

President's Message from Cathy Trevino

Happy Spring Everyone!

Let us take a moment for a branch-wide sigh of relief and accomplishment. Two of our very significant projects have been completed last month, Women in History and Knowledge Bowl. Thank you to Cheryl Mastrovito who coordinated the two weeks of Women in History, and Mary Goldberg for getting fourteen local high schools to compete and “play nice” for three consecutive Wednesday nights of Knowledge Bowl. This would not have been possible without the countless other volunteers who came out for these programs.

AAUW is winding down our year, which ends on June 30th and we are already gearing up for next year. In my message last month, I asked for your help to share a position on our board, or on a committee, and I did not get one single response for any member. This is profoundly disappointing to say the least.

We are in our 60th year as a Branch and thank you to those who are already taking the opportunity to keep our organization thriving. But we need more help. “Many hands make light work” was never truer than it is right now. You will be surprised at how few hours it takes when we share the tasks. It's not too late to help out on the Scholarship or Program Committee, assisting as our quarterly Administrator, or on some other tasks you think you would enjoy. Reach out --Cathy Trevino at aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com or 805 757-3677

Our Branch is Recognized!

We received the following recognition from AAUW National:

“On behalf of the staff and senior leadership at AAUW, I want to extend our sincere appreciation for your participation in the FY23 Branch Impact Survey. Your responses have contributed significantly to our ongoing efforts to measure and celebrate the impactful work carried out by our branches across the country.

We are thrilled to inform you that, based on your responses, the **AAUW Camarillo (CA) Branch** has achieved a **star** in the FY23 AAUW Five Star Recognition Program. This achievement is a testament to your dedication and commitment to advancing our mission, and we applaud your leadership and members for your outstanding contributions in the following categories: Communications and External Relations.”

Get involved as we continue to make an impact!

2024 Calendar Highlights

- 4/2 - 6:30, Camarillo Planning Commission, Camarillo Library Conference Room. Public hearing on adding Car Dealerships and ancillary uses on property across from approved Costco
- 4/7 – Free Health Awareness Fair, Heritage Square in Oxnard, 10am-4pm.
- 4/9 – Nonfiction book group
- 4/10 – Camarillo Desalination Plant Tour
- 4/10 – Camarillo Airport Update
- 4/10 -Board Meeting – All are welcome. [New Zoom link](#) coming soon.
- 4/20 – Home Tour, Ventura

Mark Your Calendars for Our Spring and Fall Events

- 5/15 – General meeting with Amber’s Light Lions and Magic Yarn Project workshop
- 6/19 – Board Installation and Special Presentation from motivational speaker, Carol Leish on “Facing Challenges with Optimism and Humor.”
- 9/15 - September Kick Off: Celebrating 60 Years

May 15th General Meeting and Activity to Support Kids with Cancer

We are delighted to have the Amber 's Light Lions present about their wonderful organization and lead us in an activity to create fun head coverings for kids with cancer. No experience necessary, just a \$10 donation to cover materials.

When: Weds, May 15, 2024 , 5:30-8:30, – We will get an early start for a brief general meeting and presentation by Amber's Light Lions , then wig making activity.

Where: Camarillo Community Center, Rooms 1 and 2

Why: Bring some fun to children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatments

Who: AAUW members, guests

What: \$10 per participant donation to our local Magic Yarn Project to cover supplies. Use QR code below and your donation is your RSVP! Or RSVP by May 1st to aauwcamarillo.programs@gmail.com and payment details.



Women in History Success!

One of our many longstanding programs, Women in History, hit Camarillo schools in March for Women in History month. This was our 47th year! We recruited 38 enthusiastic volunteers who brought 5 extraordinary women to life for Camarillo school children. This year Mary Cassatt shared what it was like to be the first woman impressionist painter, Babe Didrikson Zaharias talked about how she broke the gender barrier and became a champion in many sports, Carmen Camarillo described what life was like on the Camarillo Ranch in the early 20th century, Bessie Coleman told the students how she became the first African American female pilot and Sylvia Earle explained to the students what it is like to explore the ocean floor in a JIM suit and how important it is to conserve our oceans. There were close to 230 performances in all! This year we offered individual training sessions at the homes of some of our WIH committee members. The volunteers got a chance to work with props and scripts, get fitted for costumes and have experienced performers give an example of a performance as well as offer performance tips and guidelines. Also new this year was a collaboration with the Channel Islands chapter of The Links, Inc., an organization of professional women of African descent who are helping us meet our goals for a diverse, culturally representative program. We welcome anyone who is interested in this fun and educational program to contact the committee at aauwcamarillowihistory@gmail.com



AAUW Members portray
Carmen Camarillo: Left,
Camarillo City Council Member
Martita Martinez Bravo; Right,
Maxine Elliott



2024 Knowledge Bowl Recap Mary Goldberg, Knowledge Bowl Chair

Our 60th Knowledge Bowl competitions were held on three Wednesday nights in March. This program is possible because of the hardworking and enthusiastic coaches, students and volunteers who work to make it happen.

