



Saturday, February 14, 11:30 AM
 Author's Luncheon
 Elks Club Whittier
 13620 Whittier Blvd., Whittier

Bernie Do Paolis, member of the Alhambra-San Gabriel branch, will be speaking at the February meeting. Bernie is a mystery writer and has published several books. She will talk about her books and what events inspire her novels. Bernie will bring some of her books and will be available for signing. Come and celebrate Valentine's Day with your friends and neighbors at this interesting meeting.

Lemon herbed chicken will be served for lunch along with mixed green salad, rolls, mashed potatoes, asparagus, dessert, coffee, tea and water. Vegetarian meals are: Vegetable Pasta Florentine, Fettuccine Alfredo and pasta with mixed vegetables (advance notice required). Doggie bag available upon request. Table decorations by La Cuisine. If you have not made a reservation for the Branch meeting, please do so right away. The deadline is Monday, February 9. Please send an email to DeDe Shatzen at Lsecret@earthlink.net. If you are without email, call DeDe at 310-617-7768. Your reservation will be confirmed. Cost of lunch is \$20. We will be in the Club Room; parking in the back, entrance is on the west side of the building. Look for the AAUW signs.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



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SAVE THE DATE

AAUW California Annual Meeting
 Saturday, April 18
 Marriot Hotel – Manhattan Beach

Details in the March Newsletter!

Don't forget to use our Branch Website
<http://whittier-ca.aauw.net>.

*For comments or questions please
 contact Sharon Heck, Website Manager
heck37@verizon.net, 562-698-0476.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Now that the holiday decorations and wrappings are away for another year, it's time for hearts and flowers and our first meeting of the New Year, on Valentines Day. I'm looking forward to our guest speaker, mystery novelist Bernie De Paolis. Bernie is also an AAUW member (from the Alhambra-San Gabriel) branch. Our authors' meetings are terrific, so I hope to see you all there.

We had a wonderful *Meet and Greet* membership event in early January. Susan Halliday and Lynda Richardson did a fabulous job of organizing it and De De Shatzen, our Hospitality Chair, did yeoman's work making it a lovely evening. Thanks to Karen Van Der Baan for helping out and to all of you who brought goodies to share. A special thanks goes to the ladies (and a few gentlemen) who, without being asked, stayed to help with cleanup. That is ALWAYS appreciated. I haven't gotten the official word, but I'm sure we attracted some new members.

If you didn't get a chance to join us and bring a friend, why not bring a guest to one of our upcoming meetings? We're hard to resist when you meet us "up close and personal", and our mission and message are truly compelling.

Another thing I am looking forward to is our Math/Science Day. In order to get the newsletter to you in a timely fashion, we submit the articles in mid-month. So, next month I'm sure I'll be telling you what a great day we had. Given the line-up of speakers that Sharon Heck has attracted, and the 347 young women scheduled to attend, it promises to be a very successful day.

I've had occasion this past month to dwell on the word feminist – not the ideas behind it, just the word. It's unfortunate that so many young women eschew that label. After all, as Marie Shear reminded us, "Feminism is the radical notion that women are people." This does not seem controversial to me, and I would guess that most AAUW members aren't troubled by the term. Somehow, those who tried to paint fighters for equal rights managed to create the powerful meme of "bra-burning feminists". By the way, that never happened. Check out <http://www.snopes.com/history/american/burnbra.asp> and if you will permit me to paraphrase one commentator, "Who would burn a bra? Do you know how expensive those things are?"

In any event, this was just my way to remind you to do something radical, like attend more meetings, get more involved with GWA-AAUW and invite friends to join us.

Patricia Cuocco, President

POSITIVE PAST PRESIDENTS

Positive Past Presidents will celebrate Chinese New Year on Friday, February 20, 6 PM, at The Silver Palace, 15326 Whittier Blvd. All AAUW members are invited, along with guests. Reservations should be made with Colleen Tan, 562-698-4934.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP MEET & GREET SOCIAL

Yahoo! We had a great turnout for our Membership Meet & Greet Social, with approximately 30 members and 11 guests. The Get Acquainted Mixer was such a fun way to get to meet and chat with guests as well as members. A huge thank you to Daniel Richardson, Lynda Richardson's talented husband, who helped set the evening's tone by expertly playing his guitar throughout the evening. When you see Daniel please be sure to thank him for providing such a professional ambiance.

