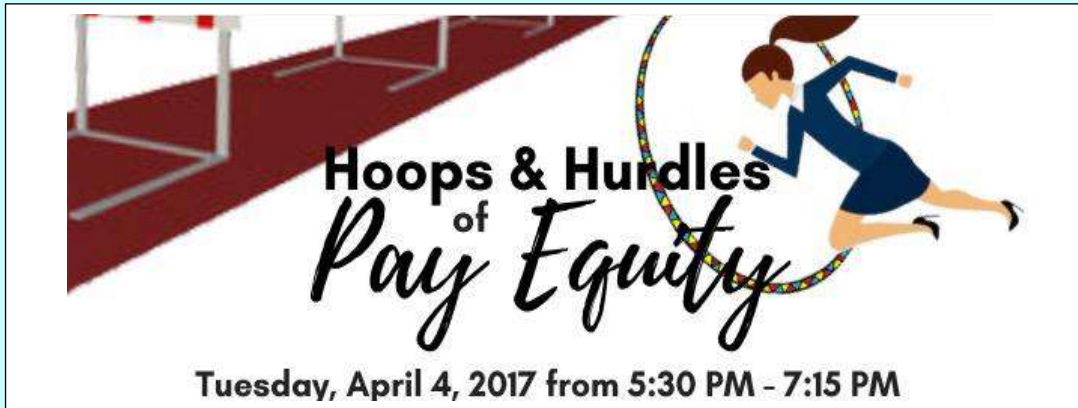
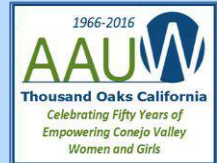
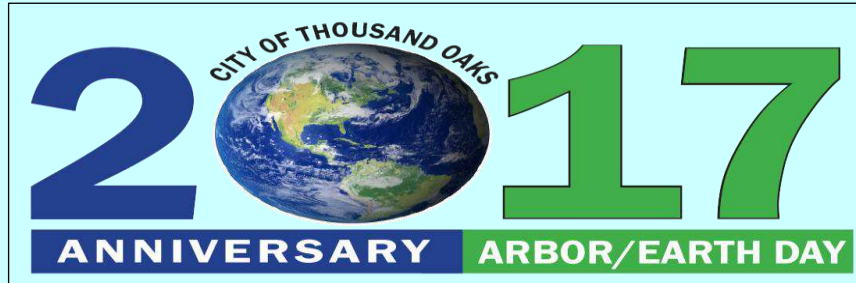




# The Oak Twig



Branch Leadership, CLU staff and AAUW members have created a special event for high school seniors, college students and community members to interactively experience a variety of pay issues. Please join us and bring your friends. Reservations are advised, please contact Sally Hibbits or Natalie Luna at [natalieluna@callutheran.edu](mailto:natalieluna@callutheran.edu). Please see page 3.



**The second Branch Event for April is our participation in the City of Thousand Oaks Earth/Arbor Day on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. We have children's activities and other materials to distribute at this annual event for the Conejo Valley Region! Come one and come all for a fun two hour shift promoting AAUW to our local friends! Contact Sally Hibbits or Anne LaFianza to participate.**

## April Events---

- April 1, Coffee and Chat, Stella's Café, NP, 9 AM
- April 1, Saturday, CVUSD Spanish Speaking Parents Conf.
- April 4, Tuesday, CLU, 5:30 PM, Hoops and Hurdles of Pay Equity (Branch event)
- April 8, Saturday, Earth Day Community Outreach, 10 AM to 3 PM, TO Community Park, Moorpark Rd. (Branch Event)
- April 19, Wednesday, Museum Trip to Fowler Museum, 10 AM
- April 20, Thurs. ,Evening Book Group, 7:30PM, Giuffrida home
- April 24, Monday, 9:30 AM, Daytime Literature, TO Library.
- April 24, Monday, **DEADLINE FOR RSVP for May 6 Lunch**

## Coming in May---

--- May 6, Saturday, Los Robles Greens, Noon, AAUW Funds Luncheon, (May Branch Event)

## Coming in June---

---June 14 – 17, AAUW National Convention, Washington DC

## Coming in July---

---July 27, Thursday, Tech Trek Visitation Day at UCSB,

Continuing with some observations about the four pillars of AAUW...

