



Thousand Oaks Branch, Inc.

Volume 53, Issue 3

October 2017

AAUW'S ANNUAL FALL MEMBERSHIP BREAKFAST A SUCCESS!

As anticipated, the highlight of the breakfast was our Keynote Speaker, **Kimberly Churches**, CEO of AAUW. She spoke about her vision and plans for AAUW, including current challenges and changes being made in organizational structure to coordinate progress toward goals.

Sharon Dyer, Event Chair, sends her thanks to many people for making the Fall Breakfast so successful. She received a lot of positive feedback. 115 people attended. The array of food on the buffet was delicious and very well displayed. **Susan Fagan** again outdid herself with the beautiful centerpieces. Sharon thanks **Bonnie Shubb** for getting the speaker for us. The Special Interest Group song with lyrics by **Cynthia Perry** was outstanding and a big hit with **Trish Adrian** leading it. Sharon heard very good comments about the background music, so thanks again to musicians **Moises Mercado** and **Carolee Purcell**. **Sally Hibbitts** and her crew conducted a very profitable raffle. More about the raffle on Page 2. Thanks also to the Special Interest Group-, Community Outreach- and LAF-leaders for the displays at their tables. **Wendy Hoffman** provided hosts at the dining tables to greet everyone, answer any questions about AAUW, and to keep the conversation going. **C.J. Keavney** wrote the excellent article that appeared in the Acorn. **Donna Langley** designed the original flyer. We will be doing a debrief at the October Board Meeting to see what we can improve for next year's breakfast, so if you have any suggestions, feel free to come to the Board Meeting or let Sharon know before then to bring your constructive comments and ideas. Anyone who worked on the breakfast and was not mentioned either by name or what you contributed, thank you as well, and sorry you were omitted.

WORDS FROM PRES., BONNIE SHUBB

I sincerely hope you enjoyed the breakfast. I surely did! For those of you who could not be there, you missed an exciting and informative morning. It was such an honor to sit with the public officials from the State Senate, State Assembly, County Supervisor, Mayor of Thousand Oaks, and School Board Member, (all Branch members) as well as the CEO of AAUW. My personal goal for this year is to encourage ALL our members to take an additional action this year that they haven't done in the past for AAUW Thousand Oaks. If you are not a member reading this, I encourage you to join. If you have been a member "in dues only" it is time to step up to some additional action. Look through this Oak Twig and find something to attend, work on, or plan. We would love to get to know you better!

SAVE THE DATES-OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 4 – Board Meeting 6:30PM. All members are welcome. Contact Bonnie Shubb.

October 5 – Museums & Gardens Trip, 9AM

Contact Sally Hibbitts

October 7 – Coffee and Chat 9:00AM Just show up!

Stella's Café in Newbury Park

October 11 – State of the Schools Breakfast,

7:30am California Lutheran University

October 12 – Exploring Religions of the World

6:30PM Contact Wendy Hoffman.

October 15 – AAUW California Fall Fund Luncheon –

Seal Beach, CA

October 17 – Movie Screening Equal Means Equal

7:00PM CLU – Lundring Events Center

October 18 – Unity Book Group

7:00PM Contact Shoshana Brower

October 19 – Evening Book Group

7:30 Contact Pat O'Donnell

October 23 – Daytime Book Group 9:30AM –

Thousand Oaks Library

October 24 – Mindful Awareness Group 7:00PM

Contact Holly Sacks

Details on all these events are found throughout this Oak Twig issue.

Join us for three weeks of Workshops for Women. Each week will be a fresh trending topic that could help change your life. All workshops are FREE and open to the public, but space is limited so please reserve your spot today.

Workshops will be held at:

Ventura County
Community Foundation
4001 Mission Oaks Blvd.
Camarillo, CA 93012

Doors open at 5:45pm. Light refreshments will be offered after each workshop.

