

OUR REPORT

American Association of University Women

Ontario-Upland-Rancho Branch

MAY EVENTS

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GREAT DECISIONS
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May 4
BOARD MEETING
Sunday

May 9
MOTHER'S DAY

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**WRITERS
WORKSHOP**
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**HAPPY HOUR
ON ZOOM**

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GENERAL MEETING

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Barbara Hughbanks-Beverly Brennan Scholarship Tea May 15th at 10:00 AM via Zoom

The Scholarship Committee received 36 applications that met the requirements for the Barbara Hughbanks-Beverly Brennan Memorial Scholarship by the March 31 deadline. After reviewing and scoring the applications, interviews via Zoom were held on April 22. Each chosen recipient will receive \$1,000. On Saturday, May 15th, you will get to meet each of those recipients. They will share with you their plans and dreams for the future. This is that special opportunity for you to see that your participation in AAUW and your donations to the Scholarship Fund actually touches lives and makes a difference. You have made it possible for these young ladies to continue their education and fulfill the beginning of a lifelong dream. Additionally, we will hear from Ana, who received her scholarship from OUR AAUW in 2018, has graduated Berkeley and is applying to medical school. Dreams are coming true.

In 2020 four scholarships were awarded. The number of scholarships awarded is dependent upon Branch fundraising activities specifically, (1) annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser for Scholarships, (2) Scholarship Tea, and (3) individual donations from Branch members. The need is greater now due to the 2020 Wine Tasting fundraiser being cancelled because of the pandemic.

Additionally, at this meeting, you will be asked to vote on the slate of officers for the 2021-2022 year.

It will be inspiring, informative and fun. The link for the Zoom meeting will be sent to all members approximately two days prior to the meeting. Watch for it, but mark your calendar now---May 15th at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for a virtual brunch

President's message

The newsletter from the League of Women Voters last month stated the following:

American women:

- ◇ Earn less than American men in similar jobs: for white women it's 78%; for black women it's 61% and for Hispanic women it's 54%
- ◇ Are the only women in the industrialized world not guaranteed paid maternity leave
- ◇ Are more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than women in any other developed country
- ◇ Have no federal laws requiring insurance coverage of contraception
- ◇ Are killed by a current or former intimate partner at a rate of three women a day

I found it so difficult to believe these statements that I actually checked them and sadly I found them to be true. They are true. Even now, in 2021, American women are more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than women in any other industrialized country and also from domestic violence at the rate of three per day. It really brings home the fact that the battle for equality is not won and there is much yet to accomplish. We must be vigilant and not allow ourselves to become complacent. It means that AAUW, which has done so much for the advancement of women, is more important than ever. Many of us have retired, but we have daughters, granddaughters and even great-grand-daughters. We still must wage the battle to secure a future that provides financial security and educational opportunities. Many of us can remember a time when a married woman could not have a credit card in her own name or when pregnancy expenses were not covered by insurance. It was really less than 50 years ago. Being a member of AAUW is vital to reaching the goals that are necessary for women to succeed and achieve equality. We can do so much more united than each of us on our own.

Mary Peat has agreed to be a co-president with me. We will share the title and the responsibilities, if the branch members approve the slate of officers in May and the installation of officers is completed in June. She will be an asset to the Board as she is to the Branch. Again, we can do more together than one person alone.

I hope to see all of you at the May Scholarship Tea. That is a program that you will not want to miss. Mark your calendars.

Joyce Paul, President

MAY Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 4 via Zoom at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Joyce Paul, 909 463-3804 or
joycempaul@yahoo.com

Writers' Workshop

April 13 brought together O.U.R. writers to reflect on gratitude and the renewing energy of Spring. Inspired by Diana M's "nonsense letters" from last month, we wrote "gratitude letters" to anyone of our choosing and then shared excerpts. Some expressed loving gratitude for their sons, others to supportive neighbors and family members; the additional challenge was to find a snail-mail stamp and put them in the mail! Our second 18-minute writing's topic focused on re-energizing and what gives us energy. Two gave descriptions of daily walks and the beautiful colors of an early morning sunrise; another shared that she is re-energized by our new freedom to accept invitations and begin emerging from our quarantine cocoons that "... remind us of the social-beings we are and how much enjoying time with others means." One writer wrote of daily walks and even the crosswords and coffee relied upon for brain energy which provide April renewal and are re-energizing. Another participant wrote "Spring is my very favorite time of the year--- fluffy white clouds in every shape and size; meeting in person yet mindful not to over-extend and knowing when enough is enough." Back to the cocoon!

