



AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE

December 2012

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 42 Issue 4

Carolyn D. Magnuson, Programs

'Tis the Season to be Jolly!

Saturday, December 1, 2012



And what could be jollier than a *Holiday Wassail*?

On December 1st this year, members and friends of AAUW - Long Beach will meet from 10 a.m. to noon at Deloris Mayuga's home, located at 6571 El Roble Street in Long Beach, to carry on the tradition of gathering to celebrate the season and to enjoy camaraderie over the wassail bowl.

Refreshments and the hot, spiced wassail drink - made by our own Barbara Gleason - will be served. Family, friends, and prospective members are welcome to join in celebrating the holiday season with our Branch!

For the history buffs and curious among you, the word "wassail" appears in English literature as a salutation as early as the eighth-century in the poem "Beowulf." It may have been a corruption of a drinking salute, "was hail." Wassail also denoted the drink used for the toast and consisted of wine or fine ale mulled with spices such as ginger, cinnamon, cloves, allspice, and nutmeg.

Ultimately wassailing became closely associated with the English Christmas celebration which, over time, became a season of revelry and mischief in English society with the lower classes demanding gifts and privileges from the upper classes.

The holiday misrule associated with wassailing in England concerned the Puritan fathers of New England, who attempted to prevent the observation of English Christmas traditions in America, without notable success. Practices embodying the idea of wassailing continued in America and England into the early twentieth century. Some rural regions in Britain keep wassailing practices alive today.

Let's help keep OUR traditional December recreation going strong. See you there!

(Full disclosure: Much of the history of wassailing given above came - some of it verbatim - from the Colonial Williamsburg website [<http://www.history.org/foundation/journal/holiday06/wassail.cfm>] where you will find much more detail about wassailing.)

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.*

Courtesy from Mary Orr



Merry Christmas! (Leave a cookie for Santa...
Or get a coal in your stocking!)
May 2013 see you happy, healthy and prosperous.

- Enjoy our Wassail event on Dec. 1
- Keep sending cheery notes to **Barbara Cottrell** and to **Diane Bradfield** who are on the road to recovery

Sandy and Dolores Mayuga generously hosted a reception for supporters of the Long Beach Day Nursery, assisting with the education of young students and children of working parents.

"The ancestor of every action is a thought or suggestion."
Ralph Waldo Emerson

CALENDAR EVENTS & NOTICES

Saturday, January 5, 2012
Lunch at the Petroleum Club

Birthday Greetings to all December honorees!

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:

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

AAUW email Address:

AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com

We're on Facebook!



<http://www.aauw-ca.org/blog/index.cfm/2010/8/5/Were-on-Facebook>

Follow AAUW on 



New Scientist Offers AAUW Members a Great Deal!

We welcome our new collaborator, [New Scientist](#). *New Scientist* magazine is the world's number one science and technology weekly with 2.7 million monthly unique users. We invite AAUW members to download a free digital copy of the magazine today to keep up to date with the worlds of science, technology, health, and public policy. Go to the AAUW website and find out more about Member Benefits. <http://www.aauw.org/about/join/discounts.cfm#newsience>

Darlene Daclan, Chair

CALL FOR STEM CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the 10th AAUW Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Career Conference. 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, preparing bags and refreshments, and, this year, we are looking for more photographers!

The Conference is expected to take place on Friday, February 22, 2013 at Long Beach City College, Liberal Arts Campus.

If you are interested in being a volunteer or have any questions about assisting at the STEM Conference, please email Darlene Daclan at darlene_daclan@yahoo.com or call at 562/673-6909.

President's Message

We had a wonderful meeting on Saturday, November 3rd!! There were 36 of us who enjoyed a delightful breakfast of cinnamon swirl French Toast with sausage, orange juice, coffee, tea, and an extra basket of very tempting rolls. At the business meeting, there were over 40 of us in attendance who voted and selected a Nominating Committee for 2013-2014. Our guest speaker was Elaine Waldman, who received a Career Development Grant last year. These grants are given to women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance, change careers or re-enter the work force. She gave a most interesting and informative presentation of her experiences in the Peace Corps, where she met her husband in South Africa and then married him seven years later. She also spoke of her work in the Public Health Department. Elaine works as a research analyst in the L. A. County Department of Public Health and hopes to complete her Masters Degree in Anthropology from CSU Los Angeles soon. She has an 8 year old son, Joseph, and 2 month old daughter Chloe, who attended our meeting with her Mom! She did not lack for attention from our many willing grandmothers who wanted to hold her. She was very good the entire time her mother was speaking. On the way out of our meeting, Elaine mentioned that she would like to join OUR branch. I was certain she hadn't meant it because she lives near the Farmer's Market in L.A. She said she felt they (she and Chloe) had bonded with our group! What a delightful surprise!! I SHOULD have asked her first, but that event REALLY made my day!!

