



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

A A U W

VANTAGE

February 2004

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 33 Issue 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Purpose, Power, Progress

Fay Denny and Lynn Rodriguez, Co-Presidents

Written by: Lynn Rodriguez

Purpose, Power, Progress These words are the theme chosen by the Association Board of Directors for this biennium and they describe the goals of AAUW CA members as they sponsor various activities. If you look at our Long Beach Branch, you'll also be able to see these words in action. Our members are purpose-driven, powerful, and progressive as support the Educational Foundation, the Legal Advocacy Fund, gender equity, lifelong education, and positive societal change. Even our monthly Branch programs reflect our purpose, power, and progress. This Spring we will bring purpose and meaning to young girls taking math and science classes in local middle schools as we sponsor the 2nd Annual Math/Science Career Conference for Middle School girls at Long Beach City College. Our members care not only for each other, but also for those who will come next. They are our daughters, granddaughters, nieces, and neighbors. We are sisters and brothers helping each other.

With the New Year upon us, many of us are trying to stick to our New Year's resolutions. One of my goals is to be more efficient in saving time and money. In an effort to improve my efficiency, I am particularly working on clearing the clutter on my desk. One strategy I have heard about, that promises to help me in my goal, is to touch a piece of paper that I come in contact with only once. In other words, once I come in contact with a piece of paper on my desk, I am to handle it once and either deal with it, file it, or toss it – I am not to leave it in a pile on my desk for another day. Another strategy I have come across is to tear a small piece off of the paper each time I handle it. You can guess how important that piece of paper will become if it has the opportunity to sit on my desk a long time and is eventually handled several times over. I don't know how successful I will be with the latter strategy but just the thought of having to handle a well-torn piece of paper has me motivated to handling it once and dealing with it right then and there! In fact, the thought of the end results of my actions often motivates me more than the initial call for action. Consider the call for action below. The end result will surely be one of success if enough of us pick up this piece of paper and take action immediately and not put it back on our desk for another piece to be torn from its edge.

Many of us have benefited from the fight for progress that others battled in the past on our behalf. Now there is a new threat to our progress in the education and gender arena. Our local **Tech Trek** program at Whittier College is in need of women willing to help the next generation of leaders in the fields of math and science. Many young women and girls have benefited from this wonderful program in the past, and we would like to see it continue. But, to provide such a wonderful and powerful depends on like-minded women coming together to help in both large and small ways. **Tech Trek** is only a few months away and planning is about to begin. What will you do with your New Year's resolution and a few extra hours of daylight? Please consider giving of your time and talents to continuing this dynamic and beneficial program. **Contact Cathy Schroder (Whittier Branch) at (714) 223-1871 or via email at evergreen5@sbcglobal.net. The purpose, power, and progress of this program depend on you.**

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

BRANCH NEWS

BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, February 7, 2004

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 16, 2004

At 6:30 p.m. in the AAUW Headquarters

BOARD BRIEF

Julie Mills, Co-Secretary

At the December 15, 2003 Executive Board of Directors meeting, regular business was conducted.

- A motion was made by Lynn Rodriguez to co-sponsor, with the Public Corporation for the Arts, a Smithsonian Scholarship Fundraiser event on March 13, 2004. The motion was seconded and carried.

COURTESY

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

We are saddened to learn of the passing of past president Marion Tripeny in December. Condolences were extended on our behalf.

Happy Birthday to our February honorees.



Happy Valentine's Day to
all!

COMMUNITY

Lorna Menke, Community Chair (562) 431-3762

Thank you to all AAUW members who have so generously donated to the Women's Shelter, Mary Bethune Transitional Center, and School on Wheels. These organizations have been so appreciative for all of your donations. Keep up the good work!

MEMBERSHIP

Nicole Ramsdell, Membership Treasurer

Please add the following new member to your Handbook:

Marisela Moreno

PO Box 41334

Long Beach, CA 90853

(562) 209-2289

Email: marisemore6@aol.com

Graduated from Texas A&M and California State University, Dominguez Hills

✓ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR REMINDER**

“Sex Discrimination on Trial” LAF Fundraiser

WHEN: Saturday, January 24, 2004
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Cal State San Bernardino Campus –
Upper Commons
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA

COST: \$20.00 per person includes lunch and
program
Please RSVP by January 15, 2004 to
Carlynnne Mc Donnell, 2326 N. Indian Hill
Blvd., Claremont, CA 91711. Your check is
your RSVP.

For more information, please call Carlynnne
McDonnell at (909) 624-5232.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“A candle loses nothing of its light when lighting another.”
Kahil Gibran

**AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:
<http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>**

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

California Politics: What's New, What's Old

February's program will be a presentation by Dr. Paul Schmidt on current California politics.

