



AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE

February 2012 

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 41 Issue 6

SUCCESSFUL WOMEN INVEST IN THEMSELVES



Whether nurturing the values of children, fulfilling charitable goals or making investment decisions that affect their own as well as their beneficiaries' financial security, women play a central role in establishing and preserving family wealth. Active participation in wealth management can strengthen women's commitment to protect and grow their assets with a goal of enjoying a comfortable retirement as well as leaving a legacy for their children, their community and beyond.

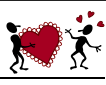


The February 4th AAUW Branch meeting will feature Lynn M. Shrum, a member of AAUW Long Beach since 1987 and past Co-President of the Branch with Linda Silver in 2001-2002.

Lynn is a Financial Advisor and Second Vice President of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Long Beach Marina Branch. Lynn's 29-year career as a Financial Advisor began in 1983 with Paine Webber (now UBS) and she joined Smith Barney (now Morgan Stanley Smith Barney) in 1998. Lynn is a graduate of CSU Chico with a degree in Political Science. Lynn began giving Women's Education Seminars in 1984, has provided over 700 local Girl Scouts with financial workshops, as well as doing financial workshops for our early AAUW mentor program members. A long time community volunteer, Lynn has been involved with Long Beach Area Special Olympics, as a coach and volunteer since 1984, current member of Steel Magnolias, past Board of Director for the Long Beach Symphony and the Grand Prix Foundation and is an active member of Soroptimist International of Long Beach.

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 <u>Courtesy</u> </p> <hr/> <p>A white scalloped plate with flowers was left at the Wassail. Call JoAnn at 562-429-6923 or email her at sojoninlb@aol.com and let her know that you are the owner and it will be brought to the next branch meeting.</p> <p>Flo Pickett, Public Policy Director, is recuperating from a knee replacement surgery and we wish her a speedy recovery ☺</p> <p><i>"Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything."</i> Mother Teresa.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CALENDAR EVENTS & NOTICES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">February 4th Lynn M. Shrum</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Birthday greetings to all February honorees!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE: http://www.aauw-longbeach.org AAUW email Address: AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We're on Facebook!  http://www.aauw-ca.org/blog/index.cfm/2010/8/5/Were-on-Facebook</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 7:00 p.m. All meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2. Meeting dates: **3/19/12, & 5/21/12**

Flo Pickett  **Public Policy**

Members enjoyed hearing the details of the social security issue from someone who was knowledgeable, realistic and had a sense of humor...Gene Williams gave a good presentation-well received. To stay tuned in on this issue as campaign season begins, be sure to log into www.AAUW.org and read the weekly headlines as seen thru the eyes of AAUW-Washington. Be sure to take action when you are so moved. We all need to let our voices be heard...especially the educated and knowledgeable voices! Most recent article of interest in the January 6 update **New Guide to GOP Candidates' Positions on Social Security**. See where your candidates stand on this issue.

Daphne Ching-Jackson

Budget Committee

The Budget Committee has been working hard to make sure we have the funds to pay our expenses. We are doing well and you will soon receive a report.

The Budget Committee also has the responsibility for soliciting input on where our hard-earned interest money should be allocated. In 1998, the Ethel Black Fund was established with a bequest of \$25,000 and a bequest of \$3,000 by Irene Holmes was later added to the fund. Interest from this fund is used to support projects that support the AAUW Mission Statement. Each spring we ask members for suggestions on how the money should be spent. Some of the projects supported in the past are Tech Trek, Mentor Program, Math-Science Conference and Convention Fund. We need your input now on how this year's interest money should be allocated. You may recommend more than one project. Please e-mail me with your suggestions before May 1st. The Budget Committee will take the suggestions to the May Board meeting for its consideration and in June, the Branch membership will consider and vote on the recommendations.



Put your thinking caps on and let me hear from you at dchingjackson@verizon.net. Thanks!

Judith Kaho



The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

The main topic of concern is *"Sexual Harassment in Our Schools"*.

