



# AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE



February 2013

Volume 42 Issue 6

## A View of the Middle East Saturday, February 2, 2013

Carolyn D. Magnuson, Programs

As we all are aware, the Middle East is experiencing cataclysmic social and political changes. In many ways, the recent events in Egypt epitomize the varied interests and concerns of the entire world concerning those events.

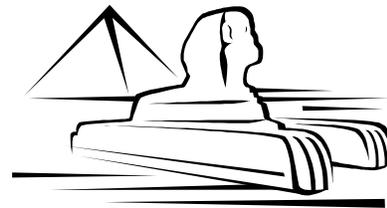
Thus, Emad Samir, an Egyptian native, who is our speaker for the February meeting, is a most timely choice. Mr. Samir is in the United States with his wife and two children. He is currently serving as the Scholar-In-Residence at Good Shepard Presbyterian Church in Los Alamitos, California.

Mr. Samir has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Greek and Latin Studies, a Masters Degree in Egyptology, has completed postgraduate Biblical studies and speaks five languages. He has spoken on numerous topics including Egypt in the Bible, Joseph and Jacob in Egypt, Moses and the Exodus from Egypt, Pharaohs and Prophets, Christianity in Egypt and the Coptic Church, The Religions of Ancient Egypt in Relation to Judaism and Christianity, Middle East Culture and Social Life, Islam, and Modern Egypt.

We have asked Mr. Samir to speak about Middle Eastern culture and social life with particular emphasis on the status of women and girls. This should be a fascinating look into middle eastern social and political realities.

Come and bring a friend or two. After all, what's not to love: A provocative program, a beautiful venue, and really good food!!!

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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

## Courtesy

**from Mary Orr**

Happy Valentines's Day to all!



Birthday greetings to all February honorees.

Sadly I learned of the death of member and dear friend, Barbara Cottrell, on January 1. She suffered so much and is now at peace. She will always be remembered. Our condolence card was sent to the family. No further details of services are available at this time.

“And Winter slumbering in the open air, wears on his smiling face, a dream of Spring.”

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

## CALENDAR EVENTS & NOTICES

Saturday, February 2, 2013

Meeting at Long Beach Yacht Club

Saturday, March 2, 2013

Lunch Meeting at Leisure World

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:



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

AAUW email Address:

[AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com)

**We're on Facebook!**

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

## 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.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All will be held on the second 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.

Please send communication to Editor : Rebecca Low rlow1@hotmail.com

## MEMBERSHIP

Flo Pickett Lamis Hashem, Membership co-chairs

Membership continues to grow thanks to our members continuous referrals of their friends, colleagues, and even family members to the membership chairs.

We will have a second new member orientation on **Thursday, Jan. 31st** at Lamis Hashem's home in Rossmoor. Board members are invited and especially interest group leaders...come and share about your group. Please be sure to RSVP to a co-chair if you are planning on coming.

Welcome to our 2012-13 newest members: LuRae MacArthur, Helen Goodman, Carol McKelvy, Nancy Paradice, Trish LeGalley, Sandy Kroll, Raquel Sanchez, Nicole Kronebusch, Michele Merek, Marianne Hanlon, Julie Taboada, and Melinda Elmer. See you all at the new member orientation!



## President's Message

Pat Sargeant – President



I was delighted to hear of the successful meeting we had on January 5<sup>th</sup>!! I am sorry I was unable to join you that day. The second week in December I was diagnosed with a torn rotator cuff which needs to be repaired by video arthroscopy of the rotator cuff of my right shoulder. There is quite a bit of scar tissue that means I will probably only get 50-60% of my usage back with my right arm. The surgery is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. The next time I see you at a meeting will be after extensive physical therapy.

I am delighted that Daphne Ching-Jackson is our new president elect for this year!! She will conduct the meetings until I recover. I want to thank Flo Pickett and the nominating committee for 2012. Now we are ready to have the 2013 nominating committee begin their work on getting a new slate for this year. I am certain that Julie Mills and Betty Thompson, the co-chairmen of this new committee, will do a terrific job!! Please consider accepting a job if they call you, we have many wonderful women in our branch!! I have been very pleased with the women serving on my board!

On Feb. 2, 2013 we will hold our monthly meeting at the LONG BEACH YACHT CLUB. Our guest speaker will be Emad Samir, a Scholar in Residence at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Joan Calder was the first to tell me of this opportunity to have him discuss with us what is happening right now in Egypt. He is an excellent speaker who is now giving lectures, day long seminars, or week-end retreats to earn a living for himself and his family, who came to this country last July. His passion and depth of knowledge illuminates biblical Egypt and offers penetrating insight into the explosive events of the Arab Spring. I have been able to hear him twice and feel you will really enjoy meeting him!! This will be our International meeting for this year.

