

President's Message

HERE'S WHAT WE KNOW:

Women are the primary agents the world relies upon to feed and nourish other humans.

Women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger and poverty because of discrimination, cultural traditions and lack of education.

The challenges of women and girls in the United States include: unequal pay, sexual harassment, discrimination in school and the workplace, poverty and hunger, lack of affordable housing, health care, and child care.

When women flourish, poverty and hunger can be eliminated locally, and country by country. Investing in women's opportunities shows economic and cultural benefits.

When 10% more girls go to school, a country's gross domestic product increases on the average by 3%. When women earn income, they reinvest 90 % of it in their families (i.e. they buy books, medicine, food). For men that figure is closer to 30-40% ("Investing in Women around the World", Pearsall, Beth, AAUW Outlook, Fall 2013).

"Nothing is going to get done on the international" or country "level unless there's a push at the home level", AAUW's U.N. Main Representative Melissa Guardaro. AAUW hears the call and leads in activities that assist in the elimination of these challenges of women, locally and internationally. But can we do more?

HERE IS WHAT WE CAN DO

(adapted from Background Paper, Bread for the World, November/December 2014)

Target the agricultural sector of our county to reach the greatest number of poor and marginalized women and girls.

Provide women and girls adequate health care and ensure that births and pre- and postnatal care are attended by skilled health workers.

Engage men on the value and benefits of women's empowerment and girls' education.

Recognize the economic and social value of unpaid family and child care by counting it as work that contributes to economic output.

Eliminate the wage gap by sex and race; enforce anti-discrimination laws.

Build a generation of women leaders in government and civil society, especially young women.

Continue leading the way through local branches of AAUW, sustaining leadership in the areas of advancing equity for women and girls.

Assume leadership roles in our own Five Cities Pismo Beach Branch.

When we all pull together the leadership role is light. Call a member of the nominating committee now to volunteer for a leadership role: Marilyn Corey, Judy Zaretzka, Rose Ann Steiner and Alice Addison.

Thank you! Jean Burns Slater Branch President

CALENDAR — April 2015

2	Lunch Bunch	11:30 a.m.
6	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
7	Book Sorting	1:00 p.m.
11	Cooking Together	5:30 p.m.
14	Night Readers	7:00 p.m.
16	Finessing Fems Bridge	12:30 p.m.
17	Book Sorting	1:00 p.m.
20	General Meeting	7:00 p.m.
24	Hand and Foot Canasta	9:30 a.m.
27	Great Decisions	7:00 p.m.
30	Book Sorting	1:00 p.m.



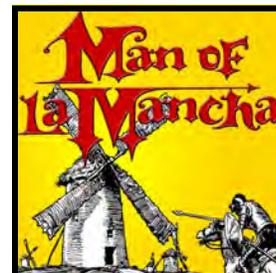
AAUW PlayGroup "Come play" with us!

APRIL 23, Thursday, 7:00, PCPA Santa Maria; "MY FAIR LADY" 50th anniversary
 You "will want to dance/sing/hum all night!"
 As usual, AAUW price is \$20 payable to AAUW Five Cities. Mail or hand to me.
FINAL Deadline is extended to April 1.

JUNE 12, Friday, 7:00, LITTLE THEATER San Luis Obispo; "THE MUSIC MAN"
 You've seen it on the big screen and on the big stage. Now be amazed to see it how they manage to do it on the little stage.
 AAUW price is \$22 payable to AAUW Five Cities. Mail or hand to me.
Deadline is branch meeting, MAY 18.

JULY 11, Saturday, 1:30, matinee, PCPA Santa Maria; "THE MAN OF LA MANCHA"
 As usual, AAUW price is \$20 payable to AAUW Five Cities. Mail or hand to me.
Deadline is branch meeting, MAY 18.

Judy Zaretska 529 Starlight Lane; A.G. 93420 481-7313 judyoung@hotmail.com



**DON'T TRY TO BE THE FIRST
to send your dues!**

Do try to be the **next**. The 2015-2016 Membership Renewal form is on page 10 in this newsletter.

Please print it out and ensure that we have your correct email and phone numbers for updating our directory. Add your dues payable to AAUW Five Cities and mail it to the address on the form or hand it to Alice Addison.

