

AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

A A U W

VANTAGE

May 2005

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 34 Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dianne Bradfield, Co-President

As my term as co-president is coming to a close, I wanted to look back on the vision statement that was shared at the beginning of the year. Thanks to a supportive and hard-working Board and committee chairs, the year has gone smoothly.

“V” – Have we, as a branch, been a “voice” in the community? Thanks to the communication efforts of Florence Wilson, notices were publicized about branch events and the mentoring program. With George Jackson’s informative web-page, a large number of women had access to our purpose, activities, and branch programs. Lisa Monteiro, our Vantage editor, worked tirelessly to see that our Vantage was published, and Elaine Babbush went the extra mile to see that each issue was mailed out. With the 3rd Math/Science Career Day, Daphne Ching-Jackson, Frances Rozner, and their wonderful committee - communication with the school district, teachers, principals, parents, and middle school girls reached even greater numbers. Carolyn Breihan and Linda Moore kept our membership informed of community needs, and Betty Ann Rauch made sure our branch responded to requests for letters or phone calls regarding public policy.

“I” – Was our branch able to “increase” its membership this year? With the increase in dues, and other personal factors, we did begin the 2004-2005 year with fewer members. Thanks to our website, and the on-going efforts of our membership VP Gail Morrison, we gained new members during the course of the year. Thanks, too, to Nicole Ramsdell for keeping our membership list up-to-date. Joan Gustafson hosted a lovely garden party to interest new members, and also hosted an orientation for new members in her home.

“S” – “Support” in the area of philanthropy was one of the areas where our members really shined! Lou Es Greene and Helen Sebring kept members apprised of women’s issues and inequity, helping to increase financial support for LAF. Jere Millington and Barbara Cottrell have done a wonderful job as EF Co VP’s, raising funds through their “Dime a Day the EF Way,” Barnes and Noble Fundraiser, and Bunco Nights. Through the efforts of Linda Silver and Frances Rozner, our members were encouraged to help support Tech Trek, enabling 4 young girls to attend this year.

“I” – There have certainly been “issues” for girls and women this year. Our program VP, Darlene Daclan, helped to bring these issues to the membership, through many interesting and informative programs. Lou Es Greene and the Equity Players also highlighted a number of LAF issues at our November meeting. Betty Ann Rauch kept us updated on our public policy issues as they moved through the state legislature.

“O” – There have been “opportunities” to connect with others during the year, through our monthly branch meetings, mentoring programs, interest group activities, EF fundraisers, and volunteer opportunities at the Math/Science Career Day.

“N” – Our final letter in our vision statement refers to “new” ideas coming to fruition. Under the leadership of George Jackson, a committee was formed to look into alternatives to mailing the Vantage. Deloris Mayuga met several times with her committee to work on new ideas for updating our long range plan. Several of our former mentees were added to our membership as student affiliates this year. EF began fund-raising for the establishment of a new Long Beach Branch Research and Projects Grant. These are just a few of the ideas that came to fruition.

Wow! So much has transpired during the year! Just a handful of names were mentioned in this article, yet each of you has made a difference in our branch through your time, positive support, and financial contributions. Thank you for a great year!

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
MISSION STATEMENT

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

BRANCH NEWS

MAY PROGRAM

Darlene Daclan, Program VP

Saturday, May 7

MAKING OUR FINAL CHOICES, NOW

The recent publicity over the decision to remove artificial nutrition and hydration from Terri Schiavo captured the attention of people throughout the nation. This tragic story also raised awareness about how important it is for every adult to think about these decisions now. Our May Program will feature Gerrie Schipske, a Registered Nurse Practitioner and healthcare attorney. She will discuss the California Advance Health Care Directive law, which allows us to select someone to speak for us if we are unable to communicate and to express our wishes regarding medical treatment in advance.

Ms. Schipske received her Associate of Arts degree in Nursing Science from Goldenwest College and was certified as a Registered Nurse Practitioner from the Harbor UCLA Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner Program. She also holds an Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Arts from Fullerton College and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of California, Irvine. She received her Master of Arts in Legislative Affairs from George Washington University and her Juris Doctor in Law from Pacific Coast University School of Law in Long Beach. She has practiced nursing and law for more than 24 years. She is a member of the United States Supreme Court Bar.

Ms. Schipske has served on the legislative staffs of two members of the US Congress and the California Speaker Pro Tem. She served 4 years on the Long Beach Community College Board of Trustees. Schipske frequently teaches graduate and undergraduate courses at California State University Long Beach in public policy, political science and women's studies.

The co-founder of Long Beach Cares...Ms. Schipske served on the Long Beach Board of Public Health and Human Services for 9 years. Her cable access show, "The Patient Advocate" was featured on Long Beach cable for several years.

