



BRANCH MEETING: Saturday, December 9, 2017
11:30 AM DoubleTree Hotel
7320 Greenleaf, Whittier -- Boardrooms 1 and 2

The Whittier Christmas Parade will be taking place the day of our luncheon. Use the Bright Ave. garage entrance (corner of Bright and Mar Vista). If you come to a blockade, let the person know that you are going to the DoubleTree for a function and they will let you through to Bright. The garage door to the DoubleTree will be open and may have a security person there to prevent parade-goers from parking. Let the security person know that you are attending the AAUW function.

PROGRAM: Our December program will feature the Warren High School Jazz Choir with Director Robert Petersen. It will be a festive occasion with this award-winning choir performing a variety of holiday favorites for our entertainment. Join us for this Holiday gala -- *Tis the Season!*

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: Come early and shop at the fun and exciting holiday boutique! Remember this is our major fundraiser for Branch operations and your support is greatly appreciated. Doors open at 11 AM.

LUNCH CHOICES: All lunches include dessert, coffee, iced tea and water. There can be no substitutions, deletions or special orders. The cost of lunch is \$25. Checks are to be made payable to Greater Whittier Area AAUW. Please select one of the following as part of your RSVP.

- Pan Roasted Chicken - Boneless breast of chicken served with lemon white wine caper sauce, potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetables, salad and warm rolls.
- Pasta Primavera - pasta and vegetables in a red sauce with a salad and roll.

RESERVATION REQUIRED: Please **RSVP with your menu choice by email to DeDe Shatzen at aauwrsvp@gmail.com**. If you do not have email, call DeDe at 310-617-7768. Your reservation will be confirmed. Please try again if you don't receive a confirmation within 48 hours. **Reservations and menu choices are due by noon on Tuesday, December 6.**

STANDING RESERVATIONS: If you'd like to have a standing reservation, please send email to aauwrsvp@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am writing this on the Ides of November! Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and Christmas are right around the corner. For many, these holidays mean tradition, festivities, friends, family and food. This year, I am in a very reflective mood.

Part of my reflection is sparked by the speakers we heard at last Saturday's Branch meeting. Sharon Herzberger, president of Whittier College, and Teresa Dreyfuss, president of Rio Hondo College, discussed many issues, including equity and diversity on their campuses. What really struck me was that some students attending Rio Hondo are homeless—living out of their cars! The faculty and staff have developed programs to accommodate these needy students—providing them access to showers, hot meals during exams, areas to relax and study, and food storage centers. While I am saddened that these students don't have the resources to find affordable housing, I am encouraged that Rio Hondo is doing so much to help them.

Which brings me back to my introspection. I have so much to be thankful for. I am grateful that I can share the plenty that my family and I enjoy. I also am grateful to live among friends and colleagues who do so much and give so much to those in need. Over the years, I have learned that AAUW members belong to many philanthropic organizations. You do so much for so many. You stretch yourselves beyond reason. Thank you. Thank you for being who you are and doing what you do! Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Joyful Holidays to you all.

Kaye D. Kidwell, President

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Our big fundraiser for Greater Whittier Area Branch operations will be a modified boutique held at the DoubleTree Hotel on Greenleaf in Whittier on Saturday, December 9. The doors will open at 11 AM for you lucky shoppers. Again, we **are not** collecting white elephants. We will have a few things for sale, but they will be by invitation only.

Baskets will not be included in the silent auction this year. The only silent auction items we would like would include large items such as the use of a vacation house for a getaway weekend.

Our major activity will be the opportunity drawing. We need items of all types. Some suggestions include: gift cards, movie tickets, antique collectibles, wine, edibles, and small baskets containing a variety of items. Use your imagination, and if it is a collection of items, please give us a typed list of all contents. If you have a favorite restaurant where you eat often, ask them for a gift certificate for the boutique. I have a letter you can give them showing their gift is tax-deductible because we are a 501 (c)(3). Contact me if you need a letter.

Barbara Gile has agreed to collect the items at her home after Thanksgiving. Her address is 14035 Eastridge, Whittier. Call her at 562-693-7279 before taking things to her home. If it is more convenient, items can be brought to my home. My address is 6032 Comstock, Whittier. Call before you come to my home -- 562-698-0476. Remember, we will collect items after Thanksgiving.

This boutique will be a fun activity with a few surprises. If you would like to help with setting up everything on the day of the event, please phone me or send an email. Thank you for your donations to our one and only fundraiser for Branch operations.

Sharon Heck, Chair



PUBLIC POLICY

Because it is always helpful to be reminded of AAUW 's mission and purpose as it relates to its policy work, the following is AAUW's explanation of the organization's political work vs. partisanship individual preferences, particularly, during these very challenging times.

Our work has always been political but has never been partisan. Values influence our work, but what is the line between being political and being partisan? Political work can be characterized by shared values, working toward a common goal, and an end result that is best for the community as a whole. Put simply, being political is a way to influence legislation and regulation through government or public affairs, while partisan activities have a firm adherence to a party, faction, or person.

