



SIMI VALLEY (CA)
BRANCH

The Big Wind

Volume 51.5

May/June 2018

2017-2018

**Simi Valley Branch
Leadership Team**

Steering Comm. Chair:

Lorraine Erickson, Lisa Morrison

Membership:

Yolanda Rogers

Treasurer:

Mary Martin

Secretary:

Veda DeJane and Judy Pfeil

AAUW Funds: Hazel Hird,
Karen Cunningham, Virginia Seaton

Program Committee Chair:

Pat Becker, Bakula Maniar

Projects Chair:

Lorraine Erickson,
Maureen Everakes

Publicity:

Leslie Visser-Dumont

Newsletter:

Judy Galvin
ammom4299@aol.com



Spring Brunch

Saturday, May 12 10am

*At the home of Brook Hubbell-Harper
3097 Auburn Ct. Simi Valley 93063*

This is a very special event that gives us all the opportunity to socialize with current, past and new members.

Come and meet both this year's Tech Trek young ladies and our Scholarship recipients.

It is a time to thank those who have planned and carried out last year's events and take the opportunity to sign up to be involved in next year's events and activities.

Jean Schlosser's life and involvement in our branch will be recognized.

For more information or to contribute to the brunch

Call Yolanda 582-1286

Feel free to invite a guest and let Yolanda know so they can be introduced.



The Big Wind is a bimonthly newsletter. Articles should be sent to Judy Galvin by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Do Be Do Be DO

**Gentle Reminder:
Dues DUE**

Please bring your check for **\$95** to the brunch or get it to **Mary Martin** before so that you can be in the drawing for a free membership!

Informative April Meeting~

Lynne from *This Is A Monarchy* gave a presentation on the importance of Monarch Butterflies and all butterflies in our eco system. Butterflies are becoming extinct because their habitat is being destroyed. Monarch butterflies need pesticide free milkweed and nectar plants to survive. Lynne brought samples of several plants and discussed how to have a butterfly garden in your yard. Lynne invited anyone who wanted to learn more to her "Butterfly Garden" in TO. There is no charge, just make an appointment and you will be amazed. Check out the website thisisamonarchy3@aol.com. You can reach Lynne at 805-807-0635

A Deliciously Successful Event

A big thank you for all of you for coming to our AAUW fundraiser! It was a beautiful day to enjoy each other's company AND we raised a total of \$445.00 for scholarships.



A special thank you to Betsy and Vince Dulcich for donating the pizzas and to Karen Cunningham, Amy Rieker, and Sharon Harper for bringing the delicious salads. Thank you also to Judy Pfeil for donating the coffee. And of course, thank you to all of you who brought one of the many yummy pies. Thank you to Maureen and Howard for hosting the afternoon.

Congratulations to Brook and Richard Harper for having the lucky 50/50 ticket—they are \$63 richer today :)

We need every one of you!

Simi Valley AAUW has had a great year with many **projects** (SouperBowl, Tech Trek, poinsettia sales, adopt-a-poll), **programs** (a great speaker on ways to improve our health in September, a Women in History presentation on Betsy Ross and an informational presentation on the Monarch butterflies) and **membership** activities (holiday Progressive Dinner)—just to mention a few! Our committees and many individual people have contributed to this successful year. But we are in need of some new eyes, ears, and faces with new ideas to make the 2018-19 year even better. We will have committee sign-up sheets available at the Spring brunch on May 12th and will distribute them at interest groups as well. We would like every member to sign up for at least one committee if at all possible. You may be an active participant on the committee or you may only be able to work on one little aspect of one of that committee's jobs. WE WANT EVERYONE TO FEEL THEY ARE A PART OF OUR WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION. By signing up for a committee, you will let that chair know you are interested in that particular area.

We are in need of new members on our Steering Committee. Consider being a co-chairperson, projects chair, treasurer, secretary, or a committee chair. Or even better, find a friend and offer to share a position with them. We are all busy people so sharing this job has made it fun and easy! We greatly recommend it.

