



## Upcoming Branch Events

Join us for our upcoming events - a mixture of Mission, Philanthropy, & Fun!

COV = AAUW Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista Branch

ECC = Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr., Encinitas

LSFCC = Lomas Santa Fe Country Club, 1505 Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach

Date/time	Venue		Program
Sat, Dec. 7, 2024 4:30-6:30 pm	Member's home, RSF		<b>Holiday Social &amp; Appetizer Potluck</b>
Sat, Jan. 25, 2025 11 am-1:30 pm (10:30 Check-in)	LSFCC	InterBranch Council (IBC) Luncheon	InterBranch Council (IBC) <b>Annual Luncheon</b> Speaker: Taraneh Sarebanha from One Safe Place. Venue hosted by DML.
<b>Note: New day, date &amp; Time</b>  Sat, Feb. 15, 2025 10 am -12 pm	ECC		All-Branch Book Discussion: <b>Material World</b> by Ed Conway
Sat, Mar. 15, 2025 10 am-Noon	ECC	<b>Annual Fundraiser</b>	<b>Annual Fundraiser</b> Women's History Month DML-COV Event: <b>Music, the Brain, &amp; Spycraft</b> Dr. Merryl Goldberg, CSUSM Professor

## It's time to Party! - Holiday Social

**Date:** Saturday, December 7th, 2024

**Time:** 4.30 – 6.30pm

**Place:** Member's Home TBA

**For reservations or more info:**

Email [events@aauwdml.org](mailto:events@aauwdml.org) with **subject line**  
"Holiday Party RSVP."

Please include number of attendees in your party.  
Address for the party will be sent out in the Eblast.

**Celebrate** Our accomplishments

**Bring** Your partners

**Enjoy** Catching up with old and new  
Friends

**Savor** Refreshments. Bring a beverage  
of your choice and an appetizer plate  
to share.

**San Diego County InterBranch Council (SDC-IBC)**

**Annual All-Branch Luncheon**

**Saturday, January 25, 2025, 10:30 am**



**Lomas Santa Fe Country Club**  
1505 Lomas Santa Fe Drive  
Solana Beach 92075

Cabrillo-Diego  
Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista  
Del Mar-Leucadia  
Fallbrook  
La Mesa-El Cajon  
Poway-Peñasquitos  
San Diego

The Del Mar-Leucadia and Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista Branches cordially invite you to

**Our Special Guest Speakers: One Safe Place Staff**



*One Safe Place - the North County Family Justice Center - provides comprehensive help in a safe and judgment-free environment that empowers people to move forward with their lives. They provide free support services all under one roof to anyone who has experienced child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, hate crime, elder abuse, human trafficking, violent loss, family violence, or other abuse or victimization.*

join us for lunch and a good time together renewing old friendships, meeting new friends, bidding on enticing silent auction items to take home, and hearing what the other members have been up to. See you at the Club!

- 10:30 am Check-in & Silent Auction
- 11:00 am Welcome Address
- 11:30 am Lunch
- 12:15 pm Speaker

Questions? Call or text Cathy at (858) 449-5096, or e-mail [cburciaga@san.rr.com](mailto:cburciaga@san.rr.com)

**RSVPs are a Must - by January 14<sup>th</sup> please!!**

**Yes, (name) \_\_\_\_\_ (branch) \_\_\_\_\_ will be there.**

**And, I am bringing \_\_\_\_\_ guests: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Select Your Entrée(s):**  Seared Salmon  Wine Country Salad with Chicken  
 Vegetarian Roasted Vegetable Wrap

**Cost: \$45. Enclosed is my check payable to "SDC-IBC".**

**Tear off this reply & mail to: AAUW IBC Luncheon, PO Box 262012, San Diego, CA 92196**



## **Material World by Ed Conway**

A book worthy of serious discussion!

