



GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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

2023
January

*Happy
New Year*



Greater Whittier Area
American Association of University Women

Invites you to join us for a
MEET & GREET
Please bring a friend or guest!

Saturday, January 21st
2:00 – 4:00 PM

Assistance League of Whittier
6339 Greenleaf Avenue
Whittier



*Parking is available in the Assistance League Parking Lot in the
alleyway behind the store.*

This is a great opportunity to mix & mingle over coffee, tea,
or a glass of wine and appetizers,
While learning what AAUW is doing for our community.

Guests/nonmembers Free of charge
\$5.00 for current members and spouses*

For more information call Sharon Heck at 562-858-9253
or email to sheck4peace@gmail.com

*\$5.00 waived if member brings an appetizer, dessert, or wine.
Contact Sharon Heck to sign up; we need your yummy contributions.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I sincerely hope that all of you had memorable holidays with loved ones and with friends. It is hard to believe that we are welcoming in 2023! The 2022-23 Board is halfway through our year serving you, and we are just beginning so many projects that roll around annually; Meet & Greet, the early signs of planning for the June Tech Trek, and the return of the Math & Science Conference at Whittier College (after a 3-year respite due to COVID - 19), among many activities that swing into action in the second half of our year.

A very important action for a subcommittee of the Board is the Nominations Committee for new board members for 2023-24. I hope any new or ongoing members that have been a part of GWA-AAUW will look to the many activities that our organization strives to complete and meet the commitments of our local branch. Pull your Yearbook out and look at the many board leadership roles. These roles can be managed by a single person, a team, or a small group. Every member of our branch has qualities that will complement working on the board as a VP or Chair, as the one, or a shared role to get the job done. Come and think about what gives you the most pleasure as well as intellectual challenges to complete the many activities of Board members. Volunteer to assist a current VP or Chair in upcoming activities, learn what is needed, and know that it takes teamwork to get these goals done to benefit AAUW (local, state, and national), to meet the goals and benefits of branch members, the young women who participate in these programs and scholarship opportunities. Our branch seeks to guide and reward with stimulating programs and opportunities for many. Come join in this planning, be a part of the brainstorming, and do not let the word “leadership” stop you from offering what skill you have to share with your fellow members. You would be surprised what you can achieve when in a supportive environment. So, when the Nominating Committee comes calling in March, we hope we already have some members willing to assist, jump in, and participate on the board in a capacity that you can do with the board’s support. It is not all work. Friendships are made, and wonderful memories are formed. Say, “Hello, to a New Year, and a growing self, and join us on the Board!”

Submitted by Nadine Wilcox, GWA-AAUW President, 2022-23

AAUW FUND

END-OF-YEAR DEADLINES AND DONATIONS!

Karen Vanderwerken, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair reported on the results of our 2022 AAUW Fund events.

Zooming In: factoids from our record four Fund Events:

- 38 of 41 California scholars/grantees presented.
- 376 members registered with 141 unique viewers.
- 57 average number of branches attended each session.



View the 2022 recipients, read their bios, watch any of the videos of the four Fund Events, and/or donate to AAUW by going to www.aauw.org. You can still do that at any time.

At our branch level, we have formed a committee to choose our Named Gift Honorees for 2022-23 and will present the winner(s) at our May 13 branch meeting.

And we will have an opportunity to hear an AAUW Fellow in person ourselves when Stacey Cabaj of Loyola Marymount University speaks at our February 11 branch meeting. Stay tuned!

Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund V.P.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

Question from DEI/AAUW November Webinar: How do you engage members when there is a lack of engagement or lack of interest in DEI issues?

Responses from panel (Stormy Miller Sabia, AAUW California DEI Chair; Julia Brown, AAUW National Board of Directors Chair; Melissa La Duke, AAUW DEI Chair):

- People are tired of preacher-like methods.
- DEI is really empathy (refer to last month's vocabulary word: Intersectionality).
- Focus on the Mission of AAUW: Leveling the playing field. Equity for all. Advancing gender equity for women and girls.
- Achieve engagement of members through inclusive, welcoming interaction among members.
- Recognize individuals have multiple identities. Reach one or more to engage members: i.e. race, mom, career.

Next Month: How to address lack of diversity within our membership?

