

# The Santa Clarita Valley Voice

Volume 9, Issue 9, May 2018



“We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already: we have the power to imagine better.”

*J.K. Rowling*

## AAUW Mission:

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.



*Please join us as we celebrate  
The 50th Anniversary of*

## **Santa Clarita AAUW** Saturday, May 19, 2018

Hyatt Regency Valencia  
24500 Town Center Drive  
Valencia CA

11 am—3 pm  
\$40 per person

Reservation Deadline: May 5, 2018  
Stephanie Dietrich [swdietrich51@gmail.com](mailto:swdietrich51@gmail.com) or 661-476-5290

Please mail your check made out to AAUW to:

Stephanie Dietrich  
24851 Carbon Ln  
Valencia, Ca 91354

Please indicate: menu selection:

\_\_\_\_\_ Oven roasted chicken      \_\_\_\_\_ Rosemary crusted pork loin  
\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian plate

If possible I would like to sit with \_\_\_\_\_

**ELECTED OFFICERS 2017-2018**

- President Stephanie Dietrich
- President Elect Open
- 1st VP Program Phyllis Dozier  
Tami Reyna
- 2nd VP Membership Barbara Oliver
- AAUW Funds Valerie Jones
- VP Finance Lynda McClellan
- Recording Secretary Betsy Swallow
- Public Policy Open

**APPOINTED OFFICERS 2017-2018**

- By-Laws Diane Bartley
- Newsletter Editor Nancy Heinisch
- Social Media Kelly Burke
- Webmaster Betty Kelly

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Auditors Diane Bartley  
MJ West
- Corresponding Secr. Rose Drye
- Historian Open
- Hospitality Christine McCarthy
- Internal Communications Louise Schultz
- Yearbook Betty Kelly
- Publicity Sonja Wendt
- Telecommunications Linda Metz

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**COC**

- MESA/STEM Kelly Burke
- Bucks 4 Books Kelly Burke
- Student Relations Robin Clough
- MESA Advisory Board Rebecca Corona-Nickerson
- Women’s Conference Rebecca Corona-Nickerson
- Humanities Ruthie Smith  
Barbara Oliver
- COC Student Affiliate Magaly Ambriz

**Tech Trek**

- Chair Diane Bartley
- Com. Fundraising Diane Bartley  
MJ West
- Schools Liaison Ginny Gregor
- Book Lovers Luncheon Diane Bartley  
Diane Millikin

**STEM Stars**

- Chair Tech Trek Moms

**Women in History**

- Program Co-Chairs Debbie McIntosh  
Louise Willard

**President's Corner**

**Celebrating 50 Years!**



Another year and another crazy weather month of April. This past year we celebrated our theme **On the Road Again**. Some of the programs were serious in topic and others entertaining. I know many of you have already planned your On the Road Again summer vacations.

What a delight to watch the women perform at the 31st Women in History April meeting. Not only did we formally elect next year’s officers, we learned about daring, strong women who made a difference in the fields of math and science. Thank you to Debbie McIntosh and Louise Willard, Co-Chairs of the Women in History Program.

It has been my pleasure to have served as your branch president for the past two years. Our board these past two years has supported me all the way. I leave you in good hands with Marianne Bakic assuming the duties of president. She has a full board with only the “historian” appointed position open.

**50TH ANNIVERSARY REMINDER!**

It was about this time last year I announced that our branch would be celebrating its 50th this coming May. Many members have been involved in making this truly a special occasion for all of us.

Just a few days left to mail that reservation form. And just because YOU ARE SPECIAL and are reading my column – I will extend the due date until Tuesday, May 8th. Shhh . . . Did I mention that everyone attending will receive a souvenir program and beautiful wine glass engraved with the 50th logo?

We were able to secure a larger room so please invite your friends, family members and any former AAUW members you’re still in contact with. I’d hate to hear that someone missed out because they weren’t notified. Let’s all come and acknowledge posthumously, the 2017 Named Gift Honoree, Virginia Prager-Elford. Member Lynn Prager and Virginia’s daughter-in-law will be on hand to accept the certificate on the family’s behalf. It is also the day we honor our founding members and our state AAUW president.

