

Thousand Oaks Branch, Inc.

Volume 51, Issue 9

May 2017

***Saturday, May 6***  
**AAUW Funds Luncheon,**  
**Branch Election, Named Gift & Branch Honorees, and**  
**AAUW Fellows Speaker**  
**11:30 AM – 2 PM, Los Robles Greens (May Branch Event)**



Join us for our special event! We will elect our Board of Directors for next year and recognize our Named Gift Honorees, an individual, a group, or an organization who has given exceptional service to AAUW. In addition we will be honoring long time members.

Our guest speaker, Christine Morrison an AAUW American Fellowship recipient, was partially funded by the Thousand Oaks Branch 30th Anniversary Endowment.

Christine is attending Caltech, working on her PhD in Inorganic Chemistry. She will speak about her research project: "Feeding the World as Cleanly and Efficiently as Possible".

Her important work focuses on the fact that we have been using the same synthetic fertilizers to grow crops around the world for nearly 100 years. It is time for an upgrade to a new method of fertilizer production that is more efficient and environmentally safer. In this presentation, she will explore what scientists are doing to make this a reality. This is a very timely and relevant topic, especially with California being such a tremendous agricultural supplier for the world! For more information, see page 2.

(If you have not sent in your RSVP yet and would still like to join us, please contact Bev Khoshnevisan)

**Saturday, May 6, 11:30 AM to 2 PM**  
**Los Robles Greens Golf Course**  
**299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks**  
**Buffet \$35 per person (advance tickets necessary)**



**Calendar for May---**

- May 4, Wednesday, Board Meeting, Oak Knoll Clubhouse, 6:30 PM
- May 6, Saturday, Coffee and Chat, Stella's Café, 9 AM
- May 6, Saturday, Los Robles Greens, 11:30 AM, AAUW Funds Luncheon, (May Branch Event)**
- May 18, Thursday, Evening Lit, 7:30 PM
- May 22, Monday, Daytime Lit, TO Library, 9:30 AM
- May 25, Thursday, Museums and Gardens Trip to Pasadena,

**SAVE THESE DATES**

**Coming in June---**

- June 1, TO Library, Women's History Project, 4 PM
- June 3, Coffee and Chat, Stella's Café, NP, 9 AM
- June 7, Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, New and Retiring Board Pot Luck Dinner at Betty Stapleford's home
- June 14 – 17, AAUW National Convention, Washington DC
- June 27 – Pit Fire Grill, WLV, Fund Raiser for Tech Trek**

**Coming in July---**

- July 27, Thursday, Tech Trek Visitation Day at UCSB,



## President’s Message: Sally Hibbitts

Over the past three months, I have tried to provide a few observations about, what I call the Four Pillars of AAUW: Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy, and now we come to the final pillar, “Research”. The purpose of this background is aimed at primarily our newer members, of which we have many! However, it can always be beneficial to all members to be reminded of the foundations of our organization.

As our national website states, “AAUW conducts groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace. Our work influences the national discussion on topics like the pay gap between women and men, sexual harassment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. Through new and traditional media, targeted outreach to policymakers, and member efforts, AAUW research serves as a catalyst for action”.

Our Branch has used these research reports in a multitude of ways. Often it is for community outreach, like “Crossing the Line” was used at a parent night dealing with the topic of sexual harassment. The “Simple Truth to The Gender Pay Gap” was recently used at the successful Equal Pay Event at CLU. In addition, “Why So Few” is consistently used when we look at STEM Careers for girls. The use of the AAUW Research reports by other scholars in related fields, governmental agencies, the media and a wide range of other organizations is very high. I have often noticed that Dr. Catherine Hill, Director of Research, is a guest on PBS News Hour, especially when a new report is released.

