

President's Message from Cathy Trevino

Some have said September is a 30-day long goodbye to summer. Well, here we go: Goodbye summer. FALL, we are ready for you.

It is wonderful how many members have renewed their membership and enthusiasm for AAUW. Thank you to the members who participated in our August annual planning meeting. Many good ideas and plans were formulated to keep our Camarillo Branch moving ahead to improve the lives of women and girls. AAUW-CA has some new programs, "Gov Trek," designed to encourage young women to run for public office, as well as the "School Board Project" which you will hear more about. **Next year is the 60th anniversary of our branch and the 25th anniversary of Tech Trek.** We would love your help making plans to celebrate, so stay tuned.

Please plan to attend the Sunday, September 24th, Fall Kick-off event at Las Posas Country Club. Call a friend and make plans to meet or carpool. Mingle with friends, old, and new, and meet our Scholarship winners and most recent group of Tech Trek campers. You should already have your calendar marked for Sat. Oct. 28th, Author's Day, our major **fun-raiser**, that helps make our numerous programs possible.

Consider your time commitments and reach out to help with one of our programs or events to ensure its continued success. Do you have a few hours a month for the board or a project? Help online or in person. We appreciate everyone's time, talent, and treasure. Without our volunteers, we are nowhere.

Cathy

Join us for Kick-Off!



AAUW Camarillo 2023-2024

Kick-Off Meeting

WHEN: Sunday, September 24, 2023

TIME: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

WHERE: Las Posas Country Club

Please RSVP with the number of of guests by September 17th

RVSP and Questions: aauwcamarillo.programs@gmail.com

Reconnect with friends, meet new and prospective members, enjoy light refreshments and celebrate AAUW programs like Knowledge Bowl, Tech Trek, Speech Trek, Women in History, and more! Meet our CSUCI Scholarship Awardees and learn what we have planned for the year ahead and how you can get involved in promoting gender equity in our community and beyond.

We send our best to our members and friends who are celebrating Yom Kippur and may not be able to attend.

Catch up with branch happenings, including plans for our 60th Anniversary!

Learn more about our mission-driven programs and events

Meet our Reentry Scholarship Winners from CSUCI

Light refreshments

All are welcome
You do not need to be an AAUW Member to Attend



Our annual planning meeting was well-attended, productive, and fun. We'd love your input on how to celebrate our branch's 60th Anniversary in 2024. Email gloria@strongerleader.com with your ideas and how you might like to be involved.

2023 Calendar Highlights

9/12 – 10am, Non-fiction book group

9/18 – 7pm, PM Book review

9/13 – 5pm, Board Meeting on Zoom* – all are welcome.

9/21 – 5pm, Happy Hour at Ric's

9/24, – 1pm, Fall Kick-off, Las Posas Country Club

9/28 – 4pm, Public Policy meeting via Zoom

9/30 – 10-3 – Celebration of Books, CSUCI (contact Cathy to help work the table!)

10/11 – 5pm Board Meeting on Zoom* – all are welcome.

10/2 – 10am Authors' Day at Las Posas County Club

11/8 – Board Meeting on Zoom* – all are welcome

12/10 – Sunset Holiday Light Cruise in Ventura Harbor – details to come.

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

June Officer Installation

Our returning board was sworn in by Ventura County Clerk-Recorder and branch member Michelle Ascension, who also gave an excellent presentation describing what to expect in the 2024 election. Michelle and her team will be doing a series of trainings to get people prepared and informed. Check the [County website](#) for the most up to date information.

Want to know more about our leadership team? Join an upcoming Board Meeting on Zoom (details above) or come to the Kick-Off meeting 9/24



Get Your Authors' Day Tickets Now

Drum roll please. . . Our yearly event is coming fast. The tickets have been printed and are ready for sale. The price is \$70, the same as last year. Authors' Day is an extremely important event for us in that it helps fund the many programs and scholarships that we provide within our county. So, please help us make this another successful year. Bring your friends and family and enjoy a fun afternoon.

The tables at the event will seat eight. Tickets will be available at the Kickoff on Sept. 24 at LPCC, or you may purchase your individual tickets through member Jan Demonsy (details on the flyer, below).

