



GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

November 2013
Volume 68 Issue 3

Linking You to Branch Activities and to Each Other

NOVEMBER



Come to hear Anne Cherian, author of *A Good Indian Wife* and *The Invitation*, tell of her heritage as a woman who was born and raised in India with a Jewish American mother and a Jacobite Syrian Christian father, who now lives in Los Angeles. She tells fascinating tales based on her background and travels. Her first book, *A Good Indian Wife*, tells the story of Neal, an Americanized Indian, and Leila, the wife his family has thrust upon him through an arranged marriage. Her second, *The Invitation*, looks at how four Indian students who met each other at UCLA in the 1980's have succeeded (or not) in achieving the American dream. These stories are sure to enhance our understanding of the immigrant experience as well as being a delightful reading experience.

AAUW members who have heard her speak at other venues have said she will open your eyes to the life of an Indian woman. Many Indian wives would never say their husband's name aloud, as it is a sign of disrespect. When addressing him, the wife would use several indirect references, such as "ja" or "look here" or "hello," or even refer to him as the father of her child.

Her books will be available for sale and signing at the meeting. Come early to have an opportunity to meet the author and examine her books.

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

Anne Cherian
Author

Reservations - November 5



Before Anne Cherian's informative book talk, our taste buds will be stimulated with a non-spicy Indian buffet: sour chick peas, Chicken Tandori, Basmati rice, red lentil Dahi, Naan bread, and chef's selection dessert. Coffee, ice tea and ice water will be served. Luncheon is \$20, payable at the door. A check or cash for the exact amount is appreciated. This month the centerpieces will be provided by Show Girls and PPP.

When making reservations please use the convenient e-mail address: whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com or call me, Ellen Peck, at 562-943-4679. The deadline for making reservations is November 5. If you reach my answering machine or my hubby, please leave your full name and telephone number so I can acknowledge your reservation. Early reservations make it easier to coordinate with Radisson Catering, so please RSVP as soon as possible. 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 with friends, view a display of Indian saris, and secure a table.

Shukriyaa (Indian word for thank you),

Dolores Seidman, Program Vice President
Ellen Peck & Nancy Stiefeling, Hospitality

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Sharon Heck

I am writing this the day after our wonderful meeting where Lynne Gabriel told us of the CASA organization. The advocates who volunteer their time to help improve the lives of so many foster children are to be commended. We should support CASA with our donations and our time. Thank you, Lynne and Patricia, for an excellent program.

The Los Angeles County Interbranch Council (LACIC) meeting will take place on Sunday, November 10 at Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital (PIH) at 2 PM. The speaker will be Cacilia Kim, a Long Beach attorney and AAUW member, who will speak about Title IX litigation. Plan to attend the meeting and to get acquainted with women from many other branches. We can learn from each other.

Our Saturday, November 9 meeting features author Anne Cherian. Look for information about this meeting and about our December 7 meeting elsewhere in this newsletter. Come join us for good fellowship and good programming. AAUW has so much to offer as we work toward equity for women and girls.



R.I.P.

Reading, Interpretation and Performance

To all our AAUW members: R.I.P. is a section where we read selections aloud and often perform them for others. While we are not yet ready to "rip and roar," we are ready to leave our hiatus status. Our first meeting is at the home of Gwen Woirhaye, 5810 Friends, Whittier, on Wednesday, November 6 at 7 PM. Light refreshments will be provided. Cheers for us! You may opt to bring something you have written on "thankfulness." It is that time of year! Contact Colleen Tan or Gwen Woirhaye for more information.

Colleen Tan, Chair

AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

(Third in a Series)

There was a special presentation at the Tuesday morning plenary session. Robin Gerber, an author, gave a talk titled "Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way." She has written a book about Eleanor and she gave a very complete picture of her life story. As First Lady in Spring 1939, Eleanor learned the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) had prevented Marian Anderson, a Black opera singer, from performing in Constitution Hall. Eleanor resigned her membership in the DAR, sent the story to the newspapers, and Marian Anderson performed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday.

Two of Eleanor Roosevelt's quotations really resonated with me. "Women are like tea bags; they don't know how strong they are until they get in hot water." The other is this, "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." She was quite a lady and did attend the 1959 National AAUW Convention in Kansas City. Eleanor Roosevelt died in 1962.