We should all be very proud of the quality, validity, and reputation of AAUW Research....our Fourth Pillar

## We Stand With Nathalie!

Please consider adding your name to the petition "USC President C. L. Nikias: Women in Engineering Matter," in support of our own Thousand Oaks AAUW member Nathalie Gosset, in her sexual harassment case against USC. Her case has been vetted and approved for support by AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

Our goal is to reach a new benchmark of 3000 signatures! It's very important that you sign & forward this to others to support Nathalie. Go to [www.stand4nat.org](http://www.stand4nat.org)

The screenshot shows the top of the petition website. It features the name 'NATHALIE GOSSET' and the slogan 'STAND FOR ME' with the website URL 'www.stand4nat.org'. There are navigation buttons for 'ORGANIZATIONS STANDING FOR ME', 'MY FORMIDABLE LEGAL REPRESENTATION', 'Contact Me', 'PRESS RELEASES', 'TV COVERAGE', 'PRINTED PRESS', and 'LETTERS OF SUPPORT'. A prominent green button says 'CLICK HERE TO SIGN THE PETITION'. Below the navigation is a blue banner that reads 'THE FIRST AMENDED ARBITRATION DEMAND'. A portrait of Nathalie Gosset is shown on the left. To the right, text states: 'Every employee is protected by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Unfortunately, I did not experience this. The Bloom Firm represents me in an arbitration case against Jon Lasch, Susan Cooper, The Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering and the University of Southern California for alleged sexual harassment, retaliation, and wrongful termination.' Below this is the slogan 'PLEASE STAND FOR ME' and a list of professions: '& for the women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers and for all the young girls and young women whom we have inspired to choose a technical profession. There are only 12% women in Engineering. We have the right to work in a safe and respectful environment.' At the bottom right, a box says 'STANDING FOR ME ARE SUPPORTING REPRESENTING'.

## April Board Meeting Tidbits

- It is time to start discussing the membership renewal process for 2017-18. The current membership brochure needs to be updated.
- Selection of the Tech Trek Campers has been done. The Phantom Tea was very successful.
- We need a branch historian to go through the archives and determine what to keep and how to store them.
- The By-Laws have been updated and will be sent to members in early summer.
- Establishing a Branch Memorial Scholarship was discussed.




## AAUW FUNDS EDUCATIONAL FUNDING AND AWARDS—2016-17

AAUW fellowships and grants have provided more than \$100 million for the 2016–17 academic year. The Thousand Oaks branch has three endowments: Thousand Oaks 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Endowment, and the Marilyn Carpenter and Ann Bratmon scholarships.

*Join us for a special luncheon at our*  
**AAUW Thousand Oaks Annual Meeting**  
 Saturday, May 6, 2017  
 11:30 AM  
 Los Robles Greens Golf Course  
 299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks

*This event will include:*  
 Election of our Branch Board of Directors for 2017–2018  
 Recognition of our 2017 Named Gift Honorees  
 Member Recognitions  
 Guest Speaker Christine Morrison  
 Luncheon Buffet

**Luncheon Buffet Menu**  
 Greek Salad & Caesar Salad  
 Grilled Chicken with Lemon Butter Sauce  
 Salmon with Roasted Red Pepper Sauce  
 Parmesan Potato Gratin  
 Grilled Vegetables  
 Dessert  
 \*Vegetarian plated entree available by request



Our special Guest Speaker **Christine Morrison**, AAUW American Fellowship Recipient, will speak on her research project: Learning from Nature to Fertilize the World's Crops with Less Energy and Better environmental impact. As a chemist, she will talk about alternative methods for producing human-made fertilizers that are more sustainable and better for the environment.

Join us for good friends, good food, and an inspiring speaker. Don't miss it!  
 Tickets are \$35 per person.  
 Reservations will be sent to AAUW Funds.

To RSVP, mail this form along with your \$35 check (payable to AAUW TO) to:  
 Caroline Tsaw, AAUW TO, P.O. Box 4224, Thousand Oaks, CA 91329

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP by April 28, 2017.

For further information, contact Dev Khoshnevisan: [hhush29@gmail.com](mailto:hhush29@gmail.com) or (805) 499-1063.

**Christine Morrison** is the recipient of an American Fellowship sponsored partially by the Thousand Oaks Branch 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fund. Christine is studying at the CA Institute of Technology and will be earning a PhD, Organic Chemistry. Her research relates to how bacteria are able to make their own fertilizer. Christine hopes to inspire alternative methods for producing human made fertilizers that are more sustainable and better for the environment.

