

## President's Message

I hope that you enjoyed the holiday season with your loved ones and family and are now ready to start the new year! Making New Year's resolutions are now being made in hopes that at least some of them will be met.

While making your New Year's resolutions, I hope that you will consider the goals of our AAUW branch and help make them a reality. The first goal is to increase membership. Thus, the question is, how many of you have encouraged a friend or new acquaintance to join our branch or will do so in 2019?

The second goal is to increase fund raising to meet the needs of the operating expenses and those of the Branch projects. Thus, the question is how many of you have been active in supporting the fund raising events? There is always a job for each of you!

My last question for your consideration is: How many of you regularly attend the general meetings and meetings of the special interest sections?

I find that active participation in the above activities brings pleasure and a feeling of camaraderie among our members. I trust that you will do so also!

I sincerely wish all of you a very happy, fulfilling and healthy 2019!

Marilyn Corey



### January Branch Events

2nd: Finessing Fems Bridge

3rd: Lunch Bunch

4th: Daytime Page Turners

7th: Board Meeting

8th: Night Readers

28th: Great Decisions

\*\* See following pages for more information.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

4th: Jean Burns Slater

4th: Judy Zaretska

14th: Mary Matakovich

15th: Joan Knowlton

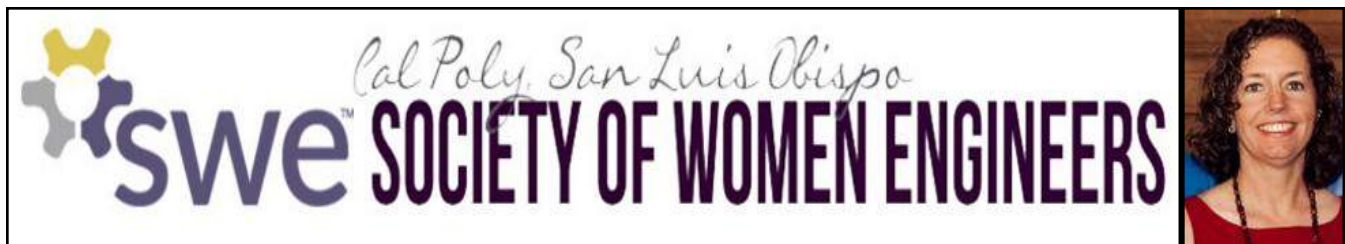
22nd: Judy Leonard

23rd: Liz Wineman

## Cal Poly's Women in Engineering Focus of January Program

Helene Finger, director of Cal Poly's Women in Engineering Program and advisor to the Society of Women Engineers at Cal Poly, will speak to our branch on January 21. She plans to bring Society of Women Engineers leaders with her. Ms. Finger has degrees in civil and environmental engineering and was recognized as a Cuesta Woman of Distinction for Progress for Women in 2014. Under her advisorship, the Society for Women Engineers, with a membership of over 400, has compiled a series of national awards over a number of years.

Join us to meet Ms. Finger and future women engineers on January 21. Social time at 6:30; program begins at 7.



## Bingo, Bingo, Bingo — A Branch Success!

Our December 1st Bingo Blast was a success. Between ticket sales, money hat, and the silent auction our net fund-raising profit for our 2019-2020 Branch projects was \$7,553.09. Thanks to all who helped by selling tickets, collecting and packaging items for the silent auction, setting up and cleaning up the venue, providing snacks that our participants greatly enjoyed, and supporting our efforts. And who could ever forget Barbara Cotton and her snazzy money hat?



AVID girls helping with setup and take down

B-I-N-G-O



Packaging for the silent auction



## Lunch Bunch

Our destination for January 3rd at 11:30 is Thai Villa in Nipomo. This yummy restaurant is located in the CVS shopping center on Tefft St. Please contact Linda Lidberg, lswl@aol.com or 805-929-6958 with your RSVP.



## Membership

Hello everyone. Hope your holidays were special and meaningful. Our December party was so much fun. The food was great, ornament exchange exciting, music (thanks to Linda) inspiring. But most of all, thanks to Lisa Walker, the activity of learning about each other was so special. We are all so multifaceted and spending time sharing was what the season's about. Now try to have some of your friends join our branch so they can share in our friendship together. Happy New Year. Call me anytime if you have membership questions.



Susan Brazil



Speaking of the  
Christmas  
Party...

