

President's Message from Cathy Trevino

As we enter the 4th quarter of our calendar year and are offered pumpkin flavored everything, sip hot apple cider, and enjoy early fall, let us remember it is the second half of Hispanic Heritage month, when we are reminded of the many continuing contributions of the Hispanic community. It is also the time when we start to realize the holidays will soon to be upon us.

AAUW Camarillo's Authors' Day is also right around the corner. You will find lots of books, some signed by the authors, others as table door prizes, as well as sumptuous raffle baskets for all ages and tastes. This fundraiser, educational event, and shopping spree is available on Saturday October 28th at Las Posas Country Club. The \$70 ticket includes a tasty lunch, conversation with friends, old and new, learning from 4 authors, and shopping, shopping, shopping. This event is a great way to introduce a potential new member to what we do and offer them the opportunity to help make a difference. Do not miss the chance to help support our many programs and offerings for women and girls in our Western Ventura County area.

The September Kick-off event was a great success. It warmed my heart to see so many members and guests learning about our programs while enjoying the tasty buffet. It was fun to scan through our decade's old scrapbooks, meeting, and hearing from our Tech Trek campers from this summer, and greeting two of our three CSUCI scholarship awardees. Thank you to all who attended.

AAUW Camarillo Branch is up and running with lots of ways one may participate. You'll find details about a variety of volunteer opportunities we need to fill. Be sure to find a branch program to join and help to keep up our forward momentum flowing. Come to a board meeting on Zoom to keep up with what's going on.

It will soon be the 60th Anniversary of our branch and we need visionary members to help us plan our special events to increase our continued visibility in our community. See the article below to step up and join us!

Have a wonderful October. I look forward to seeing you at Authors' Day 2023.

Deadline Approaching! Get Your Authors' Day Tickets Now!

Our big day is rapidly approaching. Ticket sales have been brisk. Seating arrangements are being finalized. All payments and food choices are due to Jan Demonsy ([805] 419-4607) by **SUNDAY OCTOBER 15th**. Send or drop off your checks to Jan at 744 Valley Vista Drive, Camarillo, 93010, along with your meal choice of: Pan Seared Chicken Breast; Roasted Salmon; Vegetarian roasted pepper with succotash. For further questions call Diana Dingler 987-8013.

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

Another Successful Kick-Off!



Upper right, President Cathy Trevino addresses the full house at Las Posas Country Club. Above, CSUCI Reentry Scholarship winners, Nadine Zayyad and Melina Faria, talked about their goals for careers in biostatistics and education, respectively, and were grateful for AAUW's support. Melina's husband and children, also pictured. Her older daughter was inspired by the Tech Trak campers and hopes to go herself in the next couple of years. We're off to a great start!



Tech Trek 2023 Alumni talked about their favorite parts of camp, from forensics, to a whale watching cruise. to the joys of math and the physics of surfing.

It's always exciting to hear the incredible experiences, confidence, and learning the girls experience at camp.

2023-2024 Calendar Highlights

- 10/7 – Let Freedom Read Day, Banned Books Week- [Take one action](#) against censorship.
 - 10/11 – 5pm Board Meeting on Zoom* – all are welcome.
 - 10/19 – Happy Hour at Lazy Dog, The Collection, Oxnard
 - 10/28 – 10am Authors' Day at Las Posas County Club
 - 10/29 – Adolfo Camarillo's Birthday Celebration, Camarillo Ranch, tabling opportunity
 - 11/8 – Board Meeting on Zoom* – all are welcome
 - 12/10 – Sunset Holiday Light Cruise in Ventura Harbor
 - 1/20/24 – IBC Luncheon – Banned Books
 - 3/3, 3/13, 3/20/24 – 60th Knowledge Bowl
- *[Zoom meeting ID: 434 977 1701. Passcode 631686](#)

We Don't Feel 60!!

Yet here we are ready to celebrate AAUW Camarillo's 60th Anniversary in the Spring of 2024. Join our planning committee to help organize a community celebration. Many hands make light work, especially planning a great party. We will need assistance in the following areas. Let your talents shine for a great cause!

- Publicity/Marketing** – write and send press releases, design and order merch/swag
- Activities**- Coordinate entry in Christmas parade, activities offered during celebration
- Entertainment** – Engage bands, performances, other entertainment
- Logistics**- Secure venue, coordinate and engage volunteers
- Finance/budget** – follow the money!
- Outreach**- engage longtime members and sister organizations to join us
- Food** – explore collaborations with food trucks, fundraising component

Come on party planners! [Contact Gloria](#) for more information and to share your ideas, your pictures, your memories! We will have our first planning meeting in November. More to come!



PM Book Review

Our next meeting is on **Oct 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** where we will discuss the ever popular book *Lessons in Chemistry*. We will meet at the home of Joyce Klemman, 2612 Aloha St. Please contact her to let her know if you are coming or not [805 479-0522].

