

# The Oak Twig

Thousand Oaks Branch, Inc.

Volume 50, Issue 2

October 2015

## FUN RAISE HER

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH**  
**Home of Larry Janss**

**Limited Number of Tickets**  
**On Sale NOW**  
**(see pages 4 & 5)**

## New Schools Become Partners

College/University Partnerships Committee

This is an exciting time for all Ventura County AAUW branches as we have a tremendous opportunity to provide service to more college-age young women, with the addition of the three VCCCD college sites, Moorpark College, Ventura College, and Oxnard College into our ranks of partner schools. Each college, including CLU and CSUCI, has an assigned Faculty or Staff liaison who will be working with the Branches to develop programs of interest to their student population.

We are looking for AAUW members who particularly like working with the young adults or "transitioning students" who make up the college student population today. Usually, there is an already-established student club on campus with which AAUW would merge with to provide appropriate opportunities. For more information, please contact Sally Hibbits.



### October 2015 Events

- **Saturday, October 3 - Coffee and Chat.** Stella's Gourmet Restaurant, Newbury Park. 9:00 AM.
- **Monday, October 5 - Exploring Religions Through the Eyes of Women meets.** Muvico Theater, Thousand Oaks. 7:00 PM. (see page 14)
- **Tuesday, October 13 - Board Meeting.** Wildwood Condo Recreation Center, Thousand Oaks. 6:30 PM.
- **Wednesday, October 14 - Financial Literacy** (co-sponsored by State Assembly Member Jacqui Irwin.) CSUCI, Camarillo. 7:00 PM. Contact Sally Hibbits.
- **Sunday, October 18 - Fun Raise Her.** Home of Larry Janss, Thousand Oaks. 3:00 PM. (see pages 4 and 5)
- **Wednesday, October 21 - 50th Anniversary meeting.** Home of Wendy Hoffman, Thousand Oaks. 10:00 AM. (see page 13)
- **Saturday, October 24 - Womentum Conference.** CSUCI, Camarillo. 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM. (see page 17)
- **Monday, October 26 - Common Core Study group meets.** Earths Magnet School, Newbury Park. Time TBA. (see page 14)
- **Wednesday, October 28 - Museums and Gardens trip.** Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena. 10:00 AM. (see page 10)

### November 2015 Events

- **Monday, November 2 - "Dreamers" Panel Discussion/AAUW Branch Meeting.** T.O. Library. 6:30 PM. (see page 6)
- **Thursday, November 5 - Women's Healthcare group meets.** Village Homes Club House, Westlake. 6:30 PM. (see page 10)
- **Saturday, November 7 - Coffee and Chat.** Stella's Gourmet Restaurant, Newbury Park. 9:00 AM.
- **Tuesday, November 10 - Board Meeting.** Wildwood Condo Recreation Center, Thousand Oaks. 6:30 PM.
- **Saturday, November 14 - New member Coffee & Chat.** Home of Sally Hibbits, Thousand Oaks. 9:00 AM.
- **Thursday, November 19 - Our Living Community group meets.** Mimi's, Thousand Oaks. 7:00 PM. (see page 14)

### Save These Dates

- **Sunday, December 6 - Branch Holiday Party.** Home of Liz Priedkalns, Thousand Oaks. 5:00 PM
- **Saturday, January 23, 2016 - IBC Luncheon.** Los Robles Greens, Thousand Oaks. Time TBA.

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

## A Note from the President...

Wow! What a wonderful kick-off we had in September at the Fall Membership Breakfast, when our Branch definitely "Stepped Up and Spoke Out" by endorsing the SOAR 2050 Initiatives which will improve and promote a clean and healthy environment for us all.

Dr. Ann Bonitatibus, CVUSD Superintendent, also "Stepped Up and Spoke Out" about the role of public education coupled with her vision for the future by incorporating local input. A big thank you to the FMB Chair Linda Pochter and her very able committee, along with the Special Interest Group Chairs and countless other members who made this breakfast one of the best yet!

Coming this October 18th, from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, is our big Fall Fun Raise Her to Support Tomorrow's Leaders at the home of Larry Janss. We will be able to sip on a nice glass of wine while enjoying fabulous jazz music provided by "Mo Plus...." otherwise known as Moises Mercado and his additional friendly musicians! Larry Janss' home is filled with art treasures from his many world travels focused on South America, Mexico, and Asia but with European and SW American art added to provide additional interest. His family room is dedicated to his personal photographic mentor Ansel Adams: all four walls are filled with works by Adams. We will also be able to see unique sculptures and graphics in the screening room and in the outdoor areas. This is a unique opportunity for our group to benefit from the generous offer of a private home with such a quality art collection. Larry believes strongly in our mission and definitely is committed to helping make this afternoon event unforgettable. Please purchase your tickets early, as they will sell out. Bring your friends and relatives!

