



# GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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



"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."

Margaret Atwood

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

At our June meeting we are pleased to honor the women who are receiving scholarships from the Myra Long Scholarship Fund. Please see the article on Page 3 for more information. We will also conduct the installation of the 2016-17 branch officers.

Lunch will be Yankee pot roast, roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, dessert, coffee, tea and water. Vegetarian meals are Vegetable Pasta Florentine and Fettuccine Alfredo (advance notice required). A Chef’s Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast is also available with advance notice. Enjoy table decorations provided by Mystery Mavens.

Reservations for the Branch meeting are due by Wednesday, June 8, noon. Please send an email (NOTE: NEW EMAIL ADDRESS) to DeDe Shatzen at [aauwsvp@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsvp@gmail.com) (alternate email: [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.

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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*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am elated! I just returned home from our May branch meeting where we honored the Las Distinguidas awardees and the ten girls we are sponsoring for this summer's Tech Trek Camp at Whittier College. I am always so impressed with the dedication and accomplishments of the Las Distinguidas winners. Janet Campfield and Susan Halliday, this year's honorees, have given so much to our community. They serve as outstanding examples for all of us. Our ten Tech Trek campers are our future. After meeting them today, I know we are in good hands.

Please join me at our June 11 branch meeting when we will install the 2016-17 GWA AAUW Board of Directors and award scholarships to four Rio Hondo women who are continuing their studies to complete their baccalaureate degrees.

This is my last message as your 2015-16 president. Thank you all for a wonderful year. I have enjoyed working with our outstanding board. Simply said, "You are the best!" Over the years, I have worked with many different organizations and boards and can say unequivocally that there is none better than our GWA AAUW volunteers.

Kaye D. Kidwell



## KAYE'S HEROES CORNER

Although we are a diverse group of women as members of AAUW locally and nationally, I notice that many of you are or have been educators – teachers, principals, curriculum specialists, and superintendents. I watch you work. Your dedication to your students, families and communities is remarkable. You go to school early and you stay late. You work day and night – in the classroom, on field trips, on the playground, on the phone with parents, consulting with specialists, grading papers, representing your colleagues on faculty committees, texting parents, and assisting students in one-on-one sessions. Your organizational skills are incredible. You juggle time and resources. You dig into your wallets to pay for classroom supplies when the school budgets run dry. You pay for kids' lunches when they forget or simply don't have the money. You work with helicopter parents, stressed out parents, and divorced parents who are at odds over what is best for their children. You search for absent parents. I see the joy you feel when your students succeed. I see your frustration when politicians impose more regulations and provide little support. I see your sorrow when you lose a student. But, most of all, I see your love for your students and your hope for their futures.

You are a special. My admiration for you is unfathomable. You are my heroes!

Kaye D. Kidwell, President



# SCHOLARSHIPS

## 2016

The Myra Long Scholarship Committee would like to introduce the four remarkable women who are the recipients of scholarships for the year 2016 to you.

**Camille Artech** is a single mother of an eight-year-old daughter. Her current goal is to become a registered nurse. In fact, she has already been accepted in the Cal State Los Angeles AND-BSN Collaborative transitional program to obtain her bachelor's degree in nursing. Eventually, she would like to continue her education to become a neo-natal nurse practitioner and then a clinical nursing instructor. She has maintained a 3.6 GPA in her Rio Hondo nursing program.

**Paula Diaz** returned to college for more education in order to better her career in business where she had reached the peak of her profession without a college degree. Her ultimate goal is to become a civil rights/immigration lawyer. She has maintained a 3.94 GPA in her major and was recently accepted at UCLA. She has long had an interest in helping young people and, in fact, helped establish a camp in Bell Gardens to promote leadership skills among youngsters. Paula is married and has a teenage stepson.

**Dianka Lohay** is a single mother of three children, one of whom is a teenager, another who attends Rio Hondo with her and a third who wants to return to school to study nursing. Dianka has overcome tremendous obstacles to return to school after twenty years and has maintained a 4.0 GPA in her major. She will enter Cal State Long Beach this fall with the goal of becoming a social worker/counselor, eventually helping the homeless. In fact, she was an intern at Whittier First-Day Coalition and, as a result, was hired part-time by the organization.

