



# AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE

January 2012



Long Beach Branch, Vol. 41 Issue 5



## Saturday, January 7, 2012

The January AAUW branch meeting will feature speaker Gene Williams, Area Representative for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. ([www.NCPSSM.org](http://www.NCPSSM.org)) Mr. Williams will speak on Facts and Myths of Social Security. Is social security going broke? Will it be there for our kids? Is it adding to the deficit? Are there “fix it” remedies? How drastic are they? What can we do to make it better?

Mr. Williams is a retired Social Security and Health Care financing Administration executive. In his retirement, he volunteers his time for the NCPSS and speaks to groups like ours.

Gene Williams is a native of Chicago. After serving as a Marine in the Korean War, he attended and graduated from CSULA. He worked for the SS Administration and ended his career as Assistant Regional Commissioner in charge all local SS Offices in Arizona, Nevada, California and Hawaii.

One of AAUW’s Biennial Action Priorities –the one that PPC-LB-has chosen to work on for the 2011-12 year is to achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women. AAUW advocates strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements and protecting Social Security from privatization.

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**AAUW's Mission Statement:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

**AAUW's Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

### Branch News


<p>Mary Orr  Courtesy</p> <hr/> <p><i>HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS 2012 TO ALL.</i></p> <p>A great weekly paper, the Signal, printed, "With its roots in Long Beach, a national women's organization is celebrating its 100th year" with a very nice column.</p> <p><b>Sad News:</b> We recently learned that Winnie Sherer's husband passed away. We heard that Dianne Bradfield and Barbara Cottrell have serious illnesses. Please send cheery notes to help in their recovery. Our thoughts and prayers are with them always.</p> <p>Jean and Bill Friedrichs are moving. Our great loss and Northern California's gain. She will be greatly missed!</p> <p><i>We can do no great things-only small things with great love.</i></p> <p><i>--Mother Teresa.</i></p>	<p><b>CALENDAR EVENTS &amp; NOTICES</b></p> <p><b>January 7<sup>th</sup> Gene Williams</b></p> <p> Birthday greetings to all January honorees!</p> <p>AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:  <a href="http://www.aauw-longbeach.org">http://www.aauw-longbeach.org</a>      AAUW email Address:  <a href="mailto:AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com">AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com</a></p> <p>We're on Facebook!   <a href="http://www.aauw-ca.org/blog/index.cfm/2010/8/5/Were-on-Facebook">http://www.aauw-ca.org/blog/index.cfm/2010/8/5/Were-on-Facebook</a></p>
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 6:45 p.m. All meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Atherton and Bellflower Blvd. Room 2. **Meeting dates: 2/20/12 & 4/16/12.**

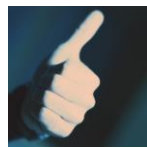
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time 6:30 p.m., and meeting at 6:45 p.m. All meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2. Meeting dates: **1/16/12, 3/19/12, & 5/21/12**

 **CALL FOR STEM CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS**

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the 9th AAUW Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Career Conference. The 2012 Conference will take place on Friday, February 24, 2011 at Long Beach City College, Liberal Arts Campus. At this yearly Conference, women with careers in math, science, technology and engineering present workshops to middle-school girls to excite them about the possibilities of such careers and encourage them to attend college. Volunteers for this event are needed to take on tasks like facilitating speakers, helping with registration, or preparing bags and refreshments.

*\*\* If you are interested in being a volunteer or have any questions about assisting at the Conference, please email Darlene Daclan at [darlene\\_daclan@yahoo.com](mailto:darlene_daclan@yahoo.com) or call at 562/673-6909. \*\**



# STATE OF THE BRANCH

JoAnn Kuroda, co-President

*Happy New Year!*

Would you believe half of Darlene and my term as co-presidents have passed and we are proud of the accomplishments our branch has done these past six months. It has been said that the board of directors make the president look like they are doing a good job. I have to agree that the elected and appointed officers have done a great job.

The programs presented by our co-program vice presidents, Joan Gustafson and Ellen Mathis, have been exciting and stimulating. AAUW Funds EO vice president, Daphne Ching-Jackson, sent a total of \$5450.00 in contributions for 2011 and AAUW Funds LAF vice president, Judith Kaho, reported that the Long Beach Branch sent \$1500.00 to the National AAUW. Thank you members for being so generous. Carol Smith and Jean Friedrichs, co-membership vice presidents, outreached to Members at Large and increased and retained our membership. Linda Johnson has done a tremendous job of taking minutes of all meetings and thanks to Kay Hudnall, who works so diligently as treasurer, to keep our books in good order.