Looking ahead... our November Branch Event at the Library, on November 2nd, will delve into the world of undocumented young women and how they live "in the shadows," while still trying to get their high school education. Plus, our Special Interest Groups will all be getting organized as well. So, make your plans now to attend many of these superior events and Step Up and Speak Out about AAUW this Fall!

Sally Hibbitts



## September Board Meeting "Tidbits"



PayPal is now available on our website.

Judi Robinson reported that we have 144 members.

Sally Hibbitts said that The Coffee and Chat has been very successful. Stella's is going to provide a large table for us for future meetings.

Linda Pochter described the preparations being made for the Fall Membership Breakfast.

Narda Fargotstein summarized the programs for 2015-2016 and the Master Calendar will be available at the Fall Membership Breakfast.

VCCCD Ventura County Community College District and California State University Channel Islands have become partners with AAUW.

The current Oak Twig co-editors, Pattie Dix and Donna Langley, will be retiring after this year.

Sharon Dyer, Secretary



## 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*



☀ Lori Kissinger sustained a stress fracture to her foot and has had to wear a protective boot, which was both uncomfortable and unwieldy. Finally she has been able to rid herself of this encumbrance and "Oh, what a relief it was!" We are happy that she is now able to put her best foot forward. Carry on, Lori!

☀ We have a new member who has a new baby: what a winning combination! Welcome Debra Boyd and her baby Elisabeth Rose, born on August 20, 2015. At birth she was 20 inches long and weighed 7.2 pounds. Also in the family are husband, Matt, and siblings Grace and Thomas, 8 year old twins. Debra is a full time working mom, employed by Standard and Poor's Financial Services. Debra, we hope you will get much pleasure from this child and that she will be an ever-abiding source of joy and pride to you all.



☀ Madeleine Cray, 14-year-old daughter of Yvonne Brockwell, has been invited to join the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Moorpark College. Madeleine has been taking college courses for some time and consistently maintains a high GPA. This recognition is well deserved!

*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.*



**WELCOME TO OUR  
NEWEST MEMBERS**  
(see page 20)



## Member Birthdays October

Suzi Wedel	1
Rosemary Mullahey	1
Lori Mahoney	3
Lori Peters	8
Berniece Reed	10
Sharon Spielman	10
Michelle Francisco	14
Marianne Escaron	15
Margie Price	23
Marlene Alexander	25



AAUW members "stepped up" at the Fall Breakfast by donating a large quantity of toiletries and school supplies for Casa Pacifica's Angel's Cottage (specifically for teen girls who are abuse victims.) Thank you to all who donated, and especially to Pat O'Donnell for making the needed arrangements. Delivering/accepting supplies are (L-R): Tenise, Amber (Staff), Pat O'Donnell (AAUW), Paula Geeting (AAUW), Vanisa (in front), Janet Wall (AAUW) and Aaron.





**AAUW Thousand Oaks Invites You**

**To Join Us at**

**FUN RAISE HER**

**To Support Tomorrow's Leaders**

**Sunday, OCT. 18, 2015**

**3pm - 6pm**

**Tickets are \$50 each**

**♦ Enjoy live jazz, wine & art at the home of ♦**

**★ LARRY IANSS ★**

**Tickets available through [aauwto.org](http://aauwto.org)**

**Limited ticket availability. Address for event location will be released one week prior.**

**For more info contact Sally Hibbitts, President  
AAUW TO at [sjhibbitts@aol.com](mailto:sjhibbitts@aol.com)**

## Paid Reservation Form for Mail Purchases

**“FUN RAISE HER: TO SUPPORT TOMORROW’S LEADERS”****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18*****FROM 3 :00 PM TO 6 :00 PM******AT THE HOME OF*****MR. LARRY JANSS\***

Using the form at the bottom of this page, please include your personal check payable to “AAUW Thousand Oaks” for the amount of \$50.00 each (no convenience fee.) Please include the following information: number of reservations, names of those attending, contact information only for the purchaser (name, phone, and email address.) **Mail this form and your check to: AAUW TO, PO Box 4223, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359.** Tickets are limited and will be available only on a first come, first served basis.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE PRE-PAID. THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO WALK-INS!**

**\*The actual address will be made available to the purchasers one week prior to the event.**

**For further questions, please contact Sally Hibbits.**



Cut Here

Yes, I want to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ tickets to the Fun Raise Her Event, to be held Sunday, October 18 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, at the home of Mr. Larry Janss. I understand the address for this event will be released approximately one week prior to the event. I am also aware that parking is limited and carpools are suggested.

