

## President's Message from Cathy Trevino

The breadth and depth of Women's History is all too obvious to our AAUW Camarillo membership. Part of what we do is educate the public that women's history needs to be better represented in the mainstream. Two of our longest running, public relations worthy projects take place this month. The Women in History Project will be the first two weeks of March. Utilizing close to 50 school, community and AAUW member volunteers, historically correct, first-person scripts, will share the life of significant women throughout history. Presentations take place on campuses district-wide and are available for students 1-8th grades.

Another county-wide, popular, and well-known program is Knowledge Bowl. This year we have 13 high schools competing 3 consecutive Wednesday evenings in March. This is a great way to get involved since the hosting schools vary each week and are in Oxnard, Ventura and Camarillo. Please see the article below to sign up to be a part of this multi-city project and see our top Ventura County high school population in action.

Special thanks go out to our Speech Trek Team that held our 3rd competition, the first in-person, on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. Link to video of the winning speech is the Beacon.

On Feb. 22, our Zoom meeting, featured the Diversity Collective Community Outreach Coordinator, Edgar Euan. Thanks to Edgar for his overview of DCVC programs, how they serve the community, and brief course in language, gender and sexual identity. I feel more current on all that diversity entails and now can use the phrase, "I misgendered you" and understand more about how using preferred pronouns shows respect for peoples' preferences. I encourage you to watch his presentation as well.

## Don't Miss the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Knowledge Bowl!

Volunteers are needed for our 59th annual Knowledge Bowl competitions!! Just one more month until our 59th Knowledge Bowl!! With 14 schools participating, we need more volunteers to be readers, judges and time-keepers. Non-members can volunteer for this program, meet current members and learn about our organization. New volunteers will be paired with our excellent returning volunteers.

Sign up now on SignUp Genius here at [bit.ly/2023KB](https://bit.ly/2023KB) or with the QR Code:



- Masks will be optional and available on site if needed.
- Hand sanitizer sheets will be available in each classroom.
- Check-in and instructions are at 5:30pm, followed by the rounds each night.

The dates and locations for Knowledge Bowl 2023 are:

March 15 Hueneme High School	Mini practice round and rounds 1-4
March 22 Buena High School	Rounds 5-9
March 29 Adolfo Camarillo High School	Rounds 10-13 and awards

Can you answer these questions from last year?

- What is the location of the plaque bearing the inscription "We came in peace for all mankind"? (The moon)
- The Aegean Sea is an arm of what larger body of water? (The Mediterranean Sea)
- The city of Athens is named for Athena because she gave it what valuable gift? (The olive)
- Quartz is made of what two elements? (Silicon and oxygen)
- Who wrote: "Where the Sidewalk Ends" and "The Giving Tree"? (Shel Silverstein)

I look forward to seeing everyone on March 15th. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Mary Goldberg, AAUW Camarillo Knowledge Bowl Chair  
[marygoldberg@gmail.com](mailto:marygoldberg@gmail.com) 805-248-4572

## 2023 Calendar Highlights

March 6 through 10 and 13 through 17 - Women in History

March 8 – 5pm, Board Meeting via Zoom\* – All are welcome

March 15, 22, and 29 - Knowledge Bowl

April 12 – 5pm, Board Meeting via Zoom\* – All are welcome

October 28 – Authors' Day

\*[Zoom meeting ID: 434 977 1701. Passcode 631686](#)

## February General Meeting Featuring the Diversity Collective

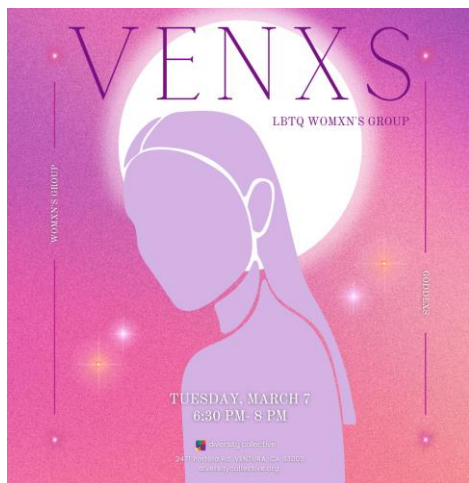


Edgar Euan, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Diversity Collective of Ventura County, gave an excellent presentation to increase our cultural competence in understanding and talking about gender and the LGBTQ+ community.



