



## GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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



### BRANCH MEETING:

Saturday, April 14, 2018  
11:30 AM DoubleTree Hotel  
7320 Greenleaf, Whittier  
Boardroom, Ground Floor

Centerpieces provided by the  
Morning Book section

The speaker for the April 14, 2018 Branch meeting will be Sabina Vajraca --- Recipient of the 2016-2017 AAUW Career Development Grant. Sabina is pursuing her M.F.A. at the USC's School of Cinematic Arts. Sabina, a passionate advocate of women in film, will be speaking about what it means to be a woman in Hollywood -- the unconscious bias within the industry that has been holding women back for decades, as well as the harassment and sexism women have to endure.

**LUNCH CHOICES** include dessert, coffee, iced tea and water -- no substitutions, deletions or special orders. The cost of lunch is \$25. Please select one of the following as part of your RSVP:

- **Chicken Cobb Salad:** Grilled Chicken, Chopped Greens, Egg, Bacon, Tomatoes and Crumbled Bleu Cheese, Bleu Cheese & Balsamic Dressing on Tables, Warm Rolls
- **Turkey Focaccia Club:** Focaccia Roll, Smoked Turkey Breast, Bacon, Lettuce, Oven Dried Tomatoes and Basil Aioli with Homemade Kettle Potato Chips
- **Vegetable Club Sandwich:** Grilled Squash and Eggplant with Lettuce, Oven Dried Tomatoes and Basil Aioli on a Focaccia Roll with Homemade Kettle Potato Chips

\***Beverages Only: \$4/Person** - Unlimited coffee, iced tea & water from the beverage table

**RESERVATION REQUIRED:** Please RSVP with your menu choice by noon on Tuesday, April 10 to [aauwsvp@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsvp@gmail.com). If you do not have email, call Karen Walker at 562-943-0966. Please try again if you do not receive a confirmation within 72 hours.



# President's Message

April is not only the deadline to pay our federal and state income taxes, but it also turns out to be a big month for voting on AAUW issues.

GWA AAUW members will vote on two important issues at the April 14, 2018 annual meeting. First, we will vote on the 2018-19 slate of officers that was presented at the March Branch meeting. Second, we will vote on the Branch dues structure following AAUW's increase in national dues.

The AAUW Board of Directors is proposing the following amendments to the national bylaws:

1. Creating three-year staggered terms for national board members,
2. Opening up service on the national board to people who are not AAUW members and
3. Eliminating the degree requirement for AAUW membership

The calendar for acting on these national proposals is:

April 16, 2018	Opening date for requesting a paper ballot
Mid-April 2018	(1) Bylaw proposals and resolutions will be published in the spring <i>AAUW Outlook</i> (2) Voter PINs will be emailed to members and mailed with the <i>AAUW Outlook</i> to members without registered email addresses
April 25, 2018	Voting begins online
May 7, 2018	Deadline for AAUW to receive requests for paper ballots
May 21 2018	Deadline for mailing paper ballot; ballots must be postmarked by 8:30 PM PST to be counted
June 9, 2018	Online voting ends at 6:00 PM PST
June 10, 2018	Vote results will be announced

Kaye D. Kidwell



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

**SAVE THE DATE! - Tuesday, April 24**

**Silver Palace Restaurant 11:30 AM to 3 PM and 4:30 PM to 9:30 PM**

Silver Palace Restaurant has served the Whittier area for over 30 years with delicious, authentic Chinese food. Owner, Bob, has always been a friend of GWA AAUW. With Colleen Tan making the arrangements, he opens his restaurant to us during Chinese New Year and outdoes himself each year by creating a special dinner for us to enjoy.

His generosity and talent now include hosting our April DINING 4 \$\$\$\$ event. Bob will donate 20% of all proceeds from the food and non-alcoholic beverages we purchase. All donations go directly to the Myra Long Scholarship Fund. Be sure to note that there is a break between the restaurant's lunch and dinner hours. Take-out orders will also be honored when a flyer is presented. The menu is extensive with lunch specials and dinner combos available too. Support us and have a lovely meal!



