



President's Message

The San Women's March on January 19 appears to have been a resounding success! I was out of town and not able to attend, but I did see newspaper photos of a most impressive crowd. Branch members Sheila Bost and Rosaura Valle were there for the rally and march. Among the speakers were Mayor London Breed, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, and Planned Parenthood CEO of Northern California Gilda Gonzalez. Rosaura commented on some of the signs that caught her eye:

Shut down POTUS, not government.

Hear women, believe women, elect women.

If you build a wall, my generation will tear it down (held by a 10 year old girl). Men of QUALITY don't fear EQUALITY.

Many thanks to Rosaura for this report!

Kelly Joseph will be heading our Nominating Committee for branch board leadership positions. Even if you do not want to be an officer, please consider joining a committee. We can always use

more help, especially for programs and Tech Trek. Feel free to contact any of the board members if you would like to become more involved.

The Sarah Dix Hamlin Leadership Award is presented by our branch annually to a woman who has demonstrated exemplary leadership fostering the goals of AAUW to advance education and equity for women and girls. Sarah Dix Hamlin, who has a school named after her, was our San Francisco Branch's first president, serving from 1885 to 1886. Please email or phone me if you would like to nominate a candidate for this award. The board will make the decision in April.

Finally, there is still time to come to the Interbranch Council meeting on Saturday, February 2, in Burlingame from 11:30-2:00 pm. Kathleen Cha, past AAUW CA and San Francisco Branch president, will be speaking about "Worldwide Gender Equality —Women's Global Leadership."

Barbara Spencer, President

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, February 13, 2019**, 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 15, 2019 at 1:30 PM
Book/Author: *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*, by Jason Fagon
Hostess: Corrine Sacks 1835 Franklin St.#401
Please RSVP to Corrine at 415-292-4130 or cpsacks@yahoo.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, February 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE !!

Book/Author: *Elephant Company: The Inspiring Story of an Unlikely Hero and the Animals Who Helped Him Save Lives in World War II*, by Vicki Constantine Croke
Hostess: Jane Hansen, 601 Van Ness, #326
Please RSVP to Jane at 415-225-6985 or jane.california@gmail.com

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

Date/Time: February 28, 2019 at 7:30 PM:
Book/Author: *The Dry*, by Jane Harper
Hostess: Elaine Butler, 124 Amber Dr.
Reviewer: Jane Hansen
RSVP: Elaine at 415-305-2220

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at noon
Restaurant: Samovar Tea – Yerba Buena Gardens
(small bites, teas and great city views)
730 Howard St (between 4th and 3rd st)
There is parking at 4th and Mission.

RSVP for reservations to Mary Suter,
marsuter@yahoo.com

Tech Trek

Nominations for 2019 are arriving daily. We will be sending out application packets via the internet.

We will be **asking for interviewers** and will be scheduling them for 3 hour shifts. The dates for the interviews are **March 9th and 10th, 10-4**. Support for Families of Children with Disabilities is allowing us to use their small rooms for interviews again. The address is 1663 Mission St.

If you do not want to interview candidates or parents, we have other jobs too: photographer to take each candidate's photo for her file.

Door Monitor to check in candidates hand out name tags, help the photographer, direct candidates and families to take the elevator to 3rd Floor.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Elaine

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator
415-305-2220 or elainebutler124@comcast.net.

Women's March 2019



Sheila Bost and Rosario Valle

Some thoughts about the day:

I am holding an AAUW sign, and was at Davies Symphony Hall with Sheila, our meeting place, at 11:30 AM on Saturday Jan 19, 2019. This was the 3rd Women's March since Trump's inauguration.

The rallies started at 11:30 with chants and speeches from a group of Indigenous women, followed by the Planned Parenthood CEO of Northern CA, Gilda Gonzalez, (a very good speech). Congresswoman Barbara Lee spoke, as well as SF Mayor London Breed. Much reference was made to the 127 (approximately) women elected to Congress in the midterm elections. The rally was longer than necessary! We were done listening after one hour!

We started looking at all the interesting signs:

Shut down POTUS, not government

Hear women, believe women, elect women

If you build a wall, my generation will tear it down
(held by a 10 year old girl)

The best of all: Men of QUALITY don't fear EQUALITY

A middle aged woman asked us about our acronym, and we talked to her about us and our branch and Tech Trek.

