



Camarillo (CA) Branch

BEACON

August 2020

A Message from Jan Demonsy, Co-President

Dear Members,

Being homebound, I've watched a good deal of the daily "breaking news" and likely you have too. Many reports feature stories on the divergent nature of the world's population as well as the vast differences of our nation's populace as all of humankind battle COVID 19. Our country is truly a "melting pot" which often boils over. However, if more of us would seek to understand and embrace our diversity, perhaps we could create a calming impact.

"Diversity" refers to both an obvious fact of human life – that there are many different kinds of people – and the idea that this diversity drives cultural, economic, and social vitality and innovation. Actually, decades of research suggest that intolerance hurts our well-being – and that individuals thrive when they are able to embrace the diversity of the world. We all carry prejudices within ourselves, but we all have the tools to keep them in check. Like empathy or forgiveness, the skill of embracing diversity can be developed with intentionality and practice. With this goal in mind, we have embarked on our new AAUW Camarillo Reads group and invite both AAUW members and non-members to participate in discussion of selected books about fighting racism and gender inequality. Keep an eye on the Beacon for the next book to read and feel free to join in on Zoom two times per month. We will also be focusing on a diversity theme at our upcoming Planning Meeting August 24th on Zoom.

After review of applications, we awarded our AAUW CSUCI Re-entry Student Scholarships to three outstanding women who have returned to college after a hiatus in their education. The recipients are: Rosa Vorba, Marina Luque and Ariana Dorado; each received a \$2000 scholarship. All three awardees are the first in their families to attend college. Ms. Vorba will major in Spanish and further assist farm-working immigrants. Ms. Luque seeks to be an elementary school teacher and to empower other women to return to school. Ms. Dorado wishes to become a credentialed bilingual teacher and advocate for the DREAMERS. We also welcome them as AAUW student members.

Our AAUW Executive Board voted to support 10 grads in the CSUCI "Adopt a Grad" program for \$150 each. The CSUCI Foundation established the Adopt a Graduate fund to assist the class of 2020 with their transition into the workforce. The fund will provide career and professional development support to selected graduates who apply for consideration. This includes a five-year Alumni and Friends Association Membership, a six month subscription to LinkedIn Learning, a one-year subscription to Microsoft Office 365, and a 2020 Grad Swag Pack including a commemorative tassel, cap, and alumni swag. We added a free student membership to our Camarillo AAUW Branch. You can still make a donation directly through CSUCI. Details inside.

Stay Healthy and Be Well,

Jan Demonsy

pocaterraj@aol.com aauwcamarillo.copres@gmail.com

2020 Snip and Save Calendar

August 11, 10am, Nonfiction Book Group

August 11, 7pm, How to Be an Antiracist Book Discussion

August 12, 5pm, Board Meeting

August 25, 4pm, Annual Planning Meeting – Theme: Embracing Diversity

Aug. 26, 4-6pm Toast to Tenacity! Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Suffrage virtual event

August 28- Great Decisions

August 29 – Meet and Greet Breakfast

Sept. 13, 1pm – AAUW Fall Kick Off – Education Update: PVSD and OUHSD.

November 7 – Authors Day – Live event postponed; possible virtual event pending

Join Us for Our 2020-2021 Planning Meeting

We will meet online to discuss our upcoming priorities for the 2020-2021 program year, with the theme: Embracing Diversity. With the COVID epidemic, an upcoming election, and a focus on racial and gender equity, we've got a lot of work to do! Join us in helping plan for our future.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ucla.zoom.us/j/7380534357>

Meeting ID: 738 053 4357

Dial in:

16699006833

7380534357#

Creative Arts Workshop Pivots for COVID-19



Congratulations to Karen Allen and the Creative Arts Workshop crew for reaching hundreds of kids this year, despite COVID-19. Families picked up their activity packs at kidSTREAM, another great collaboration.

Thank to all!

