#### FIVE CITIES-PISMO BEACH BRANCH OF AAUW-CA



AAU Five Cities-Pismo Beach (CA) Branch

http://fivecitiespismobeach-ca.aauw.net

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Newsletter Editor: jbarnesgabriel@gmail.com

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE... *Time "Marches" on*

As I write, February is slipping by quickly. Because of the IBC luncheon, we did not have a regular general meeting in February. The Board, however, met as usual. At this time of year, we begin planning for the annual election and the Board approved a nominating committee as required by our Bylaws. Jean Slater and Susan Brazil were appointed as Past-President and Vice-President for Membership, respectively, and Rose Ann Steiner as an at-large member. The slate developed by the committee will be presented to the membership at least 14 days before the May 21st annual meeting, at which the election of officers will be held. The slate will be only for elected officers: President, Secretary and Treasurer. As you all know, however, there are many positions on the Board that are appointed and need to be filled. If you are interested in serving in one of those positions, please let any Board member know.

This month we return to our normal schedule, with the general meeting and the Women in History program on Monday, March 19. I hope to see many of you there – especially those who were not able to attend the February luncheon.

We have been aware for some time that AAUW National has increased its dues, effective at this year's renewal. Our Board and many others are not in favor of the increase (even though we recognize the important work done on behalf of women and girls), because of the possible financial impact on members. The new dues structure follows. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Brazil.



#### Dues Structure 2018

Full Dues: National \$59, State \$20, Local \$21, for a total of \$100 Half Dues: National \$29.50, State \$20, Local \$10.50, for a total of \$60

Membership Year coincides with fiscal year (July 1-June 30) Full Dues paid March 16-June 30 covers until June 30 of the <u>following</u> year Half Dues paid January 1-March 15 covers until June 30 of the <u>same</u> year After June 30, <u>full</u> dues paid by December 31 covers until June of the <u>following</u> year

GIVE A GRAD: Graduate joins within two years of graduation and receives free one-year National and State membership.

We value all our members and hope that this dues increase will not cause us to lose any of you. Together we accomplish so many good things and have fun while doing it.

Be well, *Susan Opava Branch President* 

## <u>Membership</u>

Hello everyone. You should all have a directory by now. I mailed some the middle of February to those who had not yet picked one up.

Membership is at 70 with two people ready to join the middle of March when renewals begin. This year again there will be a \$50 gift drawing for those who renew before or at the installation lunch either June 23 or 24. Hope to see you at the March meeting!!

Susan Brazil

Membership Chair

March 2018

## **Highlights**

from the February 5, 2018 Board Meeting

- The nominating committee for election of officers was approved. Members are Jean Slater, Past-President; Susan Brazil, Membership Vice President; and Rose Ann Steiner, Member at Large.
- Linda Lidberg announced that the local Altrusa Club (a non-profit organization) donated funds to cover a Tech-Trek scholarship.
- Final details on planning for the IBC luncheon were discussed. Each San Luis Obispo County branch was asked to provide three gifts for door prizes and a fourth for a basket that will be provided to the AAUW fellow who is the main speaker. Four Board members volunteered to cover those items.
- Susan Brazil informed the Board that membership now stands at 70 with two potential members expressing interest.

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

From your Branch Board



Lucia Mar Unified School District Middle School Science, Math, and Technology teachers have sent the names of their nominees for this summer's Tech Trek camp. The Tech Trek interview team is now awaiting the girls' applications and essays so we can schedule their interviews. Six deserving young ladies will be selected for camp at UCSB. Their tuition is paid for by our branch thanks to our fund-raising efforts and generous donations from the community. Come to the April general meeting to meet these young ladies and hear from last year's campers, too.

**NOTE:** Tech Trek T-shirts for sale. Help support Tech Trek camp at UCSB. Susan Pease, the camp director, reports that she has adult size Tshirts left over from several different years of Tech Trek and would love to sell them. The money raised will help cover the costs of the dorm moms and the junior counselors. The student camperships are paid for by the branches that send the girls to camp and cover their housing, food, activities, and teachers, leaving little for other expenses. Shirts are \$20 each and a range of sizes are available. Thanks for your support for Tech Trek.

#### Linda Lidberg

Branch Tech Trek Chair

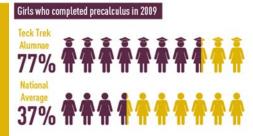
Girls learn about STEM careers that align with their passions and help them solve big problems:

73%

of respondents said Tech Trek introduced them to STEM college majors of which they were previously unaware.



Trek introduced them to new STEM careers. AAUW Tech Trek alumnae surpass the national average in most advanced math and science courses:



**8779** of respondents had completed algebra II, compared with 78 percent of female students and 73 percent of male students nationally.

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Come "I	Play" w	ith us/	soon!		202
Wed	3/7	7:30	Cal Poly PAC	The Ten Tenors	\$50
Thu	4/26	7:00	РСРА	The Hunchback of Notre Dame [A Musical]	\$27
Wed	6/20	7:30	Cal Poly PAC	Jersey Boys [RSVP by March 7!]	\$65/\$85/\$95
Thu	7/19	7:00	РСРА	Mama Mia !	\$29

Judy Zaretzka481-7313judyoung@hotmail.comPlease make checks payable to Judy Zaretzka as she puts the tickets on her personal card

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## Ann Marie Kurrasch Debut House Concert March 17, 2018



Long-time Branch member Ann Marie Kurrasch will be holding her first ever House Concert at an Arroyo Grande home on March 17, 2:00 PM, St. Patrick's Day, 2018.

