

The Sequoia Newsletter

Visalia - Sequoia AAUW

CO-PRESIDENTS' LETTER

"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so
much."

— Helen Keller

We had quite the month of February! First let me say, with great relief and enthusiasm we have a venue for our Book Sale to continue without missing a beat! Our new venue is the **Visalia Veteran's Memorial Building**, downtown! Our Sale will be the week after Easter (April 11 – 16). Thank You Susan Cunningham, Sandy Parmelly, Nancy Holmes, and Lisa Silva. A big thank you also goes out to Suzanne Babcock for ordering new labels for our Book Sale signs so they will be

ready by the March Branch meeting to pick up. Next, Sherri received sobering news from the 210 Café, a week before our February Branch meeting, that they would be unable to cater our meeting! So, Sherri, Maile, and Lisa put their heads together and were able to secure the Vets Memorial building for the meeting! Also, Sherri got news that our March and April Branch meetings would **no longer be held at the Lamp Liter Inn**, due to new management. All confirmed occasions have been cancelled. Sherri was also able to change that venue quickly, so please be aware of the change of venue for the next 2 meetings.

Cathy Lovell has graciously accepted to be the head of the Nominating Committee, and Jean Mortiz has offered to help. They need more help; voting is scheduled for the April Branch meeting. See the "Pink" bulletin for ways you can help!

We had a great turnout for our February Branch meeting, with 3 speakers from various organizations that help promote literacy in Visalia and Tulare County. Susan Sanders, President of Read for Life; Margarita Lozano, Read to Succeed, from the Literacy Center of the Tulare County Public Library; and Patti McKay, from the Little Free Library Program of Visalia Breakfast Kiwanis. They gave us a lot of good

information to help with combating literacy here in Tulare County. What's next? Our **March 16 meeting** will be held at **Left of Center!** Susan Mathews has invited Nancy Bellin to speak of her story as a Japanese-American interned during WWII. Hope to see many of you there — and bring a friend!

Lisa Silva & Maile Melkonian



BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 14
2:30 p.m.

At the home of Linda Tucker
in Hanford

(Directions will be e-mailed to the Board prior to the meeting.)

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

March General AAUW Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 11:30 – 1:30

Location: : Sue Sa's Catering, 699 West Center .

Program: "**One Woman's Story: The Effect of WW1 Japanese-American Internment on Family**"

PRESENTER: Nancy Bellin, retired educator, T.C.O.E.

Given two-weeks' notice -- and allowed only what they could carry-- Ms. Bellin's family had to report to the Tulare Fairgrounds, board trains in Fresno, and move into barracks in the Arizona Desert. How do parents make their children feel safe during times of crisis?

LUNCH: \$20/person. Contact Susan Mathews

RSVP by Friday, March 10, 2023

Susan Mathews - Program Committee Member

MEMBERSHIP

- Suzanne Babcock, Membership VP

We are hoping to increase our membership over the next 12 months. One of the biggest ways to do that is to invite your friends/acquaintances to come to our meetings. The March topic will deal with the impact of Japanese internment on a single family. Nancy Bellin, will go through her family's experiences. In April we will be lucky to hear about our own Sequoia trees from Lee Terkelsen. Bringing guests to these presentations should be very interesting and spark local interest.

Another way to increase membership would be to invite people to come to the Book Sale in April...either as a buyer of books or maybe even as a helper. Once the public sees what we do, maybe renewed interest in joining would follow.

So helping to increase membership is something we can all help to accomplish.

UNABRIDGED BOOK GROUP

— Susan Franciskovich

Unabridged Book members enjoy some fun and laughs on Valentine's Day after a challenging and educational discussion on our latest book: "The Many Daughters of Afong Moy" by Jamie Ford. Whew! We certainly earned our dessert that day !

Photos feature:

Sherri Bentley and Rosalie Fisher

Nancy Adalian and Susan Franciskovich



NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

HELP WANTED

Is it your turn to serve on our Board? We're looking for two people for the position of Co-President-Elect. The main duty of this office is to attend monthly Board meetings to learn how our Branch operates. The year of training helps prepare you for becoming President. Sharing the position allows for flexibility if you have other commitments, sometimes travel, etc.

