

Notes from the Presidents: Sherri Bentley & Nancy Adalian

Here it is January, and we are just starting the second half of the 2017-2018 AAUW year. We had a great turnout of members both for the Christmas Tea and at the January evening meeting with our program about Human Trafficking. Several new members and guests attended. Great work members!

We have a new nominating committee searching for member involvement in board positions for next year. We encourage you to accept positions if you are so invited, even if you are a newer member. It is always good to have people with a fresh perspective. In addition, if you would like to volunteer for a position, don't hesitate to call Margaret Moholt, Cathy Lovell, or Jan Johnson.

Because we have recently changed banks for our account, it has been suggested that we try to make checks out to: **Visalia/Sequoia Branch, Inc., AAUW**. Thanks.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Fox Theater on February 15, at 11:30.

Sherri Bentley and Nancy Adalian

Meet a New Member

This is my story... I graduated with my degree in Organizational Management and Marketing from the University of Colorado in Boulder. I am married to Steve and have 2 children in middle school, both currently in the production of Mary Poppins for Green Acres Middle School.

Donna E Kindschuh

FEBRUARY AAUW Meeting

February 15, 2017

- **Speaker:** Fox Theatre manager Erin Olm-Sharp and past president Sue Tharp
- **Topic:** Learn the history of the Fox Theater
- **Where:** The Fox Theater
- **When:** February 15th
- **Time:** 11:30 am
- **Cost:** \$17

Make Checks out to *Visalia/Sequoia Branch, Inc. AAUW* and send it to:

Susan Mathews
3933 West Woodside Ct.
Visalia, California 93291

BY FEBRUARY 12TH, PLEASE.

Or call Cell 731-8074 home 739-1449 to reserve your spot and pay at the door.

Lunch is catered by Café 225 and will include a buffet of 3 types of sandwiches, 3 types of salads, dessert and water and ice tea.

We are really excited about this month's meeting, which will be our very own tour of the Fox Theatre. Join us ON STAGE for a Cafe 225 luncheon featuring Fox Theatre manager Erin Olm-Sharp and past president Sue Tharp as our speakers. Take a stroll into the past. Learn the history of the theatre, and some of its colorful and fun insider scoop. Join us for a behind the scenes backstage tour. Don't be afraid to bring a friend to this historically fun event. See you at the Fox!

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.

**Cut Out
and
Save**



2017-2018 Programs

- **Feb. 15th, Thurs., Visalia Fox Theater**
11:30am, Speaker: Erin Olm-Shipman, CEO
Topic: History & Tour of Fox Theater
- **Mar. 15th, Thurs., Left of Center Café, 11:30 am**, Speaker: Fawn Pender, Topic: Women's Fashion History
- **Apr. 12th, Thurs., 11:30 am, Left of Center Cafe**, Speaker: Mae Vang, Topic: Being An Inspiration to Your Community
- **Apr. 18-23rd, Book Sale Sequoia Mall**
- **May 10th, Thurs., 4:00-6:00pm, Congregation B'nai David, Scholarship**

We have FIVE new members! Please add them to your directory.

Allison Tressler Bettencourt
2900 S Village Ct, Visalia 93277
530/559-0442
alpazzaz@aol.com
CSU-Fresno
BS-Soil Irrigation-1998

Donna Kindschuh
1338 N Ranch Ct, Visalia 93291
720/260-3937
donnakindschuh@yahoo.com
University of Colorado
BS-Business Marketing-1989

Mary Patty
3946 W Damsen Ave, Visalia 93291
559/786-3179
Marypatty59@yahoo.com
Fresno Pacific University
BS-Nursing-2012



AAUW California's biennial convention will be April 27-29, 2018 at the Irvine Marriott (18000 Von Karman Avenue in Irvine). The convention theme is "Educated. Reasoned. Active.". There has never been a time in which we have been more challenged to advance our mission, nor has there ever been a greater opportunity.

