

# OUR REPORT

*American Association of University Women*

*Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch*

## APRIL EVENTS

Monday  
April 5  
GREAT  
DECISIONS  
See page 3

Tuesday  
April 6  
BOARD MEETING

Tuesday  
April 13  
WRITERS'  
WORKSHOP  
See page 3

Wednesday  
April 14  
HAPPY HOUR  
See page 4

Saturday  
April 17  
AAUW CA  
STATE MEETING

Thursday  
April 22  
BIRTHDAY BASH  
See page 3

## SAVE THE DATE

TUESDAY  
May 13  
BOOK GROUP  
See page 4



Our AAUW California Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom for the second year. No travel, no hotel reservations and no lunch, once again. But, that means you can attend at no cost from your office, living room or kitchen! You will learn what has been happening in California this past year and it is a lot! You will see the three Speech Trek Finalists, learn who our 2020 State Named Gift Honoree is and see the first Equity Award given to former State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson. AAUW Board Chair, Julia Brown will join us and we have a special event brought to us by past Co-President Cathy Foxhoven

**Registration is required.** April 17, 2021 @ 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

- Business Meeting
- Welcome
- Board accomplishments
- Financial report
- State project grant recipients
- Named Gift award
- 1st Speech Trek video
- Equity Award Honoring Hannah-Beth Jackson
- Public Policy Update
- Public Policy priorities
- MVM introduction
- 2nd Speech Trek Video
- Activity of the Year Announcement
  - Update with Julia Brown, AAUW California Board Chair
- National update
- Membership requirement update
- 3rd Speech Trek Video and Speech Trek Winner Announcement
- Introduction of AAUW California Board of Director Candidates

Zoom performance of We Did It For You

Register at [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We have an addition to the Board. Our newest appointed Board member is Cynthia Clark, who is going to take over the responsibilities of website manager. Cynthia was approved by the Board at the March meeting and now has the responsibility of keeping our website updated. If you have not visited the website lately, please check it out. Applications for Branch Membership and for Chaffey College Scholarships can be submitted online through the website. Our newsletters can be found there. You can see and read about last year's scholarship recipients on the website. Additionally, if you missed the meeting last month when Elizabeth McCormick, the Black Hawk pilot, was our speaker, you can view her presentation. To get there, go to: [our-ca.aauw.net](http://our-ca.aauw.net).

Our April meeting will be the state conference on April 17<sup>th</sup>. You will find details for it in the newsletter. Be sure to register at: [www.aauw.ca-org](http://www.aauw.ca-org). It will be an interesting and informative meeting. You will not want to miss it.

I would also like to encourage each member to become a two-minute activist for AAUW. You can sign up at the National website. To get there, go to: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and click on "Take Action". You will then be able to register to receive alerts when calls, emails, or texts to our legislators are needed to support bills that promote equal pay, family leave, ending sexual harassment, equity in education and more.

Voting on the change to the national bylaws will begin on April 7<sup>th</sup> and continue through May 17<sup>th</sup>. The change proposed by the AAUW National Board of Directors and the AAUW Governance Committee would eliminate the degree requirement for AAUW members. This change has been proposed before and has failed to pass. You will find opinions from some of OUR AAUW members in this newsletter. It is important that we all vote.

As many of us are getting our vaccinations and planning to reunite with our extended families and friends, do not forget that we are an AAUW family. You have 64 sisters and a brother (or 65 sisters) in this organization. We are planning to reunite as quickly as possible and as safely as possible. Our target date is the Branch meeting in September and we also hope to have all of our interest groups back in operation then too. Until we can meet in person, we will continue Zooming.

**Joyce Paul, OUR AAUW President**

### APRIL Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 6 via Zoom at 6:30 p.m.  
Contact Joyce Paul, 909 463-3804 or  
[joycempaul@yahoo.com](mailto:joycempaul@yahoo.com)

## Leaders for 2021-2023

The nominating committee is pleased to present the slate of branch officers for 2021-2023. The slate of officers was approved by the OUR board at it's March meeting and will be voted on by the branch members at the May branch meeting.

