

The Santa Clarita Valley Voice

Volume 11, Issue 4, December 2019



“I’ve come to believe that each of us has a personal calling that’s as unique as a fingerprint – and that the best way to succeed is to discover what you love and then find a way to offer it to others in the form of service, working hard, and also allowing the energy of the universe to lead you.”

Oprah Winfrey

AAUW Mission:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

AAUW Values:

Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

AAUW's Value

Promise:

Equity for All



You are cordially invited to the

Annual AAUW Holiday Party

**Saturday, December 14, 2019
1—3 pm**

**at the home of Marianne Bakic
28823 Phantom Trail
Santa Clarita 91390**

Bring your favorite dish, appetizer, salad or dessert. Drinks will be provided. This year we will be having a gift exchange so please bring a \$15 gift and join in on the fun.

To continue our AAUW tradition of helping others, please bring canned goods or nonperishable items to be donated to The Santa Clarita Food Pantry.

**RSVP by December 9 to Tami Reyna
reyna812@earthlink.net or call 661-297-3338**

ELECTED OFFICERS 2019-2020

President	Marianne Bakic
President Elect	Diane Millikin
1st Co-VP Program	Stephanie Dietrich
1st Co-VP Program	Arlene Saretsky
2nd VP Membership	Penny Van Dyke
AAUW Funds	Valerie Jones
VP Finance	Gail Quin
Recording Secretary	Cathy Altuvilla
Public Policy	Robin Clough

APPOINTED OFFICERS 2018-2019

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

ADMINISTRATIVE

Auditors	Diane Bartley Open
Corresponding Secr.	Rose Drye
Historian	Open
Hospitality	Tami Reyna
Internal Communications	Louise Schultz
Directory	Louise Schultz
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	Barbara Oliver Open
COC Student Affiliate	Open

Tech Trek

Chair	Diane Bartley
Com. Fundraising	Diane Bartley Open
Schools Liaison	Ginny Gregor
Book Lovers Luncheon	Diane Bartley Diane Millikin

STEM Stars

Chair	Sonja Wendt
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Women in History

Program Co-Chairs	Debbie McIntosh Louise Willard
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President's Corner**Season's Greetings**

December, the busiest month of the year has arrived. With holiday parties and shopping and cooking and baking, gathering of families and friends, we will be celebrating the season in style.

Unfortunately Santa Clarita has suffered some terrible tragedies this past year. But seeing so many community members come together to hold each other and support those who need it, gives me confidence that our community can survive these events bringing love and caring to each other.

On the good news front, I attended the AAUW Funds Luncheon on October 27th and met and listened to many young women, who received AAUW Fellowships and/or Grants this past year, tell us how much these funds meant to them. They are studying and working in a variety of areas that will benefit women in the future. They are studying Architecture, Medicine, Biology, Anthropology and Urban and Economic Sociology just to name a few.

On the national front, AAUW is watching five issues of importance to women and working on strategies to implement changes:

1. **Pay for Equal Work:** passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act
2. **Investing in Education:** raise teacher pay, invest in STEM, and protect Title IX
3. **Reducing Student Debt:** protect grant programs, champion tuition and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs
4. **Strengthening Social Security:** address retirement gap due to lower wages earned by women
5. **Implementing Paid Leave:** pass paid family and sick leave for illness and caregiving

In addition, Kimberly Churches, our AAUW CEO, will be holding an exclusive member webinar on Thursday, December 5th at 12 noon PST. Its title is "Together in 2019, Together in 2020" She will also discuss the latest research on sexual harassment, 2020 convenings and other strategic updates. Go to aauw.org for further information.

Finally, I hope to see you at our annual Holiday Party on December 14th, from 1 to 3 pm at my home this year. We will have a holiday gift exchange which should be lots of fun. So bring your favorite dish for the food table, a can of food for the food pantry, your \$15 gift for the gift exchange and your voice for some Christmas carols. Please join us for a lovely holiday afternoon. Guests are also welcome.

Wishing you a joyful holiday and a Happy New Year.