Pat Dudley,
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer



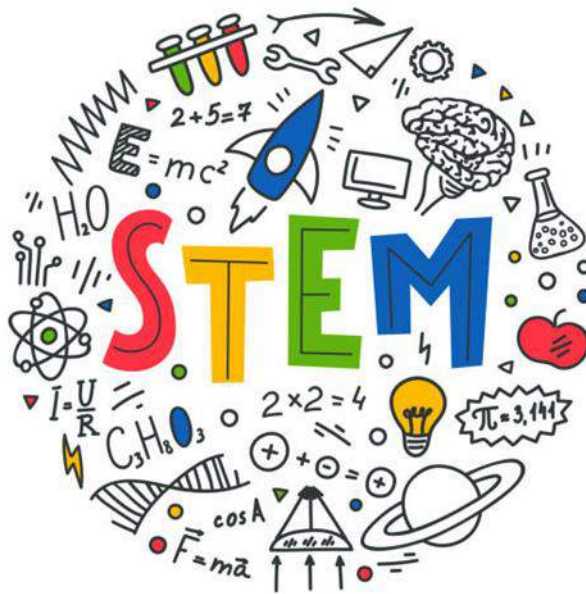
MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS

Our Math/Science Conference for 8th Grade Girls will be at Whittier College on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. Because of the pandemic, our last conference was in January 2020, so this is very exciting. It will be our 28th Conference!

Dolores Seidman has collected the names of those who are willing to volunteer for the day. We do need volunteers to serve as a hostess in each workshop, to distribute packets, to guide the students to the workshops, and to do other needed activities. Also, the packets will be assembled at Pat Dudley’s home on Thursday, January 5, at 1 PM. Contact Dolores by email if you would like your name added to the volunteer list. deeseidman@gmail.com

I hope to see many of you at our long-awaited STEM activity. It will be a great day; and thank you to all those who have volunteered to help.

Sharon Heck, Chair



DINING FOR \$\$\$\$

Thursday, January 19, 2023, at The Original Roadhouse Grill – Whittier



Happy New Year! Our third Dining For \$\$\$\$ event is happening this month at The Original Roadhouse Grill. It is located just west of the Whittwood shopping center on Whittier Boulevard from 11 AM to 9:00 PM.

We hope you had a lovely December, busy with holiday events. January has become a month where we return to our regular routines and relax a bit. A nice way to enjoy this lull is to treat yourself to lunch or dinner with family or friends. Roadhouse Grill is a great place to do that. It's very casual, with a country vibe and familiar fare like barbecued meats, as well as seafood, salads, hamburgers, and other sandwiches. A full bar awaits you too.

Please join us in contributing to our Myra Long Scholarship fund by visiting Roadhouse. With a flyer, 20% of your bill will be donated to that fund. Remember that **you need a flyer for each and every bill at your table**. With that in mind, mini flyers have been created for you to present to your server. You will find them later in this newsletter. The flyers are small enough to keep in pockets or purses and, hopefully, it will be easier to make sure that each person's bill will automatically become a donation to our scholarship fund. Be aware that fundraiser donations are not valid on take-out orders.

We wish you a wonderful 2023!
Carole Duff and Sheryl Crockey



The Original Roadhouse Grill
supports the...

Greater Whittier Area AAUW
Myra Long Scholarship Fund
Dining 4 SSSSS Event

Thursday, January 19, 2023

From 11:00 am to 9:00 pm

15156 E. Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, Ca.
(562) 945-7796

Reservations are available

Not valid on take-out or gift card purchases

Present this flyer to your server when you order!
20% of the proceeds will be contributed to the
Myra Long Scholarship Fund.

Flyers may not be distributed on premises.



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FIRST FRIDAY

Hosts for January 6 are Judy and Steve Flanders, 12430 Floral Drive, Whittier. Go north on Pickering from Beverly Blvd., left on Floral to address. We meet from 6 to 8 PM to chat, relax, and get to know one another better.

Please bring your choice of beverage and a snack to share, as well as guests.
Still needed are hosts for February 3, March 3, and July 7.