President	Joyce Paul
Co-President	Mary Peat
Program VP	Joyce Lazalde
Fund VP	Gloria Hailes
Secretary	Diane Webster

***Carolann Ford, Mary Peat, Linda Strotz,  
Nominating Committee***

## What will Tech Trek of the Future Look Like?

After 23 years of Tech Trek providing opportunities for middle school girls to meet on college campuses and participate in STEM activities, AAUW California President Dianne Owens convened a task force of 60 individuals to ask the question: What would you dream the Tech Trek program will look like in the future? They generated ideas that would enhance current practices and ideas for new practices. A questionnaire was then sent to camp directors, camp treasurers, and branch coordinators asking their opinions on these ideas. It will be interesting to see what the program will be like in the future.

Many of us recognize the great impact of having the girls stay on college campuses. Unfortunately, this has not been possible in 2020 and 2021. We do not know what changes will be made if and when we can return. AAUW California is offering a virtual Tech Trek this summer. All the girls we selected last year declined to participate. We have also received few applications from new girls. I believe they are fatigued with Zoom having been distance learning for a year. We will continue to explore ways to promote STEM opportunities for girls.

***Kathy Kinley Tech Trek Branch Coordinator***

## Birthday Bash

Hopefully this will be one of the last times Birthday Bash needs to meet via Zoom! Our Happy Hour will be **Thursday, April 22 at 5 p.m.**

### APRIL BIRTHDAY

Cherry Dobbs – 4  
Cynthia Clark -- 4  
Julia Arias — 9  
Marian Stark --19  
Barbara Rugeley --27

**All are welcome**

Let us know if we have missed your birthday.

**Carolann Ford, Birthday Bash Chair**

## GREAT DECISIONS



With the “Brexit transition period” coming to an end this year, the United Kingdom will formally leave the European Union at the start of 2021. With negotiations between the two entities continuing to stall, what does the future of Europe and the UK look like? Will the UK survive a possible Scottish vote to leave? Who will step up and take command of Europe now that Angela Merkel is out of the spotlight?

We are meeting **Monday, April 5 at 5 p.m. via Zoom.** **Kathy Henkins will be our hostess and lead the discussion..**

**All members & guests are welcome to attend and join our interest group.**

**Carolann Ford, Great Decisions 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**

**818-515-3946**



## O.U.R. Writers' Workshop

Pens moved, thoughts flowed, and memories created smiles! March's theme of “If I knew then what I know now. . .” commemorated a full year of QUARANTINE. The dedicated writers added “Remarkable Women in Our Lives . . .” in honor of March as Women's History Month. From one member's Aunt Elsie “. . . She was quiet inspiration—my ideal of a lady, refined, dignified, serene and strong, yet kind and with a crock full of fresh cookies at the ready; to German immigrant Grandma Johanna “. . . strong, resourceful, soft-spoken, yet she held such a presence. . .” and another writer's mother “my mom is the warrior—strongest woman I've ever known. Appreciative of all the good things in her life, and who touched many lives with her empathy, always giving to the community.”

Lessons from a year of COVID included reflecting on how dealing with isolation “was a biggie.” We were impressed with the writer's project of writing Nonsense Letters. She wrote to 30 people monthly on whatever came to her in daily walks and also made Heart Pillows for Loma Linda and masks as well. Another shared she believes it will be exhausting going back into her pre-COVID activities and finally, that it's good to know that we can do this—we can survive and reflect on both our fears and our strengths.

Next month continues with writing, sharing, and giving positive feedback. The theme for April will be renewal and new life—springtime finally. All are welcome on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12. Please email Cynthia Clark for the Zoom link. [clark.cyl@gmail.com](mailto:clark.cyl@gmail.com) and who knows, maybe we will be able to meet in person for the May workshop.

