

NEWSLETTER Volume 65 Issue 8 March 2011

Linking you to Branch activities and to each other

Angelina Coe of Whittier Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter to Speak at March 12 Meeting



Mark your calendars for the next general meeting of the Whittier Branch of AAUW on Saturday, March 12 at 11:30 AM at the Radisson Hotel, 7320 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier.

The featured speaker for March will be Angelina Coe, Executive Director of the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter.

The shelter opens its doors and arms to more than 3000 women and children every year, 24 hours a day and seven days a week. We are fortunate to have such a shelter here in Whittier. Come to learn more.

The \$18 buffet lunch will feature corned beef and cabbage and the appropriate Irish side dishes.

Make your reservations by March 7 to Susan Halliday, 696-7395 or online at <u>WhittierAAUWreserv@yahoo.com</u>.

From the President



President's Message

Our Math/Science Conference was great as always. Thanks to Marian Locke and her committee. This is one of best things we do each year. We give over 400 young girls the opportunity to learn about the many career options requiring knowledge of math and/or science available to them. It gives them insight on what they need to do to get started in the right directions for their future.

Thanks to Ginny Ball and her committee for their hard work in getting our slate of officers for 2011-2012. The slate is listed in this newsletter.

I want to thank Nancy Kindness, CA State Special Projects Fund member for her recent update on what is happening at the state level.

Be sure to check out our website **aauwwhittier.info**. Barbara Gile spent many long hours updating and changing the format to make it user friendly. She will update it regularly. Want to know what is happening in our Branch, just visit our website. Thanks again Barbara, for a job well done.

Remember the AAUW CA State Convention is April 8-11. Hope some of our members are planning to attend. Sharon Heck, president-elect, and I are attending all three days.

Look forward to seeing all of you at our March 12 meeting. Great food, good location and another great program.

Shirley Ann Stewart

SAVE THE DATES

All AAUW Branch Board meetings will be held at St. Matthias Church, 7056 Washington Ave., Whittier, on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM.

March 1

April 5

May 3

June 7

Math/Science Conference Will NOT be at Rio Hondo College in 2012

My newsletter deadline is occurring before this year's Math/Science Conference, but I still have some information to share. Trustee Angela Acosta-Salazar, keynote speaker, said that we would be charged \$1000 for 29 hours of personnel for the conference. We are being charged for four custodians totaling 21 hours@\$40 hr. and two security guards for eight hours @ \$20 hr. We have never been charged before. She said that the college feels it is going "over and above for us" and that is a fair charge. I signed a facility use paper on September 5 where there was a place for fees and nothing was written. They cut the cost for the parking lots, rooms and heating by \$885 because my husband said there is an act stating a non-profit can't be charged for facilities; that was the basis for my appeal. We are paying the college \$2750 for student/teacher food and for a continental speaker breakfast. Fullerton Community College charges the Fullerton AAUW for their Math/Science Conference about \$445 for equipment hook -ups. Administration at that college said that personnel is already on the campus, so they don't charge for them. In addition, I was told that we could not come back next year. But in the future perhaps Rio Hondo could be placed in the rotation of venues. This is too big an event to rotate venues. The new Whittier Branch AAUW Board will have to decide what it wants to do about future Math/Science Conferences.

I wish to thank Harriet Kittle, Ann Topjon, Dolores Seidman and Marge Bates for helping me place the workshop selections in the envelopes. We placed 1500 tickets in the envelopes. I wish to also thank Kaye Kidwell for making all the name badges. When Marge looked over the maps in preparation for making the room signs, she noticed that one room was tiny and a section was marked office. I called the secretary and was told that instead of 35 seats in the room there are only 25. Of course, the workshops scheduled for that room were at capacity. So, I had to personally pull all those slips from the 23 schools and replace them with a different room number. Fortunately, Marge saw this or we would have had three speakers in a tiny cut-up room. I was further told by the secretary that the equipment list sent earlier that I used to place speakers in rooms with equipment requested was not updated. It is a yearly challenge to receive a list of 15 rooms with accurate seating and equipment. I am hoping all of the speakers arrive, the equipment works, the school buses are on time, the food is tasty, and that the conference goes smoothly without any more challenges.

