



Sequoia News

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Respect:

A Musical Journey of Women

Here's an exciting way to escape January gloom. AAUW has reserved a block of tickets for the Visalia Community Players' January 26 matinee production of *Respect: A Musical Journey of Women*. AAUW's own Susan Mathews and Karen Simpson are currently rehearsing this delightful, high-energy show depicting the evolution of woman's empowerment from the early 1900's to the present day through popular music. The playwright, Dorothy Marcic, researched women's history as seen in Top 40 songs for her doctoral dissertation then morphed her book into an engaging musical celebration of women as they journey from the codependence of "Someone to Watch over

Me" to the independence of "I Will Survive" and beyond, including such popular pieces as "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," "Bill Bailey," "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend," "These Boots are Made for Walking", and, of course, the title song "Respect." Peppered with tales of real women, this promises to be a fun-filled and nostalgic mix of song and story. Directed by Leeni Mitchell, *Respect* also stars Marla Alberstein, Samantha Muse DuToil, Jenny Ponce, and Ronnette Torrence.

Tickets for the Sunday, January 26 matinee at 2:00 p.m. are available for \$14 from Jan Johnson (625-2926 or janboys3@yahoo.com). AAUW will receive a small portion of each ticket we sell to this show. Members, non-members, spouses, family and friends are welcome.



**HOLIDAY TEA DECEMBER 14 2-4
HOME OF CAROL FINNEY**

All sections are asked to donate at least one item to our Holiday Raffle. Members may also donate items such as basket goods, crafts, holiday décor or gift certificates.


Dona Meinhardt, VP for AAUW Funds

From Our President



Dear Members:

We have done it again! By providing Visalia an opportunity to buy used books at bargain prices, we have earned \$18,525.00. That is a record amount. We not only had tons of books, we had many customers. Thank you all for your shift work - some of you more than one. And special thanks to the hard working sorters who Monday after Monday create order out of chaos.

Tickets are for sale now for the January performance of *Respect* at the Ice House Theater. We have 50 tickets for the matinee performance on Sunday, January 24. *Respect* is a musical and two of our members--  Susan Mathews and Karen Simpson--are in the cast. Tickets are \$14.00, the regular price of admission. We bought them for \$11.00 each so it is a small money-making venture for Sequoia Branch. Our branch has purchased a "brick" which the Ice House is selling to raise money to upgrade the sound equipment at the Ice House.

Thanks go to Nancy Adalian and Marilyn Rankin who helped filter questions for the candidates' nights at the 210 Cafe.

Our branch is busy and active. Stay plugged in.

Carol



Margaret Moholt and Nancy Bellin

Many of us were moved to tears in October while listening to Nancy Bellin's remembrances of her experiences in a Japanese internment camp during World War II. She tells her story--one that needs to be heard--with grace and simplicity.

Our November speaker was our own Margaret Moholt who told us the story of her young life in China and Taiwan and shared remarkable family stories of life during that transition and of her own journey to the United States and ultimately to Visalia.

VOLUNTEERING



Goshen Book Buddies

Lori Olvera-Clarkson, a kindergarten teacher in Goshen and a Visalia-Sequoia Branch member, has a need for “Book Buddies,” volunteers who could come in and read with English Learner students. Times are flexible – 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for morning kindergarten and 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. for the afternoon class. Volunteers will have to fill out a form at the school. You may come and go as you have time as the teachers would not be counting on you to be there every week. This could work for those of us who have some time to spare occasionally and it would really benefit the children. If you’re interested, contact Lori. She’s in our AAUW yearbook

Members who may have other opportunities for volunteering within our community may submit suggestions.

Volunteer Visalia Update

Our committee wants to thank everyone for their donations to our **Family Services Community Drive**. It was a resounding success! Twelve boxes of toiletries, books, dvds and tapes were delivered to Family Services on November 5. Family Services has a resource store in Goshen that provides items to the community so any items that the Battered Women’s Shelter doesn’t have room for will go there and be used by the community. Thank you all for your generosity.

Volunteer Visalia invites you to a **workday at Food Link** on December 13 from 1-3. As you might imagine, at this time of year they receive huge donations of food which needs to be sorted for distribution into the community. That is the job we will be doing--sorting and checking their donations. If you’re so inclined, dress warmly, bring gloves because we could get dirty and join us. If you want to bring your spouse, children, grandchildren, etc., I know they can use the help. Food Link, 7427 W. Sunnyview, Visalia, CA 93291. Food Link is located in the industrial center off Shirk Road.



AAUW Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

November 2013

AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through
advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