**Jyoti Manchanda** is a young woman who started out as a nursing student, but eventually discovered that her real interest was in business administration, specializing in computer information systems. As she puts it, "career bliss is following one's heart." She has maintained a 3.69 GPA at Rio Hondo. Jyoti will be transferring to Cal Poly Pomona in the fall to pursue a major in the STEM field. She enjoys helping with young people and works in the Learning Assistance Center at Rio Hondo.

We know you will enjoy meeting these women who so impressed the members of the scholarship committee: Maurine Behrens, Ellen Peck, Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes and Carole Restovich.



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## Myra Long Scholarship Fund 2016 Non-event Fundraiser Honor Roll

Thank you, one and all! 2016 commemorates Myra Long's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, and our fundraiser was a phenomenal success. We are grateful to all of you who gave so generously. We received \$18,106 from 70 donors. Donations ranged from \$10 to \$10,000. All of the proceeds supported our Local Scholarship, Math/Science and Tech Trek programs. We awarded \$8,000 in scholarships to three women graduating from Rio Hondo Community College to help them continue their educations at four-year universities, hosted 340 eighth grade girls from 25 middle schools at our 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Math/Science Conference and awarded scholarships to ten eighth grades girls to attend the week-long Tech Trek Camp at Whittier College. Thank you for helping us to continue this important work.

Bobbie Albanese  
Sara Ellen Anderson  
Carol K. Anderson  
Beverly Ball  
Virginia Ball  
Maurine Behrens  
Rosemary Bertone  
Cindy Birt  
Virginia Boles  
Doreen Boxer  
Jacqueline Brearley  
Constance Bucey  
Patricia Carlson  
Julianne Causey  
Jan Cecola  
Ann Chambers  
Diana Clark  
Earlyne Clemons  
Sheryl Crockey  
Kelly Kidwell Collazo  
Harriet K. Cornyn  
Patricia Cuocco  
Pat Dudley  
Carole Duff

Elizabeth B. Ellis  
Ann Farmer  
Peggy Fretz  
Janice Geiger  
Barbara Gile  
Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes  
Maura Greeley  
Mary Jo Haller  
Lucinda Halley  
Susan Halliday  
Sharon Heck  
Naomi Hill  
Jois Hofmann  
Lorayne Horka-Gervais  
Brenda Jahn  
Roberta Jessup  
Kaye Kidwell  
Peggy Kiefer  
Ladies Arts and Culture Club  
Jeanne Lavagnino  
Marian Locke  
Bruce E. Long  
Kathryn Luciano  
Joyce Paul

Ellen Peck  
Linda Pomeroy  
Nancy Ramos  
Carole Restovich  
Lynda Richardson  
Dolores Seidman  
Sue Settlage  
Lovey Sherman  
Carol Shupek  
Patricia Stanley  
Shirley Stewart  
Nancy Stiefeling  
Colleen Tan  
Ann Topjon  
Sue Turco  
Beverly Walker  
Fay Weber  
Myra Weiss  
Beth Camarco Wheeler  
Gen'nel Walters  
Ruth White  
Gwen Woirhaye



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# MEMBERSHIP

**HAVE YOU RENEWED?** It is important to renew as soon as possible, so that your information will be included in the 2016-2017 yearbook. It's easy to renew online. If you need your AAUW number just contact Susan Halliday, Lynda Richardson, or Barbara Gile. You can also renew using the bright passionate pink forms that are available at Branch meetings, or use the one included in the newsletter!

June is our last Branch meeting of the 2015-2016 year. Even though our active GWA-AAUW may not be having another Branch meeting until September, the summer months are a great time to recruit new members. Be prepared to 'pitch' or give your 'elevator' speech. (See form) Have fun practicing with a friend. Pick up a few of the small GWA-AAUW tri-fold brochures to share with your friends or folks you think might be interested in joining. Invite friends and/or prospective members to join you at a Branch meeting.

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR AAUW ELEVATOR PITCH WITH POWER!



An elevator pitch is a brief, persuasive speech that you use to spark interest in what your organization does. Elevator pitches should be interesting, memorable, and succinct. They also need to explain the **why** and the **what** that makes your organization unique. Here's our simple guide to writing your own speech. Once you're done, you'll have a personalized tool to use next time you're talking to a potential member!

