



SIMI VALLEY (CA)
BRANCH

The Big Wind email

Volume 47.4

March/April 2014

2013-2014

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BW delivery is bi-monthly.

Please note that each Big Wind issue will contain information for two consecutive months.



Women in History”

A Presentation by

Chatsworth High School Seniors

Saturday April 5, 2014

11:30 a.m

Best Western Posada Royale

1775 Madera Road

Simi Valley, CA 93065

-----clip here-----

Choose one: Vegetable Lasagna__ OR Meat Lasagna__
With Salad, Dessert and Beverage (coffee or iced tea).

Name _____ Phone # _____

Make check of \$30.00 payable to AAUW

Give to a board member at an Interest Group or mail to:

Ruth Dempsey, 1130 Wilson Dr., Simi Valley, CA 93065

“Gently Used” jewelry and handbags will be available for sale. Proceeds will go to the scholarship fund.

AAUW CALIFORNIA STATE CONVENTION

LAX Marriott

April 11-13, 2014

March/April 2014 Leadership Message

Welcome to spring!

We have not had what we would call much of a winter, and here it is springtime! We certainly can count our blessings when we see the terrible storms around the country, although we sure need some rain.

Spring is a time of renewal, re-birth and reconnecting. Although we still have a little way to go to really enjoy what spring brings, we can begin to think about what we can do to renew ourselves and to better balance our lives. What better time than spring to regroup and re-prioritize, and even re-invent ourselves, and the lives we find ourselves living. Here are some spring “AAUW rituals” to help you get started.

- 1.) Clear out mental and emotional clutter by enjoying the benefits of AAUW and friends.
- 2.) Enrich and renew your mind through attending AAUW events
- 3.) Begin something brand new, like bringing a prospective member to an event.
- 4.) Spend time outdoors, especially at the Spring Brunch.
- 5.) Take a trip to one of the great interest groups we have.
- 6.) Engagement:

Since 1881, we’ve worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women through our research, campus leadership, math and science education, public policy, legal advocacy, educational funding, global connections, and member leadership. Local and national AAUW engagement opportunities abound in every aspect of the work that we do.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at our coming events, especially the Women in History Luncheon and our Spring Brunch. The AAUW California Convention is coming up April 11-13, at the LAX Marriott. This is close enough to us to hopefully see some of you attend for at least a day. Be sure to check out the aauw-ca.org website for information.

Judy Pfeil

March 8, 2014

**Brighter Horizons at Cal Lutheran University
Sponsored by Thousand Oaks AAUW**

Brighter Horizons is a career-day event encouraging, math, science and technology for 5th to 9th grad students. T.O. branch needs help as receptionists/guides on the day and also for hostesses who will guide and assist various speakers. If you can help, please contact Linda Pochter at (805) 494-0714 or lpochter@oradrunner.com



BYLAWS

When we think of spring, we think of spring cleaning, and that is what we, as a branch, need to do with our bylaws. AAUW National and State have sent mandatory changes to all branch bylaws and a suggestion to take this time to make updates to existing bylaws to match our current method of governance. We are putting the changes (listed in blue) in this Big Wind, as we will have to vote on our changes at the Spring Brunch and need to publish them. (only changed sections are here. If you wish to see entire document, please let me know and I will send a copy to you)

One mandatory change was to Article XVI (which now will be XV) by simply replacing “state bylaws committee” to “state governance committee”. The other was more extensive, but was simply to replace Section IV (Membership and Dues) with the newly-updated model branch bylaws, as listed here:

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Composition. The membership of AAUW shall consist of individual and partner members.

Section 2. Qualified Institutions. Qualified institutions are educational institutions that offer recognized associate, baccalaureate, or higher degrees and that have full regional accreditation or appropriate professional association approval.

Section 3. Basis of Membership.

a. Individual Member.

(1) Eligibility. A graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified educational institution shall be eligible to receive admission to AAUW membership; such membership shall be granted upon payment of AAUW dues. The provisions set forth in this section are the sole requirement for eligibility and admissibility to membership. Refusal to admit an eligible graduate to branch membership shall result in loss of recognition of a branch.

(2) Determination of Admissibility to Membership. Any graduate who claims qualification for membership in AAUW and who has been refused admission to membership by an officer of a branch or of AAUW may present credentials to the AAUW Board of Directors for review. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final.

(3) Saving Clause. No individual member shall lose membership due to any change in the status of the educational institution upon which qualification for membership was based.

(4) Categories of Membership.

(a) A national member is an individual who pays annual AAUW dues and who may or may not belong to a branch, state, or multistate organization or other AAUW-affiliated entity. A national member shall be entitled to vote and to serve on AAUW committees and the AAUW Board of Directors. A national member of AAUW may become a member of the branch upon payment of branch and state dues.

