



THE OAK TWIG

Annual Holiday Party Sunday, December 4th 5PM

Private Home of Juris & Liz Priedkains



This is a pot luck event, so please bring the following:

Last names beginning with A through M bring a dessert

Last names beginning with N through Z bring an appetizer.

Cash donations accepted for the wine being served!

We'll also be collecting toiletry and cosmetic items for The Coalition to End Domestic and Family Violence. Please bring toiletry items for donations. Needed items: sanitary products, tooth, hair and nail products.

- Coming in January**
 RSVP by December 1st to Dorothy Robinson
January 4, Wednesday---Board Meeting, Wildwood Condo, 6:30 PM
January 7, Saturday---Coffee and Chat at Stella's Café in Newbury Park, 9 AM
January 11, Wednesday, Museums and Gardens trip to Pasadena California Museum
January 16, Monday----Mentoring Group, home of Lenore Arab, 6 PM

Upcoming Events

- January 19, Thursday----Evening Literature Group, home of Ellen Kossoris,
January 28, Saturday---Annual InterBranch Council Luncheon, 11 AM, Los Robles Greens. (January Branch event)
Coming in February
February 15, Wednesday---Sisters in Crime Branch Event, Co-sponsored with the Library, 6:30 PM.

DECEMBER EVENTS

December 3, Saturday---Coffee and Chat at Stella's Café in Newbury Park, 9 AM



December 3, Saturday---Poinsettia Pick-up at the Home of Jeanette Hosek, 11AM - 4 PM

December 4, Sunday----Annual Holiday Party at the home of Juris and Liz



December 7, Wednesday---Board Meeting, Wildwood Condo, 6:30 PM

December 8, Thursday---Diversity Book Club, 6:30 pm., Home of Shoshana Brower

December 8 or 9---Happy Hikers, contact Judy Gindi

December 15, Thursday---Evening Literature Group, home of Sharon Dyer

December 19, Monday----Daytime Literature Group, Library, 10 AM

Message from the President – Sally Hibbitts

Best wishes to all for a wonderful Holiday Season! I sincerely extend my personal good wishes. May all of you have a peaceful time with friends and family as we prepare for a New Year.

A special thank you to our wonderful group of dedicated members who volunteered at the Adopt-a-Poll on November 8th: Jeanette and Bill Hosek, Susan Fagan, Linda Pochter, Lori Kissinger, Marilyn Carpenter, Dianna Campbell, Yvonne Lux, Bonnie Shubb, Melissa Cam, Deanna Franke, Penny Strowger, Maria Jambor, Vera King, Wendy Hoffman, Joan Edwards, Teri Paris, Betty Stapleford, Peg De Rose, Janet Wall, and Suzi Wedel. It was a long day but through this great team effort, we raised enough money to fund another \$500

Moorpark College scholarship for a deserving young woman. Congratulations are extended to those members who opted to affirm their candidacy for public office. It's terrific that so many of our members value public service to this degree and are willing to become a candidate. We are proud of all of you....win, lose, or draw! Your time and dedication show much inner strength: Julia Brownley, Jacqui Irwin, Henry Stern, Anne LaFianza, Janna Orkney, and Angie Simpson. Looking forward to seeing all of you at our Annual Holiday Party at the beautiful home of Liz and Juris Priedkalns on Sunday December 4. Come by yourself, bring your spouse, bring your partner, bring your adult child, bring a friend, Bring Santa Claus....but, for goodness sakes, be sure to come!



Adopt-A-Poll Volunteers - Left to Right - Sally Hibbitts, Bill Hosek, Jeanette Hosek, Linda Pochter and with the sun in her eyes, Susan Fagan. (not pictured are all of the others who volunteered, but are listed in the article on the left)

Update on Nathalie Gosset Sexual Harassment Lawsuit



Nathalie Gosset

So far at this writing (Nov 20), she has undergone 26 hours of deposition and expects many more days to come. Personal questions about her own family life have been fair game by the opposition lawyers. She has been embarrassed and humiliated, but all through this horrendous situation, Nathalie keeps her lovely smile and strong steady demeanor.

We need to show our strong support for Nathalie and anything you can do to let her know that her fellow AAUW members support her, will be terrific! A quick email, encouraging voice message or a thoughtful card is deeply appreciated.

We're with you, Nathalie!

AAUW'S LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Jeanette Hosek, FUNDS Director

This fund supports workers and students who challenge gender discrimination in employment and education. Through strategic support and educational programs, AAUW helps attorneys, individuals and activists across the country enforce legal protections against gender-based discrimination and harassment.