AAUW Celebrates the 19th Amendment!



Toast to Tenacity

Celebrating 100 years of Women's Suffrage

Join us as we commemorate the centennial of the 19th Amendment, and honor the sacrifices of the courageous Suffragists, with a fun and informative non-partisan event about the history of women's rights and the importance of being actively engaged in our democracy.

The Third Annual Ventura County Toast to Tenacity is a family-friendly FREE virtual event that will feature performances, and presentations about voting, advocacy, and equality.

The Museum of Ventura County will provide a virtual tour of its newly curated exhibit "The 19th: Votes for Women". CSUCI is the host sponsor of the event, which will culminate in participants raising glasses in unison to Toast the Tenacity of the Suffragists, whose fight for women's rights spanned seven decades.

Please join us for this once-in-a-lifetime event on National Women's Equality Day,
Wednesday, August 26, 2020 4:00PM-6:00PM PST

Come dressed in white, the traditional color of the suffragists and feel free to wear your favorite hat. Be prepared with a glass of your favorite beverage to join in on the LIVE TOAST at the conclusion of the event.

Join us for the entire program, or tune in for the presentations that interest you most.

Thank You to our sponsors:



Channel Islands
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY



Your PR Girls
YOUR PROMOTIONAL RESOURCE TEAM
WWW.YOURPRGIRLS.COM

Click here to Register at the: [CSUCI sponsored "Toast To Tenacity" registration link](#)

Toast to Tenacity Schedule and information: <https://www.facebook.com/Vision2020VC>

General Inquiries: Vision2020VenturaCounty@gmail.com

Sponsorship Opportunities: Marni Brook mbrook@wevonline.org

Meet and Greet Breakfast!

Bring Your Own Breakfast

Saturday, August 29, 9am

Online via tablet/computer/smartphone

<https://uclahs.zoom.us/j/2177801950>

By phone

+1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 217 780 1950

DID YOU KNOW? You can just use the phone feature to call into the audio of the meeting. No computer required (but it is nice to see the faces!) [Download Zoom](#) and find helpful videos and other resources to get started. Text Gloria at 805-216-8403 if you have trouble entering the meeting.



The "before" times



Now

AAUW Resources



VOTER EDUCATION

VOTER REGISTRATION

LOBBY CORPS

► ABOUT

The AAUW Action Fund advances equity for women and girls through member activism and voter mobilization.



It's My Vote

Harness the power of AAUW members to register, educate, and turn out millennial women voters nationwide.

[Read more »](#)

Congressional Voting Record for the 115th Congress

AAUW Action Fund Voter Issue Guide

Learn more about AAUW's policy priorities.

Become a Two-Minute Activist.

Check your voter registration status.

Follow our Tweets

Like us on Facebook

Check out AAUW's materials on activism and voter mobilization:

<https://www.aauwaction.org>

Fellowships and grants are available. Spread the word:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/>

AAUW also has an excellent, free, online pay equity program [you can access here](#).

Share with new grads and others in the workforce. Take the course yourself! Visit

[AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org) to see the new national website and the many resources there.

Nonfiction Book Group

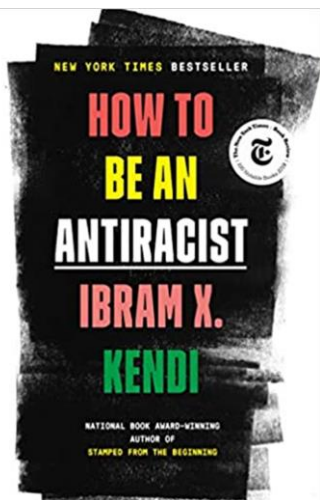
Great meeting in July to discuss various aspects of racism mentioned in the book *How to Be An Antiracist* and applying them to our own experiences made us relive and rethink the book. Jeanne quoted Toni Morrison, "That's Reading."

See you again on the second Tuesday of the month, August 11, at 10:00.