Gwen Woirhaye, chair
gwen@woirhaye.com



WRITING IS FUN

The January meeting of Writing is Fun! takes place Wednesday, January 25, at 1 PM at the home of Carole Restovich. All are welcome. We write on any topic that piques our interest at the moment. Do you have plans/hopes for the New Year? Christmas stories to relate? One topic that has proved popular is “What the Previous year (2022) Taught Me.” (about myself, the world, life). Come share your written thoughts with an accepting and enthusiastic audience.

Carole’s home: 10413 Portada Dr., just behind Whittwood Center

Phone: 562-787-0727



INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

Our International Concerns section reads a book printed each year by the Foreign Policy Association titled *Great Decisions*. The book contains eight articles on a variety of topics, and we read one article each month. The 2023 books have been ordered and paid for by each member, and they will be distributed at the January 19, 2023 meeting.

Our January 19, 10 AM meeting will be at Sharon Heck's home, 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier, CA 90601. We will discuss the year of 2022, and make plans for 2023 using the new book. Sharon's street has permit parking, so one-day passes will be available. Contact Sharon if you would like more information. S.Heck4peace@gmail.com 562-858-9253

Sharon Heck, co-chair
Sheryl Crockey, co-chair



International Concerns - Weekend Edition

Currently, we have 4 members and hope we grow a bit more for those members that are interested in a weekend section OR need to temporarily join the weekend section because they can't make the 3rd Thursday Section meeting at Sharon Heck's home due to a conflict that day on the calendar.

When: The 3rd weekend Sundays (the first meeting precedes the 3rd Thursday Section in January 2023, but on occasional months may shift between the 3rd or 4th Sundays based on the calendar OR the needs of the group, so stay alert to dates posted in the Newsletter).

First meeting for 2023. January 15, 2023 is the first date to gather, this is when the *Great Decisions* book will be available to pass out to section members.

Time: 2:00-3:00 pm.

Location: Nadine Wilcox's home, 12423 Camilla St, (626) 340-9018.

(this address has accommodations at the table for 5-6 members), the street is tight at times, so try to commute together if you can, and there is NO PERMIT needed. (Monthly home locations may also change so be alert to newsletter postings).

Snacks: Supplied by hostess, or a volunteer, at first meeting (so RSVP and alert Hostess to any food restrictions or type of beverage desired (or bring your own beverage). This will be worked out at the first meeting on how future meetings will be managed as far as snacks/beverages.

READING Schedule:

The Weekend Edition will follow the discussion plans/reading schedule of the primary INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS Section. *The Weekend Edition* subsection will not have a Discussion Leader unless we see the need in the future.

Natalie Wilcox, chair

MYSTERY MAVENS

Mystery Mavens will meet on January 18, the third Wednesday, at Mimi's Restaurant, 6PM. Please RSVP to Sharon at s.heck4peace@gmail.com. We will follow the current requirements on vaccinations, etc. and we ask that you stay at home if you are not feeling well. Our book is *Roseanna* by Maj Sjowall and Per Wahloo. Sharon Heck will review the book and lead our discussion.

Here is some information on our book for January 18, 2023.

“The masterful first novel in the Martin Beck series of mysteries by the internationally renowned crime writing duo Maj Sjowall and Per Wahloo, finds Beck hunting for the murderer of a lonely traveler. On a July afternoon, a young woman's body is dredged from Sweden's beautiful Lake Vattern. With no clues, Beck begins an investigation not only to uncover a murderer but also to discover who the victim was. Three months later, all Beck knows is that her name was Roseanna and that she could have been strangled by any one of eighty-five people on a cruise. As the melancholic Beck narrows the list of suspects, he is drawn increasingly to the enigma of the victim, a free-spirited traveler with a penchant for casual sex, and to the psychopathology of a murderer with a distinctive—indeed, terrifying—sense of propriety. There are ten books in the series.”

Books for 2023:

March 15, 2023

The Quiche of Death by M.C. Beaton, reviewed by Gwen Woirhaye

May 17, 2023

The Ritual Bath by Faye Kellerman, reviewed by Brigitta Weger

Sharon Heck



MORNING BOOK

Happy New Year! We start 2023 by reading and discussing Louise Erdrich's *The Sentence*, on Monday, January 23, at 10 AM, led by Linda Harris. Set in the Minneapolis community around a fictional version of Erdrich's Birchbark Books from November 2019 to November 2020, this is not a ghost story, but a story with a ghost. The store's most annoying customer, Flora, dies on All Souls' Day and won't leave the store. Tookie, who works there, survived an earlier prison sentence by reading "with murderous attention." Throughout the book she tries to solve the mystery of the haunting while providing pitch-perfect book suggestions to the store's readers (lists included at the end of this book!), dealing with the pandemic, and navigating friendships, family issues, and community relationships. *The Sentence* asks what we owe to the living, the dead, to the reader, and to the book. Shortlisted for the 2022 Women's Prize for Fiction.

