

A Message from Jan Demonsy, Co-President

At our recent Planning Meeting, my Co-President, Cathy Trevino, led the attending members in a rousing challenge to define three words beginning with “E”. The focus on these three “E” words has a purpose for our group, especially since there can be no certainty about when COVID-19 will be under control. These words are this year’s rallying cry together until June 2022 – EMBRACE ** ENCOURAGE ** EMPOWER! As a noun, the word “embrace” connotes a hug, a cuddle, or a squeeze while as a verb it means to support, to accept or to welcome. Be it a noun or a verb, we can all enjoy being embraced, in part because we were so deprived of close contact for so long. The word “encourage” is connected to many positive verbs such as hearten, cheer, uplift, motivate, invigorate, embolden, and revitalize. Encouraging each other comes easily to most of our members. As a wise sage once said, “You should surround yourself with people who encourage you.” While another mused, “Behind every successful woman is a tribe of other successful women who have her back.”

The last “E” word is the most compelling. “Empower” means to make someone stronger and more confident, especially in controlling their life and claiming their rights. Empowerment also increases the capacity of groups to make choices about what they want and to transform those choices into desired action and outcomes. It’s been said that “empowered women empower women”. As Melinda Gates noted, “Investing in women means investing in the people who invest in everyone else.” In the long run, “No matter where we are in life, we need to inspire and empower the women around us since success is never reached alone.”

Speaking of successful women who invest in people, we all need to acknowledge and applaud Karen Allen who has operated our Creative Arts Workshop the past 20 of its 52 years! Each year, CAW offered a variety of classes, from magic to math, SIMBA to science, conducted by outstanding professionals and teachers. Year by year hundreds of children discovered unknown talents and exciting experiences to expand their creative expression. The past two years, Karen even figured out a way to overcome COVID-19 restrictions and created kits of learning activities kids could be enjoy at home. Now, as Karen takes a well deserved rest, she has created a way to continue the CAW program via Camarillo’s own KidSTREAM. Bravo, Karen, Bravo!!!

Hoping many will be able to attend our General Meeting on October 24, 2021. It’s located again at the Pleasant Valley Historical Society in the outdoor gazebo. We have a great program in store. Our Tech Trek girls will show off their skills with the robotic projects they created this summer. If their busy schedules allow, our two scholarship winners, Rachel Holst and Jessica Aubrey, will join us. In addition, Susan Seats, our new Speech Trek guru, will present a unique program. In March 2020, Susan was in Wuhan, China teaching English to Chinese businessmen. Susan has created a presentation of her journey home, her quarantine time and how she survived the ordeal.

Finally, I want to send a great big THANK YOU to all the members who stepped up at the last minute to help woman the Camarillo Farmers’ Market Not-for-Profit Booth on Saturday 9/18 and Saturday 9/25. It took less than two days to populate the booth with a full crew on all shifts. Moreover, the tabling about our Camarillo AAUW organization generated the interest of ten women who signed up for AAUW information. Way to go!!

Let’s remember to EMBRACE**ENCOURAGE**EMPOWER each other!

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

October General Meeting



AAUW Camarillo General Meeting



Guest Speaker: Susan Seats

WHEN: October 24, 2021

TIME: 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

WHERE: Pleasant Valley Historical Museum
720 Las Posas Rd, Camarillo

RVSP Online with Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/AAUWOctober21>
Questions? aauwcamarillo.programs@gmail.com

Susan Seats has a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts from the University of Illinois and a Master's Degree in Rehabilitation from the University of Arizona. She has been a social worker and later became a teacher. Her work for over 35 years has mainly been with children. Twelve years ago, she acquired a TEFL or "Teaching English as a Foreign Language" certification.

Susan's deep appreciation of cultures inspired her to travel internationally. Meeting local people heart to heart has increased her affection and understanding of our global community. She has lived and taught in schools and universities in Thailand and China. She has helped with education projects in India through various organizations including Rotary.

Having previously taught in China 12 years earlier, Susan's former supervisor Amy convinced her to teach for another semester in 2019. Little did she know the place she taught at years ago would become so well known. She taught in Wuhan, China the semester right before and during the pandemic. That experience is what she will share with you on October 24th.

On another note, Susan enjoys travel, magic, piano, hiking, dancing, and meeting people from all over the world.

Guest Speaker

**Susan Seats
will share her
experience living in
Wuhan, China
before and during
the COVID pandemic**

Hear from 2021
TECH TREK
Virtual Campers

Meet our CSUCI AAUW
Scholarship Winners

All are welcome, but space
is limited.

