

Upcoming AAUW Events!

- July 6 & August 3: Coffee & Chat @ Stella's in NP
- July 16 & July 30: Happy Hikers
- July 18: Unity Book Group
- September 14: Fall Membership Breakfast
- September 19: Evening Book Group
- September 23: Daytime Book Group

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Fall Breakfast	2
Scholarships	3
Special Interest Groups	4
Joys and Concerns	5
AAUW Order Forms	6
Support Our Advertisers	8
Contact List	9



Oak Twig Summer 2019

Volume 54 No. 3

President's Message

From incoming AAUW-TO President, Betty Stapleford:



Betty Stapleford, AAUW President

I remember well the beginnings of each school year during the 28 years I was a high school English and theatre teacher in Delaware and also during 17 years as a minister for Conejo Valley and La Crescenta churches. Those new pursuits always began with a sense of anticipation and new possibilities.

So here I am with some of those same feelings as I start my term as the new president of our Thousand Oaks Branch of the American Association of University Women, AAUW. First of all, I am very aware that I am following a large number of very talented and dedicated women in this role. I appreciate their legacy. Fortunately, many of them are still around to provide support and advice; I am grateful for that as well.

I also know that this organization is not just guided and inspired by the president. There are a number of women on the board to share the responsibility. And there are lots of others who contribute in ways large and small. We can do more together than we can by ourselves. So I will be counting on the creativity and fresh ideas from all of our members.

But we must work together, sharing the load as a team. If you have an idea about things we can do to support the mission of research, education, and advocacy in support of women and girls, please share it with us. Get involved and make a difference. We need all of you.

I am excited about this new job and the opening of a new AAUW year, and I hope you are too. Let's make this a special one - Together! ~Betty



From outgoing AAUW-TO President, Sharon Dyer:

As my term of office comes to an end, I would like to thank the outgoing Board of Directors for all of their help and support. I would also like to thank the AAUW-TO members for all they do in supporting our Branch programs and events. Our members participate in various ways whether it is participating in our Special Interest Groups, Community Outreach, Public Policy or financially contributing to Funds and Tech Trek. Special thanks to Nathalie Gossett for her many branch updates and innovations, including complete web site redesign, membership directory database update, arranging for the online sales of our Women History scripts, and sending out the weekly email blasts. I would also like to thank Margaret Tennant for her tireless work in bringing us the Oak Twig. Thank you everyone for supporting the mission of AAUW.



IT'S COMING....



**SAVE THE DATE:
SEPTEMBER 14**

**For The
Annual
Fall Breakfast**

*Expect an interesting Speaker
to be announced soon!*

**THIS YEAR AT THE BEAUTIFUL
MOORPARK COUNTRY CLUB**

8:15-11:30 A.M.

\$35 on sale in August

Sp Adobe Spark

Watch your email for more information!

SCHOLARSHIPS!



Danielle Wojciechowski

CONEJO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

The recipient of a \$500 scholarship from the Thousand Oaks Branch of AAUW was **Danielle Wojciechowski**, who graduated a full semester early from Conejo Valley High School. She will be attending college in the fall and was very appreciative of our award at her graduation on June 6th. Our incoming president, Betty Stapleford, presented the award.

MOORPARK COLLEGE

AAUW-TO presented **Sydney Dominguez**, a student at Moorpark College, \$500 to pursue her studies in education. Sydney is the single mom of a 2-year-old and has overcome many obstacles in her quest for an education. Several Moorpark College faculty who worked with her praised both her work ethic and abilities. Sydney wants to inspire kids as an elementary school teacher.

**Congratulations,
Danielle and
Sidney!**

Did you know???

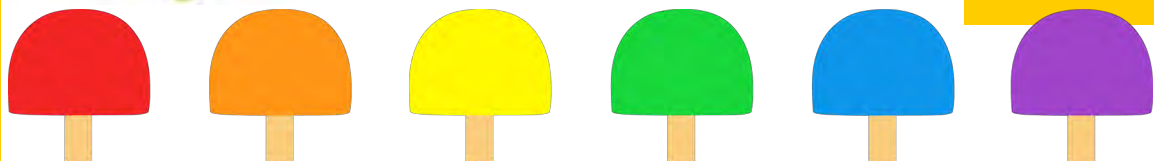
AAUW-TO has a tradition of scholarships, mostly to "re-entry students" transferring to 4-year colleges. The amount varies but we have donated \$500/annually for at least 10 years to Moorpark College students!

Meet Your New Board!

President: Betty Stapleford
Vice-President/ President-elect: *open*
Secretary: Sharon Dyer
Treasurer: Vera King
Membership: *open*

Directors:

Peggy Buckles, Narda Fargotstein, Judy Gindi, Sally Hibbitts, Jeanette Hosek, Bev Khoshnevisan, Anne LaFianza, Bonnie Shubb and Diane Turcott-Birchman



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS : BOOK GROUPS

The **Thursday evening** and **Monday morning** Book Groups do not meet over the summer.

Fall dates: Evening Sept. 19 (contact Sharon Dyer), Daytime Sept. 23 (contact Joan Udani)

The **Unity Book Group** invites all members to participate in our terrific friendly group, which is a Community Outreach opportunity with the Islamic Center of the Conejo Valley. We meet every other month and our books have more of a multi-cultural focus and appeal. There is so much we have in common as women, rather than what keeps us apart.

The next meeting is at Betty Stapleford's lovely home overlooking the Conejo Valley and will be on **Thursday, July 18 at 6:30 pm**. Our book is called *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas and is extremely well received along with being topically important.

