

The Waves



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

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Newsletter Editor: jbarnesgabriel@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April Matters

Looking back on the past month, I must mention our successful March meeting. With its traditional Women in History portrayals, the meeting was informative and entertaining. Thanks to Kathy Cohon for organizing these and introducing us to Patty Reed, a child member of the well-known Donner Party, and her hair-raising experiences; to Pam Zirion for her charming characterization of Juliette Gordon Lowe, founder of the Girl Scouts; and to Sandy Pitt for her interesting portrayal of Rear Admiral Grace Murray Hopper, a true innovator in the development of modern computers. These fresh presentations were well received and should serve as an excellent and fun learning experience for the school children who are able to benefit from the scheduled classroom visits. Those visits involve a substantial time commitment by these and past volunteers and we commend them for their dedication to the project year after year.

In this message last month, I wrote about the \$10 increase in AAUW National dues, in effect this year. I failed to note, however, that all but \$3 of national dues is tax-deductible, making \$56 of the new amount a tax-deductible donation. While I did mention the important work that is done by the national organization, I decided to refresh my memory about the breadth and depth of that work. You may want to refresh your own memory by checking out this link to the various programs and projects carried out by AAUW National: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/>. The scope and importance are truly impressive and put the relatively small dues increase into perspective. Of particular significance this month are the efforts targeted at closing the pay gap for women. On April 10th we recognize that gap. This is the day of the year when women, on average, reach the same pay that men in substantially similar positions earned by the end of 2017. Or, to put it differently, it takes more than three additional months of work for women to earn what men earned in just 12 months.

April brings a few things worthy of your attention. First, our general meeting will feature this year's scholarship awardees and Tech Trek designees. This is a popular meeting and these young ladies are always impressive.

Second, we will vote on a proposal for changes in the leadership structure of the Branch, which we have mentioned several times at meetings as we worked on the details during the year. **The detailed proposal appears in this newsletter.** Please read it carefully and address any questions you may have to the Board. Third, AAUW National will have an important membership vote this month. Voting will open on April 25, 2018 and close on June 9, 2018 at 9 P.M. eastern time. Under consideration are three proposed amendments to the bylaws: creating three-year staggered terms for Board members; opening Board service to those outside the AAUW membership; and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. For more information see: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>. Hope to see many of you at our April meeting!

Be well,

Susan Opava

Branch President

Nomination Committee

The nomination committee, consisting of Rose Ann Steiner, Jean Slater, and Susan Brazil, is pleased to announce the following slate of officers for AAUW Five Cities Pismo Beach for 2018-2019:

President: **Marilyn Corey**

Secretary: **Pat Muhlethaler**

Treasurer: **Linda Lidberg**

Voting will take place at our May annual meeting.

Donations

The BINGO FUNDRAISER on Saturday, April 21 is rapidly approaching. We want to thank so many of our members who have generously donated gift cards. These cards will be used as prizes for the Bingo games. Thank you so very much for your kindness and willingness to support AAUW's efforts to raise money for educational endeavors in our community.

Donations Committee:

Pat Muhlethaler and Rose Ann Steiner

DUES are DUE

Hello everyone. As you probably know National dues have increased by \$10 for the coming year. This means that our dues for 2018-2019 will be \$100. Just to let you know that National has had many research projects and here is a list from the last few years:

- 2017 Gender Pay Equity
- 2014 Gender Pay Equity
- 2013 Women in Community Colleges
- 2012 Pay Gap: One Year After College Graduation
- 2011 Sexual Harassment in Schools
- 2010 Why So Few Women in STEM

Because of AAUW we can take pride in reaching millions of women to negotiate fair salaries, sending 270,000 messages to lawmakers last year, standing with survivors of the #ME TOO movement, inspiring thousands of women leaders on campus, and no longer ignoring the gender pay gap. Your dues are helping National to continue in these efforts. Also know that \$56 of your National dues are tax deductible.

To help you in your decision to continue your commitment to AAUW we will have a \$50 drawing at the June meeting. All of you who have paid their annual dues are eligible for winning. Please revisit your reasons for initially joining AAUW and the wonderful accomplishments our association is doing for our community.

A renewal form is included at the end of this newsletter but you can mail your check – made out to 5 Cities Pismo Beach AAUW – directly to me with any directory changes. Thank you for your commitment to our causes.

