

The Oak Twig

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Just when I think we, as women, have come so far in the last 50 years, I listen to the news or read the paper and realize we may have come a long way, but we still have a very long way to go before we are on an equal footing with men. That is why organizations like AAUW are so very important in giving us a united voice. I thought it was obvious that you pay someone to do a job and no matter if that employee is a male or female, they should receive the same wages for their work. Apparently, it isn't obvious to employers. AAUW research found, "just one year after college graduation, women were paid 82% of what men earned." This research also showed that "women have only 70% of the overall retirement income that men do and have 32% of the wealth that men have accumulated. The wealth gap is even worse for women of color." Inequity in pay isn't fair to us, our daughters or granddaughters.

What can we do about this? We each have one vote and are only one voice. If we work together and seek change through legislation, we can get the changes we demand enacted into law. National AAUW has power because of our national membership numbers. They send out emails asking us to write to our legislators and they make it easy to do that online. Don't ignore these requests. Change is possible. We can visit our local Congressional and Senate offices and let our representatives know we are in full support of the Paycheck Fairness Act, The Pay Equality Act, and the Fair Pay Act. They are elected to be our voice in the government. We also need to vote in every election for representatives who are likeminded. If you are interested in becoming a warrior for women, please join our Public Policy Committee which is led by Betty Stapleford and we will work together on this and other issues as a team. Together, we are stronger. Come get involved. We CAN make the United States a better country for the women who come after us. It won't be easy but it can be done if we don't give up. We can have fun in AAAUW but we also need to work for a better future.





CA BALLOT PROPOSITION



Confused About the CA Ballot Propositions?



PREP FOR THE PROPS!



NOW COMING TO YOUR
LOCAL ZOOM SCREEN...A
QUICK AND EASILY
UNDERSTOOD "PREP
FOR THE PROPS"
PRESENTED BY AAUW
THOUSAND OAKS WITH
OUR LOCAL EXPERT
TIM ALLISON,
POLI SCI DEPT., CSUCI

*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 3-4:30 PM RSVP to Peggy Buckles at 818-879-1834 or Yourmom12345@aol.com







PUBLIC POLICY











On the recommendation of our Public Policy Committee, the T.O. AAUW the board encouraged the committee to set up a process, based on our bylaws, to endorse CVUSD School Board candidates for the first time in many years. The procedures for endorsement in this nonpartisan election began with invitations to all candidates by a designated task force. The major requirements for each candidate were that they support the AAUW Public Policy Statement of Priorities with their signatures and agree to be interviewed. Once they returned those confirmations to the task force, that group began setting up a rigorous interview process for those who responded positively to our requirements. Then, after all the interviews were completed, the task force submitted the names of proposed candidates for endorsement to our branch Board, where they were accepted by acclamation. The final step for endorsement was a unanimous vote by members attending the Annual Fall Breakfast Meeting on September 10.

So, it is now our great pleasure to announce for Endorsement by The T.O. Branch of the American Association of University Women: Cindy Goldberg, Bill Gorback, and Lisa Powell.

We hope you will take the time to find out more about these incredible candidates, and we know you will be as impressed by them as we were. And if you are interested in supporting any of these candidates in your district, please let them know.

Thanks to the candidates and the task force of Diane Birchman, Sharon Dyer, Sally Hibbitts, Jeanette Hosek, Cindy Speakman, and Betty Stapleford.

If you are interested in getting involved with our Public Policy Committee, in its other programs and activities, please contact Betty Stapleford at bstaple4d@gmail.com.







TECH TREK



Thank you one and all! It's takes a group of great AAUW friends to team up to pull off a successful teen pool party in the heat of a 90 degree day! Everyone came through with their commitment to our group effort, with Vera King supplying the biggest part, that being her lovely backyard!

The ice cream was a little bit of a Slurpee consistency, but still tasty especially on a very hot day! The Trekkers loved the huge variety of toppings and whipped cream plus they were all using the brownies and cookies to make ice cream sandwiches or sundaes!

