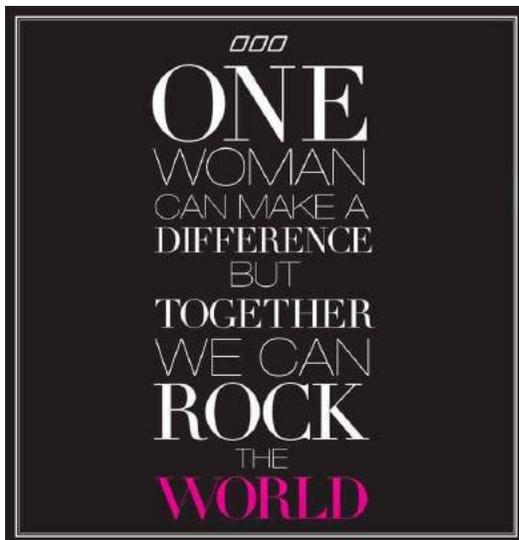


**Notes from the Presidents:  
Sherri Bentley & Nancy Adalian**

Hard to believe it is almost November already, and the news is, of course, our book sale. A big thanks go to the book sorters, the ICODs, delivery/set up teams, and all of our members who man the sale. It is a lot of work, and your time and efforts are much appreciated.

We look forward to our November general meeting on Thursday, November 9 at 11:30. It is being held at the Veteran's Building next to Left of Center, who is catering the lunch. We will have a presentation about our forests, given by a Sequoia/Kings Canyon park ranger. Hope to see you there, and hope you bring a friend.

Just to keep you in informed about your board, we are working on updating our bylaws in alignment with state and national bylaws, as well as our policies and procedures. Thanks go to Carol Seastrom and Cathy Lovell, who are working diligently on this project.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Sherri Bentley and Nancy Adalian



**November AAUW Meeting**

- **DATE:** November 9, 2017
- **TIME:** 11:30 – 1:00ish pm
- **Where:** Veteran's Memorial Building, 609 W Center, Vis.
- **Speaker:** Christy Brigham
- **Topic:** Our Forests
- **Cost:** \$16.00

Christy Brigham is from Eastern Washington State where she got her undergraduate degree. She received her PhD in restoration ecology and mechanism of persistence in rare plants from University of California, Davis. She has lived in California for over 20 years and has worked for the National Park Services as a scientist and manager for 15 years.

She is working as Chief of Resource Management and Scientist at Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park where she oversees research programs in over a half dozen disciplines.

"I will be speaking about the on-going tree mortality episode in the Southern Sierra Nevada. Specifically I will cover what we know about causes, both direct and indirect, scope of the mortality event, species and size classes affected by the mortality event, as well as the unknowns going forward. I will also talk about the opportunities for research that this event presents and how different agencies with different missions (USFS and NPS) may present opportunities to take different actions and learn even more about these important forest ecosystems."

**Your check is your reservation. Mail a check to:**  
Nancy Lee Jones  
6018 W School Ct., Visalia, 93291, or you can email her at [nancy0123@att.net](mailto:nancy0123@att.net)

**Cut Out  
and  
Save**



## 2017-2018 Programs

- Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, Thurs., 11:30 am, Veteran's Memorial, Speaker: Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park Ranger, Topic: Our Forests
- Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Sat., Holiday Tea, 2:00-4:00 pm, Home of Carol Sonier, 2544 Border Links Drive
- Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, Thurs., 5:00pm, Lamp Liter Inn, Speaker: Lindy Gligorijevic, Tulare County DA Chief Investigator, Topic: Human Trafficking
- Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, Thurs., Visalia Fox Theater 11:30am, Speaker: Erin Olm-Shipman, CEO Topic: History & Tour of Fox Theater
- Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>, Thurs., Left of Center Café, 11:30 am, Speaker: Fawn Pender, Topic: Women's Fashion History
- Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>, Thurs., 11:30 am, Left of Center Cafe, Speaker: Mae Vang, Topic: Being An Inspiration to Your Community
- Apr. 18-23<sup>rd</sup>, Book Sale Sequoia Mall
- May 10<sup>th</sup>, Thurs., 4:00-6:00pm, Congregation B'nai David, Scholarship Reception

Remember – If you sign up for the monthly meeting and don't show up, you are still responsible for paying for your lunch. Thank you.