MAURINA KUSELL, D.D.S.  
GENERAL DENTISTRY



1124 E. Grand Avenue  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

**D  
D  
S**

(805) 489-6650  
(805) 481-9033  
www.agdentalcare.com

**TREE OF LIFE**  
Lawn and Gardening services

Residential & Commercial, from Slo - Santa Maria

Tel: John Holquin (805) 825-1017

John@treeoflife805.com  
Treeoflife805.com



**February 23, 2019**

**11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

**Madonna Inn Garden Room**

**Buffet Luncheon**

**San Luis Obispo County Interbranch Council Luncheon**

**Guest Speaker: Jo Anne Heywood Miller**

Jo Anne is currently President of the Board for Festival Mozaic and is co-founder of SLO Seed Ventures and managing partner at Brown Dog Partners. After successful careers as an engineer and entrepreneur, Jo Anne began working in early stage investing in 2003 for Nokia Innovent and in 2008 she started a West coast branch of Golden Seeds, investing in women-backed businesses. She joined the Founders Circle of the Cal Poly Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in 2010 and has been a member of the Cal Poly Engineering Dean's Advisory Council since 2011 and the University of Colorado Engineering Dean's Council since early 2014. Jo Anne currently serves as chair of the compensation committee of Synergy, Inc. in Chicago. She has a BS in Mathematics from the University of Michigan, an MS in Computer Science from the University of Colorado and an MBA from the University of Chicago.



**Send checks for \$30 to Linda Lidberg, 959 Vista Verde Lane, Nipomo, CA 93444 no later than February 11, 2019.**

## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **SANTA BARBARA IBC FELLOWS LUNCHEON**

February 9, 2019; Hilton Garden Inn, 6878 Hollister Ave., Goleta



### **IBC Fund-raiser: Thursday, May 2, 2019**

Dress Rehearsal: Noel Coward's "Blythe Spirit"

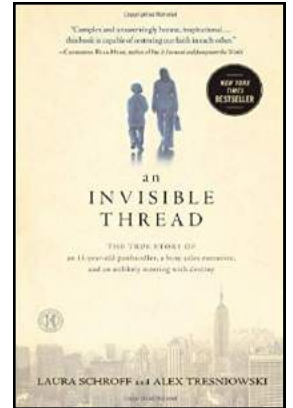
SLO Rep (formerly SLO Little Theatre)

Tickets will be available to buy and sell in March. This fundraiser will help fund scholarships for all five AAUW Branches in SLO County.

## Daytime Page Turners

Our next book discussion will be on **January 4 at 11:30 am** to Pat Kastama's home.

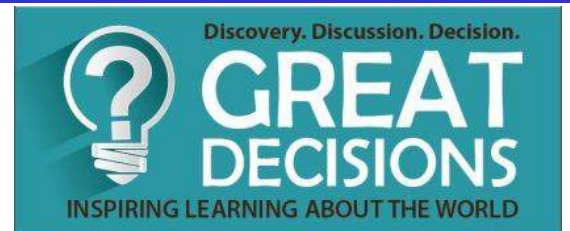
We will be discussing An Invisible Thread: The True Story of an 11-Year-Old Panhandler, A Busy Sales Executive, and an Unlikely Meeting with Destiny by Laura Schroff. This inspirational *New York Times* bestseller chronicles the lifelong friendship between a busy sales executive and a disadvantaged young boy, and how both of their lives were changed by what began as one small gesture of kindness.



Directions to Pat's home 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.

Book selection for the 2019 year will take place on January 11 at 11:00 am at the Willow Restaurant in Arroyo Grande. Each reader may suggest two fiction, two nonfiction and one classic recommendation for reading. Recommendations are requested to be sent to [jbslater2006@gmail.com](mailto:jbslater2006@gmail.com) by January 2, 2019.

## GREAT DECISIONS



The Great Decisions discussion group is ready to order reading materials for the 2019 year. Requests for ordering materials are being taken now. Materials will cost \$36 for the 2019 year, as there was an increase in the cost of the publication and video. Please message Jean Burns Slater [jbslater2006@gmail.com](mailto:jbslater2006@gmail.com) or Priscilla Alquist [palquist@gmail.com](mailto:palquist@gmail.com) with reading material requests.

Our first meeting will be on January 28, 2019, the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 7 pm. The location is still to be determined for this one meeting only. Following meetings will be at the Alquist home.

Topics for the year are:

- Refugees and Global Migration
- The Middle East: Regional Disorder
- Nuclear negotiations: Back to the Future?
- The Rise of Populism in Europe
- Decoding U.S.-China Trade
- Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics
- The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested
- State of the State Department and Diplomacy
- 

Our world needs informed citizens and by participating in Great Decisions you are more informed in current events. If you would like to join our group please message Jean at [jbslater2006@gmail.com](mailto:jbslater2006@gmail.com) or Priscilla at [palquist@gmail.com](mailto:palquist@gmail.com). Thank you. Please let Priscilla know about your interest in ordering a book.

