



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

AAUW-LONG BEACH VANTAGE

April 2008

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 37 Issue 8

Flo Pickett/Darci Fersch, Program VP

APRIL INTERNATIONAL DINNER Thursday, April 3, 2008, Long Beach Assistance League

Please join us on Thursday, April 3rd to listen to our speaker Mona S. Farraj. She is the principal of the Law Offices of Mona Farraj who will speak on the issues, concerns and interests of the American-Arab community in California and on the Middle East. She is the Community Relations Team Leader of the Arab-American Institute in Washington D.C., is a board member of the Orange County Community Housing Corporation and the Arab-American Lawyers Association, and a member of the Lincoln Club, Los Amigos of Orange County, the League of United Latin American Citizens, and the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.



This year we are combining our April Branch Meeting with the International Dinner that has traditionally been held in April or May. This year we will be collecting contributions to forward to the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund. More information about the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund may be found at www.thegildersleeve.org.

Remember, guests are always welcome!

Kee DeBoer, Budget Officer

THE ETHEL P. BLACK AND IRENE HOLMES FUND

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 this 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 shall be allocated. You may recommend more than one project. Please call or email me with your suggestions before May 1st. The Budget Committee will take the suggestions to the May Board meeting for their consideration and in June the Branch membership will consider and vote on the recommendations.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Branch News

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

COURTESY

We were recently told that long time member, Frances Magarian passed away in late February. Anne Graves provided a moving tribute to Frances at our March Branch Meeting.

Mary Orr, our Courtesy Chair, is still on the mend from her broken leg. Calls and cards always appreciated.

Birthday greetings to all April honorees.

April Showers Bring Spring Flowers

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Planned Monthly Branch Meetings

- 4/3* Dinner, Assistance League Headquarters
- 5/3 Afternoon Membership Garden Party
Location: Jean Aldrich's home
- 6/7 Lunch, Old Ranch Country Club
Installation of New Officers

PLEASE JOIN US

Prospective New Members
Welcome at Every Meeting

* All meetings on Saturday mornings, except 4/3, which is an evening meeting on Thursday

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee is pleased to announce the list of nominees for the following board offices:

Program Vice President:	Darci Fersch
Membership Co-Vice President:	Fay Denny and Carol Smith
Education Foundation Vice President:	Sharon Westafer
Legal Advocacy Fund Vice President:	Carolyn Magnuson
Co-Secretary:	Julie Mills and Helen Sebring
Treasurer:	Patricia Sargeant
Co-President-Elect:	Frances Rozner and Patricia Ferrer

Thank you to these members for accepting nominations and to those of you who helped with suggestions.

Your nominating committee: Patricia Ferrer (Chair), Dianne Bradfield, Ellen Mathis, Barbara Gleason, Linda Silver, Joyce Blasnek, and Frances Rozner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All are held on a Monday and start at 6:30 PM. All are being held at St. Luke's in the Guild Room
Dates: 3/17 (wear green, it's St. Patrick's Day), 5/19

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All are held on a Monday and start at 6:30 PM. Meetings will rotate between Judith Kaho's (J) home and Deloris Mayuga's (D)
Dates: 4/21 (D)

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE: <http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>
Co-Webmaster: George Jackson – email him at gl_jackson@hotmail.com

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Congratulations to Frances Rozner, Sharon Westafer, and the Math Science Conference Committee. The well-organized and smoothly run conference enabled 150+ 7th and 8th grade girls to learn about careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). This was our sixth annual conference, and each year gets bigger and better than the previous year.

Dixie Bowles, our Co-Mailing Chair, is moving to Texas. We want to extend our thanks for all her help this year in getting the Vantage out in a timely manner and wish her well. Thank you to Pat Sargeant for taking her position for the balance of the year.

This year we have been reviewing our goals in the Long-Range Plan for our branch. Soon it will be time to lay out the Long-Range Plan for the next three years. Do you have a vision for the Long Beach Branch? Where do you see our branch heading? We will be naming a committee to develop our strategic plan. Please let us know if you are interested in participating in the committee.

A Question for our Members: *Do you know what the AAUW logo symbolizes?* The AAUW logo was introduced in 1990. It consists of two parts--the "W"(three inverted overlapping triangles), and the name of the corporation. The two parts must always be used together. The message that the logo carries is that AAUW is contemporary in its outlook, progressive in its policies and programs, and the AAUW is active and effective in the ways it works for social change. The "W" is for women, reinforcing AAUW's focus on education and equity for women and girls; the overlapping triangles represent the collaborative efforts of our three corporations and the parallel lines suggest the concept of equity."

Judith Kaho and Deloris Mayuga

Barbara Gleason, Chair

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

When: Tuesday evening, March 25, 2008

Where: Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Avenue, Long Beach, CA

Recently, I attended an estate sale that was conducted by a company called "Midnight Sun." They sponsor an auction almost every month at the Petroleum Club, so I thought it would be interesting to attend.