This year's recipient of the Marilyn Carpenter endowment is **Je'Ne Chastain** who has received a Career Development Grant. As a leader in the field of architecture her focus has been on the intersection of design and business strategy. She is using her scholarship to complete a master's degree in business from Mills College Graduate school of Business and Social Policy.

Also receiving a Career Development Grant funded through the Ann Bratmon endowment is **Jacqueline-Joy Austria**. Jacqueline is pursuing a master's degree in instructional design and technology at Cal State Fullerton. She currently works in the technology field at a non-profit independent school. Upon graduation she hopes to work in educational technology to improve skills of students and faculty.

These endowments were funded by contributions from our branch and other

branches many years ago. **YOU** can do your part today by contributing to any of the many tax-deductible **AAUW FUNDS**. Email Jeanette Hosek, [jhosek@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhosek@roadrunner.com) if you want to make a contribution.

### We Recognize Our Longtime Members!

AAUW branches are recognizing the contributions and support of their long time members. The Thousand Oaks branch is fortunate many of our members have been faithful stewards of our branch over the years. At the May 6<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting we will recognize these 40+ year members:

- \*Lydia Steadman- 59 years (Lancaster and TO Branches)
- \*Phyllis Benson, Lori Kissinger - 49 years (TO Branch)
- \*Jeane Rose - 48 years (Glendale and TO Branches)
- \*Lily Sugino---48 years (TO Branch)
- \*Carolyn Kopp – 43 years (TO Branch)
- \* Wendy Hoffman – 41 years (Tustin and TO Branches)
- \*Pat Adrian, Suzi Wedel – 41 years (TO Branch)

**At the Fall Membership Breakfast, we will continue with recognizing 30+ year members.**

### Recommended Board Slate for 2017-18

We sincerely thank the following members who are stepping up as Executive Officers and Board of Directors Members for the new term of office beginning on July 1, 2017. This slate will be presented to the Branch Membership for election at the May 6 Branch Meeting. Others may be nominated from the floor.

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

- President – Bonnie Shubb
- Vice President/President Elect – Sharon Dyer
- Secretary – Vera King
- Treasurer – Caroline Tsaw

#### DIRECTORS:

- Jeanette Hosek
- Betty Stapleford
- Mini Madan
- Anne La Fianza
- Sally Hibbits
- Narda Fargotstein
- Beverly Khoshnevisan



ATTENTION ALL RENEWING MEMBERS....THIS LETTER WAS MAILED TO YOU LAST WEEK. PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE FOR RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017-18. NEW MEMBERS THIS SPRING DO NOT NEED TO RENEW! THANKS!

**Thousand Oaks Branch**  
*Because Equity is Still an Issue*

May 1, 2017

Dear AAUW-TO Members,

As the old saying goes, where has the time gone? It's now membership renewal time for AAUW Thousand Oaks!

We want to take a moment to thank you most sincerely for your wonderful support this past year: it was a busy and very productive period for our branch. Social gatherings and advocacy events brought us together to learn and enjoy each other's company, while building community awareness of gender equity issues. We celebrated the success of the SOAR initiatives helped by our hard work, we ventured into the wilderness by "Walking on the Wild Side" of backpacking, enjoyed the fabulous "Born for Liberty: Three Waves of Feminism in Art and Music" presentation, the Women's History Project, and support for "Dreamers" at the high schools. Tech Trek took on new leadership locally and nationally. Our fundraising was very successful and we are sending four young girls to camp at UCSB, thus creating more opportunities for the young women who will come after us. Our Community Outreach has propelled us in new directions of service and opportunity to help the local region. In addition our membership numbers are increasing every month!

All of this was made possible by your generous support of AAUW Thousand Oaks.

By renewing your membership, you will continue to be part of our essential local mission: breaking through barriers for local women and girls throughout the Conejo Valley. As a current member, you know that AAUW plays a crucial role in our community. But to continue the work, we need your help.

Won't you please renew today?

