



# GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014  
Volume 68 Issue 8

*Linking You to Branch Activities and to Each Other*



## AAUW Luncheon Meeting Saturday, April 5, 11:30 AM

Our spring meeting will be a presentation by “Costumer Extraordinaire” Natalie Meyer on **HISTORICAL FASHIONS**. Natalie is the head costumer for Heritage Square Museum in Los Angeles and the Workman/Temple Family Homestead in Industry. Women’s history can take many directions, and this one will be a basic overview of the fashionable silhouette for women’s clothing from medieval times up to the present with some historical data about world events that accompanied these fashions. Take note that at the end of the lecture there will be a “show and tell” about the foundation garments that created the various silhouettes using volunteers from the audience to demonstrate. Are you ready for your debut, ladies?

**Please note that our April meeting will be on the first Saturday, rather than our usual second Saturday.**

Dolores Seidman, Program



GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW MEETING  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 11:30 AM  
RADISSON HOTEL, WHITTIER

**HISTORICAL FASHIONS**  
**NATALIE MEYER**  
Reservations – April 1



## Luncheon and Reservation Details for April 5

Are you a Downton Abbey fan? Have you ever enjoyed tea at the Empress Hotel in Victoria or at one of the charming teahouses in Southern California? The Radisson will prepare High Tea for our whimsical and light-hearted April 5 Branch meeting. The side tables will feature a display of interesting teapots and the AAUW silver. Yes, AAUW has silver! Long-time members might remember the silver service, but many have never even seen our silver collection. Centerpieces will be provided by Walkers. The High Tea is \$20, and will begin at 11:30, but arrive early to enjoy the display. To extend the theme, ladies are encouraged to wear hats. When making reservations please use the convenient email address: [whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com](mailto:whittieraauwreserv@yahoo.com) or call me, Ellen Peck, at 562-943-4679. The deadline for making reservations is April 1. If you use my answering machine please leave your full name and telephone number.

Ellen Peck and Nancy Stiefeling, Hospitality

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Sharon Heck

We are very fortunate to have a quality national publication, *OUTLOOK* magazine. The Winter 2014 edition centers on equality for everyone, especially LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) people. It covers many stories of improvement in equality, and stories where there are great problems such as the bullying of LGBT youth in schools. I recommend that everyone take a look at this issue. If you are not receiving the magazine, please let me know and we will contact the national office.

Our California AAUW organization will be holding a vote to raise the state dues. There is great need because they have had to dip into their reserves, even though they have cut back on expenses. We did a similar vote last year and it seemed to pass. However, the percentage of members voting was not large enough. It is very important that everyone vote this time. You will receive information and you will be able to vote online, or request a paper ballot. Voting for our California officers will begin on April 12, and again, the easiest way to vote is online. If anyone needs help with this, please contact me or another member of our board of directors.

We had an excellent program on domestic violence at our March 8 meeting, and another interesting program is planned for April 5. You will hear about and see historical fashions. You will also hear about our new process for an optional plan to pay your dues online with a credit card. You will be able to do that after April 1, and it will save you some time and postage. Remember, our AAUW goal is to break down barriers for women and girls, and we need you to help make that happen.

If you have not already done so, please visit the Greater Whittier Area Branch website at <http://whittier-ca.aauw.net>

Our website is a great recruiting tool. It has a wealth of information about who we are, what we do and most important, how to join. Please visit often and tell your friends about it.

## Las Distinguidas Applications

Las Distinguidas applications for nominations are due March 28. We encourage AAUW members to nominate worthy and distinguished women who have made significant contributions in one or more areas of business, the arts, education, community service, politics and the professions in Greater Whittier area. Please call or email Carol Shupek for applications at 562-945-4931 or [cshupek@yahoo.com](mailto:cshupek@yahoo.com).

Las Distinguidas Committee

## NEW MEMBER EVENT

Our new and long-time members are invited to a get-together at the home of Barbara Gile, 14035 Eastridge Dr., Whittier, on Thursday, March 27 from 4 - 6 PM. The RIP Section will present a reading about our Branch, and everyone's questions can be answered.

**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US!**

## INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

International Concerns will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, April 15 with Ellen Larson (Whittier Beverly Park, #2D 12031 Beverly Blvd.). We will discuss Turkey's challenges, article #3 in Great Decisions 2014. All interested members are invited. For further information contact Maurine Behrens at [maurineb90601@gmail.com](mailto:maurineb90601@gmail.com) or 562-695-8436.



