



Camarillo (CA) Branch

BEACON

September 2020

A Message from Gloria Miele, Co-President

Dear Members,

Hope you are all doing well as we reach the 6-month “milestone” of this pandemic. AAUW has had a busy summer regardless and have enjoyed our Zoom time together. We miss those of you who we’d see at a meeting but are not into zooming. How can we connect?

We’ve had some productive board and planning meetings to get ready for the program year ahead. A few themes have emerged:

Education. As our mission is to promote education equity for women and girls through , we are continuing to support our local educational institutions through scholarships, more portable Women in History programming, and programs, like our Kick-Off on 9/13, that highlights education leaders and the current state of education in our region.

Advocacy. We are in the midst of our biggest advocacy work as we celebrate the centennial of the 19th amendment and do what we can to get out the vote in what might be the most important election of our lifetimes. AAUW has great GOTV resources - their excellent social media campaign is in the Beacon - and we are lucky to have Kathy Long leading our public policy efforts. See her excellent report inside. We also want to support our members who are running for office and hope to have a program in October to feature those who are. Let me know if you are a member running for office and would like to participate.

Diversity. For the coming program year, we are more dedicated than ever to ensuring greater diversity in our programs, membership, and activities. AAUW is an antiracist organization, and we are delighted with the interest from members and nonmembers alike in the antiracist book group, which will continue. The reality is our members are mostly older and white, so we are working hard to welcome a more diverse membership. Representation matters, so let us know your thoughts on how we can ensure our programs actively represent our community and all of Ventura County.

Note that our membership requirement of having a college degree has been challenged as a racist policy. By requiring a college degree, we eliminate women who have grown up in under resourced areas that are set up against their success. Yes, “University” is right in our name. And many members hold dear and with pride to the AAUW requirement. At this moment in time, I encourage us to reflect on the ramifications for women who may want to join but are not welcome. We may have another opportunity to vote on changing this policy to become more inclusive. More to come as national continues to make progress in this area.

I appreciate you all and hope to connect again soon. Gratefully yours, Gloria

Gloria Miele

Aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com



Camarillo (CA) Branch

BEACON

September 2020

Join us for the 2020-2021 Kick Off Meeting



AAUW CAMARILLO 2020-2021 KICK-OFF MEETING

WHEN: Sunday, September 13, 2020

TIME: 1 pm - 3 pm

WHERE: Zoom Meeting

Please RSVP by September 9, 2020.

RSVP via this Zoom link: <http://bit.ly/AAUWKickOff2020>

RSVP by Email to aauwcamarillo.programs@gmail.com

Bring light refreshments with you and join **via Zoom** in the comfort of your home with like-minded individuals **dedicated to equity and equality** for women & girls.

This year's annual **Kick-Off Meeting** features a **panel discussion** with three outstanding **local education leaders** who will discuss **the state of education in our local schools during the COVID-19 pandemic**. We are delighted to welcome guest panelists:

- **Angelica M. Ramsey, Ed.D.**, Superintendent of Schools, Pleasant Valley School District
- **Rebecca "Beckie" Cramer, M.A.**, President, Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education
- **Karen Sher, M.Ed.**, President, Oxnard Union High School District Governing Board

These **education advocates**, all AAUW members, will describe **the challenges faced** and **the solutions proposed** during these difficult times. Take advantage of the opportunity to **get the latest updates** and **to ask questions**. The education of children & young adults in our community affects everyone and has long-lasting impacts.

In addition to the panel discussion, you will hear from our **college scholarship winners**, and learn more about upcoming **planned meetings** and **events**, including **initiatives to expand diversity** in our organization.

All are welcome, members & non-members alike.

Featuring a
Panel Discussion
with Local Education
Leaders

Learn More about
Planned Meetings,
Programs & Events

Get Updates on
Initiatives to Expand
Diversity in Our
Organization

Hear from Our
College Scholarship
Winners

Join via Zoom with
Others Dedicated to
Equity & Equality for
Women & Girls



2020 Snip and Save Calendar

September 8, 10am, Nonfiction Book Group

September 9, 5pm, Board Meeting. <https://ucla.zoom.us/j/7380534357>

Meeting ID: 738 053 4357, Dial in: 16699006833. 7380534357#

September 13, 1PM, Kick-Off – See flyer for registration link.

September 22, 7pm, Antiracist Book Group

September 24, Happy Hour!

September 25- Great Decisions

November 7 – Authors Day – In person event postponed to 2020; possible virtual event pending

2020-2021 Planning Meeting

We had an excellent meeting with lots of great ideas. Find a summary [here](#) and let us know how you'd like to get involved!



