



Camarillo (CA) Branch

BEACON

June 2021

A Message from Jan Demonsy, Co-President

Are you finding yourself in a better mood - smiling more, laughing easier and feeling less tension? I think it's contagious and so are the real hugs I've been able to give and receive. Slowly but surely normal life appears to be coming back and I can't help but say "Let's Celebrate!" We've all struggled through some tough experiences; it's now high time to pat ourselves on the back – we deserve a celebration. Many experts advise that celebrations boost our well-being because they reflect an attitude of gratitude. Indeed, we are all grateful as we watch the COVID numbers dwindle in the U.S. and hope that the world will open up again. In fact, focusing on celebration creates joy and attracts attention which brings others into the circle since most people don't celebrate alone. Everybody wins by sharing positive energy and happiness. As Oprah Winfrey observed, "The more you celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate!"

Now that you're all hankering to celebrate, we've planned the perfect "in person" celebration for our AAUW branch. On June 6, 2021 at 1:00pm we'll gather for the Year End Meeting, Board Election and Installation at the Pleasant Valley Historical Garden Society Gazebo. The keynote speaker is Kristen Decas, CEO and Port Director, Port of Hueneme who served as President of the California Association of Port Authorities and was elected to chair the American Association of Port Authorities, only the 4th woman to hold that post in the Association's 107 years.

In addition, on the evening of July 22, 2021 at 5:30-7:30pm, we're having a "Patio Party" hosted by Cathy Trevino on her lovely patio in Oxnard. (see flyer) The party is open for all members and we also encourage guests. Further, we particularly want to recognize that our branch has a sizable number of members who live in Oxnard or Ventura. It's about time to reach out and celebrate with our good friends in Western Ventura County.

Finally, there's another important gathering - our annual Planning Meeting on August 4, 2021, from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Thanks to our Treasurer, Vanessa Otto, we'll be meeting at the Somis Thursday Club. For this event we need a collaboration of "great minds" to join together and brainstorm about new targets for 2021-2022. Also, we look back to evaluate whether we accomplished our prior goals from the past year. On this point, I believe our branch excelled in "pandemic pivoting." We need to bestow some prizes on several star pivoters who kept our AAUW programs on track despite the strict CDC guidelines. Moreover, in this past year our AAUW branch was honored with several awards which would have been fun to celebrate together. That wasn't possible, but we can have a belated ceremony. Please calendar this event – it's worth your time.

In closing, I know I'm not the only member who will miss the strong and capable leader our branch has counted on for the last four years. Gloria, we cannot thank you enough for all you have done and all you have helped us accomplish. You're awesome!!

Here's to Celebration,

Jan pocaterraj@aol.com ; auwcamarillo.copres@gmail.com



Camarillo (CA) Branch

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June 2021

Register Today for June 6th Event!



AAUW June Membership Meeting Keynote Speaker: Kristin Decas

WHEN: Sunday, June 6, 2021
TIME: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
WHERE: Pleasant Valley Historical Society & Museum
 Due to COVID restrictions, space is limited to 35 people.
[Please RSVP here](#)
Questions? aauwcamarillo.programs@gmail.com

Please join us in person as we wrap up our membership year and elect and install our Board for the 2021-2022 year.

We are very excited to have Kristin Decas, CEO and Port Director of the Port of Hueneme, as our keynote speaker. Kristin is the first woman to run both the Port of New Bedford, MA in its 50-year history and the Port of Hueneme in its 84-year history. In 2015, she was elected to Chair the American Association of Port Authorities, the 4th woman to hold the post in the Association's 107 years. Kristin served as the President of the California Association of Port Authorities (CAPA) representing California's 11 deep water ports.

A proven leader, Kristin Decas repeatedly demonstrates her ability to build vision and implement strategy through open, collaborative processes that foster results. The Port has realized several successes during her tenure, including its strongest sustained trade years since its inception in 1937, continued local job growth, increased exports from our local industries, and being designated as the Greenest Port in the United States. Moreover, during a very challenging pandemic year, Kristin and her team navigated the port to come in significantly above projections.

For Kristin's Decas full bio: <https://www.portofhueneme.org/about/kristin-decas/>

**Guest Speaker
Kristin Decas**

**CEO & Port Director
Port of Hueneme**

—
**Last General Meeting
of the Year**
 —

**Elect and Install
New Board Members**
 —

SPACE IS LIMITED!

