



Thousand Oaks Branch, Inc.

Volume 53, Issue 3

December 2017

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Bonnie Shubb****HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!**

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, the Winter Solstice, or none of the above but you join with others in their celebrations—December becomes a very busy month for most of us. We look forward to starting the month off with Coffee and Chat on December 2, and then we will go to pick up our poinsettia orders. The next evening, December 3, is our Annual Holiday Party, in addition to spending time with our members, eating great food, donating items for a worthwhile cause benefiting women, we will have an opportunity to enjoy a musical performance by a string quartet from the Westlake Symphony Orchestra. I understand there will also be two very young, highly-talented girls performing a Bach piece. (Oh darn, I gave away the surprise! but I have seen/heard them and they alone would be worth the price of admission—even if it were not a free event.)

On a different note (pun intended) our long-awaited program *Beloved, Yet Banned – Censorship in Children's Literature*—will be held on December 13, 2017 at 7:00pm. You won't want to miss it!

I urge you to participate in all our events, community reach outs, and your choice of interest groups—you'll be glad you did!

From my house to yours, I wish you all a wonderful December and a safe, healthy and happy new year!

Bonnie

**SAVE THE DATES –  
DECEMBER CALENDAR**

- December 2 - Coffee and Chat 9:00AM Just show up!  
Stella's Café in Newbury Park
- December 2 – **Poinsettia Pick Up Day**  
Contact Jeanette Hosek
- December 3 – **Annual Holiday Party**  
**RSVP today to Bev Khoshnvisan**
- December 6 – Board Meeting 6:30PM. All members are welcome. Contact Bonnie Shubb for location
- December 13 –Rescheduled Branch Program**  
**“Beloved and Banned” Censorship in Children's and Adult Literature, 7:00PM**  
**Thousand Oaks Library**
- December 14 – Evening Book Group 7:00PM  
Contact Sharon Dyer
- December 18 – Daytime Book Group 9:30AM  
Contact Joan Udani
- December 19 – Mindful Awareness Group 7:00PM  
Contact Holly Sacks

*And in 2018....*

Save January 27, 2018 for the AAUW Ventura County – Inter-Branch Council (IBC) Luncheon and panel discussion regarding Title IX (see flyer on Page 5 ).



## AAUW THOUSAND OAKS 2017 Poinsettia Sale Donors

Our 2017 Poinsettia sale was a success due to the generous support of our members and friends! There are five plants (red) and three centerpieces (Mums) that are still available for sale. If you are interested in purchasing a plant (\$10) or centerpiece ((\$15), please call (805) 523-3488 immediately!

Thanks to: Melanie Ashen, Evelyn Barber, Linda Bergthold, Sophia Bowen, Dianna Campbell, Ruthann Cooper, Stacy Choi, Marilyn Carpenter, Sharon Dyer, Joan Edwards, Bette Empol, Susan Fagan, Narda Fargotstein, Nancy Frawley, Christine Fellingner, Pat Gross, Natalie Gossett, Rosa Hawks, Pat Helton, Heide Hainbach, Sally Hibbitts, Jacqui Irwin, Bev Khoshevisan, Anne LaFianza, Nancy Klein, Lori Kissinger, Pamela Lopez, Eloda Linehan, Shirley Morris, Linda Pochter, Teri Paris, Pat O'Donnell, Lisa Powell, Linda Parks, Mary Silverstre, Eleanor Rasnow, Margaret Tennant, Bonnie Shubb, Betty Stapleford, Mini Madan, Dorothy Robinson, Sheila Sullivan, Carmencita Schectman, Leesa McBurnie, Jeanette McMaginnis and Brenda Terizian.



**It's Party Time!** You are invited to join in the fun, food, wine and festivities at our Annual Holiday Party. Sunday, December 3, at 5PM. It's always a fun social event, and of course, spouses or significant others are invited too. We look forward to seeing you. What to bring with you? See the flyer on Page 4.

