



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

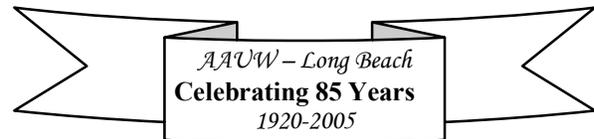
AAUW-LONG BEACH VANTAGE

November 2005

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 35 Issue 3

November Program

Flo Pickett, Program VP



Our November 5 meeting will feature Dr. Janet Conney, who was the plaintiff in *Conney v. the Regents of UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital, et al.* Dr. Conney sued UCLA for gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and retaliation for lodging complaints of discrimination under California state laws, and for pay inequity under both federal and state laws.

In July 2004, with the support of AAUW LAF, she won her case exacting a \$2.9 million judgment against the University. Dr. Conney will speak to us on what it means to file a gender-discrimination, sexual harassment, retaliation suit against a large university and why the support of the Legal Advocacy Fund of AAUW was so important.

Dr. Conney is a member of the Garden Grove Branch of AAUW. She currently is in private practice in Santa Monica and resides in West L.A. with her husband.

Celebrating our 85th year at our Garden Party



Our Membership Co-Vice Presidents provided us with a cake to celebrate our 85th year of working for equity for women and girls in Long Beach.

See picture: left to right, Betty Thompson, Lisa Monteiro, Norma Grady, Joan Gustafson, and Darlene Daclan.

Posters displaying our history and tables showing our current programs helped our guests at the September event at Joan Gustafson's home learn about our Branch, past and present.

Guests and members enjoyed an afternoon of information, good food, and best of all, getting to know each other.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
MISSION STATEMENT

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



BRANCH NEWS



Multi-Cultural Speaker Series

Kate Hyland, Diversity Chair

Jessica Quintana, Director of Centro Cha, Inc. (Center for the Community Hispanic Association) will address our business meeting on November 5th. She is our first speaker in a series to profile multi-cultural agencies in our larger community. Her agency provides a multitude of services to at risk youth.

Thank You!

Betty Thompson & Norma Grady, Co-Presidents

We wish to thank the contributors to our fund-raising "opportunities". They include Trader Joe's at The Marketplace, Hof's Hut, Bristol Farms, and our own Lynn Schrum who made and donated a beautiful basket of food items. We appreciate their generosity very much. When shopping at these locations, you might like to say a thank you on behalf of our Branch.

Courtesy

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

On September 10th, a successful Garden Party was held at Joan Gustafson's residence. It was well attended by new and current members. There were delicious food, drinks and an opportunities for EF/LAF fundraising. Our Co-Presidents, Norma Grady and Betty Thompson, read a Proclamation received from Mayor O'Neill of the City of Long Beach honoring our 85th birthday and the many years of service promoting equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, mentoring, etc. The Proclamation can be seen in our meeting room.

Birthday greetings to all November honorees!

Living well is the best revenge. (A Spanish proverb)

New Members Group

JoAnn Kuroda, Orientation Chair

Please join us for an evening of fun and good dining. The New Members Group will meet on Thursday, November 3, at 6:30pm, at the home of JoAnn Kuroda. Come and hear about our branch activities and learn how easy it is to become involved in this wonderful organization. If you have never attended a new members group after you joined, you are very welcome to attend. RSVP: (562) 429-6923

Community – Hurricane Relief

Elaine Babbush, Community Representative

Long Beach is receiving about 100 families who have lost their homes in the recent hurricanes. This will mean an increase in the enrollment at Bethune Transitional School and the need for backpacks, school supplies and clothing. For a detailed listing of their year-round needs, please check their "wish list" at our AAUW website.

This Christmas, they hope to give each child a new pillow, pillowcase and fleece throw blanket. They also would appreciate warm winter clothes. The children wear navy blue pants and sweatshirts and white turtleneck shirts. They can use all sizes, from child's small to extra large.

If you would like to donate these items, you may bring them to the AAUW headquarters or to the Branch meeting. Call Linda Moore at (714) 374-7443 or Elaine Babbush (562) 431-1232 for pick-up.

Board Briefs

Sunelei Meylor, Secretary

The AAUW Executive Committee met on September 19, 2005. Regular business was conducted. The following motions were passed:

- That two thirds of the income received from the sale of "Lucinda" pins goes to Educational Foundation and one third of the income to Legal Advocacy Foundation.
- That we continue to support the Women's Shelter, Mary Bethune School and School-on-Wheels charities.