We are still collecting books for our table decorations at Authors' Day. They should preferably be hard backs of newer vintage in good condition. Diana Dingler is collecting on the west side, and Janet Lindquist is collecting on the east side of the city.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
Camarillo Branch



AUTHORS' DAY

October 28, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Las Posas Country Club - Camarillo

Tickets - \$70 each
(\$35 tax deductible)

Kenneth Strange – Law Enforcement Genre
Former FBI & DOJ OIG agent; trekker across the Camino in Spain

Roberta Bassin – Amelia Earhart Expert
Actress, former teacher, artist, musician and singer

Sarah Lynn Scheerger – Children's Author
Writes books for young readers, middle grade, and teens

Beverly M. Kelley – Local Cold Case Mystery Novelist
Former Communications Teacher, radio and TV talk-show host, opinion columnist

***** Lunch, Speakers, Book Signing *****

For info call: [805] 987-8013

Send check to: Jan Demonsy, 744 Valley Vista Dr. Camarillo 93010

Make checks payable to AAUW. Include on your check your choice of meal: Pan Seared Chicken Breast; Oven Roasted Salmon; Roasted Pepper with Succotash of Sweet Corn & Veggies

PM Book Review

Our new season will begin this month. We will meet at the home of Jane Akune on **Monday, Sept.18 at 7:00 p.m.** to chat about the wealth of books we all read during the summer. From that stack, we will make our selection of eight books to discuss at our upcoming monthly meetings. Jane lives at 2462 Brookhill Dr., just up the hill from the Sprouts Market. Jane know if you plan to attend [jakune@ymail.com].

Non-Fiction Book Group

For the September meeting of the AAUW Nonfiction Book Group, we will discuss:
The Six: The Lives of the Mitford Sisters by Laura Thompson.

We will be meeting at Jerrie Newman's at 10:00 am on September 12, always the second Tuesday of the month. 872 Grada Ave. Camarillo CA 93010.

♥️ 📖 Barbara Hilburn

Future Books

The Teachers by Alexander Robbins and Oscar Wars October

Cuba: An American History by Ada Ferrer November

Vagina Obscura: An Anatomical Voyage by Rachel E. Gross December

Ventura County Celebration of Books-DEI Book of the Month!

Ventura County CELEBRATION OF BOOKS
CSU Channel Islands
Legacy Sponsor
PREMIER AMERICA
CREDIT UNION

September 30, 2023
10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Celebrate the literary world and everything about books on the beautiful campus of CSU Channel Islands.

Free and open to the public!
All ages welcome with events for the whole family!

Take part in Story Times for kids
Presented by CSUCI Early Childhood Center.

Have a picnic
Bring a blanket and share a family picnic on the lawn. Bring your own lunch or enjoy food from a local food truck.

Discover Exhibitors
Featuring local organizations, non-profits, and Friends of the Library groups from all over Ventura County.

Attend CSUCI Professor Lectures
Join us in the Petite Salon for two different colloquial lectures.

Buy tickets for "A Taste of Central America" - Author Reception with Javier Zamora
Ticketed event only. Includes lunch, paperback, & book signing. \$75 each. Tickets may be purchased starting 8/1/23 at www.vclibraryfoundation.org

Join us at the One County, One Book 2023 Author Program
Free event featuring a conversation with Javier Zamora, author of "Solito: A Memoir"; Grand Salon; 2-3 p.m.; Doors open at 1:50 p.m.

Solito

Ventura County
CSUCI
VC Star
COUNTY OF VENTURA Library

Join us in reading Ventura County's One County, One Book, 2023 selection, *Solito: A Memoir* by Javier Zamora.

Attend the Celebration of Books with AAUW Camarillo and help at our exhibit table. [Contact Cathy](#) and let her know if you can help for an hour or two at our booth, where we will publicize Authors' Day and our great programs.

The event is free. Separate fundraiser tickets are being sold for lunch and book signing.

Women in History 2024

Women in History is our annual Spring project to take AAUW to the community. Working closely with the schools, we portray historic women using fact-based scripts, costumes and props to bring history to life. Volunteer run, we can use your help—see link below. The following women will be portrayed this year.

Carmen Camarillo (1903-1987) (Grades K-3)

Youngest child of the Camarillo family. The family members have been so influential in our local history. She will tell how her childhood was different than childhood today and discuss her work with the White Horses and her philanthropic activities.

Mary Cassatt (1845-1926) (Grades 3-5)

First impressionist woman painter and best known for her paintings of women and children. She will tell how she had to overcome several obstacles to get training as an artist and to be accepted as one during a time when women were not encouraged to work outside the home.

