



Visalia-Sequoia Inc. (CA) Branch

## Sequoia News

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

We can't believe that it's almost May and our AAUW programs for the season are coming to an end. Our final program on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lamp Litter from 5-7 PM, promises to be a great one for all who attend! We will enjoy a wonderfully entertaining skit celebrating our group. Come prepared to learn about our rich history, laugh with us as we view old memorabilia and leave with a renewed enthusiasm for the work we do in our community. Presentations will be made to our 2016 scholarship winners and you will hear their amazing stories. Meeting these incredible young students with such promising futures is one of the most impressive moments in our year! Please consider bringing a friend or potential member to share in this memorable evening with us!

### May AAUW Meeting

#### Visalia/Sequoia branch of AAUW celebrates its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- DATE: Thursday, May 12th
- TIME: 5:00 – 7:00 pm
- 3300 W Mineral King Ave
- PLACE: Lamp Litter Inn
- DINNER: \$26.00

Please send reservations by MAY 7th :

Susan Mathews  
3933 W Woodside Ct  
Visalia, CA 93291  
Home: 559.739.1449  
Cell: 559.731.8074

**Don't forget to reserve your spot.** At least call and then pay at the door.

**Our book sale was a HUGE success!** We made over \$ 22,700 dollars! The book sale committee works all year long and puts in so many hours picking up books, answering calls, sorting, organizing and classifying books in a packing shed in Exeter. A crew loads several thousand boxes of books in a truck, transports them to the mall, unloads and sets up on tables so they are ready for sale. We shortened the sale to six days and have a dozen volunteers or more selling books every day. Clean up is quite a job! We have a wonderful contact person who picks up our unusable books monthly and takes unsold books at the end of the sale. Everything (boxes, signs, etc.) is then returned to our shed in Exeter. The entire operation is so well planned and executed by **Sandy Parmelly, Jan Johnson and Susan Cunningham** as the leaders. Countless members volunteer every Monday morning in Exeter and then, of course, we have the book sale volunteers. It is a monumental project to take on, and by doing so we help get low cost books into the surrounding communities. One man had just learned to read and bought his first book at our sale. A woman who lived in New Orleans during hurricane Katrina and lost everything has been replenishing her library at our sale for the past several years.

**Funds** generated from this sale provide: 1) scholarships to graduating COS students who are continuing their education at a university; 2) twelve middle school girls going to a week long STEM camp at Fresno State; 3) sixty 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students attending an Expanding Horizon workshop at

Continued from page 1.

COS.

Thanks to all of you for continuing to support our mission, empowering women and girls by promoting opportunity for literacy, equality and education.

**See you at the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration!**

*Cyndy McBee & Carol Finney*

**If you have some suggestions or ideas for next year's AAUW monthly program, please email or text us. It's always nice to have input from the members.**

**Please send your ideas to:  
Phyllis Matteson  
Email - [rapmat@aol.com](mailto:rapmat@aol.com) or  
Text - 300-5022**

**Great Decisions** is wrapping up the 2016 series on May 10, 7:00-9:00pm. As usual, we are meeting in Room 101 of the John Muir Building at C.O.S. The topic is "Cuba and the U.S.," which should inspire plenty of good discussion, as this relationship is in the midst of an important and historic transition.

For those who wish to participate in the foreign policy survey, but don't want to do this on-line, feel free to bring your completed ballots (clip them from the back of your book) to this session. AAUW will mail them in to the Foreign Policy Association for you.

Contact is Maile Melkonian (802-3315).

**Have you every gone to the national AAUW site? Check it out:**  
<http://www.aauw.org>

## Interest Group Announcements

**Garden Gals** The Gorgeous Gardening Gals are having their year-end planning meeting at Louise Ford's home on Friday, May 13, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. Please let her know if you are coming by calling, or e-mail by Wednesday, May 11!

732-8951 or e-mail, [fordcpoly@aol.com](mailto:fordcpoly@aol.com).

Bring your ideas for a fun year, and bring a salad to serve at least eight people.

### **Refresher Bridge**

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Next meeting will be May 11, 1 p.m., at the home of Judy Mayfield. 14852 Kaneoha, Visalia, 559.798.1451

### **Great Decisions**

See box at the top of this page. Location: COS, room 101 of the John Muir Building. Questions? Maile Melkonian 559.802.3315

### **Coffee and California Concerns**

CCC's next meeting is Monday, May 16th at Rosemary Jackson's house. 1146 W Hemlock Ave, Visalia. 559.624.1942. There will be a good discussion concerning the election in June. Please email Rosemary if you are coming.

[Rsj393@yahoo.com](mailto:Rsj393@yahoo.com)

**Knit Wits** welcome all who enjoy any type of needlework. We meet at Panera every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Please join us if you like to knit, crochet, embroider, etc.

### **AAUW Walkers**

We walk on Tues/Thurs from 8-9AM in various parks around town. When it rains or is nasty cold, we walk in the Visalia Mall. Our group has been up to 8 walkers and now down to 2. We walk at a steady pace, not speed walking. Any questions or interest, please call Dona at 559.732.8421. We welcome all who are interested in walking!



## Membership Renewal

It is time to renew your membership. I have exciting news to share with you: AAUW offers an easy way to renew your membership electronically. You no longer need your membership number, nor create a password to sign on the web page.