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

****IMPORTANT: Changes to AAUW Bylaws****

Fay Denny, Parliamentarian

This past summer at the AAUW Association convention, the delegates took action on the following bylaw changes. Because our Long Beach Branch is incorporated, we must publish the changes and then vote on them at the subsequent branch meeting, even though they are mandated changes.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is now a program within the AAUW Educational Foundation and there are changes to membership eligibility.

- 1. Amend ARTICLE III. PURPOSE first sentence by striking regionally accredited and inserting "different" *Amended branch bylaws should read: The purpose of this branch shall be to unite graduates of different educational institutions in order to promote equity, education, intellectual growth, individual worth, and development of opportunities for women and girls.*
- 2. Amend ARTICLE III. PURPOSE a. by adding "and" after Association and striking "and the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund". *Amended branch bylaws should read. a. contribute to the growth and advancement of the Association and the AAUW Educational Foundation.*
- 3. Amend ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP, Section 1. by substituting a new first sentence. *Amended branch bylaws should read. Section 1. Individuals eligible to be admitted to membership are those holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution, a degree from a foreign institution recognized by the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), or a foreign degree acceptable as a basis for admission by graduate schools at qualified universities of the U.S.A. and who have paid dues (Association + state + branch) on or before July 1 annually.*
- 4. Amend ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP, Section 4 first sentence by striking "regionally accredited" and adding "qualified" after a. *Amended branch bylaws should read: Section 4. An undergraduate student enrolled in a qualified educational institution shall be eligible for student affiliation with the branch upon payment of fees established by the Association, state and branch boards of directors.*

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Joan Gustafson and Gail Morrison, Educational Foundation Co-VP's



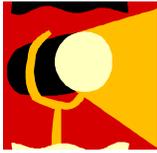
The Educational Foundation has received several donations to the Century Club, 2nd Century Club and Chocolate Club. We are very grateful to the members who made these tax-deductible donations. Donors will be listed in the December Vantage.

During November, the fund-raisers are the matinee of "The King and I" at the Carpenter Center at CSULB on the 13th, and on the 17th there will be the holiday shopping event at Barnes and Noble at Marina Pacifica, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. It is not too late to get a ticket for the matinee. You can do this by calling Gail (562) 438-0597 or Joan (562) 439-3130.

When shopping at Barnes and Noble, it is important to use the green vouchers included in the October Vantage, or let Gail or Joan know, as we can get more for you. The vouchers identify the AAUW shoppers. Use the cash register assigned to AAUW so that we will receive credit for our purchases.

There will be a Silent Auction at the Wassail on December 3rd. Display space is limited so we are looking for smaller items such as small baskets, gift certificates, etc. Please let Gail or Joan know if you have any questions, suggestions, or need to have items picked up. Also, the Lucinda pins will be for sale at the Branch meeting and the Wassail. We now have a bigger selection of the Christmas pins. The profit from the pin sales goes to EF and LAF.

All of the money raised will be used toward the Research and Projects Grant awarded to the Long Beach Branch by the AAUW Educational Foundation Board at their May 2005 Branch meeting.



Member Spotlight – Sharon Westafer

Kate Hyland, Diversity Chair



Sharon Westafer joined the Long Beach branch of AAUW this past June and holds dual membership with the Stockton branch, where she was a member for thirteen years. She is also a life member of AAUW, and has served the organization in local and State positions. Sharon has been on the State nominating committee, and has been involved in leadership development and EF at the State level. In Stockton, Sharon was a past president, president pro-tem, co-program chair, EF chair and secretary. She also chaired the home tours, which was the main fund raiser for that branch.

Sharon's volunteerism has not been confined to AAUW. In Stockton, she was an active member of the Assistance League, a volunteer at the Friends of the Library Book Store, worked in the museum gift shop and is a member of PFlag.

Sharon, a retired nurse, moved with her doctor husband to this area in June. They have been married for thirty years. Her husband has twin daughters who live in this area, and a son and grandchildren who live in Minnesota. They consider moving to Southern California a new adventure and appreciate what Sharon calls our "perfect weather".

Travel has been an important part of their life together, and they have visited China, Russia, Ecuador, Chile, Switzerland, England, and have made three trips to Australia. In addition to traveling, Sharon has a variety of interests; she loves reading, and enjoys gardening and cooking.