Marianne
mariannebakic@me.com

Deadline for the January issue of
The Santa Clarita Valley Voice is December 18
Editor Nancy Heinisch
nancyheinisch@att.net



Please welcome our new member
Gail Simon

Women in History: Women Authors

We will be portraying women authors this year. We have selected:

Mary Shelley: English author who made the science fiction/horror genre famous by writing the classic *Frankenstein: or, The Modern Prometheus* at the age of 19. Her unusual group of literary friends helped cultivate her fertile imagination.

Laura Ingalls Wilder: American author whose life on the prairie of the United States drew a vivid picture of the challenges and life of a pioneer.

Emily Dickinson: American poet who wrote beautiful verse from the perspective of her idyllic life near Amhurst, Massachusetts. She was best known for her unusual life of self-imposed seclusion.

Jane Austen: English author whose six major novels interpreted, critiqued and commented upon the British landed gentry at the end of the 18th century, and challenged the socially accepted norms. *Jane Eyre* and *Sense and Sensibility* are two of her most famous works.

Louisa May Alcott: Coming from a strong family based on education and the worth of hard work and continued contact with each other. Louisa became a nurse during the Civil War and was influenced by neighboring authors and intellectuals. *Little Women* and *Little Men* were some of her enduring contributions to American literature.

Dr. Nnedi Okorfor: Nigerian-American contemporary author of science and fantasy in novel and graphic novel form, with such recent credits as *The Black Panther* and *Who Fears Death?* A superb athlete, Dr. Okorfor started writing in college after a debilitating accident that left her paralyzed. She is currently working with George R.R. Martin on an HBO series.

We could use some help writing the scripts. It is not complicated and rather fun. The script only needs to be about three pages because the presentations can only last around 15 minutes. Please contact us to see which famous lady we need a script for. You will have plenty of time to write it and it really is a lot of fun.

Deborah McIntosh, historicalwomen@twc.com
Louise Williard, lwillard@harddistrict.org

The following general meetings are scheduled for 2020:

- February 22:** Clarissa Hernandez, mechanical engineer at Universal, will speak on her journey as a female engineer and involvement with Jurassic World and Harry Potter at Universal
- March (TBD):** A culinary experience at College of the Canyons
- April 14:** Women in History showcasing women authors

Stephanie Dietrich, swdietrich51@gmail.com
Arlene Saretsky, saretskya@sbcglobal.net



Humanities Scholarship Wine Tasting Fundraiser

Saturday, January 18, 2020
2 — 4 pm

Hoi Polloi Winery
24338 Main Street
Newhall

RSVP to Ruthie Smith by January 13th
ruthshelbysmith1@aol.com or
661-251-2155

\$20 cash or check payable at door.
Light appetizers provided.



Celebrating Our Friends Happy December Birthday

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Sandra Lam |
| 4 | Patricia Oguss |
| 8 | Betty Granger |
| 13 | Lynn Prager |
| 20 | Colleen Mulbrecht |
| | Penny Van Dyke |
| 24 | Rick McIntosh |
| 25 | Barbara Oliver |
| 27 | Judith Buntin |
| | Carol Trenda |
| 29 | Jacque Snyder |

Penny Van Dyke, 2nd VP Membership
pennyscv@aol.com

Interest Groups

Interest Group Chairs

Bridge	Cathy Altuvilla
Evening Lit	Betsy Swallow
	Rose Drye
Great Decisions	Pat Horanberg
Lunch Bunch	Deborah Harris
Mah Jongg	Pat Oguss
Mystery Lit	Louise Schultz
Winey Ladies	Debra Halcrow

Winey Ladies

Winey Ladies will meet Thursday, December 12, 5 pm, to ring in some holiday cheer! We will meet at Marston's Restaurant located at 24011 Newhall Ranch Road, Valencia.

*Debra Halcrow, Winey Ladies Chair
debhalcrow@hotmail.com*

Mah Jongg

We look forward to seeing everyone Friday, December 6, noon, at Oggi's, for the next first Friday game.

*Pat Oguss, Mah Jongg Chair
poguss@gmail.com*

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will meet Wednesday, December 18.

