

Presidents' Message

September 29, 2015

Hello All,

Here we go, off to another wonderful year of **Collaboration and Camaraderie** with AAUW.

A big shout-out to all who made our first meeting such a wonderful event. Thank you. We had an exciting and informative start at the Dana Adobe, visiting with each other, seeing our local California history, and learning how we each can join in to help us meet our goals for this new year, all while having fun with friends.

Please read through Pat Muhlethaler's very excellent minutes of the September 27th meeting and then think about: our next Board meeting (Monday, Oct. 5 at the AG Hospital); our next monthly meeting (Monday, Oct. 19 at the AG Women's Center, Vernon St.); and about our big fundraiser, Bingo & Silent Auction (Monday, Nov. 16, at St. John's Church, Valley Dr.)

Because there is no election planned for this AAUW year, we will not earn money from a polling place, so we must earn approximately \$1100 from other sources. Watch for notices, reminders, and attachments coming via email asking for your help for BINGO and Silent Auction night, our first fundraiser of this year.

We can all be a part of the **Fund** Raisers and all the other exciting activities. Just show up!

We do good and we do well. We help others and have fun with friends. Join us!

Cheers,

Co-Presidents – Kathy Cohon and Jean Burns Slater



October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				 1 Lunch Bunch 11:30 AM	 2 Daytime Books	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	 13 Night Readers 7:00 PM	14	 15 Finessing Ferns Bridge 12:30 PM	16 Hand & Foot Canasta! ...9:30 AM	 17 Cooking Together 5:30 PM
18	 19 October Program 7:00 pm	20	21	22	23	24
25	 26 GREAT DECISIONS 7:00 PM	27	28	29	 30 The Foreigner 7:00 PM	31

2 Beth Hutton	10 Kathy Cohon	10 Linda Kime	14 Sandra Pitt
15 Jan Kaiserman	21 Susie Wedell	22 Rose Ann Steiner	31 Joyce Rowe

October Birthdays

October Program

On **October 19th** our meeting will have a presentation with the Destination Imagination Team that went to Nationals this summer. We also will hear and learn about the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program at Arroyo Grande High School and how it is enhancing the education of local students.

It should be an interesting program and you don't want to miss it!