Come see if you’re in any of the photos we included in the PowerPoint presentation of our branch history. At least help us identify the people in the pictures.

We’ll also be saying good-bye to this year’s board members and installing the 2018-2019 officers. Looking forward to seeing you on the 19th!

*Stephanie*  
**Outgoing President (2016-2018)**  
[swdietrich51@gmail.com](mailto:swdietrich51@gmail.com)



Deadline for the June issue is May 25  
Please email submissions to Editor Nancy Heinisch  
[nancyheinisch@att.net](mailto:nancyheinisch@att.net)



# Interest Groups

## Interest Group Chairs

Bridge	Cathy Altuvilla
Evening Lit	Betsy Swallow
	Rose Drye
Great Decisions	Pat Horanberg
Hiking My Way	Sandra Cattell
Lunch Bunch	Debbie Harris
Mah Jong	Pat Oguss
Mystery Lit	Louise Schultz
Winey Ladies	Stephanie Dietrich

**Evening Lit's** book for May is David Grann's "Killers of the Flower Moon."

It presents a true account of the early twentieth-century murders of dozens of wealthy Osage and law-enforcement officials, citing the contributions and missteps of a fledgling FBI that eventually uncovered one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history.

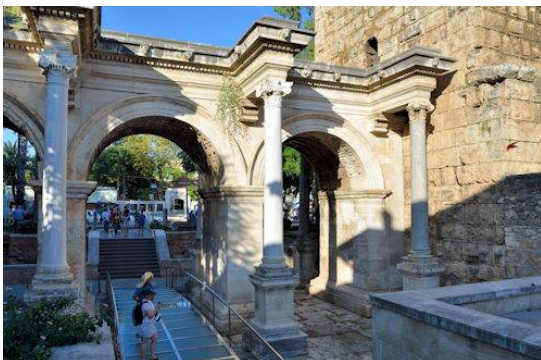
We'll be meeting at the home of Rose Drye, up in picturesque Bouquet Canyon, on Wednesday, May 2, at 6:45 pm. Dorine Blundell will be our discussion leader. Hope you can join us to discuss one of the FBI's first major homicide investigations!

*Betsy Swallow  
Rose Drye*

## Winey Ladies to Meet at 5 pm

Join us on Thursday, May 3, 5 pm, at Claim Jumper on The Old Road. Please RSVP to Stephanie so we know whom to expect.

*Stephanie Dietrich, Winey Ladies Chair  
swdietrich51@gmail.com*



**Great Decisions** will discuss Turkey: A Partner in Crisis on Thursday, May 24, 1 pm, at the Stevenson Ranch Library.



## A Tip of the Hat to Science and Math

**The 2018 Women in History Program** culminated with the presentation of five of the six historical figures portrayed this year in the public schools on the evening of April 17, 2018, as the program for our Annual Meeting.

Portrayers from Saugus High School, Meadows Elementary and West Creek Elementary performed Joy Adamson (Melissa Downes-Boyajian), Rosalind Franklin (Louise Willard), Ellen Swallow Richards (Jodi Guerrero), Katherine Johnson (Nicole Owens), and Rear Admiral Grace Hopper (Emily Verdi) for a large audience at Barnes & Noble Booksellers. Astronaut Peggy Whitson was portrayed this year in the schools, but was unable to attend the night at Barnes & Noble.

Louise Willard created a PowerPoint montage to view photographs of these women that played throughout the evening.

The portrayers and scriptwriters received gift cards as a thank-you for writing scripts and taking the time out of their busy schedules to perform. Mary Margaret Sunker will receive a card, too, for her wonderful script on Katherine Johnson.

Louise Willard once again provided beautiful backdrops for the performers and word searches, and Barnes & Noble's Community Liaison gathered books about these women for sale.

Thank you for supporting this program with your attendance and kind words.

If you wish to participate in next year's selections, portrayals, script writing, etc., please contact Debbie McIntosh or Louise Willard. We will again be choosing a theme as we did this year; as soon as we determine the theme, you will be alerted in the newsletter and can start sending recommendations. These recommendations will be democratically selected at our meeting in late September.