1. **Write down four things about AAUW that you would like to share.** What makes AAUW memorable to you? What projects or issues is AAUW championing that are important to you?
2. **Pick the three most important points you wrote down.** Why are they the most important points? Condense your answer to this question into two or three sentences.
3. **Add your full name and where you're from** before these two or three sentences to serve as your introduction and opening remarks.
4. **Make sure to also make an "ask" at the end.** Every elevator pitch should conclude with a question that needs a definitive answer, whether it's "Would you like to be a part of our organization?" or "Will you attend our event on Saturday?" or "Can we add you to our newsletter list?"
5. Here's your chance to pitch with power! **Write out your AAUW elevator pitch below.**
6. **Now try your elevator speech with a fellow member.** Each of you should share what really inspires you and what could be better. Keep practicing until you are comfortable inviting someone to be a member of the AAUW community.

Susan Halliday and Lynda Richardson – Co-Chairs

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# PUBLIC POLICY



## Public Policy Message

**Let your voice be heard as an AAUW Two-Minute Activist!** As the state and branches gear up for Tech Trek and women in their forties are still paying off student loans, two issues affecting women and girls need your attention.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that by 2020, over 9.2 million jobs will be in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Approximately 4.6 million of those jobs will be in computing or information technology. AAUW's latest research report, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing* proves that just 12 percent of engineers are women, and the number of women in computing has fallen from 35 percent in 1990 to just 26 percent today. Those numbers only decrease when accounting for minority women.

The STEM Gateways Act (S.1183/H.R.840) takes substantive steps towards engaging the full participation of women, girls, and underrepresented minorities in STEM fields. It would create competitive grants to local education agencies and other entities working at the elementary and secondary levels to improve access to opportunities in STEM fields. Programming funded by the grants would be targeted towards women and girls, underrepresented minorities, and individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

## Tell your Members of Congress to co-sponsor STEM Gateways Act

Twenty years after graduation, many women are still paying off high interest rate loans, which they have been unable to refinance. Ask your member of congress to take action on college affordability and support legislation that would allow certain borrowers to refinance their student loans and lower their interest rates. The gender wage gap means student loan debt is an even bigger burden for women. That's why student loan refinancing legislation is so important – it will allow all eligible borrowers to refinance their loans in a way that makes sense for them and their financial situation. **Women need this kind of legislation** – a woman working full time typically makes less than a man just one year after college graduation, even after controlling for college major, occupation, hours worked, geographic region, and all other factors known to affect earnings. And that pay gap only grows over time! Yet while she makes less than him, their loan repayments are exactly the same because men and women tend to take out the same amount of student loans.

## Tell your Members of Congress to Support Refinancing of Student Loans

Fay Weber, Public Policy Chair



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## AAUW FUND

This message is from the AAUW National Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs, Diane Patton and Teresa Saben. I will add to this message that it is still possible for members to designate the area to which they wish their AAUW Fund donations despite this new emphasis. Any question about that? Please contact Dolores Seidman, Branch Fund V.P.

AAUW members, donors, and leaders are passionate about changing the climate for women and girls across the country. We all want our time and gifts to be maximized to further our mission. The best way to change the climate for women and girls is to give unrestricted funds.

Unrestricted gifts can be put to work wherever and whenever they are most needed. These funds allow AAUW to be agile and respond to the changing needs of women and girls today and into the future.

Many of our members and donors assume that membership dues and restricted gifts cover the cost of AAUW's mission-based programs. In actuality, except for fellowships and grants, all the programs our members know and love are fully or partially funded by unrestricted giving.

Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund V.P.

### REPORT ON L.A. COUNTY INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (LACIC) MEETING ON MAY 15, 2016

Cambria Findley-Grubb from UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) spoke on Gender Equality, which is one of the goals of the organization. She detailed the needs of children after a disaster such as health services, water, nutrition, education, protection and return to normalcy.

Gender equality is of paramount importance because of such issues as sexual trafficking, which affects 20-30 million people. This involves recruiting by force or coercion for purpose of sex or enforced labor. There is a Trafficking Hotline-1-888-373-7888 that has received 12,000 calls from California alone, resulting in 3,000 cases.

Another aspect of gender equality that UNICEF addresses is child marriages. 700 million women were married as children. This stops their education, and leads to the #1 cause of death among women 15-19, which is complications of childbirth. Birth registration is another area of concern. One out of three in the world under five years old have no birth certificate. In Somalia only three percent have their birth registered

Cambria encouraged us to spread the word about these issues. More information can be obtained at their website: [www.unicefusa.org](http://www.unicefusa.org). Interested persons can contact Cambria Findley-Grubb at [cfgrubb@unicefusa.org](mailto:cfgrubb@unicefusa.org) about how to work with this organization on Congressional Action Teams, which are being formed in Los Angeles.