The Fund's efforts are made possible entirely by the generous contributions of AAUW members and supporters. For the past 15 years our branch members have generously given to the LAF. The proceeds from the 2016 Poinsettia Sale will be sent to AAUW FUNDS in support of the LAF. The following members and friends of AAUW Thousand Oaks made this possible: Marilyn Carpenter, Susan Fagan, Betty Stapleford, C.J. Keavney, Ruthann Cooper, Leesa McBurnie, Pat Gross, Sharon Dyer, Melanie Ashen, Eleanor Rasnow, Heidi Hainbach, Judi Robinson, Joan Edwards, Lori Kissinger, Eloda Linehan, Bette Empol, Pattie Dix, Narda Fargotstein, Linda Bergthold, Dorothy Robinson, Betsy Berry, Christine Fellingner, Rosa Hawks, Dianna Campbell, Jeanette Hosek, Sheila Sullivan, Marie Lakin, Linda Parks, Heather Skelly, and the offices of Assembly woman Jacqui Irwin, and Congress woman Julia Brownley.

If you choose not to purchase a poinsettia, you can go to www.aauw.org/donate and to make your own personal contribution to LAF Fund # 3999. Please indicate that you are a member of the AAUW Thousand Oaks (CA 0139).

Dreamers Without Borders - History with CLUE VC

The Dreamers group began in 2007 when a CLUE VC (Clergy Laity United for Economic and Social Justice Ventura County) contacted three young, undocumented college students who attended CLU and CSUCI. They began meeting at CSUCI to share their personal stories and were supported by Maria la Luz Flores, a counselor at Oxnard College and CSUCI professor Dr. Jose Alamillo, who coined the name Dreamers Without Borders.

They had limited success openly recruiting other students because invitations were kept word-of-mouth due to the fear of identifying as a Dreamer. Nonetheless, monthly meetings consistently drew an average of 20 "Dreamers and Allies" and they were supported by faculty at CSUCI, Oxnard College, and Cal Lutheran. Meetings were hosted by the Abundant Table at their Camarillo farmhouse.

Dreamers Without Borders began a greater connection with CLUE in 2008 and invited more students to join, presenting "Know Your Rights" trainings and advocating for immigration reform in congregations and school campuses. After the CA

Dream Act in 2011 and the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) executive order in 2012, Dreamers had a more visible role through public outreach and involvement with state-wide coalitions and other organizations.

From its inception, the group was supported by CLUE VC. There were efforts to reach out to high school students in Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, and Newbury Park through early meetings, but most of the original members were college students. In the coming year, the Dreamers' efforts will be focused on students at Port Hueneme High School to provide Safe Zones and other supportive programs, including a Dreamers curriculum, with the hope that Conejo Valley schools can also be included.

Sad and Glad News

Memorial services for long-time member, Debbie Gately, will be held on Saturday, December 17 at 2 pm at Emanuel Presbyterian Church at 588 Camino Manzanitas (at Lynn Rd) in Thousand Oaks. All are welcome. Cards and notes may be sent to the family at her home: 2144 Meadow Brook Ct., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. Debbie worked passionately on many projects including, AAUW FUNDS and Brighter Horizons. The Named Gift Honoree pin redesign occurred during her tenure as Funds Director. She was a highly valued member of our Brighter Horizons team and often at Coffee and Chat and the Evening Literature Group. She will be deeply missed.

Jeanette and Bill Hosek returned from a short trip to see their daughter and her family in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Other Fall travelers have been Sharon Dyer and her husband Bob traveling through the Panama Canal on an extended cruise. A similar trip will be taken by Sally and Ken Hibbitts in December.

Pat O'Donnell will still be away until late December. Her lengthy trip has taken Pat and her husband to China, Japan, SE Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

Mini Madan and her husband have also returned from a lengthy trip to see family in India.

AAUW Endorsed Initiatives

In the previous edition of the Oak Twig, there were several ballot initiatives that AAUW had endorsed in addition to SOAR which passed. Those AAUW endorsed ballot measures were: Props 51, 52, 55, 58 were all SUPPORT. Prop 53 was OPPOSE.

Propositions 51, 52, 55 and 58 passed and prop 55 appears to have failed (although results have not been certified). It is gratifying that voters and AAUW were in agreement on these important issues.

The AAUW-TO supported Ventura County SOAR Initiatives passed thanks to the hard work of many of our members and much community support!



POINSETTA SALES



Thank you for purchasing your HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS!

Your purchase of poinsettias directly contributed to our branch's donation to

THE AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND.

LAF allows us to give money for case support to women fighting sex discrimination and/or pay inequality cases.



