



empowering women since 1881

Riverside-Moreno Valley-San Geronimo (CA) Branch

THE PIPELINE

Summer 2020



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

VISION: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

<https://riverside-ca.aauw.net/about/newsletter>

A Message from our Branch President

President's Farewell

My parting words should be “Beware of COVID-19, and stay safe”. However, I would rather leave on a more hopeful note. This Branch has faced problems in the past, but we have managed to persevere and develop new programs, grow the ones we had, and present programs that were educational, informative and inspiring.

Over the years we have increased our participation in Tech Tech. From the Riverside Unified School District, we expanded our reach to include the Moreno Valley Unified School District with the number of girls participating increasing as well. Starting with our annual Tech Trek Brunch and our “asks” for funds from our County Supervisors and others, we have also managed to garner grants from the Districts to help pay for the program. In the not too distant future, we will be able to restart this program and/or an alternative program with the same mission with equal vigor and success.

Our program for books for kids may also have to change from printed books to other devices. But we are fortunate to have members able to adjust when a school district is only able to accept new books. The gently used books are finding other homes that serve the original purpose for which they were given—to instill in young children the love to read.

COVID-19 forced us to cancel our program in March with the Friends of the Riverside Public Library and Inlandia Institute to present local author Susan Straight. But once we are able to hold meetings safely with more than ten people, we have members with great suggestions on those we would love to hear and fulfill our mission. Recommendations are always welcome.

You will be receiving the slate of officers and directors for 2020-2021 by either email or snail mail. I would like to thank the two members who are willing to step forward to become co-presidents of this branch. They will give that office new vitality. I also wish to thank the new or relatively new members of the board. I greatly appreciate their commitment. I also wish to recognize officers and directors who have been with us for some time. They have shown up at meetings; made great suggestions; and did all of the hard work including, but not limited to, Tech Trek, books for kids, newsletters, program planning and hospitality. Special thanks to Barbara Ryon who wore many hats last year and is continuing on the one job I will never agree to have—Treasurer.

Through this pandemic and beyond, we will continue our mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy,

and research. And we need your help to do so. So if you have not already renewed, please do so. If you have already renewed, my thanks. I actually did it on-line. If you know of others who believe in our mission, please ask them to join. There is still life in this branch and a future to be met.

Stay safe and thanks for your commitment.

Barbara Purvis, President

General Branch Meetings

All in-person meetings are suspended until further notice to protect your health and that of the community at large. We will let you know when this changes.



From Ginger Martin, Tech Trek Coordinator:

Covid-19 has had an effect on so many aspects of our lives, and Tech Trek is no exception. The camps for this June were cancelled statewide earlier this spring. A survey was sent out to all the Tech Trek coordinators asking if the girls selected to attend Tech Trek for June 2020 should be allowed to attend in June 2021. Our board agreed they should but the consensus statewide was they should not. The director of the San Diego camp, Mary Isaac, was able to arrange a partnership with Qualcomm and The Society of Women Engineers in order to offer an online Robotics camp STEMInists Making Change for August 3-7, 2021. Emails were sent out to all the girls and their parents asking if they wished to apply. They received a positive response from over 80 of the approximately 100 girls slated to attend Tech Trek. Of those that applied, they selected 40 girls to be a part of the Robotics online camp. We had planned to send eight girls to the San Diego camp and we were allocated three slots for this online program. However, only two of our girls actually completed an application and they will be taking part in this online camp.

At local chapter's June Zoom board meeting, we discussed whether we should proceed with the selection process for Tech Trek 2021. The process starts in October each year when we have to notify the camp directors of how many

girls we wish to send. Then in January we send the information to the schools asking for nominations from the teachers. Since no one knows what is going to happen with Covid-19, the Board decided not to send girls to the 2021 Tech Trek camp. We do not want to ever again to have the girls go through the selection process and then have to tell them that they will not be able to attend after all. Here's hoping by 2022 we will be able to send girls to camp once again.

YOUR LOCAL BRANCH ACTIVITIES



Slate for Board of Directors and Elected Officers

The following people are candidates for the Board of Directors for 2020-2021. Please see the attached ballot and please vote.

