

## 'Tis the Season



Raquel Sanchez and Jeane Caveness

Saturday December 6, 2014

Co-Program Vice-Presidents

December's program is our traditional Holiday Wassail celebration. The word Wassail is an old English drinking salutation wishing good health. This year's "Good Health" celebration will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the home of Linda Patten.

This is a great time to bring friends, family and prospective members to get to know our branch and its members. There will be refreshments, snacks and mulled spiced wassail drink which is prepared by our own



Barbara Gleason. Please join us on

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. No reservations are needed this month—just lot's of good cheer!

**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 and girls have a fair chance.*

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## Courtesy

### **Best wishes to December birthdays!**



Visits were made to Betty and Jean.

Anne Graves recently had surgery. A card was sent to wish her well.

Jean Aldrich is now at Rowntree Gardens, 12151 Dale Street Apt C309, Stanton, CA 90680, 714-971-6708. She appreciates the kindness and care from the members and board.

**How did it get so late so soon? Its night before its afternoon. December is here before its June. My goodness how the time has flown. How did it get so late so soon?**

**Dr. Seuss**

## CALENDAR EVENTS & NOTICES

**Saturday, January 10, 2015**

Branch Meeting—Lunch  
The Center at Sycamore Plaza

**Saturday, February 7, 2015**

Branch Meeting—Lunch  
Grace Presbyterian Church

**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>



**Follow AAUW on**

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Atherton and Bellflower Blvd. Room 2.

Dates: 11/17—12/6—2/16—4/20. The December Executive Committee meeting will take place at 9:30 a.m., prior to the Wassail, on **December 6, 2014**.



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time 6:30 p.m., and meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2. Dates: January 19—March 16

**BOARD BRIEFS:** Regular board business was transacted at the October Board of Directors meeting. The following motion was approved by the Board: Frances Rozner moved that the Board approve, due to timeliness, the Executive Committee be authorized to review and approve or disapprove any contract that Long Beach Unified School District proposes that enables the Branch to receive course data and to contact the young STEM Conference attendees in the future for their feedback, in the pursuit of a valid evaluation of the effectiveness of the STEM Conference. The motion was seconded by Deloris Mayuga.



## WE WANT YOU! - STEM CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the 12th 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 for tasks like facilitating speakers, helping with registration, preparing bags and refreshments, and, this year, we are looking for more photographers!

The Conference will take place **on Friday, February 27, 2015** 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](mailto:darlene_daclan@yahoo.com) or call at 562/673-6909.*

## President's Message



The November 1st meeting was well attended and well received. As usual, we learned new things -were updated and informed regarding the over-politicized issue of immigration. (Recommended reading- **Enrique's Journey** by Sonia Nazario) We also learned from Cacilia Kim about Title IX and women's sports, specifically girl's wrestling! Donations were made to the LAF program and 4 gift certificates to Nordstroms won by donors! Nice surprise and winners were elated! You never know what attendance at a meeting might bring! Besides opening our minds to new issues and different versions of old ones, sometimes you can win a prize!

**STEM** is looking for volunteers for its February 27th event at LBCC—contact Darlene Daclan if you can help. **GREAT DECISIONS** will begin its 2015 meetings in February. We may have enough people to start another group at a different time from the current ones. If you are interested in participating, contact Adele Brown.

**Cacilia Kim**, member and Co Funds VP has been chosen to be AAUW's nominee for the Soroptimist "**Women who Make a Difference**". Their award luncheon will be May 2, 2015. Plan to attend.

Seven members were elected and agreed to serve on the **2015-16 Nominating Committee**: Fay Denny, Deloris Mayuga, Frances Rozner, Lamis Hashem, Mina Naghavi, Julie Taboada, and Jeane Caveness. The Nominating Committee is charged with selecting members who will run for positions on the 2015-16 Board of Directors for AAUW - Long Beach Branch. Election of next year's Board will happen at the April 2 dinner meeting. We have many good, talented, and responsible members. We share and support one another...it's an opportunity, a learning experience, and an honor to participate in a leadership role in AAUW. Please look at your calendar for next year and be willing to serve if asked or even better put yourself forward. Any member of the Nominating Committee will be happy to explain any Board positions.

**AAUW'S 2015 National Convention is in San Diego next June 18-21** at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina. Log on to [convention.aauw.org](http://convention.aauw.org). and see how you can attend. Registration rate is discounted until Jan 15, 2015. Please let me know if you are considering attending. It will be a great experience!

Our **Holiday Wassail** will be held at the home of Linda Patten in Cerritos. It will be another fun event- no business meeting! Come and socialize with your friends Saturday, December 6 from 10am-12pm; bring friends, family and potential members. Thank you to all who have contributed to the Wassail, especially Linda Patten. The Wassail is always a lovely event.