Thank you also to Kathy Jonokuchi and her Tech Trek alumni daughter, Jenna, for sharing their interesting STEM career choices. Jenna is now a graduate student at the University of London, specializing in osteo-archaeology! Her recent summer work in the SM Mountains looking for Montecito Mud Slide victims was quite interesting, especially to our campers.

Of course a special thank you to Vera for letting us do our "August invasion" and everyone remarked about how peacefully serene it is in her backyard. you in addition thanks also to Peggy Buckles, Melanie Weerasinghe, Diane Birchman, Betty Stapleford, Dorothy Hatfield, Nancy Taylor Walker, Margaret Tennant, Joan Edwards, Laura Ziff, and Barb Owens for all of the extra help, food, and support.



Mariana, Sarah, Greceldy, and Ana.







TECH TREK





Joan Edwards, Laura Cifuentes (Mom), Kathy Jonokuchi, Peggy, Melanie Weerasinghe, and Jo Louie (Mom).

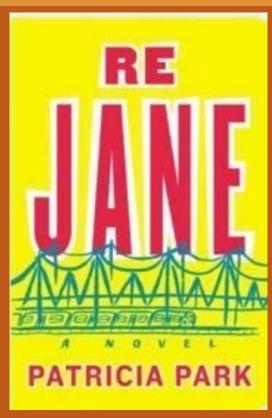


Jenna, who had to leave a little early, talked about her archaeology doctoral work in the SM Mts Park.





DIVERSITY AND UNITY BOOK GROUP



Hello and welcome to the newly re-named "Diversity and Unity" Book Group! We've slightly modified our previous name to better reflect the type of book titles that we are reading.

For our next meeting on October 20th at 2:30 PM, we will be discussing Re Jane, by Patricia Park which helps shine a light on the Korean American culture from the perspective of a young immigrant female immigrant. It's also a retelling of the story of Jane Eyre, so it should be a fun read as well!

Here's a brief excerpt from the NYTimes review about this book and by the way the author, Patricia Park, is a former AAUW fellow! "Re Jane" also demonstrates the value of diverse voices in literature.

Just because it's about a young woman in New York struggling with love and finding herself doesn't mean a story has to come across as the same old "chick lit." "Re Jane" grapples with real issues of identity, race, and culture from global and historical perspectives — even as it concerns itself with whether Jane and Ed will make a go of it. In fact, it's often more engaging, for those of us less versed in Korean culture, to learn about concepts such as nunchi (traditional manners and sense of hierarchy) and tap-tap-hae (a frustrating sense of claustrophobia, either physical or emotional) than it is to fret about Jane and Ed's fraught union."

It's hoped that our future meetings will be a little earlier in the day. If you have questions, please contact Sally Hibbitts.





SPEECH TREK





2022-2023 SPEECH TREK CONTEST TOPIC

How can communities, organizations and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights?

This topic is drawn from a key AAUW CA public policy priority which states: "To guarantee equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse and inclusive society, AAUW CA advocates protection and expansion of voting rights."

The contest is open to all high school youth. Please contact Eloda at (310) 809-0926 for details (call or text) Adults: your help is needed as coaches or judges





DAY TIME BOOK GROUP



The Daytime book group meets on the fourth Monday of the month (except in weeks with holidays).

Meetings are at 10:00 and will be on Zoom for now.

Here is the complete list of books. Almost all the books will be reviewed by a member who will lead the discussion. For the few books without a reviewer, an open discussion will take place.

