



# GREATER WHITTIER AREA BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER

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

**June  
2023**

## **BRANCH MEETING Saturday, June 10**



## **LUNCHEON**

Our June meeting has a special agenda, and will include the following:

- Presentation of MLSF Scholarships
- Installation of Elected Officers
- Recognition of service years

A big thank you to Carole Restovich, Scholarship chair, and her committee for finding and evaluating the scholarship candidates, see page 2 for a list of the recipients and their accomplishments.

Also thank you to Claire Koehler and the Program Committee, our programs this year have been excellent. Please see Claire's article, "Looking Back" on page 6.

Be sure to attend the luncheon if you are in town. For those that will be out of town attending graduations, congratulations to the proud families.

June is the last meeting of the 2022-2023 year for GWA-AAUW. Thank you to our president, Nadine Wilcox, and the Board. We will take a break during the summer months and meet again on September 9, 2023.

This will also be the last newsletter until September. Be sure to send your summer spotlight articles by August 15 in time to include in the September newsletter.

### **Location:**

Whittier Elks Lodge  
13620 Whittier Blvd.  
Whittier, CA 90602

### **Menu:**

Main entrée: Chicken enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, garden salad w/choice of dressing,

Vegetarian/Vegan entrée: Large Salad with mixed greens and vegetables, choice of dressing

Entrées include warm tortillas, chips & salsa, dessert, and beverage

Lunch cost: \$25/per person

Beverage only: \$5/per person and includes beverages; 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
- Beverage Only

**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, June 6 to [kayclark310@gmail.com](mailto:kayclark310@gmail.com) or you can 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

# Myra Long Scholarship Recipients

At the June 10, 2023, luncheon you will have the pleasure of meeting six remarkable senior high school girls who are recipients of this year's Myra Long Scholarships. You will hear of the accomplishments, dedication, and passion of the following young women:

- **Emily Aragon** is a former Tech Trekker. She plans to attend a UC college to obtain a STEM degree. In a referral letter Mary Isaac, CA Tech Trek advisor, writes, "Emily is an inspiring coach to younger girls. She can explain difficult concepts in a way they can understand." She has volunteered in the Whittier Volunteer Program and, as a result, was hired as a Recreational Specialist in 2021.
- **Hannah Estrada** has an ultimate goal of opening her own nurse practitioner's office. She is greatly influenced by her grandfather, a kind man who was a CNA. One of her AP teachers calls Emily "a source of positivity wherever she goes. She brings out the best in people." She is a member of Cal High's Health Academy. Hannah plans to attend Biola.
- **Tonantzi Gonzalez** plans to attend USC majoring in Business Administration with the ultimate goal of attending law school. She aims to be a lawyer who will serve the underprivileged. Her math teacher has said, "In 20 years of teaching, she stands out above the rest." She has been president of numerous clubs, swims on varsity water polo and has over 100 hours of community service.
- **Irma Grajeda** is another former Tech Trekker. Of that experience, she has said, "It has marked a meaningful footprint in my life." She plans on attending UC San Diego, majoring in psychology, with the goal of becoming a marriage and family therapist. She has had many academic awards, is member of a numerous clubs, has been active in sports (which she calls therapeutic) and volunteers at her church.
- **Sara Munoz** plans to attend UC Irvine or UCLA with a major in psychology. Her field of interest has been influenced by the recent passing of her mother and years before that by a stint at the Sorenson Library helping children with ADHD and dyslexia. Sara says, "I took what was wrong in my life to help people find value in theirs." She has participated in sports and arranged community clothing drives to benefit lower-income students.
- **Melanie Saavedra** will study environmental engineering with an emphasis on pollution and climate at UC Berkeley. At Cal High she participated in Model United Nations and the Puente Club where she has won statewide recognition all the while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Melanie says these activities have helped her develop leadership, communication and collaboration skills. Her AP government teacher says, "She is truly a superb, yet humble, campus leader."

There you have it! These wonderfully enthusiastic and accomplished young people are a credit to their families and our community. It is a privilege to help them on their academic journey. Come meet them on Saturday, June 10.

Carole Restovich, Scholarship Chair

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June is busting out all over...!!