If you know any friends whom you might encourage to join our Branch, pick up a few membership brochures to share. This is a perfect time to invite them to attend our Monday, April 20 Meeting to see the culmination of our local vision with the awards of AAUW camperships and scholarships.

Dr. Alice Adams Addison, VP Membership



Our last meeting of the year will be the Installation of Officers to be held on Monday night, May 18th at Spyglass Restaurant.

We will have our meeting and dinner in the beautiful Banquet Room and enjoy the view!

The evening starts at 6:00 pm with a No Host Bar, then dinner will be served at 6:30, with the program beginning at 7:15.

We have 3 nice entree choices so use the sign-up sheet found on page 9 of this newsletter to select your menu choice. Sign-up sheets will also be available at the General Meeting on April 20th.

Hope to see you there!
Co-Programmer, Maureen Kelly



Scholarship Update



Over 30 applications have been distributed to six "readers" for evaluation. Finalists to be interviewed will be selected at our next meeting. As a reader, I am always amazed at the accomplishments of these young women. We will be awarding four \$1,000 scholarships again this year, thanks to receiving over \$4,000 in donations above the annual branch contribution. Because Priscilla is on the executive board of Newcomers and pled our cause, we were given \$600 from that organization. Many other donations were made to honor someone in particular. One quarter of our donations were given in honor of Stan Corey.

The recipients of these scholarships appreciate them enough to contact us. I recently received a letter which read "Dear AAUW Scholarship Committee, Thank you again so much for your generous contribution to my college career last year. I am loving my mechanical engineering major, as well as my experience in the Smittcamp Honors Program at Fresno State. Thank you for your support of women in STEM; it is much appreciated! Sincerely, Abbie Sandquist" She was actually a recipient two years ago.

Priscilla received the following email recently. "Hello! Just wanted to update everybody on my experience at USC. Things have been going amazingly well here and I'm so excited to continue with my major. I am in the middle of taking my Midterms and have been very happy with my results. I have received A's on all of my assignments and papers so far. I have joined USC's student government and hope to eventually become an executive member. I have also joined the FIA (Fashion Industry Association) club and have been doing illustrations for their fliers. FIA has a lot of big names of the fashion industry speak to us about how the business and internship process works. Even though I'm not interested in working in the fashion industry, the way it functions parallels closely the film industry and the club has been a great way to learn more about the field. Later in March, I will be joining the Intramural Sand Volleyball team and can't wait to start playing again! Hope you all are doing well. Madison Clift"

We thank all of you who have donated to our committee. As you can see from the two examples above, the money is well spent. Just a reminder to our newer members, the scholarship committee is a 401c3 organization, so all donations are tax deductible.

Debbie Audet and Priscilla Alquist, Scholarship CEOs

The following individuals made donations for Scholarship in February:

Dr. Debra Ann Bradley

The following individuals made donations for Scholarship in March:

Frederick and Barbara Cook

Edward and Cheryll Evans

Betty J. White

James and Janet Ault

Judy Zaretzka

David and Marie Palchak

Rosalie White

Kathi Petersen

Pam Zirion, Sandy Pitt, and Kathy Cohon spent the month of March portraying Women in History in 22 local elementary school classrooms. They delighted our members at the March meeting with their portrayals of Laura Ingalls Wilder, pioneer and author of the "Little House" books; Amelia Earhart, early aviator; and Nancy Kelsey, the first American woman to walk over the Sierra Nevada Mountains into California and designer of the California Republic flag shown above.



The Book Sale is Coming! The Book Sale is Coming!

Hundreds of books have been sorted and we still have hundreds more to do. Please come to one of our future sortings at Linda Lidberg's home. It is a great time to visit with other members, shop for your next great book to read, and help with one of our major fundraisers for the year.

Sorting dates: **Tuesday, April 7th; 1-3 pm**
 Friday, April 17th, 1-3 pm
 Thursday, April 30th; 1-3 pm

We still need more books and boxes so let your friends and family, neighbors and co-workers know!

Linda Lidberg, Kathi Pettersen, Co-Chairs



P.S. Book marks are now available from Linda or Kathi so pick some up and spread the word about our sale. Posters will be available at the April meeting to place in shops, community centers, laundry rooms, etc.

