

Notes from the Presidents: Sherri Bentley & Nancy Adalian

Are you as confused as we are about what the weather is doing-- one day forcing daffodils up and the next at freezing level?? We are sure to have spring soon, and that brings to mind the Book Sale which is from April 18th to 23rd, and the COS scholarships in May.

We hope you will print out the colorful flyer advertising our book sale, and ask to post them in stores, beauty salons, places of business that post community flyers, school staff rooms, etc. Or just print some off to give to friends and neighbors, or send via email. Thanks, Betsy, for the work you did on the flyers.

The Nominating committee is busy calling members to become next year's board. If you are called or have a position that you would like to do, please say "yes" or call.

We hope that you were one of the forty plus members attending this month's meeting at the Fox Theater. We had a very interesting and informative talk given by Erin Olm-Shipman, as well as a fun tour of the building. We hope you come to enjoy a lighthearted look at Women's Liberation Through Lingerie with speaker Fawn Pender at the Lamplighter, Thursday March 15, 11:30. See you there!

Sherri Bentley and Nancy Adalian

Remember to take photos with your camera the next time you get together with other AAUW members. Send them to betsygc@me.com for the newsletter.

Write a short summary of the event.

Thanks. ~ Betsy

MARCH AAUW Meeting

MARCH 15, 2018

Speaker: Fawn Pender

- **Topic: Women's Liberation Through Lingerie**
- **Where: Lamp Litter Inn**
- **When: March 15th**
- **Time: 11:30 am**
- **Cost: \$19**

It's Women's History Month and we are so excited about this month's meeting. Our speaker, Fawn Pender, will demonstrate how lingerie has liberated us over time. How fun will this be! Don't be afraid to bring a friend to this historically fun event.

Please send reservations by March 12th to:

Nancy Lee Jones
6018 W School St.
Visalia, CA 93291
Phone 731-2395

Email nancy0231@att.net

Make checks out to: Visalia/Sequoia Branch, Inc. AAUW

When was the last time you visited the AAUW National site? Check it out if you have a chance.

<https://www.aauw.org>

And of course, you can check out our local site where we have a calendar, the newsletter, information on different activities, the new-member application, and other resources.

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

**Cut Out
and
Save**



LAST MONTH MEETING

2017-2018 Programs

- **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 Reception

Last month's meeting was a special treat. We had lunch on the stage of the Fox Theater, which was catered by Café 225. Then the Fox Theatre manager Erin Olm-Sharp and past president Sue Tharp took us through a stroll of the past. We learn the history of the theatre, and some of its colorful and fun insider scoop. It was a historically fun event.



Meet a New Member

My full name is Marylin Burkdoll Silveira. I grew up on a farm south of Visalia and just east of Mooney's Grove Park. I attended Mt. Whitney High School and graduated in 1960. I attended College of the Sequoias from 1960 to 1962 and received an AA degree. I entered California State University at San Francisco in 1962 and graduated from there in 1964 with Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Sciences.

I received my California Teaching Credential in 1965 and taught primary grades in the mid 1960's.

I married William Silveira, a Tulare native, in 1965. He was an attorney and became a judge in 1976. We have two children, Matthew Silveira and Amy Silveira.

We made our home in Tulare for many years and I was a member of the Tulare branch of AAUW in the late 1960's-1970's.

I enjoy musical performances, plays, reading, and cooking. I also like travelling. I am a member of the Tulare Historical Museum and enjoy activities at the museum.



Special Interest Groups

Great Decisions: This eight-session foreign policy discussion group started in January with the query: "Waning of Pax Americana?" Our February 13 session--on "Russia's Foreign Policy"--was made even more interesting by a visiting expert in the field. We were privileged to have Dick Combs, a retired veteran of the U.S. State Department who served in our Moscow embassy during the crucially historical 1990s, share his thoughtful insights and answer our numerous questions on the topic. We hope to have experienced professionals enhance our March meetings, too:



March 13 Media and Foreign Policy
March 27 Turkey: A Partner in Crisis

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

Garden Gals: They will be meeting again March 9th at 1:30 pm. 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. Call Carol Finney 559.733.1198 for more information, or email. cfinney@comast.net

Coffee & California Concerns: After Steve Dwelle gave us background on ethanol--the business, potential environmental benefits, viability, etc.--Part 2 of our exploration into this alternative fuel will be a tour of an ethanol plant. This is an exciting opportunity! Wear close-toed walking shoes.