A big thank you goes to *The Signal*, KHITS-AM and our publicist. We received excellent local coverage.

See you in September!

*Debbie McIntosh and Louise Willard  
Co-Chairs Women in History Program*

Unable to attend this year's state convention? Our national CEO, Kim Churches, has posted online her message to all members at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/2018-state-convention-presentation/>.





### COC Women's Conference: "Making the Most of Your Life"

The 2018 Women's Conference sponsored by College of the Canyons was held on Saturday, March 17.

To start us off the college provided a wonderful breakfast buffet. Diane Fiero vice president of Human Resources gave the welcome address. Afterward we chose from a long list of workshops on a variety of topics with titles such as: DREAMS: From Hope to Reality; Breaking out of the Box – How to Live an Extraordinary Life; Find Your Own Voice and Know Your Rights; and many more.

With time for only three workshops, I chose the following: *Finding Your Ancestors – Beginning Genealogy*; *Creating Your Own Opportunities - When Others Say No*; and *The New Life Stage of Women 45 – 70+*.

The *Finding Your Ancestors* workshop was quite interesting and intriguing. The speaker showed us how simple it has become to search the internet for information about your family history and to create a family tree, wheel, chart, or fan!

The next workshop was *Creating Your Own Opportunities*. The speaker was a "Super Woman". After graduating college she wrote a book about Hollywood. While pursuing her dreams she couldn't get in the writers' door. So she became an actor, then a talent agent, then a casting director, then a producer, then produced a film based on her book and more. Whew! But the lesson taken was this: when others say you can't do it, keep trying to find your own way to get it done. AND don't be afraid to ask for guidance from those who surround you.

The last workshop was about women coming into a new stage of life at 45 to 70 plus. For the first time in history women of this generation have money, power, freedom and energy to make a difference in the world. It was a positive uplifting and engaging workshop.

After the workshops we were treated to a delicious lunch buffet from Wolf Creek Brewery and listened to four fabulous women from Boston Scientific give a keynote speech about their career paths and how they balance their work and home lives, or in other words, Making the Most of Their Lives.

Marianne Bakic

### Renew your AAUW Membership

Reminder: National has raised their dues to \$59, but State and Branch dues are still \$20 each. Your total dues are now \$99.00.

Save yourself time and postage by renewing through the Membership Payment Program. Using the quick and easy link in an email you should have received from National you can renew by credit card.

Otherwise follow the directions in the email to renew by check. Contact Treasurer Lynda McClellan if you have any questions at [game\\_mom@sbcglobal.net](mailto:game_mom@sbcglobal.net).



Santa Clarita Encore Chorale Spring Concert  
"You Make Me Feel So Young"

Friday, May 4, 7 pm  
Newhall Church of the Nazarene  
23857 The Old Road  
Newhall  
Free Admission

Roberta Kessler  
[rkessler1367@gmail.com](mailto:rkessler1367@gmail.com)



May 7 Kelly Burke  
May 9 Diane Weber  
May 11 Debra Halcrow  
May 12 Stephanie Dietrich  
May 13 Kitty Conant  
May 19 Diane Kreyenhagen  
May 23 Jodi Guerrero



We need four page callers for next year. It is a fun and easy position. There are 5 names on a page. Members **ONLY** need to be called when we have a special events as a reminder. It is enjoyable to speak to pleasant and often times funny ladies or (sometimes funny spouses) or hear cute voicemail messages. Contact: Linda Metz, 661-252-2099 or Lindee. [l@icloud.com](mailto:l@icloud.com).

## Tech Trek Awards Reception

Our Tech Trek Awards Reception was held on Saturday, April 21, and was attended by almost 100 campers, family members, teachers, counselors, former Trekkers and AAUW members. Kudos to Ginny Gregor, Sonja Wendt and Charlotte Judson for their hard work! Thanks also to former Trekkers Terra Lee, Amanda Judson, Nessia Dambal, Dani Ochoa, Elisa Kim and Emily Doi for helping to set up and clean up, as well as answering questions for the new campers and parents.