We are almost through Spring and into our end-of-the-year project - Tech Trek! Please be sure to read the Tech Trek Section of the newsletter and sign up as a volunteer to help on Sunday, June 18, 2023, the registration day for the campers arriving at their summer camp week at Whittier College. I understand there is still a need for Dorm Moms so do check that out. Contact our Tech Trek Coordinator, Brenda Carrillo (find contact info shared in the Tech Trek Section of the Newsletter or in the 2022-23 Yearbook) if you have questions or a desire to volunteer locally for June 18, or how to apply as a Dorm Mom volunteer if the need is still there.

Please be sure to attend the June Branch Meeting to celebrate another successful year and our local high school scholarship awardees, and members who will be honored for their length of membership.

Thank you for having confidence in me, as your President for 2022-23, and for the coming year. This would not have been a successful year without the support of the current board. Here is hoping with the new board for 2023-24 the coming year will be just as rewarding and successful, as well as enjoyable for all, the board and the many members (100+ strong). It does take a village to get things done!

From early June through most of the summer, the 2023-24 board will be planning the year ahead to share with members. Please share with the board members any new ideas you have to help us plan for you and be sure we accomplish the mission of AAUW, as well as enjoy each other in the new year ahead for us. We will keep you up-to-date on the plans for the new 2023-2024 year with all of its regular and new activities and programs with the September Newsletter and at the September 9, 2023, Branch Meeting.

The results are in for AAUW's 2023 National Election. Turnout was nearly double that of last year. It strengthens us all when we participate in AAUW governance.

Results of the 2023 Election:

- Kimberly S. Adams, Edwina Frances Martin, Jenna Kirkpatrick Howard, and Mary Zupanc have been elected to serve on the AAUW National Board of Directors.
- The bylaws revision was approved by 95.1% of voters.
- The Public Policy Priority revision was approved by 96.3% of voters.

Sincerely submitted by Nadine Wilcox, President



# MYRA LONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND (MLSF)

As the end of the organization year approaches this article will summarize the many activities and expenses of the Myra Long Scholarship Fund (MLSF). One thousand new brochures were printed as there were only a few left.

Funds of \$3,450.00 were paid from MLSF for four Tech Trekkers for 2023 and three girls are designated as alternates. One camper is approved to attend because she has been vaccinated. The status of the three alternates is also unknown. AAUW California requires all Tech Trek attendees to be COVID vaccinated. Tech Trek at Whittier College will be from Sunday, June 17, to Saturday, June 24, 2023.

The scholarship committee chose six high school applicants to receive \$3,000 each for college this fall. There are three from California High, two from Pioneer, and one ex-Tech Trekker from La Serna. (One recipient from Pioneer High is also an ex-Trekker). This year only Cal High and Pioneer High were on the list for the scholarship program. MLSF can use \$10,645 from the Rio Hondo Foundation for Rio Hondo scholarships. Carole is in ongoing discussions with Dr. Jessica Perea regarding the online Rio Hondo scholarship process. (Note: those girls who attended Tech Trek four years before their graduation date are contacted about applying for our MLSF scholarship.) We have received several applications before the deadline date.

We continued the grants to teachers\*\* and also had the Math/Science Conference. This year the Math/Science Conference Expenses were \$2,773.53.

To date, the non-event fundraiser has netted over \$4,000. A big thank you to all who support our projects with your dollars and efforts. Dining for dollars has been very popular with the Roadhouse Grill donating \$238.67.

MLSF has had a successful year with all your help.

Respectfully submitted: Barbara Gile, Chairperson  
Ann Chambers, Pat Dudley, Susan Halliday, Directors  
Sharon Heck, Math/Science Director  
Kaye Kidwell, Treasurer  
Carole Restovich, Secretary and Scholarships Director



## **\*\*MLSF Classroom STEM Grants**

MLSF continued the STEM Classroom Grant project that was started in lieu of holding the Math Science Conference during the pandemic. STEM teachers at the participating schools were invited to submit a request for materials, speakers, field trips, or other projects to enrich their classrooms. Teachers submitted itemized costs of their request along with a statement of the learning objectives to be met.