(b) A state member is an individual who pays annual AAUW and AAUW CA dues and who may or may not belong to a branch. A state member may become a branch member upon payment of branch dues.

(c) A branch member is a national member who has also paid state and branch dues. A branch member shall be entitled to vote, hold office, and participate in all branch activities and programs of each branch where membership is maintained.

(5) Life Membership.

(a) Paid. An individual member may become a national life member upon a one-time payment of 20 years' national AAUW dues, based on the amount of AAUW dues the year the member elects to become a life member. Thereafter, the life member shall be exempt from the payment of AAUW dues. Paid life members are not exempt from payment of state or branch dues.

(b) Fifty-Year Honorary. An individual member who has paid AAUW dues for 50 years shall become a national life member and shall thereafter be exempt from the payment of AAUW and state dues.

(c) Privileges. A national life member of AAUW who maintains a membership in one or more California branches or other AAUW-affiliated entities on an annual basis shall be entitled to all state and branch rights and privileges. A national life member of AAUW who does not maintain branch or state membership shall be entitled to national member privileges only.

BYLAWS CONTINUED

b. Partner Member.

College/university partner members are qualified educational institutions, including two-year or community colleges, that pay annual dues to AAUW. Each college/university member shall appoint one or two

representatives who shall each have the membership benefits of a national member and any other benefits that accrue to representatives of partner members. A representative of a college/university partner member may choose to affiliate with the branch by paying state and branch dues.

Section 4. Student Affiliates. An undergraduate student enrolled in a qualified educational institution shall be eligible for student affiliation. Student affiliates shall be entitled to attend branch, state, and AAUW meetings and receive the publications distributed to all members of AAUW. Affiliates may not vote or hold office. Fees for student affiliates shall be established by the national, state and branch boards.

Section 5. Dues.

a. Amount.

(1) Changes in branch dues shall be determined at the annual meeting by two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided notice has been given to the members 30 days prior to the meeting.

(2) Branch dues for college/university representatives shall be set by the board. College/university representatives must pay state dues to join the branch.

b. Payment. New members may join at any time. Dues are payable upon joining. Pro-rated dues paid by new members for less than a full year is determined by national, state and branch policy.

c. Reciprocity. A current paid member of a branch or comparable AAUW-affiliated entity may transfer membership to another branch or comparable AAUW-affiliated entity without payment of additional dues.

Section 6. Severance of Membership. A member may be suspended or dropped from membership for any conduct that tends to injure AAUW or to adversely affect its reputation or that is contrary to or destructive of its mission according to these bylaws, with action taken following policies and procedures adopted by the AAUW Board of Directors.

The following changes are to reflect our new Branch governance :

ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations

a. There shall be a nominating committee of two members, appointed by the administrative officer.

b. The term of service on the nominating committee shall be for one year (from time of appointment until the branch election) for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

c. The names of the nominees for elected officers shall be published and sent to every member at least 30 days prior to the annual branch meeting.

d. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers

a. The elected for the branch shall be the administrative officer, secretary, and finance officer.

b. The appointed officers shall be the project committee leader , membership committee leader, and programs committee leader . They shall be appointed by the administrative officer with the consent of the board.

c. Officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assume office. Term of office shall begin on July 1. The incoming president may call a meeting of the incoming officers prior to July 1.

d. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time, and no elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

e. All vacancies in office shall be filled for the unexpired term by the board.

BYLAWS CONTINUED

Section 2. Administrative Responsibilities. The board shall have the power to administer over affairs of the branch and to carry out its programs and its policies, and shall accept responsibilities delegated by AAUW and the state. It shall act for the branch between membership meetings. The board shall have fiscal responsibility as outlined in Article IX, Financial Administration,

Section 3. Meetings. Meetings of the board shall be held at least four times a year at a time and place agreed upon by the board.

Section 4. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the administrative officer or shall be called upon written request of three members of the board provided that at least three days notice of such meeting and its agenda have been given to the members of the board.

Section 6. Voting Between Meetings. Between meetings of the branch board, a written, conference call, or electronic vote of the board may be taken at the request of the administrative officer on any question submitted to the board in writing provided that every voting member of the board shall have the opportunity to vote upon the question submitted. If a majority shall vote on any question so submitted, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if at a board meeting. The result of the vote shall be in the minutes of the next board meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section 2 of this article was removed as it was already stated in officer's duties section.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 3. Budget. The annual budget shall be reviewed by the board of directors, published in the branch newsletter, and adopted by the membership no later than October 15.

ARTICLE X. MEETINGS

Section 2. Membership Meetings. The branch shall hold at least two meetings during the fiscal year. The branch board shall determine the time and place for these meetings.