On Sunday, October 28th, I was able to attend the AAUW CA FUNDS – SOUTHERN CA FELLOW'S & GRANT RECIPIENTS LUNCHEON held at the Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel. Our Branch was very well represented! Since 1888 AAUW has awarded Fellowships and Grants to more than 11,000 women. In 1920 AAUW members raised \$156,413 to purchase one gram of radium which was given to Marie Curie for her research; in 1903 Marie and Pierre Curie were awarded the Nobel Prize for physics. Through member fundraising efforts and direct donations this year, over \$4.3 million dollars have been awarded to over 278 Fellowships and Grants recipients in the U.S., with 42 recipients studying in California this year. As most of you know, our branch has six completed endowments. It was an inspiring afternoon to hear about the exciting things that each girl had accomplished!

On Thursday, November 8th, I was also able to go on the first trip taken by our new interest group, Cultural Adventures, to Bowers Museum. There were 14 of us and we all enjoyed the two main exhibits, Faberge: Imperial Jeweler to the Tsars and Read MY Pins: The Madeleine Albright Collection!! If you have a chance to go, I do recommend it. Bowers Museum Docents are available in the galleries to present free tours from 11 am-3pm Tuesdays – Sundays. We also enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Tangata Restaurant. I recommend you make reservations, if you want to try it.

I want to invite you all to attend our wonderful Wassail on Saturday, December 1st! It is a grand way to start your holiday celebrating!! This event will be held at Deloris Mayuga's home and it is FREE. Do plan to come and enjoy meeting new friends from 10 am until noon. See you there!

From Carol – with Flo Pickett and Lamis Hashem

Welcome New Members

Thanks to all AAUW members for continuously sending new names to Membership. We are having a growth spurt. It may just be something in the water, but women seem to be looking for women's groups who are working for a cause. They find us on line and they find us through you. AND they are anxious to get involved.... Please look for them at meetings and the Wassail and make them feel welcome.

Here are names of the most recent new members:

Dee Abrahames, Betty Edmondson, Melinda Elmer, Marianne Hanlon, Nicole Kronebusch, Sandy Kroll, Trish LeGalley, Jackie Levine, Michele Marek, Nancy Paradice, Raquel Sanchez, Julie Taboeda.

On a Friday evening heavy with impending rain, sixteen new and longer term AAUW-Long Beach Branch members gathered together for easy socialization, shared histories and laughter at the lovely home of our co-VP for Membership, Lamis Hashem. Four of our new Branch members and three potential members attended, and one of those attendees joined that very night! We shared a lovely dinner of homemade soup, chicken wraps and couscous salad prepared by Lamis, as well as delicious other dishes brought by our members. The new member gathering offered us the opportunity to talk about our many Branch programs and interest groups, and also to connect together with the warmth and inclusiveness that is the hallmark of AAUW.

Our VPs for Membership have been amazingly successful in recruiting new members for our Branch. Thank you to Flo and Lamis for their effective recruitment of new members, and thank you to Lamis for her generous hosting of the new member gathering. It was a lovely evening for everyone there.



Fay Denny

Fourth Annual Authors Luncheon a Success!

Thank you to everyone who attended our fourth annual Authors Luncheon featuring Avery Ames, Sue Ann Jaffarian, and Linda O. Johnston. The day started with a review of the silent auction baskets and gift certificates and progressed to lunch where California Cobb Salad and Spiced Pear/Cranberry Cobbler was enjoyed.

Sandra Shelley provided whimsical Halloween decorations which included crows, sparkly pumpkins, houses, and cats. Thanks to Dianne Bradfield for her wonderful job of getting gift certificates donated from 11 different businesses in the Long Beach area. Gail Morrison did her great job of advertising the event; and Judith Kaho served as our Silent Auction coordinator. Sharon Westafer was our very efficient treasurer and kept track of all our reservations too. And our all around “girl Friday”, JoAnn Kuroda, assisted wherever help was needed.

This year the event made \$2150 for the Educational Opportunities Fund. This fund provides fellowships and grants to worthy applicants that are getting their Ph.D.s, changing careers, doing research, and/or providing special educational projects in schools.

Thank you all again for your participation.



Fay Denny, Chair Authors Luncheon

Linda Patten, Educational Opportunities



Thank you from Educational Opportunities

State Director: Sharon Westafer

We truly appreciate all of you who supported our Educational Opportunities (EO) Fund fundraising efforts. The wine tasting event in September was delightful with good food, wine and friendship. Thank you again to Kay for being such a gracious hostess.

Luncheon Most Deadly was well attended and lively bidding occurred for the silent auction items. The authors were a delight! They were well-chosen, full of fun and had interesting anecdotes. Fay Denny and her committee, as always, did a great job.

Due to the generosity of many members, \$1850 was donated at the November branch meeting, where we heard Elaine Waldman, one of last year's Career Development Grant recipients, explain her work and what her AAUW Grant means to her. Thank you to each of you!