For example, AAUW believes **there is a gender pay gap** and that we should do something to address it. AAUW believes **sexual assault is a big problem on campuses** that undermines women's access to equal educational opportunities. These are political positions, but we work to solve them in a nonpartisan way. We'll work with any policy makers who share our goals — even if they differ with us on another facet of the AAUW Public Policy Priorities.

When members take advocacy actions **in the name of AAUW**, those actions must be political rather than partisan. Here are some things to keep in mind when determining if your actions are political or partisan:

DO

- Remain nonpartisan. Do not endorse candidates in partisan races.
- Work on issues guided by our values and mission, including taking positions on ballot initiatives that are in line with AAUW's Public Policy Priorities.
- Engage with candidates and elected officials from all major parties equally, making sure questions are phrased in a neutral manner.
- Encourage voter registration for everyone, regardless of his or her political persuasion.

DO NOT

- Expressly advocate for or endorse any particular partisan candidate.
- Encourage voter registration for a particular party.
- Share AAUW membership lists with campaigns or political parties.
- Fundraise for partisan candidates or coordinate any election activity with a campaign or political party.

Do's and Do Not's" relate only when actions are being taken in the name of AAUW and not your personal preferences or endorsements.

Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes



AAUW FUND

There are many aspects to the AAUW Fund. Below is an account of the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award. This information was taken from the AAUW.org website.

Established in 1989, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award honors an individual, project, organization, or institution for outstanding contributions to equality and education for women and girls. The award is given for a broad range of activities including classroom teaching, education and research, and legal and legislative work in equality for women and girls. While the award focuses on education, the recipient need not be an educator.

2017 Award Recipient

SurvJustice is a national nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., that increases the prospect of justice for all survivors through effective legal assistance. SurvJustice enforces victim rights and holds both perpetrators and enablers of sexual violence accountable in campus, criminal, and civil systems.

Founded in 2014 by Laura L. Dunn, it remains the only national organization that provides legal assistance to survivors in campus hearings across the United States. SurvJustice also provides policy advocacy and institutional training services to communities that seek to better prevent and address campus sexual violence. By working on these fronts, SurvJustice decreases the prevalence of campus sexual violence through the United States.

Dolores Seidman

MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS

The list of twenty speakers is complete, and it has been sent with an Excel spreadsheet to all twenty-six middle schools. The attendees will choose five of the twenty speakers that they would like to hear. The lists are due to me by Friday, December 8. Then I compile everything and assign the girls to three workshops. They will hear six of the twenty speakers and cannot enter a workshop without a ticket.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the event at Whittier College on Wednesday, January 31, please email Dolores Seidman. It will be another great project presented by our GWA-AAUW Branch, and helps to carry out the purpose of our organization. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education is very important to the lives and future occupations of the young women in our society. Consider helping us with this important activity.

Sharon Heck, Chair

MATH SCIENCE CONFERENCE- HELP WANTED!

The Math Science Conference for 8th Grade Girls at Whittier College will be on Wednesday, January 31 at 8:30 AM. The following positions are available:

- Greeters who will meet school buses
- Moderators who will introduce the speakers in the classrooms
- Registration Workers— who will distribute packets to teachers
- Packet Stuffers (on Wednesday, January 24 at 6 PM at the home of Barbara Gile)



If you wish to volunteer, and haven't already done so, please contact Dolores Seidman at deeseidman@gmail.com (preferred) or at 323-721-8230. Lunch will be provided. Each year a large group of AAUW member volunteers really enjoy this activity!

Dolores Seidman

RESULTS of the AAUW CA INCORPORATION VOTE

The statewide vote to return AAUW California to a public benefit corporation from its current status as a mutual benefit corporation **failed!** The results of the vote are:

Total AAUW California Membership: 11,907
Total votes cast: 3,160
Total “yes” votes: 3,134
Total “no” votes: 26

California corporate regulations require that all votes cast for a mutual benefit corporation to change its status to an entity such as a public benefit corporation must be unanimous. Since there were 26 “no” votes, the measure failed. One of the “no” votes was from a member of the GWA AAUW branch.

What is next? AAUW California’s legal counsel has advised that the state board can call for a re-vote. The second vote will be scheduled after the Thanksgiving holiday. If a second vote fails, AAUW California will petition the Commissioner of the Securities Division of the Corporations Division of the California Secretary of State to change AAUW CA’s status. If that appeal fails or is rejected, the only option is to dissolve the current corporation and re-form as a public benefit corporation.

As an affiliate of AAUW National, AAUW California must be aligned with AAUW as a public benefit corporation and **cannot remain** as a mutual benefit corporation. Fortunately, when our GWA AAUW branch incorporated in the State of California in 2011, we did so as a public benefit corporation.

How much has this cost? Since 2016, AAUW California has invested more than \$10,000 and more than 250 volunteer hours to resolve this issue. If the next vote fails, the appeal process also will be costly.

We on the GWA AAUW branch board encourage you to affirm AAUW CA’s corporate status by voting “yes” during the re-vote. If you have any questions, please call a member of the GWA AAUW board to discuss the issues or write to the AAUW CA Governance Committee at governance@aauw-ca.org.