Dolores Seidman

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# TECH TREK REPORT



The ten girls selected to attend Tech Trek Camp at Whittier College were introduced at the May 14<sup>th</sup> Branch meeting. Five girls were selected from East Whittier Middle School and five were from Los Nietos Middle School. Each camper received an \$850 scholarship from funds raised by the MLSF activities and donations from members to Tech Trek.

Rube Goldberg Machine items may be brought to the June meeting. You may also contact Pat Dudley beginning the week of June 6 for pick up or contact Ann Chambers to drop off items prior to the June meeting.

A Visitation Day will be held at Tech Trek camp on Thursday, June 30. Specific details will be available by the June meeting. You may sign-up at the June meeting if you wish to attend or call Ann or Pat to be put on the Attending List.

There are additional opportunities to volunteer for some of the camp activities and events. You may sign up at the June meeting or call Ann or Pat to volunteer. Again, we do not have specific details as yet. Other events or days may be added closer to the beginning of camp or during the week of camp. Current volunteer needs include:

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY
June 25	Saturday	2PM	Prepare Packets
June 26	Sunday	2 – 4 PM	Registration/Dorm Monitors/Orientation
June 30	Thursday	TBD	Visitation Day Hosts
June 30	Thursday	Evening	Professional Women’s Panel
July 2	Saturday	8 – 11 AM	Checkout and Camper Presentations for Parents

Ann Chambers, Pat Dudley, Tech Trek Co-Coordinators

## DINING FOR \$\$\$\$



This month’s newsletter has **TWO** Dining for \$\$\$\$ flyers, one for June 16 at the California Grill in Whittier, and one for July 14 at Panera in La Habra. Make your plans now to come in for one or more meals on those days. Remember to print and bring your flyers and share them with friends and family.

A very special thank you goes to Jan Berry, who has been arranging our Dining for \$\$\$\$ events for the last few years. These funds go to the Myra Long Scholarship Fund for Tech-Trek, Scholarships and Math-Science Day.





## SECTION INFORMATION

### Morning Book

We are reading and discussing *Wingshooters*, by Nina Revoyr on Monday, June 6, at 10AM. Dolores Seidman will lead our discussion, Colleen Tan will provide goodies, and we will meet at Ann Topjon's, 5654 Palm Ave., Whittier.

Our last meeting for this year will be on Monday, July 25. We will be discussing *Dead Wake. The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*, by Erik Larson. It will be at Harriet (Kittle) Cornyn's home, 517 Pebble Beach Pl., Fullerton. Marian Locke will direct our conversation and Carole Duff will bring refreshments. I will be sending out an email with further information sometime closer to the date of the meeting.

Directions to Ann's house: From Whittier Blvd., go north on Painter Ave.; left on Broadway; right on Palm Ave., past Palm Park. The house is the fifth on the right past Floral Ave. and Dexter Middle School.

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-695-618



### Saving Money



We don't really have a section on this. Maybe we should. In any event, I came across a great list of discounts available to people over 50. Check them out.

<https://onmogul.com/stories/this-list-of-senior-discounts-for-people-over-50-might-be-the-best-thing-you-learn-all-day>

Patricia Cuocco



### Memories

The June Memories meeting will take place Wednesday, June 22 at 1:30 PM at the home of Carol J. Anderson. The topic is "I Wish I Knew Then." We all can identify with that comment, be it about how we raised our children; how we performed at work; how we invested our money (or time); how we treated a friend or family member; how we looked at aging, etc. Come share your written observations in a friendly atmosphere. New members are always welcome. We write for our own clarity of thought, for family history and for fun!

Directions to Carol's home: take Janine to its conclusion in East Whittier. Turn left onto Solejar and continue as Solejar curves left. Carol's address is 9759 Solejar, on the left. Phone: 562-691-1542.

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## Modern Trends

Thursday, June 23, 2016, 7PM

**Book:** *The Nightingale* By Kristin Hannah  
(440pp)

**Hostess:** Dolores Seidman, 254 Bloom Drive,  
Monterey Park, 91755  
(H) 323-721-8230 (C) 213-706-4771

The epic novel *The Nightingale*, spanning from the 1940's to the present day, involves the secret lives of those who live in a small French town.