Home of Liz Friedkalns, 1875 Dawn Meadow St., Thousand Oaks  
RSVP to Bev Khoshnevisan, [bkhosh29@gmail.com](mailto:bkhosh29@gmail.com) or 805-499-1063  
Entertainment by Westlake Symphony Orchestra members

Our **Banned, Yet Beloved** Program has been rescheduled to Wednesday, December 13.

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 only 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.  
December 13, Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Thousand Oaks Library

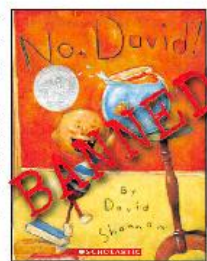
## Beloved, Yet Banned Censorship in Children's Literature

**NEW DATE** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 • 7-8:45pm  
Grant R. Brimhall Library • Marvin E. Smith Community Room  
1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks

From *Peter Rabbit* to *And Tango Makes Three*, there's more to Children's Literature than meets the eye. Did you know that some picture books have been banned, smuggled out of France on a bicycle, and even inspired movies?



The elements in these classics, have kept children entertained over the generations. Over 100 years of the best picture books will be highlighted as we revisit these treasures and some of the best new books.



**Jody Shapiro** obtained a Master of Library Science at Peabody College in Tennessee and became a children's librarian. In 1978, she founded *Adventures for Kids*, an award-winning children's specialty bookstore which operated in Ventura for nearly 30 years. She is a published author of two picture books and teaches on the subject. Ms. Shapiro has also lectured at CSUCI.

This presentation will also touch on censorship or challenges to Young Adult books as well, from both sides of the partisan divide.

Presented by the Thousand Oaks Library in partnership with



Jody Shapiro

**Suggested reading list on back.**

Not affiliated with Conejo Unified School District.



inspire  
inform  
engage

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





AAUW Thousand Oaks  
Cordially Invites You to Its

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Fun, Food, Wine, Festivities, &  
Good Friends

***Sunday, December 3, 2017 @ 5:00 PM***

**At the lovely home of Liz and Juris Priedkalns**

**1875 Dawn Meadow St., Westlake Village**

**Driving Directions:** From the 101, exit Lindero Cyn.; go NORTH. Turn left at Kanan ;  
go about 1 mile. Turn RIGHT on Dawn Meadow and proceed to top of the hill.

**This is a pot luck event, so please bring the following:**

**Last names beginning with A through M——bring an appetizer**

**Last names beginning with N through Z——bring a dessert**

**(There will be cash donations taken for the wine being served!)**

**SPECIAL RAFFLE TO BENEFIT OUR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS & TECH TREK**

**We'll also be collecting toiletry and cosmetic items for**

***The Coalition to End Domestic and Family Violence***

**The following items are needed:**

**Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Conditioner, Lotion, Deodorant, Make up, Sanitary Products, Diapers, Brushes, Combs, Nail polish, Nail polish remover, Emery boards, Nail clippers, Cotton balls, Tissue packets, Make up remover pads, Hair spray, etc.**

**RSVP by December 1<sup>st</sup> to Beverly Khoshnevisan at [bkhosh29@gmail.com](mailto:bkhosh29@gmail.com) or 805-499-1063**





## The Power of Nine

**\* Title IX** is the federal law that **prohibits sex discrimination** in all areas of education. It applies to women and men, girls and boys, staff and students in any educational institution or program receiving federal funds. It covers everything from athletics to transgender issues. This year's IBC luncheon will feature a **discussion panel with local Title IX Coordinators** who are working hard to ensure that every Ventura county student, teacher, and staff person is protected under Title IX.

**2018 IBC Luncheon**  
**AAUW Ventura County**  
**January 27, 2018, 12:00 noon to 2:30 p.m.**

**Los Robles Greens Country Club**  
**299 S Moorpark Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361**

**\*\* Contact your branch's AAUW-IBC Committee representatives for further information.**

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**REGISTRATION —> R.S.V.P. by January 20, 2018**

☐ Yes, I plan to attend the IBC luncheon and have included my check for \$35 per ticket.