Marian Locke, 626-336-3430 <u>univminn57@yahoo.com</u> Math/Science Conference Chair 2011- but not in 2012

2011-2012 Slate of Officers

President– Sharon Heck President-elect - Susan Halliday Program Vice-President - Dolores Seidman Hospitality Vice-President - Carole Restovich Membership - still looking, but Joyce Paul said she would help whomever we get Membership Treasurer - Carol K. Anderson EF/LAF Vice President - Peggy Fretz Recording Secretary - Beverly Ball Correspondiong Secretary - Sally Schmidt Treasurer - Kaye Kidwell

Public Policy

By Sharon Heck

One of the first acts of the new House of Representatives in Washington D.C. was a vote to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the health care reform law enacted last year. This repeal would harm women and their families, and would once again allow insurance companies to treat being a woman as a pre-existing condition.

Many parts of the health care reform bill constituted a step forward for women's health in a number of ways. Repeal would again allow insurance companies to deny women coverage if they've had a Cesarean section, breast or cervical cancer or received medical treatment for domestic or sexual violence. Repeal would eliminate the extension of dependent coverage to children up to age 26 and allow insurers to deny children coverage for pre-existing conditions. It would require women to get a referral to see their OB/GYN physician. Repeal of this law would mean returning to the old, broken system in which women paid a steep price in their health care just for being women.

Fortunately, a repeal vote in the U.S. Senate did not pass. However, there are those in the House and the Senate who are determined to chip away at the reproductive rights of women. The action could come as an amendment to a must-pass Bill and it would put great pressure on our Representatives, our Senators, and the President to make the proper choice. We must stay alert to such possibilities, and stay connected with our elected officials in Washington.

Printed below are the opening paragraphs of an AAUW statement titled <u>Reproductive Rights: A New</u> <u>Era.</u> This statement was written in 2009 and it is very comprehensive. I recommend you read the entire statement, and it can be found at AAUW.org.

"The American Association of University Women (AAUW) supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services. This position stems from AAUW's 2009-2011 Public Policy Program, which advocates, 'choice in the determination of one's reproductive life—increased access to health care and family planning services including expansion of patients' rights,' as well as 'supports international family planning programs.' Family planning fosters self-sufficiency, promotes preventative health care, and educates people on ways to protect themselves and their families from the spread of sexually transmitted infections. AAUW members have made the protection of reproductive rights a policy principle since 1977.

AAUW trusts that every woman has the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own moral and religious beliefs, and further believes that these deeply personal decisions should be made without governmental interference. The U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 ruling in *Roe v. Wade* legalized abortion for all women and found abortion to be a constitutionally protected 'fundamental right.' All women—regardless of race, religion, age or socioeconomic standing— have a constitutionally protected right to choose. In order to be more than an abstract right however, this right must include real access to a full range of reproductive health and family planning options. Unfortunately, many of the most vulnerable groups of American women are being denied fundamental control of their reproductive lives due to increasing restrictions successfully advanced by anti-choice lawmakers at both the state and federal levels."

MORNING BOOK

Morning Book will discuss *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett on <u>April 25</u>. The location will be listed in the April newsletter. We will also vote on books to read for 2011-2012 at that time. Please call, send or e-mail your suggestions to Janice Geiger, billjangeiger@yahoo.com or call me at 562-695-9971.

Janice Geiger, Chair

Modern Trends

There exists a fascination with the life of Emily Dickinson. What if the old maid of Amherst wasn't an old maid at all? Join us as we meet the significant characters of her life both real and fictional.

Thursday, March 24, 7 PM, The Secret Life of Emily Dickinson

Hostess- Yvette Rawlinson, 6047 Alta Ave., Whittier. Directions: Take Painter Ave. north to Broadway, turn right. Go two blocks to Alta Ave., turn left. It is the third house on the left.

