



## GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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



The cost of lunch is \$25.00. Please select one of the following as part of your RSVP. All lunches include entrée, dessert, coffee, iced tea and water. There can be no substitutions, deletions or special orders. The February options are:

- Apple walnut salad served with tomato/basil soup
- Half turkey, bacon, avocado sandwich served with tomato/basil soup
- Half turkey, bacon, avocado sandwich served with apple walnut salad
- **Drinks Only:** \$4/person from the beverage table: coffee, iced tea and water

**RESERVATION REQUIRED:** Please **RSVP with your menu choice by email to Barbara Gile at [aauwrsvp@gmail.com](mailto:aauwrsvp@gmail.com)**. If you do not have email, call Barbara at 562-693-7279. 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, February 5, 2019.**

**STANDING RESERVATIONS:** With the addition of the SOUP choice, *you may change your choice by Tuesday noon February 5.*

**Branch Meeting**  
**Saturday, February 9, 2019**  
**11:30 AM – DoubleTree Hotel**  
**7320 Greenleaf, Whittier**

### **Program - Women Graduates-USA**

The February program will feature our own Fay Weber, President of Women Graduates-USA, a member organization of Graduate Women International, who will celebrate their 100th Anniversary in Geneva, Switzerland in 2019.

WG-USA is the USA affiliate of Graduate Women International (GWI), the leading girls' and women's global organization run by and for women, advocating for women's rights, equality and empowerment through access to quality education and training.

Fay will share WG-USA's work with refugees nationally and abroad through their member presentations and participation in the written documents presented at the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Come to hear about this important work!



# President's Message

**Mission: To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy**

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and many opportunities to be out and about with family and friends.

Much has happened since our December meeting. We had a wonderful turnout for the Holiday Boutique and raised over \$3,000.00 for the Branch. Thanks to all for a successful event. In addition, the Really Great Stuff event raised over \$400.00. Thanks to everyone.

Our Math/Science Conference is being held on January 30, 2019. We are hosting 369 eighth-grade girls from 26 middle schools. The girls will attend an exciting morning of workshops from women in the STEM fields. Sharon Heck, Dolores Seidman and Branch volunteers always work hard to make this an outstanding event for the girls. We thank you for your dedication and hard work.

Applications and essays are due the week of January 14 -18 for the National Conference for College Women (NCCWSL) to be held May 29 - June 1 at University of Maryland College Park. We will be interviewing the girls the week of February 4 – 8 at Whittier College to make our selection. Last year's NCCWSL participant, Piper Lowinger, will be our speaker at our March 9 meeting.

The board had a special meeting on January 8 and voted to take a hiatus from Tech Trek for the year 2019. It was a difficult decision. We want the Branch to know that we are committed to Tech Trek and will work with State and National to resolve our concerns to continue our participation in Tech Trek. If you have any questions, please call me at 626-429-0404.

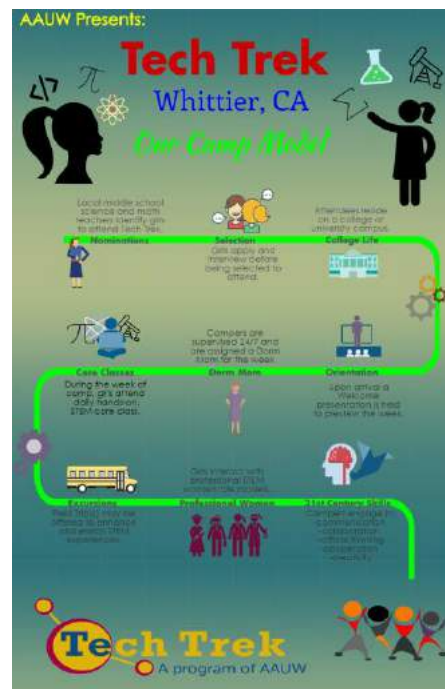
All the best,

Rozanne Child  
President, Greater Whittier Area AAUW

## Tech Trek

The GWA-AAUW has, with great reluctance, decided not to participate in Tech Trek this summer (2019). You can read all of our reasons in the letter on page 3 of the newsletter that Branch President, Rozanne Child, sent to State officials and AAUW National Executive Director, Kim Churches.

