



President's Message

March is Women's History Month, and 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the women's right to vote! KQED is going big on women's programming this month. To see everything that is scheduled, go to the KQED website (kqed.org) and use the search button to search for Women's History Month. The scheduled programs are too numerous to list, but one that caught my eye is on March 2, at 8pm on Songs of the Women's Movement. Also, there is an excellent movie out on Harriet Tubman.

Equal Pay Day has finally made it into the month of March! This year it will be March 31 — small but nevertheless important progress. As you may know, the date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year.

March is also our time for interviewing and selecting middle school girls to send to Tech Trek camp. It is a big undertaking, and we would welcome more volunteers. Once again, I thank the

dedicated group of members who have been assisting this effort for many years.

This message is short because I just returned from a tour of Tunisia for most of February, and I am in a fog of jetlag. The so-called Arab Spring of 2011 began in Tunisia and has been more successful there than in most of the other countries. Education is a big factor, along with societal pressures. The trip included two nights at a desert camp and riding camels. Tourism is just ramping up after terrorist attacks in 2015.

Dates to Remember

March 31, 2020 — EQUAL PAY DAY

April 17-19 — AAUW STATE CONVENTION

Barbara Spencer, President

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on **March 9 at 7:30 PM**, at Corrine's House, 1835 Franklin St. #401 (between Sacramento and Clay). Check with the guard to see if there is parking available. Potluck dinner starts at 7:00. Please RSVP to Barbara

Afternoons With Books

When: March 20 at 1:30 pm

Where: Corrine Sacks, 1835 Franklin St #401

Book: The Pioneers, by David McCullough

Rsvp to Corrine at 646-285-6151 or

cpsacks@yahoo.com

International Book Group

When: March 16 at 7:00 pm

Where: Paula Campbell, 338 Ewing Terrace

Book: Abigail, by Magda Szabo

RSVP to Paula at 415-567-1330 or

campbellp@usfca.edu

Mystery/Adventure Book Group

When: March 26 at 7:30pm

Where: Mary Suter, 1770 18 Ave

Book: Murder Once Removed, by S.C. Perkins

Location: JoAnne Bellan, 2466 23rd Ave SF

Reviewer: Harriet Sollod

RSVP to Mary at 415-665-1185

Lunch Bunch

**We are meeting on Wednesday March 18 at Noon
Presido Social Club**

American Fare

563 Rutgers St (near the Lombard Gate, across
from the George Lucas Building)

RSVP to: Mary Suter, marsuter@yahoo.com

Tech Trek

We are doing our annual interviews of perspective Tech Trek Campers on Saturday and Sunday, **March 7 & 8.**

The April AVANTI will congratulate the 2020 campers and express our thanks to everyone who makes Tech Trek SF Branch possible.

Tech Trek February Donors

Thank you Pat Camarena

Pat Camarena

Choosing the Road Less Travelled



In late 1926 the most important newcomer at the Berlin Motor Show was the Adler Standard 6 automobile. This mass produced steel bodied sedan was to be marketed to the upper middle class and also taxi operators. The automobile makers decided to promote the Adler and drive sales by underwriting a round-the-world tour by a well known female race car driver. Young Clarenore Stinnes was chosen to be that driver.

Clarenore was the daughter of a German industrialist and politician. At the age of 24 she had entered her first motor race. By 1927 she had won

17 races, often being the only woman driver competing. She was just 26 years old. Two days before the race she met Carl Axel Soderstrom, a Swedish photographer and cinematographer, who was to accompany her and document the adventure...and what an adventure it was to be!

Clarenore and Carl left Berlin on May 25th of 1927, accompanied by a freight vehicle carrying spare parts and other equipment. Two mechanics traveled with them initially but defected half way. The 29,000 mile journey took them through the Balkans, the Middle East, and then on to Moscow.