The other important position is Treasurer. Donna Nottingham, our current Treasurer, is doing an excellent job. She is willing to train someone during the transition this summer. Whoever assumes this position will benefit from Donna's organizational skills. She uses the Quick Books program, but that is optional if some-

one prefers another system. Our budget is not huge and most procedures are routine, but we do need someone who pays attention to details and likes working with numbers.

Our branch is only as strong as our members who support it. Do you feel a nudge to try something new? Please call me if you have any questions or suggestions about these elected Board positions.

Cathy Lovell
Nominating Committee Chairperson
(559)287-2982

COFFEE AND CALIFORNIA CONCERNS

- Mary Lawrence, Co-Chair

The March meeting will feature, Judee Berg who is President of Tulare County Hope for the Homeless.

TC Hope is a newly organized community group that is fundraising and organizing support for a low-barrier navigation center and shelter for those in our community experiencing homelessness. TC Hope will provide temporary shelter for individuals and families without common barriers to entry and will also provide access to coordination programs to assist with finding permanent housing.

There is widespread community support for this project. Come and find out about this unique program and ask your questions. Find more info at www.tchope.org.

Date: March 1, 2023

Place: Cafe 210

Time: 10 am to 12pm

Topic: New program for Tulare County homeless.

Please take note of this change for April.

The April meeting will be held on APRIL 18 with the TC League of Women Voters. Water issues will be the topic of discussion with Joe Yun, Executive Officer, California Water Commission.

Date: April 18, 2023

Place: Left of Center

Time: 11:30 doors open. Lunch at 12:00

Luncheon: \$20

RSVP: to Linda Chaplin at Linda_Chaplin@yahoo.com

GREAT DECISIONS

- Pat Foster, Co-Chair

The Great Decisions 2023

person at COS, Room 133, 7:00-9:00 p.m.!

March 14's topic will be Economic Warfare.

March 28's topic will be Politics in Latin America.

Be sure to download your parking pass before using parking at COS! If you do not have a briefing book for the discussions, they can be purchased through the Foreign Policy Association (www.fpa.org/great_decisions/).

discussions are again taking place in

BOOK SALE—APRIL

- Suzanne Babcock

BOOK SALE SIGNS...

With the Book Sale now just around the corner (starts April 11), I need you ALL to think of a place you can put a sign to advertise our sale. The Book Sale signs are our biggest form of advertising this important event.

We have 60 signs that need to be out and about, so that everyone knows where and when the sale is happening. I will be passing the signs out at the general meeting on March 16th.

You can put them up March 28...in your yard, a friend's yard, or your own place of business.

Please take at least one sign to help us make the money we need to keep supporting the COS scholarships, Tech Trek and Exploring Horizons.

Thank you in advance...Suzanne Babcock

Upcoming Book Sales!

Get out your calendars and make note of our upcoming book sales!

April 11-16, 2023

&

October 17-22, 2023

Open from 10AM-6PM

Set-up day before and clean-up day after

NEW LOCATION:

**VISALIA VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
609 WEST CENTER**

(Across from Smart & Final and next to Left of Center)

Sign-up sheets and yard signs will be available by mid-March

We are so grateful to have found a home for our book sale tradition!

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Special thanks to Sue Sanders, Read for Life (bottom left); Margarita Lozano, Read to Succeed at Visalia Library (bottom right); and Patti McKay, Sequoia-Visalia Kiwanis with Reading Tree (right) for educating us on literacy in Tulare County and showing us many opportunities that are available to all ages.



IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that our Branch notes the passing of former member and past President:

Dorothy Osak

Dorothy died of a sudden illness on January 17. An active member of the community, she is already missed.

Visalia - Sequoia AAUW

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We're on the web!

Visaliasequoia-ca.aauw.net

AAUW

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families

AAUW California Mission:

AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education, and resources.

AAUW Mission:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