You will receive an individualized email from [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org), subject: **AAUW Membership Renewal Notice**. To renew online, simply click where it says “**HERE**” and it will take you to the page with your personal contact information. Please review to make sure it is correct. Provide your credit card information and click “**Submit**”. A confirmation email will be sent to you and the Membership Treasurer. Please see the sample of renewal email to the right.

The e-renew invoice will be sent to you a few days after you receive our branch newsletter. Please try to renew your membership online. It takes less than a minute to complete the process. It will take me at least 3 minutes to complete one renewal **plus** a trip to the bank and post office. Several board members paid their dues online this week and said it was very easy and quick. Make sure you only click **Submit once**. It takes a few seconds to process. If you have any questions please call me 972-6075 or the National help line 800/326-2289 10 am -5 pm ET.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Margaret Moholt  
Membership Treasurer



### Sample E-MAIL

SUBJECT: AAUW Membership Renewal Notice

PLEASE DO NOT FORWARD OR SHARE THIS E MAIL, WHICH CONTAINS YOUR UNIQUE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL LINK

Dear

AAUW branch members exemplify teamwork, leadership and excellence in our local communities, and we're honored that you continue to be an integral part of this team, making a difference in the lives of the women and girls right where you live. Your **membership** does that, regardless of your level of participation.

It's time to renew your AAUW membership. As an AAUW member whose state and branch has opted to participate in the Membership Payment Program (MPP), you will be paying all of your dues - branch, state, and national - at once.

There are two ways to renew your membership.

- 1) To renew online, click [here](#) to renew with your credit card!
- 2) To renew by check: Make your check payable to your AAUW branch, and mail it to your branch finance officer listed below.

Please review your contact details and note any changes.

If you have questions about this form, call Connect2AAUW at 800/326-2289 between 10am and 5pm EDT or email [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

**Your Membership Information:** ( Please verify your information below)

**AAUW Member ID:**

**Name:** Jan Smith

**Address:** 123 Sunshine Rod

**City:** Visalia

**State:** CA

**ZIP:** 93277

**Home Phone:** (559) XXX-XXXX

**Email:** jansmith@gmail.com

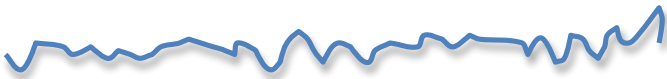


## Attention Photobugs...

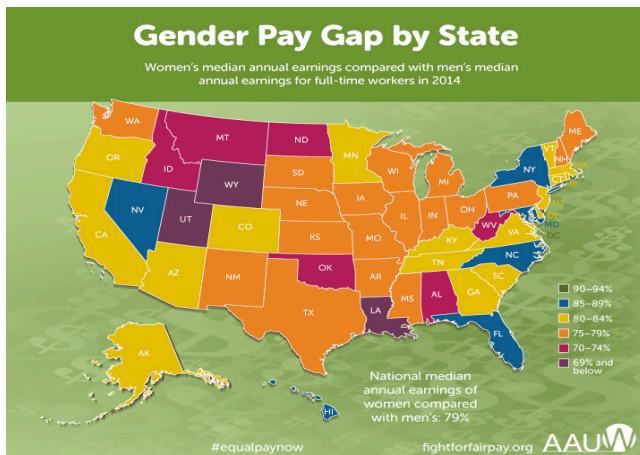
**Just in case you did not get this email and would like to contribute:**

*As you know, we are planning a special celebration of our AAUW Visalia-Sequoia Branch's 90th Anniversary in May. The festivities will include a slide show, during which we hope to highlight each of our sections. Please e-mail me a representative photo of each of your sections before the end of April, if possible. "Action shots" are preferable to posed. JPGs only, please.*

Maile Melkonian  
[maile@melkonian.org](mailto:maile@melkonian.org)



**Do My State Officials Care about My Equal Pay?** Read this article from the National AAUW e-newsletter. Click Below:  
<http://www.aauw.org/2016/04/08/my-equal-pay-matters/>



*Hey. This is really cool!  
Read below!*

Do you know of anyone who would like to join AAUW? If so, the national branch has given us FOUR free memberships. That means it will only cost \$36.00/your-first-year to join our branch rather than the total amount of \$85.00/year. So now is the time to get your friends to join.

And if that isn't enough to get you to bring a friend, anyone who brings a potential member will receive a \$10.00 Starbucks gift card. ~ Is that not awesome? ~

**For more information about our local AAUW group, please click on the link below.**

[Visalia Sequoia AAUW](http://visaliasequoia.aauw.net)

**or type in:**

<http://visaliasequoia-ca.aauw.net>

**Attentions all members and group leaders: At a board meeting, it was decided that we need to set up a master calendar with all our groups on it. Specifically what day(s) of the month you meet. E.g.: when is book club or bridge group.**

**We have discovered some events that are in conflict of other events. Please send an email to Betsy at [betsygc@me.com](mailto:betsygc@me.com) as soon as possible so we can avoid calendar-conflicts.**

**P.S. This is the third time posting this and I (Betsy) have not heard from anyone regarding this post.**

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**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** – Carol Seastrom  
**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 **BRIDGE COORDINATOR/INSTRUCTOR** – Margo Tressler

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# Message Board/Help Wanted

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

