

Desert Winds



A Message from the Board

It is hard to believe that more than a year has passed since we last were able to meet in person. We are so grateful that we have all made it through this difficult year – healthy and, with more and more members getting vaccinated, looking forward to being able to meet again in person in our 21-22 year!

We had a fantastic time at our April general meeting. It was wonderful to welcome back so many members at our Zoom. We had a wonderful time brainstorming in breakout groups for our triumphant return. So many exciting program and membership development ideas came from this evening together! Thank you Sue, Kim, Jan, Carrie, Karen, Donna, Sherry, Judy, Lorraine, Jane, and Cindy (not pictured)!

Now all we need is our members to join us in making these great ideas happen. We hope that you will all help us by attending our May annual meeting and spring fellowship on May 15 where we will elect new officers and talk about how all of our members can help in simple ways to keep our branch moving forward for women and girls.

Can't wait to see you there!



Join us!

**May
Annual
Meeting
&
Spring
Fellowship**

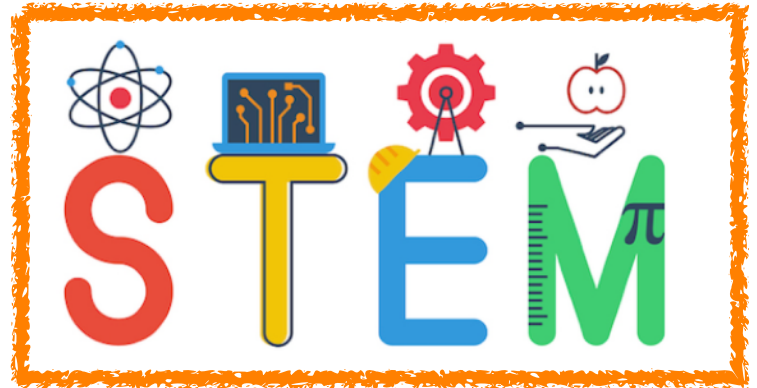
**May 15,
2021
at
10:30 AM**

Via Zoom @
[https://
yesd.zoom.us/
j/84746838738](https://yesd.zoom.us/j/84746838738)

CWIMS Update

Carrie Childress, CWIMS Chair

We were contacted through our website by Selva Montoya of Southwest Gas. After we shared information about the programs which our branch sponsors, we received a check to \$750.00 to support our CWIMS conference. Hooray! Our next CWIMS conference at VVC is scheduled for Friday, January 28, 2022.



I hope you are interested in joining our CWIMS committee. We are looking forward to meeting in person beginning this Fall. The more brains we have participating in our discussions, the more ideas we have.

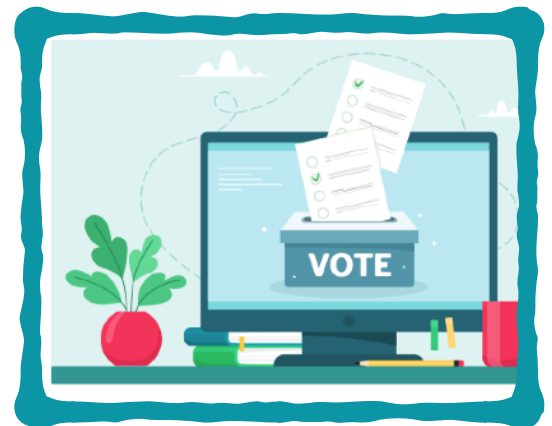
YOUR VOTE MATTERS - AAUW ELECTION

Education Requirement for AAUW

Don't forget that AAUW members have been asked to vote to elect members to the national board of directors and on amendments to our Public Policy Priorities and bylaws. **A direct link to vote was emailed to you on April 7 with your member id and PIN.**

The ballot includes proposal to eliminate AAUW's longstanding membership degree requirement. This proposal is supported by state and national AAUW as a way to better LIVE our mission, vision and values saying that others perceive AAUW as • Elitist • Out of touch with cultural change • Not honoring the value of inclusion • Weaker without all our allies • Not willing to partner with others....

We had a lively discussion about this at our last meeting. All members should look closely at the proposal and vote the way you fell. You can get up to speed on the election with the resources below from both state and national at the links below. **Voting will continue until May 17, 2PM PDT. Your vote is critical.**



[National Town Halls on the Proposed Education Requirement Change](#)

(National Webinar Archive - Membership Tab)

[AAUW National Election Web Page](#)

[AAUW CA site Equity for All](#)

The AAUW CA YouTube video, "[Living Our Vision 1](#)" is about 1 hour and 10 min.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

It's that time of year to renew your AAUW membership for the 21-22 year. You will be receiving a renewal invoice via email from "memberinfo@aauw.org". **Just click the secured link in the message and renew! No instructions, no log in required.** You may pay by credit or debit card. If you are not a current member and want to join/rejoin [click here](#).

