

President's Message November is a whirlwind of activities for our AAUW Branch. We will hold our major and biggest fund raiser of the year, Silent Auction and Bingo, on one day. We will participate in democracy in action as Adopt a Poll workers. We continue our solid focus on interest sections involving reading, discussing, eating, and socializing. We continue to support our branch projects of Scholarship, Women in History, Lucia Mar elementary school readers and preparing for Tech Trek 2023. Our focus for the year is Education √, Community Involvement √ and Socialization √ and we are focused! Thank you Branch members and friends for helping us accomplish our AAUW mission. Jean Burns Slater, President

November Events

- 3 11:30 am Lunch Bunch
- 4 11:30 am Daytime Page Turners
- 5 12 noon: Bingo and Silent Auction:
St. John's Church, AG
- 8 All Day: Adopt a Poll
6:30 pm Night Readers: Kime home
- 14 7: 00 pm San Luis Obispo AAUW Virtual Meeting
- 15 6:30 pm Tuesday Board Meeting; Zoom
- 16 12:30 pm Finessing Femmes Bridge: Steiner home
- 20 Newsletter Deadline
- 28 6:30 pm Great Decisions

December Events Preview

- 1 11:30 am Lunch Bunch
- 2 11:30 am Daytime Page Turners
- 5 6:30 pm Board Meeting Zoom
- 10 3:00 pm Holiday Social: Walker home
- 20 Newsletter Deadline

November Birthdays

- 21 Connie Rodgers
- 23 Andi Portney

The November General Meeting

BINGO & SILENT AUCTION

When – Saturday, November 5

→ Doors Open **12:00 PM**

→ Bingo Starts **1:00 PM**

Where – St. John's Church

959 Valley Rd, Arroyo Grande

More information on page 3



October General Meeting Minutes and Video Link

The October general meeting was held with the San Luis Obispo AAUW Branch on October 10, Monday, 7 pm. This Virtual Meeting focused on The League of Women Voters presentation on the November California ballot initiatives. A link to the video presented is included as well as minutes from this meeting.

Video Link: Final Cut 2022 P & C.mp4

Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW
Minutes of the General Meeting
October 10, 2022

The October General meeting was held on Zoom in conjunction with the SLO Branch of AAUW. 44 people were in attendance among them from our branch were Mary Matakovich, Patti Melsheimer, Kathy Cohon, Kathi Pettersen, Pam Zirion, Erica Hinojosa, Priscilla Alquist, Susan Brazil, Maureen Kelly, Joan Knowlton and Joan Florence. San Luis Obispo Branch President, Debra Valencia-Laver, called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and introduced Pam Zirion who made an announcement regarding our Branch Bingo and Silent Auction event. Ms. Valencia-Laver then introduced Ed Cabrera from the SLO County League of Women Voters. He has been with the League for three years and has found the members to be “committed, dedicated professionals.” Mr. Cabrera also taught Political Science at Atascadero High School for 40 years. He then began the slide presentation of the Propositions.

Proposition 1- Include in the state Constitution an individual’s right to reproductive freedom

Proposition 26 - Online betting, dice games on tribal land; sports betting at racetracks

Proposition 27 - Online betting and sports betting outside tribal lands

According to the CA state Constitution, if two propositions are conflicting, the one with the higher percentage of votes takes effect.

Proposition 28- Designates 1% of K-12 state budget for Arts and Music education in schools.

Proposition 29 - Requires licensed Nurse Practitioner, Physician’s Assistant or MD at every Dialysis Clinic

Proposition 30 - Increases ZEV-Zero Emission Vehicle infrastructure to promote electric vehicles by taxing individuals with income over \$200,000

Proposition 31 - In conjunction with SB 793 prohibits sale of flavored tobacco products

Mr. Cabrera concluded his presentation with the caution for all to find out who is supporting particular propositions in order to decide which way to vote. Ms Valencia-Laver thanked all for joining on the Zoom session and adjourned the meeting at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Zirion
Secretary, AAUW 5 Cities-Pismo Beach



Bingo and Silent Auction

It's almost here! And it all depends on YOU!

