

GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

http://whittier-ca.aauw.net





## BRANCH MEETING – February 11, 2023 11:30 AM – ELK'S LODGE Program

### AAUW FELLOW RECIPIENT -STACEY CABAJ

A New Year—a Time for New Learning:

We are fortunate to have one of the 2021-22 AAUW Fellowship Recipients, Stacey Cabaj, speak to our branch about her current research project "The Sound of Touch". If you are not sure what that means, come to find out! Stacey is an Assistant Professor of Acting and Pedagogy in the Department of Theater Arts and Dance at Loyola Marymount University.

In her study, she is exploring the educational and theatrical application of new technologies by Playtronica. Using their innovative musical gadgets, she is able to transform touch between people and objects into sound. This is known as intentional technological synesthesia, the mixing of senses using technology. Mystified? So am I! Come to our February 11<sup>th</sup> branch meeting to be enlightened!

Read more about the AAUW Fund and the AAUW Fellowships in the AAUW Fund column of the newsletter.

Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund VP

Note: Claire Koehler, Program VP is on vacation in Spain, see Spotlight for a big surprise.

(Please see the Hospitality section for luncheon and meeting information on the next page.)



### **Branch Meeting Luncheon, February 11**

**Happy Valentine's Day**, already! Good gracious, we will be at Christmas again before we know it! This short month is just full of various celebrations: Groundhog Day (2), AAUW Meeting (11), Valentine's Day (14), Presidents' Day (20), Mardi Gras (21), and Ash Wednesday (22). Do enjoy!

Pauline Rogers, Hospitality VP



#### Time:

11:00 AM - Social Time11:30 AM - Nadine Wilcox, President, opens meeting12:00 PM - Lunch service begins12:45 PM - Program begins

#### Location:

Whittier Elks Lodge 13620 Whittier Blvd. Whittier, CA 90602

Arrival and Parking: use the driveway off Barton Rd. behind Elks Lodge, park at the rear. We will be seated in the Club Room or as it is sometimes called the "Card Room". Kindly enter that room through the "back door" or side rear entrance because the check-in table will be located in the back of the room. Look for the AAUW signs to guide the way.

#### Menu:

Main entrée:Chicken Marsala with mashed potatoesVegetarian entrée:Small green salad and cup of vegetable soupEntrées include a salad with a choice of salad dressing, rolls, dessert, coffee, iced tea, and water.

<u>Lunch cost:</u> **\$25**/per person <u>Beverage only:</u> **\$5**/per person and includes coffee, iced tea, and water No substitutions, deletions, or special orders

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** and a reservation made and **NOT** canceled by the deadline **MUST BE PAID**. Please **RSVP** with your menu choice by **NOON** on Tuesday, February 7. Since Kay will be on vacation, please RSVP to <u>pocampo@aol.com</u>, or if you do not have an email call Paula Ocampo at (562) 447-7483.

Please **RSVP** with your selection from one of the following: Main Entrée Vegetarian Beverage only

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Well, after a very wet and challenging winter holiday period in December and the torrential January rains (which we need to now call the "Pineapple Express" rains in the winter "Atmospheric Rivers"), we are now in the middle of our calendar year of events for our local AAUW branch.

Please be sure to read every page and section of the newsletter; so much is happening this time of year to report on by your Board members and their committees.

We have all been busy in January with the Math/Science (STEM) Conference at Whittier College (January 10), our first time back since January 2019! Sharon Heck organized it with the help of many, but her hand guided it all. This was my first time experiencing this activity, and this day was a phenomenal success! My hat goes off to Sharon and her team.

I am writing this report before our annual Meet and Greet. I know it will be a wonderful Membership VP and Team effort by all to make it a successful gathering. More to come on that in next month's newsletter.

I have completed the AAUW (National) Survey as a means of sharing what our Branch has done over the past fiscal year (2021-22) and we should be all proud of ourselves for what we have accomplished in striving to meet the mission statement of AAUW through our fundraising activities for scholarships and grants for young women.