Did you miss it? No worries, because you can view [the recording on our YouTube channel!](#) Also, see the events below. We learned that our Speech Trek winner, Teddy Garcia, will be honored at the Gala!

## Upcoming Diversity Collective Events



April 8th, 2023

6:00 pm Cocktails  
7:30 pm Dinner and Program

Ventura Beach Marriott  
2055 E Harbor Blvd  
Ventura, CA 93001

The Diversity Gala honors and recognizes community members and organizations who have created a lasting impact on the LGBTQIA+ community in Ventura County. Each youth awardee is also granted a scholarship.

## Congratulations to Our Speech Trek Winners!

AAUW Camarillo's third Speech Trek contest took place on Sat. Feb. 11th at the Oxnard Main Library. Four contestants competed with their 5 min speech "How can communities, organizations and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights." Students from Buena in Ventura, Hueneme, Oxnard Middle College High School at Oxnard College, and Simi Valley Independent Study Academy shared their heartfelt plans to increase and expand voting rights. Our first-place winner awarded \$500 was Teddy Skye Garcia of Camarillo (pictured left), Second-place, \$300, Chantel Tapia of Oxnard (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), Third-place, \$200, Alex Cenzano of Port Hueneme (far right) and Fourth-place, \$50, Angel Garcia of Oxnard (2<sup>nd</sup> from left). Thanks to our AAUW Speech Trek team, Susan Seats, Laurie Lyons, Tetelle Fridrich, and Sally Anderson, for recruiting, coaching, and helping these students perfect the skill of public speaking. Cheers to the teachers who promoted this opportunity to their students, among them, our AAUW member, Kim Stephenson at Oxnard Middle College High School, and our members who attended the contest and provide a real audience for our speakers.

You can see the [winning speech on our YouTube Channel](#):



Thanks to the coaches, judges, and all who made it happen!



## Authors' Day – October 28, 2023

Please put this date on your calendar, as we would love to have you back again this year at Las Posas Country Club to hear our wonderful speakers, and enjoy the ambiance, door prizes, raffle baskets, and good food. We will be picking out the menu this week.

## In the Community



AAUW members came together to walk against hate with the Anti-Defamation League.



## Women in History Gets a Fresh Look



This year our Women in History team selected Laura Ingalls Wilder as one of the women to “come alive” in the Camarillo schools. As a historical figure, we wanted to present LIW in the clothing of her day. Although we had several prairie costumes, they were quite worn and small sized. We turned to our member and very accomplished seamstress, Cynthia Coler, who immediately agreed to sew two long prairie skirts, researching the fabric patterns and colors used in the mid-1800s. She then decided on a skirt design that would fit a wide variety of sizes by using a wrap waistline with a generous amount of wrapped fabric. As you can see in the photo, the skirts came out beautifully. Moreover, Cynthia gave freely of her time and would not take any reimbursement. Cynthia, our WIH team is so grateful as are all the women who will be portraying Laura this month in our WIH Program!

## Tech Trek Update

Nominations are coming in for the eight places Camarillo Branch has purchased at UCSB for the summer 2023 Tech Trek. It's always a high-wire act to recruit enough good candidates without getting too many. I hate to disappoint little girls... This year, places at Tech Trek are at a premium, because some of the camps were unable to reopen after the pandemic pause. Costs have increased significantly too. There is a new process for handling the applications that is proving a steep learning curve, but should make camp management much smoother, since all forms and information will be in a single database. Vanessa Otto [votto@ootto.com](mailto:votto@ootto.com)

## PM Book Review

Our next scheduled meeting is on Monday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Barbara Bergman [unless notified differently]. We will be discussing *The Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley. Our final two books for the season are: *The Song of the Jade Lily* by Kristy Manning and *Summer on the Bluffs* by Sunny Hostin. Contact Diana Dingler for more info - [ddingler2028@gmail.com](mailto:ddingler2028@gmail.com)

## Non-Fiction Book Group

The eye votes have it! We will add ***Saved by Schindler: The Life of Celina Karp Biniaz*** by William B. Friedrichs to our reading list. Amazon \$21.95 Thriftbooks \$19.50 [Barnes and Noble, Ventura \\$21.95](#)