We will meet at Fay Weber's home, 2089 E. Skyline Dr., La Habra Heights. Her driveway holds 7-8 cars, and she has suggested carpooling. Paula Ocampo will provide refreshments.

Looking forward to seeing you!
Ann Topjon, Chair 562-665-1724



MODERN TRENDS

Happy Holidays to all of my fellow trenders. At this time of year, we reflect on reminders of all those who have influenced us. Authors, mentors, family, and friends. I raise a glass to all of us as we go into a new year that I hope is filled with good health and good adventures with good friends.

We will not meet until February when we will read *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*

March *The Paris Bookseller*
April Library pick
May *Violetta*

Kristine Yeseta, Chair

NEEDLEWORK CORNER

Pssst.... Interested in forming a new section?

Is anyone interested in getting together to do NEEDLEWORK and socialize over coffee, tea, or other beverages/snacks?

The small table in my kitchen and/or living room may accommodate Four participants comfortably in either area depending on size of projects, and grouping of people beyond four. My home is a home that also has a cat and a dog present (indoor cat, dog is in and out according to my son). So those interested hopefully are not allergic, or have medication to manage allergy.



Any type of needlework aficionado may respond, as long as needlework is portable and doesn't take up too much room in the work areas available! A small group is fine. Those interested may discuss what weekdays or weekends, and the time of day to meet.

CONTACT Nadine Wilcox for questions and further ideas, etc.:

12423 Camilla St.
Whittier, CA 90601
C (626) 340-9018
n.m.wilcox462@gmail.com



SPOTLIGHT

Do you remember what it cost to mail a letter in 1958? That's when I started stamp collecting with my dad. At that time, first-class postage was 4 cents, and it has steadily increased over the years. By 2007, it was 41 cents and the first Forever stamp was issued. If you have one today, it can still be used to mail a letter instead of the current 60 cents. *But wait, postage will go up again on January 22, 2023, to 63 cents!* So, you may want to consider buying some Forever stamps before then; at 60 cents they will be good forever, regardless of future increases.

By Paula Ocampo, suggested by Dolores Seidman

Check this space next month for updates on what is going on. We all love to hear about what is happening in the lives of our AAUW community. Spotlight is a great place to share your news, tips, and stories. Send me yours so I can include them in our next newsletter.

Paula Ocampo, Newsletter Editor
(562) 447-7483
pocampo@aol.com

JANUARY 2023

GREATER WHITTIER AREA CALENDAR

First Friday	January 6 (Friday)	6 PM-8 PM	Judy Flanders'
Math Science Day	January 10 (Tuesday)	8:15 AM- 12:45 PM	Whittier College
January Branch Meeting	There is no regular meeting on January 14, see you at the Meet and Greet*		
International Concerns WE	January 15 (Sunday)	11:30 AM	Nadine Wilcox's
Mystery Mavens	January 18 (Wednesday)	6 PM	Mimi's Restaurant
International Concerns	January 19 (Thursday)	11:30 AM	Sharon Heck
Dining for \$\$\$\$	January 19 (Thursday)	11 AM – 9 PM	Roadhouse Grill
Meet and Greet	January 21 (Saturday)	2 PM – 4 PM	Assistance League
Morning Book	January 23 (Monday)	10 AM	Fay Weber's
Writing is Fun	January 25 (Wednesday)	1:00 PM	Carole Restovich's
Branch Meeting*	February 11 (Saturday)	11:30 AM	Whittier Elks Lodge

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, August through May to pocampo@aol.com
 Newsletter Editor – Paula Ocampo

For more information, please visit our websites:

- AAUW National www.aauw.org
- AAUW California www.aauw-ca.org
- GWA-AAUW www.whittier-ca.aauw.net

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