There are new projects on the horizon to add to the variety of experiences we as a branch and as a larger organization may offer young high school female students to help develop leadership skills in another track. Gov Trek is in its first year of supporting and giving high school young women experiences in the field of government and leadership. It will be interesting if GWA-AAUW can begin to endeavor in joining with other branches in supporting young women in this way, as well as in STEM programs such as the Math Science Conference and Tech Trek.

We need as many members as possible to step up to the many levels of leadership and committee activities to complete all of our goals related to our mission. It takes a village... so it is said, so please be sure to volunteer and do what you can to meet our mission statement and goals as AAUW.

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

### AAUW FUND

# AAUW Fund supports Fellowships and Grants to women scholars. One of the Fellowships, the American Fellowship, awards **\$8,000–\$50,000**.

The American Fellowship program began in 1888, a time when women were discouraged from pursuing an education. It is AAUW's largest fellowship program and the oldest non-institutional source of graduate funding for women in the United States.

AAUW American Fellowships support women scholars who are pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research full-time, or preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence; quality and originality of project design; and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research.

We are fortunate to have one of the "fellows", Stacey Cabaj, as our speaker at the February 11 branch meeting. This past year 320 Fellowships and Grants were made in the amount of \$6 million dollars. Stacey is Assistant Professor of Acting and Pedagogy at Loyola Marymount University. She is the co-author of a forthcoming book, *Lessons from Our Students*. Her topic is "The Sound of Touch" which will be a revelation to our members about a new aspect of pedagogy. Come and learn more!

Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund V.P.



# **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI)**

Last month the article introduced a panel, comprised of national officers, who answered questions from Stormy Miller Sabia, AAUW California DEI chair. The panel, Julia Brown, AAUW National Board of Directors Chair, and Melissa La Duke, AAUW DEI Chair, addressed DEI issues facing branches.

This month's panel responses focus on the Question:

How can a branch address lack of diversity within our membership?

There are no set model programs to follow.

Branches need to determine the interests of their members; what members are willing to do to bring in new members; then consider what planning is needed to implement the ideas. The online toolkit has resources to assist branches in planning events.

Attend a variety of community programs, activities, and events. Go to places not normally attended. Interact with people beyond one's usual circle of contacts.

Round tables facilitate more interaction at luncheons. However, members tend to sit with people they know and a new member or guest may feel isolated. Do you have a table hostess who sees everyone at the table is welcomed, feels comfortable, and is included in the conversation? Feelings of isolation are a deterrent to maintaining a diverse membership. Our Meet and Greet exemplifies creating that welcoming, inclusive atmosphere that we should strive to replicate at branch meetings.

Pat Dudley, DEI Officer

### **PUBLIC POLICY**



#### Lobby Days are Here Again

Save the Dates .... March 21<sup>st</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup>, are the AAUW CA scheduled Lobby Days. Many thanks to members Sharon Heck, Chris Heller, Paula Ocampo, Nadine Wilcox, and Margo Reeg who registered to participate in Lobby Day.

Advocating for our top 3 priority bills is fundamental to achieving our legislative priorities by addressing economic security for all women, providing equal access to public education, and insuring social and racial justice for all members of society. We need all members on board and will be counting on you to reach out to our elected officials in the CA legislature.

Our Public Policy Committee will make it easy for you to do so. This year instead of a full week, Lobby Day will consist of two days and will occur while the legislature is in session, not on break. Hopefully, more opportunities to actually speak with a member in lieu of a staffer. Our plans are to make it hybrid – virtual and in-person. Those branches in and around Sacramento would have the option of in-person meetings at the Capitol with the remaining branches meeting virtually or in person with staffers in the district. So, a bit more flexibility this year as the committee feels it's beneficial to establish relationships with our elected leaders' local staff.

Our AAUW legislative Advocate will be scheduling meetings with the member offices willing to participate, and once Lobby Day surveys are in, the committee will begin to assemble branch participants and match them with Assembly and Senate districts in order to assign teams. We will provide you with material on the bills we are supporting and schedule a **mandatory training webinar for March 20th**, so you'll have the information at your fingertips. Lobby Day is our chance to make a concerted impact on the priorities and values we, as AAUW members, hold dear. It brings out the "advocates" in all of us for improving the economic and educational lives of women and girls. And goodness knows, we need that commitment now more than ever. So, mark those calendars and join us on Lobby Day/s, March 21 and 22.