The impact of this year's selected projects is best described by the grant recipients. So, we have decided to publish an addendum to this newsletter. Please see our separate report with letters and photos direct from teachers and students.

# FINANCIAL CORNER

This a reminder that it is time again to renew your membership. National has announced that our dues went 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 increase.

Most of our memberships expire on 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.

The increased dues amount went into effect on April 1. National has informed me the website is ready for online payments. If you want to send your dues to me instead, please make the check out to GWA AAUW (Greater Whittier Area AAUW) and mail it to me at:

11915 Inez St. #8  
Whittier, CA 90605  
[kayclark310@gmail.com](mailto:kayclark310@gmail.com)  
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)

Interested in some summer reading? Book groups selecting books for next year? The AAUW website has a list of books on Diversity and Inclusion that could be considered for your section or personal reading.

Topics include: Unconscious Bias, Racism, Gender Equity, White Privilege, Immigration, novels, and children's literature. Any section selecting one of the books is invited to volunteer to present some of their discussion at a meeting.

If you are unable to locate the list, please contact me at [kpudley2002@yahoo.com](mailto:kpudley2002@yahoo.com) with your email address and I will send you the list.

Pat Dudley, DEI Officer

# PROGRAM

## Looking Back

For the GWA-AAUW, this year has been much better than the previous two. That's because each meeting was held in person and we were able to enjoy the camaraderie of our peers at close range, reveling in conversations that we would not have had were we still on ZOOM.

Our year kicked off with Bonnie Weber, a former Whittier librarian who had us enthralled with some of the latest books that came out in 2022. Margo Reeg followed in October with her clear understanding of two measures AAUW would be supporting. She also clarified a confusing gambling proposition. In November, our memoir speaker, Hong-My Basrai had us holding our breath as she relayed the story of her family's attempt to escape Vietnam in the 1970s. Her story was so riveting that she sold all the copies of her book, *Behind the Red Curtain*, at that meeting!

In December, we heard holiday stories from a few of our own members: Barbara Gile, Paula Ocampo, Carole Restovich, and Sharon Heck. The stories were accompanied by the talented Jauhar Basrai who had arranged and played the music to go with each of them. After January's Meet and Greet, February showcased our AAUW Fund Fellow, Stacey Cabaj who introduced us to the "Sound of Touch," complete with a video demonstration of how it works.

March caused a minimal scramble for our Program committee since our chosen speaker, Emily Teipe, had to cancel due to the loss of a close friend who had been ill. Luckily for us, she rescheduled for May and gave us an engaging PowerPoint presentation on "Women and Victorian Culture." In it, she revealed how women helped form the culture in Victorian times, partially because families split into two different life spheres, one being the man's which engaged him in business affairs, while the woman became master of her own home which elevated her status as wife and mother to a whole new cultural norm. This allowed women to become somewhat independent—at least culturally if not politically.

Since our March speaker could not be with us, our own Pat Dudley graciously took on the offer to speak to us about Tech Trek. She presented some GWA-AAUW Tech Trek history and gave us some insights on how it all comes together, not an easy fete, but a valuable one. Dr. Niki Elliott followed in April giving us an eye-opening look at how to uproot "unconscious bias" by being aware of how our own biology sometimes overwhelms logic due to our body's built-in alert system that causes us to react, sometimes in extreme ways even when a situation does not call for such drastic action.

This coming June, our Program will include the awarding of MLSF scholarships to six high school students and the installation of our Board for 2023/2024.

Claire Koehler, VP Program Director  
Ann Topjon, Program Committee Associate  
Chris Heller, Program Committee Associate



# AAUW FUND

## AAUW Fund Named Gift Honorees

Congratulations to our Named Gift Honorees for 2023- Pauline Rogers, Claire Koehler, and Sharon Heck. This article consists of the remarks I made in introducing them at the May 13 branch meeting so that everyone will be aware of their accomplishments!

Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund V.P.



### **Presentations to the Honoree:**

One of the greatest pleasures I have had in AAUW the past two years and many years in the past as AAUW Fund V.P. is being able to coordinate the choosing of the named gift honorees for our branch.