March 14	<b><i>The Snow Leopard</i></b> by Peter Matthiessen
April 11	<b><i>Maiden Voyages</i></b> by Sian Evan
May 9	<b><i>Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth</i></b> by Stacy A. Cordery
June 13	<b><i>Saved by Schindler: The Life of Celina Karp Biniaz</i></b>

We had a great meeting with five people on Tuesday, Feb. 14. The book, *My Dinners With Ruth*, motivated an interesting discussion on Nina Totenberg, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, women's relationships and Washington DC.

For March, ***The Snow Leopard*** by Peter Matthiessen, winner of the 1979 [National Book Award](#) in the category Contemporary Thought and the 1980 [National Book Award for Nonfiction](#)). Our March 14 meeting will be at Marianne Flam's house: 1856 Powell Dr., Ventura [emeffeff@gmail.com](mailto:emeffeff@gmail.com) (805) 766-7613.

For our April 11 meeting, Shelley Fryer, a new member, has offered to host. ([sdfryer@me.com](mailto:sdfryer@me.com), 805 312-3395)

Contact Barbara Hilburn for more info about the group. [hilburndesigns@gmail.com](mailto:hilburndesigns@gmail.com)

Public Policy by Kathy Long and Bea Lutterbeck

## Patients Over Profits in California: The Fight for Universal Access to Quality, Affordable Health Care

As a public policy priority, **AAUW advocates for universal access to quality, affordable health care.** Health care reform is a women's issue that is intrinsically tied to economic security. (See the *AAUW Quick Facts on Health Care* <https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2022/08/Health-Care-Quick-Facts-Jan-2022.pdf> ).

In California, the California Nurses Association (CNA) has been working to secure universal health care since 1994. Vowing never to back down against the corporate health care industry that places profits ahead of patients, the CNA announced on February 17, 2023, that they are renewing their fight to pass **CalCare**. The legislation made historic gains in the Assembly last session. **It would guarantee free, comprehensive, high-quality health care to all California residents as a human right through a single-payer system.** The union in partnership with **Assemblymember Ash Kalra**, author of **AB 1400 last session** and **now AB 1690** – plans to spend the next year growing support for CalCare with the ultimate goal to move single-payer legislation in 2024 through the legislature.

“Despite the gains made under the Affordable Care Act, nearly 3.2 million Californians have no health insurance, while millions more have insurance that they can't afford to use because their copays and deductibles are too high. Nearly two-thirds of Californians report being worried about unexpected medical bills and nearly two-thirds report being worried about out-of-pocket health care costs. Meanwhile, money-driven insurance companies are reporting record-breaking profits. While almost one-third of each health care dollar is spent on administrative costs, including waste on exorbitant CEO salaries, marketing, billing, advertising, and an army of staff to deny and delay claims, the insurance industry spends hundreds of millions lobbying against single-payer proposals,” per Puneet Maharaj, CNA's government relations director (<https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/press/california-nurses-renew-fight-for-guaranteed-health-care?akid=170351.1507626.YIVr3r&rd=1&t=1> ).

Other organizations in California working to get universal health care legislation passed, include the **California Physicians Alliance** ( <https://caphysiciansalliance.org> ) and **Health Access California** (<https://health-access.org/campaigns/care4allca/> ).

## Spread the Word and Save Infants' Lives

County's first human milk depot is open!

By Betsy Metzgar

There's an exciting follow-up to the Beacon article we wrote about the efforts of the non-profit Ventura Coast Milk Bank (VCMB) to provide hospital neonatal intensive care units with supplemental human breast milk to benefit medically fragile infants. The VCMB is pleased to announce the recent opening of Ventura County's first milk depot where pre-screened lactating mothers can drop off their extra breast milk. The donated frozen milk is then transported from the depot to the UC Health Milk Bank in San Diego where it is pasteurized and distributed to hospitals.

KCLU reporter Caroline Feraday was on hand opening day when donating mothers dropped off a total of 1,000 ounces of breast milk. [Listen here to Feraday's KCLU broadcast](#) where Lisa Stellwagen, M.D., explains how human milk improves the health outcomes for premature and medically-ill infants by supporting growth, nutrition, and the prevention of infections and illnesses.