**Cynthia Clark, Writers' Workshop Chair**

### 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](mailto:carolan4re@aol.com)

## BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, May 13 at 3pm.** Our book will be **The Lions of 5th Avenue** by Fiona Davis. It is basically a book about the New York library. There is an apartment in the library. The story is about the family who lives there, their history, and future people involved in a complicated plot about older, valuable books. If you like mysteries and old books, you'll love it. We will also discuss our summer plans and choosing another book. Hope to see you then.

**Cathy Reaves, Book Group Chair**



## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The information in the DEI Toolkit is a good reference and offers a sense of belonging for all AAUW members to feel valued. Information contained can aid in branch discussions regarding our practices related to diversity, equity and inclusion.

The new interactive AAUW DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Toolkit includes information and explanations of unique characteristics, behaviors, key terms and concepts related to diversity of thought, inclusion and equity. AAUW needs all of these things together, (diversity, inclusion, and belonging) for our branches to continue to grow and thrive.

The DEI Toolkit provides guidelines for participants about discussions of uncomfortable issues. The toolkit provides resources for every branch whether small, medium, or large with a format for discussions that encourage participation. That participation might be as an active listener or a vocal contributor.

**Gloria Hailes, Fund VP**

## Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraiser

Stay alert. I hope to be posting a date for our Scholarship Fundraiser soon. The tentative date will be sometime in November. Save the month.

**Gloria Romero, Fundraising Chair**

**BRIDGE I**  
STILL CANCELLED  
**BRIDGE II**  
STILL CANCELLED

**Movie Group**  
STILL CANCELLED  
**HAPPY HOUR**

Happy Hour--April 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00--via Zoom  
See you there! Arrive late, leave early, no dress code. Just a chance for friends to gather to share ideas, opinions, books, concerns, etc.

## MEMBER NEWS

Please welcome OUR three new members:

**Trish Carlson**  
tcarsk@aol.com  
909 225-5954

**Cynthia Garcia**  
cmariégarcia76@gmail.com  
951 333-9239

**Diana McVicker**  
dlmcvicker2521@gmail.com  
909 532-2521

**Dolly Israelitt** has moved to Ontario but still has the same email & phone. Please see the updated OUR directory.

**Julia Arias** writes:  
Just spent 4 days at Vineyard Hospital. This time I've been diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure. I'm home with care from my Son, Roy, who lives in Indio. Since he now has his own Business, he is able to give me quite a bit of help. My Daughter lives in Rancho but works Monday-Friday. Her Daughter, Hayley often prepares meals for me. However, Roy prepares excellent meals, also. Today He prepared an excellent Chicken Soup with veggies and Fideo. I'm on a restricted diet due to Kidney Problems. With plenty of rest, help from my Wonderful Cleaning Lady, Family and Friends, I'm doing well. I trust I'll be able to celebrate my 85th Birthday on April 10th.

**An updated OUR Branch Directory has just been emailed to all members. Watch for it.**



## Public Policy

### The Future for Roe v Wade and Choice

by Claire Noonan, California Public Policy committee

Abortion rights activists are reaffirming the need for vigilance to be aware of how reproductive choice is used as a political tool, says Ilyse Hogue, retired president of the National Abortion Rights Action League. New anti-choice bills are mainly introduced by the white male religious minority, except in Montana with six abortion-limiting bills introduced this year by conservative female legislators and one male.

For instance, extreme 2021 legislation in Tennessee will allow fathers to veto an abortion. A Texas bill will require a fetus to have a lawyer. Arizona's new bills propose to criminalize a woman who gets an abortion and the doctor who performs it.

These restrictions have a particularly significant impact on low-income communities, which often include women of color, which are stressed economically by the year-long and counting pandemic. Despite efforts to provide full-spectrum reproductive health care access, dwindling numbers of clinics from the Sun Belt across the Deep South curb the availability of services.