Stockton's loss is definitely our gain. Although Sharon states that she is starting slowly, she has already agreed to help at the Governor's Conference, assist with the math and science project and be a greeter at a future meeting.

AAUW-California – November Special Election Positions

Betty Ann Rauch, Public Policy Director

The California Special Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8. It is predicted that the turnout will be very low. This makes it all the more important that we all make the effort to vote. If you don't think you can make it to the polls, please apply for an absentee ballot when you receive your official ballot.

In the October Vantage, I presented the reasons why AAUW-CA **Opposes Propositions 74, Teacher Tenure Initiative and Proposition 76, The School and State Funding Initiative.** AAUW-CA also **Opposes Proposition 73, Parental Notification Initiative.** Parents rightfully want to be involved in their teenagers' lives and most parents want what they feel is best for their children. But good family communication can't be imposed by government. Mandatory notification may sound good, but in the real world they put teenagers in real danger. There are many reasons why a teenage girl might feel unwilling to inform her parents – an abusive home, inability to communicate, and being impregnated by a family member are just a few. It's the old case that one size does not fit all. **PLEASE OPPOSE PROPOSITION 73.**

The **Public Policy Committee** will meet on Wednesday, November 16 at the home of Jean Aldrich, 7970 Ring Street, Long Beach 90808. The meeting starts at 1:30 pm and should end by 3:30 pm. If you have any interest in what is happening in the political world of the county, state or nation, please attend. Our meetings involve law-making and not political parties.

AAUW-LONG BEACH NOVEMBER MEETINGS:

Saturday, November 5, 9:30 a.m. – Branch Meeting @ Long Beach Yacht Club
Monday, November 21, 7:00 p.m. – Board Meeting @ Norma Grady's Residence
(refreshments at 6:30 p.m.)

It's time for Great Decisions News Again!

Helen Sebring, International Relations Chair

In November, you will want to sign up to receive your Great Decisions Study Guide from the Foreign Affairs Association for the 2006 year. The books cost the same, \$15, and they will be ordered in January. The group meetings will begin in February. We are planning to have a morning, an afternoon, and an evening group again this year and any other time that meets the needs of six or more people. There are eight topics covered in the guide that deal with areas of great interest internationally for the discussion groups to mull over together. If you are new to these groups, be assured you will be very welcome in any group and will learn a lot, share with other interested folk and be glad you decided to participate, we are sure. Remember, November is the month! If you are unable to attend the branch meeting in November, please give me a call at (562) 596-0180, and I will add your request to the list.

Remember in November!

Let's Get Ready to Win for LAF!

Helen Sebring and Lou Es Greene, Legal Advocacy Fund Co-VP's

November always ushers in Legal Advocacy Fund time. Time to review again what our fund does, who is helped, and how the recipients are chosen. So, let's do it, review why we care, and get ready to continue our great support.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination. It is the nation's largest, focused solely on discrimination in higher education. Since 1981, the fund has helped students, faculty, staff, and administrators challenge discriminatory practices, such as sexual harassment, denial of tenure or promotion, pay equity, and inequality in women's progress.

LAF promotes equity for women in higher education by:

- Providing case support for sex discrimination lawsuits;
- Educating the college and university community about sex discrimination and improving conditions through campus outreach programs;
- Organizing a network of volunteer attorneys and social scientists who advise the plaintiffs on legal strategies, resources, and the strength of current and potential lawsuits; and
- Recognizing innovative efforts through the Progress in Equity Award to improve the climate for women on campuses.

LAF has a committee that screens potential cases to limit frivolous lawsuits. There are three criteria the committee looks at when deciding on the merit of a case: 1) financial aid; 2) high probability of success; and 3) potential significance of the case.

When we hear about a few of the pending cases in November, we will want to give generously again to support this important AAUW fund.

Get ready; get set; let's show how we care!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Betty Thompson and Norma Grady, Co-Presidents



To be in a gathering with women of like-minds is a wonderful privilege. We have had opportunities to experience good times together at the Garden Party in September and in October at the Branch meeting. Our speaker at the Branch Meeting, Dr. Mihri Ozkan, affirmed and challenged us in our efforts to open the world of science and math to girls in Long Beach schools. Dr. Ozkan is an AAUW-EF Emerging Scholar. She shared with Norma and me that she has a female student who has amazing potential and is eligible for doctoral work and research, but cannot study further without financial assistance. She is seeking information for her student to apply for a fellowship with AAUW. What a challenge for us! Now we know of a personal need "close to home". Let us all participate in our fund-raising for the Educational Fund along with Branches all over our country so that scholarships will be available for Dr. Ozkan's student and for others like her across our nation.