Dr. Schmidt is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at California State University, Long Beach, having retired this past December after over 35 years as a faculty member and college administrator. He has resided in Long Beach since 1968 and is an active participant and frequent media commentator on State and local politics, the areas of his professional specialization. In Long Beach, he has served on charter reform task forces and planning groups. He and his wife, Judy, have two grown children.

**For more information about the
Save Women's Lives March For Freedom of Choice on Sunday, April 25, 2004
visit www.marchforchoice.org on the web**

TOP PRIORITIES FOR WOMEN

According to a 2003 survey conducted by the Center for the Advancement of Women, domestic and sexual violence are among women's top priorities. Below are percentages of women labeling issues a "top priority":

92%	Domestic and sexual violence
90%	Equal pay for equal pay
85%	Child care
83%	Health care
74%	Time off from work to care for family members
72%	Drug and alcohol addiction among women
71%	Sexual harassment
66%	The number of young women who study math, science, and technology
64%	Women's lives in other parts of the world
61%	The number of women elected to political office
41%	Abortion

STOP FAMILY VIOLENCE

In 2003, the U.S. Post Office dedicated a new fundraising stamp to stop family violence. The stamp pictures a distraught woman drawn by a child artist. Funds support domestic violence programs and increase awareness.

TESTING

Results from the 2003 SAT college entrance exam showed significantly higher math and verbal scores overall, but gender and racial gaps increased.

The difference between girls' and boys' SAT scores grew from 39n to 43 points, falling six points in math but increasing two points in the verbal section.

Across the board, whites continue to outscore underserved groups. African Americans scored on average 206 fewer points. The white-Mexican American gap grew to 158.

"The SAT is not a level playing field," said National Center for Fair & Open Testing Public Education Director Bob Schaeffer. "The test-makers themselves admit that the SAT systematically under predicts the performance of young women, who earn higher college grades than their male counterparts when matched for identical courses. "

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

Kee DeBoer, EF Vice President

The end of the calendar year is the time that we send all of our donations for the year to Sacramento. So, the EF books are closed for the year 2004. It was a very successful year, for which I thank all of you. We sent a total of \$8,710 to AAUW-CA - that was a 14% increase over last year's contribution! I'm thrilled!

The Wassail was very enjoyable, thanks to Betty Ann Rauch and Norma Mayfield. The Social Hall at St. Luke's proved to be an ideal setting for the event. The Educational Foundation took in over \$900 that day. This total included the silent auction, Barbara Gleason's "Nearly New" table, and Woman Pins. Additionally, some of the total will go to the Legal Advocacy Fund for their share of the Woman Pin sales. The day was a great fundraiser.

The biggest mistake I made at the Silent Auction was neglecting to adequately display the bid sheet for Helen Sebring's Big Bear cabin. The bid sheets were there but may not have been seen on the table surrounded by items and other bid sheets. I apologize to any of you who may have wanted to arrange a weekend at Big Bear Lake. Fortunately, it's not too late! Helen has generously agreed to extend her offer. The mountain home sleeps eight and is located on the north shore of the lake. Helen wants people to know that there was no damage during the recent fires. It is still as beautiful as ever. Ask Lynn Rodriguez for an enthusiastic endorsement of the cabin. If you have questions, call Helen.

The money raised this year came from several events. As usual, our best fundraiser was the Century Club, Second Century Club, Chocolate Club, Equity Circle, and other gifts. We received a total of \$4,775 for that alone. Isn't that wonderful? Here is a final listing for all our fundraising events:

\$4,775	Century Club, etc.
\$700	October Luncheon
\$645	Walk/Run at the Long Beach Marathon
\$1,278	Woman Pins
\$709	Silent Auction
\$603	<u>Carried forward from last Spring</u>
\$8,710	Total

Once again, thank you for all for your support. We can be proud of the support EF gets from the Long Beach Branch!

Fifth Annual Smithsonian Week in Long Beach

The Public Corporation of the Arts will present the fifth annual *Smithsonian Week* in Long Beach from March 7 through March 13, 2004. The theme for this year's event is Dinosaurs, Gospel Music, and Famous Women. The women's history scholar, Edith Mayo, Curator Emeritus of the National Museum of American History, has recently curated a nationally traveling exhibition called "Enterprising Women." The exhibition explores the personal stories of women entrepreneurs in American History. On Saturday, March 13, 2004, she will lecture on the universal issues that have challenged and inspired American women entrepreneurs and also facilitate a panel comprising some of the Southland's most successful businesswomen.

