



Volume 36, No. 10

Five Cities – Pismo Beach (CA) Newsletter

June/Summer 2015

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<http://fivecitiespismo-beach-ca.aauw.net>

Co-Presidents Newsletter Summer Issue

Thank you, thank you, thank you for an eventful and satisfying year for Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW. Without your participation we would be very dull indeed.

Key events from the year included a delightful welcome tea at the home of Karen Thomas. October found our branch meeting at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Arroyo Grande with a panel of experts discussing careers in Science Technology, Engineering and Math. Local AVID students attended this highly engaging panel discussion.

November was a very successful Bingo, Silent Auction and Boutique fundraiser. In December our branch participated in a Holiday lunch at Sycamore Hot Springs Resort with the San Luis Obispo AAUW Branch. Author, poet and humanitarian Gloria Velasquez shared her “Dare to Dream” presentation in January. Membership celebration and art gallery event, along with the Interbranch Council luncheon filled in February activities. In March we were visited by three women in history: Nancy Kelsey, Laura Ingalls Wilder and Amelia Earhart. April celebrated the wonderful middle school students selected for Tech Trek and high school scholarship winners. In May we held our Annual Meeting and Installation of officers in an ocean view restaurant. It was a very good year. And now we are relaxing during our summer hiatus.

The following officers were elected and installed for the 2015-2016 year.

Co Presidents	Kathy Cohon, Jean Burns Slater
President Elect	Susan Opava
Co Vice Presidents	Abby Adams, Pam Zirion
Vice President	Susan Brazil
Vice President AAUW Funds	Mary Matakovich
Treasurer	Judy Zaretzka
Secretary	Pat Muhlethaler

However, our branch operates with many local leaders and you too can be part of this local leadership by contributing your talents. If you are interested in leading one of the many activities that allow our AAUW branch to function, please call Co President Kathy Cohon, 594-1249 or Jean Burns Slater 672-1845. We may be calling you for your help. Listen for our ring tone.

Our planning meeting for the 2015-2016 year will be held on **August 22, 2015, Saturday from 9:00am to 1:30 pm** at Jean Burns Slater’s home in See Canyon. Details for this meeting will be provided in late July. Thank you for a sparkling 2014-2015 and welcome to the 2015-2016 year of Collaboration and Camaraderie.

Co Presidents Kathy Cohon and Jean Burns Slater

CALENDAR — June 2015

4	Lunch Bunch	11:30 a.m.
7	Tech Trek Ice Cream Social	2:00 p.m.
9	Cooking Together	5:30 p.m.
9	Night Readers	7:00 p.m.
18	Finessing Fems Bridge	12:30 p.m.
29	Great Decisions	7:00 p.m.



June Birthdays

Elvera Hornung	2	Joan Florence	9
Shirley Bekey	13	Yvonne Stephens	19

July Birthdays

Kathi Pettersen	1	Joyce Fluaitt	6
Susan Brazil	7	Ann Sawyer	22
Lisa Walker	22	Renee David	24
Dawn Henchman	25	Elaine Olson	29



August Birthdays

Priscilla Alquist	2	Sue Singer	6
Barbara Deel	8	Carol Nielson	8
Kathleen Dautremont	17	Donna Gillette	22

HELP WANTED

The successful applicant for this job will receive numerous thank you's and "atta girls" each month September through June. The job is performed only once a month. Job requirements consist of the ability to type with at least two fingers, have access to a computer and an internet connection. Publishing and editing skills will be taught. Don't miss this opportunity! Apply to Jean Burns Slater ASAP.



My Heart Song Music

Ann Marie Kurrasch
Composer & Songwriter
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www.MyHeartSongMusic.com

Telephone: (805) 489-6650 

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To: Alice Addison, Membership VP

From: Kathy Andreini, State Membership Chair

Congratulations on your branch's recruitment of 10 new members last year! We'd love to know how you did it. Your State and National Membership committees are impressed with your double digit new members and we look forward to sharing your successes with those in attendance at the AAUW National convention in San Diego. So please take a few moments to jot down your best practices for recruitment as well as any challenges you faced.

To: Kathy Andreini

From: Alice Addison

How did we get ten new members this year, bringing our branch total to 82? It wasn't I as Membership VP who did it! Every member of our branch was given multiple membership brochures that other members designed. We all invite people in our community and our friends to events, meetings with interesting speakers, and any lunch meetings we do joining with other branches. We also have many small groups within our branch that speak to individual interests, and two huge fundraisers that get most of our branch members involved.