Voting Results below. We can adjust this list or add other books as we see fit.

1. ***Elderhood*** by Dr. Louise Aronson—August
2. ***My Stroke of Insight*** by Jill Bolte Taylor—September
3. ***The Splendid and the Vile*** by Erik Larson —October
4. ***Inheritance*** by Dani Shapiro—November
5. ***Talking to Strangers*** by Malcom Gladwell—December

Contact Barbara Hilburn for more info. Hilburndesigns@gmail.com



Our last book discussion group on *How to Be an Antiracist* takes place Tuesday, August 11th at 7pm, where we will be discussing the end of the book, Chapters 13- end. Join us even if you've not attended before. We will also discuss the next book we may read.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ucla.zoom.us/j/7380534357>

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[Join the Facebook group](#)

Great Decisions

The Philippines and the U.S.

Friday, August 28th, 3:30p.m.

GoToMeeting (we are temporarily meeting online)

The Philippines has had a special relationship with the United States since the islands were ceded by Spain to the United States after the Spanish-American War at the end of the 19th century. However, since the election of Rodrigo Duterte, the country has pivoted more toward China, and away from the U.S. Duterte has also launched a largescale war on drugs that many criticize for its brutality. What does the future hold for U.S. relations with the Philippines?

Are you curious about how foreign policy takes shape? You can learn more with the AAUW Great Decisions group. Our chapter's Great Decisions meetings – **the fourth Friday of each month** -- are informal and invite discussion. First, **before the meeting, at home, we read a brief chapter in our booklet and watch a 20-minute video on the month's topic** (see this year's videos [here](#)). This month's video on YouTube is entitled *The Will of the People: Duterte's Philippines*, and it can be found [here](#).

On the meeting day and time, we sign into the GoToMeeting website and discuss the topic 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!

Please contact Elizabeth Holder at egholder@gmail.com if you would like to join us; she is our GoToMeeting host. Elizabeth will send an explanatory email about GoToMeeting to you and subsequently will email the group sign-in number to you each month. We encourage all members and guests to join in the conversation.

You may see a complete list of topics for the year and more information at the Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions website: https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/.

Can You Sew??

SEWERS needed to make masks for First Responders and school children. Masks are cut and ready to sew. Items will be delivered/picked up at your doorstep. If interested, contact Kathy Long at kathylong220@gmail.com.

Enjoying the Summer, Gearing up for the Fall

Public Policy, Kathy Long

As the two-year session of the California Legislature comes to an end, many proposed bills will not be acted upon due to the mounting problems caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. All focus is now on reaching agreements on the state budget, schools and funding, and ensuring all communities have the health care resources needed to combat the virus. As California is now at the top of the leader board for COVID cases, other policy matters will be trailed.

Deadlines for state bills to move through final policy committees have been moved back twice — now seven weeks later than originally planned. Focus is on some kind of action by lawmakers or Governor Newsom to prevent pandemic-caused evictions and foreclosures; watching proposals on policing, racial inequality and the state's economy. All of this may call for a Special Session of the Legislature, haven't had one since 2016. The purpose of convening an "extraordinary session" would allow lawmakers extra time to focus on a few key issues that have been tabled due to COVID and potentially pass laws to take effect before year's end.

Looking ahead to November, in what could be an historic election because of the polarization in the country and COVID-19, the Governor is mandating statewide Mail-in Balloting for safe voting. The mail-in ballots will be going out to everyone by Oct. 5. There will also be 46 polling places in the county, six in Camarillo, all following safe protocols. There will also be 30 Secure Drop Boxes in the communities to deposit the ballots. A new item, Ballot Trax is available to download, recorder.countyofventura.org. This gives you real time tracking once you've dropped off your ballot —similar to Amazon tracking. The Election Department of the County is currently hiring 300 extra-help non-poll workers. The pay is \$17.50 hr., info on recorder website. You can also register to vote online. Elections has extended the receipt of mail ballots to Nov. 17th — must still be received by post office/secure boxes by November 3rd. With expected volume of mail-in ballots, postal service delivery concerns, the date was extended. This is the first election cycle where some cities/schools have formed voting districts, so read your ballots closely. Elections can be reached 805-654-2263. Next month we should have more legislative updates. Stay safe.



