



Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista (CA) Branch

*ACTION*

American Association of University Women

January 2026

Number 01-26

***AAUW InterBranch Council Luncheon***  
***Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am***  
***Lomas Santa Fe Country Club, Solana Beach***  
***REGISTRATION FLYER ON PAGE 8***

*The Poway-Peñasquitos and Del Mar Leucadia branches will be hosting the InterBranch Council (IBC) Luncheon on January 24, 2026. Listen and learn as CSUSM President, Dr. Ellen Neufeldt, discusses Partnerships in Higher Education. Share a delicious lunch with members from our sister branches. Renew old friendships, create new ones, and bid on lovely auction and raffle items.*

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***2026 GOALS FOR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS:***

*Personal invitations from current members remain the most effective way to welcome new members into our branch. Alongside these personal connections, our strong focus on supporting education for local women and girls — and the public visibility of that mission in action — resonates deeply and draws in new members.*

*Our Tech Trek/Scholarship fundraisers are not only successful but genuinely fun. It showcases local women and the camaraderie we share and the meaningful work we can accomplish together.*

*To ensure new members feel connected and engaged, we will continue to host social and interest groups. These opportunities help new members build relationships, deepen their involvement, and feel part of our vibrant community.*

## Co-Presidents' Message



*We wish you a healthy and happy New Year for you and your family. As we reflect back on 2025, COV Board has been providing excellent programs for our members, both in Interest Groups and monthly branch meetings.*

*We call on our membership to volunteer for board positions for 2026-27. Please look at the positions we have as listed in this Newsletter and contact Seena Trigas or Ele Lavender if you have an interest in supporting our AAUW branch by joining our board family.*

*The beginning of a new year offers us the opportunity to reflect briefly back on last year's events and move on to the coming year's activities. As an AAUW California branch, we believe that our mission is to advance equity for women and girls, and with that said, we must be informed and take appropriate action when our public policies are being challenged.*

*Yes, we are nonpartisan, but we are not non-political. Every time equity and civil rights are being threatened, it is our responsibility to voice our concerns and take appropriate action. Please note our public policy priorities and get involved in voicing your concerns.*

*Looking forward to 2026 and the programs that will be provided for our members and guests.*

***Belle & Seena***

### **AAUW MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

**AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT:** In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

### **CARLSBAD-OCEANSIDE-VISTA BRANCH**

#### **Elected Officers:**

Co-Presidents 2024-26: BELLE JOHNSON BOHN/SEENA TRIGAS

President Elect: VACANT

Program VPs: ELEANORE LAVENDER, VACANT

Membership VPs: JANET BRYANT/ELLIE BURTON

AAUW Fund VPs: SHARLENE BERGART/SALLY CUMMINS

Co-Secretary: JOYCE KING/MARDI MUSICK

Financial Officer: DENNIS CAPPS

#### **Appointed Officers:**

Communications: NANCY HACKERT

Public Policy: MAGGIE WOLFE-JOHNSON

Membership Treasurer: FAYE CAPPS

Parliamentarian: NELLE HEFNER

#### **Appointed Committee Chairs:**

Auditor: MARTHA FRAZIER

Governance: NELLE HEFNER

Historian: ELE LAVENDER

Scholarship: MARDI MUSICK

Sunshine: DEBORAH PARKS

Tech Trek: FAYE CAPPS

TTAG: FAYE CAPPS

COV Website: [cov-ca.aauw.net](http://cov-ca.aauw.net)

COV E-mail: [aauw.cov@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.cov@gmail.com)

COV FACEBOOK: AAUW-COV

State Website: [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)

National Website: [aauw.org](http://aauw.org)



# Interest Groups

## JANUARY



**CRUNCH BUNCH** – Will meet Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am at the home of Edith Richman. It is a Vegan Cooking Class. Notify Edith Richman if you have questions: 760-855-1660 or email [edithrichman2@gmail.com](mailto:edithrichman2@gmail.com).

**EXPLORING CALIFORNIA** – Will meet Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at Joyce King's or Ele Lavender's.. Any questions: Contact Debby Parks at [bridgebud2@yahoo.com](mailto:bridgebud2@yahoo.com) or 760-505-0384.

**LUNCH BUNCH** – Will meet Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 am at Ciao Ristorante Italiano, 2015 E. vista Way, Vista. For Information: Ellie Burton 760-518-8825 or Janet Bryant 760-434-2116.

**MOSTLY BOOKS** – Will meet Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at Edith Richman's. We will discuss *The Consequence of Anna* by Kate Birkin. A historical fiction about a love triangle with mysterious overtones set in Australia. New members and guests are always welcome. Please contact Leslie Clark at [fltc6585@gmail.com](mailto:fltc6585@gmail.com).

**MYSTERY BOOKS** - Will meet Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Aud Henderson's home. We will be discussing *Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jesse Q Sutanto. For details, contact Sing Baker, 760-644-4732. or [singb@roadrunner.com](mailto:singb@roadrunner.com).

