



GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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



With all the rain we have been having, our program for February 11th is particularly timely. Amalia Merino from LARiverWorks will be our guest speaker. Amalia will present an overview of how the LARiverWorks team is implementing the 2007 Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan. Amalia said the AAUW mission statement really resonated with her. Amalia is a graduate of Smith College.

Lunch will be lemon herbed chicken, mixed green salad, mashed potatoes, asparagus, dessert, coffee, tea and water. Also offered are the following: Vegetable Pasta Florentine, Fettuccine Alfredo, Chef's Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast and grilled Portobello mushroom sandwich with potato salad (advance notice required). Enjoy table decorations provided by La Cuisine.

Reservation for the Branch meeting is due by February 8, noon. Please send an email to DeDe Shatzen at aauwsvp@gmail.com (alternate email: 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
562-698-0476*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Much has been said about “Power” and “Purpose.” But, power is not evenly distributed between women and men. Researchers have found that women fall behind their male counterparts in the realm of power because of the low number of women in leadership positions. As women, we have passion, will and an unleashed potential to create change for the betterment of community—be it global or local. However, “purpose” suffers due to our lack of representation in the realm of power. So then, much needs to happen for women to have equal power.

According to a June 2016 *Fortune* article, women hold only “4.2% of CEO positions in America's 500 biggest companies.” While figures reflect an upward mobility for women in mid-management and upper-management positions, the numbers are very modest. But, not all is grim, because individually or as part of an organization, we can choose to effect change in our own corners of the world, our local communities, to move our purpose of growing equity, influence and inclusion for our girls and women.

In their book, “Fast Forward: How Women Can Achieve Power and Purpose,” co-authors Melanne Verveer and Kim Azzarelli, say that “change starts with individuals...with people who found their purpose” in work “that advances women and girls.” Verveer and Azzarelli’s research, including interviews with people around the world, revealed one simple approach—“one that can ignite our own potential, transforming the way we think about our life and work: Knowing our power, Finding our purpose, and Connecting with others.”

Thanks to the AAUW women who went before us and laid a sound foundation for us, today, we are not starting from the beginning of a new endeavor. Most importantly, we know where we are going. We are effecting change by exercising and leveraging the credibility and gains that AAUW has earned, incorporating our own personal power within our own social and business networks, and building bridges as needed to reach our goal of equity for girls and women.

Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes

MEMBERSHIP

What a wonderful “Winter Snowman” festive gathering we had at our Meet and Greet at the Assistance League in Whittier on January 13. We want to thank Dede Shatzen, Amy Vineyard, Rozanne Child, Earlyne Clemons, Lucinda Halley, Ken Dudley and Glen Hayes. Thank you also to Iris Harris for bringing her student Karina Shih to play the harp. The music was beautiful! We had eleven guests. Irma Perez and Shirley Campbell, previously a member of the Arcadia branch, joined our Branch. Welcome Irma and Shirley! Thank you also to all the members who brought guests, desserts, appetizers and beverages. Your participation made it a success.

Maura Greeley and Karen van der Baan

PUBLIC POLICY



Lisa Maatz, AAUW's Vice President of Government Relations and Advocacy, reported that in 2016 AAUW accomplished the following in the area of public policy. This gives an idea of one way in which our national dues are used. Individual members can participate in such activities by joining AAUW's Action Network. Go to aauw.org to sign up.

- More than 200,000 messages went out to state and federal legislators.
- AAUW participated in achieving new equal pay laws in 6 states including California.
- 714 resource guides were delivered to Title IX coordinators in 29 states.
- We celebrated 44 years of Title IX.
- Members organized more than 900 get-out-the-vote events in 46 states.
- 19 AAUW members were elected to state legislatures.
- Members hosted more than 200 Equal Pay Day events nationwide.
- 2,786 Lobby Corps meetings were held with congressional staff.
- We testified in support of salary transparency for 63 million workers.
- We broke the news that 91% of colleges likely underreported incidents of campus rape in 2014.
- AAUW tracked 120 pieces of legislation in Congress and more than 1,050 bills at state level.
- Action Network members submitted 8,896 comments in the federal government.

