

AAUW The Waves

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Volume 35, No. 7

Five Cities – Pismo Beach (CA) Newsletter

March 2014

Newsletter Editor: Linda Lidberg, lswl@aol.com

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



WE'VE
MOVED!

Don't forget! We will now be meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church at the corner of Halcyon and Valley Road in Arroyo Grande. (959 Valley Rd.)

CALENDAR — March 2014

2	New Member Tea	
3	Board Meeting	7:00 pm
6	Lunch Bunch	11:30 am
6	Book Sorting	1:00 pm
11	Night Readers	7:00 pm
15	Cooking Together	5:30 pm
17	General Meeting	7:00 pm
22	Book Sorting	10:00 am
20	Finessing Fems Bridge	12:30 pm
24	Great Decisions	7:00 pm
28	Hand and Foot Canasta	9:30 am



Presidents' message is on page 2

Co-Presidents' Message: How much do you know about the most famous women achievers? Test your knowledge by completing this matching exercise. Good luck! Marilyn Corey and Jean Burns Slater (No answers — you're on your own!)

- ★ A computing trailblazer, she invented one of the first easy-to-use languages, which was a big advance in the field of computer programming.
- ★ She dominated the Olympic sport of heptathlon, a series of six demanding events. She won the Olympic gold medal for the United States in 1988 and 1992, and set the world record. She was also the first American woman to win Olympic gold in the long jump.
- ★ Her most popular, *Little Women*, was just one of 270 works that she published. Author who produced the first literature for the mass market of juvenile girls in the 19th Century.
- ★ First American woman awarded a medical degree by a college. Attended Geneva College in New York after she was rejected by all the major medical schools in the nation because of her sex. She later founded a women's medical college to train other women physicians.
- ★ As spokesperson for the rights of workers, she helped create the National Farm Workers Association. Among other issues, she has fought for the right to a minimum wage, unemployment insurance, paid holidays, and retirement benefits for farm workers.
- ★ Considered one of the greatest jazz singers of all time, she was the winner of 12 Grammy Awards and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- ★ As an astronaut and researcher of advanced optical information systems, she flew her first shuttle mission in 1993 as a Mission Specialist with the *Discovery* crew, conducting atmospheric and solar studies in order to better understand the effect of solar activity on the Earth's climate and environment. The first Hispanic woman to be named an astronaut, she has logged over 500 hours in space.
- ★ The first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean, she opened the skies to other women. In 1937 while attempting to become the first person to fly around the world, her plane disappeared.
- ★ As the first woman appointed to the position of U.S. Supreme Court justice, she carved a place for women at all levels of the legal profession.
- ★ When she refused to give up her seat to a white person on a crowded bus, she set in motion the Montgomery Bus Boycott, a cornerstone of the civil rights movement. She has since been a strong advocate for human rights issues.
- ★ She worked throughout her life for consumer protection, improved labor conditions for American workers, and equal opportunity for American women. Because of her work, working women have a legal right to equal pay and food labels.
- ★ This anthropologist who studied Samoan culture caused society to rethink how it looked at adolescence.
- ★ As the designer of two of America's most powerful monuments — The Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama, and The Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., she has distinguished herself as the most acclaimed site-specific architect of contemporary America. Because of her concern for environmental issues, she uses recycled, living, or natural materials and focuses on sustainable and site-sensitive design.

Grace Hopper:
1906–1992

Rosa Parks:
1913– 2005

Amelia Earhart:
1897–1937

Jackie Joyner-Kersey:
1962–

Ellen Ochoa
1958–

Ella Fitzgerald:
1918–1996

Sandra Day O'Connor:
1930–

Louisa May Alcott:
1832–1888

Elizabeth Blackwell:
1821–1910

Dolores Huerta:
1930–

Maya Lin
1960–



For those of you who missed the Saturday, February 22, 2014 AAUW California Central Coast Fellows Luncheon at the Madonna Inn, you missed a wonderful event. Approximately 128 AAUW members from Branches throughout San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties (28 from our Branch), as well as elsewhere in the State, enjoyed the delicious buffet luncheon, excellent conversation, opportunities for networking, and the privilege of meeting three incredible young women, Farnaz Daneshpour, Lindsey Higgins, and Allyson Toscher, all AAUW Fellows. In addition, Alicia Hetman, AAUW California President shared all the efforts being made at the State and National levels to place AAUW goals into the public forum. Sharon Westafer, California Director of AAUW Funds, gave us background on where the AAUW Educational Funds monies go. I have to admit I had no idea of where the funds went and the incredible benefits our AAUW contributions brought to well-deserving women. In case you are as unaware as I was, here is some information about the various grants presented:

American Fellowships: The oldest and largest of AAUW's fellowships and grant programs, the American Fellowships program began in 1888, a time when women were discouraged from pursuing an education. American Fellowships support women scholars who are completing dissertations, planning research leave from accredited institutions, or preparing research for publication. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence; quality and originality of project design; and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research. **Lindsey Higgins was awarded this Fellowship. Her research focuses on creating an engaging educational experience for students. She is an Assistant Professor at Cal Poly in the Agribusiness Department.**

International Fellowships: Originally designed to provide Latin American women opportunities for graduate and postgraduate study in the United States, the International Fellowships program awarded its first fellowship in 1917. The program now includes women from around the world, and International Fellowships have been awarded to more than 3,300 women from more than 130 nations. International Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research in the United States to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Both graduate and postgraduate studies at accredited U.S. institutions are supported. Applicants must have earned the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree by September 30, 2013, and must have applied to their proposed institutions of study by the time of the application. Up to five fellowships are renewable for a second year. **Farnaz Daneshpour was awarded this Fellowship. She is from Iran and is working on a Master's degree in agribusiness at Cal Poly.**

Career Development Grant: AAUW originally designed Career Development Grants in 1972 to offer "encouragement" funding to AAUW members seeking to renew or resume academic work for credit toward career or employment advancement. Career Development Grants provide funding to women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance or change careers or re-enter the workforce. Primary consideration is given to women of color and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional fields. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents whose last degree was received before June 30, 2009. Funds are available for tuition, fees, books, supplies, local transportation, and dependent care. **Allyson Toscher was awarded this Grant. She is currently working on a Bachelor's Degree in nursing after completing degrees in marketing and finance. She attends CSU Channel Islands.**

For more information about other AAUW Fellowships and Grants, go to:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>

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Night Readers

The March 11 meeting of the Book Club will be held at the home of Sandra Ku, for a discussion of the novel The Silver Star, by Jeannette Walls. This is the third book by Ms. Walls that the club has read in the past few years. The book is set in rural Virginia and follows the difficult decisions two young girls must make when their mother more or less abandons them to the care of an elderly uncle.



Looking ahead, the selected book for April is What My Mother Gave Me by Elizabeth Benedict.

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



Annual New Member and Prospective Member Tea

Every member is cordially invited to an afternoon tea on
Sunday, March 2, at 2:00-4:00,

in the home of Lisa Walker, 520 Cameo Way, Arroyo Grande, a very lovely setting in which to
get-acquainted with new and prospective members

This is an opportunity for the new members to ask questions and meet the
chairpersons of our various activity and interest sections and philanthropies that
may interest them.

Tea savories and sweets will be provided by our committee leaders.
New members will be our guests.

RSVP to Gaye Peltzman 474-8977 or Judy Zaretska 481-7313



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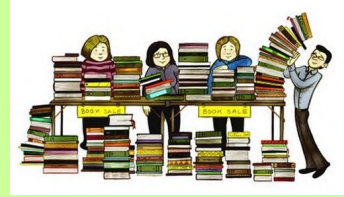
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MARCH ON WITH THE BOOK SALE!



The Book Sale Committee needs more books, boxes, and bags -- so ask your friends, clean out your own shelves, and come help us sort (or presort books you bring). Remember, the two March sortings are: Thursday, March 6th (1-3pm) and Saturday, March 22nd (10am-noon). The three April sortings are Saturday, April 5th, Thursday, April 10th, and Tuesday, April 22nd. All Saturday sortings are 10am-noon and weekday sortings are 1-3pm. Come to Judy Gabriel's garage at those times to sort and/or drop off books. **WE NEED MORE BOOKS!**

Alice Addison and Judy Gabriel, 2014 Book Sale Co-Chairs



Women in History will be presented at our March 17th meeting!

Thank you to Abby Adams, Sandy Pitt and Kathy Cohon for saying "Yes", and who will join me in our portrayals of famous women who made a difference.

We are also presenting at schools in Lucia Mar School District during the month of March and first week in April.

So, come and hear how these women changed the lives of others.

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FINESSING FEMS BRIDGE

This month Finessing Femmes bridge group will meet at the home of Mary Jo Aspinall on March 20, 2014. Mary Jo will call to make sure you are available for that date.



April bridge will be in the home of Elvera Hornung on April 17, 2014.



Cooking Together

Please join us for our next dinner on March 15th at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Pam and Kirk Ziron.

- 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

CANASTA HAND & FOOT

Our next meeting will be at the home of Debbie Audet on Friday, March 28th, at 9:30 a.m. Bring a lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided. 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 your list of substitute players has gone missing. We donate \$3.00 and give first and second prizes for high scores.

