FIVE CITIES-PISMO BEACH BRANCH OF AAUW-CA



http://fivecitiespismobeach-ca.aauw.net

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Newsletter Editor: jbarnesgabriel@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE... Thoughts about the New Year

As I write this, the new year is approaching, and I find myself energized and making plans for the year ahead that I know I am unlikely to complete. Such is human nature. Our aspirations are often bigger than our time and resources, and life has a way of interrupting our best-laid plans. Nonetheless, the human quality of looking ahead to the future, rather than living only in the present, is what allows us to accomplish so much in life and to continue to evolve as social beings. Whatever your aspirations are for 2018 – whether they include big plans or simply living another year with gratitude for all we are and have – may all those aspirations be realized.

In December we held our first Branch Holiday Social and I think I speak for those present when I say that we had a wonderful time. We were disappointed, however, that only 23 of our members attended. It would be very helpful to hear from those who did not attend about what we might do differently to increase participation. Was the date too late in December? Would a day-time event on a weekend be more attractive? We want to offer experiences that are appealing to a majority of our membership and your feedback is essential.

I look forward to seeing you all at our January meeting. I believe you will find the program interesting and informative, as we learn more about the award-winning, federally supported, Small Business Development Center that is serving San Luis Obispo County under the leadership of Judy Mahan.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year,

Susan Opava, Branch President

Highlights

from the December 4, 2017 Board Meeting

- A date has been set for an additional simplified Bingo (without Silent Auction) during the month of April. The event will be held on Saturday, April 21st from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at our usual location: St. John's Lutheran Church. Please mark your calendars!
- Marilyn Corey reported that \$340 was raised at our McLintock's event in November.
- To encourage greater attendance, the Board is considering a change in the time and date for the June Officer Installation. The proposed change is to hold the installation at a weekend lunch instead of a Monday evening dinner. Members will be polled for their preferences before any change is approved.
- Susan Brazil announced that we have a new member – Sue LaCabe. We look forward to welcoming Sue in person at our January meeting.

Comments and questions are welcome and may be directed to any Board member.



Membership

Hello everyone. Thanks to everyone trying to recruit new members. Carole Dempsey is responsible for Sue LaCabe joining our branch this month. Many thanks to Carole and welcome to Sue. I hope you received the email with Sue's information for adding to your directory. We have several new members that have not yet been introduced to our members. Whenever they attend a meeting I will introduce them to you. Keep on trying to recruit someone. We have so many activities available to meet everyone's interest.

Susan Brazil, Membership Chair

Bingo and Silent Auction Thanks

Dear Everyone,

We hope our Thank You message did not get lost in the Thanksgiving to Christmas whirlwind. Again, we want to say a heartfelt <u>Thank You!</u> for all the time and effort our members put into the event on Nov 6. Your support of AAUW is appreciated, this time of year and always. Check upcoming events in the front page of the Directory and watch for a "Save the Date" announcement for the April Bingo Fundraising Event. See you at whatever is next. Most Sincerely,

Kathy Cohon and Pam Zirion

UCSB Campers: UCSB Campers: Thank You Notes

Dear Five Cities Pismo Beach Branch,

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to go to this amazing camp. I've had such a great experience. I have made so many new friends and got so much inspiration for my future.

This week my core class was marine science. Everyone in class got an organism to research. Mine was the horn shark. We also got to go on a boat. It was really cool because we got to see dolphins.

Once again, thank you so much for giving me this experience that has changed my life forever. I am so grateful for this experience. I hope that in the future more girls will be able to have the same experience I did.



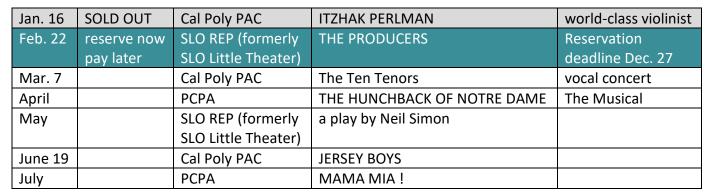
Sincerely, Paige Meier

January General Meeting

- Monday, January 15, 6:30pm
- Arroyo Grande Women's Center
- <u>Small Business Development Center</u> Presented by:
- Judy Mahan of SLO County

Theater Group Plan-Ahead Dates

Come "play" with us! It's fun to attend together!



DAYTIME PAGE TURNERS - Book Group

On **Friday, January 5, 2018** Daytime Page Turners will be selecting a reading list for the 2018 year. Readers are asked to submit suggestions for the 2018 reading list to *jbslater2006@gmail.com*, prior to **January 3.** A complete list of suggestions will be sent via email to all Daytime Page Turners prior to the January 5 meeting for review at our next monthly meeting, to be held at Ann Sawyer's home, 427 Tanner Lane, Arroyo Grande 93420 phone 489-8209

Suggestions for the reading list may include nonfiction, fiction and a classic. With your suggestions, please include a short description of the book contents. At the January meeting books will be selected for reading from those submitted for review. There will be no specific book discussion in January as the reading list will be the focus of the gathering.

Daytime Page Turners welcomes you to join other book lovers who meet in the daylight, but read anytime. 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 1st Friday of each month, 11:30 am. Message Jean Burns Slater 805 627-1845 or jbslater2006@gmail.com for more details.

NIGHT READERS

The next meeting of the evening Book Club will be held January 9 at the home of Joan Florence, for a discussion of "News of the World," by Paulette Jiles. This work of historical fiction takes place in the aftermath of the Civil War and involves the transportation of a young captive of the Kiowa tribe back to her people.