Everyone needs to help and sign up to work. No job is too small. So far Erica, Maurina, Andi, Maureen, Linda Lidberg, Kathi Pettersen, Joan Knowlton, Laurie and Sandy Pitt have signed up to help for the Silent Auction and Bingo. Thank you, thank you!

We trust all of you are also *selling tickets and returning money to Joan Knowlton*. Quite a few of you have found donations from various businesses, and this will allow us to provide Tech Trek funds, Scholarships and books for Eager Readers this year! We have many gift certificates for wineries and restaurants as well as services from professionals.

Keep selling tickets. *Donate one gift card* to be used for Bingo prizes, and sign up to work when you see an email come through, please.

Contact Kathy or Pam to *volunteer* and tell us what donations you have procured for the Silent Auction!

Dates to remember:

November 1st-ALL \$\$ and unsold tickets due to Joan Knowlton

November 1st- ALL Silent Auction items due to Andi Portney's residence.

November 2nd-Packaging for Silent Auction 9:00 AM at Andi Portney's home

November 5-9:00 AM Arrive at St. John's Church and help set up Bingo and Silent Auction

Pam Zirion

Kathy Cohon

November Board Meeting

The next board meeting of the 2022-2023 year is on **Tuesday, November 15 at 6:30 PM**, via ZOOM. This is a change from the regular 1st Monday of the month due to Adopt a Poll activity on Tuesday, November 8 and San Luis Obispo's virtual AAUW meeting on November 14. If you or your committee have an action item to place on the agenda for this meeting, please forward it to Jean Burns Slater by November 9 for it to be considered at the meeting. Thank you!

San Luis Obispo AAUW Branch Invitation

SLO Branch of AAUW extends an invitation to Central Coast AAUW Branches to attend their next virtual meeting. On November 14 @ 7 pm, SLO AAUW will be featuring the SLO Food Bank presentation on issues of food insecurity in the county.

More information will be forthcoming for your planning purposes.

Public Policy

2021-22 Legislative Session Closes with Big Wins for AAUW California

Kathi Harper, Chair

AAUW California Public Policy Committee

At the stroke of midnight on September 30, 2022, the 2021-22 legislative session officially came to a close as it marked the Governor's deadline for signing or vetoing bills. The AAUW California Public Policy committee is pleased to announce that we achieved a 70% success rate on the bills on our legislative agenda, and 25 of our 36 bills are now law, including 7 of our 8 top priority bills. The following is a brief synopsis, by each pillar of our Public Policy Priorities:

Economic Security for All Women

8 of our bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, and 1 died in the legislature. The most significant bill under this pillar was AB (Assembly Bill) 92, which we co-sponsored. AB 92 was introduced in 2020, and became a 2-year bill, which is why it remained on this year's agenda. This bill originally sought a 1-year waiver of supplemental child-care fees for low-income families, with a request for a sliding scale to be applied thereafter. In his 2021 budget, Governor Newsom included \$120 million for 2-years' worth of waivers. The bill was then amended to request an additional year of waivers through October 2024, with a sliding scale to then be implemented. Unfortunately, the amended bill was vetoed; however, we are still proud of the work we did to get those 2 years of waivers in the budget, so we still consider it a win!

Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students

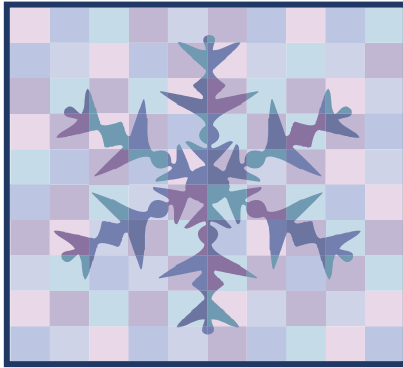
6 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was approved by the legislature (no signature required) and 2 died in the legislature. Of particular note under this pillar are 3 of our top priority bills: AB 1968, which requires campuses to develop and post uniform guidelines for reporting sexual assault; AB 2881 which provides additional support for college students with dependent children; and AJR 23 (Assembly Joint Resolution), a Title IX 50th Anniversary Proclamation.

Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society

8 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was incorporated by the Governor into an Executive Order, 1 was approved by and 2 died in the legislature. We saw success on all 4 of our top priority bills in this area: AB 1666, which provides protection for those from other states seeking abortions in California, as well as for those providing services here, from the enforcement of a related civil judgment from their home state; SB (Senate Bill) 523, which requires insurance coverage for over-the-counter contraceptive products; SB 1375, which allows certified nurse-practitioners to perform some early-term abortions; and SCA (Senate Constitutional Amendment) 10. SCA 10 was introduced in the Senate as a measure to place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot to enshrine in the California constitution the right to an abortion and to contraception. When this measure passed in the Senate, it became Proposition 1.

To see the results of all the bills on our 2021-22 legislative agenda, check out our webpage for a full agenda summary, here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2022/10/results-of-2021-22-legislative-session.pdf/>, or to view our Bill Tracker, here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2022/10/bill-tracking.pdf/>.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER! DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



Five Cities-Pismo Beach AAUW Holiday Social

What: Potluck, social, and gift exchange

Where: Home of Member Lisa Walker- 520 Cameo Way, AG

When: Saturday, December 10 @ 3:00 pm

✓ *Gather to enjoy appetizers, salads and desserts*

Last names A-H: salad

Last names I-P: appetizer

Last names Q-Z: dessert

Hot Mulled Cider, Iced Tea and Tableware provided

✓ *Bring a wrapped white elephant gift to exchange.*

No need to buy anything - Maybe something from your home that someone else could better use...

✓ *Bring a bottle of your favorite wine, optional.*

✓ *Come dressed in your most festive holiday attire.*

Prize for the most unusual Holiday sweater.

RSVP to Lisa Walker by December 6

Text 805-904-8732 or cameovictorian@hotmail.com

Healthy Aging Autumn News ~ 2022



This fall, the only thing falling should be leaves!

"Be Seen and Be Safe"



A few safety reminders for walking in the late afternoons and evenings.

- Wear bright clothing that drivers will be able to see. Reflectors on your shoes or clothing can be extra helpful to stand out at night.
- Carry a flashlight or light source with you. Cell phone flashlights are ok in a pinch, but a flashlight with more lumens would be more effective for lighting the path in front of you.
- Walk on sidewalks whenever possible.
- Don't use your phone while walking. Staring at your phone while walking can put at risk of losing your step off the sidewalk, veering outside of the crosswalk, or stepping into oncoming traffic.
- Walk with another person, try to avoid walking by yourself at night.
- Assume that motorists cannot see you. Practice walking defensively, and wait a few seconds to make sure the driver will stop before you proceed into an intersection. Those few extra seconds could save your life!

Michelle Zulim-Clark Injury Prevention Program/Healthy Aging

ADOPT A POLL

Hello Precinct Volunteers and Branch Members

Thank you for volunteering and supporting our volunteers in our Adopt a Poll effort for the November 8th election. As a civic duty, community involvement, education and socialization, our Adopt a Poll involvement puts our AAUW Branch right into the middle of our mission of advancing equity for woman girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Our Branch will be staffing precincts 401 and 402 at the South County Regional Center.

Linda Lidberg provides our Branch with precinct leadership, encouragement, and expertise. We will see you at the Polls!! Thank you, Linda. If you are not working but would like to stop by and smile at our workers, come anytime on November 8, Tuesday, to the South County Regional Center.

Did you know that **in 1972** Californians voted to add "privacy" to the list of **inalienable rights** in the state constitution?

WHY YOU NEED TO ACT

Prop 1 will amend the state constitution to add "reproductive freedom" to that list.

TAKE ACTION!
Educate yourself on Proposition 1, then educate others.

