



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

A A U W

VANTAGE

December 2003

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 33 Issue 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lynn Rodriguez and Fay Denny, Co- Presidents

Written by: Lynn Rodriguez



Season's Greetings *Happy Holidays*
Happy Hanukkah

As 2003 draws to a close and we reach the halfway point our Branch year, it is good for us to pause and reflect on how far we have come and where we are going. So far, our Branch membership has grown 7%. Women are finding out about AAUW via the website, through our outreach efforts at the Governor's Conference for Women and from personal invitations to our Garden Party Orientation. Have you shared a Vantage with a neighbor or friend? Would you like to invite an acquaintance to your Interest Group? We welcome your guests to attend our monthly Branch meetings and programs. They are so stimulating and interesting! Remember how you were introduced to AAUW? Won't you consider sharing the good news with a friend?

The Educational Foundation (EF) raised over \$650 at the Educational Foundation Luncheon, over \$400 at the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk/Run and nearly \$1300 by selling the Women Pins. I think you will agree, this is a very successful year, so far, for Kee DeBoer and her Committee!

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), often referred to as the "Little Sister," had a significant fundraiser and sponsored the great program in November. We raised over \$1700 for women fighting gender discrimination and gender equity cases in the work place and higher education. Lou Es Greene, Jo Ann Kuroda and Committee are doing an excellent job, and having fun at the same time!

Our Public Policy CoChairs, Carolyn Magnuson and Joyce Blasnek, are keeping us informed of the status of legislation currently pending at the State level and keeping us apprised of

AAUW's stance regarding public policy issues. For current information on any piece of legislation, we are reminded to go to www.leginfo.ca.gov. We can also look forward to our Public Policy program coming up next year! Stay tuned for more information in the Vantage!

These seasons bring joy, festive occasions and hectic schedules in our busy lives, but please don't forget to plan to spend a few precious and wonderful moments with fellow AAUW members by attending our Holiday Wassail on December 6. Information is detailed inside. See you there!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

Several of our Branch members attended the recent **Governor's Conference for Women** on Wednesday, October 22, 2003. An estimated 10,000 women gathered at the Long Beach Convention Center for a day jam-packed with inspirational speakers, informative workshops, stimulating exhibits, and great opportunities for networking. The theme this year, the 17th annual conference, was *Celebrate the Past, Create the Future*. Governor Gray Davis and his lovely wife, Sharon, shared the dais and spoke to the eager crowd imparting words of warmth, welcome, and farewell. Sharon Davis talked about the trials of being the governor's wife these past few months and how the adversities we face offer opportunities for other doors to open. We must be willing to be open to possibilities, not closed to the roadblocks. In the closing session, Liz Torres furthered this theme by suggesting we be creative in looking for solutions to the difficult situations that we find ourselves in. She reminded us to "keep a sense of humor." It helps you through the daily struggles in life. At noon, Jaime Lee Curtis shared her personal struggle through drug and alcohol misuse and how she found true meaning for her life. "It is not *what* you have," she said, "but *how* you live." The key questions to ask in life are: "Am I learning to live wisely?" "Am I loving well?" If we can answer "Yes," then indeed, we will find true meaning in our personal lives. We will be able to celebrate the past, and we will be creating a positive future.

BRANCH NEWS

BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, December 6, 2003

Holiday Wassail

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, December 15, 2003

At 6:30 p.m. in the AAUW Headquarters

BOARD BRIEFS

Barbara Gleason, Co-Secretary

At the October 20, 2003 meeting of the Board of Directors of AAUW, Long Beach Branch, regular business was conducted.

COMMUNITY

Lorna Menke, Community Chair (562) 431-3762

The holiday season is quickly approaching. Here are some suggestions of gifts for the children from the three organizations, which we support

Women's Shelter suggests stuffed animals, books, puzzles, toys with no sharp edges or toys that could cause injuries, gift certificates for teenagers (who love to pick out something for themselves). Mary Bethune Continuation Center suggests socks, hair ribbons, books, and toothbrushes. School on Wheels requests books and book bags. All of these items should be unwrapped.

Please call me in regard to pick up of your donations or if you have any questions.

COURTESY

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

Congratulations to past President, Linda Silver, who was presented with the President's Volunteer Service Award by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation at a ceremony on Saturday, October 25. She received the award for her work during six years as a volunteer with the AAUW Mentor Program. Linda received an award and letter from President George Bush!

The Branch sends birthday greetings to all December honorees.

