

Co-President's Message from Janet Lindquist

"No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens."*

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is with a little sadness that I am writing what will be my last President's Message. I, and several other first-year teachers joined the newly formed Camarillo branch in 1967. However, meetings were once a month at a luncheon, and I soon found out that I couldn't be skiing in Mammoth on Saturday and also be at a luncheon. It wasn't until the early 90's that I joined again—my loss.

I have had the pleasure of working with outstanding women for the last 35 years. It has been a privilege, and I have made very dear life-long friends.

I need to express all of our appreciation and gratitude to a number of women who have been officers and chairs of our numerous programs—some for many years! They have made our Camarillo Branch the strong, active, Association that it is. Their service has enabled us to offer so much to our community. The Camarillo Branch has made a difference in the lives of many. They have educated 1000's of Camarillo children in our Creative Arts program. We showed thousands of students that it is FUN to be smart with Knowledge Bowl. We have made 100s of presentations in classrooms for Women in History—educating countless generations of children about the contributions of women. We have sent hundreds of girls to Tech Trek – showing these 7th grade girls that there are so many girls out there that it's fun and great to BE SMART. Through our re-entry scholarships, we have helped single mothers go back to school. For the last 25 years we have raised these funds by hosting our very successful Authors' Day Luncheon. These are just some of our programs.

And the women of Camarillo AAUW did all of this—while still working, raising a family, and maintaining a home!!! They found the time to put their efforts where their minds were and they made a difference!

Co-President's Message from Janet Lindquist Cont'd

Our efforts have been rewarded time after time. With the current uncertain political edicts we are daily being subjected to, it is even more important that we not only continue all of our programs—but we also need to push back and enlarge these programs. NOW MORE THAN EVER!

"If it is one thing I've learned in life, it's the power of using your voice."*

Some of our programs will have to go by the wayside unless **YOU STEP UP** and donate a few hours to keep them going. Please call **Gloria Miele, Kay Ito or any of our leadership team and VOLUNTEER.** You will also meet and make life-long friends. I promise.

On June 28th, we are celebrating! We are having a delicious Champaign Brunch at Jerrie Newman's beautiful back yard and patio (no steps and accessible parking if you need it); we are celebrating the retirement of some of our dedicated members; we are celebrating the installation of our new Board—after they are elected; and we have a great program presented by LWV.

Please see your bulletin for details! You Snooze— You Lose!

Remember:

"You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once. But don't ever underestimate the impact you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own."*

I wish to thank all of you for the wonderful years I have been on the Board in one capacity or another. It has been an honor.

In unity,
Janet Lindquist

*These quotes are by Michelle Obama, from her speeches and from her book, *Becoming*.

June 28th – Annual Member Meeting and Program

Come find out how the electoral college hurts our democracy

Please join us on Saturday June 28th for Brunch, Election, Installation, and speakers from the League of Women Voters of Ventura County.

The electoral college is an antiquated system created to satisfy slave owners and decrease voter turnout. For over 50 years, the League of Women Voters has believed we need to abolish it. As we turn up the heat to do so, we need to learn some talking points to help convince others. Join us and get educated on this topic! Our local League is sending two speakers to share the details of this important agenda.

10:30 am Sat. June 28th at the lovely patio of member, Jerrie Newman.
872 Grada Avenue, Camarillo.

Your presence will show your board that you support their continuing efforts to make a difference locally and beyond. See the invite and RSVP to ensure you will get a seat.

Proposed slate of officers for AAUW Camarillo Branch 2025-2026

Co Presidents: Kay Wolverton Ito and Gloria Miele

VP Membership: Glabe Siegfriedt

VP Programs: Open

Recording Secretary: Colleen Robertson

Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Britt

Treasurer: Vanessa Otto

Additional nominations still being accepted. Please come to the June 28th meeting to celebrate our volunteers and vote!!

June Meeting Invite

AAUW Champagne Brunch Board Election and Installation Saturday, June 28th

WHY

Board election, installation
and recognition of all our
recent and longtime volunteers

Program: League of Women Voters
of Ventura County

AND it is a gathering of good
friends accompanied by delicious
food.