Margo Reeg, Public Policy Chair

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We still have a large supply of our 2022-2023 Yearbooks. They will be available at our February 11 branch meeting. If a member wishes to pick up her yearbook, they are available at the home of Susan Halliday, 8531 Catalina Ave., Whittier, and at the home of Sharon Heck, 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier. Call Sharon Heck to make other arrangements. 562-858-9253. The yearbook is full of very useful information, and a complete listing of our membership.

We have one new member to add to your yearbooks.

Andrea Bellamy, 13907 Freiburg St., Whittier, CA 90602, \*preferred # 562-698-2921, (cell) 562-536-3557, <u>Andrea92LA@gmail.com</u>.

Andrea was a volunteer at our recent Math/Science Day at Whittier College. Welcome Andrea! Included in this newsletter for your use is an application for membership, and a questionnaire we would like to have completed by all members. We might have a questionnaire on file for you from a few years ago. Consider updating it and giving it to Sharon Heck.

I am writing this on January 14, 2023, and our Meet and Greet will be on Saturday, January 21. I am thanking in advance those who helped with the event. Many are bringing food or wine, Susan Halliday is preparing a PowerPoint about AAUW to show our guests what we do, and others are helping in many different ways. Thanks to all for your assistance.

Think about inviting that newly retired friend or co-worker to our next branch meeting.

Sharon Heck, Chair





#### <u>Greater Whittier Area-American Association of University Women</u> MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM for YEAR 2022-2023

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  | Paid Life Member \$44   | □ Student \$38.81   |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Please choose<br>Membership type:                      | General \$111   | Dual \$24           |
| REMIND   | 67 + State Dues \$20 + Branch Dues<br>ER \$88 of YOUR DUES IS TAX D | EDUCTIBLE           |
| To order the following iter<br>I want the yearbook in: | ms, please include/add the follow<br>sert mailed to me - \$2        | ving to your check: |
|  | er, cost \$7 + (if mailed, postage \$5                              | = \$12)             |

#### 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:                   |           |              |                |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| *Last Name                      | *First Na | ame          | Middle Initial |
| Your Title: Mrs Ms              | Miss      | Other        |                |
| *Address                        | •         | city         | *Zip           |
| *Home Phone                     | *Cell Ph  | one          |                |
| *Work Phone                     | *En       | nail address |                |
| Degree                          | _ Year    | Major        |                |
| College/University              |           |              |                |
| Degree                          | Year      | Major        |                |
| College/University              |           |              |                |
| Degree                          | _ Year    | Major        |                |
| College/University              |           |              |                |
| Do you have a sponsor? If so, w | vho?      |              |                |

2020-2021 GWA-AAUW Membership Questionnaire Please print or fill in with text. Use the back of this paper if you need more space information.

| Name:   | First          | Tear joined AAOW |                              |
|---|----------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Last  | Filot          |                  | 4                            |
| College/Universities attended                   |                | Years            | Degree received              |
| Elected Offices held in AAUW                    |                | Branch           | Year (approximate is ok)     |
|   |                |                  | continue on back of paper    |
| Appointed Offices held                          |                | Branch           | Year (approximate is ok)     |
|   |                |                  | continue on back of paper    |
| Committee / Section Chair Positions             |                | Branch           | Year (approximate ok)        |
|   |                |                  | continue on back of paper    |
| Committee / Section Chair Participation         |                | Branch           | Year (approximate is ok)     |
|   |                |                  | continue on back of paper    |
|   | ÷              |                  |                              |
| Projects for AAUW Worked on/Completed           |                |                  | continue on                  |
|   | -              |                  | back of pape                 |
| Community Activities (Clubs, Volunteering, etc) | L <sup>6</sup> | Organization     | Year (s) (approximate is ok) |
|   | -              |                  |                              |
|   | -              |                  | continue on back of pape     |

# MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS



We had a very "wet" Math/Science Conference on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. The girls had to run in the rain across the Whittier College campus, to get to their three sessions. After a brief Opening Session in the Shannon Center where they heard a welcome from our branch president, Nadine Wilcox; heard a keynote address from the president of Whittier College, Dr. Linda Oubre; and heard an orientation from me, they grabbed a snack in the Shannon lobby and headed to their assigned sessions. Each session had two women who spoke about their STEM related careers.