In November, we will consider the results of our fund-raising for the Legal Advocacy Fund. Our speaker is from a neighboring city, Garden Grove, and with the help of AAUW-LAF, successfully challenged UCLA. It is gratifying to see the results of the hard work and generosity of the members of our national organization making a difference in the life of a woman so close to us.

Do not miss the opportunity to gather with us on November 5th. We strive to make our times together informative, challenging, and warm with friendship and fun. Let us know of your interests and needs.

AAUW-Long Beach Tutors are Making a Difference!

Daphne Ching-Jackson

The next time you see Mary Orr, Joan Gustafson and Rev. Carolyn Breihan, be sure to congratulate them on the extraordinary success they had with the Constellation Community Middle School students they tutored all year. These AAUW Long Beach Branch members are in the enviable position of enjoying a volunteer experience that supports student success!

Mary, who has been a tutor at Constellation for 5 years, tutored a 7th grade girl who was really struggling with reading last year. With Mary's weekly visits one hour a week, the student had a two-year gain in comprehension. The student is demonstrating a lot more self-confidence and success academically, and has acquired some strong leadership skills. What a difference from the shy, unsure-of-herself sixth grader she was!

Joan worked with a 7th grade boy who had almost a year's gain in fluency and a four year gain in word recognition. Word recognition was the focus for this student, even though he had good comprehension and was maintaining in this area. Earlier this school year he gained so much confidence that he ran for Student Council President, and lost by only one vote. He continues to show academic progress in all areas and has moved up two classes for reading (he was in the lowest reading class last year). Joan's regular meetings gave him tremendous confidence in his abilities.

(Continued on page 7)

Constellation Middle School Award

Betty Thompson, Co-President



Left to right, Daphne Ching-Jackson, Constellation School Director, Gail Johnson who represented the Branch at the ceremony, and Joan Gustafson, one of our reading tutors at the school.

AAUW-Long Beach Branch was honored with a plaque presentation at Constellation Community Middle School's tenth anniversary celebration on July 14, 2005. Our member, Daphne Ching-Jackson, is the director of the school which received its charter from the state of California and works to provide a safe, nurturing learning environment. Our Branch was honored for providing reading tutors, for inviting students to participate in the Mentoring Program, and for offering Tech Trek Science/Math Camp".

Continued: AAUW-Long Beach Tutors are Making a Difference!

Carolyn worked with a 6th grade student who achieved a two-year gain in comprehension and a five-year gain in word recognition! He is also demonstrating much more academic independence and success this year. He is showing interest and confidence in his academic ability as well as his social skills.

These students have made tremendous gains in their reading abilities thanks to all of the hard work and commitment devoted of Mary, Joan and Carolyn. In addition, their improvement in reading has given them the confidence to feel successful in other academic and social areas, which helps Constellation to fulfill its educational mission to its students. Hats off to these sensational AAUW volunteers!!!

If you are interested in tutoring a student, please contact Daphne Ching-Jackson at (562) 435-7181. The school is always in need of tutors to help students to increase their reading skills.

Antiques and Collectibles

Barbara Gleason

When: Thursday, November 10, 1:30 p.m. for coffee

Where: Barbara Gleason's Residence

As my mother, and her mother before her, always wore an apron during food preparation, I have followed the tradition. Recently, I purchased the book, "Aprons of the mid-20th Century: to Serve and Protect", by Judy Florence. I will review parts of the book and, in addition, I would like everyone to bring up to five aprons to "show and tell".