Writers' Workshop will continue in May on Zoom for now---it has proven to be a comfortable way to keep our own familiar writing space and accommodate those who live outside the area. We have participants in Northern California and Laguna Beach presently. The topic for May 11 will be "Mothers"; a tribute to Mothers' Day May 9. So sharpen your pencils and join in. All are welcome. Contact Cynthia at clark.cyl@gmail.com for the Zoom invitation. Or call if you have questions: 650-678-4132

Cynthia Clark, Writers' Workshop Chair

Birthday Bash

Hurrah! We are going to meet in person at **Spaggi's** to celebrate May birthdays at **5 p.m. on Thursday, May 27**. Indoor & outdoor dining is available so let me know your choice by Wednesday, May 26 and we will ask the restaurant to accommodate us.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Erin Mulcahy — 1

Linda Strotz — 9

Linda Wilson -- 9

Diane Webster -16

Sarah Long --20

Agnes Otte — 20

All are welcome

Let us know if we have missed your birthday.

Carolann Ford, Birthday Bash Chair

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

The AAUW voting season is upon us and we need to make sure each branch member exercises her or his right to vote. There are three different voting opportunities.

.AAUW OUR Branch — Vote for OUR new board for 2021-22 on May 15 at the branch meeting

AAUW California voting -- Please go to www.aauw-ca.org for more information on the state voting. Voting is open now until May 7, 5 p.m.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 909 241-6900.

National Election 2021

Voting closes at 5:00 pm ET on Monday, May 17, 2021.

This year all AAUW members are eligible to vote for the AAUW Board of Directors, the proposed Public Policy Program and amendments to the AAUW by-laws.



Membership



Diana McVicker

Diana is the mother of two girls and one granddaughter. One of her daughters lives in Northern California and the other (with her husband and daughter) in Laramie, Wyoming. All of her other "grand children" are four legged and furry.

Diana has attended many colleges and in her words, "to find my little niche." Among her many colleges are College of San Mateo (Drafting Technology and Business), UC Berkeley Extension (Writing), San Francisco State (BA Technology Education), Chico State concurrently with Northwestern Consortium (Teaching Credential/Adult Ed. Cert.), Cal State San Bernardino (MA in Education, Adult Education Coordination and Supervision), and Cal Poly Pomona (MA Special Education).

Following her education, she became an Electro-Mechanical Drafter. She left private industry to enter education as a Drafting/Adult Ed. Instructor, then changed to Special Education.

Diana has many hobbies and interests. She enjoys sewing and crocheting. The recipients of some of her crocheting include "layettes" for new moms. Diana is a marathoner and century cyclist. While she no longer runs, she still cycles, just at a much shorter distance. Diana is involved with the Mended Hearts program at Loma Linda where she sews heart pillows for heart patients. Her many talents extend to making wooden toys for underserved charities through the organization EPT.

Prior to Covid you would find her serving meals at Upland Senior Center, as well as volunteering at the Ontario Airport. Diana is obviously a very busy lady but has made time for OUR Great Decisions interest group, Book Group and has attended several branch Happy Hours.

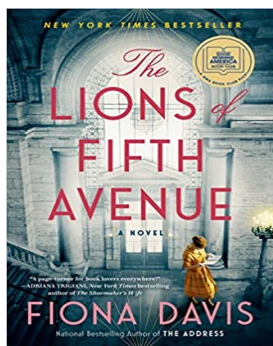
We welcome Diana to the OUR branch of AAUW.
Pat Kersbergen, Membership VP

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

P.S. Carolann has the book if you wish to borrow it 909-241-6900



GREAT DECISIONS



Is globalization really at an end, or in need of a refresh?

As the United States has completed another election season, the merits and drawbacks of globalization were again debated by the presidential candidates. With the passing of the Brexit vote and Donald Trump's America First doctrine, protectionist policies became more prevalent, challenging globalization. What is globalization and how will it be affected by Biden's trade policies? How will the United States and the world be affected by such policies?

We are meeting **Monday, May 3 at 5 p.m. via Zoom.** **Pat Kersbergen** will be our hostess and lead the discussion of **Ch. 8, The End of Globalization?**

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

Carolann Ford, Great Decisions Chair

BRIDGE I STILL CANCELLED BRIDGE II STILL CANCELLED Movie Group STILL CANCELLED HAPPY HOUR

Happy Hour--May 12th 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.

Virtual Tech Trek Will Provide New STEM Opportunities

This summer the Ontario-Upland-Rancho AAUW branch will sponsor **Danna Arias Filiano** from De Anza Middle School in Ontario to attend Tech Trek. Danna wrote that what interests her about Tech Trek is the opportunity to try something new. "Since I was a small child, I have always been interested in robotics and science, but I have never actually had the opportunity to try robotics until now. I am excited to learn a lot. I want to help make a better world for me, my family, and for society," says Danna. We will be interested in hearing her tell us about her Tech Trek experience at our September meeting. OUR members will also hear from our Tech Trek Alumnae coordinator Leticia Fernandez who will be a staff member at this summer's Tech Trek. Thank you to all those branch members who have contributed to Tech Trek.