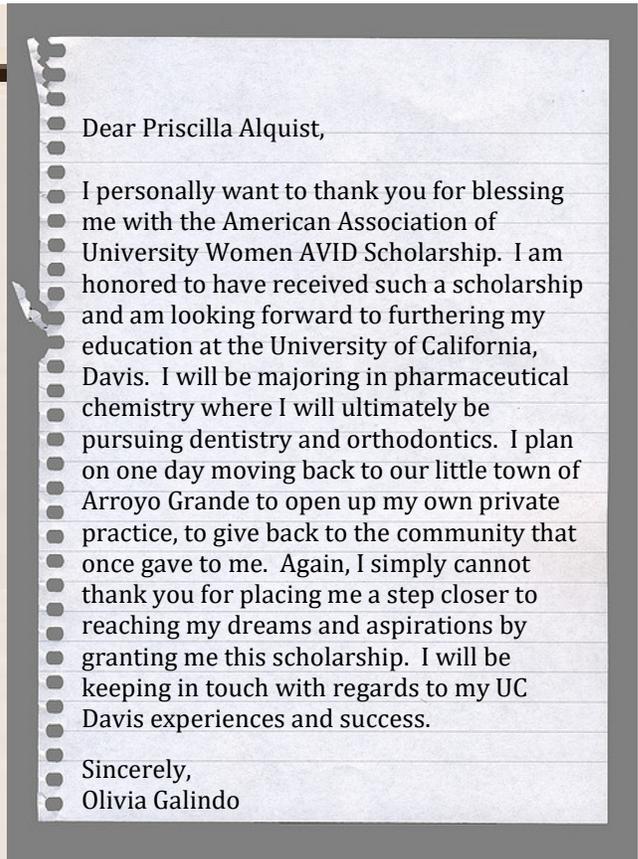
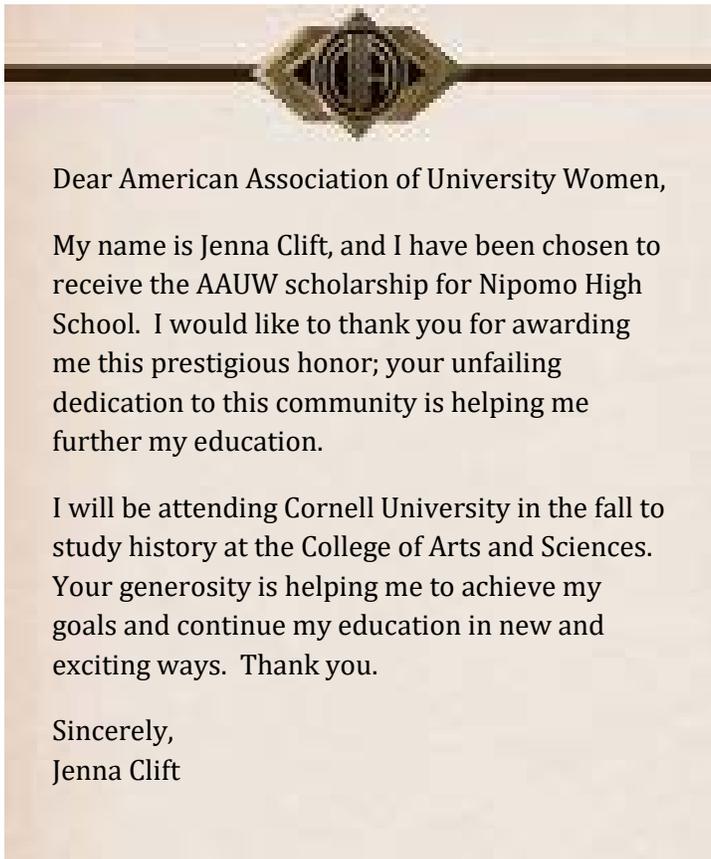


October Lunch will be at [Beda's Biergarten](#), 3230 Broad St (corner of Broad and Orcutt) in SLO. It will be on Thursday, October 1st at 11:30. Karen Thomas has recommended this new site and it should be great. You may go online to get more information. Please RSVP to me by September 29 at susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net or 474-5682. Already reserved are: Marilyn, Alice, Kathi, Karen, Priscilla, and Abby. See you soon.

November Lunch will be at Rosa's in Pismo Beach on November 5th.

Five Cities-Pismo Beach AAUW Scholarship

Branch members have often said they enjoy hearing from the young women to whom we award our scholarships. Here are two of our 2015 winners.



September Scholarship Donations

Marilyn Corey - in memory of Rae Knerr
Judy Leonard - in memory of Elvera Hornung
Alice Addison - in memory of Elvera Hornung
Jane Pittenger - in memory of Elvera Hornung
Rose Ann Steiner - general donation to Scholarship

Tips about Donations: Are donations to AAUW deductible on taxes?

The end of the year is coming, so I'll offer some help on planning for your annual investment revenue:

- 1) Donations for any purpose are welcome.
- 2) Donations, depending on their purpose, are distributed into one of several bank accounts.
- 3) Some donations are tax-deductible but some are non-deductible, depending on which bank account.

Examples:

Donations to Branch's regular account, undesignated for a specific purpose= non-deductible
Donations to Reading Is Fundamental, deposited in and paid from branch's regular account= non-deductible
Donations to Branch's AAUW Funds account (Nat'l Fellowships & Legal Aid & Research)= tax-deductible
Donations to Branch's Scholarship accounts (build Endowment & pay Current awardees)= tax-deductible
Donations to Tech Trek (Linda Lidberg will advise on how to write the payee account)= tax-deductible

I hope this little summary may eliminate some uncertainty regarding your next tax filing.

