

GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

http://whittier-ca.aauw.net

May 2023



Branch Meeting, Saturday May13 11:30 AM – Whittier Elks Lodge

PROGRAM - Finds from the Past

May has arrived and is sporting her glorious colors, modeled by peonies, irises, lilacs, and roses, bursting onto the scene with aromatic scents and charming splendor. This makes it the perfect time of year to perk up our ears to this month's Branch speaker, Dr. Emily Teipe! Yes, she has graced our meetings before, but this May, she will be speaking on one of her favorite subjects, "Women and Victorian Culture." It was only last year that she spoke to us via ZOOM about women's legal status in the early 20th century, so it should be a treat to learn more about the Victorian era.

Emily Molesworth Teipe was born in Baltimore Maryland. She earned her Master's degree in history by completing her studies at Richmond College, London in Classical Civilization which comprised on site courses in Greece, Turkey, Israel, and others. She received her doctorate from the University of California and consequently published her doctoral dissertation, *With Paper Promises in their Pockets, America's First Veterans, and the Revolutionary War Pensions*.

Dr. Teipe is Professor Emerita of Fullerton College where she taught for thirty years. She was nominated 21 years consecutively for "teacher of the year," and was a recipient of the award in 2009 and 2010. Although she is retired, Dr. Teipe continues to teach her very popular class "Women in United States History" at Fullerton College, online to 100 students each semester.

Her latest book, *Our Beloved Friend, the Life and Writing of Anne Emlen Mifflin* is a study of an eighteenth- century Quaker reformer, which she co- authored with Dr. Gary B. Nash. It was published by Penn State University Press, in December 2022. Emily has recently completed, *Las Santas, Our Sisters in Faith and Spirit*, a collection of biographies of female saints, including the four women doctors of the church. A work currently in progress is the fourth edition of *Different Voices, Women in United States History* to be released in 2024.

Dr. Teipe's May presentation, "Women and Victorian Culture" will inform us of how we got certain holidays, like Mother's Day, and will also discuss women's fashions and customs of the Victorian era.

In addition to our speaker, May's Program will also present the AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree(s) where we pay tribute to those who give so much to AAUW. That is not to be missed. We hope to see you all there! (Please see the Hospitality section for meeting information at The Whittier Elks Lodge).

Claire Koehler, VP Program Director Ann Topjon, Program Associate Christine Heller, Program Associate

HOSPITALITY

It's Maytime! Time for Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day, which is considered by some as the start of summer. On this cold, dreary day I do look forward to more sun. However, the flowers are really in bloom now. So much rain this past winter has surely helped relieve the drought. Do hope your springtime is pleasant and peaceful!

Date: Saturday, May 13

Time:

11:00 AM for Social Time 11:30 AM-1:30 PM for the meeting

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 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: Teriyaki Chicken with Asian slaw, jasmine rice, macaroni salad, fruit,

and pineapple upside-down cake for dessert

Vegetarian/Vegan entrée: Green salad and a cup of vegetable soup

Entrées include a salad with a choice of dressing, Hawaiian rolls and butter, dessert, coffee, iced tea, and water.

Lunch cost: \$25/per person

Beverage only: \$5/per person and includes coffee, ice tea, and water

No substitutions, deletions, or special orders

Please **RSVP** with your selection from one of the following:

- . Main Entrée
- . Vegetarian /Vegan entrée

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and a reservation made and **NOT** cancelled by the deadline **MUST BE PAID**. Please **RSVP** with your menu choice by NOON on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>May 9</u> to <u>kayclark310@gmail.com</u> or if you do not have an email call **Kay Clark** at (310) 890-6510.

NOTE: If Kay Clark does NOT respond to your email reservation call or text her!

Pauline Rogers, Hospitality VP

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Although we are past many of the early inspirational recognition days and months for women (International Women's Day, and Women's History Month), there is still more than half of the year to live through and be inspired by anything you put your mind to. Here are some thoughts to share to inspire you every day in May and the months to come:

- "All things seem possible in May." Edwin Way Teale
- "May, more than any other month of the year, wants us to feel most alive." Fennel Hudson
- "Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women." Maya Angelou
- "I'd rather regret the risks that didn't work out than the chances I didn't take at all."
- Simone Biles
- "Learn to embrace your own unique beauty, celebrate your unique gifts and then have confidence around them. The imperfections are actually a gift." Kerry Washington
- "The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be."
 - Ralph Waldo Emerson
- "Do one thing every day that scares you." Eleanor Roosevelt
- "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect."
 - Mark Twain
- "I don't want to get to the end of my life and find that I lived just the length of it. I want to have lived the width of it as well."
 - Diane Ackerman

Many thoughts to contemplate and take action on for oneself in this month of May. Grow into a beautiful self like the flowers springing forth in May.

