

Thousand Oaks Branch, Inc.

Volume 53, Issue 3

November 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Bonnie Shubb It has been a busy and inspiring month for me with AAUW. With help from members, Sally Hibbitts and Audrey Giuffrida, I attended and hosted an AAUW table at all of the three Workshops for Women put on by Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin. The first workshop was presented by our member, Shannon Sutherland, who spoke about salary negotiations and provided other suggestions for job seekers or those looking for promotion. The topics in subsequent weeks were Women's Health and Wellness and Women Enacting Change. By supporting this program, in addition to hearing the program content, I had the opportunity to meet with many women, several of whom may be joining AAUW. It was also nice to see some of our current members attending this event.

AAUW Thousand Oaks was also a sponsor of the CVUSD annual State of the Schools program. Our membership filled all ten of the seats we were allotted for the breakfast and program. It was encouraging to hear our new interim Superintendent, Dr. Mark McLaughlin, speak about his vision for our schools.

I also attended our Branch event with CLU *Equal Means Equal*. See the article on Page 4 about this powerful event. After the program, I met not only some potential members for our Branch, but also two delightful young students at California Lutheran University who are interested in starting a college affiliate of AAUW-Thousand Oaks at CLU. More to come about this possibility next month.

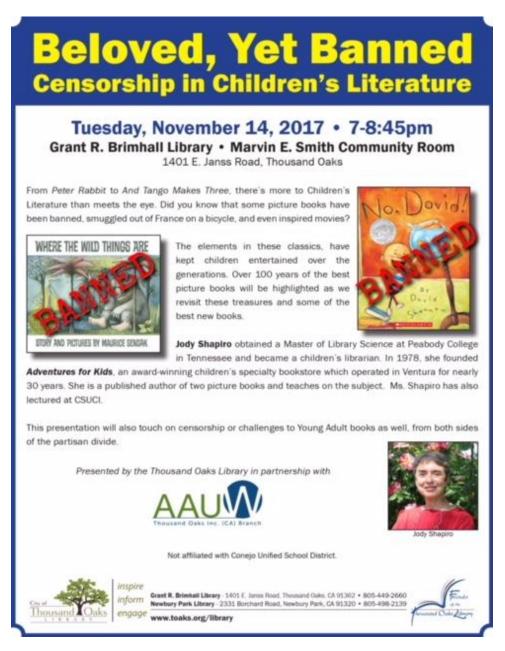
I also attended our community outreach Unity Book Group, where we are getting a chance to interact with some women from the Islamic Community in Newbury Park as we discuss the current book of the month. This first meeting was definitely a worthwhile experience and I encourage anyone interested to attend the next meeting. I followed up that meeting by attending for the first time the Community Open House at their Mosque, which they have every year, where I was warmly welcomed by all the women—especially those I knew from the Unity Book Group.

And finally, I attended the first meeting of the Mindful Awareness Interest Group led by **Holly Sacks**. I highly recommend this new interest group as well as all our AAUW-TO ongoing interest groups. I hope to see you at our Museum and Gardens trip in November as well as our very special program, *Beloved, Yet Banned*. More information about all the upcoming activities may be found in this issue.

SAVE THE DATES – NOVEMBER CALENDAR

November 1 – Board Meeting 6:30PM. All members are welcome. Contact Bonnie Shubb for location November 4 - Coffee and Chat 9:00AM Just show up! Stella's Café in Newbury Park November 14 – "Beloved and Banned" Censorship in Children's and Adult Literature, 7:00PM Thousand Oaks Library November 16 – Unity Book Group, 6:30PM Contact Shoshana Brower November 17 – Museums & Gardens Trip, 9:00AM **Contact Sally Hibbitts** November 20 – Deadline for Poinsettia Orders **Contact Jeanette Hosek** November 20 – Evening Book Group Contact Sharon Dyer November 21- Mindful Awareness Group 7:00PM **Contact Holly Sacks** November 27 – Daytime Book Group Contact Joan Udani December 3 – All Members + Guest Annual Holiday Party 5:00PM – Contact Bev Khoshnevisan

NOVEMBER BRANCH PROGRAM Submitted by Bev Khoshnevisan



Have you bought any books for the children in your family lately? Perhaps the illustrations were what attracted you. They may be stories you loved as a child or the newest books released today. Warning! They may be banned! What?! How could that be?! Books that have been banned in the past or the present are surprisingly everywhere.