Learn More And
Take Action



GOTV
Get Out The Vote



**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER! DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE PLEDGE TO VOTE "YES" ON PROPOSITION 1**

November 2022 - Scholarship Corporation Report

As the new CEO of the Scholarship Corporation, I was reminiscing in my old files of photos of Scholarship winners over the years. I ran across an article with Betty Kulp pictured with Scholarship winners. This reminded me of our humble beginnings. We used to sell Christmas cards to raise funds. Then Betty was instrumental in setting up a corporation that could develop an endowment fund to support our Scholarship winners. It was a daring move for our Branch! The original goal had been to fund two \$1000 scholarships per year from the Endowment once we reached \$100,000. Until then, we would depend on fund raising and donations. In recent years, we have been blessed with large influxes of funds from the Branch's efforts at selling the contents of several homes plus favorable market conditions. We have moved from being able to award four scholarships of \$2000 to last year's all-time high of ten scholarships of \$2000. But every year, our incoming funds fluctuate and hard decisions must be made. The Branch is now allocating only 10% of funds raised each year to Scholarship, which will be \$391.50 this year. Our interest from investments also fluctuates, being \$3956 last year and could very well be lower this

year due to unstable market conditions. Donations were very generous last year, totaling \$7600, saving us from having to sell large amounts of investments to fund our scholarships. We did reduce our Endowment by \$8,444 by spending \$20,000 on scholarships. The Corporation now stands at \$120,000 in its Endowment, after funding last year's scholarships. Donations will be very much appreciated, enabling us to again be generous this year. The donation form is below and is also on the website at (<https://fivecitiespismo-beach-ca.aauw.net/community/scholarship/>). We encourage you to reach out to our Board of Directors to share your thoughts, as you did last year. The Directors look forward to hearing from members. They are as follows:
Chief Executive Officer: Priscilla Alquist
Vice President: Erica Hinojosa
Secretary: Pat Muhlethaler
Chief Financial Officer: Maurina Kusell
Other Directors: Jean Burns Slater, Kathi Pettersen, Beth Hutton, Maureen Kelly, Joan Florence, Patti Melsheimer, Rose Ann Steiner, Marjorie Ott



AAUW Five Cities Pismo Beach Local Scholarship Donation

I want to help with scholarships for senior high school young women in the Lucia Mar Unified School District.

Please accept my donation of \$ _____ Phone _____

My name _____

Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

This donation should be allocated to:

_____ Current Year Scholarships --includes AVID Scholarship (Advancement Via Individual Determination) _____ Scholarship Endowment Fund

This donation is to be designated:

_____ In honor of _____ In memory of _____

If you wish a notification of your "in honor of" or "in memory of" donation to be sent to another party, please include their information:

Name _____

Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Checks should be made payable to: 5 Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Scholarship and mailed to: **AAUW Scholarship, P.O. Box 1604, Pismo Beach, CA, 93448**
The Scholarship Corporation of Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW is a 501(c)3 tax exempt corporation, DIN#77-058439. You may designate Five Cities AAUW Scholarship as a beneficiary in your will, trust or insurance policy

2022 Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Scholarship Corporation Awardees

Front row: Daniela Pille, Sofia Reynoso, Lissette Cuevas, Savannah Davison Back row: Nevaeh Burns, Daniela Ruelas, Damaris Beas, Paloma Nava, Toirease Marie O'Rourke. Alexis Seiler was unable to attend.



The **December**
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE is
November 20th

LUNCH BUNCH

Taste 2550 Broad St., SLO
Thursday Nov. 3rd at 11:30 AM
Reservations must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 1
Contact Joan Knowlton - jknow98@gmail.com or
805-773-2845

Great Decisions

Topic: Biden Foreign Policy in Age of Strategic Competition

November 28 6:30 pm Patti Melsheimer's Home

Global pandemic and disrupted supply chains, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, China's emergence as a superpower under a Communist regime. What in the world should foreign policy look like?

This discussion group actively stays connected with current political policy decisions and shares ideas with fellow Branch members. Each discussion evening opens with a video highlighting the discussion topics, followed by a lively discussion, based on the reading guide.



Check out the snazzy logo for the launch of Gov Trek, the statewide AAUW California program to expose high school girls to careers in public service.

