



GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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

**APRIL
2020**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Branch:

It was with regret that we had to cancel our March 14, 2020 Branch meeting featuring Carol Kravitz on the topic of Caring for the Earth and Environmental Stewardship. I'm sure it would have been an outstanding and informative meeting. Dolores Seidman has been in touch with Carol Kravitz and I'm sure we plan to hear her next year. Moving forward we are following National and State Guidelines to protect our members and therefore our April 14, 2020 meeting is cancelled. **I called all AAUW Section Chairs and it was decided to cancel section meetings until further notice.** We will keep you posted, please check your e-mail for information. Those who do not have e-mail will be contacted by phone or US mail. We all need to listen to Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of Allergy and Infectious Diseases when he says, "Americans should be prepared that they're going to hunker down significantly more than we are as a country to fight the growing COVID19 outbreak."

On a positive note your Tech Trek Selection Committee finished interviewing 11 girls and will choose 7 to attend Tech Trek camp at Whittier College from June 21-27. Hopefully Tech Trek will not be cancelled. We all have to take it one day at a time. Due to the cancellation of our April meeting we will vote by e-mail. Those persons who do not have e-mail will receive a ballot in the mail. Please be sure to read the message from the nominating committee from Sharon Heck in the Newsletter.

In closing, I'm sending all of you love, laughter, health, fortitude and friendship! I look forward to seeing you as soon as possible. I saw this catchy slogan on Google. Do the Five -Stop the Coronavirus: 1.Hands-Wash them often. 2. Elbow - Cough into it. 3. Face – Don't touch it. 4.Feet – Stay more than 3 feet apart. 5. Feel Sick – Stay home. Together we can do this!



Fondly,

Rozanne Child

A MESSAGE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

I was going to give this little speech at our March Branch Meeting, but it was necessary to cancel the meeting due to the health crisis. The Nominating Committee has been working for awhile and I want to tell you about our progress.

Many thanks go out to everyone who has said yes to taking on a new job or said yes to continuing in their present job. Unfortunately, we do not have anyone committed to the office of President Elect. Let me describe what is entailed in this job. A new member could say yes to this job if you have ever held a leadership or board position in any group.

It is a two-year commitment. During the first year you attend the first Tuesday at 7:00 PM Board Meetings and you learn about the organization and the work we do. Many people are involved to help you learn the job. You would be like a Vice President and you might need to fill in for the President and chair a meeting. I will be President next year and I rarely miss any meeting, so that should not be a big worry.

The following year you would be President. We have a very large elected Board of 18 people, and everyone does their job. I describe the Presidency as being the captain of a ship where all the crew keep the ship afloat and running smoothly. In addition to our elected Board we have a large number of members in appointed positions. Our Branch is truly a great group of people, and I am very proud to tell others I am a member of the Greater Whittier Area AAUW Branch.

The year beyond your presidency you may attend the Board Meetings as Past-President, but you do not have any specific responsibilities. Your Presidency has ended.

We will be reaching out to some of you, so please give it careful thought. This is my third time as President of GWA AAUW and I am looking forward to this coming year. Please join us as President-Elect if you are asked. A volunteer would also be wonderful.

Sharon Heck, President-Elect

APRIL MISCELLANY

April is National Volunteer Month, National Autism Awareness Month and National Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is also National Distracted Driving Awareness Month – pay attention!

“April hath put a spirit of youth in everything. (Sonnet XCVIII)”

- William Shakespeare



HAPPY CENTENNIAL YEAR, 19TH AMENDMENT

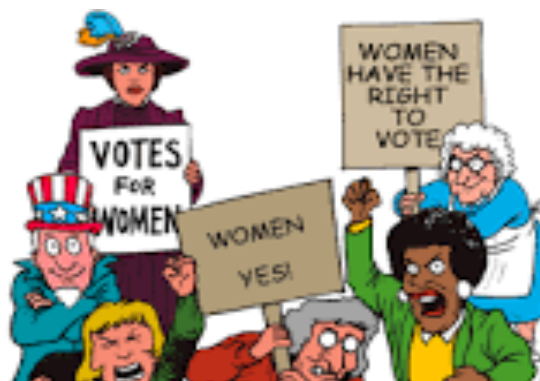
DID YOU KNOW? (FROM WIKIPEDIA)

The **Nineteenth Amendment (Amendment XIX)** to the [United States Constitution](#) prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the [right to vote](#) to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex. Initially introduced to [Congress](#) in 1878, several attempts to pass a women's suffrage amendment failed until passing the [House of Representatives](#) on May 21, 1919, followed by the [Senate](#) on June 4, 1919. It was then submitted to the states for ratification. On August 18, 1920, [Tennessee](#) was the last of the necessary 36 states to secure ratification. The Nineteenth Amendment was officially [adopted](#) on August 26, 1920: the culmination of a decades-long movement for [women's suffrage](#) at both state and national levels.

