

The



SEPTEMBER 2021

EQUITY FOR ALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FIVE CITIES PISMO BEACH, CA, BRANCH

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OUR MISSION:

Advancing gender equity through research, education, and advocacy.

Waves

LUNCH UNDER THE TREES!

Welcome to 2021-22 with the Five Cities-Pismo Beach AAUW Branch!

Join us on Monday, September 20th 11:30 AM

Nipomo Community Park 904 W. Tefft (enter off of Pomeroy)

Bring your **Brown Bag Lunch** and a **lawn chair**, if you like. Let's enjoy time to get caught-up on the latest and renew old friendships...

~Liz Wineman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back, everyone, for a new year filled with **“Hope, Trust, & Possibilities”** - our theme this year.

We will have our general meetings in a hybrid format. That means we will have some meetings in person and some by zoom.

Your directory will be available at the September meeting and will include a year calendar with specific meeting information. For September we are planning an “in person” meeting at a park, just as we did in May. It will give us an opportunity to socialize and review the plans for this coming year.

Your board has already met and discussed ideas for how to function this coming year. Please attend in September so we can present our ideas to you and hear your opinions on various issues.

At present we are scheduled to man one polling site in September for the recall election. This will help our financial situation.

Till we meet in September please take care of yourself and remember what Confucius said: *“The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.”*

~Susan Brazil

AAUW MEETINGS

PLEASE NOTE:

Many, but not all, of 2021/2022 AAUW meetings will be on Zoom. Please check monthly.

For computer assistance on Zoom meetings, please contact Pam Zirion

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

Monday, Sept. 6 @ 6:30 PM Zoom

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Monday, Sept. 20 @ 11:30 AM Lunch Under the Trees (Nipomo Park)

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

Monday, Oct. 4 @ 6:30 PM Zoom 1

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Monday, Oct. 18 @ 6:30 PM Zoom

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

Monday, Nov. 1 @ 6:30 PM Zoom

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Monday, Nov. 15 @ 6:30 PM Zoom

SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship Board of Directors

Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Scholarship Corporation is a separate nonprofit organization sponsored by Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Branch and is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization. The corporation consist of 12 directors, all of whom are members of the Five Cities-Pismo Beach Branch of AAUW. Individual directors are recommended and approved by corporation directors.

Officers elected by the corporation directors for 2021-2022 are:

Chief Executive Office: **Jean Burns Slater**

Vice President: **Erica Hinojosa**

Secretary: **Pat Muhlethaler**

Chief Financial Officer: **Maurina Kusell**

Other Directors include: **Kathi Pettersen, Priscilla Alquist, Beth Hutton, Maureen Kelly, Joan Knowlton, Patti Melsheimer, Rose Ann Steiner, Marjorie Ott**

Meetings

All meetings for the 2020-2021 year were held by Zoom due to COVID restrictions. Meeting plans for the 2021-2022 are to be determined. A review of scholarship recipients' criteria will be held, along with determining the number and amount of future scholarships.

Scholarship Awards

Five Scholarships of \$1,500 each were awarded for the 2020-2021 school year to the following young women:

Kathryn Bozanich	UCSB	Marine Biology	AG High
April Crouch	UC Berkeley	Political Science	AG High
Meia Schram	UCLA	Bio-Psychology (Pre-Med)	Nipomo High
Erika Graciliano	UCLA	Biology	AVID
Marie Foster	Verito Education Honors Program		
		Bioengineering	New Tech High
		(and Sophomore year at UCSD)	

Corporation Financial Status - June 30, 2021

Morgan Stanley Endowment

Balance \$150,310.47 Investment Income \$1,856.62

Mechanics Bank

Balance \$3421.13 Total donations \$3,090.00

Dollar value of

Scholarships Awarded: \$7,500.00 Total Income & Donations: \$4,946.62

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

The AAUW 5 Cities-Pismo Beach Branch wishes a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY or BELATED BIRTHDAY** to the following members:

Linda Lidberg11

Gaye Peltzman.....14

Anna Zucker.....17

Maurina Kusell.....18

Pam Zirion.....23

Happy Birthday!!!

