



February 2013  
Volume 67 Issue 6

# GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW NEWSLETTER

*Linking You to Branch Activities and to Each Other*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Susan Halliday



Happy February! This month we have more great events for you and truly hope that you will join us. Our monthly First Friday event will be a membership social presented by our phenomenal membership committee. Everyone is invited. Please bring a friend or two or three and your spouse/significant other. This is a time to just enjoy each other and learn more about AAUW and our Greater Whittier Area Branch, and to meet new folks. You are welcome to bring an hors d'oeuvre to share. There will be some snacks and drinks supplied, but if you'd like to contribute an additional something yummy, please do. If you plan to bring an hors d'oeuvre please be sure to let Joyce Paul and her committee know ahead of time so that they save a place on the table for your dish. There will be a Power Point presentation at the event to highlight AAUW and some of our Branch activities. Please don't miss this event.

January was a busy month focused on our Math/Science Conference for 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls, held at Whittier College. A tremendous amount of planning and work went into making this an amazing and successful day. A special thank you to Sharon Heck, who chaired the event, and to all the women who also contributed their expertise and many hours. 340 girls attended the Math/Science Conference from 26 different schools. Women who are currently working in fields that required a focus on math and science gave the exciting presentations. Such an incredible event!

GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW MEETING  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 11:30 AM  
RADISSON HOTEL, WHITTIER

"Anti-Aging Games"  
Speaker - Elizabeth Amini



RESERVATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 2

Additionally, in February we will have a terrific speaker at our Branch meeting on Saturday, Feb. 9.

I truly look forward to seeing everyone at the Membership Social and at our Branch meeting.

## Greater Whittier Area AAUW Meeting

Exercise your brain! Our Branch members and guests will have an exciting experience at our first meeting of 2013 to play some anti-aging games! Our speaker, Elizabeth Amini, founder and CEO of "Anti-Aging Games," will lead a presentation about the on-line site, which offers brain fitness games designed for healthy people looking to help their memory, concentration and focus. Ms. Amini made her presentation at the AAUW California convention a few years ago, where it was well received. We are fortunate to have her with us for this meeting. Come and be enriched!

We have a lovely Chinese-style lunch planned in honor of Asian New Year - Hong Kong salad, hot and sour soup, beef and broccoli, sweet and sour chicken, fried rice, vegetable chow mein, egg rolls with sweet and sour sauce and green tea pudding with almond cookies. The cost is \$25.



## IMPORTANT RESERVATION INFORMATION FOR BRANCH MEETING

In order to give the hotel the proper count, please make your reservations before Saturday, February 2. E-mail them to [whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com](mailto:whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com). If you do not have e-mail, you may call Patricia at 562-698-6665. Please leave a callback number and spell your last name, if you get her answering machine OR her husband. Patricia will confirm receipt of all reservations whether by e-mail or phone. If you do not hear back from Patricia, you do not have a reservation. Also, please remember that a reservation made is a reservation for which payment MUST be received. One reminder, if your e-mail has auto fill, when you start to type in the address, please make sure the address your computer suggests does NOT have a final e in "reserv". The address, again, is [whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com](mailto:whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com)

Dolores Seidman, Program V.P., Chair  
Patricia Cuocco, Hospitality V.P., Chair

## THE NEW PHOENIX

Our December gathering at the home of Louise Holden was heartwarming and satisfying, with good conversation, food and drink and a white elephant exchange. We now look forward to a delicious luncheon and our usual camaraderie at the House of Louie, Chinese restaurant in West Covina, where we will welcome the new Year of the Snake. (See the Triple P's article to read about the significance of the Year of the Snake.) The date is Monday, February 25, at 1 PM. Members will be contacted closer to the date. Please participate in another memorable gathering. You will find it most worthwhile!

Colleen Tan, Chair  
562-698-4934



## WINTER SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

There will be NO First Friday - instead please support and attend our winter social on Friday, February 1, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Hopefully you have saved the date, and invited a prospective new member to this important event. Friday night, February 1, promises to be fun filled and eventful. The price for membership the night of the social will be the lowest price of the year. The fee from now through March 15 is \$45. This will cover membership through June 30, 2013. What a bargain!