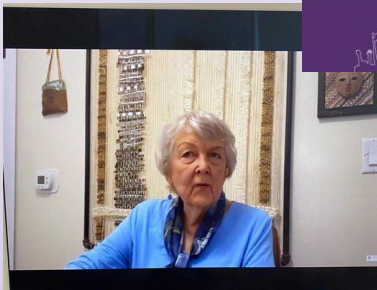
Women in History Planning Ahead



As we prepare for next year's offerings, which will most likely all be via video, we are looking to borrow a wetsuit and other diving equipment for the portrayal of marine biologist Sylvia Earle. Contact Jan Demonsy if you can help.

AAUW Celebrates the 19th Amendment!

Last week, we were part of a joyous celebration of 100 years of women's suffrage. Many AAUW members and supporters participated in the Toast to Tenacity, led by a consortium of women's groups throughout Ventura County. You can still be part of the fun through the public art project, Ribbons of Inspiration, pictured below, as well as the Vision 2020 Facebook page, where videos will be posted, and the Museum of Ventura County for more info.



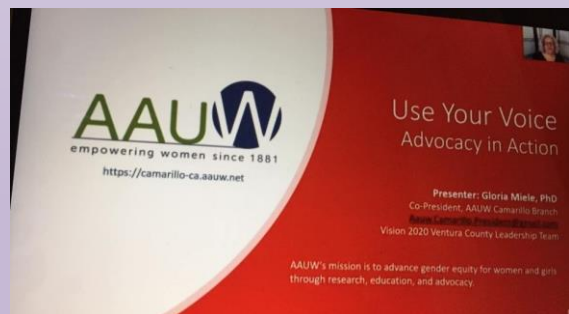
Longtime AAUW member Maggie Kildee was the first woman to be elected to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors. She is featured in the Museum of Ventura County [online exhibit](#) celebrating 100 years of women's suffrage.



AAUW member and Public Policy Chair Kathy Long followed in Maggie's footsteps as the next County Supervisor from our district. She led the live Toast to Tenacity at the end of the event.



Can you find the AAUW members?



[Click here](#) to view the AAUW presentation, "Use Your Voice Through Advocacy."

Videos of the event will be posted on the Toast to Tenacity Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Vision2020VC>

Happy Hour, Thursday September 24th

Due to low attendance at our monthly breakfast meeting, we are having a Happy Hour instead!

Join us at 5pm, Thursday, Sept 24th with your favorite beverage and/or snack for a casual, social meet and greet.

Online via tablet/computer/smartphone

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

By phone

+1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 7380534357#



DID YOU KNOW? You can just use the phone feature to call into the audio of the meeting?

AAUW Votes

≥ WHEN WOMEN VOTE, ≤
THEY CHANGE THE CONVERSATION.

bit.ly/its-my-vote | [#itsmyvote](https://twitter.com/itsmyvote)



Let's Get Out the Vote!! AAUW has a host of resources and an easy to follow social media campaign.

Visit <https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/get-out-the-vote-using-social-media/> for more information.

Nonfiction Book Group

Our next meeting is on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, September 8 at 10am, when we will be discussing ***My Stroke of Insight*** by Jill Bolte Taylor.

Planned selections for the remainder of the year include:

The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson —October

Inheritance by Dani Shapiro—November

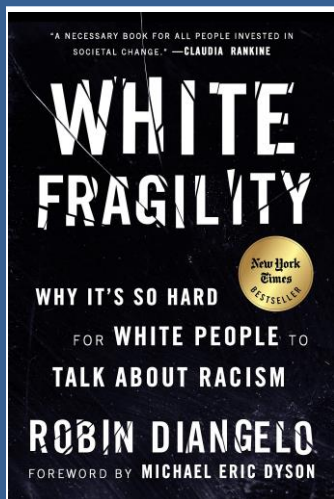
Talking to Strangers by Malcom Gladwell—December

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

PM Book Group

Our first meeting of the season will be via a Zoom session on Sept. 28th at 7:00 p.m. Diana has been gathering the list of suggested book titles so that the group may make the final reading selections that evening. She will be sending out another email providing the Zoom url connection and the list of titles around Sept. 25. So, stay tuned. If anyone reading this Beacon is interested in joining the evening book group, please contact Diana, and she will add your name to the list. Diana Dingler (805) 987-8013.

Antiracist Book Group



The Antiracist Book Group continues with the selection, “White Fragility. Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism.” Join us Sept. 22 at 7pm to start the discussion.