**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE TO SATURDAY!**

**Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 10 am- 12:00 pm  
Encinitas Community Center**



### **SAND, SALT, IRON, COPPER, OIL, LITHIUM**

Just for a moment, consider these ordinary, cheap substances in the headline. Except for lithium (a newcomer), we are aware of their fairly benign presence in our lives. [How then can we possibly be enticed to read a book about raw materials?](#)

[How indeed!](#) Ed Conway makes the case in his book *Material World* that these six substances, of no value in themselves, are the primary building blocks of the world. Without them, Conway makes the thoroughly researched case that our modern world would not exist, and the battle to control them will determine our future. Not surprisingly, the narrative is also about geopolitics, with countries and companies as the main characters.

[Conway provides us with solid data, but he is also an excellent storyteller.](#) Prepare to be pleasantly surprised with his storytelling genius, turning the history of six minerals, most of which are superficially unexciting, into a riveting and entertaining narrative.

The Del Mar-Leucadia branch of AAUW welcomes all to share your thoughts about this book and this subject. [We look forward to a lively discussion about the material world that undergirds our everyday lives.](#)

## Women's History Month Fundraiser



**When: Saturday, March 15, 2025**

10 a.m. to Noon

**Where: Encinitas Community Center**

**What: Music, the Brain, & Spycraft**

**Presenter: Dr. Merryll Goldberg**

**March 15**

### Music, the Brain, & Spycraft

#### Dr. Merryll Goldberg

Professor, CSUSM School of the Arts

Professor Merryl Goldberg teaches classes on “learning through the arts” where students create songs for math problems, use puppet shows for literature, and rap for events in history and learn how memory and learning are affected by music

She also applies the learning directly by bringing her students into school settings, and by bringing K-12 students onto campus.



[Click to learn more](#)

# The President's Buzz

Linda Quinby



**I'll start with the elephant in the room** (no pun intended). I know many of us are concerned after the recent election, and rightfully so. The future is uncertain. Women's rights are under attack, there's evidence of outright misogyny, and we wonder if America will ever elect a woman president. I don't have any magic potion or soothing words of wisdom, but I do know that our action or inaction can make a difference. And I know I feel better when I am around all of you and doing what we can to "bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice."

**Meanwhile, what an exciting first few months of our 2024-2025 year!** From our high-energy kickoff in September, to a packed house of nearly 100 for the proposition pros & cons by the League of Women Voters in October, to our November program on Leading an Adventurous Life, featuring our adventuresome members.

**We also announced our exciting new gift agreement with Cal State San Marcos.** Seven branch scholarships, renewable for up to 3 years – with seven more scholarships provided by matching funds from the Daniel and Phyllis Epstein Foundation! All in all, over \$100,000 in Del Mar-Leucadia scholarships over the next 5-6 years!

**And we launched our new interest group – Explore SD!** On November 6<sup>th</sup>, nine of us enjoyed a women's history tour of Balboa Park followed by lunch at The Prado. On December 18<sup>th</sup>, 17 of us will enjoy the Holiday Victorian Tea at the Hotel del Coronado, and sign-ups are underway for a midday concert in the newly renovated Jacobs Music Center on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Find ways you can get involved!** Volunteer to serve in an office or on a committee, such as our newly established Philanthropy Action Team. Participate in our year-end fundraising drive to support our expanded college scholarships and Tech Trek. Expand your mind, have fun, and develop friendships through our wonderful interest groups.

**Hope to see you at our Holiday Party on December 7<sup>th</sup>,** and at our upcoming events in the new year. 2025 is Del Mar-Leucadia's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so we'll be looking for ways to celebrate – especially at our June event. Have ideas? Contact Jane Sanders at [jsanders1107@gmail.com](mailto:jsanders1107@gmail.com).

***Forward Together!***

*Linda* (aka Queen Bee)

## Membership Directories are in the Mail!

Jess Gadsby

Please check your listing and notify Jess of any corrections or updates. Jess Gadsby, [jessg1121@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jessg1121@sbcglobal.net).

**And did you know?** The directory is posted on our website, in the **Members Only section** Very handy if you're away from home and need a phone number or email address.











# Membership – A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

## Please join us at our Holiday Social

### 7<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30-6.30 pm

Email [events@aauwdml.org](mailto:events@aauwdml.org) with subject line "Holiday Party RSVP."

