



GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

October 2013
Volume 68 Issue 2

Linking You to Branch Activities and to Each Other



This month's Branch meeting will feature Lynne Gabriel, Program Director and Volunteer Services Coordinator of CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates. The mission of this program is to improve the lives of foster children with trained volunteers who are appointed by a judge to advocate for the best interests of a foster child. CASA seeks to reduce and reverse the effects of child abuse and neglect. Nowhere in the nation is the problem greater than in Los Angeles County, where 26,000 children who have been abused or neglected are under the jurisdiction of the Dependence Court. Come and hear about the important work that is being done through these caring adults.

In addition, a short report on the recent Tech Camp held this summer will be given by Patricia Dudley.

Autumn has arrived, and with the change in seasons we have a delicious fall barbecue menu planned for the October 12 Branch meeting. Luncheon is \$20, payable at the door. A check or cash for the exact amount is appreciated. Centerpieces will magically materialize by Modern Trends in Literature.

How many of you are of Irish decent? Did you know that trick-or-treating evolved from an ancient Celtic tradition? It was also the Irish who popularized Jack O' Lanterns when they discovered it was easier to carve pumpkins than turnips!

GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW MEETING
SATURDAY, October 12, 11:30 AM
RADISSON HOTEL, WHITTIER

CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
Reservations October 8



When making reservations please use the convenient email address: whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com or call Ellen Peck at 562-943-4679. The deadline for making reservations is October 8. If you reach her answering machine or her husband, please leave your full name and telephone number so Ellen can acknowledge your reservation. We try to accommodate late reservations, but that is sometimes difficult so please email or call as early as you can. Remember, a reservation made is a reservation for which payment must be received. Lunch will be served at 11:30, but arrive early to meet and greet (or even scare) your friends and secure a table.

BOO!

Dolores Seidman, Program
Ellen Peck and Nancy Stiefeling, Hospitality

INTERFAITH FOOD CENTER

Thanks to all who donated food at the September meeting.

Interfaith Food Center has moved to Santa Fe Springs and the need for food is greater than ever. Please continue to support this worthy cause.

Any questions, please contact Shirley Stewart at shirleys.creations@verizon.net



President's Message

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Sharon Heck

Our September Branch meeting was such a wonderful beginning for our year. I learned so much about Eleanor Roosevelt through Suzan Gallerito's presentation. Mrs. Roosevelt overcame much and is a terrific example of what a woman can achieve in her lifetime. Thank you to all who attended and made this a great day.

Plan to attend our October 12 Branch meeting on Public Policy. Patricia Cuocco has arranged for an excellent speaker, Lynne Gabriel, to tell about a program of advocates for young people. Patricia is personally involved with this program and I am looking forward to hearing about it. Please join us.

If you have email and choose to receive our newsletter by regular mail, please consider making a contribution to defray the costs of printing and postage. The postage alone could be as much as \$6.60 over the year. Treasurer Kaye Kidwell will gladly receive your gift.

We are still in need of some help with our Christmas Boutique. Continue to save your new items for silent auction baskets, good used items, and large baskets and I will tell you in November where to deliver them. Be creative and collect a whole combination of items for a silent auction basket. Please call me if you would like more information - 562-698-0476.

Whittier College has changed the date of our Math/Science Conference for 8th Grade girls. The new date is Wednesday, January 29, 2014. Please make a note of the change.

Thanks to all who serve in a leadership position in the Greater Whittier Area AAUW Branch. We have an exceptional team, and your work is greatly appreciated.

See you on Saturday, October 12 at the Radisson.

AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

(Second in a Series)

I attended two workshops on Monday of the convention. One workshop presented many ideas on fundraising, which I will pass on to our Finance Committee. The other workshop was titled Connecting Our Generations: Idealism, Passion and Wisdom. This workshop focused on the opportunities and challenges of different generations working together in AAUW. Both workshops were enlightening.

At the lunch meeting we heard about a program called Tech Savvy, which is very similar to our Math/Science Conference for 8th Grade Girls. It is a program started in one locale that will be duplicated around the country using a \$105,000 grant from Praxair.

At that lunch I sat next to a young woman from Ohio. Her nametag was labeled SPEAKER, so I asked about it. She is one of the 17 plaintiffs suing the government because they were sexually assaulted in the military. AAUW is supporting their lawsuit. Later that day I saw a showing of the movie "The Invisible War." The movie is a very well done documentary about the sexual assaults. In the film several of the plaintiffs tell their stories and the terrible ways the assaults have affected their lives. The young woman I lunched with told her tearful story following the movie. I'm hoping we can present the film to high school girls who are considering the military as a career. Everyone should see this movie.

