

### President's Message

#### Interbranch Council Meeting

San Francisco Branch just hosted the Interbranch Council (IBC) meeting at my house. The weather cooperated so that we were able to meet in the garden. Cathy Foxhoven, State Co-President, attended and filled us in on plans for the 2020 AAUW State Convention that will be at the Westin SFO Hotel in Millbrae on April 16-19, 2020. There will be opportunities for us locals to volunteer and receive partial rebate on registration fees. Cathy would be happy to hear ideas for speakers who do not charge large fees.



We were reminded about the need to push everyone to take the free online Work Smart course. AAUW national received a \$500,000 grant from Coca Cola to initially fund the program, but

the funding will not be renewed unless 100,000 people complete the online program by mid-August of this year. So let's get cracking!

#### Annual Meeting Luncheon

We had a lovely luncheon with the usual great food and service from Mescolanza Restaurant. In addition to awarding Andrea Laudate the Sarah Dix Hamlin Leadership Award and Marta Mendoza the Outstanding Tech Trek Alumna Award, we elected Rosaura Valle as Secretary of the branch and Kelly Joseph and Roli Wendorf as Program Co-VPs



Andrea Laudate receiving the Leadership Award from Barbara Spencer



Barbara Spencer, Marta Mendoza, and Andrea Laudatte

### State Finance Committee

As previously reported, Roli Wendorf was elected state AAUW Treasurer. I will be a member of her Finance Committee.

### Dates

There will be no board meeting in July. The next meeting will be our annual branch planning meeting on August 3, 10 am, at my house. We discuss what worked and did not work during the past year and make plans for the new branch year that begins July 1. All are welcome to join the board members at this meeting. Kindly, let me know if you would like to attend.

**Barbara Spencer, President**

### AAUWSF Board Meeting

There will be no meeting in July.

### Afternoons With Books

**Date:** Friday, July 19, 2019 at 1:30 PM

**Book/Author:** *The Port Chicago 50*, by Steve Sheinkin

**Hostess:** Michelle Mammini,

Please Note that we will be **meeting** at the **Golden Gate Valley Library, 1801 Green Street**

Please RSVP to Michelle at 415-346-9114 or [mmammini@pacbell.net](mailto:mmammini@pacbell.net)

### International Book Group

**Date:** Monday, July 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**Book/Author:** *Fruit of the Drunken Tree*. By Ingrid Rojas Contreras

**Hostess:** Nancy Shapiro, 1683 42 Ave

Please RSVP to Nancy at 415-731-2654 or [nancy.shapiro@sonic.net](mailto:nancy.shapiro@sonic.net)

### Mystery/Adventure Book Group

**Date/Time:** July 25, 2019 at 7:30 PM:

**Book/Author:** *Origins*, by Dan Brown

**Hostess:** Barbara Cohressen, 2970 Pine St.

**Reviewer:** Sandra Tye

RSVP: Barbara at 415-775-0632 or [ceindhyg@mcn.org](mailto:ceindhyg@mcn.org)

### Lunch Bunch

**There will be no lunch bunch on Wednesday, July 17.**

### Tech Trek

**Tech Trek June Donors:**

Thank you so much for your donations to the Tech Trek Program.

Connie Armitage  
 Pat Spencer  
 Mary Graves  
 Joanne Mandel

### Tech Trek Camp

We have already completed our first week of camper. Five girls with their families made the trip to Fresno. I will write more when I hear from them. I can't wait to hear about their experiences. The other two camps at Stanford will be completed by the August AVANTI and a date will be set for a welcome back celebration, where everyone can hear about our campers' experiences and have a chance to ask them questions and just get to meet them.

Thank you everyone.

**Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator**

### Silver Jubilee



This year's recipient of the Silver Jubilee award

### TAYLOR WOHLERS

Taylor Wohlers' home is in Phoenix, Arizona. She has pursued a Bachelor of Fine Arts through internet courses for the past seven years through the Academy of Art University. Taylor is studying Fashion Design. As a designer she has a tight focus on handmade pieces using salvaged materials and giving them a new life. Taylor will seek government grants to establish a non-profit, small-scale global artisan network in order to bring back the long- lost focus on handmade authentic ethnic textiles within the mainstream fashion industry.

