

OUR REPORT

American Association of University Women

Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch

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Save the Date

Saturday
February 8
Luis Forte
Huell Houser's
Cameraman



"Period. End of Sentence": Transforming a Taboo into a Cause - The 2018 Short/Documentary Oscar Award Winning Movie

Come join us in watching this documentary which focuses on girls and women, especially those in underdeveloped countries, who miss out on educational and employment opportunities due to the lack of affordable means of dealing with their basic biological functions. In a rural village outside Delhi, India, women lead a quiet revolution. They fight against the deeply rooted stigma of menstruation. For generations, these women didn't have access to pads, which leads to health problems and girls missing school or dropping out entirely. But when a sanitary pad machine is installed in the village, the women learn to manufacture and market their own pads, empowering women of their community. They were enabled by the work of high school girls half a world away in California, who raised the initial money for the machine and began a non-profit called "The Pad Project". This issue is also being addressed by Freweine Mebrahtu of Ethiopia, who has dedicated her life to keeping girls in school by designing a reusable menstrual pad and trying to end the cultural stigma around this issue and was named 2019 CNN Hero of the Year. Two of OUR branch members Kay Alexander and Kathy Kinley, who have been involved in the Pathways/Africa project which addresses this and other issues involving African women and girls, will be speaking to us about their experiences in South Africa.

Saturday, January 11, 2020
10:00-11:00 AM
Pacific Christian Center
814 Alpine St., Upland, Ca. Room 7

*Light refreshments will be served

Please feel free to bring a guest. We will be collecting hotel soaps

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year! 2020 is here! My wish for each and every one of us is a year filled with health, happiness, prosperity, and many memorable moments.

We are off to a very good start. We had a great Membership meeting in September and have added several new members to our Branch roster. We are grateful to each new member who joins us in our AAUW mission.

In October, we had an excellent turnout at the Outback and earned money for AAUW Funds. We showed an increase in money earned over the 2018 amount.

We did the same for our Wine Tasting in November. This fundraiser was for scholarships and we made slightly more than we did in 2018. It takes a lot of work to plan and execute these events and the Board and membership of OUR AAUW spend countless hours in the planning and the execution. The girls who benefit from the money that is earned are forever grateful. Their lives are improved by the work we do. In December, we had our holiday luncheon at Spaggi's. The room was filled with a great deal of laughter, love, respect, and friendship. As I looked around the room, I was so thankful that I had found my way to this group of talented, intelligent, resourceful, and independent women. I am so inspired by their dedication and their confidence. It was a lovely luncheon and I believe thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Our new Branch Directory is completed and will be distributed at the meetings in the coming months and also at the interest groups.

Our plans for the near future are to revive the Movie Group starting in January. In February, we hope to have a Walking Group. We are providing an opportunity for members to purchase name badges to wear at meetings and events. The first order will be placed in January. Get your name in as soon as possible. Instructions are inside this newsletter. We are also looking into developing a new fundraising project.

We have some very interesting programs planned for the next six months. Watch the newsletter and please join us for some or all of them. Your support and participation mean so much. As always, we want and need to increase our membership. Please invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to join OUR

AAUW. You will be providing them an opportunity to touch lives---to make a difference.

Joyce Paul, OUR AAUW President

Tech Trek Girls Continue to Learn

For many girls the Tech Trek experience is just a step in their pursuit of STEM learning. OUR Tech Trek alumnae met November 30. Their leader Leticia Fernandez spoke of challenges which often face female minority students in the STEM subjects, but encouraged them to pursue their goals and take steps to improve their knowledge of computer languages and coding. As an exercise the girls and their parents used beads to write their names or simple messages using the binary alphabet. They also displayed generosity and compassion by filling Love Boxes for Steven's Hope, an Upland based charity for families whose children are facing medical challenges such as cancer. The boxes included books, small games or toys, and a Christmas stocking crocheted by one of the mothers.

We are now gearing up for the 2020 Tech Trek camp which will be for girls finishing the 7th grade. I want to thank those branch members who have already volunteered to be on this year's committee and invite others to join in the selection process. We will meet at my home at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 15, to discuss requirements and plans. Please rsvp by calling 909 223-0366 or email dr.kathy.kinley@verizon.net.

