

## President's message

Welcome to another New Year!

As the summer doglegs into Fall, a new year has begun. Your Branch leaders have been busy preparing for this new year. Some have been selling ads for our membership directory and newsletters, Linda is already working on the revised directory so that it can be disseminated at the first general meeting. Program Chairs, Lisa Walker and Liz Wineman, are planning interesting programs for us. Ten members attended the planning meeting in August, sharing ideas and a delicious salad pot luck lunch. Check the highlights of this meeting in a separate section of this newsletter.

This year brings a new leadership structure which was approved last year for implementation this year. There are less elected officers but more opportunity for more members to be on a committee. Hopefully the more of you who participate means less work for a few! Ideas and suggestions are always welcome!

I look forward to working with you!

*Marilyn Corey*

Branch President



# September



### September Branch Events\*\*

- 5th: Finessing Fems Bridge
- 6th: Lunch Bunch: Hapy's
- 7th: Daytime Page Turners
- 11th: Night Readers
- 16th: Welcome Back General Meeting
- 20th: Scholarship Committee Meeting
- 24th: Great Decisions
- 29th: Cooking Together

\*\* See following pages for more information.

### September Branch Birthdays

- 11th: Linda Lidberg
- 14th: Gaye Peltzman
- 17th: Anna Zucker
- 18th: Maurina Kusell
- 23rd: Pam Zirion



## Welcome Back 2018

- What :** \*\* Appetizer and Dessert Potluck  
\*\* Welcome Back Information  
\*\* Program with Tech Trek families



**Where:** Mesa Dunes Mobile Home Estates  
Club House (Mesa Dunes Park is located off Highway 1/Cabrillo Highway, approximately 1/2 mile south of the corner of Highway 1 and Halcyon Road (this is the corner where Tanner Jack's and JJ's Market are located). Once you turn into the Mobile Home park, bear to the right and go to the top of the hill where you will see the clubhouse. Note, the smaller clubhouse partway up the hill is not where we will be. **Carpooling is encouraged.**

**When:** Sunday, September 16, 2018 from 1:00 — 3:30 pm

**Please bring to share:** If your last name begins with A-H and Q-Z, bring appetizer; If your last name begins with I-P, bring dessert.

**Questions?** Email or call Liz Wineman, [wino90@msn.com](mailto:wino90@msn.com) / (805)925-0304

## Highlights From the Summer Planning Meeting, August 11, 2018

- The end of year financial report was presented and a proposed budget for 2018-2019 was reviewed and approved by the board. Proposed budget will be presented and voted on at the September 16<sup>th</sup> general meeting.
- Branch membership is currently at 54 members.
- Proposed branch goals for the year will continue to be the same as last year:
  1. Increase membership, focusing on retaining current members, recruiting new members, and diversifying our membership.
  2. Increase the amount of funding raised to support our programs and activities.
- The list of members filling leadership positions was presented. Vacancies discussed.
- The meeting and program calendar for the year was discussed and some events were planned.
- The initial planning for the fall Bingo fundraiser was covered.

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

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## Lunch Bunch

Thursday, September 6th. We gather at 11:30. Come join us for good food and fellowship at:

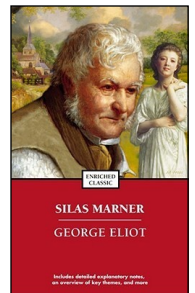
HAPY BISTRO. (That's how they spell it.)  
Pismo Beach, in the Orchard Supply Hardware Shopping Center  
, 821 N. Oak Park Blvd.

Seating will be in the covered patio. Please send RSVPs to Carole Dempsey at:  
[medipharmix@aol.com](mailto:medipharmix@aol.com)

At present no one is in charge of this interest group and sites are decided month by month. The Board, however, would prefer to have a contact person for this activity. It would be more efficient if we could publish the selected sites for several months in the newsletter so members could plan ahead. If anyone is interested in taking on this activity please let me know. It really is easy. A binder exists with many restaurants, dates, phone numbers available. You only need to call the restaurant in advance, make reservation for about 10, ask for separate checks, put information in newsletter and call restaurant day before to confirm. It's a great, friendly group of people and we just have fun! Contact me at 1-805-474-5682, 1-209-747-6663, or [susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susanbrazil@sbcglobal.net)

## The Daytime Page Turners Book Club

Do you remember reading the classic, Silas Marner by George Eliot? Daytime Page Turners select one classic each year and September is highlighting our classic selection, Silas Marner. The main character, a deeply wounded man, unable to trust, accidentally becomes a caring, nurturing human being when he discovers a child on his door step. Share this story with the Daytime Page Turners during a lively discussion on **September 7, Friday at 11:30 am**.



The September discussion will be **hosted by Carole Dempsey** in her Mesa View home. Directions will be sent to readers or anyone else who would like to attend. 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](mailto:jbslater2006@gmail.com) for more details and a complete list of the reading selections for 2018.

October will highlight Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Gunn on October 5. This book is currently on the best seller list and offers intrigue to all readers.