Please RSVP
We will follow
COVID Guidelines and will
meet outdoors in the
Pleasant Valley Historical
Society Gazebo

You do not need to be an
AAUW Member to Attend



Camarillo (CA) Branch

BEACON

October 2021

ODDS & ENDS FROM YOUR CO-PRESIDENTS

1) Despite very short notice, 10 members rallied to the call for tabling volunteers at the Camarillo Farmers' Market on September 18 and September 24, 2021. We reached out to the community offering information about AAUW, membership benefits, Authors' Day, and Women in History. We received requests for more AAUW information from 10 women. A big thank you to: Jennie Baker, Merrill Berge, Diana Dingler, Janet Lindquist, Janice Lindsay, Cheryl Mastrovito, Gloria Miele, Gladys Ochangco, Maria Tagliaferri, and Robin Webster.

2) How many of you have heard of AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Our National AAUW organization is on the list and AmazonSmile sends you a quarterly notification informing you of the amount donated to the charity you selected.

3) We are in the process of updating the membership directory again and would like to send it out the first of November. If you have any changes about your contact information: home address, phone number or email address, please send the new information to Jan Demonsy: pocaterraj@aol.com, or call 805-419-4607.

The 58th Knowledge Bowl is Coming

Mark your calendars for **March 16, 23, and 30, 2022**. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and follow all protocols from the County of Ventura and participating schools. This program is open to public and private high schools in Ventura County. Teams are asked a variety of subjects including general knowledge, history, geography, current events, math and science.

Send me a note at marygoldberg@gmail.com if you would like to submit questions for these competitions. To give you an idea of the types and formats of the questions, here are a couple from a March, 2020 round:

- The atmosphere of Venus is mainly made up of what? (carbon dioxide)
- Completed in 1825, what connects the Hudson River to the Great Lakes? (Erie Canal)
- What is the strongest muscle in the human body? (The jaw muscle or masseter)
- What is anaphylactic shock? (A sudden severe allergic reaction -accept allergic reaction)

We are looking for donations to help cover some 2022 Knowledge Bowl expenses. Please send your donations to AAUW-Camarillo P.O. Box 862 Camarillo, CA 93011

2021-2022 Snip and Save Calendar

October 8 and 22 – Bridge

Oct 13, 5pm. Board Meeting. All are welcome on Zoom.*

Oct. 24 – General Meeting, Pleasant Valley Historical Society Gazebo

Oct. 25th – PM Book Review

Oct. 26 – 7pm. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Group*

Oct. 30 – 9am. Meet and Greet Breakfast

Nov. 6 – Authors' Day

Nov. 10 – Board Meeting.

Dec. Holiday Pot Luck

January 2022– Interbranch Council Luncheon, Los Robles Greens

March 16, 23, 30, 2022 – 58th Knowledge Bowl

*Zoom meeting ID: 434 977 1701. Passcode 631686

2021 Kick Off

Thanks to all who attended our Kick-Off meeting. The venue and company were delightful and the speakers, AAUW Member Martita Martinez-Bravo and Rabiah Rahman from the Social Justice Fund of Ventura County were informative and inspiring, helping us see what we can do to have more representation in our membership, leadership, and our community while focusing on equity in an intersectional way. We look forward to an excellent year ahead.

[See more photos online.](#)





AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
AAUW - Camarillo Branch

Invites you to our annual
AUTHORS' DAY
Fundraiser

Enjoy lunch, speakers, and book signings
as we raise money for local University and Tech Trek
scholarships

November 6, 2021
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Spanish Hills Country Club - Camarillo
Tickets - \$60 each
(\$30 tax deductible)

Featured Authors:

Sue Cameron – *Author of four books, columnist, & consultant to the stars*
From graduating from USC's Journalism School to joining Hollywood Women's Press Club

J. Ryan Stradal – *Writer of novels, foodie culture of the Midwest*
From graduating from Northwestern Univ to becoming winner of the WILLA Literary Award

Betty Hectman – *Writer of Cozy Mysteries*
From a Fine Arts major to a prolific writer of handcraft mysteries

Isla Morley – *South African Born Author*
From Johannesburg, London, Honolulu, as a magazine editor, to non-profit work, & novelist

For tickets or information call: 805-987-8013

Make checks payable to AAUW.

Or order online <http://bit.ly/AuthorsDay2021> (\$5 service fee per ticket).