PUBLIC POLICY

CELEBRATING LITERACY

The United Nations' (UN) International Literacy Day annually falls on September 8 to raise people's awareness of and concern for literacy issues in the world.

According to UNESCO, about 774 million adults lack the minimum literacy skills. One in five adults is still not literate and two-thirds of them are women. About 75 million adults lack the minimum literacy skills. About 75 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out. However, literacy is also a cause for celebration on the day because there are nearly four billion literate people in the world.

The UN General Assembly proclaimed a 10-year period beginning on January 1, 2003, as the United Nations Literacy Decade. The assembly also welcomed the International Plan of Action for the Decade and decided for UNESCO to take a coordinating role in activities at an international level within the decade's framework. On International Literacy Day each year, UNESCO reminds the international community of the status of literacy and adult learning globally. This day was first celebrated on September 8, 1966.

PUBLIC POLICY ALERT!

IMPORTANT! YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE AND MUST BE HEARD!

Special California Recall Election ☐ **September 14, 2021**

All registered voters will get a ballot in the mail, beginning August 16. You have 3 ways to vote:

- Mail your ballot
- Drop off your ballot at a secure ballot drop off location in the county starting Tuesday, August 17
- Vote in person or drop off your ballot at a voting location.

Question: Shall Gavin Newsom be recalled (removed) from the office of Governor?

YES vote means

- If a majority of the votes on the recall question are "Yes," Governor Newsom shall be removed from office and the replacement candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected for the remainder of the governor's term of office.

NO vote means

- If one-half or more of the voters on the recall question are "No," Governor Newsom shall remain in office.

What happens after the recall election?

- If a majority of the voters vote "yes" on the first question, then the recall is successful and Governor Newsom will be removed from office. The replacement candidate who gets the most votes is elected for the remainder of the term of office (through January 2, 2023).
- If 50% or more of the voters vote "no" on the first question, then the recall has failed and the Governor Newsom will remain in office.

GUBERNATORIAL RECALL BALLOT

Following the recall question, all qualified replacement candidates for the office of governor will be listed. The candidates may list their qualified political party preference, or lack of qualified party preference, as well as their ballot designation (if the candidate chooses to provide that information) describing their principal occupations(s), profession(s), and/or vocation(s).

The Certified List of Candidates can be found at: <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/statewide-elections/2021-recall/certified-list.pdf>

Write-in replacement candidates for the office of governor can also run in the California Gubernatorial Recall Election. The Certified List of Write-in Candidates will be available on September 3, 2021.

Recall ballots have two parts. Must voters vote on both parts of the recall ballot?

NO - Voters can vote on either one or both parts of the recall ballot. A voter can vote "no" to the question of removing the current elected officer from office and also select a replacement candidate.

Will a replacement candidate's political party preference and occupation be noted on a recall ballot?

YES - A replacement candidate's political party preference will be included on the ballot along with their occupation, if a ballot designation worksheet was filed with their county elections official and the candidate's ballot designation was approved by the Secretary of State.

NOTE: Source of information: California Secretary of State website

The Waves

...is a monthly newsletter of the
Five Cities-Pismo Beach, CA
Branch of AAUW

Vol. 43, No.1 – September 2021

President:

Susan Brazil

Treasurer: *Linda Lidberg*

Secretary: *Pat Mulethaler*

Parliamentarian: *Rose Ann Steiner*

AAUW Funds: *Mary Matakovich*

Public Policy & Scholarship:

Jean Burns Slater

Membership:

Laurie King

Fundraising:

Pam Zirion & Kathy Cohon

Program Committee:

Mary Matakovich & Liz Wineman

Communication / Publicity:

Linda Lidberg, Website

Priscilla Alquist, Outreach

Newsletter Editor: *Gayle Turner*

IBC Representative: *Linda Lidberg*

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of the month. Photos are welcome.

