

OUR REPORT

American Association of University Women

Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch

Please join OUR Branch Meeting and Program
Guest Speakers: Joanna Gonzalez & Erin Morales
From the Cucamonga Valley Water District
Date: Friday, February 4th, 2022
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Your Home Via Zoom

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Tuesday
February 1
Board Meeting

Friday
February 4
BRANCH MEETING

Monday
February 7
GREAT DECISIONS
 See page 3

Tuesday
February 22
WRITERS' WORKSHOP
 See page 4

Thursday
February 27
BIRTHDAY BASH
 See page 3

Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD) staff, Joanna Gonzalez and Erin Morales are excited to share valuable information about CVWD, including the history of water in our service area, conservation, no-cost water-efficient programs available for customers, residential rebates, careers in water, and upcoming events, including CVWD's Water Savvy Landscape Contest & Water Savvy Garden Tour!

Joanna and Erin are part of the Government & Public Affairs Team which is responsible for governmental & legislative affairs, community outreach, water-use efficiency, and educational programs. In addition, the Team is responsible for coordinating special events and conducts outreach with customers, stakeholders, and legislative staff members.

Please mark your calendars for **FRIDAY** the 4th to join us for an interesting and educational discussion on water. A Zoom link will be sent out to you prior to the meeting. Please invite your spouses, significant other, and friends for this enlightening program.



Joanna Gonzalez



Erin Morales

Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day,
 Presidents Day, and Black History Month.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Is it me or do the months seem to be flying by? It seems like only a few days ago I was wishing all of you a Happy New Year. Well, I trust you are having a happy new year thus far.

It is February already and as an organization we are planning for the coming year. We have had to take a step back due to Covid and resort to Zoom for our meetings. It was one year ago this month that our resource for meetings and programs were held via Zoom. I do not think many of us would have thought a year later we would be doing the same. But how fortunate we are to have this tool available to us and we have not missed a meeting or program.

I trust you will join us as we celebrate our successes, look to the future, and discover new ways to engage our communities. We are afforded many opportunities through the various programs offered by OUR AAUW branch. For the next few months, we will be meeting via zoom for our branch meeting/programs, book group, great decisions, and board meetings. In addition, exciting new programs such as the Travel group, Out and About Group and OUR Community Projects have been added and we look forward to your participation. Each interest group will give us the opportunity to expand our horizons, visit new places and enjoy the company of your fellow AAUW Members.

In honor of Black history, we recently lost two influential men: President Desmond Tutu and Sidney Poitier.

Desmond Tutu was a South African Anglican bishop and theologian, known for his work as an anti-apartheid and human rights activist. In 1984 he received the Nobel Peace Prize for drawing national attention to the inequities of apartheid. He emphasized nonviolent protest and encouraged the application of economic pressure on South Africa. He headed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which was intended to help heal the country by investigating human rights violations that had occurred during the apartheid era.

Also, Sidney Poitier, an American actor and director, who broke racial barriers in the motion picture industry as the first black actor to win an Oscar for his starring role in "Lilies of the Field" just died. He starred in movies portraying black men with grace and depth during the Golden Age of Hollywood. Poitier was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama in 2009 and helped change racial attitudes that had persisted and

continue in this country for centuries. Throughout his career he built bridges and opened doors for countless artists in succeeding generations. Both men are inspirations in advocating racial equality for all in a diverse world.

Please note that our February program is on **Friday** this month. Mark your calendar for **Friday, February 4th** to join us on Zoom for our branch meeting with Cucamonga Valley Water District. Additionally, please plan to participate in the many events listed in our newsletter. We miss your smiling faces and look forward to your attendance on Zoom with the many events offered this month.

Mary Peat, co-president

February Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 1
Via Zoom

6:30 meeting, 7:30 social
Please RSVP to 909 244-8246 or
marypeat@gmail.com or
joycem.paul@yahoo.com

Tech Trek Is Subject to Our Times

I have not yet received this year's Tech Trek branch packet. AAUW California is waiting for forms from national. Therefore, we cannot yet contact the schools and begin the selection process. Many college campuses are starting back to on-line instruction. We do not know if this will affect in-person camps and summer dormitories. The middle schools we are hoping to select girls from are experiencing high student and staff absenteeism. The AAUW CA board authorized a state-wide, standardized virtual Tech Trek for 2022, but the curriculum has not been developed. There was little interest from our girls in a virtual TT last year, but we will see what is possible this year. We are not able to conduct in-person interviews at this time. We will also not be able to attend an in-person STEM Open House at Chaffey College this year which is often OUR branch's Tech Trek fundraiser. Some of our Tech Trek alumnae have reached out to me. We hope to meet at least virtually soon. I will keep members apprised of any developments.