Non-Fiction Book Group

For the October meeting of the AAUW Nonfiction Book Group, we will discuss:
The Teachers by Alexander Robbins and Oscar Wars

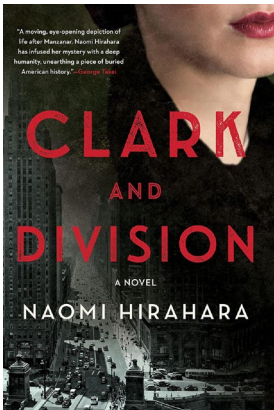
Contact   Barbara Hilburn for more information.

Future Books

Cuba: An American History by Ada Ferrer November

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

DEI Book of the Month: Clark and Division



The Camarillo Reads: One City One Book selection this year was Naomi Hirahara's *Clark and Division*. It's not too late to read Edgar Award-winner Naomi Hirahara's eye-opening and poignant new mystery set in 1944 Chicago. The story of a young woman searching for the truth about her revered older sister's death brings to focus the struggles of one Japanese American family released from mass incarceration at Manzanar during World War II.

OCTOBER 1-7 is Banned Book Week!!

Take action this Banned Book Week! Did you know that most banned books have something to do with diversity, equity, and inclusion?? You can do your part by reading banned books and taking action this week. Ideas available at <https://bannedbookweek.org/> and <https://pen.org/issue/free-the-books/>. Our Public Policy School Board Project is also keeping an eye on the issue.

AAUW Knowledge Bowl 2024

Save these dates! We will present our **60th** Knowledge Bowl on

March 6th at Saint Bonaventure High School

March 13th at the new Del Sol High School

March 20th at Adolfo Camarillo High School

The first AAUW Camarillo Knowledge Bowl was held in 1964 and was the idea of our second AAUW president, Betty Rutherford. Fourteen public and private high schools in Ventura County are participating next March.

During the competitions, students are asked questions on a variety of topics including geography, history, literature, math, science and current events. The questions are researched and written by branch members, and members of the community using websites, TV shows such as Jeopardy and text books. You never know when the idea for a question will happen. Sometimes a conversation or a quick blub will result in a question!

If you would like to submit questions for these competitions, please send a note to Knowledge Bowl chair, Mary Goldberg at marygoldberg@gmail.com.

Women in History 2024: Help from Home!

Women In History needs help switching our performer database from Microsoft Access to Google Forms or Sheets. Access is a great database program with reports available that help us track performer information and scheduling year after year; however, only one committee member has the program, so we are unable to share the job, which would be ideal. Volunteers could be an AAUW member or a spouse, partner, friend, child or student.

We have started using Google Forms to collect volunteer information and are looking for someone to help us develop reports in Google that will give us the information that Access does but can be shared easily with everyone on the committee. In the long run, having reports that can be shared will enable more people to help with data management and make this portion of the WIH program more efficient.

This is a serious issue for the WIH program. We need a way for more people to access the program so that if there were an emergency for the one person who knows the system, the school schedules and prop groups would be unavailable, making it difficult for the program to work. If you can help or have another idea for a solution, please contact Judi Gill at jygill@roadrunner.com. Thank you.

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

Great Decisions Wrap Up

The Great Decisions Group will meet for our final discussion on October 27 at the home of Dora Prihar in Camarillo. Please call Dora to RSVP and get directions. (818 321 3207)

Our topic is: Climate Change, Degradation, and Migration. That could keep us busy till next year!

Last Call for Speech Trek Volunteers

The AAUW-CA Speech Trek contest is up and running, but we need more volunteers. This competition is open to all Western Ventura County high school students who write and perform a 5-6 min judged speech. This will be our fourth year sponsoring this local event where the winning speaker's video goes on to the state AAUW for judging in April. We had the state winner last year! Let's do it again! The students are given this prompt:

If an educated population is essential to a nation's prosperity, then how can we ensure a robust public-school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?

We need:

Recruiters: We have email lists of faculty and administrators at the various high schools to pass on our flyer to students

Coaches: We have 3 coaches but hopefully will need more. Most coaching can be given via Zoom. Coaches listen to the students' speeches and offer support and speaking tips.

Judges: The contest will be held two Saturdays in February with the winning video sent to the state by March 1.

Coordinator- make sure the competitions happen before March 1, locate a venue, or if COVID picks up, a Zoom. We have help for these issues.

We have an administrative person who will accept the student participation packets. AAUW-CA has a detailed description of how to run the contest at [AAUW-CA.org/Programs](https://www.aauw-ca.org/Programs)

"Having been a volunteer coach the last two years has been so rewarding. Recruitment must start next week so we need help now!" Please contact: SusanSeats@gmail.com for questions.

Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation!



Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation for their generous, continued support of our efforts in sending 8th grade girls to Tech Trek camp at UCSB, providing local scholarships for returning female students to CSUCI, and encouraging our Tech Trek Alumni group.