AAUW BRANCH MEETING **Saturday, November 5, 2005**

Long Beach Yacht Club
6201 Appian Way
Long Beach, CA 90803
(562) 598-9401

Networking: 9:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Program: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Menu: Chicken crepe
Rice
Green salad
Rolls and butter
Choice of beverage
Ice cream with fresh berries

Cost: \$25

Jean Aldrich (562) 430-8688

RESERVATION RETURN:

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW, Long Beach Branch. Please mail to: **Dorothy Anderson, 2467 Charlemagne Ave, Long Beach, CA 90815**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:

Saturday, October 29, 2005

Member(s) _____

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Guest(s) _____

Address(s) _____

No. of Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____

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

Vegetarian Meal preferred _____

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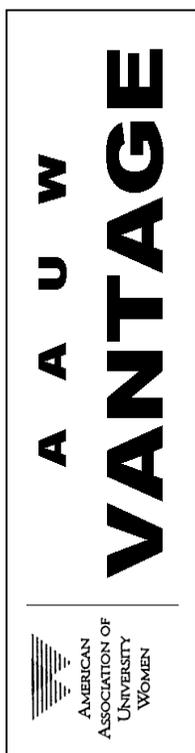
Interest Groups

<u>Interest Group</u>	<u>Meeting Dates</u>	<u>Meeting Times</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
<u>Book Groups:</u>				
Book Chat Plus*	4 th Monday	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Great Books	(Currently Full – Not Accepting New Members)		Linda Patten	402-6831
<u>Bridge Groups:</u>				
Other Wednesday Bridge**	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday	noon – 4:00 p.m.	Emily Elgin	498-4046
Friday Bridge	2 nd Friday	9:30 a.m. – noon	Cathy Cunningham	424-3166
<u>Miscellaneous Groups:</u>				
Antiques and Collectibles	TBA	TBA	Barbara Gleason	421-2206
Golf at Bixby	Every Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Wall Street Discussion Group*	1 st Thursday	1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Dorothy Anderson	597-7645
Day Gourmet	4 th Thursday	noon	Evelyn Flam	433-0941
Film Fans	TBA	TBA	Carol Waechter	598-3850

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

** Meets at the Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Avenue, Long Beach, 90807

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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HARD TIMES AND GOOD TIMES

1930 – Our Branch entered its second decade with a membership of 331. New applicants required endorsements from two members. Dues were four dollars a year. A quorum required 50 members. Given the group's size, meetings were held in such places as the Ebell Clubhouse, Villa Riviera, Empire Room of the Hilton Hotel (today's Breakers), and the Virginia Country Club. This was the impetus for the establishment of a building fund, later referred to as the reserve fund, in 1933 – the year of bank closures and the Long Beach earthquake. AAUW women courageously looked ahead.

Changes took place. In 1931 the Branch's name was changed from College Women's Club to University Women's Club. What began in 1932 as the Junior Department for members less than ten years out of college, had, by 1935, morphed into Recent Grads – members under 30 – with its own schedule of events. As an early project RG initiated a local Toy Loan program. Apparently their parties were good, too.

During the 20s the Branch had focused on raising money for local scholarships. While members continued to support local students during the 30s, they now began to raise money for the Association's Educational Fellowships as well. In 1938, President Anna Townsend was pleased to report that Long Beach had given the largest per capita contribution to Fellowships in the California State Division. Ms. Townsend went on to become California State President and later to direct the South Pacific Region of AAUW. Did you know that in 1937, besides California, Arizona, and Nevada the region also had Branches in Shanghai, Peiping, Tientsin, Tokyo, Honolulu, and Manila? It's fitting that the first fellowship established for a Long Beach member was done in Ms. Townsend's honor and that it is an international endowment.

The tenor of the 1930s was reflected in programs and activities. Topics included consumer education, economic policy, the new Palestine, and Indian independence. In 1937 H. V. Kaltenborn, well-known foreign correspondent, reported on the Spanish Civil War. International Affairs discussed neutrality. In 1930 the Social Welfare section provided shoes for children ("50 pairs needed, only 6 available at the local Welfare League") and fruit and cigarettes for residents of two wards at the county farm. (Residents would have liked candy as well, but since many were diabetic, that was a no-no.) A 1934 program was on "Science of Earthquakes"; two years later the Branch toured the newly constructed Long Beach Schools replacing those destroyed. Unfortunately the scrapbook for 1933 is missing, so I can't say how this major community emergency impacted the Branch.

But all was not serious, even during the Depression. One fundraiser was labeled "Hard Times" with dress to match, according to newspaper pictures. Interest groups were wide-ranging— outdoor sketching; conversational French; glee club; garden club; short-story writing; drama; child study; and bridge, either with instruction or without. The Branch Hi-Jenks were one of the high points of each year. Teas were held in members' homes, at local clubs, and even in the Poly High School Home Economics department.

1939 – The Branch now had 492 members, and dues were still four dollars.