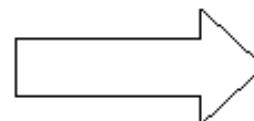
Simply fill out Parts 1, 2, and either 3A or 3B on the form found on the reverse side; then mail it in the addressed envelope we've included. Or, save a stamp and bring your renewal form with you when you attend the Annual Meeting on May 6, (11:30 AM) at Los Robles Greens Golf Course. (See the Oak Twig for details). You may also RENEW ONLINE AT <http://www.aauw.org/resource/join-a-branch-or-renew-branch-membership/> **Membership fees are due no later than June 15, 2017.** If you have any questions about membership or branch activities, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Sally Hibbitts  
President  
805-750-3119  
[sjhibbitts@aol.com](mailto:sjhibbitts@aol.com)

Linda Pochter  
Membership Director  
714-345-7151  
[lpochter@gmail.com](mailto:lpochter@gmail.com)

Mini Madan  
Membership Director  
818-665-6807  
[minimadan@yahoo.com](mailto:minimadan@yahoo.com)





**AAUW 2017-18 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM** (Complete Parts 1, 2, and either 3A or 3B)

➔ **PART 1:** This year, we are asking all members to personally check and verify the information printed in the 2016-17 Directory (green) is correct. Please indicate here any changes, which need to be made: \_\_\_\_\_

➔ **PART 2:** To assist with summer planning, please check all areas that may be of interest to you:

- Branch Committees:**
- \_\_\_ AAUW Funds
  - \_\_\_ Community Outreach
  - \_\_\_ Higher Education Partners
  - \_\_\_ Local Scholarships
  - \_\_\_ Membership Committee
  - \_\_\_ Oak Twig
  - \_\_\_ Program Planning Committee
  - \_\_\_ Public Policy
  - \_\_\_ Publicity Assistance
  - \_\_\_ Tech Trek Camp Branch Steering Comm.
  - \_\_\_ Website
  - \_\_\_ Women's History

- Interest Groups:**
- \_\_\_ Coffee & Chat
  - \_\_\_ Daytime Literature
  - \_\_\_ Dreamer Support
  - \_\_\_ Evening Literature
  - \_\_\_ Exploring World Religions through the Eyes of Women
  - \_\_\_ Global Awareness & Action for Girls
  - \_\_\_ Museums & Gardens Group
  - \_\_\_ Movie Group
  - \_\_\_ Music Interest
  - \_\_\_ Our Community Environment
  - \_\_\_ Photography
  - \_\_\_ Unity Book Group
  - \_\_\_ Women's Health

➔ **PART 3A:** Dues Payment (Traditional dues payment by check) **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY::**

**First and Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Preferred Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I will "bump up" my dues check to help out the special funds as indicated below.

- \$ 90.00 **MEMBERSHIP DUES:** 2017-2017 Combined, Local, State and National (Regular)
- +\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **AAUW FUNDS:** National Scholarships to graduate women, researchers, community projects, Legal Advocacy Fund, etc.
- +\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TECH TREK:** Summer STEM Camp for Girls (2018)
- +\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS:** Moorpark College Scholarships
- +\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCAL BRANCH OPERATING FUNDS**
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** (please find my included check payable to "AAUW TO" for this total)

➔ **PART 3B:** Dues Payment (OPTIONAL Using instant web payment) Please complete the top to this form, Parts 1 and 2. You may make additional AAUW FUNDS and TECH TREK payments via online payment as well; any additional bump ups for Local Scholarships or Local Operating Funds will need to be submitted via check to "AAUW TO". Completing your online web payment is extremely easy. Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). At top of the home page, under the Membership bar go to Branch Membership RENEW; then login to your account or create a new account if needed; go to RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP and complete the necessary information. Be sure to add in any additional donations you'd like to at this time for AAUW FUNDS or TECH TREK. You are done, except for mailing back this form!!

