

## Notes from the Presidents: Marilyn Rankin & Liz Kieske

What an entertaining and touching presentation we were able to enjoy at the Creative Center at our October General Meeting. The Creative Center plays an important role for the special needs segment of our community. It was enriching to learn more about the historical background, funding, staff and clients of the Creative Center. We were pleased so many of the members could enjoy the work and products offered through the Creative Center. There was a wonderful turn out and lots of fun.

Our October Book Sale has also experienced great success. As you know the biannual event is the means by which our branch earns funds for the scholarships we give to COS students applying for financial support as they transfer to a four year institution seeking a Bachelor's Degree. We also fund scholarships for Expanding Your Horizons, a Mathematics, Science, Engineering and Technology Conference for young women in Grades 4 - 10 who attend Tulare County schools and Tech Trek, a weeklong STEM camp at Fresno State.

Our Fall Book Sale generated \$14,700 toward our 2020 scholarships, which will be awarded in May. We thank the book donors, the book sorters and all of you who gave of your time to assist with the sale of the books. Thank you all!

Our November General Meeting will focus on financial matters for women and some interesting history of women's role, both historically and currently, in the world of finance and investment. I believe it is true that women hold the purse strings, so what are we

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## NOVEMBER AAUW Meeting

**WHEN** - November 14, 2019

**TIME** - 11:30

**PRICE** - \$27.50

**PLACE** - Vintage Press

### Lunch Choices

1. Chinese Chicken Salad
2. Chicken & Mushroom Crepe
3. Cheese Burger with French Fries  
(comes with water and ice tea)

Orders must be in 2 days before the event.

Mail checks to : Susan Mathews • 3933 West  
Woodside Court • Visalia, CA 93291

OR

CALL - Cell...text or call (559) 731-8074, Home  
phone (559) 739-1449

Email...[smathews18@gmail.com](mailto:smathews18@gmail.com)

I will contact you by phone, text or email that I  
have received your reservation.

Many Thanks, Susan Mathews

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY A MEMBER •**  
Financial Matters for Women - presented by  
Shani Crookshanks & Teresa Nino, Financial  
Advisors, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

The economic power and influence that women  
have gained is really exciting. Shani & Teresa  
will share highlights of the most interesting  
information they've come across in this regard.  
They will also spend some time talking about  
life in general, and how life and finances  
intersect - especially for women.

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doing with our money and what could/should we consider doing with it? We will hear more at our General Meeting on November 14, 11:30 A.M. at the Vintage Press. See you there for a great lunch, interesting presentation and stimulating camaraderie. Happy fall to all,

Co-Presidents - Marilyn Rankin and Liz Kieske

## Creative Center Visit – Last General Meeting on Oct 10, 2019

Our meeting at The Creative Center was an enjoyable informative session. The performers were full of energy and zest for their craft. How fun to watch! And the information on the background and mission statement of The Creative Center was well explained. We are so fortunate to have this program in our community. The Creative Center is an on-going arts program - both visual and performing. There are events coming up to which the public is invited and welcomed. Soup, Sip and Shop is being held on November 21 and the Christmas play, "The Naughty List" (which is written by TCC staff), will be performed on Dec. 10 - 13. You are welcome to participate in these events. The clientele of The Creative Center contribute to the vibrancy of our community.

This comes straight from Liz!



## Cut & Save



**November 14, 2019** (Thursday) 11:30pm–1:30pm  
Location: The Vintage Press  
Program: ***"Financial Matters for Women"***

**December 14, 2019** (Saturday) 2:00pm–4:00pm  
Location: Home of Beth McAuliff  
Event: ***Holiday Tea***

**January 21, 2020** (Tuesday) 11:30pm–1:30pm  
Joint meeting with League of Women Voters of Tulare Co.  
Location: Marriott Hotel  
Program: ***"Born Criminal: Women of the Suffragist Movement"***

**February 16, 2020** (Sunday)  
Location: The Ice House  
Program: ***"Beehive"***

**March 19, 2020** (Thursday) 3:30pm–5:00pm  
Location: The Vintage Press,  
Program: ***"The ABCs of SGMA"***

**April 16, 2020** (Thursday) 11:30am–1:00pm  
Location: The Vintage Press  
Program: ***"Reflections on the 63<sup>d</sup> U.N. Convention on the Status of Women—Inspiration!"***

**May 16, 2020** (Saturday) 2:00pm–4:00pm  
Location: Congregation B'nai David, 1039 S. Chinowth St.  
Event: ***Scholarship Reception***



# Books! Books! Books!

Our most devoted little-book-sale-patron.