A connection between low socioeconomic status and the risk of premature birth is well established. Increasing access to donor milk for premature infants not only improves infant health outcomes, but also improves health equity for infants from low-income and underserved families.

If you know a local mother who may be interested in donating breast milk, please refer her to the [VCMB website](#) for information on how to be pre-screened and make deliveries to the milk depot in Oxnard. Opportunities to make a monetary donation to this program are available on the website, too, and very appreciated.

## Language Matters

Our WIH program has been making an impact in local schools for nearly 30 years. It returns this month to introduce students to famous women from history. One of the women this year is Harriet Tubman, the Abolitionist, Civil War scout, spy, nurse, suffragist, and civil rights activist. We received feedback that some of the language in our materials is not consistent with current language when discussing slavery. For example, use "enslaved person," rather than "slave" to "...emphasize the humanity of an individual within a slaveholding society over their condition of involuntary servitude." We will be editing and reviewing all scripts for language going forward. More information [here](#).



## Great Decisions is Back

**GREAT DECISIONS** a discussion group on foreign policy, will resume Friday, March 24, at 3:30 p.m., and continue every fourth Friday for 8 months. The class will be meeting in the Community Room at 3701 E. Los Posas Rd.

The 2023 meetings should engender lively discussions as the group considers events which affect the country and the world. To prepare for each class, the participants read a short chapter in the briefing booklet. The class is a safe, informal, and non-political group. No experience is necessary. You can order a copy of the 2023 briefing book for \$35 at 1-800-477-5836 or at [sales@fpa.org](mailto:sales@fpa.org).

For more information, please contact any of the following:

Nancy Walters: [nejwalters285@gmail.com](mailto:nejwalters285@gmail.com) (805)465-0362

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

Dora Prihar: [dprihar@mprimail.com](mailto:dprihar@mprimail.com) (818)321-3207

The first two topics are summarized below.

### 1. Energy Geopolitics

Access to oil and gas has long held an influence over the politics of individual nations and their relations with others. But as more countries move toward sustainable energy, and supply chain shortages affect the availability of oil and gas, how will this change the way in which the United States interacts with the outside world?

### 2. War Crimes

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has resulted in widespread charges of war crimes and calls for justice. But what exactly are war crimes? Opinions of what constitutes a war crime have evolved, as have ways to identify and punish the perpetrators. How will the war crimes committed in Ukraine be dealt with?

## Volunteers Needed for Scholarship Committee

AAUW Camarillo grants scholarships to women at CSUCI who have returned to get their degrees after a break in their education. If you'd like to learn more about reviewing applications or have any questions about the program, please contact Gloria Miele [Gloria@strongerleader.com](mailto:Gloria@strongerleader.com)

## Membership News

Our members are the life and soul of our branch and without you, we could not keep growing in our mission to improve the lives of women and girls in our community. If a friend or family member has asked you about AAUW Camarillo and think they may be interested in joining, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. I am happy to introduce myself and share with them our mission, volunteer opportunities, how they can join, the vital work we do and most importantly, the fun we have when we do get together for volunteering or at events.

If you have been a member in the past and are interested in renewing, we always include instructions on how to renew at the end of our newsletter each month. If you have any questions at all, contact your Membership Chairperson, Maria Tagliaferri 805-236-0630, riatag62@gmail.com.

## Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation!



Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation for helping support our efforts in sending 8th grade girls to Tech Trek camp at UCSB, local scholarships for returning female students to CSUCI and encouragement for our Tech Trek Alumni group. The Foundation has been generous in the past and continues to support, and we sincerely appreciate them.

## Member News

The AAUW Camarillo Member Directory was emailed out this week to all current members. Thank you, Linda Stinebaugh, for keeping our database and making the needed changes. Please download this Directory so you have the membership contact information ready when you need it. If you did not get one, please contact Maria Tagliaferri at [riatag62@gmail.com](mailto:riatag62@gmail.com) or cell: 805 236-0630. Please check that your information is accurate and please contact Maria if you do not have a phone number listed so we may add it to our records.