Each year every AAUW branch has the opportunity to recognize members who provide leadership and contribute to the success of the programs and goals of the branch. These members are the ambassadors who promote the mission of AAUW. Thanks to the members of the AAUW Named Gift Selection Committee this year: Kay Clark, Carole Restovich, and Karen Van der Baan. Together we read and discussed the nominations and have kept the names of the winners secret until today!

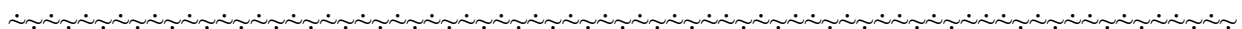
**The first honoree** is a graduate of Cal State Long Beach where she earned her B.A. followed by her M.A. at La Verne. Before joining our branch, she served in many offices in the La Palma Cerritos Branch from the 1980s. Joining our branch in 2017 she served on the Board as Hospitality V.P. when it wasn't easy for her to do so, and AAUW Fund V.P. She has also been a NCCWSL interviewer and Tech Trek interviewer. She has participated in International Affairs interest group and volunteered at the Math Science Conference held at Whittier College. She also attended LACIC regularly.

As a former educator and administrator, she values education and works hard to enable women to excel.

In addition to serving AAUW she has been active in her Homeowners Association serving on their board.

In the community, she has been active in the Red Hats Society "Cool Cats in Hats" since 2004. In addition to "having fun" in this organization, her fellow member of that group, Marilyn Szczotka who has known her for 20 years, writes "She collects toiletries from all her traveling friends to donate to the Union Rescue Mission. She also was instrumental in helping organize our Red Hat group to make sanitary pads for young girls in Central America so that they could continue to attend school. And at each of our Red Hat monthly meetings, she organizes a raffle to raise money to donate to various charities. Thinking of those in need has always been important to her."

By now, those in the room, and she herself have figured it out that our first honoree is **PAULINE ROGERS!**



## AAUW FUND (cont.)

**The second honoree** is a graduate of Kansas State University where she earned her B.A. and her M.A. She has been a member of our branch since 2016 and began serving in various capacities soon thereafter despite the fact that she is a member who works, serving as a teacher at both Whittier College and Rio Hondo and now at the latter in the English Department where she is devoted to her students.

She has served on the Las Distinguidas Committee and the Nominating Committee and helped with Tech Trek Prep. For the past three years, she has held the important and time-consuming office of Program V.P working with the committee she established consisting of Ann Topjon and Chris Heller to work tirelessly at obtaining speakers or entertainment for our monthly branch meetings. This turned out to be a special challenge during the covid pandemic, during which she adjusted to holding meetings on zoom. She has also managed to change “course” when necessary and adjusted the program speakers. Of course, this office required her presence at all Board and Branch Meetings and submitting newsletter articles about the monthly programs. In addition to her work in AAUW she has served on her HOA of her community as Board Member for many years and is President presently.

She has been an active participant in the Writer’s Club of Whittier as the Poetry Chairwoman to lead the group’s monthly meeting. Her colleague in the fiction writers’ group, Hong-My Basrai (whom she enlisted as one of our popular speakers for GWA) comments:

“Without Claire’s patience and steadfastness at the helm to keep the group together during a particularly difficult time when some core members relocated and left the group WCW’s Poetry Group would not have survived to become the thriving group it is today. In her quiet way, green eyes wide open to all details of life around her, she has been a source of strength and support for our writing group.”

By now, you may have guessed our “green-eyed” member whose moniker is “A face is a poem” is **CLAIRE KOHLER**.

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**The third honoree** is a graduate of Michigan State University where she received her B.A. She has been a member of AAUW since 2002 and has held nearly every office or responsibility that is possible. She has been Branch Vice President, President (3 times), Director of Myra Long Foundation (including the non-event fund raiser,) Parliamentarian, Website Manager, and Boutique Chair. She stepped in this year when the Membership position was empty and took on even another area of service.

Her work as Chair of the Math Science Conference held at Whittier College involves making arrangements with the college for locations and food, contacting schools and assigning students to workshops in addition to selecting workshop speakers, and coordinating our many branch volunteers. It is a momentous task!