Susan Brazil
397 Mesa View Dr.
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420



AAUW Dues Structure

FULL DUES: March 16 – June 30. Lasts until June 30 of following year.

HALF DUES: January 1 – March 15. Lasts until June 30 of that membership year.

FULL DUES: June 30 – December 31. Lasts until June 30 of that membership year.

Membership year coincides with fiscal year (July 1 – June 30).

FULL DUES:		HALF DUES:
National	\$59	\$59 (\$56 tax deductible)
State	\$20	\$20
Branch	\$21	\$10.50
Total	\$100	\$89.50

Highlights from the March 5, 2018 Board Meeting

- The slate of candidates for elected Board positions, presented by the nominating committee, was approved. The slate will be presented to members at the April general meeting.
- Linda Lidberg reported that the Tech Trek Committee had received 11 nominations by teachers and would be interviewing the candidates on Sunday March 18.
- Kathy Cohon reported that our Branch was again invited to oversee two precincts for the June 5th primary and November 6th general elections. Volunteers will be needed!

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

From your Branch Board

LUNCH BUNCH

Date: Thursday **April 5**, 2018

Time: 11:30

RSVP: **Ann Sawyer 489-8209**

Restaurant:



Please join us for a great time!

Lunch Bunch in May will be at Shaw's Restaurant in Santa Maria.

NIGHT READERS

Neil deGrasse Tyson's book "Astrophysics for People in a Hurry" will be the topic of discussion at the next meeting of the evening book group. The meeting will be held at the home of Sharon Lowell on April 10. The cover of the book claims that the content will make mind-boggling complex ideas "accessible to the layperson." We'll see... Looking ahead, the book to be discussed in May is Alice Hoffman's historical fiction best seller, "The Dovekeepers."

-- Sandra Ku, chairperson

GREAT DECISIONS

The **April 23rd** Great Decisions meeting will focus on the topic of **China and America: the new geopolitical equation**. How timely this topic is in view of the recent changes in the Chinese Constitution eliminating term limits for the Chinese President, recent United States tariffs on trade commodities and two world leaders, Presidents Trump and Xi Jinping, adjusting their economic, military and ideological positions in the global arena. The discussion for the month involves reading the Great Decisions [Briefing Book](#), watching the [DVD](#) presentation by the Foreign Policy Association and meeting in a [Discussion Group](#) to discuss the critical global issues facing America today. Learn more about China and America's relations at the April 23rd meeting. Meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at Mary Jo Aspinall's beautiful home in Shell Beach beginning at 7:00 pm. Join the discussion.

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

COOKING TOGETHER

Please join us for our next dinner in April at

5:30pm April 14, 2018

Kathy Cohon

Kcaauw@gmail.com

594-1249, 234-6934

- **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 PAGE TURNERS

Does John Jacob Astor's name ring a bell? This entrepreneur decided to corner the fur trapping market from the East Coast to the West Coast in the early 1800s. Six years after Lewis and Clark began their journey to the Pacific Northwest, two of the Eastern establishment's leading figures, John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson, turned their sights to founding a colony on America's West Coast and transforming the nation into a Pacific trading power.

Astoria : John Jacob Astor And Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire : A Story Of Wealth, Ambition, And Survival by Peter Stark provides a thrilling, true-adventure tale of the 1810 Astor Expedition, an epic, three-year journey to forge an American empire on the Pacific Coast. Peter Stark offers a harrowing saga in which a band of explorers battled nature, starvation, and madness to establish the first American settlement in the Pacific Northwest and opened up what would become the Oregon Trail, permanently altering the nation's landscape and its global standing. This is a story that cannot be missed.

The April discussion will be hosted by Mary Weeks in her distinguished home in Arroyo Grande. Daytime Page Turners meet the first Friday of each month, hosted by different members. Discussion begins at 11:30 am, followed by members' brown bag lunch with dessert and *beverages provided by the hostess*. *Message Jean Burns Slater 805 627-1845 or jbslater2006@gmail.com for more details and a complete list of the reading selections for 2018.*

HAND AND FOOT CANASTA

The Hand and Foot Canasta group will meet on Friday, April 27. Call Debbie Audet for location 550-8910. We will begin at 9:30. Bring a lunch. Drinks, dessert, and snacks will be provided.