Name of Purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_

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

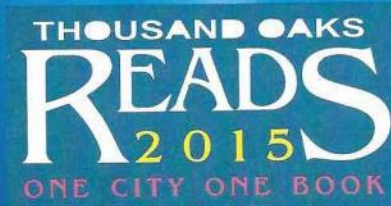
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations requested \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50 each = \_\_\_\_\_ (total amount enclosed)



## Thousand Oaks Reads: One City One Book



### The Dreamers: A Panel Discussion



An important panel discussion presented by The American Association of University Women and CLUE (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice), featuring young Latino students who, while they live in the shadows of society, strive to reach the American dream.

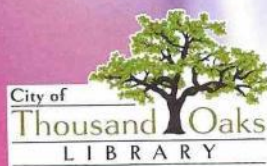


**Monday, November 2, 2015**  
**6:30 – 8:00 PM**

**Grant R. Brimhall Library**  
1401 E. Janss Road • Thousand Oaks

This event is free and open to the public.

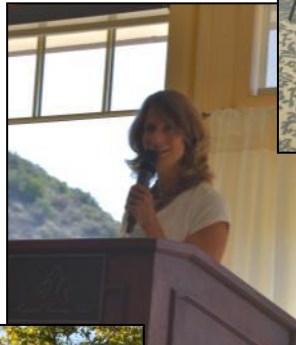
For more information, please call 805-449-2660, option 5  
or visit [www.thousandoaksreads.org](http://www.thousandoaksreads.org)



Grant R. Brimhall Library - 1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 • 805-449-2660  
Newbury Park Branch Library - 2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320 • 805-498-2139  
[www.toaks.org/library](http://www.toaks.org/library)



Memories from the  
Fall Membership  
Breakfast  
September 19, 2015



## It Takes a Village to Organize a Membership Breakfast!

Thank you to everyone on the FMB Committee (a few of whom are pictured here) for working so hard over the summer planning and coordinating to make this Breakfast so successful. Each of you had an area of responsibility and your follow through was excellent.

**Bonnie Shubb** implemented the Pay Pal "button," **Vera King** put together a spread sheet for the reservations that was magnificent and detailed. **Betty Stapleford** lined up the Table Hosts and **Sachi Stark** was responsible for the "pigs." Thanks so much as these duties made the day go smoothly. **Bev Khoshnevisan**, **Penny Strowger** and **Joan Edwards** helped in so many of the duties. **Pat O'Donnell** located a worthy cause for our donations in Casa Pacifica and will deliver the donations. I had lots of help with the centerpieces. **Sharon Dyer** went shopping with me and **Judi Robinson** put together the picket signs. Judi also took care of the Membership table handing out Directories. **Sally Hibbetts** put together the program while lining up our speaker Dr. Ann Bonitatibus. **Donna Langley** managed the huge job of creating the art and invitation format. She also drafted the program and made countless changes. Moises Mercado was awesome working the video equipment and the Interest Groups worked their magic, too. **Jeanette Hosek** helped with the picket signs for the Interest Groups, and last but not least is **Angie Simpson**, who saved us money by having the programs printed. It seems that half the membership worked to make this breakfast extremely successful. Thanks so much to everyone!

Linda Pochter  
Chair, Fall  
Membership Breakfast





## What's on the Horizon for STEM Careers?

Science, technology, engineering and math: what STEM careers will be in demand for the next generation?



Brighter Horizons is a math and science conference, hosted by AAUW, for children in the 5th through 9th grades. It will be held on March 12, 2016 at California Lutheran University. The purpose is to encourage these young minds to stay engaged in their math and science education so they can be prepared to pursue STEM careers. AAUW promotes this purpose by offering a Saturday morning set of

workshops providing hands-on experiences and first-hand access to a variety of female role models working in STEM fields.

Your help is needed! Many great former workshop leaders from past conferences are returning, but to broaden the choices for the students who attend, more leaders are always needed.

Do you know a female working in any of these areas: Architect, Construction, Epidemiology, Environmental Engineer, Petroleum Engineer, Biomedical Research, Software Game Development, and Special Effects Software Development? If so, please send contact information to the Brighter Horizons committee, which will make sure to follow up on your suggestions.