**Sign up, bring your
masks**

and join us

In Person

**at the
Pleasant Valley
Historical Society and
Museum**
 —

**Planning Meeting
in August**

Date/Time/Venue TBD



2021 Snip and Save Calendar

June 6, 1pm, Year End Meeting and Board Installation. Pleasant Valley Historical Society Garden Gazebo. Keynote speaker: Kristin Decas, CEO and Port Director, Port of Hueneme. RSVP Today!

June 8, 10am, Nonfiction Book Group

June 25, 3:30pm, Great Decisions

July 22, West County Social, 5:30pm, Seabridge, Channel Islands Harbor

August 4, 1-3, Planning Meeting, Somis Thursday Club

September 26, 1pm, Kick Off! Las Posas Country Club, Keynote Speakers: Martita Martinez-Bravo and Rabiah Rahman from the Social Justice Fund of Ventura County

Nov 6, Authors' Day, Spanish Hills Country Club.

Summer Social, July 22nd, 5:30-7:30pm

Picture yourself on this beautiful patio, visiting with AAUW current and future members for a summer social in Oxnard! We hope many of our West County members can attend. More information coming in July, but mark your calendars now.



2021-2022 Planning Meeting, August 4, 1-3pm



Join us for a very important planning meeting. After over a year of quarantine, let's gather to brainstorm and create a path to move our organization forward with our AAUW mission and priorities in mind.

2021-2022 Board Nominations

Co-President	Jan Demonsy
Co-President	Cathy Trevino
Treasurer	Vanessa Otto
Secretary	Mary Goldberg
VP Programs	Gladys Ochangco
VP Membership	Maria Tagliaferri

Nominations are still being accepted (contact Gloria@strongerleader.com). Voting will take place at our June 6th meeting.

Last Chance for Creative Arts Workshop!

June is your last chance to order "kits" from Creative Arts Workshop! We have had three months of wonderful activities this year--and many new ideas are circulating the neighborhoods, so don't miss out on this last month of fun for your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Some of your July favorites will be available: Magical Mystery Tour, Creative Puppetry, Jedi Knights, and Hogwarts--along with other classes that have been fabulous hits this year! Order kits from June 1 to June 18: cawregistration.net Pick up your kits on July 3rd at kidSTREAM Children's Museum. Thank you: Karen Allen, CAW Director



CREATIVE ARTS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION



Exploring, Discovering & Experiencing
Yourself in the Universe

Authors' Day is Getting Closer!

November 6, 2021, Spanish Hills Country Club

10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tickets - \$60 each (\$30 tax deductible)

Mark your calendar. Since we missed out on holding this fun event last year, we are very excited to be presenting it this year to support our branch scholarships and programs. We so look forward to seeing you and to make this a super successful fundraiser. Tickets will be available at our upcoming Year End Meeting on June 6 at the Pleasant Valley Historical Society. They will continue to be available until October 27th. You may also purchase tickets online for an additional \$5 service fee at <http://bit.ly/AuthorsDay2021>

Please contact Diana Dingler if you have any questions at 805 987-8013 or email at ddingler2028@gmail.com. The final meal choices are: Turkey Cobb Salad, Beef Teriyaki, and Vegan Timbale [only on request].

Our featured authors are Sue Cameron, J. Ryan Stradal, Betty Hechtman, and Isla Morley. See last month's Beacon for more information about the authors.


Nonfiction Book Group

It is not too soon to consider books for our probable future book list for August forward.

June 8 *Heart: A History* by Sandeep Jauhar January book--NY Times, PBS Book Selection

July 13 *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story* by Hyeonseo Lee

Possible Future Books (after July):; *Promised Land* by Barack Obama (700+ pages); *Trick Mirror: Reflections on Self-Delusion* by Jia Tolentino, from the PBS Book Club; *Harriet Tubman: The Road to Freedom* by Catherine Clinton; *In the Country of Women: A Memoir* by Susan Straight
On the House: A Washington Memoir, John Boehner

Contact Barbara Hilburn  with suggestions and instructions on joining. hilburndesigns@gmail.com
805-647-8970

PM Book Group

We will resume our meetings again in September--whether on Zoom or in someone's home, time will tell. In the meantime, enjoy your personal choice summer reads. For further info contact Diana Dingler 805 987-8013.

Antiracism Action Update

We read several excellent books on race this past year. Our plan is to continue to read and have conversations about diversity, equity, and inclusion and what actions we can take to address racist policies in our community, our country, and our world.

We will take a break from meeting until September, when we reconvene to discuss, "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo. [Join the Facebook group](#) for ongoing discussion, events, and resources and a list of the books we have already read.