Tech Trek

Please see the Tech Trek article on page 6 and consider volunteering for this summer's camp. Jonae Fedors, camp director, reports that we can't run the camp without Dorm Moms.

2023-2024 Branch Officers

Those present at the April meeting voted unanimously for the slate of officers as posted in the April newsletter. Congratulations to all elected board members on the slate. The installation of officers will be at our June branch meeting.

No one accepted nominations for the open positions of President-Elect and Membership VP. The board that is in place will establish a means of sharing the roles, especially of the Membership VP, to ensure that the required duties will be carried out through the next fiscal year. Volunteers will be more important than ever.

Nadine Wilcox, President



FINANCIAL CORNER

A reminder that it's time again to renew your membership. National has announced that our dues will go up another \$5.00 this year, bringing the total to \$116.00. Three years ago, they said they would raise dues by \$5.00 for three years, so this is the last year of that.

Most of our memberships expire June 30, 2023. New members have expiration dates one year from when they joined. If anyone wants to know when their membership expires, please let me know.

These dues amounts go into effect on April 1. National has informed me the website is still not ready for on-line payments. I'll let you know when I hear differently. If you want to send your dues to me instead, please make the check out to GWA AAUW (Greater Whittier Area AAUW) and mail to me at:

11915 Inez St. #8 Whittier, CA 90605 <u>kayclark310@gmail.com</u> 310/890-6510

Regular dues are \$116.00. Paid Lifetime Dues are still \$44.00 and Honorable Lifetime (members over 50 years) are \$0.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above contact info.

Kay Clark, Treasurer



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION (DEI)

The topic for the March 27th DEI Statewide Chat was: Justice, Accessibility, Belonging, Equity, Inclusion and Diversity (Acronym JABEID)

The presenter, Dr. Lata Murti, co-president of the Santa Maria branch, provided definitions for each of the terms (also found in the AAUW DEI Toolkit) and facilitated a discussion on ways branches can embody them in their AAUW activities and efforts with Justice being the end goal for examining accessibility, belonging, equity, inclusion, and diversity. AAUW was described as a social justice organization by the presenter.

The webinar offered an opportunity for branches to report their efforts in the above areas and to brainstorm additional ideas for branches to consider. The presenter and several participants voiced the need to remove the degree requirement from AAUW membership.

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW California State Public Policy Committee Sets 2023-24 Legislative Agenda

by Kathi Harper, State Public Policy Chair 3/20/2023

The State Public Policy Committee, in conjunction with our Public Policy Advocate Kathy Von Osten (KVO), has completed their selection of the 30 bills that the committee and KVO will be working on this year. This year our bills fall into the following categories from the 3 pillars of our Public Policy Priorities:

- 8 "Economic Security" bills
- 11 "Public Education" bills
- 21 "Social Justice" bills
- 8 "reproductive justice"
- 5 "healthcare"
- 5 "freedom from violence" including sex exploitation, DV, stalking
- 1 "gender-identity protection"
- 2 "voting rights"

The committee then selected our top 3 priority bills, including at least 1 bill which we will co-sponsor ("A" bills). KVO will spend most of her time working on these bills, including working with the authors' offices, attending committing hearings, and writing letters of support. These are also the 3 bills members will advocate for in their Lobby Days visits. We then selected 3 next-level bills ("B" bills), which are important but not as resource intensive. The remaining 24 bills will be handled as "C" level bills. Here is a look at our top 3 bills:

AB1394 – This is our co-sponsored bill. It would allow victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking to sue a social media platform for between \$1 million and \$5 million if the victim can prove the platform design knowingly, recklessly or negligently facilitated the use of code words for sexual predators to describe the type of child and the type of sexual activity that resulted in the act of exploitation.

