brown homemade animal skin uniform during her Grand Canyon patrols in the 1920s. Marguerite Lindsley was the daughter of a ranger. Her main qualification for the job of ranger was her high degree of knowledge concerning the local flora and fauna gained by the many summer vacations she had spent growing up roaming the valleys and hills of the park.

More women got a chance to show their usefulness as park employees when wartime made male applicants scarce. By 1918 Claire Marie Hodges became the first female ranger in Yosemite wearing a more standardized uniform. In 2016 the NPS celebrated their centennial. However issues with diversity and gender equity still persist. Women make up just over 37% of the NPS workforce. This number includes clerical employees as well as ranger positions. Less than 16% work in the area of law enforcement. Reports of systematic sexual harassment continue despite the 2016 declaration of zero tolerance.

Betty Reid Soskin, age 97, remains the oldest national park ranger. She is stationed in Richmond, California assigned to the Rosie the Riveter/WWII :Home Front National Park. Earlier this year, she released a memoir entitled [Sign My Name to Freedom](#).

www.NationalParks.org

www.npshistory.com

www.highline.huffingtonpost.com

Playing Now Paula Campbell

The San Francisco Playhouse production of Christopher Chen's [You Mean To Do Me Harm](#) is intriguingly thought provoking and enigmatic.

Directed with care by Bill English, who carefully picks his way through the complex story, [You Mean...](#) is about two interracial married couples, one Chinese American husband and Caucasian wife, one Caucasian husband and Chinese American wife, who meet for drinks. The

Caucasian husband is being offered a job by the Chinese- American's husband's company. Within minutes of greeting each other the Caucasian husband mentions that ten years before he and the Chinese American wife went camping together. The implication is that he, the new hire, had an affair ten years ago with the boss's wife. He explains that it wasn't an affair, and so does the boss's wife, but his wife and the boss find that hard to believe. Then, suddenly, there's a loud crashing buzzing sound, the lights flare and change – then the play continues. The sound and light changes happen over and over at various times in the play. What does it signify – are we hearing the characters thoughts – or what they imagine the others are saying – or something else entirely?

In scenes with each couple, questions are raised of fidelity, hierarchy, and racism. There are questions raised about the "Orientalization" of the Chinese American wife – is she being turned into the stereotypical China Doll – the figure idealized by Caucasian men. Then the Caucasian man's job offer is withdrawn. He believes it's been withdrawn because of jealousy and spite by the Chinese American boss, whose wife the Caucasian implies he slept with. And he's right – the Asian boss has had enough – he doesn't need this kind of aggravation. After all, why did the Caucasian husband even mention the camping trip to start with? Was he one-upping his Asian boss, by implying that he'd slept with his wife. It's the old canard of white men being sexually superior to Asian men. Paranoia runs rampant – who is out to get who – who's behavior is deliberate, who's is subconscious?

I left the theatre a bit confused. The next day I spoke with someone from the theatre, who asked me what I thought about the play. I told him I wasn't sure what the sound/light flashes signified. Turns out the playwright's explanation is that they represent "moments" when information from

"one channel" crosses to another. For instance, when the actors "in the square" made connections with the actors who were outside "watching" the action. That hadn't even occurred to me.

At all events, **You Mean To Do Me Harm** is an intriguing evening of theatre. It's beautifully acted by Cassidy Brown, Kate Rubin, Charisse Loriaux, and Jomar Tagatac. Angrette McCloskey's fascinating set, the playing area is beneath raised sides on which characters who are not in the scenes being played can sit or stand and watch what's happening, and a raised backdrop with burning logs – think about the camping trip – hovering over everything.

You Mean To Do Me Harm is thought provoking and entertaining. I recommend it highly. It raises many sensitive questions, and allows the audience to draw their own conclusions – something rare in most theatre.

You Mean To Do Me Harm, through Nov 3, SFPlayhouse 450 Post Street (2nd Floor of Kensington Park Hotel) between Mason and Powell. Tickets: Box Office 415-677-9596 Fax: 415-677-9597 Online: <https://www.sfplayhouse.org/sfph/get-tickets/> Tues-Wed-Thurs 7pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, (some) Sats 3pm, Suns 2pm, 7pm.



FYI – I also saw **On Your Feet**. By the time you read this it will have closed, but I'm mentioning it here because it was wonderful. There's no doubt

it will be performed elsewhere, so if you see it playing in some other place where you happen to be – go see it! You’ll be glad you did!!!

In Memorium

Joyce Bowen, a long-time SF AAUW member, passed away last month from kidney failure. Her husband, Bill Bowen, will have a joyous celebration of her life on **Monday evening, October 22**, at Martini's on second and Valencia.

Please call him if you can come, 415-667-0139 or get in touch with Mary Suter, 415-665-1185.

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.

October Birthdays

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

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
barbaracspencer@gmail.com
 415) 221-6690

Treasurer

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

Secretary

Kelly Joseph
kelly.wysinger@sbcglobal.net
 415)821-1737

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 2018

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

It is better deserve honors and not have them, than to have them and not to deserve them
Mark Twain



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.