



Thousand Oaks Branch, Inc.

Volume 53, Issue 8

May 2018



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bonnie Shubb

This month we are saluting the State of California for several reasons. When you receive this issue of the Oak Twig, **Sharon Dyer** and I will have recently returned from the AAUW California State convention, held April 27-29 in Irvine. I expect that we will both return energized and excited to bring recently-gained knowledge and new ideas inspired by the Convention back to our Branch.

Among several laws in California in support of AAUW's mission, California was the first state to issue a resolution calling on public companies to improve the gender diversity of their boards in 2013. Four other states followed. And now, State Senator, **Hannah-Beth Jackson**, representing the greater Santa Barbara area, has authored and promoted a bill for California to be the first state in the nation requiring all public companies, who have only men on their boards, to add at least one woman. The bill is being considered as this article is being written. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

And, in celebrating California, it seems appropriate to share with you some exciting news for our Branch. At our Annual Membership Breakfast scheduled for September 29, 2018, our own California State Senator and AAUW Thousand Oaks Branch member, **Henry Stern**, will be speaking to us on the subject of *The Male Feminist*.

There will be much more to come about this event, but for now, Save the Date for you and a male friend. It should prove to be a very interesting presentation.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to again thank several members who made our Equal Pay Day activity and our Journey to Financial Empowerment event meaningful for all who attended. See the article about these events on Page 3.



## SAVE THE DATES – MAY 2018 CALENDAR

**May 1** – CLU Student Affiliates of AAUW-TO are helping at an event. See Page 4 for information. All AAUW-TO members are welcome to attend and support them.

**May 2 – Board Meeting 6:30PM** All members are welcome. Contact Bonnie Shubb for location.

**May 5 – NO Coffee and Chat. Cancelled due to Annual Meeting. See you in June!**

**May 5 – Annual Meeting and Funds Luncheon – 12:00 Noon** at Los Robles Greens Golf Course (see article and flyer on Pages 4 and 5. Reservations required.

**May 17 - Evening Book Group 7:00PM**  
Contact Sharon Dyer for location confirmation

**May 21 - Daytime Book Group 9:30AM**  
Thousand Oaks Library - Contact Joan Udani

### *Coming up in June:*

**June 5 – Deadline to Vote for three AAUW National By-Law Amendments**

*And in July:*

**The Unity Book Group meeting!**





### **AAUW National Proposed Bylaws Revisions**

The AAUW National Board has proposed three bylaws amendments to be voted on by members. Members may vote electronically starting April 25, 2018 through June 9, 2018, or request paper ballots starting April 16, 2018. Paper ballots must be returned by May 21<sup>st</sup>.

The proposed bylaws will appear in the spring AAUW Outlook magazine and voter PINs will be emailed to members and mailed with the spring AAUW Outlook magazine to members without registered email addresses. Questions about the bylaw proposals can be found at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) by clicking on 2018 National Bylaws Amend VOTE 2018 FAQ.

Our AAUW Thousand Oaks board briefly discussed the three proposals at the April board meeting and decided to send a brief summary out to members. To encourage branch voting, there will be a computer available at the May 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting for those wishing to vote electronically.

#### **Proposal # 1 – Staggered terms of office for AAUW Board of Directors on a 3 year rotation.**

A staggered term is a procedure whereby members of the national board will be elected at three year intervals, thereby allowing for a portion of the board to turn over rather than the entire board. This is considered a best practice for nonprofit boards. The individual terms of office will be increased from two years to three years. This proposed bylaw also allows for additional changes to the number and naming of officers and directors. See the website for more detail.

#### **Proposal # 2 – Membership requirement for AAUW Board of Directors**

Currently, only *individual* members of AAUW may serve as an officer or director of AAUW. This proposed bylaw would allow up to five non-members of AAUW to serve as directors, with a minimum of ten directors being individual AAUW members. The rationale for this proposed change is to open the AAUW board to people who may not be members of AAUW but could bring a wealth of experience to our organization. As an equity-seeking organization AAUW needs to welcome those who are not currently members of AAUW but can make a contribution to by their professional experiences, geographic location and other diverse views. See website for more detail.