**WEDNESDAY WALKERS** – Will meet Wednesday January 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Rancho Carrillo Loop Trail: 3239 Rancho Quartillo, Carlsbad. Any questions: Belle Johnson Bohn - [bjbohn1@mac.com](mailto:bjbohn1@mac.com).

### MYSTERY BOOKS *LITTLE ITALY* LUNCHEON



Martha Sing MJ Aud Cindy Karen B.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

**Time for some turnover. Your Communications Chair will be retiring effective 30 June 2026. Anyone with a moderate amount of *techie* knowledge will enjoy doing the Newsletter, Blasts, Website and Rosters. Keeps you involved with all the AAUW-COV doings and for sure makes you friends with the entire Branch. Please notify Nancy Hackert if you are interested and we can set up a Co-Communications Chair position and a lengthy turnover.**

# MEMBERSHIP CORNER

**Happy  
Birthday!!**

Alana Myles – 1<sup>st</sup>  
Beth Primo – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Nancy Telford – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Kimberly Cummins – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Mardi Musick – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Ruby Delado – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Edith Richman – 24<sup>th</sup>  
Jane Schatt – 30<sup>th</sup>

JANUARY



## MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



AAUW-COV member Leslie Clark (Mostly Books Chair) has two of her poems published in *Summation 17*, an anthology of work by area artists and poets. There will be a reception celebrating this publication on Friday, January 16, 4 P.M. at the Civic Center Library meeting rooms in Oceanside. Congratulations Leslie!

Congratulations and Thank You for submitting your FY 25 Branch Survey and for earning Four Stars. AAUW's Advancement Committee is proud to recognize your branch and your members for your outstanding work in your branch and in your community. The AAUW Five Star Program is designed to help branches like yours align with AAUW's strategic priorities and advance our mission of achieving gender equity for women and girls. Your submission of the Branch Survey helps AAUW identify resources that you and others can access for programming, reaching new members and for AAUW fundraising. By participating in this program, your branch contributes to a strong network of advocates, elevating both your local impact and our collective efforts nationwide. Thanks for all you and your branch does to support AAUW!  
*Building a Stronger AAUW—TOGETHER* Dianne Owens, AAUW National Board Chair

*QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Hate begets hate; violence begets violence; toughness begets a greater toughness. We must meet the forces of hate with the power of love.*

*Martin Luther King (January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968)*



## ***UPCOMING EVENTS.....***

<b>JANUARY 24</b>	<b>INTERBRANCH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON Lomas Santa Fe Country Club REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 8</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 21</b>	<b>All ABOUT FRAUD-most recent Sr. scams</b>	<b>Lunch Bunch</b>
<b>MARCH 21</b>	<b>JOINT MEETING- DML @ HC COV Host-Suffragists of California</b>	<b>\$25 Gourmet Brunch Exploring CA</b>
<b>APRIL 11</b>	<b>AAUW FUND SPEAKER: TBA AAUW-COV Annual Meeting</b>	<b>Mystery Books</b>
<b>APRIL 18</b>	<b>ZOOM CA AAUW MEETING</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>MAY 16</b>	<b>THE ARTS AND ARTISTS</b>	<b>Mostly Books</b>
<b>JUNE 13</b>	<b>INSTALLATION LUNCHEON</b>	<b>\$ TBA</b>

***Photos of our events & happenings  
are all posted on our Facebook  
account. "AAUW-COV"***

# ***PUBLIC POLICY***

## **AAUW California Public Policy Committee Announces School Board Symposium**

### ***By Kathi Harper, Chair AAUW Public Policy School Board Project***

In *The Once and Future King*, T.H. White wrote: “You may see the world about you devastated by evil lunatics, or know your honor trampled in the sewers of baser minds. There is only one thing for it then — to learn... That is the only thing which the mind can never exhaust, never alienate, never be tortured by, never fear or distrust, and never dream of regretting. Learning is the only thing for you.”

In 1881, a small group of female college graduates demonstrated that they understood the importance of learning to women’s ability to advance in the world, when they banded together in what would become the American Association of University Women to encourage more women to pursue higher education.

Almost one hundred years later, Congress demonstrated that they understood the importance of equal access to learning when they added Title IX to the U.S. Education Codes in 1972, prohibiting discrimination in educational opportunities on the basis of sex; and again when they established the U.S. Department of Education on May 4, 1980, with a mission to strengthen the Federal commitment to assuring access to equal educational opportunity for every individual.

Now, fifty-five years later, it does indeed seem the world is being “devastated by lunatics.” In 2016 Title IX protections against sexual harassment were eviscerated in the first Trump administration. Attempts by the new administration in 2020 to reverse those changes, and to provide additional protections for our LGBTQ+ and pregnant students were thrown out by a Federal court.

In 2022, Florida passed the Stop WOKE Act restricting classroom discussions of race, gender and sexual orientation and banned 2300 books in just the 2024-25 school year alone followed by 23 other states. This spawned the “Moms for Liberty” movement, whose goal is to install school board members across the United States whose values include banning books, censoring curriculum and enacting policies harmful to our LGBTQ+ students.

