

# OUR REPORT

*American Association of University Women**Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch*

## DECEMBER EVENTS

Tuesday  
December 1  
Board Meeting

Tuesday  
December 8  
WRITERS  
WORKSHOP  
See page 2

Wednesday  
December 9  
HAPPY HOUR  
See page 4

Friday  
December 11  
CHANUKAH

Saturday  
December 12  
HOLIDAY SOCIAL  
Via Zoom

Friday  
December 25  
CHRISTMAS

## Save the Date

Monday  
January 4  
GREAT  
DECISIONS  
See page 4

Saturday  
January 9  
BRANCH  
MEETING

Thursday  
January 14  
BOOK GROUP



## OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY SOCIAL

**December 12, 2020 at 10:30 am**

Mark your calendar for our first virtual Holiday Social this year. Plan on joining us for great conversation and Holiday cheer!

Put on your party clothes, get your favorite beverage or snack, and join us for a celebration via Zoom. There will be games, prizes and sharing of your favorite holiday recipe, memory or family tradition.

Look for the Zoom invitation in your email several days before our Holiday Social.

**\*\*Please invite a friend or neighbor to join us.**



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy Holidays to each of you. It was my sincere wish that we would be meeting for our holiday party at Spaggi's, but it was not to be this year. I hope that each of you will find a creative, but safe, way to be with your loved ones during this holiday season. We will all hope that 2021 will be a much better year.

At their meeting, the California Board of Directors voted to approve the hiring of a professional marketing firm to promote AAUW. They also appointed a task force to determine programs/projects of the year led by Sandi Gabe. A task force led by Charlene Goehring was appointed to assist in the planning of a virtual 2021 Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 17, 2021. You may volunteer to serve on either or both of these committees.

Our Program Vice Presidents, Joyce Lazalde and Barbara Bocan, have a wonderful holiday program planned for December. Please plan to not only attend, but to be a participant in this program. Read about it in this newsletter. Since you will be attending/participating on your computer/ iPad, please consider adding whatever you feel you would have spent at Spaggi's to your donation for AAUW Fund ( I believe lunch was \$40.00 last year). It will be greatly appreciated by the women who benefit from it.

Your Board has worked very hard to keep things moving along and moving forward. Thank you to all the section chairs who have adapted their programs to Zoom. Thank you to all our members who have struggled with learning how to use Zoom in order to participate. If you have not yet mastered that skill, please call me at 909-463-3804. I will help or find someone who can.

Thank you to each and every Board member who has worked diligently fulfilling your responsibilities and going above and beyond to keep OUR AAUW expanding and flourishing during these difficult times. I feel very fortunate to work with this Board. I am grateful for all that they do.

This is the season to count our blessings and each of you is a blessing. Thank you for your continued participation and continued membership. You are valued and appreciated. Without you, OUR AAUW would cease to exist. I wish you the very happiest of holidays and a wonderful New Year. We are all looking forward to 2021. Meanwhile, stay safe, well and happy.

**Joyce Paul, President**

DECEMBER Board Meeting  
Tuesday, December 1 via Zoom

6:30 meeting --- 7:30 social  
Please RSVP to 909 982-8165 or  
Joycem.paul@yahoo.com

## WRITER'S WORKSHOP

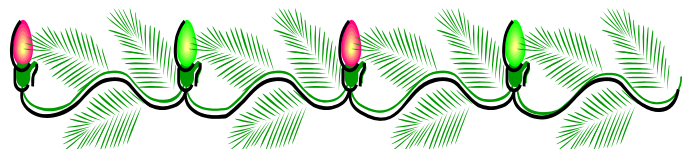
Brave members of the new Writer's Workshop jumped right in to silent, timed writing, reading their quick writes, and listening and providing feedback to each other. Introductions revealed goals of writing memoirs, fulfilling a retirement promise of writing one page daily, recording memories for children and grandchildren, sharpening observation skills and writing more detail, and shaping a plethora of facts and records from a quarantine deep-dive into genealogy into a family history.

Read on for brief excerpts from the participants' pens to: *"The best thing about the COVID Quarantine has been . . ."*

*"My time has been spent doing what I wanted to do. . ."* *"I learned quickly that 1000-piece puzzles are indeed very good for relaxation."* *"I can still cook!"* and *" . . . learned to be a better griller."* *"I discovered the kindness of condo neighbors who called across patios with 'How are you doing?'"* *"I have actually experienced boredom. My home has never been cleaner!"* *"I have found new things to learn and relearned ways to keep busy."* *"I do not have a strict itinerary and do not have to rush."* *"Time is a wonderful gift."*

For another prompt, a group poem was created by using verbatim phrases from each participants response to "My writing environment or View from My Window."

