

Co-President's Message from Cathy Trevino

As we enjoy the month of May, a bridge between winter and summer, spring, the world's favorite season, is a time when all things should seem possible. In today's insane political climate, it's hard to imagine possibilities, but we must. AAUW Camarillo must forge ahead and keep providing our programs to keep our youth going forward. Our fabulous Knowledge Bowl, Women in History, CSUCI Scholarships to returning female students, public policy, monitoring local school boards and politics, and Tech Trek programs, all allow for great numbers to participate in our endeavor of working to advance gender equity through advocacy and help maintain access to quality education for all students.

As I rotate off the Leadership Team this June, I reflect on the experiences I have been able to help coordinate, and how sorry I am for those members who have not participated. There is plenty of room for YOU to help out. Please don't wait for us to call and ask, we are busy doing. Being a member of this group is one thing, but to really see its impact, one must give more than dues to the cause. With more than 130 members, we should have many more committees, task forces, and participants working on our various projects and leadership team. As a member of AAUW-CA and various branches since 1984, I can confess, taking a leadership role has helped me grow as a person and advocate in ways I never could have imagined. It's your turn, so please step up. The survival of the Camarillo Branch depends on us all.

Feeling Grateful,

Cathy Trevino Co-President (April – June)

Accepting Board Nominations

The 2024-25 year wraps up in June, with new board leadership starting in July. If you would like to explore a leadership role, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Nominating Committee. Many positions lend themselves to co-leaders, so if you think you'd like to partner with someone, that would be great! Time commitments are a few hours a month for committees to a few hours a week for board positions. Nominations will be announced in mid-May, and elections held at the annual meeting in June.

Positions include:

President
Vice-President of Membership
Vice-President of Programs
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Public Policy Chair
Hospitality Chair
Communications and PR Chair
Beacon Editor
Beacon Design and Layout
Tech Trek Alumni Group Chair

Nominating Committee:

Gloria Miele gloria@strongerleader.com
Kay Wolverton Ito kayzdaze@gmail.com
Maria Tagliaferri riatag62@gmail.com

Let's Play! May Meeting at Zander's Game House



GAME NIGHT
TUESDAY MAY 13, 6-8PM



We can all use more play in our lives! Here's a chance to do just that at our May meeting at Zander's Game House. Owner, Jeanne Sikoff, will get us started for a great night of fun.

\$10 PER PERSON AT CHECK IN



2270 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo

Space is limited. RSVP by May 5
aauw.camarillo.president@gmail.com

Questions? Contact Gloria - 805-216-8403

2024 -2025 Calendar Highlights

- 5/5/25 – Wear Red for Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)
- 5/11/25 Mother's Day
- 5/13/25 – 5pm Board Meeting and 6pm Game Night at Zanders Game House
- 6/2/2025– AAUW Scholarship applications due
- 6/19/25 Juneteenth
- June Membership Meeting Date and Details Coming Soon!

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 May 13 - *Sociopath: A Memoire* by Patric Gagne

Future Books:

- ***The Lady in Gold: The Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece, Portrait of Adele Block-Bauer*** by Anne-Marie O'Connor – June 10 (Also a movie with Helen Mirren)
- ***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 will be meeting for our last book review get-together for the season on **Wednesday, May 28, at 3:00 p.m.** in the Marie Callendar's enclosed side room. We'll discuss ***The Henna Artist*** by Alki Joshi.

From June to Sept everyone will be free to read their own book selections, and bring their recommendations to our next season's opening meeting. Happy summer!

For further questions please contact Diana Dingler at 805-987-8013.

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).

Public Policy by Kathy Long

On April 9th, Merrill Berge, Colleen Briner-Schmidt and myself represented our chapter in the AAUW-CA sponsored Lobby Days, via Zoom. Every year, AAUW-CA sets a legislative agenda of about 30 bills that they advance and then select top priority of 3 for the lobby day focus. We then met with the aides from State Assemblymember Steve Bennett and State Senator Monique Limon to highlight the priority bills. We of course took the time to highlight our local AAUW chapter work and thank them for their great work for our county. The three bills we spoke on this year were:

SB 771 Author-Senator Henry Stern, AAUW-CA is cosponsor. This bill clarifies that a social media platform may be liable for civil penalty under existing law if and when its algorithms or AI, aid or abet individual users who are engaging in already unlawful intimidation of others in online spaces. Hate speech is illegal when it threatens others. For example, when hate speech is “brought to the doorstep” of marginalized communities, it is no longer protected speech, but unlawful intimidation, terrorism, and threat. This means you can post flyers with anti-immigrant messages on your own physical door or electronic Facebook wall; however when you maliciously post those same flyers on the physical doors of immigrant families, or on their virtual Facebook walls, you are now engaging in intimidating behavior—which is unlawful. This bill calls out our AI companies who may have intentionally been complicit in removing guardrails, turning away from providing safeguards they previously provided for targeted vulnerable communities, and now should be held accountable.

