

# WOMAN'S CLUB OF ARROYO GRANDE BULLETIN

FUN, FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



womansclubofarroyogrande.com

May 2018



## The Best Years of Our Lives

As we welcomed our newest member, Diane O'Lear, whose mother was a long time member of the Woman's Club, I thought about the continuity of this group and the role it has played in the lives of so many people in Arroyo Grande. As the club has grown, so have our charitable contributions and the number of scholarships awarded. This year, we will give over \$13,000 in scholarships to: high school seniors, a woman returning to school in the nursing program at Cuesta College, a music/dance scholarship, a senior scholarship to a student going into the medical field, continuing scholarships to former awardees doing well in college, and two Stevenson Memorial visual arts scholarships. We will also award an extra \$1,500 split among charities we support in addition to the amounts budgeted for those gifts. We are so grateful to every one of our hardworking members who make this generosity possible. We have truly earned the plaque given to us by the city for volunteer work this year. I have been proud to serve the Woman's Club during one of the best years of its life so far.

We also elected a new president, Toni Kelly, along with an outstanding board to serve next year. Each nominee was greeted with enthusiastic applause. They will continue the community outreach, nurturing of friendships through fellowship, fundraising for scholarships and local charities and growth that has been so evident this year. We are all expecting another of the best years of our lives.



Debbie Audet

Come and join us at the **Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting at noon**. Co-chairs, Loretta Newman and Moe Boyd, with their committee, will be welcoming our Scholarship awards recipients, their family member guests, the school counselors, and all of us for delicious pizza, from Palo Mesa Pizza. They also plan to have cake for dessert! This gives you a chance to visit these great kids, and hear about their future plans. Many of our members agree that this is the meeting that's not to be missed! It makes all of our hard work throughout the year most worthwhile. If you haven't made your reservation, make sure you contact Ellen Bavaro...seating will be crowded. Call Ellen at 473-2834, or email her @ [fabbav@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fabbav@sbcglobal.net) by Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to partake with the pizza & cake, send your \$14 to her @ 832 Jennings Dr. Arroyo Grande, 93420.

Don't miss this! It's our last meeting for the year before our summer break.



Our various groups are always looking for new members. Each of these groups will continue to meet through the summer months. The Art Group has lost a few members due to them moving away, so there is plenty of space to set up your project and enjoy the company of other artists every Monday (see last page for times). The Crafts Group meets on two Wednesdays each month. If you have your own craft, i.e. knitting project, crochet, card making, scrapbooking, or \_\_\_\_\_, this is a great time to get it accomplished. The card groups are always looking for new members, too. Even if you don't know how to play, they are willing to teach you. It's all for fun & camaraderie.



A BRILLIANT CLUB YEAR! Our wonderful Woman's Club has had another very successful year of fundraising and my congratulations and thanks to you all! Although I know we especially cherish the opportunity to get together and enjoy each other's company, the Woman's Club of Arroyo Grande also has a primary mission to give back to our community and we continue to do an ever better job each year in that regard. Because of your efforts we are able to fund generous donations to local charitable organizations and an increasing number of significant college scholarships for local high school graduates who really appreciate our help. I hope all of you will make a point of attending our May club lunch at which we will meet our local scholarship winners so you can see how much it means to them to have our encouragement and support. I look forward to serving you again as VP/Ways & Means and so expect that our collaboration of time and talent will provide equally successful in our next club year. Please don't hesitate to contact me with comments and suggestions as your input is always extremely important to me. Thanks again to everyone who worked so hard to make our Bingo fundraiser such a great day!



With love and hugs,  
Alison.



Joanna Van Blaricom was with us at the April meeting, and her inspiration was about being grateful for the decisions you've made in life...good or bad, use your lessons. Smile at the world, and put a positive spin on everything you do. Well, we've got plenty of smiles at our April luncheon meeting...



Moe Boyd is thanking all of the wonderful volunteers who worked in the kitchen & served at the BINGO event. You all did a great job, ladies!



Many thanks to the friendly faces that greet us at each meeting



Happy Birthday to Robyn, Alison, and Kathy!



The pop-up jewelry stores at BINGO did a fantastic combined effort, bringing in enough profit towards another full scholarship! Way to go Rose, Caroline & Sharon!





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## May Birthdays

May English	6
Sofia McHugh	8
Mary Carson	20
Chintana Mainous	20
Debbie Audet	24
Donna Carlson	25
Jean Schultz	27

### REMINDER!!!

2018/19 CLUB DUES! Financial Secretary Sandy Ferris is collecting dues for the 2018/19 year. Please make checks for \$35 payable to Woman's Club of Arroyo Grande. You can send your check to Sandy at 698 Vista Pacifica Cir, Pismo Beach or pay at the upcoming April or May luncheon.

