



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

A A U W

VANTAGE

March 2004

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 33 Issue 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March –National Women's History Month

Fay Denny and Lynn Rodriguez, Co-Presidents
Written by: Fay Denny

This year the National Women's History Project is honoring eight outstanding women known for their social and political activism. How many do you think you can name based on the following descriptions? (The answers are on page 3.)

Activist #1: She graduated from Yale Law School in 1963 and became the first African-American woman admitted to the state bar. In 1973, she established the Children's Defense Fund, co-founded Head Start, and numerous other related programs. She is a prolific writer and lecturer and likes to call herself a social agitator. She shines as a beacon of light illuminating what is possible for an individual to accomplish safe guarding the children of America.

Activist #2: This woman is one of the pioneers and founders of the breast cancer advocacy movement. Her mission is to encourage women to learn about their bodies; and to become politically active to ensure federal funding for research in the early detection of cancer. She is a doctor who has written books about breast cancer and hormone therapy with which all women should be familiar.

Activist #3: This activist was a victim of domestic violence. She had enough courage to take her children and leave the situation she was in. For seven years, she worked fulltime and took classes in the evening to attain her bachelor's degree. Three years later she graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School where she began the Women's Advocacy Project, the Harvard Women's Prison Project and the Harvard Children and Family Rights Project. In 1994, she was instrumental in getting the Violence Against Women Act passed; and in 1996 was influential in having domestic violence classified as a crime.

Activist #4: This Latina Civil Rights activist graduated from Columbia Law School. For nine years, she served as president of MALDEF – Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund – helping to make the organization a front-runner for advocating civil rights for Hispanic people. Her political involvement eventually led to the inclusion of Mexican-Americans in the Voting Rights Act. Her steadfast determination to oppose discrimination and injustice has made her a role model for all civil activists.

Activist #5: This activist's life experiences have allowed her to be a bestselling author as well as a teacher inspiring others to share their life's stories. Born to Chinese parents and raised while working in a Chinese laundry with her parents, she wrote her first two books based upon her Chinese background: *Warrior Women* and *China Men*. In the Oakland fires, she lost all of her writings and possessions but learning from that, she taught other people to write about their experiences as a cathartic experience. She worked with Vietnamese war veterans encouraging them to write their stories. From her own experience with the Oakland fires has come her latest book, *The Fifth Book of Peace*.

Story continued on page 3

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

BRANCH NEWS

BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, March 6, 2004

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, March 15, 2004

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

LACIC MEETING

Monday, March 22, 2004

At 6:45 p.m. at the Methodist Church, Alhambra

BOARD BRIEF

Barbara Gleason, Co-Secretary

At the Board meeting on January 19, 2004, JoAnn Kuroda, Budget Chair, with the recommendation of the Budget Committee, moved that the budget for 2003-2004, with the necessary changes, be approved. Motion passed.

Treasurer Norma Grady, with the Finance Committee's recommendation, moved that we postpone reinvesting our Certificate of Deposit until after February 1, 2004. Motion passed.

COURTESY

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

We learned that Carol Towner was hospitalized following a vacation trip. A get-well card was sent to wish her a speedy recovery.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Lola King, a former member of AAUW. A condolence card was sent to her family.

Happy Birthday to all March celebrants!

Happy First Day of Spring – March 21st!

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:

<http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>

Webmaster: George Jackson

gl_jackson@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Jane Sellers, Membership, Vice President

Nicole Ramsdell, Membership Treasurer

Please add the following new members to your Handbook:

Carol Waechter
3621 Toland Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
Graduated from Ball State and Pepperdine

Lisa Monteiro
4455 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503
Graduated from DeVry University

COMMUNITY

Letters of THANK YOU were received from the Women Shelter of Long Beach and the Mary Bethune Transitional Center.

The Women shelter sent a thank you letter on behalf of their clients and staff, extending their most sincere gratitude for AAUW's support during the holiday season. As mentioned in the letter, "Our clients are so financially burdened that they can barely afford the essentials therefore it warms our hearts that together we can and do make a difference in the lives of our clients."

The Mary Bethune Transitional Center sent thank you letters written by the children. Only three years ago, the Center provided Santa sacks for 25 homeless children; but this year, they were able to provide 105 Santa sacks. As stated in the letter, "Your hard work and generous spirit has assisted us in making sure that no child was left out." They truly appreciate our support of the Center and look forward to our continued friendship and support.

And a big THANK YOU to Lorna Menke, our Community Chair, who has made these projects possible for our branch.

DID YOU KNOW...

