

OUR REPORT

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

JANUARY EVENTS

Monday
January 4
GREAT
DECISIONS
See page 4

Saturday
January 9
BRANCH
MEETING

Tuesday
January 12
WRITER'S
WORKSHOP

Wednesday
January 13
HAPPY HOUR

Thursday
January 14
BOOK GROUP
See page 4

Thursday
January 28
BIRTHDAY
BASH

Save the Date

Saturday
February 13
BRANCH
MEETING

Please join OUR Branch Meeting and Program

Date: January 9th, 2021

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Your home via Zoom

Our speaker, Niki Smart, is the author of two memoirs and will be speaking to us on forgiveness. Her first memoir, "Hell Camp" is about surviving a traumatic childhood with a mother suffering from Border Personality Disorder, and how forgiveness was key in moving forward with her life.

Niki Smart's second memoir, "Helter Shelter", deals with a heart break (crisis) she suffered while working at a Crisis Intervention shelter for teenagers. Ms. Smart will be sharing her experiences with humor and insight, and she hopes to guide others on their path towards self-discovery and forgiveness (of self and perpetrators). She likes to engage her audience and hopes to help others release their burdens of the past.

So, plan on joining us and please invite your friends.

Look for a Zoom link several days prior to our meeting date and see you then!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year! This is the year in which we hope to return to happier times and a return to "normal". Surely, it cannot be much longer.

This year AAUW is looking for candidates to fill three open positions on the AAUW California Board of Directors. The open positions are: President-Elect for one year followed by a two-year term as President, Chief Financial Officer for a two year term, and a Director for a two-year term. Please consider applying for one of these positions by contacting the Nominations and Elections Committee at nominating@aauw-ca.org. We have many qualified women in OUR AAUW who could fill these positions. Please consider doing so.

In December, Joyce Lazalde and Barbara Bocan, Program Vice-Presidents, presented a fun-filled program for the holiday party. There were games with gift card prizes and a sharing of memories and traditions. It was a very enjoyable time for all who attended. They have another great meeting planned for January 9th. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. When you read about the program, you will not want to miss it.

A new year is a time for resolutions. I hope that you will make one of your most important resolutions for 2021, the introduction of a new member into OUR AAUW. None of us would be where we are if not for AAUW and similar organizations. We have all benefitted from women's organizations and the gains that have been achieved in the advancement of equity for women. The work is not done. We know that the work is important, but we do have a great deal of fun at our interest groups and Branch meetings. Decades long friendships have been made and flourished within AAUW. Please make it a personal goal/resolution to add a member to the OUR AAUW membership roster this year. AAUW is an experience to share with others. Let's demonstrate our kindness and share.

We hope that before long we will have all of our interest groups active again including: At the Movies, Bridge, and The Walkers which were put "on hold" during the pandemic. We also hope to be meeting in person, and not Zooming, very soon for Great Decisions, The Writer's Workshop, Book Group, and Birthday Bash. Please resolve to join one or more of these groups in 2021. Contact numbers are in the newsletter.

It is a new year and we have hope and we have plans. Happy New Year!
Joyce Paul, President

AAUW California Is Preparing to Offer a Virtual Tech Trek

Although we are not able to offer an on-campus Tech Trek this summer, AAUW California is working on plans to offer virtual experiences this summer. The Virtual Tech Treks are tentatively scheduled for June 21-25, July 12-16, July 26-30, and August 2-6. Each day the virtual camps will offer a robotics program in the morning and two workshops in the afternoon (one optional). There are also plans for professional women in STEM fields to address the girls in the evening. Dr. Mary Isaac who did a pilot program in San Diego last summer will be the camp director for all camps. We are hoping to involve some of our Tech Trek alumni as build coaches for the girls to help with the robotics.

We are also hoping that AAUW members will be willing to act as social coaches to take attendance and encourage the girls. We are waiting for AAUW at the national level to approve plans before we begin the selection of the girls. Please let me know if you are interested in participating in the selection process or want to know more about being a coach at the virtual camps. There will be a cost for the robotics kits and staff. Donations are welcome. Kathy Kinley (dr.kathy.kinley@verizon.net)

Kathy Kinley, Tech Trek Chair

OUR Report is published September through June

OUR OFFICERS

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

Carolann Ford

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OUR BRANCH AAUW PO Box 1173. Upland, CA 91785

Birthday Bash

In January we have a lot of birthdays to celebrate.... November, December & January! We will celebrate via ZOOM on **Thursday, January 28 at 6 p.m. with a Happy Hour format!**

All are welcome
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS
Carolann Ford — 4
Sally Rivera — 13
Jane Bedford -- 23
Kay Alexander — 31

Let us know if we have missed your birthday.