There are so many fascinating and inspiring women studying under AAUW Fellowships and Grants in the 2012-1013 year, which marks the 125th Grant and Fellowship class. Among them are:

- Brenda Vazquez, a Career Development Grant recipient at USC, is the mother of four children. She is currently planning and designing a randomized control study of a physical activity intervention for older adults.
- Jennifer Berger, a Community Action Grant recipient, is the founder of About-Face. Located in San Francisco, her organization equips women and girls with tools to understand and resist harmful media messages that affect their self-esteem and body image.
- Stephanie Moyerman is working on her Ph.D. in Cosmology and Astrophysics at UC, San Diego and is studying the origins of the universe.
- Soracha Thamphiwatana, an International Fellow, is working toward her Ph.D. at UCSD. Her research involves Nano medicine and she is developing systems for efficient antimicrobial delivery to treat bacterial infections.
- Sarah Bohndiek, a Ph.D. candidate at Stanford, is doing research on non-invasive imaging of cancer.
- Caroline Delaire, an International Fellowship recipient from France, is pursuing a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering at U.C. Berkeley. She works on water technologies for developing countries, working on a cost-efficient arsenic-removal process designed for communities in the Bengal Basin in South-East Asia.

There are 36 more Fellowship and Grant recipients studying in California this year! Your donations make their work possible. If you haven't done so and would still like to make a donation to AAUW Funds, the deadline is December 1. Please mail your donation to Linda Patten very soon!

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## PUBLIC POLICY

Public Policy is a major focus of AAUW. AAUW founded in 1881 is the nation's leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. We encourage women to become involved in every level of the political process and to actively support legislation on educational equity and diversity in public schools, pay equity, reproductive choice, child care, school-based health care, civil rights, and responsibility for funding of public education. To that end, the Public Policy committee encourages all members to educate themselves and each other on issues of concern to women/girls and to participate and vote in all elections.

Well, the election has come and gone....exciting as usual - partisan and controversial as usual, and ended. Hopefully, the nation can come together and we can move forward reasonably to solve the nation's problems. As women, we must strive to involve ourselves. We now have 20 women serving in the US Senate - the most in our history. They are involved. Let's follow them and keep changing our history.

AAUW was involved in this election and I imagine will be in future elections more than usual.

We registered voters, particularly targeting young women. AAUW - CA took stands on many ballot measures. Some chapters and individual members made phone calls to get out the women's vote. We made a difference.

AAUW's public policy program underscores our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research and speaks to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns across the life span. Join us in this.

Log on to [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org) and [AAUW-CA.org](http://AAUW-CA.org) and check out Public Policy - Take Action.

Flo Pickett, Chair

Public Policy



## AAUW National NEWS - Join Us in New Orleans June 9–12, 2013!

Plans are under way to make this the most exciting, energizing, information-packed, and fun-filled national convention ever. If New Orleans is on your must-see or must-return-to list, 2013 is your year! Convention [registration](#) opens soon, so keep an eye on the AAUW website for details.

### Thinking about End-of-Year Giving?

As you think about year-end gifts, thank you for considering AAUW. A smart gift decision can be any donation, but increasingly it means giving appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.). These gifts offer a double benefit —receive a charitable tax deduction, and avoid the capital gains tax. Check with a Financial Advisor for more details.

### AAUW BRANCH MEETING Saturday, December 1st

#### HOLIDAY WASSAIL

10:00 am -12:00 pm

The Home of Delores Mayuga  
6571 El Roble Street  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
562- 708-1253

Near Palo Verde and Atherton

Please come and enjoy!

Questions: Jean Aldrich, (562) 430-8688

*No charge for this seasonal event  
No RSVP needed.*



### In Memoriam

## Miriam K. Garland

May 30, 1929 - October 15, 2012

Please join friends and family at a  
memorial service on

**Saturday, November 24**

[Los Altos United Methodist Church](#)

5950 E. Willow Street at Woodruff

Long Beach, California 90815

Telephone (562) 598-2451

Service at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary  
with reception and lunch following.

All are welcome.

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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:**

This group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month – except Dec.. Please contact Flo Pickett 562-421-5348.

**Bridge Group:**

 Friday Bridge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month 9:30-12:00 pm (contact) Cathy Cunningham 562-424-3166

**Book Chat Plus:**



Book Chat Plus will meet at the home of Helen Sebring. The group meets 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.

**Cultural Adventures**

Visit interesting destinations! More information, call JoAnn Kuroda, 562-429-6923 or email [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com)

**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.

**Literary Ladies:**



Literary Ladies meet the second Monday of the month at Jean Aldrich's home at 1:00 pm. The December book selection is *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. At this time, you can be added to a waiting list for this group. Contact Jean Aldrich, 562-430-8688, for information.

**International Cuisine:**



For information call Joan Gustafson .

**Antiques and Collectibles:**



Meetings tba.

**Residential Rentals Discussion Group:**

This monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10:00 am to 11:30 am gathering is a discussion group on topics relating to residential rentals. 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 a 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!