Thank you very much and please use the enclosed envelope to mail this form and your check, if used, to:  
**Membership Committee, PO Box 4223, Thousand Oaks 91359**



AAUW Thousand Oaks in cooperation with the National Women's History Project (NWHF) present a **Commemorative Edition Honoring Hillary Rodham Clinton's Campaign and Other First Women in Government**

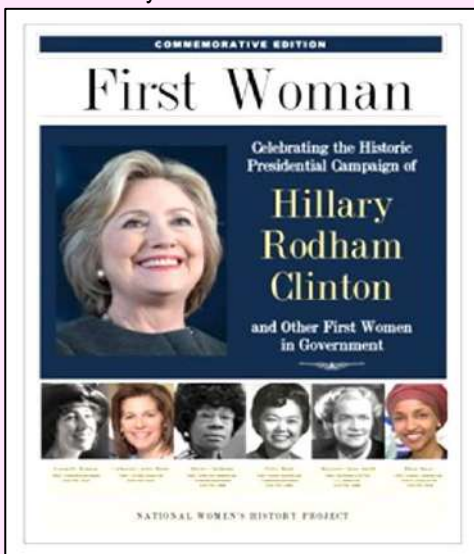
Inspired by Hillary Rodham Clinton's historic campaign, the National Women's History Project (NWHF) has published a special Commemorative Edition, **First Woman**, to pay tribute to women's long and distinguished record in government and public service.

This lavishly illustrated, 48-page volume places Hillary Clinton's unprecedented campaign in the context of women's history and celebrates the many women who first ran for and held office in American government. Here are the first women to run for President, Congress and the Senate. Here are the first mayors, state legislators and governors. Here are the first four-star general, the first Supreme Court Justice and so many more. Timelines trace the progress of Women in Government, the Women's Suffrage Movement, and the Modern Women's Movement.

**First Woman** also recognizes American suffragists who worked successfully for women's civil rights. The wealth of detail included here irrefutably shows the growing contributions women have made to our national life. These courageous women smoothed the path that led our nation to where it is today.

**First Woman** also recognizes young feminists who are working today for women's advancement. This beautiful publication pays tribute to the deep and lasting contributions women have made - and are making - to our nation's progress.

**AAUW Thousand Oaks** is proud to include this book as part of its thirty-year history of providing Women's History materials to schools and individuals. All of the branch's Women's History resources are available for sale through its website, [www.aauwto.ca.aauw.net](http://www.aauwto.ca.aauw.net). Copies of **FIRST WOMAN** are still available and would make a lovely gift for Woman's History Month.



**SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE**

**PIT FIRE PIZZA GRILL IN WESTLAKE VILLAGE, TUESDAY, JUNE 27, ALL DAY!**

**LETS CELEBRATE TECH TREK.....MEET OUR 2017 CAMPERS....FEAST AND DRINK ON FABULOUS FOOD.....LUNCH TIME....HAPPY HOUR....DINNER!**



**EAT. DRINK. SUPPORT**



**TUESDAY, 06/27 11:00am - 9:00pm**

**15% OF PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED!**

15% of all proceeds raised by guests like you bringing in this flyer (or showing us an electronic copy on your phone, hey it is 2017 after all) will be donated to your cause, this includes pick-up, and Delivery orders, and of course food, beer, wine, liquor and desserts.



**Pitfire Artisan Pizza Westlake Village**  
966 s Westlake Blvd #3  
(Next to Gelson's off townsgate)

## A Message About AAUW-CA Advocacy



AAUW California encourages its members to become involved in every level of the political process. We actively support legislation on educational equity and diversity in public schools, pay equity, reproductive choice, child care, school-based health care, civil rights, and responsible funding for public education that will improve the lives of women and their families

AAUW CA continues to participate in the Stronger California Advocates Network. This coalition, formed last year, has over two dozen member organizations, some with established Capitol credentials and many new to advocacy but with significant experience in working with communities affected by the four pillars supporting the California Women's Economic Agenda:

- Pillar One – Fair Pay and Job Opportunities
- Pillar Two – Access to Childcare
- Pillar Three – Family Friendly Workplace
- Pillar Four – Eradicating Poverty



### *Introducing AAUW's New CEO, Kimberly Churches*

*AAUW is excited to announce that Kimberly Churches will be our chief executive officer starting June 1, 2017. Kimberly comes to AAUW from the Brookings Institution, where she strategically guided the public policy organization, providing vision and problem-solving skills, expansive partnerships and external relations, and fundraising as the managing director. Before joining Brookings, Kimberly was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida, and a division director at the American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education (K-12 and higher education) as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international nonprofits. Churches earned her BA at Florida State University in English Education and the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002.*