A special thank you to Karen Van der Baan. who recently joined our Membership Committee, Carolyn McFarland (Assistance League), and DeDe Shatzen all of whom worked tirelessly setting up/cleaning up the Meet & Greet Social. Also a thank you to all the members who brought such yummy appetizers and desserts.

An enormous thank you to the Assistance League of Whittier for jumping in and offering their beautiful clubhouse for our event. We were notified 9 days before our scheduled Meet & Greet Social that the original venue had double-booked and GWA-AAUW would need to find another venue! Carolyn McFarland, a member of Assistance League, called and graciously offered their facility. Please thank the Assistance League members you know for coming to our rescue and tell them how deeply appreciative we are of their thoughtful offer. Women working together and supporting each other are extremely effective and powerful.

There were several guests who took home information and were quite interested in joining. We look forward to our continued GWA-AAUW growth. Remember growing our branch is a responsibility all of us share. Bring a friend or guest to one of our fun and interesting Branch meetings.

We are delighted to add a former member, Debra Benveniste. In addition to welcoming Debra, please also welcome Kathleen Hunt who joined in late December.

Kathleen Hunt
16461 Canelones
Hacienda Heights, 91745
626-968-0701 (home)
626-216-9254 (cell)

Debra Benveniste
1005 Caraway Dr.
Whittier, 90601
562-698-7840 (home)
818-590-5240 (cell)



PUBLIC POLICY



Today's column is one of awareness and encouragement. A recent op-ed article in the LA Times, "Too Few Jobs, Too Much Poverty," spotlighted one Democratic and two Republican former California governors (Davis, Deukmejian and Wilson,) who lamented the lack of qualified workers in good-paying jobs. These include technology, manufacturing and health care. (Note that the first two are areas not traditionally filled by women.) In LA County two thirds of the projected job openings in the next five years will require a high school diploma or less. The fastest growing categories are waitresses, cashiers and retail salespeople. These jobs have an average annual income of \$20,000 and are mostly filled by women.

How can we, as educated women, change these career trajectories? You've already taken a giant step by joining AAUW, which has been "empowering women since 1881." AAUW research has shown that a number of girls have pretty much made up their minds by 7th grade that math and science are not female areas of study. This is why our Tech Trek program is so important in teaching girls entering eighth grade about the exciting and accessible science and technology fields available to them. They may say that their favorite part is staying in a dorm, but we have often heard from Tech Trek graduates who were inspired by the camp to explore non-traditional careers. In fact, one spoke at an AAUW luncheon last year. Our recently completed Math/Science day at Whittier College is another spectacular example of encouraging girls to be aware of careers usually filled by men. Time and again these girls evaluate the "day" as inspiring. On a more personal level, you and I can help stop the gender bias that sometimes stymies girls' interest in the math and science fields. Hold boys accountable for making fun of girls who are "dumb at math." Buy that little granddaughter a Lego set. Encourage that big granddaughter to take calculus, physics and computer science in high school. Encourage teacher training to recognize and eliminate gender bias and stereotypes in the classroom, beginning at the elementary level.

I realize that no change comes easily in a society, but we are duty-bound to help young women expand their educational and career possibilities. We will all benefit. Our sponsorships of scholarships for older women in college, of tech trek camperships and of Math/Science Day events are testimony to the fact that we are, indeed, helping to make that change.

Carole Restovich

BRANCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As of this writing the Nominating Committee has a meeting planned for January 30. We will be contacting many of you concerning an office. We have a very large Board and we need you to help complete our slate. New members are very welcome to fill these roles. We need people for elected and appointed positions. Please give our requests careful thought and try to give a positive response. Contact me if you would like to serve in this way, 562-698-0476, Heck37@verizon.net. Sharing the leadership of our wonderful Branch is extremely rewarding. WE NEED YOU!

Sharon Heck

FUNDS AND PROJECTS



AAUW FUNDS 101

In the previous articles the Educational Opportunities Fund, the Legal Advocacy Fund, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund and the Leadership Programs Funds were described. Look at all that your donations to AAUW Funds can do! This month will feature The Public Policy Fund, which supports advocacy for public policies and laws that are fair to women. Public policy programs include:

Government Relations - AAUW advocates on Capitol Hill and in the White House, ensuring that our voices are heard in the halls of Congress when decisions affecting women and girls are made. Lisa Maatz is our legislative advocate and is well known on Capitol Hill!