Steering Committee Chair: Lorraine Erickson



California Statewide Direct Primary



Election Tuesday June 5, 2018

Polls Are Open From 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day!

Our branch is adopting a poll again this year, as a community service and fund raiser.
Karen Cunningham is taking sign-ups for 3-4 hour shifts.

The first training date is Thursday, May 4, other dates will be offered.

Contact Karen if you are interested in working at the poll .
527-3987 cell 501-1636
acunni1382@aol.com

Busy Legislative Session=Branch Advocacy Opportunities!



The California Legislature is gearing up for a busy session this spring and summer. With over 2000 bills introduced, the AAUW CA Public Policy committee and our advocate, Shannon Smith-Crowley narrowed our focus down to 31 pieces of legislation that fit AAUW's mission. While many worthwhile bills were introduced, as a committee, we try to focus on those areas where AAUW is an expert and often a lead- Title IX, Pay Equity and STEM. This year, there were several proposals in response to the #MeToo campaign and sexual harassment which we will be watching.

As the session unfolds, it might be helpful to have branches meet with their local legislators to discuss support of these bills. Shannon will determine what and who and then we will contact the branch in the legislator's area. Advocacy efforts might include phone calls or emails, or an office visit. There are tools on AAUW's website teaching how to have a successful visit and the Public Policy committee is available for coaching and ideas. We will also be following up on the ideas from the advocacy plenary at the state convention and working to create a database of who we know in public office to help with our collective advocacy efforts. We look forward to working with you and your branch!



Please check your email for your voting information.
The subject line reads **AAUW Election**
The email contains your voter ID # and PIN #.
Voting can be done on-line .

Your copy of Outlook should arrive this week with more information on the amendments. Voting closes June 9 but if you vote now you won't forget to get it done.



Simi Valley AAUW 2018 Scholarships

This year's scholarship committee met on April 16 to decide the recipients. The committee this year is: Lorraine Erickson, Jennifer Leonard, Kathleen Murvin and Hazel Hird. Eleven applicants submitted applications from our local high schools and Moorpark College. Jean Schlosser's recent passing brought about a memorial scholarship in her name.

Kate Gutierrez was awarded the Jean Schlosser Memorial Scholarship. Kate is a graduate of Moorpark College headed to CSUCI pursuing a degree in Psychology with a goal of working with autistic children.

Olivia Aussem from Simi High is going to UC Riverside. A former Tech Trek girl, she would like to teach elementary school, pursue a PhD and work at the university level. Olivia is a photographer and has shot 9 weddings.

Emily Ramirez from Royal High School is headed to California Lutheran University to study to become a math teacher. She has been a math tutor throughout high school and has excelled in high level math classes.

These young ladies will be at our Spring Brunch at Brook's home to briefly elaborate on their dreams and future plans.

Scholarship Committee

Tech Trek interviews were held March 1st at the Simi Valley Library. Our interview team of Dianne Annis, Lorraine Erickson, Judy Galvin, and Judy Pfeil interviewed 17 well qualified girls. I am pleased to announce the four girls chosen are **Arabella Carroll and Sophia Ramirez** from Signaloa, **Kennedy Gaughran** from Valley View, and **Natalie Miranda** from Hillside. They will be attending Tech Trek camp on the UC Santa Barbara campus this summer. The girls and their families will be introduced at the brunch on May 12.

Karen Cunningham, Tech Trek Coordinator



Birthdays to Celebrate



1 Kathy Morelock
7 Amy Rieker
19 Jean Morris
25 Diane Annis
29 Christine Palotay



4 Judy Pfeil
6 Ronnie Alperin
8 Maureen Everakes
15 Vinette Slatten
15 Marietta Spotts
17 Sharon Harper
24 Jeanette Martin
28 Bonnie Fox

Community Council Annual President's Breakfast

Saturday, June 9 at 10 AM

Posada Royale on Madera Road



Each year the Simi Community Council honors an outstanding volunteer from each member organization. This year our branch is proud to honor

Judy Galvin (aww shucks, thanks guys)

Judy writes, and sends out the bi-monthly newsletter, The Big Wind, along with keeping members updated with email notices. She volunteers on the Tech Trek interview/selection committee, adopt-a-poll and has chaired Evening Book Group for many years. She is very nice and humble too.