In addition to the above responsibilities, she also is the Chair of International Concerns, Mystery Mavens, and formerly PPP (Positive Past Presidents). Branch President, Nadine Wilcox, has commented, “She is always there to mentor and help in any way she can. She steps up to leadership as often as needed. Really, she is a Godsend to all as a resource”.



## AAUW FUND (cont.)

In addition to her work in AAUW, she serves in many community and religious areas. She is Program Director for the Whittier Area Interfaith Council, Policy Council for Lutheran Office of Public Policy, Active member of Bread for the World, Chair of Synod Mission Team for Justice, Active member and volunteer organist for St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Time does not allow me to mention all the areas in which she volunteers. There must be more than 24 hours in her day! In closing, I'm quoting Marsha Ehlers, Co-President of the Whittier Area Interfaith Council where she served on the Board and as Secretary." She has helped us focus on assisting those in need both at the local level and in advocating for national policies. She organized the Interfaith Dialogue. She has also served as registrar for the Cold Weather Shelter serving one night each week for winter months. She is a wonderful example of faith in action and we greatly respect her contributions to our community."

You now all know that we can only be speaking of our honoree, SHARON HECK!



AAUW Fund Honorees and presenters at the May 13, 2023, Branch meeting; (left to right) Dolores Seidman, AAUW Fund VP; Kay Clark, AAUW Fund committee; and Honorees Pauline Rogers, Claire Koehler, and Sharon Heck.

# PUBLIC POLICY

Happy Pride Month!

By Kim Talbert, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Happy June and Happy Pride Month!

Every June since 1970, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ+) Pride Month is celebrated to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. At the time, The Stonewall Inn was the most popular gay bar in Manhattan. Until 1966 it was illegal to serve alcohol to a gay person, and until 1969, homosexuality was a criminal offense. On the morning of June 28, 1969, police raided the bar for the sale of illegal alcohol. As word got out about the raid, thousands of protestors came out, and the protests lasted for six days. These protests sparked the beginning of the Gay Liberation Movement.

The Stonewall Inn is now a National Monument. In 2016, President Obama established the first LGBTQ+ National Park in the 7.7 acres surrounding The Stonewall Inn, and in 2019, the city of New York honored LGBTQ+ activists Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, with a statue for their activism. They were prominent in the Stonewall Uprising, and according to the city of New York, this was the “first permanent, public artwork recognizing transgender women in the world.”

Since the Stonewall Uprising, there have been many significant advances for the LGBTQ+ community, like same-sex marriage and the passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. There is still a long way to go for equitable treatment for all, but that’s why it’s exciting to work with an organization like AAUW on its mission of achieving a more equitable society.

For further information, the Library of Congress has compiled a wonderful resource guide. [LGBTQ+ Studies: A Resource Guide](#) serves as an introduction into the excellent collection of LGBTQ+ resources available at the Library of Congress.

Submitted in recognition of June as Pride Month. Inclusivity and respect for all are AAUW principles.

Margo Reeg, GWA-AAUW Public Policy



# MEMBERSHIP

This is my final Membership article for our 2022-23 AAUW year. I want to thank all those who helped me with this office. Sue Settlage and Earline Clemons were very helpful in distributing our Yearbooks at Branch meetings. Others stepped in when I needed help following knee-replacement surgery. I really appreciate all of you.

Included in this newsletter for your use is an application for membership. Most of us have a membership date that expires on June 30, so it is important for everyone to renew online or send Kay Clark a check for \$116, the annual dues for regular membership. You will also find 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 or Nadine Wilcox.

At our June 10 Branch meeting we will be honoring a few of our Branch members for their years of membership in AAUW. Come join us to observe those being honored. It might be you!

The AAUW CA Connection included a clever idea recently. I copied it below.

April was National Poetry Month. We missed it. Just like the Senate missed passing the resolution to advance the ERA. But that's another story. This one is about poetry. Or, should we say, stories. Six-word stories. They're a little like poems, evoking emotions and imagination. But they also make the reader guess about the story behind those six words. Like this:

- Head on a pillow, not sleeping
- Not quite what I was planning
- Family portrait: everyone smiles but me

Let's write some six-word stories about AAUW. Our offerings:

- Got a nametag, then was president
- Joined AAUW. Found people I liked

What is your six-word story about AAUW? Submit it to: [s.heck4peace@gmail.com](mailto:s.heck4peace@gmail.com).