The bill has been amended to define an algorithm which would "facilitate, aid, or abet" to-mean to deploy a system, design, feature, or affordance that is a substantial factor in causing minor users to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

Margo Reeg, Public Policy Chair



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TECH TREK

Tech Trek is a science and math camp designed to develop interest, excitement and self-confidence in young girls who will enter eighth grade in the fall. It features hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and related subjects.



This summer our Branch will be sending four girls to Whittier College for one week from June 18th through June 24th. Five members from the Greater Whittier Area Branch (Ann Chambers, Kaye Clark, Brenda Carrillo, Pat Dudley, and Barbara Gile) interviewed 7 girls who had been nominated by a math or science teacher and had submitted an essay on "How I Would Make the World a Better Place with My Knowledge of Math and Science". Nadine Wilcox, Branch President, joined the panel at the Steam Academy at Burke and at the selection meeting immediately following the interviews.

Four campers with a guest each will be invited to attend the September luncheon.

Outreach and fundraising efforts of the Myra Long Scholarship Fund (MLSF) allow our branch to sponsor scholarships for attendance at Tech Trek. You have an opportunity this month to support this program with your contribution to the **Nonevent Fundraiser.**

Additional dorm moms are needed for the Whittier Camp. The director, Jonae Fedors, has reached out to the Whittier branch asking for volunteers for the dorm mom position. If interested contact her at or call 661-547-6124 jonaefedors@gmail.com

How to become a volunteer to help at registration for Tech Trek. https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2023/02/instructions-to-apply-to-volunteer-at-tech-trek.pdf/

AAUW FUND

At the May 13 Branch Meeting the secret will be out! The name(s) of the AAUW Fund Honoree(s) will be announced. This honor is given to those who have made significant contributions to the mission of AAUW. The list of those who have been honored in the past can be found in the branch yearbook on pp. 24-27. In the June newsletter details will be given about this year's winner(s).

Be at the May 13th Branch Meeting and be among the first to know!

Dolores Seidman AAUW Fund VP



MEMBERSHIP

We are so happy to have 111 members in our Greater Whittier Area Branch of AAUW. Most of our members have a starting date of June 30, so it is time to think about paying our dues for the coming year. We had hoped that National AAUW would have their new Community Hub ready to accept our dues by April 1, but that didn't happen. Watch for announcements that they are ready to accept our dues in the near future. Anyone may send a check for \$116.00 to our treasurer, Kay Clark. Her address is: 11915 Inez St. #8, Whittier, CA 90605. All members who have a starting date of June 30 and owe dues will receive a reminder notice by email sometime this Spring from National AAUW.

BELOW ARE SEVERAL ITEMS SENT FROM NATIONAL AAUW.

Consider Lifetime Membership!

This is a great time to upgrade to lifetime membership for \$1,340—a \$100 savings when you sign up before June 30! Put your values into action for many years to come. <u>Upgrade today!</u>

Get Ready! National Election Opens April 5

Check your email when <u>National Election</u> voting opens on Wednesday, April 5! This year, AAUW is using a third-party vendor to administer voting. You'll receive a ballot with your unique voting credentials from <u>vote@simplyvoting.com</u>. Please add this address to your safe sender list now to ensure your ballot reaches you. Voting closes Monday, May 15, at 5 p.m. ET.

Don't Miss AAUW Emails

Help us help members who report not receiving AAUW emails! Please direct them to https://aauw.us/emailoptions so they can get back on our email list!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our May 13, 2023 Branch meeting. Think about bringing a guest!

Sharon Heck, Membership Vice-President





Greater Whittier Area-American Association of University Women MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM for YEAR 2023-2024

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

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Please choose Membership type:	☐ Paid Life Member \$44		Student \$38.81	
	☐ General \$	116	☐ Dual \$24	
# C	2 + State Dues \$20 ER \$93 of YOUR D		\$24 = \$116 TOTAL}	
☐ I want the AAUW binds	ert mailed to me - \$	5 2		
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Do you have a sponsor? If so	, who?			