## DUES INCREASE

**BACKGROUND:** AAUW has increased the national dues to \$59, effective March 16, 2018. This amounts to an increase of \$10 for all members who pay national dues (i.e., Life Members and Honorary Members do not pay national dues annually).

The GWA AAUW Board voted nine to six (9 to 6) to pass the increase on to the GWA AAUW membership without any other change in the dues structure, resulting in total dues of \$103 for regular members. The membership will be voting on this recommendation at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 14, 2018. A two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting is required to pass a motion affecting dues.

**ISSUE:** Should GWA AAUW dues be increased to \$103?

The following table shows the difference between the old dues categories and the proposed new categories for a regular member who pays the full dues.

Regular Member	National Dues	State Dues	Branch Dues staying with GWA AAUW	Branch dues going to AAUW Fund	Total Dues
Current	\$49 (1)	\$20 (2)	\$22 (3)	\$2 (3)	\$93
New	\$59 (1)	\$20 (2)	\$22 (3)	\$2 (3)	\$103

- (1) All but \$3 of national dues is tax-deductible
- (2) None of the state dues is tax-deductible
- (3) All is tax-deductible

## TECH TREK

During March, interviews were held at Katherine Edwards Middle School in the Whittier City School District and Los Nietos Middle School in Los Nietos School District. The committee will facilitate interviews for six campers funded by the El Monte City School District. Selected campers will be notified in April.

All branches sending girls to the Whittier camp are being asked to support the Rube Goldberg Machine Project by collecting items. This year the project **will focus on physics**. The campers will be building simple machines. Types of items to collect in varying sizes include wedges, spools, toy wheels, pieces of board such as tongue depressors, or larger for inclined planes. Springs, gears, switches, levers and other items you might find in a simple machine are welcome. Some other items which may be useful are dominos, rulers, balls of all different sizes, pvc piping, rubber bands, string and marbles. We will be collecting egg cartons, plastic containers and lids, paper toweling rolls, toilet paper rolls or wrapping paper rolls in a limited amount. (We overdid it last year in collecting these last items.)

Please separate items you save in separate bundles, individual bags, containers or rubber bands. This was very helpful last year.

**Drop off of items will be at the June luncheon. After that date call Kaye Kidwell or Pat Dudley to make other arrangements.**

Ann Chambers and Pat Dudley

# PUBLIC POLICY

## Gender and Technology

This month I bring attention to a new Harvard Kennedy School's (HKS) Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP). Full disclosure, the Kennedy School is my alma mater and so I am particular pleased that the school continues its innovative approach in addressing issues of today, affecting not only us nationally but others around the world.

Late last year WAPPP launched a program with a focus on Gender and Technology. More specifically, it is a research portfolio named "*What Works: Designing Gender Equality for and by the Tech Sector*". Made possible by funding from Melinda Gates, the portfolio "will fund projects that use insights from behavioral science and technology to gain a greater understanding of how to remove gender bias in the tech sector and beyond. The aims of the research are 1) to develop interventions that address challenges women face over the length of their careers, from recruitment to promotion to leadership, and 2) to harness technological tools to bring these interventions to scale across sectors. Using an intersectional approach that considers race and ethnicity as well as gender, projects will also gather data to better understand specific challenges for women of color, who often are doubly disadvantaged in the workplace." It is likely that other institutions of higher learning will follow HKS and more research is conducted to find solutions that narrow the gap, or better yet, eliminate gender and equity disparities.

We at GWA AAUW do our share to address and encourage equity through our scholarship and Tech Trek programs, opening the minds of young girls to the world of technology and the sciences, and by providing financial assistance to women facing economic challenges in pursuing a college education.

Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes

## MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

I think I speak for most of the women in our Branch, when I say that some of the most fulfilling times that we have are when we hear from the young ladies we send to Tech Trek, when we listen to our scholarship recipients tell us about their experiences and their future plans, and when we read the comments from our Math/Science Day attendees. It is amazing work that we do. Let me point out the obvious. This work does not come cheap. It is funded by the generosity of our members and by some anonymous angels and some grants.