### **BRANCH "SAD & GLAD NEWS" by Audrey Giuffrida**

#### **Therese Hughes Appointed to Prestigious Defense Department Committee**

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced on March 22, 2017 the induction of six new members to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services. (DACOWITS). This important committee provides the department with advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the overall well-being of highly-qualified professional women in the Armed Forces. The committee is comprised of 20 members, representing a distribution of demography, academia, industry, public service and other professions.

One of these members is Therese Hughes, a member of our branch of AAUW! At the swearing-in ceremony Therese was cited as having vast professional experience working at the local, county, state, and national level. She currently is finishing a photography project titled, "Military Women: WWII to Present," honoring women veterans. In 2014, the project was featured at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial located at Arlington National Cemetery.

Our branch is enormously proud of having Therese as a member of this prestigious group and we congratulate her on this singular achievement. May Therese reap the rewards of serving her country in this meaningful way.

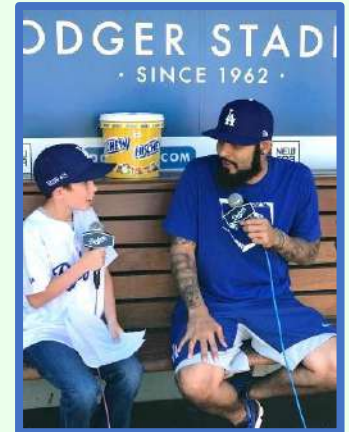






(Branch "Sad and Glad News" continued)

**Junior Broadcaster:** One of Bonnie Shubb's grandsons, Jackson Shubb, age 11, was selected (from hundreds of audition videos) by the LA Dodger organization to be one of two junior broadcasters for this season. When attending a Dodger game in person, on the Jumbotron at some point, will be an interview of one of the Dodgers by one of the Junior Broadcasters who could turn out to be Jackson. So, keep your eyes trained on the screen and you just might get to see Jackson and he might turn out to be a future Vin Scully. We congratulate Jackson and look forward to seeing him on the screen.



**March Wedding:** Dorothy Robinson's granddaughter, Jaymie, was married to Rob McPherson on March 25, 2017 at the Malibu Lake Mountain Club. Weddings are happy occasions and this was a lovely day for family and friends to celebrate this special occasion. We send best wishes to Dorothy and the happy couple for many years of joy.

**Branch Members continue their ADVOCACY! Keep it up!**



New member, Gina Muscatel on left at the March for Science in LA; Narda Fargotstein at the Resist March for Taxes in Monterey on April 15; and Leesa McBurnie at the March for Science in Santa Barbara.

**Coming Up Already----Planning for Women's History Project 2018!**

Our first planning committee meeting is scheduled for **June 1st at 4-6 pm at the Thousand Oaks library** on Janss Rd. Interested members are welcome to join us in the study rooms near the gift shop. We'll explore ideas for scripts, themes and for the March Women's History Day celebration. Please contact Marianne Escaron for additional information.

1916 - Margaret Sanger opens the first birth control clinic

1849 - Elizabeth Blackwell becomes the first American woman to receive a medical degree

1903 - Marie Curie is awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics for the discovery of radioactivity

1928 - Women compete for the first time in Olympic field events

1854-1860 - Susan B. Anthony crusades for women's rights in the United States and internationally

1906 - National Organization for Women (NOW) is founded

1920 - With the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, U.S. women get to vote

1542 - Mary, Queen of Scots is the first known female golfer

1969 - Golda Meir becomes prime minister of Israel

2570 B.C. - Queen Nefertari rules Egypt, calling herself "God's wife."

# Women's History Month



## In the Merry Merry Month of May...

The spring is for gardens instead of indoor museums...so let's take advantage of our terrific weather! The Tournament of Roses Headquarters in Pasadena is situated in the stately 18,500 square foot Wrigley Mansion and is surrounded by a large incredible Rose Garden! This is the destination for the **Museum and Gardens group trip on Thursday, May 25**. We will have a guided tour of the impressive mansion and plenty of time to enjoy the very large gardens.



