

## ***The President's Message***

Dear Members,

March is Women's History Month, and AAUW Camarillo recognizes it by running an amazing program in our schools. This year, our volunteers are making history by stepping in to fill the large void created by Kathy Van Slyke's illness. It is remarkable how much Kathy has done nearly single-handedly over the years. Without Ann Kahng, Merrill Berge, Judi Gill, Jan Demonsey and an army of other volunteers, I don't know where we'd be. Right now, we are on the eve of the program starting, with over 100 performances scheduled this season. We owe a debt of gratitude to our amazing volunteers, branch members and non-members alike, for their commitment to bring stories of amazing women to life in the classroom. I recognize all of you for your hard work and dedication. You are my Women in History honorees this year!!

The other great event we bring to Ventura County students this month is Knowledge Bowl. We still need volunteers for any of the three evenings. See inside for details.

Earlier this week, we had an excellent turnout for a presentation by journalist Colleen Cason, who reminded us how important it is to listen to others' perspectives. She encouraged us to seek out information from different sources and outlooks and try to see more of the gray area in life. Let's keep that in mind as we continue to look for opportunities to engage others in our history-making organization.

Finally, AAUW California State Convention is coming up April 27-29 in Irvine and will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tech Trek. Early registration deadline is March 8. Information inside!

Thanks for all your support of AAUW!

*Gloria Miele*  
*President, AAUW Camarillo*



## IMPORTANT MEMBER INFORMATION



**Friday, April 27-Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Irvine, CA**

**Early registration deadline ends March 8.**

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/register-aauw-california-convention-2018/>

Contact Gloria ([aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com)) to discuss carpools or room sharing. See next page for info on Tech Trek 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Meet and Greet Breakfast, Saturday, March 24 at 9am**

### NEW LOCATION!

**Agave Maria's Mexican Restaurant**  
710 Arneill Rd, Camarillo (across from CVS)

Join us for a fun social gathering at a new spot with a full breakfast menu. Bring friends or prospective members.

#### AGAVE'S BREAKFAST MENU

WEEKENDS from 8am to 11:30am

##### Breakfast

Two eggs any style, breakfast potatoes

Potatoes & Eggs	4.95
Bacon & Eggs	6.95
Manny & Eggs	6.95
Asado & Eggs	7.95
Chorizo & Eggs	6.95

##### Omelettes

Three eggs, breakfast potatoes

Cheese Omelette	6.95
Garden Omelette	7.95
Steak or Ham Omelette	8.95
Spinach & Feta Omelette	7.95
Avocado Sunrise	7.95

##### Egg Burrito 7.50

Scrambled eggs, cheese and your choice of:

- Chicken, beef, pork, chorizo
- Bacon or ham
- Refried or black beans
- Red sauce or tomato salsa
- Dry or Wet red or green sauce

##### From the Griddle

Served with syrup & butter

Pancakes - short stack (2)	3.95
Pancakes - full stack (4)	4.95
Pancake & Eggs (2)	6.95
French Toast (2)	3.95
French Toast & Eggs (2)	6.95

##### Over the Border

Served with refried or black beans

Huevos Rancheros	6.95
Machaca & Eggs + cornitos	7.95
Chilaquiles & Eggs	5.95
Quesadilla Huevos	5.95
Chorizo & Eggs + cornitos	7.95

OVER THE BORDER ITEMS SERVED  
\*\*\*ALL DAY EVERY DAY\*\*\*

##### A la carte items

Bacon (1 or 2 pieces)	1.00/1.95
Oatmeal or Fruit	2.95
Toast	50/1.00
Eggs (1 or 2 eggs)	1.75/2.95
Yogurt & granola	3.95

MICHELADAS ~ MIMOSAS ~ BLOODY MARYS

## **Do You Know a Tech Trek Alum? Spread the Word!**

### **You are Invited to attend Tech Trek's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Reunion!**

Please join us on Sunday April 29, 2018 at the Irvine Marriott 18000 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine from 2:00 – 4:00 PM for a 20-year Tech Trek Reunion Reception. Official introductions will begin at 2:30. Network, catch up with old friends, talk to successful former Trekkers in STEM fields, and enjoy refreshments and surprises! The Reunion Reception is no-cost, and is open to all former Trekkers, their families, Tech Trek Staff members (current and former), as well as any interested AAUW member.

If you would like to also join us that same day from 12:00-2:00 PM for the Tech Trek Celebration Luncheon, please sign up for that on the AAUW California website ([aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)). Cost per person for the luncheon is \$50. We will have a panel of former Trekkers who are currently in STEM fields talking about what their experience at Tech Trek has meant to them, and a little about their current field. They will also be available at the Reunion so you can talk to them on a personal level.