Thanks to our generous sponsors, we will be sending 23 girls to Tech Trek summer camps at CSU Fresno, UC Irvine, UC Santa Barbara and Whittier College. Our Welcome Home Party will be held on September 29th so save the date and join us to hear all about their experiences! Look for details in our September newsletter.



## AAUW Notecards to Arrive in Spring

It is almost time for the AAUW notecards to arrive in the mail. Send any amount to AAUW in the envelope provided and the money will go to our branch SCV-AAUW Funds account.

One of the winning entries ("Beach Friends" by Julie Dameron) is shown above.

*Valerie Jones, AAUW Funds*



## STEM Stars Tour Advanced Bionics

On April 4th, 15 STEM Stars toured Advanced Bionics, the local manufacturer of cochlear implants. Cochlear implants, simply put, can make deaf people hear. What an inspiring trip!

Michael Vaughan, director of the talented engineering team that supports production, was very generous with his time. We saw each step of the manufacturing process and the careful quality controls.



Joan Oexmann, Product Development Audiologist, took us to the training room and explained her role and her career path. With cochlear implants users often need more than six months of adjustments until they can hear as expected and audiologists need special training. Joan is the audiologist who develops these procedures and trains the Advanced Bionics Audiologist team to train audiologists around the world!

A big thanks to Rossana Blanco who organized the trip, and chaperones Jenewyn Van Wie, Sonja Wendt, Rossana, and our coordinator extraordinaire Diane Bartley.

*Sonja Wendt, Publicity*



## MAY 2018 INTEREST GROUPS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2 <b>EVENING LIT</b> 6:45 pm Home of Rose Drye betsy.swallow@att.net	3 <b>BRIDGE</b> 6:30 pm Cathy Altuvilla caltuvilla@gmail.com  <b>WINEY LADIES</b> 5 pm Claim Jumper Stephanie Dietrich swdietrich51@gmail.com	4 <b>MAH JONGG</b> 12 pm IHOP Canyon Country 18677 Soledad Pat Oguss poguss@gmail.com	5 <b>RSVP DEADLINE FOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCV-AAUW MAY 19TH</b> Stephanie Dietrich 661.476-5290 swdietrich51@gmail.com  <b>CINCO DE MAYO</b>
6 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">Please note that in July and September we don't offer <b>Mah Jongg</b> on the first Fridays days due to the national holidays that are celebrated early in each of those months.</div>	7	8	9 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> 6:30 pm Stevenson Ranch Library RSVP Betsy Swallow betsy.swallow@att.net	<b>BRIDGE</b> 6:30 pm Cathy Altuvilla caltuvilla@gmail.com	10	11
13 	14	15	16 <b>LUNCH BUNCH</b> 11:30 am Deborah Harris 818.621.6196 laprofa@yahoo.com	17 <b>BRIDGE</b> 6:30 pm Cathy Altuvilla caltuvilla@gmail.com  <b>MYSTERY LIT</b> 10:30 am Louise Schultz louise50@pacbell.net	18	19 <b>50TH AAUW ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION</b> Hyatt Regency Valencia 24500 Town Center Drive 11 am—3 pm
20	21	22	23	24 <b>GREAT DECISIONS</b> 1 pm Stevenson Ranch Library Pat Horanberg  <b>BRIDGE</b> 6:30 pm Cathy Altuvilla caltuvilla@gmail.com	25 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> nancyheinisch@att.net	26
27	28 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> 	29	30	31	1 <b>MAH JONGG</b> 12 pm IHOP Canyon County 18677 Soledad Pat Oguss poguss@gmail.com	2

## Vote on the Proposed AAUW Bylaws Amendments

By now you should have heard from our National AAUW about the three proposed bylaws amendments and how you can vote. Voting will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 pm ET. The three proposals are:

- + **creating three-year staggered board terms**
- + **opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership**
- + **eliminating the degree requirement for membership**

The following links explain the three in detail with the pros and cons:

<https://svc.aauw.org/recore/docu/aauw-bylaws-2017.pdf> and <https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>.

*Stephanie Dietrich, President*