I attended a workshop on archiving. We learned what is necessary to keep and what can be thrown away. Each table was given a small pile of papers and we had to decide what to do with each item. We learned that paper is the very best way to keep documents, because computers and other machines change so quickly. Folders and boxes should be made of acid-free paper. A very experienced archivist is now on staff in Washington. They have 700 boxes of materials to sort and have completed only 40 using staff and 14 volunteers. I learned a great deal about this process and it will be helpful in looking at our "AAUW stuff."

Sharon Heck, President

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

Plans are coming together nicely for our Christmas boutique and program. On Saturday, December 7 you will be served a wonderful lunch, you will be entertained by the La Serna High School Hilltoppers Chamber Choir, and you will be able to purchase and/or bid on many terrific items.

We need nice used items to sell at the boutique. Maura Greeley has agreed to collect those items at her home, 4704 Canyon Rim Dr., Whittier. Call Maura for directions. 562-692-3919.

New items for the silent auction baskets will be collected by Patricia Cuocco. Her address is: 7210 Canyon Crest Rd., Whittier. Call her for directions to her home. 562-698-6665.

All items need to be delivered by December 1 so that assembly and pricing can be completed in time for the boutique. Volunteers are still very welcome to help us. Call me if you are able to help - Sharon Heck - 562-698-0476. A big thank you goes to Maura and Patricia for their willingness to help.



WALKERS

9 AM – THURSDAYS

- 7 La Mirada Creek Park
Meet in parking lot off Santa Gertrudes
- 14 Heritage Park Santa Fe Springs
Meet in parking lot by the trains
- 21 Whittwood Town Center
Meet in front of Panera Bakery
- 28 **THANKSGIVING**
Enjoy time with family and friends

Shirley Stewart
shirleys.creations@verizon.net

MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS

Plans are underway for our 21st Annual Math/Science Conference. It will be held at Whittier College on Wednesday, January 29, 2014 from 9:15 AM to 12:45 PM. We will host 340 girls and their counselors from 28 schools.

Dolores Seidman will be taking the names of volunteers, so please e-mail her with your intent to help on that day. Her e-mail address is: deeseidman@gmail.com.

A brief meeting of the Math/Science Conference Committee will be held following the Board meeting on Tuesday, November 5, at approximately 8:15 PM. The meeting will be held at St. Matthias Episcopal Church, 7056 South Washington Ave., Whittier. All are welcome to attend.

FIRST FRIDAY

Date: November 1
Time: 6 - 8 PM
Host: Sandy & Art Bridges
1550 N. Walnut Street
La Habra Heights
562-697-7427



Directions: Whittier Blvd. to Euclid, turning north at Claros Italian Market on your left and the USA gas station on the right. Go north on Euclid for 7/10 of a mile. You will pass apartment buildings, homes and then start up the hill. The street name changes to Hiatt when you start up the steep grade, where the road narrows. The street ends and turns onto Walnut to your left or right at the top. Do not go onto Walnut! Take the driveway to your right, between the decorative rock wall and the mailboxes and pine trees. It is quite a steep decent, but it opens up as you come down. We are the second house on the left (hedge in front, salmon color with black roof and white trim). Plenty of parking in the driveway.



MORNING BOOK

Join us for discussion on Monday, November 25, when we meet to talk about *Nothing Daunted - The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West*, by Dorothy Wickenden. It is the fascinating true story of two young New York society women, bored by their environment, who determine to go west to teach school in the wilds of northwestern Colorado. The author, granddaughter of one of the women, found the letters that the two had written home, and reconstructed their unforgettable adventure with homesteaders and the children they taught. One reviewer stated that the story is a “brightly painted mural of America under construction a century ago, personified by two ladies of true grit who were nothing daunted and everything enthusiastic about where the new century would take them.” The meeting will take place at 10 AM, at Sandy Bridges, 1550 N. Walnut La Habra Heights; 562-697-7427. Harriet Cornyn will provide refreshments and Sally Schmidt will lead our discussion. Hope to see you there!

Directions to Sandy’s house: See previous page (3) of newsletter. Complete directions are located in First Friday article.