Prior to 1776, women had the right to vote in several of the [colonies](#) in what would become the United States, but by 1807 every state constitution denied even limited suffrage. Organizations supporting [women's rights](#) became more active in the mid-nineteenth century and, in 1848, the [Seneca Falls convention](#) adopted the [Declaration of Sentiments](#), which called for equality between the sexes and included a resolution urging women to secure the vote. Pro-suffrage organizations used a variety of tactics including legal arguments that relied on existing amendments. After those arguments were struck down by the [U.S. Supreme Court](#), suffrage organizations, with activists like [Susan B. Anthony](#) and [Elizabeth Cady Stanton](#), called for a new constitutional amendment that would guarantee women the right to vote.

By the late nineteenth century, new states and territories, particularly in the [West](#), began to grant women the right to vote. In 1878, a suffrage proposal that would eventually become the Nineteenth Amendment was introduced to Congress, but it was rejected in 1887. In the 1890s, suffrage organizations focused on a national amendment while still working at the state and local levels. [Lucy Burns](#) and Paul emerged as important leaders whose different strategies helped move the Nineteenth Amendment forward. Entry of the United States into [World War I](#) helped to shift public perception of women's suffrage. The [National American Woman Suffrage Association](#), led by [Carrie Chapman Catt](#), supported the war effort, making the case that women should be rewarded with enfranchisement for their patriotic wartime service. The [National Woman's Party](#) staged marches, demonstrations, and hunger strikes while pointing out the contradictions of fighting abroad for democracy while limiting it at home by denying women the right to vote. The work of both organizations swayed public opinion, prompting President Wilson to announce his support of the suffrage amendment in 1918. It passed in 1919 and was adopted in 1920, withstanding two legal challenges, [Leser v. Garnett](#) and [Fairchild v. Hughes](#).

The Nineteenth Amendment enfranchised 26 million American women in time for the [1920 U.S. presidential election](#), but the powerful women's voting bloc that many politicians feared failed to fully materialize until decades later. As well, the Nineteenth Amendment failed to fully enfranchise African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American women. Shortly after the amendment's adoption, Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party began work on the [Equal Rights Amendment](#), which they believed a necessary additional step to ensure equality.



PUBLIC POLICY

Sanity in the Time of Coronavirus (with apologies to Gabriel Garcia Márquez)

It was not remotely difficult to come up with a topic this month – unfortunately. There are many aspects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis that have public policy implications:

- What happens to infection rates when there are too many people who cannot afford to stay home when ill? Should there be mandatory sick-leave policies?
- What about adequate nutrition for poor children when school is unexpectedly closed?
- What happens to low-wage, service-sector employees (majority women) when businesses are forced to close?
- What part does the increasing isolation of the elderly play in our society and what are the implications for a crisis such as Corona?
- What are the responsibilities of leaders to provide accurate and useful information without inflaming panic?
- What about lack of preparation and playing politics with health policy?
- What are the implications of a largely uncontrolled homeless population living among us in crowded quarters with no access to basic hygiene?

Lots to consider while we are all house bound. We have all seen the results of panic – empty store shelves, long lines and hoarding of basics. If we pay attention to history, we see the implications of not telling the truth, quickly! Did you know the Spanish Influenza got its name not because it started in Spain (it didn't) but because Spain, a neutral country in WWI, decided to provide as much information to its population, as soon as possible and, therefore had far less devastation. Cities in the U.S, such as Philadelphia, that chose to hide facts had terrible breakouts and far more fatalities.

However, right now, I want to write about one thing – Staying Sane when everything around you appears to be collapsing. It isn't – really. Lessons from Wuhan in China show that power grids continue to operate; food and goods delivery systems seem to work, and we can really flatten the curve of infection by social distancing and basic hygiene. The economics of that is going to be ugly, but we can get through this.

One of the most important things is what NOT to do – and that is spread false or harmful information. I say this humbly, being guilty myself of passing along something I thought was valid about holding your breath every morning for 10 seconds to see if you could do it and know you weren't sick. It's nonsense. It wasn't from Stanford as it claimed. Please, we all want to help, and we all have a natural inclination to share what we think is good information. Before you hit the SEND on your email, or the SHARE on Facebook, CHECK IT OUT YOURSELF. Don't leave it to the good intentions of the person who sent it to you. That person is also trying to help, may have trusted the wrong source and that is how bad information and advice goes viral.