## MODERN TRENDS



Modern Trends in Literature will meet on Thursday, April 24 at the home of Marian Locke. The book, *Shadow of the Wind*, by Carlos Ruiz Zafron will be reviewed by Marian who is also our hostess for the evening. Refreshments will be provided by Yvette Rawlinson and will be served at 7 PM with the review beginning at 7:15. *The Shadow of the Wind* is the story of Daniel, an antiquarian book dealer's son who mourns the loss of his mother and finds solace in a mysterious book entitled *The Shadow of the Wind*, by one Julián Carax. When he sets out to find the author's other works, he makes a shocking discovery: someone has been systematically destroying every copy of every book Carax has written. In fact, Daniel may have the last of Carax's books in existence. Soon Daniel's seemingly innocent quest opens a door into one of Barcelona's darkest secrets - an epic story of murder, madness and doomed love. Directions to Marian's home: Going east on Colima, turn left onto Hacienda. Make another left onto Newton and left again onto Joan. Then make a right onto La Monde. Marian is at 15555 La Monde and is on the right side of the street.

Trish Carlson and Joyce Paul

## WALKERS

**Skipped** 9 AM – THURSDAYS

April 3 La Mirada Creek Park  
Meet in parking lot off Santa Gertrudes

April 10 Greenway Trail – Lambert and Mills  
Meet under wind chimes

April 17 Arroyo Pescadero  
Meet in parking lot off Colima

April 24 Murphy Ranch Park  
Meet in parking lot at the end of Youngwood

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



## MORNING BOOK

We are not meeting this month. On Monday, June 2 we will meet to discuss *Sky of Red Poppies*, by Zohreh Ghahremani. Judy Flanders will be the hostess, Colleen Tan will provide refreshments and Dolores Seidman will facilitate our discussion. Look for further information in next month's newsletter.

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-695-6185

## INTERFAITH FOOD CENTER

It's Easter time! Let's make sure the families have a great Easter - canned hams, sweet potatoes, canned vegetables, cookie/cake mixes and candy.

Don't forget the homeless with single serving pull-top containers, socks, etc.

Any questions, please contact Shirley Stewart.

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



## MEMORIES

Memories will meet Wednesday, April 23 at the home of Carol J. Anderson at 1:30 PM. The topic is "Things That Aren't Here Anymore." If you are a long-time Whittier resident, there are numerous buildings and special places that have vanished - likewise, Los Angeles. Perhaps it is a way of life or behaviors that have disappeared. Come share your written thoughts with an accepting audience. Now is the time to indulge in a little nostalgia. We would love to have you join us. Directions to Carol's house: from Whittier Blvd. turn north on Macy, continue on Capulet, turn right on Janine, left on Corella and continue on Solejar to 9759. Carol's phone number is 562-691-1542.



## WILDFLOWER SHOW AND FESTIVAL

**Not done** Celebrate Spring! Come and enjoy hundreds of wildflowers displayed in a breathtaking indoor exhibit and explore the other botanical treasures of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont. The Gardening Section is going to the Wildflower Show and Festival on Monday, April 21. All AAUW members and guests are invited to come. During the Festival there are many activities to enjoy. You can choose a free 20-minute tram trip. You could also enjoy a guided walking tour through the Spring wildflower displays and native plant collection. Additionally there is a garden pathway for visitors with limited mobility. Visit the Garden Shop, which features an assortment of books, botanically inspired gifts, children's toys and unique items for the home. Or go native - that is Tongva Native American - and visit a reconstructed Tongva family village. RSVP to Ellen Peck at 562-943-4679. We will meet at Ralphs' parking lot on the corner of Whittier Blvd. and Colima at 8:30 AM on April 21 and carpool to Claremont.

## MYRA LONG NON-EVENT FUND RAISER

By now, you should have received your Non-Event Fund Raiser flyer and self-addressed return envelope. The trip is a fantasy, but the good work that our Branch does with your contributions is certainly not. That is very real money going to help young women succeed in college. Real dollars are needed to help our middle-school girls stay interested and engaged in math and science through our Tech Trek program. None of this is possible without your generosity.

Just imagine, the women and girls we help today may be the ones to make a Star Trek trip a reality.