### Details:

**Brighter Horizons will be held on Saturday, March 12th, 2016 at CLU.**

**Workshop leaders will present three workshops, each 50 minutes in length, to a group size of about 30 students.**

**Workshops need to include a hands-on component, and a career path or careers available in the field.**

**Please pass along any suggestions to [leader@aauw-brighterhorizons.org](mailto:leader@aauw-brighterhorizons.org).**

**Learn more about this incredible event at [aauw-brighterhorizons.org](http://aauw-brighterhorizons.org).**

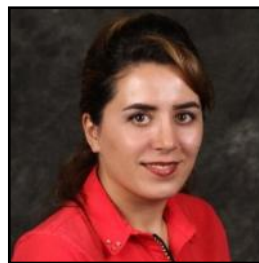
## Looking for a Phone Number?

**If you're seeking contact information for people leading various Branch activities, please see page 21 of this newsletter. The *Oak Twig* is now being published on our Branch website, [aauwto.org](http://aauwto.org), without our members' personal information. The "Contact Page" will NOT appear on our website.**



## T.O. Branch Endowment Recipient Announced

AAUW Thousand Oaks has three endowments established by its members over the 50 years that the Branch has existed. The largest endowment is the Thousand Oaks 30th Anniversary American Fellowship, which is given yearly to a graduate student completing her thesis for a Ph.D



The recipient of this endowment for 2015-16 is **PARISA MANSOURIFARD**. Parisa is a student at the University of Southern California completing an advanced degree in Electrical Engineering. She also has a master's degree in electrical engineering and computer science.

Parisa's research interests include decision making, stochastic control and optimization and the intersection of optimization and learning theory. The title of her thesis is *Newsvendor Problems in Networks: Optimization under Resource /Demand Uncertainty*. In addition to the Thousand Oaks endowment, Parisa's fellowship is supported by three other AAUW endowments.

Recipients of the Branch's other two endowments will be announced in the November Oak Twig. Donations to AAUW Funds can be made at any time by visiting [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

## Museums and Gardens Group to View Art in Pasadena

Welcome back to another wonderful year for our Museums and Gardens group! For the month of October, we will carpool to the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena, which several members have suggested as a trip location. There are many quality art exhibits there this fall, which should be quite interesting.



The accidental discovery of Prussian blue in an alchemist's laboratory around 1704 helped to open up new possibilities for artistic expression at the dawn of the Enlightenment. *A Revolution of the Palette* explores the use of this pigment, followed by the introduction of cobalt blue and synthetic ultramarine, by French artists from the Rococo period to the threshold of Impressionism.

We will also view the special exhibit of drawings by the French master, Jean-Honoré Fragonard, who ascended to

the rank of one of the 18th century's most popular painters. Fragonard experienced The Grand Tour, made from 1759 to 1761, which inspired him to chronicle this experience for an audience that shared his fascination with the Italy. The black chalk drawings



Fragonard produced for his Grand Tour sponsor became immensely popular publications and served as barometers of taste for the arts.

We will meet for this trip in front of the Barnes and Noble in Westlake Village on Wednesday, October 28 at 10:00 AM in time to carpool to Pasadena for an early lunch before going to the museum, which opens at noon. Expected return time, depending upon afternoon traffic, may be about 4:00 PM or later. Your cost will be for admission of \$9 (senior rate), your share of gasoline and parking costs (pay cash to the driver) and your own lunch expenses.

Please RSVP to Sally Hibbitts by October 25 and people who can help with the carpool driving are always needed and definitely appreciated!



# JOIN US

AAUW THOUSAND OAKS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP: WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

IN AN EDUCATIONAL NETWORKING EVENT



*Understanding Cancer Clusters, & Demographic Markers for Increased Risks*

**Guest Speaker: Erin Slack, MPH**

Epidemiologist, Ventura County Public Health

Hosted by AAUW Special Interest Group Leader

**Angie Simpson, EMHA**

*November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 6:30pm*

Village Homes Club House • 1040 Evanstar Ave • Westlake Village



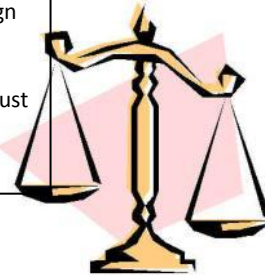
Visit us online at  
[aauwto.org](http://aauwto.org)



*Stepping Up  
and Speaking Out!*

## Become a Two Minute Activist

AAUW connects advocates at all levels to support empowerment of women and girls. Tap into your inner activist as you track AAUW focus issues of Equity, Economic Self-Sufficiency, Quality Education, and Individual Rights. Sign up for Action Alerts and make your voice heard. Visit [www.aauw.org/actionnetwork](http://www.aauw.org/actionnetwork) and enroll in the CA Action Alert system. You can be a **TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST**. Yes, in just two minutes you can respond to legislation currently under consideration and connect with members of Congress.