Join the fun - bring in a new member! If we add just nine more to our roster, we will have reached our goal of 170 members. WE CAN DO IT!

Please RSVP by January 30 to Joyce Paul at 909-620-1202 or e-mail [joycem.paul@yahoo.com](mailto:joycem.paul@yahoo.com)

Welcome to our newest member:  
Linda Ide  
2777 Jurado Ave.  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745  
Home: 626-968-6669  
Cell: 626-221-9984  
E-mail: [lindaide@mac.com](mailto:lindaide@mac.com)

## INTERFAITH FOOD CENTER

Don't forget to bring canned food to our February 9 meeting. Don't forget items for their lunch bag program – one-serving bags of chips, cookies etc. and one-serving fruit drinks.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Shirley Stewart



## Morning Book



*Dreams of Joy*, by Lisa See, is the book we will be discussing this month. We will meet on Monday, February 25, at 10 AM, at Ann Farmer's. Janice Geiger will lead the discussion, and Colleen Tan will provide refreshments. *Dreams of Joy* carries on the story of sisters Pearl and May, and Pearl's daughter, Joy, from See's earlier book, *Shanghai Girls*. It follows the story of Joy, who runs away to China in 1957 in order to locate her father, once the object of love of both Pearl and May. Pearl determines to follow her daughter to China, heedless of the dangers she might confront in doing so. See "once again renders a family challenged by tragedy and time yet ultimately united by the resilience of love." Please join us! It would be kind to let Ann and Colleen know if you will be attending. Directions to Ann's house - 6146 Southwind, Whittier, 562-698-2074: North on Painter to Hadley; east (right) on Hadley to Southwind; north (left) on Southwind up the hill. 6146 is on the right side of the street.

Ann Topjon, Chair - 562-695-6185

### **TRIPLE P's (POSITIVE PAST PRESIDENTS)**

Our yearly celebration of the Chinese New Year will take place at 6 PM on Monday, February 11, at the popular Silver Palace Restaurant, 15326 East Whittier Blvd, Whittier. The price for the banquet is \$20, tax and tip included. This Year of the Snake has significance that is unlike that of some popular notions about snakes. To the Chinese, this year signifies the possibility of change, and hopefully change for the better. It also portends beauty and grace and perhaps encouragement for the arts? Think positive! All AAUW members and their guests are welcome. Make reservations with Colleen or Cindy.

Colleen Tan, Chair – 562-698-4934  
Cindy Birt - 562-697-7520

## MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE

On Thursday, February 28, we will be discussing *The Dovekeepers* by Alice Hoffman. This is a novel about four complex and fiercely independent women whose lives intersect in the desperate days when 900 Jews held out for months against armies of Romans on Masada, a mountain in the Judean desert. Only two women and five children survived the siege. We will meet at 7 PM at the home of Gwen Woirhaye. Gwen lives at 5810 Friends. Carol Shupek will be reviewing the book for us at 7:30 PM and Gwen will be both the hostess and the co-hostess. Going west on Mar Vista, make a right onto Painter, a left onto Beverly Blvd., and a right onto Friends. Everyone is welcome. No reservations are needed.

Joyce Paul, Chair



## SHOWGIRLS

Ten of us met at the Village Theater and watched "Parental Guidance." As some of us are grandmothers, we laughed and laughed. We went across the street and had Thai food for dinner. Yum! A great time was had by all. We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month. The way I choose the movie is, one that has the start time close to 3:30 PM. Each time, after the movie, we choose a different place in Whittier to eat. If you would like to join us, send me your e-mail address. The Monday before the 2nd Thursday, I will e-mail you the time to meet and the movie we will be seeing, that Thursday. We would love to have you join us. We always go to the Village Theater, in Uptown Whittier. Admission is \$4.