<p>Cherolyn Rode</p> 	<p>Karen Curd</p> 	<p>Marie Campagna</p> <p>Marie attended Miami University in Oxford, OH and graduated with a BS in Systems Analysis. She is a friend of Carol Pletcher, who introduced her to AAUW.</p>
<p>Sharon Patterson</p> 	<p>Percy Zelnick</p> 	<p>Candis Stern</p>  <p>Grew up in Nebraska, went to college in San Diego, moved, Michigan for 31 years. I then retired to New Mexico in 2009, and to La Costa Glen in Carlsbad in 2023. I worked a variety of jobs including for an ad agency, a publisher, then as a fundraiser. My last position was as editor of the alumni publication at the U M.I have served on several non-profit boards but currently am on only one: Animal Wellness Action.</p> <p>Animals are my passion, but I enjoy reading, writing, walking, films, and getting to know new people. I have two cats and a small dog.</p>
<p>Michele Svengsouk</p> 	<p>Christine Zavestoski</p> 	<p>Janis Ricards</p> 
		<p>Janice Irvine Ricards has lived in Del Mar for 45 years. She's a retired computer industry Human Resources executive and Career Consultant. She and her husband retired 10 years early to travel and they visited 111 countries together. She was unexpectedly widowed in May 2023 at the end of a month-long trip to Spain and Portugal. She has 2 children, a married son in Del Mar with a wife and 2 teenage sons and a single daughter who lives in Vista.</p>

## Our Branch in the News

Article submitted to newspapers by Andrea Henne, Publicity

Online Article, 10/28/2024 Encinitas Advocate

### Packed house at League of Women Voters presentation hosted by local AAUW branches



Audience at League of Women presentation at AAUW event. (Christine Dicken)

Almost 100 voters packed a ballroom at the Encinitas Community Center on Saturday, Oct. 19, to learn about the 2024 ballot propositions. The League of Women Voters (LWV) North County San Diego presented a non-partisan "Pro and Con" at the event hosted by Del Mar-Leucadia and Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista branches of American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Beth Urech and Christine Dicken, LWV speakers about proposition pros and cons.  
(Betty Reed)



LWV presenters Beth Urech and Christine Dicken discussed the facts of the ballot issues including who supports or is against each proposition and the revenue sources for each campaign, according to a news release.

Seena Trigas, an AAUW California School Board Project member and former San Diego County School Boards Association president, discussed the importance of school board elections and shared examples of how the choice of school board members can have a positive or negative impact on school districts.

This election outreach was organized by Norelynn Pion-Goureau, Diversity Equity Inclusion director of AAUW Del Mar-Leucadia Branch. For more information, visit [www.delmarleucadia-ca.aauw.net](http://www.delmarleucadia-ca.aauw.net) or contact Rebecca Hill, [membership@aauwdml.org](mailto:membership@aauwdml.org).



Online Article  
Submitted to newspapers by  
Andrea Henne, Publicity



AAUW Branch President Linda Quinby and member Lynette Ohlson discussing the Nov. 9 event while looking at a photo of a member with a boogie board at age 95. **BOBBI KARNES**

## ‘Leading an Adventuresome Life’ to be presented by AAUW, public invited

The public is invited to learn about leading an adventuresome life through the inspirational adventures of several members of the Del Mar-Leucadia Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) on Saturday, Nov. 9, 10 a.m. to noon at Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr., Encinitas. The program will show how anyone can lead an adventuresome life, whether close to home or far away, and how that benefits health and happiness. In the first half hour there will be time to socialize, network, and enjoy refreshments.

AAUW is a national organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Membership is open to all college graduates with an associate or higher degree. AAUW values and

seeks a diverse membership.

The Del Mar-Leucadia Branch serves coastal San Diego communities and reflects the varied interests of its members with programs open to the public and special interest groups such as Great Decisions, casual dining, three book groups, a bridge group, and Explore SD, a new group that enjoys local attractions and events. New members are always welcome.