Sharon Westafer  
EO Funds Director

## EO Grant Recipients



### Meet Our Long Beach Branch Endowment Interest Recipients

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 Long Beach branch established the Anna Stofflet Townsend International Endowment in 1953. The endowment was completed in 1968. Anna was California State Division President from 1950 to 1952 and Association VP, South Pacific Region from 1955 to 1963.



The recipient of interest from this endowment for 2014-2015 is Keun Ah Ryu from South Korea. She is studying for her Ph.D. in Chemistry at UC, Irvine. Keun Ah is using chemistry to control activation of immune cells using light. She looks forward to continued progress on not only developing photo-controllable chemical tools but also elucidating the mechanism of immune cell activation.

Thank you so much for your generous donations at the October branch meeting. We raised \$2310 to help work toward equity for women and girls!



**Wassail:** The holiday season is happily upon us, bringing our annual holiday Wassail--a time of warmth and friendliness and the opportunity to connect with old friends and to make new ones. The Wassail is the perfect time to invite your friends, neighbors, colleagues and family to come with you to the Wassail to meet our members and to learn more about our AAUW branch and its work.

**New Members:** We are very happy to welcome four new members since you received the last Vantage newsletter. Thank you so much to all of our members who continue to tell their friends and acquaintances about AAUW and our AAUW branch and its activities. The largest percentage of our new members join because of their connections with our current members who engage them with our meetings and our programs.

Here is the information about our four newest members. Please look for them at our meetings and at our interest groups and reach out to them to include them and invite them to join our many groups and programs. Thank you to **Ellen Mathis** who provided updates to our Yearbook at the November meeting giving the contact information for our newest members so we can easily contact them and invite them to be involved in our activities.

**Elaine Bernal**--Elaine is working towards her EdD in Educational Leadership at CSULB and is the faculty advisor for our new Student Affiliate AAUW Branch at CSULB.

**Mary Lamo**--Mary is employed in Information Technology and is a member of the Junior League and the LB Public Library Foundation.

**Brianna Pagan**--Brianna is working towards her MS in Civil and Water Resources Engineering and works for the LB Water Department as a Water Conservation Planner. She will be a presenter at our upcoming STEM Career Conference in 2015.

**Judy Willis**--Judy has been a member of the Palos Verdes AAUW branch, but has moved to LB and is transferring her membership to our branch. Judy is involved in several NP organizations in San Pedro providing shelter to women and encouraging HS students to attend college.

**New Member Dinner:** On October 24 our Membership VP, Lamis Hashem, once again provided a bountiful, delicious and lovely evening of dinner, socialization and friendship at her lovely home for our new members. Fifteen people were there for a delightful evening of good food and warm and friendly connections with others, and the evening was enhanced when new member **Brianna Pagan** joined our AAUW branch during the dinner. Many thanks to Lamis and her husband who are generous and welcoming hosts for our New Member Dinners. It's clear that our new members really love to come to these home-based dinners where they can connect with others over a delicious meal and in a comfortable and welcoming setting.

## YEARBOOK ADDEDUM Published

We have distributed the **first addendum** to our annual Branch YEARBOOK. Those in attendance at the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting received theirs then, a goldenrod sheet. This Addendum is being e-mailed along with the VANTAGE this month as a separate PDF document. It is two pages and will need to be trimmed to fit nicely in your YEARBOOK. Be sure to welcome all the new members listed to our Branch when you meet them at the Wassail on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Ellen Mathis, Yearbook Chair, 562-433-6509, [epmathis@verizon.net](mailto:epmathis@verizon.net)

## Public Policy

Now that the elections are over, it is tempting to sit back and relax and think that all is right with the world. But, public policy issues wait for no man...or woman, as the case may be.

Please join us on the third Thursday of each month to discuss topics of interest to us and to our greater AAUW community. This month's meeting will be on Thursday, December 18th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at Shelley Arnold's house, 4211 Marber Ave, Lakewood, 90713.



## **Gender Pay Gap**

The U.S. Senate again refuses to move forward with the Paycheck Fairness Act and address the longstanding problem of the gender pay gap. AAUW National recently wrote an article on this issue titled: “By the Numbers: A Look at the Gender Pay Gap.” Read the article to find out how the gender pay gap impacts women, who are the primary source of income for 40 percent of American families.

## **AAUW Outlook Magazine**

This month’s issue of AAUW’s Outlook magazine is a must read and covers important current issues including the disastrous Supreme Court decision in *Hobby Lobby* and the current birth control backlash, the lack of effective sex education programs in our schools, and the impact of college sexual assaults as a barrier to higher education.

