

President's Message from Cathy Trevino

April, from the Latin verb "aperire" to open. Open yourself up this April to all AAUW Camarillo has to offer.

AAUW Camarillo should be proud of our accomplishments during the month of March. Women in History (WIH) returned strong after a two-year COVID absence with nearly 50 volunteers performing over a two-week period. Our able-bodied team tweaked scripts, fielded questions from schools and volunteers, matched classrooms with performers and provided costumes and props for the ladies.

Thank you to Jan Demonsy, Cheryl Mastrovito, Judi Gill, Merrill Berge, Betsy Metzgar, Betsy Willey, AAUW member volunteers and the parents who portrayed golfer Nancy Lopez, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Harriet Tubman, Jane Goodall, and Susan Butcher (second woman to win the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race), all to educate and inform our students throughout the Camarillo area.

More kudos go to our Knowledge Bowl program which just finished up for the 59th year. Thank you to our hosts, Hueneme, Buena and Camarillo High Schools for hosting the 13 teams. The 20 or so weekly volunteers who read questions, timed, and judged student responses made it possible for us to present another year of close competition. This finely tuned machine could not have produced such a successful event on three consecutive Wed. evenings without its dedicated committee headed up by Mary Goldberg, assisted by Kay Wolverton-Ito and past chair, Rebecca Pecsok. Thanks to all members who contributed questions to multiple rounds of toss-up and bonus questions.

These programs, and more, all make significant contributions around Ventura County. If you have not included one or more of our special programs in your schedule, please consider doing so. The volunteers who lead these activities are listed in the front of your membership directory and are always looking for more help to produce these exemplary offerings. Don't worry, you won't be put in charge. Whatever time you have to contribute will be appreciated and utilized. Besides, it is just great fun getting involved with other like-minded women.

I have already gotten a great positive response to our Membership No-Host Meet and Greet on Wed. April 19th at Cantara Cellars, 126 N Wood Rd in Camarillo. It will be great to meet, mix, and mingle with newer and returning members and share opportunities to get involved. The board meeting starts at 4:00 and is open to all members. The social will begin at 5:00.

We are well on our way to forming our next board for the 2023-2024 year which begins July 1st. I am hoping to become our Past President since I have served as Co President last year and President this year. As a member of AAUW for 40 years I am not going anywhere. We have a very dedicated board in place, many of whom have served this organization for decades. We need some depth in our leadership and seek members who are able to serve on various committees to help us administer the branch at the local, state and national level. If you are tempted, we can have this conversation and accept whatever time you have to give. Just give me a jingle, 805 757-3677.



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Knowledge Bowl Recap

Kay W. Ito, Mary Goldberg and Rebecca Pecsok, Knowledge Bowl Committee

Our 59th Knowledge Bowl competitions were held on three nights in March. This program is possible because of the coaches, enthusiastic students and volunteers who work to make it happen.

First Place:

St. Bonaventure High School

Second Place:

Adolfo Camarillo High School

Third Place:

Buena High School



St. Bonaventure High School



Buena High School

Teams from thirteen schools participated. They included:

Adolfo Camarillo High School

El Camino High School (first time coach)

La Reina High School (first time participants)

Pacifica High School

St. Bonaventura High School (first time coach)

Buena High School

Hueneme High School

Newbury Park High School

Rancho Campana High School

Villanova Preparatory School (first time participants)

Channel Islands High School

Oxnard High School

Rio Mesa High School

Thank you to those who compiled and wrote questions:

Susan Hord, Janet Lindquist, Anita Nelson, Vanessa Otto, Pam Holley-Wilcox

Thank You to our group of terrific volunteers which included new and long standing members, friends and family:

Joyce Resnik

Sol Chooljian

Colleen Robertson

Janet Lindquist

Kathy Long

Cathy Trevino

Barbara Britt

Pam Holley-Wilcox

Anita Nelson

Rebecca Pecsok

Kay W. Ito

Sue Parsons

Larry Dresser

Colleen Scott

Jane Costanzo

Jan Demonsy

Maria Tagliaferri

Vanessa Otto

Laura McAvoy

Jack Ito

Arlene Miro

Sally Anderson

Robert and Susan Hord

Gloria Miele

Mary Ann Novak

Laura Valdez

2023 Calendar Highlights

April 8 – [Diversity Gala](#), Ventura

April 19 – Board Meeting at 4pm, All Member No-Host Meet and Greet, 5pm

April 22 – AAUW-CA state Zoom get together <https://www.aauw-ca.org/academy-aauwards-event-celebrates-aauw-stars>

June (TBD) - AAUW Camarillo member, Celina Biniiaz, a survivor of Nazi Occupation, and saved by Otto Schindler will speak about her amazing story

October 28 – Authors' Day

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

April Membership Meet and Greet

No Host wine, beer, and food. Come celebrate our successful programs, learn about the branch, our activities, suggest new ones, and mingle with members, returning and new. Wed. April 19th at Cantara Cellars and Flat Fish Brewing, 126 N. Wood Road Camarillo. This location is mid-way between Oxnard and Camarillo and just off the 101 freeway. Exit at Springville. Check out: [Cantara Cellars.com](http://CantaraCellars.com) for their menu. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting at 4:00 and the membership event will begin at 5:00. Please RSVP to President, Cathy Trevino by Fri April 14th at AAUW.Camarillo.President@gmail.com so we have room for all.



WHERE THERE'S A DRIVEN WOMEN IN HISTORY COMMITTEE THERE'S A WAY TO MAKE THE PROGRAM HAPPEN!!

Our Women in History (WIH) team managed to create a vigorous return to the Camarillo schools after a two-year COVID absence. Fortunately, we made a unanimous decision to present only five women instead of the panoply of women in years past. That turned out to be a wise choice. We were thrilled when nearly 50 volunteers signed up in January to perform over the first two-week period in March. Both AAUW member volunteers and many parents of school children set to work studying the prepared scripts to give a detailed portrayal of the following women: Jane Goodall, Nancy Lopez, Laura Ingles Wilder, Harriet Tubman and Susan Butcher. The WIH team put extra efforts into selecting the women for the re-birth of this program taking care to include women with varied skills, interests and reasons to be famous. These in-person portrayals present a special way to educate and inform students how women of all colors, ages, education, and backgrounds can live remarkable lives.

Let's all say a big thank you to the WIH team: Cheryl Mastrovito, Merrill Berge, Judi Gill, Betsy Metzgar, Betsy Willey, and Jan Demonsy for putting the program back together. Each of these team members logged in many hours to make our program work this year for the school kids. In that light, we're sharing a couple of photos of our own Betsy Metzgar in full Jane Goodall garb beaming with her grandsons. By the way, Betsy takes the WIH longevity prize; she has worked continuously with WIH for 31 years!



Students met Harriet Tubman (portrayed by Michelle Ascension) and Jane Goodall (portrayed by Betsy Metzgar)