## Scholarship Update

The 2019 Scholarship Applications have been distributed to Arroyo Grande High by Carol Rowe and to Nipomo and New Tech High by Maureen Kelly. Special thanks is extended to these women who serve as our contacts with the local high schools. Four scholarships will be awarded for 2019 year at the amount of \$1,500 each, one to each high school and one Avid Scholarship.



Recent donations to Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Scholarship Corporation include: Finessing Femmes Bridge Interest Section, Susan Hay and Marilyn Corey in memory of Shirley Bekey, a recently deceased local member. The generous donations of our members and community allow the Scholarship Corporation to award scholarships with the assurance that current and future young women will be honored.

The next Board of Director's Meeting will be held on February 28, 2019. The Investment Policy revision, Treasurer's report, scholarship application scoring directions and interview and reader assignments are on the agenda for this meeting. An updated Treasure's report will be provided at this meeting and will be shared with Branch members thorough this newsletter. Thank you all for your generous donations and work in fund raising for our Branch.

# HAPPY NEW 2019 YEAR

	<p><b>Aaron M. Paulsen</b> First Vice President - Investment Officer CA Insurance Lic # OB08337 <b>Terri L. Rice</b> Senior Registered Client Associate</p> <p>907 Rancho Parkway Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 Office: 805-473-0481 Fax: 805-473-0749 Toll Free: 800-733-3268 aaron.paulsen@wfadvisors.com terri.rice@wfadvisors.com</p>
<p>Wells Fargo Advisors is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC.</p>	

<p><b>RENEE A. DAVID</b> CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT</p> <p>129 N. HALCYON ROAD ARROYO GRANDE, CA 93420 (805) 473-9274 FAX 473-9275</p>
---

	<p><b>PALO MESA REALTY</b></p> <p><b>Pat Okura, Broker</b></p> <p>GRI, CRS, ABR, SRES, GREEN</p> <p>950 Cypress Ridge Pkwy. <b>805.801.0147</b> Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 patokura@palomesarealty.com www.palomesarealty.com</p> <p>License #01336946</p>
---	---

	<p><b>JOE McALEXANDER ELECTRIC</b></p> <p><b>Joe McAlexander</b> Owner</p> <p><b>805.481.7990</b> Arroyo Grande, CA</p> <p>Lic. No. 765904</p> <p>Custom Homes • Commercial • Residential • Remodel Spa Hook-ups • Senior &amp; Military Discounts</p>
--	--

## Finessing Fems Bridge Group

The Finessing Fems Bridge Group will meet on Wednesday, January 2nd at Barbara Cotton's home. February 6th will find these card playing ladies at Marilyn Corey's. Call Marilyn Corey if you are interested in joining the group.



## Night Readers

The next meeting of the reading group will be held January 8 at the home of Linda Keetch, for a discussion of The Essex Serpent, by Sarah Perry. The novel, set in 19<sup>th</sup> century England, has won several Book of the Year awards. It explores questions about science, religion, faith independence, and love – set off by a rumor that a fearsome creature in the local marshes may be claiming human lives. The mythical Essex Serpent may have returned. Looking ahead, the book selected for February is An American Marriage, by Tayari Jones.



Sandra Ku, chairperson

## **NEW FEATURE:** Member Highlight: Shirley W. Bekey

Shirley was a member of our AAUW Branch until her illness no longer allowed her to participate.

Shirley White Bekey, Ph.D., adored wife of USC and Cal Poly professor emeritus George A. Bekey, Ph.D., died on October 25th this year at age 90. She had been in declining health for many years due to chronic pulmonary disease, but retained her intelligence, sensitivity, depth and indomitable will throughout. A graduate of Occidental College and USC, Shirley earned her Ph.D. in educational psychology and specialized in aiding gifted children. She balanced protocol and nonconformism all her life, alarming her Methodist parents by becoming a Presbyterian and marrying a shorter European refugee of Jewish heritage and then-modest means. Shirley was a classical pianist who loved folk music, an appreciator of fine Western painting and ethnic art, and a churchgoer intrigued by spiritual aspects of every religion. Descended from early English settlers, Shirley ardently pursued stories of her family's pioneer past. Born in Los Angeles in 1928 to surgeon Lawrence White and gifted pianist Alice King White, she grew up in the Hollywood Hills and on Coronado Island, where she practiced high-diving in the Hotel del Coronado's pool. She and George met through their shared passion for spirituality and, early in their 67-year marriage, were closely involved with the Japanese American community through Hollywood Independent Church. Longtime Los Angeles residents, George and Shirley moved to the Central Coast 15 years ago, where they created a new art-filled home and community of friends. Pre-deceased by her sister Laurice, Shirley is survived by George, their son Ronald and daughter Michelle, and her close cousin Patricia Griffith.