Kaye D. Kidwell, President



TRIPLE P CHRISTMAS DINNER

All past, present and future AAUW presidents are cordially invited to our annual Christmas dinner. Wednesday, December 6, at 6 PM at the home of Gwen Woirhaye, 5810 Friends, Whittier. The cost will be \$20. Our individual gifts will be gift cards for Target, Ralph’s, Costco, Walmart, etc. donated to the Women’s and Children’s Crisis Shelter. **PLEASE RSVP** Barbara Gile by Friday, December 1 (562-693-727) and leave a message, barbaragile@me.com. Directions: 5810 Friends is the last house on the right side of Friends, north of Beverly Blvd. City parking requires a permit, which will be on a table by the mailbox.

Barbara Gile

SECTION INFORMATION



First Friday

Date: Friday, December 1
Time: 6 - 8 PM
Hosts: Gwen and Mahlon Woirhaye
Address: 5810 Friends, Whittier

North on Friends, from Beverly Blvd., one block west of Painter, on the east side of the street.

Parking permits will be clipped to the gate. There is a stair-free access from the driveway, via lighted path.

First Friday is a great time to gather, have fun and get to know one another.

Please bring an appetizer to share and your choice of beverage.

No RSVP necessary! Hope to see you there!

Gen'nel Walters
Barbara Gile, Co-Chairs

The New Phoenixes

The New Phoenixes will enjoy a Christmas *Festival of Lights* party at the home of Louise Holden on Saturday, December 16, 2 to 5 PM. "By caring for each other, each of us lives her life as a candle dispersing the darkness." The New Phoenixes will do just that as they join together, enjoy dessert and celebrate the holidays. Please bring a lovely candle to exchange. The hostesses would like an RSVP (yea or nay) as soon as possible: Louise at 562-947-6412 or Colleen Tan at 562-698-4934. Louise's address is 16356 Prudencia, Whittier.

Carole Restovich

Happy
Holidays

Memories

Memories is invited to a Christmas luncheon at the home of Carole Restovich, Wednesday, December 20, at 12 noon. Please bring a special Christmas memory (written or oral), a memorable ornament, or a poem or short story to read in the spirit of the season. Wearing red and/or green will add to a festive photo to be taken for the AAUW website. Come and celebrate the season!

Carole's address: 7008 Bryn Mawr Way, directly behind Whittier College, off Philadelphia. Parking permits will be placed at the foot of the stairs. Phone: 562-696-0296.

Carole Restovich

International Concerns

International Concerns will not meet for discussion in December. We will gather for lunch on our usual meeting date, Thursday, December 21. We will meet at 11:30 AM at Scotty's Restaurant, 15354 Whittier Blvd., Whittier. It is directly behind the Silver Palace Restaurant.

We will meet on January 18, 2018 at Louise Holden's home to discuss the final chapter of the 2017 *Great Decisions*, titled Nuclear Security. We meet at 10:00 AM, and Fay Weber will lead the discussion. The 2018 *Great Decisions* book will be available for purchase. The cost is \$24.00.

Sharon Heck

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 showgirl 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

Morning Book

Morning Book will not be meeting this month. We will convene again on Monday, January 22, to discuss *Orhan's Inheritance*, by Aline Ohanesian. Please check the January newsletter for complete information.

Happy Holidays to All!

Ann Topjon, Chair
562-695-6185

Mystery Mavens

Mystery Mavens does not meet in December. Our next meeting will be at Marie Callender's Restaurant on La Serna, 6:30 PM, on Wednesday, January 17. We will discuss *The Gauguin Connection: A Genevieve Lenard Novel*, and Jackie Brearley will be our reviewer.

Sharon Heck

Modern Trends in Literature

We do not meet in December. Get a head start on January by reading *Hillbilly Elegy*.

Remaining books for this year: *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*; *A Man Called Ove*; *Lincoln in the Bardo*; *Hidden Figures*; *The Bad Ass Librarians of Timbuktu*

Carol Shupeck, Chair
Gwen Woirhaye, Co-chair



GWA – AAUW CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2017



DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	1	6:00 PM	First Friday , Gwen and Mahlon Woirhaye, Whittier
Tuesday	5	7:00 PM	Board Meeting , St. Matthias Episcopal Church, Whittier
Wednesday	6	6:00 PM	Triple P , Gwen Woirhaye, Whittier
Saturday	9	11:00 AM	Branch Meeting , DoubleTree Hotel, Whittier
Saturday	16	2:00 PM	The New Phoenixes , Louise Holden
Wednesday	20	12 Noon	Memories , Carole Restovich, Whittier
Thursday	21	11:30 AM	International Concerns , Scotty's Restaurant, Whittier
Thursday	21	TBD	Show Girls



Please consult our style sheet and follow it when preparing your newsletter article. It will save me a great deal of time and work. If you do not have a style sheet, please let me know and I will send you one. Thank you for your cooperation and for sending in your articles by the 15th 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 christineheller@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor – Christine Heller



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