



Visalia-Sequoia Inc. (CA) Branch

Sequoia News

Notes from the Presidents: Sherri Bentley & Marilyn Rankin

What a lovely December-Holiday Tea we had at the beautiful home of Susan Mathews. Her home was spectacularly decorated, the refreshments were delicious, the raffle items enticing, and the chance to socialize was priceless. Thank you so much, Susan, for sharing your home with us. Thanks also to Marsha Brooks-Smith for your delicious food and hospitality work behind the scenes. Thanks to Susan Cunningham and Dona Meinhardt for their work organizing the raffle items and tickets, and to the members and groups that donated such novel items for bidding. All proceeds will go to fund a named gift contribution to AAUW honoring one of our members who has gone above and beyond to make our organization so great this year. This recipient will be announced in May at our end of the year general meeting. We were able to donate quite a lot of items to the Boys and Girls Club thanks to our members. They truly seemed to appreciate all that was given.

We wish to thank all the generous members who contributed to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund #9110 which allows AAUW to rapidly respond to new and emerging challenges for equity and women's issues, like our support of Aileen Rizo's lawsuit that will hopefully be approved to be heard by the Supreme Court in January. Our branch has given over \$550 to this fund. It is not too late to contribute before the 31st. AAUW National is currently reviewing the changes being proposed to Title IX as it comes up for renewal. This is timely since January's meeting deals with updates from speaker Brent Davis from College of the Sequoias, titled "What's Happening With Title IX?". The meeting is Thursday, January 24th at 11:30 at the Left of Center restaurant (formerly

JANUARY AAUW Meeting

January 24, 2019

When: January 24, 2019

Time: 11:30 – 1:30

Where: Left of Center

Speaker: Brent Davis

COS Athletic Director,

What's Happening - Title IX

Cost: \$18.00

RSVP By: January 19th

In September of 2017, the US Department of Education, under Secretary Betsy DeVos, released a new set of Title IX guidelines. How will these new policies affect gender equality and misconduct on college campuses?

Come and hear Brent Davis, Athletic Director of COS.

RSVP to Nancy Jones:

6018 W School Ct., Visalia, 93291

559.731.2395

Nancyleejones66@gmail.com

Sue-Sa's). Feel free to bring a friend! We hope to see you there.

We both wish all of our members and families Happy Holidays and a great New Year.

Sherri Bentley and Marilyn Rankin



Cut & Save



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

Monday, January 7, 10:15am

- Topic: "Wildfires 101"
- Speaker: Visalia Fire Chief Doug McBee
- Program Liaison: Cyndy McBee
- Venue hostess: Cyndy McBee, 4918 Lakewood Dr., Visalia
- Goodies: Susan Harrell

With wildfires raging throughout California, we want to understand more about them--their frequency relative to historical precedent, their causes, the increase in urban incidents, how they might be prevented, and how professionals view this "new abnormal." Who better than Visalia's own Fire Chief to tell us all about it?!

Monday, January 28, 10:15am

- Venue hostess: Phyllis Ogden, 704 W. Cambridge Ave., Visalia
 - Other details TBD: Please come with specific ideas!
- Contact: Maile Melkonian ([802-3315](tel:802-3315))

BRIDGE LESSONS: Want to learn how to play bridge - or refresh your skills? I am not sure I can do as well as Margo, but let's give it a try. Please give me a call ([734-0751](tel:734-0751)) or e-mail (Liz-k@att.net) and we will work out a time that works for all. Liz Kieske

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.

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/.

Come. It is stimulating, interesting, and a great evening out!

Contacts:
Maile Melkonian
Carol Finney
Betsy Gaudette-Cross

Special Interest Groups

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!



COFFEE & CALIFORNIA CONCERNS: With the New Year, we are back to meeting twice a month! However, to avoid the 3-day MLK holiday weekend, our second meeting this month will be a week later than usual. See the details in the next column.



HOLIDAY TEA SILENT AUCTION AND RAFFLE REPORT:

Thank you to the many AAUW members who contributed to the success of the holiday tea fundraiser. We raised over \$820! As the board directs, \$750 of the money would be donated to the national AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund to qualify for the Named Gift Honor for next year. We have already qualified to award a 2019 Named Gift Honor. This honor goes to someone who goes above and beyond the norm to ensure the success of our local AAUW programs. Last May, Marsh Brooks-Smith earned this honor. A small committee will choose the 2019 recipient in January. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact me by January 18th.

Thank you, Susan Cunningham
Home: 559.625.3667, Cell: 559.901.5545

And from Marilyn Rankin: There was a very bountiful array of art supplies, personal items and books. The group seemed overjoyed to receive the donation from our club.

THANK YOU SUSAN MATHEWS...

...For hosting the festive holiday tea this year. If you missed it, here are a few snapshots of the event.



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>

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

Also if you sign up for the monthly meeting and don't show up, you are still responsible for paying for your lunch.
Thank you.

If you think about it...

EVERYBODY: 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, we are always looking for more sorters. It's a lot of fun, so if you are interested, call someone who sorts and 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