Ann Marie made a presentation on Creativity for our A.A.U.W. Branch in January 2016 and is now looking forward to sharing some of her varied works in a concert format with local friends.

Her music runs the gamut from fun and whimsical to meditative and serious and promises that all who attend will have a good time.

While she will be performing some of her works herself, most of the concert will feature her music being performed by local professional musicians, Lauren Hartog, soprano, and Clare Olson, pianist, and a special guest. Please come and help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

Please note: R.S.V.P.s are required so please email her with yours at: <u>ann.kurrasch@gmail.com</u>.

#### 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.

## **Scholarship Corporation News**

The AAUW Scholarship Corporation Committee is in full-swing for 2018. After the team planning meeting last September and the first corporation meeting in October, directors have been busy contacting high schools, duplicating and distributing applications, working with high school counselors and reminding schools of the application deadline. Scholarship applications are due March 8, 2018.

The subsequent corporation meeting was held on February 27. Directors were given assignments to do the following: review all applications for completeness, duplicate all applications and deliver them to the readers. Three people will read and rate each application from each school.....Arroyo Grande High School, Nipomo High School, New Tech High School and AVID (students from both Arroyo Grande and Nipomo High Schools enrolled in the AVID program.) After the applications have been read and rated, the information is sent to the corporation directors. At the March 22 corporation meeting the application finalists will be selected and dates set up at the high schools for the interview process. After the interviews the scores are then added to the application scores and emailed to the directors, ready for a final selection of the four scholarship winners.

Serving on the Scholarship Corporation Committee is a rewarding and educational experience, and besides we have a lot of fun working together!

Rose Ann Steiner Corporation Director

#### **DAYTIME PAGE TURNERS - Book Group**

*The Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz, author of the Foyle's War BBC series, is the reading selection for March. What a mystery this is!! A mystery contained within a mystery and most everyone loves the intrigue of a true mystery. This story includes murders (of course), real life jealousy, greed and ruthless ambition. The March discussion will be hosted by Pat Kastama in her country home in Arroyo Grande on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Future selections include: Astoria: John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire by Peter Stark for April; The Gentleman from Moscow by Amor Towles for May and June will highlight Leonardo Da Vinci by Walter Issacson.

Daytime Page Turners meet the first Friday of each month, hosted by different members. Discussion begins at 11:30 am, followed by member's brown bag lunch and dessert and beverages provided by the hostess.

Message Jean Burns Slater 805 627-1845 or <u>ibslater2006@gmail.com</u> for more details and a complete list of the reading selections for 2018.

#### NIGHT READERS

The March 13 meeting of the evening Book Club will be held at the home of Maurina Kusell, for a discussion of "The Daughter," by Jane Shemilt. This psychological thriller involves a mother's search for her missing daughter, only to find that things she thought she knew about her child are not necessarily true.

Looking ahead, the selected book for April will be "Astrophysics for People in a Hurry" by Neil deGrasse Tyson. The Book Club is currently filled to capacity.

- Sandra Ku, chairperson

#### LUNCH BUNCH

March Lunch Bunch Restaurant: Beda's Biergarten <u>3230 Broad Street, Site 130</u> San Luis Obispo, Ca

Date: Thursday March 1, 2018 Time: 11:30 RSVP: Ann Sawyer 489-8209

April Lunch Bunch will be at Eureka in San Luis Obispo. Due to events beyond our control we've tried twice to go to this restaurant and had to cancel. Hopefully the third time is the charm because it is a great place.

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Join us for fun, food and conversation
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#### **GREAT DECISIONS**

## PREPARE TO DISCUSS THE WORLD

Great Decisions, a discussion program on world affairs, involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. The topic for discussion on March 26, Monday will be Russia's Foreign **Policy**. This timely topic includes information on current Russian President Vladimir Putin's affirmation of the Russian Federation's rejection of communist ideological elements, and strong economic and security interests. Explosive charges about Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election and the difficult issues of the Ukraine crisis and Syrian civil war further complicate the understanding of Russia's foreign policy and relationship with the United States. Come learn more about Russia's Foreign Policy from knowledgeable professors of politics and a DVD presentation from the Foreign Policy Association.

Meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at Mary Jo Aspinall's beautiful home in Shell Beach beginning at 7:00 pm. 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

The Hand and Foot Canasta group will meet on Friday, February 23rd at Debbie Audet's home 550-8910. We will begin at 9:30. Bring a lunch. Drinks, dessert, and snacks will be provided.

#### COOKING TOGETHER

Please join us for our next dinner at 5:30 pm

March 24, 2018 cwendywalk@aol.com Wendy Robinson 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

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			12 19 7:00 Women In History (WIH)			13 7:00pm Night Readers Book Group		14 21									
														24 Cooking Together 5:30pm			
25			26 7:00pm GREAT DECISIONS		27		28	29		30			31				
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	14 Mary Jo Aspinall & Susan Opa			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
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