That the Equality State is the nickname of Wyoming because of its proud history of granting women equal rights? It was the first place in the world to give women the right to vote in 1869. Wyoming also had the first elected woman governor!

MARCH PROGRAM

The Life and Times of Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Betty Ann Rauch, Program Vice President



In celebration of Women's History Month, our March program will be a presentation of The Life and Times of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and her supportive husband, Henry. This reenactment will be presented by husband and wife team Gail Reifert and Gene Dermody of the Reifert/Dermody Players. Gail Reifert began reenacting at Rancho Los Cerritos, Long Beach by portraying Rancho family members at museum events. Elizabeth Cady Stanton first piqued Reifert's interest when she researched and co-authored (with her husband) a history text on American women called *Women Who Fought*. Gene Dermody taught American history, the history of American women, and California history for three decades at Cerritos College. He also has portrayed Rancho Los Cerritos family members and performed fictitious vignettes that he has written.

Continued from Page 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March –National Women's History Month

Activist # 6: Coming from a background of mixed heritage, which includes Anglo, Mexican, and Native American, this woman wanted to pass on the heritage of the Laguna Pueblo, which had been her home. Through her gift of storytelling, she has recorded her people's story and has promoted the survival of her cultural environment. She has written many books but her best-known work is *Ceremony* written in 1971.

Activist #7: Perhaps the youngest woman in this group of eight, she is a professional basketball player with the Sacramento Monarchs. Three years ago, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and vowed to continue her basketball career. When chemotherapy and radiation made it impossible for her to play, she continued to attend the games encouraging her teammates. Then just seven months after her diagnosis, she played in the final game of the 2001 season. As 15,000 fans cheered, she stole the ball and ran it down the court for a score. Her story has served as inspiration and hope for every cancer patient. Her triumph continued during 2003 when she played in every game for Sacramento.

Activist # 8: This woman was the first woman President of Smith College. During her tenure there, she implemented the Ada Comstock Scholar program, which promoted the education of older women and allowed them additional time to take classes and attain their degree due to work and family obligations. She is currently serving as a visiting professor at M.I.T. Her vision of education has given hope to countless women in America.

Please join us at the March Branch Meeting where we will be hearing about another inspiring woman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and our Branch Past Presidents. The RSVP date for the meeting is Sunday, February 29, 2004. Gail Morrison has graciously stepped in to act as Reservations Chair for the remainder of the year.

Answers: 1). Marian Wright Edelman 2). Dr. Susan Love 3). Sarah Buehl 4). Vilma Martinez 5). Maxine Hong Kingston 6). Leslie Marman 7). Edna Campbell 8). Jill Kir Conway

PUBLIC POLICY**Proposition 56**

Carolyn Magnuson and Joyce Blasnek, Public Policy, Co-Chairs

An important proposition, which is supported by the AAUW-CA, will be on the March 2nd primary ballot. **Proposition 56**, titled the Budget Accountability Act, will provide reform of California's budget process. It will give our elected officials the tools to enact a budget on time while holding them accountable to the public. This common sense reform is long overdue.

By lowering the vote threshold for legislators to pass a budget from two-thirds to 55%, we are providing an important tool to our elected officials. The two-thirds vote requirement has not prevented our legislators and governors from raising taxes in the past. The two-thirds requirement has impeded the budget process and resulted in budgets passed after the deadline in 17 of the last 25 years, under the leadership of governors from both major parties.

Proposition 56 will:

- Reduce the vote threshold for legislator to pass a budget from two-thirds to 55%.
- Withhold the Governor's and legislators' salary and expense per diem pay when they fail to pass a budget on time. It will force them to stay in session and work only on the budget until it is completed.
- Show voters how the money is spent and how their elected officials vote on the budget. It will establish an easy to use website to educate voters about the budget process. The voter guide will also include some of this important information.
- And last, it will establish a "rainy day" reserve to fund to protect services when state revenues decline.

California needs an improved budget system and AAUW-CA urges everyone to vote **YES** on **Proposition 56** on March 2nd.

**SECOND ANNUAL MATH AND SCIENCE CONFERENCE
CALL FOR VOLUNTEER FACILITATORS**

By Frances Rozner

We need your help! The Second Annual Math and Science Conference is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, May 8, 2004 at the Long Beach City College, Pacific Coast campus, 1305 East Pacific Coast Highway. Ten or eleven speakers are expected and we would like to pair a volunteer Facilitator with each speaker.

