

THE SPOKESWOMAN

March 2020 Volume 56 #3

THE BOOK CLUB

We will meet Saturday, March 7 at 9am at the Three Ladies Café (TLC) on B Street opposite Paesanos. We will be discussing “The Sea of Island Women” by Lisa See. Even if you have not read the book, come and join the conversation.

TECH TREK

One of our Tech Trekkers expressed her gratitude and acknowledgment of the importance of Tech Trek to her. The following excerpts from her letter encourage us to keep fund raising and volunteering for interviews (Juliana, Karen L, Rhonda and Gail), Junior Counselors’ housing before camp (Rhonda), registration and organizing paper work before camp (Estelle and others) and collecting necessary equipment. Leslie volunteers her skills as camp nurse for the whole week. If YOU would like to be a proud part of the Tech Trek experience, please contact Estelle, Gail, or Shahla.

The full text of this letter can be found on the website. Sami Tully-Smith wrote: “The thing at the forefront of my mind when I think of Tech Trek is this: A message of true confidence. I saw women in all walks of life that are strong, resilient, and fierce. They hold themselves with a confidence that is theirs and doesn’t need to be gratified by others.”

“Another thing that I think of when I think of camp is this.: Support.”

“Last but not least, I learned that I am not alone. Out there are people who are caring, smart, supportive and inspiring, and I hope to be like that someday,”

The huge responsibility for getting Tech Trek in operation has fallen on Gail Johnson’s shoulders for many years now. She contacts Davis



schools, makes up the application packets, arranges for former trekkers to give these to Math and Science teachers for their students recommendations, sets up interviews and does all the parent contacting,

The Tech Trek experience also involves being introduced at

the Installation Meeting in June, and in September sharing their experiences with other parents and AAUW Davis members. The interviews take place March 17-19 and Camp dates are July 19-25.

Too spike girls' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, three organizations (Da Vinci Charter School, Explorit!!, and AAUW Davis) planned a presentation by professional women in STEM fields this past January. (See February Spokeswoman) It was very successful. To help with next year's event, please contact Leslie.



LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Become a member of the AAUW board and have direct power and influence as a voter for decision-making about our direction regarding activities and community outreach. Estelle, Juliana or Rhonda will be contacting you about becoming a board member. Use the board as a way to understand the positions of President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Treasurer. Then you can take over one of these positions. Be ready to say "YES!" when one of us contacts you. Board meetings have been once a month for 2 hours at the library conference room. Some work is also accomplished by email.

AUTHOR MEMBER

We congratulate Debbie Nichols-Poulos on her successful publishing of **The Conscious Teacher** a book for all beginning teachers and engaged parents who wish to know how to be more effective. It can be found at The Avid Reader or at Amazon.com.

REPORT

CELEBRATE THE 19TH

We met at Estelle's on February 21 for a pot luck and movie, "Rise of the Rainbow Wahine", a tale of Title IX history and expression. Although only several students were able to attend (Sahiba, Eva, and Marlene) they felt the movie's worth and may borrow it for a future student meeting. For those of us who lived through those times, 1960-1980, it was an enlightening retrospective.

Thank you Estelle and Rich. Gail, Char, Dolores, Juliana, Rhonda and Shahla enjoyed the evening and discussion. March Celebrate the 19th will be an optional gathering at IHouse for the Persian New Year Celebration on March 14th starting at 6PM until 9:30. The tickets are \$25 for food and entertainment and can be purchased online through <http://big.ly/Nowruz2020> or call 530 753-5007.

EQUAL PAY DAY – WEAR RED

By Karen Jackle, AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee

The next Equal Pay Day (EPD) is Tuesday, March 31, 2020. This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The National Committee on Pay Equity <https://www.pay-equity.org/day.html> reminds us to wear red to symbolize how far women and minorities are “in the red” with their pay. This is a great idea for branch members working EPD tables in their communities or at local colleges.

AAUW’s publication *The Simple Truth* update is based on the most recently released data from the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2018, women received just 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man. Women of color often face a wider gap: compared to white men, Black women make 62 cents on the dollar, and Latinas make 54 cents on the dollar. The pay gap has only decreased by a nickel in the 21st Century. For more information on the Gender Pay Gap, and ideas for EPD events, check out <https://www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-equal-pay-day/>.

On the National Level, the *Paycheck Fairness Act* passed in the House of Representatives and languishes in the Senate with no action yet taken. The Equal Pay Act requires that men and women be given equal pay for equal work in the same establishment. The jobs need not be identical, but they must be substantially equal. It is job content, not job titles, that determines whether jobs are substantially equal. Specifically, the EPA provides that employers may not pay unequal wages to men and women who perform jobs that require substantially equal skill, effort and responsibility, and that are performed under similar working conditions within the same establishment.

According to WAGE (Women Are Getting Even), women earn one million less than men in their lifetime. AAUW has facilitated *Start Smart* and *Work Smart Workshops* to help close the gap, and you can learn more about these workshops at the website: <https://www.pay-equity.org/day->

[kit.html](#). AAUW now offers an online one-hour Work Smart Workshop accessed from the AAUW.org website, for salary negotiation skills.

CALENDAR

March - 7-Book Club at 9 AM at TLC

- 10- Board Meeting 6:30-8:30 at Library

-12 – Women’s History Month Luncheon

-14 – Celebrate the 19th Persian New Year at I-House 6:PM

- **27- Memorial Service for Mark Sussman, Marti’s husband TBD**

-16-18 Tech Trek interviews

-31- Equal Pay Day

April 13- annual business meeting

-17-19 Convention