#### **Proposal # 3 – Degree Requirement for membership in AAUW**

Over the history of AAUW, membership requirements have changed. Founding members sought to remove barriers to getting an education by women, as it was uncommon for women to have degrees at that time. Today, non-degreed women work in every industry and field. So it is important for AAUW to recognize the power of welcoming anyone who supports our mission, as is common practice with mission-based non-profits. Eliminating the membership requirement will promote a more inclusive and diverse membership. Also, widening membership will enable AAUW to seek new funding from corporations. Adoption of this bylaw will eliminate all the eligibility requirements of the current bylaws and replace them with the following sentence: AN INDIVIDUAL WHO PAYS ANNUAL DUES TO AAUW AND SUPPORTS ITS MISSION SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO BE AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER WITH ALL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AAUW MEMBERSHIP. See website for more detail.

The AAUW Thousand Oaks board has not taken a position on any of these recommendations. The board urges all members to read and vote on these proposed bylaws amendments. Voting will open on April 25 and close on June 9, 2018. Click [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) for voting information.

#### **UPDATE ON THE VOTING:**

AAUW Members have received their on-line ballot concerning the three proposed amendments to the AAUW National bylaws. Please check your inbox for the email which has the needed pin number and member ID number. You will not be able to access the ballot without this information. If you want a paper ballot, you can call 1-800-326-2289 to ask for one to be sent to your home. Voting ends on June 9, but don't delay in casting your vote.

Jeanette Hosek, Parliamentarian





## SPEAKING OF VOTING...

### BRANCH ELECTIONS

We are voting for officers and directors in our branch at the Annual Meeting May 5.

As presented by the Nominating Committee--Here is the slate of Officers for the 2018-19 fiscal year:

**Sharon Dyer**, President  
**Betty Stapleford**, Vice President  
**Nathalie Gossett**, Secretary  
**Bonnie Shubb**, Treasurer

Rounding out the Board of Directors, we are happy to nominate **Sarah Hart**, Membership Director and **Peggy Buckles**, Public Policy Director. **Sally Hibbitts** will return as our Branch Tech Trek Director. **Margaret Tennant** joins our Board and will be a co-partner producing the Oak Twig. We are seeking her co-editor. Would you like to do that? Other returning Board members include **Linda Pochter**, **Bev Khoshnevisan** and **Vera King**. We are still recruiting for someone to take on Programs Director and Funds Director. We are also looking for committee members to support the board directors.

If you have any interest in joining our Board or one of our board committees, please let Sharon Dyer know prior to the Annual Meeting, although we will be accepting nominations for Directors from the floor at that event.



The AAUW Member Panelists and Moderator at the AAUW/CLU Event—Journey to Financial Empowerment. Left to right: Shan, Nancy, Linda, Bonnie



### EQUAL PAY DAY AND EVENING The sweet taste of Education

Thanks to our daytime staff for handing out Payday candy bars and explaining to CLU students, faculty, and staff what Equal Pay Day represents. They also promoted the evening program. So, a big "Thank You" to **Sharon Dyer**, **Bev Khoshnevisan**, **Margaret Tennant**, and **Pat O'Donnell**.

The evening program was presented by three financial advisors who are members of our AAUW Branch: **Nancy Chappell**, **Linda Mead**, and **Shan Sutherland**. Since this event was co-sponsored with CLU, they invited former CLU student and current financial planner, **Megan Dickerson**, to join the panel. Each of the panelists did an outstanding job speaking a myriad of financially-related topics and they provided lots of informative literature and website links for the participants! Behind the scenes, **Linda Pochter**, **Margaret Tennant**, and **Jeanette Hosek** handled AAUW membership inquiries for regular AAUW membership, CLU student AAUW members, and items for sale for AAUW Funds, respectively. Program Director, **Bev Khoshnevisan** and member **Patricia Adrian** (also a financial advisor) both provided lots of preparatory assistance. Thanks, ladies!



Former CLU Student – Now Financial Planner, Megan Dickerson, at CLU Program

### **Saturday, May 5, Annual AAUW Funds Luncheon and Annual Meeting**

We will be holding our Branch Elections, Recognizing our Named Gift and Branch honorees, and honoring long time branch members.

Our speaker, Daisy Benitez, a Selected Professions Fellowship recipient, was partially funded by the Thousand Oaks Branch 30th Anniversary Endowment Fund. Daisy is studying Environmental Engineering at USC and working toward her M.S. in Green Technologies. Her goal is to develop safe, sustainable, and reliable energy generation that minimizes the negative impacts often burdened by marginalized communities.

Besides her studies, she currently works part time as a Consultant in the Air Sciences division for Ramboll Environ, an environmental engineering consulting firm. Aside from her professional endeavors, Daisy is an active leader in the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) where she is dedicated to increasing the number of Latinx professionals in STEM fields. This past year she served as the Chapter President for the SHPE USC student chapter, and currently serves as the Regional Graduate Student Representative for the entire Southern California, Nevada, and Arizona region.