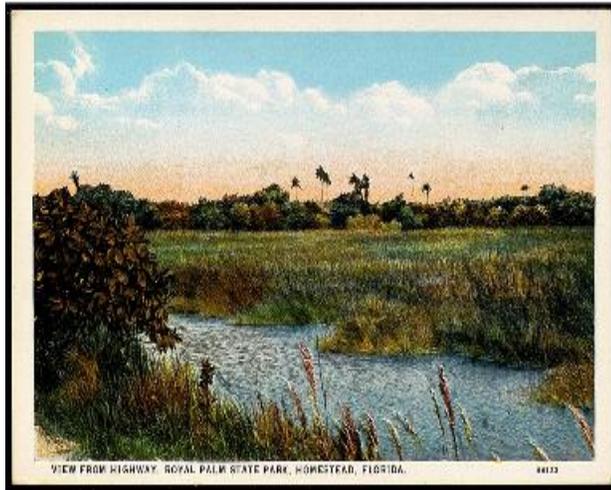
We started gathering to march at 1:50 ish, and finally moved on Market and arrived at the Embarcadero by 3:15. We enjoyed the nice, sunny winter weather, and a beer at the Embarcadero!

Rosario Valle



Ask A Busy Woman

Pat Camarena



One of America's greatest natural treasures is the Florida Everglades. Here a visitor will discover a wonderful subtropical wetland with a significant biodiversity value. This habitat supports a great variety of wildlife and plant life. It is also considered a buffer in hurricane season.

Early in the last century this area was in great danger of being drained, plowed up, and sold off for large profits to small farmers. With the support of many early conservationists and scientists over the course of many years, Everglades National Park was finally established.

May Mann Jennings was one of these movers and shakers who played a very prominent role as an activist at a time when women had yet to get the vote. The conservation of the Everglades was one of her many interests. May had been well educated and was very interested in politics. She worked as a legislative assistant to her father, a member of the Florida House of Representatives. After marrying William Sherman Jennings (who was soon to be elected governor), she became very familiar with the ways of politicians and the world of mostly male-dominated industrialists. May utilized many of her social networks such as the YMCA,, the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, and the League of Women Voters to spearhead a drive for conservation legislation to protect the state's wilderness areas.. Today May is considered to be the "Mother of Florida Forestry".



Mary Mann Jennings

The establishment of Royal Palms State Park was one of her first successful projects. .This achievement resulted in her appointment to the Everglades National Park Commission prior to its dedication by President Truman after WWII. Today Royal Palms Park greets visitors at the eastern entrance to the current 1.5 million-acre Everglades National Park.

Dedicated civic leaders such as May have and still do have the power to make important social changes in our society. The Everglades ecosystem was preserved thanks to forward looking people like May, but still remains in danger. Climate change, altered water flow, and invasive species are taking a major toll on an already-damaged environment. We need more people like May Mann Jennings in today's world, and so establish the right of others long hence and far distant in geography to sit in the high seats,".

www.brainyquotes.com

www.francesperkinscenter.org

Playing Now Paula Campbell

August Wilson is America's premier Black playwright. His plays have received every important award theatre has to offer, including two Pulitzers, many Tonys, multiple New York Drama Critics Circle, American Theatre Critics, Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, Olivier (England), and Wilson himself received the National Humanities Medal, Literary Lion Award (NY Public Library), Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts and Distinguished Pennsylvania Artists, [Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame](#), Artist of the Year, National Humanities Medal, and many many other prestigious awards.

A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Wilson wrote a series of plays, many based in the Hill District of his home town. He was creating an American epic, one play for each decade of the 20th century. The plays were neither written nor produced in chronological order, nor did any particularly reflect the decade it represents. Some are painfully realistic, others filled with ghostly fantasies, all are brilliant plays. Wilson's work is genius – his life not

so much so. His death in 2004 has left a huge empty space in American theatre.