### OK BEYEOL SEO

Ok pursues a Master of Education Degree at Holy Names University. Ok has had quite a journey in her life to reach this degree. Ok was born in North Korea. She moved to China to complete her high school degree. and studied constitutional law in South Korea at Dongguk University It made Ok realize the importance of human rights and freedom. Ok's master thesis is multicultural education in South Korea as South Korea becomes a multicultural society. She will use American education and multicultural learning as a reference to compare and contrast the South Korean's education.

### MARIA LOPEZ

Maria Lopez is receiving her degree in Family Consumer Sciences from San Francisco State University. Maria plans to pursue a career in the medical field with her desire to help people. Maria is a first- generation student who has hardships in the past and present. This has spurred her interest in children. Maria's major focuses on the development of children, influenced by their environment, family management as well as human development. These consumer affair courses are to be pre-requisite courses for nursing school.





**"After all, equality of rights and privileges is but simple justice."**

## **BARRIERS**

### **Pat Camarena**

Belva Lockwood set the precedent for women attorneys to practice law before the Supreme Court. Brave and determined, she overcame many barriers in her long profession life as a lawyer and an activist for women's equality.

Not having been born into a family with wealth or social standing, an early marriage at eighteen, gave her some security. Unfortunately, she was left a widow with a young child to support after her husband was killed. Nevertheless, she managed to graduate from college and remarry. After many disappointments, she succeeded in enrolling in one of the few universities that accepted women seeking law degrees. Even though she had finished her course work, the school refused to grant her degree. Determined to get justice, she appealed to the

sitting American president, Ulysses S. Grant. He used his influence to intervene.

After Belva was admitted to the bar in Washington, D.C. there were still more obstacles to surmount. Belva discovered that the federal courts (essential to practicing law in our nation's capital where she resided) would not allow her to argue before them. She appealed to the Supreme Court which backed the lower court decision. Again, finding herself a widow for the second time and needing to earn a living, she turned to political action. It took about ten years of lobbying friends in Congress for her to see the passage of bills that required the federal courts to allow women lawyers to practice. Achieving all of these advances a half-century before women's suffrage was won required incredible persistence, self-confidence, and faith that judicial fairness would win out.

Belva Lockwood also involved herself wholeheartedly in other aspects of achieving equality for women. She defied expectations by becoming the first woman to seriously campaign for the presidency of the United States. Though she received slightly more than 4,000 votes, her efforts helped to raise public awareness of the growing women's suffrage movement.

Unfortunately, Belva, who had overcome so many barriers, did not live to see the eventual passage of the 19th amendment. When reflecting on her long and productive career, Belva Lockwood expressed her philosophy of life this way: "I have not raised the dead, but I have awakened the living...The general effect of attempting things beyond us, even though we fail, is to enlarge and liberalize the mind."

[www.mentalfloss.com](http://www.mentalfloss.com)

[www.brainyquote.com](http://www.brainyquote.com)

[www.nwculaw.edu](http://www.nwculaw.edu)

## Playing Now Paula Campbell

Saw several good shows this month, but all save one have already closed. ACT's production of Eugene Ionesco's **Rhinoceros** was amazing – one of the best productions of this difficult play I've ever seen. As each good person turned into a marauding beast and the not yet turned tried to rationalize what was happening, it was like watching today's political scene. Ionesco intended it as political satire, it is more than that in today's political climate. Closed June 23.

The Magic Theatre reprised its 10 yrs ago production of Luis Alfaro's **Oedipus El Rey**. I loved it ten year ago, loved it even more this time. Set in the barrio it's an Hispanic version of Sophocles, **Oedipus the King**. The Greek chorus is 4 men who know Oedipus and his story – and provide a running commentary – enhanced by music they create with their bodies in amazing ways. The play is powerful, beautifully performed. Closed June 23.