Please include on your check your choice of meal:

Beef Teriyaki, Turkey Cobb Salad, [a Vegan choice if requested]

The date is fast approaching, so get your friends together and join us for a fun afternoon with authors, lunch, opportunity baskets, and door prizes. The authors have contacted us, and they are excited to be at the event, and to meet you. Spanish Hills has assured us that they are taking precautions to ensure that their staff are properly masked at all times while indoors, especially when preparing and serving food. They are following the county guidelines. Their doors to the outside will be open, and we, as AAUW members may check your temperatures as you enter. That hasn't been decided as yet. Also, the Club has informed me that they will not pack up any fresh or leftover foods for take away. So, be prepared to eat while you are there. NOTE: All folks signing up via Eventbrite, please provide me with your choice of meal, and whom you wish to sit with if necessary. Diana Dingler [805] 987-8013 ddingler2028@gmail.com.

PM Book Group

As of today's writing, we will continue to meet via Zoom until we hear otherwise from the Ventura County Health Director. We did meet at Jerrie Newman's home on Sept. 27 to set our schedule for the new season. We selected the book ***Four Winds*** by Kristin Hannah to be discussed on Oct. 25, 2021 via Zoom. No meeting is scheduled for the month of November, so instead we will resume our meetings on Dec. 6, 2021. The book scheduled for the Jan. 24, 2022 date is ***The Queen of Paris*** about Coco Chanel in WWII by Pamela Binings Ewen.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Thanks to those who joined our discussion and to those who expressed interest in joining in the future. We plan to read the Introduction through Chapter 3 of "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo and do some brainstorming about possible actions we can take to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in our branch and community. We will meet the LAST Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 26 at 7pm. More info coming soon. [Join the Facebook group](#). Email (Gloria@strongerleader.com) for info.

Bridge is Back

For October 8 we will be at Evonne Peterson's and October 22nd Nancy Wood will be the hostess. We can always use more additions to our substitute list, so if you are interested please call me, Nancy Jaeger at 805-484-3778.

Meet and Greet Breakfast, Saturday, 10/30 at 9am

Agave Maria's Mexican Restaurant

710 Arneill Rd, Camarillo (across from CVS)

Join us for great food AND conversation the last Saturday of the month on the patio. Call Judi Gill with questions. 805-482-7608



Great Decisions

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 in the 2022 program.

This is a safe, informative, and non-political venue to discuss important and current foreign policy matters. No experience is necessary! We encourage all members and guests to join in the conversation.

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 February 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/.

Creative Arts Workshop

We've moved! After 52 years with AAUW, Creative Arts Workshop is moving to new leadership under kidSTREAM Children's Museum. The folks in their Programming Committee will be taking on this amazing program with some new, younger eyes, but continuing with the same fabulous traditions that have enriched the lives of so many, many children for these five-plus decades. Continue to mark your calendars for the same weeks, the same greatness, and the same fantastic times ahead for the next 52 years. Thank you to everyone in AAUW, Camarillo who has given so very much to the start of this workshop...keep your eyes and ears open for much more fun each July!!

Fondly, Karen Allen...CAW Director

Public Policy by Kathy Long, Public Policy Chair

Effective January 1, 2022, the City of Camarillo will prohibit the use of expanded polystyrene (EPS) food and beverage containers. The adopted ordinance will prohibit food providers from distributing EPS, and would ban both the sale and distribution of any EPS food packaging, containers and food service ware in the City of Camarillo.

www.cityofcamarillo.org/EPSBan. Broad list of business types to be affected, mostly retail food outlets. Environmentally, this is good business; one that many cities and counties have adopted, especially the coastal communities, in efforts to protect our ocean and sea life.

From Merrill Berge: Speaking of packaging: Airport Update and Amazon - are more mega-distribution warehouses on our horizon? As the Camarillo City Council continues to hire attorneys specializing in airports and create community input surveys, will Oxnard continue to attract and permit more warehouses on the farmland between Del Norte and Rice Rd? Is the nearly completed 2.3 million square foot Amazon distribution warehouse only a harbinger of what is to come?

Initially, this large piece of farmland was given zoning approval by the City of Oxnard in June, 2012, as the 430 acre Sakioka Farms Business Park Specific Plan. Then, in October, 2020, under an assumed name (Project Bruin - still referred to as such on the Oxnard Planning website) the Amazon "fulfillment center" got the green light to proceed after an environmental review completed in less than 3 months. Subsequently, as we all can see, the Amazon warehouse has now paved over 65 acres. The adjacent Arctic cold storage facility will convert 32 acres. With approximately 230 acres of farmland remaining between this initial construction and the 101 freeway, what will it become?