Pat Dudley  
Ann Chambers



January 10, 2019

Jane Niemeier Co President AAUW CA, Cathy Foxhoven Co President AAUW CA, Linda Steinbaugh State Director Tech Trek AAUW CA

Dear Ladies,

The Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women Board of Directors has reluctantly voted to take a hiatus from Tech Trek and will not be sending campers to 2019 camp. We have made this decision after intense and deliberate study and analysis of all the documents sent to us, not a few of which have been contradictory.

The requirements for participation have been sent piece-meal over several months with often impossible due dates. The policies have been mandated with little or no apparent input from those of us who actually deal with the campers and their parents. Our requests for clarification have gone unanswered.

In effect, State and National have put branches and Tech Trek directors (and other branch members who interface with campers) in the untenable position of signing agreement to documentation that is vague and confusing. Once an AAUW member signs a document agreeing to abide by a set of policies, she becomes *accountable and responsible* for the implementation of those policies and *liable* should said policies result in perceived harm to a camper and her family. You can have parents sign all of the “hold harmless” clauses you like. They can easily be – and often are – thrown out in litigation, leaving our members liable.

As a branch, we are committed to working with State and National to sort through these issues. We believe Tech Trek is one of the most valuable programs that AAUW offers and want to continue our participation. While the discussion and resolution will likely require the better part of the year, you should know that major issues at present are:

- Clarity: A single, unified statement as to what each branch member with a role in Tech Trek must agree.
- Common Sense: An understanding that what may be required of the Camp Staff and/or Branch Tech Trek Coordinators may be a ridiculous burden for someone who helps interview potential campers.
- Timeliness: A commitment from State and National to send documents and forms in enough time to obtain branch review and approval, and a commitment to resolve issues and contradictions as soon as possible.
- Liability: AAUW needs to commit that in the absence of gross misconduct on the part of a member, she will be defended and protected by AAUW from any personal liability.
- Transparency: The Diversity and Inclusion policy states that parents do not need to be told if a camper is moved to another room at the camper’s request because she discovered she had a transgender roommate. The policy states that the transgender’s identity must be kept private. The roommate cannot tell other campers, or it could result in them being asked to leave camp. We would hope that if the camper wishes to talk to their parents this could happen with the understanding the transgender child’s identity remain private.
- Under no circumstances should a 12 or 13-year old child be told by responsible adults that she should withhold ANY information from her parents. She certainly should not be penalized for telling her parents whatever it is she wishes to share with them. It seems to us that we should be able to protect the privacy of a transgender child without putting the onus on another child to disrupt the bond between herself and her parents.

As we said, we are committed to articulating all of our concerns and to working with State and National over the coming year to address them so that we can continue participation in a much beloved program.

Sincerely,

Rozanne Child  
President Greater Whittier Area AAUW

# AAUW FUND

It's February already! This is the month of *Happy Heart Day* and *President's Day* celebrations. May you enjoy this second month of the New Year!

First of all, I want to thank everyone who made contributions to the AAUW FUND in 2018. The work of AAUW is a vital one for women and girls in our society - from encouraging young girls to explore the many varied fields of science to assisting women to negotiate for better salaries. There are numerous AAUW programs that assist women and girls in their efforts to secure a better position in their careers and in their lives. *Bravo* to all of you who have contributed to AAUW this past year!

Part of the service AAUW provides is found in the work of the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), which advocates for the rights of women. One case of interest before the Supreme Court is *Lamps Plus, Inc. v. Varela*. This case involves whether a generally worded arbitration agreement can compel employees to waive the right to bring a class action arbitration. This case was argued in the Supreme Court last October. No word as yet on the Court's ruling.

