

# The Waves



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

Volume 38, No. 7

Newsletter Editor: [jbarnesgabriel@gmail.com](mailto:jbarnesgabriel@gmail.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Susan Opava*



January turned out to be a busy month for our Branch. As planned, our regular January meeting was a joint one with the Santa Maria Branch, at which the Legislative Advocate in Sacramento for AAUW-CA, Shannon

Smith-Crowley, introduced us to the work she does on behalf of AAUW priorities and positions. As you may imagine, it is impossible for all priorities to be addressed at all times, and for all the thousand+ bills that pass through the legislature each year to be given AAUW attention. Thus, much of Shannon's job involves working with AAUW-CA to set a short list of priorities each year and then to review the myriad of proposed bills and choose those that will most benefit AAUW if passed. The selected bills may then be sponsored by AAUW, in which case Shannon becomes a key participant in moving the legislation forward, working closely with the legislator(s) who introduced the bill. In other cases, her role is more of advocating for a particular bill among both supporters and opponents, laying out AAUW positions and why the bill is important to our organization. She also impressed on us the importance of meeting with our local, state and even national representatives to provide information about the work we do. Thanks to our other Branch members who attended the meeting: Mary Jo Aspinall, Linda Lidberg, Mary Matakovich, Liz Wineman, and Judy Zaretska!

At the same time as our meeting in Santa Maria, many of our members were participating in the Women's March in San Luis Obispo, and drawing attention to AAUW positions along with members of other branches in the County. AAUW San Luis Obispo organized an information table where materials on AAUW and our local branches (including the membership contact for each) were distributed. By all accounts, the march was a huge success and there was a surprising amount of interest in learning more about AAUW.



In February, all San Luis Obispo County AAUW branches will be joining the branches of Santa Barbara County, for our annual luncheon. The Santa Barbara Branch is hosting this year's event. This will replace our general meeting in February so I hope you all will attend. The program features a speaker who became a dynamic advocate for AAUW, and women in general, by fighting her own case of discrimination. Donna Mertens, President of AAUW-CA, will also speak. Please look for details about the meeting in this newsletter.

As always, thanks for all the good you do as members of AAUW and our Branch.

### Membership

We currently stand at 76 members. I am so happy that our new members have already become involved in some of our activities.

We have potential members waiting to join in March when yearly dues are due. They may be attending some of our interest groups to meet existing members so please welcome them. The revised renewal dues letter will be mailed out in our March newsletter. Time to add dues to your March budget! Hope to see you at our activities.

*- Susan Brazil*

## Women in History (HERstory!)

Spread Women's History in Your Local Schools



Our Women's March is in the news, and we want to remember and honor women in the past who have made a difference.

Please join us in presenting a portrayal of a Woman in History to elementary students in Lucia Mar School District.

We can help you write a 15-20 minute story, gather a costume, and schedule visits to the classrooms. We'll meet to do a read-through in early March, visit classrooms Mar 13- 31 (according to your availability), and do our portrayals for our April 17 Branch meeting.

This is a good year to share the story of women who have made an impact in our society. Contact us to be part of the presentations.

Thanks & Cheers,

*Kathy Cohon & Pam Zirion*

### COOKING TOGETHER

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

February 25, 2017

Wendy Robinson

[cwendywalk@aol.com](mailto:cwendywalk@aol.com)

781-0903

- **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](mailto:lwalker@vtc-sm.org)

## Scholarship

Thanks to the late Claire Gordon, the goodwill of her grandson, Jonathan Gordon, the leadership of Scholarship CEO, Marilyn Corey, and the dedicated Branch members, the Scholarship Endowment Fund will soon meet its goal of \$100,000 with the proceeds from the sale of Claire's household goods. According to the terms of Claire's will, the Scholarship Endowment Fund and her heirs were each to receive 40% of the proceeds. However, when Mr. Gordon came to the sale, met our workers, witnessed the Branch's organization of the sale, and heard personal accounts related by Branch members about knowing Claire, he then generously chose to also donate his share of the proceeds to the Scholarship Endowment fund. At this time, there are still a few unsold items. Some of these will go to auction, some to an antique store, and others to charitable organizations, such as the Prado Day Center in San Luis Obispo and RAD. Scholarship CEO, Marilyn Corey, was authorized by the Estate Executor to conduct the Estate Sale. Beginning in August 2016, she and the planning team of Linda Lidberg, Pat Muhlethaler, Rose Ann Steiner, Kathi Petersen and Carol Nielson spent many hours preparing for the sales, cleaning out and sorting, coordinating the work schedules and providing all the publicity. A total of fifty three (53) Branch members with help from 9 nonmembers worked over 1,000 hours preparing for the sale, conducting the sale and cleaning up afterwards. This outstanding cooperation and effort is sincerely appreciated. What really counts is that this effort will create the funds for many scholarships in the future!