Every spring we raise money for the Myra Long Scholarship Fund through our non-event fundraiser. We also do shifts at the Design House, collect "guilt" money from those who either can't or don't wish to stand for a shift, and we eat out all over Whittier and surrounding areas as we Dine for \$\$\$\$\$. These last three items help, but pale in comparison to the non-event fund-raiser. This year, I'm sad to report that we are behind our usual pace for donations. That is doubly unfortunate because we have an anonymous angel who is matching our funds raised from all of our activities up to \$20,000 for MLSF.

Please don't wait. I'm asking that you write a check now to the MLSF, mail it and then Relax. That's right! Just enjoy not having to get dressed, go out and deal with traffic. Play some calming music. Pour a nice glass of wine, soak in a hot bubble bath or read a good book with no guilt and no stress, knowing your generous donation was received, matched, and is doing wonderful work.

Send those envelopes in today, please. We are counting on you.

Patricia Cuocco  
Chair, MLSF Committee



# AAUW FUND

This month, as you have read in the program article, we are having as our speaker **Sabrina Vajraca**, a recipient of the 2016-17 Career Development Grant. This will give us an up close look at one of the programs sponsored by the AAUW Fund, which is supported by your donations. Below is more information about what this grant entails.

Career Development Grants provide funding to women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance or change careers or reenter the workforce. Primary consideration is given to women of color and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional fields.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents whose last degree was received before June 30, 2013. Funds are available for tuition, fees, books, supplies, local transportation, and dependent care.

Grants provide support for course work beyond a bachelor's degree, including a master's degree, second bachelor's degree, certification program, or specialized training in technical or professional fields. Course work must be taken at an accredited two or four-year college or university in the United States, or at a technical school that is fully licensed or accredited by the U.S. Department of Education. Funds are not available for doctorate-level work.

For the 2017–18 academic year, 250 women, and community projects serving women and girls, will receive \$3.7 million from AAUW.

This level of funding for women's education and projects has a tremendous impact on women and their communities by expanding women's potential and supporting their future promise.

By easing the pressure of financing their academic and community work, AAUW's awards help women tackle the growing burden of [student debt](#) and focus their efforts on the task at hand: developing the skills and confidence they need to excel in their fields.

Dolores Seidman  
Vice-President, AAUW Fund

## SECTION INFORMATION

### International Concerns

Our International Concerns section will meet on Thursday, April 19, at 10 AM. We will be meeting at the home of Louise Holden, 16356 Prudencia, Whittier. If you need directions to her home, please call Louise at 562-947-6412.

The topic to be discussed will be "China and America: the New Geopolitical Equation," Chapter 3 in the 2018 Great Decisions book, and Sharon Heck will lead the discussion. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

### Mystery Mavens

Mystery Mavens will not meet in April. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 16 at Marie Callendars (Whittier Blvd. at LaSerna). The book for the May meeting is *Generous Death* by Nancy Pickard. Janice Geiger will give the review.

Sharon Heck, Chair



## Morning Book

We will not meet this month. On Monday, June 4, the book for discussion will be *The Zookeeper's Wife*, by Diane Ackerman. Carol Shupek will guide our discussion that day. Judy Flanders will hostess, with Carole Duff as co-hostess. The May bulletin will have complete information. Please start thinking now about books you would like to read and discuss for next year, as I would like to begin compiling a list for voting on at our June 4 meeting.

Our last meeting this year will be on Monday, July 23, and the book is *The Girls of Atomic City*, by Denise Kieran.

Ann Topjon  
Chair 562-695-6185

## Show Girls

Show Girls has had a change in style. We are now incorporating the Dining for \$\$\$\$ eating experience. We have found the movies do not entice many of us, but the fun of getting together and sharing a meal is great, and we are supporting GWA AAUW at the same time.

When I find out the day Dining for \$\$\$\$ is, I check out the movies, and send a notice to all of the Show Girls on my list, about the movie choice and time, and the dining time. Some come to the movie and we eat together, afterwards. Some meet us after the movie to join in the dining. Whichever way you come, is GREAT!