Judy Zaretzka, Branch Treasurer and Scholarship CFO

Our summer Tech Trekkers have had the experience of their lifetime! At least that is what their Thank You letters say. Four young ladies attended the first week of Tech Trek at UCSB from July 19 - 26. Continue to read for yourself how each girl felt about their week-long experience, with this third thank you note in our series.

Linda Lidberg, Stacy Meko
Tech Trek chairs 2014-2015

techtrek!



Dear 5 Cities AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for the experiences of adventures and surprises. I feel so special with this gift you made possible. There are so many things I learned on just the first day and that was only 6 hours. All of my adventures I would love to share with you in person but as of now, this letter will have to do. Some of the experiences I've had were bonding with my roommates, my "core" class projects, and my project group.

At camp there are many things I enjoyed. Dorm living, core class, and field trips. Meeting my dorm mate for the first time made me nervous. I was worried that she wouldn't like me and vice versa. She is the nicest person on God's green earth. Meeting my dorm mates was interesting. On Sunday we couldn't have seemed more different but now we seem like family. Monday night came and nobody knew how to do the homework. We were all stuck. Finally we finished and played cards and told stories until 10:00. It was better than a birthday. I laughed so hard I cried. I have only done that crying-laughing combo twice. It was worth it.

My dorm mates had the same core class, physics. My teacher was fun, interactive, and would not give you answers. She made you think for yourself. During class we made Frisbees out of scratch and tested it to see if we could through the ones we made further than the store bought ones. We made Rube Goldberg machines and we learned that to succeed we must eliminate the fear of failure. On Thursday we made our own toys. Our teachers taught us how to get things done

Thank you for giving me an experience of a lifetime. You have given me the most generous gift ever: the scholarship money for Tech Trek. I wouldn't trade it for the world. I will definitely want to come back as a Junior Counselor to help girls like me have the time of their lives.

A happy camper,

Ellie Vazquez

Membership Vice President's Update

Looking forward to a great year with new members joining us. Terry Carver is our newest member. Welcome Terry. We have a potential member joining us at meetings, Cynthia Mesaros, and a National member, Judy Bernstein, who wishes to participate in our activities. Please introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome so that they'll wish to join our "friendly" club. Remember to consider bringing your friends or neighbors to our meetings so that we may spread the word about our goals and mission to others. Directories are available for pickup at our monthly meetings.

– Susan Brazil, Membership VP

AAUW Thursday Sewing Group Hostesses

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

10/01	Lunch Bunch – Beda's Biergarten, SLO	11/12	Linda Lidberg
10/08	Elin McCall	11/19	Wendy Robinson
10/15	Karen Thomas	11/26	Thanksgiving – no sewing
10/22	Gaye Peltzman	12/03	Lunch Bunch
10/29	Priscilla Alquist	12/10	Elin McCall
11/05	Lunch Bunch – Rosa's, Pismo Beach	12/17	Holiday Lunch Salad Bar Karen's house @ 11:30 am

Done for 2015. New schedule will resume on 1/14/2016 ... TBA



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

October 17, 2015
elinmmccall@gmail.com

Elin McCall
709-6251

- **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

Daytime Books

The Daytime Book Club meets on the first Friday of each month in a member's home. In October we will be meeting on October 2nd at the home of Maureen Briggs. We will be discussing *School of Essential Ingredients* by Erica Bauemeister. Barnes & Noble describes it as "A 'heartbreakingly delicious' national bestseller about a chef, her students, and the evocative lessons that food teaches about life."

For our November 6th meeting we will be reading **The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri**. Dubbed a "Great Read" by NPR, it is an engrossing family saga steeped in history. It is available from most bookstores as well as from our local library system. We will be meeting at the home of Mary Weeks. Join us for lively discussions of each book. Be sure to bring your own "brown bag" lunch. The hostess provides drinks and dessert.