Civic Engagement - helps women act as their own advocates by providing members with information and tools to build voter registration and turnouts.

Field Organizing - advocacy through the Two-Minute Activist and Washington Update. Do you know how to be a part of this? Go to aauw.org, find the search button at the top, and type in "Two-Minute Activist" and later "Washington Update" and it will be revealed to you! Remember anything you want to know about AAUW can be found at this website.

Dolores Seidman

MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The annual meeting of the Myra Long Scholarship Fund committee will take place Thursday, February 5, 9 AM, in the Library at First Friends Church. We will be raising funds as docents for Pasadena Showcase House Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings April 21 through May 14. Volunteer Training is Saturday April 4, from 2 to 4 PM and Saturday April 11, from 10 AM to Noon. The times we plan to volunteer are from 9 AM to 1 PM. The planned dates are Tuesdays, April 21, April 28, May 5, May 12 Wednesdays, April 22, April 29, May 6, May 13 and Thursdays, April 23, April 30, May 7, and May 14.

Signups for slots will start in February. We earn \$40 for every shift worked so please be prepared to participate. It is fun and a great way to increase our funding for scholarships, Math/Science Conference and Tech Trek.

Gwen Woirhaye, 562-696-6405

ST. MATTHIAS HOMELESS PROGRAM

Winter is here and warm socks, caps and gloves are needed.

Small individual toiletries are always needed, as well as quarters for the laundromat and bus tokens.

A meal is prepared each day for the homeless and many are served from the food bank.

Please donate what you can.

Any questions, please contact me.

Shirley Stewart

562-944-4556

shirleys.creations@verizon.net



SECTION INFORMATION

MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE

Thursday, February 26, 7 PM

The Invention of Wings, by Sue Monk Kidd
Reviewer – Janice Geiger

The book, set in the 1800's, tells the story of Sarah Grimke and her personal servant girl, Hetty. The story extends for 35 years as each girl forms a complex relationship tinged with guilt, defiance and estrangement. Both women endure loss and sorrow; yet find courage and a strong sense of self in the process as they struggle for liberation, empowerment and expression. This beautiful storytelling tackles a difficult time in American history. Sue Monk Kidd has also written the award-winning *Secret Life of Bees* and *The Mermaid Chair*.

Please join us for discussion at Annette Lauritzen's home. Kristine will provide refreshments. We look forward to seeing all of you.

Directions to Annette's house:

Northeast on Colima; Drive on past Hacienda Blvd. and Azusa Blvd to Fullerton Rd., right on Galatina, right on Nearbank, 17863 Nearbank Rowland Hts., 626-964-1843

Annette Lauritzen
Kristine Yeseta

MORNING BOOK

There will be no meeting this month. Our next get together will be Monday, March 23, and we'll be reading and discussing *Night in Shanghai*, by Nicole Mones. Look for further information in the March newsletter.

Ann Topjon, 562-695-6185

MEMORIES

Memories will meet on Wednesday, February 25, at the home of Barbara Gile. The topic is *The Great Depression*. These memories might be of your own or of what relatives have told you about this difficult time. We are doing this in conjunction with the *Whittier Reads* 2015 selection, *Mary Coin*. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1:30 at a member's home and everyone is welcome to read her writing in front of a very encouraging and accepting audience. Questions? Please call Carole at 696-0296.

Directions to Barbara's home: 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. Phone: 693-7279.

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.

WALKERS

THURSDAYS 9 AM

FEBRUARY

- 5 La Mirada Creek Park
Meet in parking lot off Santa Gertrudes
- 12 Heritage Park, Santa Fe Springs
Meet in parking lot by the trains
- 19 Schabarum Park – Cherry Blossoms
Meet in parking lot by front entrance kiosk
- 26 Arroyo Pescadero Park
Meet in parking lot off Colima

CHAIRPERSON NEEDED FOR WALKERS SECTION

starting July 1

If interested or for more information please contact me.

Shirley A Stewart
shirleys.creations@verizon.net
562-944-4556

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

International Concerns will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, February 17, with Ellen Larson (Whittier Beverly Park, 12031 Beverly Blvd., #2D). We will be discussing the first article in *Great Decisions 2015*.

For further information contact Maurine Behrens at 562-695-8436 or maurineb90601@gmail.com.