We sold a lot of books! It was another successful sale! While a final total isn't yet available, our six-day sale yielded about \$14,700, which is on par with previous sales. Better yet we had fewer books left over which always makes for an easier clean up.

The online computer signs-up worked beautifully. Thanks again to Alison Babcock for her work with the schedule and her publicity outreach. And to all of you who worked the sale, helped unload at the beginning or cleaned up at the end, and especially the Book Sorters, thank you, thank you, thank you! All your efforts helped to make our sale a success. Now... on to Spring 2020!

Jan Johnson



Left:  
The books  
on the table!

Right:  
The  
Redwood  
FBLA kids  
who helped  
unload the  
trucks and  
set up the  
sale.



## Coffee and California Concerns

At our last meeting, Monday, 10/21/19, Quaker Graciela Martinez talked to our C&CC group. She gave a very personal account of what it was like to grow up in a family of farm laborers, even working the fields herself while in elementary school. She told us how she ultimately marched with Cesar Chavez and Martin Luther King. She also talked about how farm labor laws have changed during her lifetime. Incredible! She was an inspiration to us all.

## Special Interest Group

**GREAT DECISIONS:** This discussion group is a project of the Foreign Policy Association--a nationwide non-profit dedicated to fostering informed interest in international issues. It is sponsored in Visalia by A.A.U.W., in partnership with C.O.S. We meet eight times, at C.O.S., Tuesdays evenings at 7:00-9:00. This coming season's dates and topics are:



- Jan. 28 -- Climate Change**
- Feb. 11 -- India & Pakistan**
- Feb. 25 -- The Red Sea Region**
- Mar. 10 -- Human Trafficking**
- Mar. 24 -- Northern Triangle**
- Apr. 14 -- China & Latin America Conflict**
- Apr. 28 -- The Philippines**
- May 5 -- AI & Data**

Carol Finney may have a few briefing books left at the group pre-order price of \$28 each. If you are interested, please send a check (made out to "Carol Finney") to Carol at:

2106 S. Anthony Ct.  
Visalia, CA 93277

Of course, if you prefer, you may order them on-line directly from the Foreign Policy Association at [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org).

We expect to receive the books by mid-January, and will have them at the Tulare Co. Public Library, downtown Visalia, for pick-up before our first meeting at the end of January.

**Contacts are: Maile Melkonian, Carol Finney and Betsy Gaudette-Cross**

**Coffee & California Concerns:** This policy discussion group focuses on local and state-level issues. The conversation is casual, somewhat in-depth...and always fascinating! Welcome to any members interested. Here are the details for this month's meetings:

**Monday, November 4 (10:15am)**

**Topic:** "Visalia's Senior Center, and the A.A.U.W. Connection"

**Speaker:** Center Staff

**Program Liaison:** Dona Meinhardt

**Venue:** Visalia Senior Center (310 N. Locust St., at Oak)

What goes on at the Senior Center, anyway? Come find out. And learn about A.A.U.W.'s crucial role in its history. Did you know our branch built it as our Clubhouse? And that it served as Visalia's temporary public library when the flood of '55 rendered the Library inaccessible? If you want to stay for lunch (menu is a surprise!), **get \$4 to Dona Meinhardt by Nov. 1.**

**Monday, November 18 (10:15am)**

**Topic:** "Race and Justice--a Discussion of 'Just Mercy'"

**Speaker/Facilitator:** Michael Cross, Criminal Defense Attorney

**Program Liaison:** Betsy Gaudette-Cross

**Venue hostess:** Karen Feezell (At Betsy's House, 5941 W Buena Vista Ct, 3291) This is the first of a three book discussion we have on tap for this year: Bryan Stevenson's "Just Mercy." The subject of a TED Talk, and much more, Stevenson explores the racial inequities in our criminal justice system...and what can be done to rectify them. Betsy's husband, Mike, will bring his considerable professional experience to the discourse, giving us a sense of how the national trends play out locally.

