

Presidents' Message

Hello All,

I reread Co-President Jean Slater's letter in the January Waves Newsletter. She wrote movingly about making this a year of artful giving; giving of our time, talents, and money. This is truly a worthy goal, and not just at the beginning of the new year.

Creativity and artful giving here in AAUW:

We are off to a great start. At our Jan. 18 meeting Ann Marie Kurrasch shared her wonderful music and more importantly, her thoughts about her creative process, that creative process that is in every one of us, that process that can be "artfully shared". Ann Marie, thank you for sharing your music and for encouraging us to look at our own creativity.

On February 27, we will join with the other 4 Branches in San Luis Obispo County at the Inter-Branch Council (IBC) Luncheon to hear the California Central Coast Fellows, the recipients of AAUW funds, talk about the impact of those funds on these women's lives. The Chair of the California AAUW Funds (formerly EF and LAF) and the AAUW California President will update us on the latest AAUW news. See Jean Slater's note about the IBC Luncheon and then send her your check for your reservation. Lunch at the Madonna Inn can only be fun. Oh yes, creativity, artful sharing, and fun!

In March our members share portrayals about Women in History with our Branch and with the fourth, fifth, and sixth grade classrooms in the Lucia Mar School District. Share your creativity. The Branch will help with a script, a costume, and scheduling into the classrooms. See Pam Zirion's note about WIH and let her know that you will do a portrayal for the students in LMUSD. This is always fun to do and it's rewarding to hear the positive comments about the presentations.

At the beginning of each new year we can't help but think about making changes: clean out the closets, re arrange the furniture, organize the file drawers, lose that last (--) pounds, maintain better contact with family and friends; all worthwhile plans.

Now let's think about those plans with the ideas of creativity and artful giving and, perhaps, expand and try one new thing. Do you know the Girl Scout Round that says, "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, and the other gold." Let's move into this new year with our silver and our gold. We can only grow with it.

Cheers,

Kathy Cohon

Co-Presidents: [Kathy Cohon](#), [Jean Burns Slater](#)



Please come join us for

IBC-Fellows Luncheon

Sponsored by Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo County Interbranch Councils

AAUW SUPPORTS YOUNG WOMEN

Come hear from our California Central Coast fellows what your local support means to them:

- Ashley Greenway, Community Action Grant Recipient
- Aurora Ruvalcaba, NCCWSL Recipient
- Nicole de la Loza Rivera, Career Development Grant

Also speaking:

Sharon Westafer, CA AAUW Funds Chair
Kathleen Doty, AAUW California, President

Madonna Inn, Garden Room

San Luis Obispo, CA

Saturday, February 27 – 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Enjoy a delicious Italian buffet - \$25

RSVP to Jean Burns Slater IBC Chair by Friday, February 12

3132 Meadowbrook Lane San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

jbslater2006@gmail.com, 627-1845

Mail check made out to "Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW"

24th Congressional District Debate

Submitted by J.B. Slater

Five candidates vying for the 24th Congressional District seat, currently held by Lois Capps, will participate in a debate on February 4 from 6 to 8 pm at the Spanos Theater at Cal Poly. This debate is open to the public. Topics will include the federal government's role in higher education, economic growth and prosperity, environmental sustainability and water policy, and social divisions including political polarization. Space is limited and registration is required. To register go to www.24congressionaldebate.eventbrite.com.

Membership Vice President's Update

Membership remains at 75. Wouldn't it be super to be at 77 by May? That's not too much to accomplish. Please think of potential members to invite to our Monday meeting. See you there.

- Susan Brazil

Ann Marie Kurrasch Inspired Us



At the January meeting Ann Marie Kurrasch not only shared her musical and creative process history with us, but also embodied our goals for women mastering technology. She played the electronic keyboard, used her iPhone to play many different pieces she'd previously recorded on CDs, sang into the microphone, and even showed us how she dances. She inspired us to continue to use music ourselves to keep our own creative spark alive. It's never too late to learn to play an instrument. Ann is a piano teacher and is available for lessons. Thank you, Ann Marie, for a very enjoyable program!

--Alice Addison

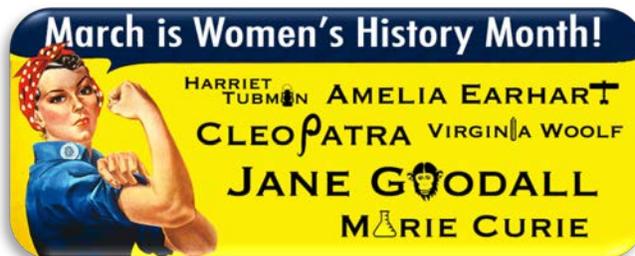
Get Your Alter Ego On!