Members are welcome to join us for next session, Tuesday morning, December 8, 10:30 a.m. Email Cynthia Clark at [clark.cyl@gmail.com](mailto:clark.cyl@gmail.com) for the Zoom invite.



## Birthday Bash

In January we will celebrate November, December & January Birthdays via Zoom.

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**Gloria Romero — 5**

**Kathy Brugger -- 11**

**Joyce Paul – 23**

**Mary Peat --23**

**Joyce Bocan — 26**

Let us know if we have missed your birthday.

**Carolann Ford, Birthday Bash Chair**

## Membership News

**Maria Marvosh** is home recovering from a right knee replacement and is now enjoying (?) the agony of bending and stretching it!

**Erna Noble** is finally home recovering from a fall and hip replacement while visiting her sister in Napa several months ago



## FOCUS ON MARIAN STARK

Since I appear to be the last surviving charter member of our branch, I thought you might like to hear some stories about early OU (R was added later). Several of us had been attending Pomona AAUW meetings, but we decided that we would like to have our own local branch. Bobby Wayne, a dynamic, go-getter and our first president, set the wheels in motion. Our charter meeting was scheduled for June. However, when Bobby called me, I tried to beg off. June of 1955 was setting heat records in Ontario. We were to meet in the old Women's Club, which was not air conditioned. I was eight months pregnant, and I was feeling the heat.

"Marian, you have to come. We need eight active members to charter," Bobby implored, "and you're number eight." I have always been glad that I got to that meeting. We did have eight members present, we chartered, and OUR branch was born.

Those early years were such fun. We met on the first Wednesday of the month. Bobby Wayne, as I said, held the first gavel. After her term, there were so few of us that we sort of passed the offices around. We were growing, but we all still fit comfortably in one living room. Our elections were a bit informal. "Who would like to be president next? Vice president? Secretary? Treasurer?" Marge Bundgard stepped up to take the helm as our second president, following Bobby. I was third, relinquishing my post as secretary.

Eventually, we outgrew our home meetings and had to search for larger venues. The schools came to our rescue, offering lounges and lunchrooms at a price that fit our very small budget. The fact that most of our members were teachers probably helped to solve that problem. Why so many teachers? That's easy to answer. In the 20th century, what was the biggest group of educated women? Why, teachers, of course. Today AAUW is much more diverse. **But there are still a lot of us around.**

As our membership grew, so did our programs. The range of members' interests spawned a wide variety of activities. In keeping with our main goal—promoting opportunities for the education and advancement of women—most of the sections were study-based. But books, bridge, and birthdays gave us an abundance of social interaction.

I am so proud of all that you ladies have done to continue and build upon the goals set so long ago, which include the Dictionary Project, Scholarship Awards and Recognition, and Tech Trek, which we would not even have thought of in 1955.

### OUR Report is published September through June

#### OUR OFFICERS

President:	Joyce Paul 909-463-3804
Co-VP Program	Joyce Lazalde 909-938-3929
	Barbara Bocan 909-560-0527
VP Membership	Pat Kersbergen 909-982-5488
VP AAUW Fund	Gloria Hailes 818-207-3449
Treasurer	Kay Alexander 909-989-5321
Secretary	Diane Webster 909-985-8296
Tech Trek	Kathy Kinley 909-986-4697
Public Policy	Kathy Henkins 909-596-3920
Parliamentarian	Linda Strotz 909 982-8165
Scholarship	Paul Gomez 909 238-6444
Wine Tasting	Gloria Romero 909 732-6707
Historian	Martha Gerety 909 981-3856
Newsletter	Carolann Ford 909 241-6900

Please have all material to the editor by the 15th of each month.

**Carolann Ford**

E-mail : carolan4re@aol.com

Phone: 909-241-6900 (c)

OUR BRANCH AAUW PO Box 1173. Upland, CA 91785

## BOOK GROUP

Our next Book Group meeting will be Thursday, **January 14, 3 p.m.** via Zoom.

Our last meeting on November 12 was well attended. 17 people participated. Most had read the book and enjoyed it. We used questions from the back of the book but many ladies added a lot from their own knowledge. It was really interesting. **The Indigo Girl** was about the development of the indigo industry in South Carolina. I really enjoy historical fiction and the discussion.