One of the main reasons AAUW National continues to try to remove the degree requirement is to welcome anyone who supports our mission of equity for women and girls. This time, the bylaws change narrowly missed passage, indicating that our membership is moving further in the direction of full inclusion. If you are at all interesting in making sure AAUW is as diverse and inclusive as possible, including partnering with other community organizations, please consider joining us as this group evolves and grows. Visit the Facebook group or Contact Gloria Miele (Gloria@strongerleader.com) for more info.

Great Decisions

Next Meeting

Friday, June 25, 3:30p.m.

GoToMeeting (we are temporarily meeting online).

The Covid-19 crisis has put a massive strain on what was a growing positive economic and political relationship between China and the continent of Africa. As Chinese President Xi Jinping's centerpiece "Belt and Road initiative" continues to expand Chinese power, the response to the spread of Covid-19, as well as the African governments' growing debt to China, has seen pushback. What are some of the growing economic and political issues between China and Africa?

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. Nancy Walters will be communicating with you via email with information about the video disc for viewing at home.

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 Nancy Walters at nejwalters285@gmail.com or 719-395-6531 if you would like to join us. You will receive an explanatory email about GoToMeeting along with the group sign-in number for the meeting. The sign-in information is emailed to each group member every 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/.

AAUW's Free Online Salary Negotiation Programs Work!!



AAUW's free salary negotiation tool can help narrow the pay gap. [Click here to check out Work Smart!](#) Share with at least 5 people you know. A great summer project, especially for new grads.

Public Policy – Kathy Long

President Biden's infrastructure plan could leave too many women behind. His roughly \$2 trillion infrastructure plan will help create millions of jobs, but many of the proposed jobs are in historically male-dominated fields and experts worry the plan won't do enough for America's women, who lost more jobs during the pandemic. Women lost \$800 billion in income last year. That's more than the combined GDP of 98 countries. The fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic has been disastrous for women. Stay informed as this progresses through the Federal process, updates to follow.

Broadband updates: In an effort to promote equitable, affordable access to broadband, AAUW Camarillo Public Policy Committee members continue to serve on the Ventura County Digital Inclusion Task Force. Hopefully, county schools will resume full time onsite classroom learning next school year, but hybrid instruction with part-time remote learning is still a possibility. Whatever format instruction takes, students still need Internet access for research and other school projects. In addition, it's predicted that the "new normal" will include ongoing telecommuting and tele-health for many Americans so broadband access will continue to be essential. Very encouraging news comes from the Federal government as the Biden administration has begun to disperse \$10 billion to bring more Americans affordable internet. This could be just the beginning of such funding. Details are here in the [Washington Post](#). Thanks to Betsy Metzgar.

Update on AB 92/AAUW CA - Assembly Bill 92 on Childcare and Preschool Family Fees. Currently, low-income families are eligible to receive state subsidy for childcare and preschool costs. However, in addition to the subsidy, low-income families must pay out of pocket "Family Fees." These fees are not affordable for most families. AB92 would waive the Family Fees until October 2022 and cover the waived fees with state and federal funds. After that, the Family Fees would be assessed on a more equitable sliding scale based on family income. Affordable childcare helps to stabilize the economy. Update: The Bill progressing positively through committees, solid affirmative votes. AAUW California is co-sponsor of AB92 which means our organization considers it the highest priority that the bill be passed. 51 other organizations are on record as supporting the bill. There is no opposition on record. State bills are lagging due to continued focus on COVID.

Public Policy in Our Backyard: Master Plan for Camarillo and Oxnard Airports

The Camarillo and Oxnard airports are embarking on an Airport Master Plan "reset", thanks in large part to community members who raised concerns about the lack of transparency and stakeholder representation in the process. An Airport Master Plan is a critical component in ensuring our quality of life as it will map out the future of our airport for the next 20 years. It will have consequences and impacts on our neighborhoods and communities forever. AAUW Camarillo was integral in the fight to put limits on the runway lengths and weight of aircraft, to keep Camarillo a General Aviation airport, NOT a Commercial Airport.

It is going to be a real challenge to preserve our Community General Aviation airport, because.... 2 miles from the end of the Camarillo Airport Runway, between Del Norte and Rice Ave, they are building a new Amazon fulfillment warehouse. This warehouse is over 2 million square feet. It will be a 2-story, robotic sorting facility with 62 truck-docks and 259 truck-trailer parking spaces.