TECH TREK

For the past several years, our Branch has had the good fortune to send six deserving young ladies to UCSB for a week of STEM camp known as Tech Trek. Thanks to our Branch's fund-raising efforts and donations from community service groups and businesses, we have been able to fund the \$950 tuition for each of the girls. We have also been fortunate in the last few years to accumulate additional funds for Tech Trek thanks to donations. So, this year I requested our usual six camperships with a request for two additional spots if possible. Saturday evening, March 17th, the luck of the Irish seems to have blessed our branch because I received word from the camp director that we could send eight girls this year. And how perfect the timing as our Tech Trek interviews were scheduled for Sunday, March 18th.

Interviews were conducted at the Lucia Mar Unified School District Superintendent's office for the 11 nominees, all of whom were nominated by their math, science, or technology teachers. Thanks go out to our members who assisted with the interview process: Susan Opava who served as greeter and photographer; Liz Wineman, Susan Brazil, and Marilyn Corey who served as the interview panel; and Barbara Cotton who did the post-interview interview with the candidates. I met with each girl's parent(s) to go over the logistics of the camp. After deliberations 8 campers were selected and 1 alternate was chosen. This year's campers will be presented with their certificates at our April 16th Tech Trek and Scholarship meeting.

Linda Lidberg, Tech Trek Chair

Dear AAW Members,

Our Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Branch is sponsoring a Bingo afternoon on April 21 at St. John's Church in Arroyo Grande. This important fundraiser is needed to fill in the funding gap left, since we discontinued the annual book sale. Your help is needed to help publicize the event at local markets, favorite places of businesses, places of worship, mobile home parks, community centers and more.

If you could kindly print the [flyer from our website](#) and distribute copies to your favorite places of business and gathering points, it would be greatly appreciated. We would like to sell 200 tickets and would prefer to involve the community in our event, rather than have us purchase all of the tickets. The publicity and your involvement are key.

There is no silent auction, raffle baskets or other activities to pull in extra dollars other than selling tickets. However there will be a money hat!! Please spread the word wherever you go.

Thank you. Questions? Please call me at 627-1845 or message me at jbslater2006@gmail.com

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.



BINGO!
BINGO!
BINGO!

Five Cities-Pismo Beach AAUW presents an
afternoon of Bingo, Bingo, Bingo.

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Tickets: \$15.

8 Bingo Games with Prizes

Snacks Money Hat Door Prizes

St. John's Lutheran Church, Los Berros and Valley Roads, Arroyo Grande. Doors open at 12:30pm. Games begin at 1:00 pm. Ticket price includes two Bingo cards, snacks and door prize opportunities. Additional cards available for purchase.

Contact Ann at 489-8209 for tickets or information.

Limited tickets at the door so buy your tickets now!

AAUW (American Association of University Women) is a non-profit, philanthropic organization that awards college scholarships to local girls, sends 7th grade girls to Tech Trek STEM camp and provides books to Lucia Mar USD elementary school students. **AAUW**
EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881

Proposal for Changes in Branch Leadership Structure

Background

During the past year the Board has been working on a proposal for changes in the current leadership structure of the Branch. CA-AAUW is supportive of the kind of changes we have proposed, which they believe has the potential to invigorate membership and decrease attrition. In proposing these changes, the Board's goal was to make the Board more of a coordinating group and less of a governing group, thus encouraging more member participation. As will become apparent as you read the proposed changes, the intent is to have Board members act as coordinators of their respective areas (as opposed to having full responsibility for those areas) by recruiting other members to share their responsibilities. We hope that more members will become involved with our various programs and activities if they are able to do so as part of a group or committee. We often hear that members would like to be more involved but have limited time, cannot attend evening Board meetings, or feel that having a Board position involves too much individual responsibility.

The proposed changes are consistent with our current bylaws. Our bylaws state that elected Board members will consist of President, Secretary and Treasurer and may include other members such as those on our current Board. These three elected positions also are the only ones required by AAUW National and the titles may be different as long as the duties of the positions are consistent with the descriptions in AAUW National bylaws. We propose making all of the other Board positions appointed rather than elected. Again, we anticipate that these modifications will make the leadership structure more member-friendly and the Branch a more participatory organization.

Finally, the proposal brings together many functions that have been stand-alone (and for which we have difficulty recruiting) into synergistic groups under committee structures.