This AAUW branch provides scholarships for local college students and for local middle school girls who are chosen to attend AAUW’s Tech Trek, a STEM camp for girls. The branch also supports national AAUW.

For more information, visit [www.delmarleucadia-ca.aauw.net](http://www.delmarleucadia-ca.aauw.net) or contact Rebecca Hill, membership@aauwdm.org.

# Public Policy

Janice Muller

**“A MUST-SEE!!!!”**

## Project 2025 and How it Would Impact AAUW Public Policy Priorities

A 60-minute Webinar hosted by the California Online Branch and prepared and presented by AAUW CA covered a brief overview of where Project 2025 came from, who the Heritage Foundation is, and what the project is broadly attempting to do. The presenters address specific parts of the project that would impact AAUW Public Policy Priorities, such as education, Title IX, reproductive health, and gender equity. From beginning to end, including Q&A for about the last 15 minutes, Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko gave an excellent and informative presentation and a recording of the webinar can be viewed [here](#).

## Lilly Ledbetter: A Beacon of Equality and Justice

By Erica Dias, Member AAUW California Public Policy Committee

One of AAUW California’s Public Policy Priorities is economic security for all women, including equity in the workplace and enforcement of anti-discrimination statutes. Last week, an icon in the equal pay movement, Lilly Ledbetter, passed away at 86.



Ledbetter’s story is not just one of individual resilience; it embodies the ongoing struggle for women’s equality in the workplace. Lilly worked for nearly two decades at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and uncovered that she was being paid thousands less per year than her male counterparts. This revelation sparked a fire within her, igniting a campaign that would forever alter the landscape of equal pay in America.

## Lilly Ledbetter: A Beacon of Equality and Justice cont.

In 2007, Ledbetter took her fight to the Supreme Court, yet the Court's ruling was disheartening; it stated that she had filed her complaint outside the statute of limitations. In response to the 5-4 majority opinion, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg provided one her infamous and noteworthy dissenting opinions, calling out the eight male justices for their apathy. "The court does not comprehend or is indifferent to the insidious way in which women can be victims of pay discrimination," she said, imploring Congress to act. Undaunted, Lilly remained a voice for many. [Her activism ultimately led to the introduction of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which President Obama signed into law as his first piece of legislation.](#) This landmark act marked a significant victory in the fight for gender equality, sending a clear message that pay discrimination would not be tolerated.

Beyond the legislative impact of the Act, Lilly became an icon of empowerment and perseverance, traveling the world and encouraging others to stand up for their rights. Her memoir, *Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond* emphasized the importance of awareness and action in combating workplace discrimination. At the peak of the #MeToo movement, her opinion piece in the New York Times linked workplace sexual harassment to pay inequity. Lilly, a feature film based on her life, premiered at the Hamptons International Film Festival on October 10, 2024, just two days before her passing.

[Lilly's journey reminds us that individual stories can catalyze monumental change and that every voice matters in the quest for equality. The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund \(LAF\) challenges sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. The Fund has provided millions in support of hundreds of cases. View Past Cases and Current Cases to learn more.](#)

Ledbetter's legacy shows us that [change is possible](#) through persistence, courage, and community. As we reflect on her contributions, we are called to continue the work of advocating for equality, ensuring that future generations inherit a world where every individual is compensated fairly for their contributions, regardless of gender. [Together, we can continue to champion the cause of equality and ensure that Lilly's legacy endures.](#)





# Remembering Cheryl Bastian Alden

January 29, 1929 - October 10, 2024



Cheryl Bastian Alden was a beloved member of DML AAUW Branch for many years. Cheryl, her husband Johnny and their five children moved from White Plains NY to California in 1976 where they settled in Solana Beach. She had a BA degree in Christian Education from Ohio Wesleyan University. She was a full-time mother while her children were young. Later, she embarked on a career in word processing and office administration. Cheryl was always a very strong supporter of women in the community.

