



NEWSLETTER

Whittier, California

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Linking you to Branch activities and to each other

Women Helping Our Community to be Featured at March 10 AAUW Whittier Luncheon

The Whittier Branch of the American Association of University Women and their guests will meet on Saturday, March 10 at the Radisson Hotel, 7320 Greenleaf, Whittier, at 11:30 AM. The luncheon will be buffet style and include Chicken Kiev, mashed potatoes, a steamed vegetable medley, green salad, rolls and lemon cake for dessert. The cost is \$18.

The program will highlight WOMEN HELPING OUR COMMUNITY. Featured will be Ginny Ball, the president of the First Day Homeless Shelter of Whittier (and a Whittier AAUW Member) and Linda Argyle, Director of the Penn Rehabilitation Center.

The mission of the First Day Homeless Shelter is to help the homeless and at-risk individuals transition towards self-sufficiency. It provides short-term emergency transitional housing with on-site supportive services to 45 individuals at a time. These services include a health clinic, mental health services, on-site meals, case management, clothing, transportation, 12-step meetings, education, training and employment assistance.

The primary purpose of Penn Rehabilitation Center is to maximize the self-esteem, sense of responsibility and personal accomplishment of developmentally disabled adults. The secondary goal is to habilitate individuals to their highest social, psychological and vocational potential. This is done by providing a stress-free extended work services program along with academic, social and recreational opportunities.

Come to hear these inspirational stories of how women have been instrumental in helping our community with action and not just words! Reservations can be made by calling Carole Restovich at 562-696-0296 or by e-mail at WhittierAAUWreserv@yahoo.com. All reservations and cancellations must be in by Tuesday, March 6.

NEW BYLAWS TO BE DISCUSSED AT SPECIAL MEETING ON MONDAY, MARCH 5 by Sharon Heck

The vote for incorporation, merger with the Myra Long Scholarship Fund and the adoption of new bylaws for the Branch will take place at our regular meeting on March 10 at 11:30 AM at the Radisson Hotel in Whittier. There will not be time for discussion on that day, so a special meeting for discussion only will take place on Monday, March 5 at 4:30 PM at First Friends Church, 13205 Philadelphia (at Washington Ave.) in Whittier. Barbara Gile, president of the Myra Long Scholarship Fund Board, and I will describe the entire process. Copies of the new bylaws have been distributed, so bring them with you. The national AAUW has advised us to add a few things to our bylaws, and those changes will be explained. Please plan to attend this very important discussion meeting so that all of your questions can be answered. Remember, it is at First Friends Church at 4:30 PM on Monday, March 5.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Sharon Heck

If you missed the February 3rd Winter Social/Membership Drive, you missed a great party. Joyce Paul and her committee are to be commended for organizing a delightful evening of food, fun and information. We did have some new members join us, so thanks again Joyce and committee.



Another very successful event happened on January 25 at Whittier College. We had more than 330 eighth grade girls and advisors as attendees, 20 career women as presenters and close to 40 volunteers from the Branch at the 19th Annual Math/Science Conference for 8th Grade Girls. The opening session featured Whittier College President Sharon Herzberger and Whittier Mayor Cathy Warner as keynote speakers. The girls were from 21 area schools and they had many positive statements about their six presenters on their evaluation forms. It was a terrific day and my thanks go out to the planning team, and to all who volunteered and made the day so rewarding.

Be sure to make your reservations for our March 10 meeting at the Radisson Hotel. A delicious lunch will be served and a very interesting program has been planned. Hope to see all of you there.

Board Meetings

The next Board meeting will be held at St. Matthias Church, 7056 Washington Ave., Whittier, on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 PM. Parking is on the street or off Wardman behind the church. Use the entrance on Wardman.

AAUW WHITTIER BRANCH TO CO-SPONSOR CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM

Plan to attend a very informative City Council Candidate Forum in the Whittier City Hall Council Chambers on Monday, March 12 from 7 to 9 PM. The League of Women Voters of Whittier has invited our AAUW Whittier Branch to be a co-sponsor of the event. The Whittier City Hall is located at 13230 Penn, Whittier. Come learn more about the candidates for Whittier City Council.