Our meetings are run very smoothly and that's due to our appointed officers and administrative chairs. They are the nuts and bolts of our branch and we cannot do without any of them. I cannot name all of these hard working officers and their duties but know that each of them is doing a wonderful job.

We are already working to put on our STEM Conference in February of 2012. It's exciting to see so many members planning to make our ninth annual conference a success.

Our year ended with the Wassail at the home of Lamis Hashem. She was a gracious hostess and made those who attended feel welcome.

Thank you for making our job as co-presidents pleasant. It is our pleasure to serve you and look forward to another exciting six months.



Judith Kaho



## The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Historical Note: In 1981, a group of female faculty members and coaches brought a class-action lawsuit against Cornell University, alleging sex discrimination in promotion and pay. To support the plaintiffs, members of the AAUW Ithaca NY Branch asked the national office to bank funds raised in support of the case. The AAUW Board of Directors agreed—and the Legal Advocacy Fund was officially born.

Since 1981, AAUW has contributed more than \$1.3 million in casied support to more than 100 cases involving individuals fighting sex discrimination in higher education through the LAF. See AAUW’s 2011 Annual Report

*Again, thank you to everyone for the LB Branch support of the LAF in 2011.*



## INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

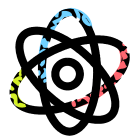


The January meeting of the International Cuisine group will be Tuesday, January 24, at El Torito where we will enjoy authentic Mexican dishes. It could be tamales, fajitas, or enchiladas. Check out the menu at [www.eltorito.com](http://www.eltorito.com).

El Torito Restaurant  
6605 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
Long Beach, Ca - (562) 594-6917  
In the Market Place  
At 6 p.m.

RSVP: JoAnn Kuroda, (562) 429-6923 or e-mail [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com), DEADLINE January 19.

Pat Ferrer, Tech Trek Co-Chair



## JANUARY IS TECH TREK MONTH!

Anne Supple, my co-chair, and I will be asking you to contribute for Tech Trek camperships at our January Branch Meeting. For 2012, we have six spaces reserved at UC Irvine. We have targeted two Title I area schools for candidates: Muir School and Franklin Middle School. Unfortunately, due to the schedule at both Whittier and UCI, we are unable to offer camperships to any students at a year-round school. Your overwhelming generosity last year has given us a good start for funding this year's campers. However, we still need over \$2,100 to fund all 6 camperships. Each campership is now \$850, up from \$800. If you wish to donate to Tech Trek and have a tax deduction for this year, please send a check dated December 31, 2011, or earlier, made payable to AAUW CA SPF, to Pat Ferrer, 365 Ultimo Ave, Long Beach. Any checks dated after that date, will be a tax-deductible donation for Tax Year 2012. Hope to see you at our branch meeting in 2012!

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### Human Rights Are Women's Rights

December 9, 2011, by [Gloria L. Blackwell](#)



*"If there is one message that echoes forth from this conference, let it be that human rights are women's rights and women's rights are human rights once and for all."*

These simple yet powerful words, spoken in 1995 by then first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in an unforgettable speech at the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, are well known and often repeated around the globe. They remain as important today as when they were first spoken. The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence Campaign was designed to bring individuals and groups together to fight such violence and discrimination. While the campaign officially ends on December 10, International Human Rights Day, we all know that there is no end until violence against women and girls — a violation of human rights — has been eliminated. This year was a transformational one as people, galvanized by social media, took to the streets in Egypt and Tunisia to claim their basic human rights. On International Human Rights Day, we also commemorate the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 63 years ago. <http://blog-aauw.org> .

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## Your Educational Opportunity Fund Dollars at Work

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During the 2011-2012 academic year, the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund provided \$3.7 million to 240 Fellowship and Grant recipients. There are 42 recipients studying in California, with 25 studying in Northern California and 17 studying in Southern California. Your financial support helps these deserving women who are leading efforts to make the world a better place.