BOARD BRIEFS

Julie Mills, Co-Secretaries

At the Board meeting on March 21, 2005, regular business was conducted. According to the policies and procedures of our Branch, page A-12, #6b in our yearbook, the following motion passed:

That the Branch pay for the registration for the AAUW State Convention, April 22 – 24 in Riverside, for the two outgoing co-presidents and the two incoming co-presidents.

COURTESY

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

We were greatly saddened to learn of the sudden death of Miriam Garland's sister on March 26. We had the pleasure of meeting her at the Branch meeting in March. A condolence card was sent to Miriam on our behalf.

Good news – a telephone follow-up revealed that after 6 weeks the cast on Helen Gillis' wrist was removed – all to her great relief.

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers! Birthday greetings to all May honorees!

MEMBER NEWS

As you recall, the AAUW Long Beach Branch received the Business and Organizations Advancing the Status of Women Award from the Soroptimist International of Long Beach in 1999. Now, our own member, Dr. Sherry L. Meinberg, is being honored with the Soroptimist's Women of Distinction Award in the area of Human Rights/Status of Women.

She will officially receive the award at the Women Who Make A Difference Recognition Luncheon on April 30, 2005, aboard the Queen Mary.

Log on to www.si-longbeach.org to learn more about the Long Beach branch of this international volunteer service organization.

**AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE: <http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>
Webmaster: George Jackson – email him at gl_jackson@hotmail.com**

VANTAGE IDEAS

Janet Krueger offered some wonderful suggestions for the Vantage in response to the SOS written in last month's issue! Here are some of her ideas:

There used to be an interest group called "The Write Stuff" that wrote member biographies for each Vantage. Members can write autobiographical pieces on themselves, or we can introduce new members by writing a little about their lives. Active interest groups can send in articles highlighting their activities, past or present. This may help to provide information to members looking to join a group that shares in the same interests. We can have a "Recipe of the Month" column, whereby members can send in their favorite recipes for publishing.

I wanted to share Janet's ideas with all of our members. I encourage everyone to send in ideas for the Vantage!

PUBLIC POLICY

Betty Ann Rauch, Public Policy Chair

What is AAUW's Position on Social Security Privatization?

Privatizing Social Security is bad for women and families --- privatization weakens Social Security due to costly transition costs (making its financial problems worse, not better), slashes benefits to beneficiaries, puts individuals at risk by taking away the social insurance nature of the program (survivors and disability benefits), and increases the national debt.

There has been a great deal of rhetoric on strengthening Social Security but the questions about reform revolve around the following issues: raising payroll taxes, raising the retirement age, reducing benefits, and/or increasing the rates of return on the Trust Funds (investing in the stock market – they are currently invested in Treasury Bonds). What about allowing younger workers to divert part of their Social Security payroll taxes to private accounts while continuing to pay full benefits to current and soon to be retirees? It has been estimated that this could cost anywhere from \$600 billion to up to \$2 trillion over ten years or \$6 trillion over 20 years. Right now there is a surplus in the Social Security Fund because there are more than enough taxes withheld from current workers to cover current benefits. The fund will be exhausted (not bankrupt) in 2042 according to Social Security Trustees; the Congressional Budget Office says not until 2052. This gives Congress enough time to devise a fair and equitable way to ensure that this important and socially responsible program continues to benefit all.

The continued viability of Social Security is extremely important to women. They rely more on Social Security because they are half as likely to receive pensions and earn less over their lifetime than do men. Further, women tend to work in jobs that have low rates of pension coverage. In fact, pensions currently provide additional income to only 20% of women over 65. Social Security benefits are the only source of income for 25% of unmarried (widowed, divorced, separated, or never married) women. The poverty rate among elderly would be much higher if they did not have Social Security benefits. In 1997 the poverty rate among elderly women was 13.1%. Without the benefits it would have been 52.2%.

These are just a few of the arguments against the privatization of Social Security. To view more of what AAUW has to say about this issue go to www.AAUW.org and click on Issues Advocacy. You'll find helpful information on this issue and much more.

Public Policy Committee Meeting: the next Public Policy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 4 at the home of Jean Aldrich, 7970 Ring Street, Long Beach 90808. Everyone is welcome!