Another interesting case *Andersen v. Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri* concerned whether a state should be able to bar an eligible health-care provider, which also provides a full range of reproductive health-care services, from Medicaid and whether or not those termination decisions can be challenged. The Supreme Court declined to hear this case; therefore the lower court's decision was left in place. That decision decided that Medicaid recipients could challenge the states' action.

We AAUW members **DO** count through our actions and our funding to support the rights of women and girls in these and many other instances. Once again, *Bravo, Ladies!*

Pauline Rogers  
AAUW Fund V.P.

## DINING 4 \$\$\$\$\$ - RUBY'S DINER SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23 – 7 AM TO 10 PM

If it's February, it's time to enjoy a sweet experience at Ruby's Diner, located in the Whittwood Town Center. Last year was our first visit to Ruby's as a DINING 4 \$\$\$\$\$ event, and it was enjoyed by all. Aesthetically designed after American diners of the Swing Era, Ruby's serves a wonderful breakfast as well as lots of good options for lunch and dinner. Burgers, salads, sandwiches and soups are available to savor. Invite the family for a post Valentine's Day treat knowing there will be an abundance of choices for yummy shakes, banana splits, floats and sundaes. Have fun there while supporting the Myra Long Scholarship Fund. Don't forget to bring your flyer!

**Fun Fact** -Ruby's was named after the mother of its founder, Doug Cavanaugh. Its logo was inspired by a photo of his mother cheer-leading at Fremont High School in Los Angeles. Today, every Ruby's Diner has his mother's high school graduation picture displayed.

Carole Duff



## PUBLIC POLICY

Anyone who knows me knows I am a thorough and complete nerd who loves numbers and percentages. OK, so it's not exactly Valentine's Day romance, but whatever.

I'm writing this on January 4, 2019, and yesterday the numbers made me VERY happy. In fact, I think a rousing "Hooray for Us" is necessary, since we belong to an organization that values and supports diversity. And yesterday, the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress was sworn in with more women and minorities than ever in our history.

In 1956, there were 17 women in the House of Representatives and one woman - Margaret Chase Smith ((R. ME), in the Senate. Yesterday 37 of the 111- incoming freshman in the House were women. CNBC reports: *A record 127 women will serve in Congress, with 106 Democrats and 21 Republicans — roughly 24 percent of all the seats, according to the Center for Women and Politics at Rutgers University. Twenty-five women will serve in the Senate, with 17 Democrats and eight Republicans.* Racial, ethnic and religious diversity also improved.

Why does it matter? There is an old saying that when women are at the table, the conversation changes. Issues that matter to women – family-friendly policies, child-care, pay equity, educational opportunities, domestic violence prevention, sexual assault, etc. all have a better chance of being on the agenda. Already, there is a new day-care center in the House for the children of employees and new rules are being promulgated to address sexual misconduct.

To me, however, the benefit is more intangible. It's about what a young girl sees when she looks at the NEWS on TV or the web. What difference does it make to the plans and dreams of a young Muslim girl to see Rashida Tlaib or Ilhan Omar in their hijabs on the floor of the House? Deb Haaland and Sharice Davids may be the first Native-American women to serve as legislators, but I'm willing to bet that the example they set will ensure that they won't be last. It's much harder to dream something you never see. It's wonderful to see the legislative branch of our government reflecting our beautiful national diversity.

Patricia Cuocco  
Public Policy Chair



## MEMBERSHIP

Many thanks to all who attended the Meet and Greet at the Assistance League on January 11. A special thanks to members who contributed to our sweet and savory potluck. Major contributors to the success of the evening were DeDe Shatzen and Ann Chambers. Their attention to detail and willingness to help was truly appreciated. Kudos to our president, Rozanne, for hosting our event and Susan Halliday for a very informative narrative on Greater Whittier Area AAUW.

Our three guests, Collette Casey, Margaret Avila and Valenda Holmer were warmly welcomed and graciously participated in our fun and informative mixer. Please continue to give us names of prospective members and remember to always keep a membership form in your purse just in case you meet someone interested in AAUW. In 2019 we will honor members who have celebrated membership milestones in AAUW.