Kathy Kinley, Tech Trek branch coordinator

Birthday Bash

Sorry to say but we will, once again, be celebrating birthdays via Zoom on **Thursday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m.**

All are welcome FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Julie Zurek — 6
Judy Westbrook — 8
Leticia Fernandez --17
Maria Marvosh --18
Kathy Kinley — 19

Let us know if we have missed your birthday.

Carolann Ford, Birthday Bash Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

We are meeting **Monday, February 7 at 6 p.m. via Zoom.** We will be discussing the bonus chapter on World Population Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86493834052?pwd=cXl0c3Z2TFprUzJ3ZkFsUjFnTDNSdz09>

All members & guests are welcome to attend and join our interest group. New booklets have arrived so call Carolann 909-241-6900 to arrange pick-up.
Carolann Ford, Great Decisions Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Sad news to report that past, over 20 year member, **Carolyn Poust**, 79, passed away December 23, 2021 in Minnesota after a five year battle with Alzheimer's. Born in Glen Ellyn, IL, she received a BS in Psychology from Laurence University in WN and lived in several states before coming to CA.

"Carolyn was a master gardener, a lover of animals [cats in particular], a girl scout troop leader, a bridge player, a theater lover, a choir Alto, and a whiz with financial investments. She worked in Accounting and Real Estate. If you ever needed anything, she was a champion listener, and she often helped friends in difficult circumstances. She was the kind of mom her kids' friends went to talk to if they had problems.

She was quick to act and level-headed in any emergency (she rescued a woman who got stuck in an escalator and fell backward at the Sears Tower). She could fix cars and major appliances by reading Time Life Books. She was incredibly tough; once while opening a paint can she accidentally put a screwdriver through her hand, held the resulting hole up to the light and said 'Well, look at that' while her family looked on appalled.

She could grow orchids just by looking at them. She loved flowers, white wine, peanut brittle and naughty children. She was incredibly practical and a natural 'straight man' to her two younger, jokester siblings."

Carolyn is survived by her two daughters Missy and Krista, her son-in-law, her brother and four nephews.

Obituary was provided by Carolyn's daughters.

While living here in Upland, she worked for MGR property management, the Shue companies and Euclid Property Management.

As a member of AAUW OUR branch, she served as Treasurer for many years, Membership VP, co-chaired Tech Trek, updated our branch directory, was Birthday Bash Chair, participated in OUR Out and About interest group, and played lots of Bridge. In addition she was OUR Named Gift Honoree in 1997 and 2011.



OUR Report is published September through June

OUR OFFICERS

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Newsletter	Carolann Ford 909 241-6900

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

Carolann Ford
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Phone: 909-241-6900 ©

OUR BRANCH AAUW PO Box 1173, Upland, CA 91785

BOOK GROUP

Our next book club meeting will be **March 10** at 3pm via zoom.

The book we have chosen is **What Could Be Saved** by Liese O'Halloran Schwarz. It's the story of an American family who moved to Thailand where one of the children was kidnapped. Forty years later the family receives information that they know where that child is. It's a mystery but also a view of life in Thailand.

When a mysterious man claims to be her long-missing brother, a woman must confront her family's closely guarded secrets in this "delicious hybrid of mystery, drama, and elegance" (Jodi Picoult, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author).

If you have trouble finding it please let me know.
Hope to see you in March

Cathy Reaves, Book Group Chair

Writers' Workshop

This special interest group will continue to meet monthly "VIRTUALLY" through March and is always welcoming new members to get out their pens and notebooks and join us to clear away the COVID cobwebs and keep the creative juices flowing by writing together on a variety of topics, sharing our thoughts and laughing together as memories are triggered—reminding us all that we are connected in many ways and certainly not alone.

When: 4th Tuesday of each month 9:00—10:30 a.m.
Where: The comfort of your own home! No drive time needed. clark.cyl@gmail.com

Cynthia Clark, Writers' Workshop Chair

Movie Group

On hiatus temporarily

Wine tasting update

I am happy to report on our Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraiser. Even though our attendance was lower than usual between the ticket sales, the gift table, and some very generous donations, we generated more than \$4,000. We usually raise between \$3000-\$3,500. Also a special thank you to those who ordered wine. Our sales covered our tastings so once again thank you to all who participated in the event in whatever way. You all contributed to it's success!