AAUW ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DINNER

A Festive Chinese Evening

Wednesday, 11 May 2005

A Delicious Full Course Meal

of Exotic Chinese Cuisine

At the Golden Phoenix Restaurant

9927 WALKER ST., CYPRESS

Social Hour 6:00 pm

Dinner Time 6:45

Chinese Music

PERFORMED BY CINDY LAM

STUDENT IN CHINESE STUDIES, POLYTECHNIC HIGH SCHOOL, LONG BEACH

Program

DR. DING-JO CURRIE

PRESIDENT, COASTLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGES

“LIFE IN CHINA WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG AND LIFE THERE TODAY”

**DR. CURRIE IS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AND HONORED FOR HER
EDUCATIONAL WORK AND IS A GIFTED STORYTELLER**

Cost \$25.00

ALL PROFITS TO GO TO THE VIRGINIA GILDERSLEEVE FUND

TO HELP WOMEN'S PROJECTS IN ASIA

WE HAVE THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT FOR OUR GROUP

WE CAN SEAT 50 PEOPLE

**PLEASE ORDER YOUR TICKET(S) SOON
FROM HELEN SEBRING, (562) 596-0180**

ANNOUNCING: AAUW CA L.A. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP DAY

Marion Smith, L.A. District Director

- When:** Saturday, May 14, 2005 – 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
- Where:** Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007
- Cost:** \$30/person for reservations received by May 4
\$35/person for reservations received on or after May 5
Includes morning refreshments, lunch, and reserved handouts
- What:** Outstanding trainers will present workshops geared to new branch officers, continuing or returning officers, future officers, non-officers, and the public.

In addition to the job training scripts that will come from AAAUW CA's Leadership Development Committee (presented by L.A. District trainers), past L.A. District Director Marian Hallin (Montebello/Monterey Park Branch) will offer an original seminar called, "How to be an Important and Valuable AAUW Member Without Holding Office." You won't want to miss this!

Details will follow.

Questions? Call me at (310) 832-3000 or e-mail marion@stanfordalumni.org

UNICEF GIFT SHOP – ANNOUNCEMENT

Submitted by: Valerie Hafner

SPRING HOSPITALITY WEEK**APRIL 25 – 30**

2428 N. Grand Ave – Grovemont Square – Santa Ana
1 ½ blocks south #22 Freeway
(714) 542-9743

Monday – Friday 10:00 am thru 4:30 pm
Saturday 10:00 am thru 4:00 pm
10% discount this week and 20% on Saturday

You can support UNICEF with your purchase of gifts for Mother's Day, graduations, weddings, and summer hostess gifts

Enjoy refreshments while viewing new spring items!

FEATURED new merchandise includes:

UNICEF 2005 Spring Collection of note cards gift-boxed assortments

A large variety of **jewelry** for spring and summer, especially light-hearted earrings and bracelets

Bright and beautiful Polish and Russian wooden **boxes** (also Chinese porcelain and Egyptian mother-of-pearl)

Colorful, casual cotton **jackets** – handmade by **Indian** women; unique silk scarves, reasonably priced

Indonesian hand-crafted ceramics and delicate baskets

Rx FOR LONG BEACH.COM

Source: Gerrie Schipske

**FREE PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE FOR
LONG BEACH**

Do you, or does someone you know, need help affording prescription drugs? Did you know that the pharmaceutical industry provides prescription drugs to people who qualify for assistance? There are also government programs to help people afford prescription drugs.

What is RXforLongBeach.com?

RXforLongBeach.com is on-line access to more than 1,000 medications available from government, pharmaceutical industry and privately sponsored programs in one central point.

RXforLongBeach.com is a public service brought to you by a collaboration of concerned individuals and organizations joining pharmaceutical companies to improve health care access for the citizens of Long Beach, California. We receive no financial support whatsoever to provide this on-line access to free prescription medications.

RXforLongBeach.com is modeled after RxforOhio.org, and was founded by Gerrie Schipske, a Long Beach Registered Nurse Practitioner and Patient Advocate. Gerrie Schipske personally approached *RxAssist.org*, *RxHope.com* and *HelpingPatients.org* and asked if they would help in this effort to link Long Beach residents to free prescription medications.

We Need Supporters

RXforLongBeach.com wants to make certain that every Long Beach resident who needs a prescription medication – gets it!

To Learn More, Log on or Contact Gerrie:

www.RXforLongBeach.com

Gerrie Schipske
2919 Studebaker Road
Long Beach, CA 90815
Phone: (562) 201-1296
Fax: (562) 421-0083
Email: gerrieschipske@rxforlongbeach.com

WOMENSSPORTSFOUNDATION.ORG

Source: Samantha Trainor

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CREATES HUGE TITLE IX COMPLIANCE
LOOPHOLE: THE FOUNDATION
POSITION**

The Department of Education’s March 17, 2005 letter announcing “additional clarification” of its policy for collegiate compliance with Title IX in athletic programs, issued without public input or comment, “clarifies” nothing and, instead, marks a dramatic and unprecedented reversal of the department’s previous policy that violates practically every legal principle upon which Title IX’s 30-year jurisprudence is based and shifts the burden of compliance from schools to female athletes.