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	18	3
	Years	Degree received
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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, May 18, at 10 AM, we will meet at Sharon Heck's home, 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier, CA 90601. Our topic for the May 18 meeting will be Chapter 4, "Economic Warfare and U.S. Policy" in the 2023 <u>Great Decisions</u>. Our discussion will be led by Christine Heller. 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

Topic: Chapter 4 - Economic Warfare and U.S. Policy

Date: May 21, 2023

Time: 3-4:30 PM

Place: Nadine Wilcox's home: 12423 Camilla St., Whittier, CA 90601

Open to any members of GWA-AAUW and to any Thursday Section member of International Concerns, if unable to attend the 3rd Thursday of the Month (May 18). Please RSVP if you are a new member to the group for this Section meeting:

Nadine Wilcox (Cell/text): 1-626-340-9018

MYSTERY MAVENS

Mystery Mavens will meet on May 17, 2023, the third Wednesday, at Mimi's Restaurant, 6 PM. 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 The Ritual Bath by Faye Kellerman. Brigitta Weger will review the book and lead our discussion.

Here is some information on our book for May 17, 2023. "Detective Peter Decker of the LAPD is stunned when he gets the report. Someone has shattered the sanctuary of a remote yeshiva community in the California hills with an unimaginable crime. One of the women was brutally raped as she returned from the mikvah, the bathhouse where the cleansing ritual is performed. The crime was called in by Rina Lazarus, and Decker is relieved to discover that she is a calm and intelligent witness. She is also the only one in the sheltered community willing to speak of this unspeakable violation. As Rina tries to steer Decker through the maze of religious laws, the two grow closer. But before they get to the bottom of this horrendous crime, revelations come to light that are so shocking, they threaten to come between the hard-nosed cop and the deeply religious woman with whom he has become irrevocably linked."

Our Mystery Maven members will vote on our five choices for next year at our May 17 meeting. I have eight nominees, but you are welcome to send me more book titles with a paragraph of description.

Sharon Heck

MORNING BOOK

We are doing something different this month and meeting at historic Penn Park on Penn St. off Painter Ave. where there is street parking. We will gather on Monday, May 22, at 10 AM, to discuss *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray, a remarkable novel about J. P. Morgan's real personal librarian, Belle da Costa Greene, the Black American woman who was forced to hide her true identity and pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation. The discussion will be led by Gwen Woirhaye. So, bring your chairs – I have 3 extras if you need one – something to drink and nibble on if you wish. It should be a good time to be out of doors, under shady leafy trees and together! The only downside to this is that Zoom will be unavailable this month.

Remember also I am collecting book ideas for next year. So far two of you have submitted titles, but it would be good to have a few others to add to the mix. Please send <u>title</u>, <u>author</u>, <u>number of pages and a brief summary</u>, available on Amazon. I will take your suggestions through Friday, May 19.

We also need someone to host our last meeting of the year, July 24. The book we will be discussing is *Trust*, by Hernan Diaz. Linda Harris and I will co-lead the discussion.

I am looking forward to seeing a number of you!

Ann Topjon 562-665-1724

MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE

Thursday, May 11, 6:30 PM at the home of Georgine Sweeney 16411 Pasada Ave, Whittier 90603

We will be discussing <u>Violetta</u> by Isabell Allende. A fictional autobiographical account of the life of Violetta as she recalls all she has seen and experienced in the 20th century in her 100 years. Her life is bookended by pandemics, the Spanish flu and the Covid crisis.

Georgine will also be treating us to refreshments.

Please bring your suggestions for next year or send them to Kristine.

Next Meeting Thursday June 8

Members Choice- Will you choose to share <u>Remarkably Bright Creatures</u> by Shelby VanPelt, <u>The Light We Carry</u> by Michelle Obama, <u>Such a Fun Age</u> by Kiley Reid or <u>Hamnet</u> by Maggie O'Farrell?

What is on your summer reading list?

FIRST FRIDAY

May 5, 6-8 PM



We meet at the home of Belen and Gaspar Duarte-Sousa, 4430 Woodmar Drive, Whittier. Our hostess has asked that we bring, if possible, snacks with a Mexican theme and dress "Mexican". (Do not stay away if you lack ability to do so.) As usual, bring your choice of beverage – Margaritas anyone? – and a snack to share.

First Fridays are a great way to get better acquainted with each other, bring friends, especially potential members for our Branch, and have a couple of hours of casual, relaxing visiting.

Directions: Workman Mill Road north from Beverly Boulevard and Norwalk Boulevard; right on Spy Glass Hill Road, and then right on Woodmar Drive to address.

