

PIPELINE MARCH, 2016

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

MEETINGS

Book Group—Thursday, March 3rd at 1:00pm at Stella Fife’s—*Hiroshima Maidens* by Rodney Parker

Book Group—Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00pm at Jo Turner’s—*The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.

Board Meeting—Monday, March 7th at 10:00am at Jo Turner’s

Woodie Rucker-Hughes & Andy

Melendrez—Thursday March 10 at 10:00am at Habitat for Humanity

Great Decisions—Thursday, March 17 at 7:00pm at Jo Turner’s (p. 3)

Out & About—Sam Maloof’s—Thur, March 24 at 10:00am at Jo Turner’s (p.3)

Current Affairs—Monday, March 28th at 1:00pm at Stella Fife’s

“I am a woman above everything else.”

Jackie Kennedy

WOODY RUCKER-HUGHES and

ANDY MELENDREZ



Woodie Rucker-Hughes is a longtime educator. She said she has enjoyed her Career in education because "it's the opportunity to mold and lead by example and serve as a role model."

She also is president of the Riverside branch of the NAACP; serves on the Citizens Advisory Committee to the Chief of Police and is a member of Parkview Community Hospital Medical board of directors.



Andy Melendrez is a Councilman for Ward 2 in Riverside and was sworn in on June 18, 2013 to serve his third term. In 1982 he established Innovative Vocational Services, a company that specializes in Career Development for injured workers.

He is a lifelong resident of Riverside. He is very involved and works diligently to ensure the success, safety and progress of the area covered by Ward 2, as well as the city of Riverside.

We are very privileged to have these two speakers !

10:00am, MARCH 10, HABITAT

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Barbara Ryon
Administrative VP	Ruthann Mlcoch
AAUW Funds VP	Cynthia Sprague
Secretary	Barbara Purvis
Treasurer	Jennifer Binkley
Communications	Taffy Geith
International Affairs	Carrie Garrett
Parliamentarian	Barbara Purvis





INTEREST GROUPS & OTHERS

Book Group—1st Thursday at 1 pm	Stella Fife
Book Group—2nd Thursday at 1 pm	Lisa Newhall
Great Decisions—3rd Thursday at 7 pm	Jo Turner
Current Affairs—4th Monday at 1:00 pm	Marilyn Dunagan
Out & About—dates and times vary	Jo Turner
Bridge Group—4th Monday at 7:00 pm	Muriel Berger
UCR Coordinators	Carole Nagengast
	Luisa Tassan



March 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Tula Gallanes	2	3 Book Group 1:00pm Stella Fife's <hr/> Book Group 7:00pm Jo Turner's	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 <u>ANDY MELENDREZ</u> <u>WOODY RUCKER-HUGHES</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> <u>Habitat For Humanity</u>	11 Mary Lorenson	12 EQUAL PAY DAY
13	14	15	16	17 Great Decisions 7:00pm Jo Turner's 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25  GOOD FRIDAY	26
27 	28 Current Affairs 1:00pm Stella Fife's	29	30	31		



BARB RYON

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This has been a busy month and some exciting things are happening. On behalf of the Board and members I want to again thank Superintendent Dr. Judy White from Moreno Valley Unified School District and Superintendent Dr. David Hansen from Riverside Unified School district for their financial support of our Tech Trek Program. Zonta was also a sponsor this year for one applicant. This strengthens our efforts to send girls to camp.

The Tech Trek applications are being returned and the committee will soon be busy reading these, making decisions and setting up interviews. I welcome the three new members to this committee- Rosaleen Gibbons, Charlotte Lucey and Ginger Martin.

I am continuously impressed and honored to meet the speakers at our general membership meetings. Judge Sunshine Skyes shared her story and the path taken to become a Judge. It was wonderful to have several college ladies joining us. Arianna Vargas was a former Tech Trek camper and even brought pictures to share. Tech Trek does make a difference!

Jo Turner takes her role of recruiting new members very seriously and we welcome our newest members—Jim Montgomery, Dan Hantman, Dr. David Hansen and e-student Ursula Simonoski.

I was so pleased to see Ruth Wilson at our last meeting and got to share the story about her donating the award money from AARP.

It is with much relief that Jennifer Binkley has come on as our new Treasurer.