Looking ahead, the selected book for February will be "Behold the Dreamers," by Imbolo Mbue.

The Book Club is currently filled to capacity.

- Sandra Ku, chairperson

FINESSING FEMMES BRIDGE

Finessing Femmes now meets on the first Wednesday of the month. We meet at 12:30 at the home of one of the members. If interested in joining our bridge group, call Marilyn Corey at 473-1928.

GREAT DECISIONS

PREPARE TO DISCUSS THE WORLD.

Great Decisions, a discussion program on world affairs, involves reading the Great Decisions <u>Briefing</u> <u>Book</u>, watching the <u>DVD</u> and meeting in a <u>Discussion</u> <u>Group</u> to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Topics for 2018 include:

- The Waning of Pax Americana
- Russia
- China: Economic Power and Geopolitics
- Media and Foreign Policy
- Turkey: A Partner in Crisis
- U.S. Defense Budget
- South Africa
- Global Health

Join the AAUW Great Decisions Interest Group and order your discussion book now from Mary Jo Aspinall. Meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at Mary Jo Aspinall's beautiful home in Shell Beach beginning at 7:00 pm. The next meeting will be <u>January 22, 2018</u> with the topic of The Waning of Pax Americana.

During the first months of Donald Trump's presidency, The U.S. began a historic shift away from Pax Americana, the liberal international order that was established in the wake of World War II. Since 1945, Pax Americana has promised peaceful international relations and an open economy, buttressed by U.S. military power. In championing "American First" isolationism, President Trump has shifted the political mood toward selective U.S. engagement, where foreign commitment are limited to areas of vital U.S. interest. Geopolitical allies and challengers alike are paying close attention.

Come join the discussion. Contact Mary Jo Aspinall 556-0193 or Connie Rodgers 481-1841 with questions and for more details.

HAND AND FOOT CANASTA

Hand and Foot Canasta will Hand and Foot Canasta will meet at Susan Brazil's home on Friday, January 19th at 9:30 a.m

- Debbie Audet, 550-8910

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Sun			Mon			Tue		Wed Th		ı Fri					Sat		
7			1 8			2		3 12:30pm Finessing Femmes Bridge	4 11:30am Lunch Bunch <u>EUREKA</u>		5 11:30am Daytime Page Turners Book Group			6			
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14			15 6:30pm General Meeting			16		17	18	18		19 Hand & Foot Canasta 9: 30am			20 Cooking Together 5:30pm		
21			22 7:00pm Great Decisions			23		24	25	5		26			27		
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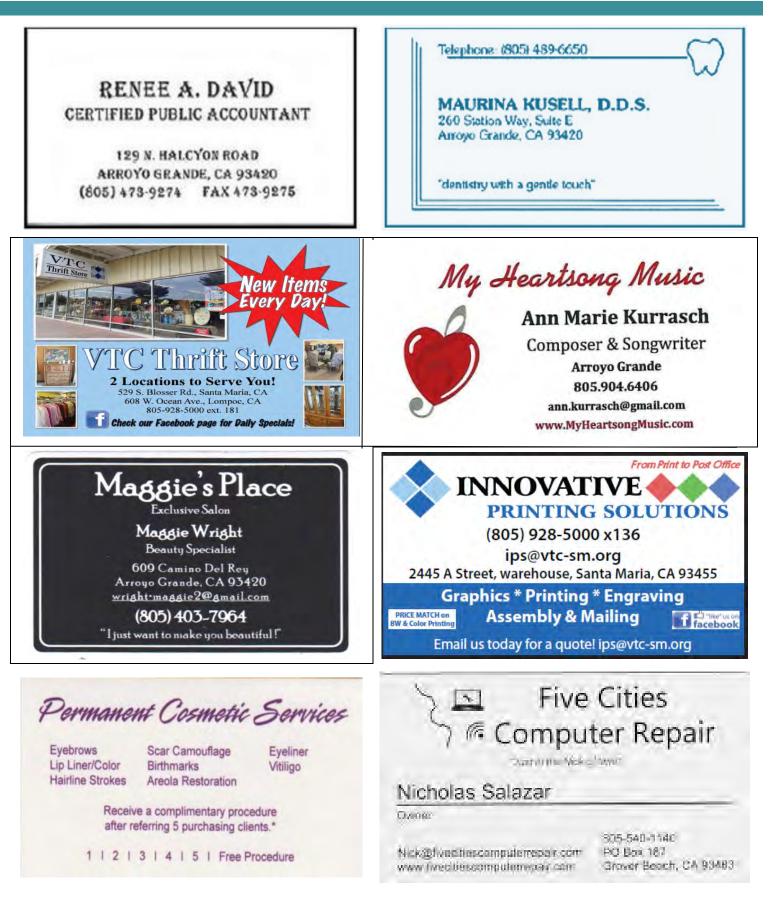
LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will be meeting at Eureka in San Luis Obispo on Jan 4, at 11:30 am. Please RSVP with Anne at 805-489-8209 by Jan 1, 2018 so I can confirm with the restaurant how many people will be attending.. February 2, 2018 will be at Villa Cantina in Arroyo Grande. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and food!

COOKING TOGETHER

Please join us for our next dinner at 5:30 p.m. January 20, 2018 with Abby Adams (abby.adams@mac.com) 270-4066

- 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





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WELLS

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We are delighted

to support

the Five Cities – Pismo

Branch of AAUW

Andi, Jeff and Allison Portney

We are pleased to support the Five Cities – Pismo Branch of AAUW in their efforts to advance equity for women and girls!

> Patti and Dick Melsheimer