If you prefer to pay by check, send a check payable to AAUW for \$107 to Karen Hadsell, 16842 Danbury Ave, Hesperia, CA 92345. Dues increase of \$3.00 is because national raising dues from \$59 to \$62 for the upcoming year. State dues (\$20) and branch dues (\$25) are the same.

Join us to continue the work to make a difference in the lives of women and girls. AAUW has been advocating for women and girls since 1881. By joining our branch you will help to keep the future bright for all women and girls in our community, as well as in our nation and the world.

– Karen Hadsell, Treasurer

[Open Up AAUW](#)

PUBLIC POLICY CA

THREE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PUBLIC POLICY

Our first ever (virtual) Lobby Day was a huge success! 111 AAUW members from 68 branches visited 36 Assembly and 23 Senate offices, and the Public Policy co-chairs visited with the Governor's staff. Many offices were familiar with AAUW, and we had a great opportunity to educate those who weren't, as well as to advocate for our top-priority bills. Please thank your branch members for their participation.

The Public Policy Committee has completed its review of the bills for this legislative season, and the 2020-21 Bill Tracker can now be found on the [website under Public Policy/Legislative Advocacy/Bill Tracking](#).

Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org



PUBLIC POLICY - AAUW National

This month, our hearts are both heavy and hopeful. On April 15, 2021, the House of Representatives voted 217-210 to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act with bipartisan support. Your tireless work is a huge reason we are one giant step closer to the bill becoming law. But this past month has also marked a continuation of hard and scary times, with racist attacks, tragic shootings and troubling bills across the states. We are proud to work hand in hand with you to ensure that tomorrow looks brighter.

May we build a stronger future for everyone,
The AAUW National Public Policy & Legal Advocacy Team

Act – *Take action on the most pressing policies*

Now that PFA has passed the House, it joins several AAUW public policy priorities waiting for action in the Senate. These bipartisan bills need your vocal support now more than ever:

- **Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA):** AAUW has worked for decades to pass this landmark legislation to advance pay equity, and this is the year it will finally triumph. Demand [equal pay for equal work!](#)
- **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA):** The historic amendment, which would once and for all ensure constitutional gender equality, was first proposed nearly 100 years ago. Tell your Senators to [ratify the ERA now!](#)
- **Equality Act:** America's civil rights laws should provide explicit protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Ensure your Senators know [equality means including all people!](#)



Support AAUW Fund in 2021! Jan Cook, Fund Chair

[Click to DONATE](#)

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Show your support by donating today at aauw.org.

You can choose to have your gift go where its needed most (Greatest Need) OR you can choose:

1. Economic Security for Women
2. Leadership Initiatives for Women
3. Education and Training for Women
4. Governance and Sustainability



You can also show your support to our AAUW Projects:

[TECH TREK](#)

[CWIMS](#)

[VVC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND](#)

Any donation makes a difference. More Information and Sponsor Forms Available at victorvalley-ca.aauw.net/fund/

“When women support women, incredible things happen.”



Your 2020-2021 Board of Directors

President: Sue Newton

Co-Treasurers:

Robin Stonesifer-Peters
& Karen Hadsell

Co-Secretaries:

Carrie Childress &
Karen Boyko

Programs (and Public Policy): Jane Pace

Communications: Kim Verduzco

Parliamentarian: Jan Cook

Projects & Membership:

VACANT POSITIONS

Monthly Great Decisions

1st Friday of the Month @ 2:00 PM
Zoom - Hostess: Anita Anderson

2nd Monday of the Month @ 2:00 PM
Zoom - Hostess: Jan Cook

3rd Friday of the Month @ 2:00 PM
Zoom - Hostess: Anita Anderson

Bridge Program on Hold due to COVID 19



Please be sure to update **Sunshine** with any address or contact info. updates. We also continue to seek branch member **birthdays (month and day only)**. Please email this info so you can be added to our birthday list. Also, if you have any news of branch member celebrations, concerns, or loss, please email so that our branch can reach out. Thank you!

Shery Thomas Perkins
solis1@bellsouth.net

DESERT WINDS NEWSLETTER EDITOR & GRAPHIC DESIGNER:

KIM VERDUZCO