## January Scholarship Donations

Carol J. Rowe	Scholarship
Joyce Fluaitt	Scholarship
Rose Ann Steiner	Scholarship
Debra Audet	Avid
Linda Lidberg	Avid





**IBC FELLOWS LUNCHEON**  
Sponsored by Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo County Interbranch Councils

**Leadership for Women, by Women**  
**Saturday, February 25, 2017**  
**11:00 AM-2:00 PM**  
**Santa Maria Country Club**  
**505 W. Waller Lane, Santa Maria**  
**Tickets: \$30**

**Opening Remarks**  
Donna Mertens, AAUW CA President  
Sharon Westafer, AAUW Fund

**Keynote Speaker**

**This is our February General Meeting.**



**Aileen Rizo** has worked in math education for nearly 20 years in roles such as a classroom teacher, curriculum designer, educational consultant, academic coach, adjunct university faculty, and is currently a Statewide Network Educator for the Smarter Balanced Digital Library. Recently, Aileen has become the face of wage discrimination. She gained the attention of national media and has been interviewed by Maria Shriver of NBC, among others. Her testimony supported the Fair Pay Act as it made its way through the California Legislature becoming the strongest equal pay bill in the nation.

*Dear Five Cities-Pismo Beach,*

*Hi, I'm Haile Jenkins. I'm writing this to thank you for raising money and obtaining my place in camp. Thanks for choosing me, Five Cities-Pismo Beach to go to UCSB. It is cool to be interacting and solving problems with girls my age.*

*Tech Trek is fun with people you can relate to, with the same interest. The boat was my favorite part about Tech Trek camp. One reason this was my favorite was because we did rotation on different parts of the boat, such as dissecting a holdfast. Another was catching zooplankton.*

*Again, I'm thanking you for this wonderful, once-in-a-lifetime experience. Here at this camp it's cool to have all of us introduced to S.T.E.M. projects, early on in school education. Ple* *age*  
*to experience what I have done here. Thank you!*

*Sincerely,*

*Haile Jenkins*



## LUNCH BUNCH

Here is the information for our wonderful Lunch Bunch to which everyone is invited. Information is included for the next 3 months to help you plan ahead and a final email will be sent to you one week before the actual date.

**Feb. 2nd:** Hapy's (a new restaurant in AG)

**March 2nd:** Rooney's in Orcutt

**April 6th:** Willy's in Pismo

Since Susan Brazil is taking a well deserved break from organizing these events this year, kindly send your RSVP to Carole Dempsey

at [medipharmix@aol.com](mailto:medipharmix@aol.com) or call (805) 904-6646.

Since I will be traveling for the next week, email would be the best way of communicating with me.

## NIGHT READERS

The next meeting of the Night Readers Book Club will be held on February 14 at the home of Pat Muhlethaler. The book for discussion will be the non-fiction best seller "H is for Hawk" by Helen MacDonald. The author takes the reader through her personal journey in attempting to train a goshawk, a notoriously difficult bird of prey. The book combines memoir, landscape, history and falconry, and has been on many lists as a best book of the year. A critic from National Geographic wrote, "It is one of the most riveting encounters between a human being and an animal ever written." Looking ahead, the book selection for the March meeting is "The Underground Railroad." – The Book Club is currently filled to capacity.

-- Sandra Ku, chairperson

## GREAT DECISIONS

### Prepare to Discuss the World

Great Decisions meets monthly at the home of Mary Jo Aspinall to discuss world events, view a video and follow up a reading from the Great Decisions Foreign Policy Association publication. The meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. The discussion for February will be centered on Trade, Jobs and Politics, a very current topic right now. Made in U.S.A., Made in China, Made in the World: what do these labels mean to the U.S. and global economy. Come find out at the Great Decisions discussion, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Call Mary Jo Aspinall 556-0193 or Connie Rogers 481-1841 with questions.

## FINESSING FEMMES BRIDGE

Finessing Femmes now meets on the **first Wednesday** of the month. On February 1, we meet at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Jo Aspinall. On March 1, we meet at 12:30 at the home of Marilyn Corey. If interested in joining us or being a sub, call Marilyn Corey at 473-1928. Happy Valentine's Day to all!