If you would like to attend the breakfast :

Tickets are \$22 . You can mail your check, made out to SVCC, to Marilyn Cameron 2043 Royal Ave SV 93065

Lorraine Erickson is being honored at the breakfast for her volunteer work with Kiwanis

INTEREST GROUPS CORNER

GREAT DECISIONS

Next meeting is Thursday, May 17 10 AM at Karen's . Media and Foreign Policy will be discussed.

Karen Cunningham

527-3987 443-6251 cell



BREAKFAST GROUP

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

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

MAY 10
FIRST STREET CAFE

JUNE 14
FLYING YOLK (FORMERLY DICKEYS
NEAR COST PLUS)

**Please let Diane Rehaut know if
plan to go. 526-4777**



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.



CA AAUW Convention 2018 Irvin CA

Five Simi Branch members attended the AAUW CA convention: Lorraine Erickson, Marilyn Cameron, Bakula Maniar, Karen Cunningham, and Judy Pfeil.

There were 250-300 attendees. Highlights were a very informative Public Policy Plenary, and then the Friday Kick off Dinner with Kim Churches, new CEO AAUW highlighting the future of AAUW. Saturday we were treated with a plenary featuring young inspirational women who are Women Peacemakers; the 3 top Speech Trek winners speaking on "How Can We Stand up to Sexism?"; and ending with the Gala Dinner featuring the fabulous AAUW Advocate Lisa Maatz, amazing us with her speech "Advocacy in the Age of Trump". Sunday gave us another great plenary "Advancing Equity for All" featuring a diverse panel, and ending with the 20th Tech Trek Anniversary Luncheon featuring a panel of former Tech Trekkers, 2 of which were Simi Valley girls: Jessica Brough, and Shannon Esswein. After the luncheon there was a reunion of around 300 former Trekkers and families. Virginia Seaton joined us for this event.

Judy Pfeil

OWLS 10:00 A.M

May 15 The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig; Roberta Leap

June 19 The Dressmaker's Dowry by Meredith Jaeger
Ruth Dempsey, Leslie Lonergan or Kathy Morelock

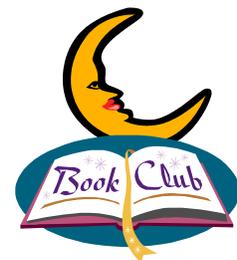


New faces are welcome. Paula Lightfoot 522-4040 or pmbrownL@yahoo.com
Or Roberta Leap 527-0670 robertaleap@sbcglobal.net

EVENING BOOK GROUP 7:30 PM

MAY 22 CHILBURY LADIE'S CHOIR BY JENNIFER RYAN
HOST BETSY REVIEWER JUDY PFEIL

JUNE TWO KINDS OF TRUTH BY MICHAEL CONNELLY
DATE AND PLACE TBA



New members are always welcome. Contact Judy Galvin 527-6349, ammom4299@aol.com

Walking with Friends

The walking group is still open for anyone who wishes to walk with us. We walk on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. sharp. We have walked at Santa Susana Park, Lemon Park (near the Senior Center on Tapo Canyon) and Chumash Park off Flanagan and Yosemite. We usually vary the parks' trails and decide the Sunday before which park we will be walking.

If interested, call or text Susanna Gibbons,
(805) 587-2559.

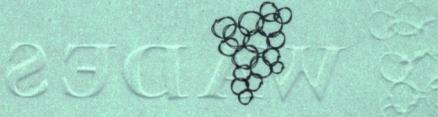




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The American Association of **University Women in Simi Valley** extends a sincere "Thank you" to our sponsors for their financial support of our Big Wind Newsletter.

In principle and 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.

WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THE BIG WIND?
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

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.