Cheryl is survived by her five children: Claudia Alden Case of San Carlos, CA; Jennifer Alden Casamassima of Jamul, CA; Lauren Lynn Alden of San Marcos, CA; Michael Dean Alden of Santa Cruz, CA; and Douglas John Alden of Solana Beach, CA. She is also survived by her nine grandchildren (Madeleine, Philip, Alyse, Carly, Marissa, Evan, Clinton, Dylan and Everett) and her four great-grandchildren (Hugo, Alessandro, Scarlett, and Brylo). They are a close and supportive family.

When her husband became ill, Cheryl took a hiatus from AAUW to take care of Johnny for seven years. She rejoined our branch in August 2004.

A loved and respected long-term member of our Monday Morning Literature group, Cheryl loved to read and be read to and always read the allocated book in book group and showed a keen insight into this often-difficult literature. She was absorbed with arts and crafts, as an observer, supporter and participant. Her home had a delightful collection of her works and the work of others. Turquoise blue was her favorite color along with lilac/purples and darker blues.

Cheryl had an outstanding positive attitude, always looking for the very best in any situation and brightening up us all. She was known to exclaim "Super" when positive news landed on a friend.

Cheryl is loved and missed by family and friends.



# Update of October 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Norelynn Pion-Goureau

Over 100 participants crowded the room at the Encinitas Senior and Community Center on Saturday October 19 for the Diversity Equity Inclusion presentation by the League of Women Voters North County San Diego, "Pros and Cons 2024". Food was provided by AAUW Del Mar-Leucadia's sister branch, Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista.

League presenters explained to the rapt audience the nuances of each proposition being submitted to voters and what a YES or NO vote would mean. "Follow the money" was the sage advice given by the experienced presenters, Beth Urech and Christine Dicken, to untangle confusingly similar propositions and determine who was sponsoring the propositions.

Participants remarked how much clearer they were leaving the event on how they would vote and why, which was the purpose of this non-partisan informative event. **Mission achieved!**

## November is Indigenous People's Month

The Diversity Equity Inclusion group is happy to share two victories for Native Americans during this month celebrating their heritage:

### Chumash Nation to Manage National Marine Sanctuary

- **The Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary**, designated by the Biden administration last week, is the **first tribally nominated sanctuary in the United States**. It covers 116 miles (187 kilometers) of California coastline, more than 4,500 square miles of ocean. The new national marine sanctuary will be the third largest in the U.S. and is also **the first to be led by Indigenous people**. It was nominated by members of the Northern Chumash Tribe, who drove the effort for more than a decade to protect the rugged coastline that is their historical homeland.

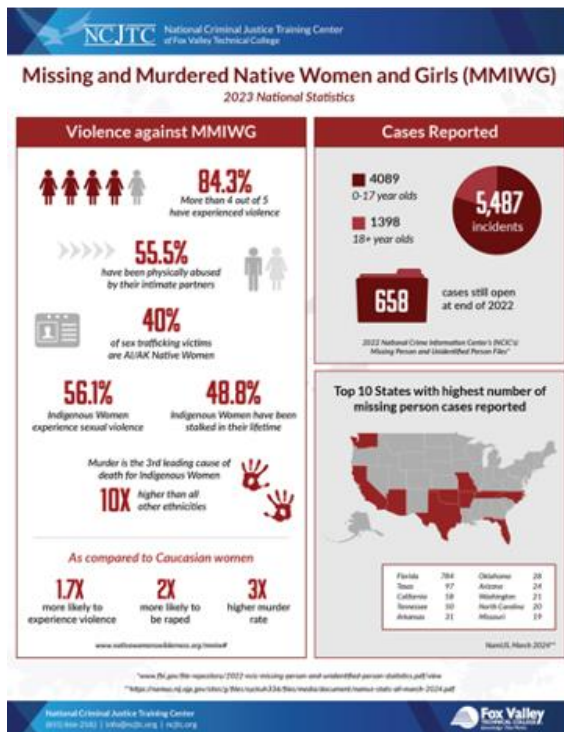
Going forward, the new Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary will be managed in partnership with tribes and Indigenous groups in the area, who will advise the federal government. It marks a growing movement under the Biden administration to give tribes a say over the lands and waters that were taken from them.