**For more information contact Patti Melsheimer.

Night Readers

The next meeting of the evening Book Club will be held on October 13 at the home of Maurina Kusell, for a discussion of Somerset Maugham's classic novel "**The Razor's Edge.**" The book combines witty social satire about the American and European upper classes, with an incisive look at Eastern philosophy. As the reader follows Larry's quest for enlightenment, there is plenty to reflect on of such subjects as beauty, betrayal, forgiveness and art. 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, October 26 at Mary Jo Aspinall's home, 330 Leeward, Shell Beach. The topic will be "Brazil's Metamorphosis" (page 89 in the study guide). Join us as we discuss this new tropical civilization with global ambitions. Also be thinking about a theme for our Raffle Basket from Great Decisions. We will start that planning at the September 28 meeting.



For more information, call the October evening's chairperson Abby Adams 270-4066.

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.

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



FINESSING FEMMES BRIDGE

Thursday, October 15th 12:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Jo Aspinall. We have no openings for new members but are always looking for subs. Interested, call Marilyn Corey

AAUW Theater Events for 2015-2016

All checks should be made payable to AAUW FIVE CITIES-PISMO BEACH and given to Judy Zaretska - 481-7313 - judyoung@hotmail.com

Be sure to indicate number of tickets for each play if paying for more than one.

Oct. 30	7:00	The Foreigner	\$22	San Luis Obispo Little Theater
Oct. 19 meeting is deadline for payment for THE FOREIGNER				
Nov. 12	7:00	Cinderella	\$20	PCPA, Santa Maria
Oct. 19 meeting ALSO is deadline for payment for CINDERELLA				
Jan. 9		Mark Twain Tonight		CalPoly PAC
Jan. 20		Little Women		San Luis Obispo Little Theater
Feb. 19		Cabaret		San Luis Obispo Little Theater
Mar. 3		The Glass Menagerie		PCPA, Santa Maria
Apr. 19		Menopause, The Musical		CalPoly PAC
Jun. 3		Bye, Bye, Birdie		San Luis Obispo Little Theater
Jun. 22 (Wed. mat.)		Shrek, The Musical		PCPA, Santa Maria

B.I.N.G.O. – Help Wanted!

Last year the Bingo Event raised \$6,000. These funds went to support our major projects—Scholarship, Tech Trek, Reading is Fundamental, and AAUW Funds. Bingo is one of only two fundraising events this year, so we're counting on each of our Branch members to really work together to make it a huge success.

This year's **Bingo Evening will be Monday, November 16 at St. John's Lutheran Church**. This is a beautiful space for our event. Tickets will continue to be \$10. This will include a fun evening of games and refreshments, plus Silent Auction and Raffles.

All members are encouraged to sell tickets to support this event. Tickets can be obtained from Patti Melsheimer. Members will be provided with a packet of 5 tickets to sell. Only 200 tickets are available.

The Bingo Committee is still in need of members to volunteer for:

Set up and clean up-contact Susan Gray

Refreshments-contact Karen Thomas

Silent Auction is being handled by Kathy Cohon. Please, contact her with inquiries.

Artisans' Table; for the past few years, the Quilting Group has offered a boutique. We would like to expand that into an Artisans' Table and open it to anyone—member, spouse, etc. who enjoys making small handcrafted items that could be sold for \$25 or less. These items were enthusiastically purchased for Christmas gifts last year and brought in \$700. Having a larger variety of handmade items could really increase the proceeds. This year could be even better, but we need someone to chair the committee. Please contact Susan Gray if you would be willing to coordinate this committee.

The raffle prizes will be handled by the various Interest Sections. This is a really good way to promote the Interest Sections as well as spread out the responsibilities for the raffle prizes.

If you would be willing to help with the raffle at the event or for more information regarding the Bingo Event Fundraiser, contact Susan Gray.

Lovely Fall Welcome Back at Dana Adobe

Thank you to all the members for your many contributions of flowers, food and beverages, as well as updates on our exciting year ahead. Susan Gray and the Dana Adobe personnel provided us with a step-back into San Luis Obispo history in the days of the stage coaches and rancheros.

Painting of the stage coach days at the Dana Adobe



Susan Gray shares the history of the Dana family.



A big
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