



Visalia-Sequoia Inc. (CA) Branch

Sequoia News

Notes from the Presidents: Sherri Bentley & Marilyn Rankin

Please be aware that the date of our next general meeting has changed. The next meeting is THURSDAY, MARCH 21st! (Not the 14th as previously stated)

Can you believe it is already March, and our upcoming book sale is this month? We can't! **Our sale runs from March 27th- April 2nd.** If you can host a sign, please call Suzanne Babcock as soon as possible. (559) 303-9394. She needs help getting the signs distributed around town. Betsy Gaudette-Cross did an informal survey on how people learn about the book sale, and 90% of the people surveyed said they saw the book signs around town. So they work!

Suzanne Babcock is also our Membership Vice President, and has held two informative orientation get-togethers for our newest members. Be sure to be warm and friendly to anyone new at our general meetings and section meetings.

Susan Cunningham needs you! She does an awesome job of scheduling people to work the book sale. It is extremely helpful when everyone who is able take a shift or two or three. So be on the lookout for the book sale **sign-up sheets** at this upcoming general meeting, or better yet **call Susan to volunteer today. (559) 901-5545** We do encourage all our members to sign up for helping at the book sale in March. Those of you who can't be so physically active can help by manning the cash box.

We have a new nominating committee working on filling some very important board positions. We will seriously need to find a treasurer, two presidents-elect, and a new member for program committee. If you get a call from our committee to serve, please say yes. You would be trained in your

MARCH AAUW Meeting

MARCH 21, 2019 (note date change)

PRESENTER: Missy Yavasile
PROGRAM: The Ins and Outs of Scholarship Planning
WHEN: March 21, 2019
TIME: 4:30 TO 6:00PM
LOCATION: Lamp Liter Inn
COST: Hors d'oeuvres \$10.00

Parents and students (maybe helpful grandparents) are discovering the process of admissions to colleges more competitive and costly. A college consultant can be a great source of support and direction. SOAR College Planning offer a variety of services. They offer help with counseling, test prep (SAT & ACT), essay coaching, application workshops, financial aid and more. Come and find the best college for your student and the best way to get them there!

Please send your reservations by March 11th to:

Phyllis Matteson
3320 S Hall St, Visalia 93277
Email - rapmat@aol.com
Phone - 732-1988
Text - 300-5022

new position, and there is great support through the California and National AAUW websites. None of the positions are tremendously time consuming, and responsibilities are often shared.

We hope to see you at our March meeting. Remember, the meeting is at the Lamplighter Inn at 4:30-6:00 on March 21st.

Sherri Bentley and Marilyn Rankin

Special Interest Groups

GREAT DECISIONS: We were lucky enough on February 12 (topic: "Middle East") to have the first-hand perspectives of an Iranian-American and her husband, Fahime and Marlin Roehl, greatly enriching the discussion of this complicated region. Our topics continue to be extremely current. The two sessions this month are:

March 12 on "Nationalism in Europe"
March 26 on "Decoding U.S.-China Trade"

The series runs through mid May, meeting every other Tuesday, 7:00-9:00pm, at C.O.S. in Hospital Rock Bldg., Room 133.

Contacts:

Maile Melkonian, Carol Finney, and Betsy Gaudette-Cross

BOOKWORMS: The Bookworms will be meeting on Friday March 1 at 1:00 at Barbara Maraist's home. The book selected for February is "Red Notice" by Bill Browder. Anyone is welcome to join us, just please call or email (tkold@sbcglobal.net) to let us know you are coming. Questions? Call Kathy Oldershaw 909-1333 or 733-6472

COFFEE & CALIFORNIA CONCERNS:

Thanks to Cyndy McBee, we had a great discussion about wildfires and firefighting agencies from Visalia's Fire Chief Doug McBee. The conversation was wide-ranging!



Topics, dates and locations for this month are:
Monday, March 4 (10:15am)
Topic: "Understanding Allensworth"

Speaker: Ross Gentry, former superintendent of schools for Allensworth

Program Liaison: Susan Harrell

Venue hostess: Karen Feezell (1819 S. Irma St., Visalia)

Susan Kreps is arranging an excursion to this fascinating town--which is also a state park--and our group wanted to have a little background before going. We'll learn about this unique attempt in California to create a livable community for African-Americans, and what its demographics are today. This topic intersects with those of affordable housing, water shortages, racism, poverty in our area, and self-government.

Monday, March 18 (10:30am)

Topic: "Purple Pipe (Water) Processing Plant Perusal"

Speaker: Jeffrey Misenhimer, plant superintendent

Program Liaison: Maile Melkonian

Venue: City of Visalia Waste Water Treatment Plant (southwest of the 198/99 junction--map and directions provided to those who RSVP)

Our March 18 (10:30am) meeting will be an excursion to Visalia's brand-new purple-pipe water processing treatment plant--the fifth largest of its kind in the country, and ranking among the world's top 25! Any water flowing through purple pipes is not quite pure enough for human consumption, but clean enough to be used in agriculture. We'll be learning about Visalia's innovative water swap contract with Tulare Irrigation District, and more. The plant is located southwest of the 198/99 junction. We'll be doing this tour in conjunction with the League of Women Voters. The tour is free, but reservations must be made. RSVP to Maile by March 14 if you plan to attend. At \$152 million, it's the biggest public works project Visalia has ever undertaken. Come see what your tax dollars have made possible!

Contact: Maile Melkonian (802-3315)

Attention

BOOK SALE VOLUNTEERING

Check your calendar and block off the dates of our spring **AAUW Book Sale**: March (yes, March!) 26th is set up day; **March 27th-April 1** (no fooling!) is the sale; clean up is April 2nd. Contact Susan Cunningham to book your favorite time slots. Text /call: 559.901.5545.

Email gicasusan@gmail.com. Remember that Saturday and evenings are our hardest shifts to cover, so if you can spare a few hours consider those first. Thank you so much for all who help us reach our AAUW goals!

Look What Volunteer Visalia Has Been Doing!

Suzanne Babcock, Jan Johnson, and Cyndy McBee were excited to drop off the pajamas sewn by the Volunteer Visalia group! This is the 4th year we have provided pj's for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) kids for Valentine's Day. Contact Jan Johnson for more information about this group. We have a lot of fun supporting our community!



Cut & Save



Thursday March 21	Lamp Liter Inn 4:30-6:00 Speaker: Missy Yavasile Soar to College/Scholarship Planning
March 27 – April 1	BOOK SALE @ Sequoia Mall
Friday April 5	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

If you sign up for the monthly meeting and don't show up, you are still responsible for paying for your lunch because we are charged. Thank you.



Please give Susan Cunningham a call and volunteer for the book sale. (559) 901-5545

Yeah!

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

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER... Lu
Alexander**

Lu was born in Portugal, raised and educated in Connecticut, and eventually made it to Tulare. She worked at Woodville School for 7 years and retired from Tulare City Schools 8 years ago. She is married to her second husband, Jack. She has 2 daughters (he has 1), and they share 9 grandchildren and 2 great granddaughters. During her free time she likes to read, travel, work in her garden, and do Zumba gold classes. Lu is looking forward to being an active member of AAUW and participating in the activities offered.

Welcome to AAUW, Lu!

Are You Getting Your Emails?

If you are not receiving emails from me, Betsy Gaudette-Cross, either for the newsletter or email-blasts, PLEASE LET ME KNOW! You should be getting an electronic email (newsletter) within the first week of each month. I always put "AAUW" in the subject of any email I send you; so keep your eyes out for that. I have been having trouble with my email server, so please let me know if you are not getting information from me.