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 738 053 4357

Dial in:

16699006833

7380534357#

[Join the Facebook group](#)

Great Decisions

Artificial Intelligence and Data

Friday, September 25th, 3:30p.m.

GoToMeeting (we are temporarily meeting online)

This is our final meeting of the year.

Policymakers in many countries are developing plans and funding research in artificial intelligence (AI). Global growth is slowing, and not surprisingly, many policymakers hope that AI will provide a magic solution. The EU, Brazil, and other Western countries have adopted regulations that grant users greater control over their data and require that firms using AI be transparent about how they use it. Will the U.S. follow suit?

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 Decision Website: https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/.

Authors' Day

Our popular Authors' Day event has been cancelled for this year. The group has been pondering whether we could offer something of interest on Zoom to perhaps temporarily fill that void. We are still in the talking stages, but stay tuned to future Beacons to see if there is an offering. Let us know if you have any online fundraising ideas!

Public Policy – AAUW Economic, Education, and Social Justice Priorities

AAUW national and local, advocates for economic security for all women; supports a strong system of high-quality education for all; and advocates to guarantee individual rights and social justice for a diverse and inclusive society. These priorities represent what we all believe necessary for a healthy democracy. Unfortunately, the public narrative for our democracy is torn apart with the current negative, angry discourse that challenges us to listen to one another and respect our differences. The racism that now is vividly shown on our national media, must be acknowledged and addressed in order to move us forward as a just and equitable society. AAUW.org statement on Racism is worth a read.

We all want healthy, safe communities. Health care is at the top of the public policy list, especially facing the unprecedented COVID pandemic. Legislatively, the Affordable Care Act put in place is a foundation for health care for all. That foundation is now being undermined and our House of Representatives Congresswoman Julia Brownley (CA-26), along with Barbara Lee (CA-13), Diana DeGette (CO-1), Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), and Chris Pappas (NH-1) led over 150 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate in submitting a Congressional Amicus Brief challenging the administration's refusal of care rule. The rule, currently under consideration in the 2nd and 9th Circuit, encourages discrimination and turns away more patients, particularly women, LGBTQ+ people, and other marginalized communities, who will suffer from delays or denials in accessing health care.

The amicus brief argues that the refusal of care rule would impermissibly alter the scope of refusal statutes, overriding Congress's intent in enacting them, and that it also stands contrary to other statutes, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA). It also reaffirms that Congress, not HHS, is responsible for balancing competing public policy concerns.

In the spring of 2018, the current Administration issued a proposed rule entitled, "Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority," which drastically broadened the reach of refusal of care laws. In response, more than 100 House members sent a letter to then-Secretary Azar objecting to the rule. The refusal of care rule was finalized in May 2019 and could empower virtually anyone involved in patient care to deny medical care and information to any patient based on personal beliefs.

Public Policy, Continued

The rule was challenged by more than 20 states, D.C., and several other cities and localities, as well as several health clinics and providers. This led to the rule being struck down in several District Courts across the country, and their appeals have been consolidated into cases in the 9th Circuit and 2nd Circuit. We should applaud and support our representative for challenging this undermining of the Affordable Care Act, and advocate for comprehensive health care for all.

On the Economic Security priority, we know that the COVID pandemic has harmed women and people of color disproportionately by the resulting loss of economic stability nationwide. Legislation by Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, SB 973, focused on the race and gender-based pay gap, passed off the Assembly floor on a 42 to 8 vote, passed in the Senate and is now on the Governor's desk.

Senate Bill 973 would require that California employers with 100 or more employees to submit a pay data report annually to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, outlining compensation and hours worked of its employees by gender, race, ethnicity and job category. Employers will then be able to identify inequities in their pay and hiring practices and take action to correct them. The bill would permit state agencies to identify patterns of wage disparities and better enforce wage discrimination laws, when appropriate. It would also encourage employers to analyze and self-correct their own pay practices in the process, while ensuring privacy by requiring that individually identifiable information be protected and not available to the general public. Senator Jackson is a national leader in the fight for pay equity. She is the author of Senate Bill 358, the California Fair Pay Act, which was the strongest equal pay law for women in the country when it passed the Legislature in 2015.

As schools struggle to re-open, home school, or adopt hybrid models of education, we will all be challenged to find the path forward that will support our children. AAUW will engage in protecting our historic laws under Title IX, promote removing barriers that limit advancement of STEM fields, and not lose ground. Learn more about what's happening in our local schools at our Kick-Off meeting September 13th. We must all remain committed to that path forward. October 5th the election ballots will go out to your mailboxes –use your vote to support our AAUW priorities!

