

Media Release from AAUW Amador Branch

For Immediate Use: 2/9/09

Program: Helping Women & Children Survive & Thrive

Date: Wednesday March 18, 2009 3 – 5PM

Location: Sutter Creek Community Center
33 Church St.

Contact: Carol Campbell (209) 296-3408

Amador County may be small, but its reach is broad – stretching around the world to improve the lives of many children and adults in countries with high rates of poverty, environmental disasters, malnutrition and disease. In the spirit of Women’s History Month in March, two of these Amador women will be showcased at the March 18 AAUW public program, Helping Women & Children Survive & Thrive, from 3 to 5:00PM at the Sutter Creek Community Center, 33 Church St, Sutter Creek.

Irene Perbal, a member of Jackson Rotary Club and a former career employee of the Netherlands Embassy in Brazil, was sponsored by the Rotary Club to travel to rural areas near Brasilia. She and her husband taught the “Integrated Cooking Method” to hundreds of people in the country surrounding the capital city. The trainees are now able to teach others in their villages how to make solar cookers, Rocket stoves and hay baskets and how to pasteurize and test water for safe drinking. The methods are simple, low cost and preserve the environment, where there is little conventional fuel available. More even than the teachings, the couple were able to bring self-sufficiency to many of South America’s poorest.

Pine Grove resident Marjorie Craig, R.N. has focused this chapter of her life on the orphans and other vulnerable children of Kenya, traveling there repeatedly on her own and with volunteers to bring basic necessities of health and hygiene. Her efforts involve reducing the incidence of malaria by providing mosquito netting and promoting health and hygiene education. As a public health nurse, she has worked on improving sanitation, access to clean water and nutrition. Basics such as clothing and shoes are high on the list of needed items her non-profit seeks for the Kenyan villages. The many groups that support her work have learned that Marjorie makes an irresistible case for the children who are her passion.

Hear both of these amazing women talk about their work and travels on March 18. They will also demonstrate the simple equipment they have introduced to the villages that have positively impacted the lives, health and environments of so many. For more information about the speakers or the program, contact AAUW Amador member Carol Campbell, 296-3408 or carol1191@volcano.net.

Information on AAUW Amador membership, college scholarships, and the April 18 Home tour in Shenandoah Valley will also be available at the this event. Check the AAUW Amador website: www.aauwamador.org for more information.