The Magic Theatre's production of Jen Silverman's **Wink** has been extended through July 7. Sadly, I can't recommend it. It was AWFUL. The play is made of short scenes, with long musical interludes on a dark stage between the scenes. It's 75 minutes – without the music it might have run 50 - 55 minutes. So, it's artificially lengthened and slow, slow, slow. But the problem is the subject matter. In brief, open scene one -- woman with husband, mourning the disappearance of her cat, Wink. She can't get over her grief – and she suspects her husband in the cat's disappearance since he hated the cat. Scene two --- the husband with the psychiatrist – he says he killed the cat and skinned it – with a scissor since the knives are all used for food prep. He buried the cat, kept the skin. And he feels great – now he wants to kill and skin larger things – maybe people. Scene after

scene both husband and wife become more interested in violence – she wrecks their house and blames it on an intruder. Eventually the cat, who it turns out wasn't dead, just skinned, appears sans pelt (played by a human) and tells his story to the shrink. And so it goes – the shrink falls in love with the cat – OMG – really???? At this point the audience is restive – lots of coughing, seats creaking, other sounds. The only redeeming feature is the very realistic feline quality of the actor who plays the cat. None of the corny stuff like licking himself – just really well honed body work.

What I DO recommend is Berkeley Rep's production of John Leguizamo's **Kiss My Aztec**. I haven't seen it yet, but I've never seen anything of Leguizamo's that I haven't loved. **Kiss my Aztec**, set in 1560, is sold as an historical, irreverent musical, silly and serious, in the spirit of Commedia dell'Arte and Monty Python. I assume it's well received since the run has been extended to July 21, with enthusiastic, positive reviews. This is the last production for the Rep directed (and co-written) by Tony Taccone, the Rep's artistic director. Taccone has stepped down after 22 years – his shoes will be hard to fill. FYI, I tried to change my tix to an earlier date so I could see the show before my review had to be in – couldn't do it – good seats all sold out weeks in advance

**Kiss My Aztec**, through July 21. 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.



### July Birthdays

Anna Stern	July 1
Sheila Bost	July 14
Elaine Butler	July 19

#### Birthday Not Announced?

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

### MAKE A LIFETIME GIFT TO AAUW

Have you considered making a legacy gift to AAUW? Your gift will help ensure that the work of AAUW continues long into the future. By providing for AAUW in your estate plans, you can become part of the distinguished AAUW Legacy Circle.

The simplest form of a legacy gift is a bequest, or a gift left to a charity in your will. Bequests often can allow donors to make a sizable gift to a charity that may not have been possible during their lifetime

You can also name AAUW as the beneficiary of your life insurance, bank account, stock account, or retirement plan. In addition to bequests in your will or living trust, charitable gift annuities are available that can provide you with tax savings and income during your lifetime.

Making a planned gift to AAUW is an easy way to make a real impact and leave an enduring legacy that will benefit AAUW long into the future. Planned gifts — or bequests — are gifts that you designate in your will, estate, or trust.

To learn more call AAUW's planned giving office at 877.357.5587. You may also request a brochure by emailing Heather Miller, AAUW's director of planned giving, at [millerh@aauw.org](mailto:millerh@aauw.org).

#### Benefits of Planned Giving

- Planned gifts afford you flexibility to provide for your family and support AAUW.
- Certain planned gifts may reduce estate or capital gains taxes.
- Planned gifts need not affect your cash flow during your lifetime.
- Certain types of planned gifts allow you to support AAUW while also providing income for the rest of your life — or a fixed income for a loved one.
- The joy of knowing that your legacy gift will sustain AAUW's programs for years to come is the ultimate benefit!

Join the Legacy Circle today and make a real impact in the fight for fair pay, education and training, women's leadership opportunities, and economic security. There is no minimum gift requirement to join the Legacy Circle, and it's a great way to ensure that your wishes will be honored now and in the future.

**AAUWSF Board**

Contact us:

[aauwsfbranch@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsfbranch@gmail.com)

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Sheila Bost

Tech Trek

Elaine Butler

College/University Liaison

Program VP

Kelly Joseph

Roli Wendoff

**July 2019**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Int'l Book Group 7:pm	16	17	18	19 Afternoon / Books 1:30 pm	20
21	22	23	24	25 Myst/Adv Bks: 7:30pm	26	27
28	29	30	31			

*Unless someone like you care a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.*

Dr. Seuss



**Avanti Editor**

AAUW  
 San Francisco Branch  
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 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.