Jody Shapiro, a librarian, teacher for OLLI at CSUCI, and previous owner of the Adventures for Kids Bookstore in Ventura, will share with us some of the classic children's books that have been banned not oly for the text, but for the illustrations. She will examine the reasons why they have been considered unfit for reading. And we will take a look at how this censorship carries over into adult books. Come hear what she has to say and join the discussion. November 14, Tuesday, 7:00PM, Thousand Oaks Library.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR PLANTS!

AAUW Thousand Oaks is selling Poinsettias to benefit the Legal Advocacy Fund. Our branch has been doing this fundraiser for many years. This year we are hoping for 100% branch participation. For your \$10 purchase of a poinsettia, \$5 goes to LAF. LAF funds provide organizational and financial support for people fighting sex discrimination in the workplace or on campus. Orders must be received by <u>November 20</u>, so please send in your order <u>today</u>. <u>If you do not want a poinsettia</u> for your personal use, we will deliver your order to a local friend or a senior living <u>center.**</u>

RED, WHITE, or PINK plants in large foil-wrapped 6'pots---\$10.00 EACH



ALSO AVAILABLE _____LOVELY POINSETTLA CENTERPIECES

Ivysettia – 8" red plant w/Ivy - \$15.00 Mumsettia-8" red plant w/Mums -\$15.00

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Name:	A A A	Phone:	Carles .			
# of 6" Plants	Color	# of Ivysettia	# of Mumsettia			
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		ole to <u>AAUW TO</u> and r eanette Hosek, Funds I	mail to: P.O. Box 4223, Director			
ORDERS WILL B	E AVAILABLE F	OR PICK-UP SATURDA	AY, DECEMBER 2, 2017,			
BETWEEN 11:00A	AM AND 4:00 PM.	You will be notified of t	he address for pick-up.			
** PLEASE DELIV	VER THIS PLANT	то:				

You may also order plants on our website www.aauwto.ca.aauw.net using PayPal.

Only a couple of weeks left to order these lovely Poinsettias and raise money for the Legal Advocacy Fund. This fund is the one that provides legal services and/or support to those who have legitimate claims of sexual harassment and/or other discriminatory matters against women. One such case that AAUW is supporting is for our member, **Nathalie Gossett.**

BRANCH PROGRAMS – Submitted by Beverly Khoshnevisan

A Big Thank You for the Equal Means Equal Event

We thank CLU and **Dr. Cynthia Duarte**, Director of the CLU Center of Equality and Justice for hosting and arranging our event, the screening of Equal Means Equal, the documentary film on the status of women in America. We also thank **Junemarie Justus**, who serves on the Santa Barbara Council of Human rights and as a delegate to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, for moderating the event. Our thanks also to our own member **Nathalie Gossett** for sharing her experiences in her arbitration case with USC. As was evident in the film, we still have some work to do to ensure true equality for all. The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is gaining support to extend the deadline since only two more states are needed for ratification. (See Page 13 for more information.) If you missed the screening at CLU, the film is available for rent on Amazon and itunes. Check out the website <u>equalmeansequal.com</u>

Future Program Help Needed

We are looking for some volunteers to form a committee for our Annual Holiday Party. The party will be at the home of Liz Priedkalns, December 3, but we need greeters at the door, help organizing refreshments, setting up, and cleaning up afterwards. It's always a fun social event, and of course, spouses or significant others are invited too. See the flyer on the next page.

To offer your assistance, contact Bev Khoshnevisan, <u>bkhosh29@gmail.com</u> (805) 499-1063





PUBLIC POLICY – Article submitted by Betty Stapleford

National AAUW Takes a Stand

WASHINGTON — American Association of University Women's Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Churches issued the following statement, responding to the U.S. Secretary of Education's announcement about Title IX cuts.