Celebrate the advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research we do to achieve equity for women and girls! Meet state and national leaders. Attend revitalizing workshops. Hear inspiring and entertaining speakers, including plenary sessions on grassroots advocacy, women peacebuilders, advancing equity for all, and this year's Speech Trek competition: "How Can We Stand Up to Sexism?" And we will top it off with a celebration of the 20th anniversary of Tech Trek!

If you are interested, click on the link below.

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/register-aauw-california-convention-2018/>

Marylin Silveira, retired
2 North Fairway St, Visalia 93291
559/625-2821
Msilveira1964@gmail.com
San Francisco State University
BA – Social Sciences - 1964

Micki Papanickolas, retired
2261 N Shady St
209/338-8918
mpapanick@yahoo.com
University of South Florida
BS – Accounting - 1979

Special Interest Groups

Beginner Bridge: WANTED - two or three people that would like to learn how to play beginning Bridge. If interested call Margo Tressler at 559.734.7105.

VOLUNTEER VISALIA NEEDS YOU!!

Volunteer Visalia is looking for opportunities to volunteer throughout Visalia. Our group is happy to pitch in wherever we're needed. If you know of a volunteer opportunity, please contact me. In January, we are gathering for our annual "Pajama Party," when we make pjs for CASA kids. We need cutters, ironers, pinners, sewers - all are welcome. If you are available, contact Jan Johnson at janboys3@yahoo.com.

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.



Great Decisions:

We meet 7:00-9:00pm, at C.O.S.'s John Muir Building, Room 101. Our eight-session foreign policy discussion started in January with the query: "Waning of Pax Americana?" This month's focus on two powers that might like to fill the void:



February 13 Russia's Foreign Policy
February 27 China and America

We meet 7:00-9:00pm, at C.O.S.'s John Muir Building, Room 101.

We're open to the public, but Briefing Books are required, and may be ordered at www.fpa.org/great_decisions/.

Contacts: Maile Melkonian and Carol Finney

The Bookworms will be meeting on Friday February 2 at 1:00. at Mary Hill's home. The book selection for January is "The Firebrand and the First Lady" by Patricia Bell-Scott. Anyone is welcome to join us, just please call to let us know

you are coming. Questions? Call Kathy Oldershaw 909-1333 (cell) or 733-7472 (home)

The Unabridged Book Club was started back in the 70's. Among our 15-member group are still 5 founding members: Nancy Adalian, Nancy Scott, Pauline Badgley, Rosalie Fisher and Judy Mayfield. We meet once a month at the home of a different member/hostess to discuss the book chosen by the hostess. Of course, delicious desserts are a highlight, sometimes they are even theme-based to complement the month's book. We have insightful, interesting and fun discussions.



Volunteer Visalia: P.J. Party

VV will be hard at work Wednesday, January 31st making "PJ's" for CASA kids. Our section has been doing this for the last several years. Members meet at Christ Lutheran Church on Tulare armed with fabric, elastic, sewing machines, irons and a determination to do something good for kids.

If you'd like to join us, here's what you can do:

- Bring 3 yards flannel fabric
- Scissors
- *Irons/boards

We will gather at 10:00am and work until we run out of fabric. If you'd like to join Volunteer Visalia, please do.

Questions: Email me, Jan Johnson – janboys3@yahoo.com

Coffee & California Concerns:

Don't miss our February topics:

Monday, February 5, 10:15

Topic: "The Role of Ethanol and Dairy-Methane and Moving toward Alternative Energies in Our Valley"

Presenter: Steve Dwelle, Partner, Flyers Energy
Come hear Deborah Dwelle's husband make the case for ethanol as a clean and green additive to what fuels most of our cars. He'll also explain how methane, captured from local dairies, is being phased in to reduce the carbon footprint of the process even more.

Team: Rosemary Jackson and Deborah Dwelle
Venue: Rosemary's home: 1146 W. Hemlock Ave. (near Stonebrook Park, just north of Caldwell Ave.)