Bessie Coleman (1892-1926) (ALL GRADES)

First woman of African American and Native American descent to become a pilot and obtain a pilot's license. She will discuss how she overcame barriers of race and gender to fly and how she participated in air shows as a stunt pilot.

Babe Didrikson (1914-1956) (ALL GRADES)

One of the best female athletes in multiple sports. She set Olympic records in the javelin throw and high jump as well as winning 82 golf tournaments. She will discuss the difficulties she had to overcome to achieve success with an emphasis on the value of hard work to achieve goals and the importance of playing fair.

Sylvia Earle (1935-present) (Grades 3 -8)

A National Geographic Explorer in Residence and avid spokeswoman for ocean conservation and marine protected areas worldwide, she will discuss living under the ocean for two weeks, having a record dive in a "JIM Suit" and helping to develop underwater vehicles to explore the ocean. She will also discuss her work developing marine sanctuaries.

Would you like to portray one of these remarkable women?? Or otherwise help with our Women in History program?

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to fill out the volunteer interest form for Women in History.

Tech Trek and TTAG

We sent 14 girls from 9 different schools throughout the County to Tech Trek summer camp. All reports indicate they had a wonderful time.

TTAG, the Tech Trek Alumni Group, continues to meet for science-ey activities and a pool party. We also gave a "Graduation Award" to those members of the 2018 cohort who are heading to college this year. See below for some heart-felt thanks from two of these young women.



Dear AAUW,

Thank You so much for your generous graduation award! Over the years this organization has impacted my life in so many wonderful ways

Your kindness means so much!

and I wholeheartedly credit my love of science to each and every one of you. Thank you for helping me find such a huge part of myself as an incoming 8th grade student and thank you again for the opportunity to expand my interest as I enter college. I wanted to include some of the sciencey things I've done in high school, so that's why I added photos to this card 😊 Thank you again,



Dear Camarillo AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for selecting me for the Tech Trek Alumni Scholarship. Tech Trek shaped my career goals and set me up for the next stages of my life. Thank you for the experience and support!

Public Policy by Kathy Long (1/2)

As fall is just around the corner and AAUW undertakes our planning session, it's a good time to revisit the basic priorities for Public Policy. We support the mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. We work to sync with AAUW National and AAUW CA for the basic programs for our chapter. Priorities we track include:

- Economic Security for All Women
- Social and Racial Justice for all Members of Society
- Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles
- Equal Access to Quality Public Education for all Student

Under the public education component, the priority is “vigorous enforcement of Title IX: Title IX of the Higher Education Act of 1972 promises equal access to education for all students, and it protects them against discrimination on the basis of sex. Title IX was enacted to ensure: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The question for us locally is how are our public education districts performing to the Title IX standards? We will be exploring how best to report on this.

In our national news reports, book banning is front page: over 22 states have enacted at local levels the banning of books; 86 school districts; with a total of over 11600 books banned. In Florida, 41% school boards have banned books on LGBTQ and racial topics. Texas has removed all books on Martin Luther King and suffrage from required curriculum.

Here in California, the Glendale and Temecula School Boards moved to remove similar books from curriculum, only to be blocked by Governor Newsom. In response, AAUW CA has launched a “School Board Project” and asking all chapters to engage in local discussions and develop a position that establishes educational rights protecting instructional materials and students from book banning; freedom of speech and

(continued, next page)

Public Policy by Kathy Long (2/2)

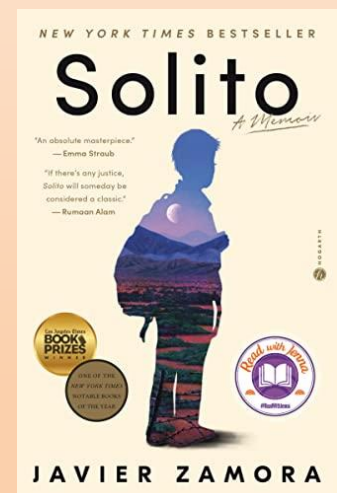
exposure to world views; advocating for diversity of views and practices; and supporting teacher's professional development and guidance for educators that is culturally responsive to anti-bias and anti-racist. A next step of development and advocacy of a position is to engage in supporting non-partisan school board candidates who endorse these positions. The Public Policy Committee will undertake this project to bring to the full Board for consideration. If you would like to engage on these subject matters, please contact me at kathylong220@gmail.com.