The City of Oxnard "Project Bruin" (Amazon was never mentioned by name) Environmental Impact Report traffic analysis for this warehouse states that there will be *119 delivery truck trips to/from "expected to occur during the typical peak one-hour commute periods between 7 - 9 am and 4 - 6 pm"*. These 5 axle WB-67 semi-trailer tractor trucks will soon be added to our Camarillo 101 Freeway corridor, most utilizing the Conejo Grade in-and-out of the LA metropolitan market.



If Amazon semi-trucks are here...are cargo flights far behind? The new Airport Master Plan espouses "Using a variety of engagement techniques, provide new messaging to tell positive stories showing that airports, while they may be a nuisance to a vocal few, are essential infrastructure that benefits the entire County and region". In the Airport Master Plan this airport essential infrastructure is evaluated and recommendations based primarily on economic demand. What we have here is a classic example of the cart before the horse. The Airport Master Plan will in large part be influenced by this huge Amazon "shopping cart" full of demand. Will our Airport need to become a larger "horse" to transport this cargo?

What can we do at this point? The Airport Master Plan "Planning Advisory Committee" guiding this process up until now, has been comprised of 7 representatives of the hotel, tourism, Chamber of Commerces and Economic Development organizations, 6 electeds, and 5 airport related members. This "guiding" planning committee has lacked balanced community representation. Air Quality, health and safety, environmental concerns need to be addressed, and additional stakeholders included. If as stated "Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity will be at the core" of this new Airport Master Plan effort, the "Planning Advisory Committee" must include, along with tourism, economic development interests and electeds, homeowner groups, pilot organizations, agriculture and environmental entities, health and safety agencies, farmworkers and environmental and social justice organizations.

If you would like to see this Airport "Planning Advisory Committee" represent ALL Ventura County stakeholders, let the Camarillo/Oxnard Airport Authority Board know how you feel. The next meeting of the Camarillo/Oxnard Airport Authority Board is Thursday, June 10th at 6:30 pm via zoom. Camarillo Airport Authority Board: <https://www.ventura.org/airports/camarillo-airport-authority/>. Camarillo Board of Supervisor, Kelly Long, is the Board Chair. Contact Merrill Berge for more information or how to get involved.

Ventura County Inter Branch Council (IBC) News

AAUW California Chief Financial Officer, Roli Wendorf, organized several meetings between all California IBC branches in the past several months. The meetings focused on the legal limitations of IBC fundraising under federal and state tax law. Our IBCs were not originally set up for fundraising; the purpose was to focus on exchanging ideas and information between AAUW branches. Thus, only a few branches in California have undergone the arduous process of obtaining non-profit status. Our Ventura County IBC has not. After lengthy discussion, our IBC Board decided to forgo further fundraising. The board also voted to: 1) cease annual \$30 payment of IBC dues; 2) donate \$2,150 to three women in Ventura County who are returning junior college students; 3) retain \$500 to secure a venue for the annual IBC Luncheon; 4) and split the final sum between our IBC gift project to KidSTREAM and donation to KidSTREAM of any remaining funds

Channel Islands Choral Association Presents

Into the Light:

*Celebrating Black
Composers in
Choral
Music*

A Virtual Choral Experience

A presentation of choral literature and composers representing diversity in genre, style, racial, ethnic and cultural heritages.

Artistic Director, Dr. KuanFen Liu

Performances By

CSU Channel Islands University Chorus
Pleasant Valley School District Chorus

A Two-Way Conversation With

Dr. Raquel Baker, Assistant Professor of
English, CSU Channel Islands

Sponsored by [Channel Islands Choral
Association \(CICA\)](#)

On Demand June 4 - 20, 2021.



Did you know that making a donation to AAUW Camarillo is as easy as opening the camera app on your phone? If you point the camera at that box on the left (a QR code!), you will go directly to our donation page on PayPal! You can always go “old school” and send a check. Info at the end of the Beacon.



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June 2021

Membership News: Time to Renew!



Hello smart women out there. We belong to the premier organization for advancing gender equity through research, education, and advocacy. We are intersectional, inclusive, intergenerational, and empowering, and still striving toward gender equity & economic security for women. Thank you to the 70+ members who have already renewed for the 2021-2022 membership year which begins July 1, 2021. It's time to renew your commitment and membership today. \$100 includes membership in AAUW National- \$62, CA-\$20 and Camarillo Branch, serving Western Ventura County-\$18.

