



## Don't Miss Your Chance to Be a Part of History!

### AAUW Thousand Oaks 50th Anniversary Celebration

**Saturday, May 21, 2016  
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
North Ranch Country Club**



Attend the celebration on May 21 and bring a friend(s) with you. Tickets are \$50 for a champagne brunch, entertainment, guest speaker, auction items, and lots of fun!

**Please send your reservation by Saturday, May 14.**

Tech Trek is one of our Branch's most popular scholarship programs, yet each year there are always more applicants than the Branch can afford to send. You can help turn that around!

See the reservation form on page 4 or online at [aauwto.org](http://aauwto.org).



#### May 2016 Events

- **Tuesday, May 3 - Ventura County Supervisor's Resolution Honoring AAUW Thousand Oaks.** Ventura. 10:00 AM.
- **Tuesday, May 3 - Election Forum. CA Senate District 27 Candidates.** Thousand Oaks City Hall. 7:00-9:00 PM. (See page 7) Contact Sally Hibbitts to volunteer.
- **\*Saturday, May 7 - Coffee and Chat.** Stella's Gourmet Restaurant, Newbury Park. 9:00 AM.
- **Tuesday, May 10 - Board Meeting.** Wildwood Condo Recreation Center, Thousand Oaks. 6:30 PM.
- **Saturday, May 14 - Deadline for purchase of 50th Anniversary Brunch tickets.**
- **\*Saturday, May 21 - 50th Anniversary Brunch.** North Ranch Country Club, Thousand Oaks. 10:00 AM. (see page 4)
- **\*Wednesday, May 25 - Museums and Gardens Group.** The Annenberg Space for Photography, Century City. 9:30 AM. (see page 9)

#### June 2016 Events

- **\*Saturday, June 4 - Coffee and Chat.** Stella's Gourmet Restaurant, Newbury Park. 9:00 AM.
- **Tuesday, June 7 - Adopt-A-Poll** (see page 6)
- **Tuesday, June 14 - Board Meeting.** Wildwood Condo Recreation Center, Thousand Oaks. 6:30 PM.
- **Friday, June 17 - AAUW Fundraiser.** Pitfire Artisan Pizza, 966 S. Westlake Blvd., Ste. 3, Westlake Village. Contact Linda Pochter.
- **Sunday, June 26 - New Member Wine Tasting Event.** 6:00 - 8:00 PM

**\*Indicates Special Interest Group Activity.**

**\* Indicates Branch Event.**

**Reminder: Your AAUW dues renewal is coming July 1st!**

**Visit us online at [aauwto.org](http://aauwto.org)**

## A Note from the President...

### Amazing Month of May!

Hopefully, all of you who are reading this little missive have already sent in your payment (check or PayPal) for our wonderful 50th Anniversary Brunch (see page 4). I certainly hope so, as this is definitely not to be missed!

Our very hard-working 50th Anniversary event committee under the leadership of co-chairs, Jeanette Hosek and Wendy Hoffman, have truly gone "all out" to create a highly memorable morning for us all to enjoy! Our AAUW Branch has built a tremendous foundation over the past fifty years - one that we are using to propel us into the future with renewed vigor.

On a slightly different topic, have you noticed that there are many new faces at our monthly events and a multitude of new names added to the expanding list of New Members on page 14? It is pretty obvious that our Branch is growing and rapidly! A heightened community awareness about AAUW, an increased use of social media, and a squadron of new and energetic members are all helping to bolster our membership roster. So, if you notice a few new faces, please connect with them and add your own personal welcome!

Our spring months have been exceptionally busy, filled with the Women's Leadership Forum, Women's History, Brighter Horizons, Equal Pay Day activities, recognition by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, the SOAR Campaign, the upcoming Election Forum on May 3....and topped off with the Anniversary Celebration on May 21! Don't be left out! Join your friends and wade right into our friendly "AAUW Waters"....you'll find that the swimming is easy! We have a spot for one and all....little jobs, big jobs, and those in between!

