

Monterey Peninsula

# MESSENGER

Volume 63 Issue 1

Monterey Peninsula Branch

Sept.-Oct. 2015



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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS:

For more information on any event, click the appropriate link found in "In This Issue", in the column at the left.

\*Sept. 26, 2-4 PM - Branch meeting/New Member Reception, Casa Serrano (412 Pacific Street, Monterey)

\*Oct. 15 - Deadline for newsletter articles to [Caryl Rojas](#)

Congratulations

Save These Dates

Great Decisions 2016

\*Oct. 18, 2-4 PM - Branch meeting/Tech Trek Fundraiser, Lucy Campen's home (10 White Tail Lane, Monterey)

\*Nov. 7, 2-4 PM - Branch meeting/Book Launch, Monterey City Library (see Save These Dates)

\*Dec. 13 - Holiday party, Nancy Soule's home, 504 Larkin Street, Monterey (see Save These Dates)

## BOOK GROUPS

### Morning Books

Coordinator: Kathy Poulson

Location: Canterbury Woods

The Blue Room

Mon, September 21, 10 AM

*Ordinary Grace*

by William Kent Krueger

Leader: Valda Fletcher

Refreshments: Susan Murphy

Mon, October 19, 10 AM

*The Rosie Project*

by Graeme C. Simsion

Leader: Susan Murphy

Refreshments: Kathy Poulson

### Afternoon Books

## SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING

and

## NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

**Date:** Saturday, September 26

**Time:** 2:00 - 4:00 PM

**Place:** Casa Serrano, 412 Pacific Street, Monterey

Please join us at historic Casa Serrano for a reception in honor of our new members. In addition to tasty treats and catching up with friends old and new, we will get a brief tour of the house and learn about the myriad ways we can be involved with our local branch. Bring a friend! This is a great opportunity for prospective members to learn about all that we do.

Coordinator: Carolyn Smith

Tues, September 8, 2 PM

*Lowland*

by Jhumpa Lahiri

Host: Elie Skinner

RSVP: [patnelie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patnelie@sbcglobal.net)

Tues, October 13, 2 PM

*Love in a Cold Climate*

by Nancy Mitford

Host: Carolyn Smith

RSVP: [stacaro@aol.com](mailto:stacaro@aol.com)

### Evening Books

Coordinator: Kathleen Wall

Tues, September 15, 7 PM

*Clara and Mr. Tiffany*

by Susan Vreeland

Hostess: Fatima Dias

Leader: Karen Weill

Tues, October 20, 7 PM

*Euphoria*

by Lily King

Hostess: Donna Foote

Leader: Marge Simmons



Casa Serrano has had many functions: home, schoolhouse, Italian restaurant. It has special significance in California's early history because it served as one of the first schools after the U.S. flag was flown over the Custom House in 1846. Serrano was the teacher, and was also mayor of Monterey. Built in 1843, the house was restored in 1959.

For a map, click [here](#).

## OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING and TECH TREK FUNDRAISER

**Date:** Sunday, October 18

**Time:** 2:00 to 4:00 PM

**Place:** home of Lucy Campen,  
10 White Tail Lane, Monterey

**Bring:** an hors d'oeuvre to share and \$5.00 to contribute to the Tech Trek Fund.

You will meet the two eighth grade girls who won the scholarships from our branch to attend Camp Marie Curie at Stanford University this past July.

## BOARD MEETINGS

September 3, 4:00 PM

home of Sharyn Siebert

\*\*\*\*\*

October 1, 4:00 PM

Monterey City Library



Our scholarship winners were Isabel Reed (left), in 8th grade at Carmel Middle School, and Allison Gray who attends Buena Vista Middle School in Las Palmas. Isabel's core class was forensics, where she learned how to test for fingerprints and other crime solving techniques. Allison's core class was 3D Math where they had to create a puzzle, and then in the robotics class they had to build a robot and program it to do certain tasks. Isabel and Allison will bring some of their projects to our meeting, and share their Tech Trek experiences with us.

We need to raise \$1,800 each year to fund our Tech Trek scholarships. We thankfully received a \$900 grant from Yellow Brick Road last March, but we need to raise at least another \$900 this year to send two more seventh grade girls from the Monterey Peninsula. All donations are very welcome, and the checks should be written to AAUW California Special Projects Fund. If you cannot attend our meeting on October 18, please consider sending a donation to our Tech Trek Coordinator, Marilyn Erickson, at 25351 Boots Rd. #6, Monterey, CA 93940. If you have any questions, please call Marilyn at (650) 787-

## Directory

Remember: The password to our password-protected online directory on our website is on the second page of your blue directory. This is where all of our members' contact information is readily accessible.