We had 2 very good books suggested so we picked **American Dirt** for January and **The Splendid and the Vile** for March. **American Dirt** by Jeanine Cummins is the story of a woman and her son who are forced to flee their home and head for the United States. There was some controversy about the book because it was written by an Anglo but was about a Latina. Oprah's Book Club chose it. Most of those who read it thought it was good. If you have trouble finding it let me know. Hope to see your smiling faces in January. The COVID vaccine should be available by then, not for everyone but it's a start.  
**Cathy Reaves, Book Group Chair**

## GREAT DECISIONS

### Artificial Intelligence and Data

Policymakers in many countries are developing plans and funding research in artificial intelligence (AI). Global growth is slowing, and not surprisingly, many policymakers hope that AI will provide a magic solution. The EU, Brazil, and other Western countries have adopted regulations that grant users greater control over their data and require that firms using AI be transparent about how they use it. Will the U.S. follow suit?

On **Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, 6 p.m.** we will be meeting via Zoom to study Ch. 8 from the 2020 booklet.

Topics to study in 2021 include:

**Global Supply Chains and National Security**

**Persian Gulf Security Issues**

**Brexit and the European Union**

**Struggles Over the Melting Arctic**

**China's Role in Africa**

**The Korean Peninsula**

**Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic**

**The end of globalization?**

If you would like to join our group and haven't yet ordered a booklet, please call me, 909 241-6900. **Carolann Ford, Great Decisions Chair**

## BRIDGE I

STILL CANCELLED



## BRIDGE II

STILL CANCELLED

## Movie Group

STILL CANCELLED

## HAPPY HOUR

Don't forget Happy Hour on the December 9 at 5:00. There is no designated topic of discussion. The conversation simply flows over a variety of topics within the hour. Join late, leave early, whatever works for you is fine. Hope to see everyone there.

## AAUW Supports Girls and Women in STEM

Although we will not be able to have Tech Trek camps on college campuses this summer, AAUW continues to explore ways to support girls and women in STEM. November 9, I participated in a webinar with other branch Tech Trek coordinators to discuss ways to continue contact with girls who have attended Tech Trek. OUR branch is one of the few which has a Tech Trek alumnae group. We were encouraged to mentor the girls, provide on-going STEM activities and share success stories of those who complete college and enter STEM careers.

OUR Tech Trek Alumnae Coordinator Leticia Fernandez has invited our Tech Trekkers to participate in the Girls4STEM webinar series offered by the Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette AAUW branch. This webinar series introduces women working in STEM fields to high school girls who at this point in their lives are making decisions about high school courses, colleges, and careers. While more women are earning college degrees in STEM fields than 10 years ago, women still only earn 32.4% of the STEM degrees awarded.

The Girls4STEM is free and open to all high school girls. The first webinar is November 22, but other webinars featuring different women in STEM fields will continue 1 or 2 Sundays a month through January. Please share this information with high school girls you know. For more information and registration, go to <https://oml-ca.aauw.net/girls4stem-webinars>.

**Kathy Kinley, Tech Trek Coordinator**

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

### **How did our Legislators Vote in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress?**

Most November elections are over, and 2021 is around the corner. Whew! We stepped up on Get Out the Vote activities, participated in Women's Marches, researched November election candidates and legislation, among other actions. I had the opportunity to participate in a recent AAUW webinar titled Why Public Policy Matters. First reminding participants that AAUW is political, but not partisan, the webinar focused on the passage and failure of California bills that AAUW supported. The slides for that webinar are at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/why-public-policy-matters-webinar/>.

Another informative analysis published by AAUW shows the newest Congress Voting Record, sorted by legislator, on the bills in line with AAUW advocacy priorities. Triangulating our members' cities of residence, legislators and bills, here are the voting records of: State Representatives Pete Aguilar (31<sup>st</sup> district), Judy Chu (27<sup>th</sup>), Grace Napolitano (32<sup>nd</sup>) and Norma Torres (35<sup>th</sup>), as well as Senators Harris and Feinstein. (AAUW reminds us that the voting record, republished on the AAUW website, is neither an endorsement nor a condemnation of any member of Congress.)

All four Representatives supported the following: the FAMILY Act, the Paycheck Fairness Act, the Raise the Wage Act, the Equality Act, the Voting Rights Advancement Act and the FUTURE Act.\* The FUTURE Act is now law; all others are pending.

Representatives Chu and Napolitano voted for all those bills, and for BE HEARD in the Workplace Act (H.R. 2148), companion of a Senate-introduced bill, to provide new protections against worker harassment, while safeguarding existing discrimination laws. It would clarify protections for LGBTQ workers and restore workplace protections for older Americans, employees harassed by supervisors, and workers retaliated against for bringing harassment claims.

Aguilar and Torres did not vote in favor of BE HEARD, referred to the House Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in May.