Sally

## Join the Resolution!

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors will formally present a Resolution honoring our Branch for our 50 years of service at their meeting on Tuesday, May 3 at 10:00 AM. All are welcome to carpool to the County Center for this recognition and stop for lunch on the way home. Please contact Sally Hibbitts for more information!

## Slate for AAUW Thousand Oaks 2016-2017 Board of Directors (Approved by the 2015-16 Board on April 12, 2016)

President	Sally Hibbitts
Vice President	Bonnie Shubb
Secretary	Sharon Dyer
Treasurer	Caroline Tsaw
Parliamentarian/AAUW Funds	Jeanette Hosek
Director: Membership Outreach	Linda Pochter
Director: Membership Treasurer	Mini Madan
Director: Public Policy	Betty Stapleford
Director: Programs	Anne Beaubrun
Director: Oak Twig	Kirstin Hoover
Director: Web Site	Narda Fargotstein
Director:	Susan Fagan
Director:	Bev Khoshnevisan
Director: Nominations from the floor with agreement of the nominee.	

### Associates to the Board (Non-Voting)

Sad and Glad Column	Audrey Giuffrida
Profiles Distribution	Kateri Alexander
Oak Twig Distribution	Dorothy Robinson
Local Scholarships	Deanna Franke

## AAUW Thousand Oaks 2015-2016 Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Sally Hibbitts
<b>Vice President</b>	Marilyn Carpenter
(one-year term: not President Elect)	
<b>Secretary</b>	Sharon Dyer
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bonnie Shubb

### Directors

Narda Fargotstein, Deanna Franke,  
Jeanette Hosek, Bev Khoshnevisan,  
Lori Kissinger, Betty Nordahl,  
Pat O'Donnell, Linda Pochter,  
Judi Robinson, Betty Stapleford

## Sad and Glad News Concerning Our Members

from the Sunshine Committee



☀ Those of us who attended the AAUW/CLU celebration of Equal Pay event on Thursday, April 14 were privy to a most informative and articulate group of speakers. We learned a great deal about how Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson conceived and nurtured to fruition the California Fair Pay Act, which involved much hard work by its proponents. AAUW certainly has a friend in Hannah-Beth Jackson.

Madame Hibbitts, our esteemed President, did a laudable job pulling this all together, aided by some very special "someones" who worked hard to ensure that the evening ended on a sweet note.

☀ Pat Helton, a broker associate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, has recently been honored at their 2015 Awards Ceremony at the North Ranch Country Club. Pat has ranked internationally for her outstanding listing and sales production in 2015.

She is a former educator with a master's degree and has been a leader in real estate sales in the Conejo Valley since 1985. Pat is a licensed real estate broker and a certified relocation and corporate property specialist.

She is a generous donor to local schools, sports teams and community charities and believes it is very important to give back to the community in which she lives and works. Congratulations, Pat, on receiving this award. We are proud to have you as a member of AAUW and wish you continued success in your chosen field.

☀ Liz Priedkalns and her husband, Juris, have recently returned from a trip to Australia. Juris retired on January 29 after which they flew to Australia (where he grew up) for a month. They flew Virgin Australia which had lay-flat seats with bedding made up after the evening meal! They arrived in Sydney where they spent three days and tell us that Sydney is popping. They walked the Sydney Harbor Bridge, toured the Opera House, and joined some revelers in a pub crawl tour.

Their group of four couples then picked up four camper vans for their southeastern Australia road trip.

The trip took them to the Blue Mountains, Canberra, Snowy Mountains, and the Riverina on the way to Adelaide. The campgrounds were generally supplied with excellent facilities. Their meals were breakfast in camp, lunches in pub bistros along the way, and happy hour dinners in camp.