From 3:00 - 6:00 pm, you may preview the items, with the auction starting at 6:00 pm. Payment is by cash, checks, or Visa/Master card. No children are allowed.

Public Policy How Did Your Representative Vote?

The Congress voted on a number of measures that were strongly supported by AAUW. They were:

College Cost Reduction – The legislation increased Pell grant awards to restore the grant's purchasing power and reduced subsidized student loan interest rates by up to 50%. In addition, loan repayment was capped at 15% of an individual's discretionary income. Signed into law by President Bush on September 27, 2007.

America COMPETES Act – This measure makes many important strides in improving science, technology, engineering, and math education (**STEM**) across the nation by implementing recommendations of the National Academics Report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*. Signed into law by President Bush on Aug. 9, 2007

DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) **Act/College Access** – would allow undocumented students who were raised in the United States and graduated from American high schools to go to college and start on the pathway to citizenship. Sen. Richard Durbin (D-II.) filed a cloture motion on the act. Senators voting for the cloture motion supported allowing the Senate to move to a final vote on the bill. The cloture vote was defeated (52-44).

Minimum Wage Increase – Raises the minimum wage from \$5.15 per hour to \$7.25 per hour over two years. Signed into law on May 25, 2007 as part of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act.

Hate Crime Prevention – Would provide local police departments and states with federal resources to address hate violence and would add actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability to the list of categories already protected. The House passed the Hate Crimes Bill (237-180) and the Senate Included it as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal 2008. Unfortunately, the hate crimes prevention language was removed when the defense bill was sent to conference.

How Your Representatives Voted:

Senator Diane Feinstein had a 100% voting record.

Senator Barbara Boxer had an 81% voting record – she missed the vote on the Dream Act but had a 100% record when voting.

Laura Richardson (37th District) - 100%. (Replaced Millender-McDonald on 8/21/07. Only vote was on the College Reduction Act.)

Linda Sanchez (39th District) - 100%

Dana Rohrbacher (46th District) – 0%

If your representative is not listed and you would like to know how they voted, please contact me and I will let you know. Betty Ann Rauch, 431-6679 or barauch@att.net.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (EF) AWARDED The Best in America Seal of Excellence

The AAUW Educational Foundation has been awarded the Best in America Seal of Excellence by the Independent Charities of America (ICA). The mission of the ICA is to screen and certify America's best charities and present them to givers in fund drives at work and on the web. The purpose of the ICA is to represent charities that meet the highest standards of public accountability and program effectiveness.

The effectiveness of the Educational Foundation is demonstrated to us in the study projects of the Fellows who receive grant money, in the work of community action grant recipients, and in the groundbreaking research funded through the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund was established by EF in 1988 to offer teacher fellowships, commission research, and sponsor community action projects in the areas of math and science. This research has brought public awareness to the differences in the quality and quantity of education among girls and boys, as well as ensuring that girls are prepared in an increasingly technological world. The research has also changed the way scholars, policy-makers, and the public thinks about the experiences and needs of girls and women.

Thank you to our branch past-presidents, the EXITS, for their contribution to EF in memory of Frances Magarian. A donation to EF is a great way to remember someone, to celebrate a birthday or milestone in one's life, or to honor a friend.

Publicity

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Thanks for sending me articles from local papers about AAUW activities. Please continue, as I do not receive many of the papers to which I send information.

Elaine Babbush
6521 El Roble L.B. 90815
562 431 1232

Jean Friedrichs, Cultural Interests

CULTURAL INTEREST FUND RAISER THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION.

There are still a few tickets left for the Friday, March 28th show "Picnic" at the Long Beach Playhouse. Please contact Sharon Westafer at 562-493-4749 for last minute orders. She will have the tickets after March 22.

TECH TREK MATH/SCIENCE CAMP FOR GIRLS

To all Tech Trek donors:

You will be proud to know your contributions enabled our branch to sponsor SEVEN girls, not the six we had estimated last month. The girls, the committee and the branch appreciate support from: Jean Aldrich, Joan Calder, Cynthia Clark, Barbara Cottrell, Kee DeBoer, Fay Denny, Patricia Ferrer, Jean Fredrichs, Miriam Garland, Barbara Gleason, Joan Gustafson, Valorie Hafner, Kate Hyland, Judith Kaho, JoAnn Kuroda, Frances LaMar, Carolyn Magnuson, Lois Malone, Ellen Mathis, Helen McAllise, Jere Millington, Julie Mills, Gail Morrison, Joanne O'Neill, Linda Patten, Betty Ann Rauch, Mary Riddick, Frances Rozner, Carolyn Sandusky, Pat Sargeant, Lois Schilling, Helen Sebring, Betty Shaw, Lynn Shrum, Sharon Westafer, and Bernice Woolley.