Following the free symposium, a luncheon honoring local "Enterprising Women in Arts and Culture" will be held in the Grand Ballroom at the Long Beach Convention Center. Women in our community who have made significant contributions to the creation of Long Beach as a center of arts and culture will be honored.

The AAUW Long Beach branch board voted to participate as partners with the Public Corporation for the Arts for this event. Our branch is seeking volunteers to assist on Saturday, March 13th at this event. If you are interested, please contact Fay Denny at (714) 894 - 0416. There is no cost for hearing the speaker at the symposium.

Luncheon reservation forms will be available at our February and March branch meetings. Cost for the luncheon is \$75 per person. Reservations should be mailed to: Public Corporation for the Arts, PO Box 20206, 434 E. Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90801.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

LAF ESSENTIALS AND UPDATES

Since 1981 the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has contributed more than \$1 million to 80 cases involving women fighting sex discrimination in higher education. LAF offers plaintiffs financial and technical assistance for their cases. LAF does not engage in litigation.

At this time, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund considers only sex discrimination lawsuits brought by women—both AAUW members and nonmembers—in higher education.

To be considered for support, a case **must have been filed in state or federal court** and must demonstrate the following:

- Potential significance for women in higher education
- The plaintiff's need for financial aid
- A high probability of success

Case support applications are due April 15, Aug. 15, and Dec. 15. LAF's Advisory Committee—eight members, six of whom are attorneys—reviews the submitted documents and makes recommendations to the LAF Board of Directors, which then decides whether or not to adopt a case and the level of support. Once LAF adopts a plaintiff, the board supports her until the conclusion of the lawsuit.

LAF-supported plaintiffs can also use LAF as a fundraising channel. LAF can accept contributions designated for a particular case and forward that gift to the plaintiff, allowing donors to take a tax deduction.

Update: Grudzinski v. University of California Irvine Medical Center (adopted 3/96)

Recent News :

Grudzinski still awaits a decision from the California Court of Appeals regarding her motion for an en banc hearing. She also awaits a decision from the California Supreme Court regarding her petition for a hearing.

Case History:

Christina Grudzinski was a surgical resident in urology at the University of California-Irvine Medical Center from June 1994 to June 1995. She claims that she was subjected to inappropriate sexual conduct, a hostile working environment, and retaliation for complaining of sex discrimination during her first year. She reported these incidents to her supervisory doctors, but no action was taken. Although she was promoted to her second-year residency, Grudzinski alleges that she was later fired in retaliation for complaining about the discrimination. Grudzinski says that she was told of no deficiencies in her performance until after she complained of sexual harassment. Since then, she was charged with allegations of patient jeopardy and hostility and was barred from clinical duties. In December 1995 she filed a lawsuit in California state court against the medical center and individual offenders alleging federal and state law violations for sexual harassment, retaliation, disparate treatment, breach of contract, wrongful discharge, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

Grudzinski lost her state court trial in early 1998, and the judge ordered her to pay the defendant a \$1.1 million attorney fee award based on finding that her lawsuit was frivolous. Grudzinski appealed, fighting both the attorney fee award and the judgment that UC-Irvine Medical Center did not discriminate against her based on sex. Grudzinski submitted her opening appellate brief in early fall 2000.

Key Case Issues:

Sexual harassment, hostile work environment, retaliation

Total LAF Contributions to Date:

\$63,804.16: \$42,000 from the LAF board, \$2,000 from the Marguerite Rawalt Legal Defense Fund, and \$19,804.16 in donor-designated contributions.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Barbara Gleason, Chair

WHEN: Thursday, February 12, 2004

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: The Long Beach Museum of Art to view the exhibit of contemporary wood sculpture, "Into the Woods," and a small collection of clay sculptures, "Clay Bodies."

GOLF AT BIXBY

The Golf at Bixby interest group now meets every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m. For more details, contact Betty Bragg at (714) 897-7184.

CULTURAL CAPERS EVENT – Reminder

Cultural Capers has planned a caper to the Long Beach Museum of Art for **Sunday, February 29, 2004**. "Women of Our Time – Twentieth Century Photographs from the National Portrait Gallery" is the title of the program at the museum to be viewed.

TIME: We will meet at the museum at 1:00 p.m.

COST: The admission price for Adults is \$5.00 and for Seniors and Students \$4.00.

If there are any questions about the Cultural Capers event, call Miriam Garland at (562) 434-2978 or Linda Reabe at (562) 433-1114.