Four AAUW branches received LAF grants to tackle this problem in their communities by holding outreach programs. Be sure to check the AAUW website. There is a very interesting commentary by Audrey Fisch, Professor of English and Elementary and Secondary Education of New Jersey City University and a member-at-large of AAUW. She feels that the AAUW report offers hope and some surprising insights about harassers, who frequently feel that their behavior is *"no big deal"* or *"funny"*. Be sure to read the research report *"Crossing the Line"*.

Historical Note: Ella Grasso became the governor of Connecticut on January 8, 1975. She was the first woman governor of a state without a husband preceding her in office.

Clarification of an E-mail Error by National AAUW Regarding Membership Renewals

In October 2011, some Branch members throughout the nation received an **erroneous** e-mail message from National AAUW with the topic message: "Your membership is about to expire". THIS MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL AAUW WAS SENT IN ERROR TO BRANCH MEMBERS WHO WERE IN GOOD STANDING AND WHO HAD PAID THEIR RENEWAL DUES IN A TIMELY MANNER. Needless to say, this error caused the Branch members who received the message to be very upset and concerned. Please be assured that if you paid your Branch dues for 2011-2012 (whether you paid by check to the Membership Treasurer or through the new electronic dues payment system), your dues have been paid through June 2012. To correct their error, National AAUW e-mailed messages to members explaining that the message they received was e-mailed in error. Since there still seems to be some confusion about this issue, a copy of a clarification e-mail from National AAUW is printed below:

Sent 10/31/11 from Linda D. Hallman, CAE, Executive Director, AAUW National:

As you may know, a message with "Your membership is about to expire" in the subject line was sent in error last Friday morning (October 28) to most AAUW members and friends. Within eight hours, we were able to send a retraction and apology e-mail to all who received the original message.

While the immediate furor has subsided and most concerned AAUW members have been reached by telephone or e-mail, I realize that you may hear about this mix-up for a while longer. Please use this additional information to help you further explain the situation as necessary.

As we said in our retraction message, our vendor was in error and has taken full responsibility for this major mishap.

The \$30 offer for one year of national membership offered in the e-mail was a pilot test designed to be sent to a very small fraction of national members who had not previously responded to renewal notices. It's a tactic other nonprofits have used successfully, and we wanted to see if it might help with our retention efforts. Similar discounts such as the Shape the Future campaign, which offers 50 percent off national dues for new branch members or those who have had lapsed memberships for at least two years, is another example of efforts made to reinstate members.

We appreciate those state and branch officers who took the time to verify their members' dues payments through the Member Services Database. Thanks to the ability to view the membership status of all branch members, this online resource quickly resolved a lot of questions and uncertainty.

While this has been a major inconvenience for all, it has been gratifying to hear the positive responses from individuals and branches. Most of the people we spoke to have been understanding and were glad to hear of our extra outreach efforts to those whose membership was about to expire.

Pat Ferrer and Anne Supple, Tech Trek Co-Chairs



TECH TREK UPDATE!

Thanks to the amazing generosity of our members, the Tech Trek scholarship goal was met and surpassed! The Tech Trek Committee thanks you all for making this part of our job easy by so generously supporting the fundraiser. A special thank you to Barbara Bostwick and Carolyn Chambers for each funding one full campership (\$850)!

If you weren't able to attend our January meeting, you may still donate to Tech Trek. All donations to Tech Trek are tax deductible. Please make your check payable to AAUW CA SPF and mail it to Pat Ferrer, 365 Ultimo Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814. If you have any questions regarding Tech Trek or your donation, please contact either Pat Ferrer at 562 597-4781, panderoh@aol.com or Anne Supple at 562 434-1091, annesupple@verizon.net.

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Daphne Ching-Jackson and Sharon Westafer

American Fellowships AAUW Funds-Educational Opportunities

American Fellowships support women doctoral candidates completing dissertations and scholars seeking funds for postdoctoral research leave or for preparing completed research for publication. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Yalda Asmatey is the 2011-2012 recipient of interest money from the Louise Arbogast American Fellowship Endowment, which was established and completed by the Long Beach branch in 1986. Yalda is a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology at U.C. Berkeley. Her dissertation project is a case study of Kettleman City, California, home to the largest Class I toxic waste dump in the Western United States. Yalda states that " the story of Kettleman City is a cautionary tale of hubris", and that "what is happening in Kettleman City today has major social, political, legal, economic, environmental, and cultural implications for the United States and the rest of the world."