WHEN

June 28th: 10:30am

WHERE

**Jerrie Newman's
872 Grada Ave, Camarillo**

**No steps; accessible parking on
driveway**

**RSVP BY 6/24: Janet Lindquist
32106 Village 32, Camarillo
805-437-6244**

24

lindquistjb@hotmail.com



Tech Trek Update

The nomination and application period for our scholarships to Tech Trek 2025 has concluded with eight selected girls. One girl will attend camp at Whittier College in June and seven girls will attend camp at UC Santa Barbara in July. They come from different schools in Camarillo, Oxnard and Somis.

We owe thanks and appreciation to Jennifer Baker, Gladys Ochangco, Colleen Robertson and Cathy Trevino for conducting the interviews. We also thank four of our Tech Trek Alumnae – Esha B, Frida R, Megan S and Starleigh N – and AAUW Member Cynthia See (and Mom of Tech Trek Alumna), who answered questions from the interviewees and their parents.

Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation and all our AAUW Members who made financial contributions to make this year's Tech Trek program possible.



Three of our 2025 Tech Trek Campers who attended the Tech Trek Orientation Meeting in May

2024 -2025 Calendar Highlights

6/7/25 – Camarillo Pride, 12-4, Constitution Park

6/12/25 5pm Board Meeting – All are welcome. Join using the [New Zoom link](#)

6/15/25 Father's Day

6/19/25 Juneteenth

6/28/25 10:30am Annual Member Meeting and Brunch

August – Branch Planning Meeting

September – Kickoff

Non-Fiction Book Group, Barbara Hilburn

The AAUW Nonfiction Book Club meets at 10:30 am the second Tuesday of the month at Panera Bread Co. in The Collection, Oxnard.

For information about the group, please contact Barbara Hilburn,
hilburndesigns@gmail.com

Next meeting is June 10 - *The Lady in Gold: The Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece, Portrait of Adele Block-Bauer* by Anne-Marie O'Connor (Also a movie with Helen Mirren)

Future Books:

- ***Being Mortal*** by Atul Gawande – July 8
- ***The Six: The Untold Story of America's First Women Astronauts*** by Loren Grush – Aug. 12
- ***Keep Sharp: Build a Better Brain at Any Age*** by Sanjay Gupta MD – Sept. 9
- ***A Fever in the Heartland: The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America, and the Woman Who Stopped Them*** by Timothy Egan Oct. 14

P.M. BOOK REVIEW, Diana Dingler

We are now off for the summer. There will be no meetings until September when we will meet to select our next round of books to read. Have a great summer, and enjoy your personal selections.

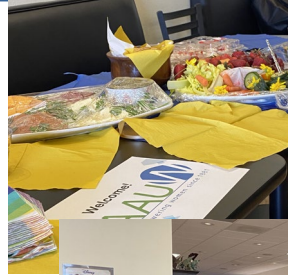
Thank you to the Gene Haas Foundation!



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 and Whittier College, providing local scholarships for returning female students to CSUCI, and encouraging our Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG).

AAUW Out and About

Our May meeting at Zander's Game House was so much fun! We enjoyed meeting and hearing from owner, Jeanne Sikoff, on her entrepreneurial path to create a career that reflected her values and allowed her to make time for her family and create an amazing community that keeps growing. If you've never been, stop by to play with your family or friends, purchase a game, or just say hi and see what it's all about.



Supporting Causes Related to Our Mission



Lana Lundin accepts the Legacy Friend award from Friends of Fieldworkers Executive Director, Martita Martinez-Bravo.

Members attended at least these two fundraisers in May – Planned Parenthood's Western Disco themed Boogie for Our Bodies and Friends of Fieldworkers' Harvesting Hope. Share your news and pics!



Gloria Miele, Kay Ito, and friend of AAUW, Madhu Bajaj getting the party started



Gloria Miele and Susanne Lamot ready to boogie!



Camarillo Pride 2025 is a family-friendly celebration on Saturday June 6 from 12-4 at Constitution Park. Vendors, drag bingo, bounce houses, good food and good vibes. While the [first Pride was a riot](#), this event is organized by a group of Camarillo moms who started a nonprofit to make our community more welcoming, loving, and inclusive for their families and all of us.

Public Policy by Kathy Long

As AAUW-National continues the fight to protect education at the federal level, they have taken a strong position with the 2025 Strategic Priorities: Advancing Public Education through Higher Education, a battle we must all support.

At the state level, please read the submittal by Karen Sher on the legislation moving through the process to lend support to our teachers by providing housing assistance in communities in need of teachers, and communities experiencing housing shortages. Creative solutions welcome!