Ann Topjon, Chair
562-695-6185

SHOW GIRLS

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

MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE

Modern Trends in Literature will meet at the home of Carol Shupek at 7 PM on Thursday, November 21. The book selection is *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor, which will be reviewed by Dolores Seidman. As the first Hispanic and third woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court, Sonia Sotomayor has become an instant American icon. Now, with a candor and intimacy never undertaken by a sitting Justice, she recounts her life from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench, a journey that offers an inspiring testament to her own extraordinary determination and the power of believing in oneself. Refreshments will be provided at 7 by Carol, who is both hostess and co-hostess for this meeting. Please note that books have been exchanged for the months of February and March. *Beautiful Ruins* has been moved to March and *The Midwife of Hope River* will be reviewed in February. Directions to Carol’s home: Go west on Mar Vista, turn right onto Painter, turn right on Hadley and left onto Southwind. 6204 Southwind will be on the right side of the street. We still need reviewers for *Beautiful Ruins* and *The Shadow of the Wind*. Volunteers are needed for these two books.

Trish Carlson and Joyce Paul, Chairs



INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

International Concerns will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, November 19 with Ellen Larson (Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd. #2D). Our topic is China in Africa: Savior or Self-Interest? Please join us to bring your views into the discussion. For further information contact Maurine Behrens at 562-695-8436 or maurineb90601@gmail.com.

MYSTERY MAVENS

Wednesday November 20 6:30 PM

Not a Creature Was Stirring

by Jane Haddam

Reviewer: Sharon Heck

For former FBI agent Gregor Demarkian, retirement has just come to an abrupt end. What started as a mysterious summons to a Christmas Eve feast at multimillionaire Robert Hannaford's isolated country estate was now an invitation to a murder scene. Add Hannaford's penchant for making enemies, seven siblings with ample reasons for wanting Daddy dead, plus a murderer with a genius for mayhem, and you've got local police begging the Bureau's aging former ace to take up society sleuthing. But as the pieces fall into place, so do the bodies. And Gregor can hear the jingle bells toll—it's going to be a lethal Yule.

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

Carol K. Anderson 562-943-0728

MEMORIES



Memories will meet at the home of our poetess Ann Chambers on Wednesday, November 20 at 1:30 PM. Note that this is a week earlier than our usual fourth Wednesday of the month meeting because of the Thanksgiving holiday. Our topic is "What I'm Thankful For" or one of your own choosing. The directions to Ann's home are Whittier Blvd. to Russell (diagonal from Whittwood Center). Follow Russell past sign at Macy. Turn left (north) on Randall to Ann's home on the right at 1032 Randall. Her phone number is 562-690-6150. All are welcome to join this fun, entertaining and sometimes introspective group of women who enjoy writing about their life experiences.



AAUW FUNDS

I just made a donation to AAUW Funds online. It was quick and easy! This is a reminder that the donation year for AAUW Funds ends on December 1, so if you've been waiting to contribute, please do it soon!

To make your contribution online you may use this address www.aauw.org/contribute. When it opens, there will be a place to "Give Now"

AAUW is one of the largest sources for funding for graduate women. In the 2013-2014 academic year, AAUW is providing \$3.7 million in fellowships and grants for outstanding women and community organizations. You can be part of this important work.

Peggy Fretz
AAUW Funds Vice-President

INTERFAITH FOOD CENTER

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Let's help make the less fortunate have a great Thanksgiving with our food donations.

Items needed this time of year are canned hams, pumpkin, yams, cranberry sauce, evaporated milk and all the everyday items a family needs to have a great Thanksgiving dinner.

Don't forget the homeless lunches - single serving items with pull tops, socks to keep the feet warm as the weather turns cold.

Mark your calendar today so you won't forget to bring your donations to our November 9th meeting.

Shirley Stewart

P.S. A special THANKS to Joyce Paul for handling the food items at our September and October meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

2013 Membership Matters

We're Mad about Unfair Pay, and We're Not Taking It Anymore!

Recently, America learned that women are [still paid 23 cents less](#) than men are — the same pay gap we were facing a decade ago. Check out [your state's rank](#) in the 2012 census data. Use this information as a springboard to engage in conversation with friends, colleagues and potential AAUW members. You can also use your social media outlets to share AAUW messaging on the issue of unequal pay. Making connections through critical issues is a great recruitment and retention tool, helping us all build a community that empowers women and girls. Be a membership ambassador: Engage new and potential members so that we create a lasting AAUW legacy.

Our Branch can continue the conversation by hosting a [Cocktails and Convos](#) event. Invite friends, community leaders, and anyone else interested in or affected by this issue. Not familiar with Cocktails and Convos? It's a social event where you can engage members and nonmembers alike on a topic of your choice. Branch leaders should remember to offer half off national dues at public events using the [Shape the Future campaign](#). Remember, membership is everyone's business, so do your part by showcasing your local and national activities. For more information, visit www.aauw.org, e-mail connect@aauw.org, or call 800-326-2289 (Monday – Friday, 10 AM – 5 PM EST).