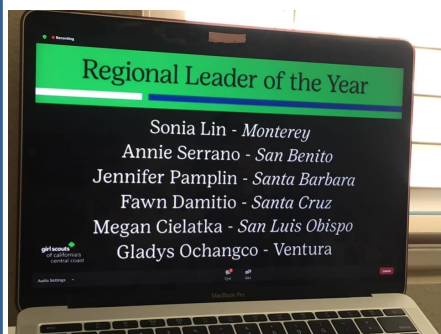
Your check can be made out to AAUW Camarillo Branch and sent to our Treasurer, Vanessa Otto at 3286 Penzance Ave. Camarillo 93012. Did you know \$59 of the \$62 that goes to National is tax deductible??? Please don't forget to invite prospective member friends to our next events, as National has reinstated the "Shape the Future" program, where new members may join for 50% off National dues. Questions: CathyTrevino47@gmail.com or call or text (805) 757-3677.

Adopt-A-Grad at CSUCI

The Camarillo Branch has voted to fund ten Adopt-A-Grad awards to CSU Channel Islands 2021 graduates. These awards assist students with their transition into the workforce. The funds provide career and professional development support, as they receive Alumni Association membership, a subscription to LinkedIn Learning, and a one-year subscription to Microsoft Office 365. There is also a swag package of tassel, cap, and such.

This program is also suitable for personal donations. You can support our local grads for \$150 each. See go.csuci.edu/adopt-2020

Mother-Daughter Honors



We are so proud of our Vice President of Programs, Gladys Ochangco and her daughter, Dylan Zulueta, who received high honors from Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast (GSCCC) Council. Gladys received the honor of Regional Leader of the Year, and Dylan was Girl Scout of the Year! Congratulations and thanks for all you do in the community!



Member News

Suzanne Kitchens, RIP

Suzanne Kitchens, a 21-year trustee in Pleasant Valley School District, dedicated student advocate, and longtime AAUW member died on May 22 due to complications from ovarian cancer.

Kitchens, 67, was born and raised in Los Angeles County and received bachelor's and master's degrees from CSU Dominguez Hills. She and her husband, John, have three daughters and two granddaughters.

Visit her online remembrance at suzannekitchens.wixsite.com/suzannekitchens



A message from Janet Lindquist

Dear Friends,

I was able to bring Larry home from Cedar's yesterday. He is on the mend and has a wonderful, positive attitude. He will be on drip antibiotics for another 8 weeks plus home nursing care. Unfortunately, one of the culprits (a severe bladder/kidney infection which went bonkers when he had his spinal surgery) has not yet been conquered. And his type-2 diabetes flared up. Fortunately, the 3 different procedures done in his back (2 fusions, removal of a huge cyst around his spinal cord, and 2 bilateral decompressions) were successes and he can already stand up straight again. And, fortunately, due to the influence of friends, Larry has a (local) urologist appt at 9 AM Tuesday.

Both of us are so touched by all of you. Your cards, your outpouring of offers to help and help when I so desperately needed it, astounded me. I didn't realize the emotional and physical and mental support I had until you all were so concerned and volunteering to do anything you could for us.

I so deeply appreciate your understanding that I simply wasn't able to communicate with all of you separately. Having to rush Larry to the ER at Cedar's the day after my own spinal surgery and spend the next 8 days there, was all I could manage. Plus, I still don't have my voice back from having the tube down my throat. My children all say, "Quit talking so much, Mom!" But that's pretty hard for me to do!

Again, we are home and on the mend. My son Bob and my daughter Josie are here, spelling me, and doing things that need to be done that are still off-limits for me. Fortunately, bridge, book clubs, bunco, spending time with friends, eating out are not on that list. So I will be seeing all of you soon.

Thank you.

In unity and friendship,

Janet and Larry

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 Ochangco

VP, Programs

Cathy Trevino

VP, Membership

Mary Goldberg

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Jennie Baker

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Communications and PR

Kathy Long

Beacon Editor

Gloria Miele

Beacon Design and Layout

Open position:

Co-President-Elect

Membership

Not a member? Join anytime!

Renew or Join Now!

Contact Cathy Trevino, 805-757-3677 or
email cathytreviso47@gmail.com.

New members can use the link below to join.

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

Select New Member and for Member Type
choose MOB-Branch Member. Annual dues are
due by June 30th of the same year.

OR Join at a live event and new members
receive 50% off National dues.

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

Share with a friend!

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

Please contact Cathy Trevino, 805-757-3677 or
email cathytreviso47@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 \$38

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/>

Want to make a donation? Mail your check to the address above, or
scan the QR code to make an online, tax deductible donation to
keep our programs going!