They visited Juris' brother in Adelaide, then went along the coast road to Melbourne where they saw the world's largest lobster. Along the Great Ocean Road they also saw the Twelve Apostles features, and Chinese tourists by the busloads. Where once there were dirt parking lots, now there were acres of cars, buses and helicopters flying. They spent a couple of days in Melbourne, where they visited the Immigration Museum. Juris and his family were in the archives as WW2 displaced person refugees from Latvia. After Melbourne they took the coast road back to Sydney through the area of Gippsland where Juris grew up, and there met some old high school chums.

They visited a small town on the beach that is overrun by kangaroos by the hundreds. Back in Sydney, Liz and Juris went to his 50-year veterinary school reunion at the University of Sydney. (He worked as a veterinarian in Australia before medical school in the States.) One of the featured speakers told how the school is involved in protecting the Tasmanian Devil from its precipitous, tumor-induced decline. One final wine tasting day trip to the Hunter Valley – and on March 1 they flew home.

That sounds like a wonderful trip and provided us with an informative geographical tour of a far-away land. We thank you, Liz and Jules, for sharing this journey with us and are glad you are back with no unintended side trips.

*If you learn of a newsworthy event concerning you or another Branch member—be it Sad, Glad or merely factual—and you would like to have it published in the Oak Twig, please let us know. The particulars will be included in the forthcoming issue or, for time-sensitive information, will be sent to all Branch members via email. Thanks for keeping us informed! Please contact Audrey Giuffrida.*

***Please Join Us in Celebration!***

**50th Anniversary of  
AAUW - Thousands Oaks Branch**



**Saturday, May 21st**  
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**North Ranch Country Club**  
4761 Valley Spring Road  
Westlake Village, California

*Enjoy a glass of champagne with friends, old and new,  
as we gather to celebrate and remember fifty years of  
AAUW programs and projects in the Conejo Valley community*

Guest speaker Michaela Reaves, PhD. California Lutheran University Historian  
Musical Program: Thousand Oaks High School Vocal Ensemble, directed by Janna Santangelo  
A festive brunch, photo video, memorabilia displays and Branch recognitions will complete the event

**Tickets are \$50 per person**  
**Proceeds to benefit Tech Trek scholarships and local programs**

***Join us. It won't be a celebration without you!***

Make your reservation by printing this invitation and returning the tear-off section below

**AAUW-THOUSAND OAKS 50th ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH –MAY 21, 2016**

*Please Print*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF TICKETS at \$50 each: \_\_\_\_\_ BRUNCH CHECK ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am unable to attend but will contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Tech Trek scholarship fund.

***Please make checks payable to AAUW T.O. • RSVP due by May 14th***

Mail your check and completed form to:  
Wendy Hoffman • 330 Somerset Circle • Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

***To pay by credit card, visit [www.aauwto.org](http://www.aauwto.org) and use PayPal.***



For questions or further information, contact Wendy Hoffman: 805-496-2764 or Jeanette Hosek: 805-523-3488

## Why Is the Board Suggesting an Increase In Branch Dues?

- Currently the Thousand Oaks Branch receives only \$15.00 of your membership dues per year. Although you have been paying \$84, the Branch gets only \$15. The rest goes to AAUW National and AAUW California.
- Your Board believes that increasing the Branch dues to \$21, making the total membership dues \$90/year, makes sense. Why?
- Operating Expenses have increased through the years, including copying charges, postal fees, software updates, program expenses, and membership costs.
- We are a very active Branch and want to continue our tradition of generally free, high quality mission-based programs almost every month of the year.
- Our main concern is that it is more and more of a challenge to get donations for AAUW programs because donors want to be able to legally deduct their donations from their tax returns.
- The Board wants to change the tax exempt status of our Branch so that we will be able accept checks directly into our Branch that will be legally tax deductible for donors when directed toward local scholarships, Tech Trek, and/or AAUW Funds. Your Board believes that we will receive more donations for our worthwhile causes if donors can legally deduct the payment from their personal or business income taxes.
- Currently if your (or any organization's) donation is made to AAUW Thousand Oaks either via PayPal or via check, it is not tax deductible.
- We can change this if we are given 501(c)(3) status for our corporation by the IRS.
- Many other branches, including the Camarillo Branch, have already done this. We should too.
- Even though we have volunteer legal services, the costs of applying for and obtaining this status will be more than \$1,000. Our Operating Budget can't handle this expense. The Board believes we will be able to increase donations to our worthwhile causes if we can provide tax deductible receipts.
- **The recommended increase in Branch Dues is from \$15 to \$21. This means that instead of paying \$84 for your annual membership, it will be \$90. Please consider this when you vote at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brunch.**