We just keep an open mind to invitation, as we move through the year, and find ourselves inviting people at work, in our families, in our neighborhoods, in our exercise classes, etc. to our meetings, lunches, events -- and get a little publicity from our local media. Our biggest challenge, though, has been getting local media to run stories we send them, so we cannot count on media. We do more face to face contact and personal invitation.

We don't have a member survey, but our membership brochure, a free bookmark given away at our annual book sale, and renewal forms list possible activities and/or causes we support in advocacy for equity for women and girls. Our branch newsletter and website are wonderful ways to let others know what we are all about. Recent new/potential members commented that they went on-line to check us out and came to an event or meeting.

FINESSING FEMMES BRIDGE

The Finessing Femmes bridge group will be playing cards at the home of Claire Gordon on June 18th. July 16th will find the card players at Jane Pittenger's home and August 20th Pat Muhlethaler will be the group's hostess.

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

ELVERA HORNUNG, 595-9314



The Thrill of Interviewing Prospective AAUW Scholarship Grantees

By Elvera Hornung



The applications came in, were carefully read and graded, each by three people. We were especially impressed with all our AVID applicants, receiving a total of 10 from that category alone. Then came the fun of interviewing the top ranking of the three groups to be considered, seniors from Arroyo Grande High School, Nipomo High School and AVID. That is where the excitement happens for me each year. I volunteer to interview these bright, energetic and determined young women. They are all winners, but the scholarships went to Sheridan Rea (Valedictorian) and Kathleen Schwind (ASB President) of AGHS, Jenna Clift of NHS and Olivia Galindo of AGHS for AVID. They each have an exciting story, and for those fortunate enough to attend our April meeting, you heard them in person.

Why do I volunteer to interview these shining women each year? They give me inspiration for another year. This past year, we received a large number of donations, partly in Memoriam of Stan Corey. Thank you all very, very much from the committee and the winners of the Scholarships. We all appreciate every donation. On to next year, as we start over again to plan, work and give scholarships to wonderful young women to help them on their life's way. Keep contributing, please. Thank you.

Our Favorite Books

At the fun and lovely Installation Dinner on Monday night, a socializing questionnaire included having folks name a favorite book read this year (and locate another guest in the room who had also read it). I was asked to share the list with everyone, so here are **Favorite Books Read** this year by AAUW members and their friends who attended the Installation Dinner. In checking the titles on Amazon, all books were rated 4--5 on a 5-point scale (except for one that I might not have the correct title for).

Abby Adams

Being Mortal	River of Doubt	The Hippopotamus Pool
The Elephant Whisperer	The Round House	The Tin Ticket
Orphan Train	Flight Behavior	Boys in the Boat
This Child Will Be Great	Daddy Long Legs	Outlander
The Rosie Project	Leaving Time	Book of Ages
The Husband's Secret	The Caves of Perigord	Murder by the Book
The Bully Pulpit	The Light Between Oceans	Cold, Dark & Damp *

*Not sure this is the correct title because I could not locate on Amazon

techtrek!

science & math camp for girls

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice Cream Social



On Sunday, June 7th, the young ladies selected to go to Tech Trek this summer from the Five Cities-Pismo Beach, Atascadero, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, and San Luis Obispo Branches will meet at the Daisy Hill Mobile Home Park in Los Osos from 2:00 TO 4:00 p.m. for an Ice Cream Social. Campers and their parents will have an opportunity to meet other girls going to camp as well as talk to previous campers and their parents. If you would like to help scoop ice cream or assist with this fun activity, please call Linda Lidberg, 929-6958.

. Night Readers

The Signature of All Things, by Elizabeth Gilbert will be the topic of discussion at the next meeting of the Book Club. The group will meet on June 9 at 7 pm at the home of Sandra Ku. Gilbert's novel follows the life of Alma Whittaker, daughter of a self-made botanical baron, as she explores the natural world around her and the nature of her own complicated psyche. Her odyssey takes her from Philadelphia to Tahiti to Holland, as she makes scientific discoveries that parallel Darwin's in a time when women scientists were rare.



of

Looking ahead, the book for discussion in July will be A House in the Sky, a memoir by Amanda Lindhout. Currently, membership in the Book Club is filled to capacity. -- Sandra Ku, chairperson

Great Decisions

The Great Decisions Study Group will meet on Monday, June 29th at 7:00 p.m. at Mary Jo Aspinall's home, 330 Leeward, Shell Beach. The topic will be "Syria's Refugee Crisis" (page 65 in the study guide). Join us as we discuss what our activities should include to assist the more than 9 million refugees.

For more information call Mary Jo at 556-0193.