*Deborah Harris, Lunch Bunch Chair
laprofa@yahoo.com*

Book Lovers Brunch

The Book Lovers Brunch will be Saturday, February 1, 10 am - 2 pm, at the Oaks Club at Valencia.

*Diane Bartley, Tech Trek Chair
dianebartley6@gmail.com*



Evening Lit Meets December 4, 6:30 pm

Ho, Ho, Ho, to all you merry readers! We'll be discussing *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. In 1922 Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel near the Kremlin. Rostov has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery. While California can't compare with the Russian winter, we thought this an appropriate book to curl up with as our days grow shorter and colder.

Diane Bartley will be our discussion leader. We'll be meeting at The Open

Book bookstore located at 19188 Soledad Canyon Road. The bookstore is in the Food4Less shopping center at Soledad and White's Canyon along the back row of stores. You're welcome to bring a beverage to the meeting.

Looking forward to the New Year, our meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8, as we can't meet on New Year's Day. Please mark your calendars. The selected feature is *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean. In *The Library Book* Ms. Orlean chronicles the LA Central Library fire and its aftermath to showcase the larger, crucial role that libraries play in our lives; delves into the evolution of libraries across the country and around the world, from their humble beginnings as a metropolitan charitable initiative to their current status as a cornerstone of national identity; studies arson, and reexamines the case of Harry Peak, the blond-haired actor long suspected of setting fire to the LAPL more than thirty years ago. It's a riveting book.

Look forward to seeing you next week "in Moscow"!

*Betsy Swallow, betsyswallow@att.net
Rose Drye, rosedrye474@gmail.com*

Order Your Personalized Name Tag



We encourage every member to order a personalized magnetic name tag to wear to our events. You can order directly from Awards Trophies and Treasures, 27737 Bouquet Canyon Road #122, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, 661-513-0963. They have all the AAUW information needed to make your tag for a cost of \$10.95 including tax.

If you are not able to order and pick up your name tag, you may order through Diane Millikin. She will place a group order and bring completed name tags to a future event. If you would like Diane to order for you, send a check payable to AAUW for \$10.95 along with how you would like your name to appear on the tag. Call or email Diane with any questions.







*Diane Millikin, President-Elect
dianemillikin@gmail.com*

Visit <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2019/11/value-of-membership-one-page-summary.pdf/> to find out what your state dues provide.

Women Rising and Shining at the Wonderful World of Watercolor Painting Class



DECEMBER 2019 INTEREST GROUPS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 EVENING LIT 6:30 pm The Open Book Betsy Swallow betsyswallow@att.net	5 BRIDGE 6:30 pm Home of Roberta Kessler RSVP rkessler1357@gmail.com	6 MAH JONGG 12 pm Oggi's Pat Oguss poguss@gmail.com	7
8	9 RSVP DEADLINE FOR HOLIDAY PARTY Tami Reyna reyna812@earthlink.net 661-297-3338	10	11	12 WINEY LADIES 5 pm Marstons 24011 Newhall Ranch Road Debra Halcrow debhalcrow@hotmail.com 661-904-7610	13	14 HOLIDAY PARTY 1-3 pm Home of Marianne Bakic 28823 Phantom Trail Santa Clarita 
15	16	17	18 LUNCH BUNCH 11:30 am Debbie Harris laprofa@yahoo.com DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER nancyheinisch@att.net	19 MYSTERY LIT 10:30 am Barnes and Noble Louise Schultz louise50@pacbell.net ANNUAL HOLIDAY BRIDGE PARTY 5:30 pm at Diane Webers RSVP Cathy Altuvilla caltuvilla@gmail.com	20	21 WINTER BEGINS 
22	23 HANUKKAH 	24	25 CHRISTMAS 	26 KWANZAA BEGINS 	27	28
29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE	1 	2	3	4 <div style="background-color: #f0e6e6; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><i>Please support our Bucks 4 Books Award by donating your spare change at meetings.</i></div>

Happy Holidays!

Marianne, Diane, Stephanie, Arlene, Gail, Penny,
Valerie, Cathy, and Robin