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Update from 2013 Scholarship Recipient, Joanne Crandall

If you ever wonder what our scholarship recipients actually do at college, please read these excerpts from a recent email from Joanne Crandall, former AGHS student. Joanne, who is a freshman at Harvard University, enthusiastically jumped into her academic classes and campus opportunities – despite contracting both mononucleosis and strep throat!

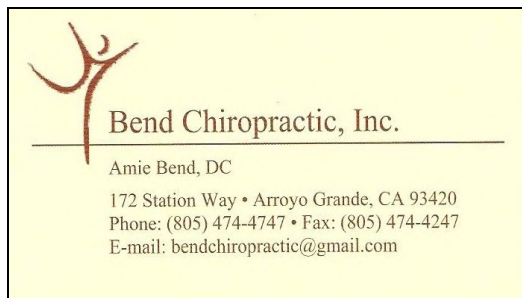
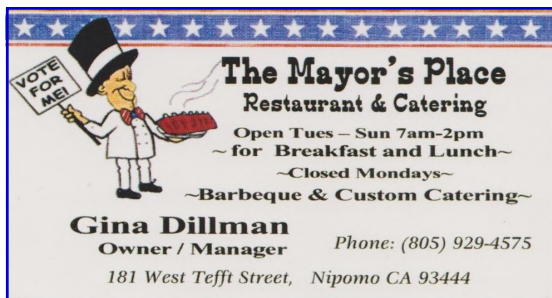
In Joanne's own words:

“With respect to academics, you may recall that I was undecided about my major before starting classes. Although I have narrowed my options, I am still undeclared and exploring many different classes. Every semester starts out with a week of “shopping classes,” where students get to explore various lectures without having to officially commit to a schedule (which means we only officially register for classes during the second week of school). I absolutely love this tradition, which I embraced to the fullest by “shopping” 10 different classes, with themes ranging from calculus to American presidential politics. Ultimately, I settled on an introductory chemistry class, a modern Middle Eastern history class, a writing seminar focused on HIV/AIDS in culture, and a seminar about infectious diseases in history and society.

As I continue to figure out my academic path, I have also been working on campus at the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations. As one of sixteen student interns, I work to promote dialogue and diversity on campus. This fall, I helped with a variety of Harvard Foundation programs, including events about race while studying abroad, sexuality in culture, gift-giving in different contexts, and race in the penal system. This spring, I look forward to putting on a cultural food festival and working with Greek and Turkish students on an intercultural film screening. Thanks to my job, I have been exposed to individuals from a wide variety of perspectives and backgrounds, greatly broadening my understanding of diversity and its challenges.

The opportunities at Harvard and in Boston have been boundless: visiting Rembrandt's paintings, watching Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Stephen Spielberg honored together, cheering on the Red Sox to the playoffs, hearing Malala Yousafzai speak about her advocacy for female education, and so much more. I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to attend Harvard—and I am doing my best to seize every minute of it. I look forward to three and a half more years of opportunities, challenges, and inspiration. Thank you so much to all of the AAUW Five Cities-Pismo Beach members for your generous support. “

We are still hoping for donations for the 2014 local scholarships as well as for our endowment fund. How can we not support such incredible young women? If you would like to donate, contact Judy Leonard (773-6776), Priscilla Alquist (305-0907), or Judy Zaretska (481-7313) for details or use the donation form on our website (<http://fivecitiespismo-beach-ca.aauw.net>). Thank you!





GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions group will meet on **Monday, March 24, 2014 at 7:00 PM** at Mary Jo Aspinall's home (330 Leeward, Shell Beach). The topic of discussion will be Turkey's Challenges (page 29 in the Study Guide). We will watch a DVD on the subject and then discuss the problems and possible solutions for the area. Guests are welcome to attend. For questions call Chairwoman, Mary Jo Aspinall, at (805) 556-0193.

UPCOMING THEATRE EVENTS

Save these PCPA dates:

June 19, 2014: Evening performance of "Forever Plaid"

July 16, 2014: Matinee performance of "Oklahoma"

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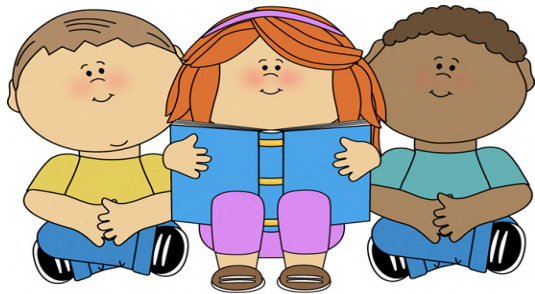


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READING IS FUNDAMENTAL NEWS

The RIF Ladies recently visited third and fourth grade classrooms at Oceano, Grover Beach, and Fairgrove Schools. We were welcomed with happy smiles and shared a poem called "RIF Day" with the students. Here are some excerpts from this fun poem written by Michele Krueger:



"Today is the day!
It's finally come!
So blow on your trumpet
and beat on your drum!

