

**Notes from the Presidents:
Sherri Bentley & Marilyn Rankin**

We hope your Thanksgiving was bountiful and provided a springboard to send you sailing into the holidays.

AAUW will celebrate with a Holiday Tea on December 8 from 2:00-4:00 at the newly remodeled home of Susan Mathews. We thank Susan for her generosity and willingness to provide the setting for this year's tea.

In keeping with our AAUW tradition, each year we select a local charity to support by bringing to the tea items that will help them achieve their mission. This year the local Boys and Girls Club was selected as our yearly charity. Donations should include art supplies, craft items like paper, pencils, crayons, paints, as well as personal items for young adults. Examples of that would be hairbrushes, combs, ribbons, barrettes, headbands, scrunchies, etc. Primarily donations that you think would be wants or needs of young teenagers.

Our primary fundraiser is, of course, the semi-annual book sale. It is hard to imagine the number of books donated on a weekly basis. New book sorters are always welcome to the "sorting social" which occurs each Monday in Exeter at 8:30-10:00. The sorting of books goes amazingly fast with many sorters. Tennis shoes, comfortable warm clothes and gloves are recommended at this time of year. Sorting takes place in a former packinghouse at Sequoia Packing off Pine Street in Exeter.

The funds from the book sale are used primarily for scholarships for COS graduates pursuing a four-year degree. A revolving committee of three members selects the scholarship recipients. One

December AAUW Meeting

DECEMBER 8, 2018

When: December 8, 2018

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Where: 3933 W Woodside Ct., Visalia

Program: CHRISTMAS TEA

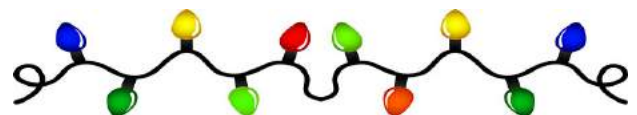
Please join us for this wonderful yearly activity at Susan Mathew's newly remodeled home. She also just had her front and back yard redone to be drought-tolerant.

Once a year we have this get together for all the members to eat, socialize, and just enjoy ourselves. There will be tea, coffee and desserts for you at no charge. And the breakout groups have put together multiple raffle prizes and gifts for you to win. The money from the raffle goes toward the "Name Gift" mentioned in last month's newsletter.

Please plan on attending this annual tradition.

of the three members is appointed by the president each year to serve a three-year term. If you are interested in serving on the scholarship selection committee please let us know. See you at the Christmas Tea.

Happy Holidays to All!
Marilyn Rankin (901-9109) Sherri Bentley (625-2448)



Betsy and Maile hope to photograph members who don't yet have headshots in the Yearbook for the 2019-20 edition.

Cut & Save



Saturday December 8	Holiday Tea 2:00-4:00 Home of Susan Mathews
Thursday January 24	Left of Center 11:30-1:00 Speaker: Brent Davis COS Athletic Director What's Happening - Title IX
Thursday February 21	Left of Center 11:30-1:00 Speaker: Fawn Pender Louisa Mae Alcott & Family
Thursday March 14	Lamp Liter Inn 4:30-6:00 Speaker: Missy Yavasile Soar to College/Scholarship Planning
Friday April 4	St. Paul Fellowship Hall 5:00-6:00 Speakers: Participants from Tech Trek & Expanding Horizons
Saturday May 11	Scholarship Reception 2-4:00 Congregation B'nai David

Christmas Tea Donations

The Boys and Girls Club of Visalia is to be the recipient of AAUW 's Christmas Tea donations. Our October speaker, Paula Black Esq., mentioned the Boys and Girls Club as an organization helpful to women and children involved in the Dependency Court.

The director of the organization, April McCormick, said they were in need of items useful to teenagers. School supplies such as pencils, pens, notebooks. Also welcome are any personal items such as toothbrushes, deodorant, chap stick etc. The Club is starting a "store" where the participants can cash in their tokens for such items. The idea is for the participants to earn tokens for attendance, good behavior, kindness etc. These tokens can then be used to "purchase" items of their liking from the store. Also needed for the activities at the Club are butcher paper, art supplies, earphone buds, and hand held calculators.

inserts will be stuffed with poly-fill and then distributed to women who have recently had mastectomies. The pillows help cushion the chest during recovery. We are also looking forward to volunteering with FoodLink of Tulare County in November and December. If you're interested in joining this group, call me — Jan Johnson - 625-2926.