Patricia Cuocco

## R.I.P. AGAIN!

### Reading, Interpretation and Performance

The R.I.P Section will entertain with an original reading at the new member meeting on Thursday, March 27, from 4 - 6 PM at the home of Barbara Gile. Please join us!

**Directions:** 14035 Eastridge is one block north of Mar Vista, on the northeast corner of Eastridge and Vale. Park on Vale and enter by the back door. The garage will be open for those who need access to the house without walking the hill.

#### 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.

Colleen Tan and Gwen Woirhaye, Co-Chairs  
(562) 698-4934 or [gwen@woirhaye.com](mailto:gwen@woirhaye.com)

## FIRST FRIDAY

Date: April 4  
Time: 6 - 8 PM  
Host: Ann Topjon  
5654 Palm  
Whittier  
562-695-6185



#### Directions:

From Whittier Blvd., go north on Painter; left on Broadway; right on Palm, past Palm Park.

The house is five houses up on the right past Floral and Dexter Middle School.

# MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND (MLSF)

All members are welcome to attend and observe the MLSF committee in action at the next May 1 meeting. This is a Thursday morning at 9 AM in the Library of the First Friends Church.

This year we have the opportunity to docent in the Pasadena Design House. We are paid \$40 for each four-hour shift. We have 29 shifts reserved. The mandatory training will be held on **Saturday, March 29, from 2 - 4 PM or on April 5, from 10 to noon. To all who volunteered to docent - your efforts and time is appreciated.**

We will carpool to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena and shuttle to the house. The volunteers have received their assignments and carpool arrangements. This year the cost of Tech Trek is \$900 per student and we have 10 camperships reserved.

At the Applebee's Dining for Dollars we earned \$95 and Chili's we earned \$125. You can always eat at California Grill and Dining for Dollars on May 13 from 11 AM to 10 PM, which will provide funds for MLSF.

We are looking forward to sending ten girls to Tech Trek and awarding \$8,000 in scholarships to Rio Hondo students who are continuing their education in a four-year college. The scholarships are advertised with the Rio Hondo computer system.

Patricia Cucuco, president-elect, has designed a creative fundraising letter that has been mailed. This non-event is done each year in remembrance of Myra Long's birthday. Myra would have been 98 years young this year.

All donations are IRS tax deductible. Please note if you are writing a check to the Myra Long Scholarship Fund, make your check payable to AAUW-MLSF. You can mail the check to P.O. Box 5333, Whittier, CA 90607-5333 or hand to Kaye Kidwell, treasurer.

For further information contact Barbara Gile or an MLSF Committee member at [whittieraauw@mac.com](mailto:whittieraauw@mac.com) or 562-693-7279.

The MLSF committee thanks you for your generous support.

## AAUW FUNDS



Thank you to everyone who donated to AAUW Funds in 2013. 2014 is well underway and I wanted to remind you of all the facets of AAUW Funds. The Funds encompass several worthwhile programs each of which has importance in the work of AAUW to promote equality for women and girls. These funds are: Legal Advocacy Fund (legal case support and campus outreach projects); The Educational Opportunity Fund (supports educational and learning opportunities which give women a chance for lifetime success by providing fellowships and grants for further education, community action grants and undergraduate scholarships); The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund (supports AAUW research to provide information about issues that are important to women and girls); The Public Policy Fund (advocates in Washington D. C. and local communities regarding decisions affecting women and girls); The Leadership Programs Fund (supports programs which develop women's potential to lead in their schools and communities).

As you are aware, these projects are well deserving of our support. You may donate to these funds (a fully tax deductible donation!) online at [aauw.org/contribute](http://aauw.org/contribute), or if you prefer you may send your donation to me and I will forward it for you.

Peggy Fretz, AAUW Funds Vice-President

## PUBLIC POLICY

Patricia Cuocco **not done**

Last month we focused on equal pay for equal work and mentioned that April 8 is Equal Pay Day. That day is chosen in early April because that is the time when the average working woman catches up to what the average man made the previous year. Clearly, though, we never truly catch up (and they say women aren't good at math!)

It would take more than one doctoral dissertation to examine the reasons why the disparity exists. Traditional "women's work" is valued less, so that a librarian with a master's degree makes less than a bus driver. This issue used to be called comparable worth. The term seems to have disappeared, though the reality certainly has not. Even more infuriating, men are often paid more for doing the SAME work as a woman. According to the Real Time Economics Blog (February, 2013) of the Wall Street Journal, "The average female nurse earned \$51,100 in 2011, 16% less than the \$60,700 earned by the average man in the same job."

