



# GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW NEWSLETTER

*Linking You to Branch Activities and to Each Other*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By Susan Halliday

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

What a great September Branch meeting we had with hats galore! Pamela Heiman gave a great presentation on the history of ladies' hats and the messages they gave to others. A special thank you to our model, Barbara Gile, who wore numerous hats with great panache. Has anyone bought or received a gift of a new hat with a feather? Please do tell, or should I say confess?

Our Whittier AAUW Funds honorees were announced and introduced by Peggy Fretz, AAUW Funds Chair. Shirley Stewart, Barbara Gile and Joyce Paul were honored for all the amazing work they have done over the years in our Greater Whittier Area AAUW Branch. Congratulations, ladies.

We have lots of events and activities on the calendar this year and hope that everyone will participate in some way. Our many incredible and diverse sections had information out at the September Branch meeting. I'm hoping that everyone picked up flyers and will try a new section or two, or three, or.....

There will be a box to collect food items at each of our Branch meetings. Please remember to bring something for Whittier's Interfaith Food Center. It can be in cans, boxes, tins or in the form of a check or cash. Please, no glass items.

NEXT MEETING - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13  
RADISSON HOTEL IN WHITTIER  
11:30 AM

RSVP BY OCTOBER 6



SEE PAGE TWO FOR MORE INFORMATION

Our Christmas boutique is now gearing up for another fantastic opportunity for you and your friends to shop! Shirley Stewart has merchant letters you can take to some your favorite shops to ask for a donation or two. She and Gen'nel Walters will be making wonderful gift baskets, etc., for the boutique.

Save the date, Sunday, Oct. 28 for the AAUW Funds Luncheon in Buena Park (12 – 3 PM). There will be several of us attending this exciting opportunity and would love to have you to join us. The luncheon will be honoring several women who applied for and received financial support from AAUW to further their studies relating to women's issues (AAUW Fellows). These are truly some amazing women.

Please keep up-to-date on a number of AAUW events by visiting [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org) (Calif) or [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) (National).

Our next Branch meeting is Saturday, October 13. We will be hearing a non-partisan presentation on the various initiatives. Please don't miss out on this great opportunity to get some clarification so that we can all make a well-informed vote. Bring a friend..... and have a great time chatting with friends and new folks, as you enjoy a great luncheon. It's DUCKY!

## Greater Whittier Area AAUW Meeting Saturday, October 13, 11:30, Radisson Hotel, Whittier

Be an informed voter! At our October meeting, Public Policy Chair Sharon Heck accompanied by Patricia Cuocco, will help us understand the propositions that will be on the November 6 ballot. As usual, there are many issues involved with the 11 ballot propositions currently slated for the ballot. They include taxes for education and public safety, political contributions, the death penalty, human trafficking and re-districting to name but a few.

Public Policy is an important part of AAUW's mission. This non-partisan presentation will focus on information as well as giving resources so that each of us can study the issues on our own. If you have received your sample ballot by the time of our meeting, bring it along! We will meet on Saturday, October 13 at the Radisson Hotel in Whittier. We will start at 11:30 AM. The cost for the meeting is \$20.

Please RSVP to [whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com](mailto:whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com) by Saturday, October 6. Patricia Cuocco will acknowledge all e-mail reservations, so, if you do not hear from her, you don't have a reservation. Please remember, a reservation made is a reservation for which payment must be received. If you do not have e-mail, you may call Patricia Cuocco at 562-698-6665.



### MENU

Taco-Style Salad  
Cheese Enchiladas  
Refried Beans  
Spanish Rice  
Chef's Choice Dessert

**Cost for the event will be  
\$20.**

### INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

International Concerns will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, October 16 at Ellen Larson's (Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd. #2D.) Our discussion topic will be "State of the Oceans: Waves of Change". All interested members are invited to come. For further information, contact Maurine Behrens at [maurineb90601@gmail.com](mailto:maurineb90601@gmail.com) or 562-695-8436.

### WALKERS SECTION

OCTOBER THURSDAYS @ 9 AM  
(note time change)

- 4 La Mirada Creek Park  
Meet in parking lot off Santa Gertrudes
- 11 Schabarum Regional Park  
Meet in parking lot by the front entrance kiosk
- 18 Greenway Trail  
Meet at Laurel and Lambert
- 25 Uptown neighborhood  
View Halloween decorations  
Meet in Central Park on Washington Ave.