Public Policy by Kathy Long

AAUW raised our voices objecting to the gun shows at the Fair grounds. Lots of advocacy by many groups concluded with the Governor signing bills that achieved that goal. Recently Gov. Gavin Newsom signed several gun control measures including a bill that tightens the state's concealed-carry rules and another that imposes a new tax on firearm and ammunition sales. The laws build on Newsom's resolution that the Legislature passed earlier this month calling for a constitutional convention of the states to consider a new amendment on gun control. California has some of the strongest firearm restrictions in the country, each year earning top marks from gun control advocacy organizations such as the Giffords Law Center.

The second major proposal Newsom signed is Assembly Bill 28, landmark legislation by Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel (D-Encino) that will impose an 11% tax on dealers and manufacturers for sales of guns and ammunition. The new law is expected to raise more than \$160 million annually for violence prevention, school safety programs and victim support services.

UPDATE ON BROADBAND/INTERNET: This last week, the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) conducted the launch of its regional broadband working group in support of the effort to develop a regional strategy, respond to broadband funding opportunities, and creation of a regional joint powers authority. The effort is funded by the California Public Utilities Commission in recognition that the delivery of Broadband is analogous to any other utility. As required by SB 156, this funding is focused on the development of strategies and establishment of infrastructure resulting in Broadband for All. AAUW had advocated during the legislative process to support this effort, to provide internet access for all!

Public Policy/DEI Committee work underway focused on School Board Project; updates on local Title 1X compliance in our schools; Environmental issues and groundwater sustainability; and health care matters. Join us if interested:
kathylong220@gmail.com

Learn more about [AAUW's Public Policy Priorities](#).

Membership News

Many of you have renewed your membership for 2023-2024 – thank you so much! Your membership not only helps to further the AAUW mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls nationally but, most importantly, right here in Ventura County where we work hard to make a difference in our community.

It's never too late to renew and it is easy online using AAUW's Community Hub or by check payable to AAUW Camarillo Branch in the mail (see the 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 for a total renewal fee for 2023-2024 is now \$115.

Our volunteers are the reason our branch is recognized in CA as one of the most active branches in the state. and we could not do it without you. If you have not recently had the time or opportunity to volunteer with one of our programs, I encourage you to do so! Many of our volunteer opportunities only require a commitment for a few months of the year and some for just one day or night a year. I promise that whatever program you become involved with, you will be a part of something very special while having a great time with other dynamic and motivated (not to mention fun) women. Get out and share your experience and knowledge!

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

Member News!

kidSTRAM

CONGRATULATES
KRISTIE AKL



**2023 WOMAN
OF THE YEAR!**



Kristie Akl joins a long line of AAUW Camarillo members who have named Woman of the Year! We congratulate Kristie for her well-deserved award of Woman of the Year for Camarillo's Top 10 awards though the Western Ventura County Business Alliance.

Let's Get Social!



Our next Happy Hour is at Lazy Dog in Oxnard at the Collection at 5pm Thursday Oct. 19th. Bring a friend! RSVP to Julie Mohr at 805 217-1394

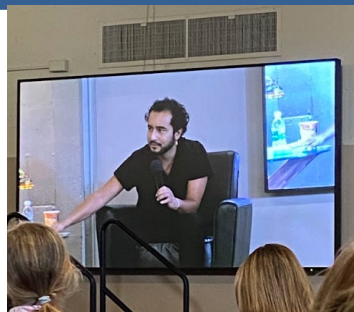
Sign up for the Island Packers Holiday Lights Cruise in Ventura Harbor Sunday December 10 at 6:30 to 7:30 for \$16 per person. All are welcome! Optional early dinner at the Greek Restaurant is optional. Call Julie Mohr for information at 805 217 1394.



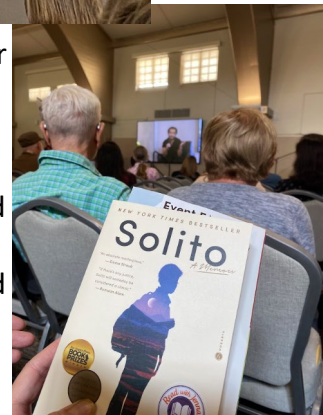
One County, One Book: *Solito*



We tabled at Ventura County's Celebration of Books at CSUCI, meeting authors and other book lovers and sharing AAUW's mission, programs, and upcoming Authors' Day. We met a Tech Trek alum and her mom, who was moved to tears talking about the impact TT had on



her daughter, a freshman biology major at CI. Another highlight was hearing the author of *Solito*, Javier Zamora's candid account of how writing his memoir and personal therapy helped him process the trauma of migration and his hopes to build more empathy and understanding for migrants with his powerful story. Thanks Merrill Berge, Jan Demonsy, Cathy Trevino, and Gloria Miele for tabling, and VCLF board members Kathy Long and Colleen Robertson who helped organize the event.



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