## **2015 AAUW National Convention, June 18-21, San Diego**

Registration for the 2015 AAUW National Convention is now open. Please remember to register by January 15, 2015. This year’s convention will host many exciting speakers on many different topics. Don’t miss the premiere exhibit on women’s history in surfing!

## **Great Decisions**

It’s time to order your booklets for our Great Decisions discussion groups. Please make out your checks to **Adele Brown** for \$20.00 and send them to

Adele Brown 12300 Montecito Road #10 Seal Beach, CA 90740

We welcome all members to join one of our three groups. We have one Tuesday morning group led by **Norma Grady** (562--596-2819). Another group meets on Friday afternoon headed by **Deloris Mayuga** (562-596-8902). Our evening group meets on Wednesday and is led by **Flo Pickett** (562-421-5348). Please contact any of these leaders for further information about their groups.



Great Decisions is a national, civic-education program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association that encourages participants to learn about U.S. foreign policy and global issues and discuss multiple viewpoints in a group setting. Each year we cover eight topics significant to the U.S. role in the global community. Looking forward to you joining one of the groups.



## **IN THE NEWS FROM AAUW NATIONAL—**

On behalf of **Charity Navigator**, I wish to congratulate AAUW - American Association of University Women on achieving our coveted 4-star rating for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. As the nonprofit sector continues to grow at an unprecedented pace, savvy donors are demanding more accountability, transparency and quantifiable results from the charities they choose to support with their hard-earned dollars.

In this competitive philanthropic marketplace, Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator, highlights the fine work of efficient, ethical and open charities. Our goal in all of this is to provide donors with essential information needed to give them greater confidence in the charitable choices they make.

Based on the most recent information available, we have issued a new rating for your organization. **We are proud to announce AAUW - American Association of University Women has earned our fourth consecutive 4-star rating.** Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 7% of the charities we rate have received at least 4 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that AAUW—American Association of University Women outperforms most other charities in America. This “exceptional” designation from Charity Navigator differentiates AAUW - American Association of University Women from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.

We wish you continued success in your charitable endeavors.

Ken Berger, President

## The National Student Advisory Council



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Sharon Westafer

WASHINGTON — The American Association of University Women (AAUW) announced the selection of 10 new members to the 2014–15 [National Student Advisory Council](#) (SAC), an inspiring group of women who serve as AAUW ambassadors and lead gender equality projects on their campuses.

The [newly named SAC members](#) are Maryann Akinboyewa, Syracuse University; Cindy Chen, University of Utah; [Shannon Cholakian](#), California State University, Long Beach; Laura Hernandez, Florida International University; Rickelle Mason, University of North Carolina, Charlotte; Helen (Nellie) Moran, Pacific Lutheran University; Lisa Joy Ohnstad, University of Wyoming; Jessica Ou, University of California, Berkeley; Dana Smith, Purdue University; and Katherine Thomas, Metropolitan State University, Denver.

“Being a member of this important group leads to great things, from meeting trailblazers to gaining valuable, résumé-building experience. Over the next 12 months, the SAC members will hone and grow their leadership skills, network with amazing student leaders, and make an impact on their campuses,” said AAUW Vice President of Campus Leadership Programs Kate Farrar. “We look forward to working with these talented women, who were selected because of their enormous potential and already proven ability.”

In addition to having the unique opportunity to advise AAUW on the needs of college students, SAC members will help plan and implement the annual [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#), which will be held May 28–30, 2015, at the University of Maryland, College Park. SAC members serve as peer leaders at the conference, host prominent Women of Distinction honorees, and lead networking sessions. The new SAC members will gather in Washington, D.C., in November for a leadership retreat to learn more about how they can help communicate and support AAUW’s mission to other students, design a yearlong leadership development plan, and create strategies for how to take action on their campuses and in their communities

The [National Student Advisory Council \(SAC\)](#) is composed of 10 college women who demonstrate exceptional leadership. The program provides an opportunity for students to actively participate in women’s advocacy, sharpen their leadership skills, and take action for women’s equality on their campuses. This year’s SAC members will play key roles as peer leaders at the [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders \(NCCWSL\)](#) and launch projects at their schools related to equal pay and other feminist issues.



### The International Cuisine Dinner ---- CAFÉ SEVILLA

Wed., Nov. 19, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

140 Pine Avenue LB 562.495.1111

Please join us as we encounter Spanish food at Café Sevilla, a beautiful restaurant located in downtown Long Beach. Parking is one building down from the restaurant on Pine or on Pacific between Broadway and 1st Street. Car pools will be arranged. The average cost for dinner is \$20.00. To see a menu look at [www.cafesevilla.com/longbeach](http://www.cafesevilla.com/longbeach).