Submitted by Bonnie R. Shubb,  
Branch Treasurer and Financial Director

## Member Birthdays May



2	Betsy Bourne
8	Melanie Ashen
8	Linda Pochter
8	Debra Boyd
10	Harriet Uhl
12	Stacy Hamlet
14	Paula Geeting
23	Jean Maxwell
23	Dianne McKay
29	Yvonne Lux
31	Leesa McBurnie
31	Judy Gindi



We are all very proud of our fabulous volunteers from the Thousand Oaks Branch of AAUW. All of you provided so much volunteer assistance on the morning of Brighter Horizons. A HUGE and VERY SINCERE thank you! Here is the 2016 Brighter Horizons Honor Roll of Volunteers:

Melanie Ashen, Anne Beaubrun, Fran Blair, Nina Bublitz, Connie Carman, Marilyn Carpenter, Peg DeRose, Marianne Escaron, Deanna Franke, Debbie Gatley, Sally Hibbits, Jeanette Hosek, Yvonne Lux, Mini Madan, Lori Mahoney, Leesa McBurnie, Betty Nordahl, Lori Peters, Dorothy Robinson, Bonnie Shubb, Betty Stapleford, Lydia Steadman, Joan Udani, and Susie Wedel.



***ADOPT-A-POLL!  
PRIMARY ELECTION DAY  
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016***

Dear Members,

As many of you know, the County of Ventura has an active Adopt-a-Poll program available for non-profits to use in order to earn funds for their various projects. We have been doing this for many years with the money going towards Local Scholarships.

So now it is that time again to help our efforts with volunteering to work for a 2-3 hour shift once on Election Day, June 7. We will need plenty of people since the voter turn-out will be quite large. You will be provided easy on-line training, a shift to suit your own busy schedule, and an unlimited amount of "patriotic feel good" emotions to last until next fall's election!

This is a great way for new members to participate, working members, and everyone else who may have been a little hesitant to become involved in our efforts. Just think, this money will help a deserving young woman continue her own college education!

If you are interested, please contact Sally Hibbitts and indicate if you'd like to help in the early morning, mid-day, afternoon, or evening. Thanks!



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®



League of Women Voters of Ventura County

Presents

**Candidates Forum for  
Calif. State Senate District 27**

Co-sponsored by AAUW Thousand Oaks

The candidates are: Shawn Bayliss, Steve Fazio, Janice Kamenir-Reznik,  
David Pollock, Henry Stern, George Christopher Thomas

**Tuesday, May 3  
7:00 - 9:00 PM**

Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza  
City Council Chambers/Scherr Forum  
2100 East Thousand Oaks Blvd.

Admission is free.

Come hear the candidates discuss their positions and respond to audience questions asked by the moderator, David Maron, from the League of Women Voters.

This is a public service of the non-profit, non-partisan League of Women Voters.  
Questions about the forum may be sent to [Lwv@LwvVenturaCounty.org](mailto:Lwv@LwvVenturaCounty.org)

The forums will be televised on the TOTV local government channel.

The League thanks the City of Thousand Oaks for assisting with this event

## AAUW Supports the SOAR Initiative Petitions Countywide



Tuesday, March 29 - AAUW SOAR workers helped turn in 35K petitions to County Recorders office.