Ventura County IBC Annual Luncheon

You're invited to the Ventura County IBC Annual Luncheon

Saturday, January 28th, 2017

12 Noon to 2:30 PM

Los Robles Greens Golf Club

299 South Moorpark Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA
\$35.00

Checks should be sent to:

AAUW - 2999 Yucca Dr. Santa Rosa Valley, CA 93012
No later than January 20, 2017

Featured Speaker - Melissa Baffa(

(January Oak Twig will have additional speaker information)

Speaking on Women and Leadership

Melissa is Development Officer of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and Sea Center

She is a graduate of California Lutheran University



AAUW Statements about the National Presidential Election

WASHINGTON DC – Voters made history November 8 by electing political outsider Donald J. Trump to the White House. The **American Association of University Women (AAUW)** intends to approach our work with both the new administration and Congress with our mission in mind. After this hyper-partisan election year, AAUW's nonpartisan leadership and research-based advocacy is needed now more than ever.

"It is now, after an election, that the real work begins," said Lisa Maatz, the vice president of government relations and advocacy. "AAUW will find common ground with the Trump administration and the new Congress on issues that are important to women and working families. Women want progress on issues that affect them, and AAUW intends to be a fair critic and a valued ally. Most importantly, in true AAUW fashion, we will not hesitate to speak truth to power."

Members of AAUW worked hard to get out the women's vote on Election Day by registering and educating voters, holding candidate forums and town halls, and writing local op-eds and letters to the editor urging women to make their voices heard. These efforts were a part of the **AAUW Action Fund's "It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard" campaign**, which aims to turn out millennial women voters, a group that is often underrepresented at the polls.

President-elect Donald Trump has said he wants to unify our nation and be the president for all Americans. We at AAUW applaud the sentiment. Yet it can't be overstated that actions speak louder than words. As President-elect Trump assembles his cabinet and White House team, he must keep in mind that personnel decisions are policy decisions. AAUW and its members and supporters are watching these nominations and appointments with keen interest. At this time, the list of recent and rumored appointees reported by the media and transition team show a vast majority of pale and male advisers. We at AAUW are not encouraged by the lack of diversity in the emerging Trump White House.

Bias and discrimination of any kind are not acceptable – not in our national dialogue or in a government that truly represents all of us. To make a sincere appeal for unification, we encourage the incoming administration to make appointments that reflect the makeup of our nation. These appointments should reflect the variety of experiences and backgrounds that make the United States the envy of the world. It also, by the way, makes for better policy that addresses the problems facing our country.

AAUW believes in speaking truth to power, and we will be a valued ally or fierce critic as the situation warrants. We can only hope that President-elect Trump stays true to his stated desire for unity and appoints advisers who aim to work for all Americans, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Throughout our more than 135-year history, AAUW has always stood for solutions that work for all women and families. We also stand united against bigotry and bias whenever and wherever they appear. Americans are watching, and our expectations are high.



Special Interest Groups - A Member benefit. Guests may attend two meetings with a member and must be dues paying members by the third meeting.

Coffee and Chat

Meets the 1st Saturday of every month: 9:00 AM at Stella's Gourmet Restaurant, 2385 Michael Drive, Newbury Park. This is a very pleasant way to get acquainted and stay connected. Please join us! Contact Sally Hibbitts or Pat O'Donnell.

Photography

Learn to use your digital camera while enjoying photo outings. Group usually meets once a month at a private home or for a photography expedition. Date and time varies depending on the activity. For information, contact: Wendy Hoffman.

Exploring the Religions of the World Through the Eyes of Women

Group meets 3-4 times a year in a private home to have a discussion with a woman who has been invited to talk about her religion. For information, contact Wendy Hoffman or Jeanette Hosek.

Daytime Literature Group

The AAUW daytime literature group meets on the fourth Monday of the month (with some exceptions for holidays) at The Thousand Oaks Library from 10:00am to 11:30am to discuss books chosen by the group. The next meeting of the Daytime literature group will meet on Monday, Dec. 19 at 10:00 AM at the Thousand Oaks library. We will discuss *Dead Wake* by Erik Larsen. Our reviewer will be Berniece Reed. If you have any questions, please contact Joan Udani.

NEW: Happy Hikers

If you are interested in hiking please send your email address and other contact information to judygindi@gmail.com. We usually hike approximately 3 miles at a gentle to moderate pace. I will email you as to when our next hike will be. Please let me know if you would like to lead a hike also. Thank you, Judy Gindi.

Evening Literature Group

We meet on the third Thursday of the month,(with some exceptions for holidays) at member's homes at 7:30pm to discuss books that are suggested by the group members. Our next meeting is Thursday, December 15. We will gather at the home of Sharon Dyer to discuss *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah.

Global Awareness and Action 4 Girls

This is an "e-mail" group of members who want information about global projects that may be *of interest to them*. Please send your name and email address to Jeanette Hosek.