How can you be involved in any of these activities? Check the aauw.org website under Public Policy to find out! Become involved!

Dolores Seidman, Chair

SUPPORT US THROUGH AAUW FUND

You can...Create change,
Advance equity,
Empower women and girls

Thanks to all the members of the Greater Whittier Area Branch of AAUW for your continued support of the Fund. The Christmas Boutique donated \$500 to the Fund plus an additional \$236 for a total of \$736.00 for 2016. But that is not all - the final number for donations to the Fund for 2016 will not be available until mid February and will be posted in the March Newsletter. In 2015, California donors contributed over \$700,000 to the national AAUW Fund to benefit AAUW projects.

In addition, a personal thanks to all the Whittier members who supported the LAF event at Kellogg West on Sunday, January 8th. Those in attendance were awestruck with LAF litigant Aileen Rizo's story of pay inequity that she suffered at the hands of the Fresno County Office of Education. The Opportunity Basket plus the profit from the luncheon netted \$610.70 that will be sent to National for LAF on the behalf of LACIC.

Rozanne Child, AAUW Fund Vice-President

Tech Trek

GWA AAUW will be sending twelve girls to Tech Trek this summer. Schools participating from our Branch are Katherine Edwards Middle School and Stem Academy, Dexter Middle School and Andrews K-8 Learning Academy. These schools are in the Whittier City School District. Katherine Edwards participated in 2012 and Dexter in 2011. Andrews added seventh and eighth grade classes last year, and this is their first year to participate.

Camp will be from June 25 to July 1, 2017 at Whittier College. With the newly inspired Tech Trek Director and reformed instructional program, branches in our area are sending more girls to camp or sending girls to Whittier for the first time in several years. This has created a need for more dorm moms. Dorm moms need to be AAUW members and will live on campus in the dorms during camp week. While campers are in Core Classes the dorm moms have a break from responsibilities. This would be a great opportunity to see and be a part of the newly energized program. Do you know a college student who might like to add this experience to her resume? Dues for students are very reasonable and would be a great gift. Interested? We can give you contact information for Nicole Simmons, Camp Tech Trek Director, to pursue your interest in this opportunity.

In April, we will give you more information on collecting items for the Rube Goldberg machines. We outdid ourselves last summer and now have a more realistic idea of the quantity and types of items needed. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uDDEEHdf1Y&feature=youtu.be> to view Rube Goldberg machines.

Patricia Dudley and Ann Chambers, Co-chairs

MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS

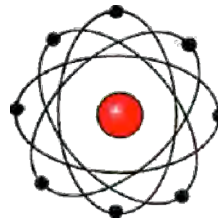
This morning, my Mary Engelbreit's 2017 desk calendar had a wonderful saying. EACH DAY COMES BEARING ITS OWN GIFTS - UNTIE THE RIBBONS. We untied the ribbons on some marvelous gifts at Whittier College this morning. The first gift was a beautiful sunny day. It was cold, but all of the wonderful volunteers bundled up in many layers. Another gift was the use of Shannon Theater for our opening session. The theater holds 400 and we nearly filled it. President Dolores Gonzales-Hays welcomed everyone. Ann Farmer introduced Joyce Kauffman who gave the keynote address, and President-elect Kaye Kidwell discussed the packet of materials which guided the attendees to their three workshops.

A marvelous gift was the 362 very bright young women and the twenty volunteer speakers who shared their S.T.E.M. related careers with the attendees. Each girl and the 27 teacher advisors were able to hear six of the twenty speakers. The beautifully renovated Science Learning Center was used by us for the first time in several years, and seven of the ten workshops were held there.

Probably the most important gift is our wonderful members who volunteer to be greeters, moderators, registrars, etc. I have to personally thank Dolores Seidman for enlisting all the volunteers; Barbara Gile for hosting the packet party and doing double duty this morning; Helen Jewell for helping with workshop set-up and being a last minute moderator; and DeDe Shatzen and my son Ron for being everywhere and doing everything to get us up and running this morning.