And it gets worse. In his inaugural address in January 2025, the President declared “As of today, it will henceforth be the official policy of the United States government that there are only two genders: male and female.” In February he sent a “Dear Colleague” letter to all school districts making federal funding contingent on eliminating race-based considerations from all policy decisions.

To date eight universities have capitulated to the current administration’s lawsuits or threats to withhold grants by agreeing to curtail or eliminate DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) programs and policies under an Alice-in-Wonderland definition of discrimination. And the latest blow: in late November of 2025, the Trump administration took a major new step to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education (ED). After deep staff cuts, ED announced six “partnerships” on November 18 that shift the day-to-day work of key education programs to other federal agencies, despite Congress creating ED to centralize federal education expertise and protect students’ civil rights.

## ***PUBLIC POLICY continued....***

Is your hair on fire yet?! I know ours (AAUW California Public Policy Committee) is. That's why the School Board Project is more important, more relevant, and more urgent than ever.

We are doing everything we can to empower you, our members, to make a difference at the grass roots level to fight to save the value of learning in your local school districts, by speaking up for our values at school board meetings and supporting school board candidates who share those values. If you're ready to fight back, please join us for a half day of our own learning, on Saturday January 31, 2026 9:00am to 12:30pm PT, for our symposium "AAUW School Board Project: Defending the Frontline of Democracy."

Don't just be on fire, be fired-up!

Join us for a day of learning, by registering [HERE](#).

**LEARNING IS THE ONLY THING FOR YOU!**

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## ***FUND***

*AAUW celebrated the achievements of Yie-Hsin Hung, one of Forbes' 100 Most Powerful Women, during its 2025 Alumnae Recognition Award Celebration on November 20.*

*The AAUW Alumni Recognition Award honors a fellow or grantee who has achieved, outstanding national or international distinction. Hong, a 1985–86 AAUW Selected Professions Fellow, was recognized for her extraordinary leadership, and commitment to advancing women in finance and business-fields where women remain underrepresented.*

*Her response in part is as follows. "I am deeply honored to be recognized by AAUW, an organization whose legacy of empowering women through education has opened doors for generations. The support I received as a selected professions fellow, helped shape my path, and I've seen firsthand how access to opportunity can change lives." Yie-Hsin Hung is CEO of State Street Global Advisers.*

*Just another glimpse of what your AAUW FUND can accomplish. Thank you for your generous contributions.*

***San Diego County InterBranch Council (SDC-IBC)***

**Annual All-Branch Luncheon**

**Saturday, January 24, 2026, 10:30 am**



**Lomas Santa Fe Country Club**  
1505 Lomas Santa Fe Drive  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

Cabrillo-Diego  
Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista  
Del Mar-Leucadia  
Fallbrook  
La Mesa-El Cajon  
Poway-Peñasquitos  
San Diego

The Poway-Peñasquitos and Del Mar-Leucadia branches cordially invite you to

***Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Ellen Neufeldt***  
***President, California State University San Marcos***  
***"Partnerships in Higher Education"***



Under Dr. Neufeldt's leadership, CSUSM has become a national model for student success, social mobility, and regional impact. Hear about partnerships contributing to CSUSM's remarkable growth – with donors and community leaders, as well as the major collaborative effort of CSUSM, SDSU, the City of Chula Vista, and others to create a bi-national, multi-institutional hub for higher education and innovation in South County.

join us for lunch and a good time –  
renewing old friendships, meeting  
new friends, bidding on enticing  
silent auction and raffle items, and  
hearing what branches are up to.

See you at the Club!

10:30 am Check-in, Social Time, &  
Silent Auction/Raffle

11:00 am Welcome Address

11:30 am Lunch

12:15 pm Speaker

Bring a friend!

Questions? Call or text Cathy at (858) 449-5096, or e-mail [cburciaga@san.rr.com](mailto:cburciaga@san.rr.com)

**RSVPs are a Must - by January 12<sup>th</sup> please!!!**

☐ Yes, (name) \_\_\_\_\_ (branch) \_\_\_\_\_ will be there.

And, I am bringing \_\_\_\_\_ guests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select Your Entrée(s):** ☐ Seared Salmon ☐ Wine Country Salad with Chicken  
☐ Vegetarian Roasted Vegetable Wrap

**Cost: \$50. Enclosed is my check payable to "SDC-IBC".**  
**Tear off this reply & mail to: AAUW IBC Luncheon, PO Box 262012, San Diego, CA 92196**





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**Website: [cov-ca.aauw.net](http://cov-ca.aauw.net)**  
**Email: [aauw.cov@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.cov@gmail.com)**

## ***JANUARY 2026***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Mystery Books 1:00 pm @ Aud's	6	7 Wednesday Walkers 10:00 am @ Rancho Carrillo Loop Trail	8	9 Lunch Bunch 11:45 am @ Ciao Ristorante Italiano	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Exploring California 9:30 am @ Joyce or Ele's	20	21 Crunch Bunch 9:30 am @ Edith Richman's	22	23	24 IBC Luncheon 10:30 am @ Lomas Santa Fe Country Club
25	26	27 Mostly Books 1:00 pm @ Edith Richman's	28	29	30	31