Who to trust? The Center for Disease Control for starters. They have useful information on their website <https://www.cdc.gov>. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the Director of the National Institute for Allergies and Infectious Diseases within the National Institute of Health (see his bio here <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/about/director>) is the foremost national authority on infectious diseases in the country. Personally, if he says it, I believe it.

Patricia Cuocco, Public Policy Chair

AAUW FUND

'Tis April already! Time for Easter bunnies, Easter baskets and Easter egg hunts (April 12). Don't you just love to dye Easter eggs with the children. My Grandma always put a bit of apple cider vinegar in with the eggs and water when the eggs were to be boiled. She said the vinegar kept the eggs from cracking. And those eggs rarely had any cracks. That idea seemed to work for her.

Passover also occurs in April (8th). Along with it goes the Jewish traditions of the Passover supper and all the special traditions of the Holiday. So Happy Easter, a Blessed Passover and Happy Spring to All!

Earth Day is on the 22nd of April, a time to renew the garden and clean up Mother Earth. The spring renewal with the promise of warmer months ahead reminds us of the renewal of our commitment to AAUW by renewing our membership and perhaps volunteering for some duties in our Branch. For any organization to exist as long as ours has (since 1881) it takes the commitment of its members. Our AAUW history has demonstrated our "stepping up to the plate" however, we have to do that on a continual basis. And in addition, we need to also empower each other, celebrate cultural diversity and support the Pay Equity movement.

In a similar vein I must add I am so proud of our Branch for its financial support of AAUW. Over \$3,000 contributed this past year! Our AAUW continues to support the issues of women and girls by staying committed on all levels such as financial assistance to the projects and goals of AAUW and even assisting the functioning of the Branch itself, through volunteering for various duties that it takes to run a Branch. Ladies, you are a wonder!

Together we are a "mighty" force advocating for women's issues!

Pauline Rogers
AAUW Fund VP

MEMBERSHIP

Our Growing Membership

It's wonderful and exciting to see our GWA-AAUW membership growing. When membership increases so does our impact on the education and lives of more women and girls. This month I'm including some information that you can actually see for yourself if you go to our AAUW national website, aauw.org or go to the California AAUW site at aauw-ca.org.

Did you know AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls? Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day – educational, social, economic, and political. When we review our AAUW Mission and Vision statements, we are reminded of the important influence we have as members. Mission Statement: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Vision Statement: Equity for all. Values: Nonpartisan; Fact-based; Integrity; Inclusion; and Intersectionality. Additionally, GWA-AAUW offers so much in the numerous interest sections we have. Share GWA-AAUW newsletters with friends and neighbors. It's easy to forward a newsletter from your email. Keep our membership growing, invite others to our branch meetings to share the impact and fun of GWA-AAUW.

Susan Halliday and Pauline Rogers

NINTH CIRCUIT COURT SIDES WITH LAF LITIGANT AILEEN RIZO IN PAY EQUITY CASE HOWEVER FRESNO SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS IS APPEALING DECISION TO THE SUPREME COURT

On February 27, 2020, the Ninth Circuit issued an opinion holding that using prior salary alone, as a “factor other than sex,” or in combination with other factors cannot justify a wage differential between employees. Only job-related factors may serve as affirmative defenses to Equal Pay Act claims. This affirms the previous opinion from the Ninth Circuit.

Shortly after the decision, The Fresno County Superintendent appealed the Ninth Circuit decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. It is unknown if the Supreme Court will take it. However, since different District Courts have reached different opinions on this issue, the Supreme Court may very well hear this case or group cases together.

Aileen had this to say prior to Fresno's decision to appeal to the Supreme Court:

“Nearly a year since the US Supreme Court remanded my case back to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on a technicality, a ruling has been made. On the 27th of February 2020, the 9th Circuit ruled “We agree with Rizo and the EEOC that setting wages based on prior pay risks perpetuating the history of sex-based wage discrimination. I did not win today, millions of workers across the states of Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Washington, Nevada, Oregon, California and Hawaii won. The restoration of case law that protects against pay discrimination has been re-established and uplifts families and communities that depend on a fair wage. Thank you to my legal representation, all the organizations in the amicus brief and to everyone who has supported this fight for equality. No one should spend over 7 years trying to prove that they are equal. That’s why this progress is important, necessary, and that’s why we will persevere.”

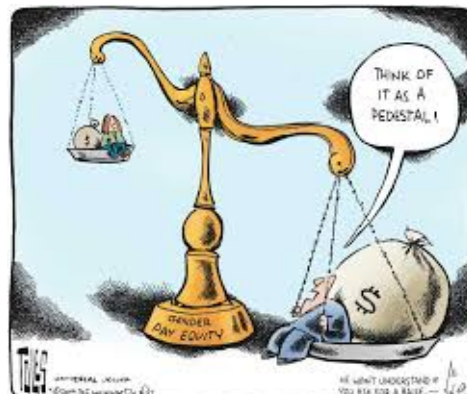
STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES!