We have decided not to purchase the DVD "The Invisible War", instead we will rent the DVD from Net-flix. If you are able and willing to rent this and willing to have a small group see it at your home, PLEASE LET ME KNOW A.S.A.P. at AAUWLBPRESZ@gmail.com or 562-431-3435. We want to have as many members view this film before the meeting on March 2, 2013. Some of us might be able to accommodate several groups. We hope to have several guest speakers discuss this movie for our program.

## Public Policy

Flo Pickett, PP Chairperson

Looking back, 2012 was an active year for our local public policy group as well as for the national AAUW Action Network members and donors who have been working to advance our shared mission. Action network lobbied on Capital Hill to implement AAUW policies on fair pay, access to contraception, sexual harassment at work and school, student debt issues, and to improve the lack of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Our branch has worked equally hard to finance our STEM and Tech Trek programs in Long Beach.

Locally our public policy group has sponsored two programs - one on social security and its benefits and another sponsored by LWV on ballot propositions in California. Our members also participated in the national "It's My Vote" effort to register young people, especially women on the local campuses—CSULB and LBCC. We registered over 200 students and had a good time doing it. The next public policy meeting will be on the third Thursday - February 21st 3:30. Our meeting is open to everyone.

## AAUW Funds—Educational Opportunities

Linda Patten, EO VP

Sharon Westafer, State Director, Funds Development



AAUW awards Fellowships to postgraduate women who demonstrate skills, high grade point averages and qualifications to work in certain fields. Community Action Grants are awarded to individuals, AAUW branches and AAUW state organizations as well as to local community-based non-profit organizations for innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equality for women and girls. Career Development Grants support women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance or change careers or re-enter the work force. AAUW does not give scholarships, which are awarded to undergraduate students.

American Fellowships are awarded to women scholars completing doctoral dissertations, conducting post-doctoral research, or finishing research for publication. They must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian history, was awarded the first American Fellowship by AAUW in 1888.

Megan Ybarra was chosen for the Louise Arbogast grant in 2012-2013. As a student at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon she is working on a project called "Living on Scorched Earth." Ms. Ybarra researches the politics of race, violence and conservation in Latin America. Through case studies of conservation and development projects in rural Guatemala, her manuscript seeks to explain to United States donors the local consequences of their global conservation projects. The Louise Arbogast American Fellowship was established and completed by the branch in 1986.

You may wonder what the job of Funds Development Chair for AAUW CA involves. Since August, my committee and I planned three successful Fellowship and Grant recipient luncheons, two in Northern California and one here in Southern California. A luncheon is planned for the Fellows in the San Diego area in January and for Fellows in the Santa Barbara area in February. An LAF luncheon is planned for March in Burlingame and we are hoping to have a reception for Lilly Ledbetter at a member's home in March, most likely the Sunday before Lilly's presentation in Redlands. We are also working on a presentation by Lilly at CSU, Northridge on the Monday prior to the Redlands event. Twenty-six speaking engagements by Fellows or Grant recipients have been arranged at branches, and Cacilia Kim, a member of the committee, spoke at one branch meeting and is scheduled to speak at an IBC meeting on AAUW's study *Crossing the Line* and on Title IX. I will be giving a presentation on AAUW Funds at the Contra Costa Interbranch Council meeting in March. The job also entails answering questions from branches and Fellowship/Grant recipients. While the job involves a lot of work, it is tremendously rewarding. I truly appreciate your support and encouragement.

## Legal Advocacy Fund—Updates



Sharon Westafer, Chair, AAUW CA Funds

Ellen Mathis, Branch Legal Advocacy Fund VP, would like to once again thank members who donated to LAF for their generosity. The grand total of contributions for 2012 was \$1636, or \$15.43 per branch member.

The Redlands branch of AAUW, in collaboration with the University of Redlands, will host Lilly Ledbetter on Tuesday, March 5 at the University of Redlands. If you would like to attend the dinner meeting prior to Ms. Ledbetter's speech,

Social time 5:30 pm                      Meeting and Buffet dinner 6:00 PM, cost \$17.00

Ms. Ledbetter's speech will begin at 7 PM and there is no charge to hear her speak.

Reservations are not required for the speech. If you would like to attend the dinner meeting, reservations are required by Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

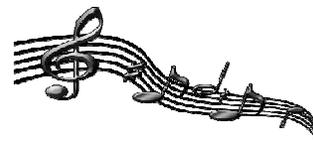
As you may recall, Ms. Ledbetter brought a lawsuit against the Goodyear Tire Factory where she worked. After working in a management position for 19 years, she received an anonymous note informing her that she was making thousand less per year than the men in her position. Her discrimination battle inspired the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act, which was the first law President Obama signed when he initially took office. AAUW has been a strong supporter of Lilly Ledbetter and she will be a featured speaker at the National Convention in New Orleans in June.

Contact Sharon Westafer for more details if you're interested in attending this event.

### **Legal Advocacy Fund Supports New Case**

Virginia LeBlanc was the director of a scholarship fund at Indiana University. After learning she was paid less than her two male predecessors, she filed a pay discrimination complaint in federal district court, and the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund accepted her case, *LeBlanc v. Trustees of Indiana University*. It's your support that helps plaintiffs like Virginia LeBlanc win their battles!