"Secretary Betsy DeVos' decision to open up Title IX for changes represents a blatant intent to roll back protections for students. It is an action that is at direct odds with upholding the civil rights of all Americans. . . .

The American Association of University Women stands with survivors and remains committed to protecting and defending Title IX and to pursuing its vigorous enforcement. We must ensure our nation's dedication to full and equal educational opportunities for all students. After all, students' access to an education is on the line. Schools, and the Department of Education, owe it to them to uphold their civil rights, a promise today's announcement fails to reaffirm.

When schools and campuses become environments where women and girls no longer feel safe to learn, something is wrong. AAUW is committed to taking a stand against injustice and helping women and girls at schools across the country study, learn, and grow without fear of sex discrimination. The full enforcement of Title IX, the law that bans sex discrimination in education, is vital to our work...

In addition to our work to protect Title IX, our Legal Advocacy Fund provides case support to protect legal rights in schools and workplaces, creates precedents to combat future injustices, and holds those who violate Title IX accountable. AAUW has backed multiple landmark Title IX cases centered on sex discrimination. AAUW also aims to attract more girls and women to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. . . . But our efforts need full enforcement of Title IX to succeed.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Anne LaFianza, Director



NEW-Singing in Community

Where we learn to carry our parts and blend our voices

(A Conejo chapter of Threshold Choir is in the making!)

We will learn to carry our parts and blend our voices in a future Conejo chapter of Threshold Choir. Threshold Choirs combine hospice with making music; see https://Thresholdchoir.org for more information.

We meet at Marjorie Gauley's home in Newbury Park, most Fridays from 2:30 for a couple of hours.

To learn more, or if you think you might be interested in combining hospice with music, please contact: Marjorie at <u>805</u> <u>498-3300</u> and visit: <u>https://Thresholdchoir.org</u>.

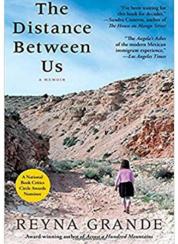


MORE COMMUNITY OUTREACH--AAUW/ICCV Unity Book Group To Meet On November 16

The first meeting of the new AAUW/ICCV Unity Book Group got off to an awesome start in October. This is an AAUW TO branch community outreach program with the Islamic Center of The Conejo Valley. Our discussion was not only about an amazing book, but also how our lives are inter-connected in so many interesting ways.

All are welcome to join us and enjoy an evening of stimulating conversation. Our next book will be the memoir called: <u>The Distance Between Us</u> by Reyna Grande.

"In this poignant memoir about her childhood in Mexico, Reyna Grande skillfully depicts another side of the immigrant experience—the hardships and heartbreaks of the children who are left behind. Through her brutally honest firsthand account of growing up in Mexico without her parents, Grande sheds light on the often overlooked consequence of immigration—the disintegration of a family."





The discussion should be quite interesting about this book, since the topic of immigration is so timely.

Our meeting will be on **Thursday Nov 16 at 6:30 pm-9 pm** at the home of Sally Hibbitts in Westlake. Please RSVP back to either Sally or Shoshana Brower.

AND MORE...

A new opportunity for one volunteer for community outreach is available. Several years ago, AAUW-TO was given a seat on the CVUSD (Conejo Valley Unified School District) Wellness Committee. Our member, **Elsa Nanson**, has been representing our Branch at these meetings for the past three years. She would like to give someone else the opportunity to take over for her and have this experience. We thank Elsa so much for the work she has put in, and look forward to seeing her in other roles at our Branch events. For 2017-18 the focus of this committee is on child nutrition. There are only three meetings a year and the first one has passed. If you would like to represent AAUW Thousand Oaks on this large committee—or just attend to see what it is like, please let **Anne La Fianza** know.

GLOBAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH- Submitted by Jeanette Hosek:

INTEREST GROUP--GLOBAL AWARENESS AND ACTION FOR GIRLS (GAAG) – an e-group for members interested in international projects focused on women and girls. Please email your name and address to **Jeanette Hosek** <u>ihosek@roadrunner.com</u> to be put on the list. A new project is being developed around books for two schools in Africa ---Malawi and Zambia. Let me know if you'd liked to be informed about and participate in this project.

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.

MUSEUMS AND GARDENS INTEREST GROUP

"RADICAL WOMEN" EXHIBIT Museums and Gardens Group Friday, November 17

On <u>Friday November 17</u> the Museums and Gardens Group will carpool to the Hammer Museum in Westwood Village for a special docent led tour of the amazing new special exhibit called, <u>Radical</u> <u>Women: Latin American Art, 1960-1985.</u> All members are welcome to join us...no previous participation is necessary!



Fifteen countries are represented in the exhibition by more than one hundred artists. The artists featured in Radical Women have made extraordinary contributions to the field of contemporary art, but little scholarly attention has been devoted to situating their work within the social, cultural, and political contexts in which it was made. This groundbreaking exhibition will constitute the first genealogy of feminist and radical art practices in Latin America and their influence internationally, thereby addressing an art historical vacuum.

We will gather for our carpools at the Barnes and Noble in Westlake at 10 AM and the only cost will be your share of the gas/parking plus your own lunch bill. We

will remain on site for lunch, as they have a new café called AMMO and this will also allow more visiting time after lunch.

Please RSVP to Sally Hibbitts by November 14 and those who can drive are always appreciated!

NEW MINDFUL AWARENESS GROUP

The Mindful Awareness Group includes facilitated group discussions and mindfulness meditation practice related to paying attention, staying present, stress resilience, cultivating kindness and compassion, and gratitude, with insights into recent advancements in the science of neuroplasticity. The new group is led by **Holly Sacks**, UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center certified mindfulness facilitator. At the October meeting, we experienced a guided meditation as well as learning that many concepts we had about meditation are myths. We look forward to the November meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00PM at Holly's house in Thousand Oaks. Contact her for more information at <u>sacks2748@verizon.net</u> or (805) 402-0110.

MORE INTEREST GROUPS – Submitted by Sharon Dyer and Joan Udani

THE DAYTIME BOOK GROUP will meet Monday, Nov. 27 at 9:30 A.M. at the Thousand Oaks library. We will discuss *A Man Called Ove* by Frederik Bachman. **Betty Stapleford** will be our reviewer. Contact **Joan Udani** for info.

THE EVENING BOOK GROUP will be meeting November 16, 2017, at Judy Gindi's home. The book this month is *Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter* by Kate Clifford Lawson. The book will be reviewed by Sharon Dyer. Please contact Sharon Dyer if you would like to join our group.

MOORPARK COLLEGE AAUW-TO AFFILIATE IS OFFICIAL:

Our Branch's Junior Affiliate Group at Moorpark College, under the direction of **Kaylee Slinghoff**, are learning how to put together events that match our organization's mission. The first one will be on self-defense and there will be information provided for those who are in varying physical conditions as well as the young and generally healthy students at Moorpark. They have a faculty sponsor, our member **Deanna Franke**. They have elected officers. For this event, they have a venue and an instructor. However, they are having a significant challenge in coordinating a date. We will be sending an e-blast with the information as soon as they let us know. It is important that we support their programs. I anticipate they will be supporting our future programs.

Any member who would be interested in assisting these students with event planning or in any other way, please contact **Deanna Franke** to volunteer.



Here is Kaylee and her Executive Board



SAD AND GLAD NEWS - Submitted by Audrey Giuffrida

Jeanette and Bill Hosek recently spent a week in Chicago with their daughter, Sybil, and her family. It was a week for anniversaries, birthdays and celebrations including attending a performance of "Hamilton" which was a delightful experience! Sybil Hosek, Ph.D. is the lead author of a recently published study in JAMA Pediatrics on a current research project on Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions. If you care to read further about the study, Google Sybil Hosek. We congratulate Sybil and Jeanette and Bill on Sybil's noteworthy achievement on this research project.