## HAND AND FOOT CANASTA

Our Hand and Foot Canasta group will meet on the fourth Friday, **February 24, 2017, at 9:30**. Our hostess will provide drinks and dessert. Bring \$3 and your lunch.

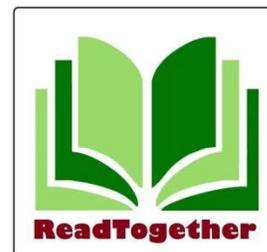


-- Debbie Audet

## DAYLIGHT BOOK GROUP

### Daylight Book Readers

The Daylight Book Readers have selected their books for the 2017 year and what a great variety there is! We will start on February 3<sup>rd</sup> with *A Tale for the Time Being* by [Ruth L. Ozeki](#), a story narrated by two characters, a sixteen-year-old Japanese American girl in Tokyo who keeps a diary, and a Japanese American writer living on an island off British Columbia who finds the diary washed up on shore some time after the [2011 tsunami](#) that devastated Japan. Pat Kastama is the Hostess for the February 3 discussion. We meet the first Friday of each month, hosted by different members. The discussion begins at 11:30 am, followed by member's brown bag lunch and dessert and beverages provided by the hostess. Meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month, 11:30 am.



Future books on the reading list include: *Dancing Fish and Ammonites* by Penelope Lively, *Barbarian Nurseries* by Hector Tobar, *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsberg, *Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead.

Join us! Message Jean Burns Slater 805 627-1845 or [jbslater2006@gmail.com](mailto:jbslater2006@gmail.com) for more details and a listing of the books for 2017.r

**RENEE A. DAVID**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT**

129 N. HALCYON ROAD  
 ARROYO GRANDE, CA 93420  
 (805) 473-9274 FAX 473-9275

**PCR**  
 ONCOLOGY

**DAVID PALCHAK MD**  
 Medical Oncologist/  
 Principle Investigator

Medical Oncology and Clinical Trials

921 Oak Park Blvd, Suite 100A  
 Pismo Beach, CA 93449  
 www.pcroncology.com

Phone: 805.474.9143  
 Fax: 805.474.9569

**Madelyn's**  
**Wholesale Apparel**

Monday - Saturday 10:30 - 5:30  
 Private Appointments As Arranged

Madelyn Koontz, Owner Pacific Coast Plaza  
 Phone (805) 473-8001 893 Oak Park Boulevard  
 Pismo Beach, California 93449

**WELLS FARGO** **ADVISORS**

**Aaron M. Paulsen**  
 First Vice President - Investment Officer  
 CA Insurance Lic #0B08237

**Terri L. Rice**  
 Senior Registered Client Associate

**Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC**  
 907 Rancho Parkway  
 Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
 Tel 805-473-0481  
 Fax 805-473-0749  
 800-733-3268  
 aaron.paulsen@wfsadvisors.com  
 terri.rice@wfsadvisors.com

Member FINRA/SIPC

Telephone: (805) 489-6650 

**MAURINA KUSELL, D.D.S.**  
 260 Station Way, Suite E  
 Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

"dentistry with a gentle touch"

**Century 21**  
 HOMETOWN REALTY

License #00943880

Direct: 805-459-7536  
 FAX: 805-481-4064  
 Claire.Vollmer@Century21.com  
 www.C21Home.com

**Claire Vollmer**  
 Broker Associate, SPES®  
 Serving the Central Coast since 1985



® Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

 *My Heartsong Music*  
**Ann Marie Kurrasch**

Announces the release of her latest  
 CD of relaxing piano solos:

*Whispers & Meditations*  
 20 Piano Solos to Calm and Refresh!



805.904.6406  
 ann.kurrasch@gmail.com  
 www.MyHeartsongMusic.com



**JOHN E. HUTTON,**  
**D.D.S., M.S., M.P.H.**  
*Prosthodontics*

145 Bridge Street • Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
 (805) 489-1900

*Thanks to our sponsors!*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Finessing Femmes Bridge 12:30pm	2 Lunch Bunch 11:30am	3 Daylight Book Group 11:30	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Night Reader's 7:00pm Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day 	21	22	23	24 Hand & Foot Canasta 9:30am	25 IBC Fellows Luncheon 11:00am Cooking Together 5:30pm
26	27 Great Decisions 7:00pm	28				

**January 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Thursday Sewing Group**

We meet at 12:30 PM (unless announced otherwise) at the home of the hostess.

- 2/9 Elin McCall*
- 2/16*
- 2/23*

**March 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	