If you are planning on attending the Reunion, please RSVP via email to [techtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-ca.org) so we can have an idea how many are planning to attend. Be sure to include your name, Camp and year attended, and number of guests coming with you. If you are still going to school, please include your major. If you have graduated and are working in a STEM field, please include that information. Make sure you email that information by April 20 in order to give us enough time to create name badges.

If you are going to attend and are willing to run a carpool, please let Vanessa know, and she will assign some charming Tech Trek alumnae to your care (and car). [votto@ootto.com](mailto:votto@ootto.com)

Come join us, and help us to celebrate 20 years of Tech Trek!

## IMPORTANT DATES AND ACTIVITIES

### Volunteer for Knowledge Bowl!

Knowledge Bowl is a competition featuring high school students from all over Ventura County. On three consecutive Wednesday's in March, teams compete in a round-robin quiz bowl tournament similar to Jeopardy. And did you know AAUW Camarillo has organized this competition since 1964!?

Volunteers, including question readers, judges and timers, are needed all three nights:

*March 7 - Pacifica High School*  
*March 14 - Camarillo High School*  
*March 21 - Oxnard High School*

No experience is necessary. Help with one or more nights at this fun and lively event.

Contact Rebecca Pecsok  
at [rpecsok@gmail.com](mailto:rpecsok@gmail.com) to sign up  
for a spot.

### Calendar of Events 2018

March 6 - Board meeting – 7pm at  
Jan Ackerman's home

March 7, 14, 21 – Knowledge Bowl  
**March General Meeting Cancelled**  
(Volunteer for Knowledge Bowl  
instead!)

March 13 – Insight Advocacy  
Conference, CSUCI

March 26 – Breakfast Meet and  
Greet at Agave Maria's

April 3 - Board meeting

April 24 - General meeting

April 27-29 – State Convention

May 1 - Board meeting

May 7 and 9 – Creative Arts  
Workshop Registration

May 22 - General meeting

June 5 - Board meeting

July Installation of Officers and  
Meeting – TBD

July 9-27 – 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Creative  
Arts Workshop

October 20 – Author's Day



## Programs

### Ventura County Women's Collaborative Forum Presents:



## Women's' Crucial Role In Combating Climate Change Monday May 14, 2018

Ventura County Community Foundation, 4001 Mission Oaks Blvd., Camarillo  
Networking **5:15**, Introductions & Announcements **5:40**, Program **5:50 - 7:00 pm**

Since the Beijing Women's Conference in 1995, women have been striving for more opportunities to manage natural resources and to safeguard the environment. Today, unequal access to education and health care persists, further reducing women's agency with this issue. As a result, we've seen worsening climate pollution that disproportionately impacts women. Jan Dietrick, founder of Citizens' Climate Lobby Ventura, will speak about women in climate leadership and stewardship, the education of girls as a climate action, climate literacy, and the carbon tax policy designed to help women and other vulnerable communities.

**Jan Dietrick** was a participant at the US Preparatory Meeting (in Oakland) to the 1995 UN 4th World Conference on Women which is the inspiration for this Women's Forum. Her focus was and continues to be preventing harm from pesticide use. She has a Master's Degree in Public Health. She is a member of the Ventura County Farm Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce. She is the founding Chair of the Ventura Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby.

**Citizens' Climate Lobby** is an international grassroots organization fighting climate change. Political will does not start with politicians but with us. CCL creates political will for climate solutions by enabling individual breakthroughs in the exercise of personal and political power. By building relationships with Congress, CCL seeks bipartisan legislation to reduce greenhouse gases, grow the economy, and save lives.

**Members FREE / non-members \$10 suggested donation. Annual membership is \$15 for individuals; \$25 for organizations.**  
You can join/renew at the door or through our website: [vcwf.org](http://vcwf.org)

## AAUW Reads: Book Groups

### Nonfiction Book Group News

We are meeting at Celina Biniash's on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 1:00pm to discuss:

***Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI***  
by David Grann

This book is the February pick for the PBS NewsHour-New York Times book club, *Now Read This*, as well as being a New York Times Bestseller, a National Book Award Finalist, and Shelf Awareness's Best Book of 2017.

### PM Book Review

Please join us on March 26, 2018 at 7:00pm to discuss:

***The Secret Wife***  
by Gill Paul

It is an interesting concept couched in Russian/Romanov history. Peg Tancreto will be our hostess this month, so please call her (482-1294) to let her know whether you will be attending or not.

The book for April will be ***The Lake House*** by Kate Morton.