For more information or to register for a workshop please call (805) 482-1904 or visit:

www.asmdc.org/dw



Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin

Presents

Workshops *for* Women

Week 1 - September 28th /6-7:30 p.m. - Women in the Workforce

Whether you are at the beginning of your career, reentering the workforce or embarking on a whole new path, this workshop is for you. Shannon M. Sutherland will discuss salary negotiations, confidence boosters when speaking to prospective employers, reestablishing yourself professionally, and how to transfer your life experience skill set into a viable professional resume.

Week 2 - October 5th /6-7:30 p.m. - Women's Health and Wellness

This week we will focus on women's health from a holistic approach. We all want to live our best life and taking care of our bodies and our minds should be step number one. "I should exercise but I am too tired, too busy, too...." Vanessa Hernández will motivate, and teach you to work with your body and your schedule to give you more energy. Charlotte Gullap-Moore, APRN, ANP-BC will discuss health concerns that plague women in our society today and she will present a holistic, healthy alternative to help us be the best we can be.

Week 3 - October 12th /6-8 p.m. - Women Enacting Change

"Be the change you wish to see in the world." -Gandhi

Join us as Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin engages in an "Arm Chair Chat" with three incredible women, all established in their fields and thoroughly engaged in the community. How do you go above and beyond, follow your passion, and effect change? Listen in on the conversation and then be part of the Q & A session as we learn from this impressive panel: Lisa Safaeinili, CEO Westminster Clinic, Dr. Holly Spohn-Gross, and Stephanie Caldwell, President and CEO of the Ventura Chamber of Commerce.

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Thank you to our co-sponsor American Association of University Women (AAUW)



These are each very different subjects, so even if you missed the first one, sign up for one or two of the others. Our Branch is a sponsor of this event, so we want to support it.

Something New!!

If you are missing the birthday pages or the occupation pages from your new directory, here is why. We are going to be opening a secure section of our website where you can go to see this information as well as other information that we do not want to make public on our website. It is coming soon...we will let you know when it is available. If you haven't received your directory, contact **Mini Madan**, Membership Director.

THE RAFFLE WAS AMAZING

With the generous support of the many attendees at the Fall Breakfast, our branch has earned **\$1245** to be used for Tech Trek and our Local Scholarship Fund. This was an excellent amount to be earned from a single event and a sincere thank you is extended to the various retailers, the people who purchased tickets, our members who donated items, and also to the fabulous Raffle Committee composed of ***Carol Keavney, Penny Strowger, and Joan Edwards***. Please remember to personally thank those listed below and to definitely support these local retail establishments! It really helps us next time, that you tell them AAUW appreciates their help!

- Hyatt Regency, Westlake
- Aroha New Zealand Cuisine, Westlake
- The Landing Restaurant, Westlake
- Paul Martin's American Grill, Westlake
- Texture Hair Salon, Thousand Oaks
- Total Woman and Spa, Westlake
- Wildflower Boutique, Newbury Park
- Oakbrook Awards, Westlake (Melissa Cam)
- Chocolatine French Café, Thousand Oaks
- Gina Muscatel, Two Rounds of Golf at Sherwood Club
- Peggy Buckles, Leather New Brief Case
- Pat Helton, Magic Castle Admission for four
- Barbara Gilmore, Titleist New Golf Bag
- Jeanette Hosek, Golf Balls and Glove
- Sally Hibbitts, Wine plus Santa Monica Mountains book
- Sharon Dyer, Wine
- Penny Strowger, Wine

There were too many great pictures from the Breakfast to choose from to include here. Pictures will be posted on our Facebook Page and you just may find some on our website.



Kaylee Slingluff and her Board

These are our Moorpark College students who started a club and are planning events for us and their college group, which "coincidentally??" has the same mission as AAUW. Our member, ***Deanne Franke*** is their faculty sponsor. Look for an eblast invitation to their November event, where we will learn some self-defense strategies.

It's the most wonderful time of the year!