I have read all of the evaluations this evening and they are very positive. Here are a few comments from the students. "This was a great experience. There were many amazing jobs that I never knew about that can help the environment in many ways." "Many of the speakers focused on how they got to their passion, which inspired me to think more about what I want to do in life. EDUCATION IS CRITICAL." "The college is great! Speakers are nice/great. WOMEN ROCK!" "I love how these women help young girls know that it is ok to do a 'boys' job!" "Everyone was encouraging and positive. I loved this event. THANK YOU!"

Sharon Heck, Math/Science Chair



NOMINATIONS



The Nominating Committee offers the following slate of officers for election to the 2017-18 GWA AAUW Board of Directors:

- President: Kaye Kidwell
- President-elect: Rozanne Child
- Program Vice President: Earlyne Clemons
- Hospitality Vice Presidents: Karen Walker and DeDe Shatzen
- Membership Vice Presidents: yet to be filled
- AAUW Fund Vice President: yet to be filled
- Treasurer: Lucinda Halley
- Recording Secretary: yet to be filled
- Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Gile
- Past President: Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes

Myra Long Scholarship Fund Committee

- Chair: Patricia Cuocco
- Treasurer: Kaye Kidwell
- Secretary: Carole Restovich
- Director: Ann Chambers
- Director: Patricia Dudley
- Director: Susan Halliday
- Director: Sharon Heck
- Director Emeritus: Ellen Larson

Kaye Kidwell, Chair
Nominating Committee

SECTION INFORMATION

Modern Trends in Literature

Modern Trends in Literature meets Thursday, February 23, 7 PM, at the home of Cindy Birt. Co-hostess is Colleen Tan. The discussion will be led by Gwen Woirhaye.

The book for this month is *La Rose*. In this literary masterwork, Louise Erdrich, the bestselling author of the National Book Award-winning *The Round House* and the Pulitzer Prize nominee *The Plague of Doves*, wields her breathtaking narrative magic in an emotionally haunting contemporary tale of a tragic accident, a demand for justice, and a profound atonement with ancient roots in Native American culture.

North Dakota, late summer, 1999 -- Landreaux Iron stalks a deer along the edge of the property bordering his own. He shoots with easy confidence, but when the buck springs away, Landreaux realizes he's hit something else, a blur he saw as he squeezed the trigger. When he staggers closer, he realizes he has killed his neighbor's five-year-old son, Dusty Ravich.

Inspiring and affecting, *La Rose* is a powerful exploration of loss, justice, and the reparation of the human heart, and an unforgettable, dazzling tour de force from one of America's most distinguished literary masters.

Directions: Hacienda Blvd to Skyline Dr. (signal). West on Skyline to first street, left on Ardsheal to 2639. From Whittier: Mar Vista to Colima and right on Hacienda.

Remaining books for the year are: March -- *Homegoing*, April -- *Me Before You*, May -- *The Kitchen House*, June -- *Everyone Brave is Forgiven*.

Carol Shupek, Co-chair 562-641-8888
Gwen Woirhaye, Co-chair gwen@woirhaye.com

Gardening

Happy 2017! The Gardening Section outings for the upcoming year are set. All members and guests are welcome to join any trip. Please join us on Tuesday, February 21 for a 45 minute tour of the Kimberly Crest & Gardens House (<http://Kimberlycrest.org>) located in Redlands (located off of Highland Ave) following a wonderful lunch at Martha Green's Eatery Room (<http://www.allmarthagreen.com>) located in beautiful downtown Redlands. The Kimberly Crest & Gardens House is a picturesque French Chateau style home built in 1897 surrounded by 6 1/4 acres of beautifully landscaped Italian Renaissance Gardens. The house is a well-preserved example of the Victorian era in California. Please meet at the Ralphs' parking lot on the corner of Whittier Blvd. and Colima Rd. at 10:15 AM on February 21 to carpool to Redlands. Admission is \$10.



