

## Co-Presidents News

Welcome to the 2015-2016 year of Collaboration and Camaraderie. Are we ready for this coming year? Yes!!! A planning meeting was held on August 22 with 15 AAUW local leaders in attendance, resulting in significant outcomes and here are some of the results of this meeting.

**Summer Activities:** AAUW National Convention, held in San Diego and attended by Co President Jean Burns Slater, presented some key points. The results of the national voting on Bylaw changes included approval of all Bylaw changes with the exception of the membership degree requirement: 55% agreed to keep degree requirement, 41% voted to eliminate the degree requirement. Degree requirement stands.

**Title IX:** AAUW Branch members are requested to speak to local school districts and distribute Title IX materials, developed by the Office of Civil Rights. Co President Jean Burns Slater, Judy Leonard and Linda Lidberg plan to meet with Dr. Raynee Daley, Superintendent of Lucia Mar Unified School District to share information regarding AAUW, Title IX and our local efforts in supporting LMUSD students.

The following ideas were generated at the August 22 planning meeting.

- How to answer, "What does AAUW stand for?" Feel free to answer: AAUW stands for a pro-active organization that supports equity for girls and women through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. You too can be part of this organization!
- Membership and Leadership development: Ideas: Develop a system of mentoring new members, tagging onto to new members' interests, degrees, location. Invite your neighbors to be AAUW members. Contact people attending like minded group activities; reconnect with previous members
- Fundraising ideas: Amazon.com/smile generates a % of sales profits to the registered organization. Spirit night at McClintocks, Chilis, CA Pizza Kitchen, Pismo Outlet stores, Sunset car wash; Barnes and Noble Christmas wrapping donations; Virtual Tea request for donations; supermarket % of sales for designated charity
- General meeting agenda change: Provide a socializing and sign up time prior to the program and business meeting to allow member time and opportunities to sign up for various activities.

**Current Needs:** Communications and Publicity Chairperson. This is an appointed Board position with voting responsibilities. There is a job description which explains oversight for the following communication areas: advertising, email communication, friendship outreach, membership directory, newsletter editor, telephone tree and webmaster, publicity contacts. AAUW members have filled all of these support positions with the exception of Publicity Contact. If you can provide representation at Board meetings in the area of communication, we need you!

## Co-Presidents News (continued)

Co Chair of Book Sale: Kathi Pettersen, Jean Burns Slater and YOU can all help make the 2016 book sale a rousing success. Contact Kathi Pettersen if you wish to join this triumvirate. Our Book Sale needs your help.

Here are your 2015-2016 officers. Do not hesitate to contact them with your ideas and suggestions.

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

Welcome to the 2015-2016 year of *Collaboration and Camaraderie*.

Co Presidents - Kathy Cohon and Jean Burns Slater

### MEMBERSHIP Vice Presidents' UPDATE

At present our membership stands at 73 members. One of our branch goals is to increase membership. Our dues only bring in a small amount to our treasury so increased membership is important for us to achieve our mission. Please consider inviting friends or neighbors to attend one of our meetings in order for them to see how we function as an organization and how friendly we are. – Susan Brazil, Membership VP

The new **2015—2016 Membership Directories** will be available for pick-up at the Welcome Back meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Dana Adobe in Nipomo. Please pick up your directory at that time. If you cannot attend the meeting, please arrange for another Branch member to pick it up for you. – Linda Lidberg, Membership Directory



**Elvera Hornung**, 87, born in June 1928 in Chicago, Illinois, passed away peacefully on Monday, July 20, 2015, in her home in Avila Beach, California.

*Her wit, strength, and chutzpah will be sorely missed. She truly was one*

***Finessing Femme***

#### June through August Scholarship Donations Received:

Judy Zaretska – in memory of Mary Morgan  
 Marilyn Corey – in memory of Marianne Fairfield  
 Judy Zaretska – In memory of Marianne Fairfield  
 Kathi Pettersen – in honor of Susan Brazil  
 Pat Muhlethaler – in memory of Elvera Hornung  
 Rose Ann Steiner – in memory of Elvera Hornung  
 Judy Zaretska – in memory of Elvera Hornung  
 Kathi Pettersen – in memory of Elvera Hornung  
 Marilyn Corey – in memory of Elvera Hornung

**LUNCH BUNCH** is meeting **September 3rd at 11:30** at [Ventana Grill](#) in Shell Beach. Please RSVP to Susan Brazil at 474-4682 or email her at [susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net)  
Eight (8) people have already responded. Thank you for your early response.