Members – keep up your fantastic recruiting efforts!

Membership Co-Chairs  
Connie Bucey  
Lovey Sherman



# Call to Action!

## Collection Sites, Items and Gift Cards Needed for Hygiene Kit Drive

As part of the Whittier College Helping Hands Day, a day of service for Whittier College in the Whittier community, the college's Center for Engagement with Communities will be hosting a drive to collect hygiene items to be given to students suffering from homelessness in our community. Items will be collected through the month of February and kits will be assembled on March 2, Helping Hands Day.

The goal is to make 3,000 hygiene kits, which is actually one for every homeless student in the city of Whittier. The kits will be distributed to the local school districts based on the number of homeless students.

How can you help? If you would like to have a collection box at work site, or donate gift cards and/or items for the kits, please contact Gina DiPierro [\\_gdpierr@whittier.edu](mailto:_gdpierr@whittier.edu) or text message 609-433-0130.

*Reprinted from the Whittier Consortium on Homelessness newsletter.*

## SECTION INFORMATION

### First Friday Social Event

Let's kick off the New Year by going to First Friday on February 1. It will be held at the home of Iris and Dave Harris, 9635 El Venado, Whittier. Join old and new friends from 6 PM to 8 PM for a few hours of interesting conversation and yummy food. Bring your beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. Directions from Whittier Blvd: North on La Serna to El Venado; right on El Venado to the address.

Jan Berry

### Mystery Mavens

Mystery Mavens does not meet in February. Our next meeting will be on March 20 at Marie Callender's near Whittwood, 6:30 PM. The book will be *Family Skeletons: A Torie O'Shea Mystery* by Rett McPherson. Sharon Heck will lead the discussion. If you have any questions, please call or email Sharon Heck - 562-698-0476.

[heck37@verizon.net](mailto:heck37@verizon.net)

Sharon Heck

### Morning Book

We will not meet this month. Please note the following dates and books for the rest of the year:

March 25: *Britt Marie Was Here* (Fredrik Backman)

June 3: *A Wrinkle in Time* (Madeleine L'Engle)

July 22: *The Thirteenth Tale* (Diane Sutterfield)  
See you in March!

Ann Topjon, 562-695-6185

### International Concerns

Our next International Concerns meeting will be on Thursday, February 21 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. 562-947-6412

In February we will begin discussing the 2019 Great Decisions book. Chapter 1 on Refugees and Global Migration will be the topic. We will also see a video preview of the topic for March: The Middle East – Regional Disorder. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

Sharon Heck

## Memories

The Wednesday, February 27 meeting of Memories will take place at the home of Carol Anderson at 1:30 PM. The topic is *Funny/Odd Teachers*. Your writing may be about a teacher you once had, or perhaps one you worked with, or one that your children had. As usual, you may choose to write on a topic of your own. All of you who enjoy the act of writing are invited to come and share your contribution with a group of like-minded and supportive women.

Directions to Carol's home: Take Janine east to Corella, which is one block past Macy; turn left on Corella, turn right on Solejar. Carol's home is third from the corner on the right - 9759 Solejar. Phone: 562-691-1542.

Carole Restovich

## February Quiz

1. What February celebration is observed in both the US and Canada on February 2 each year?
2. When did the tradition of observing Black History Month in the US begin?
3. In 1288, a law was passed that let women propose marriage to men on the 29th of February. Which was the country to do it?
4. People born on the 29th of February (Leap Days) are called \_\_\_\_?
5. A building in New York shows a lit red heart on each St. Valentine's Day. Which building is it?
6. Which song contains the verse "but February made me shiver"?

