

MAY

2020

GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

May 2020 Volume 74, Issue 7

http://whittier-ca.aauw.net



THANK YOU, HEROES















PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Greeting to all. I hope you are all keeping well and finding interesting things to do as we are "hunkering down." The board has decided to cancel our May 9, 2020 branch meeting in light of the advice of Gavin Newsom and civic leaders. We will watch the news and let you know if it's safe to have our June 13, 2020 meeting. Stay tuned for more information.

We all know there is currently a new normal. However, we can still enjoy some of our old normal. The following reminds us of the important things we can enjoy. Going outdoors is not canceled, listening to music is not canceled, quality time with our families is not canceled, reading a book is not canceled, sharing with friends is not canceled, singing out loud is not canceled, laughing is not canceled. Sharing hope with others has not been canceled. Let's embrace what we have. I hope these words of encouragement will be helpful in these difficult times. Source: *AAUW-CA Board to Board Newsletter May 2020*.

Branch:

Tech Trek – Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW National, has said that all Tech Trek camps are canceled for 2020. Pat Dudley, member of the GWAA Tech Trek selection committee sent letters to the campers and their families that Tech Trek is canceled at Whittier College this summer. In addition, Pat sent letters to East Whittier Middle School and Graves Middle School regarding the cancelling Tech Trek. Our Tech Trek campers' health and safety are always our top priority. Our branch is hopeful that we can hold some type of recognition activity for them during the 2020-2021 school year.

NCCWSL – The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders has been canceled this summer at the University of Maryland College Park. I have notified Sumitra Ariel and Sophia Arroyo, our two scholarship recipients of the cancellation of NCCWSL. AAUW National will send a refund check to me made out to the Myra Long Scholarship Fund.

Branch – So happy to let you know that the slate of officers passed unanimously with 62% of the members voting. Thanks to everyone for voting by e-mail and to those of you who mailed in your ballot. Thanks to the Board Members for following up by phone with those who had not voted. Congratulations to the new Board. It will be a great year for the Greater Whittier Area Branch. In addition, Sharon Heck, Dolores Seidman, Cindy Birt, Dorwin Birt and I worked to update our Yearbook and e-mail list to better communicate with all members. Thanks for a job well done!

In closing, I hope you had a safe and glorious holiday. If you haven't already, go to YouTube and watch Andrea Bocelli's Music for Hope Easter Concert. He is such a magnificent singer! It will bring a smile to your face. Be sure to check the Spotlight Section for more fun things to do. Stay safe, stay healthy, stay strong. Hope to see you all soon.

Fondly, Rozanne Child



YEARBOOK DIRECTORY OF BRANCH MEMBERS

Much work has been done recently to correct our membership directory. Please make the following changes in your copy. We would appreciate receiving any changes in your information. A new book will be printed in August, and we would like to have it as perfect as possible. We are so appreciative of all the work done by Cindy Birt and Dorwin, her husband, on maintaining the database of emails for the Branch and for sending communications. Thank you, Cindy and Dorwin!

Please make these corrections: Barbara Gile – correct email address – <u>barbaragile@me.com</u> Naomi Hill – remove her email address Pauline Rogers – correct email address – <u>pmrbutterfly33@gmail.com</u> Cherie Trapani – correct phone number – 562-858-8952

Please remove the following persons from your membership list, as they are no longer members: Alfaro, Lupe Barstow, Cindy Brann-Zelaya, Shannon Carlson, Trish Graham, Waldith Jacobson, Sharon Kamens, Margo Kaufman, Joyce Lacy, Mary Lavagnino, Jeanne – deceased Maganzini, Christy Orr, Marcia – deceased Vineyard, Amy

MAY MISCELLANY

May is National ALS Awareness, National Mental Health Awareness and National Pet Month.

Tra la, it's May, the lusty Month of May That lovely month when everyone goes blissfully astray Tra la, it's here, that shocking time of year When tons of wicked little thoughts merrily appear

-Frederick Loewe

AAUW FUND

My, don't we live in curious times. And like *Alice in Wonderland* it gets curiouser and curiouser. Sometimes I keep wondering which turn I made into which strange, strange place because it all seems so unfamiliar. Well, take a deep breath and know that this too shall pass.

Most of you our meetings are now through the Internet. Sure do miss our monthly gatherings at the Doubletree. When that time resumes, and it will some fine day, we will all have a joyous gathering indeed!