Carolann Ford, Birthday Bash Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

Artificial Intelligence and Data

America's uneven approach to AI and its consequences

We are meeting via Zoom on **Monday, January 4 at 6 p.m. to study Ch. 8 from the 2020 booklet**

The 2021 booklets have been ordered but an additional order can be made. The books are \$32 plus shipping.

2021 NEW TOPICS ARE: Global Supply Chains and U.S National Security, The future of Persian Gulf security, Brexit: taking stock and looking ahead, The coldest war: toward a return to Great Power competition in the Arctic?, China and Africa, The two Koreas, The World Health Organization's response to Covid-19, The end of globalization?

All members & guests are welcome to attend and join our interest group. Please contact Carolann if you would like to purchase a Great Decisions book.

Carolann Ford, Great Decisions Chair,
909-241-6900

Public Policy

Human Trafficking

By Kit Hein, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

January 11, 2021 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. AAUW California supports efforts to combat Human Trafficking, as noted in our Public Policy Priorities: "Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including ...human trafficking...in homes, schools, workplaces and communities..."

Human Trafficking is the third largest organized criminal activity in the world. Human Trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery, with an estimated number of victims in the millions. Whether for labor or sex, men, women, and children are manipulated through force, fraud and coercion.

Research shows that people of color, especially the Black community, are more likely to experience some form of sex trafficking. Racial and economic biases drive both social and legal presumptions of "victims" having chosen their situation.

Law enforcement efforts against human trafficking are stronger today than in 2017, but still inadequate. Globally, definitions of human trafficking vary from country to country. Even using the term "slavery" is met with opposition in cases of forced marriages and cross border smuggling.

In California, legislation in the past few years includes support for victims, updating school health curriculum, and addressing hospitality industry training. But legislation is not the key unless the public is educated as to the enormity of the issues, both locally and globally. Local branches of AAUW continue to provide community awareness events to educate the public. Please join Santa Cruz County Branch on January 11, 2021 at 1pm for a Zoom webinar to learn more. Access the branch website <https://santacruz-ca.aauw.net/> for more information and an invitation to this event.

Kathy Henkins, Public Policy Chair

BOOK GROUP

Our next virtual meeting of the AAUW Book Group will be January 14 at 3:00 p.m.. The book we have chosen is **American Dirt** by Jeanine Cummins.

It is the story of a woman and her son trying to escape the gangs in Acapulco. I have just started it but find it enthralling. It's quite long and I don't know if it's in paperback so start checking the libraries. There are discussion questions at the end of the book. Check them out. They are often a good jumping off place for discussions.

At the same meeting we chose our book for March. It is **The Splendid and the Vile** by Erik Larson. It's the story of Churchill's first year (1940) as Prime Minister, his family, and defiance during World War II. I have read all the books I can find of Larson's (he only writes non-fiction) and found them worthwhile so I'm sure you'll be looking forward to **The Splendid and the Vile**.

Hope you had a wonderful holiday and hope to virtually see you on January 14.

Cathy Reaves, Book Group Chair

If you like, enjoy and have time for more reading, Upland BookEnders has once again resumed its discussion groups via Zoom rather than in the Upland Library.

Upland BookEnders!

Meets Saturday, January 2nd at 10 a.m.!

Via Zoom discussion on:

The Death of Mrs. Westaway by Ruth Ware
Lorene Broersma (former Upland chief librarian) will lead this discussion for the group focusing on her insights into The Roots of the Gothic Novel.

February 6: Kenneth Calhoun: **Black Moon**

March 6: B. A. Schapiro: **The Art Forger**

April : Lisa See: **Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane**
and **The Island of the Sea Women**

To join all Zoom meetings

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9099314211?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9099314211?pwd=YmlNbIYmRiUnBMdFJ3dHg1YzUvQT09)
[pwd=YmlNbIYmRiUnBMdFJ3dHg1YzUvQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9099314211?pwd=YmlNbIYmRiUnBMdFJ3dHg1YzUvQT09)

Meeting ID 909 931 4211
Passcode: 1234

BRIDGE I

STILL CANCELLED

BRIDGE II

STILL CANCELLED

Movie Group

STILL CANCELLED

HAPPY HOUR

Don't forget Happy Hour on the January 13 at 5:00 via Zoom. 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.

California Public Policy team announces

FIRST VIRTUAL LOBBY DAY!

