

Upcoming AAUW Events!

- First Sat of each month at 9am: Coffee at The Nook.
- 2/24: MorningBook Grp
- 3/1: Suffragist Tea
- 3/5: Unity Book Grp
- 3/8: Women's Day!
- 3/10: Hiking
- 3/19: Evening Book Grp
- 3/23: Morning Book Grp
- 3/24: Hiking
- 4/16: Evening Book Grp
- 4/27: Morning Book Grp
- 5/18: Morning Book Grp
- 5/21: Evening Book Grp
- 6/19: Evening Book Grp
- 6/22: Morning Book Grp

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| President's Perspective | 1 |
| Suffrage Tea | 2 |
| Opportunities | 3 |
| AAUW News & Reports | 5-7 |
| Special Interest Groups | 8-9 |
| Order Forms | 10-11 |
| Support Our Advertisers | 12 |
| Contact List | 13 |

Oak Twig Spring 2020

Volume 54 No. 6

President's Perspective – Betty Stapleford



Betty Stapleford, AAUW President

A number of you may know that I spent almost the entire month of January in South East Asia, from Singapore to Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Viet Nam, with a group of sixteen people, including my husband, our oldest daughter, and her husband. It was the journey of a lifetime, and I learned a lot about history, culture, living conditions, people, expectations, endurance, and much more.

One of the things I learned in the rural areas of these countries was that our ideas about what it takes to have a meaningful life are not universally shared. That reality was not a huge surprise, but experiencing its impact on the lives of people we got to know was lifechanging. In most of the countryside we visited, adequate housing and readily available utilities were often scarce. And indoor bathroom facilities were a luxury.

Another thing I saw outside the cities was the often-grueling jobs that were performed by women in most of these countries. They were mothers and farmers and midwives and weavers and rice-noodle makers and cooks and craft sellers under conditions that most of us would find hard to manage – generally accomplished by hand or rudimentary, human-powered machinery.

But a number of the parents really wanted their children to become educated and financially secure. Among our guides there was conversation about how they had moved ahead by getting an education and working for our tour company. Some poor families had turned their sons over to Buddhist monasteries for education, and one of the villages we visited had a small school building where a single teacher educated young children until they could go to the middle school in another village. And one of our guides from a remote village even told about enhancing her English education on Youtube.

So how will my life be different after this experience? It is something that I will continue to process. I am certainly grateful for the educational opportunities that I have had and committed to do what I can to support those who are trying to make their way ahead in our country and the larger world.

That is just one of the reasons I am an active member of AAUW where our mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. What about you?

In solidarity, Betty

Let's Celebrate!
It's not too late... but hurry!

AAUW Thousand Oaks
invites you to
CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT
at our
SUFFRAGE TEA

Featuring songs of the Suffrage Movement



Sunday, March 1, 2020

1:30 PM—3:00 PM

Oaknoll Clubhouse, 300 McCloud Ave., Thousand Oaks

Tickets: \$25 Students 15 and under: \$15

After Friday, February 14 deadline: \$30

Limited Space, Reserve Early!



You may purchase tickets by filling out this form and mailing it, with your check payable to AAUW Thousand Oaks, to Wendy Hoffman, 330 Somerset Circle, Thousand Oaks, CA, 91360. You may also purchase tickets by visiting our website: www.aauwto-ca.aauw.net.

Name _____

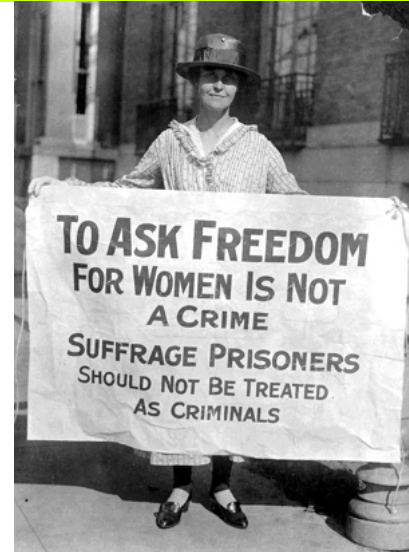
No. of Tickets _____

Email Address- _____

Name of Guest(s) _____

More Opportunities to Celebrate Women!