## Great Decisions: Discussions on World Affairs

### Topic 3: CHINA AND AMERICA – THE NEW GEOPOLITICAL EQUATION

When: 3:30-5:00pm Friday, March 23, 2018

Where: Leisure Village's Recreation Center  
(Garden Room)

*In the last 15 years, China has implemented a wide-ranging strategy of economic outreach and expansion of all its national capacities, including military and diplomatic capacities. Where the United States has taken a step back from multilateral trade agreements and discarded the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), China has made inroads through efforts like the Belt and Road Initiative and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). What are Beijing's geopolitical objectives? What leadership and political conditions in each society underlie growing Sino-American tensions? What policies might Washington adopt to address this circumstance?*

Our chapter's Great Decisions meetings – **the fourth Friday of each month** -- are informal and invite discussion. First, we read a brief chapter in our booklet. When we meet, we watch a video on the month's topic and then discuss it for about an hour. This is a safe, informative, and non-political venue to discuss important and current foreign policy matters. No experience is necessary.

Jerrie Newman [martjerrie@roadrunner.com](mailto:martjerrie@roadrunner.com)  
(805) 389-3064

Meg Perry [am23perry@gmail.com](mailto:am23perry@gmail.com)  
(805) 796-5950, or

Shari Zaiger [sharizaiger@roadrunner.com](mailto:sharizaiger@roadrunner.com)  
(805) 386-2691.

## Bridge News

Bridge games are at noon and  
hosted by members:

Date	Host
March 9	Jan Beat
March 23	Evonne Peterson
April 13	Donna Herleikson-Ryden
April 27	Diana Hagen

Contact Nancy Jaeger for info.



## *Know Someone Interested in Joining AAUW? Great!*

More info next month on National  
dues increase.

It's easy to join online with a credit card using  
this direct link:

[https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/  
NewJoinBranch\\_Enter.asp?branchid=CA013  
2](https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/NewJoinBranch_Enter.asp?branchid=CA0132)

Select New Member and for "Member Type"  
choose MOB-Branch Member.

Join between February 1 and March 15, and  
half year dues apply. Annual dues are due by  
June 30 of the same year.

## *Not sure if AAUW is a good fit ?*

Attend the monthly Meet-n-Greet Breakfast on  
the last Saturday of most months at 9:00 AM –  
the next one is March 24th.

For questions please contact Shari Zaiger,  
Camarillo Branch Membership at 805-386-2691  
or [sharizaiger@roadrunner.com](mailto:sharizaiger@roadrunner.com).

## **Creative Arts Workshop:**

**\*\*Service Hours for High School and  
College Students Available in July\*\***

We are looking for high school and  
college students volunteers to work with  
young children at Creative Arts  
Workshop, July 9 - 27, 2018, from 8:30am  
to noon. The application form will be  
available online in April  
at [camarillo\\_aauw.net](http://camarillo_aauw.net) or in person at the  
Camarillo Community Center on May 5th.  
Please contact Mrs. Allen for questions:  
[alwaysbusy1716@yahoo.com](mailto:alwaysbusy1716@yahoo.com)  
Thank you!

## **Tech Trek Named Sponsorships**

Would you like to make a special gift to sponsor  
one or more girls for Tech Trek? You will meet  
the girl you sponsor at a private send-off  
luncheon in July before they go to camp. We  
currently have three named sponsors who are  
sending one or more girls to camp: Dora Prehar,  
Vanessa Otto and Pam Perkins-Dwyer. A \$1,000  
donation sends a girl to camp for a life-changing  
experience. Contact Vanessa ([votto@ootto.com](mailto:votto@ootto.com))  
for details.





## Public Policy Matters!

### By Kathy Long, Public Policy Chair

March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate accomplishments of women and focus on the many works yet to be done. AAUW was one of many sponsors for the local screening of the short film "Equal Means Equal," a powerful story of the many ways women in the world struggle for equality in all aspects of life and what work yet needs to be done. The ERA focus of the film notes these words to be amended to the U.S. Constitution – "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Simple, straight forward, yet not adopted by all states. The film highlights how many intersections exist of social justice being denied and how that impacts millions of women. And it offers ways we can all advocate for adoption of the ERA. The state of California has adopted the resolution to adopt. National AAUW will continue to advocate – stay tuned.

The Federal budget was adopted on February 9<sup>th</sup>, when the Congress passed and the President signed into law the Bipartisan Budget Act, ensuring government funding for the next two years. The agreement includes the Family First Prevention Services Act; an additional four years of funding (for a total of 10 years) for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP); five years of funding for the Maternal and Infant Early Childhood Visitation Program (MIECHV); two years of funding for Community Health Centers (CHCs); and an historic increase of \$5.8 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). All good news for children and families. Trade-offs were made regarding increased funding for defense, and no decision yet on DACA/Immigration.