## Cooking Together

The Cooking Together group will be at Lisa Walker's home on Saturday, September 29th at 5:30 pm. Please bring your apron, beverage of choice, appetite, and be ready to cook. We will have sign-ups for future months available at the dinner. Please RSVP to Lisa at least one week in advance. See you there!



Anna Zucker

Group Coordinator

## Membership

Hello everyone. Right now our membership stands at 54, 16 less than last year. Various reasons are the cause for this drop. The Board has set a goal of adding 12 new members to make our budget goals. Right now National has a special category called "Shape The Future" that allows us to recruit new members for \$70.50, that includes national, state, and local dues. Another category is "Give A Grad" for college graduates within two years of graduation to join for one year for only local dues of \$21. So everyone please pledge to recruit a new member this year.



Also I am looking for someone to assist me with membership. This person would help me introduce new members to others in the branch, match them with interest groups that they are interested in joining, and possibly offer them a ride to activities. Thank you everyone for your support!

Susan Brazil  
Membership Coordinator

## Finessing Fems Bridge Group

The Finessing Fems Bridge Group will meet on Wednesday, September 5th at the home of Pat Muhlethaler. These card playing ladies play two tables of bridge from 12:30 pm until about 4:00 pm. They are currently looking for an 8th permanent member and substitute players. Call Marilyn Corey if you are interested in joining the group.



## Night Readers

The next meeting of the evening Book Club Night Readers will be held on September 11 at the home of Joan Knowlton. The book for discussion will be A Gentleman in Moscow, by Amor Towles. This popular work of fiction features a Russian Count in 1922 sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel in Moscow. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery. Looking ahead, the book choice for October will be The Cat's Table by Michael Ondaatje. – Sandra Ku, chairperson



# PREPARE TO DISCUSS THE WORLD.

## GREAT DECISIONS

The **September 24, Monday** Great Decisions meeting will focus on the topic of **South Africa's fragile democracy**.

The ruling African National congress (ANC) party has enjoyed comfortable majorities in five general elections since 1994, following independence from white minority rule and the end of a system of institutionalized racial segregation known as apartheid. There was great hope for a political system and economic development that offered black South Africans a robust civil society. The ANC's dominance, however, is evaporating and its legitimacy has eroded. Political violence and corruption are coupled with whites still controlling the bulk of the country's wealth, an unemployment rate of 25% and millions of shacks and informal dwellings, all of which point to crisis. Come read about South Africa's efforts toward democracy and a transition from a liberation movement to a modern political state.



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 topic. Learn more about South Africa's current political state on September 24, Monday. 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.

## Maggie's Place

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## Scholarship Update

The Five Cities –Pismo Beach Scholarship Board of Directors will be meeting on **September 20, at 6:30 pm** at Carol Rowe's home in Cypress Ridge. The Officers of the Board of Directors are: Jean Burns Slater, Chief Executive Officer; Kathi Pettersen, Vice President; Pat Muhlethaler, Secretary; and Carol Rowe, Chief Financial Officer. Other members of the Board of Directors are: Barbara Cotton, Erica Hinojosa, Beth Hutton, Maureen Kelly, Joan Knowlton, Joyce Rowe, Rose Ann Steiner and Yvonne Stephens.

Topics for the first Board of Directors meeting include: scholarship donation form, Scholarship Investment Policy and application of this policy, funding of the AVID Scholarship, branch communication, Scholarship Application and STEM emphasis, as well as, the logistics of gathering applications and awarding scholarships.

The Scholarship Financial Summary includes an ending balance at Rabobank of \$8,121.89 with a liability of \$4,000 for scholarship disbursement to 2018 awardees.

The Endowment Fund has a balance of \$111, 975.09 as of June 30, 2018. Several donations were received over the summer, some in honor of Elaine Olsen's husband, Alan. Permission to publish the names of donors will be requested prior to sharing donor names in future newsletters. The Branch fund raising donation of \$2,594.54 was also deposited after June 30 so it is not reflected in the published balance.

The Scholarship Board of Directors is indebted to all branch members for generous personal donations and the branch fund raising efforts that support the scholarships provided to our local young women.

The Scholarship Board welcomes comments and suggestions and will regularly report to branch members activities of the Scholarship Board through the Branch newsletter. Thank you for your confidence and support, both financially and through your great work.

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## Tech Trek 2018



This past July and August our Branch sent eight deserving young ladies to Tech Trek at USCB. The girls spent a week in the dorms at UCSB for a true

College-like experience and spent their mornings attending core classes in marine ecology, the physics of sports, aeronautics, computer coding, or math. The afternoons saw them working in small groups to research, plan, and prepare a presentation on a challenge topic. Evenings included discussions with women in STEM fields and informational presentations on what it takes to get into college and eventually into STEM fields.

In its 21st year, Tech Trek has had, and continues to have, a dynamic impact on the lives of girls. Over the next months, I will share the thank you letters we received from the eight girls we sent to camp this year — thanks to the generous support of our membership and our community donors. Linda Lidberg, Branch Tech Trek Coordinator

Dear Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for giving me this amazing opportunity! I have learned so much and made so many friends. I also learned that a girl can and will do much more than expected, and that is all thanks to you! I have really enjoyed visiting the UCSB campus and hope to visit again. Thank you for everything you have given me.