I have read the 300+ student evaluations and they were very positive. The biggest complaint was the difficulty in finding the three buildings and classrooms in each. We were a bit short of volunteers this year, and the rain made things more complicated. It was a good day, however, and I want to thank everyone who had a part in our success.

Each student was given a half-page form to rate each speaker Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor. Many also wrote in the Comments space at the bottom. Here are some quotations from the student evaluations. "I loved this visit! Thank you for having me. This whole experience has been great and I hope I get to be something good like you girls someday." "It was interesting listening to people talk about their interests. I enjoyed this wonderful experience. I've never visited a college or been in one. Everyone was really kind to me." "Very efficient, specific, & openhearted. It was a pleasure to hear the speakers talk about their experiences & advice they have for us." "I would like to thank this college for the opportunity and would like to let you know I'm grateful for every speaker. I was inspired and interested in everything. I look forward to possibly coming here. Thank you." "I've learned so many things about science. I have also learned about woman power." "Thank you guys for teaching me something today  $\textcircled$ ." "This experience was very motivational and eye-opening to me." "Really enjoyed these sessions. Thank you  $\textcircled$ ."

There was a line near the bottom of the evaluation where they were asked to rate their Overall Impression of the Conference. On that line, one girl wrote: "Amazing! I got to learn so much!" Here are a couple of very brief comments: "Fun and engaging." "10/10 would recommend."

Sharon Heck, Chair



P.S. I received an email from the teacher/advisor at Telesis Academy in Rowland Heights. "On behalf of myself and our 8<sup>th</sup>-grade girls who attended the Conference today, thank you very much for the opportunity. The girls enjoyed it and learned from the experience. Please pass on our appreciation to AAUW-Whittier."

### MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS Thank you to the Volunteers

We did it! Thanks to each one of our volunteers who overcame the weather and joined the group that made things work at the Conference for 8<sup>th</sup>-grade girls at Whittier College on Tuesday, January 10. Under the amazing leadership of Sharon Heck who planned it all and saw to every detail, we had a successful event. Some of the same people met at the Packet Party on Thursday, January 5 at the home of Pat Dudley to prepare the backpacks for 394 girls who attended! In addition to the list of those who participated in both events, here are some of the comments received from the volunteers which indicate what a meaningful experience it was not only for the students but for the "helpers" also! In addition to the project, members were brought even closer together during the process.

As Pat Dudley said "It is always nice to work with these women. Get the job done then enjoy time with each other. Good way to build connections among members that don't necessarily attend the same sections or sit at the same tables at a luncheon."

Other comments included Pauline Rogers' "It was a bit more rigorous but to see those girls' faces light up with curiosity and interest made that liquid sunshine far less important." Kathy Arriola commented, "It was a day well spent to see not only the girls' gratefulness but getting to know each other as members of AAUW as our meetings allow limited time to share a bit about each other." Mandy Knight wrote, "It absolutely is a highlight and always a learning opportunity for me too." Kay Clark said "One of the important things our branch does. I love volunteering at it and look forward to next year." And Kaye Kidwell noted, "This may become known as the No Matter What Math/Science Conference. The rain wasn't the only obstacle, but we overcame each one".

We had new members attend for the first time, others who combined their responsibilities with other obligations the same day, last-minute substitutions because of illness, and those who took on "double duty" as speakers. It was AAUW at its best—hardworking, resourceful, and ever-continuing to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research!

Dolores Seidman, Volunteer Coordinator for the Conference

| Kathy Arriola          | Susan Halliday  | Pauline Rogers  |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Andrea Bellamy         | Kaye Kidwell    | Dolores Seidman |
| Rozanne Child          | Mandy Knight    | Dede Shatzen    |
| Kay Clark              | Marian Locke    | Ann Topjon      |
| Sheryl Crockey         | Paula Ocampo    | Fay Weber       |
| Pat Dudley             | Virginia Orenos | Nadine Wilcox   |
| Barbara Gile           | Linda Pomeroy   | Gwen Woirhaye   |
| Dolores Gonzales-Hayes | Margo Reeg      | Deanna Woirhaye |
|                        |                 |                 |

#### Volunteers for 2023 MATH/SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS

### **INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS**

Our International Concerns section is reading 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.