Mary Jo Aspinall, Chair





READING IS FUNDAMENTAL'S SUCCESSFUL YEAR

This school year, 2014-2015, the RIF Ladies visited nine classrooms in our three schools: Grover Beach, Oceano, and Fairgrove. We gave books to about 250 students at each of the three visits for a total of about 750 books. Both teachers and students welcomed us and appreciated our visits. We'd like to share some of the third and fourth grade students' comments from letters we have received this year:

"Reading is fun and exciting. You are wonderful for coming to our school. I hope you come back to Oceano to visit us again." Valeria

"I am enjoying my new book titled The Puppy Place." I am devouring every little part! Thank you so much. loving and sweet, Madison"

"My new book titled Goosebumps Ghost Beach is scary but exciting. A ghost haunts a boy. Thank you for the book, I really liked it. My sister can read it when I'm done. I hope you come again. Have a nice day." Jesus

"Thank you! for the books you gave us. I read the book all the time and I even read it to all my family . I really like Mighty Robot books. Thank you very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very much." Johann

"Thank you for the wonderful books. My favorite books are the books that show you how to draw animals. Also thank you for the word search. I hope I get to see you again this year. You are all wonderful teachers." Daniel

"Thank you for the awesome books. That was so nice of you to do. I also hope you come back and give us another book. For your information, I like Junie B. Jones books. If you want to know my name is Johana. Thank you again for the books."

"Thank you for the books. You had so many books that I cannot choose and I chose the perfect one. You work hard, really hard. You are really nice. You are so amazing and fun. I am thankful for you about the book because I like books so much. I am so happy you are going to come back. Thank you." Eric

"Thank you. You girls are very nice. I loved the poem. Where do you get the amazing books? I love them so much. Thank you for the books. Love, Brianna"

As you can see, the children we visit love to read and are grateful for the books they get to keep. Since these are the only books many of them own, we feel grateful to be able to contribute to their love of reading. Sincere thanks to the RIF Ladies: my co-chair, Margaret Quandt, Lauren Manning, Elaine Olsen, and Joan Florence. We very much enjoy visiting the students, who always smile and often clap when we visit! Reading really is fundamental and so much fun. Wishing everyone a happy summer of relaxation and reading!

Wendy Robinson

2014--15 Programs Well Received



Maureen Kelly and Abby Adams, Vice Presidents for Programs, thank the 22 members who shared feedback on the year and offered suggestions for topics/speakers for next year. All programs were rated well. Those programs that were highest attended and highest rated were:

- ★ Tech Trek/Scholarship Awards in April: “wonderful culmination to all our hard fundraising efforts.”
- ★ Women in Herstory in March: “Brave women; Bravo to our members who do this important outreach in the schools.”

The two programs that were rated a bit lower and had more mixed comments were:

- ★ New Member Celebration at Seaside Gallery in February: “although I enjoyed this gallery event, it is not effective as a way to meet and great new members.”
- ★ Dare to Dream with poet in January: “there were aspects that made me uncomfortable...”; “so special that so many students attended and heard the powerful message.”

We will further analyze the feedback and use the many ideas for suggested programs in our planning for next year.



SAVE THE DATE FOR WELCOME BACK GATHERING!

We'll be trying a new idea for our fall kick-off. On Sunday afternoon, September 27th, we are planning a gathering at the historic Dana Adobe in Nipomo. Thanks to Susan Gray, who is an active Dana Adobe supporter, for making this possible. Prior to the event those interested will have the opportunity to tour the adobe. More information will be published in our September newsletter.

Hand and Foot Canasta

The Hand and Foot Canasta group will be dark for the months of June, July, and August. They will resume playing on the 4th Friday in September. If you would like to learn how to play this fun card game, or add your name to the sub list, please call Debbie Audet at 550-8910.



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, June 4, 2015 at 11:30 a.m.

Upper Crust Trattoria

11560 Los Osos Valley Road, SLO

Upper Crust Trattoria has been serving the Central Coast of California its fine Mediterranean Italian cuisine for 20 years. Check out their lunch menu at:

<http://www.uppercrustslo.com/lunch-menu>



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

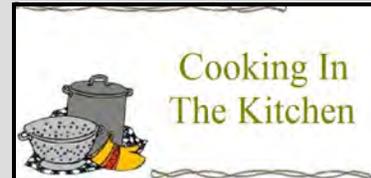
Please join us for our next dinner in May at 5:30 p.m.

June 6, 2015

Abby Adams

Abby.Adams@mac.net

270-4066



- ★ **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



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. (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
 _____ 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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