Vigilance means watching the power of the courts, encouraging reversal of the Hyde Amendment, which bars federal funds to pay for abortion, except for pregnancies that arise from incest or rape, or to save the woman's life (though states can make their own versions of the Hyde Amendment), and backing codification of Roe v Wade. As you know, each woman in California can choose, but support for organizations that oversee the reproductive health rights of women in America are worth the effort.

### The Age of Womenomics?

There was a fascinating and disturbing article in the L.A. Times recently, which covered a presentation by Janet Yellen and Kristalina Georgieva at an event marking International Women's Day. Yellen, of course, is the first woman to head the Federal Reserve and later the U.S. Treasury Department, and Georgieva, from Bulgaria, is the second woman to take over the International Monetary Fund.

Yellen cited studies showing that women often become disinterested in introductory economics courses because they don't show how economics can improve peoples' well-being. "Economics can be very mathematical," Yellen admitted, but "people lose sight of the fact that at the end of the day this is about human welfare – it's about making people's lives better."

Unfortunately, women face unequal treatment when pursuing degrees in economics; in fact, both Yellen and Georgieva attested to obstacles in their careers that men did not have. Women are more likely than men to be ignored, interrupted, discriminated against and harassed. "It is critical to empower bystanders to act against bad behavior when they see it," Yellen said, adding that she was passed over for the limited number of tenure positions at Yale. So she decided to take a job at the Federal Reserve, where she flourished. Georgieva and Yellen exhorted women in senior positions to mentor other women and to make sure that they create a sense of confidence in younger women to step up and grab opportunities. "I crafted a phrase that I repeat often: 'Don't be shy. Please apply,'" Georgieva said.

Perhaps our interest in women in STEM fields should actually be women in STEEM fields. --

**Kathy Henkins, Public Policy Chair**



## MEMBERSHIP

**Kathy  
Kinley**

Our Spotlight for this month is Dr. Kathleen Kinley. Kathleen has been a member of AAUW since 1969. During that time she has held numerous offices in both local and state AAUW positions. Currently, she is serving as Chairperson for the Tech Trek Program. I know you will enjoy reading her biography.

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I knew I wanted to be a teacher as soon as I entered kindergarten at age 4. I enjoyed school and received good grades. When I was in high school, I was president of the Future Teachers Club and was a cadet teacher with an 8th grade social studies class. I had just finished a bulletin board on the three branches of government when news of President Kennedy's assassination came over the intercom. This sparked an interest in politics which led to a minor in political science. At San Diego State I was president of the Student California Teachers Association chapter. Later, I would chair CTA's curriculum and instruction legislative subcommittee. My first student teaching assignment was at a junior high, and I retired as a middle school principal continuing my love of this enchanting but challenging age group.

I did experience some gender discrimination. I took five years of high school science, but my community college chemistry professor indicated that he did not give a grade above a B to female students because the males needed their GPAs for premed. I switched to a female professor but as an English major. I am sorry that gender equity has still not been achieved in the STEM fields which is why I am devoted to Tech Trek.

In 1969 I married Jim and moved to Ontario. A week later I joined AAUW. Through the years I have met many fascinating women I would not have known without AAUW. Great Decisions caused me to think globally and inspired travel to many of the places we study. At a session on Cracker Barrel Politics at a national AAUW convention in Seattle, our delegates were encouraged to run for local elective office. I followed this advice in 1983 and was elected to the board of the Chaffey Jt. Union High School District, serving as the only female member during my 25-year tenure.

I retired from the board after serving as president of the California School Boards Association. Following a year of almost constant travel with Jim, a retired civil engineer, I became more active in AAUW and

was privileged to serve four years as OUR branch president. AAUW has been a part of my life since my first year of marriage. AAUW's commitment to education and advocacy for women and girls inspires me. Now both my daughter Judy and my granddaughter Jessica are members.