Gwen Woirhaye, chair

WRITING IS FUN

Enjoy working with words? Join us on Wednesday, May 24, at 1 PM at the home of Carole Restovich for Writing is Fun! We write on a myriad of topics and share the results with an appreciative audience. For anyone who might like a prompt, how about "How I Met the Love of My Life." It might be your life partner, a true friend, a special pet, a love of learning – think about what you treasure and how it came to be so special. All are welcome.

Carole Restovich



DINING FOR \$\$\$\$

Save The Date! Black Angus Steakhouse Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Our next and final Dining For \$\$\$\$ fundraiser of the year will be on June 7 at Black Angus Steakhouse. Located in the Whittwood Town Center, it is the home of juicy steak and delicious prime rib or seafood meals. **Open from 3 PM – 9 PM**, Black Angus has been hosting AAUW fundraisers since 2017 and is one of our most successful fundraiser events. So please mark your calendars now and make plans to gather for a wonderful meal. As always, 20% of your bill helps to support the Myra Long Scholarship Fund.

Because Black Angus scheduled our fundraiser for early June, we are including the information and a flyer in this May newsletter. Flyers will be available at the May branch meeting. We will once again send a reminder prior to this event and will also include an attachment with flyers that you can print to take along. Black Angus has become a very popular restaurant so we highly recommend making a reservation. You can go online to their Black Angus website or call them directly at (562) 947-2200.

Thank you for a year of **outstanding** support!

Carole Duff & Sheryl Crockey







Proud to support Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women

All Proceeds go to the Myra long scholarship fund

Reservations available and Walk-ins are welcome!

Whittier

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023

15500 Whittier Blvd. (562) 947 - 2200 Time: 3:00PM - 9:00PM



SPOTLIGHT

We send best wishes to **Lynda Richardson** who will have hip replacement surgery on May 10 at Kaiser Hospital in Irvine. After years of strenuous activity, it has caught up with her. She reports the following activities over the years: ballet classes from ages 8-16, leader of high school dance and drill team, dance minor at CSULB, backpacking in Sierras and Rockies up to 13,000 feet, skier for 35 years, taught PE for 35 years, did yoga for 20 years.

Her hip has had quite a workout!

Lynda's address is 13028 Meadow Green Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638. E-mail: lyndasue10@yahoo.com (contributed by Dolores Seidman)

Karen van der Baan sends thanks to all that were able to participate in our Really Great Stuff Spring Event! Karen says, "It was fun to meet and greet fellow members and their friends and relatives at Teri's boutique. With the generous purchases of all, we were able to make a little over \$520.00 for our Branch. Thanks again!" And a big thanks to you Karen for running the event.

The Whittier Museum is now exhibiting **Ann Farmer's** collection of over 60 miniature scenes. It's a great way to honor Ann's memory by attending the exhibit and remembering all that she contributed. The museum is located at 6755 Newlin Ave. (562-945-3871).

Our president, **Nadine Wilcox**, turned 71 years old on April 6. She celebrated with a classmate since 3rd grade; over 60 years of friendship. However, on birthday, her arthritis kicked up in her left knee and she had to have her first-ever cortisone injection. Nadine isn't letting it get her down.

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 pocampo@aol.com

May 2023

GREATER WHITTIER AREA CALENDAR

Board Meeting	May 2 (Tuesday)	7 PM	Zoom
First Friday	May 5 (Friday)	6 PM – 8 PM	Belen Duarte-Sousa's
Modern Trends	May 11 (Thursday)	6 PM	Georgine Sweeney's
Branch Meeting	May 13 (Saturday)	11:30 AM	Whittier Elks Lodge
Mystery Mavens	May 17 (Wednesday)	6 PM	Mimi's Restaurant
International Concerns	May 18 (Thursday)	10 AM	Sharon Heck's
International Concerns WE	May 21 (Sunday)	3 PM – 4:30 PM	Nadine Wilcox's
Morning Book	May 22 (Monday)	10 AM	Penn Park
Writing is Fun	May 24 (Wednesday)	1:00 PM	Carole Restovich's
Dining for \$\$\$	June 7 (Wednesday)	3 PM – 9 PM	Black Angus Steakhouse

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 <u>www.aauw.org</u>
AAUW California <u>www.aauw-ca.org</u>

GWA-AAUW www.whittier-ca.aauw.net

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