Chewing gum magnate William Wrigley Jr. purchased the home in 1914, after eight years of construction, for \$170,000. A year later, he paid \$25,000 for the adjoining property, clearing the way for what is now known as the Wrigley Gardens. In its time, the Wrigley's winter residence was considered a more modest home on "Millionaire's Row." Of the Wrigley's six homes across the country, the Pasadena getaway was Ada Wrigley's favorite.

Surrounding Tournament House are the Wrigley Gardens, which feature a 4.5-acre floral display of more than 1,500 varieties of roses, camellias and annuals. The gardens feature the All-America Rose Selections award-winning Tournament of Roses roses.

We will car pool to Pasadena, leaving Barnes and Noble in Westlake about 10:30 AM, eating perhaps a picnic lunch at the very picturesque Arlington Park before making our way over to the mansion. Our return time is sometime prior to 5 PM, traffic permitting.

Hope you can join us! All members are welcome and you definitely do not need to have gone on any trip prior to participating in this activity. Please RSVP to Sally Hibbitts and drivers are especially appreciated!



## A FANTASTIC "CUPPA" TECH TREK TEA!

Thanks to all the members and friends of AAUW who came through with contributions to the recent Phantom Tea Fund Raiser. The branch was a little short on funds to send four girls to UCSB TECH TREK this summer, but our appeal to members brought forth your generous support. The girls, from our local middle schools, have been chosen and will be attending an



orientation in May. We will have an article about them in the June Oak Twig. They will attend the first session of Tech Trek at the end of July at UCSB. There will be more about our girls in the next issue of the Oak Twig.



A very special thank-you to the members and friends of AAUW Thousand Oaks who made donations of \$100 or more: Melanie Ashen, Shoshana Brower, Peggy Buckles, Narda Fargotstein, Jeanette Hosek, Donna Langley, Pat Phelps, Jeane Rose, Sheila Sullivan, Betty Stapleford, Lydia Steadman,

Lauren Heller, and Caroline Tsaw.

A total of nearly 50 members and friends donated close to \$2800, which will allow the branch to have some carry over funds for next year's Tech Trek scholarships.

**BECOME A  
BAT WOMAN  
THIS FALL!**



My little granddaughter is celebrating her fourth birthday as Bat Girl! Bat Girl is a committed problem-solver who wears tights! I suppose that's better than being a "princess". The branch is looking for some "BAT" members who can commit to a project and solve problems with tights being optional!

"BAT" stands for Branch Archival Team. At the conclusion of the 50th year celebration last May, the committee realized that we had years of "stuff" e.g. minutes, newsletters, photos, mementos, etc. scattered in places. Wendy Hoffman and I have met with area librarians to discuss how to handle all these items. Now, we'd like to find some members who would be interested in working on this project. The work would primarily involve reading, sorting and perhaps some scanning. This is a project you would work on at home with very few meetings. Our end goal is to reduce all the paper resources to digital copies. The project would begin in September with a kick-off meeting at Wendy Hoffman's home.

Email either Wendy Hoffman or Jeanette Hosek to indicate your interest in becoming a BAT woman!

**Special Interest Groups – Participation in these activities is a member benefit. Guests may attend two meetings with a member and must be dues paying members by the third meeting of that particular group.**

### **Coffee and Chat**

Meets the 1st Saturday of every month: 9:00 AM at Stella's Gourmet Restaurant, 2385 Michael Drive, Newbury Park. This is a very pleasant way to get acquainted and stay connected. Please join us! Contact Sally Hibbitts or Pat O'Donnell.

### **Photography**

Learn to use your digital camera while enjoying photo outings. Group usually meets once a month at a private home or for a photography expedition. Date and time varies depending on the activity. For information, contact: Wendy Hoffman.

### **Exploring the Religions of the World through the Eyes of Women**

Group meets 3-4 times a year in a private home to have a discussion with a woman who has been invited to talk about her religion. For the next group meeting, please contact Wendy Hoffman or Jeanette Hosek.