The committee chair and members: Betty Shaw, Deloris Mayuga, Gail Morrison, Linda Silver, and Lynn Shrum chose the recipients of the scholarship by reading enthusiastic essays and interviewing the girls. The essay topic this year was "How can math/science/technology make the world a better place?" Below are lightly edited portions of a few of the prize-winning essays:

...if science comes up with cures for diseases we would prevent harm from coming in the future. Science can come up with a pill for any type of sickness in the world. That would just be great. That pill could also have health and non-starvation in it. The people and kids in Africa wouldn't starve from not having food or die in disease situations. That pill would give us a new start in health.

Science can almost predict the future. One example is the Doppler, used by the weather forecasters to determine the weather. Another example is the satellites in outer space. The satellites show storms and hurricanes and possibly know where they are headed. There is also an instrument invented by scientists to help determine the coming of a tornado's wind, speed, and size. Science is a very big help in those situations.

One thing I would really like to accomplish with science is to find the cure for Alzheimer's and cancer. I would like to cure animals and learn all the different medicines in the world, as well as work with different scientists all over the world. There is so much to be discovered to help with the health of humans and animals.

The prizewinners from Constellation Middle School are Kaysha Brooks, Kayla Bright, Daysha Sears with Andrea Guerrero and Yaridma Sanchez as alternates. From Colin Powell Academy, the winners are Raevyn Mapuatuli, Abigail Villalobos, Noely Flores, and Keionna Winbush with Damara Sears and Brianna Williams as alternates.

Our Tech Trekkers will leave Whittier College with new dreams: maybe our campers will join the ones who make the world a better place through math, science, and technology.

You made it possible.

AAUW DINNER BRANCH MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE LONG BEACH
6220 E. Spring Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

Social: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Program: 7:00 p.m.
Meeting: 8:00 p.m.

There is plenty of parking behind the building; and there are no stairs to navigate.

MENU

First Course: Baby mixed greens topped with blue cheese, roasted walnuts, and balsamic vinaigrette.

Main Course: Phyllo Chicken - tender boneless breast of chicken topped with a creamy onion, garlic, tarragon sauce and lightly wrapped in phyllo pastry and topped with a parmesan cheese and scallion garnish.
Garlic mashed potatoes
Oven roasted seasonal vegetables

Dessert: Assorted cookie bars, bites, and brownies

Bread basket array with butter
.Coffee, Tea, and Water

Cost is \$35 per person.

RSVP by March 27, 2008 by sending your check to Sunny Meylor. For your convenience, you may add a contribution to the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund in your reservation check.

RESERVATION RETURN

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW Long Beach Branch to Sunny Meylor, 13560 Cedar Crest Lane #109L, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

Deadline for Reservations, March 27, 2008

Member(s)

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Guest(s)

No. of Reservations ____ Amount : _____

Contribution to Gildersleeve Fund*
(Optional) _____

TOTAL CHECK _____

Guests always welcome!

*If you want to ensure that your donation to the Gildersleeve Fund is tax deductible, please DO NOT include in your payment for dinner. Please bring a check with you made payable to Virginia Gildersleeve Fund. All monies collected will be forwarded to the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund.

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

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), 525 E. 7th Street #117, Long Beach 90813. Periodical postage paid at Long Beach, CA. Postmaster send address changes for AAUW Vantage to 525 E. 7th Street, #117, Long Beach, CA 90813.

INTEREST GROUPS

Public Policy please contact Betty Ann Rauch for information about the next meeting (562) 431-6679.

New Members will meet on March 31, 2008, at 6:00 PM at the Marie Callendar's Restaurant, 12489 Seal Beach Blvd., Seal Beach, CA. Please RSVP to Betty Thompson at (562) 430-8438 or Carol Smith at (562) 404-4291. If you are a recent member of this AAUW branch, please join us!

Book Chat please contact Jean Friedrichs, (562) 598-9218.

Literary Ladies, second Monday of the month. Please contact Pat Ferrer, (562) 597 4781, for further information.

Great Books meets the 1st Monday of the month. Please contact Linda Patten, (562) 402-6831 for more information.

Equity Players meet "as needed." New members always welcome. Please contact Lou Es Greene at (562) 434-6477.

Antiques and Collectibles see article on page 4. Contact Barbara Gleason, (562) 421-2206, for information.

Bridge Groups. Please call first to verify, day, time, and place:

Other Wednesday Bridge	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday	Noon – 4:00 p.m.	Emily Elgin	(562) 498-0646
Friday Bridge	2 nd Friday	9:30 a.m. – noon	Cathy Cunningham	(562) 424-3166

Both groups meet at the Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Avenue, Long Beach, 90807

Editor: Patricia A. Ferrer, panderoh@aol.com (562) 597-4781



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, disability, or class.

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