Now is the time, AAUW members, to educate and enlighten people about the women who have shaped our country.

It's as easy as pie:

- ~Choose a woman for your focus.
- ~Read about her (children's books are great for this)
- ~Decide on a costume
- ~Write a speech (20 minutes in length)
- ~Gather some props to enhance your talk
- ~Practice your speech
- ~The committee will do the rest!

✓ You CAN do this!



It's fun, scary, but you hide behind the costume! You become the person: you are not Joan, Sue, or Patti. You are *Amelia*, *Susan B.*, *Harriet*, or *Julia* or ?

I guarantee you'll enjoy it! Questions? Ask Pam Zirion at 543-5403 or Kathy Cohon.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

When you want to respond to an AAUW **email blast** message, please don't just hit "reply". It will come back to me, and I am just the messenger. There is always information in the message letting you know where and how to respond.

Thanks,

Joan Florence

Scholarship: Letter from Stanford

The Scholarship Committee is excited to hear from 2015 scholarship recipient, Sheridan Rae, about her first quarter at Stanford University. To provide scholarships for future recipients as deserving as Sheridan, please remember to use "AmazonSmile" when ordering from Amazon. Check with Kathi Pettersen if you need assistance in doing so. The Scholarship Committee is registered with "AmazonSmile" and receives .5% on every order indicating the Branch as the charity of choice. Read on....

My first quarter at Stanford has been quite an amazing journey. From day one I have been awed at the accomplishments of the people around me and the level of commitment to excellence at Stanford. Adjusting to life here has been both challenging and rewarding. I had to learn to live closely with three people I had never met before coming to Stanford. I had to learn to eat when the dining hall is open. I had to learn a whole new set of study skills. And perhaps the most difficult challenge was learning to choose between all the many opportunities available to me. Last quarter I couldn't help but sign up for too many activities and classes. I was taking a full 20 units and having a blast, but it was also stressful at times. I had to learn that I simply cannot do everything I want to do without losing the ability to fully enjoy those things. Some of the highlights I did enjoy were auditioning for a swing dance performance group, shadowing Stanford physicians in the Emergency Department (including helping with a trauma!), being a research assistant for a study on post surgical opiate usage, and learning about the geology of the bay area on a two day sustainable camping trip. I also made some amazing friends. Together, I have high hopes that we can not only succeed at Stanford, but thrive here.

I'm looking forward to this quarter being even better than the last. I feel settled in and more knowledgeable about life on campus. I'm taking Organic Chemistry, Classical Mechanics with Laboratory, Introduction to Anthropology, Core Peer Counseling Skills, and Intermediate Piano. I'm excited about the diversity of topics in my schedule and the opportunities I'll have to apply the concepts I'm learning in the future. I'm not currently committed to any extracurriculars or summer programs, but I have applied to be a part of two research teams, be a counselor at a summer camp for kids affected by cancer, and go on a service learning trip to Sri Lanka. I also plan on swing dancing every Saturday. I'm glad that I will be here for four years. I may not be able to do everything at once, but I'm hoping to try many new things and discover where my passions truly lie.

Sheridan Rea



Teacher information packets and student application forms have been passed out to all three middle schools. The Tech Trek committee is now waiting for the girls' applications to come in. Interviews are set for **March 20th**. Community donations to the Tech Trek account have been received from The Five Cities Men's Club, Five Cities Optimist Club, Melfred Borzall Company, and a very generous donation from the grandmother of a former Tech Trek Camper.

Great Decisions 2016 discussion group will meet at 7pm at Mary Jo's house (330 Leeward) on Monday, February 22nd. The topic will be the Rise of ISIS (page 13 in the Study Guide). The author of the article in our guide is a prestigious person who gives us new insights to the history of the group and possible actions we can take. Join us if you're interested. Call 556-0193.

Finessing Femmes Bridge - February 18th @ Marilyn's

Third Thursday, 12:30pm at members' homes. We have no openings for new members but are always looking for subs. Interested? Call Marilyn Corey for more information.



AAUW Thursday Sewing Group Hostesses

RSVP: Karen Thomas

We meet at 12:30 PM (unless announced otherwise)



2/11	Mary Weeks
2/18	Susan Gray
2/25	Priscilla Alquist
3/10	Karen Thomas (call for more info)



Daytime Books



AAUW Daytime book Club will meet on Friday, February 5th at the home of Pat Kastama. We will be discussing *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. Barnes & Noble describes this novel in this way: "**Funny, tender, and moving, *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* reminds us all exactly why we read and why we love.**"*

Please join us for lively discussions and brown bag lunches. Call Patti Melsheimer for additional information.