Shirley Stewart  
562-944-4556  
[shirleys.creations@verizon.net](mailto:shirleys.creations@verizon.net)



## Morning Book

Join us at 10 AM on Monday, October 22, for discussion of Erik Larson's stunning narrative on the rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany, *In the Garden of Beasts*.

Our conversation will be led by Georgine Sweeney. Beginning in 1933, it chronicles the lives of William E. Dodd, the newly-appointed ambassador to Germany, his wife and flamboyant daughter, Martha. One reviewer has stated that the book is "suffused with the tense atmosphere of the period and unforgettable portraits" of the players involved. He goes on to say that the book "speaks volumes about why the world did not recognize the grave threat posed by Hitler." Our meeting will be held at Sandy Bridges', 1550 N. Walnut, La Habra Heights, 562-697-7427. The co-hostess is Harriet Kittle Cornyn. It would be kind to let Sandy and Harriet know if you are coming. I hope to see all of you there!

Directions to Sandy's house: 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.



Other books we will read this year:

Winter's Bone by Daniel Woodrell (11/26)

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett (1/28)

Dreams of Joy by Lisa See (2/25)

Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo (3/25)

Barbarian Nurseries by Hector Tobar (4/22)

The Lives of Margaret Fuller by John Matteson (6/3)

Ann Topjon, Chair: 562-695-6185

## Modern Trends in Literature

Modern Trends will be meeting on Thursday, October 25 at the home of Yvette Rawlinson. Yvette's home is at 6047 Alta, Whittier. The book is Caleb's Crossing and is being reviewed by Dolores Seidman. The book is a tale of love, faith, magic and adventure which takes place in the tiny settlement of Great Harbor amid a small band of pioneers and Puritans. Snacks are provided at 7 PM with the book review beginning at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend. You do not need a reservation. You can reach Yvette's home by going north on Painter, turn right onto Broadway and take the second left onto Alta. Hope to see everyone there.

## Gardening Section

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.

For the rest of 2012, we are going to try the third Monday of the month for our meeting date if we are not doing a field trip. The field trips will be on Sundays and everyone is welcome. Thanks for understanding that the September San Juan Capistrano trip was cancelled.

For those of you who are interested, the flowerbed at the Shelter transitional house is doing very well. The weeds are being strangled by the African daisies and orange lilies we planted. The flowers look joyful by the white picket fence.

For more information regarding the Gardening Section please contact:  
Barbara Gile [whittieraauw@me.com](mailto:whittieraauw@me.com) or call  
(562) 693-7279

### Directions:

14035 Eastridge, Whittier  
One block north of Mar Vista  
on the northeast corner of  
Eastridge and Vale

### From Colima

Go west on Mar Vista  
Three streets after the signal light at Michigan  
turn right on Vale

### From Painter

Go east on Mar Vista  
Three streets after the signal light at College  
turn left on Vale



□ The following is the rest of the schedule for 2012:

Sunday, October 21	LA County Arboretum, Arcadia	Meet at 10 AM (Barbara's)
Monday, November 19	Wreath Making	Meet at 1 PM (Barbara's)
Monday, December 17	Luncheon and planning for 2013	TBA

## Math/Science Conference

by Sharon Heck



The date for the conference is Tuesday, January 29, and it will be at Whittier College. We are not able to use the Science Building, so the event will be very similar to last year with about 320 girls. Ellen Larsen is contacting the schools and I will be contacting possible speakers. Dolores Seidman will be signing up volunteers, so think about how you are willing to help. Patricia Cuocco has volunteered to arrange the food with Whittier College. Barbara Gile will again be hosting the packet party. Our next meeting will follow the Board meeting on October 9, at St. Matthias Episcopal Church at approximately 8:15 PM. Come join us.

## HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE SILENT AUCTION

Time is getting short. Please bring your donations to our October or November meetings.

If you need more letters to merchants, let me know and I will get them to you.

We need gift cards of all kinds, handmade items, baked goods, candies, holiday decorations, etc.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Shirley Stewart, Chair  
562-944-4556  
[shirleys.creations@verizon.net](mailto:shirleys.creations@verizon.net)

## FIRST FRIDAY

Date: October 5  
Time: 6 - 8 PM  
Hostess: Georganne Leyh  
1251 Valwood  
La Habra  
714-680-5043

Directions:

My house is basically on the southwest corner of Euclid and Imperial in La Habra. You enter the tract on Parkwood. If you're coming from Imperial and turning onto Euclid, you will make a quick right (first street) onto Parkwood and then a quick left (first street) onto Valwood. Mine is the second house on the right, 1251 Valwood, La Habra.