Co-hostess is Carol Shupek.

Reviewed by Marsha Orr.

April 28: A Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick.

Kristine Yeseta, Chair

International Concerns

International Concerns will meet on Tuesday, March 15 at 10 AM at Ellen Larson's home, Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd., #2D. Our topic is "American national security since 9/11".

All interested members are welcome to come. For further information, contact Maurine Behrens, Chair 562-695-8436 or <u>maurineb@verizon.net</u>).

Please consider receiving this newsletter by e-mail. This will save the Branch the cost of printing and postage. You can contact Ginny Holloway, editor, to inform her of this switch. Thank you.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A SCHOLARSHIP?

It is time for the Myra Long Scholarship Fund (MLSF) appeal for donations. You will be receiving a letter from me in early March concerning our Non-Event fundraiser. The money we raise makes scholarships possible for local women who are 25 years of age or older and wish to continue their college education. Other criteria considered are legal status, financial need, extracurricular college activities, community service, work experience awards and other achievements.

These scholarships are extremely important as the economy continues to be in trouble. This is truly an opportunity for us to help women better their lives.

The recent MLSF Board Meeting covered many topics. Investment funds were investigated and discussed, revised Articles of Incorporation and revised By-Laws were approved, and a 2011 budget was passed. The budget included a reduction in the funds for Tech Trek. As a result, fewer girls will be sent to this wonderful 8th grade girl event next year. This decision could be revisited if our fundraiser goes over the top! Watch for the fundraiser letter and please give it every consideration.

Sharon Heck, Liaison to the MLSF Board

Saturday Night Bridge

Saturday, March 26, 7 PM at Miyoko Bolles' home, 1364 Dorothea Rd., La Habra Heights. Directions: Go east on Whittier Blvd., turn left at Hacienda Rd., go 0.8 mile and turn right at Avocado Crest Rd., make a slight left to stay on Avocado Crest Rd., go another 1.6 miles, continue onto Dorothea Rd., turn right to stay on Dorothea Rd. House is on the right-hand side.

Call Mary Ellen Mead, 562-693-6482, for reservations.

Check out the Whittier AAUW Website: AAUWWHITTIER.Info

FIRST FRIDAY

First Friday will be March 4, 6 PM to 8 PM, at the home of Annette and Dennis Lauritzen, 17863 Nearbank, Rowland Heights, 626-964-1843.

Directions: Take Colima east to Fullerton Rd., turn right . Go to Gallineta and turn right (first street past the cemetery). Continue to Nearbank and turn right. Their home is the 10th house on the right.

Membership

It is not too late to bring a new member to AAUW. Remember, a new member may join now for only \$40, and this membership will be through June. It is not too late. Our membership is at 153. If you do not already know, we exceeded our goal of 150 members that we had set for this year. We began July 1, 2010 with 132 members.

Thank you to each of you who have extended invitations to your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. It is you who have increased our membership. I know that we sometimes border on harassment with our invitations and follow-up calls and e-mails, but we merely want to share what AAUW offers to women. AAUW has a clear mission and we need to share that with our friends, family and neighbors. Thank you also to those of you who have brought your husbands into AAUW. Jan Berry, Brenda Jahn and Mary Ellen Mead have convinced their husbands to become members of AAUW. Each and every member is important to us. This was the first year that men became a part of the Whittier AAUW membership. Welcome again to Brent, Peter and Orin who support their wives, their goals and AAUW.

Our Membership Drive for 2011-2012 will be starting in April. Remember to continue to invite your friends and everyone you know. Sometimes it really is that seventh or eighth invitation that works. We do not know what the goal will be for next year, but we believe that Whittier AAUW can exceed the 200 mark for membership somewhere in the future, not too far in the future. After all, that is only 47 more members to go. Please continue to help us get there. As always, you can contact us at the numbers and e-mails listed below. We do follow up on every contact that you provide to us. Thank you for all that each of you has done.