Come and hear what she has to say about her work in environmental projects — a very timely topic.

If you have not yet sent in your RSVP and would still like to join us (it's not too late), contact Bev Khoshnevisan [bkhosh29@gmail.com](mailto:bkhosh29@gmail.com) or 805-499-1063

Buffet is \$35 per person, and advance reservations are necessary.

Don't miss this event!

Saturday, May 5, 12:00 noon, Los Robles Greens Golf Course, 299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks.  
Flyer on next page.



Support AAUW at CLU!

CLU AAUW student members are helping to organize a 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Forum featuring two candidates, John Nelson (D) and Jeff Burum (R), hosted by the Political Science Society and a public policy class. Topics include policy, mental health, healthcare, environmental policy, immigration, and education, followed by audience questions. The event will be Tuesday May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm in the Lundring Events Center at CLU. For more information, contact AAUW-student group co-President Kleya Dhenin:

[KDhenin@callutheran.edu](mailto:KDhenin@callutheran.edu).



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

**Saturday, May 5, 2018  
12:00 PM**

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

***This event will include:***

Election of our Branch Board of Directors for 2018 - 2019  
Recognition of our 2018 Named Gift Honorees  
Member Recognitions  
Guest Speaker Daisy Benitez  
Luncheon Buffet

**Luncheon Buffet Menu**

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



Our special Guest Speaker, **Daisy Benitez**, AAUW American Fellowship recipient, will speak on her work in green technologies with her goal to develop safe, sustainable, and reliable energy generation that minimizes the negative impacts often burdened by marginalized low income communities. She is working on a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering at University of Southern California.

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

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



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

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

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

**Please RSVP by April 27, 2018.**

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





Presenting the  
winners of the 2018  
AAUW Thousand  
Oaks Tech Trek  
Sponsorships!



Elizabeth Arjaev (Sycamore)



Karolyn Barker (Redwood)



Sheyla Cortez (Colina)



Morgan Guttman (Bridges)



Elyse Hughes (Bridges)



Indigo Jacobs (Bridges)



Angela Maiorca (Los Cerritos)



Angelina Perez (Sequoia)



Kate Roeder (Sycamore)



Marianna Sierra (Sequoia)



Sarah Ziff (Los Cerritos)



## Tech Trek Named Gift Sponsorships

The following people are sincerely thanked for generously donating a minimum of \$1000 for the support of a camper to attend Tech Trek Summer 2018 STEM Camp at UCSB:

1. Peggy Buckles: In honor of her aunt, Margaret Ragan, a biologist in the 1940s before it was a typical profession for females, \$1000.
2. Nathalie Gosset: "Stay Strong with STEM Sponsorships" in honor of all young girls who love math and science, \$10,000.
3. Beverly Hill: In honor of her mother (Ardell) and Grandmother (Sophia) who knew women could do anything given an education, \$1000.
4. Vera King: In celebration of the King Family, \$1000
5. Donna and Keith Langley: In memory of her very special Great-Aunt Ada Schopp, \$1000
6. Leesa McBurnie and Larry Anderson: In honor of Andersen Construction, Camarillo, \$1000
7. Nancy Taylor-Walker: In memory of her mother, Marjorie Taylor, \$1000.

**Public Policy and the California Legislature  
sent from the AAUW CA Public Policy Committee**

**Busy Legislative Session=Branch Advocacy Opportunities!**

The California Legislature is gearing up for a busy session this spring and summer. With over 2000 bills introduced, the AAUW CA Public Policy committee and our advocate, Shannon Smith-Crowley narrowed our focus down to 31 pieces of legislation that fit AAUW's mission. While many worthwhile bills were introduced, as a committee, we try to focus on those areas where AAUW is an expert and often a lead - Title IX, Pay Equity and STEM. This year, there were several proposals in response to the #MeToo campaign and sexual harassment that we will be watching.

As the session unfolds, it might be helpful to have branches meet with their local legislators to discuss support of these bills. Shannon will determine what and who and then we will contact the branch in the legislator's area. Advocacy efforts might include phone calls or emails, or an office visit. There are tools on AAUW's website teaching how to have a successful visit and the Public Policy committee is available for coaching and ideas. We will also be following up on the ideas from the advocacy plenary at the state convention and working to create a database of who we know in public office to help with our collective advocacy efforts. We look forward to working with you and your branch!