## **Your AAUW Scholarship Committee**

Our AAUW Branch can be most proud of their accomplishments over the years to provide scholarships to young women graduating from Arroyo Grande High School and Nipomo High School who are going on to four year colleges. Our new membership directory will show at the back a list of 88 names of past recipients since 1980. Scholarships have increased from one per year at \$50 to our current goal of 4 per year at \$1000 each, if Branch fundraising and donations allow. Of the four scholarships, one is now called the Winona Green Memorial Scholarship and is given each year to an AVID girl from one of the high schools. Plus new this year, we will have another public high school in the district with a graduating senior class submitting applications for our scholarships, New Tech High School.

Scholarships are funded by the generous current year donations from members and the community plus an allocation of part of the Branch fundraising from the previous year. In addition, we decided a number of years ago to grow an Endowment Fund, with the goal of reaching \$100,000, at which time we could fund scholarships from the interest earned from the investments and be freed from the vicissitudes of yearly fundraising. We applied for a 501(c)(3) status as a non-profit corporation so that all donations would be tax-deductible. At the end of the last fiscal year, we had a balance of over \$61,000 invested in the AAUW Scholarship Endowment Fund, with financial advisement from Morgan Stanley.

If there are members interested in joining the Scholarship Committee, we would be pleased to tell you more about our process. Just call Debbie Audet or Priscilla Alquist, co-chairs of the committee. Reading applications and interviewing the girls is a real highlight for our members and I would refer you to last June's newsletter article from Elvera Hornung, a long time member of our committee, who just passed away this summer. Several donations have already been received in her memory.

Please consider a donation of any amount to help keep this worthwhile scholarship program viable. Donations can be made in memory or honor of someone and can also be designated for the Endowment Fund, current year scholarships, the AVID scholarship, or "as needed". Tax-deductible checks should be made out to the Five Cities-Pismo Beach AAUW Scholarship Committee and mailed to our Branch P.O. Box 1604, Pismo Beach, CA 93448 c/o Judy Zaretzka, our Scholarship CFO.

# techtrek!

Our summer Tech Trekkers have had the experience of their lifetime! At least that is what their Thank You letters say. Five young ladies attended the first week of Tech Trek at UCSB from July 19 - 26. Unfortunately one of our girls was unable to attend, however her spot was used by another branch's camper and our scholarship funds were returned to us. Read for yourself how each girl felt about their week-long experience.

Linda Lidberg, Stacy Meko  
Tech Trek chairs 2014-2015



Dear AAUW Five Cities,  
My whole life I have dreamed of this moment. This experience created good memories and you made this possible. So on behalf of me and the rest of the campers, this was an amazing experience.

Thank you,  
*Olivia Randall*

THANK

YOU!

Dear Members of Five Cities - Pismo Beach AAUW,

Thank you so much for providing me with the opportunity to go to Tech Trek. I have learned a plethora of new things to help me during my next school years. Thank you for raising money and allowing me to go to Tech Trek.

Tech Trek was so much fun! We learned so many new things. My "core" class, or main class, was math. I went into math thinking, "Is it going to be hard? Is it going to be fun?" Turns out it was both! However, when it got challenging I thought it out and was able to complete the problem. We also did projects to complete throughout the week and present it to our parents at the end of the week. My group's project was "What to do with a decommissioned oil rig?" Since we couldn't remove it, for it would hurt the ecosystem and animals, we decided to make it into a marine lab and hospital. It was really fun, but my favorite part of the week was living in the dorms and making so many new friends. Eating and socializing as a dorm group included so many smiles and laughs! I have gotten so close with them, that they already felt like family. Getting to share this educational experience with them has created memories that are going to last forever!

I really appreciate all you have done to let me have this experience. I will remember this week for the rest of my life! Tech Trek is not only fun, but very educational, and I will hold onto those memories, ideas, facts, and friendships forever.

Sincerely yours,

*Hunter Long*

## Welcome Back Gathering at Dana Adobe, Nipomo, Sunday, September 27, 4:00—6:00

The Dana family built this adobe in 1839. For those who would like to tour the home and grounds, arrive at 3:15 (\$5.00 donation per person). The guides will share the early California history of the family and region.