## Interfaith Food Center

THANKS to all who donated items at our September meeting.

Besides issuing food to needy families the food center has a homeless lunch program. Each day between 50 - 70 homeless men and women are helped. They must show pictured identification.

Lunch bags consist of items such as muffins granola bars, sandwiches or salad, tuna kits, small drinks, fruit, small boxes of cereal, instant oatmeal, cup-size pudding, crackers, chips, etc. They also include personal items such as men/women socks, disposable razors, and small individual use toiletries.

They try to put enough in each bag to feed the person for the whole day

Please help us make our community service project a success and bring an item to each meeting.

More about the food center next month.

Chairs  
Shirley Stewart  
Joyce Paul

## SPEECH TREK

The Whittier Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is sponsoring the Eleanor Stem-Allen Memorial Speech Trek competition. This contest is open to boys and girls enrolled in public and private high schools as well as home schooled students and those enrolled through continuation schools.

The topic for this competition is "SEXUAL HARRASSMENT IN SCHOOLS ... Big Deal?" Students are to prepare an original 5-6 minute speech. The three finalists will be awarded cash prizes. Brenda and Peter Jahn, long-time members of Toastmasters, will conduct two (2) workshops in October and November to help the students develop and hone their final presentations. Final judging will be on Saturday, December 8. A DVD of the first-place winner's speech will be recorded in January. The first place winner will also have the opportunity to compete at the state level for another cash prize.

Interested students must submit an "Intent to Participate" notice to the Whittier Branch of AAUW **NO LATER than October 12**. This form may be obtained by contacting Whittier Speech Trek Coordinator, Jan Berry, 562-691-6859.

## MEMBERSHIP

We can do it! A goal of 175 paid members for the year 2012 -2013 has been set by the Membership Committee. Our existing membership adds up to 151 members. Greater Whittier AAUW is a viable, vibrant organization with varied events and meetings to inspire and challenge individuals who are looking to expand their horizons. Be a cheerleader by spreading the good news about what we do!

YEAR BOOKS are ready! If you paid to have it mailed, you should have it handy and ready to reference. We will be distributing year books at the October meeting. If you need to have it mailed send \$2, payable to Greater Whittier AAUW and mail to Membership @AAUW Whittier Branch, PO Box 5333 Whittier, CA 90607- 5333.

HAPPY NEWS ... Welcome to our newest members! Please add this information to your year book.

Trudy Torrence  
2420 Foxdale Avenue  
La Habra 90631

Home: 562-694-6251  
Cell: 562-754-9742  
[t11torrence@yahoo.com](mailto:t11torrence@yahoo.com).

Debbi Rezvani  
1546 Klowa Crest Drive  
Diamond Bar 91765

Home: 909-861-8968  
Work: 626-854-8520  
[debbirezvani@hotmail.com](mailto:debbirezvani@hotmail.com)



## AAUW FUNDS



For each \$500 we donate to AAUW Funds we are able to honor one of our members who made valuable contributions to our Branch. At our September meeting, the following three women were honored:

**Shirley Stewart** - Shirley has served as our president and has also worked diligently to raise money for the Branch and for the Myra Long Scholarship Fund by spearheading our December boutique.

**Joyce Paul** - Joyce, serving as our membership chair, has worked toward our goal of increasing our membership and has motivated us with her thoughts about the importance of belonging to AAUW.

**Barbara Gile** - Barbara has served us in many ways during the last several years. Since her term as president she has become our web-mistress, developing our website to give information about the Branch to our members and beyond; she has worked to facilitate the reorganization of the Branch and to develop the new by-laws.

We owe our thanks to these three women who have worked so hard to make our Branch stronger.

You, too, may donate to AAUW funds. There are two ways to do this. You may send your check to me and I'll send it to the national headquarters for you, or you may donate by e-mail by going to the AAUW website. If you choose to do that, please include the name of the Branch with your donation so we will receive the appropriate credit.

Thank you.