## Order Holiday Poinsettias from AAUW

Beautiful RED, PINK and WHITE plants in large 6" pots. The perfect way to decorate a home or office, give as gifts or replant in your garden!

Plus, proceeds benefit AAUW FUNDS-Legal Advocacy.

**Orders must be received by November 4, 2015.**



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

Home #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Specify how many plants you want of each color: \_\_\_\_\_ RED \_\_\_\_\_ PINK \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL Plants Ordered x \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed

**Mail this form and your check made payable to AAUW T.O. to  
Dianna Campbell (address is on contact page at the back of this newsletter.)**

**Pick up day for poinsettias is SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2015  
between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM at the home of Dianna Campbell**





The motion to support the 2050 SOAR Initiatives Renewal Campaign was unanimously passed at the Fall Membership Breakfast on Saturday, September 19th (read the full resolution below). The SOAR Initiatives to SAVE OPEN SPACE AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES for the County of Ventura and the City of Thousand Oaks ensures that land zoned for agricultural use and open space can only be converted to more intensive development uses with voter approval. Branch members will be encouraged to collect signatures for the ballot initiatives and work in coalition with other groups to achieve the passage of the SOAR initiatives.

### **SUBJECT: The 2050 SOAR Initiatives Renewal Campaign**

**RESOLUTION:** Be it Resolved that AAUW Thousand Oaks supports the renewal of the 2050 SOAR Initiatives to SAVE OPEN SPACE AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES for the County of Ventura and for the City of Thousand Oaks to ensure that land zoned for agricultural use and open space can only be converted to more intensive development uses with voter approval.

**WHEREAS**, “AAUW promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons and essential to that well-being is a clean and healthful environment.” (AAUW Public Policy Program, 2015-2017) And..

**WHEREAS**, AAUW has a long tradition of advocating for environmental issues including a scholarship to Rachel Carson in 1945 with which she wrote *Silent Spring*. And..

**WHEREAS**, local advocacy on environmental issues has been a hallmark of the fifty year history of AAUW Thousand Oaks and continues today with our support for responsible land use. And..

**WHEREAS**, with the passage of the original SOAR initiatives between 1995 and 2001 that received support from a majority of voters in the County of Ventura and in each of eight municipalities in the County, we have reaped the benefits of SOAR by maintaining buffers between our cities, minimizing congestion, conserving water, furthering our economic growth and protecting natural spaces and agricultural land. And..

**WHEREAS**, renewal of the SOAR initiatives requires collection of tens of thousands of registered voter signatures followed by a positive vote of the electorate. And..

**WHEREAS**, the Branch strongly supports the involvement of its members in the participatory governance of the community

**Therefore, be it RESOLVED,**

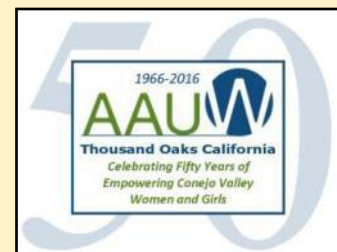
**That AAUW Thousand Oaks fully endorses the renewal of the 2050 SOAR initiatives with the following actions:**

- 1) Letters written by AAUW Thousand Oaks President to area newspapers;
- 2) AAUW Thousand Oaks members encouraged to collect signatures for the ballot initiatives;
- 3) Work in coalition with other groups to achieve the passage of the SOAR initiatives;
- 4) Other actions in support of this resolution be directed by the branch’s Public Policy chair, Executive Committee and Board of Directors and reported to the Branch via the *Oak Twig*.