**Note: Your check will not be cashed until June 2018.**



The Woman's Club welcomes our newest member, Diane O'Lear, 918 Sandalwood Ave., Arroyo Grande, 473-2643, dlogarden2@aol.com Diane is the daughter of our former member, Jeanne Barks.



At our April meeting, we had 50 members in attendance to celebrate Spring. Karen Lujan & Sherry Headington, with their committee: Elizabeth Lajcak, Joyce Cook, Jeanette Conde, and Gaye Peltzman decorated the hall with spring flowers & Easter chocolates! Sofia McHugh introduced us to her friend, Jim Herfurth, who sang Elvis songs and made his way around the room, crooning to our members. That was fun! Gaye & Michele rocked to the music!



The opportunity drawing winners were Freddie Newman & Barbara Schieffer, each winning \$39, with \$78 to the Club. Congrats, ladies!



The new 2018/19 executive board was approved by the members present. Although our new president for next year, Toni Kelly, wasn't able to attend (she was celebrating her anniversary with husband, Jim, cruising somewhere in the Indian Ocean), she wrote a lovely letter of acceptance. Pictured, the rest of the board, Debbie Audet, Michele Walker, Jeanette Conde, Sandy Ferris, Linda Woodworth, Loretta Newman, Alison Stuart, Sharon Boyajian, and Anita McCort. Thank you, ladies, for stepping up!

Members, if you'd like to volunteer for a job on the Standing Committees or Special Committees (see your yearbook) for next year's board, make sure you let Toni Kelly know that you are interested.

Get Involved!

**Someone in our club would probably enjoy learning how to take over our website. Dana Pojas, who has done it for six years, is unable to continue, but, she's created a detailed manual and can guide that someone until they are comfortable. Contact Debbie Audet or Toni Kelly. Dana will be welcoming her baby girl in July!**



## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

Thanks to Toni Kelly, we now have a guideline that makes it much easier to evaluate the applications for scholarships. Thanks to Debbie Audet, we started interviewing students being considered for awards. Thanks to a very generous donation from a member of our club, we will be able to give two \$1,000 scholarships to students studying in the field of Visual Arts. Cindy Moreno is taking care of those scholarships.

The scholarship committee has gone through a very good transformation. Aside from Robyn Dunne, Toni, Debbie & myself, we also have Valerie Kates, Caroline Blewitt, Anita McCort and Jeanette Conde on the committee.

This year, the academic scholarship committee received 47 applications. We interviewed 19 students spread over four high schools. The Board approved \$2,500 for additional scholarships this year. In May, the Woman's Club is prepared to give out:

1 Continuing Nursing student, Cuesta College scholarship	\$750
1 New Tech	\$1,000
1 Lopez High	\$500
2 Nipomo High	\$2,000
1 Freddie Newman Medical scholarship donated this year by Elisabeth Koch-Murray	\$1,000
4 Arroyo Grande High	\$4,000
1 Performing Arts	\$1,000
2 Visual Arts	\$2,000
3 Continuing scholarships	\$1,500

Robyn and I have been on the scholarship committee for the last three years, and I think we agree that we have seen some very good changes. In the first of our three years, the Woman's Club gave out \$8,500 in scholarships. New Tech was added to the high schools we support in the Lucia Mar School District, thanks to a generous donation from Barbara Vasquez. Alison Stuart started the Music and Dance Showcase to fund a new scholarship for performing arts students.

In our second year, the Woman's Club gave out \$10,250 in scholarships. Freddie Newman generously donated \$1,000 for a medical scholarship. The Board voted to double the continuing scholarships from \$250 to \$500 each.

For the past two years, there were five of us on the committee and we would retire to the Red Dirt Cafe to sip on fruit smoothies while making our final decisions. This year, the mellow days of fruit smoothies are over. There are now eight members on the committee and several have gained experience on other scholarship committees from other organizations. We all hope that our members will come and see the fruits of our labor at the May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting when we present these awards to the very deserving graduates.

Elisabeth Koch-Murray  
Scholarship Coordinator

The rest of the monies from all of our fund raising events were divided among our favorite community charities. Besides our budgeted amounts, we were able to bring in an extra \$4,000 to disperse among scholarships (\$2,500) and the following: Children in Motion, 5-Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, Hats for Hope, Hospice Partners, Jacquelyn Palchak Cancer Center, and Friends of the South County Library (\$1,500 divided). Amazing job! Thanks to our members under Alison Stuart's leadership.



