



# GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

<http://whittier-ca.aauw.net>



## Branch Meeting – Saturday April 9, 2016 – 11:30 AM - Whittier Elk’s Club

Nicole Simmons, new Director of the Whittier Tech Trek Camp, will be our speaker. Nicole brings a fresh vision and expertise to Tech Trek that will provide an outstanding experience for our ten girls and all the girls attending the Whittier Camp. She will share with us information on the Core Classes and daily activities of the camp. It should be a wonderful meeting and one you don’t want to miss.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is a leading voice in advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research and has been for more than 130 years. In 1998 AAUW member Marie Wolbach used a grant from the national office to begin Tech Trek at Stanford University. AAUW’s national office has chosen to expand the Tech Trek camp program throughout the United States due to its successful implementation by AAUW of California, where now ten camps have served over 11,000 girls in 18 years on eight college campuses. AAUW members in California made the expansion of the Tech Trek program possible, contributing their knowledge and time to planning of the camp documents and procedures. It is thanks to AAUW of California and their members’ passion and dedication to this program that it will serve girls across the country.

Lunch will be Yankee post roast; mashed potatoes; French green beans; mixed green salad; dessert; coffee; tea; and, water. Vegetarian meals are Vegetable Pasta Florentine, Fettuccine Alfredo and pasta with mixed vegetables (advance notice required). A Chef’s Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast is also available with advance notice. Enjoy table decorations provided by Phoenix.

Reservations for the Branch meeting are due by Wednesday, April 6, noon. Please send an email to DeDe Shatzen at [Lsecret@earthlink.net](mailto:Lsecret@earthlink.net). If you are without email, call DeDe at 310-617-7768. Your reservation will be confirmed. Cost of lunch is \$20.00. We will be in the Ballroom. The entrance to the Ballroom and parking are behind the building. Look for the AAUW signs. Elks Lodge is located at 13620 Whittier Blvd., Whittier.

### CHECK INSIDE



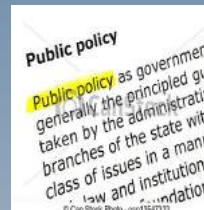
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Don’t forget to use our  
Branch Website!  
<http://whittier-ca.aauw.net>

*For comments or questions  
please contact Sharon Heck,  
Website Manager  
[heck37@verizon.net](mailto:heck37@verizon.net)  
562-698-0476*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Whew! I just finished the annual drudgery of preparing my taxes. I dread it each year and am so relieved when I have finished the chore. Now, I am looking forward to a great April.

I am so excited that Nicole Simmons, our new Whittier Tech Trek Camp Director, is going to be the speaker at our April meeting. Nicole is creative dynamo and is revamping the Whittier Camp program. Please mark your calendars to join us at the April 9 meeting. You don't want to miss Nicole!

If you would like to help us with this year's Tech Trek Camp, please save paper towel cardboard centers, rubber bands and intriguing gadgets and gizmos for the campers' Rube Goldberg creations. Also, please consider volunteering to serve as a Dorm Mom. At last count, we still need two more Dorm Moms. Camp is June 26 – July 2.

Kaye D. Kidwell



## KAYE'S HEROES CORNER

After retiring, I moved from San Francisco to Whittier to be near my small family. I knew about half a dozen people in the community. Then I joined AAUW, and my circle of friends grew. As I became more involved in AAUW, one cute, white-haired bundle of energy was always in the midst of everything. I remember thinking, Barbara Gile must have a twin because she is everywhere, doing everything. I turn around, and there is Barbara. She opens her home for meetings, packet parties, dinners, welcome parties, good-bye parties, new member orientations and work groups. That do-everything, be-everywhere white-haired cutie has become one of my major go-to gals. When I need to know something about anything that has happened or is happening in Whittier, I call Barbara.

Barbara is completely self-effacing. She never toots her own horn. She has, however, been instrumental in so many organizations that impact women and girls. Barbara was part of the AAUW team that started Tech Trek at Stanford in 1998 and then launched Tech Trek at Whittier College. Now, Tech Trek has gone national! When the Myra Long Scholarship Fund needed dedicated, hardworking new board members, Barbara stepped up. She was the force behind our branch incorporating and becoming Greater Whittier Area AAUW. I can't begin to cite all of the work she has done or the offices she has held—there simply are too many.