The third pillar to our organization is **philanthropy**. Many people believe in charitable giving, which is different from philanthropic giving. With so many choices of where to give, it is interesting to understand the distinction between philanthropic and charitable giving. While charity focuses on eliminating the suffering caused by social problems, philanthropy works to solve those problems altogether. Philanthropy is derived from the Greek word *philos*, which means loving, and *anthropos*, which means humankind. The purpose of philanthropy is to improve the well-being of humankind by solving and preventing social problems.

Historically, the concept of philanthropy is thousands of years old. There are references to it in the Quran, Bible, and Torah; in the teachings of Buddhism; and in the Japanese and Native American cultures. In the United States, philanthropy was largely focused on religion and morality until the middle of the 19th century, when it expanded to become a freely chosen, independent way for individuals to help improve society in the areas and ways they deem best.

Philanthropy has always played a significant role in American society; it helps support libraries, schools, hospitals, the performing arts, and museums. It also supports research and social services that benefit everyone. When you decide to give a portion of your hard-earned money to the AAUW Fund, you continue this support and become a true philanthropist. When you donate, you help eliminate larger social problems. It becomes your legacy. Please give as generously as you can to become a part of the growing legacy of the AAUW Fund, which supports women and girls now and into the future.

(thanks to AAUW national member, Krys Wulff for these thoughtful words)

### EXECUTIVES BY RACE AND GENDER



### March Board Tidbits by Sharon Dyer, Branch Secretary

- The Nominating Committee is working on Board nominations
- Board supports ASM Irwin's resolution to create "California Women and Girls in STEM Week" for April 2-8, 2017, and Sen. Henry Stern has written legislation to help reduce human trafficking by having hotels/ motels required to post hotline numbers.
- Facilitators are needed for Equal Pay Day event at CLU on April 4.
- Four named Gift Honoree names have been selected and their names have been submitted.

### We Stand With Nathalie!

**Please consider adding your name to the petition "USC President C. L. Nikias: Women in Engineering Matter," in support of our own Thousand Oaks AAUW member Nathalie Gosset, in her sexual harassment case against USC. Her case has been vetted and approved for support by AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.**

**Our goal is to reach a new benchmark of 2000 signatures! It's very important that you sign & forward this to others to support Nathalie. Go to [www.stand4nat.org](http://www.stand4nat.org)**

**NATHALIE GOSSET STAND FOR ME**  
[www.stand4nat.org](http://www.stand4nat.org) #stand4nat

Every employee is protected by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Unfortunately, I did not experience this.

**PLEASE STAND FOR ME**

Be for the women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers and for the young girls and young women who are not inspired to choose a technical profession. There are only 10% women in Engineering. We have the right to work in a safe and respectful environment.

### WE STAND WITH NAT!

**SIGN ON TO**  
[WWW.STAND4NAT.ORG](http://WWW.STAND4NAT.ORG)



It is advised that you make reservations due to food and space availability.  
Please contact either Natalie Luna (on the bottom of the flyer) or Sally Hibbitts.