Kathy Kinley, Tech Trek Chair

**If you know of someone who is ill,
has had a death in the family, or just
needs a friendly "hello,"**

please call our Correspondence

Secretary

Diane Webster

at

818-515-3946



Birthday Bash

On **Thursday, January 23** we will be celebrating those born in November, December & January at the newly opened **Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar at Montclair Plaza** at **6:15 p.m.** Call **Carolann (909) 241-6900** by Wednesday to let her know you are coming.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Carolann Ford — 4
Sally Rivera — 13
Jane Bedford -- 23
Kay Alexander — 31

Let us know if we have missed your birthday.

Please let us know of any restaurants you would like to explore or return to...always we need new ideas!

Carolann Ford, Birthday Bash Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

European Populism and Immigration

Across the West, apprehensions over immigration and fraying national identity are boosting the electoral fortunes—and in some cases, bringing to power—political forces hostile to the liberal world order.

We are meeting **Monday, January 6 at 6 p.m at Joyce Paul's home in Rancho Cucamonga.** Please call Joyce to RSVP, for menu, directions & gate code. 463-3804 (h) or 277-8800 ©. **We will be discussing Ch. 4 from the 2019 GD Booklet.**

The 2020 Great Decisions have been ordered and will be shipped in early January from Washington, D.C.

All members & guests are welcome to attend.
Carolann Ford, Great Decisions Chair

Scholarship Committee

Working closely with the 2019 Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraiser committee, an event that benefits Chaffey College transfer students, the successful 10th Annual Wine Tasting event was able to generate funds for financial academic awards in 2020.

The Committee participated in the college's Transfer Fair on September 24, 2019, where it promoted the AAUW-OUR scholarship, with nearly 50 students showing interest by providing a contact email address, for further information.

Likewise the 2020 application form has been redesigned to make it more friendly through creation of an e-fillable form. This project was done with the help of the AAUW national webmaster. In anticipation of the new scholarship year, the Committee will continue to outreach to potential applicants, including working with the Chaffey College Foundation. The award schedule calls for interviews of applicants in mid-April.

Hopefully the successful 2020 scholarship awardees, with past recipients, will be able to join us at the annual Scholarship Tea scheduled for Saturday, May 2, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at President Paul's home. The Committee looks forward to seeing and talking with you at the Scholarship Tea.

I want to thank the Committee members, Joyce Paul, Linda Strotz, and Sue Smith for their commitment and devotion for a worthy program that has provided hope and inspiration for so many over the past several years. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at 909-238-6444, or pgomez177@roadrunner.com.

Paul Gomez, Chair Scholarship Committee

Southeast Interbranch Council Meets February 29

Please mark your calendars now for the Southeast Interbranch Council. The meeting will be Saturday, February 29, at 10 a.m. at the Smiley Public Library, 125 W. Vine St., Redlands, CA.

This is an opportunity to share ideas with leaders and members of other AAUW branches. We will also be discussing AAUW public policy issues and the AAUW California convention. Attendees may also have lunch together at a nearby restaurant following the meeting. Contact Kathy Kinley at dr.kathy.kinley@verizon.net for more information and carpooling.

Hope to see you there.

Kathy Kinley, Southeast Interbranch Council Chair

BOOK GROUP

Hope you have had a wonderful year and are looking forward to a wonderful 2020.

Our next Book Group meeting will be Thursday, January 9 at 3 pm at the home of Gloria Romero. Please let her know if you will be there 909-732-6707. Our book will be ***It All Comes Back To You*** by Beth Duke. If you hear of any interesting new books please share. It's always is fun to hear about new books. Hope to see you January 9

Cathy Reaves, Book Group Chair



NEWS FROM THE MOVIE GROUP

Plans for the revival of the Movie Group continue. After researching theaters in the area, it has become evident that we will only be able to choose a movie just a week ahead rather than a month in advance, so we will have to plan accordingly. We will begin our year by meeting for lunch on **Monday, January 20, at 11:00 a.m.** at a venue to be determined, and attending a movie as a group afterwards at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Come and join us! What a great opportunity to bond and build camaraderie by getting to know other members in a more relaxed and enjoyable setting. Even if you are not a movie goer, it will be worth it. It is not too late to be included. All you need to do is text or email your name and contact information to Dolly right away: 714-732-0557; dollychurch7@gmail.com.

Dolly will provide the members of the group with the name of the movie and the restaurant where we will meet, a week prior to the 20th. Can hardly wait to hear from all of you.

Dolly and Joyce, Co-Chairs

Member News

Sad to report that in November we lost two past & present members:

Jackie Stickels 1991-2001 past president died of heart complications.

Betty Linker current member and community activist instrumental in building the Ranch Cucamonga Senior Center died of cancer.

At present there is no information about services. Our condolences to their families and friends.