April Birthdays

Stacy Meko 4
Patti Melsheimer 6
Mary Ann Grossi 13
Margaret Quandt 18



techtrek!

science & math camp for girls

Tech Trek interviews were conducted on Sunday, March 22nd and six delightful, enthusiastic, and excited young ladies were selected to attend this summer's camps at UCSB. A big thank you to Sandra Ku for arranging our interview location; to Marilyn Corey, Nancy Kington, and Stacy Meko for their interviewing skills; and Kathy Pettersen for helping to debrief the girls after their interviews. Thanks also go out to Jane Pittenger and Judy Leonard, who joined Nancy Kington in acting as our representatives with the middle schools. Come to the Monday, April 20th general meeting to meet these young ladies. Having met them, I feel very confident about our future!

Linda Lidberg, Co-chair with Stacy Meko

. Night Readers

The topic for discussion in the April 14 meeting of the Book Club will be Larry Schweiger's, non-fiction book Last Chance: Preserving Life on Earth. The book examines strategic steps that the public can and must take to stem the advance of global warming and climate change. It offers a lot to think about. The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the home of Sue Singer. Looking ahead, the selected book for May is River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey.

The evening Book Club is currently filled to capacity. – Sandra Ku, chairperson



FINESSING FEMMES BRIDGE

The Finessing Femmes bridge group will be playing cards at the home of Marilyn Corey on April 16, 2015 at 12:30 pm.

The hostess will contact you to see if you are able to play.

ELVERA HORNING, 595-9314



MEMBER SHOUT-OUT !!

During the recent, local Ramsey Lewis--yes, *that* Ramsey Lewis--jazz concert, our AAUW branch member **CLAIRE P. GORDON** was introduced to the Cal Poly PAC audience to their enthusiastic round of applause. Claire was the wife of Irving Gordon, composer of the jazz classic song "Unforgettable" (Grammy award, 1992). Furthermore, Claire was secretary of Duke Ellington and friend of Nat King Cole. She is the chronicler-author of My Unforgettable Jazz Friends (available at Amazon). At age 96, our dear Claire is still very jazzy. Go, Girl!!

Hand and Foot Canasta

What's easy to learn and fun to play? Hand and foot canasta. Our group meets the 4th Friday of each month at 9:30 a.m. We brown bag our lunch and are usually finished by 1:00.

Our next game will be April 24th at Kathi Pettersen's home.

Please arrange for your own substitute if you are unable to come. Contact Debbie Audet at 550-8910 if you would like to join the group or if you would like to be on our list of substitute players.



Great Decisions

The Great Decisions Study Group will meet at 7:00 pm on Monday, April 27th at Mary Jo Aspinall's home, 330 Leeward, Shell Beach. The topic will be "India Changes Course" (page 41 in the study guide). Join us as we discuss the challenges that face the new government with Prime Minister Modias.

For more information call the chairperson at 556-0193. Mary Jo Aspinall, Chair



An invitation from SLO AAUW

Exploring Cultural Diversity

Sponsored by San Luis Obispo AAUW

When: Monday, April 13

Where: First Presbyterian Church SLO

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Corner of Marsh and Morro St.

(across from parking garage on Marsh)

Please join us for an informative and interesting program presented by Shirley Skufca Hickman, the author of *Fall in Love with an Orange Tree or a Book*, which explores the shadow world in which young illegal immigrants from Mexico are forced to live and the struggles they endure to survive.



Shirley's grandparents were immigrants from Croatia so she grew up influenced by two cultures. This perspective helped her understand the struggles of her Latino students.

Please share this with friends; everyone is invited. For further information contact Donna Perales at 543-5724 or dperalesinslow@gmail.com.

AAUW Lunch Bunch

AAUW Lunch Bunch is an informal gathering of members who enjoy sampling local restaurants while engaging in stimulating conversation. Please consider joining the lunch group this year. All branch members are welcome to join us! Attend when it is convenient for you!

Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 11:30 a.m.