GARDENING

On Monday, February 23, the Gardening Section will tour the San Gabriel Nursery and Florist. This nursery has operated for over 80 years and is renowned for creating several new azaleas. The most popular is the "Mission Bell" named after its bell shaped flower and its origin in San Gabriel.

In 1956 the Nursery hired a specialist to help promote the Japanese art of bonsai to American culture. Today the San Gabriel Nursery is also noted for its extensive bonsai collection. Come along with us and learn about these unique plants and maybe buy one to take home.

We will meet at the Ralphs' parking lot on Colima and Whittier Blvd. at 9 AM and carpool to the nursery. We will be back in Whittier about 1 PM. RSVP to Ellen at cpeck4@earthlink.net or 562-943-4679.



Garden section members enjoyed the visit to the Arboretum in Arcadia. All had a fun time!

FIRST FRIDAY

Day: Friday
Date: February 6
Time: 6 - 8 PM
Hostess: Annette Lauritzen
17863 Nearbank
Rowland Heights
626-964-1843

Directions:

Northeast on Colima; Drive on past Hacienda Blvd. and Azusa Blvd to Fullerton Rd., right on Galatina, right on Nearbank.

THE NEW PHOENIX

Sheryl Cockey has kindly planned the New Phoenix's next event at Chapman University, located at 1 University Dr., in the city of Orange, on Wednesday, February 4, to view the Huell Howser exhibit. We will meet there at 10:30 AM for a free tour, which will be at 11 AM. Lunch will be on our own - there are several good restaurants nearby. Please arrange your own carpools. If you have not done so already, be sure to call Sheryl (562-695-1986) to let her know if you are planning to attend.

FEBRUARY FUN WITH RIDDLES AND PALINDROMES!

(A palindrome is a word, phrase, verse, or sentence that reads the same backward or forward.)

1. What word becomes a palindrome when viewed upside down and backwards?
2. Pronounced as one letter but written with three, only two different letters are used to make me. I'm double, I'm single I'm black, blue, and gray. I'm read from both ends and the same either way.
3. What word, when written in capital letters, is the same forwards, backwards and upside down?
4. How did Adam use a palindrome to introduce himself to Eve when they first met?
5. I am five-letter word that is under you. If you remove my 1st letter, then I am over you. If you remove my 1st and 2nd letters then I am all around you. Who am I?
6. You can take four of the five letters out of this word, but the pronunciation never changes. What is this word?
7. I know a ten-letter word in the English language that can be typed using only the top row of letters of the computer keyboard.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

(Answers on page 10)

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 (_____)_____

*Cell Phone (_____)_____

*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, Greater Whittier Area Branch Membership, P.O. Box 5333, Whittier, CA 90607-5333**

AAUW Membership Type (please check one) Annual Dues:

_____ General \$89

_____ Life Member \$40

_____ Student \$35

_____ 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.

GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2015



DAY	DATE	TIME	
Tuesday	3	7:00 PM	Board Meeting , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Wednesday	4	10:30 AM	New Phoenix , Chapman University
Thursday	5	9:00 AM	Myra Long Scholarship Fund , First Friends Church
Thursday	5	9:00 AM	Walkers , La Mirada Creek Park
Friday	6	6:00 PM	First Friday , Annette Lauritzen
Thursday	12	9:00 AM	Walkers , Heritage Park, Santa Fe Springs
Thursday	12	3:30 PM	Showgirls , Whittier Village Theaters
Saturday	14	11:30 AM	Branch Meeting , Whittier Elks Club
Thursday	19	9:00 AM	Walkers , Schabarum Park
Friday	20	6:00 PM	PPP , Silver Palace
Monday	23	9:00 AM	Gardening , San Gabriel Nursery, Meet at Ralphs'
Wednesday	25	1:30 PM	Memories , Barbara Gile
Thursday	26	9:00 AM	Walkers , Arroyo Pescadero Park
Thursday	26	7:00 PM	Modern Trends , Annette Lauritzen

Answers to brain teasers on page 8

(1) swims (2) eye (3) NOON (4) Madam in Eden, I'm Adam (5) chair (6) queue (remove the last 4 letters) (7) typewriter

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 you one. Thank you for your cooperation and for sending in your articles by the 15th of the month.

REMINDER: Please include the day of the week with the date of your event.

Please send articles by email to christineheller@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editors – Christine Heller, Diana Clark and Carole Duff



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