My story will continue in the November newsletter.

Sharon Heck, President

Tech Trek Math Science Camp

The Tech Trek committee will give a brief report on the June Tech Trek Camp program. The report will focus on the core classes offered to our nine campers along with comments from the girls on their experiences.

Each fall we approach several of the 26 schools in the Greater Whittier Area. School administrators and teachers are overwhelmed with offers and programs and it is always difficult to make that first connection to offer a school the opportunity to participate. This year we will be seeking participation in the South Whittier School District, Los Nietos School District and Little Lake School District. If you know a board member, district officer or middle school administrator (or you worked at one of the middle schools) in these districts and could provide an introduction for us, please contact one of the committee members: Patricia Cuocco, Ann Chambers, Pat Dudley, Linda Gatons, Maura Greeley.

Patricia Dudley, Coordinator

WALKERS

9 AM – **NOTE TIME CHANGE!**

- 3 La Mirada Creek Park
Meet in parking lot off Santa Gertrudes
- 10 Murphy Ranch Park
Meet in parking lot at the end of Youngwood
- 17 Schabarum Regional Park
Colima and Azusa – Meet in parking lot at the front entrance kiosk
- 24 La Mirada Regional Park
Meet in parking lot by Splash – behind fire station
- 31 Uptown Neighborhood
Meet in Central Park on Washington Ave.

Shirley Stewart
shirleys.creations@verizon.net

October - Wreath Workshop For Wonderful Gardeners



The Gardening Section will meet on Monday, October 21 at 1 PM at the home of Barbara Gile, 14035

Eastridge, Whittier. This is a wreath-making workshop, and the event has been a big hit with gardening members! You don't need a green thumb to create a beautiful living succulent wreath, but there are some supplies you will want to bring: (1) small wire wreath form, (2) gloves, (3) florist pins, (4) thin wire and/or florist tape, (5) scissors, (6) moss, (7) potting mix, (8) succulents from your garden if you have them, (9) ribbons, bows, pine cones, bells, small novelty items, etc. to accent your wreath. Items 3-9 will be available at the workshop, but it is nice to have lots of extras to share. Inspiration - my wreath is now two years old and still growing! So come, join the Gardening Section and take part in the fun of creating your own wreath. RSVP to Barbara Gile at bgile2u@gmail.com or 562-693-7279.

Also remember our September meeting will actually meet on Thursday, October 3 for a field trip to a corn maze, wagon ride, U-pick vegetables and U-pick pumpkin patch. Make your reservations to Ellen Peck 562-943-4679. We will meet at Ralphs' parking lot, corner of Whittier and Colima at 8:30 AM and carpool to Tanaka Farms in Irvine. We need drivers.

Ellen Peck, Chair

FIRST FRIDAY

Date: October 4
Time: 6 - 8 PM
Host: Linda Pomeroy
714-671-3112
1620 N. Cedarcrest, Brea



Directions: Whittier Blvd. east until it dead-ends on Puente. Turn left to Northwood (stop sign); left at the first street, Poinsettia; right on Oakcrest and left on Cedarcrest. We are the next-to-the-last house on the left: #1620.



MORNING BOOK

We will not be meeting this month. Our next meeting will be Monday, November 25, when we will discuss *Nothing Daunted*, by Dorothy Wickenden. There will be further information in the November newsletter. Please make a note of the other books listed below that we will be reading and discussing this year.

January 27: *The Shoemaker's Wife* by Adriana Trigiani

March 24: *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich

June 2: *Sky of Red Poppies* by Zohreh Ghahremani

July 28: *To Be Sung Underwater* by Tom MacNeal

Ann Topjon, Chair
562-695-6185

MEMORIES

October's Memories meeting takes place at the home of Judy Flanders at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, October 23. The topic for the day is *Babysitting*. Perhaps it was your own experiences as a teenager or maybe those who babysat your own children. Or...maybe this topic doesn't cause a spark of an idea, so feel free to write on whatever you wish. We always enjoy sharing our writing and invite you to participate. Judy's address is 12430 Floral. Coming from the east, take Beverly Blvd. to Pickering, turn north on Pickering to Floral (about a half-mile up) and turn left. Judy's house is on the left. Her phone number is 562-692-7930.