Answers on page 10



## Positive Past Presidents - PPP

### Lunar New Year

The Positive Past Presidents of Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women invite you to join us in celebrating the

### Year of the Pig

Thursday, February 7, 2019  
6 PM – Cost \$23

Silver Palace Restaurant  
15326 Whittier Blvd. Whittier  
Please RSVP to:  
Barbara Gile - 562-693-7279  
[barbaragile@me.com](mailto:barbaragile@me.com)

## Modern Trends in Literature

Modern Trends will meet Thursday, February 28 at the home of Carol Shupek. The co-hostess will be Gen'nel Walters, and Ann Chambers will be the reviewer. The book is *Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder*, by Caroline Fraser.

Carol Shupek's address is 6204 Southwind, Whittier. Her phone number is 562-273-5656.

Georgine Sweeney

## Gardening

An informative and interesting program on GMOs is being planned for the February gardening event. When the final date and location are determined, an email with more details will be sent to members. Everyone is welcome!

Dolores Gonzales-Hayes

**RUBY'S**



**RUBY'S DINER**

10109 Whittwood Lane  
*(in the Whittwood Mall)*  
(562) 947-RUBY (7829)

Come dine at Ruby's and 20% of all food and non-alcoholic beverage sales

Goes to

**Greater Whittier Area - AAUW**

**Sat., February 23, 2019**

**7:00 am to 10:00 pm**

**COME JOIN THE FUN!!!!**

(Don't forget to bring this flyer with you!)

Remember: Flyers must be passed out prior to your fundraiser and may not be passed out at the restaurant during the event.

*Real Food. Real Good. Real Friendly.*

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Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women

**MEMBERSHIP for 2018 – 2019**

\*Title: Mrs.\_\_\_\_ Ms.\_\_\_\_ Miss\_\_\_\_ None\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_ \*If all YOUR information is the same as in the yearbook, just print your name & “**INFORMATION SAME AS LAST YEAR**” across the application.

\*Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*First Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ \*City \_\_\_\_\_

\*Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ \*Cellphone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

AAUW Membership Type (please check one) Annual Dues: **Make checks payable to: Greater Whittier Area AAUW**

\_\_\_\_\_ General **\$103** \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$47

\_\_\_\_\_ Life Member \$44 \_\_\_\_\_ Dual \$24

Do you have a sponsor? If so, who is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

**A separate check is required for the following:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I want the yearbook mailed to me & will write a separate check to GWA-AAUW for \$2.

\_\_\_\_\_ I also want the AAUW binder that costs \$5 plus \$1.50 postage & will write a separate check for \$6.50.

\*Required of all members. **New members must complete all information.**

**Reminder:** \$80 of your dues is tax deductible.

**Please complete and mail your membership application and dues to:**

**AAUW, Whittier Branch Membership, P.O. Box 5333, Whittier, CA 90607-5333,**  
**at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org)**

**or register online**

# GWA AAUW CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2019



DATE	TIME	EVENT
1	6 - 8 PM	<b>First Friday</b> , Iris and Dave Harris
5	7:00 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b> , St. Matthias Episcopal Church
7	6:00 PM	<b>PPP</b> , Lunar New Year, Silver Palace, Whittier
9	11:30 AM	<b>Branch Meeting</b> , DoubleTree Hotel, Whittier
21	10:00 AM	<b>International Concerns</b> , Louise Holden
23	TBD	<b>Showgirls</b> , Ruby's Diner, Whittwood
23	7 AM - 10 PM	<b>Dining 4 \$\$\$\$\$</b> , Ruby's Diner, Whittwood
27	1:30 PM	<b>Memories</b> , Carol Anderson
28	7:00 PM	<b>Modern Trends in Literature</b> , Carol Shupek

### *Answers to February Quiz*

1) Groundhog Day 2) The event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans, in 1926. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. 3) Scotland 4) A person born on February 29 may be called a "leapling", a "leaper", or a "leap-year baby". In non-leap years, some leaplings celebrate their birthday on either February 28 or March 1, while others only observe birthdays on the authentic date, February 29. 5) Empire State Building 6) *American Pie* by Don McLean

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



Greater Whittier Area AAUW Branch  
P.O. Box 5333  
Whittier, CA 90607-5333  
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