.....

Books take you on journeys
where you've never been,
just open their covers
and let them begin!

Amazing adventures,
travels through time,
historical fiction,
hysterical rhyme,

alphabet antics,
and books that explore
the way things are made
and what friends are for.

Books are like windows
that let the breeze in,
to freshen your feelings
that lie deep within.

.....

Not books to borrow,
Not books for loan,
Books you can treasure
As your very own."

The students listened to the entire poem (16 stanzas) and then we did choral reading, which we all enjoyed! Some of the Oceano School students' comments from letters Jill ZamEk sent from her fourth graders give you an idea of how happy the students are to receive books. The letters all start with the greeting: "Dear RIF Ladies,"

"Thank you for coming to our school and giving us books. The book I picked is Dear Dumb Diary by Jim Benton. I am loving the book. I like your poem so much that I keep on reading it. I hope you come again! Sincerely, Vicky"

"Thank you soooo much for giving the whole class new books. I am really enjoying reading my book. I'm already on Chapter 12 in Double Fudge by Judy Blume. I also liked that awesome poem. It's totally rad. Sincerely, Drew"

"Thank you for the book. It's an awesome book. I'm reading it to my dad and he loves it too. It's a funny story. I love Super Fudge by Judy Blume. I will always remember RIF: Reading is Fundamental. Sincerely, Brody"

"Thank you for the book. I had a really great time while you were here. I really like the book, Clarice Bean Spells Trouble. The poem was totally creative and the word search was fun. I can't wait for your next visit. Sincerely, Gabriela"

My sincere thanks to the RIF ladies: my co-chair, Margaret Quandt, Lauren Manning, Elaine Olsen, and Joan Florence. Giving books to eager students who love to read gives us great joy. Thank you to everyone in AAUW who helps make this project possible.

Wendy Robinson

Lunch Bunch

Please consider joining the lunch group this year. All branch members are welcome to join us!

Attend when it is convenient for you! Enjoy lunch and stimulating conversation--

Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

Old Juan's Cantina

Highway 1 and Pier Avenue

Oceano Beach

(805) 489-5680



Enjoy the flavors of Guanajuato, Mexico followed by a possible Oceano beach walk after lunch if you wish. Juan's features old family recipes and traditions with the lunch menu including taco salad, homemade tamales, tostadas with white fish, fajitas, a soup and salad combo, or tortilla or albondiga (meatball and vegetable) soup. See www.oldjuanscantina.com for a complete menu.

Please call Kathi Pettersen – 474-9149 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 (kcpettersen@msn.com). Looking forward to our get together--

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AAUW Daytime Book Group

For the March 7th meeting of the Daytime Book Club, we will be gathering at the home of Mo Briggs. We will be discussing the book, Catherine the Great, by Robert K. Massie. This is a fascinating book that one can hardly lay down! If you would like to join us for the discussion please come to Mo's at 11:30, bring a sack lunch and be prepared for a lively discussion of the book and to learn more about the history of Russia and the Czars!



All members of our branch are warmly invited to join us the first Friday of each month. We meet in members' homes, bringing our own lunches and enjoying dessert provided by the hostess. We try to choose books that are available in the local public libraries so that belonging to the book club is not too expensive.

If you would like to join us for the April 3rd meeting, our book of choice is The Reluctant Fundamentalist, by Mohsin Hamid.

Please call Patti Melsheimer or Susan Gray for additional info.

Addendum to Theater Headlines:

PCPA Theater at Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria

I'm keeping our price at **still only** \$20/ticket.

Make checks out to AAUW Five Cities.

Please note how many tickets for which show.



June 19, Thursday, 7 PM "FOREVER PLAID"

If you lived through the 1950's, you just must see this!

I have seen it three times, at least!

July 16, Wednesday, 1:30 PM

(MATINEE) "OKLAHOMA"

Remember PCPA's production of "The Music Man"?

This will be just as joyful and energetic! How can it not be?



Judy Zaretska, 481-7313
Theater/Concert Group

Membership Memo:

Up-date: This year we already have welcomed **seven (7)** new members!
And we might not be finished yet...We're a fabulous branch!!

Coming up: DUES RENEWALS are coming due soon. Any time after March 1. "First come-First served." No price increase! Same great value! National/State/Five Cities Branch all-inclusive! (Like a cruise). Pick up a brochure to help us update your email address, etc.

Send form & \$90 dues to P.O.Box or hand to Judy Zaretska.

Invite a friend to join with you. New members are always desired.

Judy Zaretska, VP Membership