3



# Hoops & Hurdles of Pay Equity

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017 from 5:30 PM - 7:15 PM**

Location: Cal Lutheran Lundring Events Center

Parking available in Gilbert Sports & Fitness Center lot

The event is for CLU students/alumni + community members

**In honor of National Pay Equity Day, join us for this helpful event geared toward helping women in the workplace**

Event agenda includes:

- Keynote Speaker on STEM and pay equity
- Panel discussion on Salary Negotiations, Gender Investing Gap, and Maternity Leave
- Table discussions on the topics of Pay Equity, Cultural Stereotypes, Unconscious Biases, Work Life Balance, Pay Gap in the STEM Field, How Men Can Help
- Mock Salary Negotiation

**Sponsors Include:**



Career Services

California  
Lutheran  
University



Contact Natalie Luna at [nluna@cal Lutheran.edu](mailto:nluna@cal Lutheran.edu) for more information



BE SURE TO JOIN US ON **SATURDAY, MAY 6** FOR OUR ANNUAL FUNDS LUNCH AND ANNUAL MEETING TO ANNOUNCE THE NAMED GIFT HONOREES AND ELECT NEW BOARD MEMBERS! THE SPEAKER IS FABULOUS!!!

**RSVP DEADLINE IS APRIL 24**

*Join us for a special luncheon at our*  
**AAUW Thousand Oaks Annual Meeting**

**Saturday, May 6, 2017  
11:30 AM**

**Los Robles Greens Golf Course  
299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks**

***This event will include:***

**Election of our Branch Board of Directors for 2017 - 2018  
Recognition of our 2017 Named Gift Honorees  
Member Recognitions  
Guest Speaker Christine Morrison  
Luncheon Buffet**

**Luncheon Buffet Menu**


**Greek Salad & Caesar Salad  
Grilled Chicken with Lemon Butter Sauce  
Salmon with Roasted Red Pepper Sauce  
Parmesan Potato Gratin  
Grilled Vegetables  
Dessert  
\*Vegetarian plated entree  
available by request**



**Our special Guest Speaker  
Christine Morrison, AAUW  
American Fellowship Recipient,  
will speak on her research  
project: **Learning from Nature  
to Fertilize the World's Crops  
with Less Energy and Environmental Impact.**  
As a chemist, she will talk about alternative  
methods for producing human-made fertilizers  
that are more sustainable and better for  
the environment.**

**Join us for good friends, good food, and an inspiring speaker. Don't miss it!**

**Tickets are \$35 per person.  
Proceeds will be sent to AAUW Funds.**

 To RSVP, mail this form along with your \$35 check (payable to AAUW TO) to:  
Caroline Tsaw, AAUW TO, P.O. Box 4223, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please RSVP by April 28, 2017.**

**For further information, contact Bev Khoshnevisan: [bkhosh29@gmail.com](mailto:bkhosh29@gmail.com) or (805) 499-1063.**

## Women's History Project Gets Rave Reviews!

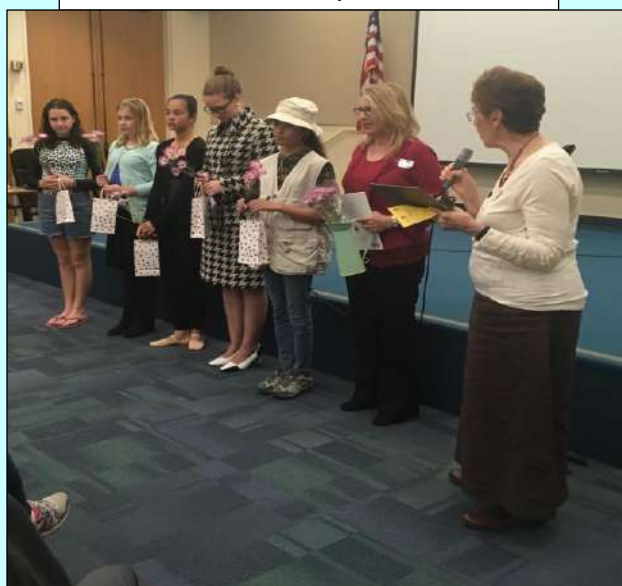


**A very special thank you card was received from the children at Terra Linda School in Camarillo.**

As most of our members know, the Women's History Project celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary last year. This year, this hard working committee sent out our scripts to many schools throughout our region and elsewhere. The following schools have continued to present the Women's History Project for many years:

- Acacia Elementary (CVUSD)
- Banyan Elementary (CVUSD)
- Conejo Elementary (CVUSD)
- Ladera Elementary (CVUSD)
- Madrona Elementary (CVUSD)
- Maple Elementary (CVUSD)
- Sycamore Canyon Elementary (CVUSD)
- Westlake Elementary (CVUSD)
- Westlake Hills Elementary (CVUSD)
- Bridges Charter School
- MATES Charter School
- Oak Hills Elementary (Oak Park)
- Red Oak Elementary (Oak Park)
- White Oak Elementary (WLV) LVUSD

*This year's girls and their teacher, Lori Peters, are congratulated by Jeanette Hosek of the WHP.*








AAUW Thousand Oaks in cooperation with the  
National Women's History Project (NWHHP) present a  
**Commemorative Edition Honoring  
Hillary Rodham Clinton's Campaign and  
Other First Women in Government**

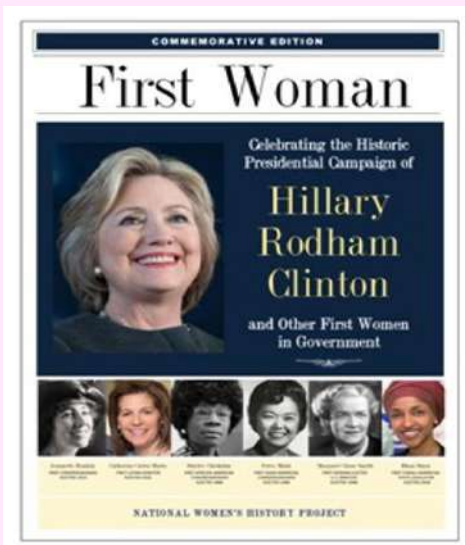
Inspired by Hillary Rodham Clinton's historic campaign, the National Women's History Project (NWHHP) has published a special Commemorative Edition, **First Woman**, to pay tribute to women's long and distinguished record in government and public service.

This lavishly illustrated, 48-page volume places Hillary Clinton's unprecedented campaign in the context of women's history and celebrates the many women who first ran for and held office in American government. Here are the first women to run for President, Congress and the Senate. Here are the first mayors, state legislators and governors. Here are the first four-star general, the first Supreme Court Justice and so many more. Timelines trace the progress of Women in Government, the Women's Suffrage Movement, and the Modern Women's Movement.

**First Woman** also recognizes American suffragists who worked successfully for women's civil rights. The wealth of detail included here irrefutably shows the growing contributions women have made to our national life. These courageous women smoothed the path that led our nation to where it is today.

**First Woman** also recognizes young feminists who are working today for women's advancement. This beautiful publication pays tribute to the deep and lasting contributions women have made - and are making - to our nation's progress.

**AAUW Thousand Oaks** is proud to include this book as part of its thirty-year history of providing Women's History materials to schools and individuals. All of the branch's Women's History resources are available for sale through its website, [www.aauwto.ca.aauw.net](http://www.aauwto.ca.aauw.net). Copies of **FIRST WOMAN** are still available and would make a lovely gift for Woman's History Month.





**By Audrey Giuffrida**

Martha Nielsen has been somewhat under the weather of late, but has now rebounded and able to pursue her usual activities. We wish you well, Martha, and hope to see you soon at some AAUW events.

Shoshana Brower just returned from a trip to Iceland, which she reports is a beautiful country with overall very friendly people. It is very easy to navigate because everybody speaks English. She had an opportunity to view the northern lights which were not very bright but she was happy to have had the opportunity to see. There was lots of snow, glaciers, geysers, and volcanoes; in addition, Reykjavík is a fun city with lots to see. This sounds like a wonderful trip and we are happy that Shoshana had this enlightening experience!

