 

We hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall we are experiencing. It’s a refreshing change to slow down and spend more time reflecting on the many blessings that have come our way this past year. AAUW certainly ranks very high on our list! We are so thankful for the amazing women that have come into our lives via this incredible organization. Playing bridge has been something Cyndy had been interested in since retiring. She has found a wonderful bridge instructor and a very comfortable small group to learn with AND we laugh a lot in the process! Gardening in an area that has a year round season has proven immensely gratifying and Carol, along with the Garden Gals, has planned wonderful outings. Working with the book sorters has allowed us to borrow books and help a worthy cause. Volunteering with the Volunteer Visalia group is very rewarding and we chat and laugh the time away while we are working to support our community. Monthly meetings have exposed us to new things we might not have experienced without AAUW.

We would like to thank all of you for your contributions to our group! We appreciate everything that has been done to keep things running smoothly! AAUW’s mission is to promote equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive change. You all help make that possible in Visalia and the surrounding communities. Thank you!

Please feel free to contact with questions or concerns.  
Carol Finney 559-731-2938 [c/csfinney@comcast.net](mailto:c/csfinney@comcast.net)   
Cyndy McBee 303-906-5362 [cynmcb84@gmail.com](mailto:cynmcb84@gmail.com)

## Notes from the Presidents: Cyndy McBee and Carol Finney

**Holiday Tea Donations**

Our Volunteer Visalia section is asking again this year for donations of toiletries for the Rescue Mission and House of Hope. The men and women in these programs often come with only the clothes on their backs so let’s make the season a little brighter for them this year. The men need donations of razors, deodorant and socks. The women need personal items - shampoo, hair products, travel-size items are best, panties like last year. Please bring them to our tea December 12. Thank you for your generosity. AAUW’s kindness and giving spirit amazes me.

Jan Johnson

Volunteer Visalia coordinator

• Place:    Home of Nancy Scott 2649 W. Keogh, Visalia.

For directions call 733-3592

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• Date:      December 12, 2015

• Time:      2:00 – 4:00

Holiday Tea, and holiday raffle and the proceeds go to local projects

**This is the season of giving. We will be collecting donations for the following:**

* **Men & Women Shelters-toiletries, personal products, toothbrushes,**
* **Food Link-Make checks out to Food Link**

**Please be considerate of Nancy:**

* **Beautiful new floors - no spike or high heel shoes**
* **Severe allergies - no heavy perfume or scents**

***Please join us!***

### DECEMBER AAUW Meeting

##### **Thank You for Another Successful Sale**

# **Book Sale**

**AAUW Fall Book Sale**

**Another Smashing Success!**

**Sequoia News**

**Bookworms Book Club**

Eleanor Groom has made a reservation at Monet's in Exeter for **11:30AM** on Friday, **December 4th for lunch**. The group will be discussing Necessary Lies, by Diane Chamberlain. Please let me know if you are able to be there. [ellie.groom@rocketmail.com](mailto:ellie.groom@rocketmail.com)

**Traveling Troopers**

Carol Dias has organized a trip to San Francisco for Thursday – Saturday, **December** **3-5**. If you are interested in joining this trip, contact her immediately at 559.924.7944 or [cdias@kings.k12.ca.us](mailto:cdias@kings.k12.ca.us)

**Coffee and California Concerns**

The next meeting will be held on December 7th, at 10:15. Location is at Donna Denham’s house. The discussion will be chapter 2-3 of A Framework for Understanding Poverty, by Ruby Payne. Email Donna Denham at [ddenham56@aol.com](mailto:ddenham56@aol.com) or 734.1659. If you need a copy of the book, email Betsy at [betsygc@me.com](mailto:betsygc@me.com) She has two.

**Weekly Walkers**

This group meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 AM. All are welcome. Please call Dona Meinhardt for more information. (The location varies.) 559.732.8421

**Garden Gals**

Garden Gals will meet Friday Dec 11 at 11:30 at the Depot for lunch. Then walk to Garden Street Studio to make Christmas trees. Fee $25. They are darling. Reservations Call Carol Finney 731-2938

**New Members:**

Marilyn Barr – 559.280.9581, *email correction:* [Marilyn@casatularecom.org](mailto:Marilyn@casatularecom.org)

Becky Loyd-Kelch  
1510 Radcliffe Ct., Visalia, 93277  
559.627.2142 (h), 559.736.2893 (c)   
[BKlb3@gmail.com](mailto:BKlb3@gmail.com)   
  
**Keren Friedman**908 N. Highland, Visalia, 93291  
559.627.0844 (h)  
[KTFriedmans@hotmail.com](mailto:KTFriedmans@hotmail.com)  
  
**Gail Zurek**222 N Garden, Visalia 93291  
558.805.1060  
[gzurek@visaliachamber.org](mailto:gzurek@visaliachamber.org)

Continued – new members

**Mari Luise Kalashian**  
707 N Tidlen, Visalia 93291  
559.733.7623   
[marikalashian@gmail.com](mailto:marikalashian@gmail.com)