Have you signed up to meet virtually by using ZOOM on the internet? You can continue with the book club meetings, craft club meetings, public policy meetings, garden club meetings, even lunch time get together meetings. Oh, is there a sewing or quilting group that wants to make masks for some others in the community? It is time to stay in touch with each other. Check in with friends and neighbors who might live alone and/or be at risk. How about sharing a joke or two online? We all certainly could use a chuckle or two these days. And why not share good news too. That would be welcomed in these most challenging of times. We are AAUW ladies who have cared for each other, our country and even our world for a very long time, so we need to really step up to the plate now!

When these days of special challenges are over, kindly remember what you have learned and use some of those new skills and ideas. We can now meet through the internet in inclement weather. We can still continue to video chat and share favorite "funnies." We can keep in touch with each other as AAUW members. We can continue to support our Branch, our community and National AAUW. We will emerge from these moments of personal, national and even global challenges as a stronger and more resilient organization for women and girls!

Pauline Rogers AAUW Fund VP



NEW WEBSITE AT AAUW

National has launched a new website with a new format and lots of information. However, finding the Member Services Database can be tricky. Here is how to get there so you can correct your information or pay your dues:

Go to AAUW.org. You most likely will have to accept cookies so you can see the entire screen. This is a one-time request.

In the upper right corner, just above the big red "Donate" button, you will see "Membership." Click on that.

On the next screen on the right is a list of 6 places you can go. The next to last item is "Member Services Database." Click on that. On the next screen you may be asked to log in and from then on, it should be self-explanatory.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

Kay Clark Treasurer 2019-2020

PUBLIC POLICY

SEXUAL HARRASMENT AND VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE

In 1980, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) issued regulations defining **sexual harassment** and stating it was a form of sex discrimination prohibited by the Civil Rights Act of 1964. **Shocked** that this law is 40 years old? I am, and I'll bet I know why you are as well – because you probably can't name a single woman in your life who has not, at some time or another, been the victim of some sort of sexual harassment on the job. This can range from dirty jokes, lewd comments, unwanted and persistent sexual attention, and an uncomfortable and discriminating work environment, to actual violence, rape, or economic retribution for spurned advances or reporting abuse.

We've all heard the office "clown" who says he doesn't need the Sexual Harassment training since he is already so good at it. We've all seen the "leaders" who resent the time taken from work to attend the mandated training. What we have not often seen or heard is an understanding that, per AAUW: "Workplace sexual harassment impacts women of all ages and in all sectors. The negative effects compound over time, reducing women's lifetime earnings and contributing to both the gender and retirement wage gaps."

The 1980 ruling does not cover farm or domestic workers or employees of companies with less than 15 people. The time allowed to report sexual harassment is way too short (180 days per Federal law, though some states allow 300 days).

In April of 2019, bills were introduced in the House and Senate to update the law and make coverage more comprehensive. Representative Katherine Clark (D-MA-5) sponsored H.E, 2148 – the BE HEARD in the Workplace Act. Sen Patty Murray (D-WA) sponsored S.1082 of the same name. These bills are currently working their way through Congress.

AAUW urges Congress to pass this law and several others to strengthen protections and to codify strong anti-retribution as well as non-disclosure agreements. I urge you to check out <u>https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/workplace-sexual-harassment/</u> and take the appropriate actions by contacting your representatives.

In addition, here is a ink to an informative 10-minute clip from the Harvard Kennedy School of Public Policy <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dc4PkiZRgnE&feature=youtu.be</u> provided by Dolores Gonzales-Hayes.

Patricia Cuocco Public Policy Chair



MEMBERSHIP

What's New?

Our current membership total is at 134. Congratulations to us as we continue to add new members to our incredible organization. Our national organization sent out reminders to renew for the 2020-2021 year that is fast approaching. Our membership expires each year on June 30. Each member was sent an email from national with a link to renew membership (which is due no later than June). Some members were also sent a reminder through the U.S. Postal Service. A quick way to renew is online. President Rozanne Child will ask national to send out a new reminder so you may partake in using its link. In your email from national AAUW, your membership number was included. However, if you wish to renew on paper, please see the form attached to this newsletter. We will have the paper forms available at our next branch meeting in June, if we can meet. Please keep reading for more information in how to access your information on aauw.org

Many thanks to President Rozanne, Sharon Heck, Dolores Seidman, Dorwin and Cindy Birt for their hard work in getting our GWA-AAUW email up to date for our branch and for AAUW National. This is a good time for a reminder; when you renew each year (whether you renew online or on paper), please go to aauw.org and click on membership to check whether or not your correct information is on file. Once on the aauw.org site do the following: Click on Membership (upper right-hand side of screen); Click on Membership Services Database (halfway down page on the right); Click on Renew my Membership on the left.