Gen'nel Walters  
562-943-5333  
[icugwalters@aol.com](mailto:icugwalters@aol.com)

**WALKERS**

Thursdays - 9 AM



Feb. 7 La Mirada Creek Park  
Meet in parking lot off  
Santa Gertrudes

14 Schabarum Regional Park  
Cherry Blossoms  
Meet in parking lot by the  
front entrance kiosk

21 Arroyo Pescadero Park  
Meet in parking lot off Colima

28 Murphy Ranch Park  
Meet in parking lot at the  
end of Youngwood

Hope to see all of you on Thursdays!

Shirley Stewart

**MEMORIES**

The February meeting of Memories will be at the home of Gwen Woirhaye on Wednesday, February 27, at 1:30 PM. The topic is "Pick a Photo." Write the story behind a photo that is of particular significance to you. Bring the photo along, as well, of course. If this doesn't pique your interest, you are free to choose a topic of your own. All are welcome to share their writings in an accepting and warm atmosphere. Gwen's address is 5810 Friends, north of Beverly Blvd. If you have questions, call Carole Restovich at 562-696-0296.

**TECH TREK****MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Last year our Branch earned \$800 for Tech Trek by volunteering to docent at the Pasadena Design House. This year we have the same opportunity. We are paid \$40 per four-hour shift. Last year some of our hearty members worked two shifts back to back. That is not permissible this year.

This is a fun project because we get to see the 2013 Design House, and it would cost \$60 if you paid to go through the house. If you volunteer for two shifts you have the opportunity to buy tickets at a discount. You meet some very interesting people such as former owners, designers and friends.

We will carpool to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, April 23, 24, 25, 30 through May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, and 14,15,16. Mark your calendars now so we can get the best dates. Starting this year the cost of Tech Trek has gone up to \$900 per student and this is an easy, fun way to raise money.

If you are interested contact Barbara Gile or a Myra Long Scholarship Fund Committee member at [whittieraauw@mac.com](mailto:whittieraauw@mac.com) or 562-693-7279.

**Memorial**

**Shirley McMahon**  
**December 29, 1922 - December 26, 2012**

**A long time member of the  
Greater Whittier Area Branch**

**Las Distinguidas Recipient 2002**



## **PUBLIC POLICY**

By Sharon Heck

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is still up for reauthorization. Last April the Senate passed a bipartisan bill that would improve VAWA programs and ensure all victims get the services they need. Advocates, service providers, first responders, local law enforcement and the criminal justice system agree that the policy needed updates, and policy makers in the Senate responded. However, the House passed a bill a month later that would hurt some victims and fail to make the strides that we need. Some House members believe domestic violence should be kept behind closed doors. It was hoped that a bill might be passed during the lame-duck session of the 112th Congress, but on January 3, the clock ran out on finding a middle ground.

VAWA, meaning the current protection and prevention programs and victim assistance that are in place, is not dead. In fact, as with many of our laws, VAWA will continue in its current form even if Congress doesn't act on a reauthorization. That's good news for the one in four women who will experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetimes. It's bad news, though, for victims who are overlooked under current law.

How could Congress not notice the high instances of rape on college campuses and do something about it? The Senate-passed VAWA reauthorization would have put in place more reporting, widespread prevention programming and stronger policies on college campuses.

Contact your members of the House of Representatives and urge them to reauthorize VAWA with the language of the Senate-passed bill. It is now the 113th Congress and the bills will have to be re-introduced. There is a great need for an updated VAWA. Check the AAUW website for more information and send that e-mail or letter.

## **INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS**

International Concerns will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, February 19, at Ellen Larson's (Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd. #2D.) Our topic is "Future of the Euro." We will also be planning table decorations for the Branch meeting on March 9.

If you need "Great Decisions 2013" please reserve yours with Ellen (\$20.) The March International Concerns meeting has been rescheduled to the 26<sup>th</sup>, so mark your calendar!

For further information call Maurine Behrens at 562-695-8436.



## GARDENING SECTION

The Gardening Section is scheduled to meet the third Monday of each month at 1 PM unless other dates are listed. 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 new year will be filled with sharing gardening tips, resources, cuttings and field trips to the gardens of Southern California. The field trip to Pasadena to view the Rose Parade floats was delightful and the weather was perfect.