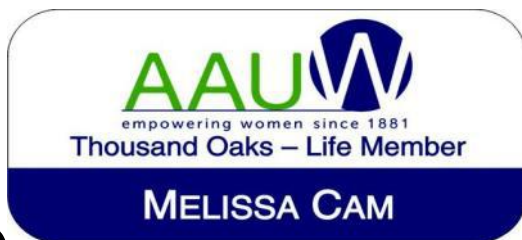
Action Taken: AAUW Thousand Oaks Fall Membership Breakfast  
Date: 9/19/2014. Signed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sally J. Hibbits, AAUW Thousand Oaks, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Dyer, AAUW Thousand Oaks, Secretary



## AAUW Name Tag Order Form



**\$20.00 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

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Send form and check payable to AAUW T.O. to:**

**AAUW T.O.**  
**P.O. Box 4223**  
**Thousand Oaks, CA 91359**

**For more information contact Judy Robinson**

**OAKBROOK AWARDS**  
 & PROMOTIONS  
**Melissa Cam**

805-494-1694 Fax 494-3676  
 www.Oakbrook-Awards.com  
 Melissa@Oakbrook-Awards.com  
 756 Lakefield Rd. Suite A, Westlake Village, CA 91361



AAUW's Daytime and Evening Literature Groups have both read the Thousand Oaks One City/One Book 2015 selection, *The Book of Unknown Americans*. Author Cristina Henríquez will speak at the Civic Arts Plaza on Sunday, November 8 at 3:00 PM. This annual event is always interesting and well-attended. Contact Joan Udani or Ellen Kossoris for information on tickets.

## Fiftieth Anniversary Planning Committee: We Need You!

The next meeting of the planning committee for the Branch's 50th anniversary will be at Wendy Hoffman's home on Wednesday, October 21 at 10:00 AM.

Do you have the talents to share with the Branch? We are looking for:

- A writer for the program notes....
- A solicitor for program sponsor ads....
- An interest in music: a singer, a performer, a pianist
- A videographer to work with photos and Branch history articles
- A user of "e-vite," or other digital programs, to design invitations and manage reservations.

Lots to do... and less than a year to get it done. We need your help! It's fun to get involved and you don't need to attend all committee meetings if times don't work for you. **Contact Wendy or Jeanette Hosek to volunteer.**



## Branch Committees

Members who wish to support the overall mission of the Branch are encouraged to help out on these very important committees. Your involvement supports the Branch Director/Board Member who is responsible for a specific area. We really need your help!!!

### Membership Team

Did you feel a little "lost" when you joined our Branch? This group will help expand the work of our terrific Membership Director, Judi Robinson, in a new direction by providing additional support for our many new members as they learn to navigate the benefits of our great organization. This will be a help to all of us as we strive to maintain and increase our membership. You'll make many new friends who have amazing lives to share with all! With our Membership Team, the growth of our Branch will be maintained. **Contact Judi Robinson.**

### AAUW FUNDS Team

Working with our FUNDS Director, Jeanette Hosek, your assistance will help the Branch expand our outreach in new directions as we seek financial support for our many endeavors. We are looking to expand our mission directly into the community with increased contact for grant and foundation money to support not only Tech Trek and Brighter Horizons, but also more local scholarships as well as our traditional groups, such as LAF and EF. This will be a wonderful way for you to improve your skills in public speaking, grant writing, organizational activities, etc. Put those hidden talents that you would like to use or want to further develop to good work while learning from that experience! **Contact Jeanette Hosek**

### Tech Trek Team

**Contact Linda Pochter and Deanna Franke**

### Women's History Team

**Contact Marianne Escaron**

### Title IX Team

**Contact Sally Hibbits**

### Public Policy (Special Study of Common Core) Team

**Contact Lori Kissinger**

### Brighter Horizons and STEM Team

**Contact Betty Nordahl**

### College/University Partnership Students Team

**Contact Narda Fargotstein and Deanna Franke**

### Local Scholarships Team

**Contact Deanna Franke**

## Common Core Study Group

The Common Core Study Group will have its first meeting on Monday, October 26. We are planning an early evening meeting featuring Vicki Vierra, Content Specialist from Ventura County Schools. You will be notified by email of the location and time. We are looking forward to an interesting and enlightening process as we become informed. Please join us. For information, contact Lori Kissinger, Public Policy Director.



## Join Us for a Movie in October

The Special Interest Group *Exploring Religions of the World through the Eyes of Women* will attend a showing of the movie "Chaplains" on October 5. The film follows the stories of an army priest in Afghanistan, a Buddhist woman in Oregon and a Muslim chaplain in Detroit.

**Monday, October 5**  
**Carmike Theater (formerly Muvico)**  
**7:00 PM showing**  
**No charge**

**For more information, contact Wendy Hoffman**

## Our Living Community

Our Living Community is a new Special Interest Group formed to look into what is happening with the environment here in the Conejo Valley. Join us on Thursday, November 19 at 7:00 PM at Mimi's on Moorpark, when Tim Gallagher from the 20/20network will present information on the three-and-four story mixed-use/apartment buildings developers want to build along Thousand Oaks Blvd. Come with your questions.



