

# JULY 2016

## RIVERSIDE/SAN GORGONIO/MORENO VALLEY

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

### MEETINGS

**Book Group**—Thursday, July 2 at 1:00pm at Stella Fife's—*The Last Bus to Wisdom* by Ivan Doig.

**Book Group**—Thursday, July 14th at 7:00pm at Erika Britton's—*Hello from the Gillespies* by Monica McInerney

**Program Planning Meeting**—Monday, July 11 at 10:00am at Jo Turner's

**ACTION PLANNING MEETING**—Wednesday, July 27th at 10:00am at Luisa Tassan's.

**MEMBERSHIP ENRICHMENT DAY**—Saturday, July 30th at 9:30am at Habitat for Humanity.

### ANOTHER NEW MEMBER

**Edna Vallecillo Garcia** 213-713-5735  
25354 Noble Canyon Street  
Corona, CA 92883  
[garcia25354@gmail.com](mailto:garcia25354@gmail.com)

*NO AUGUST PIPELINE  
Give me a break. I'll be working on the Directory*

### August Birthdays



Virginia Blumenthal	2
Yvonne Boudevin	6
Jennifer Vaughn-Blakely	10
Erika Britton	10
Edna Vallecillo Garcia	12
Carrie Garrett	18
Christine Gailey	21

### NEW MEMBERS—SAN GORGONIO

<b>Beulah Cheever</b>	<b>909-882-5427</b>
1188 Sonora Drive	<a href="mailto:bccheever@aol.com">bccheever@aol.com</a>
San Bernardino, CA 92404	
BS Univ. of Wisconsin	MEd Western
	Washington Univ.
<b>Carolyn Eggleston</b>	<b>909-882-3615</b>
3660 Ridgeline Drive	<a href="mailto:egglesto@csu">egglesto@csu</a>
San Bernardino, CA 92407	
BS Tennessee Tech Univ.	MA Tenn. Tech Univ.
PhD Virginia Commonwealth Univ.	
<b>Donnamae Reynolds</b>	<b>909-882-5427</b>
1188 Sonora Drive	
San Bernardino, CA 92404	
BA Univ. of Wisconsin	MA Univ. of Wisc.

### BOARD MEMBERS

Co-Presidents	Luisa Tassan
	Barbara Ryon
AAUW Funds VP	Cynthia Sprague
Public Policy	Carole Nagengast
Secretary	Barbara Purvis
Treasurer	Jennifer Binkley
International Affairs	Carrie Garrett
Parliamentarian	Barbara Purvis
Tech Trek Co-chairs	Ginger Martin
	Cynthia Sprague

### INTEREST GROUPS & OTHERS

Book Group—1st Thursday at 1 pm	Stella Fife
Book Group—2nd Thursday at 1 pm	Lisa Newhall
Great Decisions—3rd Tuesday 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



# July 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3  <b>Katie Greene</b>	4  <b>happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>	5	6	7 <b>Book Group</b> 1:00pm Stella Fife's	8	9
10	11 <b>Program Planning Meeting</b> 10:00am Jo Turner's	12  <b>Lori Webb</b>	13	14 <b>Book Group</b> 7:00pm Jo Turner's	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 <b>ACTION PLANNING MEETING</b> 10:00am Luisa Tassan	28	29	30 <b>MEMBERSHIP ENRICHMENT DAY</b>
31						

## ACTION PLANNING MEETING

Join us on July 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am

Action Planning meeting for the 2016-17

The home of Co-President Luisa Tassan,

**1145 Via Pintada, Riverside**

### Planned Agenda:

- Review survey results
- Ideas for an Action Plan
- Choosing an action plan focus
- Implementing the Action Plan

Do plan to come to Luisa's beautiful home and help us plan an action to focus on for the year.

## SEIBC MEMBERSHIP DAY

We are so very lucky to State Board member, **Ainsley Nies** coming to conduct the "Open Space" session for us.

**Saturday, July 30 at**

**9:30 AM at**

**Habitat for Humanity**

**RSVP to Jo Turner by July 27**

**\$5.00 at the door.**

At Habitat for Humanity, we will have four separate, ground floor rooms available for two sets of discussions. It should be a very interesting day and an opportunity to meet members from nine other branches.

## WORTH REPEATING

**Did you know that you can give an unlimited number of National and State GIVE A GRAD A GIFT at no cost to you or the grad(s)?**

Go to <http://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/> to register your grad. In addition If you forward the online form to our state office ( [office@aauw-ca.org](mailto:office@aauw-ca.org)) they can become members of AAUW California as well.

## AAUW'S NON-PARTISAN POLICY

I voted for Nancy Melendez for Mayor, but never used the AAUW name. Now I've invited Nancy as a speaker on the Trujillo Adobe in May as Rusty Bailey has been elected Mayor and so then Nancy will no longer be a candidate.

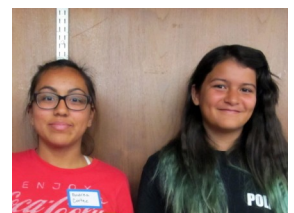
Per AAUW policy, no AAUW branch or state organization may endorse any candidates in any partisan election, including local, state, congressional, gubernatorial, or presidential elections. Endorsement includes any oral or written statements that may be construed as supporting or opposing a political candidate, party, or Political Action Committee (PAC) or as advocating for

## Riverside Girls — MEET 'N GREET



Idora Idakwe, Sarah Helfand, Gabriela Romero, Carey Yoon, Anabel Asencio, and Sophia Navarro

## Moreno Valley Girls



Andrea Cortez,  
Shauna Jones

**MAY MEETING WITH JENNIFER MCDOWELL**

**By Taffy Geith**

On Wednesday, May 18, at 10:00 AM the Three-City Branch of the American Association of University Women met in the Community Room of Habitat for Humanity at 2180 Iowa Ave., Riverside.