☐ Yes, I can help defray the cost for a college student to attend this event. I am enclosing an additional \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the ticket(s).

☐ Sorry, I am unable to attend. I am enclosing a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to AAUW-IBC.

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

My Telephone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My Guests' Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Check Enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to AAUW-IBC, and mail with this form to AAUW-IBC, Attention: Bonnie Shubb,  
 PO Box 4223, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359**



This event is sponsored by all the AAUW branches in Ventura County. Let's have Thousand Oaks make a great showing by attending. It will also be supporting our affiliate students at Moorpark and Cal Lutheran. We want them to know how supportive we are of them and specifically to educate them about Title IX—a very important topic in today's world on campus.

***NOMINATIONS FOR NAMED GIFT HONOREES ARE REQUESTED***

Every year the branch nominates members for the Named Gift Honoree award. This award is given in recognition of the member's service to the branch and includes serving on the board, branch committees, special projects, and other service to the branch. The branch may submit up to four names to the national office for this award. On page 9 of this year's directory you can see the names of former honored members. In addition, members of the community can be suggested for consideration if they have made significant contributions to the mission of AAUW and our branch through program support and/or scholarship support. The committee will review all the nominees sent in by members by Dec. 15. Awards are given at the Annual meeting in May. Please email your nominee to: [jhosek@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhosek@roadrunner.com)  
Jeanette Hosek, AAUW FUNDS Director

\*\*\*\*\*

**Tired of the screaming heads and pointing fingers? Learn to facilitate civil discourse to solve problems.**

## What Kind of Talk Does Democracy Need?

Guest Presenters: **Martha Cox, Mary Thompson**

*Members, League of Women Voters and Kettering Foundation Affiliated Facilitators*

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## Civil Discourse Facilitator Training

Presented by

**League of Women Voters Ventura County and  
California State University Channel Islands**

**Saturday, January 13, 2018 1:00 - 4:00 pm in the Petit Salon,  
Convention Center, CSUCI campus**

**Make a commitment to be part of the solution!**

Reservations required: RSVP before Sat., Jan 6 to Betsy at 805-798-4685  
[info@lwvventuracounty.org](mailto:info@lwvventuracounty.org)



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**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.**

The **Evening Book Group** will be meeting December 14, 2017, at 7:00 pm for a pot luck dinner at the home of Sharon Dyer. We will be reviewing the book *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant. Please RSVP to **Sharon Dyer** if you are interested in participating.

The **Daytime Book Group** will meet on Monday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 A.M. at the Thousand Oaks library. We will discuss *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. Our reviewer will be Jean Maxwell. For info contact **Joan Udani**.

**Happy Hikers** have not been meeting because there is not a chairperson. If you are interested in participating in this group please come to the December Coffee and Chat and **Sharon Dyer** will have a brief meeting for those who have shown an interest in this group.

**Museums and Gardens Group** does not have a trip planned at this time. Contact **Sally Hibbitts** if you have any ideas for future trip locations and plan to attend them.

Led by **Holly Sacks**, 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. We look forward to the December meeting, which will take place on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00PM at Holly's house in Thousand Oaks. Contact her for more information at [sacks2748@verizon.net](mailto:sacks2748@verizon.net) or (805) 402-0110.

### E-GROUP:

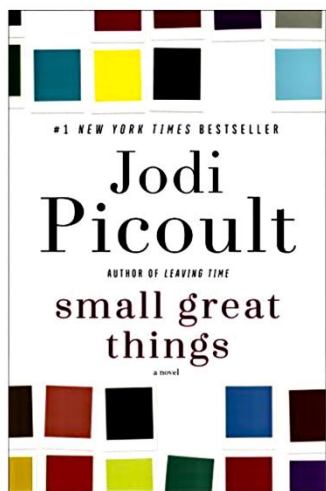
**Global Awareness and Action for Girls (GAAG)** – an e-group for members interested in international projects focused on women and girls. Please email your name and address to **Jeanette Hosek** [jhosek@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhosek@roadrunner.com) to be put on the list. A new project is being developed 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.