Happy Holidays to All!

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:
<http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>

MEMBERSHIP

Jane Sellers, Membership Chair

Our Branch presently has 171 members. Please add these names to your new Handbook:

Joan Dilley
512 Woodside Oaks #3
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 485-8684

Ann Hipolito
360 West Ocean Blvd., Apt 904
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 951-5883
Email: Ann_hipolito@earthlink.net
Graduated from University of California, Davis and San Francisco State University

Christine McMahon
4814 Faculty Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90808
(562) 420-6185
Email: drkris@earthlink.net
Graduated from: Hunter College, Fordham at Lincoln, and Pace University

LONG BEACH MARATHON A SUCCESS!

By Fay Denny

Five women from the AAUW Long Beach Branch braved the crowd of thousands in the Long Beach Marathon on Sunday, October 12. Meeting a Lynn Rodriguez' home at 6:15 a.m. (yes, 6:15 a.m.!), Lynn Rodriguez, Kee DeBoer, Judith Kaho, Darlene Daclan and Fay Denny donned their marathon "bibs" and computer chips and drove to the Convention Center site where about 25,000 runners gathered. The scene was quite interesting: runners in their shorts and tank tops; inline skaters in their skin tight bodysuits, bicyclists in their colorful helmets and suits; racers in wheelchairs; and "cheerleaders" for all of the participants lining the route.

At about 8:00 a.m., we set out on the 5K walk/run for the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. Kee and Darlene soon proved they were "pros" at this type of walking and did their power walking, leaving Fay in the dust. Lynn and Judith proudly carried our AAUW banner along the whole route walking at medium speed. Kee walked the 5K or 3.3 miles in 49 minutes. Darlene came in just behind at 50minutes. Yours truly, Fay, came in at 1 hour 8 minutes (about a 20 minute mile pace). The thrilling part was that I was able to finish the race having never done this before!! Our thanks to our supporters, whose donations will go to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. Perhaps you'll join us next year when we hope to do this again.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND: IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!

Lou Es Greene and JoAnn Kuroda, LAF Co Vice-Presidents

This is the time of year when we ask you for your much needed support for those brave women who are fighting for Equity in the courts. This is a long, difficult, and expensive procedure. They need our assistance!

So if you were unable to attend the November meeting or were unable to contribute at that time, please open your heart and purse now. Please make out your checks to **AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund**. If you are sending a check that has your name and address on it, you may ignore the Donor Form below. If you wish to donate using your credit card or by giving cash, we do need the information on the Donor Form. This is for our records and, if need be, to verify your tax-deductible contribution.

Please send your contributions (and Donor Form, if needed) to Lou Es Greene, 227 St. Joseph Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90803 as soon as you can. We do have a deadline for getting all donations recorded and sent to Sacramento. If it must be later, never fear, we will see that it gets where it needed.

With much pride in our membership and gratitude for all of your generosity, we thank you!

AAUW CA LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND DONOR FORM

I want to help women fighting sex discrimination in higher education with a contribution of:

\$10 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 OTHER\$
 Visa Mastercard Check

Card# _____ Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Your Name _____

Branch# 0050

Billing Address _____

Branch _____

City and Zip _____

Your contribution is tax deductible
to the extent allowed by law.

Designation: California Litigants Other _____ (Please name)

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT LAF FUNDRAISER

The Southeast District invites you to an LAF Fundraiser – “**Sex Discrimination On Trial**” - on Saturday, January 24, 2004. Anne Weills and Dan Siegel, two Legal Advocacy Fund attorneys, will argue a mock sex discrimination case.

The fundraiser will take place at the California State University, San Bernardino Campus – Upper Commons, 5500 University Parkway in San Bernardino from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch and program is \$20 per person. Please send your check to Carlyne McDonnell, 2326 N. Indian Hill Blvd., Claremont, CA 91711 by January 15, 2004. Your check is your RSVP.

For more information, please call Carlyne McDonnell (909) 624-5232.

See page 6 for updates to California LAF Cases.

PUBLIC SCHOOL VOUCHERS

Carolyn Magnuson and Joyce Blasnek, Public Policy Co-Chairs
Written By: Joyce Blasnek

By the time you receive your AAUW Vantage, it is possible that the full Senate has voted on a procedural motion that would allow consideration of the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2765) that includes language to provide the federal funds to create a school voucher program in the District of Columbia.

As educators and parents, Carolyn and I, along with the AAUW, believe that a strong, free public education system is a fundamental right. We feel that public funds should be used to improve only public education.

