

March General Meeting

Erin Garner Ford Executive Director ACT for Women and Girls

DATE: March 8, 2014
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
WHERE: Holiday Inn Plaza Room
(west entrance)
MENU: Cobb salad or Club Wrap
COST: \$17.00 (includes drink and tip)

Please send your menu choice and check to
AAUW c/o Sally Childers, 205 W LaVida,
Visalia, CA 93277

Erin Garner-Ford has been an AAUW member for the past two years. Presently she is the Executive Director of ACT for Women and Girls. In 2005 she began working for ACT after completing her BA at CSU, Chico. She received her MA from Fresno Pacific in 2009. Ms. Garner-Ford is a current recipient of the Soroptimist Making a Difference for Women Award.



The mission of ACT is: To engage women of all ages in leadership opportunities that will promote social and personal change.

Travelling Troopers are planning a one day trip to San Francisco on Wednesday, March 19. We are attending the 30th annual Bouquets to Art exhibit at the de Young Museum. Floral designers are chosen to interpret in flowers some of the art work on permanent display. Past exhibits have been incredible. Our ticket also includes admission (continued on Page 4)

From Our President

Thinking of my afternoon at the Ice House Theater brings a smile. The performances of our members, Susan Mathews and Karen Simpson were outstanding.....so much fun to watch friends on stage. Respect brought back so many memories and it is so clever to see the lives of women portrayed in song.

On February 8 we watched six high school students deliver their speeches for our annual Speech Trek contest. It is always fascinating to me to watch and listen to teenagers deliver their messages with knowledge and poise. Our winner was Sudeep Dhana from Tulare Union High School. Marisol Gonzales won 2nd place and Alejandra Ceja 3rd place, both from Kennedy High School in Delano. Many thanks to Jan Johnson and Dee Quatraro for their leadership.

Erin Garner-Ford will speak to us on March 8 about ACT of Visalia. We heard her speak several years ago. Since then her organization has grown. It continues to reach out to young women in our area to help them develop leadership skills.

Check out our calendar and see where you might like to participate.

Carol Seastrom

Branch Members participated in 1 Billion Rising on February 14th



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have 155 members now, but are always ready to welcome new faces who support our mission of promoting equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive change. Recruit new members now and they save half off national dues: \$50.50 total instead of \$75. This rate is available now through March 15. Further savings are available to guests attending a meeting open to the public such as Speech Trek or Great Decisions. Joining at such an event brings the total down to \$38.25. Now is the time to invite friends, neighbors or co-workers to join our branch. These reduced rates pay for membership through June 15. Membership forms will be available at our next meeting or contact Carol Finney or Donna Denham.



Expanding Your Horizons gives sixth grade girls an opportunity to visit a college campus. Our branch received the following thank you note from one of the attendees:

Dear AAUW: Thank you for choosing me to go to COS. COS was very interesting. I got to touch bugs like rose beetles and see tiny microscopic bugs. I also got to make yummy, yummy ice cream. The ice cream was chocolate chip ice cream. On the last class, we made rockets and flew some. I love COS, please pick me again. Alexa H.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Nancy Jones is a fairly new resident of Visalia. She is a retired registered nurse and is quickly becoming very active in our branch. She is in Coffee and California Concerns, Volunteer Visalia and Garden Gals. Welcome Nancy!

Kathy Stevens is a retired teacher. She taught at Crestwood and started the school garden where she continues to volunteer. Currently she is finishing a book on school gardens. Welcome Kathy!

DATES TO REMEMBER Meetings and Focus Groups



DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION
Mondays	Book Sorting	8:30 7424 W Sunnyview
We need more sorters		
Tuesdays	Knit Wits	10:00 Panera
Thursdays	Walkers	Call Dona 732-8421 for location
Mar 3, 17	C & CC	10:00 Sue Sa's
Mar 11, 18	Great Decisions	COS J. Muir Room 101
Mar 8	General Meeting	10:00 a.m. Holiday Inn Plaza Room
Mar 7	Bookworms	1:00 Home of Jan Johnson
Mar 12	Refresher Bridge	1:00 Home of Carol Olincy
Mar 12	Unabridged Book Group	7:00 Home of Nancy Adalian
Mar 14, 21	Volunteer Visalia	1:00 - 3:00 Visalia Rescue Mission
Mar 19	Trip to SF*	Contact Cathy Lovell*
Mar 24	Board Meeting	4:00
Mar 28	GardenGals	TBA

*admission to the current featured exhibit "Modern Nature: Georgia O'Keeffe and Lake George." We will travel on a brand new 28 passenger bus. Cost is approximately \$125. Open to friends and family as well. A few seats left. Call Cathy Lovell ASAP at 734-3850.

BOOK SALE

APRIL 24 – MAY 1

SEQUOIA MALL

March 2014

Tax time reminder: \$46 of our \$75 dues is tax deductible.



Visalia-Sequoia Branch contributed a total of nearly \$3,000 to AAUW Funds during 2013 through branch and individual contributions.

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