### **Daytime Literature Group**

The AAUW Daytime Book group will meet on Monday, May 22 at 9:30 A. M. at the Thousand Oaks Library. We will discuss The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah. Our reviewer will be Shel Magnuson. For info contact Joan Udani

### **NEW: Happy Hikers**

If you are interested in hiking please send your email address and other contact information to judygindi@gmail.com. We usually hike approximately 3 miles at a gentle to moderate pace. I will email you as to when our next hike will be. Please let me know if you would like to lead a hike also. Thank you, Judy Gindi.

### **Evening Literature Group**

Our May selection is Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor & Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court & Changed the World by Linda Hirshman. We will be meeting at Jean Maxwell's house on Thursday, May 18, 2017, at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions please call Sharon Dyer.

### **Global Awareness and Action 4 Girls**

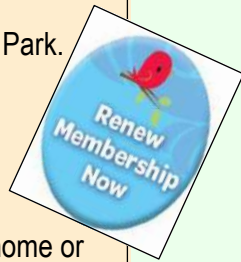
This is an "e-mail" group of members who want information about global projects that may be of interest to them. Please send your name and email address to Jeanette Hosek

### **Movie Group**

About once a month, we will attend a movie at a local theatre. Members of the group will be contacted by email with date, time and location. If interested, please contact Shel Magnuson to be added to the contact list.

### **Museum and Gardens**

The Museums and Gardens group visits a variety of beautiful museums and gardens on a different day each month, depending upon venue location and member response. The cost is minimal: your own cost for lunch, and your share of gas costs. Everyone is always welcome. You never know where we will end up each month. These trips are held on different days each month. For details of this month's trip, please earlier information or contact Sally Hibbitts.



## New -- Dreamers Support

This group helps to support undocumented high school students in the Conejo Valley in developing their leadership skills, reaching their dreams of a higher education, and finding safe spaces in our community. Associated with these benefits are providing opportunities for these students and our members to learn more about immigrant rights and resources, developing coping skills, and forming strong connections with each other. We are building more Unity in our Community. . Contact Betty Stapleford for further information.

### NEW---Laundromats and Literacy

“Laundromats and Literacy” is a Community Outreach project to promote literacy and early reading skills to those families who use our local laundromats. We will be providing a reading corner with some donated books. This will be an easy outreach, once it gets established and one that really will help our littlest residents. It is doubtful that meetings of this group will occur and most organizing will be done through email. Come and join in this wonderful new endeavor. It is modeled after a similar AAUW program in North Carolina. For more information, contact Anne LaFianza.

### Detention Witness Article – Betty Stapleford

We hear a lot today about undocumented immigrants being arrested and deported. But little is reported about the existence of detention centers, nearly 250 of them, throughout our country. That is where those who are undocumented are usually held between the time they are detained by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and

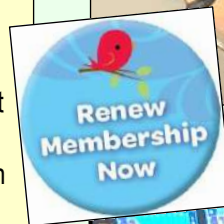
either deported or released (less likely). And their incarceration can range from months to years.

The closest center to the Conejo Valley is the Adelanto Facility. It is run by a for-profit company in the high desert near Victorville and houses over 1400 men and women. And because of its remote location, detainees are seldom able to see their loved ones. Nor do most of them have access to legal counsel because of their lack of funds or to activities other than menial labor for a salary of one dollar a day. It is to this facility that I go monthly with a group of others to visit detainees.

If you would like to know more about this subject or to go with us, please contact Betty Stapleford at [bstaple4d@aol.com](mailto:bstaple4d@aol.com).

Pictured at top are our AAUW Dreamer Supporters at the bowling alley chaperoning a large group of students who had never been bowling in their lives! This was quite an experience for all of us....adults and kids!

(l to r) Shoshana Brower, Sandra Martinez (teacher), Betty Stapleford, Anne La Fianza, and Sally Hibbits.



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The Oak Twig newsletter is published ten times a year by AAUW Thousand Oaks, Inc. A copy is available online at our website found at <http://aauwto-ca.aauw.net>

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