Specifically, the letter and accompanying model survey are contrary to established case law, contradict the Department’s prior pronouncements and its Title IX Athletics Investigator’s Manual, and ignore the reality that high schools and colleges create sports teams by predetermining sports offerings and encouraging (in the case of high schools) and recruiting prospective athletes (in the case of colleges) rather than requiring a demonstration of interest by existing students.

The gist of the letter is that schools in which females are underrepresented in athletics compared to their proportion in the general student body...and that have not demonstrated a history and continuing practice of expanding opportunities for the underrepresented sex...would be deemed in compliance with the law under Prong 3 of the athletic participation provision if they simply e-mailed a model survey to current students to determine their interests and abilities and found interest by the underrepresented sex to be lacking.

Log onto www.womenssportsfoundation.org to read all the details on the following points that the Foundation makes:

- **A “Survey” Is An Invalid Measure of Interest in Participation**
- **Male Athletes Have Never Been Required to Prove Interest In Order To Obtain Participation Opportunities**
- **Reliance on Existing Student Body for Assessment is Wrong**
- **Disincentive for Schools and Colleges to Develop Club Sports**
- **Model Survey as Sole Litmus Test Defines Current Legal Authority**

INTEREST GROUPS

Antiques and Collectibles	Meeting times TBA		Barbara Gleason	421-2206
Book Chat Plus*	4 th Monday	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Golf at Bixby	Every Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Great Books	1 st Monday	1 – 3 p.m.	Linda Patten	402-6831
Other Wednesday Bridge*	1 st , 3 rd Wednesday	12 – 4 p.m.	Emily Elgin	498-4646
			Marlys Pfrimmer	598-4161
Friday Bridge	Every Friday	9:30 a.m. – noon	Cathy Cunningham	424-3166
Wall Street Watchers*	1 st Thursday	1 - 3 p.m.	Dorothy Anderson	597-7645
Day Gourmet	Meeting times TBA			533-0941
Film Fans	Meeting times TBA		Carol Waechter	598-3850

Meeting times and contact persons TBA for the following interest groups:

Saturday Bridge

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

AAUW BRANCH MEETING
Saturday, May 7, 2005
Khoury's Restaurant
110 Marina Drive
Long Beach, CA 90803

Networking: 8:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
 Breakfast: 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
 Clean-up/Break: 9:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
 Business Meeting: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
 Program: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Menu: Eggs Benedict
 Fresh Fruit
 Croissants
 Coffee
 Tea
 Orange Juice

Cost: \$16

JoAnn Kuroda (562) 429-6923

Please request fruit platter at time of registration.

RESERVATION RETURN:

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW, Long Beach Branch. Please mail to: **Flo Pickett, 2919 Studebaker, Long Beach, CA 90815**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:
Saturday, April 30, 2005

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.**

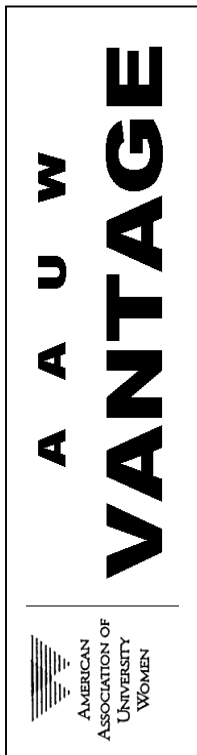
Fruit Platter preferred _____

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May 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Great Books 1-3 p.m.	3	4 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m. Other Wed Bridge 12-4 p.m.	5 Wall Street Watchers 1-3 p.m.	6 Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m. – noon	7 BRANCH MEETING
8	9	10	11 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m. INTERNATIONAL DINNER	12	13 Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m. – noon	14
15	16 JOINT BOARD MEETING	17	18 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m. Other Wed Bridge 12-4 p.m.	19	20 Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m. – noon	21
22	23 Book Chat Plus 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	24	25 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m.	26	27 Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m. – noon	28
29	30	31				

Editor, Lisa Monteiro, 1731 Martina Ave., Torrance, CA 90501 (562) 243-8165 lmonteiro@octa.net



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

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.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
LONG BEACH BRANCH

ETHEL BLACK AND IRENE HOLMES FUND

We need your suggestions on how we are to spend the interest money from the Ethel Black and Irene Holmes Fund. Ideas can be made by individuals or by Interest Groups and are to be mailed or phoned in to me before May 1. All suggestions will be considered by the Board at the May meeting. Board recommendations will then be considered and voted on by the membership at the June Branch meeting.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

JEAN ALDRICH
Budget Chair
(562) 430-8688
2970 Ring Street
Long Beach, CA 90808