COMING EVENTS

February 27 **Lunafest**
 March 16th **Andy Melendrez and
 Woodie Rucker-Hughes**
 April 12 **Equal Pay Day**
 April 13 **Jennifer McDowell, Fire Chief**
 April 15th-17th **AAUW CA Convention**
 April 30th **SEIBC Meeting**
 May 18th **Eunjung Cho on Immigration**

OUT & ABOUT—SAM MALOOF

House built one room at a time as he could afford to pay cash by the furniture maker



Thursday, March 24th

10:00 AM ? at Jo Turner's

And lunch on the way?

Or meet at 12:00 noon? for

1:00 PM Tour Reservation

5131 Carnelian Street, Alta Loma

\$12.00 for Seniors

1 and 1/2 hours long

This is an unbelievable experience.

RSVP to Jo Turner

GREAT DECISIONS

We now have 9 members in our group. The Chapter we are dealing with for March is "Korean Choices." What major problems does South Korea face? What is the possibility of Reunification? Is the U.S. policy toward South Korea helpful? Come to our discussion on Thursday, March 24th at 7:00 PM at Jo



JANUARY MINUTES

[Board Meeting Minutes](#)

[General Meeting Minutes](#)

NEW MEMBERS

David Hansen, Ed.D. (Diane) 788-7131
 3380 14th St. dchansen@rusd.k12.ca.us
 Riverside, CA 92501
 BS Industrial Tech Brigham Young Univ.
 MS Educational Admin. Cal St. San Bern.
 Ed.D. Educ. Leadership Univ. of La Verne

Dan Hantman 205-4888
 4072 Chestnut St. dan4mjg@gmail.com
 Riverside, CA 92501
 BA Political Science Univ. CA Berkley
 JD Law Univ. of San Fran

James Montgomery 966-8834
 2718 Ronald St.
 Riverside, CA 92506
 BS Cal. Poly Pomona

Urusula Simonoski 909-747-8162
 1652 Big Sky Dr. ursasim@verizonet
 Beaumont, CA 92223

TECH TREK NEWS

By Christine Morgando

All nominations are in! AAUW Riverside received a total of 118 nominations for 2016 Tech Trek. 81 nominations came from the teachers of Riverside Unified School District and 37 nominations came from the teachers of Moreno Valley Unified School District.

The Tech Trek committee will be meeting on March 1st to discuss rating applications and selecting girls to interview. Interviews are planned to take place the 3rd week in March.

AAUW Riverside has confirmed 7 spots at UCSD Tech Trek for Riverside selected students and 6 spots at Whittier Tech Trek for Moreno Valley selected students. Funding for selected campers will come from various sources including MVUSD, RUSD (new this year thanks to Barb Ryon and Jo Turner!), and donations. If you think you know a person or organization that may be interested in sponsoring one of our girls, please contact Barbara Purvis for pointers and templates at purvisbarb@aol.com.

Stay tuned as we move forward!

SEIBC MEETING—January 30



Theresa Lantz, Redlands
 Carrie Garrett



Barb Ryon and Donna Mertens, Victor Valley
 in the background: Judy Horan, National



JUDGE SYKES MEETING



JUDGE SUNSHINE SYKES

By Taffy Geith

The elegant Mayor's Ceremonial Room, on the seventh floor, at City Hall, the Riverside, San Geronio, Moreno Valley Branch of AAUW.

After a tasty buffet lunch, President, Barb Ryon, thanked members and guests for coming and introduced special guests, Belina A. Handy, Commissioner of Superior Court, Fire Battalion Chief, Jennifer McDowell and Arianna Vargus, a former Tech Trek girl. This gave President Ryon opportunity to briefly define our AAUW Tech Trek Summer Camp program for girls going into eighth grade which concentrates on teaching the STEM subjects. Our Branch will be sending thirteen girls this year and President Ryon was pleased to say that Dr. David Hansen of Riverside Unified has pledged \$5,000.00 to add to our Tech Trek Funds. A very welcome gift!

Barbara Purvis, Treasurer, introduced our featured speaker, Judge Sunshine Sykes, a member of the Navajo Nation and the first Native American to be appointed to the bench in Riverside County.