AAUW 5 Cities Website:

<https://fivecitiespismo-beach-ca.aauw.net>

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

SPOTLIGHT IN THE LIMELIGHT...PATTI MELSHEIMER

During World War II, Patti Melsheimer's mother was a "Rosie the riveter" in Oklahoma City. For health reasons, however, the family moved to Poston, Arizona where Patti's father worked in laundry for the Japanese concentration camp until the war ended. Upon returning home from Arizona, Patti's family lived in Oklahoma City, where she attended elementary school and one year of junior high.

Patti was expected to be a school teacher, as career choices were limited. She earned good grades and enjoyed an idyllic childhood. However, Patti's father had California dreaming fever, and when Patti was 13, the family moved to Montebello, California. She started junior high, and was active with her church youth group, which led to a life-changing experience.

After high school graduation, she traveled on a school bus with 25 other youth across the U.S., staying at local churches, a tour that opened her life to new experiences. Patti began her college education at Chapman University, studying history and English, meeting her husband, Dick, when she was a junior. Patti and Dick became engaged during her senior year and with loving parental approval they married two weeks after graduation. Patti believes that it was her mother's pies that captured Dick's heart, but we all know it was Patti's sparkling mind and heart that sealed the deal.

After marriage, Patti began practice teaching through Cal State LA, but was dissuaded and

decided to work for a church agency in downtown LA. Studying at USC School of Social Work, she began her career of "taking care of people". Her first born son arrived just before her class finals so she switched to being a homemaker and commenced parenting her two sons, Eric and Peter. Being the curious



activist, she was introduced to AAUW through Dick's sister in Montebello and Monterey Park. This started Patti's committed relationship with AAUW for over 50 years.

After working for his father for several years, Dick decided to open his own business and Patti,

thinking practically, switched to working at a retirement home for medical coverage where she eventually became an administrator. With one son at Princeton and the other at The University of Pacific, Patti focused on a Masters in Gerontology and Public Administration at USC. She helped run Dick's business, but eventually began working for a government funded agency, providing services for seniors.

The two Melsheimer sons were working for the family business of manufacturing horizontal directional drilling tools when they all decided that a move to the Central Coast would be best, as Dick knew the area from his Cal Poly days and family camping. The Melsheimers moved the business and the families in October 1999. The move included Patti's mother, Peter and Eric and their families, along with 10 employees.

The Melsheimers enjoy close family connections, taking family vacations with three generations including their two sons, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Patti is especially proud of her family and the three generational family business, Melfred Borzall.

Patti's biggest challenges were caring for her mother and caring for her daughter-in-law during her terminal illness. Train trips, travel, reading, church activities, tea parties and AAUW keep Patti focused and active. She hikes weekly, entertains often, enjoys cooking, socializing and politics, which she cares deeply about. She has always been a trail-blazing activist!
~ Jean Burns Slater

INTEREST GROUPS

GREAT DECISIONS RETURNS IN PERSON

Our spirited and committed Great Deciders have begun convening in person. In July, we addressed the future of the two Koreas - North and South. We took a summer break for the month of August. We will join together again on Monday, September 27 at 7 PM at Patti Melsheimer's home to discuss **World Health Organization: COVID**.

Recent developments put this topic in the very forefront of our lives and updated materials are sure to be available. Susan Opava will be the discussion leader and Marjorie Ott will serve as hostess for refreshments.

Discussion will focus on the role of the World Health Organization, a response to a global pandemic, limitations to influence and power, trust, justice, and equity for less developed nations, and the global responsibility for a healthy world.

Our Great Decisions year will conclude on **October 25**, focusing on the topic of **The End of Globalization**. What in the world is this world coming to???? Be part of the discussion and future solutions. Direct questions to Priscilla Alquist or Jean Burns Slater.

OTHER GROUPS

AAUW Night Readers	Sept. 14	7:00 PM	@ Linda Kime's
Finessing Femmes Bridge	Sept. 15		@ Alice Witt's
Bridge		Meets at 12:30 PM	

FUNDRAISING

At the planning meeting in August, the Board decided not to pursue Bingo and Silent Auction again this year. With the spike of the new variant, and given the fact we have adequate funds for our three projects, we will hold Bingo & Silent Auction next year in 2022.