A special Thank You to our group of terrific volunteers who compiled and reviewed the questions and participated in the competitions, including new and long-standing members, friends and family:

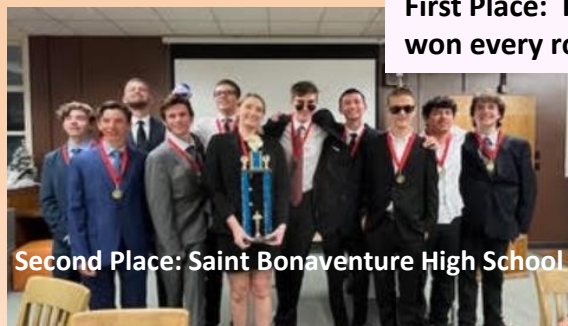
| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Kay W. Ito | Rebecca Pecsok | Laura McAvoy |
| Cynthia See | Colleen Robertson | Sue Parsons |
| Arlene Miro | Mary Ann Novak | Kim Dallape |
| Gladys Ochangco | Dylan Zulueta | Maria Tagliaferri |
| Kathy Long | Colleen Scott | Sue Hughes |
| Pam Holley-Wilcox | Maxine Elliott | Carol Dietz |
| Barbara Britt | Sally Anderson | Cathy Trevino |
| Jack Ito | Calvin Ito | Gerri Lisanti-Levy |
| Jim McCrory | Julie Mohr | |

Participating Schools:

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Adolfo Camarillo High School | Buena High School | Channel Islands High School |
| Del Sol High School | El Camino HS at Ventura College | Hueneme High School |
| La Reina High School | Oxnard High School | Pacifica High School |
| Rio Mesa High School | Rancho Campana High School | |
| St. Bonaventura High School | Villanova Preparatory School | |



First Place: Rio Mesa High School who won every round!



Second Place: Saint Bonaventura High School



Third Place: Pacifica High School

2024 Bylaws Changes for AAUW National

The AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee recommend approval of the following bylaw amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. This change will align our membership practices with our purpose of advancing equity for women and girls and enable us to include members with the diverse backgrounds and perspectives needed to achieve our purpose in today's world.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2024-aauw-proposed-bylaws-changes/>



Don't forget to vote on our important Bylaws change: A yes vote would remove the degree requirement to join AAUW . It reads: "Any individual who supports AAUW's purpose of advancing equity for women and girls shall be eligible to receive admission to AAUW membership subject to completion of such informational procedures as the Board shall establish"

All voting will take place online starting April 3. AAUW is utilizing an independent, third-party voting system for this year's vote. Most members will receive emails from vote@simplyvoting.com with their unique Elector ID and Password to vote. All members without an email address on file will receive a paper ballot by mail. No additional paper ballots will be sent during the voting period. Voting will close on Wednesday, May 15 at 12:00 pm ET.

Confirm Your E-mail using the steps below:

1. Go to aauw.us/emailoptions.
2. Enter your email address and click SUBMIT.
3. You'll get an email with a new link (check Spam if you don't see it right away).
4. Click that and you'll get a form where you can confirm your US Mail and email preferences. Make any necessary edits.
5. Be sure that the **"Yes, receive email updates"** preference is selected.
6. Click **SAVE** if you made any changes.

Non-Fiction Book Group

The AAUW Nonfiction Group meets on the second Tuesdays of the month. For more information on the time and place, contact   Barbara Hilburn (hilburndesigns@gmail.com).

April 9th Selection: The ***Bystanders*** by Victoria Barnett

May 14 - **The Happiness Advantage: The Seven Principles of Positive Psychology** by Shawn Achor

P.M. BOOK REVIEW, Diana Dingler

We will be discussing the book *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot* by Marianne Cronin on Monday, April 22 at 7:00 P.M. It is a book about a remarkable friendship between two unlikely individuals--a 17-year-old and an 83-year-old. We are scheduled to meet at the home of Bonnie Severns if she is well enough, otherwise it will be back to Zoom. Contact Diana for more information.

Want to Get Inspired?? Join the Scholarship Committee!

It's that time of year again when we prepare to publicize and receive applications for CSUCI "reentry" students, women who have pursued non-traditional paths to college. Depending upon how many applicants, time commitment is 5-10 hours across May and June to review and score applications. [Contact Gloria](#) to get involved.

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.