After an exchange of news and views with coffee and cookies, President, Barb Ryon welcomed all in attendance at 10:20 AM. She was pleased to say that all the Tech Trek expenses have been paid. Moreno Valley paid the full \$900.00 for each Trekkie and the Riverside Unified School District donated \$5,000.00 to us this year. Luisa Tassan will be a camp counselor at UC San Diego this year – a first for our Branch. Carole Nagengast and Ruthann Mlcoch showed banners of different sizes and shapes that showcase our name and branch that can be used at any of our meetings to identify our presence. Jo Turner gently reminded all that these banners as well as pens to be given to our Trekkies can be ordered from the on-line AAUW store.

New member, Charlotte Lucey, introduced her next door neighbor, Jennifer McDowell, our speaker for today. Jennifer McDowell is the first woman battalion chief in the history of the Riverside Fire Department and the highest ranking woman in department history. To honor this achievement, Deborah Rose, Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Marion Ashley, 5<sup>th</sup> District, presented a special certificate to Jennifer at this time. Jennifer graciously accepted the certificate and also thanked us for inviting her to speak.

Jennifer had a unique childhood -- adopted from a foster home at six months of age (along with a brother) she enjoyed dance and sports and wanted to do it all. However, her parents parted, she stayed with her mother for a time, then lived with her dad in Corona for a while and by high school age, she was making her home with the family of her best friend. She loved these new role models! She feels that these experiences helped her grow up – she learned to overcome challenges. She's sure these struggles made her strong. She took the high school Assessment Test to learn what her strengths were – she learned she loved the outdoors and loved being physical. Her mentors advised her to go to college and get her degree, after which she worked with her mentors in their business – interior design and architecture. Her brother, a fire fighter, invited her to visit a Fire Station. Of course, she loved it – the physical aspect of it, working with and helping people. She went through the Fire Academy and became a fire-fighter at 24 years of age.

By this time Jennifer had her own apartment, and her own car. She got her Master's Degree, went through a four year program at the National Fire Academy in Maryland and took classes in fire prevention, fire investigation and rescue and recover. (She took a class for Technical Assistance four times, but by keeping at it, she passed.) She learned how to mentor the people for whom she is responsible and learned how to give back to her organization. She went through the ranks at the Fire Station -- Fire Captain, Battalion Chief and now Chief. Chief Moore has had a lot of struggles and he took her under his wing – telling her, “it's time you were recognized.” She believes he was important in her getting her promotion, despite the fact that the Fire Department is viewed as “the Old Boys Club.”

*(continued on next page)*



*(continued from page 4 — May meeting with Jennifer McDowell)*

For a long period women were not promoted, but there are more women in the Fire Department now. The new Chief has just hired six smart, strong women who have a passion to be fire fighters. Riverside has a budget deficit and the City wants to cut the Fire Department by 2%. All agencies are finding ways to cut in an ethical way.

Jennifer is married to a retiree from the Department of Corrections and has two sons – one ready to begin at Cal. Poly Pomona. Because her husband is retired, he is now “Mr. Mom” with their two sons and is supportive of her in her busy career. Jennifer is a happy person and closed by saying that her life and career have been a “great ride.” She adds the caveat that nothing is perfect and there will always be trials.

President Ryon, thanked Jennifer for her interesting presentation, and praised her for her success and great accomplishment. She gifted her with the AAUW mug and bouquet of flowers.

President Ryon proceeded with a creative way to install the officers for the coming year. As each came forward, she presented them with a special candy bar and spray of flowers.

Luisa Tassan – Co- President with Barb Ryon  
Ruthann Mlcoch- Program Vice President  
Barbara Purvis\* - Secretary

Jennifer Binkley—Treasurer  
Carole Nagengast—Public Policy  
Carrie Garrett—International Affairs

\*Ginger Martin stood in for the absent Barbara Purvis.

All in attendance voiced approval for this new slate of officers.



Taffie Geith accepting the flowers for her services as Communications Chair.



# RIVERSIDE PIPELINE

Jo Turner  
849 Daffodil Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507

Phone 951-786-3966  
Email [jot888@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jot888@sbcglobal.net)



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

## **August BOOK GROUP—7:00 P M**

### ***The Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging***

By Sebastian Junger

Junger has written about something I have long understood to be central to societal success and failure - tribalism. This trait is what got humans through the first million years, but now is becoming a potential fatal flaw as politicians and religious leaders exploit this most basic of human traits.

Soldiers are willing to die for their country, but then have no idea how to live for it. That is HUGE message about America and where we should be going as a society that we can't afford to ignore. Why is it our best hours were just after 9/11 BEFORE the politicians proceeded to exploit the fear for their own ambitions? Very provocative.

**Thursday, August 11—Erika Britton's**

## **August BOOK GROUP—1:00 P M**

### ***A SPOOL OF BLUE THREAD***

By Anne Tyler

*A Spool of Blue Thread* is the story of several generations of the Whitshank family beginning with Red and Abby and their four children and numerous grandchildren. Red and Abby are from the sixties generation. The novel opens with them receiving a phone call from their problem son Denny announcing he is gay and then hanging up. Just your typical American family but a bit quirkier like all families.

Tyler's brilliant understanding of the psychology of parents and children all combine to create a memorable and breathtaking novel.

**Thursday, August 11—Stella Fife's**