Barbara was co-founder of the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter. I don't know how many years she served on their board and/or worked in their Thrift Shop, but I know she was key to their survival and success. In fact, the Shelter has named Barbara as the Honorary Chairperson for this year's fundraising activities. I invite you to join me at Whittier Central Park, Saturday, April 23, 8:00 AM, to support and honor Barbara as she kicks off the Shelter's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K walk.

My admiration for Barbara Gile is limitless. She is my hero!

Kaye D. Kidwell, President

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# MEMBERSHIP

## SHARING OUR PASSION FOR EQUAL PAY DAY



Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day when women's earnings "catch-up" to men's earnings from the previous year. It's also a powerful occasion to raise awareness about and organize action around the gender pay gap in our community. Equal Pay Day will be observed on Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

The gender pay gap is a primary issue for AAUW, and one that we have been working on for years. Despite the Equal Pay Act in 1963, the wage gap persists; women are typically paid just 79 cents on the average for every dollar paid to men.

To improve the scope of the Equal Pay Act, AAUW advocates passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act. This would give employers stronger incentives to follow the law, enhance federal enforcement efforts, and prohibit retaliation against workers asking about wage practices.

AAUW promotes Equal Pay Day to draw attention to the gender pay gap and build support for the Paycheck Fairness Act.

### Six Ideas for Marking Equal Pay Day 2016

1. Urge your elected officials to act on Equal Pay Day.
2. Host an "unequal" bake sale or (un)happy hour.
3. Launch an equal pay media blitz.
4. Host an issue forum in our community.
5. Bring AAUW salary negotiations workshops to our community/campus.
6. Get Creative!

Susan Holliday  
Lynda Richardson



## MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

If you have already filled out and given us a membership questionnaire, THANK YOU. These come in very handy for many people trying to do the job of Branch Administration. If you haven't done one, we have provided a copy for you on the next page. Please fill it out and mail to either Susan Halliday or Lynda Richardson. You can also fill it out on line and email it to either of them at [sbathalliday@yahoo.com](mailto:sbathalliday@yahoo.com) or [lyndasue10@yahoo.com](mailto:lyndasue10@yahoo.com).

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# AAUW Membership Questionnaire

Please print or fill in w/ type all information.

Use the back of this sheet or additional paper if you need more space for your information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Year joined AAUW \_\_\_\_\_

Colleges/Universities attended

Year graduated

Degree received

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Elected Offices held in AAUW

Branch

Year

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Appointed Offices held

Branch

Year/s

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Committee Chair Positions

Branch

Year/s

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Section Chair Positions

Branch

Year/s

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Committee/Section Participation

Name

Year/s

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Projects for AAUW Completed

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Community (Activities that contribute to the community & promote/brand AAUW/promote the mission of AAUW)

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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Offices held in other community activity that promotes/brand the mission of AAUW

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\_\_\_\_\_

Print at 90%

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## PUBLIC POLICY



AAUW has been a leader in ending sexual assault on campuses. National AAUW has provided expert testimony at both a senate committee hearing and the Press Club. When Lady Gaga and President Biden made their presentations at the Academy Award regarding the pain of victims and the need to take preventative action, it was rewarding to know our members and leader's voices have been heard.

Another current issue that needs AAUW members support is to urge the president and senators to uphold the court responsibility and move forward to fairly and expeditiously select and consider a nominee to fill the supreme court vacancy. Recently AAUW sponsored a webinar to explain the selection process and the need to move forward. Please read more about the webinar at the [AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org) website.

Fay Weber, Public Policy Chair



## AAUW FUND

When you donate to AAUW Fund where does your money go?

One of the places is NCCWSSL which has to be one of most interesting acronyms in AAUW. It means the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. It is one of the activities that AAUW Fund supports. On its website AAUW describes it this way:

NCCWSSL is where college women make their future what they want.

As America's premier conference for college women, NCCWSSL provides a transformative experience for attendees and prepares them to be the next generation of leaders. Each attendee becomes a part of the conference's 30-year legacy.

At this two and a half day conference over 1,000 students meet in Washington, DC to do the following:

- Choose from more than 50 workshops that prepare them for life after college
- Meet inspiring role models including Women of Distinction awardees and speakers
- Make connections for life
- Discover their future from 100 graduate schools and employers
- Gain the confidence and skills to return to their campuses and communities ready to take action.

Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund Chair



## RECYCLE FOR CHARITY

Please start saving your used SMALL and MEDIUM sized medicine bottles, both prescription and “over the counter.” There is a huge need for them in Africa where people walk enormous distances from their villages to doctors and clinics and often have no container with which to bring home medication.

You can bring pill bottles (small and medium) to the April, May and June meetings. If you prefer, you can collect a bunch from friends and relatives and call Patricia Cuocco 562-698-6665 or [patricia@fullerton.edu](mailto:patricia@fullerton.edu) to arrange a pick up.



## MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The big project presently is providing docents for the Pasadena Showcase House of Design. If you have not yet signed up to do a shift or two, please contact Barbara Gile as Gwen is out of the country until April 21. Two shifts earn you a free ticket to tour the home.

You can also contribute by tying your Ralphs card to our branch and a portion of anything you spend will come to us on a quarterly basis. Instruction sheets are available at Branch meetings for enrolling either online or by taking the sheet and your card to a Ralphs cashier.

It's not too late to contribute to the non-event fundraiser.

MLSF funds scholarships for community college graduates, Tech Trek campers, and our annual Math/Science Conference. Thanks for supporting our local fund.

Gwen Woirhaye, Chair

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# TECH TREK UPDATE



“A Rube Goldberg machine is a contraption, invention, device or apparatus that is deliberately over-engineered to perform a simple task in a complicated fashion, generally including a chain reaction.” The expression is named after American cartoonist and inventor Rube Goldberg (1883-1970).

Source: Wikipedia

**IMPORTANT: Please begin saving items to support the Rube Goldberg Machine project for camp. DO NOT BRING THEM TO THE APRIL MEETING. Collection drop off/pick up procedures will be published in the May and June newsletters.**

## Needed items:

Cups	Marbles	Bouncy Balls
Tennis balls	Dominos	String
Rulers	Wind-up Toys	Rubber Bands
Balloons	Cardboard paper-towel holders	
Empty Tissue Boxes	PVC piping	Styrofoam
Newspapers	plank/pieces of wood	

This is **NOT** a complete list. Use your imagination...any odds and ends may be useful.

In March, the Tech Trek Committee interviewed 19 girls from Los Nietos and East Whittier Middle Schools. The ten selected campers and a guest each will be invited to attend the May AAUW Luncheon.

Our commitment to these girls and the Whittier Camp goes beyond providing a scholarship to attend camp. Staff positions are required to be filled by AAUW members. Currently, Dorm Moms are needed. Contact the branch co-coordinators to find out more about this opportunity.

As Kaye mentioned, the newly appointed director of the camp, Nicole Simmons, will be the guest speaker at our April luncheon. We encourage branch members to come and learn of the exciting program Nicole has planned for this year's campers. Nicole will also speak more about what is needed for the Rube Goldberg project.

Ann Chambers and Pat Dudley



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# APRIL IS NATIONAL STRESS AWARENESS MONTH

Stress, in manageable doses, helps us in all sorts of ways. It sharpens our senses, can improve our performance and often motivates us to do our best. But when stress is overdone, it quite literally KILLS!

Below are some resources to help you manage stress:

<http://www.onlyhealthy.com/35-awesome-stress-management-resources/>

[https://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/HealthyLiving/StressManagement/Stress-Management\\_UCM\\_001082\\_SubHomePage.jsp](https://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/HealthyLiving/StressManagement/Stress-Management_UCM_001082_SubHomePage.jsp)

[https://www.goredforwomen.org/home/live-healthy/stress\\_management/](https://www.goredforwomen.org/home/live-healthy/stress_management/)



## RELAX

And, on a more literary note:

April is the cruellest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.  
Winter kept us warm, covering  
Earth in forgetful snow, feeding  
A little life with dried tubers.

*T. S. Eliot*







## SECTION INFORMATION

### Morning Book

We will not meet this month. Our next meeting will be on Monday, June 6. Look for detailed information in next month's bulletin.

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-695-6185



### Memories

The next Memories meeting takes place Wednesday, April 27 at 1:30 PM at the home of Barbara Gile. The topic is "Lessons My Children Taught Me" - things such as humility, gratitude, unconditional love, patience, tolerance, rollerblading, poker.