Kathy Long - Bits and Pieces

March 24th was Equal Pay Day. In a calculation of the [Current Population Survey \(CPS\)](#) comparing full-time, year-round workers, AAUW found women took home only 84% of the pay that men did—a figure that is not statistically different from 2020's pay gap. “Despite [pay discrimination becoming illegal](#) in the United States 60 years ago, today's data from the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reveals the gender pay gap between men and women remains persistent,” said Gloria L. Blackwell, CEO of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). “We don't accept this.”

AAUW's more comprehensive calculation compared all women with earnings in 2022 (including part-time and seasonal workers) and found women were paid a mere 78% of men's wages. Looking closer at specific groups of women, AAUW found even more startling inequities, compared to the pay of white, non-Hispanic men:

- Latina women workers are paid 52 cents for every dollar
- Black women workers are paid 66 cents for every dollar
- White women workers, who are paid 74 cents for every dollar
- Asian American women workers are paid 89 cents for every dollar

This data underscores a grim reality: Women still face a pay gap that has, at best, stagnated over the past several years and, for some women, has widened further. In dollars and cents, the wage gap for women overall is \$11,450. “This is money that could be spent on childcare, used to pay off student debt, invested in home ownership, or be saved for retirement,” according to Blackwell. “Legislators and employers must do better,” said Blackwell. “AAUW won't stop fighting until all women are paid fairly and have the same opportunities to build secure economic futures for themselves and their families.”

ADVOCACY MATTERS: Being a member of AAUW makes a Difference! From National AAUW: the Salary Negotiation Programs have in 2022 trained 190 Thousand women to improve their bottom line. Activist letters sent on various causes—19,539, ensuring our voices were heard. Fellowship and grants awarded over \$6 million to 320 women and community projects, making a difference in our neighborhoods.

Gloria Miele and Maria Tagliaferri recently represented AAUW Camarillo at the International Women's Day Conference at CSUCI. Gloria presented on *The Art of Negotiation* and included info from AAUW's research on pay equity and salary negotiation. Our branch sponsored 3 CSUCI students to attend. A great way to celebrate with the community.



Kathy Long - Bits and Pieces (continued)

Our Public Policy Committee will again be participating in the state AAUW Public Policy Lobby Days, April 2-3. We will be advocating for the top three bills supported by AAUW: AB2099 – Protecting Reproductive Health Clinics; AB2843 Health Care Coverage for Rape and Sexual Assault Survivors; and AB2326-Public Postsecondary Education—Sex Discrimination Policies (Title 1X). We will track and report out on these priority bills.

Another bill to track AB2091 per Karen Sher/member regarding pregnancy leave. On February 26, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond stood alongside Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Davis), the California Teachers Association, and California teachers as a sponsor of Assembly Bill 2091, the Pregnancy Leave for Educators Act. In order to address the teacher staffing crisis, we must make sure that teachers are supported to stay in the profession while growing their families. There is currently no paid pregnancy leave for teachers in California, which means that educators across the state must use sick leave in order to care for newborns. State Superintendent Thurmond and members of the Legislative Women's Caucus are working to change that with this bill.

RESCHEDULED! Guided Tour of Camarillo's Desalination Plant, 2727 Somis Road

Camarillo now gets almost 60% of its water from the new plant treating brackish groundwater from the Calleguas Creek Watershed.

Join us for a free tour on **Wednesday, April 10 at 2 pm**. Space is still available. If you reserve spots, please attend as docents are counting on your attendance.

Contact Julie Mohr for reservations for your free tour. 805 217-1394 or MohrJ2000@hotmail.com

We are 60!

Watch for more information on opportunities to celebrate our anniversary serving Camarillo for 60 years!