BRIDGE I

We will be playing **Wednesday, January 15, 1 p.m. at Kay Alexander's home.** Please call **909 989-5321** to let her know you can play.

We are always seeking new players.



BRIDGE II

We will be playing **Thursday, January 16, 1 p.m. at the home of Carol Gedeon.** Please call her **260-2882** to play

Please call **Sue Smith 981-9311** for further information about the group. We welcome new players.

Scholarship

A New Year's thank you

Thank you to all who participated in the Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraiser. Because of your efforts and after paying \$150 rent to the museum, we netted \$2425 for the scholarship fund. This could not have been accomplished without your participation. By selling tickets, volunteering at the event, bringing appetizers, and gifts for the opportunity drawing, you were the reason the branch will be able to give at least two scholarships and we had fun doing it. Happy New Year and thank you again

Gloria Romero, Wine Tasting Fundraiser Chair

OUR Report is published September through June

OUR OFFICERS

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OUR BRANCH AAUW PO Box 1173. Upland, CA 91785

STEM Education Act for Rural Schools introduced in House While Cuts in STEM funds loom in 2020

A new bill, H.R. 4979 - Rural STEM Education Act, was introduced in the House on November 5, 2019, to address the lack of STEM education opportunities for students in rural areas. The bipartisan legislation, introduced by Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.) and cosponsored by members on the Science Committee, would provide funding for the National Science Foundation to create research grants identifying effective STEM practices and programs for both educators and students in rural areas. After much work on the bill by legislators, afterschool and out-of-school time STEM programs would now be eligible as partners on these projects.

At this time the bill has only been introduced in the House, but a companion bill in the Senate is in the making. If all goes well, the Rural STEM Education Act could become law soon. While AAUW does not have a specific position on this bill, members can consider advocating for this bill's passage with their legislators.

In December, 2018, the Trump administration released its five-year STEM education strategy, *Charting a Course for Success: America's Strategy for STEM Education*.

The administration's STEM plan was well received by the STEM community, but how does it stack up with the administration's budget requests for STEM education?

While the STEM plan calls for greater prioritization of STEM education, the latest budget proposal for 2020 actually cuts funding for these programs by \$540 million to \$2.66 billion.

While the afterschool STEM field welcomes the administration's emphasis on equity and diversity within the plan, a commitment to fully fund STEM education programs that address these barriers must be shown, according to the Afterschool Alliance on STEM education, a D.C.-based, non-partisan organization. Significantly, a recent survey by the American Association of School Superintendents corroborates this need. It found that providing new STEM opportunities was the top priority for their Title IV-A funds.

Increasing investments in Title IV-A, along with the Rural STEM Education Act, would go a long way towards addressing the equity barriers in STEM programming for students across the country.

Kathy Henkins, Public Policy Chair

WALKING GROUP

Our branch would like to start a Walking Group, and we are excited to invite all of you who would like to get out into nature, exercise, and socialize at the same time. The plan is to meet at a central location and walk through our parks, local botanical gardens, and walking trails in our communities. All you will need is a pair of walking shoes, comfortable clothes and an eagerness to communicate with fellow walkers. Depending on all interested parties, we can decide different walking routes and days/times of our walks. Even if you cannot commit to walk regularly, please feel free to join us when you can. There is much joy in communing with nature and our fellow AAUW members! If you are interested in joining our new group, please contact Joyce Lazalde at #909-938-3929 or mrs lazalde@hotmail.com and join in the fun!!

AAUW Name Badges

Would you like to have your very own AAUW name badge to wear for our meetings and events? We will be placing an order on January 15th for those who would like to have one. They are three inches wide and one and one-half inch tall. The badge will have the AAUW logo and your name on it. It will have a magnetic fastener. The cost per badge is \$10.00 and will last a lifetime. If you want to be one of the first to purchase one, write a check for \$10.00 payable to OUR AAUW and mail it to: AAUW OUR Branch, P.O. Box 1173, Upland, CA 91785. Write name badge on the memo line and include a slip of paper with your name exactly as you want it to appear on your badge. The order will be placed on January 15th and should arrive the following week. Distribution of the badges will be at the February meeting or another AAUW event that you attend. Place your order today.



Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch

JANUARY 2020

Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch
P.O. Box 1173
Upland, CA 91785

**Address Correction Requested
Time Dated Material**

<http://our-ca.aauw.net/>
aauw_ca.org
aauw.org

American Association of University Women

Mission Statement:

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

California AAUW Image Statement:

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership and friendship.

Diversity Statement:

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.



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