Charlie Hanna is taking reservations for the June “Joint Board Meeting”, or otherwise known as the In & Out Luncheon. The event will be held on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 11 a.m. at the Upper Crust restaurant in SLO, corner of Los Osos Valley Rd./Madonna Rd. In the Laguna Shopping Center. ***All members are invited*** to join the fun, while we thank the outgoing Board members for their job well done, and welcome the new Board members as they take their new office. Lunch is \$20 (make your check out to the Woman’s Club of AG). You can have your choice of blackened chicken sandwich, rigatoni bolognese, fettuccini toscana, or meat lasagna. All lunches include a green salad, soft drinks, iced tea, coffee, or lemonade (other beverages are a separate charge). We need a minimum of 40 people.

Contact Charlie Hanna @ 481-3503 for more information.



Elisabeth Koch-Murray has a number of items that she would be happy to share with members who have loved ones who are becoming more fragile. If you are interested in borrowing any of these items, please call her at (831) 595-6507.

- Lifting chair (this moves you from sitting to standing)
- Wheel chair (large wheels can be removed)
- Stability pole (can be placed wherever there is a flat ceiling)
- Roho air cushion (saves the butt!)
- Theramat (goes on bed to prevent bedsores)
- Shower chair (seat swivels & glides into place)

### **Adult Chess Club at the Woman’s Club Community Center**

You don’t have to be an expert to play in the City of Arroyo Grande’s Adult Chess Club. Chess exercises both sides of the brain and encourages logic, creativity, mental alertness, and memory. This is a great environment for beginning and intermediate chess players to enjoy one of the oldest games in the world. Basic knowledge of the game and the willingness to meet other chess players are the only prerequisite. Chess enthusiasts are invited to this ‘open-play’ social environment. Bring your chessboard and make new friends. No partners required, meet other chess players and start up a game. \*We will have an Adult Chess Club general rules orientation meeting at the beginning of each session.

The City of Arroyo Grande Recreation Services Department has the space and time available, we just need the players. Pre-registration is required, register in person at the Elm Street Community Center at 1221 Ash Street or online at [www.arroyogrande.org/Activities](http://www.arroyogrande.org/Activities).

Ages: Adult

Day/Time: Thursdays, 10:30 -11:30 am

Session 1: June 7 – 28, 2018

Session 2: July 5 – 26, 2018

Session 3: August 2 – 30, 2018

Fee: \$20 per session

Location: Woman’s Club Community Center  
211 Vernon Street in Arroyo Grande



WOMAN'S CLUB OF ARROYO GRANDE  
P.O. BOX 313  
ARROYO GRANDE, CA. 93421

Return service requested



April 2018

## GROUP NEWS

**ART:** Mondays, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Bring your art supplies & a sack lunch. All levels Welcome. Contact: Laura Vopatek, 570-1807

**HAND & FOOT CANASTA #1:** 11 a.m., third Wednesday of the month. Bring sack lunch & drink. Contact: Patti Roberts, 474-0444.

**HAND & FOOT CANASTA #2:** 11 a.m., fourth Wednesday of the month. Bring sack lunch & drink. Contact: Gretchen Weckstein, 473-1366.

**HAND & FOOT CANASTA #3:** 10:30 a.m., fourth Monday of the month. Bring sack lunch & drink. Contact: Suzy Anderson, 473-1819.

**CRAFTS:** 9:30 a.m. third & fourth Wednesdays. Contact: Karen Lujan, 489-2895.

Please send your news article or Bulletin input to Mary Carson, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the newsletter.  
maryccarson@msn.com or 473-5801

Our good thoughts go out to our members who need a little Sunshine.



Carlene Alexander

Barbara Bowler,  
in the loss of her husband, Don

Suzy Anderson,  
in the loss of her husband, Earl  
(please, no calls or flowers)



### Trucks & Drivers Needed

The Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry is seeking drivers with trucks for regular weekly food pickups from our donors to our pantry. This service usually requires about 1 or 2 hours per pickup. Drivers can limit to 1 pick up per week or can take on more than one if they choose. So, if you have a pickup or van, help would be appreciated. This would require a weekly commitment. Couples are expected, so if you have a husband or friends who would like to help, great! If you are interested, call (805) 270-4218, or call our member, Kathy Goering (805) 481-2430. Thank you ahead for your generosity.