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

Sharon Heck, Membership V.P.





**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

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>ANNUAL DUES</b><br>Please choose<br>Membership type:  | <input type="checkbox"/> Paid Life Member \$44 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$38.81 |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> General \$116         | <input type="checkbox"/> Dual \$24       |
| {National Dues \$72 + State Dues \$20 + Branch Dues \$24 = \$116 TOTAL}<br><b>REMINDER \$93 of YOUR DUES IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE</b> |  |  |
| <b>To order the following items, please include/add the following to your check:</b>   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want the yearbook insert mailed to me - \$2   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want the AAUW binder, 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 Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Your Title: Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Miss \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_ \*City \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\*Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ \*Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a sponsor? If so, who? \_\_\_\_\_



## 2023-2024 GWA-AAUW Membership Questionnaire

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Year joined AAUW \_\_\_\_\_

College/Universities attended

Years

Degree received

Elected Offices held in AAUW

Branch

Year\*

Appointed Offices held

Branch

Year\*

Committee / Section Chair Positions

Branch

Year\*

Committee / Section Chair Participation

Branch

Year(s)\*

Projects for AAUW Worked on/Completed

Branch

Year(s)\*

Community Activities (Clubs, Volunteering, etc)

Organization

Year(s)\*

What would you like to see at branch meetings or at sections? What areas are of interest to you?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\* approximate year is OK  
Please use the back of the page if you need more room

# WRITING IS FUN

Calling all those who enjoy writing without worrying about misspellings or diacritical marks! Come join our relaxed group that writes on anything they choose just for the fun of it.

The next Writing is Fun! meeting takes place at the home of Carole Restovich on June 28, 2023, at 1 PM. For those who feel the need for a topic, you might consider “Famous People I Have Met” or, more seriously, your thoughts on “Immigration” (perhaps personal experiences of your relatives included). All are welcome, published writers or not. Carole’s address: 10413 Portada, behind Vons in Whittwood.

Carole Restovich



# FIRST FRIDAY

Our First Friday of each month party continues from 6 to 8 PM, and significant others and guests are invited to join us.

Please bring your beverage of choice and a snack or dessert to share.

The next gathering will be on June 2 at the home of Susan Halliday, 8531 Catalina Avenue, between La Cuarta and Second Street.

July 7 will be hosted by Judi and Bob Henderson, 5657 Citrus Avenue, on the corner of Floral Drive.

August 4 will be at the home of Shirley Stewart, 14518 Rimgate. Take Lambert to Mills, south past California High School, left at the southern end of campus on Oval Drive, right on Homage and right again on Rimgate.

Still needing hosts are September 1, November 3, January 5, and April 5.

Gwen Woirhaye  
Gwen@woirhaye.com

# 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 each month at 10AM. On Thursday, June 15, 2023, 10AM, we will meet at Sharon Heck's home, 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier, CA 90601. Our topic for the June 15 meeting will be Chapter 5, "Political Trends in Latin America" in the 2023 Great Decisions. Our discussion will be led by Belen Duarte-Sousa. 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](http://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: Great Decisions booklet, Chapter 5 - Political Trends in Latin America

Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023

Time: 2:00 - 3:30 PM

Place: Nadine Wilcox's home (see YEARBOOK for address and contact info).

\*\*\* Please remember any member may come to this meeting if interested in the topic, or cannot make it to the Thursday Morning International Group Meeting.

\*\*\*Contact Nadine Wilcox for reading material and RSVP if you are attending the Weekend Meeting.

# MODERN TRENDS IN LITERATURE

Thursday, June 8, 6:30 PM

At the home of Georgine Sweeney  
16411 Pasada Ave., Whittier 90603

Summer Send Off

Join us for pizza and a sweet treat as we vote on our reading selections for next year.

We also will be sharing with each other our recommendations for a favorite summer read. Something light-hearted to read on the plane, car trip, or at the beach. So come prepared to give a quick review of a fun book.