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BEACON

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Member News

CELINA ZACARIAS

 **HARBOR** 
COMMISSIONER

AAUW Member Celina Zacarias is a candidate for election to the Oxnard Harbor Board of Commissioners. Six months ago, she was appointed to complete the remaining term of the late Dr. Manuel Lopez.

If you are a member running for office, let us know!

CSUCI News



<https://www.csuci.edu/giving/causes/support/adoptagrad.htm>



Mommy Support Groups Now Available via Zoom

Baby Bistro Breastfeeding Support Group

Meet other breastfeeding moms and learn how to work through various infant feeding concerns, milestones, and topics that may come up after leaving the hospital.

Every Wednesday (except holidays) Noon to 1 p.m.

Mom to Mom Peer Support Group (for Pregnant & Postpartum Women)

This group is designed to give women a time to explore the complex emotions that often come along with motherhood.

Every Tuesday (except holidays) 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Mommy and Me Support Group (birth to 6 months)

This support group focuses on infant care and parenting issues.

Every Thursday (except holidays) 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Support groups are FREE. For more information, please call to sign up 805.988.2784.

Know a new mom who could use some support?

Free resources through Dignity Health.



Camarillo Branch Board of Directors and Chairs 2020-2021

Gloria Miele

Jan Demonsy

Co-Presidents

Aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com

Aauwcamarillo.copres@gmail.com

Gladys Ochongco

VP, Programs

Cathy Trevino

VP, Membership

Mary Goldberg

Recording Secretary

Vanessa Otto

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Jennie Baker

Membership Treasurer

Diana Dingler

Corresponding Secretary

Kathy Long

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Pam Perkins-Dwyer

Past President

Nancy Walters/Janet Lindquist

Hospitality

Kay Ito

Communications and PR

Kathy Long

Beacon Editor

Gloria Miele

Beacon Design and Layout

Open position:

Co-President-Elect

More on Membership

Dues are Due!

Did you see your personal membership renewal email?? If not, please contact Cathy Trevino, 805-757-3677 or email cathytrevino47@gmail.com.

New members can also use the link below to join.

[AAUW Camarillo Branch New Member Join Link](#)

This is a direct link to The Camarillo (CA) AAUW Branch. You will select New Member and for Member Type choose MOB-Branch Member. Annual dues are due by June 30th of the same year.

Join and pay with a check by printing this page, then completing the Member Form at right. Follow the instructions on the Form.

Not sure if AAUW is a good fit for you? Try attending the monthly Meet & Greet Breakfast, held on the last Saturday of most months. Refer to the article in this Beacon for specifics. This is a pleasant social gathering for members and potential members. Hope to see you there!

Visit the Branch Website for more info: [AAUW Camarillo \(CA\) Branch website](#)

Please contact Cathy Trevino, 805-757-3677 or email cathytrevino47@gmail.com for any other membership questions or how to get involved in the membership committee!

American Association of University Women



Member Form – Please print, complete and mail

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: (Home) (_____) _____

(Cell) (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Highest College degree: _____

University/College: _____

Student:

Student Graduation Date: _____

Student Degree Sought: _____

Dues Schedule:

Circle one:

General Member, Renew \$100

NEW General Member \$100

Life Member \$41

Student Affiliate \$ 0

(Includes local, state & national dues)

Write check payable to: "AAUW Camarillo Branch" and
and mail to:

Camarillo AAUW
P. O Box 862
Camarillo, CA 93011

Visit our website! <https://camarillo-ca.aauw.net/>