Peggy Fretz, AAUW Funds

## Enhance the Branch Campaign

Congratulations Dear Greater Whittier AAUW Members!  
We have over reached our \$1000 goal by \$57 to help  
"Enhance the Branch" at the East Whittier Public Library.

You are WONDERFUL!!

The board thanks you, the library thanks you, the library patrons of all ages thank you and I, Sally Schmidt, thank you, too.  
Way to go, members!



## MEMORIES WRITING YOUR MEMORIES

Memories will meet at the Hathaway Museum, 11901 Florence in Santa Fe Springs on Wednesday, October 24. Francine Rippy, museum executive, will be the hostess. The topic for the day is "Best and/or Worst Invention." Of course, you may always write off topic. The meeting begins at 1:30 PM and will include a brief tour of the grounds if weather permits. Need a ride or information? Call Carole Restovich at 562-626-0296.



## SHOW GIRLS

Eight of us met and enjoyed watching "The Words." We ate dinner at Crepes and Grapes. We meet the second Thursday of the month. The way I choose the movie is, one that has the start time close to 3:30 PM. Each time, we choose a different place in Whittier to eat. If you want to join us, send me your e-mail address. The Monday before the second Thursday I will 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. The admission is \$4.

Gen'nel Walters  
icugwalters@aol.com

## HATS HATS HATS FUN AT OUR SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING





## AAUW Whittier Branch Calendar October 2012

DAY	DATE	TIME	MEETING PLACE
Thursday	4	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , La Mirada Creek Park
Friday	5	6:00 - 8:00 PM	<b>First Friday</b> , Georganne Leyh
Tuesday	9	7:00 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , St. Matthias Church
	9	8:15 PM	<b>Math/Science Conference</b> , St. Matthias Church
Thursday	11	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Schabarum Regional Park
Thursday	11	3:30 PM	<b>Show Girls</b> , Whittier Village Theaters
Saturday	13	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , Radisson Hotel
Tuesday	16	10:00 AM	<b>International Concerns</b> , Whittier Beverly Park
Thursday	18	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Greenway Trail
Saturday	20	12:00 PM	<b>The New Phoenix Section</b> , Claremont, Colleen Tan
Sunday	21	10:00 AM	<b>Gardening Section</b> , Barbara Gile
Monday	22	10:00 AM	<b>Morning Book</b> , Sandy Bridges
Wednesday	24	1:30 - 3:30 - PM	<b>Memories</b> , Hathaway Museum, Santa Fe Springs
Thursday	25	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Central Park, Uptown Whittier
Thursday	25	7:00 PM	<b>Modern Trends</b> , Yvette Rawlinson
Sunday	28	12:00 to 3:00 PM	<b>AAUW Funds Luncheon</b> , Buena Park

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.

Newsletter Editors - Christine Heller and Carole Duff  
Proofreader - Margot Kamens

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



PUBLIC POLICY  
by Sharon Heck

A White House special summer call Just for AAUW Members was held on Thursday, August 16. Hundreds of AAUW members around the country dialed up for this very interesting teleconference. Lisa M. Maatz, National AAUW Director for Public Policy and Government Relations, participated in the call. Tina Tchen, Executive Director of the White House Council on Women and Girls, and Chief of Staff to First Lady Michelle Obama, thanked AAUW for our support of issues focused on women. She asked us to get out the message to our membership on all policy issues.

Lynn Rosenthal, White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, said that President Obama has read our AAUW report on Sexual Harassment. She said the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) actually expired at the end of 2011 and needs to be renewed. It was originally introduced by Joe Biden when he was a member of Congress. The President has activated some parts of VAWA, but it is very vulnerable without the funding activation by Congress. She said three women a day are killed by domestic violence, and that doesn't include children and other family members.



The expired law had improved law enforcement and prosecution. Young women from ages 15 to 24 are most vulnerable. Under pressure from men's rights groups the House passed a much weaker version and rolled back legal protection. She said these groups would take us back to a day when women suffered behind closed doors, and domestic violence was a "private family matter."

The Senate passed a much stronger bill and the two houses must reach agreement on it before the end of September if it is to pass this year. This is an important issue about which we should write to our elected officials in Washington.

Several other topics were covered including the Affordable Care Act, women's employment in the Math/Science field, education, Title IX and pay equity. The Census figures show that women still make \$.77 for every \$1 men make for similar work. Perhaps I will cover some of these topics in a future newsletter article. It truly was a very interesting teleconference.





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