Section 3. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the administrative officer or shall be called by the administrative officer at the written request of three members of the board or ten percent of the branch membership.

Section 5. Voting. Voting members entitled to vote at any meeting of members or by ballot shall be all those voting members in good standing as of the date of the meeting. (this article is new and changes the following section to #6)

Section 6. Quorum. The quorum shall be at least 15 percent of the branch membership.

ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1. AAUW Mandated Amendments. Amendments required by AAUW or the state to bring branch bylaws into conformity shall not require a vote of the branch members. (a deleted statement of requirement for Incorporated branches was deleted here as it did not pertain to our branch)

Section 2. Prior Approval. All other proposed amendments to the branch bylaws shall be sent to the district representative on the state governance committee for approval before the call for the branch vote.

Section 3. Branch Vote. Provisions of these bylaws not governed by the AAUW or state bylaws may be amended at a branch meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting provided written notice shall have been sent to the members at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

INTEREST GROUPS CORNER

RECIPE EXCHANGE

Recipe exchange Group will meet for a luncheon on **Tuesday, April 8th at 12:30.** Ruth Dempsey will host in her home and the theme is salads and a soup. We all enjoyed a delicious brunch in January at Judy Galvin's. Please contact me if you would like to join us in April. Bon Appetit!
Kathy Fried
Cookingkf@aol.com, 520-6094 or 807-0489

CANASTA Every Wednesday, 1-3:30 P.M. Member's Homes

Canasta has been great fun playing at different member's homes. If you want to play or wish to learn how to play, please contact:

Ruth Dempsey, 501-5874.



BREAKFAST GROUP

**COME JOIN US FOR FOOD,
FUN AND FRIVOLITY!!**

**2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH,
9AM**

**MARCH 1ST (NOTE DATE
CHANGE!)**

**FIRST STREET CAFE
HOST: DIANE REHAUT**

**APRIL 12TH
FIRST STREET CAFÉ
HOST: MARIE HARVEY**

If you plan to attend, please
RSVP to the hostess.

Maria Harvey, 522-8804



DAY BRIDGE - 1st, 3rd, 4th Wed from 10am to 2pm
Chair: Penny Neugroschl, 526-1570

Sunrise Assisted Living
190 Tierra Rejada Rd
SV 93065

COUPLES BRIDGE - 4th Friday at 7pm
Chair: Jean Schlosser, 526-4073

OWLS
10:00 A.M

The named member reviews the book and hosts the group.

Mar. 18: *The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

Hostess/Reviewer: Ruth

Apr. 15: *If You Were Here* by Alafair Burke

Hostess/Reviewer: Nancy

New faces are welcome. Paula Lightfoot 522-4040 or pmbrownl@yahoo.com



EVENING BOOK GROUP

March 25 Rules of Civility by Amor Towles

Host: Robert Leap

Reviewer: Maureen Everakes

April 22 The Keeper of Secrets: A Novel by Julie Thomas

Host: Jean Bennett

Reviewer: Betsy Dulcich

New members are always welcome. We meet the 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Contact Judy Galvin 527-6349, ammom4299@aol.com



CHINESE AND AN INDY (NEW INTEREST GROUP!!)

Have you ever read the reviews for a super movie, told yourself "For sure I want to see *that one!*" then waited and waited for it to come to Simi, only it never did?

If so, miss no more (or at least less) fine, first-run, independent movies. Join us for an approximately once/month INDY matinee followed by a Chinese dinner.

The Movie House: Regency Westlake Village Twin

A lovingly-restored, two-screen movie house with new, comfortable seats with actual leg room. Regular rate is \$10; Senior rate is \$7.50. The popcorn has real butter!

The Restaurant: Lakeview Garden Chinese Restaurant

Right next door to the movie house. No MSG, a separate special diets/ healthy eating menu, and they're obliging on special requests. Yelp review 4.0.

Both the restaurant and the movie house are handicapped and wheelchair accessible.

Pat Craig pecraig@sbcglobal.net 805-522-5532

Equal Pay Day is April 8, 2014

This date symbolizes the time in 2014 when the wages paid to American women catch up to the wages paid to men from the previous year. Yes, the wage gap is still stuck at 23 cents. Closing that gap would make a big difference for the millions of women and their children who are living on the brink of poverty.

Closing that gap is one of AAUW's highest priorities.

For facts and further information, log on to: www.aauw.org/resource/gender-pay-gap.

KUDOS TO TWO OF OUR MEMBERS!!

MARY PATCH WINS LEW ROTH AWARD

Our own Mary Patch was this year's recipient of the Lew Roth Award in the volunteer category. The Education Foundation honored her on January 24th at their annual dinner for all her volunteer work with the Simi Valley Kiwanis Club where she works on many, many projects with the youth of Simi Valley and for her work with the AAUW Tech Trek program. Congratulations, Mary!