- Yurok Indian Nation recovers its fishing rights and river

The last of four dams on the Klamath River was removed this fall and on October 16, a fall-run Chinook salmon was found in a tributary to the river, the first anadromous fish to return to the basin since 1912. As Governor Newsom said, "...we are giving salmon and other species a chance to thrive again, while also restoring an essential lifeline for tribal communities who have long depended on the health of the river." The Yurok revegetation crews have been re-planting habitat-specific plants since 2019 to restore the area.

## News of Concern:

1. **Water rights** for tribal lands are still contested and very worrying for reservations as severe drought continues. Water rights are based on historical claims, but NA historical claims are not always respected because of the reservation system. In the current lengthy and contested discussions over water allotments of the Colorado river upper and lower states, many tribes feel they are not receiving just allotments of water.
2. **The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) Movement**



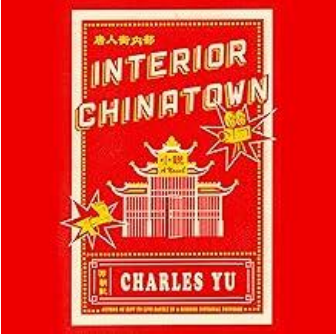
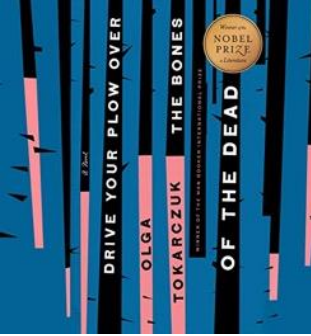
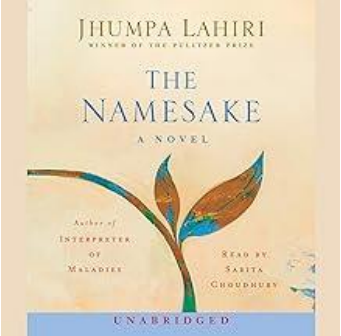
You may have seen on television, at the New York fashion shows, awards shows, or on the Internet, pictures of Native American women with a red, bloody hand painted on their faces and wondered about its symbolism. It represents the missing and unheard voices of indigenous women, the silence and inaction of law enforcement at the clear oppression of Native women, and a call to action, "No More Stolen Sisters." **Murder is the 3rd leading cause of death for Native women, 10 times higher than for other women.** No database is kept by the government to track the exact number of missing and murdered NA women, but as an example, Oklahoma alone has 86 so far this year.



# Special Interest Groups

## Novel Lovers Book Group September 2024- May 2025

- **No December meeting**

September 23 – Bobbi 	October 28– Norelynn 	November 23 – Lorraine NB: NO Dec. Meeting 	January 27 - Pat 
February 24 – Jackie 	March 24 – Char 	April 28 – Connie 	May 26 – Rebecca 

Novel Lovers meets at 4:00pm on Zoom on the 4th Monday of each month. New people welcome.  
Contact: Nancy L. Kohrs, [Nancykohrs1@gmail.com](mailto:Nancykohrs1@gmail.com), 858 220 1951

## Bridge Group

- **Playing 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of December only**

We are playing the 1st and 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m., at La Valle Coastal Club in Rancho Santa Fe. Our Bridge group is always looking for new substitute players. Interested?  
Contact: Michele McNeil, [michelemcnei45@gmail.com](mailto:michelemcnei45@gmail.com) or 606-776-7757

## Fun, Food and Friends

Fall groups for Fun, Food and Friends have been completed and sent out to members. If there are still members who would like to participate, they can contact Nancy Kohrs. We have a great group!

Contact: [nancykohrs1@gmail.com](mailto:nancykohrs1@gmail.com), 858-220-1951

# Special Interest Groups ...cont.

## Explore San Diego!



Our first outing of this new group was a women's history walking tour at Balboa Park, 11-6-2024.

Two more outings are coming soon, with one still available for signups!