The economic disparity for pay equity and equal opportunity in the workplace is still paramount for legislative action. The film mentioned above highlights these issues. As we know, changes in policy are typically done via legislation. What is more difficult to track are the changes made to existing laws via rulemaking. A current focus for AAUW is the Department of Labor's proposed change in rulemaking regarding Tips. Women make up two-thirds of the minimum wage workers nationwide, as well as two-thirds of workers in tipped occupations. The proposed rule change would allow employers to collect and retain the tips of employees who earn the federal minimum wage - \$7.25/hr. as of January. States may have, like California, implemented higher minimum wages. The Tip Rule will impact all workers unless states take a legislative action to negate the rule. Many of us may at one time in our working career held a job that included tipped wages. Those tips may have made the difference in paying the rent. This rule would further expand the gender pay gap and harm women and families. AAUW and many other organizations have sent letters of protest and challenges. Additionally, we still need congressional action on the Paycheck Fairness Act, Pay Equity for All Act and the Fair Pay Act. Again, go to AAUW.org and advocate to stop the Tip rule change!

April will focus more on economic justice for women. Let me know if you'd like a specific topic covered and the committee will research and report out. Contact me at [kathylong220@gmail.com](mailto:kathylong220@gmail.com).

## Public Policy Matters!

### DEEPER IN DEBT: WOMEN AND STUDENT LOANS

WOMEN TAKE ON MORE STUDENT DEBT THAN MEN ... BUT ARE PAID LESS AFTER COLLEGE

Between 1976 and 2014 the price of college attendance more than doubled, but household incomes barely budged. Today most students must bridge the gap between income and cost with student loans—followed by student debt. Women take on more loans and take longer to repay their debt, thus women hold almost two-thirds of the outstanding student loan debt in the United States.

Following graduation, women repay their loans more slowly than do men, in part because of the gender pay gap, and they are also more likely to struggle economically during repayment. This means that women may have to put off saving for retirement, buying a home, or starting a business.

Student debt is a systemic and national problem that disproportionately impacts women. AAUW members can help make changes to reduce women's student loan debt burden:

Congress must protect and expand Pell Grants for low-income students to reduce the amount of student loan debt they must take on to complete a degree.

State and federal legislators should increase funding for public colleges and universities and support efforts to move toward tuition- and debt-free options for students.

The department of education and lawmakers should make it easier for students to enroll in income-driven repayment options to help mitigate some women's financial difficulties.

Institutions can address the academic and financial needs of traditional and nontraditional students, such as access to child care.

Learn more and **take action** at: [HTTP://WWW.AAUW.ORG/RESEARCH/DEEPER-IN-DEBT/](http://www.aauw.org/research/deeper-in-debt/)

*Adapted by Michele St. Clair, Public Policy Director, AAUW Healdsburg Branch, from <https://www.aauw.org/resource/deeper-in-debt-one-pager/>*

## AAUW National News

### **National Bylaws Amendments:**

The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. While rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the AAUW website, the overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW's mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization. The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

The board recognizes that we have not traditionally put proposals up for vote outside our AAUW National Election, but these proposed changes have been under consideration for several years by both the Governance Committee and the board, and we believe it is important to move forward without delay to position the organization for greater growth.

Members can comment on the proposed amendments and submit their own proposals from February 22, 2018, through March 22, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Voting will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 p.m. ET.

We encourage you all to engage in respectful debate that has always been a hallmark of the AAUW community, exercise your vote, and encourage fellow members to do the same.

You can direct any questions or concerns to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

## **AAUW Member Opportunity Nominating Committee Needed**

According to our bylaws, we need five members to serve on the nominating committee to secure nominations for 2018-2019 board positions.

Please contact Gloria for more information if you're willing to serve!

[AAUW.camarillo.president@gmail.com](mailto:AAUW.camarillo.president@gmail.com)  
805-216-8403

## **NEED A NAME BADGE?**

If you are a new member, or if you'd like an alternative to your older name badge, here is your chance! The new badges are more colorful and easier to read. They are comprised of an aluminum plate mounted on blue plastic with either a pin or magnet backing.



If you would like to order a badge, please mail a check for \$10 made out to "AAUW Camarillo," to: **Ann Wasson 210 Frenchys Cove #3 Camarillo, CA 93012.**

Please make two notes on the check:

1. Your name as you wish it on the badge and
2. Whether you would prefer a magnet back or a pin back.

## **Camarillo Branch Board of Directors 2017-2018**

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Camarillo (CA) Branch

# BEACON

March 2018

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