On March 24, 2021, AAUW California in conjunction with our new advocacy firm, MVM Strategy Group, will be conducting a virtual Lobby Day with our legislators in Sacramento. This is a terrific opportunity for branch members to get involved in the public policy process by helping the state Public Policy (PP) Committee advance our legislative goals for 2021-22. It's also a great way to meet your local legislators and let them know how you, through AAUW, are helping their constituents in your communities.

AAUW members may connect with their legislators during the virtual Lobby Day event on March 24, 2021.

We are asking branch PP chairs (or presidents) to help us recruit participants. Interested branch members must register by January 8, 2021. Finally, all participants will be given full training in a Zoom webinar on March 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. See web address below to register for "How to Talk to Your Legislators."

- January 8, 2021 – Last day to register to participate in Lobby Day
- March 22, 2021 – Lobby Day training webinar. How to talk to your Legislators
- March 24, 2021 – Lobby Day

Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

AAUW Fund

AAUW 2020 Annual Appeal Campaign Results:
Thanks to the generosity of OUR Branch for our donations for the national Annual Appeal Campaign for 2020. Below is a brief summary of our accomplishments:

- We had 58% of active members who made individual contributions
- Each of the five AAUW Program Fund accounts were designated by OUR membership to receive a contribution. The breakdown by Program Area Designation is as follows:
 - 9111 – AAUW Greatest Needs Fund: 66%
 - 4449 – Economic Security Fund: 6%
 - 4450 – Education and Training Fund: 16%
 - 4452 – Leadership Fund: 9%
 - 4451 – Governance and Sustainability Fund: 3%

We realize, given the current environment, just how challenging it may have been for many of you to have made the contributions you did; rest assured we thank you for your continued support of AAUW!

Gloria Hailes, AAUW Fund VP

Writer's Workshop

Meeting #2: December 8, 2020 Summary

During our 2nd Workshop, brave members shared writings from the past month, then tapped into memory banks for holiday traditions and best Christmas memories, resulting in smiles and laughter. This short group poem, created by using verbatim phrases from each participant's response may remind others of favorite memories from the past:

Christmas Eve, the snow,
Hushing to listen for sleigh bells.
With my father--the grocery-store tree lot,
No forested hills in California,
He always chose the tallest.
Tied on top of the Wagoneer.
My 5-year old's favorite, very favorite PJ's,
Elsa from Born free,
Cookies and Milk,
Spending all day in the kitchen,
Moms make Christmas.

Members are welcome to join us for next session, Tuesday morning, **January 12, 10:30 a.m.** Email Cynthia Clark at clark.cyl@gmail.com for the Zoom link

FROM DIANNE'S DESK...

This is the time of year when I start looking forward to the possibilities of a NEW YEAR. I am shopping, baking, and preparing for the holidays and, also, looking forward to a new beginning.

I am looking forward to working with our new marketing consultant, Dowitcher DESIGNS, and learning how all of us can make AAUW California more visible in our golden state.

I am looking forward to working with our new advocacy firm, MVM Strategies, and preparing for our virtual Lobby Day in late March. I hope you will all join us that day.

I am looking forward to our April 17, 2021 virtual Annual Meeting with exciting speakers, new awards, and our Speech Trek contest. Be sure to join us to see some new twists.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in person again in the summer or fall of 2021. The timing is still unknown, but we will all look forward to that.

I am looking forward to saying "Goodbye 2020." It was not the greatest year, but we learned a lot about Zoom, webinars, and more techie stuff than we thought we needed to know.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday everyone!
Be kind to yourself and others

Dianne Owens, President, AAUW California,
statepresident@aauw-ca.org

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



Did You Know...

Facts about our new Vice-President Elect: Kamala Harris...herstory.

Kamala Devi Harris:

Birthday: October 20, 1964. She's currently 56 years old.

Birthplace: Oakland, California. She was raised on the top floor of a yellow duplex in Berkeley.

Parents: American Immigrants Donald Harris (b. Jamaica) & Shyamala Gopalan Harris (b. India)
Ethnicity: African American, Indian/South Asian American

Husband: Doug Emhoff (m. 2014); Corporate Lawyer

Step Children: Ella Emhoff (Daughter) · Cole Emhoff (Son)

Education: UC Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco (1989); Howard University in Washington, D.C. (1986); Attended middle school and high school in Montreal, Canada.

Namesakes: Kamala means "lotus" and is another name for the Hindu goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, luck, love, and beauty. And now "Kamala" stands for the empowerment of women.

In 1990, after passing the California Bar Exam, Harris joined the Alameda County Prosecutor's Office in Oakland as an assistant district attorney, focusing on sex crimes.