**2015-2016 AAUW Programs**

* December 12, 2:00-4:00pm, **Holiday Tea, Home of Nancy Scott**
* January 21, 11:30am, Sue Sa's Clubhouse, **Janice Noga,** The Story of Janka
* February 18, 11:30am, Sue Sa's Clubhouse, **Roger Maraist, book talk**
* March **90th Anniversary celebration**, details TBA
* April 9, 11:30am, Sue Sa's Clubhouse, **Von Reynoso,** **Education Mentoring**
* May 12, 5-7:00pm, The Lakes, **scholarship luncheon**, salad potluck

Cut Out   
and   
Save

Yearbook Corrections/Additions

**~ Correction**: Sandy Hansen  
5596 Sonoma Drive, Pleasanton,   
CA 94568, 925/216-4945 **~ Correction**

For more information about our local AAUW group, please click on the link below.  
[Visalia Sequoia AAUW](http://visaliasequoia-ca.aauw.net)  
or type in: <http://visaliasequoia-ca.aauw.net>

***Computer Literacy Class***

Coming on January 18th, Thursday at my house, 5941 W Buena Vista Court. (Marseille Development) 10:00 am.   
RSVP ~ betsygc@me.com

On the agenda:   
**FILE MANAGEMENT** ~ how to create, rename, delete, and organize photographs, files and folders on your computer.  
**BACKUP SYSTEMS** ~ Do you have an external hard drive? Should you have one? What to buy, where to buy them, etc. Flash drives  
  
***It would be REALLY helpful if I could hear what topics you think would be helpful.***

*Single Gals Gourmet Group*

The Single Gals Gourmet Group drove past grape vineyards and walnut groves to Exeter on November 8th for a Sunday Brunch at Cafe Lafayette.  Although the morning air was a bit brisk when the group first arrived, the steaming cups of hot coffee were just that much more appreciated.  All eighteen ladies decided to enjoy their meals amid the falling leaves in the courtyard garden of what once was the old Exeter Hospital.

Although the courtyard has the original brick wall and walkways of the hospital, the restaurant has undergone a complete renovation, and several members noted that the inside felt very chic and "uptown."

The brunch of Mimosas, Freshly Baked Croissants, Fresh fruit, Eggs Benedict or Salmon with Asparagus, along with other entrees, tasted all the better with friendly chatter about summer travels, news of grandchildren and activities as the ladies brought each other up-to-date on their lives.  Any lull in conversation was filled with the soft background music of a soloist on guitar and cello.

Co-chair Donna Denham conducted the business part of the get-together as members suggested to her potential new restaurants and venues for the coming 2016 year. The compiled list will be emailed to members so everyone can save the dates on their calendars and begin making plans to attend.

***If any of you are single and love good food (but prefer it in a lovely restaurant!) please join our group.  Sometimes we do lunch or brunch; other times we meet for dinner. Call Donna Denham at 734-1659 or Karlene Miller-Audino at 625-4245. Bon Appétit !!***

***Have you liked us on Facebook yet? We would love for you to add stories or pictures from an event, or anything you think our group would enjoy.***[***www.facebook.com/AAUWVisaliaSequoia***](http://www.facebook.com/AAUWVisaliaSequoia)

## Membership News

At present, we have 157 paid members. Fifteen of those are lifetime members! Wouldn’t it be great if each of us invites one or two friends to the Holiday Tea? Help our organization grow! Membership brochures will be available for potential members to complete and send in with fees. Any new members during the year can be sent to Margaret Moholt, 2118 S. Anthony Ct, Visalia, 93277, 559.636.0643 [msmoholt@comcast.net](mailto:msmoholt@comcast.net)

**Celebration Time**

**INTEREST/ SECTION GROUPS:** If you are interested in a group, call the person listed below.

**TECH TREK** – Jeanne Evans **EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS** – Lori Olivera-Clarkson **TRAVELING TROOPERS** – Mary Lou Flattley & Carol Dias **COFFEE & CALIFORNIA CONCERNS**– Donna Denham **VOLUNTEER VISALIA**– Jan Johnson **FRIENDS OF THE ARTS** – Carol Finney **BOOK SORTING** – Jan Johnson, Sandy Parmelly **KNIT WITS & FIBER FRIENDS** – Cathy Lovell **GORGEOUS GALS GARDENING** – Rosalie Powell, Janice Crenshaw, Nancy Jones **REFRESHER BRIDGE** – Marsha Roberts **WEEKLY WALKERS** – Dona Meinhardt **SINGLE WOMEN’S GOURMET** –  Donna Denham **UNABRIDGED BOOK** – Carol Seastrom **BOOK WORMS** – Eleanor Groom **COMPUTER LITERACY** – Betsy Gaudette-Cross **BRIDGE COORDINATOR/INSTRUCTOR** – Margo Tressler

**Save this date:**  
General Membership Meeting - **Thursday, January 21**, **11:30 a.m**. at Sue Sa’s Clubhouse, Speaker: Janice Noga The Story of Janka   
RSVP to Susan Mathews. 559.739.1449

**If you have something to post or a question, please send an email to me, Betsy, at** [**betsygc@me.com**](mailto:betsygc@me.com)**. Subject line: newsletter.**