They crossed snow-covered icy "roads" in Siberia, plowed through sandstorms in the Gobi Desert, and soldiered on to the edge of the Pacific Ocean. Following a ferry crossing to Japan, a long ship voyage brought them to South America. They drove the Adler over the Andes and then north through Central America and Mexico on very primitive, barely navigable tracks often better suited to pack animals.

Clarenore and Carl pushed on to Vancouver and east to New York City. After meeting President Herbert Hoover, Clarenore, Carl, and the Adler sailed back to Europe disembarking in La Havre. The final leg of the trip brought them full circle back to Berlin, arriving on June 24, 1929. More than two years had passed since their departure.

Growing up with several brothers to play with, Clarenore had always been an adventurous girl. Her well received book ([By Car Across the Continents](#)) written from her travel journals, explains why this trip appealed to her so strongly. Readers devoured her descriptions and Carl's photos marveling at the sheer determination and courage required for such a journey.. Clarenore explained: "As for as long as I can remember, I always felt a deep attraction for adventure. As much as my mother tried to awaken in me the tendency to the activities that were considered proper to women, I always showed interest in

other hobbies. " Clarenore Stinnes will be remembered as the first woman to drive a car completely around the globe.

Sometime after their return, Carl's marriage ended in divorce.

Clarenore and Carl eventually married and moved to Sweden where they raised a family and led a long and more conventional life together less harrowing than when they first met.

www.brokentune.booklinks.com

www.reddit.com

Playing Now Paula Campbell

[Tiny, Beautiful Things](#), now playing at SFPlayhouse, is a gem – small, sparkling, shining. The play consists of letters written to an online advice columnist, and her answers to them. It's beautifully constructed, keeps the audience in thrall every second, and is a sheer delight.

How did it happen? Well, writer Cheryl Strayed wrote an agony column, [Dear Sugar](#), for an online publication, [The Rumpus](#). She carefully preserved the letters she received, and eventually published them as a book, [Tiny Beautiful Things](#). The book was then adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos, (best known for [My Big Fat Greek Wedding](#)) and became the play [Tiny Beautiful Things](#). Vardalos also played the role of Sugar in the original New York Public Theatre production.

What's important to remember is that each of the letters in the play is a real one, written by a real person. The letters were carefully chosen – universal in their themes of love, trust, mistrust, disaster, and success. Susi Damilano, co-founder with her husband Bill English (who directed the

play) of the SFPlayhouse, plays Sugar. She is amazing – not only does she understand the feelings of the letters’ authors, but turns her own feelings into understanding responses to each one of them. The supporting cast of letter writers, Kina Kantor, Mark Anderson Phillips, and Jomar Tagatac, each of whom reads their letters aloud, is excellent, running the gamut from angry fury to grudging acceptance to absolute pleasure.

The theatre’s website contains the following notice which I feel obliged to show here:

Please be advised that Tiny Beautiful Things discusses the themes of depression, drug abuse, sexual assault, and physical abuse.

I loved this play. It’s moving, funny, sad, and oh so very wise. I strongly recommend it.

Tiny, Beautiful Things through Mar.7. 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, Sat 3pm, (some) Suns 2pm.



Closing the Pay Gap with AAUW

At the current rate, the gender pay gap will not close until 2106. In 2018, AAUW announced its bold pledge to train 10 million women in salary negotiation by 2022. AAUW is working to empower women nation-wide with skills to effectively negotiate their salary and benefits and become agents of change in their communities. Please be part of this worthy nation-wide effort and become an advocate for equal pay. Attend the one-hour online workshop at salary.aauw.org to experience it yourself, and pass the word along to family and friends.

March Birthdays

Pat Camarena	March 1
Margaret Kavounas	March 8
Mary Renner	March 15
Paula Campbell	March 16
Nancy Pellosi	March 26

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

Contact us:

aauwsfbranch@gmail.com

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March 2020

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

When the words are both true and kind, they can change the world.

Buddha



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.