### COLLEGE AFFILIATES:

Our member and retired faculty member at Moorpark College, **Margaret Tennant**, has agreed to be our Board Representative to coordinate between our Board of Directors and our two college affiliate groups: Moorpark College, with faculty sponsor our own **Deanna Franke**; and Cal Lutheran University, with faculty sponsor, Dr. Cynthia Duarte. We look forward to hearing about wonderful activities from them. If you would like to be on a team to support them with planning or helping at their activities, let Margaret know. Also, if you know any students at either institution who might be interested in joining our AAUW affiliate, contact Margaret.

## UNITY BOOK GROUP

Please note that this is a Community Outreach Project joining women from the Islamic Center of the Conejo Valley (on Borchard Rd) and AAUW TO. The purpose is to discover our commonalities as well as to rejoice in our differences, while reading enjoyable books which have commonly shared themes. This group is open to all and is very casual.



There will be no Unity Group meeting in December; the next gathering will be on **Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 pm in the home of Nancy Taylor-Walker.** The book that we will be reading is *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. Susan Fagan will lead our discussion.

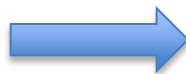
If you have any questions, please contact either Sally Hibbitts or Shoshana Brower. Happy Holidays!

Wishing you a Happy New Year filled with books to read and enjoy!

## 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 [bakula.aauw@ymail.com](mailto:bakula.aauw@ymail.com). 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**





## SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Reported by Audrey Giuffrida

### EACH MONTH WE WILL SPOTLIGHT A MEMBER WHO JOINED RECENTLY

Introducing . . . New Member Diane Birchman

Diane hails from Seattle, Washington and moved to Thousand Oaks in 1980, having lived in Oregon, Michigan and overseas prior to that. Her immediate family lives in the area but all of her other relatives live in Washington state. She joined AAUW because she considers it a progressive voice for women and wants to become involved in our social activities and Interest Groups. She was a member in the past and always enjoyed and appreciated attending Creative Options events.

Diane has also expressed an interest in attending groups that examine legal/policy issues as well as music/singing groups and cultural arts activities. She has a background in music, in teaching piano and voice and currently teaches these subjects to a variety of students as well as holding a Juris Doctorate and having an interest in social justice law. In addition, Diane has a degree in animal science and handling and has an affinity for animals of all kinds.

She is a member of MTNA, NATS, NAMI and DTP and serves on church council and belongs to a community chorus. Her other activities include serving in leadership roles in Delta Theta Phi law fraternity, Council and District PTA, Council and Deacon for UCC.

Diane indicated that she would like to be an active AAUW member as her time/work schedule permits.

.....  
Note from Editor: See Diane's ad along with other supportive members on the next page.  
.....

**High School Voter Registration – Melanie Ashen(League of Women Voters & AAUW member) will be conducting a graduating senior voter registration outreach in mid- February. She needs 20 volunteers to stuff and label 2200 letters to the graduating seniors of CVUSD. Call Melanie at 805 497-6773 to say you will help out. It takes about 3 hrs and district provides coffee and bagels!**

This is a reminder to PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



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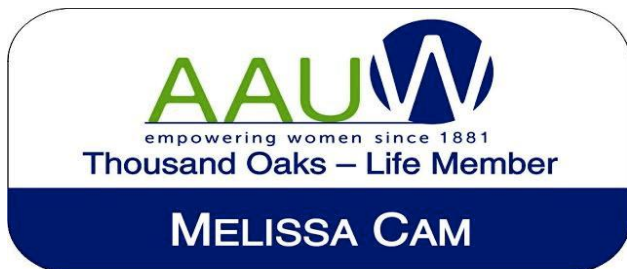
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## AAUW NAME BADGE ORDER FORM



**\$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:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(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  
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