If you would like to be on the Show Girl list, please let me know. I will be happy to add you.

Gen'nel Walters, 562-943-5333



## Memories

Memories will meet at the home of Carol J. Anderson on Wednesday, April 25 at 1:30 PM. The topic is "What My Parents Taught Me about Money." You may always choose another topic if money doesn't quite pique your interest. We share our writing aloud and always receive positive feedback. If you enjoy writing, this is the place for you. All are welcome.

**Directions to Carol's home:** from Whittier Blvd., turn north on Macy. Take Macy to Janine, turn right on Janine, left on Corella to stop sign, turn right at the stop sign (Solejar) to the third house on right - **9759 Solejar**. Carol's phone: 562- 691-1542

Carole Restovich, Chair

## First Friday in April

**WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!!**

Date: Friday, April 6

Time: 6 - 8 PM

Hosts: Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes and Glenn Hayes

Address: 8722 Seranata, Whittier

Nearest cross streets are Colima and Mar Vista. From Colima, head east on Mar Vista, turn right on Cerquita, turn right on Seranata.

First Friday is a great time to gather, have fun and get to know each other.

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

No RSVP necessary!  
See you there!



## Modern Trends in Literature

Modern Trends meets Thursday, April 26, 7 PM, at the home of Gen'nel Walters. Georgine Sweeney will lead the discussion on *Bad Ass Librarians of Timbuktu* by Joshua Hammer.

To save ancient Arabic texts from Al Qaeda, a band of librarians pulls off a brazen heist worthy of *Ocean's Eleven* in this "fast-paced narrative that is...part intellectual history, part geopolitical tract, and part out-and-out thriller" (The Washington Post).

In the 1980s, a young adventurer and collector for a government library, Abdel Kader Haidara, journeyed across the Sahara Desert and along the Niger River, tracking down and salvaging tens of thousands of ancient Islamic and secular manuscripts that were crumbling in the trunks of desert shepherds. His goal: to preserve this crucial part of the world's patrimony in a gorgeous library. But then Al Qaeda showed up at the door.

"Part history, part scholarly adventure story, and part journalist survey....Joshua Hammer writes with verve and expertise" (*The New York Times Book Review*) about how Haidara, a mild-mannered archivist from the legendary city of Timbuktu, became one of the world's greatest smugglers by saving the texts from sure destruction. With bravery and patience, Haidara organized a dangerous operation to sneak all 350,000 volumes out of the city to the safety of southern Mali. His heroic heist "has all the elements of a classic adventure novel" (*The Seattle Times*), and is a reminder that ordinary citizens often do the most to protect the beauty of their culture. This story is one of a man who, through extreme circumstances, discovered his higher calling and was changed forever by it.

We need to select a chair and co-chair for next year and be thinking about books to recommend for 2018-2019.

Remaining books for this year: *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*; *Lincoln in the Bardo*

Directions to Gen'nel's: From Whittier, south on La Mirada Blvd. to Foster Road; left one block to Dalmatian; right to 13542.

Carol Shupek, Chair  
562-641-8888

Gwen Woirhaye, Co-chair  
gwen@woirhaye.com



# GWA – AAUW CALENDAR

## APRIL 2018



DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday	3	7:00 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
Friday	6	6:00 - 8:00 PM	<b>First Friday</b> , Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes
Saturday	14	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , Doubletree Hotel
Thursday	19	10:00 AM	<b>International Concerns</b> , Louise Holden
Tuesday	24	11:30 AM - 3 PM & 4:30 PM - 9:30 PM	<b>Dining for \$\$\$\$\$</b> , The Silver Palace
Tuesday	24	TBD	<b>Show Girls</b> , Village Theaters, Uptown Whittier
Wednesday	25	1:30 PM	<b>Memories</b> , Carol J. Anderson
Thursday	26	7:00 PM	<b>Modern Trends</b> , Gen'nel Walters

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> of every month to [christineheller@earthlink.net](mailto:christineheller@earthlink.net)

Newsletter Editor – Christine Heller





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