To make the process of renewing a bit simpler, Kay Clark, our Treasurer, will again send out invoices to members who have not yet renewed. Each member's ID number is in the subject line of the invoice. That is your ID. number to use when renewing. You may pay with a credit card, which can really streamline the process. If you choose to pay by check, please mail it directly to Kay Clark, during this time of COVID 19 restrictions. Her address is on the invoice There is also a printed form attached to this newsletter which you may use. Just please send it to Kay Clark, not to the post office. If you do not have email, you will receive an invoice in the U.S. postal system.

This may sound like there is a lot to the exercise, but it's definitely worth the internet trip. Remember all lifetime members must annually join the branch and pay the branch dues. Good luck to you on this great exercise during our COVID 19 home quarantine. Stay healthy!

Co-chairs: Susan Halliday & Pauline Rogers



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 Colleges/Universities attended	First	Year graduated	Degree received
Elected Offices held in AAUW		Branch	Year
5 5 5			
Appointed Offices held		Branch	Yearis
Committee Chair Positions		Branch	Year/s
Section Chair Positions		Branch	Year/s
Committee/Section Participation	Name	<u></u>	Year/s
Projects for AAUW Completed			
Community (Activities that contribute to the	community & promote	/brand AAUW/promo	te the mission of AAUW)

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Las Distinguidas

In January, the Las Distinguidas Committee mailed out approximately thirty-five letters inviting organizations to nominate an "outstanding woman who has made significant and noteworthy contributions to one or more areas of business, the arts, education, community service, politics, and the professions." The committee received a number of nominations and made a decision based on the current COVID 19 home-quarantine to select one nominee to receive a beautifully framed Certificate of Appreciation for achievement from GWA-AAUW for the year 2020.

Frances Coeur was nominated by the East Whittier Lions Club. During her 25+ years in the organization, Frances has served as President (twice), Vice President, Diabetes Chairman, Middle School Art Contest Chairman and new member recruiter, and she has been involved with Lions District 4L-2 Diabetes Awareness program, as well as been a major supporter of Lions programs helping the vision and hearing impaired. As you can easily see, Frances is well deserving of our Las Distinguidas Certification of Appreciation for the many areas of leadership and accomplishments she has made in the East Whittier Lions Club.

Las Distinguidas Co-chairs Dede Shatzen & Susan Halliday

Mystery Mavens

Mystery Mavens is scheduled to meet Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at Mimi's, Whittwood, 6:30 PM. The book will be *Poison Pen: A Forensic Handwriting Mystery* by Sheila Lowe. It will be reviewed by Linda Oberholzer. It is very likely we will have to cancel the meeting before that date. If the health crisis eases by June, I suggest we have our two canceled meetings in June and August. I will keep you informed by email, and you can let me know your thoughts.

Book nominations for next year are still needed. Email the name, author, and a brief description to me at the address below. They are to be the first in a series of mystery books, and we will vote on our five choices, probably by email. I only have my two nominations, so please begin sending them to my email address below.

If you have any questions, please call or email me at 562-698-0476 or <u>heck37@verizon.net</u>. Sharon Heck

MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Carole Restovich reports:

At this time in an "ordinary" year, the scholarship committee would be evaluating Rio Hondo's scholarship applications. However, in this "extraordinary" year, Mr. Henry Gee, Vice-President of Student Services, has informed us that Rio Hondo needs to decide if the college can "facilitate a scholarship process that would be equitable and fair to our students." This is especially complicated given that classes now and, in the summer, will be taught remotely.

Our scholarship committee is ready to evaluate any applications we receive. We await Rio Hondo's decision.

Morning Book May 2020

With all of the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, I feel we should not plan to meet on June 1, as was originally scheduled. I also think we should wait and see in late June/early July whether or not we should meet on July 27, although I am hopeful by then that our lives will be getting back to a somewhat normal pattern.

If all goes well and we can plan for meetings in the fall, I would like to suggest that we discuss the books we didn't get to this year for the first two or three meetings: <u>The Library Book</u> (Susan Orlean); <u>A Tree Grows in</u> <u>Brooklyn</u> (Betty Smith); and possibly <u>Small Great Things</u> (Jodi Picoult). I hope that those of you who volunteered to be hostesses, co-hostesses, and discussion leaders for those books will be willing to do this in the fall if needed. We can deal with that when the time comes, however.