Camarillo Airport Update

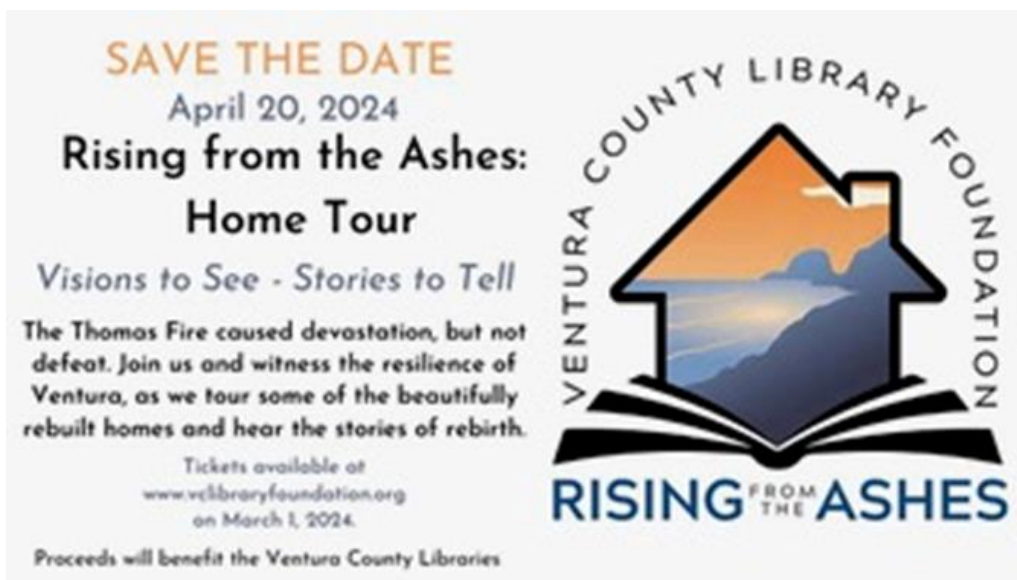
On April 10, 2024, at the Camarillo City Council meeting, City staff will share an update on the Camarillo Airport. The purpose of the update is to discuss the two County processes that are currently underway for long-term planning at the airport (i.e., Airport Layout Plan and Part 150 Noise Study) and to correct misinformation and dispel rumors about these processes. This agenda item will allow the City Council to accept public comment from residents who wish to address to the City Council on the Camarillo Airport and also allow the City Council to discuss the subject matter of the Camarillo Airport.

Camarillo City Council meetings are being temporarily held at the Camarillo Public Library, 4101 Las Posas Road, to accommodate construction activity for a full remodel of the City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting agenda will be posted by Friday, April 5, 2024.

Meeting Agendas | cityofcamarillo.org/meetinginfo
Livestream | www.youtube.com/user/thecityofcamarillo/live

The Final Draft of the Airport Layout Plan was released 3/15, with a public comment period until May 10th. Save Our Skies Camarillo will be following-up with suggested points to comment on, but for those of you who like to "dive in", here is a link and a quick overview of the document.

Final draft ALP <https://app.box.com/s/0jmzpj3gqgf3kpw1cw1iok11znph5w3>. "



SAVE THE DATE
April 20, 2024
**Rising from the Ashes:
Home Tour**
Visions to See - Stories to Tell
The Thomas Fire caused devastation, but not defeat. Join us and witness the resilience of Ventura, as we tour some of the beautifully rebuilt homes and hear the stories of rebirth.
Tickets available at www.vclibraryfoundation.org on March 1, 2024.
Proceeds will benefit the Ventura County Libraries

VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION
RISING FROM THE ASHES

For information contact Kathy Long - kathylong220@gmail.com

Welcome New Members!

Kelly-Marie Jones is the Regional Sales Manager for Point Broadcasting and has over 20 years of experience in advertising and marketing. She currently serves on the Advisory Boards of The Rubicon Theatre and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ventura County, is the Region 9 Vice-Chair elect for American Mensa and served on the Board of Directors for Diversity Collective Ventura County for 8 years. She is currently studying for her Doctoral degree in Organizational Leadership with her research focus on the impact of mindfulness practices on leadership. Originally from Stonehaven, Scotland, she spends her “free” time on education, traveling, face-timing with her nephews, and visiting Disneyland. She looks forward to meeting like-minded members of AAUW!

Editor's Note: Kelly-Marie is a "Guidestar" Honoree at this year's [Diversity Collective](#) Ventura County Gala Awards. Congratulations!!



Malaya Aspuria is a Tech Trek alum and second year student at UC Berkeley studying Cognitive Science and minoring in Asian and American Diaspora Studies. She has been involved in AAUW since 2017 as a camper at Tech Trek and again as a junior counselor in 2019 at USCB and is so happy to be rejoining this amazing community! Some fun facts about Malaya: she is very involved in the Philipinx Academic Student Services (PASS) at Cal and specializes in bringing in high school students to showcase higher education and the college experience as a whole. She is also involved in SWE (Society of Women Engineers), 1 on 1 mentorship for high school students, and doing volunteer work such as The Berkeley Project. In her free time, she loves to cook and bake and very involved in STEM, including taking bioengineering and mechanical engineering her first year at Berkeley! Malaya is happy to connect on LinkedIn or at malayaaspuria@gmail.com.



Name Tag Price Increase

A big thank you to member Carol Dietz for informing me that the cost for the AAUW name badges has increased. They are now \$18 per badge with a \$12 shipping fee. Carol mentioned that the badge was delivered to her in a timely fashion and the quality was excellent. We have many new members and encourage you to order one for yourself to wear at our group meetings throughout the year. Specific instructions to order the badge through our local vendor Aswell Trophy in Oxnard are listed later in the newsletter.

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

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 \$30 - \$18.00 (plus \$12.00 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
2023-2024**

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

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 2023.

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