Monday Oct. 24 Enemy Women by Paulette Giles. Reviewer Claudia Spelman

Monday Nov. 28 The Lying Life of Adults by Elena Ferrante reviewer Jeanette Hosek

Monday Dec. 19 Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult. reviewer Kay Gilmore 2023

Monday Jan.23 The Alice Network by Kate Quinn. Reviewer Suzi Wedel

Monday Feb. 27 The Maidens by Alex Michaelides reviewer Betty Stapleford

Monday Mar. 27 Maus I by Art Spiegelman reviewer Laura Ziff

Monday Apr. 24 The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter by Hazel Gaynor reviewer Pat O'Donnell

Monday May 22 A. iew Across the Rooftops by Suzanne Kelman reviewer Stacy Thomas

Monday June 26 The Maid by Nina Prose reviewer Joan Udani

Monday July 24 Caste by Isabel Wilkerson

Monday Aug. 28 Miss Benson's Beetle: An uplifting story of female friendship against the odds by Rachel Joyce





MUSEUM & GARDENS



Museum and Gardens outing to Ventura County Museum of Art - AAUW Thousand Oaks August 11 th Outing

Jeanne Maxwell, Pat O'Donnell, Sharon Dyer, and Eloda Linehan toured the Museum of Ventura County. Afterward, we walked down Main Street to Winchester's Grill and Saloon where we had food and drink with live music in the background.

We were able to view "The Resiliency of Carol Rosenak". Her hyper-realist style works are primarily from 1979-1994. She juxtaposes everyday items with delicate flowers and vases. After her stroke in 1994 impaired her vision and ability to paint fine details, Ms. Rosenak felt the need to continue her art and these amazing works were on display as well. George Stuart presented historical monologues about the last four centuries in the Americas, Europe, Russia, and China. To accurately capture the people in his monologues, George Stuart created miniature figurines that were so intricately done that even the tiny jewels of a gown and a person's eyelashes are part of the creations made. An entire room displayed dozens of the historical figures he made.

We learned much about the history of Ventura County during the 1920s with the "All that Glitters Is Not Gold" exhibit and the "Tomols to Trains: County Transportation through the The 1900s" exhibits. The Roaring 20s not only featured women marching for the right to vote but also marches for prohibition which didn't stop those clever enough to find ways of selling alcohol undetected. Tomols are plank-built boats that carried cargo and some passengers in the early 1900s. Then trains and cars were added to the transportation industry later in that century. Many informative displays lined the walls capturing our attention regarding both of these exhibits.

Our walk down Main Street was a feast for our eyes and nose. The shop windows displayed fascinating antiques, merchandise, and clothing. A variety of restaurants enabled us to take a whiff of a multitude of food items before we landed at Winchester's.



MUSEUM & GARDENS







AAUW Museum and Gardens October 29, 2022 Outing

Please go to ticketoffice@lacma.org to reserve your ticket for noon on this Saturday, 10/29/22. Plan to meet at the entrance of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; 5905 Wilshire; Los Angeles, CA 90036 at noon.

Please call or text either Eloda at (310) 809-0926 or Sharon at (818) 903-4645 to RSVP and to let us know if you would like to carpool.

Parking: Pritzker Parking Garage on 6 th Street east of Fairfax. \$20.

Dinner: Molly Malone's Irish Pub; 575 S. Fairfax Avenue; Los Angeles, CA 90036

Time: to be determined by the group. The museum is open until 7:00 p.m.; however, we may wish to go over to Molly Malone's earlier than that if we feel that we need to rest.





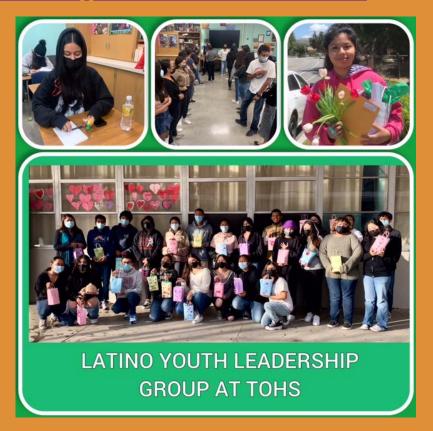
LATINO LEADERSHIP YOUTH GROUP

AAUW Members are requested to volunteer as Snack Helpers to assist with The Latino Leadership Youth Group at Thousand Oaks High School. This AAUW co-sponsored support group has been a Branch Project for about seven years and is led by a TOHS Teacher, Sandra Martínez and assisted by Sally Hibbitts and Betty Stapleford. These members plan appropriate activities for the group of about twenty-five Latinx students who are First Generation students, many who are seeking college entrance.