Published in San Luis Obispo County Tribune on Nov. 25, 2018



Another Thank You Letter from one of our Tech Trek campers, written during her week at camp.



Dear Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for the outstanding, once in a lifetime opportunity. I'm extremely glad that you chose me to be a camper. I knew that I would learn so much and have a lot of fun. Sponsoring me was such an amazing gift. I love it here. The UCSB campus is such a fantastic place to make new friends and memories.

The core class I was put in was math. It was so fun to learn, especially since Mrs. Martin taught us. One of the things we learned about was Pascal's triangle. We learned that each level added together was a power of two and that it is just one gigantic pattern. Another thing we learned was Fibonacci numbers. The pattern for this was that you added the two numbers in front to get the new integer.

The one field trip that we went on was on the Condor Express, a boat. On the trip out we got to stop to see Platform Holly, an oil rig, and Mohawk reef, a kelp reef. We learned that it's called Mohawk Reef because a road called Mohawk Road leads right down to the beach by the reef. One other thing we learned was some of the different types of plankton. Zoe plankton is animal plankton and fito plankton is plant plankton. It was a very fun experience.

Over all, I think sending me to this camp was a fantastic idea. I'm learning new things and making new friends. This has been the best camp I've ever been to. Again, thank ou so much for introducing me to this amazing place.

Sincerely,

Jadyn Acker



**Warren White**  
Electrical Handyman  
805-709-8455  
warren41w@gmail.com

**PCR**  
ONCOLOGY  
DAVID PALCHAK M.D.  
ERICK HJORTSVANG M.D.  
Hematology and Oncology  
584 Camino Mercado  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
www.pconcology.com  
Phone: 805.474.9143  
Fax: 805.474.9569



## Five Cities AAUW theater "PLAY DATES"

Everyone (members, family, neighbors, friends) is welcome to buy tickets. Pick and choose your event(s) and email [judyoung@hotmail.com](mailto:judyoung@hotmail.com) to reserve. Just let me know the number of tickets you need. Payment depends on the venue and the total number of our reservations for the particular event. **When you email your reservation to me, I will reply with the ticket price as of that date. After that you may mail me your check.** Below is a schedule for a variety of entertainment styles. Come "play" with us.



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019; 8:00 pm** LILY TOMLIN at Cal Poly Performing Arts Center, San Luis Obispo.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019; 7:30 PM** THE EVERLY BROTHERS EXPERIENCE at The Clark Center, Arroyo Grande.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019; 7:30 pm** "KINKY BOOTS" at Cal Poly Performing Arts Center, San Luis Obispo.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2019; 7:00 pm** "THE WOLVES" (about a girls' indoor soccer team) at Allan Hancock College, PCPA, Santa Maria.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019; 7:30 pm** "MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT" at Cal Poly Performing Arts Center, San Luis Obispo.

Watch for more to come through the summer months....Come "play" with us. Judy Zaretska, [judyoung@hotmail.com](mailto:judyoung@hotmail.com) 805-481-7313; 529 Starlight Ln., Arroyo Grande, 93420-4157

**Evergreen**  
LANDSCAPING

Dave Duran  
Owner

(805) 773-5395 office Contractors License # 786226  
(805) 235-4791 cell P.O. Box 2056  
(805) 773-9301 fax Pismo Beach, CA 93448  
[evergreendave@charter.net](mailto:evergreendave@charter.net) [evergreenlandscapingca.com](http://evergreenlandscapingca.com)



Five Cities  
Computer Repair

*"Just in the Nick of time"*

Nicholas Salazar  
Owner

805-540-1140  
PO Box 187  
Grover Beach, CA 93483

[Nick@fivecitiescomputerrepair.com](mailto:Nick@fivecitiescomputerrepair.com)  
[www.fivecitiescomputerrepair.com](http://www.fivecitiescomputerrepair.com)

**Maggie's Place**  
Exclusive Salon

Maggie Wright  
Beauty Specialist

609 Camino Del Rey  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
[wrightmaggie2@gmail.com](mailto:wrightmaggie2@gmail.com)  
(805) 403-7964

"I just want to make you beautiful!"

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices  
California Properties



Erica Hinojosa

Educated Advisor & Experienced Sales Professional

805-459-2659  
[ehno805@gmail.com](mailto:ehno805@gmail.com)  
CALLER 805692916 | CALLER 805692917