¡ADELANTE! BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB – ONLINE CHAT

February is Black History Month and the February 2004's Book of the Month for the ¡Adelante! Book Of The Month Club, a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program, is ***Roberts vs. Texaco: A True Story of Race and Corporate America*** by Bari-Ellen Roberts. The author was a Legal Advocacy Fund Awards Dinner speaker and a Speaking Out for Justice Award winner. Join the online chat and talk about issues of social injustice based on the month's selection. To subscribe, send an email to listserv@elists.aauw.org, typing in the message section: SUBSCRIBE ADELANTE Your First Name and Last Name. Leave the subject line blank.

BOOK REVIEW

Excerpt from the review by Jean-Marie Navetta,
senior associate for communications and media relations at AAUW

Women on War: An International Anthology of Writings From Antiquity to the Present

In Greek mythology, Cassandra, the daughter of the King of Troy, was given the gift of prophecy. Although she could foretell future events, no one would believe her. When she warned people of the upcoming Trojan War, she was ignored and eventually imprisoned and raped. Women continue to find themselves in predicaments similar to Cassandra's. While they experience and understand the reality of war, few find their words heeded. *Women on War: An International Anthology of Writings From Antiquity to the Present* provides a solution.

Editor Daniela Gioseffi has given an international selection of women a forum to tell their own stories of war. The collection proves that women are not passive observers of war. They are active resisters, caretakers for those injured and left behind, and, when the fighting ends, recreators.

Women on War is required reading not just for those interested in policy and peace studies. Everyone should read it because it has the rare ability to make readers question what many of their deeply held ideas of what war – or peace – are and why they hold them.

INTEREST GROUPS

REGISTRATION

Antiques and Collections	2 nd Thursday	1:30 p.m.	Barbara Gleason	421-2206
Book Chat Plus*	4 th Monday	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Day Gourmet	4 th Thursday	12 – 2:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Jackson	494-0979
Film Fans			Marilyn Fortier	421-5838
Golf at Bixby	Every Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Betty Bragg	(714) 897-7184
Great Books*	1 st Monday	1 – 3 p.m.	Mary Anagnostis	493-5988
Friday Bridge**	2 nd Friday	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Cathy Cunningham	424-3166
Other Wednesday Bridge*	1 st , 3 rd Wednesday	12 – 4 p.m.	Emily Elgin	498-4646
Saturday Bridge*	3 rd Saturday	12:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Marlys Pfrimmer	598-4161
Wall Street Stocks Discussion Group*	1 st Thursday	1 – 3 p.m.	Louise Sperr	425-6231
Global Issues Discussion Group*	3 rd Friday	1 – 3 p.m.	Dorothy Anderson	597-7645
Global Issues Discussion Group II*	3 rd Tuesday	7 – 9 p.m.	Sally Geiger	498-3204
			Sally Geiger	498-3204
			Helen Sebring	

598-0180

*Meets at Branch Headquarters @ 525 East 7th Street, Long Beach 90813

**Meets at the Petroleum Club

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, February 7, 2004

**Lakewood Country Club
3101 East Carson Street
Lakewood, California**

PROGRAM:

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Networking
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Breakfast
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Program
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Business

MENU:

Club Breakfast Buffet
Scrambled Eggs
Breakfast Potatoes
Fresh Fruit
Assorted Breads
Ham
Coffee/Decaffeinated Coffee, Tea, Orange Juice

PRICE: \$17.00

Lakewood Country Club is located between Lakewood Blvd. and Paramount Blvd. on Carson Street. Turn onto Clubhouse Drive and proceed to the main entrance.

RESERVATION RETURN:

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW, Long Beach Branch. Please mail to: **Catherine Magana 700 E. Ocean Boulevard #1703, Long Beach, CA 90802.**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:

Friday, January 23, 2004

Member(s) _____

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Guest(s) _____

Address(s) _____

Phone _____

No. of Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____

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

FEBRUARY 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Great Books 1-3 p.m.	3	4 Golf @ Bixby 8:15 a.m. Other Wed. Bridge 12 – 4 p.m.	5 Wall Street Stocks 1-3 p.m.	6	7 BRANCH MEETING 8:30 a.m.
8	9	10	11 Golf @ Bixby 8:15 a.m.	12 Antiques and Collectibles 1:30 p.m.	13 Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	14 VALENTINE'S DAY
15	16 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30 p.m.	17 Discussion Group II 7-9 p.m.	18 Golf @ Bixby 8:15 a.m. Other Wed. Bridge 12 – 4 p.m.	19	20 Discussion Group I 1-3 p.m.	21 Saturday Bridge 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
22	23 Book Chat Plus 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	24	25 Golf @ Bixby 8:15 a.m.	26 Day Gourmet 12- 2:30 p.m.	27	28
29						

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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.