The meetings are held after school twice a month and snack food and beverages are needed to support these hungry teens, so they can benefit from their meeting. Snacks can be dropped off at the home of Sally Hibbitts or to the school.

Please use the link here to signup for your preferred date and feel free to team up with another member. Please see the additional more specific information on the link. If you have any questions, please contact Sally Hibbitts. Thank you.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084CAAAD2BA5FC1-aauw











At the end of my freshman year of high school I got elected Vice-President of Latino Youth Leadership Group (LYLG), in doing so I got the opportunity to attend this summer leadership program at Channel Islands. I didn't know what to expect and everyone there were strangers to me. They didn't stay strangers for long though.

I made connections that were unexpected like friends from parts of England. They were really open when talking about their culture and they even gave us treats from England like their amazing tea. My experience at the All It Takes Youth Leadership Summer Intensive taught me emotional maturity, emotional vulnerability, how to be a better member of society, and a better leader.

There were many instances where you had to be vulnerable. For example, on the first day when I barely knew anyone we did this eye contact exercise. There were no words said but you had to exchange feelings or "stories" through your eyes. There's a saying "the eyes are the window to your soul" that I didn't understand until I did this exercise at All It Takes. You, also, had to be emotionally mature. The ages in our group ranged from 14-20, so it was fascinating to see how we've all got things in common even though some of us are just starting high school and the others have already graduated.

In a traditional game there's a losing team, so that there can be a winning team. In society, there's this concept where you get to the top and disregard who you step on to get there. I'm competitive, I enjoy a game where I have the chance to win. So, when Lori presented us with this team-game where there's two teams and you had to cross "space" and get to this "planet" and then the other teams "planet" to "win," I was all in for it.







ALL IT TAKES INSTITUTE

However I soon realized that while my team got really far, we had to help the other team "win." That, in my head, didn't make sense. I had the objective of the game all wrong. You had to help the other team get onto your team's mat, so you can get on the other team's mat so we could all be successful. If you put this in a real world manner, sometimes you have to give and help so that everyone in society can be successful instead of stepping on people. This exercise taught me this idea that I hadn't considered before. We should all do this and I strongly believe youth all over the world should attend something like this. It would result in better functioning members of society and a better society overall. We are the future leaders after all. There were many instances where you had to be vulnerable. For example, on the first day when I barely knew anyone we did this eye contact exercise. There were no words said but you had to exchange feelings or "stories" through your eyes. There's a saying "the eyes are the window to your soul" that I didn't understand until I did this exercise at All It Takes. You, also, had to be emotionally mature. The ages in our group ranged from 14-20, so it was fascinating to see how we've all got things in common even though some of us are just starting high school and the others have already graduated.

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In All It Takes, I learned how to be a better leader. To be a good leader you not only have to be able to be a team captain, but a team player. You have to be able to respect boundaries and listen to everyone. We did this exercise where we divided the introverts and extroverts and we talked about our strengths and weaknesses, as well as, what we ask from each other.





FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS



Name: Nadeeka Karunaratne

Award Year: 2022-23

Award: American Fellowship

Institution: University of California, Los Angeles

Location: Los Angeles, California

Discipline: Education

Degree and Specialization: Ph.D., Higher Education

Project Name: Women of Color Students' Responses to Experiences of Dating Violence in

College

Nadeeka Karunaratne's work addresses campus sexual and relationship violence through uplifting the experiences of minoritized survivors and centering students' healing. Prior to pursuing her Ph.D., she served as a violence-prevention educator and a university cultural center program coordinator. She facilitates trauma-healing yoga programs on college campuses and in the larger community.