Future topics to be covered include: the drought; the state of the beautiful old oak trees along Thousand Oaks Blvd; what is SOAR and how to insure open spaces and parks are protected; the use of Round-up in city parks and can it be halted; field trips plus possible hands-on volunteer work.

AAUW Thousand Oaks has a nearly 50 year history of community involvement with the environment, so let's keep it going! For further information, contact Yvonne Brockwell.



## 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 page 21.) 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:

October 26: *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri

\*November 16: *The English Teacher* by Lily King

December 28: *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown

### 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:

October 15: *Just Mercy* by Brian Stevenson

November 19: *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova

December 17: *In the Unlikely Event* by Judy Blume (**POTLUCK**)

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

We will meet 3 or 4 times over the year in someone's home. Each time we meet, our hope is to invite a woman with a particular religious background to facilitate an open and nonjudgmental discussion with the group. **Contact Wendy Hoffman.**

### 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.**

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

### Love to Write **NEW!**

Are you the next Erma Bombeck or Edna St. Vincent Millay? Or more likely, you love to write and are looking for others to share your thoughts, scribbles, and passion for writing. So, join your fellow members to sound out and read through your work to gain that extra incentive along with intelligent feedback that you may be seeking. **Contact Pat O'Donnell.**

### 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. If you'd like to take part, **contact Pat O'Donnell or Sally Hibbitts.**

### Our Living Community **NEW!**

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

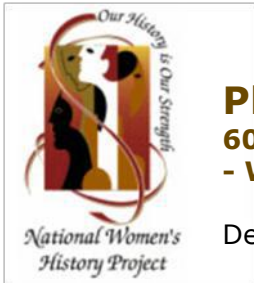
Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM. We are "budding" photographers who meet once a month to learn about our digital cameras and how to take the "perfect" picture and have lots of fun along the way. **Contact Wendy Hoffman.**

### Share What You Know **NEW!**

You've got the talent so let's share what you already know... travel experiences, professional knowledge, community activities, volunteer experiences, hobbies, current health issues, etc. The list goes on and on! If you know it, why not share it? This group forms a Branch Speaker's Bureau which will connect with community groups and organizations across the Conejo Valley. **Contact Sally Hibbitts.**

### Women's Health Issues **NEW!**

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.**



## **Please Help Make American Women Visible**

### **600,000 People Asked for a Woman on the \$20**

### **- What We Got Was A Major Downgrade**

Dear Friend,

Earlier this year, our campaign to get a woman on paper money went viral. Hundreds of thousands of people like you took to the idea, and voted to choose Harriet Tubman to replace Andrew Jackson on the \$20 bill.

Then, in June, the Treasury Department announced that it would be putting a woman on the \$10 bill - or rather, that a woman would share the \$10 bill with Alexander Hamilton.

[This is not what hundreds of thousands of people asked for. Please add your name to the petition asking the White House and the Treasury to properly respond to the Women on 20s petition and put a woman's portrait on the \\$20 bill!](#)

John Oliver, in his characteristically hilarious and blunt way, perfectly summarized why this move by the Treasury department felt like such a blow to us: *"This is basically the perfect embodiment of the women's rights movement. Women ask for something they've earned, a bunch of men get together and talk about it, and then they give the woman half and ask her to share it."*

Indeed, it is almost funny. But there's another, much more serious reason why we believe the \$20 bill - the bill most commonly dispensed by every ATM - needs to be changed. It currently features the face of our seventh president Andrew Jackson, known more today for his disastrous mistreatment of native Americans and active role in slave trading than for any other aspect of his legacy. Ironically, Jackson is also known for his hatred of paper money! There is nothing that makes more sense than booting Andrew Jackson from the \$20 bill and replacing him with the inspirational and powerful former slave and freedom fighter Harriet Tubman.

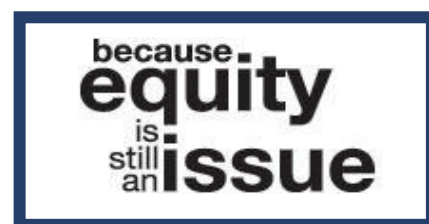
This is a time when we can't just sit back and give up. We find it significant that the proposal of a woman for a high-volume, high-visibility note was met, quite literally, with a devaluation to a bill produced in one-quarter the numbers of the \$20.