She hopes that her research will affect the environmental policies of the owners of the dump as well as other waste dumps. She plans to graduate in May of 2012 and would like to continue teaching and mentoring students.

2012 STEM Career Conference Update

The Branch’s 9th Annual AAUW Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Career Conference is scheduled for Friday afternoon, February 24, 2012 at the Long Beach City College Liberal Arts Campus. Women with careers in math, science, technology and engineering will present workshops to middle-school girls to excite them about the possibilities of such careers and encourage them to attend college. At this 3-hour Conference, the girls attend a plenary session with an inspirational speaker and 2-40 minute workshops in which they’re exposed to different careers.

Seventh and Eighth grade girls will be joining us once again from the YMCA of Greater Long Beach and the Conservation Corps of Long Beach, and from numerous middle schools, several of which are associated with members of the Branch. Represented careers include Architect, Banker, Chemical Engineer, Civil/Structural Engineer, Coroner, Landscape Architect, Marine Biologist, Optometrist, Public Health Nurse, and Veterinarian. Emily Woodman-Nance, Information Technology Consultant and Career Coach, is looking forward to encouraging and motivating the students during her plenary speech. If you are interested in being a volunteer or have any questions about assisting at the Conference, please contact Darlene Daclan at darlene_daclan@yahoo.com or 562/673-6909. Last year we broke our attendance record with over 190 girls- we’re looking forward to even more attending this year.

Nominating Committee News

We are looking for a few good women who will step forward, take on the tasks that keep this branch going strong, and well. Please mention your interests to a *nominating committee member and we’ll make suggestions for your interests...It takes a village, you know!

*nominating committee

Name	E-mail	phone
Flo Pickett, Chair	flopickett@earthlink.com	562-421-5348
Joyce Blasnek	cmblasnek@aol.com	562-421-1835
Dianne Bradfield	dibradfield@juno.com	562-429-0036
Darlene Daclan	darlene_daclan@yahoo.com	562-673-6909
Kay Hudnall	kayhudnall@verizon.net	562.494.7060
Daphne Ching-Jackson	dchingjackson@verizon.net	562-377-1670
Ellen Mathis	epmathis@verizon.net	562-433-6509

Proposed Slate of Officers:

- Co-Presidents Carolyn Magnuson and Pat Sargeant
- Co Presidents Elect
- Co Program VPs
- Secretary
- AAUW Funds
- Co Membership VPs
- Treasurer
- Past Presidents JoAnn Kuroda and Darlene Daclan



White House Honors AAUW Member and Founder of Tech Savvy as "Champion of Change"

The White House recognized 12 community heroes, including AAUW member and former president of the AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch Tamara Brown, as leaders in engaging women and girls in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

**AAUW BRANCH MEETING
Saturday, February 4, 2012**

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

Place: Long Beach Yacht Club
6201 Appian Way
562-598-9401



Menu: Steak Salad
Rolls & Butter
Beverages
Lemon Cake

Price: \$35:00

RSVP by January 29, 2012 (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.

RSVP by January 29, 2012

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.**

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), P O Box 15023, Long Beach, CA 90815. Periodical postage paid at Long Beach, CA. Postmaster: send address changes for AAUW Vantage to: P O Box 15023, Long Beach, CA 90815.

AAUW Long Beach Branch



P.O. Box 15-023
Long Beach, CA 90815
Periodicals
U.S. Postage
PAID
Long Beach
USPS 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.

Editor: Darci Fersch – de.fersch1@verizon.net




INTEREST GROUPS


Public Policy:

This group meets the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please contact Flo Pickett 562-421-5348 .

Bridge Group:

 Friday Bridge, 2nd 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 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 February book selection is *The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.

International Cuisine:

 For information call Joann Kuroda @ 562-429-6923 or email her @ sojoinlb@aol.com to make reservations.

Antiques and Collectibles:

 Meetings tba.

Residential Rentals Discussion Group:

This monthly 3rd 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. 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!