Monday, March 19, 10:15 carpool; 11:00 tour
Topic: "Renewable Energies--Ethanol Plant Tour"

Presenter: Lyle Schlyer, C.E.O. of Calgren Renewable Fuels

Team: Deb Dwelle

Venue: Calgren ethanol plant: 11704 Road 120, Pixley

Carpool: from south parking lot of Wyndham Hotel; we'll meet there and consolidate vehicles as needed

Directions: South on Interstate 99 take exit 73 and turn right on Avenue 120. Take the second left onto Road 120. The plant is located approximately half a mile on the left.

RESERVATIONS NECESSARY: Due to plant safety concerns, the tour is limited to 25. Contact Maile to reserve--on a first-come basis.

The tour will end around noon. For those of you interested in having lunch afterward, we will do that at Bravo Farms at the Outlet Mall in Tulare on the way back.

SAVE THE DATE:

AAUW cosponsors, with the League of Women voters and others

CANDIDATES FORUM for Congressional District 22

April 30, 2018 at Tulare County Office of Education on South Mooney Blvd.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear the candidates for this important office. If you would like to help on event night, contact Public Policy Chair, Maile Melkonian (559.802.3315 – home)

More details will follow in the April newsletter.

All of you know about the book sale we do twice a year to raise money. And you all probably know about our branch giving scholarships to COS students who are going on to a four-year university. But did you know about Expanding Your Horizons? AAUW along with the Tulare County Office of Education has been putting on a conference called Expanding Your Horizons once a year, which encourages the nurturing of girls' interest in science and math courses and encourages them to consider careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Here are some "thank you letters" from last year's participants. More letters to come in future newsletters



November 4, 2017

Dear AAUW,

Thank you very much for letting me come. The Expanding Your Horizons conference was very fun. Reading a skull like a open book was my first session. It was very fun to see all of the skulls. It is also fun learning about reptiles. It's very nice to be in a college and going to different classes.

Love,
Emmal Noyder

November 4, 2017

Dear AAUW organization,

Thank you for sponsoring me. I had a great day today. I loved my first session we got to build a whale! Being on campus is so weird it makes me feel like im in college. But anyways Thank you for sponsoring me.

Sincerely
Leslie
Madrigal ♥

Thank you AAUW for paying for our conference to C.O.S. My favorite part was the tower of Hanoi. Thank you for giving me that experience. I found out what STEM is Science, Technology, Engineers, and Mathematics

Sincerely,
Gennavie

Dear Lori + AAUW-

Thank you for your generous donation to our student event, Expanding Your Horizons. I have heard it said that "every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story." Your gift helps us provide the opportunity for our students to be a success story.

Thank you!
Jan Francese

GROUPS HAVING FUN

Unabridged Book Club: In February, the Unabridged Book Club met at the home of Susan Franciskovich to discuss *Americanah* by Adichie. We also enjoyed her delicious made-from-scratch cake!



Two AAUW duplicate bridge groups got together for a day of double duplicate bridge: Four tables, 16 players and 24 hands of bridge. A great time was had in the Bixler Barn.



Volunteer Visalia: We have been getting together in January for the past 3 years to sew pajamas for children who are involved with **CASA**. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) works with children in the foster care system in Tulare County. Valentine's Day can be sad for these children so we try to provide something special for them. **Read for Life** provides books so the children receive a pair of pajamas and a book to keep! The Volunteer Visalia ladies purchase fabric and sewing materials, cut, and iron and sew pajama bottoms and then purchase tee shirts for tops. What a wonderful way to show love to some of our children who could use a reminder that people do care!

Thanks to Jan Johnson for organizing this event and to Cyndy McBee, Kathy Oldershaw, Janice Crenshaw, Judy Mayfield, Nancy Jones, Carol Glass, Sherri Bentley, Phyllis Matteson and Carol Sonier for their hard work!

The Volunteer Visalia group partnered with Read for Life to give some CASA kids a special gift for Valentines Day! Cyndy McBee presented 30 pajamas paired with a book to Tulare County children in foster care. CASA Executive Director, Paul Moore and Alberto Ramos, Associate Director were excited to accept the gifts for distribution.



More pictures from Volunteer Visalia



Great Job Ladies



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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by liking their Facebook Page.**

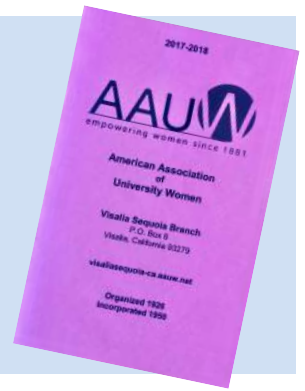
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clicking below:**

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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.



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