That being said, we will still need to decide on at least three, if not four, books for next year, so please send me any suggestions. I hope you are all learning to cope with our new normal now, staying healthy, taking care of yourselves and each other, and staying home! I miss seeing you all.

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-695-6185

La Cuisine

Sadly, our Jewish dinner must be postponed–possibly to be held this summer or maybe in the fall. I will notify all on my list. If anyone else would like to join us, please contact me. The planning meeting for next year has been postponed to June 17, 7 PM, at my home. Please plan to come. Again, I will notify those on my list if it needs to be postponed again. I look forward to a quiet dinner party with friends sometime in the future.

Gwen Woirhaye gwen@woirhaye.com

First Friday

I'm missing seeing friends for our casual gatherings the first Friday of each month. Obviously, we have to cancel May 1. I hope we can meet in June, which is scheduled for June 5 at the home of Ann Topjon and Phil O'Brien. Pending lifting of the distance restrictions, we will comply with best practice to keep everyone healthy and safe.

As always, if you wish to come (and we don't have to cancel), bring your choice of beverage and an appetizer to share. The gathering lasts from 6 PM to 8 PM.

Stay well and look forward to our next gathering for members, significant others, friends. I will soon be seeking to fill the schedule for 2020-2021, so if you have a hosting preference please contact me. Thanks.

Gwen Woirhaye gwen@woirhaye.com

THE SPOTLIGHT



SPOTLIGHT ON:

Life with Corona. This column will be a hodgepodge of information about and thoughts from members, as well as reading and cultural activity suggestions. Also, some ways to be creative. Here we go.

Eating – Carole Duff suggests, "As you know, we have canceled our March, April and May **Dining For \$\$\$\$** fundraiser events. Per guidelines from the county and the state, we spend time at home and do our own food preparation. However, there are those of us who sometimes enjoy purchasing take-out or delivery meals in order to provide variety or to simply get out of the kitchen (That would be me!). I would like you to consider a visit to some of our supporting restaurants who have contributed to the Myra Long Scholarship Fund as hosts for our fundraisers. We are grateful for their donations, their enthusiasm, their time and the extra planning it takes to feed so many additional customers on those fundraiser days.

Carole adds, "This is the perfect time to support those who have supported us. It's a kind gesture that is truly needed by the restaurant industry right now. Some local restaurants that have participated in Dining For \$\$\$\$ events over the past few years are Lascari's, Roadhouse Grill, Silver Palace, El Cholo, Black Angus, Panera, Auntie's, Corner Bakery, Marie Callender's, Mimi's Café, The Habit and IHOP. If you do visit, I hope you will take a moment to let them know you are from AAUW and thank them for supporting us. <u>Thank you so much!"</u>

Gen'nel Walters reports that Rosemary Yetter is at Presbyterian Hospital (PIH) recovering from heart surgery. However, she is facing more procedures. She can have no visitors and talking on the phone is difficult, but she would love prayers and card. *Thanks for letting us know, Gen'nel.*

Louise Holden has this to say, "The branch meetings, for me, were a time to meet, greet, learn and socialize with friends. As time passes, this changes. The feelings of friendship remain the same, if not stronger. In appreciation and gratitude, I'd like to share some of what Khalil Gibran writes in The *Prophet* in his chapter on Friendship: "....and in the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter and sharing of pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed." Be healthy, happy and hopeful." Love it! Thanks, Louise.

Our most senior member, Vicki Marshall, is doing VERY WELL as she recovers from hip surgery, according to daughter Geri. She's walking amazingly well and waiting impatiently for the YMCA to reopen. Vicki will be 104 on April 27th. Her large Birthday bash was canceled due to the virus. Planning to have an even bigger one next year at The Red Barn. Mark your calendars! *Wow, I want to be Vicki when I grow up*.

Gwen Woirhaye is coupling her extensive craft talents with her kind heart and making masks. They are four layers of cotton with elastic going around back of head (more comfortable than behind ears, she's told). There is a pipe cleaner in the top so it can be shaped around the nose. Anyone who needs one can email her gwen@woirhaye.com. You can drive by; and she will arrange to hang a bag on her mailbox when you think you can get there.

(SPOTLIGHT, continued)

So, who is reading what? One thing so many of us have in common is the love of the written word. Here is what I've collected. Send more and I'll publish a Summer Reading List next month.