Maile Melkonian is the C&CC contact.

### KNIT WITS Welcomes All:

Remember we meet every Tuesday morning from 10-noon at Panera's. We are a very informal group. We take beginners. No need to call in advance. If you want more information, either text or call Cathy Lovell, 287-2982.



See pictures on the last page

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## What is Named Gift and what does it have to do with the Holiday Tea Raffle?

Last year, Sandy Parmelly was honored with a Named Gift Award. This award is given to someone who goes beyond the norm to ensure the success of AAUW's many programs. Congratulations again to Sandy.

The proceeds of our holiday raffle and auction were donated in Sandy's name. We'll honor a new "Named Gift" recipient this year. Who will it be this year? In January, a small committee will choose, but first we have to raise funds at our Holiday Tea. **We need prizes for our popular raffle and silent auction.** Prizes can be donated by local businesses, our chapter's special interest sections, or even by individuals. Last year we had over 25 beautiful prizes!

If you, your business, or your special interest group has a prize to donate, contact Nancy Holmes (559-901-7536 cell) or Susan Cunningham (559-901-5545 cell) to arrange pick-up the week before the tea.

Let's keep this tradition alive with holiday spirit and fund education at the same time!

~Nancy Holmes

During 2020 we will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women gaining the right to vote. Here is one way California is celebrating it.

The [California 2020 Women's Suffrage Project](#) has been created to support efforts to celebrate the Centennial of the 19th Amendment. Through coordinated efforts, the project will use education and civic engagement to connect with the past and inspire communities for the future. This statewide effort invites local communities and organizations to join us for the Centennial events and programming that will kick off on the 100th anniversary of California's ratification of the 19th Amendment. The official start date for Centennial Celebrations will begin November 1, 2019, and continue through 2020 with some programs and resources to continue beyond 2020.

The CA 2020 Women's Suffrage Project and the National Women's History Alliance have partnered with the National Vote for Women's Trail, an initiative to document and bring recognition to the women's suffrage movement between the years 1848-1920. The trail is co-sponsored by two notable nonprofits dedicated to the preservation of historical landmarks; the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites (NCWHS) and the Pomeroy Foundation.

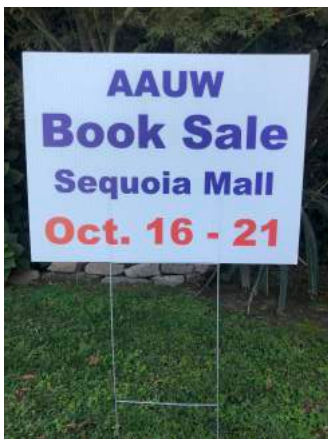
Under the National Votes for Women's Trail initiative, the state of California has the opportunity to designate key suffrage locations across the state and nominate five key historic locations in California for a Pomeroy Marker. The CA 2020 Project is seeking a committee of members who are interested in participating in the Selection Committee for the five historic landmarks that will receive a Pomeroy Marker. [California 2020 Women's Suffrage Project](#)

Terry Cornelius

**BOOK SALE SIGNS...**thank you, thank you, thank you to all members who took signs to help us advertise our book sale. Many of you

were willing but we actually ran out of signs for you all! Don't worry...we have another sale this spring and you will have another chance to help. Till then...THANKS!

~Suzanne Babcock





# MEMBERSHIP...

We had a new member reception in September. We had one of three new members come (the others had conflicts). Christine Wong was very excited to learn of all the special interest groups AAUW has to offer. She has jumped in with two feet... sorting books every Monday, working at the book sale and even being an ICOD (in charge of the day)! Way to go!! Next new member reception will be held after the New Year.  
~ Suzanne Babcock



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

## The Knit Wits at Panera!

See how much fun the Knit Wits have? First image: Carol Seastrom

(left) and Nancy Adalian (right) are modeling their recently completed knitted shawls.



Second image: Rovena Forest wears another one of her beautiful knitted shawls.



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