AAUW members, friends and guests are invited. We need 10 people to guarantee the tour.

Due to filming on the property during the month of February, please RSVP **as soon as possible** so we can reserve our tour for February 21. RSVP to Debra Benveniste ASAP 818-590-5240 or gobenny1@gmail.com. Mail check to Debra Benveniste at 1005 Caraway Dr. Whittier, CA 90601

Questions: Contact Debra Benveniste 818-590-5240 or gobenny1@mail.com.

FEBRUARY

Redlands—Kimberly Crest House - Debbie Benveniste

MARCH

Descanso Gardens - Shari Jacobson

APRIL

Rio Hondo Garden Tour - Dolores Hayes

MAY

Arboretum, Cottage Open To Public - Debbie Benveniste

JUNE

Debbie Chin's Neighbor's Nursery - Debbie Chin

JULY

Smart Garden Tips - Dede Shatzen

AUGUST

Dark

SEPTEMBER

Long Beach Cactus Garden - Lupe Alfaro

OCTOBER

Fall Craft - Ellen Peck

NOVEMBER

Make Baskets for Boutique - Barbara Gile

DECEMBER

Descanso Garden Night Light Show (if available) - Debbie Benveniste

JANUARY 2018

Pot Luck Luncheon and Planning Meeting - Ellen Peck

R.I.P. Again

The regular meeting is Tuesday, February 28, 10 AM, at the home of Gwen Woirhaye. We will continue working on "The Flowering of Friendship." Parking permits will be hanging on the gate, or park in the driveway.

Address: 5810 Friends Ave. Directions: one block west of Painter Ave., one block north of Beverly Blvd.

Colleen Tan, chair 562-698-4934
Gwen Woirhaye, co-chair gwen@woirhaye.com

Show Girls

We go to the movies the third Thursday of the month. It is not always possible to know the movie or theater at Newsletter time. I send an email to each Show Girl member with the information. We would love to have you join us. Email or phone me for the monthly gathering information. Thank you.

Gen'nel Walters
icugwalters@aol.com
562-943-5333

International Concerns

The International Concerns section will meet at 10 AM on Thursday, February 16 at Sharon Heck's home, 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier, CA. The topic to be discussed is "Continuity and Change in American Foreign Policy," the introduction to our 2017 Great Decisions book. Maurine Behrens will lead the discussion. Note that the meetings are now on Thursday because of parking on Comstock which is a permit street.

Everyone is welcome to attend, but please phone Sharon to let her know at 562-698-0476. She wants to be sure she has enough parking passes. On Thursdays there is parking on both sides of Comstock and some space in the driveway. Hope to see you there.

PPP Positive Past Presidents

LUNAR NEW YEAR DINNER

Join the PPP's in celebrating the Lunar New Year (Year of the Rooster) on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at the Silver Palace, 6 PM. Cost is \$22. This is always a fun evening you won't want to miss.

RVSP to Cindy Birt, 562-697-7520. Reservations are a must! No walk-ins please.

Shirley Stewart, Chair

Morning Book

We will not be meeting this month, but are looking forward to our March 27 get-together when we will read and discuss *Telling the Bees*, by Peggy Hesketh. The author has agreed to come to our meeting, so this should be very interesting! She will give us insights into the process of writing this wonderful book. Look for further information in the March newsletter.

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-695-6185

First Friday



First Friday is a most enjoyable social time. All members are invited. We welcome singles, couples and friends. Please bring an appetizer and beverage.

Date: Friday, February 3, 2017
Time: 6-8 PM
Host: Fay and Jack Weber
2089 East Skyline Dr. La Habra Heights

(H) 562-697-2101 (C) 562-631-5262

Directions: Go East on Whittier Blvd to Harbor. Turn north (left) and go 1 mile and turn east (left) onto Fullerton Rd. Wind up the hill 1 mile and turn left onto East Rd. and then an **immediate right** onto **Skyline Dr.** and an **immediate left** into the yard. Those who need to leave early should park on the road. The house is right on the corner of East Rd. and Skyline Dr. Don't go up the hill on Skyline or you'll have to turn around and come back down the hill.