In 1995, Kamala was recruited to the San Francisco District Attorney's Office where she cracked down on teenage prostitution in the city, reorienting law enforcement's approach to focus on the girls as victims rather than as criminals selling sex.

In 2003, she ran for State District Attorney and won in a runoff becoming the first black woman in California to be elected district attorney.

In 2010, Harris ran for California Attorney General against Steve Cooley, L.A.'s DA. It was a tight race and took 3 weeks to count all the ballots. Harris was declared the winner by 0.8 percentage points.

As Attorney General of California, Harris secured a \$20 billion settlement for California homeowners faced with predatory lending. She created the Open Justice database which made criminal-justice data accessible and transparent to the public.

In 2016, Harris won her U.S. Senate race defeating fellow Democrat Loretta Sanchez.

In 2017, Senator Harris went viral for her sharp questioning of then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions on the Russia investigation.

In 2018, Senator Harris grilled Brett Kavanaugh at his Supreme Court confirmation hearings.

In 2018-19, Senator Harris campaigned to be the 2020 democratic presidential nominee.

In December 2019, Senator Harris ended her presidential campaign efforts.

On August 12, 2020, President Elect Joe Biden announced Harris as his choice for Vice President.

On January 20, 2021, Kamala Harris will be sworn into office as the first woman, African American/South Asian Vice President of the United States of America.

"I am thinking about . . . the generations of women, Black women, Asian, White, Latina, Native American women, who throughout our nation's history have paved the way for this moment tonight. Women who fought and sacrificed so much for equality and liberty and justice for all—including the Black women who are often, too often, overlooked, but so often prove they are the backbone of our democracy." Vice President-elect Kamala Harris

Member News

We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of

Joyce Rau in the recent death of her son, Clint.

Ken McCullough husband of recently deceased branch member/past president Louise McCullough passed away of Covid 19 Dec. 16.

Bill Rugg long time companion of member Patricia Lloyd passed away after an accident on Dec. 10

Update from AAUW

At its October 16, 2020, meeting, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to increase Individual Member dues for the next three years. The dues will rise by \$3 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, \$5 for FY 2023 and \$5 for FY 2024, making the total dues amount for those years \$62, \$67 and \$72, respectively. All but \$3 of your annual dues remains tax deductible.

This decision wasn't made lightly. The board members couldn't be more grateful for our members — or prouder of the work you've done this year. We also recognize that all of us are navigating numerous challenges in these uncertain times. However, in order to preserve the viability of this organization we all love, the board needed to take action. Simply put, this measure is essential for AAUW to continue our mission to achieve gender equity.

Most nonprofits adjust their dues annually or every other year to keep pace with inflation and rising expenses. However, due to prudent budgetary management, AAUW has been able to keep its dues flat since July 2018. That means that, by the time the first scheduled increase takes effect, we will have maintained three years of dues stability.

Moreover, in recognition of the difficult economy we're in, the board planned for the initial adjustment to be the most modest. Over the course of the year, it works out to be only an additional 25 cents per month — what we hope is a small price to pay for maintaining our important work and community. Current life members will not be affected by this change. New life memberships acquired after July 1, 2021, will reflect the higher dues' amounts. College and university membership fees will remain unchanged.

Please reach out to us with any feedback or concerns. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to AAUW and our mission. On behalf of the AAUW Board, we are grateful for your understanding and look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely, Julia Brown, Board Chair

AAUW California Webinars

The following AAUW California online webinars are open to all members simply by registering at aauw-ca.org.

January 11 at 7 PM: Title IX: Breaking Down Barriers 2020. This webinar will present a panel of speakers who are knowledgeable about Title IX. They will review the history of Title IX, the impact on athletics/physical education, the new fight to reverse the damaging aspects of the Title IX Sexual Harassment Rule, and what you, as an individual and an AAUW branch, can do to inform your community members, learn how to speak up on the issues of gender discrimination, and encourage your community schools to comply fully with all gender equity laws. Lead by Alicia Hetman. Registration required.

January 27 at 7 PM: Mentoring Women for Career Advancement. Mentorship program for student members and young women members early on in their career who aspire to advance, and how to advance in their career. Lead by Crystal Stebbins. Registration is required.

February 24. She Who Thrives Survives. Learning what successful branches have to teach us. Lead by Sharyn Siebert.

The new, official mailing address for the AAUW California office is: AAUW California 915 L Street, Suite C, Box #418 Sacramento, CA 95814 New
Phone number is: 916-389-0220



Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch

JANUARY 2021

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.



Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch
American Association of University Women