Judge Sykes thanked us for the invitation, and said she was born on the Navajo Reservation in Tuba City, Arizona and has journeyed, arduously, at times, to reach her present place in the Justice System of Riverside County. Judge Sykes said her family had many struggles. Importantly, the Navajo tradition is that it is a matrilinear culture and her great grandmother, (who did not speak English), her grandmother, and her mother always promoted the idea that education was necessary for a better life. Both her grandmother and grandfather went to Indian Schools (sponsored by US Government), and her grandmother got a college degree and was able to support her family. Her mother knew she had to go to college, as she had been raised with that belief.

Judge Sykes father was from Florida and was not a Native American. Her parents divorced when she was five. She said that her mother was seventeen when she was born. She lived with her mother in Gallup, New Mexico — a rough, border town with much poverty and alcoholism. Her mom had a tough time. When Judge Sykes was in ninth grade, she decided to go live with her dad in New York City. She attended a private Quaker High School — had to learn to adapt to new situations, be strong and to make the best of what she had. She had more opportunities because he had more. She came back to Arizona in her senior year of high school. She continued on in pursuit of higher education, completing her undergraduate studies at Stanford University and graduated with Honors in 1997.

During the following year, Judge Sykes worked as an intern at California Indian Legal Services, beginning Stanford Law School in 1998. While at Law School she worked as a clerk for the same Indian Legal Services in Oakland and Tuba City, Arizona. After graduating from Stanford Law School 2001, she continued in a variety of jobs concerning Native American issues, such as domestic violence, tribal jurisdiction and child welfare. In 2003 Judge Sykes began work as a Deputy County Counsel in Riverside County developing an expertise in Indian Child Welfare. In addition she managed a broad litigation caseload, was lead counsel for the Riverside Transportation Department, and solo counsel to represent the Registrar of Voters. This is a very abbreviated account of the number and variety of legal offices and jobs that Judge Sykes accomplished. On Dec. 3, 2013 Judge Sykes was appointed to the Riverside County Superior Court, and on June 3, 2014 was elected to the same position by the voters of Riverside County.

Judge Sykes is married to an attorney, has four daughters and lives in Riverside. She stated that she has had a lot of doors opened to her that brought her to her present place, but she admitted that at times her life is very busy. Although the Navajo culture has changed and the dynamics of a matrilinear culture has shifted, Judge Sykes has grounded herself in the teachings of her ancestors and teaches her children about their Navajo heritage. They do not have to struggle because their environment is different but she takes them back to Arizona to see their grandparents and feels they gain from that. She visits their schools, and strives to show them that women are more equal in many areas of their lives, and, of course, she points out the diversity in her own line of work.

Judge Sykes was asked to define the process to be appointed as a Judge. She replied the 1) the applicant must have ten years experience as an attorney, 2) the applicant must submit an application attesting to the kind of attorney they were, 3) the Judicial Commission reviews the application, 4) the applicant is interviewed by the Commission, 5) the appointment goes to the governor's office and his commission makes the decision.

We applaud Judge Sykes for her Navajo spirit, her tenacity in achieving her goals, and her many efforts in giving legal help to Native Americans. We find her journey inspiring. President Ryon thanked her for coming, and gifted her with our token AAUW mug and a special succulent planted in a baby shoe.

RIVERSIDE PIPELINE

Jo Turner
849 Daffodil Drive
Riverside, CA 92507

Phone 951-786-3966
Email jot888@sbcglobal.net



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

AAUW Statement on the Passing of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

By Carole Nagengast

The AAUW joins the nation in mourning the passing of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. We offer sincere condolences to his family and friends, including his fellow justices with whom he has helped shape the course of American jurisprudence for nearly 30 years.

The Supreme Court has pending cases that will greatly affect the everyday lives of women and their families, and Justice Scalia's death creates a vacancy at a critical juncture. It is in the face of losing such a legal giant that we remember how fortunate we are, as a nation, to have a constitutional process to see us smoothly through this transition.

AAUW hopes that elected leaders will rise above the partisan fray and simply do what the Constitution requires: President Barack Obama and the U.S. Senate must move forward to fairly and expeditiously select and consider a nominee. In so doing, the American people will be reassured that a fully staffed court will be available to deliver this year's critical Supreme Court decisions.