Monday, February 19, 10:15

Topic: "Pros & Cons of Agriculture: Chemical Consequences"

Presenter: Kathy Falconer, member of CAPS (Coalition Advocating Pesticide Safety)

Ag is an important component of our local economy--but what about those tons of chemicals used annually? How are they affecting our soil, water, air...and our health? Come hear a mother's story.

Team: Valerie Ehrlich and Maile Melkonian
Venue: Valerie's home: 5638 W. Cambridge Ct. (access from Judy Ave. off Akers St.)

Garden Galls: They will be meeting again March 9th at 1:30 pm. **(No meeting in February)** Lydia Sandoval will demonstrate soap making. Lydia is an accomplished artist as well and has a booth at the Farmers Market. We will be meeting at Mary Hill's home in Tulare. More information will be coming. Thanks.

Carol Finney
cfinney@comast.net
559.733.1198

January 4, 2018

Dear AAUW Visalia-Sequoia,

On behalf of ACT for Women and Girls we would like to thank you for your generous contribution for our young moms. We can't do the work we do without you! Your support is very meaningful to the young moms and their children. We were very excited to see all of the items come in! Thank each and every one of you!

If this letter isn't timely, we apologize. We spent most of December packing, moving, and then organizing our new office. Now in January, we are still working to create the perfect space. We plan to have an "Open Office" in March 2018. We will personally invite you once we set the date. In the meantime, you are welcome to swing by. We are located at 1900 N. Dinuba Boulevard, Suite A, Visalia, Ca. 93291.

We are very appreciative of your support. Thank you! If anyone would like an in-kind donation letter, please contact me directly and I will be sure you get one. ACT for Women and Girls is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Tax ID# 26-0287450

With appreciation,



Erin Garner-Ford
Executive Director
ACT for Women and Girls

GROUPS HAVING FUN

The Singles Gourmet Group enjoyed a delicious lunch this week at the Asian Paradise Restaurant in Farmersville.



Coffee and California Concerns:

What a nice tour we got of the Valley Oak S.P.C.A.'s huge new no-kill shelter facility! It was helpful, especially, to understand how different V.O.S.P.C.A., the American S.P.C.A., Humane Society, City of Visalia's (and City of Tulare's, and Tulare County's) Animal Control and other entities are, and what their relationships are and aren't. So interesting to see those state-of-the-art kennels, too.



Knit Wits

Welcome to our two newest members joining the Knit Wits. Margo Tressler is a 50+ year member of our branch and her daughter Allison joined in January. Way to get involved, Allison! The group meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Panera's. All are welcome to join us.



CALLING ALL MEMBERS:

Are you having fun in your AAUW breakout group? Then get out your phone and take a picture or two for the newsletter... please. Send them to me, the newsletter editor. Include a sentence or two explaining what the image is about, and please put "AAUW Newsletter" in the subject of the email.

Thank you,
Betsy • betsygc@me.com
559.786.5340



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.

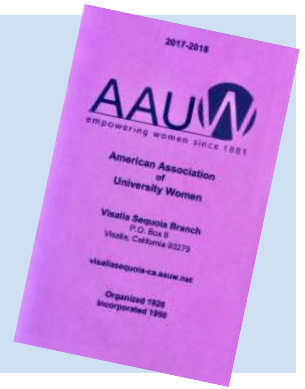
[AAUW Visalia/Sequoia Facebook page](#)

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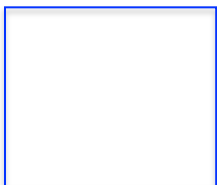
Remember to refer to your directory for program dates and guides, interest groups, committees, and email addresses and phone numbers of all the members.



If you think about it...

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. Also, the sorters would love it if you would like to come on Monday mornings at 10:00. See last month's newsletter for more detail.



AAUW
Visalia-Sequoia Inc. (CA) Branch
P.O. BOX 6
VISALIA, CA 93279