**Conejo Conexiones and our Branch**

In May we will be completing our second year of co-sponsoring a very successful program supporting Dreamers and their allies in the Conejo Valley high schools. We have had programs about knowing your rights, college preparation and visits, volunteerism and leadership skills, SAT Preparation classes, and stress reduction - to name only a few. If you are interested in knowing more or getting involved with us in the coming school year, please contact **Betty Stapleford**.

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Come and hear what she has to say about her work in environmental projects — a very timely topic.

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## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

### Submitted by Sharon Dyer

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.



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Please note: **Coffee and Chat** will not meet on May 5th because the **Funds Luncheon** is on the same day. Coffee and Chat usually meets the first Saturday of the month at Stella's Café in Newbury Park. Plan to join us in June.

The **Evening Book** group will meet on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Jean Maxwell. Pat O'Donnell will be reviewing the book, *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See. If you have any questions contact **Sharon Dyer**.

The **Daytime Book** group will meet on Monday, May 21 at 9:30 A. M. at the Thousand Oaks library. We will discuss *The Absolutely True Story of a Part Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. Our reviewer will be Audrey Giuffrida. If you have any questions contact **Joan Udani**.

If you are interested in attending the next **Movie Group** outing please contact **Shel Magnuson** at [shelgolf@aol.com](mailto:shelgolf@aol.com) to be added to her email list. The last movie they attended was *Chappaquiddick*.

If you are interested in the **Exploring Religions of the World through the Eyes of Women** interest group and want to be contacted about upcoming meetings, send an email to **Wendy Hoffman** [wendyhof@gmail.com](mailto:wendyhof@gmail.com) or **Jeanette Hosek** [jhosek@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhosek@roadrunner.com).

**Global Awareness & Action for Girls (GAAG)** - an email group. If you are interested in participating in this group please contact **Jeanette Hosek** [jhosek@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhosek@roadrunner.com).

The **Happy Hikers Group** is currently inactive. If you are interested in joining or leading this group please contact **Sharon Dyer**.

**Museums and Gardens Group** does not have a trip planned at this time. We are looking for a new permanent leader for this group. In the interim, if you have any ideas for future trip locations and plan to attend or lead them, please contact **Sally Hibbits**.

## Sad News

AAUW Thousand Oaks members send our condolences to Betty Stapleford, on the loss of her brother-in-law, Dick Stapleford; and to Judi Gindi on the passing of her mother,



**AAUW THOUSAND OAKS MEMORIAL FUND**

Memorial contributions are a thoughtful and caring way to remember members, friends of AAUW and family members by giving a monetary gift to AAUW in their name.

The branch will acknowledge your gift and send a note to the family. The gift amount remains confidential between you and AAUW. All donations to AAUW Funds are tax deductible. Some giving options are listed below:

**AAUW FUNDS:** Funds that benefit women and girls e.g. Legal Advocacy Fund, Ed Foundation, Tech Savvy, Start Smart, Young Women's Task Force, etc.

**TECH TREK:** Thousand Oaks branch scholarships that send local seventh grade girls to STEM camp at UCSB during the summer.

**MOORPARK COLLEGE:** Scholarships for graduating Moorpark College women students to further their education and complete a four- year college degree.

**OTHER LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS:** The branch supports local scholarships for graduating high school students from under-represented groups when funds are available.

For information about AAUW FUNDS, please email Jeanette Hosek at [jhosek@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhosek@roadrunner.com)

For information about TECH TREK, please email Sally Hibbitts, at [sjhibbitts@aol.com](mailto:sjhibbitts@aol.com)

For information about Moorpark College, please email Deanna Frank at [docatomus@yahoo.com](mailto:docatomus@yahoo.com)

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To: AAUW Thousand Oaks, P.O. Box 4223, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

✓ Yes, I wish to make a donation in memory of:

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Please direct my donation to the following fund:

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

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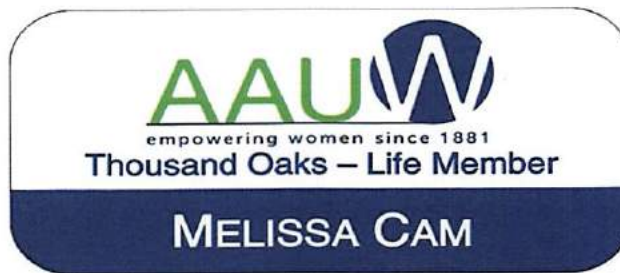
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