# ATTENTION

### **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

**This is posted again - We are still in need:** Due to the retirement of Dona Meinhardt from the position of "Lifestyle-Book-Box-Retriever", we need someone to **pick up books from the Lifestyle book box on Sundays**. If you go to Lifestyle on Sundays or live by (or not) please consider doing this. We could really use your help. This job could be shared with a couple of people. **Right now Betsy Gaudette-Cross is doing Sundays, but would like to share with someone.** That means you only have to do it twice a month.

**If you can, let Sandy know and she will have a key for you to use.**

**Home: (559) 732-2450**

**Cell: (559) 936-1891**

**Email: [sandraparmelly@hotmail.com](mailto:sandraparmelly@hotmail.com)**

**It is really important to find more volunteers for this really crucial job. Without these volunteers, we would not have the great book sales and money for scholarships. Please help!**

### **CALLING ALL MEMBERS:**

THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR IS ASKING A FAVOR OF YOU. *WHEN YOU HAVE A GATHERING, AN ACTIVITY, OR A MEETING WOULD YOU PLEASE TAKE A PICTURE OR TWO WITH YOUR CELLPHONE AND SEND IT TO ME WITH A PARAGRAPH ABOUT THE IMAGE.* IT WILL HELP MAKE OUR NEWSLETTER A LOT MORE FUN TO READ. PUT "NEWSLETTER" IN THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL.

THANK YOU.

BETSY • [BETSYGC@ME.COM](mailto:BETSYGC@ME.COM)



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## Special Interest Groups

**Coffee & California Concerns:** Our State and local policy discussion group is keeping participants informed about serious issues of community concern. Our next few meetings are local excursions, and they promise to be fascinating and illuminating. Please note that, due to the holidays, we are meeting only once each this month and next. The details for those meetings are:

• **Monday, November 6 at 10:15**

Topic: "Read for Life and Literacy in Tulare County"

Cyndy McBee is arranging for us to meet with folks who run this non-profit dedicated to providing books to children without access, with the goal of inspiring literacy.

Venue: The Read for Life facility, 132 N. Conyer St., Visalia (at Center Ave. downtown)

• **Monday December 4 at 10:15**

Topic: "Understanding Charter Schools"

Speaker: Vicki Porter, VTEC principal

Jill Rojas has scheduled a tour of this public charter school in V.U.S.D. We'll learn about how it's organized, and how it differs from private charters.

Venue: VTEC High School, 2245 S. Linwood St., Visalia (the old C.O.S. ag campus at Walnut Ave.)

~ Contact is Maile Melkonian.

**Garden Gals: November 10th,** Garden Gals Zoo Trip! 11:00 – carpool, 12:00 - lunch at Kopi Lodge, Tour grounds, Interesting Animal Keeper presentations, Return ?

Nov 10 we will meet at 11 am in the Wyndham parking lot on the west side to car pool, have lunch at Kopi Lodge in the African Adventure area and then meet our docent for a tour. Cost is \$6.50 each plus \$5 entry into Roding Park. Call Rosalie Powell 734-7251 to let her know you are coming. This will be a very fun trip!

**Bookworms:** The Bookworms will be meeting on Friday October 3 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Kathy

Oldershaw. The book selection for November is "Warriors Don't Cry" by Melba Beals. Anyone is welcome to join us. Questions? Call Kathy Oldershaw 909-1333 (cell) or 733-7472 (home)

**KNIT WITS Welcome All:** Whether you're a beginner or one who's been knitting or crocheting for years, you're invited to join the Knit Wits. We meet every Tuesday morning from 10-noon at Panera's. We are a very informal group. No need to call in advance, just drop by to see what we're all about. If you want more information, either text or call Cathy Lovell, 287-2982.