In a recent Connecting California column (VC Star, Sunday 9/19/21), Joe Mathews relates the following experience while searching for closed CA prison sites: I had to navigate a thoroughfare, Grant Line Road, lined with another breed of warehouses: massive logistics facilities. There were Amazon warehouses big enough to blot out the sun, distribution centers for Home Depot and US Foods, and facilities for third-party logistics companies NFI and APL.

All we need to do is look to San Bernardino to see how one warehouse can quickly become hundreds. Ventura County is home to a deep-water port, a train and rail system, 2 airports, and the 101 and 118 interstate freeways connecting points south and east to the greater LA metropolitan area. Will this Sakioka Farms Business Park in reality become a "warehouse center", piggy-backing on Amazon's location and logistics? And as importantly, what will that mean to the Camarillo Airport? (next page)

Public Policy by Kathy Long, Public Policy Chair (cont'd)

And one last piece: Redistricting ---yes, it does affect you! The County of Ventura, every ten years is required to redraw district boundaries for the Board of Supervisor seats. Requires population balance between the 5 Districts and how neighborhoods and communities are grouped together. Looks at geographic contiguous lines, integrity of neighborhoods and cities, and cannot be drawn for political purposes. One interest group in the Santa Clara Valley/3rd District wants to move the lines to include them more aligned with north Oxnard. How might that impact Camarillo? Take a look. They must complete the process by December 15th. You can have a voice, go to www.ventura.org/redistricting. Will update in November.

Membership News

Thank you to all members who have already renewed for the 2021-2022 membership year which began 7/1/21. Your \$100 includes membership in AAUW National (\$62), CA (\$20) and Camarillo Branch, serving **Western Ventura County (\$18)**. **Please renew your commitment and membership today!**

1. Renew directly through AAUW National! This is preferred! If you don't know your membership number, email me at riatag62@msn.com and I can send you a live link to renew directly through the AAUW website.

2. Go to AAUW.org/Membership, click on Membership Services Database on the right side and it will bring you to the same page as I reference above. Login with your membership ID and password and on that first page you'll see "Renew my Membership" in the list on the left-hand side.

3. Mail a check to Treasurer, Vanessa Otto, 3286 Penzance Avenue, Camarillo, CA 93012.

I want to share our mission with as many smart, dynamic women as possible and will work hard to be your "go to" contact for all things regarding membership! Questions? 805-236-0630 or riatag62@msn.com. [Maria Tagliaferri – VP Membership](#)

Want to Get Outside?

"Healing, Walking, Birding" is a new interest group being formed by Diane Rennell. Contact Diane directly if interested! drennell@icloud.com 805-204-7431

Member News

Order Your Nametag Today!



The 1 ½ by 3" aluminum full color badge has a magnetic fastener. Follow these easy steps and the badge will be mailed directly to you from Aswell Trophy in Oxnard. The cost of the badge is \$16.00 (\$12.00 plus \$4.00 shipping).

1. Send an email to Aswell Trophy at aaaswell@aol.com.
2. Identify yourself as AAUW Camarillo branch member and you want to order a name badge.
3. Provide your name, home address, phone number and email contact information.
4. Aswell will send a photo of the badge in a few days via email for you to approve. They will also attach an invoice. Once approved, the badge goes into production.
5. When the badge is ready, Aswell will call you for credit/debit card payment and ship directly to you.



Thanks to the family of longtime member and Past President Peggy Bryant, that arranged for a scholarship donation to AAUW Camarillo in her estate plan. Her son, Karl, center, pictured above with his husband, Mark, and lifelong friend, Gloria Miele. All have included AAUW Camarillo in their estate planning. How about you??

Camarillo Branch Board of Directors and Chairs 2021-2022

Jan Demonsy

Cathy Trevino

Co-Presidents

Aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com

Aauwcamarillo.copres@gmail.com

Gladys Ochangco

VP, Programs

Maria Tagliaferri

VP, Membership

Mary Goldberg

Recording Secretary

Vanessa Otto

Treasurer

Jennie Baker

Membership Treasurer

Diana Dingler

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Kathy Long

Public Policy

Gloria Miele

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

Membership

Not a member? Join anytime!
Renew or Join Now!

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](#)

Contact Membership VP Maria Tagllaferri at 805-236-0630 or riatag62@msn.com for any other membership questions or to find out 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 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!