Among the Fellowships, 49 International Fellowships were awarded from a field of 1220 eligible applicants, with 113 countries represented. There are 5 International Fellows studying in California. International Fellowships are awarded for full-time graduate or postgraduate study or research to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Supplemental grants support community-based projects in the fellow's home country. The earliest International Fellowships offered women from Latin America the opportunity to study in the United States. In 1917, Virginia Alvarez-Hussey received an award to study at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. Her academic and clinical work focused on diseases prevalent in Venezuela and she became a specialist in the treatment of leprosy. AAUW expanded the program in 1945 to provide higher education opportunities to European women in countries devastated by Nazi domination during WWII.

The Anna Stofflet Townsend International Endowment was established by the Long Beach Branch in 1953 and completed in 1968. The recipient of money from this endowment for 2011-2012 is Ather Zia from India. Ather is teaching at the Jesus and Mary School in Srinagar, India while completing her Ph.D. in Anthropology through U.C. Irvine. Her research interests include gender, agency, civil society coalitions and human rights issues in Kashmir. She specifically focuses on women's human rights activism in order to understand how women pursue such processes, how they frame concepts of peace and justice, their distinctive approaches to human rights, how they negotiate in locally meaningful ways, and the implications of emerging gender roles for the region.



AAUW California had an aggressive legislative agenda, following dozens of bills and taking positions on many. The tracked bills can be found on AAUW California website under AAUW California positions on 2011 legislation. All bills had in common the need to promote equity for women and ranged in issue areas from family and medical leave, to the Initiative process to education. Eleven of our supported bills made it to the Governor's desk, 7 were signed and 4 were vetoed. On vetoed bills, the Governor generally provided helpful signals for what should be changed in order to get a signature next year.

**AAUW BRANCH MEETING  
Saturday, January 7, 2012**

Social: 9:30a-10:00a  
Meeting: 10:00a-11:00a  
Program: 11:00a-12:00p  
Lunch: 12:00p-1:00p

Place: Leisure World  
Clubhouse 3, Room 1  
Seal Beach, CA



Menu: Deviled Chicken,  
Fruit & Peas  
Roll & Butter  
Chocolate Éclair  
Coffee & Tea

Price: \$ 11:00

**RSVP by December 31, 2011 (Required)**

Questions: Jean Aldrich, (562) 430-8688

*Those making a meal reservation have made a financial commitment and refunds shall not be made.*

**RESERVATION RETURN**

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW Long Beach.

Please mail to Deloris Mayuga, 6571 El Roble Street,  
Long Beach, CA 90815, 562-596-8902 or  
[dmayuga@verizon.net](mailto:dmayuga@verizon.net).

**RSVP by December 31, 2011**

Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

No. of Reservations \_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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

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# AAUW Long Beach Branch










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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.

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## INTEREST GROUPS



- Public Policy:** Please contact Flo Pickett 562-421-5348 for information.
- Bridge Group:**  Friday Bridge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month 9:30-12N (contact) Cathy Cunningham 562/424-3166
- Book Chat Plus:**  Book Chat Plus will meet at the home of Helen Sebring. The date is TBA. We will meet to discuss your current reading, a great movie you have just seen, or an exciting trip you have taken. If interested call Helen for more information at 562-596-0810.
- Golf:**  Contact Pat Ferrer, 562 597 4781, [panderoh@aol.com](mailto:panderoh@aol.com) to set up a day/time for 9 holes of golf.
- Gourmet Group:**  Join this congenial group to share delightful meals at a member's home. Everyone shares in cooking part of the meal. We meet the fourth Thursday at 12:30 p.m. Call.
- Literary Ladies:**  This group meets the second Monday of the month at Jean Aldrich's home at 1 p.m. Please consult your yearbook for Jean's telephone number. The January book selection is *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant.
- International Cuisine:**  The group will meet at El Torito, January 24, @ 6 p.m. Call Joann Kuroda @ 562-429-6923 or email her @ [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com) to make reservations.
- Antiques and Collectibles:**  Mark your calendar for January 9, 2012 for the second meeting of the year.
- Residential Rentals Discussion Group:** This monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10 am to 11:30 am gathering is a discussion group on topics relating to residential rentals – things of interest/importance/concern. We most often meet at the dining room table at one of our homes. Ellen: [epmathis@verizon.net](mailto:epmathis@verizon.net). Might you inherit a rental property soon? Do you have that one rental property someone else is managing? Have you thought about investing in a rental? Do you want to see how your property owner thinks? Come join us!