## MYSTERY MAVENS

Mystery Mavens will not meet in June. Our next meeting will be September 20, 2023 and we will most likely be meeting at Mimi's Restaurant at Whittwood. Watch the September newsletter for more information. The September book is listed below, as we chose our five books at our May 17 meeting. Come Join us!

Mystery Mavens Books for 2023-24

September 20, 2023

*Catering to Nobody* by Diane Mott Davidson Reviewed by Andrea Bellamy

November 15, 2023

*A Death in Vienna* by Frank Tallis Reviewed by Brigitta Weger

January 17, 2024

*Sidney Chambers and the Shadow of Death* by James Runcie Reviewed by Kay Clark

March 20, 2024

*A Murder of Crows* by Sarah Yarwood Lovett Reviewed by Mandy Knight

May 15, 2024

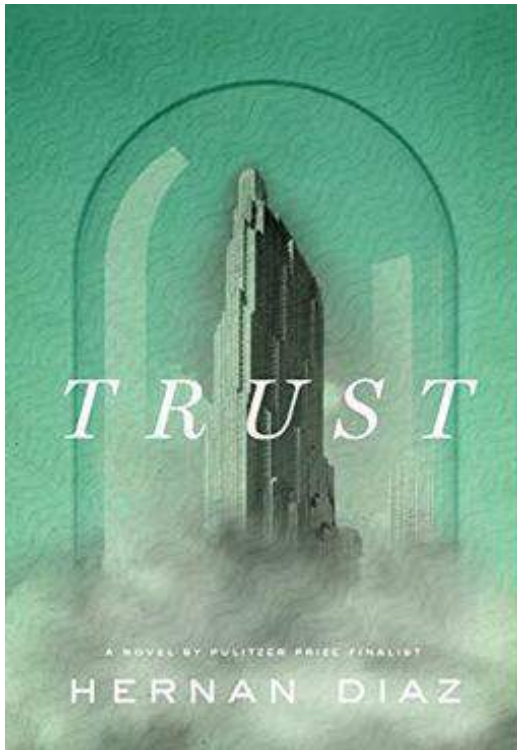
*Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn Reviewed by Jackie Brearley

Sharon Heck



## MORNING BOOK

We will not meet in June, but will have a last meeting this year on Monday, July 24, at 10 AM. We will discuss *Trust*, the Pulitzer Prize Winner for Fiction, by Hernan Diaz. Linda Harris and I will be co-leaders in discussing the book, an unparalleled novel about money, power, intimacy, and perception.



Even through the roar and effervescence of the 1920s, everyone in New York has heard of Benjamin and Helen Rask. He is a legendary Wall Street tycoon; she is the daughter of eccentric aristocrats. Together, they have risen to the very top of a world of seemingly endless wealth—all as a decade of excess and speculation draws to an end. But at what cost have they acquired their immense fortune? This is the mystery at the center of *Bonds*, a successful 1937 novel that all of New York seems to have read. Yet there are other versions of this tale of privilege and deceit.

Hernan Diaz's *Trust* elegantly puts these competing narratives into conversation with one another—and in tension with the perspective of one woman bent on disentangling fact from fiction. The result is a novel that spans over a century and becomes more exhilarating with each new revelation. At once an immersive story and a brilliant literary puzzle, *Trust* engages the reader in a quest for the truth while confronting the deceptions that often live at the heart of personal relationships, the reality-warping force of capital, and the ease with which power can manipulate facts.

As of now, we have no host or cohost, so if someone would be willing to be responsible for one or the other, I would appreciate it. I am sure something will work out! Those of you who regularly attend Morning Book will get updates from me before the meeting.

Ann Topjon, Chair 562-665-1724

# LA CUISINE

We hope to get La Cuisine back on track for five dinners per year. A Planning Meeting will be held Thursday, June 15, 7 PM, at the home of Myra Weiss, 9725 La Cima Drive, north from Janine Drive one block east of La Serna. Please let me know whether you plan to be there. Please bring ideas, recipe examples, and names of interesting restaurants.