Betty Stapleford and her husband, Tom, recently spent two weeks in France on a river cruise on the Seine River from Paris to Normandy and Brittany. They saw many amazing things, but Betty reports that her favorites were the D'Orsay Museum in Paris, the Eiffel Tower light show, Monet's house and gardens near Givenchy, the War Memorial and Cemetery near Omaha Beach, and the Chartres Cathedral, and Monet's house and gardens near Givenchy. That sounds like a feast for the eyes and we are so happy you had this wonderful opportunity.

Our member, **Anne Berry**, sadly has lost both her parents recently. It was only a few months ago that we reported the passing of Betsy Berry, a long-time very active member of our Branch. She was past president (twice). And now, we must announce the passing of Anne's father--Betsy's husband, Dr. Wade L. Berry. There will be a celebration of his life on November 11. Anyone interested in attending the service should contact Bonnie Shubb at <u>brshubb@gmail.com</u> for details.

Several members have asked that we communicate to the membership about their friend and former AAUW member, Nancy Piscitelle, who fell last week and broke her hip—"the worst break her surgeon has ever seen." She is at Mary Health of the Sick and will be there for at least six weeks.

READY TO DO MORE?

Bakula Maniar, from the Simi Branch is looking for members to serve at the State level. If you have been working on Branch level for many years, this just may be the time to stretch to be on a State Committee. If you have any interest in finding out more about this opportunity.

contact Bakula at (805) 285-5510 or <u>bakula.aauw@ymail.com</u>. Even if you don't feel ready to take on a position, think about attending the California AAUW Convention this year. Hopefully, we will have a full delegation attending.

Put this on your calendar



AAUW California

Save April 27-29, 2018 for our Convention!

Location: Irvine

This is a reminder to PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!





SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest members. These members joined after our most recent (pink) directory was released. Their address and other detail information will be available soon, along with all our members, on a secure "for members only" area of our Branch website.

Brenda Terzian – Camarillo – Brendaretee@yahoo.com Diane Birchman – Thousand Oaks – dbirchman@hotmail.com Lisa Powell – Thousand Oaks – lisaesings@hotmail.com Mina Sirkin – Calabasas – minasirkin@gmail.com Sandy Brookshaw – Westlake Village – 503-913-5937

If you haven't received your directory, contact Mini Madan, Membership Director at minimadan@yahoo.com

Directory Corrections of Phone or e-mail of existing members: So far we have found the following changes required:

Peggy Buckles – Home: (818) 879-1834 Cell: (818) 292-5730

AND OUR NEW ADDITION! EACH MONTH WE WILL SPOTLIGHT A MEMBER WHO JOINED RECENTLY

SPOTLIGHT ON A NEW MEMBER – Reported by Audrey Giuffrida

Meet new member, **Sandy Brookshaw**. Welcome to AAUW, Sandy! A native Californian, Sandy moved here two years ago and was an active member of our branch 30 years ago. She and her family moved to Oregon, then moved back and she has two adult children living in Santa Barbara.

A past president of another branch, Sandy hopes to become an active member of our chapter. She enjoys listening to guest speakers who have opportunities to offer women and likes to participate in board and card games. She also enjoys being involved in the community and being supportive of it. Currently, Sandy volunteers at Los Robles Hospital as a floater. That way, she says, she gets a chance to be involved in many areas of patient care.

Sandy, since you expressed an interest in museums, we hope to see you on some of our Museums & Gardens trips as well as some other excursions in which you might like to participate.



AAUW NAME BADGE ORDER FORM



\$20.00 with magnet back \$19.00 with pin back plus \$2.50 if you want it mailed to you. Otherwise, you will be notified when it is ready for pick up.

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

Branch: _____

Title: _____

(if applicable)

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Telephone: ______

Email: _____

Mailed to you: \$2.50 extra ______ Send form and check payable to AAUW T.O. to:

> AAUW TO PO Box 4223 Thousand Oaks, CA 912359