(Then) Senator Harris voted in favor of all of the Senate bills related to AAUW policy priorities: the BE HEARD Act, the FAMILY Act, the Paycheck Fairness Act, the Raise the Wage Act, the Voting Rights Advancement Act, and the College Transparency Act.

Senator Feinstein voted in favor of all, except the BE

HEARD Act (S 1082), a companion to the House bill, now in the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. And she did not support the College Transparency Act (S 800), written to ensure students, families, and all others have access to accurate, timely and high-quality postsecondary education data disaggregated by race, ethnicity and income. Currently there is a ban on student-level data, prohibiting the federal government from reporting data on student outcomes. This bill was sent in March to the Senate committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

\* Details at <https://www.aauwaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/AAUW-2020-116thCVR.pdf>

### **Meet Kathrin Jansen, the woman leading Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine effort**



Pfizer has made an incredible announcement: Its COVID-19 vaccine looks like it is 90% effective at preventing the disease inside its clinical trial. Much of the work is thanks to the leadership of Kathrin Jansen, head of vaccine research and development at Pfizer. Jansen has spearheaded the effort to get a COVID-19 vaccine market-ready. She's been with Pfizer since 2009, when the company acquired Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, where she had been working on vaccines.

When she joined Merck in 1992, she pushed the company to develop a vaccine for human papillomavirus or HPV, which can cause cervical cancer in women. Since then, Jansen has been responsible for leading the development of a vaccine that guards against 13 different strains of pneumococcus, which causes meningitis in children and pneumonia in older patients.

Under Jansen's leadership, Pfizer decided to collaborate with German biotech company BioNTech on a vaccine for COVID-19 using mRNA, that uses ribonucleic acid to program the body's immune system. It has great potential, but no mRNA vaccine has ever been approved for use. (continued on page 6)



## AAUW Fund

The Outback fundraiser has been cancelled for this year. You have probably already received a letter in the mail from me, Gloria Hailes, the Fund Vice-President, requesting that you mail a donation in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. Please respond by Friday, December 18, 2020 to make sure you receive tax credit during 2020. You might consider adding a little extra—the money you would have spent had you attended the Christmas party at Spaggi's.

Please do not forget to go to the Outback on Mountain Ave. in Upland to pick up a dinner or two during December and let them know that AAUW is still supporting them as they have supported us in the past. We will see them again next year in October for our annual fundraiser.

To designate your donation to a particular Fund, you can place one of these numbers in the Memo Line on your check.

**9110 – AAUW Greatest Needs Fund**—gives AAUW the mobility to rapidly respond to new and emerging challenges or opportunities facing women & girls.

**4449 – The Economic Security Fund**—ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity of women, providing training in salary negotiations, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

**4450 – Education and Training Fund**—addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women by championing equal access to education & ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

**4452 – Leadership Fund**—supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of & increasing the number of girls & women in leadership roles, particularly in education & nonprofit organizations.

**4451 – Governance and Sustainability Fund**—ensures the strength, relevance & viability of AAUW into the future by implementing best practices in organizational functioning & inclusion & by diversifying

revenue.

Donations received without a designated program name or fund number will be allocated to fund #9110. Thank you for your continued support of the AAUW Fund.

**Gloria Hailes AAUW Fund VP**

(Jensen, cont. from Page 5)

In August, Pfizer and BioNTech revealed data from its phase I trial showing that its two vaccine candidates appeared to be effective both in young and older adults. The company ultimately chose to focus on one of these vaccines that had fewer side effects and encouraged a better immune response.

The next big focus for Pfizer will be on both finishing out its trials and delivering its vaccine. Pfizer has attempted to stay out of the political fray surrounding the pandemic and in particular has not participated in the White House's vaccine initiative Operation Warp Speed. In an interview with *The New York Times*, Jansen further distanced her project from OWS. "We were never part of the Warp Speed," she said. "We have never taken any money from the U.S. government, or from anyone."

However, Operation Warp Speed has promised to pay \$1.95 billion for 100 million doses of Pfizer's vaccine to be delivered by the end of the year.

Pfizer's choice to focus on science over politics may enhance confidence in a vaccine. The number of adults who would likely get a vaccine has fallen from 72% in May to 51% in September, according to Pew Research. The same survey found that many Americans were concerned that a vaccine would be made available before its safety and efficacy were known. Jansen and her colleagues at Pfizer and BioNTech have moved fast, but keeping the focus on scientific outcomes may pay off as the company seeks emergency use authorization for its vaccine from the Food and Drug Administration

**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**





Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch

**DECEMBER 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](http://aauw_ca.org)  
[aauw.org](http://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.



Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch  
American Association of University Women