Show Girls

Eight of us met and watched "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close", which we enjoyed. We agreed the boy is outstanding. We ate dinner at the Bailey Street Cafe. We will be meeting the 2nd Thursday in March around 3:30. I do not know what exact time because I cannot see the schedule yet. The way I choose the movie, is which one has the start time close to 3:30. We will be choosing a different place to eat each time, somewhere in Whittier. Send me your e-mail if I do not have it, if you want to join us. If I have your e-mail, I will let you know the Monday before, the time and the movie. We would love to have you join us. **Note my new e-mail address.**

P.S. Seniors pay \$4. Cool!!!

Gen'nel Walters, icugwalters@aol.com 562-943-5333

AAUW Funds

Through your donation to AAUW funds, you have the opportunity to support a variety of causes. The Legal Advocacy Fund supports the protection of the legal rights of those facing discrimination in the workplace as well as campus outreach projects protecting college students from discrimination, harassment and assault through on-campus program grants. The Public Policy Fund supports advocacy for public policies and laws that are fair to women. The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund supports AAUW Research to provide analysis, data and accurate information about issues that are important to women. A recently developed program is based on sexual harassment on high school and college campuses. These are only three of the possibilities which need your support. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to AAUW Funds. You may donate through the AAUW website. If you do this, please let me know about your donation so our Branch will receive credit for it. Our branch number is 0124. Or you may send your donation to me and I'll be happy to forward it to the AAUW National office for you.

Peggy Fretz, AAUW Funds Chair
14852 Jupiter St., Whittier 90603

Morning Book

We will be meeting on Monday, March 26, at 10 AM to discuss Tracy Chevalier's Remarkable Creatures. This is a fascinating fact-based novel about Mary Anning, a working-class girl in early nineteenth-century Lyme, England, who finds dinosaur fossils in the cliffs along the beach. Elizabeth Philpot becomes Mary's friend and champion when her discoveries put her at odds with all-male, class-bound scientific communities. Together, they create an original and moving portrayal of an unlikely friendship. We will be led in discussion by Carol K. Anderson, and will be meeting at Sandy Bridges' home. Co-hostess will be Gwen Woirhaye.

Directions to Sandy's: 1550 Walnut, La Habra Heights, 562-697-7427: House is not on Walnut; do not use a GPS. Whittier Blvd. to Euclid; north on Euclid for 7/10 mile. Street name changes to Hiatt when you start up the hill. Street ends and turns onto Walnut. Do NOT go onto Walnut to your left. Take the driveway to your RIGHT, between rock wall and mailboxes down a steep descent. House is second on left. Park in driveway or on street.

Ann Topjon, Chair, 562-695-6185

Positive Past Presidents

On February 6, 29 Branch members and guests thoroughly enjoyed the celebration of the Chinese New Year of the Dragon with delicious food and camaraderie at the Silver Palace. We look forward to seeing even more of you when we welcome the Year of the Snake in 2013.

Colleen Tan, Chair, 562-698-4934

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, March 2, from 6 to 8 PM. Host: Shirley Stewart, 14518 Rimgate, Whittier, 562-944-4556.

Directions: Take Whittier Blvd. to Mills. Go south on Mills to the second signal. Lambert is the first signal. Turn left on Hawes. Make a right on the third street Homage. Go two blocks (dead end) and turn right on Rimgate. The house is on the left.

A HIGHLIGHT FROM THE 2011 AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION

by Sharon Heck

This will be my final report from the 2011 Biennial AAUW National Convention. It was a total experience for the four days I was there. The One Member-One Vote method allowed all AAUW members in the organization to vote for officers and strategic plans. There were many vendors with goods for sale from around the world. There were tables of educational materials to be collected such as a booklet titled, AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record: 111th Congress, 2009-10. I attended two workshops on Saturday: "What Makes Women Decide to Join or Stay in an Organization Today?" and "Branch Fundraising Ideas: Tried and True, Creative and New." Lots of good ideas were shared and carried home.

I would like to thank the Branch for sending me to Washington, D.C. last June. I learned a great deal about our awesome organization, I met many wonderful people and I came home inspired to lead our Branch as president. I hope to attend future AAUW National Conventions.

FINAL REPORT IN A SERIES

International Concerns

International Concerns will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, March 20 at Ellen Larson's, Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd., #2D, Whittier. Our topic is "Promoting democracy: foreign policy imperative?" For further information contact Maurine Behrens at 562-695-8436 or maurineb90601@gmail.com.