This is information for all to read that has been mentioned **before** – that needs to be read by all again.

As membership ambassadors, we can be active volunteers of service. Remember, you do not have to be in the service to be of service. As an AAUW member, you are serving future generations. In addition, do not forget that men can join as well. Think about the items listed below to encourage new membership and share your ideas.

- What type of event or activity would work best in our community?**
- What do we want to accomplish by holding the event?**
- What dates, times, locations, and facilities would work best for everyone (or at least the majority)?**
- What role would you like to take on at the event?**
- Does the event warrant a membership table? (Members can volunteer as hosts.)**

Remember, membership never ends. Anyone can call me with questions at 562-587-3104 or email me at cchaconsullivan@roadrunner.com.

Christine C. Sullivan
Membership

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Marsha Korkowski
1360 Beechwood Dr.
Brea, CA 92821
714-671-2002
mokorkowski@sbcglobal.net

Elvira Vicki Marshall
10932 La Cima Dr.
Whittier, CA 90604

Deirdre Shatzen
6021 Comstock Ave.
Whittier, CA 90601
562-696-2910
Lsecret@earthlink.net

ALL IN A WORD

T

for time to be together,
turkey, talk, and tangy weather.

H

for harvest stored away,
home, and hearth, and holiday.

A

for autumn's frosty art,
and abundance in the heart.

N

for neighbors, and November,
nice things, new things to remember.

K

for kitchen, kettles' croon,
kith and kin expected soon.

S

for sizzles, sights, and sounds,
and something special that abounds.
that spells **THANKS**--for joy in living
and a jolly good Thanksgiving.

Aileen Fisher

PLEASE NOTE YEARBOOK CORRECTIONS!

1. E-mail address for Joann Sarachman should be jsarach@verizon.net.

2. E-mail address for Barbara Gile should be bgile2u@gmail.com

3. E-mail for Myra Weiss should be mwbooks43@gmail.com

4. Cell number for Maria Turrubiarres should be 626-435-7652

The following are corrections to the AAUW Sections of the yearbook:

5. Gardening, page 16 - E-mail should be cpeck4@earthlink.net.

6. Modern Trends in Literature
4th Thursday, 7:00PM

7. Morning Book
4th Monday Sept. Nov. Jan. Mar. and
July, 1st Monday June, 10:00 AM

8. Show Girls
Time and movie TBA

POSITIVE PAST PRESIDENTS

Attention Recent New Members:

Triple Ps (Positive Past Presidents) is hosting a social/orientation for you on Wednesday, November 13, from 3 to 5 PM, at the home of Barbara Gile, 14035 Eastridge, Whittier. We will answer questions and fill you in on such activities as Math/Science Conference, Myra Long Scholarship Fund, other AAUW funds and interest sections. If you would like to come, please respond to Gwen Woirhaye, Chair, Positive Past Presidents
gwen@woirhaye.com
562-696-6405

Directions: Mar Vista east of Painter to Vale, left one block to Eastridge; house is on the northeast corner of Vale and Eastridge.

PUBLIC POLICY

by Patricia Cuocco

Last month we focused on human trafficking associated with labor. I promised that this month we would talk about sex trafficking. Our October guest speaker, Lynne Gabriel of CASA-LA, touched a little on this as a particular concern of children in the foster care system who are disproportionately impacted by this obscenity.

Did you know that over 100,000 American children are exploited through pornography or prostitution every year? The average age of exploitation through prostitution is 13, though even infants have been identified in child pornography. According to Commissioner Catherine Pratt of the Star Court in Compton (a court where young prostitutes are treated as victims, not criminals) the breakdown is age 12 for African-American girls, 13 for Hispanic girls and 14 for white girls. And no, the problem isn't exclusively one of female victims, but girls are more likely to be exploited.

Most police activity is focused on the "pimps" or traffickers. The usual scenario is that "buyers", i.e. the men who pay to rape these children, are let off with a slap on the wrist. Yet, research indicated that 83% of such "buyers" said that jail-time would be a deterrent. In addition, letters to their families (79%) and public exposure in newspapers, etc. (87%) would also deter them.

Learning as much as you can about the issue is critical. I would recommend visiting the website <http://sharedhope.org>. The extent of the problem is massive and this certainly will not be fun reading. And yes, be shocked and upset that the state-by-state report card gives California a grade of F.