With well over 35,000 signatures gathered by willing SOAR volunteers, the county initiative petitions have been completed! However, we are still collecting for several other areas. A huge thank you to so many, many, many members who have given up their extra time to gather signatures throughout the county. A few of our AAUW collectors include: Joan Edwards, Yvonne Blockwell, Janet Wall, Lori Kissinger, Marilyn Carpenter, Sally Hibbitts, Eloda Linehan, Susan Fagan, Angie Simpson, Claudia Bill de la Pena, Linda Parks, Melanie Ashen, Bonnie Shubb, Shoshana Brower, etc., etc.!



## Parent Education Conference, De Colores



(Left to Right) Sally Hibbitts, Anne LaFianza, Susi Gomez, Diana Houser, CVUSD Teacher, and Program Coordinator, Ana Alvarez.

Branch members filled goody bags with donated items and materials from the Red Cross and Senator Pavley's office for the Parent Education Conference, De Colores. This growing annual event is for non-English speaking parents to learn new skills to improve the education of their children who attend the local schools.



Helping with registration at De Colores Parent Education Conference (left to right sitting in the middle) are AAUW members Diana Houser, Susi Gomez, and Anne LaFianza.



Branch members Maria Jambor and Shoshana Brower greeted parents



Branch member Sachi Stark helped obtain bilingual materials from the Red Cross



## Museums and Gardens Group Goes to The Annenberg Wednesday, May 25

### Wandering Across the Globe: *REFUGEE*



We have all followed the plight of refugees throughout the world for eons....whether they are fleeing their homeland due to war, religious persecution, economic hardship, starvation, or other factors....people constantly move across the face of our earth. The Annenberg Space for Photography in Century City has created a themed and highly evocative special exhibition based upon refugees.

We have visited The Annenberg at least twice before and have never been disappointed in the quality of the works or in the tremendous experience of viewing the art. This United Nations sponsored show will prove to be highly insightful on a very timely subject.

Through images created by five internationally acclaimed artists, *REFUGEE* explores the lives of refugees from a host of diverse populations dispersed and displaced throughout the world. The exhibit features photographs taken in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Mexico, Myanmar, Serbia, Slovenia, and the United States.



With the number of displaced people now at 60 million globally, according to UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency), this timely exhibition allows audiences to engage with aspects of the plight of refugees not previously encountered, and to reflect on a full range of refugee experiences through singular images. The compelling exhibit offers visitors insight into the plight of refugees, including their efforts to survive, their needs, their dreams and their hopes for a better future.

Plan to meet for carpooling at the **Barnes and Noble in Westlake at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, May 25**. The cost of the trip will be your share of gasoline and parking, payable in cash to your driver, along with your own lunch costs. The museum itself is free.

Please RSVP to Sally Hibbitts no later than Monday, May 23 and if you could help with the driving - that would be terrific!



Enjoying the Museums and Gardens tour of the NOAA headquarters and a fun lunch afterwards at the National Woolworth Museum (both in Oxnard) were (left to right): Glenn Kissinger, Marilyn Carpenter, Lori Kissinger, Paul Lux, Yvonne Lux, Susan Fagan, Bob Palevac, Dave Carpenter, Margie Price, Betty Nordahl, Peg DeRose, Janet Wall, Kristin Hoover, Sally Hibbitts, Dianna Campbell, Helene Rosen, Nina Bublitz, Joan Udani, and Nancy Healey.



Visiting the William S. Hart Park and Museum in April were (left to right) Angela Munoz, Sally Hibbitts, Caroline Tsaw, Diana Campbell, Joan Udani, Helen Follmer, Peg DeRose and husband Bob.

## Equal Pay Celebration

Our Equal Pay Celebration was both meaningful and enlightening as we promoted the idea of Equal Pay to many of the students at California Lutheran University. Shoshana Brower and Linda Bergthold distributed AAUW materials about Gender Pay Disparity on campus Tuesday, April 12 at noon.