Gardening Section

On Monday, March 5, at 10 AM the Gardening Section is scheduled to meet to give the Transitional House flowerbed some tender loving care. You can tell by the before and after pictures that we have our work planned. Meet at the home of Barbara Gile and we will car pool to the flowerbed. Due to the low attendance on the first Tuesday of the month we are considering changing the meeting date to Mondays or Thursdays. Please let us know if you want to be part of the Garden Section and give us your preferred meeting date. **There are no requirements for membership except an interest in plants and a commitment to be an active member. We are extending a special invitation to new members.** The following is the schedule for 2012:

March 5	Work Group at Flower Bed	Transitional Shelter
April	Huntington Library	San Marino (Sunday)
May	Fullerton Arboretum	CSU Fullerton
June	Gardens of the World	Thousand Oaks
July	Dark	
August	Flower Arranging Demonstration	Florist Shop in Whittier
September	San Juan Capistrano Mission	All-day trip (Sunday)
October	LA County Arboretum	Arcadia
November	Wreath Making	Home of Member
December	Potluck and planning for 2013	Home of Member



For more information please contact: Barbara Gile whittieraauw@me.com or call 562-693-7279.

After

Modern Trends in Literature

Thursday, March 22 at 7 PM Hostess: Gwen Woirhaye, 5810 Friends, Whittier Co-hostess: Cindy Birt
Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese, reviewed by Janice Geiger.

Moving from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to New York and back again, Cutting for Stone is an unforgettable story of love, medicine and betrayal, and twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful nun and a British surgeon.

Directions: Going north on Painter, turn left on Beverly Blvd. and go one block to Friends. Turn right on Friends and go up the hill. House is on the right just before Orange.

Kristine Yeseta, Chair, 562-696-0226

March Walkers Thursdays at 9 AM

- 1 La Mirada Creek Park
Meet in parking lot off Santa Gertrudes
- 8 Whittwood Town Center
Meet in parking lot by Panera's Bakery
- 15 Legg Lake
Meet in parking lot off Rosemead Blvd.
- 22 Worsham Canyon
Park on Penn close to Canyon Crest Drive
- 29 Santa Fe Springs Heritage Park
Meet in parking lot by the entrance

Shirley Stewart, Chair, 562-944-4556 shirleys.creations@verizon.net

Mystery Mavens Wednesday, March 21 6:30 PM

Thirteenth Night by Alan Gordon Reviewer: Maurine Behrens

Gordon's title expands on Shakespeare's play and so does his plot. Narrator Feste, a 13th century member of the Fool's Guild (jugglers, jesters and secret agents) owns up to contriving the main events concerning the Duke of Orsino as recounted in Twelfth Night. Now, years later, the Duke has been murdered, and Feste, traveling incognito as a German tradesman, braves an ocean voyage to investigate his death and perhaps stymie a vengeful Malvolio. Witty wordplay, comical characters and exaggerated circumstances mark this fanciful and entertaining historical mystery.

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

Reservations - Carol K. Anderson 562-943-0728

Saturday Night Bridge

Saturday night bridge will March 24 at 7 PM. Please call Mary Ellen Mead, 562-693-6482, for details.

MEMBERSHIP

We have made it to 160 members! We have nine new members, seven of whom joined us the evening of the Winter Social. Our new members are:

Jacqueline Bihr, 8033 California Ave., Whittier 90602, home: 562-945-6209, cell: 562-508-2900, e-mail: jacquelinebihr@gmail.com.

Lupe Alfaro, 9833 Melgar Drive, Whittier 90603, home: 562-947-3978, cell: 562-412-8087, e-mail: lupalf@earthlink.net.

Carole Duff, 8134 Cordero Rd., Whittier 90605, home: 562-945-9145, cell: 562-505-1017, e-mail: caroleduff20001@yahoo.com.

Judith Ellis, 7263 Canyon Crest Rd., Whittier 90602, home: 562-693-7126, cell: 562-201-7267, e-mail: judithjellis@me.com.

Kay Lee, 2405 Nova Court, Rowland Hts., 91748, home: 909-595-0583, cell: 714-747-2176, e-mail: leemilclu@aol.com.

Linda Powell, 8644 Wheatland Ave., Whittier 90605, home: 562-945-4294, cell: 562-652-8233, e-mail: landjpowell@earthlink.net.

Hortencia Vizcarra, 1605 El Rancho Dr., La Habra 90631, cell: 562-665-3017, e-mail: hortencia_vizcarra@yahoo.com.