CULTURAL ADVENTURES  
GRAMMY MUSEUM TRIP  
MARCH 21, 2013

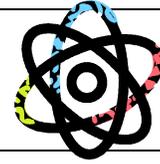


Please join fellow members and friends to the exciting Grammy Museum at L.A. Live. Explore nearly 200 musical genres, record with famous producers and songwriters, see more than 25 original music films and 400 rare artifacts. And it is educational and inspirational.

The free bus ride will get you up and back but we **MUST** have a minimum of 25 people. Feel free to ask a friend. Call **Joan Gustafson at 562-439-3130** to make your reservation if you have not signed up already.

# STEM Career Conference

Frances Rozner and Sharon Westafer,



The Branches' 10<sup>th</sup> annual AAUW Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematic (STEM) Career Conference is scheduled for Friday afternoon, **February 22, 2012** at the Long Beach City College Liberal Arts Campus. Speakers will be keynote Rosario Rivas, health educator at the Long Beach Department of Health, Meg Beatrice, Architect, Pam Putnam, Deputy Coroner Investigator for San Bernardino County, Sandra Gonzalez, Landscape Architect, Carolyn Duclayan - Vizmanos, Public Health Nurse, Annalisa Fernando, Optometrist, Kathy Rantowich, Structural/Civil Engineer, Kamaryn Casey, Veterinarian, Raquel Sanchez, Stamping Production Engineer, Nicky Leier, Aquarist 2-Shark Lagoon at the Aquarium of the Pacific and Rhonda Gilyard, Senior Project/Chemical Engineer. These women 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 the inspirational keynote speaker and two 40 minute workshops in which they're exposed to different careers.

Seventh and Eighth grade girls will be joining us from the YMCA of Greater Long Beach, and from numerous middle schools, several of which are associated with members of the Branch. If you are interested in being a volunteer or have any questions about assisting with the Conference, please contact Darlene Daclan at [Darlene\\_daclan@yahoo.com](mailto:Darlene_daclan@yahoo.com) or 562-673-6909.

Last year, we increased our attendance from 190 to 220 girls and we're looking forward to even more attending this year!

## Los Angeles County Interbranch Council

Sunday, January 20, 2013

Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital  
12401 Washington Blvd. Whittier, CA 90602  
2:00 PM



### PUBLIC POLICY

How does AAUW CA arrive at its positions on legislation and what can my branch do? Come hear from Nancy Mahr, a member of the AAUW CA Public Policy Committee, what that committee does and about an approach to public policy that her branch came up with. You don't want to miss this one!

Nancy Mahr is a member of the Palos Verdes branch of AAUW. She has served as public policy director for the branch, and has been on the state Public Policy Committee for the past 4 years. In addition, Nancy is the President of the Palos Verdes Peninsula League of Women Voters and of the Los Angeles County League of Women Voters. She served two terms as an elected member of the Board of Trustees of the Palos Verdes Library District. She is retired from a career in public relations, working for the County of Los Angeles Public Library, the Palos Verdes Library District, and the Palos Verdes Unified School District. Nancy earned her BA in Political Science from Occidental College and received a teaching credential from CSULA. Her first career was as a high school teacher. Nancy has two grown children and lives in Rancho Palos Verdes. Contact Sharon Westafer or JoAnn Kuroda if you are interested in attending this meeting.

## AAUW BRANCH MEETING

**Saturday, February 2, 2013**

Social: 9:30 am -10:00 am  
Meeting: 10:00 am -11:00 am  
Program: 11:00 am -12:00 pm  
Lunch: 12:00 pm -1:00 pm

Place: The Long Beach Yacht Club

6201 E. Appian Way

Long Beach, CA 90807 562 – 598 - 9401

(parking WEST of the club)



Menu: Salmon Salad

Roll & Butter Dessert

Beverages, Coffee & Tea

**Price: \$ 30.00**

**RSVP by January 31, 2013 (Required)**

Questions: Jean Aldrich, (562) 430-8688

## RESERVATION RETURN

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW Long Beach to Margy Arthur, 1102 Central Ave, Seal Beach, CA 90740 562 799-8479

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.

**RSVP by January 31, 2013**

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



## 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. Keep an eye on the AAUW website for details.

### The Great Decisions groups will start meeting in February.

If you would like to order a copy of the Great Decisions book (published by the Foreign Policy Association), please mail a check for \$20 (made out to AAUW) to Helen Sebring at 1705 Bolsa Ave. Seal Beach, CA 90740. If you have any questions about joining this interest group, please call Helen at 562.596.0180, or Margy Arthur at 562.799.8479.

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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.

### INTEREST GROUPS

**Public Policy:** This group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month – 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 meets at the home of Helen Sebring to discuss your current reading, 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! SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 21, 2013. Join us for the Grammy Museum Tour by bus to LA. 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 p.m. The February book selection is *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed. 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.

**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!