Gloria Romero, Winetasting Fundraiser Chair

BRIDGE I

On hiatus temporarily

BRIDGE II

On hiatus temporarily

Walking Group

On Hiatus temporarily

Out and About

Our next "outing" will be on Thursday, March 3 at Segerstrom Hall in Costa Mesa for the 7:30 pm presentation of the musical **Wicked**. Five members expressed interest in this production and five tickets were purchased. Two people find they are unable to attend so we have two extra seats available for purchase. We will be carpooling. If you are interested in attending or wish more information, please contact Carolann, 909 241-6900 or carolan4re@aol.com.

Calling for Volunteers

Planning for O.U.R.'s SERVICE PROJECT for 2022 continues, but more hands are always welcome.

With one of our local AAUW Branch membership goals being "To touch the life of a young woman or girl in a very positive way," your O.U.R. Board has supported a number of service projects over the years—scholarships for young community college women, Tech Trek for middle school age girls, and will continue with the **Provision of Hygiene Kits for Local High School Students**. High schools need small kits with basic items, including feminine hygiene products, shampoo, toothpaste, etc., for teens who come to the nurse's office during the school day with these needs.

To support this worthy project, the committee is calling for ideas and suggestions from you, our members: **Do you know of businesses or local industries that would like to sponsor or partner with OUR AAUW in the project? We are also searching for anyone who has "GRANT WRITING Experience" to find outside funding for this.**

In-person committee work on the logistics has been delayed with the outbreak of new virus variants, but virtual meetings through Zoom will keep our momentum going —Call Cynthia Clark at (650) 678-4132 or email at clark.cyl@gmail.com with your questions, suggestions, ideas and volunteer availability~ No limit to committee members—many hands make fast work!

The Danger to our Early Learning and Child Care System

“The positive impact of the early learning and [child]care proposal would be felt for generations. So too would the consequences of inaction.” This statement from First Five Years Fund Executive Director Sarah Rittling supports the child care and pre-K provisions of the Biden administration's Build Back Better (BBB) Act.

“Parents, providers, and employers are desperate for the reliable, affordable, quality child care and preschool options this bill will deliver.”

More than 6 million infants and toddlers need child care than licensed spots are available, and 5 million more 3- and 4-year-olds need pre-K to achieve universal access. Childcare relief is the top priority of AAUW California this year. But having passed the House, the BBB Act is facing obstacles in the Senate. Rittling goes on, “it is indisputable that there is both great need and overwhelming support for the child care and pre-K provisions

The Biden administration is now working on a budget reconciliation proposal overriding the Senate filibuster, which may otherwise require a 60-vote supermajority for legislation passage. Reconciliation bills can pass the Senate by a simple majority of 51 votes or 50 votes plus the Vice President's tie-breaker. However, there are obstacles to obtaining the 50 votes at this time.

The early years are key to building a child's emotional, social and cognitive foundation for life. Therefore AAUW supports the BBB Act, which has \$60 million to provide universal preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds. Today only half of preschool age children attend pre-K. Furthermore, the lack of affordable childcare or preschool translates to more parents staying out of the workforce, as described in the OUR October newsletter. In 24 states, full-time infant daycare cost on average exceeds the average cost of rent, according to AAUW CA Public Policy Committee members Shelley Mitchell and Ginny Hatfield.

And millions of parents who do work do not get paid sick days, so caring for a sick child can jeopardize their job or income. The BBB Act legislates paid sick leave and ensures that eligible families will pay no more than 7 percent of their annual income for child care.

At present, reduced productivity leads to lost wages and reduced retirement benefits for parents; it also adds to the downward financial pressure on childcare workers, who are 97% women. Here in the states, the average hourly wage for childcare workers is \$12.88, almost \$3 less per hour than parking lot attendants' wage, according to Mitchell and Hatfield. Abysmally low hourly wages in turn affect the quality and stability of childcare; many child care workers have already quit to find higher-paying jobs. [President's BBB plan would ensure child care and preschool teachers are paid at least \\$15 an hour and comparable to kindergarten teachers if they have similar credentials.](#)

The obstacles to the Reconciliation proposal are many, including its overall cost. If early learning and child care support end up being cut, those priorities could be put into a stand-alone bill. They deserve, of course, to remain in the bill. Mitchell and Hatfield quote Secretary of Treasury Janet Yellen: “It's past time that we treat childcare as what it is – an element whose contribution to economic growth is as essential as infrastructure or energy . . . and the single most important thing we can do to build a stronger economy over the next several decades.”

AAUW is urging the 117th Congress to ensure that universal pre-K, childcare funding and the Child Tax Credit are included in the budget reconciliation process. Mitchell and Hatfield ask us to contact our senators and let them know of our AAUW membership and our commitment to “ensuring our Nation's future.”

Kathy Henkins, Public Policy Chair



Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch

FEBRUARY 2022

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.

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AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
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