Special Interest Groups

Volunteer Visalia:

Volunteer Visalia is a section of AAUW. Our group looks for ways to help in our community. We have been busy this

month. We gathered recently to make breast cancer pillowcases and pillow inserts. The



Special Interest Groups - CONTINUED

BOOKWORMS: The Bookworms will be meeting on Friday, December 7th at 11:30 at The Vintage Press. The book discussion will be on the book *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver. Anyone is welcome to join us, just please call or email Cyndy McBee soon to let her know you are coming and to make reservations. 303.906.5362 or cynmcb84@gmail.com

KNIT WITS: If you enjoy any type of needlework, come join our Knit Wits Section at Panera Bread on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. We knit, crochet, and chat while enjoying coffee, tea and snacks. No need to RSVP, just drop by any Tuesday. Beginners are welcome!



REFRESHER BRIDGE: Refresher bridge meets at 1:00pm the second Wednesday of each month for a relaxing afternoon of bridge. Contact Marsha Roberts if you have any questions. 559.733.8784

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Remember that I would like to hear from any of our members if you know of a member who is ill, has had a death in her family or may need a note of cheer. I will be happy to send out a card from all of us in AAUW.



My email has changed:
gregrensmith@gmail.com

My phone numbers remain the same: 627-3085 (home) • 260-9646 (cell) Please don't hesitate to call or write. I'd rather get 3 calls about the same person than have no one call because everyone assumes someone else already let me know. ☺



COFFEE & CALIFORNIA CONCERNS: Our topic this month is the second in our two-part mini-series on the nitty-gritty of how our local governments work. NOTE: Because of the year-end holidays, we will meet only once this month. Here are the details:

Monday, December 3 (10:15am)
Topic: "How Visalia City Government Works: Organization & Citizen Opportunities"
Speaker: Deputy City Manager Leslie Caviglia
Program Liaison: Carol Finney
Venue hostess: Cyndy McBee (4918 Lakewood Dr., Visalia)
Goodies: Karen Feezell

Caviglia is the highest-ranking woman in Visalia's City government, with years of experience. She'll help us understand how the City is organized, and how individuals can get involved.

Contact: Maile Melkonian ([802-3315](tel:802-3315))

GREAT DECISIONS: Interested in international affairs? This eight-session foreign policy discussion group starts on January 29, and runs through mid May, meeting about every other Tuesday. We meet 7:00-9:00pm, at C.O.S. The 2019 topics are:



- * Refugees and Global Migration
- * The Middle East: Regional Disorder
- * Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?
- * The Rise of Populism in Europe
- * Decoding U.S.-China Trade
- * Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics
- * The United State and Mexico: Partnership Tested
- * State of the State Department and Diplomacy

We're open to the public, but Briefing Books are required. The group order is fully subscribed, but anyone else interested may order individually at www.fpa.org/great_decisions/.

Contacts:
Maile Melkonian
Carol Finney
Betsy Gaudette-Cross

Yeah!

We have a new member!
Please put her name in your book

Lurdes (Le) Alexander

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wuie@aol.com

Western Connecticut State, CT

B.S. Elementary Ed 1975

Fresno Pacific: Masters in Reading

Retired Teacher

Interests: Travel, Reading, Walking, and
Gardening

- Please welcome her to the group!

- Since August we have grown by 14 new members. Keep inviting friends to check us out...maybe that number will continue to grow.

Your 2018-2019

Directory is

Available!

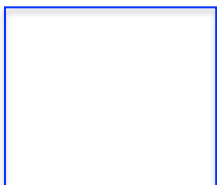
**If you haven't gotten
your directory yet, let**

Maile know. A new feature this year: photos of members! (Isn't that a great idea? Helps us get to know one another.)

Betsy and Maile will be taking photos again at the Christmas Tea, so please let them know if you have not already either submitted a photo or had a photo taken. Our goal is to have 100% of the member's photos in next year's directory.



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



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