AAUW LACIC (LA County Interbranch Council) is holding a tea to celebrate the passage of the 19th amendment on **International Women's Day, March 8!** It will be held at Women's City Club of Pasadena, 160 N. Oakland Avenue, Pasadena 91101, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The featured speaker is Nan Johnson and there will be a drawing for a suffragist quilt. Cost is \$30 and proceeds go to college women student leaders. For reservations, make a check to LACIC and send by March 4 to: **Ginny Hatfield** (address last page).



Join us for a day of Music, Performances, Film, Workshops & Pop Ups along with local Brews, Teas, and Food Trucks in celebration of International Women's Day!

Date and Time:

Sun March 8 2020

1:00-4:00pm

Location:

Museum of Ventura County
100 East Main Street
Ventura, CA 93001



*Celebrate your AAUW friends by meeting for coffee the first Saturday of the month at 9am. **New location-The Nook,** 579 Ventu Park Road (next to Ralphs). See you there!*

Let Us Celebrate An AAUW Colleague!

Sandra Martinez-Galvan was profiled in the *Thousand Oaks Acorn*, (2/20/2020) for her work with Spanish speaking high school students. Sandra helps lead and coordinate AAUW's Latino Youth Leadership outreach program. She is a teacher at Thousand Oaks High School and her work was recognized by the Conejo Valley Unified School District and the Chamber of Commerce when she was awarded the Teacher of the Month in February. To read more about Sandra and her accomplishments, see the Acorn article:

<https://www.toacorn.com/articles/teacher-is-a-force-for-latino-community/>.



Photo from The Acorn 2/20/2020

Brava Sandra~you inspire us all!



AAUW News & Reports:

AAUW Conejo at the IBC* Luncheon January 11



*Interbranch Council

More AAUW News & Reports

PUBLIC POLICY: The public policy committee has put on three panel discussions so far this year. All were well received and deemed interesting by those who attended. Unfortunately, very few branch members were able to attend and the committee will meet later this month to assess how to find topics of interest to a wider audience. Panels have addressed issues that are important to AAUW nationally and locally. The Public Policy Committee hopes to find topics of importance that will draw a wider audience. Suggestions are welcome. Contact **Peggy Buckles** or committee members.



TECH TREK: Tech Trek application season is in full swing and we are looking for members who have/had science or math-related careers who would be interested in helping select the eight girls who we can send to this wonderful science camp this summer. If you are interested in participating in this process, contact **Bonnie Shubb**. This is a great opportunity to meet young women and influence their lives!



CONEJO WOMEN ON BOARD

Exciting news for our Conejo Women on Board project! Together with Fiona Ma, California State Treasurer, we are planning a Speed-Mentoring event in May for those interested in preparing to become a corporate board member. We are also looking for members to participate in planning this event. Contact **Shan Sutherland** for more information.