Membership

Sandi Gabe, President, AAUW California, statepresident@aauw-ca.org

Keep an eye on Membership

Membership growth continues to be a focus this year. It is also important to keep our current members engaged. There's still time to contact the 17.5% of members who are waiting in the wings to renew as AAUW National extended the renewal deadline to November 30th.

Take a moment to reach out to those members who have not renewed. They may feel disconnected considering much of our activity has been online rather than in person. You can provide the needed encouragement and familiar voice that can inspire them to continue making a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Help new members join the organization.

Your branch website may need to be adjusted to correctly direct new members to join the organization. Many branch websites included a link to "Join" on the national website. With the implementation of the Community Hub that link no longer works. Please check your website to see if you're affected. The new link is: https://my.aauw.org/NC_Login. Potential members must create a new account first and then join.

Women With a Voice! How Are You Growing?

A few months ago, the most unusual thing happened at the Beach Cities Branch scholarship awards. A woman came into the room as the meeting began and took a seat at one of the far tables. Each recipient came forward and shared her Tech Trek, TTAG, and AAUW journey. The gratitude expressed and pride of the families in attendance brought many to tears. At the end of the meeting, the woman revealed that she walked in on the wrong meeting. Hers was in another room, but she felt drawn to the magic in this place and stayed. It turned out that one of our members taught her daughter as well. This lovely woman not only joined AAUW on the spot, she also wrote a check for \$1,000 to support the scholarship fund. Perhaps it actually was magic!

This month the Membership Committee would like to celebrate those branches that are growing their membership. We want you to share your success with branches across the state. Do you have a specific story of a new member? What caused this person to join AAUW? We want to hear from YOU!! What are you doing in your branch that has made a difference in attracting new members?

Everyone has a story. Let us help celebrate the good things you are doing! We will shout them from the rooftop! Send your stories to: membership@aauw-ca.org

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

Stormy Miller Sabia, Director, DEI Committee Chair, diversity@aauw-ca.org

LET'S CHAT! A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON DEI

We hope you had the opportunity to participate in the AAUW National DEI Officer Training on September 10th or 17th. If not, not to worry! A recording should soon be available and will be shared with all branch DEI officers and coordinators.

To continue our learning and engagements on issues of DEI, please join us on November 3rd at 6 pm for our first AAUW California DEI Statewide Chat: An Intimate Conversation with AAUW National leaders, Julia Brown and Melissa LaDuke. We'll discuss their engagement in AAUW on a personal level, what National is doing to promote DEI, and what we can do on an individual and branch level to further our own understanding and strengthen our commitment to this work. You really will not want to miss it!

Public Policy News

Kathleen Harper, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

2021-22 LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS WITH BIG SUCCESSES FOR AAUW CALIFORNIA!

The 2021-22 Legislative Session officially came to a close at midnight on September 30th, the Governor's deadline for signing or vetoing bills. I'm excited to announce that 25 of our 36 bills for this year are now law – a 70% success rate! Of our six high-priority bills, five have become law. Here is a quick summary:

Economic Security bills

9 signed by Governor

Equal Access to Education bills

6 signed by Governor

1 approved (no signature required)

Social and Racial Justice bills

7 signed by Governor

1 approved (no signature required)

1 incorporated into Executive Order

Click [HERE](#) for a summary of each bill and its status. It can be found on the Public Policy webpage under "Legislative Advocacy" [HERE](#) as well as our detailed Bill Tracker [HERE](#).

In other news:

Our Voter Education campaign is in full swing; be sure to look for our weekly social media (SM) messages

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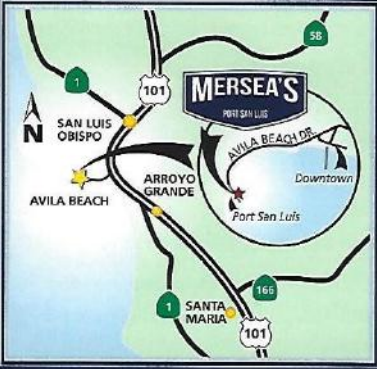
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