On Thursday, April 14 our special guest speaker, CA State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, gave an interesting and enlightening talk about the new Fair Pay Act which she helped guide through the legislative process. Prior to the Senator's talk, Honolulu Branch member and AAUW National Board member, Joanna Amberger gave a rundown of the federal efforts toward passing the Paycheck Fairness Act. The first guest speaker of the evening was Bettina Bush, who described her involvement with Equal Pay issues from the point of view of a Woman of Color and a successful Businesswoman in Entertainment.

Many thanks to all those who took the extra time and effort to support our Branch with this event: Bonnie Shubb, Lori Kissinger, Linda Pochter, Donna Langley, Deanna Franke, Anne LaFianza, Joan Edwards, Angie Simpson, Susan Fagan, Shoshana Brower, Linda Bergthold, Susi Gomez, and Janet Wall. With apologies to anyone left out. It was a great group of willing workers!



(Left to right) Joanna Amberger, Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios, Sally Hibbitts, Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Pam Perkins-Dwyer, Susi Gomez, Judy Pfeil and Carla Castilla.



Branch members, Shoshana Brower and Linda Bergthold (not pictured), made sure that AAUW was on the CLU campus promoting Equal Pay Day.

## Exciting Prospects for STEM

Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI) introduced the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Opportunities Act this week. The legislation aims to improve inclusion of women, minorities, and people with disabilities in STEM careers. AAUW Vice President of Government Relations, Lisa Maatz, was quoted in Sen. Hirono's press release to explain that reducing barriers that prevent women and minorities from entering STEM careers would increase the nation's global competitiveness. The STEM Opportunities Act would help federal science agencies identify these barriers and it would allow universities and nonprofits to receive grants for mentoring women and minorities in STEM. At the time of its introduction, the bill had ten co-sponsors.

Lori Kissinger, Public Policy

## Attention All New Members Since September 1!

If you were unable to attend our New Member event last fall at Sally's home, please save Sunday evening, June 26 from 6:00-8:00 PM. You will be receiving a special invitation later this month for our upcoming event just for you!

## Special Interest Groups



One of the privileges of Branch membership is the opportunity to participate in one or more of our special interest groups. Any member is welcome to join as many as are of interest. If you would like to initiate a new interest group, let us know prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding your event. It will be listed in the next *Oak Twig*, to recruit participants. **Contact Pat O'Donnell.**

### Coffee and Chat

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

### Daytime Literature Group

Join us for a lively discussion on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month (unless indicated by \*) at 10:00 AM in the Marvin Smith Community Room at the Thousand Oaks Library.

**Contact Joan Udani.**

### Our upcoming schedule:

May 23: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr  
June 22: We will discuss next year's books.

### Evening Literature Group

The Evening Literature Group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM (unless indicated by \*) at different members' homes. Please join us - everyone is welcome.

**Contact Ellen Kossoris or Sharon Dyer.**

### Our upcoming schedule:

May 19: *Brain On Fire* by Susannah Callahan  
June 16: *The Rent Collector* by Cameron Wright

### Exploring Religions of the World Through the Eyes of Women

We meet two or three times throughout the year in a private home. Each time we meet, our goal is to invite a woman with a particular religious background to facilitate an open and nonjudgmental discussion with the group.

**Contact Wendy Hoffman or Jeanette Hosek**

### Global Awareness and Action for Girls (GAAG)

Primary focus will be on projects assisting adolescent girls living outside the U.S. who have difficulties obtaining an education. Members can suggest projects they are currently aware of or look into future projects. **Contact Jeanette Hosek.**

**Reminder:**  
**Your AAUW dues renewal is coming July 1st!**

### Joyful Volunteering Group

Celebrate the gift of giving time! This group is designed to give members an opportunity to help women through involvement with other volunteer groups. Participants bring to the group ideas for service that will make a difference in our community. This way, new avenues will be explored and the group will continue on a positive road. New participants are *always* welcome! **Contact Sally Hibbitts.**

### Morning Walking Group

Meets every Thursday at 7:15 AM rain or shine for a moderate walk, approximately 45 minutes. We meet inside the Oaks Mall by the Cheesecake Factory. Some of the group continue on for coffee and to do crossword puzzles. **Contact Claudia Spelman.**

### The Movie Ladies Group

If you are interested in having your name (partners are welcome, too) added to the Movie group, please **contact Linda Harley.** If no answer, do leave a message: please speak slowly and clearly. Thank you!