Special Interest Groups – A Member benefit. Guests may attend two meetings with a member and must be dues paying members by the third meeting.

Museum and Gardens

The Museums and Gardens group visits a variety of beautiful museums and gardens on a different day each month, depending upon venue location and member response. The cost is minimal, your own cost for lunch, and your share of gas costs. Everyone is always welcome. You never know where we will end up each month. These trips occur on different days each month. Contact Pat O'Donnell or Sally Hibbits.

We will be traveling to the Pasadena Museum of California Art to see the well-received exhibit called, "In the Land of Sunshine: Imaging the California Coast Culture". Approximately, 90 paintings inspired by the stunning vistas, lifestyles, and industries existing along the 840 miles of California coastline. Spanning from the mid-1800s to the present day, the oils, acrylics, and watercolors represent the diversity of California's artistic style as well as the surfers, sailors, sport fisherman, and residents who have settled in the beaches, harbors, cities, and ranches that dot the coast. Please contact Sally Hibbits for further information. This trip was postponed from November and to January 11th.

NEW: Mentoring Cloud

Assisting young women seek the advice of others skilled in knowledge areas is the focus of this new group. This is a collaborative with the VC Women's Economic Roundtable and will use the new Mentor Cloud to connect members with mentees both near and far. The next meeting will be on Monday, January 16 at 6 pm. Please contact Lenore Arab for more information.

NEW- Diversity Book Club

Join us for lively discussions on topics of diversity. Please read and join us in discussing our next selection: Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World by Linda Hirsham. "The relationship between Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg – Republican and Democrat, Christian and Jew, western rancher's daughter and Brooklyn girl – transcends party, religion, region, and culture. Strengthened by each other's presence, these groundbreaking judges, the first and second to serve on the highest court in the land, have transformed the United States itself, making it a more equal place for all women."

We will meet Thursday, December 8 at 6:30pm at Shoshana Brower's home. Please call Shoshana at 805-496-6968 for directions. Leaders for this group are Maria Jambor or Shoshana Brower.

Movie Group

About once a month, we will attend a movie at a local theatre. Members of the group will be contacted by email with date, time and location. If interested, please contact Shel Magnuson to be added to the contact list.

New -- Dreamers Support

This group will help support undocumented high school students in the Conejo Valley to gaining their DACA status, developing their leadership skills, reaching their dreams of a higher education, and finding safe spaces in our community. Associated with this will be learning more about immigrant rights, resources, and to inspire the Dreamers. Contact Bettv Stapleford for meeting information.

Support Your Oak Twig Advertisers

You may have noticed it is a brand new advertising year for *Oak Twig* readers and we have several new business owners taking part in our very inexpensive rates. Like one of our users reflected, "Where else could I possibly get monthly advertising for only \$12 a month....and to a quality audience?" This income is vital to the Branch as it is serving us to help start up our new year, until the majority of our budget funds arrive from national.

So, this is a reminder to **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!** They all provide valuable services and quality items that have a strong positive reputation in our area. Also, next time you see one of our advertisers in person, please thank them personally for their ongoing and much needed financial support!



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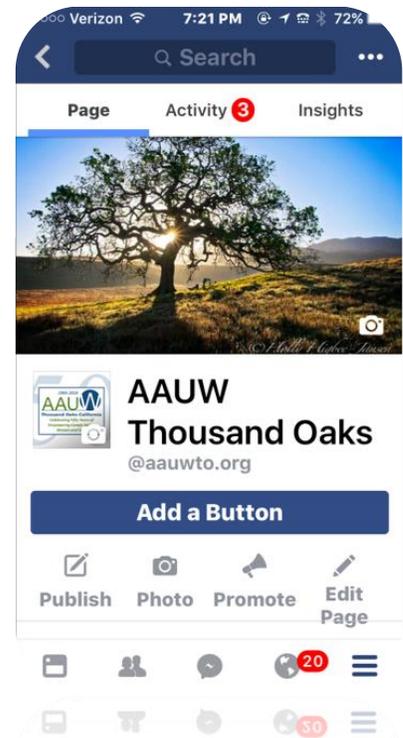
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Many Thanks to the Library for our November Program!

We extend our gracious thanks to the Thousand Oaks Library and Rebecca King who developed and instructed the special hands-on workshop for AAUW to help us get the most out of Facebook while maintaining the level of privacy we desired. She helped us set up a Facebook account as that's where we needed to begin. It was an evening well spent.

*Remember to
"Like"
us on Facebook!*



The Oak Twig newsletter is published ten times a year by AAUW Thousand Oaks, Inc. A copy is available online at our website found at <http://aauwto-ca.aauw.net>

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