More important however is to take action. Write your Congressional representatives about HR 2805 and Senators Feinstein and Boxer about S. 1534. Both of these bills seek to clarify the law and deter and punish demand. The Shared Hope website has links to Take Action. Be aware that Supervisor Don Knabe and Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas have called on state legislators to strengthen laws against adults who solicit sex with children <http://knabe.com/issues/child-sex-trafficking/#.UI2pPyijlwE>



CALLING ALL GARDENERS AND THOSE WHO APPRECIATE LOVELY GARDENS

You don't need a green thumb to join the Gardening Section, just a love and appreciation of beautiful gardens. Everyone had a delightful time on our first field trip to a corn maze and pumpkin patch. In October we honed our creative side making lovely succulent wreaths. In November we are going on our second field trip, this time to Roger's Gardens in Corona Del Mar for holiday decorating inspiration using living plants. Meet at 8:30 AM on Monday, November 11 at Ralph's parking lot, corner of Whittier and Colima. Spouses, friends and others interested in attending this event are invited. RSVP to Ellen Peck by November 7 at cpeck4@earthlink.net or by phone at 562-943-4679. Let me know if you can drive.

MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

As a 501 (c)(3) corporation the Greater Whittier Area of American Association of University Women has thrived from grants and donations.

In addition to the faithful, generous members of the Branch the following organizations and community resources gave: Host Lions - \$800; Quaker Chemical Foundation - \$3,600; Raytheon Corporation - \$1,700; Sunrise Rotary - \$500; and Supervisor Don Knabe - \$1,000.

Sharon Heck did an outstanding job with the non-event mailing. To date we have received over \$5,000 for her efforts. Every year the children of Myra Long honor their mother with a donation on her March birth date.

Over 340 women and girls benefited from our efforts last year. The following list details how we spent the funds:

1- Special Funds Recipient	\$ 600.00
4 - Scholarships @ \$1,500 each	6,000.00
9 - 7 th grade Tech Trek Campers @ \$850 each	7,650.00
3 - high school girls Speech Trek winners	500.00
324 - 8 th grade girls attend Math/Science Conference	<u>3,786.74</u>
	\$18,536.74

The coming year promises to be as rewarding. The Budget for the coming year was approved at the August 1 meeting as follows:

MLSF BUDGET 2013-2014 7/1/13 – 6/30/14

INCOME

Edward Jones dividends	\$ 1,000
B.B. Graham dividends	500
Docent Income	1,500
Donations	1,000
Fund Raising	7,000
Grants	10,000
Tech Trek	<u>500</u>
TOTAL	\$ 21,500

EXPENSES

Insurance	\$ 800
Math/Science	3,000
Scholarships	8,000
Supplies	350
Speech Trek	750
State Fees	100
Tech Trek	<u>8,500</u>
TOTAL	\$ 21,500

The next committee meeting is Thursday, November 7, at 9 AM in the First Friends Church Library. All members are welcome. The agenda includes a review of our investment portfolio.

Barbara Gile, 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 NOVEMBER 2013



DAY	DATE	TIME	
Friday	1	6:00 PM	First Friday , Sandy Bridges
Tuesday	5	7:00 PM	Board Meeting , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Tuesday	5	8:15 PM	Math/Science Conference , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Wednesday	6	7:00 PM	R.I.P. , Gwen Woirhaye
Thursday	7	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , La Mirada Creek Park
Thursday	7	9:00 AM	MLSF Committee , First Friends Church, Library
Saturday	9	11:30 AM	Branch Meeting , Radisson Hotel, Whittier
Sunday	10	2:00 PM	LACIC , Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital, Whittier
Monday	11	8:30 AM	Gardening Section , Rogers Gardens, Ralphs, Whittier & Colima
Wednesday	13	3:00 PM	PPP , Barbara Gile
Thursday	14	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , Heritage Park, Santa Fe Springs
Thursday	14	3:30 PM	Show Girls , Whittier Village Theaters
Tuesday	19	10:00 AM	International Concerns , Ellen Larson
Wednesday	20	6:30 PM	Mystery Mavens , Marie Callender's, La Serna, Library Room
Wednesday	20	1:30 PM	Memories , Ann Chambers
Thursday	21	9:00 AM	Walkers Section , Whittwood Town Center, Panera Bakery
Thursday	21	7:00 PM	Modern Trends in Literature , Carol Shupek
Monday	25	10:00 AM	Morning Book , Sandy Bridges

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





AAUW Whittier Branch
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