### Proposed Schedule for 2013

January 2	View Rose Parade Floats	Early morning Pasadena
February 18	Gardening Tips	Home of Margot Kamens
March 16-18	Tomato Plant Sale	Fullerton Arboretum
April 21	Rio Hondo Symphony	Home Tour
May 20	Flower Bed Weeding	Shelter Transitional House
June 17	Flower Slide Show	Home of Ellen Peck
July	No Meeting	
August	No Meeting	
September	Maze Field Trip	TBA
October 21	Wreath Making	Home of Barbara Gile
November 11	Roger's Gardens	Corona Del Mar
December 16	Potluck/2014 Planning	Home of Member

Margot Kamens will hostess our February meeting. Her address is 11845 Beverly Dr. where Magnolia meets Beverly Dr. Her house is on the north side of Beverly Dr. Please contact Margot at 562-699-6898 or [mrsmwk@aol.com](mailto:mrsmwk@aol.com) if you plan to attend.

For more information contact: Barbara Gile  
[bgile2u@gmail.com](mailto:bgile2u@gmail.com) or call 562-693-7279

Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women (AAUW)  
2012-2013 Membership Application

Please print neatly. The information that you list is the information that will be included in the yearbook.

\*Title: Mrs. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Miss \_\_\_ None \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

\*Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*First Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ \*City \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ \*Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ \*Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and mail your membership application and dues to:

AAUW, Whittier Branch Membership, P.O. Box 5333, Whittier, CA 90607-5333

AAUW Membership Type (please check one) Annual Dues:

\_\_\_\_\_ General \$89.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Life Member \$40.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Student \$42.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Dual \$24.00

\_\_\_\_\_ I want the yearbook mailed to me and will add \$2.00 to my payment check.

\_\_\_\_\_ I also want the AAUW binder that costs \$5.00 plus \$1.50 postage and will add \$6.50 to my payment.

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to advertise my business. I have included the \$15.00 fee and my business card.

Do you have a sponsor? If so, who is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Required for all members. New members must complete all information.

Please remember that your dues are tax deductible.

\* PLEASE NOTIFY the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ASAP if there are any changes in your information.

## GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW BRANCH CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2013



DAY	DATE	TIME	MEETING PLACE
Friday	1	5:30 PM	<b>Membership Social</b> , E. Whittier Woman's Club
Tuesday	5	7:00 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Thursday	7	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , La Mirada Creek Park
Saturday	9	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , Radisson Hotel, Whittier
Monday	11	6:00 PM	<b>Triple P's</b> , Silver Palace Restaurant, Whittier
Thursday	14	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Schabarum Regional Park
Thursday	14	3:30 PM	<b>Showgirls</b> , Village Theater, Uptown Whittier
Monday	18	1:00 PM	<b>Gardening Section</b> , Margot Kamens
Tuesday	19	10:00 AM	<b>International Concerns</b> , Ellen Larson
Thursday	21	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Arroyo Pescadero Park
Monday	25	10:00 AM	<b>Morning Book</b> , Ann Farmer
Monday	25	1:00 PM	<b>The New Phoenix</b> , House of Louie, W. Covina
Wednesday	27	1:30 PM	<b>Memories</b> , Gwen Woirhaye
Thursday	28	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Murphy Ranch Park
Thursday	28	7:00 PM	<b>Modern Trends</b> , Gwen Woirhaye



Please consult our style sheet and follow it when preparing your newsletter article. It will save us a great deal of time and work. If you do not have a style sheet, please let us know and we will send one to you. Thank you for your cooperation in following these directions and for sending in your newsletter articles by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

REMINDER: ELIMINATE - St., Ave., Dr., etc. unless clarification is needed.  
i.e. Beverly Blvd., Beverly Dr.

Please send articles by e-mail to [christineheller@earthlink.net](mailto:christineheller@earthlink.net)

Newsletter Editors - Christine Heller, Margot Kamens and Carole Duff







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