Our meetings are on the third Thursday of each month at 10 AM. On Thursday, February 16, 2023, 10 AM, we will meet at Sharon Heck's home, 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier, CA 90601. Our topic for the February 16 meeting will be Chapter 1, "Energy Security," in the 2023 <u>Great</u> <u>Decisions</u>. Please do not attend if you are not feeling well. We will have a Zoom meeting also if one is needed. Let Sharon know if you would like the Zoom meeting and need the Zoom link. If you do not have the book, you might be able to access some information on the Foreign Policy Association website. www.fpa.org/great\_decisions.

Everyone reads the material ahead of time, and we have a lively discussion around the topic. If you have newspaper articles or materials, we are happy for you to share them. All are welcome to join us for International Concerns. Please RSVP to Sharon as her street has permit parking. Daily permits will be available, and there is a driveway.

S.Heck4peace@gmail.com 562-858-9253.

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



#### **International Concerns - Weekend Edition**

All members are welcome; we will follow the same schedule of readings in the Great Decision 2023 Handbook as the Thursday 10 AM group.

#### When: Sunday, February 19, 2023

#### Time: 2:00-4:00 pm.

**Location:** The home of Nadine Wilcox: 12423 Camilla Street, Whittier, 90601. Parking is <u>without a permit</u>, but occasionally tight at times.

**Snacks:** Supplied by the group.

#### **READING** will be:

**Chapter 1**: "Energy Security" will be discussed in this session.

### **MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE**

Thursday, February 9 6:30 PM Home of Gwen Woirhaye 5810 Friends Ave, Whittier

Remember to pick up a parking permit at her gate for street parking or park in her driveway to use the ramp walkway.

*The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine who Outwitted America's Enemies* by Jason Fagone

Joining the ranks of <u>Hidden Figures</u> and <u>In the Garden of Beasts</u>, this book tells the incredible true story of an American woman and her husband who invented the modern science of cryptology.

The book will be reviewed by Georgine Sweeney and refreshments provided by Kristine Yeseta. The next selection will be <u>*The Paris Bookseller*</u> by Kerri Maher on March 9.



### **MYSTERY MAVENS**

Mystery Mavens does not meet in February. We will meet again on March 15, 2023, the third Wednesday. We are planning to meet at MIMI's at Whittwood, 6PM. Our book choices are listed below. Come join us.

Sharon Heck

Books for 2023March 15*The Quiche of Death* by M.C. Beaton, reviewed by Gwen WoirhayeMay 17*The Ritual Bath* by Faye Kellerman, reviewed by Brigitta Weger



### **MORNING BOOK**

This section does not meet in February. Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 27, and we will be reading and discussing *The Sympathizer*, by Viet Thanh Nguyen. Look for details in the March newsletter.

For a head start, the last two books of the year are:

| May 22  | <u>The Personal Librarian</u> (Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray) |
|---------|--|
| July 24 | <u>Trust</u> (Hernan Diaz)   |

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-665-1724

### WRITING IS FUN

Writing is Fun! will meet on Wednesday, February 22, at 1 PM at the home of Carole Restovich, 10413 Portada Dr. (behind Vons Market.) As usual, you may write on anything that strikes your interest at the moment. For those who want to consider a specific topic, you might try writing on "Bright Spots in a World of Negativity". Aside from an apple martini, you might consider discussing a book that lifts your spirits, a binge-watched TV series, an upbeat friend, a special place of calm, and so on. Everyone is welcome to come and share their written thoughts.

Carole's home: 10413 Portada Dr., off Santa Gertrudes and Starbuck.

Carole Restovich Phone: 562-787-0727.



### **FIRST FRIDAY**

Since no one has stepped up to host First Friday in February, we will not meet. We still need hosts for March.