Each facilitator will contact her speaker in advance to coach the speaker on what to expect, to determine any audio-visual needs, and to develop material for a brief introduction of the speaker to the girls. On May 8th, the Facilitator will "hostess" the speaker: meeting her early to show her to her classroom, making sure she has water and the necessary equipment, determining that the attendees for that session are in the correct room, and making formal introductions.

We want you and these career women to have fun while volunteering and feeling appreciated. The following careers are being considered and you may have your choice of speaker (if you sign on early): Physical Therapist, Airline Pilot, Statistician, Chemical Engineer, Computer Engineer, Financier/Banker, Forensic Scientist, Marine Biologist, Nurse, Optometrist, and Pharmacist.

There are additional volunteer needs for the Conference but these are the ones we need to fill first. On March 7th, at the Branch meeting we will fill the remainder of the volunteer Facilitator positions and share with you the other positions available.

Please contact Frances Rozner at (562) 438-0202 or at frozner@earthlink.net with your interest. Thank you!

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT: AAUW Vantage (USPS 361-850) is published monthly except in July and September by the Long Beach Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), 525 E. 7th Street #117, Long Beach 90813. Periodical postage paid at Long Beach, CA. Postmaster send address changes for AAUW Vantage to 525 E. 7th Street, #117, Long Beach, CA 90813.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

Kee DeBoer, EF Vice President

Each year we send money to the Educational Foundation to be used for fellowships and research grants. What happens then? What is the process for deciding who will receive the grants? Who makes the decisions? Who takes care of the investments? How does it all come together to get the money to the chosen recipients?

First of all, there is a Board, which oversees the implementation of the Foundation's goals and objectives. The Board is elected at the Association's biennial convention. They work closely with the EF staff to achieve our mission of promoting education and equity for women and girls.

The EF Trustees manage the endowments, notifying the Board of the amount of money they can anticipate for the following year's awards.

The EF staff in Washington consists of 15 to 20 people who essentially take care of the nuts and bolts of the Foundation. They prepare, print, and distribute literature and applications. When the completed applications are returned to the office, they forward them to the appropriate panels and later, after decisions have been made, they notify the recipients of the awards.

There are separate panels, which are appointed by the Board, for each of the different awards. The American and International Fellowships are chosen by panels of 19 experts in their academic fields. The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund panel consists of ten K through 12 educators or professors of education. The Selected Professions Fellowships panel is made up of 17 faculty members and practicing professionals. The Community Action and Community Development panels consist of AAUW members with experience relating to women's equity issues or to issues facing women who are changing or advancing their careers.

The timeline is August 1st for receipt of applications to April 1st when notification is sent to applicants. Copies of the applications are sent to the various selection panels to review before all the panels meet in Washington in March to judge the applications according to the specific criteria for each program. At its spring meeting, the Foundation Board approves the final list of recipients. By April 30th, all applicants are informed in writing of their panel's decision regardless of whether or not they are selected to receive a grant or fellowship.

AAUW ON GOOD MORNING AMERICA

ABC's morning news show "Good Morning America" was the media sponsor of Lifetime Television's "Every Woman Counts" forum discussion with Democratic Presidential candidates targeted to women voters in 2004. The forum was held on Sunday, January 25th at Dartmouth College and a majority of the candidates attended. Meredith Vieira, newswoman and co-host of ABC's "The View," was the moderator.

AAUW was recognized and thanked, along with other Lifetime organizational partners in attendance, in printed material that was included in gift bags for the attendees. Lifetime also included AAUW materials in the gift bags. Additionally, Meredith Vieira acknowledged AAUW and other partner organizations in her welcoming remarks at the forum and the reception following. Executive Director Jackie Woods and several AAUW members from New Hampshire and other states in the New England region represented AAUW as a national organization at the forum.

The forum kicks off Lifetime Television's year-long, non-partisan, public advocacy campaign – "Our Lifetime Commitment: Every Woman Counts" – to encourage women to know the issues, register and vote, and consider running for office.

CALIFORNIA AAUW CONVENTION

Consider attending the California AAUW Convention in Sacramento, April 23-25, 2004. The speakers, the workshops, and the networking with other branch member and leaders are always inspirational. Watch for the Perspective with convention details!

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Barbara Gleason, Chair

WHEN: Friday, March 12, 2004

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

WHAT: Visit estate and/or garage sales. I will call as to where we will meet so we can carpool to the sites.