How I Learned What I Learned, Wilson's autobiographical one man show is now on the boards in the Bay Area. I saw it at Marin Theatre Company – it's moving soon to the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, where it plays Feb.14 to Feb. 24. Brilliantly directed by Margo Hall, the show is a candid look into the mind of a theater genius, in that man's own words. Wilson is played by Steven Anthony Jones, who has acted and directed on stage, film and TV for over forty years. He's an amazing performer, at whom I marvel each time I see him. He becomes the character he plays in a way that is uncanny. This is particularly evident in **How I L W I L**. Jones IS Wilson – not an actor playing Wilson, but Wilson himself. The role is a difficult one – Wilson reminisces about his life, in a series of personal anecdotes that are endearing, linear, and easy to perform, but also discusses his various theories of art, theatre, reality in a non-linear way that is sometimes hard to entirely follow. It is the actor's job to make the audience understand, and Jones works hard at doing that. He reaches deep into Wilson's words and Wilson's mind, and delivers him to us in the flesh, breathing and real. The play is almost 2 hours, no intermission – that's a long time to keep an audience engaged. And engaged we were – not a cough, not a sneeze, not a pin dropped. Just a giant roar of approval at the end – A spellbound audience cheering both the actor (Jones) and the character (Wilson) – unable to separate them. It's just an amazing tour de force performance – Jones was born to play this role.

There are some things though I feel impelled to add here. Wilson wrote a play about himself in which he wanted to come out loveable, a good guy, a nice guy. To that end he omitted a lot of what really happened in his life. He speaks with great love of his current wife, and briefly mentions

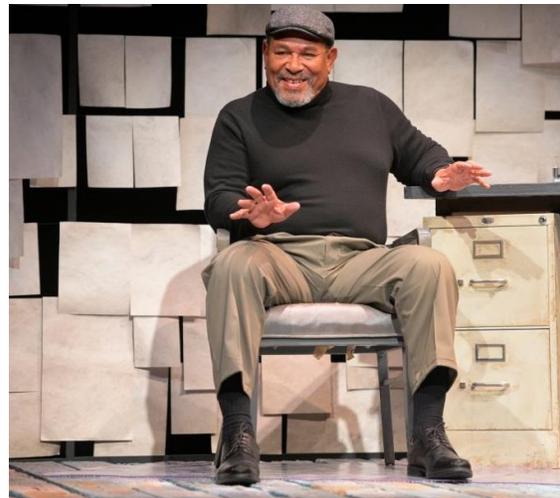
his previous wife. He fails to mention at all his first wife and child, whom he cruelly abandoned and left to struggle with no support or help from him. He fails to mention the brilliant director of his first six plays, Lloyd Richards. It was Richards who guided Wilson to whip the plays into award winners, who turned a fledgling playwright, a non entity, in to the darling of theatre. And it was Wilson who dropped him, denounced him, called him old and outdated, and replaced him. He fails to mention his long feud with Robert Brustein, critic, and Director of the America Repertory Theatre, in which Wilson rallied for an all Black theatre – a theater with no white people working in – a totally segregated theatre. Brustein argued against isolation or segregation, pointed out that Wilson would have never achieved what he did were his ideas a reality. It culminated in a public debate. The arguments became personal and no conclusions were reached.

To sum up, I consider August Wilson a genius – one of the top five American playwrights. I LOVE the work – I do not love the man. I've written glowing reviews of his work, and I think **H I L W I L** is wonderful and definitely a must-see. But I want my readers to know that it is self serving -- more perhaps memoir than autobiography. I want everyone to understand that the audience is cheering the actor and the character the author created – not the man himself.

H I L W I L is a must see. The writing is brilliant (what else could it be with Wilson as the author) and the acting beyond superb – Jones is brilliant. As I said earlier – he IS Wilson.

How I Learned What I Learned Feb 14 – to Feb 24, at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. It's a small theatre -- get your tickets now! BTW, tickets price are \$20-40. How can you resist that.

How I Learned What I Learned, Feb. 14-24. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre at Buriel Clay Theater, 762 Fulton St., SF. (415-345-3980) <https://www.lhtsf.org/get-tickets-to-lhtsf>



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.

AAUWSF Board

President

Barbara Spencer
barbaraspencer@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
wawonast@earthlink.net
 415)664-4985

Tech Trek

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

College/University Liaison

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Lunch Bunch 12Noon	13 Board Meeting: 7pm	14	15 Afternoon/ Books 1:30pm	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Int'l Bk Grp 7 pm	26	27	28 Myst/Adv Bks: 7:30pm		

Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will.

Suzy Kassem



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.