AAUW BOARD MEMBERS 2019-2020

President: Betty Stapleford

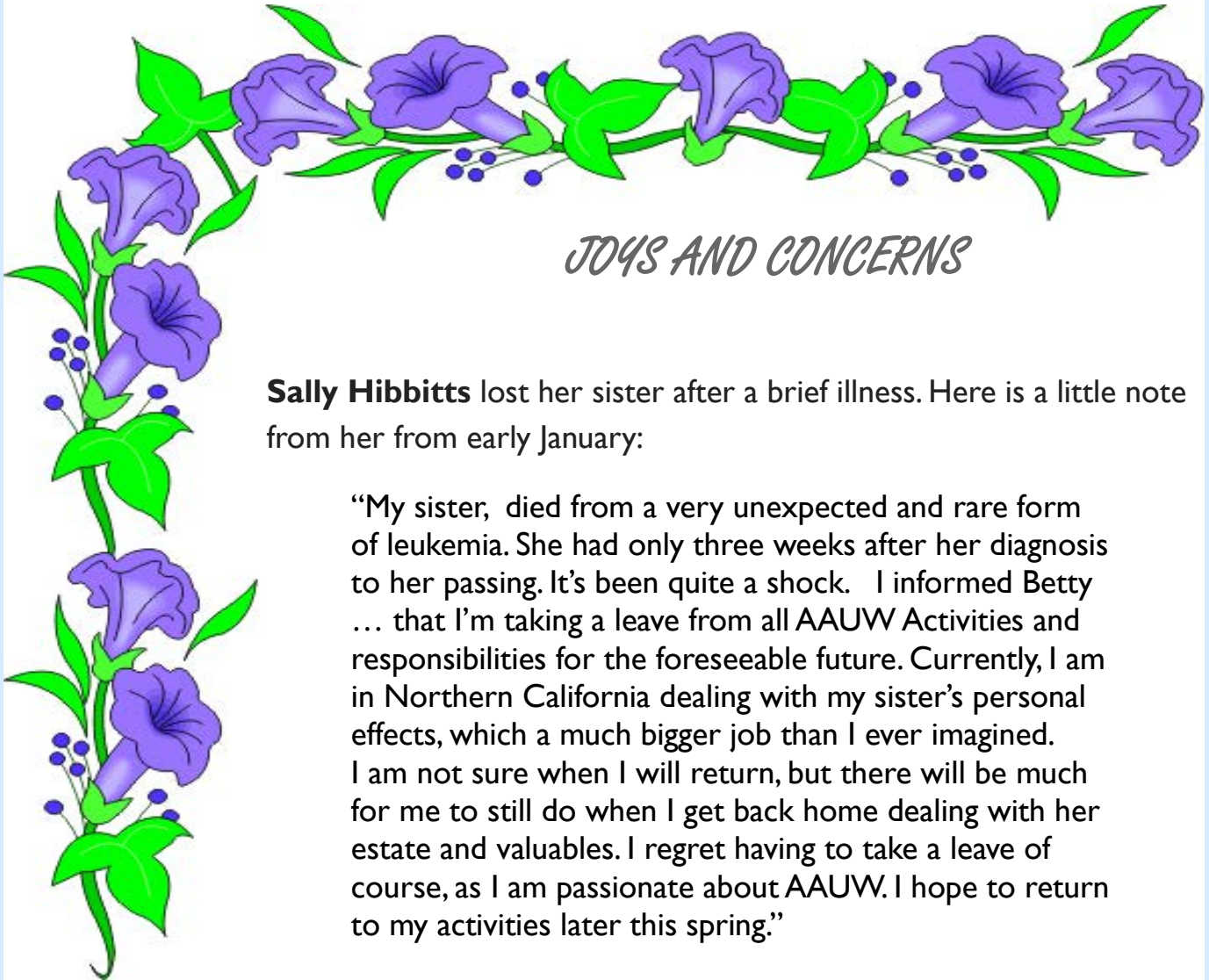
Vice-President/ President-elect quarterly rotation: Vera King, Sally Hibbitts, Sharon Dyer, Bonnie Shubb

Secretary: Sharon Dyer

Treasurer: Vera King

Directors: Peggy Buckles (Public Policy); Narda Fargotstein (Technology and Communications); Sally Hibbitts (Tech Trek); Jeanette Hosek (AAUW Funds & Parliamentarian); Bev Khoshnevisan; Anne LaFianza (Community Outreach); Paula Nathan; Bonnie Shubb; and Diane Turcott-Birchman

More AAUW News and Reports



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Sally Hibbitts lost her sister after a brief illness. Here is a little note from her from early January:

“My sister, died from a very unexpected and rare form of leukemia. She had only three weeks after her diagnosis to her passing. It’s been quite a shock. I informed Betty ... that I’m taking a leave from all AAUW Activities and responsibilities for the foreseeable future. Currently, I am in Northern California dealing with my sister’s personal effects, which a much bigger job than I ever imagined. I am not sure when I will return, but there will be much for me to still do when I get back home dealing with her estate and valuables. I regret having to take a leave of course, as I am passionate about AAUW. I hope to return to my activities later this spring.”