This week, I enjoyed making new friends, bottle rockets, professional women's night, going on the boat, and enjoying every minute of camp. This experience has taught me a lot.

On the boat, we were able to see many things. My favorite thing was seeing an entire pod of dolphins (and even baby ones)! They were so cute. I was also able to see many things in the ocean.

I also got to meet many interesting women. They really showed me how a girl (or woman) can and will be anything she wants to be. I know now that I can be a first in a male dominated world.

Thank you for this amazing experience and everything you have offered me. I am so happy I was able to experience such wonderful things!

Sincerely,

Lauren Cruz



Creating a bottle rocket in aeronautics.

# AAUW 2018 Strategic Plan: What we are all about

AAUW is proud to be launching our new strategic plan — Beyond Aspirations: Advancing Equity for Women and Girls. The plan ensures that AAUW is 100 percent mission-focused with an eye toward meaningful impact for women and girls. The Strategic Planning Task Force, made up of member leaders and AAUW advocates from around the country, is particularly grateful to the thousands of AAUW members who actively participated in this effort that defines how we will build on our rich history today and tomorrow.

## 2018 Strategic Plan

### Mission:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

### Vision:

Equity for all.

### Values:

Nonpartisan.  
Fact-based.  
Integrity.  
Inclusion and intersectionality.

## Strategic Focus Areas



### Education & Training

Addressing the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women.



### Economic Security

Ensuring livelihoods for women.



### Leadership

Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities.



### Governance & Sustainability

Ensuring the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW well into the future.

Specific goals and objectives for each area are outlined in the full plan is available at <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan/>







The AAUW California Fund Committee invites you to celebrate and honor our  
2018-2019 California Fellowship and Grant Recipients!



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA – SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO**

Saturday, October 6, 2018

RSVP: September 26, 2018

12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM

(Check In at 11:30 AM)

Basque Cultural Center

599 Railroad Ave - South San Francisco, CA 94080

**Meal Selection (choose one):**

Chicken with Mushroom Sauce

Vegetarian Penne Pasta

**Registration Link:**

<https://san-francisco-fund-luncheon.eventbrite.com>

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA – DANVILLE**

Sunday, October 7, 2018

RSVP: September 26, 2018

12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM

(Check In at 11:30 AM)

Crow Canyon Country Club

711 Silver Lake Drive – Danville, CA 94526

**Meal Selection (choose one):**

Sunburst Chicken Salad with Berries, Oranges

Vegetarian Sunburst Salad

**Registration Link:**

<https://danville-fund-luncheon.eventbrite.com>

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA – SEAL BEACH**

Saturday, October 13, 2018

RSVP: September 26, 2018

12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM

(Check In at 11:30 AM)

Old Ranch Country Club

3901 Lampson Avenue – Seal Beach, CA 90740

**Meal Selection (choose one):**

Morgan Chicken Salad with Mango, Papaya

Vegetarian Morgan Salad

**Registration Link:**

<https://seal-beach-fund-luncheon.eventbrite.com>

**AAUW FUND LUNCHEON RESERVATION**

1. Register online through Eventbrite (see links above for choice of luncheon events). – OR –
2. Mail your \$45.00 check or credit card information to 1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_; Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_; Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_; Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_; Security Code (on back): \_\_\_\_\_

For questions about the events, call the AAUW CA Office at 916-448-7795

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## AAUW FUNDS ANNOUNCEMENT

WASHINGTON — The American Association of University Women (AAUW) announced awards of \$3.9 million to its 2018–19 class of fellows and grantees. These 250 recipients represent diverse backgrounds, locations, and areas of study but have one thing in common: They all aim to promote equity for women and girls.

“AAUW fellows and grantees have contributed to — and will continue to impact — so much of the world at large,” said Kim Churches, the chief executive officer of AAUW. “These trailblazers are breaking the mold in nontraditional fields and redefining what leadership and expertise look like. AAUW is proud to provide the critical resources necessary to help them excel in their chosen fields.”

AAUW is one of the world’s oldest leading supporters of graduate women’s education, having awarded more than \$115 million in fellowships, grants, and awards to 13,000 women and projects from more than 145 countries since 1888. 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.

AAUW fellowship funding helps women manage the growing burden of student debt, an issue that disproportionately affects women. Unique to AAUW’s program, funding may also be used to pay for expenses outside of those traditionally associated with academic study, including child care and transportation — necessities that can help recipients’ continue, return to, and successfully complete graduate programs. AAUW prides itself on providing fellowships and grants for women returning to either extend or complete their academic goals.

“We are proud to have these awardees join and add to the over 130-year legacy of our notable alumnae,” added Churches. “Recipients now join the ranks of past awardees including journalist Melissa Harris-Perry, Ph.D., and astronaut Judith Resnik, Ph.D., to name a few. These awards change lives and these scholars, they change the world.”



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