The time when we come together to celebrate and honor our Fellowship and Grant recipients, along with all their extraordinary research accomplishments. AAUW California is fortunate to have many recipients of AAUW Funds and Grants studying here. Fellows and grant recipients can be strong motivators when members are deciding where to donate money.

Join our most recent Fellowship and Grant Recipients for an inspiring glimpse into their research. Each luncheon provides an opportunity to meet six to eight recipients who will give a brief overview of their studies or projects and highlight what the support they received from AAUW means to them.

After the event, you may want to engage a recipient as a speaker for your branch! Find out more information about how to schedule a speaker [here](#).

Make your reservations now!

Southern California

- **October 15th** -Seal Beach – Click [here](#) to register. *Deadline – October 7th.*

BUY YOUR HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS FROM AAUW THOUSAND OAKS
A lovely decoration for your home and office or as a gift to friends & neighbors!

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All Orders must be received by November 20, 2017

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of 6" Plants _____ Color _____ # of Ivysettia _____ # of Mumsettia _____

Amt. enclosed for: Plants and/or Centerpieces: \$ _____

Return this form with check payable to AAUW TO and mail to: P.O. Box 4223, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359. Att: Jeanette Hosek, Funds Director

Retain this information for pick-up instructions!

ORDERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017, BETWEEN 11:00AM AND 4:00 PM. You will be notified of the address for pick-up.

Thank You for Supporting the Legal Advocacy Fund



URGE CONGRESS TO PASS THE DREAM ACT OF 2017!

For the past five years, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program has provided nearly 800,000 recipients the ability to attend school, go to work, and contribute to our economy without fear of deportation. But with a simple swipe of the pen, President Trump has [moved toward ending the DACA program](#), taking with it the opportunity for thousands of immigrants to achieve the American Dream.

AAUW is proud to be part of a community that fights for the civil rights of *all* Americans. That's why we're joining with thousands of civil rights advocates this week to urge Congress to stand up for Dreamers and DACA recipients by passing the Dream Act of 2017 without amendment

[Join us by urging your members of Congress to take action!](#)

The Dream Act of 2017 is a bipartisan bill that would provide a path to legal status for undocumented young individuals who came here before the age of 18 and who graduate from U.S. high schools and attend college, enter the workforce, or enlist in a military program. The impact of this legislation has the potential to reach hundreds of thousands of immigrants across the country, specifically providing immigrant women and girls with the educational and career opportunities that generations of Americans have relied on to achieve economic prosperity.

The ball is now in Congress's court and they must act quickly.

[Send a message to your members of Congress now and urge them to stand up for young immigrants by passing the Dream Act of 2017 without amendment.](#)

TAKE ACTION!

These are each very different subjects, so even if you missed the first one, sign up for one or two of the others. Our Branch is a sponsor of this event, so we want to support it.

AAUW
1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005

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



All are welcome to join us for our trip to the terrific Autry Museum on **THURSDAY OCTOBER 5** to enjoy a docent led tour of these two new exhibits: “LA RAZA” and “The Life and Works of Mabel McKay”. In addition there is a small and timely exhibit called “the Standing Rock: Art and Solidarity.”

Published in Los Angeles from 1967-1977, the influential bilingual newspaper *La Raza* provided a vibrant voice to the Chicano Rights Movement. *La Raza* engaged photographers not only as journalists but also as artists and activists to capture this era of Chicano activism. The archive of nearly 25,000 images created by these photographers, now housed at UCLA, provides the foundation for a unique exhibition exploring photography’s vital role during this time. The Autry exhibit of “LA RAZA” will be the most sustained examination to date of both the photography and the alternative press of the Chicano Movement.

The exhibition “The Life and Work of Mabel McKay” is the first solo show at the Autry about a Native American woman. Mabel McKay was a Pomo Native healer, teacher and political activist, and expert basket weaver. Her artful, intricate baskets are in the Smithsonian, and many of them are also now on display at the Autry. This amazing artist didn’t learn to read or write until she was 60 years old. Some of her pieces are so small, they must be viewed with a magnifying glass!