(<http://mpb-ca.aauw.net>)

### NEW MEMBERS:

**Wendy Brickman**  
395 Del Monte Center #250  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831-594-1500  
[brickman@brickmanmarketing.com](mailto:brickman@brickmanmarketing.com)

**Lois Carroll (dual)**  
230 Grove Acre Avenue, Apt  
122  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
650-833-8731  
[lolo@livexpress.com](mailto:lolo@livexpress.com)

**Monique Dodson (grad)**  
P.O. Box 1277  
Seaside, CA 93955  
831-578-6022  
[mmdgolf247@gmail.com](mailto:mmdgolf247@gmail.com)

**Karen Hewitt**  
154 11th Street  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
217-898-2657  
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**Kelly Hutchinson**  
299 Monroe Street, Apt. B  
Monterey, CA 93940  
540-598-4969  
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**Deborah Juran**  
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Corral de Tierra, CA 93908  
831-905-4661  
[debjuran@comcast.net](mailto:debjuran@comcast.net)

**Jennifer Riccobono (grad)**  
1264 Surf Avenue  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
831-524-0662  
[jriccobono@me.com](mailto:jriccobono@me.com)

**Mayra Rodriguez (grad)**  
P.O. Box 234  
Gonzalez, CA 93926  
831-206-7905  
[mayrar03@gmail.com](mailto:mayrar03@gmail.com)

8546. For directions to Lucy's home, please call her at 373-6869 or click [here](#) for a map.

Marilyn Erickson  
Tech Trek Coordinator  
(650) 787-8546

## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We hope you all had a wonderful summer, whether relaxing or full of adventure. We are glad to have you all back for another year of AAUW events. Many of you have already enjoyed the annual August picnic where we could catch up with friends and meet new ones.

Our program chair, Fatima Dias, and her committee of Mary Conway and Kathleen Wall, have worked hard to line up a variety of interesting programs for this year. We will begin with our September 26 new member reception at the historic Casa Serrano, followed by our Tech Trek fundraiser in October at the home of Lucy Campen.

Our membership vice-presidents, Pat Gotch and Nancy Edwards, have asked a number of you to be mentors to our new members, and we thank all of you who willingly agreed. Most of us know how it feels to be new to a community and an organization; it helps to have someone take an interest and initiate contact. We look forward to meeting all of the new

**Carla Romero (grad)**

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831-585-6170

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**Renee Sanders**

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Home: 831-624-6886

cell 831-233-4484

[resamagsa@yahoo.com](mailto:resamagsa@yahoo.com)

**Susan Steckclair (dual)**

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San Jose, CA 95129

408-996-7492

[susanps@sonic.net](mailto:susanps@sonic.net)

**Joanne Webster**

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Monterey, CA 93942

831-595-5600

[jwebster107@outlook.com](mailto:jwebster107@outlook.com)

**The AAUW-MPB  
Website**

members and hope all of you who have joined recently will find an interest group or committee that appeals to you, so that you can get to know the many talented and dedicated women in this organization.

We are excited that California State University at Monterey Bay has agreed to be a partner with our branch, opening up new opportunities for both parties. Sharyn and Mary Conway will be at the university's Sign-Up Day with information about our branch.

Looking forward to a great year!

Miriam and Sharyn

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

AAUW joined 92 organizations signing a letter to Congress informing them we stand with PLANNED PARENTHOOD. We also oppose congressional plans to defund PLANNED PARENTHOOD and the women they serve. Let your representatives know your opinion.

The U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension's committee held a hearing on campus sexual assault in advance of reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. The hearing focused on the importance of confidential advisors for victims, clearer and more effective relationships with local police while still protecting victims, and what the federal government can do to help campuses protect victims and achieve justice in sexual assault cases. I watched several hours of the hearings on CSPAN and it was interesting to see how many women senators were on the committee;

<http://mpb-ca.aauw.net>

the performances of both the senators and the women witnesses were impressive.

Lucy Campen  
Public Policy Chair  
831-373-6869

## Nov.-Dec. Messenger

Please send articles for the  
November - December  
newsletter to

Caryl Rojas  
at [rojas@ultimanet.com](mailto:rojas@ultimanet.com) by  
October 15.