Please note day and time change.**GREAT DECISIONS GROUPS READY TO MEET**

Helen Sebring, Chair

The Great Decisions Groups began meeting in February where books were passed out, schedules made, and meeting places decided. The contact person for the Tuesday morning's group is Norma Grady (562) 596-2819. Wednesday evening's group contact is Helen Sebring (562) 596-0180 and the contact for Friday afternoon's group is Emily Elgin (562) 498-0646. If you do not hear from these group leaders about the meeting groups, please contact them. Any other questions, please call Helen Sebring.

UPCOMING CULTURAL CAPERS EVENTS

Linda Reabe and Miriam Garland, Co-Chairs

A friendly reminder...on Sunday, February 29, 2004, a trip to the Long Beach Museum of Art is planned. We will view the "Women of Our Time: Twentieth Century Photographs from the National Portrait Gallery" exhibit. Meeting time is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. There is a café where snacks can be purchased prior to the program.

Also, on Sunday, April 18, 2004, Cultural Capers is planning a trip to the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana to view "Tibet: Treasures From The Roof of The World." Meeting time is also 1:00 p.m. for a docent-led tour that lasts one hour. Afterwards, we can visit the museum's permanent collections including paintings by California's early impressionists and Native American art and artifacts from "The First Californians." We have a group discount of \$8 for seniors 62 or over for 10 or more persons. For adults under 62, the museum price is \$14. Linda Reabe and Miriam Garland will be taking reservations at the branch meeting. For further information, please call Miriam at (562) 434-2978.

Fifth Annual *Smithsonian Week* in Long Beach

Join us at the Fifth Annual *Smithsonian Week* in Long Beach from March 7 through March 13, 2004 sponsored by the Public Corporation of the Arts, in partnership with the AAUW. The theme for this year's event is Dinosaurs, Gospel Music, and Famous Women. The women's history scholar, Edith Mayo, Curator Emeritus of the National Museum of American History, has recently curated a nationally traveling exhibition called "Enterprising Women." The exhibition explores the personal stories of women entrepreneurs in American History. On Saturday, March 13, 2004, she will lecture on the universal issues that have challenged and inspired American women entrepreneurs and also facilitate a panel comprising some of the Southland's most successful businesswomen.

Following the free symposium, a luncheon honoring local "Enterprising Women in Arts and Culture" will be held in the Grand Ballroom at the Long Beach Convention Center. Women in our community who have made significant contributions to the creation of Long Beach as a center of arts and culture will be honored. Luncheon reservation forms will be available at our March branch meeting and must be made by March 8, 2004. Cost for the luncheon is \$75 per person. Reservations should be mailed to: Public Corporation for the Arts, PO Box 20206, 434 E. Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90801.

INTEREST GROUPS

REGISTRATION

Antiques and Collections	2 nd Friday	9:30 a.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	Every 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
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

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

**Meets at the Petroleum Club

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, March 6, 2004

**The Petroleum Club of Long Beach
3636 Linden Avenue
Long Beach, CA**

Networking: 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Program: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Lunch: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Menu: Chicken Crepes (chopped boneless chicken breast inside thin crepes), served with a sauce, potatoes and vegetable.

Salad with Ranch dressing

Warm rolls

Hot Apple Cobbler

Coffee or Tea

Cost: \$22

There is plenty of parking available on the street or in the parking lots for the Club. The entry to the club is accessible by ramp as well as stairs.

RESERVATION RETURN:

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW, Long Beach Branch. Please mail to: **Gail Morrison, 38 Quincy Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803.**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:

Sunday, February 29, 2004

Member(s) _____

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Guest(s) _____

Address(s) _____

Phone _____

No. of Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____

I would like to make _____ reservation(s) for the **meeting and program only.**

MARCH 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Great Books 1-3 p.m.	2 California Primary Election	3 Golf at Bixby 8:15 a.m. Other Wed Bridge 12-4 p.m.	4 Wall Street Stocks 1-3 p.m.	5	6 BRANCH MEETING
7	8	9	10 Golf at Bixby 8:15 a.m.	11	12 Antiques and Collectibles 9:30 a.m. Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	13 Smithsonian Week Luncheon
14	15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30 p.m.	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Golf at Bixby 8:15 a.m. Other Wed Bridge 12-4 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22 Book Chat Plus 1:30 -3:30 P.M. LACIC MEETING 6:45 p.m.	23	24 Golf at Bixby 8:15 a.m.	25 Day Gourmet 12- 2:30 p.m.	26	27
28	29	30	31 Golf at Bixby 8:15 a.m.			

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



AAUW Long Beach Branch
525 E. 7th Street, #117
Long Beach, CA 90813

Periodicals
U.S. Postage
PAID
Long Beach
UPS 361-850

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.