We will receive funds from our precinct duties and hope to have some sponsored restaurant dinners to add to our treasury. A committee of people interested in brainstorming fundraising ideas will meet soon.

Tune in next month to hear more!

~ Pam Zirion / Kathy Cohon

DAYTIME PAGE TURNERS READING GROUP

This serious reading group meets on the first Friday of each month at 11:30 am. It is typically hosted by a member of the Daytime Page Turners, who provides dessert and beverages with members providing their own lunches. The discussions are fun, dedicated to the book topic and connections to current and personal events. Current readers are both AAUW members and other dedicated readers. We welcome new members. Our books are selected a year in advance to provide time for readers to procure the book and enjoy reading it. Consider joining us. Contact Jean Burns Slater with questions or answers. Readers Welcome!

Examples books to be discussed include:

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City, by Matthew Desmond
Princeton sociologist Matthew Desmond follows eight families in Milwaukee as they each struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Evicted transforms our understanding of poverty and economic exploitation.

The Body: A Guide for Occupants, by Bill Bryson
The author takes us on a head-to-toe tour of the marvel that is the human body. Bryson guides us through the human body - how it functions, heals itself, and fails. Full of extraordinary facts.

The Book of Lost Names, by Kristin Harmel
A semi-retired librarian in Florida recognizes an eighteenth-century religious text that appears to contain some sort of unknown code. As a grad student in 1942, she fled Paris and began forging identity documents for Jewish children fleeing to Switzerland. She must preserve their names. What is the connection?

Official AAUW Interest Group Contacts:

Great Decisions .. Priscilla Alquist /
.....Jean Burns Slater
Lunch Bunch.....Joan Knowlton
Night Readers
Book Group..... Alternates
Theatre GoersJudy Zaretzka

Independent AAUW Interest Group Contacts:

Cooking GroupAnna Zucker
Page Turners Book Group .Jean B. Slater
Finessing Femmes.....Rose Ann Steiner
Quilters..... Linda Lidberg
(These groups have become independent of AAUW in order to be inclusive of readers who are no longer members.)

PROPOSED 2021-2022 BUDGET

BRANCH SPONSORS

Proposed Operating Expenses	
Community Center Rent	\$270.00
Membership Directory	\$125.00
Program Expenses	\$0.00
Hospitality	\$0.00
Insurance	\$220.00
Interbranch Dues	\$40.00
Post Office Box Rental	\$106.00
President's Expenses	\$0.00
Secretary's Expenses	\$0.00
Treasurer's Expenses	\$0.00
Publicity	\$0.00
Newsletter Expenses	\$10.00
Out-going President's Pin	\$0.00
Raffle/Bingo permit	\$20.00
Unencumbered funds	\$310.00
TOTAL ANTICIPATED EXPENSES	\$1,101.00
TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME	\$1,101.00
DIFFERENCE	\$0.00

Anticipated Operating Income	
37 Memberships @ \$23	\$851.00
Advertising	\$250.00
Anticipated Operating Income	\$1,101.00
Anticipated Fundraising Income	
Fall Bingo and Silent Auction	\$0.00
Adopt-a-Poll	\$750.00
Other Fundraising	
Total Anticipated Fundraising Income	\$750.00

Reserve Carryover	
Scholarship	\$0.00
Tech Trek	\$7,931.77
RIF	\$3,867.87
AAUW Funds	\$1,450.91
General Funds Reserve	\$11,554.71
Total Reserves on Hand	\$24,805.26

Checkbook Balance 7/1/21	\$36,014.57
Reserves (Tech Trek, Op. Exp.)	-\$24,805.26
Remaining Operating Funds	\$11,209.31

OPTIONS: 1. Reduce number of meetings at Woman's Club. 2. Pull funds from General Funds Reserve to make up difference. 3. Recruit 11 new members. 4. Sell 5 additional ads.

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