Sandy Bridges 562-697-7427 abrid848@aol.com

Yvette Rawlinson 562-698-6867

Joyce Paul 909-620-1202 joycem.paul@yahoo.com

More Than Words

On Wednesday, March 9 at 1:30 PM. Marian Locke will review *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell, an exploration of the background of high achievers. Hostess: Ginny Isenberg, 1205 Sunbird Ave., La Habra, 562-697-3066. Directions: 1205 Sunbird Ave. is located north of Whittier Blvd. In La Habra. Proceed east on Whittier Blvd. And turn north (left) on Hacienda Blvd., east (right) on Russell St., north (left) on Greenview Dr., and that becomes Sunbird. The house is on the west (left) side of the street.

Rosanne Seitz, Chair

La Cuísíne

Twenty-five of us had a delicious dinner and an enjoyable evening at the Vintage Cafe in January. Now it's time to get into the kitchen again ourselves and prepare a delightful dinner on March 19 that transports us "Up to Alaska" for some Northwestern cuisine.

Hostesses/co-hostesses: Sones/Walker, Flanders/Geiger and Burlingham/Kite will be contacting you individually. Bon appetit!

Our own website may be accessed through the AAUW Greater Whittier Branch website under interest groups. Enter "La Cuisine," click the website given in the text and enter user name "lacuisine" and password "Food2009"---these are case sensitive. This has been updated to include additional substitutes, so please invite them as possible.

Carol Shupek, Chair

Walkers				
The AAUW Walker's Section has had some interesting adventures.				
We have visited some old favorites and explored new venues.				
Our hike in Turnbull Canyon in January was memorable. Our walk with the Fire Science cadets from Rio Hondo Fire Academy was amazing.				
The Walking Section has three goals:				
1. Walk one hour every week				
2. Visit Whittier Art in Public Places				
Increase health, circulation and friendships				
MARCH 2011				
03 Thursda				
9 AM	Meet in parking lot off of Santa Gertrudes Ave.			
10 Thursda	ay Arroyo Pescadero Park			
9 AM	Meet in parking lot at entrance off Colima Rd.			
17 Thursda	ay Uptown Neighborhood			
9 AM	Meet at Central Park on Washington Ave.			
24 Thursda	ay Worsham Canyon			
9 AM	Park on Penn St. close to Canyon Crest Dr.			
31 Thursda	ay Friends Street Neighborhood			
9 AM	Park in Senior Center parking lot on Walnut St.			
We welcome all who want to join us. For more information:				
Contact Barbara Gile, 562-693-7279 or e-mail barbaragile@me.com.				
With AAUW You Never Walk Alone!				

Check out the Whittier AAUW Website: AAUWWHITTIER.Info

Gardening Section

On Sunday, March 20, we are traveling to Sierra Madre to visit the largest blooming plant in the world. Wistaria is commonly spelled either wistaria or wisteria, but since it was named in 1818 for Caspar Wistar of the University of Pennsylvania to honor his contributions to science, it probably is properly **Wistaria**. The vine is of the Chinese lavender variety. It is a member of the pea family, even though its seeds resemble beans (shiny, flat and black). The seeds are said to have been brought to Europe by Marco Polo in the 13th century as prized treasures from the Orient.

In the 1940's and again in the 1960's the vine required horticultural restoration at considerable expense: dry ice packs, three-foot hypodermic needles with Vitamin B, hormone shots and more. The grounds are on private property and access is incompatible for people with limited mobility; Wheelchairs and strollers are not allowed. If you want to join us please let me know as we have a limited number of \$7 tickets. We will carpool from Whittier at 9 AM and regroup at the shuttle bus in Sierra Madre.



Barbara Gile, Chair <u>barbaragile@me.com</u>, or 562-693-7279

The New Phoenix

A *new* year- a *new* beginning. There is something heart-warming, hopeful and even adventurous about the idea of *new*!