- 1. **Dec. 18 - *SOLD OUT!*** Holiday Victorian Tea at Hotel Del Coronado (contact Carol Waltz)
- 2. **Jan. 31** – San Diego Symphony midday concert in newly renovated Jacobs Music Centre (contact Carol Waltz)

**Photo, L to R:** Kathy Adams, Christine Oster, Linda Quinby, Jess Gadsby, Guide Jean, Willene Emrick, Lynette Ohlson, Gail (short, in front; Christine's friend from Colorado), Janice Ricards (New member), Diane Eriksen.

Contact: Christine Oster, [cjoster@gmail.com](mailto:cjoster@gmail.com), 916-847-8979

## Out to Lunch Bunch

- **No December Meeting**

Join us for fun and casual dining together! Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m., mostly in outdoor settings. All welcome.

Contact: Carol Waltz, [cw6124@gmail.com](mailto:cw6124@gmail.com), 619-208-8240

## Morning Literature

- **No December Meeting**

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Meetings are in person. Books discussed alternate between a selection from a Great Books series, novels and short stories.

Contact Arlene Lighthall at [alight23@gmail.com](mailto:alight23@gmail.com)

We are currently at our maximum number of members. To go onto the wait list please contact Arlene.

Dec	No Meeting
Jan 13	Lord Jim (long book) – Joseph Conrad
Feb 10	The Dragon - Ryunosuke Akutagawa – Short Story
Mar 10	Drive your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead – Olga Tokarczuk
Apr 14	Predestined Marriage and the Poor – Li Fu Yen and R.L. Stevenson – Short Story
May 12	The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store – James McBride
Jun 9	The Death of Bed Number 12 – Ghassan Kanafani - Short Story
July 14	Poetry – Members' choice
Aug 1	The Color Purple – Alice Walker



## Special Interest Groups ...cont.

### Cloak and Dagger Mystery Book Group

\* Meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss Kate Quinn's, *The Briar Club*

On December 3 the Cloak & Dagger Mystery Book Group is reviewing "The Briar Club" by Kate Quinn. Our mystery detectives are shown at last month's book discussion.



Attending (L to R) were Karen Dorney, Rebecca Hill, Joanna Schwend, Ronni Seay, Marlene Gerber-Gale and Sharon Patterson. We welcome new members. For more information contact Karen Dorney at [2karendorney@roadrunner.com](mailto:2karendorney@roadrunner.com) 858 481 8411. New members are most welcome

### Great Decisions

- **No December Meeting**
- **Additional, optional meeting January 9th, 2025**

We plan to do in person meetings, with a zoom option. We read a short article on each topic, and then meet for a 1.5-hour discussion the first Thursday of most months. No previous knowledge of the subjects is necessary. Our goal is to learn in a relaxed, friendly setting with a minimal time commitment.



# Special Interest Groups ...cont.

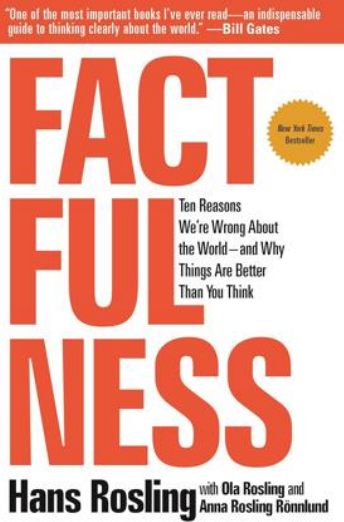

## Great Decisions

We are very open to new members - anyone is invited to attend. If you plan to join for 2025, contact Kathy Adams and she will order your reference booklet.

Contact Kathy Adams, [bri2kath@gmail.com](mailto:bri2kath@gmail.com), 281 704 1495.

## Great decisions optional meeting January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Book Discussion** Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World—and Why Things are Better Than You Think.

	<p><b>Date:</b> Thursday, January 9 <b>Time:</b> 6.30 – 8.30 pm <b>Location:</b> Kathy Adam's home</p> <p>To pique your interest, we've enclosed the questions from the book about the world (answers at the bottom, but don't peek!).</p> <p><a href="https://natkalia.github.io">Factfulness Quiz</a> <a href="https://natkalia.github.io">natkalia.github.io</a></p> 
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Please join us to discuss the book called Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World—and Why Things are Better Than You Think. ("Factfulness= the stress-reducing habit of carrying only the opinions for which you have strong supporting facts"). The book is available at the library in both print and various electronic formats and sells for \$10.99 (Hans Rowling) on Amazon.