**For Questions, car pool, to make a reservation, please get in touch with:**

**JoAnn Kuroda, 429-6923    [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com)**

**Joan Gustafson, 439-3130    [jwg221@aol.com](mailto:jwg221@aol.com)**

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# BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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Joining an interest group (or many) is a great way to get to know other members on a more personal level. Make friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities. To start a new interest group, submit a description to the President and it will be passed to Ellen Mathis, Interest Group Coordinator for help with implementation.

**Antiques and Collectibles**, led by **Judith Kaho**, meets several times a year to share their love and appreciation of beautiful/interesting antiques, historical family items and collectables. Light refreshments are served by the hostess, sharing and conversation ensues; held at various homes or at a local retailer. Contact **Judith** at 562-429-2790.



**Book Chat Plus Group** members present the most interesting book they have recently read, film they have seen or the most exciting travel experience they have had. If time allows, all three! Light refreshments are served along with the intriguing conversation. We meet the 1st Tuesday at Betty Thompson's home at 10 a.m. Contact **Betty Thompson, 562-430-8438**



**Bridge Group** plays at the Petroleum Club in Long Beach on the second Friday from 9:30 - noon. To inquire about a seat at the group meeting, contact **Cathy Cunningham** at 562-424-3166; [catherine\\_j\\_cunningham@yahoo.com](mailto:catherine_j_cunningham@yahoo.com).



**Cultural Adventures Group** plans trips to museums and other points of interest. It is usually a mid-week tour & lunch scheduled several times a year. Join a group that enjoys checking out museums and cultural interests. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email at [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com). Ideas welcome.



**Great Books Group** reads from an anthology published by the Great Books Foundation. It includes philosophy, poetry and fictional writing of prize winning and world renowned authors. Contact **Linda Patten** at 562-402-6831



**Great Decisions Groups** meetings are held in February and March. Members prepare by reading one chapter of the *Great Decisions* book; published by the Foreign Policy Association, about a situation of world importance. The self-moderated group meets to discuss the pros, cons, and issues of important topics. Each participant is encouraged to bring other sources of information. Everyone gets a turn/or pass, no one is "wrong" and all opinions are respected. One of the groups meets year round to discuss foreign policy. Each person pays for a copy of the book when available.



Contact **Adele Brown** at 562-594-6443 or email at [abrown511@verizon.net](mailto:abrown511@verizon.net).

**International Cuisine Group** meets and dines at restaurants of different ethnicity in the local area. It is usually scheduled every few months on a Wednesday within an easy drive of LB. Car pooling is an option. Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact **Joan Gustafson** at 562-439-3130. The next adventure is Spanish food on Nov. 19th.



**Literary Ladies Group** meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected novel, fiction or non-fiction.



Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group on a recently published book. The ladies come together to hear the thoughts and insights of others in the group. They meet at Jean Aldrich's home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 1:00 pm. There is a maximum of 12, and a waiting list. Contact **Sharon Westafer** at 562-493-4749 if needed, about the December book, *China Dolls* by Lisa See.

**Public Policy** meetings, explore, discuss and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, which underscore our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. The group passes on knowledge and information to all branch members and encourage them to become involved with AAUW issues.



This month's meeting will be on **Thursday, November 20th** and the **December meeting is on December 18th** from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at Shelley Arnold's house 4211 Marber Ave, Lakewood, 90713. Contact **Shelley Arnold** email [shelleyarnold1@aol.com](mailto:shelleyarnold1@aol.com)

**Residential Rentals Discussion Group** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month year round, from 10:00–11:30 am. Anyone with an interest in residential rentals is welcome. We often have a topic, share recent landlord experiences and work to keep our knowledge current. An email/call to **Joan Gustafson** or **Ellen Mathis** will ensure there is a chair at the table for you.



Any new ideas? Submit a plan to the President or to Ellen Mathis.

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## AAUW Long Beach Branch

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization, on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability

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### RESERVATION RETURN FORM

Send this registration and check payable to AAUW L B to **Judith Kaho**, 2790 Vuelta Grande, LB, CA 90815 562-429-2790

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Guest / Note \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Yes— I'd like Vegetarian option \_\_\_\_\_

***NO RSVP Needed !!***

*Your donation or contribution is welcomed.*

*A meal reservation is a financial commitment and refunds shall not be made.*

### AAUW BRANCH MEETING

**Saturday, December 6, 2014**

Wassail Party 10:00 am to 12:00

Place: Linda Patten's home  
19615 Jeffery Circle Cerritos 90703



No charge.

Donations welcome!

Bring a friend too!

Questions about the location ?

Contact Fay Denny email [faydenny@yahoo.com](mailto:faydenny@yahoo.com)

Or JoAnn Kuroda email [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com)