“Standing Rock: Art and Solidarity”. In April 2016, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe launched a large public campaign to stop the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. Over subsequent months, an unprecedented movement developed among allies from hundreds of other Indigenous nations as well as large numbers of non-Native activists, organized around the Dakota/Lakota principle of “Water is life.” This small but timely exhibit showcases many of the pieces made at this time.

We will be meeting at Barnes and Noble in Westlake for our carpools at 9 AM and return about 3PM, depending upon traffic, etc. Lunch will be at the Crossroads Café at the Museum, which will allow us additional time to look at other exhibits of interest.

The cost is \$8 per senior (discounted price needs to be paid in cash) and your share of the gasoline costs also payable in cash to your driver.

If you are interested, you **MUST** be sure to contact Sally Hibbitts to RSVP. Those who are able to assist with driving are our super heroes of the day!

EXPLORING RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD THROUGH THE EYES OF WOMEN

The Exploring Religions of the World through the Eyes of Women Interest Group will meet on Thursday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m. in a private home in Thousand Oaks..

Our guest will be Rev. Betty Stapleford. She is a Unitarian Universalist minister but began her life in the UU as a humanist. She will share her insights from her Humanist heritage with the group.

Please RSVP to wendyhof@gmail.com or (805) 496-2764 as space is limited.

NEW MINDFUL AWARENESS GROUP

The Mindful Awareness Group will include 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 will be led by Holly Sacks, UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center certified mindfulness facilitator. The October meeting will take place on October 24 at 7:00PM at Holly's house in Thousand Oaks. Contact her for more information at sacks2748@verizon.net or (805) 402-0110.



**AAUW Thousand Oaks Branch
& CLU Center for Equality and Justice**

**Proudly Co-sponsor a free screening of this major
new documentary on**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 at 7 PM

LUNDRING EVENTS CENTER, CLU CAMPUS

**This is the definitive documentary film on the
status of women in America.**

EQUAL MEANS EQUAL offers an unflinching look at how women are treated in the United States today. Examining both real-life stories and precedent-setting legal cases, director Kamala Lopez uncovers how outdated and discriminatory attitudes inform and influence seemingly disparate issues, from workplace harassment to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault to the foster care system, and the health care conglomerate to the judicial system. Along the way, she reveals the inadequacy of present laws that claim to protect women, ultimately presenting a compelling and persuasive argument for the urgency of ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment.



SAD AND GLAD NEWS

Submitted by: Audrey Giuffrida

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Tyler Petrangelo, son of Pam and Keith, was married to Natalie Siordia on April 21, 2017 at the Bel Air Bay Club. Pam reports that this site made a perfect setting and that they lucked out with great weather. The entire wedding party stayed at the Club where they danced until the wee hours of the morning and then they, along with Ty and Nat had brunch together before the newlyweds headed off to the airport for their honeymoon.

Pam tells us that was the most fun she's had at a wedding beside her own. The couple bought a house in Thousand Oaks and Pam and Keith are thrilled to have them so nearby. Pam and Keith have been embraced by Ty's family, which is a real plus because they have very few family members.

This sounds like a win-win for both families and we wish them continuing happiness and joy.

We Recognize Our Longtime Members!

AAUW branches are recognizing the contributions and support of their long time members. At the May 6 Annual Meeting and in the September Oak Twig we recognized 40+ year members. Following is a list of 30+ year members. This group will be recognized at our 2017-18 Annual Meeting this year. The Thousand Oaks branch is fortunate many of our members have been faithful stewards of our branch.