Sponsors:

1652 - Louise R. Arbogast

1889 - Thousand Oaks (CA) Branch Inc. 30th Anniversary 4046 - Vivian Lamont Coe





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



Contact: David Maron (moderator)

805-469-4900 cell

<u>DavidM@MaronSoftware.com</u>

Candidate Forum Schedule 2022

The League of Women Voters of Ventura County (LWVVC) will host multiple candidate forums using the Zoom Webinar platform. Forums are free and open to the public. Registration is required using an email address. Please register at Candidate Forums General Election 2022 | MyLO (lwv.org). Two forums will be in-person events.

Schedule of forums

Zoom	Monday, Sept. 19	6:30 – 7:45 PM	Ventura City Council Districts 1 and 4
Zoom	Monday, Sept. 19	8:00 – 9:15 PM	Ventura City Council Districts 5 and 6
200111	Wioriday, Sept. 13	0.00 J.15 i Wi	Ventura City Council Districts 5 and 0
Zoom	Tuesday, Sept. 20	7:00 – 7:45 PM	Camarillo City Council District 5
Zoom	Tuesday, Sept. 20	8:00 – 9:30 PM	Camarillo City Council Districts 1 & 2
200111	1 desday, sept. 20	5.55 TW	
Zoom	Thursday, Sept. 22	6:30 – 7:45 PM	Simi Valley City Council Districts 2 & 4
Zoom	Thursday, Sept. 22	8:00 – 9:00 PM	Simi Valley Mayor
	,, ,		, ,
Zoom	Monday, Sept. 26	6:30 – 7:45 PM	Santa Paula City Council (co-sponsored by SP Chamber)
Zoom	Monday, Sept. 26	8:00 – 9:15 PM	Fillmore City Council – short- and long-term seats
	,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		,
Zoom	Tuesday, Sept. 27	6:30 – 7:15 PM	Assembly District 38
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In-Person Wednesday, Sept. 28 7:00 – 8:00 PM Supervisor District 2			
In-Pers	• •	· ·	·
With Ventura County Star at Thousand Oaks City Hall (open to the public)			
The vertical about by the control of the public,			
Zoom	Thursday, Sept. 29	6:30 – 7:15 PM	Ojai Mayor
Zoom	Thursday, Sept. 29	7:30 – 9:00 PM	Ojai School Board Districts 1 & 5
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Zoom	Monday, Oct. 3	7:00 – 7:45 PM	Oxnard City Council District 1
Zoom	Monday, Oct. 3	8:00 – 9:00 PM	Oxnard City Council Districts 2 & 5
In-Person Tuesday, Oct. 4. Time TBD Supervisor District 4, City Council District 1, School Bd Area 1			
With Moorpark Chamber of Commerce at High Street Theatre Moorpark			
The state of the s			
Zoom	Wednesday, Oct. 5	7:00 – 8:15 PM	Conejo Valley Unified School Board Districts 2, 3 & 4
	,,		(co-hosted by Ventura County Star)
			Too hosted by ventura country stary
Zoom	Thursday, Oct.	6 7:00 – 8:30 PM	Port Hueneme City Council
	marsaay, oct.	7.00 0.301101	Total facilities only countries

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LWVVC Candidate Forums 2022

(co-sponsored by Future Leaders of America)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Zoom Webinar Registration:

All forums are free and open to the public. To register for any forum, visit www.LwvVenturaCounty.org

and click on the "Candidate Forums" menu item on the lest. After registering, attendees will receive a confirmation email with a unique address to use the night of the forum. Each attendee must separately register.

The registration website allows attendees to **submit a question to be considered for the candidate forum**. Attendees will not be able to ask questions online during the forum.

The moderator will be David Maron, a member of the League of Women Voters. Each candidate will have an opportunity to give an opening and closing statement.

This is a public service of the non-profit, non-partisan League of Women Voters and the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce.