Our next meeting will be Sept 28. 4:00pm on Zoom. Agenda to include DEI, GovTrek, School Board Project, legislation tracking and other items of interest. Contact Kathy for login information.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The DEI Committee has joined Public Policy! DEI starts with policy, as is clear from banning books and overturning affirmative action. Contact Gloria if you are interested in getting more involved with DEI in our branch. We will continue recommending books of interest, but discussion meetings are on hold. This month, please join us and read the Ventura County One County, One Book selection, *Solito: A Memoir* by Javier Zamora, A young poet who tells the inspiring story of his migration from El Salvador to the United States at the age of nine in this "gripping memoir" (NPR) of bravery, hope, and finding family.

Contact Gloria or Cathy if you want to staff the AAUW information booth at the 9/30 event.



Great Decisions is Back

The penultimate discussion for Great Decisions 2023 will be held in The Community Room at 3701 Las Posas Road, starting at 2:30 pm. We will be discussing the 7th topic: "Iran at a Crossroads."

The U.S. has been able to reconcile with former enemies, such as Vietnam. What is it about Iran that makes it hard to do so?

For more information, contact Nancy Walters: nejwalters@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reports that the drafted budget for 2023-24 has been approved by the Board. Costs are increasing: the WIH storage, meeting space and Tech trek scholarships will all cost more this year. Haas Foundation has sent us \$10,000 to further our Tech Trek and scholarship programs. Three CSUCI scholarships have been paid in August. The financial documents for 2022-2023 are collated and ready for Audit. After Audit, the tax forms will be submitted.

Vanessa Otto/Treasurer
votto@ootto.com

Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation!



Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation for their generous support of 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.

We recently learned that "The board of the Gene Haas Foundation has approved funding in the amount of \$10,000 to support \$4,500 -4 girls to Tech Tek STEM Camp, \$5,000 for Non-Traditional Student Scholarships to majors in STEM fields, \$500 as support to the Tech Trek Alumni Group (TTAG). We sincerely appreciate the support!

Membership News

We'll be updating our Branch Directory for 2023-2024 and want to be sure we have all our members' current information. If you have had a change to your home address, home/ mobile phone number or email in the past year and have not updated it yourself through AAUW National, please send the update asap to Membership Chair Maria Tagliaferri via email riatag62@gmail.com or call 805-236-0630. If you are unsure a change was made or not, please let me know and I can confirm with you.

For most members, it's time to renew your membership!! Our 2023-2024 year (July 1 – June 30) includes amazing programs, interest groups and opportunities to be involved including Public Policy, Tech Trek, Speech Trek, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) to name just a few of our outstanding programs. We cannot do this without each and every one of you!

If you have not already renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible so we can plan for our new fiscal year! There are currently 47 past members who were due to renew in the June, July and August who have not yet done so. If, for some reason, you have decided not to renew, please drop me a line via email and let me know so that I will remove you from my follow up membership renewal list.

Joining and renewing is easy electronically using AAUW's Community Hub or by check payable to AAUW Camarillo Branch in the mail (see then end of the newsletter for specific renewal instructions). AAUW is a national organization which has three levels of membership: National \$72 (of which \$69 is tax deductible), State (\$20), and Branch \$23. So your total renewal fee for 2023-2024 is now \$115.

As always, if you have any questions about when your membership expires or how to renew, please don't hesitate to contact me - your Vice President of Membership, Maria Tagliaferri 805-236-0630, riatag62@gmail.com.

Member News



Over 500 people attended an event at the Reagan Library featuring longtime AAUW Member and the topic of the book: *Saved by Schindler: The Life of Celina Karp Biniaz* by William Friedrichs. Celina pictured, center, with the author seated next to her.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors acknowledged Women's Equality Day. Pictured holding proclamation is member and Ventura County Recorder-Clerk, Michelle Ascension, along with the 3 women supervisors and county executive. Thanks to all women who lead!



In Memory



It is with sadness that we have learned of the passing of long-time member Dodie Smith. She was certainly a prominent member of our branch for many years and was a mover and shaker in our AAUW organization.

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.
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

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 \$115

(\$72 National, \$20 CA, \$23 Branch).

1. Mail a check for \$115 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 (\$72), 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. 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 2022.
- You can login 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 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 **\$115**

Student Affiliate \$0

(Includes local, state & National Dues)

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

AAUW Camarillo Branch

P. O. Box 862

Camarillo, CA 93011

aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com