Co-Presidents: Carole Nagengast and Amanda Nichols (cnagenga@gmail.com & amanda311@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Barbara Purvis: PurvisBarb@aol.com;

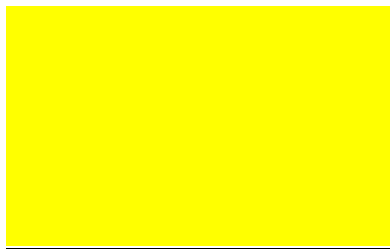
Treasurer & Membership: Barb Ryon; barbderf@yahoo.com

Assistant Treasurer: Charlotte Lucey; mdpel@aol.com

Communications: Ginger Martin; duncan11592@gmail.com

At large: Ellie Bennett, Julie Bennett; Carrie Garrett; Ginger Martin; Ruthann (Millie) Mlcoch); Keri Then.

Board Meetings. All are welcome! We have been meeting by Zoom. Please contact the (presumed) new Secretary, Barbara Purvis; PurvisBarb@yahoo.com 951 351-8711 for the schedule and the Zoom login if you wish to join us.



Afternoon Book Club

This club is suspended for the time being. We'll let you know when meetings resume.

Evening Book Club

We have been meeting by Zoom and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. We usually meet the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm. Please contact Erika Britton 951 633-5746 for the Zoom login if you wish to join us. All are most welcome.

Great Decisions Discussion Group

Suspended for the foreseeable future. We will resume when safe, presumably at the house of Charlotte Lucey, as before.



May: Amanda Nichols (May 7); Joan Leukhardt (May 29)

June: Ginger Martin (June 8); Tim Caszatt (June 12)

July: Nancy Lane (July 24)

August: Virginia Blumenthal (Aug 2); Erika Britton (Aug 10); Carrie Garrett (Aug 18)

If we have omitted your birthday, this month or any month, please let Ginger Martin know; duncan11592@gmail.com

More Local Branch News

Books For Kindergarten and TK (from Carole Nagengast)



Since Moreno Valley and Riverside School Districts are unable to accept even gently used books during the Covid-19 crisis, the Board authorized us to buy over 200 new books. Thanks to Amanda Nichols for facilitating this with Scholastic Books. We took the books to the Moreno Valley School District, which has been distributing the books along with free lunches to TK and Kindergarten children and we have received a letter from the MVSD superintendent

thanking us. We have some ten cartons of gently used books that were donated before the virus crisis. The board has decided to give these to several Church and Refugee groups in Riverside that are still able to receive them. Also, we will send several boxes to a school on the Navajo Reservation in Shiprock, New Mexico. Navajo have been especially hard hit by Covid-19, as you have probably heard. We are suspending the collection of all used books, but accepting monetary donations to the Book Fund for the purchase of new books. Please send to: Treasurer, Barb Ryon, 951-247-5066; barbderf@yahoo.com 23820 Ironwood Ave., #210, Moreno Valley CA 92557.

For Vets (from Keri Then)

The Branch requests that members and the public contribute new children's books, new bedding, or offer a monetary donation to help support US Vets Children and Families at March ARB. All donated items must be new as U.S. Vets has asked that used items not be brought to their new facility. Talk to Keri Then at 909 223-2608 or keriformoval@gmail.com.

News From State and National

STAND WITH PRIDE BY THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY



On Monday, June 15, the U.S. Supreme Court held that workers cannot be fired for being gay or transgender — a major victory for the LGBTQ community that came in the middle of this year’s Pride month. It’s a win for AAUW as well, as our Public Policy Priorities affirm our commitment to “vigorous protection of and full access to civil and constitutional rights,” and to “freedom in definition of family and guarantee of civil rights in all family structures.”

But, as with all social change, progress comes in fits and starts — and frequent setbacks. Just a week earlier, the Trump administration announced it is eliminating an important regulation prohibiting discrimination in health care against transgender patients. That same week, as Black Lives Matter protests continued across the U.S., two Black transgender women were killed within 24 hours, prompting a fresh wave of demonstrations to support black trans lives.

This Pride month, remind policymakers that America’s civil rights laws should include everyone. Learn more about [LGBTQ rights](#) — and then urge your members of Congress to [pass the Equality Act](#), which would amend federal civil rights legislation to provide explicit protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

KEY DATES

- June 30** Webinar: A Conversation on Pay Equity in the time of COVID-19
- July 1** New AAUW Fellows announced
- July 8** Last Day to Donate to AAUW's Annual Giving Drive

SUPPORT AAUW'S MISSION AND PROGRAM. Seventeen dollars of your dues support the local branch. if you are a lifelong member, you can send \$17 to treasurer, Barb Ryon, 23820 Ironwood Ave., #210, Moreno Valley CA 92557.

GIVE TO AAUW

FOLLOW AAUW NATIONAL US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Carole Nagengast, Newsletter Editor