\*\*\*

### **Remembrances of Betsy Berry.....**

*In a large organization like AAUW T.O., there are many types of members*

*---the members who love to read books and join all the book groups*

*---the members who love to travel and go all over the world*

*---the members who are involved with other community groups*

*---the members who willingly step into leadership positions*

*---the members who share their family stories with you*

(Continued next column)

*Betsy was all of these members. Being president twice, she graciously hosted many, many meetings in her home and lovely garden. She and her husband, Wade, took leisurely cruises bringing with them bundles of books to read on deck. Betsy was involved in many professional organizations as well as a docent at the Reyes Adobe home. Betsy worked very hard to fund the AAUW Education Foundation with the sale of **Profiles of Women** books. One year she and Wade drove to Arizona with boxes of books piled in their car to sell at the National Convention and came back with over \$1000! Betsy love to talk about her grandkids... the one who became a lawyer and the one who volunteers for the Peace Corp in Panama.*

*Our branch is honored that Betsy was our member, and we will sorely miss her. This is especially true, because she was more than just a member; she was every member!*

*---The Board of Directors 2016-17*

\*\*\*

*Memorial Services for Betsy Berry will take place on Sunday, April 9 at 2 PM at the United Methodist Church in Westlake Village. The family requests donations in lieu of flowers be made to the Heifer Fund to End Hunger and Reduce Poverty,*

*<https://fundraise.heifer.org/fundraise?fcid=930242>*

\*\*\*



*Betsy pictured with her daughter, Ann, at our recent party in December. We have many memories of happy times of Betsy showing her dedication to AAUW.*



## Membership Dues Update from AAUW Board Chair, Patricia Fae Ho

The AAUW Board of Directors is currently considering a motion to increase AAUW's annual national membership dues from \$49 to \$59. If approved, the increase would go into effect starting July 1, 2018.

This increase, the organization's first since 2008, is necessary to maintain AAUW's ability to react to current challenges and deliver the services and programs that are a vital part of our mission. Donations are, and have long been, an important part of AAUW's DNA. Our recent **Charting the Course campaign** demonstrates yet again how generous and committed our members can be.

It is, however, impossible to budget effectively based on what support *might* come in. Annual dues are a more stable source of income. They provide the framework for AAUW's mission and programs. Indeed, a combination of both dues and donations is critical to supporting AAUW's **salary negotiation workshops**, groundbreaking **research**, **advocacy** efforts, **campus leadership programs**, and so much more. Even fully funded programs, such as the Legal Advocacy Fund and fellowships and grants, require an ongoing financial infrastructure to work effectively.

Another factor in the decision is how prices have changed since AAUW's last dues increase, in 2008. It would be difficult to name even one item that has not increased significantly in price during that time period. That means we've been paying more and more to keep our programs running. AAUW's proposed increase comes out to only about 83 cents per month. Just think of the return that investment brings to the lives of countless women and girls.

Once a vote on dues has taken place in June, additional information regarding implementation, lifetime membership, and other details will be made available to members and leaders. In the meantime, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

Thank you again for your commitment to this wonderful organization. We are a membership who believes we can do great things together. I know we are all equally committed to ensuring that AAUW thrives and continues to empower women and girls well into the future.

Save  
the  
Date

## ANNUAL MEETING – MAY 6, 2017



***You are needed to be at the annual meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 6! It is an important part of our branch's scheduled meetings. At the meeting our members will elect the officers and board members who have volunteered to serve as the branch's leadership team for the upcoming year. In addition, the branch will recognize four members as Named Gift Honorees for 2016-17. These members have made significant contributions to the branch through their service to AAUW and the community. You will want to congratulate them on receiving this award. Also, we are pleased to have as our speaker, Christine Morrison, an American Fellowship recipient working on her Phd from California Institute of Technology. Her fellowship is partially sponsored by the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Thousand Oaks Branch fellowship. There will also be some surprise recognitions of other branch members. If you are new to the branch, this is a good meeting to attend to meet***



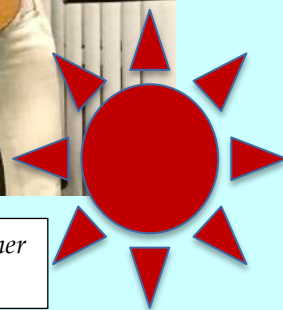
## Wrapping Up a Busy March!