League of Women Voters of Ventura County: www.LwvVenturaCounty.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/LWVVC/





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

LWVVC Candidate Forum Schedule in Table Format

Date:

Monday, Sept. 19 Monday, Sept. 19

Tuesday, Sept. 20 Tuesday, Sept. 20

Thursday, Sept. 22 Thursday, Sept. 22

Monday, Sept. 26 Monday, Sept. 26 Tuesday, Sept. 27

Start End 6:30 PM 7:45 8:00 PM 9:15

7:00 PM 7:45 8:00 PM 9:30

6:30 PM 7:45 8:00 PM 9:00

6:30 PM 7:45 8:00 PM 9:15 6:30 PM 7:15

Office Candidates Ventura City Council Districts 1 & 4 6 Ventura City Council Districts 5 & 66

Camarillo City Council District 5 4 Camarillo City Council Districts 1 & 2 7

Simi Valley City Council Districts 2 & 4 6 Simi Valley Mayor 5

Santa Paula City Council 5 Co-sponsored by Santa Paula Chamber of Comm.

Fillmore City Council - short and long term seats 6

Assembly District 38 2





AAUW FALL BREAKFAST

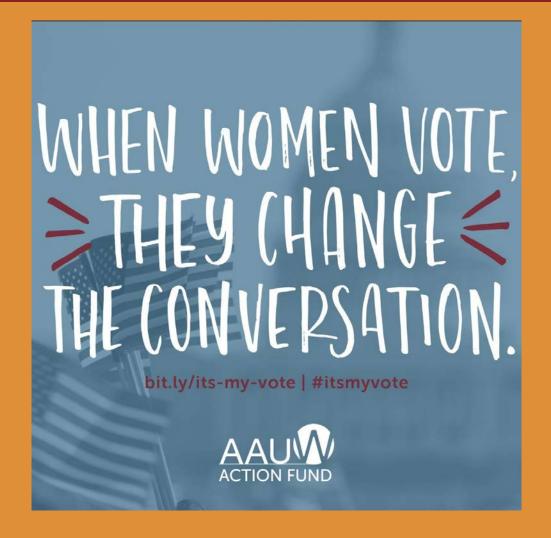




Our 2022 Branch Tech Trek campers enjoying the Fall Breakfast. Clockwise starting at bottom middle Sara Vlaskovits (glasses), Elise Louie, Riley Shin, Sadie Corn, Catherine Oliver, Mira Feng, Vallarla Jiménez, Inika Vellore, and Ria Agarwal.



VOTING!



Hello AAUW California voters!

Here is your weekly social media message for posting on September 7th to help us educate voters and **Get Out the Vote!**

This week's hashtag is #vote.

Reminders:

- Educate yourself on Proposition 1 by clicking <u>HERE</u>.
- Sign the pledge to vote YES on Proposition 1 by clicking HERE.



OAK TWIG AUTUMN 2022 PAGE 20

VOTING!

Did you know that you have to re-register to vote if you have moved?

WHY YOU NEED TO ACT

This is an important election. Every single congressional district in California will be on the ballot.

Voter turnout matters.

Learn More And Take Action



GOTVGet Out The Vote

TAKE ACTION!

Register or Re-Register by Monday, October 24th.







POINSETTIA SALESS









WASHINGTON, D.C. – The following is a statement from Gloria L. Blackwell, AAUW Chief Executive Officer:

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The decision overturns the landmark *Roe v. Wade* ruling that established abortion as a constitutionally protected right nearly 50 years ago and ignores the will of the American people, 80% of whom support legal abortion.

AAUW believes everyone has the right to make decisions about their own reproductive lives without government interference. Abortion access is vital to women's ability to control their lives, bodies and futures. Without reproductive freedom, there can be no equity.

Being able to choose whether and when to become a parent improves women's well-being and fosters economic security—a crucial component of AAUW's mission. This is particularly important in a country that lacks accessible maternal health care, paid caregiving leave and workplace protections for pregnant workers.

The Court's decision hurts all of us, but it will do the most harm to low-income people, women of color, immigrants, people with disabilities and LGBTQ+ people, because these groups already face substantial barriers to accessing reproductive services and health care.

While the Court's decision is a major setback for all Americans, AAUW remains steadfast in our commitment to protecting reproductive rights, a vital component of gender equity.

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