**Kathy Kinley**  
and **Pat Kersbergen, Membership VP**

## RESPONSES TO PROPOSED CHANGE TO NATIONAL BY- LAWS

I think it would be beneficial to our organization to take in members who have had some college, even {though} they may not have completed their degrees....I know several ladies who would make wonderful, active members but haven't finished their degrees.....we are always encouraging them to go on ..... **Martha Gerety**

Our mission statement is to enhance the education of women and young girls; I do not believe that one has to be a college graduate to help further that goal. I, therefore, will vote for the change

**Gloria Romero**

I was supportive of the change that added members with Associate Arts degrees since this degree opens opportunities for personal and professional growth to many who cannot afford continued education or do not need a BA or BS for career success. I hope that if we do eliminate any degree requirement we do not discontinue our commitment to advancing educational opportunities for women and girls whether it is sending middle school girls to Tech Trek on university campuses, funding scholarships for community college graduates, or raising AAUW Funds for graduate research.

**Kathy Kinley**

Changing the degree requirement for AAUW membership would be a mistake. In 1881 several educated women founded an organization in which they could meet with like-minded women and continue their intellectual growth while advocating to further the advancement of women and girls with regards to education, equity, leadership and the value of women's work. Keeping the degree requirement is not counter that historic mission or to our mission today. This issue has been voted on several times and over and over again the membership has voted against it. Enough is enough. It isn't the right thing for our organization. Again, changing the degree requirement for AAUW membership would be a mistake.

**Linda Strotz**

## PUBLIC POLICY

### *Transgender Athletes*

Last month, I asked members to send me issues they would like to see addressed. One member did and my first reaction was, “Be careful what you wish for.” Our member asked about AAUW’s position on transgender athletes, specifically, athletes who are biologically male, but identify as female. No one seems concerned about the opposite situation for good reason. There is no science backing up a claim that a biological female has any strength, stamina, athletic skill or prowess advantage over men. That is not necessarily true for biological males competing in female athletics.

To start, I tried looking on the AAUW website for a specific policy and could not find one. However, AAUW fully supports passage of the Equality Act and the March 5 email on the topic from National to members states, “Equality means including all people. America’s civil rights laws should reflect that promise and protect everyone. That’s why it’s crucial that Congress pass the Equality Act, which would amend existing federal civil rights laws to provide explicit protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.” This seems unambiguous, and, Ginny Hatfield, our state Public Policy liaison assures me, “As far as AAUW policy is concerned, “AAUW would support self-ID individuals in their endeavors - sports or otherwise. Our PP committee has just completed our public policy priority review and basically that’s what we state.”

Ginny also sent me a fascinating YouTube video on Olympic athlete Caster Semenya. I urge you to look at it, even though it provides more questions than answers. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MiCftTLUzCI>. There is also a good article in The Guardian on her legal efforts to overturn the ban or require her to take testosterone lowering medication to compete. See <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/feb/25/caster-semenya-career-olympics-european-courthuman-rights>. Science may have the ultimate answers on this one, but the quest to get to the answer looks like it will be a bruising and bloody skirmish in the existing culture wars. Meanwhile, real people with real needs and issues are being hurt on both sides – transgender athletes who feel marginalized and discounted and cisgender athletes who feel the already fierce competition has become insurmountable because of biological realities.

You should also know that the Biden Administration withdrew support for a case in Connecticut that sought to ban transgender athletes from participating in girls’ high school sports. The Trump administration had supported the lawsuit filed by cisgender athletes who feel the competition from biological males is unfair. We will see many more of these cases filed in the states.

So, Thank You, Dear AAUW Sister, for sending me on a learning journey. To quote Bette Davis in All About Eve, “Fasten your seatbelts. It’s going to be a bumpy night.”

Patricia Cuocco Public Policy Chair

**(Reprinted from the April, 2021 Greater Whittier Area Branch Newsletter with permission from Patricia Cuocco, Public Policy Chair GWA, AAUW-CA)**



Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch

APRIL 2021

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**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.



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American Association of University Women