Wow! Did we have a fabulous time on March 27 for "Born for Liberty" presented by Cynthia Perry and Vicki Sonstegard! The turn-out was terrific and many of us are hoping for an encore evening sometime in the future. Thank you to both outstanding members and Vicki's excellent students who joined them as well, Dylan Frame and Lizabeth Benton. (pictured on left)



Cynthia "channeling her '70s vibe"



## Morning Mimosa's Welcomed Our New Members

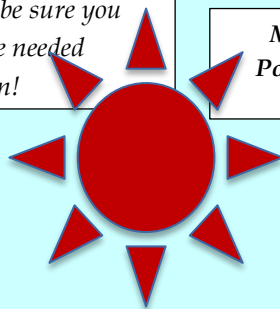


New members (l to r) Shane Sutherland, Nancy Chappel, and Sofia Bowden.

Thank you to our Membership Co-chairs, Linda Pochter and Mini Madan for organizing a very pleasant welcome for some of our new members on Saturday, March 25. All new members who were not able to attend this event, please contact either Sally Hibbitts or Linda Pochter to be sure you have all the needed information!

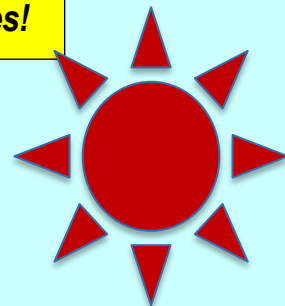


Membership Co-chair Linda Pochter and returning member, Margaret Tennant

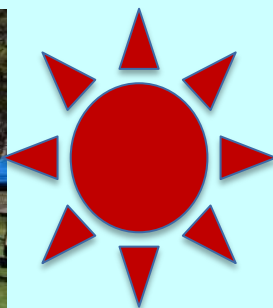


## Spring is Creating Renewed Community Outreach Opportunities!

*Led by our Director of Community Outreach, Anne LaFianza, our Branch Members have all had many opportunities to show our support for many events in our region! Thank you one and all for helping to showcase AAUWs value to our local area!*



*Supervisor Linda Parks along with Peggy Buckles (new member), Anne LaFianza, Janet Wall, Joan Edwards and Shoshana Brower at Unity in the Community in Oak Park, Sunday March 26*



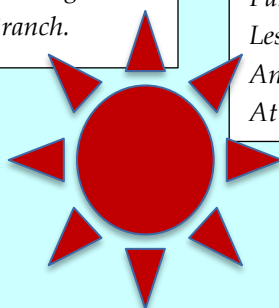
*New Member, Devon Scheff, helping on 3/26. Not pictured are: Sally Hibbitts, Bonnie Shubb,*



*Family of Abraham Unity Picnic included Bonnie Shubb, Anne LaFianza and Holly Sacks along with Betty Stapleford all representing our Branch.*



*Helping at a Pot Luck Dinner for Spanish Speaking Parents were: (l to r) Shoshana Brower, Graciela Lessing (translator) Holly Sacks, Sally Hibbitts, Anne LaFianza, Ana Alvarez (CVUSD) and Attorney Keri Nesbit.*





### Tech Trek Update

Thank you to so many who have generously contributed to the Phantom Tea Fund! AAUW has raised an amazing amount of \$ 2,550! This will allow us to send four girls to this year's UCSB Tech Trek Camp! The girls who completed their applications were interviewed the last week of March. The interview committee will announce the girls who have been chosen by early April! Again, thank you to all of our AAUW members and friends for making this mission possible!