This started some fifty years ago as a couple's group but now is open to singles as well. We explore different cuisines, share the cooking and expenses, and enjoy dinner parties in the homes of various hosts. If you are unable to host, you can co-host, or you can be a substitute, which means you will be contacted if there is extra room and also be invited to any dinners involving the whole group, such as next April at the Webers'. We will be putting next year's plans and participation list together on June 15

Gwen Woirhaye  
gwen@woirhaye.com





## DINING FOR \$\$\$\$ REMINDER

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Present one flyer for each bill at your table.

20% of your bill goes to the Myra Long Scholarship Fund.

Additional flyers will soon be sent as a final reminder. Thank you for your support!

AMERICA'S FAVORITE PASTTIME,  
**MEET AMERICA'S  
STEAKHOUSE**

**BLACK ANGUS**  
STEAKHOUSE

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

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## SPOTLIGHT

**Sharon Heck** sends a note to all: “Thank you to our Branch for giving me the Named Gift Honoree award at our May Branch meeting. I truly appreciate the effort Dolores Seidman put into collecting information about me. My children, son Randy, daughter Cathy, daughter Cherie, son-in-law George, granddaughter Samantha, granddaughter Sarah and granddaughter spouses attended as a total surprise to me. I was busy putting dolls on the tables as centerpieces when they walked in. I was a bit flabbergasted. It was an extremely fun Branch meeting for me, with excellent food, a fabulous speaker, and receiving such a nice award from our Fund chairperson. My son Randy arrived from Michigan on Friday night as a total surprise to me. The surprises continued on Saturday at the Branch meeting, and on Sunday we went to the Renaissance Faire. It was a spectacular Mother’s Day Weekend.”



## SPOTLIGHT (cont.)

Here is the latest news from **Barbara Gile** and a photo of her new home.

“Some of you may know that I sold my home on Eastridge Drive in Whittier last April and moved to Laguna Woods with my sister Waldie. We settled in an Assisted Living facility and Waldie received the quality care she needed. Last July the facility was taken over by Oakmont, Inc., and my status of being independent changed drastically. On April 1, 2023, I moved to my “forever home” at 406 Avenida Castilla Unit C, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. My telephones and e-mail stayed the same. I do use my cell phone (909) 374-2771 most of the time because it is connected to my hearing aids.

The good news is that I am very happy living alone, doing my own cooking, shopping, cleaning, driving, etc. My quadruplex is on ground level (no one above or below). It is in a gated community with 18,000 other over-55 age active people. Waldie is very happy in Ivy Park at the Wellington receiving good care. The previous year-long journey taught me lessons I needed to learn. I found out we learn at any age, and it is so good to be flexible.



Everyone is welcome to stop by if you are in the area. Please call first so I can let the gatekeeper know to let you in. Gate #1 from El Toro Road, exit 91, off the 5 Freeway is the most direct route. In friendship, Barbara Gile”



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

## JUNE 2023

### GREATER WHITTIER AREA CALENDAR

|                           |                     |                |                        |
|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| First Friday              | June 2 (Friday)     | 6 PM – 8 PM    | Susan Halliday's       |
| Board Meeting             | June 6 (Tuesday)    | 1 PM           | St Matthias Church     |
| Dining for \$\$\$         | June 7 (Wednesday)  | 3 PM – 9 PM    | Black Angus Steakhouse |
| Modern Trends             | June 8 (Thursday)   | 6 PM           | Georgine Sweeney's     |
| Branch Meeting            | June 10 (Saturday)  | 11:30 AM       | Whittier Elks Lodge    |
| International Concerns WE | June 11 (Sunday)    | 3 PM – 4:30 PM | Nadine Wilcox's        |
| International Concerns    | June 15 (Thursday)  | 10 AM          | Sharon Heck's          |
| La Cuisine                | June 15 (Thursday)  | 7 PM           | Myra Weiss'            |
| Writing is Fun            | June 28 (Wednesday) | 1:00 PM        | Carole Restovich's     |
| Morning Book              | July 24 (Monday)    | 10 AM          | No Host Yet            |

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 [pocampo@aol.com](mailto:pocampo@aol.com)  
 Newsletter Editor – Paula Ocampo

For more information, please visit our websites:

- AAUW National           [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)
- AAUW California       [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)
- GWA-AAUW             [www.whittier-ca.aauw.net](http://www.whittier-ca.aauw.net)

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