Angela Acosta-Salazar, 6241 Friends Ave., Whittier 90601, home/cell: 562-716-2112, e-mail: angelaacostasalazar@mac.com.

Ginny Okada 10235 Strong Ave., Whittier 90601, home: 562-695-1269, e-mail: windssofchange@aol.com.

A warm welcome to each of our new members and a thank you to each of their sponsors. As always you can contact us at: Yvette Rawlinson, 562-698-6867, or Sandy Bridges, 562-697-7427 or abrid848@aol.com, or Joyce Paul, 909-620-1202 or joycem.paul@yahoo.com.

AAUW Action Fund Releases *Congressional Voting Record* for 112th Congress

Partisan Gridlock Stalls Progress on Critical Women's Issues

WASHINGTON — The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Action Fund released today, February 13, a scorecard of congressional action on issues that will be critical to women and their families when they cast their votes in the upcoming elections.

The *Congressional Voting Record*, available at www.aauwaction.org, covers the first session of the 112th Congress, outlines how U.S. Senators and Representatives voted and whether they co-sponsored legislation on priority issues affecting education, economic security and civil rights.

As in the previous Congress, the story of the 112th Congress has been dominated by the economic recession. The similarity, however, stops there. While the 111th Congress made considerable progress on many of AAUW's priority issues, the current Congress has been caught in a vitriolic ideological divide. As a result, it has made little to no progress on women's issues. Instead of working to improve economic security, Congress has put eligibility for college affordability programs on the chopping block. Rather than helping women find jobs, Congress spent precious time and effort on damaging austerity measures. And while it could have been working to ensure women are paid fairly for their work, the House of Representatives instead attacked reproductive health programs.

"This voting record shows that Congress is gridlocked on the issues that can make a difference for women and their families," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "This excessive partisanship isn't just disappointing, it's discouraging to a nation that expected the new Congress to make economic recovery priority number one."

There is a silver lining for some women's issues: The 112th Congress has made progress on campus safety and domestic violence. Thanks in part to AAUW's support, many senators and representatives became co-sponsors of legislation to protect students on college campuses, and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act was introduced.

Contact your elected officials in Washington, D.C. and urge them to support the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Your voice will make a difference.

Memories Section

The Memories Section will meet at the home of Brenda Jahn at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, March 28.

The topic is "A Place of Special Meaning." Brenda's address is 1339 Padonia in East Whittier, phone 562-691-2419. Directions: From Whittier Blvd., turn north on Macy (a few blocks west of Beach). At the second stop sign turn right on Janine and go to the end, turn left on Solejar, right on Villa Rita, left on Padonia and go to the end of the cul de sac. The house is on your left.

We read our selections aloud for the enjoyment of others and receive only positive feedback.

You may always write off-topic, as well. Please join us.

Carole Restovich, Chair, 562-696-0296

AAUW WHITTIER BRANCH CALENDAR MARCH 2012

DAY	DATE	TIME	MEETING PLACE
February			
Wednesday	29	11 AM	The New Phoenix, Chen Art Gallery, Torrance contact Peggy Kiefer
March			
Thursday	1	9 AM	Walkers, La Mirada Creek Park
Friday	2	6-8 PM	First Friday at Shirley Stewart's
Monday	5	10 AM 4:30 PM	Gardening Section, meet at Barbara Gile's MLSF discussion, First Friend's Church
Thursday	8	9 AM PM	Walkers, Whittier Town Center Show Girls, contact Gen'nel Walters
Saturday	10	11:30 AM	Branch meeting, Radisson Hotel, Whittier
Monday	12	7-9 PM	Co-sponsor Candidate Forum at Whittier City Hall
Thursday	15	9 AM Midnight	Walkers, Legg Lake DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION
Tuesday	20	10 AM	International Concerns, Ellen Larson's
Wednesday	21	6:30 PM	Mystery Mavens, Marie Callender's
Thursday	22	9 AM 7 PM	Walkers, Worsham Canyon Modern Trends, Gwen Woirhayé's
Saturday	24	7 PM	Saturday Night Bridge, contact Mary Ellen Mead
Monday	26	10 AM	Morning Book, Sandy Bridges'
Wednesday	28	1:30 PM	Memories Section, Brenda Jahn's
Thursday	29	9 AM	Walkers, SFS Heritage Park



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DATED MATERIAL

WE ARE ON THE WEB

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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.