- Ginny Ball and Linda Harris are reading The Library Book by Susan Orleans.
- Maurine Behrens is reading a book in the *A Free Man of Color* series by Barbara Hambly. (*Ohh, I read that series years ago and loved it.*)
- Jan Berry is reading *The Ice Edge* by Lincoln Child and Douglas Preston.
- Sharon Heck says she is reading a great many books, but right now she is reading books in the *Chief Inspector Armand Gamache* series by Louise Penny. The first one was *Still Life*.
- Pauline Rogers is reading *Anastasia* by Vladimir Megre', translated from Russian by John Woodsworth. It is Book 1 in the Ringing Cedars series.
- Sheila Hartfield is now reading a book about the history of capitalism *The Relentless Revolution* by Joyce Appleby. A fun book she just read (written in 1915) is *Parnassus on Wheels* by Christopher Morley about a traveling book seller.
- Patricia Cuocco (who loves well-written science fantasy) recommends *The Broken Earth Trilogy* by N.K. Jemisin.

Aren't we an eclectic group of well-read women?

Some suggestions for good ways to pass the time and some free resources being made available in this crazy time.

- Carole Duff passed on a link to a video about safe grocery shopping strategies: <u>https://youtu.be/sjDuwc9KBps</u>
- Dolores Seidman (whose brilliant idea this sharing of resources was in the first place) says PBS is sharing history and science documentaries to non-members:
 - <u>179 History Documentaries</u>, including topics like Architecture, California, Civil Rights, Sports Ken Burns' Baseball, War and Revolution
 - <u>161 Science Documentaries</u> about Animals, Biology, Computers, Environment, Food and Agriculture, Geography, Space, and more.

She says they look like they could take years to watch and hopes we won't be "sheltering in place" that long!

Dolores also reports that the Metropolitan Opera website is offering free operas every night (that used to cost \$5 each). Just visit <u>https://www.metopera.org/</u> each day and click "watch now" from the homepage. Check out The Norton Simon Museum website, which offers videos of art lectures they've had there as well as a tour of the museum. Dolores and Norm's granddaughter, Beth, reports that Andrew Lloyd Webber is releasing a full-length musical every Friday at 11 am on YouTube. Each is available for 48 hours. Check this page for

updates: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdmPjhKMaXNNeCr1FjuMvag

- Ann Topjon provided some links to museums with virtual tours:
 - The Louvre: <u>louvre.fr/en/visitesen-ligne</u> (It may be visites-en-ligne; hard to tell because of the line break)
 - Sistine Chapel: <u>museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/cappella-sistina/tour-virtuale.html</u>
 - o Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History: <u>naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-tour</u>
 - Yosemite: virtualyosemite.org/about-virtual-yosemite
 - o Great Wall of China: chinaguide.com/destination/great-wall-of-china

(SPOTLIGHT, continued)

- o Van Gogh Museum: <u>360stories.com/amsterdam/oldamsterdam/story/vincent-van-gogh</u>
- o Museum of Modern Art: artsandculture.google.com/partner/moma-the-museum-of-modern-art
- o San Diego Zoo: <u>animals.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams</u>
- o British Museum: artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-british-museum
- Linda Harris has added this website for 6 different plays by Shakespeare at the Old Globe Theater in London--all free! Each shows for 2 weeks: <u>https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/watch/</u>
- Jan Berry, who understands that humor is critical in retaining sanity during these stressful times offers



Watch your email for a contest. Pat Dudley suggested it based on an apocryphal story about Ernest Hemingway who was asked to write a story in six words. Supposedly, he wrote:

For sale. Baby shoes. Never worn.

Pat will select a topic then challenge you to submit entries. The winner will get something nice – we will figure out what - and announce it in the Call for Submission.



<u>Greater Whittier Area-American Association of University Women</u> MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM for YEAR $\frac{1}{1/2020-6/30}/2021$

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	Paid Life Member	er \$44			
Membership type:	☐ General \$103	□ Dual \$24			
{National Dues \$59 + State Dues \$20 + Branch Dues \$24 = \$103 TOTAL} REMINDER \$80 of YOUR DUES IS TAX DEDUCTILE					
To order the following items, please include/add the following to your check:					
□ I want the yearbook insert mailed to me - \$2					
□ 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 I	Major			
College/University					
Degree	Year I	Major			
College/University					
Degree	Year I	Major			
College/University					

MAY 2020

GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

No Calendar for the month of May because it looks like we will still 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

Greater Whittier Area -American Association of University Women PO Box 5333 Whittier, CA 90607- 5333