When World War II strikes, Viann's and Isabelles's father sends Isabelle to help her older sister cope. As the war progresses, it's not only the sisters' relationship that is tested, but also their strength and their individual senses of right and wrong. With life as they know it changing in unbelievably horrific ways, Viann and Isabelle will find themselves facing frightening situations and responding in ways they never thought possible as bravery and resistance take different forms in each of their actions.

Vivid and exquisite in its illumination of a time and place filled with great monstrosities, but also great humanity and strength, Kristin Hannah's novel will provoke thought and discussion that will have readers talking long after they turn the last page.

Hope you can all make this last Modern Trends meeting of the 2015-16 year.

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

**Next Meeting:** September 22, 6:30PM, at  
Annette's home. Book to be announced.



## First Friday

Date: June 3

Time: 6 - 8 PM

Host: Barbara and Bill Gile  
14035 Eastridge Drive, Whittier, CA  
562-693-7279

Directions:

14035 Eastridge Drive is one block North of Mar Vista Street on the Northeast corner of Eastridge Drive and Vale Drive. Park on Vale Drive 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 Road:

Go West on Mar Vista Street three streets after the signal light at Michigan and turn right on Vale Drive.

From Painter Street:

Go East on Mar Vista Street three streets after the signal light at College Avenue and turn left on Vale Drive





## Gardening

On Thursday, June 16, the Gardening Section will be focusing on California native plants and butterflies at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens, Butterfly Pavilion and Native Plant Nursery, followed by lunch in Old Town Claremont for those who'd like to stay. Admission is \$10 for the Gardens and \$3 for the Butterfly Pavilion, and the Nursery has a wide assortment of native plants and seeds as well as a gift store.

We will meet at 9:00 at the east end of the Ralph's parking lot (next to the Chevron Station) to form carpools. All AAUW members are welcome! Ellen Peck is in and out of town, so please RSVP to Karen Walker (562) 715-2304 by text or a phone call, or email to [karenwalker220@gmail.com](mailto:karenwalker220@gmail.com). We hope you'll join us!

## June is National Safety Month.

This is a great time to think about all of the areas in our lives where safety is a concern and to take steps to improve any deficiencies. Some things that come to mind:

Work and Home Safety – is your physical environment free of hazards and “accidents” waiting to happen.

Are you prepared for earthquakes and other emergencies? Do all family members know where to gather or how to get in touch after an emergency?

Are you Cyber-safe? Are your passwords protected? Do you check often to ensure that your on-line identity is uncompromised?



Caution is the parent of safety

## HAVE A GREAT



The newsletter will be on hiatus in July and August. See you in September. Our first meeting will most likely be Saturday, September 10. Check the September Newsletter for details.

Why has June evolved into the most common month for weddings?

Because, the month of June is named for Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage and in the western hemisphere more fragrant flowers come to full bloom that month than any other time of the year

# GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH

## CALENDAR – JUNE 2016

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	3	6 – 8:00 PM	<b>First Friday</b> , Barbara Gile's, Whittier
Monday	6	10 AM	<b>Morning Book</b> , Ann Topjon's, Whittier
Tuesday	7	6 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , Incoming and Outgoing Boards, St. Matthias Church, Whittier
Saturday	11	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , Elk's Club, Whittier
Thursday	16	7 AM – 10 PM	<b>Dining for \$\$\$\$</b> , California Grill, Whittier
Thursday	16	9:00 AM	<b>Gardening</b> , Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens, Claremont (carpool meet at Ralph's Whittier & Colima)
Wednesday	22	1:30 PM	<b>Memories</b> , Carol J. Anderson's, East Whittier
Thursday	23	7 PM	<b>Modern Trends</b> , Dolores Seidman's, Monterey Park
Saturday	25	2 PM	<b>Tech Trek Packet Assembly</b> , TBD
Sunday	26	2 – 4 PM	<b>Tech Trek Registration</b> , Whittier College
Thursday	30	TBD AM	<b>Tech Trek Visitation Day</b> , Whittier College
Thursday	30	TBD PM	<b>Professional Women's Panel</b> , Whittier College
<b>JULY, 2016</b>			
Saturday	2	8 – 11 AM	<b>Tech Trek Checkout and Final Presentations</b>
Thursday	14	6AM – 10 PM	<b>Dining for \$\$\$\$</b> , Panera, La Habra

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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