The book discusses why we don't know what we don't know, and each chapter ends with bullet points to decrease our susceptibility to misinformation (like how people lie with statistics). It is a good complement to the Great Decisions discussion group. It's also a positive approach to the world, much needed after the stress of the election and the holidays.

This January meeting may also be a good time to pick up your 2025 Great decisions workbooks for the upcoming coming year and reconnect after the holidays.

# Special Interest Groups ...cont.

## Great Decisions

Please try the quiz when you have the time and let us know whether or not you will be attending. Although we encourage you to read the book, it's not a requirement to attend the January get together. We would love to see you all there.

Many thanks to Percy for suggesting such a great book and this discussion group!

Please take the quiz, read the book. Then think about a small section that interests you that you might like to briefly discuss on Jan 9<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Kathy Adams, [bri2kath@gmail.com](mailto:bri2kath@gmail.com), 281 704 1495

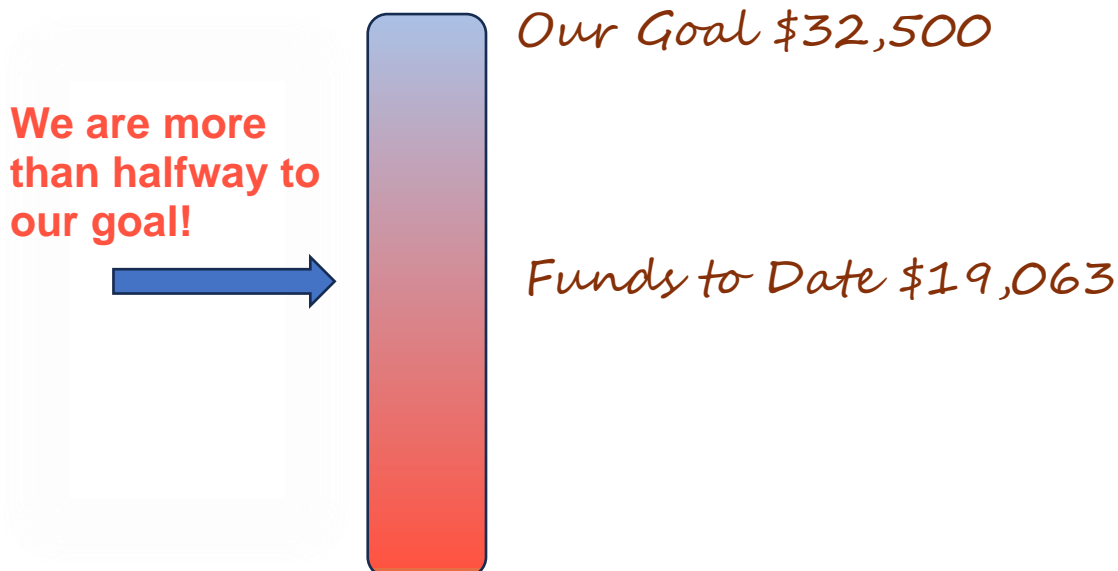
# Branch Philanthropy Year-end fundraising drive

Carol Pletcher

2024 is sprinting to 2025 and with that comes the news of the exciting opportunity to support students at CSU San Marcos. The branch board has made an ambitious commitment to support seven students, which will be matched by a generous CSUSM donor. In addition to the unique scholarship opportunity at San Marcos, we are still committed to our other philanthropy programs - National AAUW Fund, MiraCosta College, and Tech Trek.

Our goal for the 2024-2025 year is to raise \$32,500 for our philanthropy programs. Our year-end fundraising drive is an important part of this goal. You received the annual solicitation letter in your mailbox.

**Be the amazing you: Help fund the efforts to carry out our mission**



**Together, we can do this!**