Night Readers

The evening Book Club will be discussing "**The Boys in the Boat**," by Daniel James Brown, at its next meeting on February 9th at the home of Joan Florence. The book is a fast-paced and emotional piece of non-fiction, describing the University of Washington crew team in 1936, as it attempts to win the Olympics in Berlin. The book is not only plot driven, but features emotional characterizations of the crew members who grew up during the depression. Looking ahead, the book choice for March is "The Rosie Project" by Graeme C. Simsion.

-- Sandra Ku, chairperson



Lunch Bunch

Lunch bunch will be at Steamer's February 4th, at 11:30. Please call me for reservations. We had a great turnout at Gina's this month - 14 people!



March--Rooney's Pub in Orcutt
 April--Apple Farm in SLO
 May--Ventana Grill in Shell Beach
 June--Thai Village in Nipomo
 July--Lovin' BBQ in Grover Beach

Susan Brazil - Chair

August--Jaffe Cafe in Arroyo Grande
 September--Cracked Crab in Pismo Beach
 October--Hula's in Avila Beach
 November--Old Juan's Cantina in Oceano
 December--Santa Maria Inn in Santa Maria

474-5682 or susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net

CANASTA HAND & FOOT

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. Call Debbie Audet if you would like to join the group or would like to be on our list of substitute players.

Come "PLAY" with AAUW Theater Plan-Aheads

Feb. 19 7:00 PM	Cabaret	SLO Little Theater	\$40.00
Mar. 3 7:00 PM	The Glass Menagerie	PCPA	\$20.00 by Feb.15
Mar. 13	Mark Twain Tonight	CalPoly	\$42 and up
Apr. 19	Menopause--The Musical	CalPoly	\$46 and up
May TBA	Across the River	Great American Melodrama	
Jun. 3	Bye, Bye, Birdie	San Luis Obispo Little Theater	
Jun. 22 <u>Wed. Matinee</u>	Shrek--The Musical	PCPA	
July TBA	Under the Boardwalk	Great American Melodrama	
Aug. 11	In the Heights	PCPA	
Sept.TBA <u>Sun. Matinee</u>	Dixie Swim Club	Pewter Plough Playhouse	

If paying for more than one play, indicate number of tickets for each event.

Checks should be written to AAUW FIVE CITIES-PISMO BEACH and mailed to me.

Judy Zaretska 529 Starlight Ln. A.G. 93420-4157 judyong@hotmail.com

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 NO Board Meeting	2	3	4  Lunch Bunch 11:30 AM	5  Daytime Books 12:30 AM	6
7	8	9  Night Readers 7:00 PM	10	11  Stitch 'n 11:30am	12  Book Sorting 1-3pm	13
14 	15  President's Day	16	17	18  Bridge 12:30pm	19	20
21	22  Great Decisions 7:00pm	23	24	25  Stitch 'n 11:30am	26  Canasta 9:30am	27 IBC Fellows Luncheon Madonna Inn 11am-2pm
28	29					

February Birthdays

Karen Thomas 6	Madelyn Koontz 6	Mary Lou Hart 9
Marilyn Corey 9	Sandra Ku 12	Nancy Cunningham 18

BOOK SALE COMING SOON!

Now is the time to help collect book sale donations and begin talking about our excellent AAUW BOOK SALE: May 21, Saturday 9am-3 pm Kmart Parking Lot Arroyo Grande

Book Donations: Book marks ready with book donation phone numbers.

Barbara Deel 474-5939 Linda Lidberg 929-6958 Jean Burns Slater 627-1845 will take book donors' information and assign a committee collector to pick up the books. Committee book collectors include: **Rose Ann Steiner, Barbara Deel, Pat Muhlethaler, Jean Burns Slater, Kathy Cohon, Danna Weidner**

Donations and Sorting: Book donations delivered to Linda Lidberg's home: 959 Vista Lane, Nipomo
Last day to phone for book pick up: May 13. Last day to drop off books for sorting, May 14.
Sorting Tables are needed to be delivered to Linda's home.

Sorting Dates:

February 12, Friday	1-3 pm	March 8, Tuesday	1-3 pm
March 19, Saturday	10-12 noon	April 4, Monday	1-3 pm
April 16, Saturday	10-12 noon	April 25, Monday	1-3 pm
May 6, Friday	1-3 pm	May 14, Saturday	10-12 noon
May 18, Wednesday	1-3 pm		

Thank you: Kathi Pettersen and Jean Burns Slater, Book Sale Chairwomen

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