### Fund Donations for Holiday Tea

It's time again to gather donations for our popular Holiday Tea raffle. The proceeds go to our state AAUW educational efforts, usually in the name of a local member who has selflessly contributed to our chapter's goals. So if you have any business connections, see if they would like to contribute to our raffles selection. Each AAUW breakout group leader should expect a call from Dona Meinhardt or Susan Cunningham this week as a reminder to start collecting from your members to create a nice raffle prize. The more great prizes, the more tickets we'll sell, and the more we can boost AAUW. If you'd like to serve on a "Named Gift" committee to meet once and help choose an honoree who has served our chapter, please contact Susan Cunningham.

The recipient of this year's Holiday Tea gifts will be ACT for Women and Girls of Tulare County. When asked what they could use, here is their response: "We have some needs for sure! We are trying to provide pajamas for the babies of our moms we work with. We have 10 moms/babies right now. We'd also love to have toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, paper products, etc. for program! We are starting to build a stock of items because we are moving soon and trying to decrease our costs of supplies."

## HOW CAN I HELP?

As a women's organization, I know you all agree with me that we are devoted to helping all women achieve their best self.

That is one reason I have become so involved in helping women and children who are temporarily staying at the Battered Women's Shelter. Some of you have asked me where they can take things for the Battered Women's Shelter, and what kinds of things they need.

The address when you can drop items off is:

**815 W. Oak, Visalia, 93291.**

Donations are accepted during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday or 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. on Fridays. They provide a receipt for your tax write off.

They are always in need of new or gently used clothing for women and children of all ages and sizes. They respectfully ask that all donations be in good condition (gently used or new) and clean. For hygiene reasons, they are not able to accept donations of used toiletries, mattresses, bedding, or undergarments. The email (that send this newsletter) has a PDF attached with a great list. Or go to:

<https://fstcorg.presencehost.net/how-to-help/donate.html> and look for the link called "Download our list of commonly-needed items."

And FYI, Target is a HUGE contributor to the shelter, so if you are shopping at Target, this is another way you can support those who are helping this important facility.

Any questions, call  
Betsy Gaudette-Cross at  
559.786.5340  
[betsygc@me.com](mailto:betsygc@me.com)



## Highlights of new members - in their words:

### Marilyn Harper

I graduated from Pomona College in 1972 with a BA, and from Stanford in 1973 with an MA, both in French. I earned a teaching credential and MFA in creative writing at CSU Fresno in 1991 and 2010. I've been a paralegal, dance teacher (ballet and modern), pre-school teacher, freelance editor, adjunct professor of French at Fresno City College, and French and English teacher at Edison High School in Fresno. My husband, Doug Snider, also a teacher, and I are retired. We love to read and travel—most recently an eight-week exploration of Alaska in our Ford pop-top van last summer. My writing these days is mostly in our travel blog, with an occasional poem thrown in. Between us we have four adult children, all married, his in Washington and mine in California, and two grandchildren, who are of course magnificent.

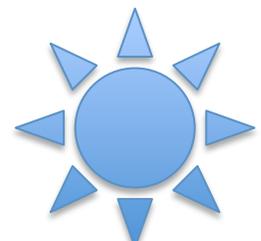
### Deborah Dwelle

I received my RN in Nursing at COS, then my BSN at CSU Dominguez Hills (never set foot on campus - it was an extension course), and then graduate school at CSU Fresno. I worked for KDDH for 23 years (ICU and Operating Room) and then moved to VUSD for 10 years before retiring in 2012.

My husband Steve is former USAF and is now a partner along with his brothers in Flyers Energy. I have two daughters and 2 stepsons as well as 6 grandchildren (all of them live within 10 miles of me----so think soccer, babysitting, etc). My mother lives locally and is an invalid; my brother and I help care for her.