Thai Villa

626 W. Tefft, Nipomo

Nipomo's newest restaurant. The menu includes salads, soups, satays, currys, noodle and rice dishes, and lots more. Check out the menu at:

<http://www.menuclub.com/californiarestaurantguide/nipomorestaurants/thaivilla-230681.php>

Please call Susan Brazil – 474-5682 if you are attending, or to carpool. If you need to reach me on the day of the luncheon, my cell is 650-678-0148, though I prefer RSVPs to my home number or email (susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net). Looking forward to our get together--

Cooking Together – Next Event

Please join us for our next dinner in February at 5:30 p.m.

April 11, 2015 Kathy Cohon's home
harveyandkathy@yahoo.com
594-1249, 234-6934



★ **Please contact the host to RSVP at least one week before each dinner so that she can plan accordingly.**

★ Please bring a bottle of your favorite beverage (alcoholic or not) to share with the group. Cost per person is \$10 paid to the hosts.

Hosts will print copies of all recipes for the dishes we prepare for everyone to take home.

Your Committee Chair, Lisa Walker.

Questions? Phone 473-0075 or e-mail LWalker@vtc-sm.org

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AAUW
End of year meeting & Installation of Officers
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015 6:00 p.m.
SPYGLASS RESTAURANT Banquet Room
2703 Spyglass Drive, Shell Beach

Program: 6:00 pm Arrival, visiting, and No Host Bar available
 Introduction of any New Members
 6:30 pm Dinner Service
 7:15 pm Program begins

Dinner cost: \$32 including tax & tip
Menu: Entrée selection, rolls, non-alcoholic beverages, coffee and
 cookies for dessert

Entrée Selections:
 Red Snapper with rice and fresh vegetables
 Chicken Marsala with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables
 Pasta Primavera tossed with fresh vegetables

RESERVATIONS requested by May 8th.

Questions? Call Maureen Kelly, 710-6035

Please mail your entrée selection and payment by check, made out to:

Five Cities-Pismo Beach AAUW and send to:

Program Co-chair: Maureen Kelly
 135 Hazel Lane
 Nipomo, CA 93444

Please cut off the section below the line and send with your check to Maureen Kelly by May 8th.

Thanks and hope to see you there! Maureen Kelly

NAME: _____ Number of Guests: _____

Amount enclosed _____ x \$32= _____

ENTRÉE SELECTION:

____ Red Snapper ____ Chicken Marsala ____ Pasta Primavera



AAUW Five Cities-Pismo Beach 2015-2016 Membership Renewal

Our mission and focus:

"Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research."

Welcome and thank you for joining the Five Cities Pismo Beach Branch of AAUW for another year. You will advance the AAUW Mission while making new acquaintances and renewing long term friendships.

- Dues are \$90 through June 2016. Dual branch members pay only \$25 for Five Cities Branch dues.
- _____ Dual member (Branch name) _____ (State) _____
- _____ Check here to order a new name tag or replacement name tag. Include additional \$10.
- _____ Check here to request the newsletter mailed to you. Include an additional \$10/yr. for Postal-mailed newsletters. (All members with e-mail receive the newsletter directly.)
- Make checks payable to AAUW Five Cities-Pismo Beach.
- Between March 16 - June 1 please return this form with your annual dues and any supplemental payments to:

Dr. Alice Adams Addison
 Attn.: AAUW
 P.O. Box 342
 Arroyo Grande, CA 93421

\$90 Dues
 _____ Name Tag
 _____ Mailed Newsletter
 _____ Total Enclosed

Update any new info. If your directory information is the same as last year, simply fill in your name only.

NAME: _____

Address: _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Degree(s), College/University, & Major (Use the additional lines for additional degrees.)

Birthday (Month/Day): _____ Spouse's Name: _____

This year you may consider joining an additional section to meet new friends and explore new interests.

Activity Interests: Circle interest sections that you might like to participate in or wish to learn about.

Hospitality at meetings

"HerStory"(Women in History)

Great Decisions	Adopt-a-Poll	Public Policy Issues	Reading is Fundamental (RIF)
Bridge	Lunch Bunch	Tech Trek	Scholarship
			Cooking Together
Book Sale	Book Section, Daytime		Book Section, Evening
Hand & Foot Canasta	Diversity	Education Foundation/Legal Advocacy	
	Theatre/Concert Group		Craft/Sewing Group

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