Kathy Kinley, branch Tech Trek Coordinator

OUR Report is published September through June

OUR OFFICERS

President:	Joyce Paul 909-463-3804
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	Barbara Bocan 909-560-0527
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VP AAUW Fund	Gloria Hailes 818-207-3449
Treasurer	Kay Alexander 909-989-5321
Secretary	Diane Webster 909-985-8296
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Wine Tasting	Gloria Romero 909 732-6707
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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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OUR BRANCH AAUW PO Box 1173. Upland, CA 91785

Lobbying, Legislation and AAUW

AAUW's first ever (virtual) Lobby Day was a huge success! OUR Branch members Kathy Kinley and Joyce Paul were among the 111 AAUW members from 68 branches who "visited" 36 Assembly and 23 Senate offices. Kudos to Kathy and Joyce!

Many offices were familiar with AAUW, and the state Public Policy co-chairs said that AAUW had a great opportunity to educate those who weren't; members communicated information about AAUW CA and the AAUW high-priority bills in the current session. They are: AB92, Assembly Member Reyes Child Care Family Fees, AB 373 Assembly Member Min Consumer Debt: Economic Abuse, and SB 62 Senator Durazo Garment Worker Protection Act.

All three bills are predicted to have a real likelihood of passing during this legislative session. Here are some specifics about garment workers' need for protection. Workers in the California garment industry are still often paid through a piece-rate system, which can change on a whim. The piece-rate can be as little as 2 cents per piece. This system puts minimum wage out of reach. Garment workers who are paid by piece-rate are usually paid less than \$6 per hour for their efforts and as low as \$3 per hour depending on piece-rates, according to a study by UCLA. In the last legislative session, SB62 cleared the Senate but did not make it to the Assembly floor on the last night of the session. "Most of the members supported this bill in both the senate and in the house. To not have that expressed in a vote is really terrible," stated Senator Maria Elena Durazo.

As it stands now unjust employers are shielded because the current worker protection laws do not apply to companies with fewer than 15 employees; because various categories of workers, including contractors and unpaid interns, are not included in current law; and there is a limited time frame for bringing charges. SB 62 will eliminate the piece rate system, set the compensation base to the hourly minimum wage and make manufacturers and retailers guarantors (thus liable to being sued) to ensure that garment workers receive their wages.

While some California garment workers feel stuck in their jobs because of undocumented status, nationwide, women are more likely to quit jobs in manufacturing than women in other industries, reflecting a history of sexual harassment, unequal pay and opportunity denied. They are much more likely than men to leave manufacturing jobs, according to a new AAUW study *Factory Flaw: The Attrition and Retention of Women in Manufacturing*.

Women in the study experienced sexual harassment at disturbing rates: 68.2% of women of color and 62.6% of white women experienced some form of harassment. "One woman described the unnerving experience of having a male coworker wrap his hand around her neck from behind." Others described enduring harassment 'on a daily basis' and 'every single day.' In AAUW's survey of 311 women, 38% of women who'd been harassed said it contributed to their decision to leave a job early, and 37% said it disrupted their career advancement."

Women in manufacturing fields often find it hard to make a living wage: women are underrepresented in higher-paying manufacturing sectors. Only 17% of workers in the petroleum and coal fields, which pay almost \$43 an hour, are women. But women make up more than half of workers in textile and apparel jobs, which pay under \$20 an hour. Furthermore, 31.5% of women in the study reported feeling that men received more promotions than women. Since 90% of respondents worked in production jobs, women are facing gender-based barriers at every level of employment and promotion, not just at the top.

Dissatisfaction with family leave policies is another key reason women-- with children and those without -- leave manufacturing jobs. *Altogether, 69.2% of women surveyed said they were not satisfied with the amount of paid family leave.*

Among other advocacy work, AAUW is championing legislation that provides a national, self-funding paid family and medical leave insurance program, creates a ban on the use of non-disclosure clauses that cover workplace harassment, and prevents companies from writing off legal fees associated with harassment settlements as tax deductions: The Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act, The Ending the Monopoly of Power Over Workplace Harassment through Education and Reporting (EMPOWER) Act, as well as the all-important Paycheck Fairness Act and Raise the Wage Act.

AAUW members are urged to contact their legislators – as Kathy Kinley and Joyce Paul did -- to comment on the bills and issues related to improving the lives of women and their families.

Kathy Henkins, Public Policy 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





Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch

May 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.

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