## Local Scholarship Update

### Local Scholarships Able to Offer Sixth \$2,000 Scholarship

Back in April, we received a very generous \$500 donation from David Book as part of the March program on attracting girls to STEM fields. Combined with our grant funds from The First United Methodist Church of Pacific Grove, we were able to offer a sixth \$2,000 scholarship for 2015-2016!

In May, we awarded two of our scholarships to graduating MPC students, Jessica Javier Sumano (Nursing) and Emma Patel (Biostatistics). Thanks to Jane Cross and Mary Conway for being on the committee to select these two deserving students.

CSUMB students were selected in August. Congratulations to Alexandria Lopez (Counseling), Elizabeth Gandara (Public Health), Genevra Williams (Nursing) and Katherine Jouthas (Student Affairs/Higher Education). Thanks to Kay Morris, Cindy Machado, Aimee Alling and Lucy Campen for their efforts on this

## Office Depot Discount

AAUW has a partnership with Office Depot/Office Max, giving members a discounted price on items from both online and in the store. You print the card from the AAUW site and take it to Office Depot, where they laminate it for you and then you can get the discounts. To go to the AAUW site at National where

you can click to get a card,  
click [here](#).

project. We started with 127 applications and it was tough to narrow them down to only 4!!

More details about these students and earlier recipients who have graduated will be available in our next newsletter.

Pat Fletcher

Local Scholarship Director

831-324-4118

## MEMBERSHIP

We would like to extend a big welcome to all of our new members! As you can see from our New Members listing in the left column, there are several. Please make them all feel welcome.

We want to point out that Monique Dodson, Jennifer Riccobono, Mayra Rodriguez and Carla Romero join us through the "Give a Grad a Gift" program. We also welcome to our branch two dual members; Lois Carroll (Palo Alto Branch) and Susan Stecklair (San Jose).

Pat Gotch

Membership co-chair

831-375-9865



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Three of our members have earned our kudos.

### **Caroline Haskell**

Caroline Haskell and Ann Jealous have won the 2015 Next Generation Indie Book Award in the Anthology category. The title is *Combined Destinies: Whites Sharing Grief About Racism*. The Indie Book Awards is the largest not-for-profit awards program for independent publishers. For more information, visit [Indie Book Awards](#). To see this year's list of winners, click [here](#).

In addition, Caroline has been named social worker of the year by the California chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

### **Claudia Luhrs**

Prof. Claudia Luhrs has been promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

### **Pamela Wootten**

Pam is a dual member and past president of our branch. Now she lives in St. George, Utah, and has become senior Co-President of the AAUW State Board of Utah.



**Well done, ladies!**

## **Romancing the Coast**

Romancing the Coast will not meet in September. Information will be sent out later for the October event.

If you have any suggestions on interesting places to go with the Romancing the Coast group, please contact Carol Young at 372-0120 or [carolznewz@aol.com](mailto:carolznewz@aol.com)

## **AUGUST PICNIC**

Thank you to everyone (35, to be exact) who came out to help us celebrate the start of the AAUW year. The sun shone brightly in the park as we enjoyed delicious food and engaging company in the cool shade. Special thanks to Pat Fletcher and Miriam

Lilley who helped with set-up and everyone who helped clean up.



## SAVE THESE DATES

### Book Launch at the Library

Take an afternoon break on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 2:00 to 4:00 at the Monterey City Library with AAUW. We will hear Claudia Meléndez Salinas talk about her first novel, which comes out Oct. 31, and enjoy a reception with the author and fellow AAUW members. Claudia is a reporter for the Monterey County Herald and her novel takes place in Monterey County so she will be a fascinating speaker. More details will be forthcoming.



### Holiday Party

Our holiday party will be on Sunday, Dec. 13, time TBA. Thank you to Nancy Soulé for graciously offering her newly restored historic Monterey home for our celebration.

### **GREAT DECISIONS 2016 GROUP**

Starting in January, usually on Thursdays from 2-3:30, the Great Decisions group meets to discuss current, controversial topics based on a booklet written by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA). The participants meet for eight weeks and take turns presenting the topics. Ann Wilson has agreed to lead the group this year. If you are interested in participating, you can contact Ann at 831-626-4764 or [awilsonpb@gmail.com](mailto:awilsonpb@gmail.com).