Carole Restovich, Chair

Babysitting



MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE

Modern Trends in Literature will be meeting on Thursday, October 24 at the home of Gwen Woirhaye. The book, *Tell the Wolves I'm Home*, by Carol Rifka Brunt, will be reviewed by Joyce Paul. This is a moving story of love, grief and renewal as two lonely people become the unlikeliest of friends and find that sometimes you don't know you've lost someone until you've found them. It is a portrait of the way compassion can make one whole again. Refreshments will be provided by Annette Lauritzen and served at 7 PM. The book review starts at 7:15. Gwen lives at 5810 Friends in Whittier. Going west on Mar Vista, turn right onto Painter, then left onto Beverly Blvd. a right onto Friends and Gwen's home will be on the right. See you there.

Trish Carlson and Joyce Paul, Chairs



POSITIVE PAST PRESIDENTS

PPP will meet Wednesday, October 2, 6 PM, at Marie Callender's restaurant on La Serna. We will discuss plans for the year and ways we might be helpful to the Branch. All past presidents of Whittier Branch or any other branch are invited to join us. Or if you might be a future past president, please join us as well; we will offer encouragement. And put Wednesday, December 4, 6 PM, on your calendar for our annual Christmas party.

Please email gwen@woirhaye.com or phone 562-696-6405 to reserve a place on October 2.

Gwen Woirhaye, Chair

The following poem was written by new member Ann Chambers for the August Memories meeting which had the topic *What I'd Do if Money Were No Object*. Those in attendance thought it so superb that they wanted her to share it with all AAUW members.



If Money Were No Object

Are we talking about long term or short?
Can I count on continued money support?
Or later be willing to abort?

Pretend to be Oprah, Andre Agassi, Bill Gates
A girls' math and science academy I would create.
Explorations and discoveries to captivate.

A little less ambitious plan might involve
abandoned pets
Each rescued through the years – never any regrets
Then I could be their voice in silhouette.

Next, I might consider traveling the world 'round
People, cultures, life-styles abound
Moving to wherever warm weather and a spa
could be found.

Another dream more personal to me
Try and trace my ancestral pedigree
And walk the Trail of Tears of the Cherokee.

How about 24 hours of Las Vegas high-roller
access?
Dining, shopping, gambling – limitless
I'd love to pretend to be rich, I must confess.

My final wish I've held for the longest time
To watch the forbidden over-night work crew at
Disneyland Anaheim
Restoring the whole park to its daily prime.

So let's ponder this momentary snapshot
The question about this question isn't to have
or have not
But be thankful and satisfied with the amount
you can allot.

-Ann Chambers

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

International Concerns will meet on Tuesday, October 15 at 10 AM with Ellen Larson (Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd., #2D). Our discussion topic will be Iran, Article 6 in Great Decisions 2013. All interested members are invited to join the discussion. For further information please call Maurine Behrens at 562-695-8436 before October 11 or Ellen Larson at 562-695-7017 after October 12.

SHOWGIRLS

Come join us the second Thursday of the month at the Whittier Uptown Cinemas. Contact Cindy Birt for further information. 562-697-7520.

AAUW FUNDS

Have you been wondering how you can contribute to AAUW Funds or LAF (Legal Advocacy Fund?) You can access the AAUW website for contributions by using this address: www.aauw.org/contribute. When it opens, there will be a place to "Give Now." That is by far the easiest and quickest way, but as always, I will be glad to send in your donation for you if you send it to me at 14852 Jupiter St., Whittier 90603. Questions? Email me at PJFretz@aol.com.

Our Branch has always been generous in its contributions to AAUW funds and the special programs it supports.

Peggy Fretz,
AAUW Funds Vice President

Yearbook Corrections

Joyce Paul 909-620-1202
Robert Henderson
bob@hendersonsinsure.com
Judith Henderson
judi@hendersonsinsure.com
Ken Henderson
ken@hendersonsinsure.com

PUBLIC POLICY

by Patricia Cuocco

Sometimes, when we think of all of the things that are wrong in this world, all of the things that need fixing, we get overwhelmed. Our inclination is to stop paying attention. If we can't fix everything we won't try to fix anything. It's natural to feel that way – and it's self-defeating, and ultimately, a guarantee that nothing gets better. That isn't what AAUW is about. We are women who get things done, who make positive changes in our world.

This month, I would like to highlight the issue of human trafficking. Human trafficking takes two hideously ugly forms: sex trafficking, for which there is a fair amount of media coverage and trafficking for forced labor, which doesn't get as much attention, but is the larger problem in terms of numbers.