Of course, you can extend the topic to children in your classroom (if a teacher), nieces and nephews, rascally kids on your block and so on. Finally, you can choose your own topic if this theme doesn't kick start your creativity. Everyone is welcome.

**Barbara's home:** 14035 Eastridge Dr., corner of Vale and Eastridge. Phone: 562-693-7279.

### PPP Positive Past Presidents

We need greeters for our May and June meetings.

If you can, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

Shirley Stewart  
Chairman

### International Concerns

International Concerns will meet on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 10 AM in the home of Sharon Heck (6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier 90601). We will discuss Great Decisions 2016, Chapter Three "The Future of Kurdistan" led by Maurine Behrens.

Car-pooling is encouraged. In order to organize parking, please RSVP to Sharon at 562-698-0476.



### First Friday

Date: April 1

Time: 6-8 PM

Host: Ann Topjon / Philip O'Brien

5654 Palm Avenue / Whittier, CA

562-695-6185

Directions:

From Whittier Blvd., go north on Painter Ave.; left on Broadway; right on Palm Ave., past Palm Park. The house is 5 houses up on the right past Floral Ave. and Dexter Middle School.



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# Gardening

## RIO HONDO SYMPHONY GARDEN TOUR

The gardening section will meet on Sunday, April 17 for the Rio Hondo Symphony Garden Tour. Each year three unique Whittier gardens are selected for this special event. The gardens are open from 2-5 PM. Tickets are \$25. Proceeds from the garden tour support the symphony's student programs. Last year over 2,400 4th and 5th graders were able to attend free symphony concerts. Email Shirley Stewart at [shirleyscreations305@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyscreations305@gmail.com) or phone at 562-944-4556 for tickets. The gardening group will meet at the first home at 2 o'clock, or you may visit at any time on your own. Come one come all to smell the roses and enjoy these beautiful gardens.



## Modern Trends

Thursday, April 28, 2016, 7 PM

Book: *The Age of Dreaming* by Nina Revoyr 330 pp.  
Hostess: Carol Shupek, 6204 Southwind Dr. Whittier 90601  
cell: 562-698-3656 or [cshupek@yahoo.com](mailto:cshupek@yahoo.com)

Co-Hostess: Gwen Woirhaye  
Reviewer: Gwen Woirhaye

Nina Revoyr's stunning new novel alternates between the 1960's and the height of the silent film era. It tells the story of a man caught between worlds: Jun Nakayama, silent film star, must try to please both his Japanese and American fans. While adored by moviegoers, he is despised by public officials who see him as a threat to American power and racial purity.



*The Age of Dreaming* explores the history of Los Angeles, the heady beginnings of the movie industry, and the interplay of race and celebrity. It is part historical novel, part mystery, and part unfulfilled love story, all told through the voice of a forgotten star who must gradually come to terms with his past.

We'd love to have you join us at Carol's home for our monthly book discussion. Looking forward to seeing all of you.

Questions: Annette at 626-964-1843 or  
Kristine at 562-696-0226

Next Modern Trends meeting is May 26 at Annette's home.

Book is *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler

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# GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH

## CALENDAR – APRIL 2016

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	1	6:00 PM	<b>First Friday</b> , Ann Topjon's and Phil O'Brien's home, Whittier
Tuesday	5	7:00 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , St. Matthias Church, Whittier
Saturday	9	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , Elk's Club, Whittier
Thursday	14	TBA	<b>Showgirls</b> , Whittier Village Cinema
Sunday	17	2-5:00 PM	<b>Rio Hondo Symphony Garden Tour</b> , Whittier
Tuesday	19	10:00 AM	<b>International Concerns, (The Future of Kurdistan)</b> , Sharon Heck's Whittier
Wednesday	27	1:30 PM	<b>Memories</b> , Barbara Gile's home Whittier
Thursday	28	7:00 PM	<b>Modern Trends</b> , Carol Shupek's home, 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 you one. Thank you for your cooperation and for sending in your articles by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. **All submission must be in WORD documents as attachment to emails. Please create the document within WORD itself rather than cutting and pasting into WORD. Please DO NOT use TABS. Please, do not submit within the email itself.**

Please send articles by email on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month to [patricia@fullerton.edu](mailto:patricia@fullerton.edu)

Newsletter Editors – Patricia Cuocco, Diana Clark and Carole Duff



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