After retiring I've had time to get my pilot's license, play golf, gym 3-4 times a week, garden, church activities, read, and have recently taken up watercolor painting.

Along with lots of travel, I have been blessed with a very full life.



## Book Sale Wrap-up

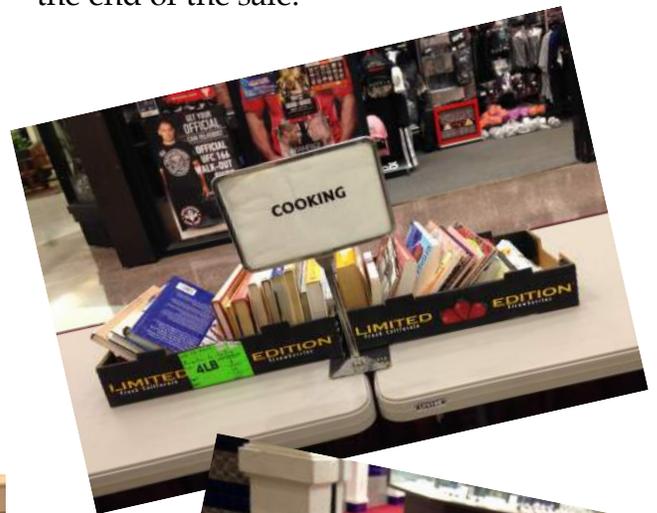
**GREAT NEWS:** The book sale had gross sales of \$17,136.56

Thank you to all the AAUW members who worked tirelessly at the Fall Book Sale in Sequoia Mall. We had almost 70 different volunteers covering at least one shift. Some came back for a second, third, or fourth shift! According to some experienced sellers, we had fewer books to sell and our proceeds, while still robust, were down somewhat from recent sales. However, our shoppers seemed quite appreciative. One man exclaimed, with tears in his eyes, how beautiful it was to have so many fantastic books to choose from in our community. We sold almost all our children's and young adult sections, along with hobbies, needlework, and cookbooks. Fiction and mystery books sold vigorously, but we still had many selections left even on the last day of the sale. Thanks again for the leadership roles of Carol Olincy, Sandy Parmelly, Jan Johnson, Carol Glass, Marsha Brooks-Smith, and Suzanne Babcock. It takes all of us to fulfill our scholarship goals. If you were unable to help out this time, don't worry, I'll be calling you in April!

Susan  
Cunningham.



Some of what was left at the end of the sale.



## ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK?

*Have you liked us on Facebook yet? We are posting pictures and information that you might want to know about on our AAUW Visalia Facebook page. Please join the group. Plus we would love for you to add stories or pictures from an event or anything you think our group would enjoy to the page too.*

[AAUW Visalia/Sequoia Facebook page](#)

**Stay in touch with AAUW National  
by liking their Facebook Page.**

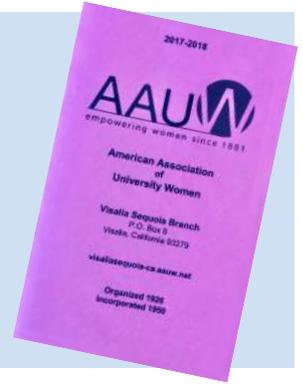
**Click below:**

[AAUW National Facebook](#)

**Follow them on Twitter by  
clicking below:**

[AAUW Twitter](#)

**Remember** to refer to your directory for program dates and guides, interest groups, committees, and email addresses and phone numbers of all the members.



***If you think about it...***

For Book Sorters: If you have any brown paper grocery bags, or sturdy shopping bags (with handles) from department stores, the book sorters could use them. Feel free to give them to Betsy Gaudette-Cross, Sandy Parmelly, or anyone else you know who helps with **Book Sorting**.

**Check it out!**

**Tech Trek** YouTube Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VpM3Cwb6ihg>



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