At our October meeting, Lynne Gabriel from CASA Los Angeles (Court Appointed Special Advocates) will discuss the issues surrounding foster care. One of the serious risks to young girls in the dependency court system is getting caught up in sex trafficking. We will focus on that issue next month, after we hear from Lynne.

Forced labor ties with the illegal arms trade, right behind illegal drug activity, for the #2 spot on the "hit parade" of American criminal activity. Generally, victims in foreign countries are promised well-paying jobs in the U.S. After leaving home and coming here, the victims find a wholly different reality – forced to work for little or no pay, and kept as virtual slaves.

AAUW urges support for State Senate Bill 516, which is moving through the Assembly after garnering bi-partisan support and NO opposition in the Senate. It will take the first steps towards ending modern-day slavery in California. Take two minutes and urge your Assembly member to vote for this bill. For more information, go to <http://www.castla.org/state-legislation#sb516>.

Want to do more? Get educated on the topic. Often, the clothes we buy, the electronics we use, the food we eat comes to us with the stain of force labor attached, but very well scrubbed away by corporate public relations. A Google search on "Human Trafficking Labor Slaves" is a good place to start. I promise you hours of eye-opening horror. Check out sites like the Polaris Project <http://www.polarisproject.org/resources/resources-by-topic/labor-trafficking> and Free2Work <http://www.free2work.org/>. Find something you normally use that you won't any longer because the company involved takes advantage of slave labor, and write to tell the company that!



THE NEW PHOENIX

Members of The New Phoenix section are looking forward to a high tea at the Four Seasons Tea Room, 75 N. Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre, on Tuesday, October 22, at 1 PM. The cost is \$28.28, for the multi-course tea, which includes tax and gratuity. Carpooling is advised. For reservations and further information phone Colleen Tan, 562-698-4934. All Branch members are welcome.

Colleen Tan. Chair

**Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women (AAUW)
2013-2014 Membership Application**

*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
_____ Life Member \$40
_____ Student \$30
_____ Dual \$24

_____ I want the yearbook mailed to me and will add \$2 to my payment check.

_____ I also want the AAUW binder that costs \$5 plus \$1.50 postage and will add \$6.50 to my payment.

Do you have a sponsor? If so, who is it? _____
Today's date _____

*Required for all members. **New members must complete all information.**
Reminder: \$86 of your dues are tax deductible.

GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW BRANCH CALENDAR OCTOBER 2013



DAY	DATE	TIME	
Friday	9/27	7 AM to 10 PM	Dining for \$\$\$\$\$, Marie Callender's, Washington Blvd.
Tuesday	1	7:00 PM	Board Meeting , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Wednesday	2	6:00 PM	PPP , Marie Callender's, La Serna
Thursday	3	8:30 AM	Gardening Section , Tanaka Farms, Irvine
Thursday	3	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , La Mirada Creek Park
Friday	4	6:00 PM	First Friday , Linda Pomeroy
Thursday	10	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , Murphy Ranch Park
Thursday	10	3:30 PM	Showgirls , Whittier Village Theaters
Saturday	12	11:30 AM	Branch Meeting , Radisson Hotel, Whittier
Tuesday	15	10:00 AM	International Concerns , Ellen Larson
Thursday	17	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , Schabarum Regional Park
Monday	21	1:00 PM	Gardening Section , Barbara Gile
Tuesday	22	1:00 PM	The New Phoenix , Four Seasons Tea Room, Sierra Madre
Wednesday	23	1:30 PM	Memories , Judy Flanders
Thursday	24	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , La Mirada Regional Park
Thursday	24	7:00 PM	Modern Trends , Gwen Woirhaye
Thursday	31	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , Central Park, Uptown Whittier

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 15th of each month.

REMINDER: Include the day (Mon. etc.) with the date of your event.

Please send articles by email to christineheller@earthlink.net
Newsletter Editors - Christine Heller, Margot Kamens and Carole Duff



DINING 4 \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

**American Association
of Women**

Greater Whittier Branch

will have a "Day at Marie Callender's" on

Friday, September 27th

from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm.

Marie Callender's West Whittier

will donate 20% of our group's food, beverage, take-out and bakery purchases to our organization on the above designated day.

Proceeds will support the Myra Long Scholarship Fund.

To participate in our fundraising event, you must present this flyer to your server when you order!
Other coupons, discounts or scrip *may not* be used during our fundraising event.

Marie Callender's
Restaurant & Bakery

**12402 E. Washington Blvd.
At Lambert Rd., across from Presbyterian Hospital
(562) 693-2724**

Please no soliciting on the premises.



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