Sharon Dyer had surgery the last day in January and is recovering well. Her husband, daughter, and grandsons are taking good care of her. Her surgeon said recovery might last six to eight weeks, but Sharon says she expects to return to normal activities before the end of February. She’ll be at Saturday morning coffee in April.

Narda Fargotstein’s brother died suddenly in early February. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts.

Mary Anne Van Zuyle is now compiling news from members. We’d like to celebrate milestones with you and offer solace in times of trouble. Please send in your news and the news from friends to Mary Anne so we can all stay connected.

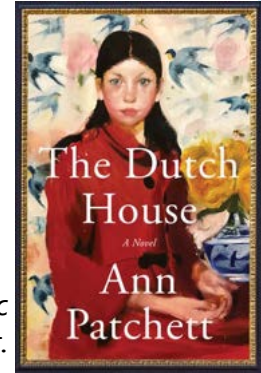
AAUW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

UNITY BOOK GROUP

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.

Our next meeting will be on March 5, Thursday afternoon at 2pm at the home of Margaret Tennant. We are reading *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett.

"...The story is told by Cyril's son Danny, as he and his older sister, the brilliantly acerbic and self-assured Maeve, are exiled from the house where they grew up by their stepmother. The two wealthy siblings are thrown back into the poverty their parents had escaped from and find that all they have to count on is one another. It is this unshakable bond between them that both saves their lives and thwarts their futures."



Please contact either **Margaret Tennant** or **Shoshana Brower** for additional information. Hope to see you at our next meeting!



EVENING BOOK GROUP

The Evening Book Group meets at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month. Any questions contact **Sharon Dyer**. Here is an updated schedule for the remainder of the year:

| DATE | BOOK | REVIEWER | HOSTESS |
|---------|---|---------------|------------------|
| 3/19/20 | Destiny of the Republic By Candice Millard | Need Reviewer | Audrey Giuffrida |
| 4/16/20 | The Alice Network By Kate Quinn | Pat O'Donnell | Jean Maxwell |
| 5/21/20 | I Was Anastasia By Ariel Lawhon | Need Reviewer | Pat O'Donnell |
| 6/19/20 | Pachinko By Min Jin Lee | Sharon Dyer | Sharon Dyer |

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS: BOOK GROUPS

MORNING BOOK GROUP

The Monday morning Book Group meets the 4th Monday of the month in the Thousand Oaks Library. Call Joan Udani for questions. Here is a schedule for the rest of the year:

| MONTH | BOOK | AUTHOR | REVIEWER |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2/24/20 | Pachinko | Min Jin Lee | Joan Udani |
| 3/23/20 | The Moment of Lift The Honey Bus* | Melinda Gates Meredith May | Shel Magnuson Laura Ziff |
| 4/27/20 | Educated | Tara Westover | Bett Stapleford |
| 5/18/20 | Becoming | Michelle Obama | Jeanette Hosek |
| 6/22/20 | Where the Crawdads Sing | Delia Owens | Wendy Hoffman |

**Hear author Meredith May at the Civic Arts Plaza on April 26!*



HIKING GROUP



THE Hiking Group meets Tuesdays at 9:30am for a 2-3 mile hike. Rain cancels. Call **Melanie Ashen** if questions.

March 10: Autumn Ridge Trail. Take Westlake Blvd. north until it dead ends at Autun Ridge Drive in Lang Ranch. Turn right and park on street.

March 24: Prickly Pear Trail. Take Lynn road to Dos Vientos area. Turn right on Via Las Brisas, drive .7 mile to Calle Del Prado and turn right. Park in lot.