Dining 4 \$\$\$\$

Save The Date!
Monday, February 23!
11 AM to 11 PM

Our fundraiser this month will be held at Chili's restaurant, in the Whittier Quad, on Monday, February 23rd. They have been kind enough to support us every year and open their doors to us the entire day. So invite your family members or friends to Chili's and know that proceeds from your dining dollars will go to our Myra Long Scholarship Fund.

Memories

The February 22 meeting of Memories will take place at the home of Barbara Gile at 1:30 PM. The topic for writing is "The Positive Aspects of Aging." It's always interesting to hear the varied approaches to our topics – humorous, serious, and/or personal. We write for ourselves, for our families and perhaps for posterity. All are welcome.

Barbara's home: 14035 Eastridge Dr.
Take Mar Vista to Vale, turn north one block to Barbara's corner house at Vale and Eastridge. Phone: 562-693-7279.

YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

Years of the Rooster include 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017, and 2029.

Bob Marley, Jennifer Aniston, Jennifer Lopez, Britney Spears are some famous roosters.

Lucky numbers are 5, 7, 8.

Lucky colors are gold, brown, yellow.

Unlucky numbers are 1, 3, 9.

Unlucky color is red.

People born in a year of the Rooster are very observant. Hardworking, resourceful, courageous, and talented, Roosters are very confident in themselves. Roosters are always active, amusing, and popular within a crowd. Roosters are talkative, outspoken, frank, open, honest, and loyal individuals. They like to be the center of attention and always appear attractive and beautiful.

CHILI'S IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
**Greater Whittier
Area AAUW**

Let Chili's do the cooking while we support Greater Whittier Area AAUW at the same time. With each flyer presented on Thursday 02/23/17 Chili's will donate 15% of the event day sales.

The Greater Whittier Area AAUW Give Back Event is:
February 23rd, 2017
from 11:00 am - 11:00 pm

only at:
Whittier
13580 Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90605
562-693-7300 - www.chilis.com

We look forward to seeing you at Chili's!



more GIVING BACK happens here

Mention or show the Give Back Event Flyer with each check to receive credit for the sale. Sale cannot be included in donation amount with flyer. Offer only valid on the date and location stated above. Donations will not be given on sales made prior to or past this date.

GWA – AAUW CALENDAR
FEBRUARY 2017

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	3	6:00 PM	First Friday , Fay Weber, La Habra Heights
Tuesday	7	7:00 PM	Board Meeting , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Wednesday	8	6:00 PM	PPP, Silver Palace , Whittier
Saturday	11	11:30 AM	Branch Meeting , Elks Club, Whittier
Thursday	16	10:00 AM	International Concerns , Sharon Heck, Whittier
Thursday	16	TBD	Show Girls
Tuesday	21	10:15 AM	Gardening , Kimberly Crest & Gardens, Redlands
Wednesday	22	1:30 PM	Memories , Barbara Gile, Whittier
Thursday	23	11 AM - 11:PM	Dining for \$\$\$\$, Chili's, 13589 Whittier Blvd. Whittier
Thursday	23	7:00 PM	Modern Trends , Cindy Birt, La Habra Heights
Tuesday	28	10:00 AM	R.I.P. Again , Gwen Woirhaye, Whittier

New Address for Sally Schmidt

Ray and Sally Schmidt
Mt. San Antonio Gardens
900 East Harrison Ave. Apt B 24/25
Pomona, CA 91767

HAPPY
VALENTINES
DAY!



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 of the month. **All submissions must be in WORD documents as attachments to emails. Please create the document within WORD itself rather than cutting and pasting into WORD. Please DO NOT use TABS. Please, do not type the articles within the email itself.**

Please send articles by email on or before the 15th of every month to patricia@fullerton.edu

Newsletter Editor – Patricia Cuocco,



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