SB 418 Author-Senator Caroline Menjivar. AAUW-CA is in strong support of this measure that would prohibit a health plan or a health insurance provider from denying coverage or benefits to a person based upon their race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex—including sex characteristics such as intersex traits, pregnancy, and gender identity. This bill would prohibit labeling of a person’s appearance and/or actions as problematic “sex stereotyping”. It would protect coverage for gender affirming care as endorsed by the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics. This health equity and human rights bill aligns California with best practices and medical evidence.

Public Policy Cont'd

AB 579 Author-Leticia Castillo —AAUW-CA OPPOSITION to this bill. Known as “Yaeli’s Law”, this bill 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. Yet, lack of family support is one of the strongest predictors of transgender youth attempting suicide; suffering mentally, experiencing high anxiety and depression, and are at greater risk of substance abuse and homelessness. This law would state categorically that refusal to acknowledge the child’s desire to transition is NOT, by law, a form of child abuse/neglect, and therefore cannot even be considered by Child Protective Services for investigation, and thus never reach a Judge for determination of “harms way.” Needless to say, this one has controversy.

You can find full text on these bills at <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
These bills are now processing through their respective committees and may/may not make it to the Governors desk for signature. We will continue to track along with others.

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/>

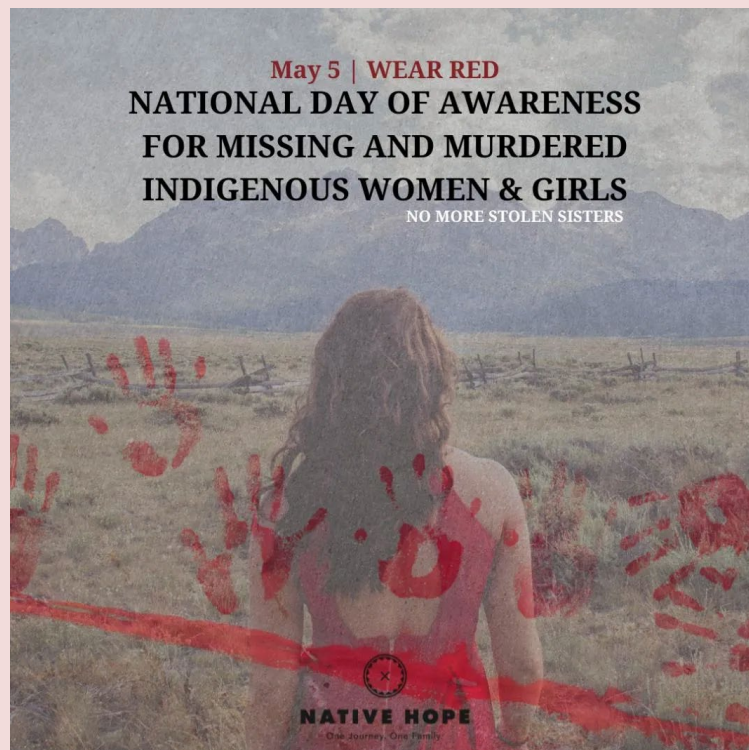
Membership News, Maria Tagliaferri

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.

Missing And Murdered Indigenous Women And Relatives (MMIWR)



There is a crisis for Native women and girls that is often underreported or ignored. Did you know that the murder rate for Native American women living on reservations is ten times higher than the national average? Many of these cases go unsolved and cause great pain for Native families and communities. Learn more about the crisis, the hope that comes from culture, and how we can all be allies to support Native people, especially during MMIWG awareness month. Learn more at <https://www.nativehope.org/missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women-mmiw/> and about the artist who created the Red Dress Project, [Jamie Black](#).



Membership News, Maria Tagliaferri

In recent weeks, AAUW National sent an email to all members announcing the National Membership dues increase of \$2 per year over the next two years.

Starting April 1, 2025, National dues will increase to \$74 and on April 1, 2026, dues will increase again to \$76.

What does this mean for 2025-2026 membership dues? Members who renew between April 1, 2025 and June 30, 2025 will pay a total of \$117 (\$74 National, \$20 CA and \$23 Branch). On July 1, we may see increases in Branch and State dues. We will keep you posted.

Please keep in mind the important work of AAUW especially in our current challenging environment and I hope you will continue to join us in advocating for women and girls not just locally but on a 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.

Your Vote is Your Voice!

AAUW National Elections 2025 April 14 – May 13

Members will receive electronic ballot reminders with their unique voting credentials from our third-party voting service vote@simplyvoting.com. Members without email addresses were mailed paper ballots. Eligible voters are those who were members as of March 14, 2025. Voting closes on May 13, 5pm ET. For voting help, email connect@aauw.org with name and email.

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-June 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 **\$117**
(\$74 National, \$20 CA, \$23 Branch).

1. Mail a check for \$117 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 (\$74)**, California (\$20) and Camarillo Branch Member \$23 (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