### Museums 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. Our next trip will be to The Annenberg Space for Photography in Century City on Wednesday, May 25. (See page 9 for details.)

**Contact Pat O'Donnell or Sally Hibbitts.**

### Our Community Environment

This group looks into what is happening with the environment right here in the Conejo Valley. A range of environmental issues with local impact will be explored throughout the year.

**Contact Yvonne Brockwell.**

### Photography Group

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM. We are "budding" photographers who meet once a month to learn about our digital cameras and how to take the "perfect" picture and have lots of fun along the way. **Contact Wendy Hoffman.**

### Women's Health Issues

This group focuses on the many health topics faced daily by women in our Branch. Topics might include the growth of breast cancer rates in the Conejo, new directions in menopause management, nutritional needs and the role of supplements, etc. **Contact Angie Simpson.**

*When you've finished reading this issue, print it, give it to a friend or neighbor and invite them to join AAUW Thousand Oaks!*

## Great Gift Ideas from AAUW



Do you have a hard-to-buy-for person on your gift list? We've got three great ideas for you!



How about a box of beautiful note cards, created by local women artists? Each box of eight is \$10.00 or you can buy individual cards for \$2.00

each. We can also assemble a special box of eight of your favorite cards.

For the history or theater buff on your list, give one or all three volumes of *Profiles of Women: Past & Present*.

Created by members of our Branch, each volume provides well-written monologues showing women as positive role models.



The gifts above help provide fellowships and scholarships through AAUW Funds.

**Contact Jeanette Hosek.**



Finally, give the gift of membership! Sign up a family member or friend (with an AA degree or higher) to join the Thousand Oaks Branch of AAUW. She/he gets a great gift: you get a friend with whom you can attend Branch events. Win/Win! **Contact Judi Robinson.**

## Order New Name Tags



**For information contact Judi Robinson.**

### Oak Twig Staff

Pattie Dix, Co-editor

Donna Langley, Co-editor

Dorothy Robinson, Circulation

Betty Nordahl, Email Alerts

Email articles to Pattie Dix by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month prior to publication.



## Looking for a Phone Number?

If you're seeking contact information for people leading various Branch activities, please see the final page of this newsletter.

The *Oak Twig* appears on our Branch website, [auwto.org](http://auwto.org), without our members' personal information.

## Ralph's Markets Support Your AAUW Branch!

Attention all Ralph's shoppers: You may not be aware but over this last year, the very small number of AAUW members who are registered in the Ralph's Community Contribution Program have contributed about \$250.00 to our Branch. This is actually quite a bit of money as we may only have about three or four members registered! Therefore, we encourage you, when you can, to shop at your local Ralph's Market. No other markets have this type of very easy-to-use Community Contribution Program: in fact, many of the markets have done away with these programs entirely! So remember, please shop at Ralphs and use their handy system to send more funds our way!

Also, as a reminder... those of you who've already registered your Ralph's Rewards card contribution to our organization MUST re-register it after September 1st every year. The same SCANBAR letter used to sign up for the program can also be used to re-register.

For more information, or to pick up your letter, contact Sally Hibbitts.



## 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!

25% OFF FOR AAUW MEMBERS




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**Sona Georgian D.D.S.**  
General & Cosmetic Dentistry

32144 Agoura Rd., Suite #213  
Westlake Village, CA 91361

Office Hours By Appointment  
**818.991.4664**  
www.GeorgianDental.com

GeorgianDental@gmail.com



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