The stories we tell our daughters, what society considers proper behavior for young girls as opposed to their male counterparts, and even the words we use all play a role. Lately, I've been hearing a great deal in the news about Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg's "Ban Bossy" campaign. She is joined by the Girl Scouts of America and women like Beyonce, Condoleezza Rice and several actresses who say we should avoid the word "bossy" and substitute "shows executive leadership skills." Somehow, I don't see that working well on the playground!

I'm not a big fan of sanitizing language. However, the gender pay disparity exists. Valid research indicates that by middle school girls are less likely than boys to seek leadership positions and that doesn't improve with age. It's not much of a leap to think that the lack of women in leadership positions contributes to inequality in pay (and opportunities). One third of Americans would rather work for a man than a woman; only 23% said they prefer a female boss. Among the former, as weird as it seems, are many successful women!

It's worth considering that how we describe the same traits and behaviors in girls vs. boys, as in: bossy vs. assured, aggressive vs. assertive and ultimately bitch vs. strong leader, contributes to the overall problem.

Just something to think about!

## WORDS OF INSPIRATION



Thank you to the Memory Section for these wonderful words to live by!

***"There comes a time in your life when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it. You surround yourself with people who make you laugh, forget the bad and focus on the good, love the people who treat you right and pray for the ones who don't. Life is too short to be anything but happy. Falling down is a part of life, getting back up is living."***

## IMPORTANT CHANGE IN STANDING RULES AND POLICIES

At the February 4, 2014 board meeting, the following change was made.

**Section IX Branch: Delete A - No Section Chair shall serve more than two consecutive terms.**

### NOW READS

#### Section IX Branch:

A. Non-members of the Branch may attend no more than three section meetings in one year.

B. Sections are an integral part of the Greater Whittier Area Branch (GWA-AAUW) and may be formed or dissolved by members at any time. The section coordinator should be informed of the intent to organize or dissolve a section and report the plans to the elected board of directors.

If you have any questions on the above please contact:

Shirley Stewart  
Parliamentarian  
562-944-4556  
[shirleys\\_creations@verizon.net](mailto:shirleys_creations@verizon.net)



**MEMBERSHIP DUES INFORMATION:** As of 4/1/14 dues will be \$89, HOWEVER, your membership is for the balance of 2013/14 and ALL of 2014/15. If you have any questions, please call our membership chair, Christine Sullivan 562-696-3094 <[cchaconsullivan@hotmail.com](mailto:cchaconsullivan@hotmail.com)> or call or email Patricia Cuocco at 562-698-6665 <[patricia@fullerton.edu](mailto:patricia@fullerton.edu)>.

Patricia will explain the new online dues paying option procedure at the April Branch meeting. Be sure to check the May newsletter for complete instructions of paying your annual dues on line.

## GREATER WHITTIER AREA AAUW BRANCH CALENDAR APRIL 2014



DAY	DATE	TIME	
Tuesday	1	7:00 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Thursday	3	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , La Mirada Creek Park
Friday	4	6:00 PM	<b>First Friday</b> , Ann Topjon
Saturday	5	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , Radisson, Whittier
Thursday	10	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Greenway Trail - Lambert and Mills
Thursday	10	3:30ish PM	<b>Showgirls</b> , Whittier Village Theaters
Tuesday	15	10:00 AM	<b>International Concerns</b> , Ellen Larson
Thursday	17	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Arroyo Pescadero
Monday	21	8:30 AM	<b>Gardening Section</b> , Rancho Santa Ana Gardens
Wednesday	23	1:30 PM	<b>Memories</b> , Carol J. Anderson
Thursday	24	9:00 AM	<b>Walkers Section</b> , Murphy Ranch Park
Thursday	24	7:00 PM	<b>Modern Trends</b> , Marian Locke

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

Please send articles by email to [christineheller@earthlink.net](mailto:christineheller@earthlink.net)  
Newsletter Editors - Christine Heller, Margot Kamens and Carole Duff





**Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women (AAUW)  
2014-2015 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 (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Cellphone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Email 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 of all members. **New members must complete all information.**

**Reminder:** \$86 of your dues are tax deductible. **Dues must be submitted by April 1.**





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