I would like to propose a *new* section for our 2011 Branch year, one that is designed to serve the wants/ needs of our widows, divorcees and other singles who share similar concerns. Additionally, I propose the name of the section to be "The *New* Phoenix", comparable to the mythological bird, "rising from the ashes," members of this group, with emotional and physical support from one another, will continue to rise above adverse circumstances. We look forward to gatherings that are informative, informal, social and even fun!

There will be a no-host dinner at the Silver Palace on Whittier Boulevard on Wednesday, March 9, at 6 PM to formulate some initial plans.

Please contact Colleen Tan, 562-698-4934, as soon as possible if you plan to attend. We look forward to welcoming you to the *New* Phoenix!

PLEASE NOTE:

<u>Please</u> consult our style sheet and follow it when preparing your newsletter article. You will save us both a great deal of tedious, time-consuming work. The most common error we find is not omitting the comma before the last item in a series. For example: Monday, Tuesday <u>and</u> Wednesday. If you do not have a style sheet, we'll send you one. Thank you.

Ginny 562-777-4343 gholly47@msn.com Margot 562-699-6898

STITCH AND BITCH

Our March meeting will be at Mary Ellen Mead's home on March 22 at 6:30 PM. Her address is 8335 Catalina Ave., Whittier. Directions: Going east on Whittier Blvd., Catalina Ave. is the first street after Ocean View Ave. Turn left, go two blocks to La Cuarta St., and her home is the third on the left after La Cuarta. Please let us know if you have knowledge of a special creative event that you think any of us may be interested in attending. We all like to know what is happening in the creative arts world.

Please put this on your calendar if you are interested in attending. Thank you.

Let me know of your interest at 562-693-1964 or nankindness@verizon.net.

Nancy Kindness, Chair

DISCOVER aka KAPTIAN KINDNESS KAPTIVATING KORNER

Close your eyes and come with me to Artesia on March 5. The official name may be the "Artesia International and Cultural Shopping District" but the bustling blocks of Pioneer Boulevard lined with Indian shops and restaurants are better known as Little India. Spend an afternoon in this neighborhood, and you'll feel as though you have spent some time on the subcontinent. We will enjoy the culture, visit some shops and eat an early dinner. The jewelry is beautiful and very important to the Indian culture – it is not just adornment.

We will meet in the parking lot of Ralphs' at the corner of Whittier Blvd. and Sorensen Ave. to the south. I will be located just north of McDonald's in the parking lot. I will try to have a flag so you can find me. We will leave at 2 PM and arrive back after an early dinner. Wear your walking shoes.

Please call in your reservation to 562-693-1964 or email nankindness@verizon.net, and put it on your calendar.

Nancy Kindness, Chair

PPP (Positive Past Presidents)

PPP's is not active in March, but we look forward to meeting in May or June.

Nancy Kindness, Chair

Mystery Mavens

Wednesday, March 16, 6:30 PM

Iron Lake by William Kent Krueger

Reviewer: Carol K. Anderson

William Kent Krueger brings a fresh take on some familiar elements and a strong sense of atmosphere to his first mystery. Chicago cop Cork O'Connor and his lawyer wife Jo moved back to his northern Minnesota hometown of Aurora to improve their quality of life, but it hasn't worked. Cork became the local sheriff, but lost an election after a disagreement between local Indians and whites over fishing rights turned deadly. Then his marriage broke up, with Jo becoming a successful advocate for tribal rights and Cork reduced to running a scruffy restaurant and gift shop.

As the book starts, Cork is feeling guilty about sleeping with a warm-hearted waitress and still hoping to get back with Jo and their three children. Drawn into the disappearance of an Indian newsboy, which coincides with the apparent suicide of a former judge, O'Connor clashes with a newly elected senator (the judge's son and Jo's lover) as well as with the town's new sheriff and some tribal leaders getting rich on gambling concessions. Krueger quickly makes Cork a real person beneath his genre garments, mostly by showing him trying to deal with the needs of his two very different teenage daughters. And the author's deft eye for the details of everyday life brings the town and its peculiar problems to vivid life.