Liza McBurnie – 32 years
 Chris Nuttall – 31 years
 Liz Preidkalns – 32 years
 Melanie Ashen – 33 years
 Berniece Reed – 38 years
 Marlene Alexander – 33 years
 Rose Cooley – 39 years
 Barbara Gilmore – 32 years
 Pat Helton – 32 years
 Bev Khoshevisan – 38 years
 Melissa Cam – 38 years
 Donna Langley – 31 years
 Marjorie Price – 32 years
 Sally Hibbitts – 38 years
 Wilma Rosenberg – 40 years
 Colleen Briner-Schmidt – 35 years
 Lisa Brennen – 32 years

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 805 498-3300 and visit: <https://Thresholdchoir.org>.

The Unity Book Group is a new and exciting opportunity for members to actively engage with other women in our community. Shoshana Brower and Sally Hibbitts have connected with Noreen Khokhar and Aysha Hussain of the Islamic Center of the Conejo Valley to create an interesting and dynamic group of women uniting through books and common topics of interest. The first meeting will be October 18 and the book will be Barbara Kingsolver, Animal Dreams. For more information, please contact either Sally or Shoshana.



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.

Daytime Literature Group meets October 23 at the Thousand Oaks Library. We will be discussing *News of the World* by Paulette Giles, to be reviewed by our member, **Pat O'Donnell**.

Evening Literature Group meets October 19. Contact Sharon Dyer for location. This group will be discussing *News of the World* by Paulette Giles.

Both groups are reading this book because it is the One City One Book read for Thousand Oaks this year.

Our member, **Shoshana Brower**, has been a volunteer with the Red Cross for years...mostly making arrangements for food services at emergency shelters. However, she also went by Westlake Hills school where they had a recent collection for Hurricane Harvey relief...one afternoon's ice cream sales resulted in a \$761 donation!



A guest at our Membership Breakfast is on the State Board Nominating Committee. **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 bakula.aauw@ymail.com.



NATAHALIE GOSSET UPDATE

It's important for all of us to show our support for our fellow AAUW Thousand Oaks Branch member, **Nathalie Gosset**, in her **litigation case against USC for sexual harassment**. Our goal is to reach a new benchmark of **3000 signatures!** It's very important that you sign & forward this to others to support Nathalie.

Please use this web site to connect with her petition to the USC Administration. Her case has support from our own AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Please go to her web page and discover how to help her! WWW.STAND4NAT.ORG
Thank you!

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PROGRAMS Submitted by Beverly Khoshnivisan, Program Director

“Equal Means Equal” a new documentary film on the status of women in America, will be screened on the CLU campus on Tuesday, October 17, 7:00PM, Lundring Events Center, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks.

How far have we come and how far do we have to go? This film offers a look at how women are treated in the United States today and addresses topics we are all familiar with—female poverty, wage discrimination, reproductive healthcare, sexual harassment, child sex trafficking, and more, including the LAW. But we are surprised and appalled at what the present law actually says—or doesn’t say. And often how is the law interpreted?

Junemarie Justus, an active member of the Human Rights Watch Organization, Women’s Rights, will be our moderator and lead discussion after the film. Be sure to join us for this important event co-sponsored by California Lutheran University.

And here is a sneak peek about our November program, Beloved and Banned:

Have you read any banned books to your children—or yourself? Did you know they were banned? How could that be?

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 only for the text, but for the illustrations. 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.

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.

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

This is a reminder to PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



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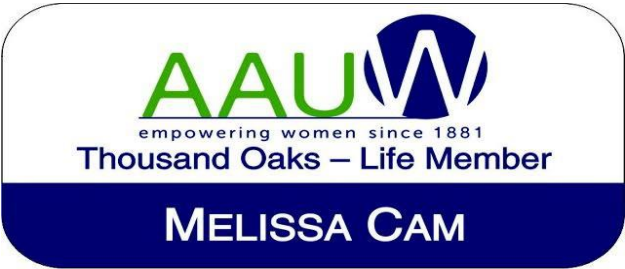
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