## Member News from

The Rotary is offering two programs for high school students: 1. scholarships for students with financial need, and 2. A full-day life skills seminar in mid-April. Volunteers needed! Contact Mary Lingua with questions about either opportunity. [linguamg@gmail.com](mailto:linguamg@gmail.com).



Spend An Amazing  
Day Learning Life  
Skills and Growing  
with Local Students!!!!  
YES

Register: [WWW.OUHSDYES.org](http://WWW.OUHSDYES.org)  
Follow Us on Instagram, Facebook,  
Twitter OUHSDYES Email:  
[signup@ouhsdyes.com](mailto:signup@ouhsdyes.com)

Rancho Campana  
High School  
April 15, 2023

ETHICS

Team Building

Diversity

Public Speaking



For more than 50 years, the Rotary Club of Camarillo has been actively involved in supporting several community organizations including: Casa Pacifica, The Boys & Girls Club of Camarillo and The Camarillo Family YMCA. One of our goals is to provide scholarships for qualified Graduating Seniors and Vocational/Re-Entry students **with financial need** living in Camarillo (Zip Codes 93010, 93012, 93066) and the Hueneme High School Interactors. The number and value of awards given annually is based on available funds.

**Application Due Date: April 3, 2023**

**THE CURRENT AWARD IS AT LEAST \$1,000 PER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER**

Thank you for applying for a scholarship from the Rotary Club of Camarillo. Please submit your completed application to the email address below and include transcripts. (*Transcripts are optional for Re-Entry and Vocational Scholarship applicants.*)

Winners will be notified by April 30th. Any questions and completed applications with required documents may be emailed to:

[scholarships@camarillorotary.org](mailto:scholarships@camarillorotary.org)

## Order Your Name Tag 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](mailto: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.

**Camarillo Branch  
Board of Directors and Chairs  
2022-2023**

**Cathy Trevino**

President

[Aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com](mailto:Aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com)

**Gloria Miele**

VP, Programs

**Maria Tagliaferri**

VP, Membership

**Barbara Britt**

Recording Secretary

**Vanessa Otto**

Treasurer

**Diana Dingler**

Corresponding Secretary

**Kathy Long**

Public Policy

**Jan Demonsy**

Past President

**Nancy Walters/Janet Lindquist**

Hospitality

**Kay Wolverton Ito**

Communications and PR

**Kathy Long**

Beacon Editor

**Gloria Miele**

Beacon Design and Layout

**Open position:**

Co-President-Elect

## Membership

### AAUW Camarillo Branch – Need to renew?

Annual dues are \$110  
(\$67 National, \$20 CA, \$23 Branch).

**1. Mail a check** for \$110 payable to “AAUW Camarillo Branch” to: AAUW Camarillo Branch, P.O. Box 862, Camarillo, CA 93011.

**2. Online at AAUW National – my.aauw.org**  
Scroll down to “Don’t have an account?” to reset your password and begin the online process using your email address, not your member number. Once logged in, you will join by selecting 3 membership types: National (\$67), California (\$20) and Camarillo Branch Member \$23 (select CA-0132 Camarillo).

### Tips and reminders for the online renewal:

Complete the password reset the first time you login.

- If you don’t receive the password reset email, be sure to check your spam folder!  
The password reset email will come from: American Association of University Women [infosf@aauw.org](mailto:infosf@aauw.org). Subject Line: AAUW Password Reset Requested.
- Make sure to use your email address and not your member number when logging in.
  - Use the same email address you renewed with in 2021.
- You can log in but account says you’re not a member. You have created a new account in error and a duplicate record new member number. National must fix this so please let me know if this happens to you!

Short step by step videos help with logging in and joining online: <https://www.aauw.org/membership/new-systems-update>.

If you have any questions at all, please don’t hesitate to contact, Maria Tagliaferri, Membership VP at [riatag62@gmail.com](mailto:riatag62@gmail.com) or 805-236-0630.



### New Member Form: *Please print*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

(C) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest  
College Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

University/college: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Schedule: Circle one:

General Member \$100

Student Affiliate **\$110**

(Includes local, state & National Due \$38

Check Payable: “AAUW Camarillo Branch” and mail to:

AAUW Camarillo Branch  
P. O. Box 862  
Camarillo, CA 93011  
[aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com)