8 starred reviews · Goodreads Choice Awards Best of the Best · William C. Morris Award Winner · National Book Award Longlist · Printz Honor Book · Coretta Scott King Honor Book · #1 New York Times Bestseller!

"Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community."



Two Great Summer Hikes with Happy Hiking!

Tues July 16 - Satwiwa Meadow at 9 am.

2-3 miles - Rain cancels.

Take Lynn road west to Dos Vientos area. Pass Via las Brisas and watch for State and National Parks sign. Turn left and drive to parking lot.

Tues July 30 - Windmill Trail at 9 am.

2-3 miles - Rain cancels.

Take Thousand Oaks Blvd. to Via Merida and turn north into upper student parking lot of Westlake High School. You will see the trailhead sign.

Questions? Call Melanie Ashen.



JOYS and CONCERNS

By Audrey Giuffrida

Martha Nielson is celebrating her 99th birthday on July 11. Martha is pretty much confined to her room and doesn't go to the dining area any more. The folks at Atria are going to give Martha a cake on her birthday. We are hoping that friends will remember Martha's birthday by sending her a card, or even dropping one off at the desk at Atria. Her address is Martha Nielson, Atria Senior Living, 405 Hodencamp Road, Thousand Oaks, CA. **Congratulations, Martha!**

Shoshana Brower just returned from a wonderful trip to Norway for three weeks. She reports that it is an exceptionally beautiful country and that the people are very friendly and warm. She traveled the country solo and felt very safe and indicated that there are many different forms of transportation, including all the ferries in the fjords, and they are all very manageable and easy to figure out. We are happy to hear that Shoshana had such a good trip and wish her similar positive experiences in the future.

Do you have news about a member, or vacation plans? Let Audrey know!



**Wondering what to do this summer?
Maybe you can...**

1. Go geocaching
2. Make homemade ice cream
3. Go fly a kite
4. Have a water fight
5. Take a hike... (with Happy Hikers!)
6. Visit a National Park
7. Go see a movie (with an AAUW member)
8. Explore the library!



From https://www.huffpost.com/entry/31-fun-free-things-to-do_b_7811856

Tech Trek-Providing Middle School Girls an Opportunity to Experience Science!



ANNOUNCING: TECH TREK 2019 NAMED GIFT DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Donations are now being accepted to support sending our new group of Tech Trek Campers in 2019.

Named Gift Donation; may be made in the amount of \$1000 to support an aspiring STEM camper. Recognize those near and dear to you in this special manner.

For more information, please contact Sally Hibbitts.

Order Your Permanent Badge!

2018

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
PO Box 4223
Thousand Oaks, CA 912359

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

"I believe in the mission of the AAUW-TO branch, paving a better future for women through education and advocacy.
Pat Helton, AAUW-TO Member since 1985

I help find the **right home**
or the **right buyer**.

I've been a successful
real estate broker
in the Conejo Valley for 33 years.

Pat Helton
CRS, e-Pro®, SRES®
www.PatHelton.com

pat@pathelton.com
(805) 444-1233

I deliver only **excellence**.
Your **goals** are mine.
I craft strategies for
stress-free
transactions.

Coldwell Banker, 8835 Westlake Blvd.,
Westlake Village, CA 91361



Thank you to
Moises Mercado,
professional musician

for sharing his musical gift

with the AAUW Thousand Oaks
Branch members.

To contact Moises Mercado
818-489-4447



The Buenaventura Section of the
IEEE brings technical speakers
to discuss technologies that
advance humanity.

Evening events
free of charge
With pizza included.
Typically 3 to 4 events a month.
Always a different topic.
Locations are in Thousand Oaks.

Learn more:
www.ieee-bv.org




The Village Voices Chorale
is a spirited community chorus for adults who love to
sing from Classical to Broadway and Contemporary.
<http://www.villagevoices.org/>
818-889-7150

A Gift of Music
Holiday Concert, \$25 per ticket
Nov. 30th & Dec. 1st, 2018
Sherr Forum Theater
Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

A Musical Bouquet
Spring Concert, \$25 per ticket
May 31st & June 1st, 2019
Sherr Forum Theater
Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

"As a Chocolatier
I merge two of my
passions, making
chocolate novelties and
advancing women's
rights."
Sharon Dyer
AAUW-TO Branch President



**Chocolate
Novelties**
For Birthdays, Weddings/Anniversaries,
Bridal Baby Showers, Bat Mitzvahs, Holidays, Graduations,
Sports

Sharon Dyer
(818) 991-0629
creationsbysharon@prodigy.net

Advertise on our website and in our
monthly Oaktwig newsletter. The fee for
12 months is \$125. Contact the AAUW

TO branch at aauwto@yahoo.com
Next time you see one of these advertisers,
thank them personally for their ongoing and

CONTACT INFORMATION

AAUW policy is to maintain member privacy by not publishing contact information online. Accordingly, this page will be deleted for the web version of the newsletter.

NAME IN NEWSLETTER**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Melan
ie Ashen

Phone Only:
(805) 497-6773

Sharon Dyer

(818)991-0689
creationsbysharon@prodigy.net

Audrey Giuffrida

(805) 214-2809
bobgiu@uvtomail.com

Sally Hibbitts

(805) 750-3119
sjhibbitts@aol.com

Betty Stapleford

(805) 492-8824
bstaple4d@aol.com

Joan Udani

(818) 991-6590
joanudani@hotmail.com



Enjoy your summer!