JEAN BENNETT IS VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Jean Bennett has volunteered at the Senior Center for many years. She has been a member of the Council On Aging Executive Board, teaches AARP Driver Safety classes, organizes an Adopt-A-Poll fundraiser, and has been a Meals On Wheels driver for over 16 years. I guess you can say she is a "Jean of all trades". Congratulations Jean!

Other News...

Our local branch is collecting "gently used" jewelry and handbags individuals don't use or want anymore. Maybe someone else would enjoy wearing and/or using them with a small donation to help with our scholarship fund. Bring them to a board member at an Interest Group or call Ruth Dempsey, Judy Pfeil or Karen Cunningham



This edition of the Big Wind email was prepared by
Leslie Visser-Dumont
Articles for the Big Wind must be received by both
Judy Galvin and
Leslie Visser-Dumont by the 15th
of the month.

CAROL
ACKERMAN
1935-2014

Excerpts from the eulogy for Carol Ackerman given by her son:

“She grew up during the depression and World War 2 in Brooklyn, New York...But despite the poverty, they had a tremendous network of extended family and friends. My grandmother instilled a deep love of family in my mom. These days, it’s a luxury for us to grow apart from our families or write them off. But when you had nothing else, what could be more important than family?”

She often spoke about how New York...seemed like the whole world to her and how it had everything...Museums, libraries, the height of culture. She had the greatest city in the world at her feet. And she ate it up. From all this, she told me that she *always* knew she wanted to be a teacher.

Eventually, my mom went to Hunter College and got her teaching credential by the mid 1950s. She taught for a year in New York, but realized that she wanted something more. A bigger adventure. Recruiters found her and asked if she would like to teach in the Los Angeles area.

She could make friends anywhere. Why? Eveready, enthusiastic laugh. Big, heartfelt smile. Wicked sense of humor. Empathy on a level that most people can’t understand. Lots of fun. Loyalty in the extreme. Once you were in with her, you were in forever and there was nothing you could do to get out...

Some of you met my mom after my dad passed away. So you might wonder how the badass biker and the schoolteacher got along so well together. Well, my dad admired my mom’s intelligence, looks, and independent spirit. And my mom admired my dad’s intelligence, looks, and independent spirit. She immediately took to riding on the back of a motorcycle, sailing, hiking, and all kinds of things she’d never done before my dad entered her life. He immediately took to reading the paper, dressing nicely, compromising with family, and all kinds of things he’d never done before she entered his life.

So, what was it like to be at the center of my mom’s universe? Whenever I met a new friend of hers, they’d always start the conversation by saying, “I’ve heard so much about you.” Later it would be, “I’ve heard so much about you and your wife.” And finally in recent years, “I’ve heard so much about your son.” I did—eventually—get replaced.

But I’m afraid I haven’t given you a 3D picture of my mom. She was also a tremendously talented teacher...So many of my mom’s former students have reached out to tell me that she made a big difference in their lives. They say she taught them to believe in themselves. She stood up for them. She opened their eyes to new ways of perceiving the world. She was their biggest cheerleader. She made learning fun. She made them laugh. And more than a few of you have told me that you wouldn’t be where you are today without my mom’s influence. It makes me so proud that her legacy lives on through so many that she touched.

You see, she pretty much liked everyone. But those she loved, she loved intensely in a remarkably empathetic way. And if you were lucky enough to be loved by her, you felt that you were the only one in that moment...But most of all, think of her love for you. To be Carol’s family or friend was to be blessed with unreserved devotion. Remember that, remember her, and smile as she would have. She only had eyes for you.”



IN MEMORIUM

We send our love and sympathy to Kathy Fried on the loss of her father two weeks ago. Byron Kaufman passed away on January 31st. A memorial service will be held on March 22nd at 11 a.m. at Stonebridge Community Church in Simi Valley. A reception will follow at The Frieds’, 5205 Seneca Pl., Simi Valley, 93063. Please RSVP to Kathy at cookinkgf@aol.

The American Association of **University Women in Simi Valley** extends a sincere "Thank you" to our sponsors for their financial support of our Big Wind Newsletter.

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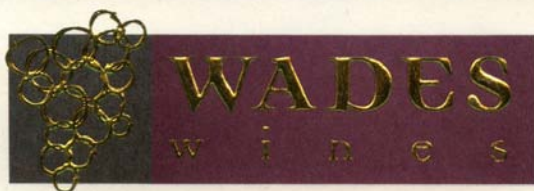
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Members and their immediate families may advertise their business or personal endeavors at the rate of \$6/issue or \$25/year. Non-member rate is \$12/issue or \$50/year for 5 issues.

Mary Martin, 527-0760
fmmartin7@sbcglobal.net