From 4:00 to 6:00 we will meet on the back patio (which was actually the front of the adobe during stage coach days). Light refreshments will be available as we gather to learn about the exciting plans for our 2015-16 year of "Collaboration and Camaraderie." Meet our new members and officers and learn of the many activities and opportunities to come.



Dress Considerations. Bring layers knowing that it could be warm, cool, and/or windy as we sit outside overlooking the Nipomo hills and ranch country. Restrooms are a bit of a walk from the adobe, so comfortable walking shoes are suggested.

Driving Directions: (15-20 minutes, car pools appreciated) Drive south on 101 to exit 179, W. Tefft in Nipomo. Turn left, then take 1<sup>st</sup> right after the highway ramps onto S. Oakglen Avenue. Continue to the end of road turning left into the Dana Adobe parking lot.

How might you help? Please e-mail [abby.adams@mac.com](mailto:abby.adams@mac.com) or call (270-4066) if you will contribute: wine, other beverages, appetizers, flowers for tables

Our thanks to Susan Gray, a major supporter of the Dana Adobe, for donating the facility use for us.

Mo Briggs	1 <sup>st</sup>	Linda Lidberg	11 <sup>th</sup>	Alice Addison	14 <sup>th</sup>	Gaye Peltzman	14 <sup>th</sup>
Theresa Rosen	15 <sup>th</sup>	Anna Zucker	17 <sup>th</sup>	Maurina Kusell	18 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Zirion	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Ann Marie Kurrasch	28 <sup>th</sup>						

*September Birthdays*

## September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3  Lunch Bunch 11:30 AM	4	5
6	7	8  Book Readers 7:00 PM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 12:30 PM Finessing Fems Bridge 	18	19
20  Theatre Goers 3:00PM	21 	22	23	24	25	26
27 Welcome! Dana Adobe 4:00 PM	28 Great Decisions 7:00 PM	29	30			

**Book Readers:** The evening book club will be meeting on September 8 at the home of Joan Knowlton for a discussion of “The Goldfinch,” the Pulitzer Prize winning novel written by Donna Tartt. It is a story of loss and obsession, survival, and the machinations of fate. The New York Times critic called the book “a rarity that comes along perhaps half a dozen times

The evening book club is currently filled to capacity.



– Sandra Ku, chairperson

### Great Decisions

The Great Decisions Study Group will meet at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 28 at Mary Jo Aspinall’s home, 330 Leeward, Shell Beach. The topic will be “Human Trafficking: A serious challenge to humanity” (page 77 in the study guide). Join us as we discuss this difficult issue and what can be done to combat it.

For more information call the evening’s chairperson, Jean Burns Slater, at

## Stay Tuned!

### Theater/Concert Notes

The curtain has gone up!  
"AAUW box-office" is now open!

### "STEEL MAGNOLIAS"

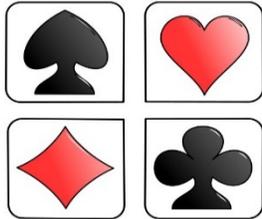
**I booked a matinee so you won't drive home in the dark.**

**Sunday, September 20, 3:00 P.M.**

Pewter Plough Playhouse 824 Main Street CAMBRIA  
This is a sweet, unique, homey, small playhouse with great players.  
By September 13, I must receive your reservation and payment of  
\$22/person. Bring a carload!

Checks are made to AAUW Five Cities - Pismo Beach.  
Mail to AAUW, P.O. Box 1604, Pismo Beach, 93448,  
or bring to my house at 529 Starlight Ln, Arroyo Grande, 93420  
"Come play" with us! We held a seat for you!  
Judy Zaretska 481-7313 [judyyoung@hotmail.com](mailto:judyyoung@hotmail.com)

## More to Come!



### FINESSING FEMMES BRIDGE

Thursday, September 17; 12:30 p.m. at  
the home of Jane Pittenger. We have no  
openings for new members but are always  
looking for subs. Interested, call Marilyn  
Corey

Hand and Foot Canasta is an American version of  
the original South American card game. It is easy to  
learn and fun to play. 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 September 25th at Karen Thomas' 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.

**CANASTA**  
HAND & FOOT

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SHOUT OUT  
to our Sponsors!**

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