To learn more and send an email urging your Senators to oppose any effort that would support private school vouchers in the District of Columbia, please go to the following website: http://capwiz.com/aauw/mail/oneclick_compose/?alertid=3618571.

If you are looking for further information, an AAUW fact sheet on school vouchers can be found at: <http://www.aauw.org/takeaction/policyissues/schoolvouchers.cfm>.

SEEKING AAUW-CA LEADERS

Marion Smith, Los Angeles District Director, AAUW-CA

American Association of University Women of California (AAUW-CA) seeks members for several committees and task forces:

- **Bylaws**
- **Communications**
- **Conferences And Convention**
- **Diversity Resource**
- **Educational Foundation**
- **International Interests**
- **Leadership Development**
- **Legal Advocacy Fund**
- **Meetings Coordinator**
- **Membership**
- **Parliamentarian**
- **Program Development**
- **Public Policy**
- **Reproductive Choice**
- **Resolutions**

Members serve one-year July 1 to June 30 and other past committee members and I have enjoyed these appointments. You should expect one face-to-face meeting (expenses paid) probably in the summer, and a varied number of electronic and telephone meetings. Self-nominations are welcome.

There is a general application form, and it has due dates of January 1 (for early appointments), January 15 (for committee chairs), and March 3 (for committee and task force members).

Your branch president has the forms and other information about serving on an AAUW-CA committee or task force. Or you can contact me at (310) 832-3000 or marion@stanfordalumni.org for more information.

A final note: Don't wait to be "discovered" for AAUW-CA leadership. If you have any interest in serving, get the information you need and make the application. And also, please let me know if you submit an application so that I can monitor its progress when next year's roster is being filled.

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EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

Kee DeBoer, EF Vice President

October was a big fundraising month for the Educational Foundation, and I want to thank everyone who assisted – some cooked, some walked, some bought or sold “Women Pins,” and many of you wrote checks. Thank you all! You have been very generous with your time and money.

Our Branch Luncheon at St. Luke’s Church turned out well. The Guild Room, which we didn’t have to pay for, was a pleasant setting. It seemed especially conducive to visiting with friends because it was private. The kitchen is the best-equipped church kitchen I have seen. I think we all appreciated the china and silverware instead of paper and plastic. And the food was excellent!!

Five of us walked in the Eleanor Roosevelt 5K Walk/Run. It was exciting being part of the Long Beach Marathon. We had beautiful weather and our route took us past the interesting area near the Long Beach Aquarium, where we saw lots of new construction.

“Women Pins” have sold very well to Branch members and also to women at the Governor’s Conference for Women. We sold 125 pins in one day at the Conference. There are still some pins left for sale.

As usual, our biggest fundraiser was through the donations made to the Century Club, Second Century Club, etc. Many of you contributed generously. But it’s not too late for those who were not at the Branch meeting. Please get your checks to me by the end of November.

The silent auction at the Holiday Wassail on December 6 will be the last fundraiser for 2003. It should be fun! I hope that everyone will contribute something. Some suggestions listed in the November Vantage, include themed gift baskets, gift certificates, home baked goodies, handmade items, movie, concert or sporting event tickets; but use your own imagination. Be creative! Please let me know what you will donate so that we can make bid sheets. Send the attached form to me, call (562) 430-8389 or e-mail me at kdeboer@csulb.edu.

Thank you all for your support. You are great!

SILENT AUCTION DONATION

Name of Donor _____

Item _____

Value _____

INTEREST GROUPS

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Barbara Gleason (562) 421-2206, Chair

When: Thursday, January 15, 2004

Time: 1:00 p.m. (Notice time change)

Where: We will meet at the used items store "Out of the Closet," 3500 E. Pacific Coast Highway (at Newport) and will park in the back of the building. Next, we will visit the Long Beach Antique and Collectible Mall at 3100 E. Pacific Coast Highway. If time allows, we will also visit a store on Atlantic Avenue.

Mary Orr has invited us to have coffee at her home afterward.

DID YOU KNOW...

According to the archives, our Branch silver tea service was purchased and used for the first time at the Friendship Tea in September 1957. The punch bowl, cups, ladle, silverware, and other dishes were purchased in December 1958. The price was not recorded.