This document will be published in the April newsletter and voted on by paper ballot at the April general meeting or by email for those who cannot attend. Thank you for your consideration of the following proposed changes.

Proposed Changes in Leadership Structure

1. Eliminate the optional position of **President-Elect**. Transfer duties to other Board members.
2. Eliminate the optional position of **Vice-President, Program**. Replace with a standing committee: **Programming Committee**, with a Chair (and co-Chair if desired), and committee members who will share responsibilities. Chair (and co-Chair, if any) will be appointed members of the Board. Hospitality will become a responsibility of the Programming Committee.
3. Eliminate the optional **AAUW Funds Vice President**. Replace with **AAUW Funds and Public Policy Coordinator**. The person in this position will be an appointed member of the Board. The position will cover the responsibilities of the current AAUW Funds Vice President **and** the current Public Policy Chairperson.
4. Change the name of the **Membership Vice President** position to **Membership Coordinator**. The person in this position will be an appointed member of the Board.
5. **President, Treasurer, and Secretary** will remain as elected positions.

6. **Parliamentarian** will remain as an appointed non-voting Board position.
7. Create a new appointed Board Position: **Fund-raising Coordinator**. Responsibilities will include coordination of all fund-raising activities and outreach to donors, with sub-committees to organize individual projects/events.
8. Create/reorganize **Standing Committees**, the chairs of which shall be appointed by the Board. Current committees whose responsibilities fall under a new Standing Committee, below, will be eliminated as stand-alone committees. Chairs of standing committees will recruit members to carry out different committee activities.
 - **Programming Committee**. Responsibilities will be those of the current position of VP, Program and will also include Hospitality.
 - **Communications and Publicity**. Responsibilities will include coordination of:
 - Advertising and public announcements.
 - E-mail communications
 - Newsletter
 - Website Management
 - Friendship Outreach
 - **Ways and Means Committee**. Currently chaired by the President-Elect, this Committee will have a Chair who assumes the responsibility of convening the Committee once a year for planning and recommendations to the Board regarding fund-raising and other financial strategies.
 - Coordinators of our three principal community outreach programs - **Scholarship, Tech Trek, and Reading is Fundamental** - will remain appointed members of the Board. The appointees to the Board from each program will be: the CEO of the Scholarship non-profit corporation; the Tech Trek Chairperson; and the RIF Program Coordinator. Current appointees to the Board for these programs are Marilyn Corey, Linda Lidberg and Wendy Robinson, respectively.

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Board Mtg AG hospital annex 7:00pm	3	4  Finessing Femmes Bridge 12:30pm	5 Lunch Bunch 11:30am Eureka!	6  Daytime Page Turners 11:30	7
8	9	10 Night Readers 7:00pm 	11	12	13	14  Cooking Together 5:30pm
15	16 Scholarship & Tech Trek Awards 6:30pm	17	18	19	20	21  12:30pm
22	23  Great Decisions 7:00pm	24	25 Membership Voting Opens	26	27 Hand & Foot Canasta 9:30am 	28
29	30					

March 2018

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

Birthdays:

- 4 Stacy Meko
- 6 Patti Melsheimer
- 17 Barbara Cotton
- 18 Margaret Quandt
- 20 Susan Hay
- 24 Nancy Warren



May 2018

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		

AAUW Five Cities Pismo Beach 2018 – 2019 Membership Renewal

Our mission and focus:

“Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research” Welcome and thank you for joining the Five Cities Pismo Beach Branch of AAUW for another year to advance the AAUW mission, while making new acquaintances and renewing long term friendships! This year you may consider joining an additional section to meet new friends and explore new interests.

- Dues are \$100 for the 2018 – 2019 year. (Dual members pay \$21 for the local Branch dues only.)
- ___ Check here to order a name tag or replacement name tag and include an additional \$10.
- ___ Check here to request the newsletter mailed to your home.
- Make checks payable to **AAUW Five Cities Pismo Beach**.

Please return this form with your annual dues and any supplemental payments by **July 1,, 2018** to:

Susan Brazil	___ Dues \$100
AAUW Membership	___ Dual Member \$21
397 Mesa View Dr.	___ Name Tag \$10
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420	\$___ Total

IF YOUR DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IS THE SAME AS LAST YEAR, FILL IN YOUR NAME ONLY.

Name: _____

Corrections:

Address: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

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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