Meet at Marie Callender's restaurant at 9829 S. La Serna Dr., Whittier (near Whittier Blvd.) in the Library Room.

Reservations: Carol K. Anderson, Chair 562-943-0728.

MEMORIES

Write for your own enjoyment and for your grandchildren.

We have a subject each month just to motivate us. Everyone is welcome, even if you have not written a thought or memory. There is no judgment on style or context. We just have fun!

This is our fifth year of gathering to share our memories and write them for future generations, and it is never too late to start.

The March meeting will be Wednesday, March 23 at 1:30 PM at the home of Carole Restovich, 7008 Bryn Mawr Way, Whittier. Directions: North on Painter Ave. from Whittier Blvd., turn right (east) on Philadelphia St. and right (south) on Bryn Mawr Way.

For more information contact: Colleen Tan, Chair 562-698-4934.

Please join us for one meeting or all the meetings.

AAUW WHITTIER BRANCH CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2011			
DAY	DATE	TIME	MEETING PLACE
Tuesday	1	7 PM	Whittier Branch Board Meeting , St Matthias
Thursday	3	9 AM	Section-Walkers, La Mirada Creek Park
Friday	4	6-8 PM	First Friday, Annette and Dennis Lauritzen's
Saturday	5	2 PM	Section– Discover, Little India, Artesia
Tuesday	8	7:30 AM	Wake-Up Whittier, Community Center
Wednesday	9	1:30 PM	Section-More Than Words, Ginny Isenberg's
Wednesday	9	6 PM	The New Phoenix, Silver Palace Restaurant
Thursday	10	9 AM	Section-Walkers Arroyo Pescadero Park
Saturday	12	11:30 AM	Whittier Branch meeting, Radisson Hotel
Tuesday	15	10 AM	Section-International Concerns, Ellen Larson's
Tuesday	15	Midnight	Deadline for April newsletter
Wednesday	16	6:30 PM	Section- Mystery Mavens, Marie Callender's
Thursday	17	9 AM	Section – Walkers Uptown Neighborhood
Saturday	19	6:30 PM	Section- La Cuisine
Sunday	20	9 AM	Section-Gardening, Wistaria Festival, Sierra Madre
Tuesday	22	6:30 PM	Stitch and Bitch, Mary Ellen Mead's
Wednesday	23	1:30 PM	Section- Memories, Carol Restovich's
Thursday	24	9 AM	Section-Walkers, Worsham Canyon
Thursday	24	7 PM	Section-Modern Trends, Yvette Rawlinson's
Saturday	26	7:00 PM	Section-Saturday Night Bridge, Miyoko Bolles'
Monday	28	6:30 PM	LACIC-TBA
Thursday	31	9 AM	Section-Walkers Friends Street Neighborhood



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About AAUW

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

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation's leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. Its national membership of 100,000 seeks to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. It remains the state's most active and diverse organization for women with 14,000 members in more than 150 branches, plus 6,000 members-at-large.

The AAUW FUND (formerly known as the Educational Foundation) supports women scholars around the globe, local teachers and activists. Its first research project in 1885 dispelled the notion that higher education is detrimental to women's health. It funds:

- * Fellowships and Grants
- * Special Awards
- * Symposia, Roundtables and Forums

The AAUW FUND is now engaged in cutting-edge research such as the widely publicized 2008 report *Where the Girls Are: The Facts About Gender Equity in Education*. The latest published research is *Why So Few? Women and Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) is now part of the AAUW Fund.

This arm of AAUW combats sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library, online advocacy tools and various research report opportunities for education and discussion on topics of equity, discrimination and tenure at California universities and colleges.

AAUW also encourages women to become involved at every level of the political process. We actively support legislation on educational equity and diversity in public schools, pay equity, reproductive choice, childcare, school-based health care, civil rights and responsible funding for public education.

To further its objectives AAUW has established the Women's Network for Change, a coalition of organizations working together to effect change.