BIXBY GOLF

The Bixby Golf Interest Group has a new contact person, Betty Bragg. All golf players and welcomed and invited. Expertise in golf is not a requirement. Come one, come all for fun, fellowship, and golf. We are NOT pros. Come out and play with us! Our meeting time has changed to 8:15 a.m. still at Bixby Golf Course. Betty Bragg can be contacted at (714) 897-7184.

COMIC CORNER

A young woman was describing her date to a friend. "After dinner," she said, "he wanted to come back to my apartment, but I refused. I told him that my mother would worry if I did anything like that." "The what happened?" asked her friend. "He kept insisting, and I kept refusing," the young woman responded. "He didn't weaken your resolve did he?" the friend asked. "Not a bit. In the end, we went back to his apartment. I figured, I'd let his mother worry."

THE DIVERSITY CORNER

(excerpt from California Perspective)

Gloria Taylor, AAUW-CA Diversity Chair

As members of AAUW, we are fortunate to belong to an organization that has a long history of being one of the foremost groups that champion the cause of equity for women and girls. Our organization believes in and works towards diversity in its membership and in its programs and activities.

We live in a diverse state where many organizations and the business world are working to capture the talents of people who may be different from their typical member/client. AAUW believes diversity encompasses all the ways that people differ with respect to gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Our challenge becomes how do we make AAUW the organization of choice for those in our communities? We can meet this challenge as a team if we all work together to embrace diversity. Please share your success with me at:

diversity@aauw-ca.org or call **(510) 569-0587**

Then we can multiply it through spreading the news to other AAUW-CA branches

CALIFORNIA LAF CASE UPDATES

Carol Mandell vs. Board of Regents of University of California – Davis

Dr. Mandell lost her case in summary judgment. She is appealing her case.

Christina Grudzinski vs. University of California – Irvine

Dr. Grudzinski awaits decisions from the California Court of Appeals and the California Supreme Court on her requests for hearings.

Antiques and Collections	2 nd Thursday	1:30 p.m.	Barbara Gleason	421-2206
Book Chat Plus*	4 th Monday	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Day Gourmet	4 th Thursday	12 – 2:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Jackson	494-0979
Film Fans			Marilyn Fortier	421-5838
Golf at Bixby	1 st , 3 rd , 5 th Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Betty Bragg	(714) 897-7184
Great Books*	1 st Monday	1 – 3 p.m.	Mary Anagnostis	493-5988
Friday Bridge**	2 nd Friday	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Cathy Cunningham	424-3166
Liberal Arts Bridge*	4 th Thursday	7 – 10 p.m.	Gwen Long	421-4844
Other Wednesday Bridge*	1 st , 3 rd Wednesday	12 – 4 p.m.	Emily Elgin	498-4646
			Marlys Pfrimmer	598-4161
Saturday Bridge*	3 rd Saturday	12:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Louise Sperr	425-6231
Wall Street Stocks				
Discussion Group*	1 st Thursday	1 – 3 p.m.	Dorothy Anderson	597-7645
Global Issues Discussion Group*	3 rd Friday	1 – 3 p.m.	Sally Geiger	498-3204
Global Issues Discussion Group II*	3 rd Tuesday	7 – 9 p.m.	Sally Geiger	498-3204
			Helen Sebring	598-0180

*Meets at Branch Headquarters @ 525 East 7th Street, Long Beach 90813

**Meets at the Petroleum Club



Join us at the

AAUW Holiday Wassail

Saturday, December 6, 2003

St. Luke's Episcopal Church- Social Room

525 East 7th Street

Long Beach, California

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Come see the Equity Players perform!

Place a bid for a variety of creative and innovative items at our Silent Auction!

Proceeds to benefit the Educational Fund!

Family and friends are welcome!

DECEMBER 2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Great Books 1-3 pm	2	3 Golf at Bixby 8:15 am Other Wed. Bridge 12 - 4 pm	4 Wall Street Stocks 1-3 pm	5	6 HOLIDAY WASSAIL 10:00 am - 12 noon
7	8	9	10	11 Antiques and Collectibles 1:30 pm	12 Friday Bridge 9:30 am - 12:30 pm	13
14	15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30 pm	16 Discussion Group II 7-9 pm	17 Golf at Bixby 8:15 am Other Wed. Bridge 12 - 4 pm	18	19 Discussion Group I 1-3 pm	20 Saturday Bridge 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
21	22 Book Chat Plus 1:30 - 3:30 pm	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27
28	29	30	31 Golf at Bixby 8:15 am			

Editor, Darlene Daclan, 2169 Montair Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 (562) 673-6909 ddaclan@csulb.edu



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In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.