For more information here are a few websites:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/rizo-v-fresno/>

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/prior-pay-no-defense-to-pay-difference-under-equal-pay-act-ninth-circuit-reaffirms>

Tobi Balma



AAUW Membership Questionnaire

Please print or fill in w/ type all information.

Use the back of this sheet or additional paper if you need more space for your information.

Name: _____ Year joined AAUW _____
Last First

Colleges/Universities attended

Year graduated

Degree received

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Elected Offices held in AAUW

Branch

Year

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Appointed Offices held

Branch

Year/s

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Committee Chair Positions

Branch

Year/s

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Section Chair Positions

Branch

Year/s

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Committee/Section Participation

Name

Year/s

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Projects for AAUW Completed

_____	_____
_____	_____

Community (Activities that contribute to the community & promote/brand AAUW/promote the mission of AAUW)

_____	_____
_____	_____

THE SPOTLIGHT



SPOTLIGHT ON:

All of us. I think I mentioned that I received a lovely note from one of our members telling me that she enjoys this column because it's a way to keep in touch since she no longer gets around as well as she used to. This was before all of this Corona Virus stuff. Now would be a great time to check on friends and neighbors by phone or email to make sure they are OK, have groceries, can get to necessary doctor's appointments, etc.

For those who wish to contact Marcia Orr's family, the address for her daughter Leisha Harris is 15821 Risley St., Whittier 90603.

Throughout the month, as you learn about things, send me an email – patricia@fullerton.edu. Don't worry about format or making it into a Word doc. I will keep items in a file and publish them. The only thing you **MUST concern yourself with is getting permission to share the information from the person involved (or family)**. This is very important, since we are not in the business of violating anyone's privacy.

Patricia Cuocco, Newsletter Editor

MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

REPRINT FROM MARCH: Just a reminder. This is the time of year when the Myra Long Scholarship Fund (MLSF) has its annual nonevent fundraiser. You should have received a goldenrod envelope at the February branch meeting or in the mail. (It's really bright, so you can't miss it!) Once again, our anonymous angel has pledged to match contributions, dollar for dollar, up to \$20,000! So please get your checkbook out and send a donation this year. All contributions are tax deductible!

Your contributions

- fund the annual Math Science Conference for 8th grade girls,
- send middle school girls to Tech Trek Camp
- give scholarships to community college women graduates who are enrolled in 4-year baccalaureate programs at colleges and universities, and
- send young women to AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

Help us support these wonderful activities with your generous contribution to MLSF!



**Greater Whittier Area-American Association of University Women
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM for YEAR _____**

Please fill out completely and mail with check made payable to: Greater Whittier Area AAUW
Mail/give your check to: Branch Treasurer GWA-AAUW, P.O. Box 5333, Whittier, CA 90607-5333

ANNUAL DUES Please choose Membership type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Paid Life Member \$44	<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$38.81
	<input type="checkbox"/> General \$103	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual \$24
{National Dues \$59 + State Dues \$20 + Branch Dues \$24 = \$103 TOTAL} REMINDER \$80 of YOUR DUES IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE		
To order the following items, please include/add the following to your check:		
<input type="checkbox"/> I want the yearbook insert mailed to me - \$2		
<input type="checkbox"/> I want the AAUW binder at the cost of \$5 + postage \$1.50 = \$6.50 \$8.50k for BOTH		

**If all your information is the same as in the yearbook, just print your name and write
"INFORMATION SAME AS LAST YEAR" across the application.**

*Fill in starred items to update your information. New members must complete ALL information.

Today's Date: _____

Do you have a sponsor? If so, who? _____

Your Title: Mrs. _____ Ms. _____ Miss _____ Other _____

*Last Name _____ *First Name _____ *Middle Initial _____

Spouse's Name _____

*Address _____ *City _____ *Zip _____

*Home Phone _____ *Cell Phone _____

*Work Phone _____ *Email address _____

Degree _____ Year _____ Major _____

College/University _____

Degree _____ Year _____ Major _____

College/University _____

Degree _____ Year _____ Major _____

College/University _____

APRIL 2020

GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

No Calendar for the month of April because it looks like we will all be sheltering in place for the duration of this Corona Virus outbreak.

We will use email to let you know of any changes, events, etc.

If you are one of the few who do not use email, please let one of the Board members know and we will make sure that a member is assigned to call you with important information.



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 give the article a descriptive name, not merely “newsletter article,” and use that name in the subject line of the email.**

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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