Kathy Long, Public Policy Chair

Your Membership VP Message, by Cathy Trevino

Thanks to our membership committee phone helpers Sally Anderson and Judy Gill, I am happy to report we have 111 new and returning members and a few who have not yet renewed their membership. Those of us making reminder renewal phone calls and emails have heard “I am too old to join again”, “I don’t attend events”, “I am too busy” and “I will think about it”, “I am out of work and can’t afford the dues”. Our fight for pay equity strikes close to home when our own members have lost jobs and are struggling. The work toward our common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls goes on when we pay our dues. We don’t have to do anything more than fund those working on our behalf. But we must fund our hopes and dreams or they will never come to fruition.

Please remember you too are a member of the membership committee. Every member of this organization is on the membership committee. AAUW has often been seen as an elite organization due to our college degree membership requirement, but also because people do not always feel free to join unless asked. So, let’s do some asking. Reach out to acquaintances, not yet friends, and tell them about AAUW. Once you get started talking about our amazing programs, locally, statewide, nationally and internationally, you may find out the answer to that hard question, do they have a degree, and are they eligible to join. If you have a prospect and do not want to ask the “question”, give me their contact info and I will figure it out.

Our wonderful membership will be strengthened by reaching out to folks that don’t look exactly like us. Let’s face it, we have lots to learn about one another. Let the learning begin!!

I am here for any and all Membership ideas.

Cathy Trevino, VP Membership
CathyTrevino47@gmail.com
(805) 757-3677

Membership Directory Updates 2020-2021

We are preparing a supplement and update of the directory to reflect the current board and correct any possible errors. If you have corrections, please send them to aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com by the end of September.



Camarillo (CA) Branch

BEACON

September 2020

Member News

**CELINA
ZACARIAS**

**HARBOR
COMMISSIONER**

AAUW Member Celina Zacarias is a candidate for election to the Oxnard Harbor Board of Commissioners. Learn more at www.votecelina.com

Know a new mom who could use some support?

Free resources through Dignity Health.



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.

 **Dignity Health.**
St. John's Regional Medical Center



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

Treasurer

Jennie Baker

Membership Treasurer

Diana Dingler

Corresponding Secretary

Kathy Long

Public Policy

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

A life well-lived
RIP to longtime
member and friend
Jan Beat



Janet Dahl Beat
THOUSAND OAKS - Janet Dahl Beat, our precious "angel on earth," passed away peacefully at her daughter and son-in-law's home in Thousand Oaks on August 21, 2020. She was 92.
Jan was born February 4, 1928 in Mount Horeb, Wisconsin to Gerhard (Bud) and Alice Paulson. She had one sibling, a brother named Richard.
Jan attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison and graduated in 1950. She then began her beloved career as a kindergarten teacher.
In 1954, Jan married Robert Scott Beat, her sweetheart who was also from Mount Horeb. She embraced the many adventures and challenges of a Navy pilot's wife. Jan and Scott traveled the world and lived in locations like Florida and Japan before settling in Camarillo in 1969 with their nine-year-old daughter Julie. There they made wonderful friends, continued to travel and made many trips to Wisconsin to visit family and enjoy lifelong relationships.
Jan was adored by everyone who was lucky enough to know her. She had a heart of gold and volunteered for many jobs over the years including subbing as a preschool teacher, being a Stephen Minister and helping with the altar Guild at Mount Cross Lutheran Church where she attended for over 50 years.

Jan was also an excellent cook, hostess and talented prankster with her husband Scott and their San Diego friends. She belonged to numerous organizations and groups including AAUW, antique club, Bible study, book club, bridge clubs, Monday night dinners with the church girls, PEO, and Thursday movie nights with another set of her fabulous friends and more.

Even to her last day she was loved by the incredible staff of Mission Health Hospice, who tenderly and professionally gave her the greatest of care.

Jan was preceded in death by her husband, Scott Beat; parents, Bud and Alice Paulson; and brother, Richard Paulson. She is survived by her daughter, Julie B. Simonsgaard (Jeff); grandchildren, JJ and Jackson; and nephews, Scott Beat and Theodore Paulson.

Due to the COVID-19 regulations there are no plans for a funeral at this time. Jan will be laid to rest with her husband at Campo Mountain cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the Alzheimer's Association or any organization working to alleviate COVID.

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.

Bring a friend to one of our meetings or social events to see if membership is right for

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/>