#### **Hosts**

| February 3 | no meeting                    |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| March 3    | need a host                   |
| April 7    | <b>Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes</b> |
| May 5      | Belen Duarte                  |

Gwen Woirhaye, chair gwen@woirhaye.com



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

There will be no Dining for \$\$\$\$ event during the month of February. We are scheduled for our next fundraiser in March. Please check your March newsletter for details.

Carole Duff & Sheryl Crockey

### **REALLY GREAT STUFF**



AAUW SPRING FUNDRAISER 14402 Whittier Blvd Whittier, CA 90605

Easter items will be available!

Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> Opens at 11:00 AM Closes at 5:00 PM

Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> Opens at 11:00 AM Closes at 4:00 PM

20% of the sales go to AAUW



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR; BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY TO THIS GREAT EVENT!

Easter items, Clothing, Jewelry, Accessories, Home Décor, Handbags, Mirrors & more

Free gift Wrap

Any Questions, please call: Karen van der Baan 562-695-0048



### AAUW SPRING FUNDRAISER

REALLY GREAT STUFF 14402 WHITTIER BLVD. WHITTIER

Easter items will be available!

Wednesday March 15th Thursday March16th Friday March17th Opens at 11:00 Closes at 5:00

Saturday March 18th Opens at 11:00 Closes at 4:00

20% OF THE SALES GO TO AAUW!!!

BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY TO THIS GREAT EVENT!

Easter items, Clothing, Jewelry, Accessories, Home Decor, Handbags, Mirrors & more! Free Gift Wrap

Any Questions, please call: Karen van der Baan 562-695-0048

# **NEEDLEWORK CORNER**

#### 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**



#### **Congratulations Claire Koehler!**

As Claire reports from her trip to Spain: "... our trip to Spain has been amazing. It also had a secret purpose. While here, <u>we got married</u>. We chose a charming little 9<sup>th</sup>-century village called Frigiliana, on the Mediterranean. We rented a lovely Airbnb with ancient stone and brick interior walls, and a balcony with breathtaking views, as a location for the ceremony. We documented it for posterity. We considered inviting you all but then realized that very few would be able to make the trip to Spain. So instead of excluding anybody, we secretly eloped. It seems more romantic that way.

I am writing now from the oldest city in Europe, Cadiz, which started out as a Phoenician port village.

Love to you all, David and Claire"

**Karen van der Baan** brought these little guys home from the January luncheon meeting. She says: "Thank you, Ann Topjon, for sharing your wonderful Christmas creatures with us and helping the Branch as well! My family enjoyed them very much and will in the coming year"



Honoring Black History Month, it does us well to reflect on the words of Martin Luther King Jr.

### "DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT DARKNESS; ONLY LIGHT CAN DO THAT. HATE CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE; ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT."



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

### FEBRUARY 2023 GREATER WHITTIER AREA CALENDAR

| Board Meeting<br>Modern Trends                                    | February 7 (Tuesday)<br>February 9 (Thursday)  | 7 PM<br>6:30 PM          | St Mathias & Zoom<br>Gwen Woirhaye's     |
|---|--|--------------------------|--|
| Branch Meeting  | February 11 (Saturday)                         | 11:30 AM                 | Whittier Elks Lodge                      |
| International Concerns<br>International Concerns WE               | February 16 (Thursday)<br>February 19 (Sunday) | 10 AM<br>2 PM-4 PM       | Sharon Heck's<br>Nadine Wilcox's         |
| Writing is Fun  | February 22 (Wednesday)                        | 1:30 PM                  | Carole Restovich's                       |
| <u>Save the Dates</u><br>Really Great Stuff<br>Really Great Stuff | March 15 (Wednesday)<br>March 16 (Thursday)    | 11 PM-5 PM<br>11 PM-5 PM | Really Great Stuff<br>Really Great Stuff |
| Really Great Stuff<br>Really Great Stuff                          | March 17 (Friday)<br>March 18 (Saturday)       | 11 PM-5 PM<br>11 AM-4 PM | Really Great Stuff<br>Really Great Stuff |
| Really Ofeat Stuff  | March 18 (Saturday)                            |                          | Really Oreat Stull                       |

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 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 15<sup>th</sup> of every month, August through May to <u>pocampo@aol.com</u> 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 |

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