AAUW-CA legislative bills are still moving through the committee process. AB579, strongly opposed by AAUW during our Lobby Days, was not referred forward, so is now “dead”. The bill “Yaeli’s Law” rests on the premise that denial of support for youth self-identity, including refusal to use a child’s name and pronouns, or refusal to provide or allow their gender-affirming care, is not harmful and therefore should not be considered child abuse under the law, and, accordingly, should not be allowed as a basis for custody or removal decisions. So that ends the bill as currently written this cycle. Over the next couple of months, other bills will finalize and make it to the Governor’s desk and the sausage making for this legislative cycle will end!

California’s Housing Crisis

By Karen Sher, AAUW Member and OUHSD Board Member

“California’s housing crisis is driving talented educators and school staff away from the communities that need them most.” – SSPI Tony Thurmond

California’s housing crisis has disproportionately impacted educators, with housing costs far exceeding salaries. In 2016, only 17.4% of homes were affordable to the average teacher, and most school employees are considered “housing cost burdened,” spending over 30% of their income on housing. School districts and county offices of education collectively own more than 75,000 acres of land that could be developed for workforce housing, 40% of which is in high-turnover areas,

Public Policy – California’s Housing Crisis Cont’d

where educator loss disrupts student learning and school stability. Employee housing has proven to be an effective solution. For example, Jefferson Union High School District in Daly City, a high-cost area, opened 122 units of staff housing and began the school year with zero vacancies, an outcome board member Andy Lie called “unheard of in public education.” (CDE News Release, 2/20/2025)

“The teacher shortage in California is often a housing issue in disguise, educators simply can’t afford to live in the communities they serve.” Karen Sher, Director of Teacher Recruitment, California Department of Education

AB 1021 builds on landmark legislation (AB 2295, Bloom, 2022) to help LEAs more readily construct housing to address the educator shortage. It ensures that small and rural school districts and COEs can participate, provides CEQA exemptions already granted to affordable housing projects, and encourages building near transit. At least 30% of units must be affordable to lower-income households, and 20% to moderate-income households.

AB 1381 would establish and fund a revolving loan account in the Office of the State Treasurer to offer no-interest loans to LEAs for feasibility studies of workforce housing projects. By expanding access to educator housing, the bill strengthens recruitment and retention efforts—ensuring students have access to stable, qualified teachers and essential school staff.

AAUW Scholarship Applications Due June 2nd!

AAUW Camarillo awards scholarships to women CSUCI students who have taken a “non-traditional” path to a college degree and had a break in their education between High School and College. Scholarships range from \$1,500-\$2,000. Details and application form available on our website:

<https://camarillo-ca.aauw.net/scholarship/>

Membership News, Maria Tagliaferri

Our members are the heart and soul of our Camarillo branch and I sincerely hope you continue to support AAUW in light of the recent membership fee increase to \$130 total per member, as follows:

- 1) National dues increase to \$74
- 2) CA state increase to \$30
- 3) Camarillo Branch increase to \$26

We understand that fee increases are not pleasant, but I urge you to consider how important the \$26 branch membership fee is to our local AAUW Camarillo branch. This is the only money our branch keeps to support all the programs we create locally including Tech Trek, Women in History, Knowledge Bowl and CSCUCI Scholarships. We could not do it without each of you and I hope you will continue to join us in advocating for women and girls not just locally but on a state and national level.

Members will receive reminders from both AAUW national and from me to renew in the month that they joined. 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.

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 2024-2025

Janet Lindquist & Cathy Trevino

Co-Presidents (April 2025-July 2025)

Aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com

Maria Tagliaferri

VP, Membership

VP, Programs: **Open**

Colleen Robertson

Recording Secretary

Vanessa Otto

Treasurer

Barbara Britt

Corresponding Secretary

Kathy Long

Public Policy

Gloria Miele

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Scholarships: **Open**

Cathy Trevino

Past President

Kay Wolverton Ito

Communications and PR

Jennie Baker

Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG)

Gloria Miele

Beacon Editor

Gladys Ochangco

Beacon Design and Layout

Membership

AAUW Camarillo Branch - Need to renew?

Annual dues are **\$130**
(**\$74 National, \$30 CA, \$26 Branch**).

1. Mail a check for **\$130** 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, California and Camarillo Branch Member (select CA-0132 Camarillo).

Tips and reminders for the online renewal:

- **Complete the password reset the very 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.**
- **You can log in but my account says I'm 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!

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