### Museum and Gardens Group to See New Exhibit at Fowler Museum at UCLA

Join us on **Wednesday, April 19** for our next cultural experience delving into a wonderful and colorful exhibit of African Textiles and Prints at the Fowler. We will have a special tour presented by their Education Manager. Our carpools will be leaving Barnes and Noble in Westlake at 10 AM in time for an early lunch in the Westwood area and then go to the Museum for our 1 PM tour. Your cost will be your own lunch expense and the share of both parking and gasoline costs payable to your driver in cash. If you are able to drive, please offer!

This exhibit aptly titled, "African-Print Fashion Now! A Story of Taste, Globalization and Style" introduces audiences to the dynamic traditions of African dress featuring colorful, boldly patterned printed cloth. The exhibition highlights the interplay between regional preferences and cosmopolitanism that has long flourished on the continent, while highlighting the expansiveness of 21st-century African-print fashion. The works featured throughout the exhibition demonstrate the vital role that African-print has played in the expression of beauty, fashion, and heritage, while creating transcultural connections across Africa and into the larger world.

All members are welcome to join us and please let Sally Hibbits know that you're interested.



Save  
the  
Date

**TUESDAY, MAY 23.....TRIP TO BROAD MUSEUM  
IN DTLA! LUNCH AT DISNEY HALL.**



# WANTED

**IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR A PASSIONATE, CREATIVE, INDEPENDENT, AND HELPFUL MEMBER WHO DESIRES TO IMPROVE THEIR OWN SKILL SET BY WORKING WITH MS PUBLISHER (OR SIMILAR SOFTWARE\*) TO CREATE OUR BRANCH NEWSLETTER TEN TIMES PER YEAR.**

**IDEAL OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOUR AAUW BRANCH, GAIN NEW INSIGHT INTO THE WORLD OF NON-PROFITS, IMPROVE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, AND INCREASE YOUR OWN MARKETABLE SKILLS IN A DIGITAL WORK ENVIRONMENT.**

**ALL WORK WILL BE DONE AT YOUR HOME, SO THIS OPPORTUNITY IS IDEAL FOR A PERSON WHO DESIRES TO SERVE AAUW, BUT REMAIN AT HOME.**

**IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT SALLY HIBBITTS**

**\*BRANCH WILL PURCHASE SOFTWARE**

*Special Interest Groups – Participation in these activities is a member benefit. Guests may attend two meetings with a member and must be dues paying members by the third meeting of that particular group.*

### **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 the next group meeting, please 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 10:00 am to 11:30 am to discuss books chosen by the group. The Daytime Literature Group will meet on Monday, April 24 from **9:30 - 11 AM**. Please note time change. We will discuss The Art Forger by B.A. Shapiro. Our reviewer will be Claudia Spelman. For other information, 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 7:30 pm to discuss books that are suggested by the group members. The meeting this month will be on April 20 at the home of Audrey Giuffrida and we will be discussing Longbourn by Jo Baker. For further information, please contact Sharon Dyer.*

### **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*

### **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.*

## **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 are held on different days each month. For details of this month's trip, please earlier information or contact Sally Hibbitts.*

## **NEW: Mentoring Cloud**

*Assisting young women to 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 information, please contact Lenore Arab for more information.*

## **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 Betty Stapleford for meeting information.*

## **NEW---Laundromats and Literacy**

*"Laundromats and Literacy" is a Community Outreach project to promote literacy and early reading skills to those families who use our local laundromats. We will be providing a reading corner with some donated books. This will be an easy outreach, once it gets established and one that really will help our littlest residents. It is doubtful that meetings of this group will occur and most organizing will be done through email. Come and join in this wonderful new endeavor. It is modeled after a similar AAUW program in North Carolina. For more information, contact Anne LaFianza.*

## ***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 advantage of our very inexpensive rates. As one of our users reflected, "Where else could I possibly get monthly advertising for only \$12 a month....and to a quality audience?"*

*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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**AAUW Name Tag Order Form**



Thousand Oaks — Life Member

**MELISSA CAM**

\$19.00 with magnet back  
 \$19.00 with pin back

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (as you want it to appear on your name tag)

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (if applicable)

Contact Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed to you: \$2.50 extra

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