Watch your weekly AAUW e-blast for future hikes!



<http://aauwto-ca.aauw.net/>

**Thousand Oaks AAUW
Tech Trek Named Gift Scholarship Donor Form**

Please complete this form and mail it, with your check to: Tech Trek AAUW, c/o Sally Hibbitts, 3119 W. Adirondack Ct., Westlake CA 91362) PLEASE PRINT!

Your Name _____

Your Mailing Address _____
Number and Street City State Zip

Your email address _____

Your phone _____

Please direct my gift of \$_____ to the Tech Trek Fund for AAUW Thousand Oaks Branch in honor/memory/celebration of_____.

(\$1000 donation for each Named Gift Honoree)

Please include any other pertinent information, if you desire.

Please send the acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

***Please make checks payable to: "AAUW CA SPF" and indicate on the memo line:
"AAUW TO Tech Trek for UCSB"***

AAUW CA SPF is 501(c)3 non-profit organization

Tax ID # 68-0463071

(Please make copy for your records)

Order Your Permanent Badge!



Order your permanent AAUW Name Badge!

Please contact:

Melissa Cam

Oakbrook Awards&Promotions

Phone: 805 494-1694 Fax: 494-3676

www.Oakbrook-Awards.com or Melissa@Oakbrook-Awards.com

756 Lakefield Rd. Suite A, Westlake Village, CA 91361

They will need the following information to process your name badge:

- Your name as you want it to appear on your name badge,
- Your branch which is the Thousand Oaks Branch,
- Your Title as you may want it listed, such as Member, Board Member, Life Member etc.


The cost for a name badge with a magnet back is \$20.00.

The cost for a name badge with a pinback is \$19.00.

All ordering, payment and pick up is done through Oakbrook Awards & Promotions.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Village Voices Chorale
presents
A MUSICAL JOURNEY...
THEN & NOW

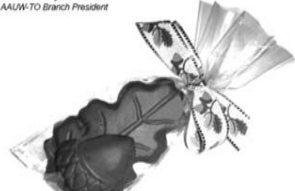


Friday, May 29, 2020 — 8:00 pm
Saturday, May 30, 2020 — 2:30 pm

Gloria Hilliard, Director
Christine DeKlotz, Accompanist

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

Creations
by
Sharon



**Chocolate
Novelties**

For Birthdays, Weddings/Anniversaries,
Bridal Baby Showers, Bat Bar Mitzvahs, Holidays, Graduations,
Sports


Sharon Dyer
(818) 991-0689
creationsbysharon@prodigy.net



The Buena Ventura 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



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

"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, 883S. Westlake Blvd.,
Westlake Village, CA 91361



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
much needed financial support.

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 |
|--------------------|---|
| Melanie Ashen | Phone Only: (805) 497-6773 |
| Shoshana Brower | (805) 368-3393 shobrower@gmail.com |
| Peggy Buckles | (818) 879-1834 yourmom12345@aol.com |
| Sharon Dyer | (818)991-0689 creationsbysharon@prodigy.net |
| Ginny Hatfield | 11579 Hesby Street Valley Village, CA 91601. |
| Wendy Hoffman | (805) 496-2764 wendyhof@gmail.com |
| Jeanette Hosek | (805) 523-3488 jhosek@roadrunner.com |
| Bonnie Shubb | (805) 490-2151 brshubb@gmail.com |
| Betty Stapleford | (805) 630-8117 bstaple4d@aol.com |
| Shan Sutherland | (818) 932-9790 ssutherland@simpleimpactllc.com |
| Margaret Tennant | (805) 795-1041 mtennant@roadrunner.com |
| Joan Udani | (818) 991-6590 joanudani@hotmail.com |
| Mary Ann Van Zuyle | (818) 208-0139 mavanzuyle@gmail.com |



The Oak Twig is compiled by Margaret Tennant.
Please submit all stories and pictures by **May 18** for the summer edition.

<https://aauwto-ca.aauw.net/> and aauwto@yahoo.com