2020 is the 100th Anniversary of the triumph of the 72-year campaign that won women in the United States the right to vote. Women on the \$20 will be a constant reminder of this historic, non-violent campaign for women's right to participate in our democracy.

[It's time American currency values women as much as it values men. Please sign the petition telling President Obama and the Treasury Department that women deserve more than the \\$10 bill.](#)

Thank you!

The Women On 20's Campaign Team  
[www.womenon20s.org](http://www.womenon20s.org)



## Great Gift Ideas from AAUW

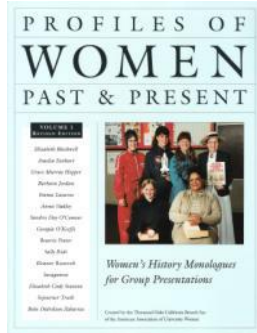
Do you have a hard-to-buy-for person on your gift list? We've got three great ideas for you!



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 or Kateri Alexander.



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.

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

## 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.



## WOMENTUM!

**Presented by V.C. Women's Economic Roundtable:**

A free, one-day, one-of-a kind conference for **young women aged 15 to 25 years old**, designed to pave roads to empowerment and pay equity. Inspiring speakers, panel discussions, structured networking, **WOMENTORING** and exhibits to inspire young women to dream big and achieve career and life goals. **Co-Sponsored by AAUW.**

### Event Information:

**Date:** October 24, 2015

**Time:** 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM

**Location:** California State University Channel Islands

**Free:** Admission, Inspiration and Refreshments

Contact Narda Fargostein for more information.

### 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.





## Support Your *Oak Twig* Advertisers

You may have noticed it is a brand new advertising year for ***Oak Twig*** readers (see page 10) and we have several new business owners taking part in our very inexpensive rates. Like one of our users reflected, "Where else could I possibly get monthly advertising for only \$12 a month....and to a quality audience?" This income is vital to the Branch as it is serving us to help start up our new year, until the majority of our budget funds arrive from national.

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



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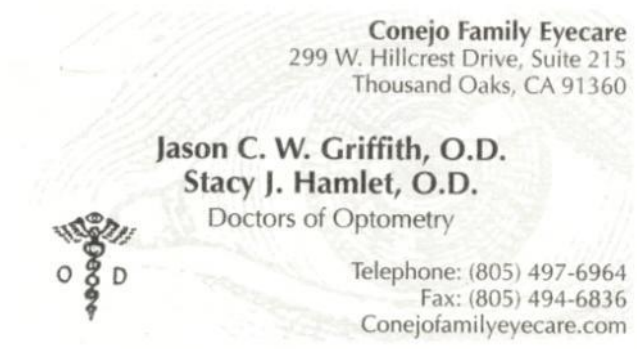


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For More Info,  
Contact  
Sally Hibbitts

## Reach Out to a Special Audience Through Advertising

### *American Association of University Women, Thousand Oaks Branch*

**Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy,  
education, philanthropy, and research since 1881.**

AAUW Thousand Oaks, in celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, is making available limited advertising sponsorships. Be one of the few businesses to obtain limited advertising space in our program guide for the upcoming special ticketed event, "Fun Raise Her: Support Tomorrow's Leaders." This one time only event will help showcase a very unique Art Collection, provide a tasty Wine Experience, and deliver a wonderful Live Jazz performance for all attendees, at the home of Mr. Larry Janss in Thousand Oaks on Sunday, October 18.

This Program Booklet will highlight our many generous community sponsors, as well as others, who support this exciting fundraiser here in Thousand Oaks. The October 18 "Fun Raise Her" will help create a fund which will establish an AAUW training program for young college aged women who desire experience in student body government positions. These student leaders will then proceed, with additional support, to seek office as publically elected officials, if they choose. This training will directly affect all schools of higher education in the county of Ventura.

These advertising opportunities are for a very select audience who will be attending these special events.

**Option A**---Limited ad space of ¼ sheet size for only the "Fun Raise Her" program booklet. Format in JPEG or provide business card for scanning. Cost is \$50 per ¼ sheet size ad.

**Option B**---Limited ad space of ½ sheet size only for the "Fun Raise Her" program booklet. Format in JPEG or provide business card for scanning. Cost is \$90 per ½ sheet size ad.

**Option C**--- Combo pack ¼ sheet size ad space in program for "Fun Raise Her" **AND** the same size ad in our special "50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala" program for May 21, 2016. This opportunity is only available for a very limited time for \$90.

**Note due date for all "Fun Raise Her" ad copy is  
Friday, October 2**